

Grasping 431

Chapter 431: Slaughter the Tower (7)

The desolate dragon marshland which was a million li* (500m per li) away from Ying Long's lightning palace had been turned into a sea of blood.

Lei Shiyi led the cultivators of his Myriad Treasure Pavilion and the 200 illusory spiritual puppets forward while at the same time bathing themselves in blood from all the killing.

Ning Fan held the Separation Slayer Sword in his hand. As he travelled across the pool of blood, he would swing his sword to kill an enemy whenever they were within his sight. Nobody could ward off the destructive power of a single slash from him.

In just a short two hours, countless forces on the twenty-fourth floor which were affiliated to King Ying Long were wiped out by Ning Fan like sweeping the fallen leaves in autumn!

Originally, he did not want to cause too much trouble. However, whenever troubles come to find him, he would never back off from them.

Since Ying Long tried to hunt him down, he naturally had to pay the price for passing down that command.

"Zhou Ming, how dare you?!"

More than twenty roars of rage came from afar. The cluster of travelling lights which were approaching him had massive aura forces which could make heaven and earth tremble. Without a doubt, they were Void Refinement Realm old monsters.

Ning Fan's eyes turned grim.

I hadn't expected that King Ying Long would have quite a lot of strong subordinates.

The 19 Void Glimpse Stage experts and 3 Void Inquiry Stage experts were all his subordinates!

Besides, among the 3 Void Inquiry Stage experts aside from the one who was as strong as Lei Shiyi, the strength of the other two was far greater Lei Shiyi's.

"How dare this brat offend King Ying Long? We should quickly subdue him!"

A Void Glimpse Stage expert rudely said. He took the lead and directly dashed towards Ning Fan.

His speed was too fast and was nearly at the level of the Void Inquiry Stage. Thinking of his terrifying speed, he did not place Ning Fan in his eyes. In fact, he was ready to eliminate Ning Fan with a single move.

However, he had underestimated Ning Fan and unknowingly entered his formation diagram.

Ning Fan's eyes flashed with lightning. He had already noticed that this person wanted to sneak-attack him and even his attack was also filled with killing intent.

But when this person got within ten thousand zhang* (3.33m per zhang) from him, Ning Fan immediately flipped his hand and shook it. All of a sudden, lightning rays filled the entire sky and condensed into a scroll painting. As Ning Fan flung his hand, the scroll painting rolled open and a lightning painting of mountains and rivers extended as far as ten thousand li* (500m per li).

The runes of the lightning painting and the landscape that was dyed red with blood manifested in the portrait.

The sun, moon, stars and the great momentum of the heavens seemed to be in tune with the lightning painting.

In the past, the lightning painting only had ancient and abstruse runes. However, after Ning Fan used the lightning painting to kill Void Refinement Realm experts several times and devoured ten lightning dragons and countless primordial lightning along the way, the grade of the lightning painting had greatly increased.

The landscape that was dyed red with blood in the painting also gradually became clearer, clearly revealing the exterior and interior of the mountains and rivers. The destructive power of the lightning painting also rose sharply. Even if Ning Fan cannot injure Void Glimpse Stage lightning cultivators, he could still directly subdue them and eliminate them within the lightning painting. With this technique, he could be said to be invincible among lightning cultivators at the same level as him!

This divine ability of turning lightning into a painting with a flip of his hand was beyond the expectations of many of them, especially the Void Glimpse Stage expert who wanted to catch him by surprise. Chills ran down his spine. As he realized the situation had started to go wrong, he turned and went back to his group without any hesitation. However, it was already too late for him.

“Keep!”

Without showing any mercy, Ning Fan shook the lightning painting and kept the Void Glimpse Stage expert and the mountains and rivers within the vicinity of ten thousand li* (500m per li) into the lightning painting.

With a single move, everything within that area turned into ashes which flew with the air. After letting out a miserable cry, that Void Glimpse Stage expert also turned into ashes and died. He did not have the chance to escape at all.

“This lightning painting is really frightening! Is it the Tai Su Lightning Diagram from the rumors?!”

“Rumor has it that after the passing of Lightning Emperor Tai Su, no one had been able to comprehend this technique. This young man’s innate talent is extremely heaven-defying to have successfully learned it!”

“This person is definitely not someone we can match. King Long must personally act in order to subdue him!”

Fear rose within the hearts of each of the Void Glimpse Stage old monsters who were originally arrogant. None of them dared to charge forward and attack Ning Fan.

Only the three Void Inquiry Stage experts let out cold snorts, unaffected by what had happened in front of their very eyes.

“This lightning painting might be strong, but this young man is clearly not skilled enough to use it effectively. He can only kill Void Glimpse Stage lightning cultivators. As for Void Inquiry Stage experts like us, he won’t be able to subdue us! Qi Ji, you will deal with Lei Shiyi! Dao Li, you will cooperate with me in killing this young man. Don’t give him the chance to kill another Void Glimpse Stage expert!”

The Void Inquiry Stage expert who gave the commands was the strongest expert among the three. His name was Cheng Huang.

Of the three Void Inquiry Stage experts, Cheng Huang was the one with the greatest strength. Dao Li was next after him, while Qi Ji was the weakest.

His decision of letting Qi Ji handle Lei Shiyi while personally handling Ning Fan with another expert was enough to show how formidable Ning Fan was to him.

He was aware of the destructive power of the Tai Su Lightning Diagram. With that diagram around, Ning Fan could completely depend on that magical painting to kill ordinary lightning-elemental undead spirits instantly and none of them would be able to resist.

In the past, he would never believe that Ning Fan was capable of putting up a fight against Void Inquiry Stage experts. Today, however, he was convinced!

As for the remaining eighteen Void Glimpse Stage experts, after knowing that they do not need to face against Ning Fan, all of them heaved sighs of relief and went to battle against the group of cultivators from the Myriad Treasure Pavilion.

Qi Ji blocked Lei Shiyi, preventing him from assisting Ning Fan.

Even though Ning Fan faced the two Void Inquiry Stage experts all by himself, he showed no signs of fear. Without giving Ning Fan time to think, Cheng Huang and Dao Li directly delivered their most powerful attacks. Each of them took out their Mid Grade Mortal Void Realm magic treasures.

“Profound Void Thunder Sword!”

“Clear Purple Lightning Frost!”

The magic treasures that the two of them took out were precious and supreme items. Even though they were only Immemorial Divine Weapons, they were rare supreme treasures among all magic treasures of the same grade.

These supreme treasures were enough to make them nearly peerless among Void Inquiry Stage experts. Unless they face experts like Ying Long or Tai Yue, they would never be defeated.

Two traces of dazzling sword light which seemed to be cutting through the galaxy was about to shred Ning Fan into thousands of pieces.

There was no way Ning Fan could evade. However, he also did not want to evade. He took a step forward instead. Suddenly, a set of golden armor appeared on top of his white robes.

“So what if you have Mid Grade Mortal Void Realm magic treasures?!”

Bang *Bang* *Bang*

Two magic treasures which carried force that could overturn mountains and oceans landed on Ning Fan’s body and emitted an earth-shattering bang. Each and every one of the experts from the lightning palace was deeply shocked by that sound which was as if doomsday had arrived.

Mountains crumbled and rivers split. The great earth cracked and lava rose from below.

On the vast empty land, pieces of the great land turned into ruins.

However, no matter what changes happened to heaven and earth, Ning Fan was still standing arrogantly and remained unscathed. The golden armor he was wearing had endured thousands of attacks from the two treasures but there was not a single scratch on him.

“*Hiss* What kind of secret technique is that armor? Its defense is actually so heaven-defying?!”

“This is bad! He is going to strike back!”

Standing amidst the wind and thunder, Ning Fan’s black hair danced wildly in the air while his eyes remained calm and composed from the beginning.

He then pointed a finger at the sky. All of a sudden, ninety-nine black stars emerged and black starlight which was like thin chiffon shone upon the ground. When the black starlight fell on the golden armor on Ning Fan’s white robes, it glittered brilliantly which added to his presence.

He extended his five fingers and clawed at the air. The starlight then condensed into a black bow. The bow which was decorated with ninety-nine traces of devil marks gave off immense devil qi.

The aura he gave off while holding the bow was completely different from that of the great elder of the Six-Winged Clan when the latter used the same technique.

At this exact moment, he resembled Great Emperor Mo Luo from the way he held the bow.

Besides, with the number of natal black stars he had condensed, the current Ning Fan was definitely several times stronger than Mo Luo if the latter was at the same level as him!

The lightning painting dispersed and returned to Ning Fan’s feet. It then formed into a diagram which spread and covered a vicinity of one hundred thousand li* (500m per li).

With Ning Fan’s current reserve of magic power, he was only capable of firing a single arrow. However, the lightning diagram still had another magical effect and that was to store magic power of the lightning cultivators it devours and allow the user of the lightning diagram to use it.

Inside that lightning diagram, there was the massive magic power of ten Void Inquiry Stage lightning dragons.

With the lightning diagram, Ning Fan did not need to worry about having insufficient magic power before fully using up the magic power of the lightning dragons he had devoured.

The reason why Ning Fan had not used the magic power stored in the lightning diagram was because he was saving it for the final battle against King Ying Long!

“Die!”

Ning Fan’s tone was as cold as ice from the deepest part of the glaciers. At the same time, the arrow he fired seemed to have pierced through heaven and earth.

The arrow was burning with star flames with its shadow tearing the skies apart. The expressions of Cheng Huang and Dao Li, both of whom had been targeted by Ning Fan with his arrow, changed greatly.

“Carefully defend against it. The destructive power of this arrow is extremely great! If we become careless, we will be grievously injured by it!”

The two of them raised their magic treasures and hurled them at the incoming arrow.

The two Mid Grade Mortal Void magic treasures which had the power to destroy heaven and earth were knocked away by the arrow.

Bang

The gigantic force of the collision filled the two magic treasures with countless cracks. Their spiritual power was also greatly reduced.

Both Cheng Huang and Dao Li felt their scalp go numb. They were not body cultivators. If this arrow hits them, they would certainly be severely injured.

“What arrow technique is this? Why is it so powerful?!”

“Even Mid Grade Mortal Void Realm magic treasures cannot stop it. Who can withstand this arrow other than those who have attained the Second Level of the Golden Body Realm?!”

“However, displaying such a powerful technique will certainly exhaust a lot of magic power. Even though he has destroyed our magic treasures, his magic power will be used up at the beginning of battle. He is truly foolish!”

When the two of them thought that Ning Fan had used up his magic power after displaying this technique, the fear and alertness in their hearts vanished. A cold smirk formed on their faces instead. They then made a series of hand seals to perform lightning techniques and went closer to Ning Fan to kill him.

However, when they were halfway there, both of them were startled. They saw that Ning Fan was looking at them with contempt.

Ning Fan drew the bowstring once more and a trace of an arrow shadow which could destroy heaven and earth shot out from the bow. Its sharp shrill nearly broke their eardrums and Sea of Consciousness.

Chi

A single arrow whistled towards them, carrying with it an irresistible force. It filled the two of them with fear.

They could not understand why Ning Fan who was just at the Half-Step Void Refinement Realm with limited magic power could still fire a second arrow in such a short period of time.

Even with the magic power they have, they could at most fire two or three arrows. The destructive power of this magic technique was too strong and would naturally require an excessive amount of magic power.

Could it be that Ning Fan's magic power was already comparable to that of a Void Inquiry Stage expert? But how is that possible?!

Both of them could not figure it out. There was also no one who could clear their doubts.

Their magic treasures had already been destroyed. They could not be used anymore. They could only summon their armor to forcefully block that arrow light.

Unfortunately, their armor was not like Ning Fan's lightning armor. Their defense was sorely lacking. As soon as the arrow hit them, it directly went past their armor and the remaining shadow of the arrow landed on their physical bodies, leaving injuries behind.

Cough *Cough* *Cough*

Cheng Huang and Dao Li coughed out a few mouthfuls of fresh blood. Fortunately, with the help of their armor, their injuries were not that serious.

Their expressions turned grim. Despite being dignified Void Inquiry Stage old monsters, they had been humiliated by Ning Fan's two arrows, making them lose their face. If they could not make Ning Fan pay, how could they quell their anger?

Inwardly, they thought that even though Ning Fan's magic power might be at the level of a Void Inquiry Stage expert, he would not be able to fire the third arrow as his magic power was certainly depleted after firing the second arrow.

However, both of them were wrong once again. This time, before they could make a move to attack Ning Fan, he drew the bow again and shot out the third, fourth and fifth arrows!

“Oh my god! This Zhou Ming can actually fire three arrows in a row while using such a terrifying arrow technique?!” Voices filled with surprise and admiration echoed in the air.

The magic power within Ning Fan’s body was quickly depleting but the lightning power in the lightning diagram rapidly replenished his magic power.

For offense, the Tai Su Lightning Diagram could be used to subdue lightning cultivators at the same level as its user and kill them. For defense, it could be used to defend against lightning techniques at the same level of the user. At the same time, it could also be used as a magic power vessel which could store lightning power. It was really a profound secret technique.

It was no surprise that this technique became one of the strongest divine abilities the Lightning Emperor Tai Su had. It really deserved its reputation.

The lightning diagram had stored all the magic power of the ten Void Inquiry Stage lightning dragons. After firing five arrows, Ning Fan was still capable of shooting at least 25 more arrows!

The three arrows shot out of the bow like a chain of pearls. They gave Cheng Huang and Dao Li an extremely great sense of danger.

They could not survive them. Their only option was to quickly escape!

The two of them no longer had the courage to go against Ning Fan. They really had no idea how many arrows more he could still fire.

If Ning Fan fires five or seven arrows in a row, their lives would probably be threatened!

However, even though their movement speed was fast, how could they be faster than star arrows?

Arrow techniques or arrow divine abilities usually only have a single chance to hit the opponent. If the arrow misses, the user of the technique would fail to kill his opponent.

Even though his arrow techniques had such a huge drawback, its destructive power was still much stronger than some magic techniques and divine abilities. Not only does it have a large attack range, its speed was also extremely fast. Its destructive power was even more impressive.

Three traces of arrow shadows travelled at a speed comparable to a Void Inquiry Stage expert. Two of the arrows went for Cheng Huang while the other one tailed after Dao Li.

Chi *Chi* *Chi*

They all heard the sound of three star arrows piercing through bodies. Undeniably, both Cheng Huang and Dao Li had been hit. They fell from the vast sky like wild geese that had been shot by a hunter and heavily crashed onto the ground. Star devil flames began to burn from within their bodies, engulfing their primordial spirits. Both of them were in so much pain that they wished they were dead.

Compared to Cheng Huang, Dao Li's condition was slightly better. Even though he was injured, he still managed to stand on his feet. He forcibly extinguished the star devil flames on his body and looked at Ning Fan. His eyes were filled with absolute terror.

Cheng Huang was worse. His entire body was consumed by the devil flames. With his thin and weak magic power, it was difficult for him to extinguish the flames. He only managed to suppress the devil flames after losing one of his arms. The injuries he suffered were certainly not light. His qi became feeble and his cultivation base almost regressed from the Void Inquiry Stage.

"I still have 25 arrows..."

Ning Fan's indifferent voice was like a sudden thunderstrike which sent chills across their scalps.

Ning Fan could still use such a powerful arrow technique 25 times. They were not capable of withstanding that. If they were to forcibly withstand it, they would certainly be killed!

They were terrified. They fled to other parts of the battlefield and did not dare to directly face Ning Fan anymore. They could only wait for King Ying Long to arrive and deal with him.

After the two of them ran away, there was no one stopping Ning Fan anymore. It was as if he had entered no man's land.

He did not pursue the two experts. After all, they were still Void Inquiry Stage old monsters. Even if Ning Fan shoots out all of his star arrows and exhausts all of his magic power, he might not necessarily be able to eliminate them.

Since he was not sure he could kill them, it was wiser to get rid of some old monsters who were within his capabilities to kill. While King Ying Long was not here, he should kill as many Void Glimpse Stage experts of the lightning palace as possible.

He drew the bow and aimed directly at a Void Glimpse Stage expert. Then, he fired an arrow.

A starlight arrow shadow whistled towards his target with a strong and vigorous momentum, just like a mountain that was about to fall upon him. No one could block this arrow.

As the Void Glimpse Stage expert was caught unprepared, the arrow that Ning Fan fired stealthily killed that expert. Star flames engulfed his body, turning him into ashes instantly.

Another Void Glimpse Stage expert died. This time, everyone's eyes fell on Ning Fan.

Only now did everyone notice that Ning Fan had gained the upper hand during his fight with the two Void Inquiry Stage experts and even made them retreat. Currently, he had spare hands to draw his bow and kill other Void Glimpse Stage experts!

As Ning Fan's killing intent rose, the remaining 17 Void Glimpse Stage experts were overwhelmed with a massive sense of danger.

"This is bad! Someone, stop him!"

Each of the Void Glimpse Stage old monsters was aware of how powerful Ning Fan's arrow technique was. How could they have the courage to resist him?

They summoned groups upon groups of Nascent Soul Realm and Divine Transformation Realm undead spirits. However, even though tens of thousands of undead spirits gathered, they still could not withstand the destructive power of a single arrow from Ning Fan.

When he fired a single arrow, hundreds of thousands of Nascent Soul Realm undead spirits were killed. Blood flowed like a river. Countless Divine Transformation Realm undead spirits perished. The great earth seemed to have returned to ancient times where sparks of flames covered it where not even a single blade of grass grew.

As Ning Fan walked amidst the great marshland of flames, he would kill a Void Glimpse Stage old monster every time he fired an arrow.

The destructive power of that Star Punishing Bow was too domineering. Moreover, with the steady supply of magic power from the lightning diagram, the current Ning Fan had nearly reached a level where he was invincible among Void Glimpse Stage experts.

No one below the Void Inquiry Stage could withstand a single arrow from him.

Chi *Chi* *Chi*

In just the time it takes for an incense stick to burn, Ning Fan had shot out twenty arrows and killed all eighteen Void Glimpse Stage experts. A majority of the Nascent Soul Realm and Divine Transformation Realm undead spirits also perished. There were only less than ten thousand enemies left.

Ning Fan had saved the strongest effect of the lightning diagram for this battle. He went into killing mode and was like a devil lord who was invincible and unmatched.

Qi Ji had already been severely injured by Lei Shiyi and the others. The condition of Cheng Huang and Dao Li were also worsening under the attacks of a group of experts.

Ning Fan still had five arrows. He bent the bow into the shape of the full moon. Then, five traces of star arrows shot out from the bow like a chain of beads. It was the secret arrow technique of continuous arrow shots he inherited from Great Emperor Ancient Chaos.

Upon seeing the five arrows combine into one, Cheng Huang was scared half to death. His current injuries were too severe. His magic power was also nearly depleted. He did not have the strength to withstand the star arrows at all.

He wanted to flee. However, before he could move, five arrows pierced through his chest. His whole body then blazed with raging devil flames. After letting out a miserable scream, he eventually died.

“This Zhou Ming can even kill a Void Inquiry Stage old monster! He definitely has the strength to rival King Ying Long!”

Hints of amazement and fearful voices filled the air, diminishing the morale of the members from the lightning palace.

Lei Shiyi and cultivators from the Myriad Treasure Pavilion were already used to Ning Fan’s excessive killing. On his own, he shot and killed eighteen Void Glimpse Stage experts, engulfed a Void Glimpse Stage expert with his lightning diagram, and landed the final blow on a Void Inquiry Stage expert with his arrows. His accomplishment today was enough to shake the members of the first one hundred floors in this lightning tower!

Cheng Huang was now dead. Ning Fan dismissed the lightning diagram beneath his feet. He had already exhausted all the magic power of the ten lightning dragons.

He scanned across Dao Li and Qi Ji with his cold gaze. When these two old monsters thought of how Cheng Huang ended up, they trembled in fear. They nearly forgot the fact that they were subordinates of Ying Long’s lightning palace as they were thinking of abandoning King Ying Long to flee for their lives.

“Where are you planning to run?!”

This time, two figures emerged outside of the battlefield before Ning Fan and Lei Shiyi could go after them. The two newly arrived individuals had stopped the two Void Inquiry Stage experts who tried to flee.

The two experts who appeared out of nowhere had Void Inquiry Stage cultivation bases. Besides, they were beings who were nearly unrivalled among Void Inquiry Stage experts.

They were Lightning Lord Mo Lei and Lightning Lord Tai Yue!

“Have you both come to protect King Ying Long?! Good! Very good! Hurry up and kill that young man. Both of us will certainly give the credit to you two. King Long will certainly give you bountiful rewards!”

As soon as Dao Li and Qi Ji saw the arrival of two lightning lords, they seemed to have seen a life-saving straw in the middle of hopelessness.

However, their words were only greeted with contemptuous snorts from the two lightning lords.

“Protect King Ying Long?! We are lightning lords like Ying Long. We have equal status. Why would we lower ourselves to protect him?! Ridiculous!”

Mo Lei and Tai Yue took care of Dao Li and Qi Ji with a flip of their hands.

Dao Li and Qi Ji were already in terrible conditions, just like an arrow at the end of its flight. Thus, it was very normal for two Peak Void Inquiry Stage experts to easily capture them alive.

Both of the lightning lords knocked each of them unconscious and descended to the ground. Then, they tossed the two who were unconscious beneath Ning Fan’s feet.

“Fellow Daoist Zhou, we meet again! Count me in on your great mission to kill Ying Long. What do you think?” Tai Yue let out a hearty laughter, as if he had already forgotten that he was the one who asked Ning Fan to receive a punch from him.

“Ying Longzi is already not far from attaining the Void Pierce Stage. His techniques are extremely strong. Rumor has it that he has once defeated a true Void Pierce Stage old monster. He is not someone who you can underestimate. Since this old man owes you a favor, I have deliberately come to lend you a hand today!” Mo Lei cupped his fists and said.

“Thank you for your great kindness.”

Ning Fan nodded his head. He had already expected the arrival of both of them. When he was on the twenty-third floor, he had already noticed some signs.

Looking at the two unconscious Void Inquiry Stage old monsters beneath his feet, Ning Fan touched his glabella and took out his Separation Slayer Sword. Without any mercy, he directly ended their lives and devoured their primordial lightning.

The way he killed two Void Inquiry Stage old monsters was similar to cutting straws. This act struck terror to countless experts once again. All of them became even more respectful towards him.

As such, other than King Ying Long, nearly all of the experts of Ying Long Lightning Palace had been wiped out.

Even so, Ning Fan did not have the slightest intention of underestimating his enemy.

King Ying Long was an expert who was peerless among Void Inquiry Stage experts. Furthermore, he even managed to defeat a Void Pierce Stage expert in the past. His combat power was definitely extraordinary.

Ning Fan gazed into the mountain range to the east. His expression suddenly turned solemn.

At the next moment, Mo Lei and Tai Yue seemed to have made a difficult decision. Their breathing became a bit chaotic. It was enough to show that they were nervous inside.

Lei Shiyi and the experts from the Myriad Treasure Pavilion also stared into the mountains in the east. Their heartbeats raced.

One million li* (500m per li) away in the east, a trace of boundless and immense aura force which was similar to that of an awakened giant dragon was approaching them as fast as lightning!

After the time it takes for an incense stick to burn, a lone middle-aged man wearing a set of yellow robes appeared at the peak of the eastern mountain. He looked down on all living creatures like they were ants. When he scanned across the battlefield, his rage became even more intense.

He had never expected that a day would come where someone will wreak havoc on the twenty-fourth floor.

He had also never expected that a lowly Divine Transformation Realm junior would one day go against him and kill all of his subordinates.

When the middle-aged man in yellow robes appeared, both Tai Yue and Mo Lei were suddenly filled with massive battle intent. They both took a step forward and shouted coldly.

“Ying Long! Your era of ruling over the twenty-four floors is now over. Today, you will die!”

“With just you lot?! Hilarious!”

The middle-aged man in yellow robes was so enraged that he laughed. With a wave of his hand, he tore the hollow space apart within the vicinity of one hundred li* (500m per li). Countless waves of windstorms from the Void Realm spread across the floor. The power of the void gushed down like a black current which formed an ocean beneath his feet.

As he stood above the waves of the void, his magic power became unlimited. He regulated his qi throughout his body and his magic power continuously recovered.

When he stared at Mo Lei and Tai Yue, his anger blazed. He threw out both of his fists and the illusory shadow of a double dragon emerged behind him. The two punches carried a formidable force that could make the mountains crumble and the earth to crack.

“Void Technique, Double Dragon!”

The expressions of Mo Lei and Tai Yue changed greatly. One thousand years ago, they were only a little weaker than King Ying Long.

However, after one thousand years passed by, they felt as if they were suffocating when faced with King Ying Long's punches.

The two lightning lords forcibly hurled their fists to counter King Ying Long's attacks. Mo Lei was not good at body techniques. He was severely injured by Ying Long right away.

As for Tai Yue, even though he had a terrifying body refinement realm which was at the Second Level of the Golden Body Realm, he was also sent flying away after taking a single punch from Ying Long. Blood flowed out from the corners of his mouth.

Even though he did not suffer severe damage, he showed signs of being defeated. It silently reflected the gap of strength between him and Ying Long.

The two lightning lords regained their balance and carefully studied the void power that gathered like an ocean beneath King Ying Long. Then, they looked at him who was standing at the center of the ocean and looked like a tiny boat in comparison. Suddenly, they understood something.

"The Qi Regulation Technique of the Void Pierce Stage!"

They finally understood the reason why King Ying Long would be so strong.

It was because even though he had yet to attain the Void Pierce Stage, he had already comprehended the Qi Regulation Technique unique to Void Pierce Stage experts.

As long as Void Pierce Stage old monsters stand on the Void Realm, they could use the void power to condense a Sea of Qi of the Void Realm that they could use to recover their magic power or temper their physical body. In other words, not only could King Ying Long quickly recover his magic power, but he could also use the void power to increase the strength of his physical body. His strength was already far greater than Mo Lei and Tai Yue combined.

"Zhou Ming, you must die!"

King Ying Long looked at him with a towering presence full of baleful qi. That was the countless killing and bloodshed he had experienced in his life.

Under that baleful qi, Lei Shiyi and the experts of the Myriad Treasure Pavilion could not withstand the aura force at all so all of them quickly retreated.

Even the two lightning lords could only regain their balance after retreating a few steps back. Their minds were startled by that intense baleful qi.

Only Ning Fan did not move a single step backwards. He faced that baleful qi head on like it was nothing.

He was not afraid of King Ying Long's baleful qi because he had also been through too much bloodshed and had naturally seen too many peerless experts.

He had witnessed Yue Tianjue's domineering strength and the ferociousness and invincibility of a Void Fragmentation Realm old monster.

He had witnessed the showdown between Great Emperor Mo Luo and Immortal Emperor Tai Su. He had witnessed Meng Xuanzi who suppressed the sound of the Bell of Samsara. He had crushed the eye of Immortal Emperor Zhang Qing. He had even met Immortal Sovereign Zi Dou.

With those encounters and experiences, Ning Fan would never be frightened by a mere King Ying Long. Never.

Ning Fan's eyes were filled with blood-red baleful qi. At this moment, he had spread out a massive blood-red baleful qi which was several times stronger than that of King Ying Long. It formed a thick blood-red cloud that covered the entire sky!

"Ying Long, you are the one who will die!"

Ning Fan was not afraid of him at all and just coldly replied to him.

That sentence carried greater baleful qi and actually made King Ying Long fall back half a step. King Ying Long's state of mind was influenced all of a sudden. His expression changed.

He, the reputable and dignified King Ying Long, had actually retreated instinctively for half a step because of the baleful qi of a junior!

It was great humiliation to him which he found difficult to believe. It made him want to kill Ning Fan instantly to vent out the hatred inside his heart!

"This man's baleful qi is much stronger than mine. How is this possible?!"

King Ying Long gritted his teeth. He realized that he had underestimated Ning Fan from the very beginning!

Besides, he had been subconsciously feeling a bit regretful. He regretted his reckless decision of issuing the order to hunt down Ning Fan in the past. It was that very order that caused the disaster today.

However, he already had no other options. His entire army had already been wiped out by Ning Fan. The only choice he was left with was to kill Ning Fan with all his might and only then could he quell his wrath.

Before he could act, however, Ning Fan first dashed into the void ocean and took out a golden bell.

The moment the golden bell rang, parts of the void ocean began to fall apart.

The Void Pierce Stage Sea of Qi that King Ying Long had painstakingly condensed was rapidly disintegrating.

"What bell is this? It could actually break the Qi Regulation Technique of a Void Pierce Stage expert!"

A rush of astonishment filled King Ying Long's heart. He stared at the Eastern Ocean Bell with disbelief. At the next second, however, his eyes began to fill with greed.

“This bell looks extremely similar to the item that King Dong Long is searching for! I must seize this item!”

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The Qi Regulation Technique of the Void Pierce Stage borrows power from the void to produce the Sea of Qi. When one stands above it, their magic power would be inexhaustible so long as the Sea of Qi remains in effect.

The magic power contained in the Sea of Qi beneath King Ying Long's feet had a total amount of magic power of at least ten Void Inquiry Stage experts.

It was somewhat similar to Ning Fan and his lightning diagram. With this technique, even if King Ying Long faces the great army of the Myriad Treasure Pavilion by himself, he would not exhaust his reserve of magic power and avoid being defeated.

No one below the Void Pierce Stage would be able to break his Sea of Qi.

As soon as King Ying Long displayed this technique, even the two lightning lords, Tai Yue and Mo Lei, felt that they had no chance of winning against him.

However, Ning Fan directly broke this technique apart using his Eastern Ocean Bell.

King Ying Long's eyes were suddenly filled with greed. He remembered that there was one old monster from a higher floor who was searching for this bell with all his might.

After Ning Fan broke King Ying Long's Sea of Qi, Lei Shiyi and the Void Refinement Realm experts of the Myriad Treasure Pavilion took advantage of the opportunity and charged forward with the 200 illusory undead puppets. Countless magic techniques and magic treasures were sent towards King Ying Long.

Facing the group of experts who had surrounded and attacked him together, King Ying Long smiled and revealed a bloodthirsty expression. His hands produced the sun, moon and stars in front of him. That magic technique was extraordinary.

Both of his hands suddenly turned into dragon claws. As he swung his claw, the claw marks his five fingers made were like five rays of ethereal moonlight.

Each ray looked gentle and light but they held massive force that could suppress mountains and rivers. These moonlights were like sharp claws that could tear into the hollow space. An immense rush of tearing force instantly swept across the vast sky.

“Void Technique, Moon-Tearing Dragon!”

The defensive armor of Lei Shiyi and the other five Void Refinement Realm experts were crushed as soon as they were struck by the claws. Blood spurt out from their wounds with their flesh badly mangled. The remaining undead puppets suffered considerable damage, greatly reducing their strength.

200 illusory undead puppets had combat power equivalent to 20 Void Glimpse Stage experts. However, nearly 50 of the undead puppets had been torn to pieces by King Ying Long. All of the remaining undead puppets were also damaged with their combat power significantly decreased.

So this is King Ying Long’s true strength? Even ordinary Void Inquiry Stage experts at the level of Lei Shiyi are unable to withstand a single strike from him!

“Lei Shiyi, you are just an ant! Next, it’s your turn!”

King Ying Long did not even spare a glance at the Divine Transformation Realm juniors from the Myriad Treasure Pavilion. His gaze only swept past Ning Fan, Tai Yue and Mo Lei.

Ning Fan’s expression became even more serious. King Ying long’s strength was far beyond his initial estimation.

So this is the true strength of a Void Inquiry Stage expert who is invincible among those at the same level as him.

Even though his face was filled with seriousness, there was no hint of fear on it. Tai Yue and Mo Lei, on the other hand, were staring at King Ying Long in shock and fear.

“Impossible! One thousand years ago, even though you are peerless among Void Inquiry Stage experts, you weren’t as strong as you are now! Defeating 6 Void Refinement Realm cultivators and 200 illusory undead puppets with a single move. You certainly would not be capable of doing this one thousand years ago!”

“Yes! I finally get it now. You are already a hair’s breadth away from the Void Pierce Stage. You are already at a level where you can meditate in seclusion and break through to the Void Pierce Stage anytime. That must be it! This is bad. This Ying Long can already be considered to be at the Half-Step Void Pierce Stage. He is someone whom we definitely can’t beat! Fellow Daoist Zhou, let’s retreat now. There is still a lot of time for revenge in the future. We must not get ourselves killed here!”

Both Tai Yue and Mo Lei were astonished by King Ying Long’s current strength. They already had intentions of retreating.

Fortunately, the two of them were not cold-blooded and selfish individuals. They did not have the idea of running away by themselves. Instead, they intended to bring Ning Fan along with them and flee.

However, Ning Fan was not going to flee in the end.

When one attains the Void Refinement Realm, the difference between each of the minor cultivation realms was worlds apart and it would be extremely hard to outdo an individual who had a higher cultivation level.

Ning Fan understood that no matter how heaven-defying a Half-Step Void Refinement Realm cultivator was, there was no way they could win against a Half-Step Void Pierce Stage expert. In the eyes of countless people, it was certainly impossible for him to defeat King Ying Long.

He was aware of it all. However, he still had a trump card that can turn this impossible situation around!

“Hand over the golden bell and I will leave your whole corpse intact! You are just a Half-Step Void Refinement Realm cultivator. No matter how frightening your combat power is, you are still an ant in my eyes! How dare you try to defy me?! It’s similar to a tiny dot of light trying to compete with the brightness of the sun and moon. Your death won’t even arouse any pity from others!”

King Ying Long’s eyes turned grim. He stood above the vault of the heavens and looked down on Ning Fan and the others as if he was looking at ants.

Even though his Void Pierce Stage Qi Regulation Technique had been neutralized, he still had confidence of killing Ning Fan within ten breaths!

“Ant? A tiny dot of light? Are you sure? Demonization!”

Ning Fan’s eyes flashed with a hint of mockery. It was the last human-like emotion that he had before his transformation.

At the next moment, all emotions in his eyes faded, only leaving behind coldness.

The trump card that Ning Fan still had up his sleeve was to borrow the power of Mo Luo’s blood to demonize his primordial spirit, temporarily turning his body into a true devil body.

At this very moment, the drop of Mo Luo’s blood in Ning Fan’s primordial spirit began to boil, turning his primordial spirit black.

His white robes began to be dyed black by the devil qi with his black hair fluttering wildly in the wind. He looked just like a devil lord clad in golden armor.

Two horns grew from his head and six wings spread across his back. A ghost eye also split open on his glabella. The only thing that remained unchanged was Ju Mo’s gigantic form.

A rush of unusually ferocious devil qi spread out from his body, freezing the space around him.

At this moment, Ning Fan seemed to have fallen into the abyss of thousands of devils. He seemed to have become one of the nine great devil ancestors who stood at the pinnacle of the devil race.

“Demonization?!” The expressions of Mo Lei and Tai Yue changed. Those experts from the Myriad Treasure Pavilion who were severely injured and had been knocked to the ground were also shocked.

It has been said that many secret techniques and abilities of the devil race in ancient times needed ‘blood’ power in order to use them. One of these abilities was demonization. By devouring a devil’s blood and letting the devilishness develop within them, one could turn into a true devil.

However, this demonization technique had already been lost after the disappearance of ‘blood’ a long time ago. No one could understand why Ning Fan was capable of using this lost ability of the ancient devils.

Could it be that Ning Fan possesses devil blood? But how could this be possible?

“I didn’t expect an insignificant ant like you still knows something like the demonization technique. However, if you think you can put up a fight against me using this mystical trick, you’re absolutely wrong.” Ying Long said with disdain.

“Is that so?!”

Ning Fan’s eyes shone with a cold light. He turned to Tai Yue and Mo Lei who were standing by his side and spoke to them. Even though his tone was indifferent, it had an irresistible devil prestige.

“The two of you, fall back!”

“What? Don’t tell me you want to face King Ying Long on your own! This is not a good idea under any circumstances!”

The two of them tried to dissuade Ning Fan from his decision but he had already taken a step forward. His figure turned faint and disappeared without a trace.

His movement technique was incredibly fast. It's level was above the Void Inquiry Stage. The current him was so fast that Mo Lei and Tai Yue could not see him.

His aura force was also vigorous. Even though he was not deliberately going against the two of them, it still made them feel a sharp pain in their Sea of Consciousness. It was caused by Ning Fan's gaze.

Mo Lei and Tai Yue did not know that Ning Fan's physical body's strength had already attained the true First Level of the Golden Body Realm after his demonization. With his corpse devil body at its peak condition, his physical body was nearly comparable to that of a body cultivator at the Second Level of the Golden Body Realm. In other words, he was definitely not any weaker than Lightning Lord Tai Yue!

Just as Ning Fan disappeared, Ying Long's eyes narrowed. Without any hesitation, he turned around and hurled both of his fists behind him.

In that direction, Ning Fan's figure appeared like a ghost. His speed and the strangeness of his technique seemed to almost touch the threshold of the genuine Void Pierce Stage!

"Void Technique, Double Dragon!"

Both of Ying Long's fists had illusory shadows of two roaring dragons. The strength of his attack had the capability of destroying heaven and earth.

As Ning Fan who suddenly appeared looked at the incoming blows, his eyes only had indifferent frigidness.

This single attack was strong enough to defeat either Tai Yue or Mo Lei.

However, in the eyes of Ning Fan who had undergone demonization, this strike was still not enough to harm him.

He did not move or evade at all and allowed the punches to directly hit his lightning armor. The impact of the punches only caused tiny ripples of lightning rays. It could not break the lightning armor at all.

Besides, the moment the impact of the attack was about to dissipate, Ning Fan opened his mouth and devoured the remaining force of the punches into his abdomen.

Refine!

The remnant force of the attack was devoured by Mo Luo's blood.

Surprisingly, Ning Fan discovered that he could actually create an imitation of the body refinement technique which he had withstood just now with the help of his devil blood after it devoured the force of the attack.

All of King Ying Long's disdain and contempt turned into astonishment in the face of Ning Fan's lightning armor which was at the third level of the golden grade.

"What armor is that? Its defense is actually so frightening!"

"You don't have to know! Void Technique, Double Dragon!"

Ning Fan threw out both of his fists. Above his arms, two traces of illusory black shadows of dragons entangled with each other and roared.

The technique he had just displayed was undeniably the body refinement technique he imitated from King Ying Long using his devil blood!

Moreover, the body refinement technique that Mo Luo's blood imitated seemed to have made some improvements on the technique as its destructive power was slightly stronger than that of the original!

"What?!"

King Ying Long became even more surprised. Well, there was no way one could remain calm after seeing their opponent learn and use their techniques immediately after just witnessing it for the first time!

Even though Ning Fan was not proficient in displaying that technique as he had used it for the very first time, the grade of the technique he displayed was evidently much higher than that of King Ying Long. Many aspects of the technique had become even more perfect than before.

Bang

As the two punches landed on King Ying Long's chest, the force broke his inner armor layer by layer and made him fall to the ground.

The shock in his eyes turned into rage. Even though his physical body was at the Second Level of the Golden Body Realm, Ning Fan still managed to harm him with a single strike disregarding the countless layers of inner armor he wore. Even though his injuries were not serious, he was still injured by Ning Fan who was an ant in his eyes.

He could not tolerate being injured by an insignificant being just like that.

However, he also could not understand why Ning Fan was able to secretly learn his secret technique right after being hit by that technique from him earlier.

“Using Mo Luo's blood, one can refine enemy attacks and borrow the power of the devil blood to instantly create imitations of the body techniques and even create improvements on them... So this is the power of the 'blood' of the ancient devil race, huh... The divine race cultivates magic techniques, the demon race cultivates sense and mind power while the devil race cultivates the body. With the power of the devil blood, one will be able to comprehend body techniques one hundred times faster compared to the other two races!”

Ning Fan gradually turned calm. Today, it was his first time going into a complete demonized state and it was also his first time discovering the profoundness of 'blood'.

Maybe the reason why the ancient devil race was vanquished and their 'blood' were seized from them was because their 'blood' was just too heaven-defying.

The 'spirit' of the demon race was the key to borrowing power from heaven and earth.

The 'blood' of the devil race was an innate quality which made devil cultivators skilled and proficient in body techniques as soon as they were born.

The Fu Li Demon Blood gave Ning Fan the 'spirit' while Mo Luo's devil blood gave him the 'blood'.

With Ning Fan's current cultivation base, he was still unable to completely understand these two types of power. However, it was within his capabilities of using the devil blood to copy the body techniques of others.

Thus, King Ying Long was no longer a terrifying opponent.

"Double Dragon Void Technique is just a Low Grade Mortal Void Realm technique. It isn't surprising that you managed to secretly learn it. However, I don't believe that you can still imitate a Mid-Grade Mortal Void Realm body technique!"

King Ying Long calmed down. He moved both of his hands to draw the great Dao and summoned the sun, moon and stars. It was the prelude of his 'Moon-Tearing Dragon' technique.

This technique was also a body technique. Its destructive power was extraordinary. With this technique, King Ying Long defeated six Void Refinement Realm experts including Lei Shiyi and even 200 illusory undead puppets with a single attack.

Ning Fan activated the devil blood within his body to its maximum capability. On his right eye, three devil stars began to shine simultaneously.

The first devil star was a devil star with an attribute. It was called the Earth Controlling Devil Star.

The second devil star was a devil star with a divine ability. It once contained an earth-element divine ability. However, the destructive power of that ability was far too weak. Thus, Ning Fan had abandoned it a long time ago.

The third devil star was a devil star that has an enhancement effect. It gradually took form after Ning Fan had condensed his natal stars. However, Ning Fan had yet to obtain an enhancement from this star as it was not fully developed yet.

As Ning Fan activated the devil blood, he suddenly felt that his right eye was burning. To put it more precisely, it was the second devil star that was burning.

The divine ability that the second devil star had got replaced by Mo Luo's blood!

The ability that the devil star had was no longer an earth-element magic technique but... Mo Luo's Eye instead!

At this moment, Ning Fan's left eye represented his demon power while his right eye represented his devil power.

His left eye was Fu Li while his right eye was Mo Luo.

His left eye could see through illusions and cast bewitching techniques. His right eye, however, has been blessed with a greater ability by the power of the 'blood'.

Slowly, his right eye no longer burned and the pain subsided. But to Ning Fan's surprise, he discovered that he could now see some unimaginable things after activating the devil eye.

For example, he could see the movement of blood and qi inside King Ying Long's body. It was all presented in Ning Fan's eyes without any reservation. The flow and the movement were extremely clear.

The destructive power of a body technique originated from the essence qi in the user's blood and flesh.

Mastering the flow of blood and qi is equivalent to mastering that body technique.

Ning Fan imitated the changes of King Ying Long's hand movements and summoned the illusions of the sun, moon and stars.

The blood and qi in his body began to flow similarly to King Ying Long's.

King Ying Long widened his angry eyes. He realized that Ning Fan was really crazy enough to imitate his technique on the spot.

A strong rush of humiliation surged in his heart. He stopped drawing power from the great momentum. At this moment, the essence qi in his blood and flesh reached its peak!

"Moon-Tearing Dragon!"

"Moon-Tearing Dragon!"

Two voices resounded nearly at the same time.

Just as King Ying Long displayed that technique, Ning Fan had actually displayed it as well through imitation.

Of course, it was impossible for him to be as skilled as King Ying Long in displaying that technique since he merely imitated it. However, his devil eye had seen through this technique and made some improvements. Hence, the grade of Ning Fan's version of 'Moon-Tearing Dragon' was definitely a level higher than that of King Ying Long!

Displaying body techniques in front of a member of the devil race who possessed the true devil blood was similar to bringing disgrace upon one's own self!

King Ying Long stretched his five fingers and tore the moonlight. Ning Fan also lifted his hand and tore five traces of moonlight which could crush mountains and rivers.

Bang

The vast heavens where the both of them were under was torn apart by a massive force. The hollow space collapsed piece by piece as the entire space violently shook.

Gigantic dragon claws which were formed from moonlight tore the hollow space which each of them occupied.

The destructive power of the technique was not weak. When King Ying Long was slashed by Ning Fan's moon claws, five scratches which were so deep that bones were visible appeared on his chest. Blood flowed out from his wounds incessantly. This time, the injuries he suffered were no longer light.

Ning Fan remained as composed as before. With the heaven-defying defense of his lightning armor, he directly blocked King Ying Long's moon claws without getting any injuries.

"Despicable! You just barely managed to win against me by secretly learning my body techniques and depending on your lightning armor! Do you have the guts to use your own strength to fight against me?!" King Ying Long roared with resentment. During the two clashes just now, he was the one who got injured while Ning Fan remained unscathed. How could he accept this fact?

"..."

Ning Fan did not care about what King Ying Long said.

He imitated his opponent's body techniques using the devil blood he possessed while the lightning armor was something he condensed using his primordial lightning. How could these not be his own techniques?

Based on what reason was he considered despicable?!

Ning Fan did not like tolerating nonsense. He did not mind letting King Ying Long witness his true strength.

He took a step forward and his figure vanished once again. At the next moment, he directly appeared in front of King Ying Long and engaged in a fierce and ruthless hand-to-hand combat.

Bang *Bang* *Bang*

King Ying Long had never expected that Ning Fan would actually be bold enough to fight him in a physical battle.

He was an expert at the Second Level of the Golden Body Realm while Ning Fan seemed to only be at the Peak of the Jade Life Realm.

However, as soon as they exchanged blows, he immediately realized that the physical body of Ning Fan who had gone into a demonized state was absolutely not any weaker than his.

Each of his punches was strong enough to pulverize mountains and rivers. Each of his palm strikes was enough to move heaven and earth!

Both of them exchanged blows thousands of times. Ning Fan fought like a berserk devil as he only attacked and attacked without even defending. Well, since he had the lightning armor, why did he need to defend himself at all?

All of King Ying Long's punches were blocked by the lightning armor.

As for Ning Fan's punches and palm strikes, all of them left wounds on King Ying Long's physical body.

A lot of dragon scales fell off from King Ying Long's body. All of them scattered from the force of Ning Fan's punches.

Droplets of dragon blood splashed across the vast sky. They came from the wounds that Ning Fan left on his body.

King Ying Long might be unrivalled among Void Inquiry Stage experts but the current demonized Ning Fan had the lightning armor which allowed him to disregard all kinds of Void Inquiry Stage attacks!

The fight between the two of them shook heaven and earth. Both Mo Lei and Tai Yue were watching the fight with their mouths open. None of them dared to intervene.

Lei Shiyi and the others gradually regained their mobility. After suppressing their injuries, they raised their heads and looked at the sky.

The hollow space would be torn apart by Ning Fan and Ying Long from time to time. That violent and brutal battle was not a battle that ordinary experts could partake in.

Even though time went by, Ning Fan did not show any signs of weariness. King Ying Long's injuries, however, became more and more severe, making him unable to continue battling with Ning Fan.

Each of the experts who was watching the fight revealed an amazed and horrified expression.

King Ying Long who once ruled over all of the first twenty-four floors revealed more and more signs of being defeated.

After the demonization, Ning Fan had actually gotten so strong that he was able to defeat King Ying Long!

Who was King Ying Long? He was someone invincible among Void Inquiry Stage experts. He had even defeated an ordinary Void Pierce Stage expert in the past.

This kind of expert was actually going to be defeated by Ning Fan. It was without a doubt an astonishing feat!

Bang

It was another collision of blows and King Ying Long was sent flying away. He had used all of his strength to strike Ning Fan's lightning armor but he could not even leave a scratch on it.

The durability of this lightning armor was far beyond his imagination. King Ying Long deeply understood that if he does not display his strongest trump card any time soon, he would definitely be unable to win against Ning Fan. Moreover, he might even die here today!

"There's no other options. Even if I have to use the treasure King Dong Long gave to me, I will do it if it means I can kill you! Void Treasure, Yellow Dragon Jade Token!"

While King Ying Long was falling back, he suddenly took out seven dark yellow jade tokens which had the shape of a dragon.

As he tossed the seven jade tokens into the air, he shook and turned into a winged yellow dragon which was six thousand zhang* (3.33m per zhang) long. His breath would blow mountains and split rivers apart.

The Yellow Dragon Jade Tokens were just Mid Grade Mortal Void Realm magic treasures. However, when the seven tokens are combined into one, it might even be stronger than some High Grade Mortal Void Realm magic treasures. It was able to deliver a Void Pierce Stage attack.

However, the magic power needed to activate this treasure was too much. That was why King Ying Long had to transform into his original form in order to use the tokens.

Ning Fan's eyes turned solemn. The destructive power of the tokens could nearly break his lightning armor!

The gigantic mouth of the yellow dragon shouted out abstruse and complex incantations.

"When the heavens are dead, the yellow sky shall prevail! Yellow sky, crush!"

Just as the yellow dragon muttered that sentence, the yellow dragon jade tokens each turned into a golden ray and vanished.

At the next second, the vast heavens within the vicinity of one hundred thousand li* (500m per li) turned golden yellow. Layers of skies spread out with seven layers of yellow skies in total.

“Crush!”

The seven layers of skies directly fell on Ning Fan. This was the true force of the falling heavens!

All Void Inquiry Stage old monsters and even some Void Pierce Stage old monsters would be killed under the force of these seven layers of yellow skies!

This was already King Ying Long’s strongest attack. This attack could even change the color of the wind and clouds!

“I also have my strongest attack. Now, I shall let you witness what kind of power will appear when Mo Luo and Tai Su fuse with each other! Heaven Breaking Sword Finger. The First Finger, the Second Finger and the Third Finger!”

Ning Fan raised his fingers and pointed at the sky. The bone of his index finger suddenly gave off a dazzling lightning ray.

It was the emperor’s finger bone!

Chapter 433: Scared King Dong Long Away

Heaven Breaking Sword Finger. The first finger could break an ethereal island, rivers and mountains. The second finger could crush the vast heavens and the black sun. The third finger could pulverize the void space and the dead bones within.

The destructive power of the third finger was close to that of a single arrow from the Star Punishing Bow.

When the three fingers were displayed in a row, the destructive power of the three sword fingers combined was even greater than that of the Star Punishing Bow!

Originally, Ning Fan had yet to successfully learn the third finger. However, inside the dream realm in his mindscape that day, Tai Su had temporarily given Ning Fan Immortal Emperor Realm level magic power. After achieving unity of heaven and man, Ning Fan could be considered as a true Immortal Emperor Realm expert at that time.

With the help of the Dao Comprehensions in that enlightened state and the magic power which was as boundless as the sea, Ning Fan had nearly comprehended the essence of the first five fingers of the Heaven Breaking Sword Finger.

With his current cultivation base, he was still not capable of using the fourth and fifth fingers. However, after getting into the demonized state, it was not really a problem for him to display the third finger.

Ning Fan raised his head. He stared at the seven layers of yellow skies that were descending from above and took in a deep breath.

He saw the full aura force of the seven layers of yellow skies. He saw King Ying Long's arrogance and pride which made him disdain everything.

If a Void Inquiry Stage old monster were to be in Ning Fan's position, only certain death would await them after being crushed by the seven layers of yellow skies. Thus, it was no surprise why King Ying Long would be proud of himself.

King Ying Long's Yellow Dragon Jade Token was really powerful. Even lightning lords like Tai Yue and Mo Lei could not withstand it. However, Ning Fan had no other choice but to withstand this attack!

He pointed the first finger and the mountains and rivers below him gradually collapsed. All of the force which originated from the collapse of the mountains and rivers gathered at the tip of his finger, forming

a dazzling sword light. It had a deep yellow color which represented the great earth, mountains and rivers.

Before this sword light could shoot out from his finger, Ning Fan pointed the second finger. At the same moment, the seven layers of yellow skies trembled. The tremor was a sign that they were about to be broken by his second finger but it stopped after a short while. Pieces of the hollow space shattered. The black-colored sun which had risen in the sky suddenly broke too and dispersed.

The force from the shattering of the vast sky and the black sun formed a second ray of bright sword light. Right after that, the two traces of sword light turned greyish-white. This color represented the vast heaven.

When Ning Fan lifted the third finger next, his eyes were filled with unprecedented solemnity. It was his first time displaying this technique with his own cultivation base.

As he pointed the third finger, the Void Realm within the area of one hundred thousand li* (500m peril) was torn apart. This space which was as black as ink had killed too many experts and buried too many remnant bones of the dead.

What the third finger would break was the countless dead spirits that had died in the Void Realm!

Pieces of the Void Realm fell apart and the withered bones inside it disintegrated.

Bellows and roars from ghosts of ancient times resounded from the withered bones. Their voices carried exhaustion from their efforts to obtain freedom.

All of a sudden, Ning Fan was surprised. On the surface, the third finger seems like it gets its power from destroying the remains of the dead experts in the Void Realm but it actually had another use.

Those experts who had died in the Void Realm were trapped within that space, making them unable to enter the Cycle of Samsara after their deaths.

This finger, however, destroyed their remaining bones, breaking the cage that is the Void Realm and sent them into the Cycle of Samsara.

The true meaning of this third finger was not focused on taking lives but rescuing them!

Perhaps the Sword Ancestor who invented this sword finger was guilty of the innumerable deaths he had caused in his life. Hence, he wanted to release those experts who were trapped in the Void Realm from their suffering and send them into the Cycle of Samsara...

“Sword Ancestor...”

Ning Fan closed his eyes. Suddenly, a hint of newfound respect for the Sword Ancestor who was a woman from the ancient times surfaced in his heart.

In the journey to attain the Dao, killing others is inevitable. However, the reason why one would want to kill is not necessarily vengeance. If it isn't about taking revenge, then I will only kill you in your current lifetime. Bringing you out of dire straits and sending you once again into the Cycle of Samsara can also be considered as offsetting the enmity between us... This is the Sword Ancestor's generosity, huh...

Ning Fan's expression gradually turned calm. His eyes shone with a hint of a vast and mysterious power.

That power was the power of Samsara. Even though he only had a small trace of it, using it on the third finger was much more compatible with its true meaning.

Suddenly, his mind became broader than before as if he could contain the entire Samsara within it.

Three rays of dazzling sword light condensed at the tip of his finger. Then, the three traces of sword lights were dyed black. The color of black represented the bones of the dead in the Void Space.

His mind seemed to remember four figures one after another.

Mo Luo's bloodthirstiness, Tai Su's righteousness, the Sword Ancestor's indifference and the smile of Immortal Sovereign Zi Dou who erased Samsara.

Scorching lightning rays appeared on the tip of his finger. The Immortal Emperor's Finger Bone which he had devoured in the past could definitely make the destructive power of this finger even more stronger.

An unimaginable glow flashed in his eyes. It made him look as majestic and lofty as an immortal emperor. Despite him standing beneath seven layers of yellow skies, when his eyes scanned past King Ying Long's dragon body, he actually gave him a soul-stirring feeling.

As he delivered that attack, three traces of sword light which carried apocalyptic power pierced through the vault of the heavens. Wild gusts blew across the whole area!

At this moment, Ning Fan remained as firm and steady as a rock as he stood beneath the falling seven layers of yellow skies just like an immortal emperor from the ancient times who had lived until the current era!

"What kind of finger technique is this?! It can actually give me such a frightening feeling! W-What?! This is absolutely impossible!"

All the words got stuck in his throat. King Ying Long's bloodshot dragon eyes were filled with disbelief, his face hideously ferocious.

Just as he exclaimed in surprise, the seven layers of yellow skies which were falling upon Ning Fan began to break apart one after another when he shot out his three rays of sword light!

Chi *Chi* *Chi*

Three rays of deadly sword light penetrated the seven layers of yellow skies one after another.

The first ray of sword light broke the first three layers of the yellow skies.

The second ray of sword light eliminated the next three layers of the yellow skies.

The third ray of sword light retained two-thirds of its destructive power after breaking through the seventh layer of the yellow skies. It turned into billions of pitch-black sword threads and enveloped King Ying Long's dragon body.

Faced with innumerable sword threads, King Ying Long's massive yellow dragon body seemed as insignificant as a moth. His eyes were filled with terror.

When the billions of sword threads spread out, it was like a large and inescapable spider web while King Ying Long was the dying moth that got trapped within.

He could not believe that his strongest trump card, the Yellow Dragon Seven Tokens, would easily be neutralized by Ning Fan's three fingers!

Chi *Chi* *Chi*

Traces of sword threads which were as black as ink cut through the dragon scales that were protecting King Ying Long's body. Even though his physical body was at the Second Level of the Golden Body Realm, the sword threads still managed to leave billions of wounds on his body. His dragon blood sprinkled across the entire area and his blood flowed on the ground like a river!

"Ah!"

Ying Long screamed in pain. His dragon scales fell off from his body like pieces of snowflakes. He suffered serious injuries from the attack of Ning Fan's Heaven Breaking Sword Finger!

Hiss

At this moment, countless experts including Mo Lei and Tai Yue sucked in a cold breath.

When they saw King Ying Long display the Yellow Dragon Seven Tokens and summoned seven layers of yellow skies, all of them felt that they would not stand a chance if they were the ones who had to face it.

Even so, Ning Fan broke the attack of the seven layers of yellow skies by just pointing three fingers consecutively and delivering three rays of sword light. At this moment, Ning Fan had the air, pride and mightiness of an immortal emperor. His very presence would make one have the urge to fall to their knees and worship him.

“The destructive power of Fellow Daoist Zhou’s sword finger is already comparable to a Void Pierce Stage attack. Even if his opponent is a true Void Pierce Stage old monster, not all of them will be able to withstand it! Since Fellow Daoist Zhou can already display this strong of an attack, could it be that his true cultivation base is already at the Void Pierce Stage?”

“King Ying Long has been defeated! Fellow Daoist Zhou has defeated Ying Long. We shall take advantage of this opportunity to kill that evildoer. Then, all twenty-four floors of the lightning tower will return to their original state where the strongest of the respective floors will rule over their own floors. We will never have to yield to King Ying Long anymore!”

Screams and cries resounded from all directions. There were also countless experts who were hiding in this area. Among them, there were the neutral forces of the twenty-four floors and even some experts who descended to the twenty-fourth floor from the floors above. All of them revealed terrified expressions as they looked at Ning Fan.

No matter where a strong being goes, they would always be respected and admired by others. The fact that Ning Fan was able to defeat King Ying Long had undoubtedly proved that he was strong!

Without paying any attention to the respectful gazes and stares from the cultivators around him, Ning Fan activated his devil form and turned into a black giant which was five thousand zhang* (3.33m per zhang) tall. His body was still clad in golden armor. Finally, he included the last devil manifestation of Mo Luo, the body of Ju Mo[1]!

He opened his mouth and inhaled, swallowing the seven jade tokens which fell from the sky and into his abdomen. He wanted to keep the Yellow Dragon Seven Tokens.

After taking a gigantic step, the giant in golden armor got closer to Ying Long. He grabbed Ying Long's massive tail and hurled him like a whip, slamming him on the ground repeatedly.

After King Ying Long was harmed by the sword finger, his qi had yet to recover. Thus, he did not have the strength to resist the giant's attack at all.

He was like a helpless gigantic snake that was being raised and slammed to the ground time after time. Each time he hit the ground, his body would flatten countless mountains and rivers which gave out earth-shattering bangs.

After a short while, the qi of Ying Long who had yet to recover from the previous attack became even more chaotic. His Sea of Consciousness was on the verge of collapsing. As he continued to be slammed by the giant, his injuries became even more severe with his vision slowly becoming blurry as he gradually lost his consciousness for every hit he took. There was nothing he could do to resist other than letting out wrathful and resentful roars.

"Zhou Ming! You're courting death! How dare you injure me so seriously?! I will kill you! I must kill you!"

"Shut up!"

The golden-armored giant made an angry shout that carried a hint of contempt. Since he had already incapacitated Ying Long, how could he let him go? He must eliminate him today!

With a brutal and violent way, the giant extracted Ying Long's dragon tendon, peeled off all of his dragon scales, crushed his dragon horns and broke his dragon wings.

Ying Long was racked with intense pain. His skin split and his flesh splattered everywhere. Blood flowed out from his wounds like rivers. At this moment, he finally abandoned his arrogant attitude. He finally felt fear!

"Zhou Ming! You can't kill me. I am the subordinate of King Dong Long, the lightning lord of the ninetieth floor of the tower! If you kill me, King Dong Long is definitely not going to let you off the hook! Hurry up and let me go!"

A trace of aura force which was extremely close to the Void Fragmentation Realm suddenly arrived at the twenty-fourth floor as if it was responding to Ying Long's cry for help!

"Ying Long is right. If you dare to touch one of my men, you will die today!"

As soon as this voice fell, an old man in golden robes suddenly descended from the sky. His eyes were as cold as ice.

Just as this man appeared, countless experts on the twenty-fourth floor exclaimed in shock.

"King Dong Long! This man is the lightning lord of the ninetieth floor of this tower. He has come to rescue King Ying Long!"

"It has been said that King Dong Long has already attained the peak of the Absolute Void Stage. He is already a Half-Step Void Fragmentation Realm expert. If it wasn't for the restrictions of the Black Lightning Tower on the cultivation levels of the undead spirits that prevents anyone from attaining the Void Fragmentation Realm, King Dong Long would have already been at the Void Fragmentation Realm!"

"He had come, unexpectedly. No matter how strong Zhou Ming is, he is certainly not a match for King Dong Long..."

At the moment King Dong Long appeared, hopelessness filled the expressions of Mo Lei, Tai Yue and the others.

King Ying Long who was unrivalled among Void Inquiry Stage experts was already capable of making everyone afraid of him. A Void Pierce Stage old monster, on the other hand, could easily overpower everyone on this floor.

As for an old monster at the Absolute Void Stage, slaughtering everyone on the twenty-fourth floor was as easy as blowing off dust!

However, King Dong Long was not just an Absolute Void Stage old monster but also an expert who was at the peak level of that stage.

Other than true Void Fragmentation Realm experts, who would be able to restrain him?!

“Fellow Daoist Zhou! Let’s retreat at once. We must not face this King Dong Long directly!” Lei Shiyi and the others yelled anxiously.

“No need! He won’t dare to fight me!”

The eyes of the golden-armored giant flashed with killing intent. He applied some force on both of his hands and brutally tore Ying Long into two halves. Then, both of his hands squeezed, turning the dragon corpse into countless pieces of bloody flesh.

At first, King Ying Long felt excitement and was relieved thinking that Ning Fan would certainly not dare to hurt him when King Dong Long had arrived to save him.

However, he did not expect that Ning Fan actually had the guts to kill him in front of King Dong Long. With a miserable cry, his life was ended by Ning Fan.

“How dare you?!”

King Dong Long was filled with rage. He did not expect that a mere Divine Transformation Realm junior would be bold enough to kill his subordinate right in front of him.

Moreover, he had also never expected that Ning Fan would even dare to speak so arrogantly in front of him by saying that he, a mighty being at the Absolute Void Stage, would not be bold enough to fight him who was just a Divine Transformation Realm cultivator!

Humiliation! It was an utter humiliation!

King Dong Long let out a cacophony of laughter due to his extreme rage. He took a step forward and brought his large hands forward. The dragon qi around the sky was like a sword and a halberd. It was rushing directly at Ning Fan.

At the same moment, however, Ning Fan's body suddenly emanated the aura force of a Void Fragmentation Realm attack. It made King Dong Long's face instantly pale.

"A-A Void Fragmentation Realm attack?! You actually possess a Void Fragmentation Realm attack?! Who are you?!"

"Get lost! If I see you again, you will be the one who dies!" The golden-armored giant threatened coldly.

King Dong Long hurriedly dismissed his dragon qi. For the first time in his life, he felt anxious and afraid. His mind was filled with doubts and confusion.

Why? Why would Ning Fan, a lowly Divine Transformation Realm cultivator can deliver a Void Fragmentation Realm attack?!

King Dong Long was arrogant and proud. However, in the face of a Void Fragmentation Realm attack, his arrogance was nothing.

He had attained the peak of the Absolute Void Realm. Now, he was just half a step away from the Void Fragmentation Realm. However, he would never be able to break through that gap. He would always be one step away from the Void Fragmentation Realm!

From the strike that Ning Fan possessed in his Stele of Sun and Moon, King Dong Long felt a sense of certain death!

"This young man has a Void Fragmentation Realm attack with him. It is certainly unwise to make him my enemy!"

"Despite having such a strong trump card, he only decided to chase me away but did not try to face me directly. I can assume that displaying that Void Fragmentation Realm attack will take a great toll on him... Perhaps he just has a single attack and he does not want to waste it on me..."

“No matter what, this man has such a frightening trump card with him. I must never offend him just because of Ying Long...”

“I heard that someone had seen that this young man also possesses a strange golden bell that can nullify void power. It’s because of that bell that I decided to descend to this floor... I really want to obtain that bell but if I push that young man into displaying that Void Fragmentation Realm attack because of that bell, the losses I will suffer would outweigh my gains...”

“Fine. It’s better for me not to mess with him!”

Countless thoughts ran across King Dong Long’s mind. In the end, he clenched his teeth with a complicated expression and left after grudgingly cupping his fists at Ning Fan.

He really did not dare to fight Ning Fan!

That scene had startled countless experts.

King Dong Long arrived with a vigorous aura force. However, after being humiliated by Ning Fan who had killed his subordinate right before his eyes, he decided to reluctantly leave. Why did that happen?

Of course, none of them noticed that Ning Fan had secretly released a trace of the aura force of his Stele of Sun and Moon and scared King Dong Long away.

Looking at King Dong Long’s figure that was getting smaller in the distance, the eyes of the golden-armored giant flashed with a hint of cold light and shook his head at the next moment.

If he had really used the stored attack in his Stele of Sun and Moon, he had the confidence to put King Dong Long down. However, there was still a probability that his effort might be for nothing.

He had spent a great deal of effort to fully replenish the soul of the Stele of Sun and Moon. If this Void Fragmentation Realm attack was used on King Dong Long without being able to kill him, it would be too wasteful.

Since he did not have 100% assurance of killing King Dong Long, he just scared him away without really confronting him. If he faces him, he has to really finish him off with a single blow. Otherwise, he would only be bringing a great enemy to himself.

Ning Fan had already reached his limits this time by killing all the way to the twenty-fourth floor. If he wishes to go to the higher floors, he would face Void Pierce Stage or even Absolute Void Stage enemies. Ning Fan was aware that even if he goes into the demonized state, he would definitely be unable to resist those old monsters.

After devouring King Ying Long's flesh and primordial spirit and storing his primordial lightning, Ning Fan picked up a piece of dark golden bamboo leaf. His eyes were filled with thoughts.

He had already gathered 24 dark golden bamboo leaves in total. They were more than enough to accomplish the mission Hong Yi had given to him.

"It's time to leave. The treatment of Yue'er injuries can't be delayed anymore... Besides, there's still Little You'er who also needs to be treated..."

After dismissing his demonized state, he suddenly felt that his body was deprived of strength. Immediately, he took a few pills to recover his strength and magic power.

With the protection of the lightning armor which was at the third level of the golden grade, he did not suffer any injuries. However, the consumption of his strength and magic power was rather heavy. Demonizing his primordial spirit was too burdensome on his body.

He still needed to devour at least ninety thousand traces of primordial lightning for his lightning armor to break through to the fourth level of the golden grade. He did not have time to continue climbing to higher floors to kill and gather more primordial lightning. The only option he had right now was to temporarily give up on improving his lightning armor.

Ning Fan's cold eyes scanned across the surroundings, giving a warning to the experts who were secretly watching this battle. Then, he walked towards Lei Shiyi and the others.

“Congratulations, Fellow Daoist Zhou. You have successfully killed Ying Long with your own hands. Fellow Daoist’s name has probably shocked everyone on the one hundred floors of this lightning power after gaining victory in today’s battle.”

“Indeed. Unexpectedly, not only could Fellow Daoist kill Ying Long, you also managed to scare off King Dong Long. Evidently, Fellow Daoist still has an extremely powerful trump card...”

The atmosphere was filled with commotion. The words he heard were either a compliment, a probing question or words with a hidden meaning.

The only similarity was that the eyes of all the experts who looked at him were filled with respect and admiration, including Mo Lei and Tai Yue.

Only Lei Shiyi still maintained a despicable expression. He rubbed his hands and gave Ning Fan a wretched smile.

“Fellow Daoist Zhou, are you leaving now?”

“Yes.”

“Er... As the saying goes, great wits have short memories. Fellow Daoist, think carefully. Is there something you should do before leaving but you have yet to do it...?” Lei Shiyi blinked, like he was trying to remind Ning Fan that he had promised to give him all of the lightning jades.

“As far as I know, I haven’t forgotten anything.”

Ning Fan deliberately gave him a blank expression. As soon as he spoke these words, Lei Shiyi was dazed as if he had just swallowed a bunch of flies.

It’s over... It’s really over... Could it be that this Zhou Ming has completely forgotten his promise?

While he was scratching his head, trying to think of how to euphemistically remind Ning Fan about the lightning jades, the latter had already handed over a pouch full of lightning jades to him and walked away with a smile.

“Don’t worry. I don’t have the habit of breaking promises.”

Ning Fan walked towards Mo Lei and Tai Yue and cupped his fists towards them.

“Thank you for your help today. If there is an opportunity in the future, I will surely repay this favor.”

“Hehe... We didn’t help much actually. It’s Fellow Daoist who had the strong capabilities to successfully eliminate Ying Long...” Tai Yue and Mo Lei made bitter smiles. They did not have a trace of arrogance natural to lightning lords. Other than helping Ning Fan capture two Void Inquiry Stage experts, they did not seem to have done anything else.

“I still have some urgent matters to handle. Thus, I have to leave now. If we are destined to meet in the future, our paths shall cross again! Farewell!”

Ning Fan’s eyes swept across the experts around him and slightly cupped his fists. Then, he summoned the Heaven Deceiving Cloak and disappeared without leaving a trace.

As for the unusual smell of the Fire Scale Ash, Ning Fan had already eliminated it with his golden purple mist. He just did not want to erase it before this. After all, what can’t be erased under the power of Samsara?

“He has left. He doesn’t have the intention to dominate the twenty-four floors at all. Apparently, he is indeed a living person as expected. Did he come to the Black Lightning Tower just to train himself, just like Lightning Emperor Bu Zhou?” Mo Lei let out a faint sigh.

“He will probably return. When that time comes, he will probably be even stronger than before. During that time, I will be more than willing to have a fight with him again. However, I’m afraid that I will no longer be his opponent anymore.” Tai Yue’s eyes shone with battle intent. He was looking forward to Ning Fan’s arrival in the future.

After receiving the pouch, Lei Shiyi did not check how many lightning jades there were inside the pouch. Instead, he just stared at the direction where Ning Fan had left. All of a sudden, his expression turned serious. Using telepathy, he said.

“The mountains are high and the rivers are long. See you again in the future!”

Under the concealment of the Heaven Deceiving Cloak, Ning Fan avoided many troubles and went past every floor swiftly.

Without any battles, it was naturally quick for him to leave this place. In just a single day, he had already gone out of the lightning tower.

The trip to the lightning tower was just like a dream. By chance, he obtained the Immortal Emperor’s Finger Bone, eliminated the hidden danger of the devil marks and even improved his lightning armor. Even though his cultivation base did not improve, his combat power had increased by a great deal.

However, after examining himself internally, his expression became a little dejected seeing the ineradicable black devil qi on his primordial spirit.

The drawback of going into his demonized form before completely refining Mo Luo’s blood was not insignificant.

Now, half of his primordial spirit had turned black. If his primordial spirit completely turns black, it would probably bring him a lot of trouble.

Luckily, the foundation of his primordial spirit was solid, relieving him from the influence of the devil qi. The little hands of his primordial spirit formed a series of hand seals and expelled the devil qi within.

It would probably take approximately one month to completely expel all of the devil qi and only then could he go into the demonized state once again.

“When I return to the internal sea this time, it’s better that I don’t go into that state again if it isn’t absolutely necessary. Even though Mo Luo’s devil body is strong, the drawbacks are very serious. Unless

I have completely assimilated Mo Luo's blood, my primordial spirit will suffer some damage every time I go into that state."

"I'm afraid that it will be extremely difficult to completely assimilate Mo Luo's blood. After all, this drop of blood is the blood of Great Emperor Mo Luo. It contains the power of 'blood'. It can't be assimilated directly like other magic treasures... If I want to assimilate it, I not only have to pay the Giant Devil Clan a visit but also the Six-Winged Clan, the Mist Horn Clan as well as the Ghost Eye Clan. Only then will I have the chance to find the method to assimilate this blood."

Ning Fan dismissed his thoughts. With the help of the teleportation formation, he left the cloud realm and returned to the lower layer of the Black Lightning Realm.

As soon as he appeared, Hong Yi's beautiful figure immediately appeared before his eyes. Her cold eyes were obviously filled with discontentment for having to wait for so long.

"I have been waiting for you for seven days before you finally returned. Where are the items? Did you manage to gather seven bamboo leaves?"

"By luck, I managed to accomplish the mission. I gathered slightly more than the amount you needed."

Ning Fan secretly studied Hong Yi and his expression turned slightly grim. With his current combat power, he still felt it was a little difficult to breathe when facing Hong Yi.

Even though she only had a Void Glimpse Stage cultivation base, the sense of danger she gave Ning Fan was far beyond the one King Ying Long gave off. Perhaps it was even greater than that of King Dong Long!

"How dare you still try to probe into my secrets?" Hong Yi's expression turned even colder. She had warned Ning Fan once before not to check on her anymore but she did not expect that he would actually disregard her warning and do it again.

However, when she heard that Ning Fan had obtained slightly more than 7 dark golden bamboo leaves, she suppressed her coldness. Her mood became a little better and she did not plan to hold Ning Fan responsible for violating her privacy.

"I noticed your baleful qi seems to have grown more concentrated than before. Could it be that you killed all your way up the lightning tower? How many floors did you manage to ascend and how many lightning leaves have you gathered?" Hong Yi felt a bit surprised. Actually, she already had the answers in her mind for the questions she had raised.

"The process is not worth mentioning but the results are rather satisfying. How about you make a guess on how many dark golden bamboo leaves I have obtained?" Ning Fan changed the topic of the conversation and did not brag about the number of undead spirits he had killed.

Killing others was never a joyful matter. However, the journey of seeking the Dao and becoming an immortal was full of twists and turns. On many occasions, there was no other option other than taking the lives of others. Even though Ning Fan was determined in his actions and he killed without hesitation, he was not that uncouth and bloodthirsty that he would brag about himself with the number of lives he had taken.

"You want me to guess?" Hong Yi looked at Ning Fan in a strange manner. When she asked questions, others only had the right to answer her obediently. Ning Fan was the first person who asked her in return and let her guess.

"Are you afraid that you won't be able to guess correctly?"

"Afraid?" One corner of Hong Yi's mouth curved into a sarcastic smile. She was never afraid of anything.

She rarely smiled. Even though the smile she currently put on her face had a hint of sarcasm, it appeared rather different because of her natural beauty.

Instead of being frightening, it looked pretty charming.

Ning Fan was slightly stunned. He did not expect that Hong Yi who had a cold personality and a frigid expression would be so mesmerizing when she smiled.

"With your capabilities, it won't be difficult for you to kill all the way up to the seventh floor if there wasn't any accident. It's also highly possible that you managed to travel across the tenth floor without

much hindrance... I guess you have reached the tenth floor and obtained ten bamboo leaves.” Hong Yi said with a firm tone.

“The total number I got is slightly more than ten.”

“You managed to get beyond the eleventh floor?” Hong Yi’s icy cold eyes revealed a hint of astonishment for the first time.

Beyond the eleventh floor, the guardians of the bamboo leaves were Void Inquiry Stage experts.

Hong Yi did not think that Ning Fan was able to resist Void Inquiry Stage old monsters with his thin and feeble body.

“Which floor did you manage to reach, exactly...?”

Hong Yi might not be interested in anything in this world but she had to admit that Ning Fan had successfully piqued her interest.

She took a gentle step and got closer to Ning Fan. Her cold eyes had an oppressive aura. She no longer wanted to continue guessing. She did not have so much patience.

When she stood in front of Ning Fan, she raised her cold and pure appearance and stared coldly at him. There was no hint of emotion on her face.

With such a close distance, Ning Fan could even smell the unique fragrance from her body.

“What if we make a deal? I have obtained a number of dark golden lightning bamboo leaves and I can give you fourteen of them. The remaining will belong to me. However, you have to give me one hundred thousand years old spiritual herbs to harmonize the medicinal power of these leaves.”

“You also need dark golden lightning bamboo leaves? Golden lightning bamboo leaves could be used to save a Void Refinement Realm cultivator while dark golden lightning bamboo leaves... I suppose you won’t be using it at the moment, right?” Hong Yi asked thoughtfully.

“You are also just a Void Refinement Realm cultivator, aren’t you? So why do you need these dark golden lightning bamboo leaves which only Void Fragmentation Realm experts could use?” Ning Fan asked her another question in return. He also had some speculations about Hong Yi.

“Fine. It doesn’t matter if you don’t tell me. Did you really get to the fourteenth floor and above?” Hong Yi was somewhat surprised. She did not think that Ning Fan had the capabilities to fight all the way up to the fourteenth floor.

“It’s just luck. So what do you say about this deal?” Ning Fan’s smile became even more indecipherable and Hong Yi found it even more difficult to understand him.

“I don’t need fourteen bamboo leaves. Just twelve will do. You can have all of the remaining leaves... Now, can you tell me how many bamboo leaves you have obtained, can’t you?”

“24 pieces.”

“A mere Half-Step Divine Transformation Realm like you can actually kill all the way up to the twenty-fourth floor...” Hong Yi’s eyes which were red like blood flashed with a hint of amazement. Then, she perfectly concealed that expression and remained silent.

She realized that she had underestimated Ning Fan.

With such strength, perhaps Ning Fan would really be able to help her accomplish that mission.

“Your strength surprises me... Let’s go. I will bring you to meet a few people.” Hong Yi fell back and distanced herself from Ning Fan. She spoke casually and Ning Fan did not know what she was thinking in her mind.

“Meet who?” Vigilance rose within Ning Fan’s heart. Even though he had a promise with Hong Yi, he had yet to completely trust her.

“The members of the Zhou Clan are right here on this Lightning Bamboo Island. The one hundred thousand years old spiritual herbs are also in their hands. Well, you can choose not to go!”

Hong Yi left ethereally. His eyes glinted and he immediately tailed after her.

If it’s just for saving Yue Lingkong, obtaining the golden lightning bamboo leaves would be enough.

However, in order to save Luo You, he must obtain one hundred thousand years old spiritual herbs to harmonize the medicinal power of the dark golden bamboo leaves.

He had yet to hand over the leaves to Hong Yi. With this bargaining chip in his hands, he was not afraid of the people of the Zhou Clan plotting against him and he was also not worried that Hong Yi would break her promise.

Ning Fan had also noticed that the rare and precious one hundred thousand years old spiritual herbs seemed to be rather insignificant in Hong Yi’s eyes.

“The daughter of the lightning emperor... Such an esteemed identity and such high standards... Even Void Fragmentation Realm old monsters would regard one hundred thousand years old spiritual herbs importantly. But in her eyes, those spiritual herbs seem to have no value.”

“With the Heaven Deceiving Cloak and the stored attack in my Stele of Sun and Moon, it’s not risky to travel within the internal sea. Even if this woman is plotting something against me by leading me to the cultivators of the Zhou Clan, I am also not afraid.”

“Besides, judging from her motives, it seems like she still wants to rope me into the Zhou Clan. Previously, even though she said that she was impressed by my Wind Mist Finger, she did not treat me in this manner. Apparently, it’s the boost in my combat power which made her change her attitude towards me. In this world, in order to make others respect you, you will need to change yourself first no matter what. There’s still a lot of time before I can break through to the Void Refinement Realm. However, breaking through to the Golden Body Realm is far easier than attaining the Void Refinement

Realm. With the power of the 'blood', my potential in body refinement techniques is one hundred times better than ordinary cultivators. As long as I can improve the grade of my devil marks and make them attain the Marshal Rank, I can definitely break through to the Golden Body Realm. When that time comes, even though my cultivation base has yet to attain the Void Refinement Realm, there is certainly no Void Refinement Realm old monsters who would dare to underestimate me..."

Ning Fan clenched his fists tightly and his eyes shone with confidence. Now, he was not far away from attaining the Golden Body Realm!

Chapter 434: Withstand a Sword Strike from This Old Man!

After coming out of the black lightning realm, they were now at the Golden Lightning Heavenly Dwelling. Here, Hong Yi gave Ning Fan a pouch.

That pouch was a storage pouch which was rather high-grade. It was loved by many high-levelled female cultivators. Inside that pouch was a number of golden lightning bamboo leaves.

She let Ning Fan erase all of the spirit sense marks on the bamboo leaves without stopping him. She understood the reason why Ning Fan did that and that was to prevent her from destroying those leaves.

Compared to Hong Yi, Ning Fan was much more cautious.

He only gave seven pieces of dark golden bamboo leaves to Hong Yi. Giving her seven pieces of bamboo leaves was their previous agreement.

Based on their newest agreement, he had to give Hong Yi a total of twelve pieces of bamboo leaves. Ning Fan said that he would give her the remaining five pieces after obtaining the one hundred thousand years old spiritual medicines.

Hong Yi's blood-red eyes remained calm. She did not find anything wrong with Ning Fan's actions.

When it comes to one's conduct in society, there is nothing wrong in asking for terms that are beneficial to yourself beforehand and exercising a good deal of courtesy later.

If Ning Fan cheats her, she would naturally make him pay.

If Ning Fan fulfills his promise, she would also fulfill hers as well and trade with him normally by giving him the one hundred thousand years old spiritual medicines and ordering the Zhou Clan to become his backer in the internal sea.

Hong Yi was someone who would never take advantage of others and was one who would definitely not make a decision that would bring a loss to her. This characteristic of hers was rather similar to Ning Fan.

“Miss Hong Yi has kept your promise and has given me the golden lightning bamboo leaves as promised. I really admire you for having done this.”

Ning Fan kept the golden lightning bamboo leaves and thanked her with his fists cupped. With these bamboo leaves, Yue Lingkong’s injuries would no longer be a problem.

“Humph. Do you really think I will go against the Great Oath of Heart Devil just for some golden lightning bamboo leaves?”

Hong Yi gave Ning Fan a cold stare. As soon as she recalled that Ning Fan had compelled her to make the Great Oath of Heart Devil, she began to feel a little displeased.

“Hehe. Miss Hong Yi must be joking... Hmm? Your complexion looks a little pale. Are you feeling unwell?”

Ning Fan diverted the topic of their conversation to avoid provoking Hong Yi.

Only after leaving the Black Lightning Realm did Ning Fan have the mood to carefully observe Hong Yi. Hence, he only noticed that her complexion was a little pale and she seemed to be feeling weak.

Ten days ago, Hong Yi was certainly not in such a condition.

“I am currently in the state of my primordial spirit. The reason why my complexion will look this pale is because my primordial spirit is currently weak. It isn’t a big deal. Humph! You are the first man who dared to say that my complexion is pale. However, seeing that you are still useful to me, I will turn a blind eye on your mistake in saying those impolite words!”

Hong Yi knitted her brows. Even though she did not care whether her face was beautiful or ugly, she was still somewhat displeased when Ning Fan said that her complexion was pale.

Besides, the reason why she became like this was because of him.

According to their original plan, Hong Yi could at most stay in the Black Lightning Realm for seven days.

After seven days, whether she successfully obtains the dark golden bamboo leaves or not, she would have to return to the outside world and rendezvous with the third elder and the others.

She had to consume a certain amount of primordial spirit nourishing pills to strengthen her primordial spirit. Otherwise, her current state would become extremely weak and injured.

Ning Fan had spent ten days in the cloud realm of the upper level. Within ten days, Hong Yi had been guarding the teleportation formation on the lower level to prevent lightning beasts from destroying the formation and trapping Ning Fan forever on the upper level.

Therefore, Hong Yi did not leave the Black Lightning Realm according to schedule. Thus, her primordial spirit naturally showed signs of weakening.

She did not tell Ning Fan all of these because she did not think there was a need for him to know.

Ning Fan felt rather speechless. He was just trying to show some concern about Hong Yi’s complexion. He did not have the intention at all to humiliate Hong Yi by saying her complexion was pale. The only explanation as to why she would feel displeased was because her temperament was too erratic.

Even though Hong Yi did not look well, her appearance was saying otherwise.

Her hair was black like ink. Her skin was as white as snow. Her eyes were red like rubies and her eyebrows were thick and long and slightly curled upwards at their ends. Her lips sparkled with moisture. And she had these facial features that made her a peerless beauty.

She shared an eighty percent resemblance to Ning Honghong in Ning Fan's memories. However, she had an additional hint of mature beauty and haughtiness.

Her bright red dress cascaded to the ground like a red lotus with raging flames. The hem of her dress was adorned with several small diamonds that gave her a touch of elegance and attractiveness.

Secretly, Ning Fan was observing Hong Yi's appearance. Inwardly, he gradually felt something was wrong.

What especially got his attention was the three blood-red lightning stars on Hong Yi's glabella. Only two-thirds of the third lightning star was condensed while the remaining one-third was illusory.

Is that the Tai Su Lightning Star...?

In the past, Ning Fan could not see the profoundness and mysteries of this lightning star. Today, however, Ning Fan was able to get some clues after condensing the complete Tai Su Lightning Star.

"Only two-thirds of this woman's lightning star took form. It's the same as my earlier guess."

"Are you done?"

A corner of Hong Yi's mouth curled upwards to form a cold smile. To her, Ning Fan was extremely bold since he even dared to stare at her appearance just like that.

According to her temper, she would certainly kill whoever dares to look at her directly to vent out her anger.

"...I'm sorry."

Ning Fan shifted his gaze away. He could feel that Hong Yi really abhorred men.

Besides, this woman was the daughter of the lightning sovereign. He did not plan to have any kind of relationship with her.

“I have made a promise with the third elder that I will only enter the Black Lightning Realm for seven days. It has already been three days beyond that today. I’m afraid the third elder has already brought his men to stand guard in the bamboo forest. They will probably be alerted by your presence when they see you walk with me. However, since you are still useful to me, you can be rest assured that no one in the internal sea will dare to lay a finger on you under my protection! Follow closely behind me!”

Hong Yi’s tone of voice suddenly sounded domineering. It gave Ning Fan an illusion that the current Hong Yi had a similar aura to Yun Tianjue.

After activating the exit of the Golden Lightning Heavenly Dwelling, Hong Yi and Ning Fan walked out shoulder to shoulder. Just as they got out to the outside world, Ning Fan immediately realized that there were four extremely strong experts guarding the bamboo forest.

Each of these four individuals were Void Refinement Realm old monsters who had stayed hidden from the real world in the internal sea!

Three of them were at the Void Glimpse Stage while the other one was at the Void Inquiry Stage!

That Void Glimpse Stage old monster wore a set of hemp robes. His hair was grey and his white beard looked like a halberd. His eyes were sharp and ferocious like raging flames. He carried an ancient, massive sword box on his back. His aura force was also extremely vigorous. It was not even a trace weaker than that of King Ying Long!

As soon as these four individuals saw Hong Yi’s arrival, they heaved a sigh of relief.

However, when they saw Ning Fan who was walking beside Hong Yi, one of the old monsters was instantly filled with rage.

“It’s you, Zhou Ming! I didn’t expect for you to actually return to the island after leaving. That day, you agreed to leave this Lightning Bamboo Island but it turns out it was all just a trick! You are blatantly courting death!”

“Even if you are a revered elder of the Rain Palace and you have Yun Tianjue’s protection, you disrespected the Zhou Clan of the internal sea. Today, this old man is going to have a taste of your techniques. I want to see what kind of strength you have that gave you the audacity to mess with our Zhou Clan!”

“My Lord, this young man is bold and reckless. He intruded the Golden Lightning Heavenly Dwelling and tried to harm you. He should be executed right away!”

Three Void Glimpse Stage experts yelled in rage. Each of the old monsters stared angrily at Ning Fan as if flames would blaze out from their eyes.

Only that old man who was carrying a sword acted differently. Even though his personality was unyielding and strong, his insight was rather deep.

He could faintly tell that Hong Yi did not harbor any hostility towards Ning Fan judging from her attitude as the both of them stood together side by side.

He raised one of his hands to stop the three Void Glimpse Stage old monsters from yelling. He gently cupped his fists and said to Hong Yi.

“My Lord, may I be bold to ask why you would be with this person in your journey? Why did you delay your departure from the Black Lightning Realm for three days? Were there some changes?”

The old man’s questions were rather euphemistic. If there were really some changes in the Black Lightning Realm, Ning Fan would very likely be the one who was responsible for it. If that was the case, he would kill Ning Fan with his own hands after asking him the reasons behind his actions.

“Don’t worry, Third Elder. As the dignified daughter of the lightning sovereign, why would I be troubled by a lowly Divine Transformation Realm junior? Moreover, it’s because of his help in my trip to the Black

Lightning Realm that I managed to obtain enough bamboo leaves. Even though it was slightly later than the agreed time, the bamboo leaves that I obtained are beyond my expectations. Now, everything can proceed accordingly.” Hong Yi coldly explained.

“The daughter of the lightning sovereign?” A Void Glimpse Stage old monster asked doubtfully but he hurriedly kept his mouth shut after the old man carrying the sword glared at him.

“My Lo... Mistress, it’s indeed an extremely joyful matter that you were able to gather enough bamboo leaves. Since Fellow Daoist Zhou has contributed his help, he can’t be considered as an enemy to us anymore. This place isn’t the right place for conversations. Mistress, please move to the Thunder Court Pavilion! Fellow Daoist Zhou, come with us!”

The old man sounded extremely courteous to Hong Yi but the way he spoke to Ning Fan was rather authoritative as if he wasn’t allowing the latter to refuse.

After hearing that Ning Fan was an ally rather than an enemy, the other three Void Glimpse Stage old experts also concealed their killing intent. Even so, their expressions were still filled with vigilance.

Ning Fan also did not say anything. He did not give an explanation. Since Hong Yi had explained for him, he naturally did not need to say anything. All he needed to do was just to follow behind Hong Yi.

He shifted his gaze to the three Void Glimpse Stage old monsters as if he had something in his mind. He had never heard of these three Void Glimpse Stage old monsters before in the Endless Sea. Presumably, they were the hidden experts of the Zhou Clan.

If Ning Fan were to face them before entering the Bamboo Lightning Island, Ning Fan would be afraid of them. However, after the trip to the Black Lightning Realm, his combat power had sharply increased. There were already tens of Void Glimpse Stage old monsters who had died in his hands. Moreover, these three Void Glimpse Stage experts were lightning cultivators of the Zhou Clan. Hence, he did not need to put them in his eyes.

However, that old man carrying a sword was different. He gave Ning Fan an extremely strong sense of danger.

The Zhou Clan was famous for their lightning cultivators. However, even though that elderly man was an expert of the Zhou Clan, he was not a lightning cultivator but a sword cultivator instead. Therefore, Ning Fan's Tai Su Lightning Star would have no effect on him.

The combat power of this old man was not inferior to that of King Ying Long. Without the help of the lightning star, if Ning Fan fought him, he would be a much more difficult opponent to deal with than King Ying Long.

The devil qi on Ning Fan's primordial spirit had yet to vanish and he currently could not go into the demonized state. Yet, he still might not necessarily be able to defeat this old man even if he does go into that state.

In terms of strength, Ning Fan was not as strong as the old man. However, in terms of trump cards, Ning Fan had a stored attack of the Stele of Sun and Moon and the concealment of the Heaven Deceiving Cloak. Thus, he was not terrified of him.

According to what Hong Yi called him, this old man should be the third elder of the Zhou Clan.

A series of memories flashed within his mind. Ning Fan vaguely recalled that when he killed Revered Flame in the past, he had once heard of the third elder of the Zhou Clan from the two Void Refinement Realm palace lords of the Rain Palace.

"The third elder of the Zhou Clan, Zhou Chen, is a Void Inquiry Stage expert. Rumor has it that he is just a hair's breadth away from attaining the Void Pierce Stage. He has a determined and unyielding personality and he kills people like cutting straws... If I am not wrong, this old man is that Zhou Chen. Zhou Chen is a servant of Lightning Sovereign Bu Zhou, just like the other old monsters in the Zhou Clan. They only recognize and address the lightning sovereign as 'My Lord'. However, he addressed Hong Yi as 'My Lord' earlier but corrected it after... After hearing for the first time that Hong Yi is the daughter of the lightning sovereign, that Void Glimpse Stage expert seemed to be a little shocked as well... Could it be that there is something wrong with Hong Yi's identity? Could it be that she isn't the daughter of the lightning sovereign but the lightning sovereign himself instead?!"

Ning Fan's eyes turned slightly stern. If his guess is correct, those parts which he could not figure out in the past would make sense.

However, the lightning sovereign is rumored to be unable to leave the Sovereign's Tomb. Furthermore, there is no information saying that the lightning sovereign is a woman... It seems like my guess is a little impartial.

"Are you doubting my identity?" Hong Yi who was walking beside him suddenly gave him a cold smile and talked to him through telepathy.

"Who you are is none of my business." Ning fan said firmly. After Hong Yi questioned him, he nearly was ninety percent certain that Hong Yi was not the daughter of the lightning sovereign.

However, he was not very sure of Hong Yi being the lightning sovereign and he did not have the interest to dig any deeper.

Just as what he had said, he did not want to know Hong Yi's identity and he was not willing to interfere as well.

Lightning Sovereign Bu Zhou seemed to have a lot of complicated grudges with the Rain Palace. Ning Fan did not want to get himself involved in those matters.

"Well said! About things that are irrelevant to you, don't bother. About words that are without clear evidence, don't say them. This is the way to protect yourself."

Hong Yi's expression became calm. There was no sign of excitement or anger.

Ning Fan calmed his mind and followed Hong Yi and the others into the Thunder Court Pavilion.

The place where the Thunder Court Pavilion was located was also a forbidden area on Lightning Bamboo Island. It was in an extremely hidden place and there was also a supreme grand formation. However, there were no cultivators guarding the area.

Ning Fan secretly guessed that the reason why there were no cultivators guarding this place was probably because Zhou Chen and the others were afraid that someone would see Hong Yi.

Apparently, even if Hong Yi was not the lightning sovereign, her identity could also bring troubles. Hence, her existence could not be revealed.

After going inside the pavilion, everyone sat on different seats. Hong Yi sat on the main seat of the pavilion and the four experts guarded her by her side like how the stars twinkled around the bright moon. As for Ning Fan, he sat at the corner of the pavilion.

Zhou Chen and the others reported some things to Hong Yi one after another. All of them used jargon when conveying messages. When they were conveying crucial information, they would use telepathy. Ning Fan did not understand a single thing during their reports.

The things they discussed next was the trip to the Black Lightning Realm this time. Hong Yi had briefly recounted how she met Ning Fan and told everyone his contribution during the trip.

When they heard that Ning Fan who only had a Half-Step Void Refinement Realm cultivation base had managed to obtain 24 dark golden bamboo leaves, the three Void Glimpse Stage experts simultaneously sucked in a cold breath. It was impossible for them not to feel shocked.

Even if the three of them had heaven-defying concealment abilities that could enable them to avoid the detection of the ferocious beasts guarding the Black Lightning Realm, none of them could go beyond ten floors after entering the Black Lightning Tower, much less kill Void Inquiry Stage experts and obtain the dark golden bamboo leaves above the eleventh floor.

When they heard that Ning Fan was proficient in a mysterious wind mist technique that could erase some unique marks, even Zhou Chen who was a Void Inquiry Stage expert felt a little uneasy.

The four of them finally understood why Hong Yi who was always cold-blooded would be so fond of Ning Fan.

It turns out that Ning Fan's wind mist technique could really contribute greatly to that matter!

"Third Elder, I have made an agreement with this young man. After he gathers seven dark golden bamboo leaves for me, I will give him all the golden lightning bamboo leaves as a present, teach him a magic technique and command all members of the Zhou Clan to protect him. I have already sworn the

Great Oath of Heart Devil for this promise. Hence, from today onwards, we, the Zhou Clan of the Endless Sea, will treat Zhou Ming as our esteemed guest. In the Endless Sea, no force shall act against Zhou Ming. For those who defy this order, the only outcome is to be eradicated by Void Refinement Realm experts!”

Hong Yi had acted according to the agreement she had with Ning Fan and gave the command to Zhou Chen and the others to protect Ning Fan. Besides, the level of protection she assured Ning Fan was not low as Void Refinement Realm experts of the Zhou Clan could be sent to protect him.

Immediately, the expressions of the three Void Glimpse Stage experts changed and advised against it.

“What?! We, the Void Refinement Realm experts of the Zhou Clan, have made a promise with the Rain Palace in the past that we must not openly help anyone... This Zhou Ming is rumored to be especially good at creating troubles. If he brings a huge disaster to himself, we might expose our hidden secrets just to protect him...”

“Shut up! Haven’t you heard that Mistress has already sworn the Great Oath of Heart Devil?! No matter what, we have to act according to the Mistress’ order and not to let her go against her own oath!”

Before Hong Yi had even said anything, Zhou Chen directly shouted to stop the three experts and immediately cupped his fists towards Hong Yi.

“Mistress, please calm your anger. The three of them had just advanced into the Void Refinement Realm in the recent five thousand years and they are not familiar with Mistress’ temperament. I hope the Mistress can forgive them!”

Zhou Chen knew Hong Yi’s temperament very well. Hong Yi did not like anyone refuting her. If this situation had happened in the past, the three of them who dared to question her order would certainly be executed at once.

These three Void Glimpse Stage experts were not aware of Hong Yi’s temperament and they did not know how dangerous it was to defy her.

The reason why Zhou Chen hurriedly mediated the situation was because he was afraid that the three of them would die in vain for angering Hong Yi.

Inwardly, Zhou Chen could not understand Hong Yi's actions. In his memories, she had never sworn any oaths to anyone, much less the Great Oath of Heart Devil.

He glanced sideways at Ning Fan and muttered internally.

It seems like this young man is rather extraordinary as he was able to make the Mistress swear an oath.

Since he was able to gather 24 dark golden bamboo leaves in the Black Lightning Tower, he definitely managed to kill all the way up to the 24th floor. Even I find it difficult to go to that floor. Moreover, I can't even get past the defensive line of ferocious beasts at the entrance of the Black Lightning Realm at all.

"Humph! This time, Zhou Chen is here to ask for forgiveness on your behalf. Next time, I don't want to hear anyone questioning my command!"

Hong Yi's beautiful blood-red pupils flashed with a terrifying lightning ray.

That lightning ray was quick. It was just like a flicker of light and there was no way to notice it clearly at all. However, the three Void Glimpse Stage experts felt a sudden sharp pain in their Sea of Consciousness, as if their brains were about to explode. If it wasn't for Hong Yi who had exercised mercy, the three of them would certainly die!

The three of them were immediately drenched with cold sweat. They hurriedly cupped their fists to apologize, not daring to disobey Hong Yi.

Ning Fan's expression remained unchanged but internally, he was startled.

This woman's personality sure is cold...

Hong Yi was just being cold to him. To others, she was cold-blooded.

Compared to them, Hong Yi's attitude which was neither friendly nor hostile to him was already extremely polite.

He did not intervene. After all, that was the internal matter of the Zhou Clan and it had nothing to do with him.

What made Ning Fan excited was that the Zhou Clan of the internal sea would become his backer from today onwards with the command from Hong Yi. But he does not really expect that the Void Refinement Realm experts of the Zhou Clan would actually come to help him no matter what when he is in trouble.

However, with just the name of the Zhou Clan alone, it already benefited Ning Fan quite a lot.

A revered elder of the Rain Palace and an esteemed guest of the Zhou Clan. This time, Ning Fan could really be considered to be mingling along both of the greatest forces in the Endless Sea.

"Third Elder, how many one hundred thousand years old spiritual herbs are there in your hands?" Hong Yi suddenly opened her mouth to ask.

"Mistress, don't worry. There are still one hundred tufts of spiritual herbs in my hands. All of them are ones that I have painstakingly gathered over the past ten thousand years. Each of them could be used as the auxiliary medicine to harmonize the medicinal power of the dark golden bamboo leaves." Zhou Chen answered politely.

"Just one hundred tufts? The lightning power of the dark golden bamboo leaves is extremely strong. Each of the bamboo leaves will need at least 5 tufts of one hundred thousand spiritual herbs to harmonize its medicinal power... That is to say, if I take 60 tufts away, there are only 40 tufts left, right? Fine. Zhou Chen, you take the forty tufts of one hundred thousand spiritual herbs and give them to Zhou Ming!" Hong Yi said firmly without allowing any refusal.

"W-What?!" This time, even Zhou Chen was surprised. Even he had the impulse to question Hong Yi's command.

One hundred thousand years old spiritual herbs were necessary materials in refining Seventh Revolution pills. Each tuft was worth a lot. Even if there were no Seventh Revolution Pill Masters in the Rain World, one hundred thousand years old spiritual herbs could also be used in Sixth Revolution Pills to enhance their medicinal power.

Even for Void Fragmentation Realm experts, it was extremely difficult to obtain one hundred thousand years old medicinal herbs. As a Void Inquiry Stage expert and the third elder of the Zhou Clan, Zhou Chen had managed to gather one hundred tufts after spending ten thousand years. Each of them was the result of Zhou Chen's painstaking efforts. How could such precious items be given away to someone so casually?!

He was not reluctant to give them away. However, these spiritual herbs were necessary for Hong Yi to stand on the pinnacle of power once again!

"Do you dare to defy my orders?" Hong Yi's eyes turned cold.

"No, Mistress. My loyalty to Mistress never changes. The sun and the moon can be my witnesses... However, these spiritual herbs are needed for the 'great matter' in the future other than helping Mistress recover the injuries of your primordial spirit. If these spiritual herbs are given away, I'm afraid the day when the Mistress can fully recover your cultivation will be uncertain..."

"You don't have to worry about this. Zhou Ming's Wind Mist Finger is a great help to me and I can skip the medicinal bath of one hundred thousand years old spiritual herbs. Go now. Take the forty tufts of one hundred thousand years old spiritual herbs and give them all to Zhou Ming!"

"..."

Zhou Chen gritted his teeth. Everything he did was for his lord. In order to accomplish his lord's mission, he could work constantly for ten thousand years. He could get rid of his own ferocious personality. No matter what, he would never defy an order given by his lord.

Today, however, this matter was rather important. He did not dare to be careless.

Zhou Chen looked at Ning Fan's direction. The hesitation in his eyes turned into determination. Suddenly, he rose to his feet.

"Mistress, whether or not he has the capabilities of helping you accomplish that 'great matter', I will need to test it myself! I understand that my actions violate Mistress' rules. I deserve death according to my sin. However, Mistress, please allow me to just destroy one of my arms as an apology after this considering all of my efforts and contributions in the past!"

"Zhou Ming, if you want the one hundred thousand years old spiritual herbs, then withstand a sword strike from me. If you manage to do so, you can then have the herbs!"

Chi

Zhou Chen's white hair flew in the air. A peerlessly vigorous aura force was being emanated from the sword box behind him along with the shrill of a sword.

All of a sudden, the color of the clouds and sky changed. His vigorous sword qi filled the atmosphere like a fierce dragon!

"Do you dare to take this challenge?!"

"Why should I be afraid?!"

Ning Fan instantly got to his feet. He knows that if he fails to withstand a sword strike from Zhou Chen, he definitely could not obtain the herbs.

He did not know about the secret matter concerning Hong Yi and the others. However, just for the sake of Luo You, he had to obtain the one hundred thousand years old spiritual herbs to harmonize the dark golden bamboo leaves and heal her.

Luo You was injured in trying to rescue him. Hence, he certainly could not cast her aside without doing anything!

“If I can withstand a single sword strike from the Third Elder, please give me the herbs as promised!”

A terrifying baleful qi spread out from Ning Fan’s body, shocking everyone in the pavilion.

It was baleful qi that could only be left by the deaths of tens of thousands of Divine Transformation Realm cultivators and tens of Void Refinement Realm experts!

Along Ning Fan’s journey, he had reaped countless lives. Up until today, he had killed more than ten thousand Divine Transformation Realm cultivators. As for those with a lower cultivation level than him, it was innumerable!

Even Zhou Chen felt his mind become chaotic in the face of this immense baleful qi.

Hong Yi raised her head and looked at Ning Fan. It was filled with a hint of amazement again. Ning Fan had surprised her too many times.

“Within the Rain World, the intensity of this young man’s baleful qi can be considered to be the greatest among everyone below the Void Fragmentation Realm!”

Chapter 435: Malus Halliana Sword

Zhou Chen’s sword qi was as vigorous as a dragon while Ning Fan’s baleful qi soared into the sky. The weather suddenly changed suddenly on Lightning Bamboo Island. Thousands of cultivators were shocked. Countless cultivators rushed to the Thunder Court Pavilion, the forbidden area of the island.

Hong Yi suddenly rose to her feet. She held a token in her hand and activated the grand formation of the Thunder Court Pavilion, sealing off all of the fluctuations of magic power from their battle.

Hong Yi signaled to three Void Glimpse Stage experts and requested for them to leave the Thunder Court Pavilion to stabilize the situation in the island.

Ning Fan was not really concerned about what the others around him did. Now, there was only a single person in his eyes – Zhou Chen.

Zhou Chen's strength was nowhere near Yun Tianjue's. However, among all Void Refinement Realm experts, he definitely was one of the top swordmasters.

The nature of his sword intent was different from Yun Tianjue's.

With his baleful qi covering his body, Ning Fan carefully studied the vigorous sword intent that was thrashing against him. Inwardly, he gradually understood something.

“This is a sword that has emotions! Aside from that, the emotion that was currently within this sword is something between a man and a woman. If it were to be perceived at a deeper level, it is the feeling of ‘sorrow’!”

Just as his voice fell, Zhou Chen's old eyes instantly flashed with a hint of surprise. He was shocked that Ning Fan was able to see through the nature of his sword intent with one look!

Precisely, the sword intent he had comprehended was the Sword of Sentiment. Compared to many sword cultivators who were heartless and ruthless, Zhou Chen was an exception.

The sentiment he placed within his sword was the relationship between a man and a woman and which had a sorrowful end...

In Zhou Chen's entire lifetime, he had fought against countless sword cultivators in the Rain World. All of those who were able to see through his sword intent as the Sword of Sentiment was Void Refinement Realm sword cultivators!

Those who were able to discern that it was about a relationship between a man and a woman on the basis of the Sword of Sentiment were of at least the Void Inquiry Stage sword cultivators.

Those who were able to tell that it was the sentiment of sorrow that was in the sword intent were sword cultivators who definitely had Void Fragmentation Realm level insight. In his entire life, he had only met three of them!

Among the three, one of them was Yun Tianjue. As for the other two, they were the Sword Sovereign of the Sword World and a rogue immortal who travelled across the Four Heavens. Ning Fan was the fourth person!

Well, it was not strange. While Ning Fan's level in the Dao of Swords might not be the strongest in the Nine Worlds, his knowledge can definitely be considered to be high among countless sword cultivators.

"I have underestimated you. Even though your cultivation base is weak, no one in this Rain World can compete with you in terms of your sword comprehension other than the White-Robed Sword God... If it wasn't for the one hundred thousand years old spiritual herbs, I certainly will be willing to be friends with you! Unfortunately, as a servant of my lord, I have to do what I was entrusted! I'm sorry that I have to face you! As compensation, I shall let you see the most precious sword in my entire life!"

Zhou Chen clenched his teeth and made a hand seal. A clear "ching" was suddenly heard from the sword box behind him. In the next moment, Zhou Chen was already holding a long sword in his hand. It was a wooden sword.

The wood that had been used to make the sword gave off a whiff of fragrance of begonia. If Ning Fan was not wrong, it was the wood from the *Malus Halliana*[1].

This sword was rather ordinary. It was so light that it seemed like it would break when one shook it.

However, Ning Fan understood that even an extremely ordinary sword would turn into the most extraordinary sword when it falls into the hands of the swordsmen like Zhou Chen.

When he was in Gusu, he studied swords and understood them. Now, he had already comprehended the principle of "weak swords but strong intent and strong swords but weak intent".

If it's a flying sword, it would naturally be better to use stronger and lighter materials to make the sword. After all, it was difficult to prevent magic treasures from colliding against each other.

If it's a broadsword, one also needs to place some emphasis on the materials used to forge the swords in order to make sure it has a large attack range to sweep away a large number of enemies.

Zhou Chen's sword was obviously neither of the two.

This sword was an intent sword. Even though the size of the sword was incredibly small and seemed fragile, it could display the strongest sword intent!

What Ning Fan had to defend against was not Zhou Chen's sword light but his sword intent instead.

Sword intent could strike from every opening. Even if Ning Fan had the lightning armor, it could not completely defend against it.

Ning Fan's expression turned slightly grim. At first, he was prepared to summon his lightning armor to defend against his opponent's blow. However, it seemed like there wasn't a trick he could pull off in front of this Zhou Chen. Instead, he had to show his true capabilities. Otherwise, he would definitely be unable to withstand Zhou Chen's strike.

After taking care of the situation, the three Void Glimpse Stage experts returned to the pavilion. When they saw Zhou Chen use the wooden sword, all of their expressions changed.

"What?! The third elder actually decided to use the 'Malus Halliana Sword! This sword kills without shedding blood. Rumor has it that the third elder had used this one sword to kill Void Inquiry Stage old monsters in his entire lifetime. There were at least ten Void Inquiry Stage experts who had been killed by this sword! It is quite unexpected for the third elder to actually use this sword for a mere Zhou Ming!"

"For a mere Zhou Ming..." Ning Fan's brows were slightly knitted together. Did these three Void Glimpse Stage old monsters really think that they were so outstanding that they could treat Ning Fan like an ant?

If I want the Zhou Clan to be my backer in the future, I must never let them underestimate me. At least, I have to show them something that can gain their respect.

Thus, that's another reason why I can't reserve my strength.

"Lightning armor, appear!"

Ning Fan made a hand seal. It was none other than the hand seal to summon the Primordial Lightning Armor.

As Void Refinement Realm experts of the Zhou Clan, the three Void Glimpse Stage experts, of course, knew the Primordial Lightning Armor secret technique. However, this technique was extremely difficult to cultivate. The users of this technique had to devour primordial lightning in order to improve it.

Other than the lightning sovereign who had practiced this technique until the highest level, there was not a single cultivator in the Zhou Clan who managed to improve this technique to the silver grade or above.

It was no surprise. After all, one could only obtain a trace of primordial lightning by killing a Divine Transformation Realm cultivator and they must also be lightning cultivators.

If one wishes to withstand Void Refinement Realm attacks using this technique, they would need to improve their lightning armor to the golden grade. In order to make the lightning armor break through to the golden grade, it was absolutely impossible without more than ten thousand traces of primordial lightning. Besides, it was rumored that the amount of primordial lightning needed for the lightning armor to improve after attaining the golden grade would be even more massive.

There were only several hundreds of Divine Transformation Realm cultivators in total in the internal sea. This number had also taken into account all the secret members of the Four Clans of the Deep Sea and the Zhou Clan.

Not to mention that the lightning cultivators were only a minority of these experts, even if one kills all the Divine Transformation Realm cultivators in the Rain World, they would not be able to gather enough primordial lightning to make their lightning armor break through to the golden grade.

Hence, in the eyes of the three Void Glimpse Stage experts, this technique was undoubtedly an insignificant technique.

When they saw Ning Fan display this technique, they did not regard it as something significant.

“This technique must be the one Mistress taught him. Hehe. This young man is just a Divine Transformation Realm cultivator after all. He actually only knows how to summon a silver-grade lightning armor to defend against the strongest sword strike of the third elder. How could such an inferior defensive technique withstand the third elder’s sword intent?”

“There’s no need to watch any longer. He will certainly lose...”

Just as their voices fell, all of them were suddenly at a loss for words at the next moment. Their eyes turned as large and as round as a camel bell, their faces filled with disbelief.

What they saw was a set of golden lightning armor covering Ning Fan’s white robes. Besides, that golden armor gave out a massive amount of lightning power which was enough to defend against a Void Pierce Stage attack. Evidently, it was a lightning armor at the third level!

“Impossible! He actually managed to cultivate the lightning armor to the third level! H-How is this possible?!”

“After the lightning sovereign, the Rain World now has another person who successfully cultivated the lightning armor to the third level of the golden grade! This armor is enough to make him nearly invincible among Void Inquiry Stage experts... Because of this armor, there are nearly no Void Inquiry Stage old monsters who can harm him! As for us...”

“As for us, even though we are Void Refinement Realm experts, we are just at the Void Glimpse Stage. Even if we use all of our strength, we certainly cannot even leave a single scratch on him!”

The expressions of the three Void Refinement Realm experts were filled with surprise. They were literally speechless after witnessing the scene before their eyes.

All of their intentions to belittle Ning Fan vanished completely at this moment.

The cold eyes of Hong Yi who was observing the fight at the sidelines flashed with a hint of surprise once again after looking at Ning Fan who seemed like Konjin. Silently, she muttered to herself.

“This young man has just gone into the Black Lightning Tower one time. In just ten days, he actually obtained such a large amount of primordial lightning. It really surprised me. When I was gathering primordial lightning in the past, I wasn’t as fast as him.”

Even when Hong Yi entered the lightning tower on her own in the past, she could only depend on killing the undead spirits to obtain all the primordial lightning she needed. Therefore, she was not as efficient and as fast as Ning Fan in gathering primordial lightning.

With Lei Shiyi’s help, Ning Fan could directly purchase a great deal of primordial lightning. Moreover, he was also involved in the massive battle against Ying Long’s troops and became the hero who had slain Ying Long. Furthermore, the lightning lord of every floor he went would spare no effort in gathering primordial lightning to give them all to Ning Fan.

Since Ning Fan did not personally engage in battle to gather most of the primordial lightning, Hong Yi who only acted alone naturally could not compete with him.

Zhou Chen took in a light breath. His eyes became even more solemn. With a clear voice, he said.

“Zhou Ming, even though your lightning armor is strong, it would be difficult to defend against ‘intent’ even if it could block magic techniques, body techniques and tangible attacks. Be it demon intent, divine intent or devil intent, all types of intent are still fundamentally about the intent realm. The cultivation of magic power is tangible but the cultivation of the intent realm is intangible. The reason why a cultivator would need to improve their intent realm in order to break through to the Divine Transformation Realm and the Void Refinement Realm is fundamentally because the breakthroughs need cultivators to understand the transition between ‘tangible’ and ‘void’.”

“The first step of the intent realm is the ‘tangible state’. The second step of the intent realm is the ‘void state’. The third state of the intent realm is the ‘true state’ from the rumors. Every intent realm has their very own grade. The grade of the intent realm will improve as one’s comprehension towards it increases...”

“My sword intent is called the Haitang[2] Sword Intent. I gained this comprehension using a tuft of Malus Halliana. When I first obtained it, it was inferior and it had no grade. However, after spending a great deal of effort to cultivate this intent, the grade of this intent realm has already improved to the ninth grade, the eighth grade and eventually the seventh grade from absolutely nothing. Now, my Haitang Sword Intent is already a sixth grade intent realm! Little Friend, be prepared to take my blow!”

The actual reason why Zhou Chen would talk so much was because he was giving Ning Fan some advice. He was sharing his understanding of the cultivation of the intent realm to Ning Fan.

It was his compensation. It was the compensation he decided to give to Ning Fan for his decision to draw his sword against him.

As he made that decision, he had gone against Hong Yi’s command as well as his own heart.

After witnessing the strength of Ning Fan’s lightning armor and his comprehension in the Dao of Swords, he already had the intention of befriending Ning Fan.

However, he was loyal to his lord and was reluctant to give the spiritual herbs away just like that. Thus, even though he would go against Hong Yi’s order, lose the chance to make friends with Ning Fan and even need to give up one of his arms after the fight, he still had to draw his sword!

In this life of his, his lovelife was already the past. He was only left with a debt of gratitude. Showing his loyalty to his lord was originally to repay this debt of gratitude.

If he also loses this chance to repay his debt, the effort he had spent to cultivate the Dao alone in the past ten thousand years would only have a sorrowful end and the Dao he had been cultivating would be meaningless.

Zhou Chen’s words entered Ning Fan’s ears.

Each of the words he spoke originated from the loneliness he had personally experienced in the past ten thousand years and all the comprehensions of the Dao he had gained. A single word could be considered to be worth a thousand ounces of gold. Countless cultivators in the Rain World had begged Zhou Chen

for advice but he would never say a single word to them. Today, however, since he really had no choice but to draw his sword against Ning Fan, the only compensation he could give in return was his Dao comprehensions.

Ning Fan carefully pondered over Zhou Chen's words. The insights within his mind gradually increased.

His divine intent was rain; his devil intent was mountain while his demon intent was Fu Li. With his terrifying ability to comprehend things, he had discovered three types of intent realms and eventually fused them into one.

However, until the moment he created the Intent Realm of Memory, he still could not see through the essence of the intent realm. He only knew that it was an intent realm of the second step.

After Zhou Chen told Ning Fan that the cultivation of the intent realm was actually the cultivation of the word 'void', all of the confusions he had in the past were resolved today.

From nothing to something. Condensing magic power for cultivation. From being tangible to intangible. Breaking the magic technique to form intent. By crushing the void space, one could become a life immortal. By comprehending the truth of the Dao, one could become a true immortal.

Ning Fan's thoughts slowly became emptier and clearer. It was all because of Zhou Chen's advice which helped him solve countless confusions that greatly troubled him. Well, the journey of cultivation was always full of hindrances.

"Thank you very much!"

He cupped his fists towards Zhou Chen. There were no grudges in his voice but gratitude instead.

The reason why Zhou Chen drew his sword against him was not because of his personal grudges but his loyalty to his lord. He was not a villain. Thus, Ning Fan did not blame Zhou Chen for doing so.

Since Zhou Chen had shared his Dao comprehension with Ning Fan, he, of course, would naturally feel grateful to him.

However, since both of them were going to have a fight, they naturally could not show any mercy and both of them had to give their best.

Gradually, Ning Fan's eyes became more focused while Zhou Chen placed all of his concentration into the Malus Halliana Sword.

Zhou Chen had a firm reason to draw his sword while Ning Fan had a strong determination to save Luo You.

This was just a battle between two experts but it indirectly hinted behind the true reason for all the bloodsheds in the cultivation world.

In many occasions, cultivators had no other choice but to fight and kill in order to compete for limited resources and to protect their own Dao.

“Sword up!”

Zhou Chen suddenly raised his sword. Killing intent exuded from his body like clouds. Even though he had yet to activate his sword intent, his sword qi had already rushed towards Ning Fan. It was strong enough to kill common Void Glimpse Stage experts!

Ning Fan's expression looked slightly surprised. This sword qi was certainly a sword qi that Zhou Chen did not deliberately release. Such a sword qi was already enough to kill ordinary Void Glimpse Stage experts. If it was a sword qi which Zhou Chen released with all his strength, wouldn't it be able to instantly kill a Void Inquiry Stage expert?!

So that's why the two Void Refinement Realm experts of the Rain Palace were so terrified when they heard of Zhou Chen's name in the past, as if they had experienced some kind of nightmare.

Even though Zhou Chen was just a step away from attaining the Void Pierce Stage, he had already taken the lives of a few Void Pierce Stage experts. Moreover, he had even killed an Absolute Void Stage expert!

If it wasn't for some unique reasons, this person's cultivation base would definitely not stop at the Void Inquiry Stage. Even though he was not as crazy as Yun Tianjue, he was certainly als a sword cultivator who was strong enough to travel across the Rain World without any hindrance!

Chi *Chi* *Chi*

Traces of sword qi which Zhou Chen released unintentionally hit Ning Fan's chest, creating a few lightning ripples.

Ning Fan successfully blocked these traces of sword qi by depending on the strength of his lightning armor. However, Ning Fan was aware that the attack that was truly difficult to withstand was Zhou Chen's sword intent that he would release with his full power through the weakest sword!

Zhou Chen raised his hand.

His sword intent was about to come!

"This is bad. Retreat now!"

The three Void Glimpse Stage experts fled in fear nearly at the same time. They could only regain their composure after retreating outside of the grand formation of the Thunder Court Pavilion.

As for Hong Yi, she naturally did not need to run away. However, when she saw Zhou Chen's sword intent which remained unchanged after ten thousand years but became more and more stubborn than before, she let out a sigh for the first time.

"Zhou Chen, you are still as stubborn as back then... I have erased your memories four times using the White Lightning Memory Extinguisher Technique but you still can't forget your past. If you had forgotten about it, you would have already been a Void Pierce Stage expert ten thousand years ago and a Void Fragmentation Realm expert now. Among all of the elders under my command, your potential is obviously the highest...."

Even with Hong Yi's cold personality, she actually felt sad for Zhou Chen. It was enough to show how great this expert's potential was.

Hong Yi just let out a sigh and wore her usual cold and indifferent expression again. She stared at Ning Fan quietly. All of her focus was concentrated on Ning Fan.

"I wonder 'how many years' you can endure in the face of Zhou Chen's sword intent. If you can endure more than one hundred years, I will save you. If you can't, I will let you suffer for a while. Who asked you to provoke me a few times in the past?"

As soon as Hong Yi finished speaking, even she frowned at what she said.

Strange... Why would I want to 'take revenge' on him? Is it because of the tuft of lightning grass that took another form of existence?

"It's a little troublesome..."

It was indeed troublesome to Hong Yi. In the past, she was as cold as ice. When she separated her primordial spirit into ten thousand traces, she even turned all of her separated primordial spirit into grass in order to not influence her original personality. Grass and trees had no emotions. Thus, when her separated primordial spirit combined into one again, it would naturally be emotionless as well.

Unfortunately, one tuft of the lightning grass was touched by someone and it turned into the form of a human. Because of that, it had a heart and emotions.

To Hong Yi who cultivated the Heartless Path, emotions were poison. Moreover, the traces of past memories were reopened because of that trace of emotion.

"I am not Ning Honghong. I am Hong Yi..." Hong Yi knitted her brows and used the White Lightning Memory Extinguisher Technique to erase the memories that she had just regained.

She had once been Ning Honghong, but not any longer today. She wanted to be herself again!

That trace of feelings she had for Ning Fan was also eliminated and she regained her calmness.

“If he can endure ‘one hundred years’, I will save him, just for the purpose of accomplishing that ‘great matter’. If he is already dead in just ‘ten years’, there will be no meaning in saving him as it means that he’s not that useful.”

Hong Yi’s tone of voice became cold and merciless again.

Ning Fan looked at Zhou Chen. As he stared at the wooden sword which was slightly reddish, the sense of danger he felt became even more stronger.

At the next moment, Zhou Chen’s sword intent was like a huge tidal wave which completely drowned Ning Fan.

He heard an old, indifferent and melancholic voice from Zhou Chen’s mouth. He muttered a chant word after word.

“The First Style of the Sorrowful Sword, Ten Years of Life and Death!”

That sword intent which was vigorous like tidal water completely disregarded the defense of the lightning armor and directly invaded Ning Fan’s Sea of Consciousness.

The grade of Ning Fan’s Intent Realm of Memory was at the second step. It was far above Zhou Chen’s sixth grade sword intent.

However, in terms of understanding the intent realm, he was nowhere near Zhou Chen.

It was because Zhou Chen had fused his sorrow in the past ten thousand years of Dao Cultivation into his sword intent.

That sorrow remained unresolved and there was no way for him to express it. Thus, it became the most painful sword intent which could pierce a cultivator’s heart.

Ning Fan's eyes turned dazed. In just an instant, he felt like he had been through ten years, one hundred years, one thousand years and ten thousand years of life.

That was a memory which was as sad as the sword and it solely belonged to Zhou Chen.

Ning Fan's mindscape was sealed by the sword intent.

His intelligence had sunk into an imaginary world.

The place where he stood was a small hill village with green meadows and clear water.

His appearance had changed greatly. He had become a young man at the ripe age of sixteen who was carrying a sword on his back. However, the appearance of this young man was clearly different from Ning Fan's. In contrast, it somewhat resembled Zhou Chen.

Ning Fan's head was dizzy and painful. He could not remember his past.

A trace of power from the Memory Intent Realm was flowing into his Sea of Consciousness. After a while, both of his eyes turned clear and he recognized the remnant dream realm of this place.

Zhou Chen had never imagined that the power of Ning Fan's intent realm was memory. Besides that, he had even woken up in Zhou Chen's memories!

"This is the world of Zhou Chen's sword intent. The touch of the sword intent on the external world lasts only for a second but this is the deepest part of the consciousness. Even though it is a second in the external world, it can be stretched as long as ten thousand years. This place is just like a dream. No one can extricate themselves after sinking into this dream of the sword intent and all of them could only wait to be killed by Zhou Chen when their hearts are finally pierced through by Zhou Chen's swords. As for me, I managed to wake up with the help of the power of my Memory Intent Realm! Zhou Chen has miscalculated!"

Ning Fan stood under a Malus Halliana. That tree grew at the entrance of the village.

Behind the tree stood a young girl wearing a pink shirt. She was rather embarrassed. When she walked out from the tree, she gave Ning Fan a beautiful smile.

The young lady had delicate and charming facial features. Her hair was tied upwards. There was also a scar on the left part of her face but it did not affect her beauty.

The way she looked at Ning Fan was silly and affectionate.

“Brother Chen, I heard that you have been chosen by the immortal master of the Chi Yue[3] Sword Faction and you are going to be his disciple. Congratulations....”

The beautiful eyes of the young lady were filled with deep and gentle affection. However, Ning Fan remained unaffected. Instead, he was a little annoyed.

Even though he had a lot of relationships, he was not that passionate where he would be moved by a lady whom he had never met before, even if it was in a dream.

“I am not Zhou Chen.” Ning Fan’s words were cold. His gaze swept across heaven and earth and then walked towards the exit of the village, trying to search for ways to break free from the sword intent.

Just as he was about to leave the village, that lady suddenly grabbed his hands.

“Brother Chen, my father said that after you join the immortal sect, you will become an immortal master. You will be wealthy and powerful. Then, you will abandon me. I don’t believe it at first, but... you...”

The young girl felt sad and began to cry helplessly.

She was just pretending to smile from the beginning. After all, who would be happy when their lovers left them?

“I am not Zhou Chen!”

Ning Fan turned around coldly. But when he saw that lady’s appearance clearly again, his heart softened.

It was as if the dream was trying to make Ning Fan be fully immersed in it, the lady’s appearance had turned into Zhihe’s appearance cooperatively.

“Brother Chen... Don’t go...” The young lady fell to her knees on the ground and begged helplessly. Her body was soft like it was boneless.

“Zhihe!” Ning Fan’s eyes turned cold. He did not like anyone trying to involve his women. Even if it’s only in a dream, he would never allow it!

“Who is Zhihe? I am not Zhihe. I am Haitang, Mu Haitang!” The young girl stood up sulkily. She was angry that Ning Fan called her the wrong name once again.

In Zhou Chen’s younger days, he liked making fun of Mu Haitang. He always called her name wrongly on purpose to make her angry and then coax her to smile.

These scenes happened in the remnant dream realm before Ning Fan’s eyes. These were the sorrows of Zhou Chen’s sword intent.

Zhou Chen wanted to create an illusory dream with his sorrow and trap Ning Fan’s mind to cause him to sink into sadness. Then, ten thousand swords would pierce through his heart.

This was the strongest form of the Sword Intent of Sorrow.

“No matter what, the fact that he has used Zhihe in this battle made me rather unhappy. However, speaking of this world, this is my illusory dream. Zhou Chen’s sword intent should have only allowed me to meet my partner in this dream without really intending to do so... He can’t see my dream but I can see his past! Speaking from this aspect, if I crush his remnant dream, I will then win against his attack!”

Knowing that Zhou Chen did not deliberately involve Zhihe in this dream realm, the anger in Ning Fan's eyes diminished a little. He gently held Mu Haitang up.

No matter what, the current Mu Haitang was Zhihe while Ning Fan was Zhou Chen.

Even though her name was different, in Ning Fan's eyes, Zhihe was Zhihe and no one could hurt her.

Zhou Chen's remnant dream had a sad ending. His beloved partner would certainly die in a disaster which would cause him to be lonely for ten thousand years. It would become the remnant pain which he could not erase.

Ning Fan needed to break free from the remnant dream while preventing Mu Haitang who had turned into Zhihe to be hurt.

After helping Mu Haitang up, he stood in front of her and looked at her with his gentle eyes.

"Come with me!"

"Brother Chen, where are we going?" When Mu Haitang saw that Ning Fan was not going to abandon her, her eyes lit up.

"To the Chi Yue Sword Faction! Apparently, the journey of Zhou Chen's cultivation begins from the Chi Yue Sword Faction. If you follow me, no one will be able to hurt you! Zhihe!"

"I have told you many times. I am Haitang, Mu Haitang!" The young girl spoke unhappily. She had Zhihe's body but she held Mu Haitang's memories.

Right after they left the village, a great disaster suddenly befell the area.

An old cultivator at the Harmonious Spirit Realm who had thick and long eyebrows stood in mid-air and looked down on the village as if he was looking at ants.

“I didn’t expect for my senior brother to actually discover a disciple who practices the Sword Dao of Emotions in this lowly village. With this disciple, he will certainly gain fondness from the ancestral master. His status will become more stable. Zhou Chen! How dare a lowly young man of a hill village ruin my great plan of seizing the position of power of the sect?! Humph! He cultivates the sword of emotions, doesn’t he? He has a beauty in this village, doesn’t he? Then, I shall kill his beauty and make him angry and merciless. Let’s see if he will still gain fondness from the ancestral master!”

The old cultivator with long eyebrows spread his spirit sense. When he scanned across the village, he suddenly clenched his teeth with ferociousness.

“Where’s Mu Haitang?! Where did she go? Why isn’t she in the village?!”

In the past, Zhou Chen lost his beloved woman on the day he was accepted by the Chi Yue Sword Faction.

Since Ning Fan was in the dream now, he definitely would not let Zhihe be exposed to any danger, even if Zhihe was just illusory and was actually Mu Haitang.

Even so, he would never allow anyone to harm Zhihe. Whoever dares to lay a finger on her would die!

[1] Mallus Halliana is the English name that I found from Wikipedia for the Chinese name- 垂丝海棠 (Chui Si Hai Tang) In my perception, Chui Si Hai Tang literally means dangling silken begonia. However, you can get more information about this plant on Wikipedia.

[2] Haitang (Chinese 海棠) From what I have searched through Google, the closest thing I can get is begonia.

[3] Chi Yue (Chinese: 赤岳) Chi (赤) literally means scarlet or naked Yue (岳) literally means mountain.

Chapter 436: Perfect Accomplishment Intent Realm! Memory Severing Dao Sword.

The Chi Yue Sword Faction was located in a low-grade cultivation country in the Rain World called Chi Country. It was the number one sword faction in the country.

As Ning Fan stood below the Chi Yue Mountain, the innocent and young Zhihe followed by his side. Both of them were in a joyful mood while admiring the scenery along their journey.

After Mu Haitang turned into Zhihe, her personality had also gradually changed. Eventually, her bearing was nearly the same as Zhihe's.

Ning Fan did not care if this dream was real or fake. As long as he was there, no one could hurt Zhihe.

The body that Ning Fan was occupying right now belonged to Zhou Chen. His current cultivation base belonged to Zhou Chen when he was sixteen.

The Third Level of the Vein Opening Realm was indeed very weak.

Within the illusory dream, Ning Fan did not inherit any cultivation base or body refinement realm from his original body. However, the power of his intent realm still remained.

Ning Fan closed his eyes. Pieces of black snowflakes condensed on the center of his palm.

Each piece of snowflake represented power from his intent realm. His Divine Intent of Memory exists in the form of the snowy and windy Seven Apricot City.

With the power of that intent realm, even though Ning Fan was just at the Third Level of the Vein Opening Realm, he could travel unhindered and be unrivalled in Chi Country which was just a low-grade cultivation country.

In a low-grade cultivation country, the strongest beings were experts at the Gold Core Realm. However, Ning Fan could freeze Divine Transformation Realm beings with the ice and snow of memory just by raising his hand!

Besides that, he still had the Immortal Entrapping Sword Intent which he could also use to hurt his enemies.

“As long as I am here, no one can hurt Zhihe. However, according to my understanding, there isn’t a country called Chi Country among the current eight hundred cultivation countries in the Rain World. It seems like this country had been slaughtered and annihilated by someone ten thousand years ago...”

“The First Style of Zhou Chen’s Sword of Sorrow is called Ten Years of Life and Death. Does that mean this incomplete dream will take a period of ten years...”

“In order to break this sword technique and get out of this illusory dream, I must not experience the slightest trace of sorrow in ten years. The biggest sorrow in this illusory dream is naturally the death of Mu Haitang which has inflicted Zhou Chen with endless pain and suffering. I only need to protect Zhihe for ten years and make sure she remains safe. Without any sorrow in ten years, I can break this dream!”

After a while, Ning Fan dismissed his thoughts and led Mu Haitang to climb up the stairs of the mountain together.

The Chi Yue Mountain was very tall. It was at least ten thousand zhang* (3.33m per zhang) tall. Aside from that, the mountain was also full of danger. Lions, leopards, venomous bugs and snakes were all over the mountain. In the eyes of mortals, this mountain was an incredibly tall mountain that no one could climb.

Mu Haitang was just a mortal lady. Her body was weak and her qi was feeble. After spending half a day climbing a mountain, she only completed one-tenth of its total height. Even so, she was already out of breath.

When Ning Fan looked back and saw that Mu Haitang was sweating profusely, he squatted down and carried her on his back.

Mu Haitang’s beautiful eyes flashed with a hint of surprise while on top of Ning Fan’s back. Suddenly, her expression looked like she had just woken up from a deep dream.

“B-Brother Fan, I have dreamed of you again!” Very well. Now, Mu Haitang’s existence was completely erased. The illusory dream had completely replaced Mu Haitang with Zhihe.

“You have woken up?” Ning Fan’s tone became gentle but his eyes began to look serious.

Dreams sure were mysterious and unpredictable. You might think that everything inside the dream is real but when you wake up from it, everything is just nothing but a false reality just like flowers in a mirror and the moon reflected on the lake.

Even though the things that happened in the dreams were illusory, Zhihe could always meet Ning Fan in them.

Whether or not the life and death in these dreams were true or fake, it was really difficult to distinguish.

However, Ning Fan was more certain that even though he was inside an illusory dream, he had to protect Zhihe from all kinds of dangers.

“Brother Fan, I really miss you...”

“I know. Get some rest first. I am going to bring you somewhere.”

Internally, Ning Fan had a lot of things to say to her but he could only smile bitterly. In the journey of his Dao cultivation, he killed people like cutting down straws. But he also yearned to return to Yue Country as soon as possible. However, there were too many things he had yet to do. Thus, he could not return yet.

On their journey to the summit of the mountain, only Zhihe was talking all the while Ning Fan listened patiently. Occasionally, some ferocious beasts would bolt out from the forest to block their path. Ning Fan just gave them a ferocious stare and they would all run away in shock.

His baleful qi and devilish aura still remained after all.

Half a day later, they arrived at the summit of the mountain. It was already midnight. The moon was bright but the twinkling stars were rather rare in the sky.

A magnificent jade palace with bright lamps and flames floated on the dense clouds above the summit. It looked like an immortal world.

Amidst the clouds and mist, young men and women carrying swords came and left. All of them were sword cultivators. This Chi Yue Sword Faction really deserved its reputation as the number one sword sect of the Chi Country.

Although the night scenery was so beautiful and mesmerizing, Zhihe no longer had the energy to continue watching it and had already fallen asleep due to exhaustion.

“Stop right there!”

All of a sudden, six disciples who were guarding the mountain appeared in front of Ning Fan and blocked his path. Each of their cultivation bases were at the Seventh Level of the Vein Opening Realm and above. All of them carried a sword and had valiant and soldierly bearings.

Their gaze swept across Ning Fan. As soon as they discovered that he was just a cultivator at the Third Level of the Vein Opening Realm, their expressions revealed a hint of contempt.

Then, they turned their gazes to Zhihe. When they saw Zhihe’s beautiful appearance, all of them were stunned and their eyes flashed with surprise.

What a beautiful lady!

“I am Yu Wei, the deacon who is responsible for guarding this mountain. Who are you?! Why did you enter my Chi Yue Sword Faction along with a lady without permission?!”

Among the six disciples who were guarding the mountain, the person who seemed to be the leader of the group spoke to him. His cultivation base was at the Eight Level of the Vein Opening Realm. As he spoke, he secretly spread out his aura force and delivered it to Ning Fan, attempting to intimidate him.

“I am Zhou Chen!”

Ning Fan flicked the sleeves of his hands which gave rise to a cool breeze that dispersed the aura force from Yu Wei. His expression remained as cool and indifferent as before.

However, after taking the brunt of the force Ning Fan delivered with a flick of his sleeves, the six disciples who were on guard duty coughed out blood at the same time and fell back. Astonishment filled their expressions!

Even though Ning Fan was in an illusory dream, he would never allow himself to be intimidated by juniors at the Vein Opening Realm. Besides, he really disliked the way the six cultivators looked at Zhihe. Thus, he briefly taught them a lesson.

Hiss

All of the disciples there including Yu Wei sucked in a cold breath.

The young man who was standing in front of them was actually Zhou Chen! Furthermore, even though Zhou Chen’s cultivation base was just at the Third Level of the Vein Opening Realm, he could block the aura force of a cultivator who was at the Eighth Level of the Vein Opening Realm. His strength was rather terrifying as he could injure six cultivators by just raising his hand!

“Oh, it’s Senior Brother Zhou Chen. We’re sorry that we failed to recognize you just now. Please forgive us for being impolite... The sect master has already agreed to accept Senior Brother Zhou Chen as the great disciple of the Chi Yue Sword Faction. Besides, the sect master has given the order that if Senior Brother comes to the sect, you can directly head to the Smoky Sword Pavilion and enter into seclusion to comprehend swords for ten years... Ten years later, if Senior Brother gets into the top ten of the Sword Competition of One Hundred Sects, you can leave this sect freely and no one will stop you.”

The way Yu Wei and the others looked at Ning Fan carried a hint of fear. Not only were they afraid of Ning Fan’s identity, but also of the terrifying strength that he showed after witnessing him injure the six of them by just raising his hand.

None of them dared to steal a glance on Zhihe anymore as they were afraid that it would anger Ning Fan. Well, no matter where one goes, those with great strength always make others fear and respect them.

“There’ll be no next time.”

Ning Fan gave them a warning. Then, he walked to the entrance gate of the mountain carrying Zhihe on his back.

All of the disciples along his path had already been instructed by Yu Wei to courteously lead the way for him. After making a turn to the left and another turn to the right, he eventually arrived at a pavilion which had extremely dense spiritual qi. It was none other than the Smoky Sword Pavilion.

There were 12 servants in the building. Each of their cultivation bases were at the Fifth Level of the Vein Opening Realm and above. All of them could be considered as elites in the sect but they were all sent to serve Ning Fan.

As for his so-called master who was the master of the sect, he did not even show himself from the beginning. After Zhou Chen entered the gate of the sect, he also hadn’t been given any kind of test.

When Zhou Chen was still young, he was already a prodigious sword cultivator. He was noticed by the sect master of the Chi Yue Sword Faction and he had already passed the test when he was still in the village. Hence, he did not have to take a test after arriving at the sect.

“Greetings to Senior Brother Zhou Chen! Our sect master has already expected Senior Brother’s arrival tonight. He asks for Senior Brother to rest early. Tomorrow, he will personally come to the Smoky Sword Pavilion to teach Senior Brother some cultivation methods!” The twelve servants were polite on the surface but there was still a hint of disdain in the deepest parts of their eyes.

“I understand.”

“This lady is not allowed to enter the Smoky Sword Pavilion! The Smoky Sword Pavilion is a pavilion that was left behind by the old ancestor who founded this sect. Without permission from the sect master, no

stranger is allowed to enter!” The eyes of a few servants were filled with contempt when they saw Zhihe and stopped Ning Fan domineeringly.

“She is my wife. There’s nothing wrong in bringing her into the Smoky Sword Pavilion. The Dao of Swords that I cultivate is the Sword of Emotion. Master will understand. If you dare to stand in my way, only death awaits you!”

When Ning Fan finished speaking, a rush of frightening baleful qi spread out. It caused the servants to behave obediently. All of them no longer had any objections, much less look at Ning Fan with disdain.

They could not understand why a junior at the Third Level of the Vein Opening Realm would have such a terrifying baleful qi!

Since Zhou Chen had great achievements in his youth, he naturally was regarded to be incredibly impressive. However, all of his impressiveness would turn to bone-piercing sorrow ten years later.

While Zhihe was sleeping soundly and peacefully, Ning Fan sat on the bed, guarding by her side. At the same time, he sat cross-legged and meditated.

His gaze swept across the surroundings of the Smoky Sword Pavilion from time to time. Vaguely, he discovered a sense of incomplete sword intent within this building.

That trace of sword intent was left in the pavilion by the old ancestor who founded the Chi Yue Sword Faction. It had yet to completely condense. Thus, it could only be regarded as a half-completed sword intent.

Rumor has it that the old ancestor of the sect only had a Nascent Soul Realm cultivation base. He managed to touch the threshold of sword intent but that in itself can already be considered to be out of the ordinary. Hence, it was no surprise that he could not successfully condense his sword intent in the end.

Ning Fan shut his eyes and began studying this trace of incomplete sword intent. It was indistinct like smoke.

Making swords that are like smoke, making swords that are like smoke...

He gently lifted his finger and a trace of indistinct sword light gradually rose on the tip of his finger.

For the entire night, Ning Fan was learning this sword intent. Gradually, his efforts began to show some results.

This sword intent which was indistinct like smoke was rather similar to Zhou Chen's sword intent.

It can be said that the sword intent Zhou Chen used later in his life was comprehended from this smoke-like sword intent.

I still need to stay in this illusory dream for ten years without feeling sorrow. It is clear that cultivating this sword intent is an excellent option.

Suddenly, a vicious and cold laugh could be heard from outside the room which interrupted Ning Fan in comprehending the sword intent.

"Zhou Chen, you are really careful. You actually brought Mu Haitang with you when you left the village and came here. Even though I might not be able to kill her in the village, it's still the same as killing her tonight. Then, I will certainly be able to ruin your Dao of Emotions and destroy your future!"

A masked old Daoist who wore a set of black robes and concealed and carried a sword on his back suddenly sneaked into the Smoky Sword Faction. He pointed his finger and delivered a Harmonious Spirit Realm sword light which went straight to Zhihe who was sleeping soundly.

Ning Fan's expression turned grim. Internally, he surmised that this Daoist who hid his head but showed his tail was probably the culprit who killed Zhou Chen's beloved and was the one who caused him to be overwhelmed with grief his entire life.

However, he might be able to kill Zhou Chen's wife, but he should not even think of harming Ning Fan's wife.

“Courting death!”

Ning Fan reached out with one of his hands and clawed at the air. A rush of overwhelming sword intent turned into innumerable traces of sword threads that rushed towards the Daoist and shredded him into a cloud of blood mist in an instant.

The Daoist widened his eyes in anger which were also filled with disbelief and terror.

Even in his death, he still could not understand why a junior at the Third Level of the Vein Opening Realm could kill him, a dignified Harmonious Spirit Realm cultivator, by just moving his hand!

He wanted to beg for his life. But in Ning Fan’s hands, he did not even have the chance to beg. His only option was to get killed!

There was nothing he could do but to die with lingering grudges!

Ning Fan flicked his sleeves which summoned a gust of cool wind which blew the blood mist away after killing the Daoist, leaving no traces behind.

With his current cultivation base, who could figure out he was the one who killed a Harmonious Spirit Realm cultivator.

Tonight, the life plate of the vice sect master of the Chi Yue Sword Faction broke. To others, the cause of his death was unknown. The whole sect was in chaos. No one suspected it was Ning Fan’s doing.

Since Ning Fan had killed him, Mu Haitang would not die. As such, Ning Fan would not have the ten years of sorrow and Zhou Chen’s sorrowful sword would not be able to harm him!

The next day, the sect master came to the Smoky Sword Pavilion and gave Ning Fan a great amount of pills and cultivation methods. Then, he hurriedly left the place. Apparently, he was investigating the cause of the vice sect master’s demise.

That was the teacher whom Zhou Chen greatly respected. He treated Zhou Chen quite well. To Zhou Chen, his death was another sorrow.

Within ten years, Ning Fan had never taken a step outside his room. He stayed inside the Smoky Sword Pavilion all this time to protect Zhihe.

Whenever he asked for pills, his request would certainly be granted quickly. Some cultivation methods for sword cultivators had also been specially prepared for him.

Ning Fan had never systematically cultivated sword techniques. In Zhou Chen's remnant dream, he began his cultivation from the very start as a Vein Opening Realm sword cultivator. This bitter cultivation lasted 10 years.

Ten years later, his qi was already at the Late Harmonious Spirit Realm. However, he only told them all that he was at the Tenth Level of Vein Opening Realm.

Within ten years, Zhihe slept a lot and woke up infrequently. During the times when she woke up, she was still sleepy and dizzy. However, under Ning Fan's protection, she never faced any danger.

In the tenth year, Zhihe's figure gradually turned faint and vanished from the dream.

As for the memories which originally belonged to Zhou Chen, Ning Fan seized them in these ten years.

Ning Fan had managed to protect Zhihe for ten years until she left this illusory dream. No one was able to lay a finger on her. Ning Fan had no regrets and he had no sorrow. Hence, he was not hurt by the sorrowful sword.

As long as he could break the most sorrowful sword of Zhou Chen in the tenth year, he could then defeat Zhou Chen.

According to Zhou Chen's memories, he should be going to the Chi Yue Sword Faction to be formally accepted as a disciple, comprehending the Dao of Swords for ten years and obtaining the first place in

the sword competition that was held ten years after his arrival. Only then was he granted the right to leave the sect and return to his village.

However, when he got back to his village, he found out that his beloved woman had already died ten years ago and felt that destiny had made a fool out of him. All of his glory until that moment turned into ashes. All of his emotions shattered like a broken mirror. He cut down the only Malus Halliana left in the village and made it into a wooden sword. He then cultivated bitterly for one hundred years just to seek revenge for her!

Ning Fan did not participate in the sword competition. He directly turned into a ray of sword light and left Chi Yue to return to his village.

The illusory dream realm began to collapse. It was a sign that the sword technique was being broken.

Bang

The remnant dream that had lasted ten years suddenly collapsed when Ning Fan set foot in the village.

The village was exactly the same as ten years ago. Peaceful and joyful. No one was killed and there was no sorrow.

Under Ning Fan's protection, Mu Haitang also survived. Thus, there was no sorrow to him.

Since there was no sorrow, the sorrowful sword technique was no longer sorrowful. The first style of Zhou Chen's sword technique, Ten Years of Life and Death, was broken like that!

Ten years in the dream realm was just a blink of an eye in the outside world.

However, in these ten years, Ning Fan had established the foundation for sword cultivation. It made up for his inadequacy in his cultivation of the Dao of Swords.

After withstanding Zhou Chen's sword strike, it benefitted him quite a lot instead of hurting him.

After breaking free from the illusory dream, Ning Fan in the real world suddenly opened his eyes. They flashed with brilliance, dispersing all of Zhou Chen's sword intent.

"The first style of this sword intent of yours has no effect on me!"

"What?!" Outside the Thunder Court Pavilion, the expressions of the three Void Glimpse Stage experts changed greatly after seeing Ning Fan break free from the illusory realm of Zhou Chen's sword intent and opened his eyes. Even Hong Yi was slightly surprised.

As a matter of fact, even Void Inquiry Stage or Void Pierce Stage old monsters would fall into the illusory dream without being able to extricate themselves from it after being charmed by Zhou Chen's sword technique.

Ning Fan, however, directly broke the first style of Zhou Chen's sword intent and woke up!

Zhou Chen's eyes revealed a hint of respect for Ning Fan. In all of his battles with other sword cultivators in his life, he had only met three individuals who could wake up from the first style of his sword intent. They were Yun Tianjue, the Sword Sovereign of the Sword World and the rogue immortal of the Four Heavens. Ning Fan was the fourth person!

He indeed did not see wrongly. Ning Fan was a prodigious sword cultivator. Moreover, in terms of innate talent in the Dao of Swords, Ning Fan was even better than him!

"My single sword strike is separated into four styles. Even though you managed to wake up during the first style which is the first sorrow, Ten Years of Life and Death, you have yet to completely defeat the four styles of my sword intent!"

At this moment, Zhou Chen was no longer concerned about winning or losing in his battle with Ning Fan. He just wanted to learn from Ning Fan by exchanging views with him.

Ning Fan nodded his head, signaling to Zhou Chen that he could attack him with all of his strength. During their confrontation, he could also verify his Dao of Swords based on Zhou Chen's, greatly enhancing his understanding of it.

Zhou Chen rotated the tip of his sword. An immense sense of sorrow drowned Ning Fan.

“I joined the Chi Yue Sword Faction when I was 16 years old and left Haitang. However, I didn’t expect that we would be forever separated ever since that day. She died under the hands of an evil man. However, I had no idea. When I found out about her death, it was already ten years later. Be forever separated... Ten years! I was always looking forward to reuniting with her and staying together. I had always longed for that day to come for ten long years! Unfortunately, I lived but she died! The first style of this sorrowful sword contains the regret of my entire life which I can never make up or express. There is no way I can ever forget or amend it! The sorrow of this sword technique can kill a Void Glimpse Stage cultivator!”

Chi

A rush of sadness spread across the Thunder Court Pavilion like tidal waves. As soon as the three Void Glimpse Stage experts saw this sword technique, all of them were deeply terrified.

Standing at the center of the sword intent, Ning Fan did not move at all. The sword intent would only be able to seal his mindscape once. There would never be a second time.

He felt lingering sharp pain in his heart at the next moment. The pain was the regret and hatred originating from his inability to protect his loved ones.

Ning Fan’s eyes were filled with emotion. If his beloved woman dies and he only finds out about it ten years later, he certainly would also experience this kind of excruciating pain and the hatred that pierces through the marrow of his bones. Hence, he must never make a mistake in his life. He must never leave any hatred or regrets.

Hence, he would rather be infamous just to have no regrets in his life!

“Break!”

The firmness of his Dao Heart would not waver in front of sorrow. He opened his mouth and inhaled, swallowing all of the sorrow from Zhou Chen’s sword intent.

He recalled his comprehensions about the smoke-like sword intent in the incomplete dream. Then, he did the same thing as Zhou Chen. He randomly grabbed a wooden chair beside him, crushed it entirely and condensed the wooden fragments into a wooden sword.

A weak sword gave out strong sword intent!

A sorrowful sword intent which was exactly the same as Zhou Chen's gathered on the wooden sword!

"I can also display the sorrow of Ten Years of Life and Death!" Ning Fan's voice was flat, as if he was saying something normal. However, his words filled Zhou Chen's eyes with astonishment.

Ning fan had actually secretly learned his strongest sword intent!

The three Void Glimpse Stage experts found it even more hard to believe. The fact that Ning Fan was able to break the first style of Zhou Chen's sword intent was already unimaginable. Now, he even managed to learn Zhou Chen's sword intent. How could this be possible?!

"What kind of prodigious sword cultivator is this young man exactly? He could actually learn the third elder's sword intent in an instant!"

The three of them exclaimed in surprise. They naturally did not know that Ning Fan had actually experienced ten years to comprehend the sword intent. Instead of learning the sword intent instantly, he had gone through Zhou Chen's journey in his sword cultivation in the illusory dream to learn the sword intent of smoky sword.

After that, he repeated what Zhou Chen had done by fusing his sorrow into the smoky sword to create the first style of the sorrowful sword.

Hong Yi's cold eyes were slightly filled with amazement. Ning Fan had gone beyond her expectations once again.

The tip of Zhou Chen's sword slashed horizontally. Since Zhou Chen could not defeat Ning Fan using the first style of his sword intent, he had to use the second style.

“After I joined the Chi Yue Sword Faction, I cultivated to the Tenth Level of the Vein Opening Realm in ten years. After I found out about the death of my beloved woman and my enemy who was an old monster at the Harmonious Spirit Realm, I ran away from the sect and cultivated bitterly for one hundred years. After one hundred years, I formed my own gold core and slaughtered the Chi Yue Sword Faction! I have endured the bitterness of longing. I sat alone in my cave for one hundred years and meditated. Each day was filled with sadness. Ten Years of Life and Death can kill a Void Glimpse Stage cultivator while One Hundred Years of Loneliness can eliminate a Void Inquiry Stage expert!”

Ning Fan suddenly raised his head. His black hair danced wildly in the air. He also wielded his wooden sword by imitating what Zhou Chen had done. On the foundation of the Ten Years of Life and Death, he added the One Hundred Years of Loneliness.

Ning Fan had also felt lonely before. His loneliness was not about being overwhelmed by sadness alone. Instead, it was the loneliness of facing the bloodsheds of the cultivation world.

His loneliness was different from Zhou Chen's. However, he could understand the latter's loneliness.

Even though he faced the sword intent head-on, Ning Fan remained unscathed. His eyes, however, became deep.

“The Third Style, One Thousand Years of Intertwining! The Fourth Style, Ten Thousand Years of Wandering! After eliminating the Chi Yue Sword Faction, I obtained a trace of Haitang's soul essence from the hands of the evil man. I carved the wood of the Malus Halliana at the entrance of the village into a wooden sword and sealed her soul into the sword so that we can accompany each other every day. Eventually, she became my sword! Ten Thousand Years of Wandering with her who had become my sword and my only company in my life. Even though it is saddening, I won't abandon it! As long as my sword is around, I will continue to exist. If my sword is broken, I will perish!”

“The reason why I could not break through to the Void Pierce Stage is because my intent realm could not be improved anymore. It isn't because I am unable to do it. In fact, it's because I am not willing to do so... Even I will be immersed into my own sorrows. As long as I can abandon all of my grievances and forget all of our past, I can advance to the Void Pierce Stage. However, I am reluctant to do so!”

“If I can achieve a breakthrough in my cultivation realm at the expense of forgetting all about it, I would rather abandon my cultivation!”

Zhou Chen’s eyes glinted with sadness. He had great potential. If it wasn’t because he was reluctant to let go of Mu Haitang, he would certainly have become a Void Fragmentation Realm expert now.

However, he was reluctant... He just could not let go of her...

Waves of sadness drowned Ning Fan again without giving him time to breathe.

Zhou Chen had activated his sorrowful intent to its maximum power. There were his memories and his Dao in his sorrow.

More and more sadness invaded Ning Fan’s heart. In contrast, Ning Fan’s heart became firmer and stronger.

From the very beginning, he had never felt sad for Zhou Chen. Even now, he would still not feel sad for him.

With his Memory Intent Realm, he had seen all of Zhou Chen’s memories. He was well aware of all of Zhou Chen’s sorrows.

In the Ten Years of Life and Death, a couple lost each other forever. In the One Hundred Years of Loneliness, he cultivated in absolute loneliness. In the One Thousand Years of Intertwining, he felt so broken-hearted as if his liver and guts had been cut to pieces. In the Ten Thousand Years of Wandering, he abandoned his emotions and lost his sanity.

Ning Fan closed his eyes, trying to understand Zhou Chen’s feelings. He put himself in Zhou Chen’s shoes. After losing his beloved, he experienced thousands of years of loneliness. He followed the traces of Zhou Chen’s memories and slowly comprehended his sword intent.

Ning Fan understood the four styles of the sorrowful sword. Tears seemed to well up in his eyes. He felt like he was being influenced by Zhou Chen. Once his tears drop, his heart would feel sad and ten thousand swords would pierce through his heart.

He opened his heart. With his Memory Intent Realm, his emotions gradually left him. The sadness that had invaded his heart was erased by his Memory Intent Realm.

He opened his palm. Traces of black snowflakes were slowly condensing into a small black-colored sword. It glittered with the strange light of the Heavenly Dao.

This small black sword was condensed from Zhou Chen's sorrowful sword intent that was devoured by the power of his Memory Intent Realm.

From the level of Large Accomplishment, his Memory Intent Realm had achieved Perfect Accomplishment!

Ning Fan had devoured Zhou Chen's sword intent and created a sword of intent realm that belonged to himself.

“Ten Years of Life and Death, One Hundred Years of Loneliness, One Thousand Years of Intertwining, Ten Thousand Years of Wandering. All of the sad memories cannot be severed! From your memories, I have created a sword strike. It's called the Memory Severing Dao Sword! Perhaps it can help you break through to the Void Pierce Stage. If you can't give up your memories of her, then you should get rid of the sadness in your heart and just remember the joyous memories with her. Then, you can also attain the Void Pierce Stage. Sever!”

Ning Fan raised his hand. The small black sword soared from his palm and cut all of the sorrowful intent.

Zhou Chen just felt a sharp pain in his Sea of Consciousness. All of his sad memories vanished after they were struck by this strange small sword.

Thud

He fell to his knees on the ground heavily. His eyes flashed with surprise.

What shocked him was that Ning Fan had actually condensed a sword strike using the four styles of his sorrowful sword. That sword could sever one's memories!

All of the power of Zhou Chen's sorrowful intent originated from his painful memories in the past. If his memories are erased, his sorrow would also not exist.

"You have lost!"

Ning Fan's gaze swept across Zhou Chen indifferently. Then, he raised his hand to withdraw the small black sword and swallowed it into his abdomen.

Today, after withstanding a single sword strike from Zhou Chen, it made his Memory Intent Realm attain Perfect Accomplishment with the help of Zhou Chen's ten thousand years of sorrow. In addition to that, he had also condensed the Memory Severing Dao Sword. It definitely was something extremely precious!

Ning Fan discovered that this sword had two great abilities.

Firstly, it could erase his opponent's memories. Secondly, he could eliminate his opponent's intent realm.

If someone fights against Ning Fan using the intent realm like Zhou Chen, he could defeat them using this Memory Severing Dao Sword!

"What sword is that exactly? It could actually crush all of the third elder's sword intent in a single strike!"

"I can't see through it! I can't see through it! This sword is too mysterious. It's something that I can't understand!"

“I felt like I have read information similar to this sword before from an ancient book... This sword is like... like... What was that again...?”

The three Void Glimpse Stage experts were shocked by the destructive power of the small black sword and began discussing endlessly among themselves.

Only Hong Yi whose blood-red pupils flashed with a hint of astonishment held her palms tightly together and said.

“This is the Dao Weapon of Intent Realm. According to the records of an ancient book, only cultivators who have mastered a second step intent realm can condense the power of their intent realm as weapons of the Great Dao when their intent realm attains Perfect Accomplishment. Those weapons have strong divine ability and unimaginable power.”

“W-What?! This black sword is a Dao Weapon?! That is to say that the intent realm which Zhou Ming has learned is a second step intent realm. Moreover, when he is merely at the Divine Transformation Realm, he has already cultivated his intent realm to the level of Perfect Accomplishment!”

“A second step intent realm! Not to mention the kind of intent realm this young man has learned, there are only a handful of experts who comprehended second step intent realms in the Nine Worlds. Even in the Four Heavens Immortal World, those who can comprehend second step intent realms are mostly True Immortal Realm beings!”

“An intent realm at the level of Perfect Accomplishment! Normally, only Absolute Pierce Stage old monsters can cultivate their intent realms to such a level and thoroughly understand the word ‘void’. Even though this young man has yet to attain the Void Refinement Realm, his intent realm is already at the Perfect Accomplishment. His future certainly has unlimited potential!”

The eyes of the three Void Glimpse Stage experts revealed great amazement.

Zhou Chen knelt on the ground with one of his knees. The sorrow in his eyes gradually diminished. There was only the disappointment of being defeated in his expression.

“Little Friend, you not only withstood my single sword strike but also crushed all of my intent realm with a counterattack. In terms of strength of intent realms, I have lost to you... A moment later, I will bring 40 tufts of one hundred thousand years old spiritual herbs to you. Please wait for a moment. I will have to sever one of my arms as an apology to my mistress.”

“There’s no need for that. Hurry up and fetch the herbs!” Hong Yi’s voice was icy cold. Her face looked displeased and impatient.

She had never said that she wanted Zhou Chen to sever one of his arms. It was Zhou Chen who was saying that all this time.

“Er...” Zhou Chen was stunned, feeling extremely confused.

In the past, if anyone goes against Hong Yi’s command, she would kill them without exception. Cutting off one of their arms was already considered as a light punishment.

The current Hong Yi, however, would actually show compassion to her subordinates. It was truly surprising.

There are some changes in my lord’s personality!

Zhou Chen’s eyes flashed with a hint of worry. Hopefully, the change that occurred in Hong Yi’s personality was a positive one.

He shifted his gaze to Ning Fan again and heaved a deep sigh.

Ning Fan had devoured his sorrowful intent and condensed a Dao Weapon. It truly shocked Zhou Chen.

This young man deserves to be roped in by my lord with all her power. He is worthy enough to obtain the one hundred thousand years old spiritual herbs! In the future, he will certainly be a strong ally to my lord in her revenge!”

Chapter 437: The Disaster of the Six-Winged Clan

Zhou Chen took out forty tufts of one hundred thousand years old spiritual herbs and passed them to Ning Fan as promised.

Ning Fan then took out five pieces of dark golden bamboo leaves and handed them all to Hong Yi. From this trip, he gained the protection of the Zhou Clan in addition to the benefits he already received but in exchange, Ning Fan had to help Hong Yi deal with a trivial matter.

To Ning Fan, it was actually not very dangerous. He only needed to obtain a token in the great competition of the Sovereign's Tomb which would be held ten years later to gain the right to enter it.

If he really could not obtain a token, Hong Yi would personally give him a token ten years later. Of course, with Ning Fan's strength, it was definitely easy for him to be the number one expert among all Divine Transformation Realm cultivators.

After breaking Zhou Chen's sword intent, Ning Fan had earned the respect of the high-ranking individuals of the Zhou Clan. The respect they had for him was certainly not lower than the respect they had for the Rain Palace.

Other than the danger Ning Fan might cause by accidentally exposing his sovereign qi, he nearly had no need to worry about his safety while travelling in the internal endless sea.

After also obtaining some fifty thousand years old spiritual herbs, Ning Fan left. Hong Yi did not ask him to stay as well.

There were still ten years of preparation for her important matter. Before that, she had some things to do, such as treating her wounds!

After leaving tens of millions of li* (500m per li) from Lightning Bamboo Island, Ning Fan chose to descend on an empty island and created a cave as a temporary dwelling. Then, he summoned Yue Lingkong and the female corpse.

The golden lightning bamboo leaves would need fifty thousand years old spiritual herbs to harmonize their medicinal power. All of the one hundred pieces of golden lightning bamboo leaves had used up a large amount of these spiritual medicines. In this process, Ning Fan produced tens of bottles of golden-colored medicinal liquid in total.

Each bottle of the golden medicinal liquid could help in nourishing and healing one's primordial spirit. After just consuming a few bottles, the crack on Yue Lingkong's primordial spirit closed up. After she had consumed one hundred bottles of the medicinal liquid, she could already use her magic power at will. Activating the moon portals was definitely not a problem for her anymore.

Ning Fan let Yue Lingkong and the female corpse rest in the temporary dwelling while he returned to the Profound Yin World to treat Luo You's injuries.

Ning Fan did not know what kind of self-harming secret technique Luo You had used to help him break free from Great Sovereign Mo Luo's control.

Looking at her unconscious and haggard face, Ning Fan was filled with sympathy. He then harmonized the medicinal effects of the 8 pieces of dark lightning bamboo leaves using 40 tufts of one hundred thousand years old spiritual herbs and fed it to Luo You.

Since Luo You was currently unconscious, she naturally could not consume anything on her own.

Ning Fan took in the medicinal liquid with his mouth. Then, he passed the medicinal liquid into her mouth each time their tongues and lips intertwined.

Even though what he was doing was disrespectful to this beautiful woman, he had no other options.

After feeding her the eight dark golden lightning bamboo leaves, Luo You's cultivation base had recovered to the First Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm and was even close to the Second Heavenly Layer although she had yet to wake up.

Evidently, the dark golden lightning bamboo leaves were extremely suitable for recovering Luo You's strength. If Ning Fan had enough one hundred thousand years old spiritual herbs, he could also refine

each of the four remaining bamboo leaves. The medicinal liquid would certainly help Luo You's cultivation base recover to the Second Heavenly Layer of the Void Fragmentation Realm in one go.

Unfortunately, even though heaven and earth were boundless and vast, one hundred thousand years old spiritual herbs were too rare. Spiritual herbs that could live up to one hundred thousand years were all precious herbs. Even though Zhou Chen had spent ten thousand years searching for spiritual herbs and had gone to countless locations, he only managed to gather one hundred tufts of these spiritual herbs.

Without luck, it would probably be very difficult for Ning Fan to obtain one hundred thousand years old spiritual herbs.

Staring at Luo You's sleepy but ruddy complexion, Ning Fan felt rather pleased. Since he managed to heal Yue Lingkong and Luo You, his efforts did not go to waste.

What he had to do next was to bring the female corpse to the Six-Winged Clan and heal her broken Sea of Consciousness using the power of the Revival Platform.

To be honest, Ning Fan did not have a lot of confidence that it would help the female corpse completely recover her Sea of Consciousness in a single attempt.

However, the healing effect of the Revival Platform was greatly beneficial to the female corpse no matter what. It was an undeniable fact.

The trip to the Six-Winged Clan was a must. Aside from that, the day that the great elder of the Six-Winged Clan had promised was slowly approaching.

Ning Fan checked on Luo You and confirmed that she really was sleeping soundly this time instead of pretending to be asleep like before.

He no longer lingered in the Profound Yin World and went back to the temporary dwelling. As soon as he arrived, he met Yue Lingkong's teasing eyes.

“Little Cucumber, where have you been? Your body has the fragrance of a woman.”

“Are you jealous?” Ning Fan smiled. He did not give her an answer but asked her a question in return.

“Do you really think I will be jealous of you having other women?! Tsk!” Yue Lingkong glared at Ning Fan contemptuously and internally thought that Ning Fan was really narcissistic.

“Are you getting a little better?”

“Don’t worry. Even though I still have some injuries, activating the moon portals will not be a problem. When night falls, I will let you witness speed that will even let Void Fragmentation Realm old monsters have no hope of catching up! Each time I open a moon portal at night, I can travel across three hundred million li* (500m per li) and will cost fifty million immortal jade. During the day, I can still open a moon portal. However, it will cost one hundred million immortal jade and it can only transport me one hundred million li* (500m per li) away...”

“... Do you really need such a massive amount of immortal jade to activate the moon portals with your magic techniques?” Ning Fan was deeply surprised.

When he followed Yue Lingkong through the moon portals, they did not use up any immortal jade.

However, when thinking more carefully about it, the reason why they did not have to spend any immortal jade back then must be because those moon portals were set up beforehand. The immortal jade needed must have already been inserted into them.

Today, Ning Fan wanted to go to the Six-Winged Clan. There weren’t any moon portals passing through there. If Yue Lingkong opens moon portals as she wishes without using a massive amount of immortal jade, she would not be able to transport anyone three hundred million li* (500m per li) away with her magic power alone.

With a single move, a Divine Transformation Realm cultivator could travel across ten thousand li* (500m per li), a Void Refinement Realm expert could travel across one hundred thousand li* (500m per li) while a Void Fragmentation Realm expert could move one million li* (500m per li).

Yue Lingkong, on the other hand, could travel across three hundred million li* (500m per li) each time she activates a moon portal. With a single step, she could completely escape from the pursuit of Void Fragmentation Realm experts.

It would only be weird if such a heaven-defying speed did not need a massive cost.

In a way, Yue Lingkong was literally a portable ancient teleportation formation!

“Your moon portals are really a heaven-defying technique... I’m afraid Immortal Concubine Zang Yue was extremely famous back in ancient times.” Ning Fan praised.

“Don’t say such a thing to me! No matter how terrifying my moon portals are, I still fell into your hands and was ‘done’ in by you until I was scared. It’s really the greatest humiliation of my life!”

Yue Lingkong also did not try to talk nonsense anymore. She fiercely glared at Ning Fan and stood up to walk outside the cave. There was still some time before the moonlight appeared. She needed to begin preparing her technique to summon the moon portals.

Secretly, she concealed the hint of paleness on her face. Her body was still a little weak but she did not want to let Ning Fan know about it.

She knew how anxious Ning Fan was to go to the Six-Winged Clan to treat the female corpse. She understood what kind of status the female corpse had in Ning Fan’s heart.

She was very touched that Ning Fan even went to Lightning Bamboo Island to steal some golden lightning bamboo leaves. Since she owed him a debt, she would surely repay him. Thus, she had to send him to the Six-Winged Clan as soon as possible. There was no time for her to rest.

Piak

Before she had even gone out of the cave, Ning Fan grabbed her wrist and pulled her into his arms.

“Little Cucumber, what are you doing?! I am going to do something serious. I will compensate you with my body later. I really have no time right now!” When Yue Lingkong fell into his arms, she only thought that Ning Fan was going to push her down on the ground. Her brows were tightly knitted together and her heart was filled with discontentment.

“No worries. Actually, there’s no need to be in such a hurry to go to the Six-Winged Clan. Even though the great elder of the Six-Winged Clan has given me a promise with regards to the time of activating the Revival Platform, he will not be anxious to activate it immediately. Even if I am a few days late, he will certainly wait for me to avoid angering me. Hence, it’s fine even if we set out a few days later. You can rest for several days. Weiliang and I will wait until you recover completely before asking you to open some moon portals.”

“I don’t need rest...”

“Your complexion is still a little pale. Rest well!”

Ning Fan stroked Yue Lingkong’s cheek with his palm, ignoring her dissatisfied expression and directly held her up to put her on the bed inside their temporary dwelling.

Yue Lingkong’s mind went blank. When she was being given concern by Ning Fan like this, she would naturally be at a loss of what to do next.

“Little Cucumber, I am really fine... Weiliang’s matter is much more urgent.” She avoided having eye contact with Ning Fan and dismissed her stubborn and arrogant personality.

“Don’t worry. I am well aware of what’s right. Get some proper rest. If you harm your body, you won’t be able to repay me with your body anymore. Now, you are no longer the immature and undeveloped little girl who has no breasts and buttocks. I kind of look forward to our next session.”

Ning Fan teased. As soon as he finished speaking, he held the hand of the female corpse and brought her outside the cave.

“Yue...Er...needs...rest...” Even the female corpse turned her head and showed some concern for Yue Lingkong. Even though her spiritual intelligence was slightly low, she also noticed that Yue Lingkong’s complexion was rather pale.

Yue Lingkong put on the blanket and laid on the side of the stone bed. Looking at Ning Fan’s figure which was going further away from her, her eyes were filled with confusion.

“Little Cucumber, don’t be so gentle to me... I’m afraid of not being able to extricate myself...” She sighed faintly.

Outside the cave, Ning Fan raised his head and gazed into the night sky. He stared at the moonlight given off by the last quarter moon and did not allow Yue Lingkong to open the moon portals in the end.

It was not because he was not in a hurry. Instead, it was because if he is going to make another woman suffer in order to save the female corpse, it would be similar to neglecting the fundamentals and focusing on the details.

The debt of love was always accumulating inadvertently. In this era where cultivators were like ants, it was difficult to tell who was right and who was wrong.

Be it with or without emotions, who was right and who was wrong? Be it killing people or saving others, who was right and who was wrong?

Everyone was giving their best in order to survive. If one stops and rests, they would then become the stepping stones of others on the journey of Dao cultivation.

“Weiliang, if you wake up and find out that I am actually such a fickle lover, would you blame me?” Ning Fan smiled bitterly. All the beauties whom he knew were women with excellent talents and each of them had their own arrogant personalities.

If they did not meet Ning Fan, they would definitely not fall for a fickle lover.

In Mu Weiliang's previous life, she was the daughter of the Celestial Emperor. Thus, she must also have her own pride.

How could she tolerate a man whom she had waited one hundred and fifty million years for to be in love with others?

“Light...I...am...here...”

The female corpse raised her small cold hand and gently touched Ning Fan's black hair, as if she was stroking a pet. Her actions were full of compassion.

“No... regrets...”

Her words were short and brief but they were like a sharp sword that pierced right through Ning Fan's heart.

No regrets... The female corpse said she had no regrets...

The female corpse would never say these words. The only person who would say those would be Mu Weiliang.

She had never regretted it before. Starting from the last time she woke up when they were in the Star Palace, she slowly became Mu Weiliang again.

It turns out that when Ning Fan did not have a lot of time to pay attention to her, she had already turned into the previous Mu Weiliang.

“I have killed too many people and owed too many women. One day, I will probably be struck by lightning and die without a complete corpse. I have thought about the future. Living at the moment is already so difficult for me. I have too many enemies and each of them are so strong that I can't even breathe. Sovereign Moksha, the White Devil Sect, Great Emperor Mo Luo, Immortal Emperor Zhang Qing... Each of them makes me unable to stop and rest. If I back off, I will then lose everything.”

Ning Fan spoke his mind to the female corpse. Meanwhile, his mind recalled that remnant image he saw in the Bell of Samsara.

A butterfly which was half white and half black still charged at Immortal Emperor Zhang Qing even though it was weak. Despite knowing that it would certainly die in the end, it did not back off. If it backed off, Mu Weiliang would then die without a complete corpse and it would certainly be impossible for the both of them to reunite in this life.

He had no other options in his path, much less the option to run away!

Ning Fan was definitely unwilling to share the same fate as Zhou Chen where he lost his loved one and was only accompanied by loneliness for ten thousand years... Even if his Dao will vanish and he will perish, he would still want to protect each and every one of his loved ones!

“Stupid...Light...” A sweet smile formed on the stiff face of the female corpse. What she had once loved deeply was a butterfly as stubborn as him.

He did not change. Even if the sea had turned into mulberry fields, he was still the old him. It was too good to be like this.

Ning Fan muttered to himself for quite a while. His Dao Heart became more and more determined.

Both of them stood side by side under the night sky. Ning Fan then patted his storage pouch and took out a jade slip. It had been given to him by Lightning Emperor Tai Su.

That day when the lightning emperor gave him this jade slip, he did not look carefully as he was in a hurry to treat Yue Lingkong and Luo You's respective injuries. It was only now that he had the mood to see what request had Tai Su left in this jade slip exactly.

Ning Fan owed him a great debt of gratitude. He was his life savior. Ning Fan certainly had to repay him for such a huge favor. As long as his request was within Ning Fan's capabilities, he would definitely not refuse to do it!

He studied the jade slip calmly with his spirit sense. There were only a few brief sentences and a vast star map.

Judging from the positions in the star map, the star domain which this star map referred to was a small chiliocosm. It existed in a certain hidden and sealed land in the Eastern Heaven Immortal World.

“When Little Friend reads this jade slip, I must have already passed away. Death is certain for every human and the same goes for immortals. This is fate. When I decided to save you, I did it of my own free will. You don’t have to blame it on yourself...”

When Ning Fan read until here, he felt slightly sad. The great emperor of an era had actually perished without anyone being aware of it just to save him from Mo Luo’s hands.

“It has already been fifty million years ever since my physical body died. In these fifty million years, I spared no effort in keeping my Dao around just to wait for the opportunity to rescue you. You are the person whom I have been waiting for. You are my only hope in saving the True Lightning World. In this jade slip, there is the map of the True Lightning World. It’s located at an extremely hidden star domain in the Eastern Heaven Immortal World. Two seals had been established on the star domain. The first layer of the seals that had been established on the external region was something I did in the past. With my strength that allowed me to be unrivalled among the experts at the same level as me, I used up all of my strength to establish this formation technique. Other than the immortal emperors who are as strong as me, no one will be able to get past this seal.”

“Since you have obtained the inheritance of my lightning star and lightning diagram, you can ignore the first layer of the seals of the True Lightning World. The second layer of the seals, however... It was a seal that Immortal Sovereign Zi Dou personally formed one billion years ago. It has no effect on stopping enemies from coming inside of it. However, it had one and only effect and that is to trap my True Lightning Clan in there, causing us to be unable to break free from the True Lightning World forever and suffer endless pain...”

“My request is related to this seal. If Little Friend achieves great accomplishments in your cultivation one day, you must head to the True Lightning World and resolve the one billion years of suffering of my True Lightning Clan. It was my hometown. In the past, I have met a wise person who advised me that I could only wait until the appearance of ‘Zi Dou’s student’ in order to resolve the ill fate of the True Lightning Clan. My senses are always sharp. You are Zi Dou’s student. You certainly have obtained the Dao teachings of the immortal sovereign despite the difference in lifetimes! No one, including the Zi Clan can rescue the True Lightning Clan. You are the only one who can do this! This is my lifelong wish. I hope that you can help me accomplish it.”

“In addition... Fei Feng... If Little Friend goes to the True Lightning World, please help me look for one person. Her name is Fei Feng. Perhaps she is already married. Perhaps she is already dead... If she isn't dead yet, you can bring this pill recipe to her in order to cure her stubborn illness. You don't have to tell her that I am the one who gave her this pill recipe. If she is already dead, please pay a visit to her grave and burn this pill recipe in front of it... Then, I can die with no regrets.”

Kacha

When Ning Fan finished reading the jade slip, it suddenly broke apart and turned into traces of seven-colored lightning rays which condensed two scrolls.

One of them was the star map of the True Lightning World while the other one was an ancient pill recipe.

Ning Fan just took a close look at the pill recipe. It seemed to be a Ninth Revolution pill recipe. Besides that, it was a Ninth Revolution Golden Pill. When pills go into the Ninth Revolution, they would be categorized into four grades which were the Lead Grade, the Silver Grade, the Golden Grade and the Emperor Grade.

The recipe of this Ninth Revolution Golden Pill was priceless!

Ning Fan kept quiet.

What this dignified great emperor of an era could not forget upon his death was to resolve the disaster of his hometown and to look for a woman who was called Fei Feng.

The so-called immortal emperors were certainly beings who had gone through the Venerated Indifference stage. However, even though they had become indifferent, they were not bereft of emotions.

Ning Fan deeply engraved the two things that Tai Su entrusted to him in his mind.

In regards to his second request of looking for Fei Feng and giving her the pill recipe, he did not find it difficult. If he has the opportunity to go to the Eastern Heavens, he could then accomplish it.

The first request, however...

Rescuing the True Lightning World...

This request only made Ning Fan smile bitterly.

Ning Fan did not think that he could accomplish something that even Immortal Emperor Tai Su could not do. After all, the person who sealed the True Lightning World for one billion years was Immortal Sovereign Zi Dou!

Perhaps one billion years ago before the immortal sovereign had attained his Dao, he had some grudges with the True Lightning World. Hence, he sealed that world and no one knew about it.

One billion years had passed and all the grudges were already over. If Zi Dou has yet to die, he would probably have also lifted the disaster of the True Lightning World.

Ning Fan had once formally acknowledged Zi Dou as his teacher. Hence, it was reasonable to say that he was his student.

He did not think that saving the True Lightning World would be going against Zi Dou's will in any way. He was also not prepared to refuse Tai Su's final request. However, he just did not think that the current him was capable enough of rescuing the entire True Lightning World.

He might not be able to do it at the moment but he could give it a try when he attains some success in his cultivation.

After keeping the star map and the pill recipe, Ning Fan stayed on the island for another dozen days. Only then did he bring Yue Lingkong who completely recovered to the Six-Winged Clan.

Yue Lingkong had completely recovered to her peak condition. Each of the moon portals she set up could transport them three hundred million li* (500m per li) a day. In just a single night, she had opened the moon portal more than twenty times and travelled across approximately seven billion li* (500m per li) along with Ning Fan. Then, they arrived at the sea domain where the Six-Winged Clan was located.

The amount of immortal jade they had spent for this trip was as much as 1.2 billion. Ning Fan had just obtained a lot of immortal jade from the Zhou Clan but all of them had been used up by Yue Lingkong.

The travelling speed of the moon portal technique was extremely quick but the cost was also very huge.

Luckily, Ning Fan did not have much concept of immortal jade. He would not feel heartache for the money he spent at all. To him, if he runs out of immortal jade, he could just rob others in the future.

Ning Fan, the female corpse and Yue Lingkong went into the sea and dove one million zhang* (3.33m per zhang) below the sea domain.

Just as they arrived at one million zhang* (3.33m per zhang) below the sea which was still tens of millions of li* (500m per li) from the Six-Winged Clan, Ning Fan and his group heard sounds of battle. They came from a sea hill not far away from them.

On the sea hill, a group of cultivators wearing black armor was visible. There were more than thirty of them. All of them had six wings. Most of them had been inflicted with serious injuries. Now, they were being surrounded by hundreds of experts.

Without a doubt, the cultivators that had been trapped were members of the Six-Winged Clan. The individual with the strongest cultivation base was a woman at the Early Divine Transformation Realm. She had already been severely injured. Her physical body had been destroyed and she was only left with her primordial spirit.

As for the hundreds of experts who had surrounded the sea hill, they consisted of four different groups of experts in total.

Those who occupied the eastern direction of the sea hill were a group of ferocious devil cultivators. All of them had a ghost eye on their glabellas. Without a doubt, they were from the Ghost Eye Clan. Those

who blocked the western direction, they were also devil cultivators. Each of them had a devil horn on their heads. Naturally, they were the members of the Mist Horn Clan.

If there were only these two groups of experts surrounding the sea hill, Ning Fan would only think that this was just an internal battle among the Four Clans of the Hidden Sea.

However, other than the members of the two devil clans, there were still two other forces involved.

Ning Fan was very familiar with the ornaments worn by the experts blocking the north of the sea hill. They were actually the emblem of the Demon Sealing Sect. This Demon Sealing Sect really liked to be involved in everything. They even dared to intervene in the battle concerning the Four Clans of the Hidden Sea.

As for the experts standing south of the hill, their presence was absolutely beyond Ning Fan's expectation.

Each of these experts cultivated mysterious cultivation methods. Their presence gave out a massive righteous qi. They were actually Xuan cultivators of the righteous path!

Judging from their attire, their cultivation methods and their qi, they seemed to have come from a certain righteous sect from the eight hundred cultivation countries.

The four great forces surrounding the hill had seven Divine Transformation Realm cultivators in total. All of them emanated immense killing qi and shouted to their trapped enemies. All of what they said revealed their determination to eliminate the Six-Winged Clan.

“Interesting... The divine cultivators of the righteous path, the devil cultivators of the devil race, the demon cultivators of the Demon Sealing Sect... These three different races are actually joining forces with each other to attack the Six-Winged Clan. What is their objective?”

If there weren't great benefits involved, Ning Fan would not think the three different races which never had any dealings with each other in the past, would join forces.

At least, from Ning Fan's understanding of the Demon Sealing Sect, they would never act if there were no benefits to be derived from it.

"Little Cucumber, should we rescue them?" Yue Lingkong asked Ning Fan. Naturally, she was asking whether they should save the members of the Six-Winged Clan.

The female corpse looked rather indifferent. She was never interested in battles where everyone was deceiving each other.

"We already have no choice even if we want to help them or not..." Ning Fan smiled and scratched Yue Lingkong's nose. His eyes turned cold at the next moment.

The four groups of experts surrounding the sea hill had sensed Ning Fan's presence and sent out a number of people to surround them as well.

"Impudent! We, the Ghost Eye Clan and the Mist Horn Clan, have already sealed off this sea domain and prohibited cultivators from entering. How dare a junior like you violate our command. You literally are courting death! Kill him!"

Groups of experts dashed towards Ning Fan without understanding the situation.

The fact that Ning Fan had violated their command, they already had enough reason to kill him.

"I think we should just kill them. If the Six-Winged Clan gets annihilated, I won't be able to borrow the Revival Platform anymore..."

Ning Fan's eyes were filled with indifference, as if killing these experts was just a trivial matter.

He suddenly spread out his sword sense which covered the sea hill. In an instant, a majority of the cultivators of the four great forces were killed by Ning Fan's sword sense. Blood and flesh splashed everywhere.

Only the seven Divine Transformation Realm experts were filled with astonishment. How could they not know that Ning Fan, whose appearance looked rather normal, was actually a peerless expert.

Even though they were Divine Transformation Realm old monsters, they could not eliminate hundreds of Nascent Soul Realm cultivators with just their sense.

Ning Fan's strength was beyond their imaginations!

“Zhou Ming! He is the important guest of the great elder, Zhou Ming! This lady is Fen Chi. I am the one who has been sent by the great elder to welcome you. Please rescue us and I will certainly be extremely grateful to you!”

That Divine Transformation Realm lady who was only left with her primordial spirit immediately recognized Ning Fan's identity when she noticed his face. She instantly dismissed her hopeless expression and yelled for help.

When her words were heard by the seven Divine Transformation Realm cultivators, the seven individuals who were arrogant at first shivered in fear.

“Zhou Ming! Yes. He is the person whom our sect master warned us to never provoke at all costs!” One of the Divine Transformation Realm cultivators of the Demon Sealing Sect said in despair.

“Zhou Ming? Is he the notorious Zhou Ming of the Endless Sea?” The members of the Ghost Eye Clan and the Mist Horn Clan always lived beneath the hidden ocean. Thus, they were not familiar with Ning Fan's appearance. When they heard of Zhou Ming's devil prestige, they were naturally shocked.

“Zhou Ming? The newly-promoted revered elder of the Rain Palace?!” The several Divine Transformation Realm righteous cultivators were also deeply terrified after hearing Ning Fan's name.

They finally felt fear.

Unfortunately, it was already too late for them.

“Don’t come forward! If you make another step, I will kill this woman!”

The seven Divine Transformation Realm cultivators knew that they were going to die. The person with the strongest cultivation base among them was only a Mid Divine Transformation Realm cultivator. How could they be Ning Fan’s opponents?

A ray of travelling light flashed. The Divine Transformation Realm old man of the Demon Sealing Sect got to the sea hill and stepped on the primordial spirit of the lady from the Six-Winged Clan. His eyes were filled with terror and his voice was quivering as he tried to threaten Ning Fan.

He had heard of Ning Fan’s terrifying strength from Lu Jiefen countless times.

He definitely was not daring enough to confront him head-on. Thus, the only thing he could think of was to use the lady as a tool to threaten him. Perhaps it would make Ning Fan afraid to make a move.

Ning Fan’s eyes revealed a hint of contempt. He took a step forward without having the intention to show pity for the lady and directly turned into a cloud of dark shadows.

An immense sense of danger landed on the Divine Transformation Realm cultivator of the Demon Sealing Sect, which suddenly filled him with disappointment.

“This is bad! This Zhou Ming does not know this woman at all. He won’t be threatened by anyone like her! Detestable! Since his strength could make Venerated Demon afraid, there’s no way I can survive! Detestable! I want to die together with you!”

The old man gathered strength on his feet and tried to stomp ferociously on the woman whose name was Fen Chi.

Since he did not have any hope of survival, he wanted to drag another person to hell with him before dying!

“Ahh!”

The small beautiful face on Fen Chi's primordial spirit was filled with absolute horror and she let out a terrified cry.

She thought that she was going to die. At the next moment, however, she felt her body suddenly becoming light. She only felt that her tiny primordial spirit being held by someone.

Before she could take a clearer look at that person's face, she could only see a cloud of black sense filling the surroundings. The seven Divine Transformation Realm cultivators were shredded into pieces by the black sense almost at the same time.

Black Tempest Rupture Art!

"W-What a frightening magic technique!" Fen Chi's primordial spirit could not stop trembling. Only now could she clearly see the face of the unusually cold young man who had saved her.

"What had happened to the Six-Winged Clan?" When Ning Fan's cold voice entered Fen Chi's ears, it made her whole body jump.

It was as if Ning Fan would kill her if she ever tells a lie.

"He is a merciless person..." Fen Chi was extremely scared. That was her first impression of Ning Fan.

Chapter 438: Devil Statue Slate

Translator: GE_Team

Fen Chi was an Early Divine Transformation Realm cultivator whose appearance was peerless. She was a famous beauty of the Six-Winged Clan.

She had always been full of confidence towards her looks. Even many Mid and Late Divine Transformation Realm old monsters in the Six-Winged Clan had fallen for her.

Countless experts were willing to be her partner. However, she had never set her eyes upon any of them due to her excessively high standards.

Under the command of the great elder, Liu Yi, she went out of the clan to welcome Ning Fan. Inwardly, she was somewhat reluctant as she thought that it was a disgrace to her status.

Ning Fan had yet to arrive because he was worried about Yue Lingkong's body. As for Fen Chi, she and her group had been waiting for him outside the clan for several days in a row already. Internally, she became even more impatient.

She had never expected that Ning Fan was not the one who would come to meet her but a great disaster of the Six-Winged Clan instead.

The two great devil clans, the Ghost Eye Clan and the Mist Horn Clan had colluded with two other great forces and sealed off billions of li* (500m peril) around the sea domain and laid siege to the Six-Winged Clan.

The masterminds behind this plot was, of course, the Ghost Eye Clan and the Mist Horn Clan. Apparently, they attacked the Six-Winged Clan to obtain something called the 'Devil Statue Slate'.

Half a month earlier, in the forbidden area of the Six-Winged Clan, a strange phenomenon occurred. Devil blood covered the blue skies. The ancient devil statue that was enshrined and worshipped for countless generations in the forbidden area had suddenly collapsed after the strange phenomenon.

According to hearsay, that devil statue was created to worship one of the devil ancestors in ancient times. The devil statue had a profound and mysterious power. It could not be broken by any kind of attack. Even Void Fragmentation Realm old monsters would not be able to break the devil statue.

However, during the occurrence of the strange phenomenon that day, the spirituality of the devil statue was greatly reduced and the statue collapsed on itself. Then, an ancient slate that was hidden in the devil statue had come out from it. It seemed to contain some information.

The slate fell into the hands of the great elder as soon as it appeared. Hence, no one knew what information it contained.

At the same time, the same strange phenomenon also happened to the blue sky of the Mist Horn Clan and the Ghost Eye Clan. Apparently, the two clans had also obtained an ancient slate from the fragments of their devil statues.

As for the Giant Devil Clan, this abnormal phenomenon where devil blood filled the blue sky had also happened to them. However, it vanished immediately after just a brief moment. According to the investigations of countless experts, the devil statue that was enshrined in the forbidden area of the Giant Devil Clan did not break and no slate appeared from that incident.

This matter had caused quite a huge trouble in the internal sea. Many rumors claimed that the ancient slates contained the great secret of the devil race. However, no one dared to find and collect the slates because the three pieces of slates that had appeared were in the hands of the three respective devil clans of the hidden ocean.

The three devil clans were being ruled by Void Refinement Realm experts. Those cultivators who were well aware of the history of the Endless Sea would naturally not dare to mess with the three great devil clans.

In the Rain World alone, there were eight hundred cultivation countries, countless spiritual mountains and vast marshlands and innumerable experts who never revealed their existence. However, speaking of Void Refinement Realm old monsters, there were just a few hundred of them. Moreover, each of them was an outstanding expert who once shook the whole world.

In the entire Rain World, the devil clans in the hidden sea were first-class forces. In the past, only the thunder sovereign was brave enough to suppress the devil clans. To ordinary cultivators, how would they dare to offend them?

However, even though ordinary cultivators would not dare to seize the slates of the devil statues, the three devil clans began to fight among themselves for those very slates.

The Ghost Eye Clan and the Mist Horn Clan were always very close with each other while the Six-Winged Clan was isolated from the other three devil clans. The reason why the two aforementioned devil clans took the initiative to attack the latter was none other than to seize its slate. Since the devil statue of the Giant Devil Clan did not break and no stone slate appeared from their statue, it escaped this disaster.

This was the reason why the Six-Winged Clan was suddenly attacked. The Ghost Eye Clan and the Mist Horn Clan had sent out two great Void Glimpse Stage old monsters this time. Besides that, they even invited two experts at the Illusory Void Stage from the Demon Sealing Sect and the Lan Ling Sect to join forces with them.

The Lan Ling Sect was a force of the profound righteous path which always had dealings with the Ghost Eye Clan. It had strength equivalent to a cultivation country. It has been said that the sect master of this sect, King Lan Ling, was an outstanding individual among the young cultivators of the previous generation in the Rain World. In all of his battles against his peers, he had only lost once in his entire life and the one who managed to defeat him that time was Yun Tianjue.

Now, King Lan Ling was rumored to be an old monster of the Absolute Void Stage and was already close to achieving the Void Fragmentation Realm. Moreover, he even received a compliment from the Divine Sovereign of the Rain Palace who said that King Lan Ling was the one who had the highest chance of becoming the next Void Fragmentation Realm old monster in the Rain World.

The Lan Ling Sect had only sent out an old monster at the Illusory Void Stage in their current mission to attack the Six-Winged Clan. The expert was not a true Void Refinement Realm expert. Even so, the involvement of the Lan Ling Sect made countless old monsters who practiced the righteous path give up on the idea of seizing the devil statue slate.

Anyway, the reason why the Ghost Eye Clan and the Mist Horn Clan roped in the Lan Ling Sect was to borrow their name to intimidate the others from the righteous path.

As for the Demon Sealing Sect...

The sect master of the Demon Sealing Sect, Lu Jiefen, had received aid from the Ghost Eye Clan who had given him a devil pill that healed all of the injuries he got in the Star Palace. Moreover, his cultivation base had also greatly improved after consuming that devil pill and he was already not far away from breaking through to the Void Refinement Realm. Now, he was at the Illusory Void Stage.

Since the Demon Sealing Sect had received the help of the Ghost Eye Clan, they naturally needed to contribute some of their strength in attacking the Six-Winged Clan to repay their debt.

Moreover, the actual reason why the Ghost Eye Clan roped in the Demon Sealing Sect in this mission was certainly not because they valued Lu Jiefen's strength which was just at the Illusory Void Stage, but because of his status as one of the eight venerated beings in the internal sea.

The eight venerated beings of the internal sea were subordinates of the thunder sovereign. With the involvement of the Demon Sealing Sect, the devil cultivators of the Endless Sea would not be bold enough to involve themselves in this matter.

Evidently, the original intention of roping in the Lan Ling Sect and the Demon Sealing Sect was to intimidate all of the cultivators under the heavens, be it the cultivators of the righteous or devil paths to avoid all kinds of troubles.

Fen Chi told Ning Fan all of this information without holding anything back as she did not dare to conceal anything from him.

She really was a beauty who had a life full of tragedy. Prior to this, she was just waiting for Ning Fan outside of their clan. Everything was peaceful and tranquil until the four great forces took the initiative to surround and attack them.

If it wasn't because those experts who had surrounded them coveted her beautiful appearance and reserved their strength when they were attacking in hopes of capturing her alive, it would definitely be impossible for her to survive in the hands of seven enemies at the Divine Transformation Realm with her meager Early Divine Transformation Realm cultivation base.

"I can't repay Venerated Ming's kindness in saving my life. All the information I told you is absolutely true and correct. I wouldn't dare to conceal any information at all. I hope Venerated Ming can understand."

Fen Chi recounted all of the things that had happened as she tried very hard to sound calm.

Before this, she absolutely looked down on Ning Fan because of her pride in her beauty. Back then, she could not understand why the great elder would send her to welcome Ning Fan.

Now, she only had respect and fear for Ning Fan. In her eyes, the intimidating pressure that he was giving her was even more irresistible than that of the great elder.

She instantly realized that she was being such a thoughtless person in the past and it was a mistake to look down on Ning Fan.

She was extremely grateful to Ning Fan. If it wasn't because of him, she would have certainly been captured, humiliated or killed by the seven enemy Divine Transformation Realm cultivators.

Gratitude aside, she was even more afraid of him. Ning Fan's eyes had a lofty and majestic coldness. It was as if he was standing on top of the clouds overlooking all living creatures.

Ning Fan never had this kind of coldness before. After Ning Fan experienced the power of the Immortal Emperor Realm and fought against Mo Luo, his horizons had been widened and his mindscape was cleansed. Since then, his disposition had a hint of nobleness that could only be found in immortal emperors.

He is an unfeeling man. That kind of unfeelingness isn't really cold-bloodedness but... is actually similar to those strong experts who lack emotions when confronting ants...

Fen Chi thought to herself.

All in all, she was very scared of Ning Fan. The fear she had for him was beyond words.

Her physical body had already been destroyed and she was only in the form of her primordial spirit which was as large as a palm. Now, Ning Fan was holding her in his palm.

Her long and narrow brows and cold eyes seemed to have the power that could bewitch one's soul. Her red and glossy lips looked sultry and charming. Since she was wearing a set of skintight battle armor, she

resembled a female devil general. On her back, there were six delicate wings which gave her an additional touch of attractiveness as a member of a different race.

She was the best-looking beauty in the Six-Winged Clan and her appearance could fill the eyes of countless men with passion and longing. However, the way Ning Fan looked at her was very cold from the beginning even until now.

“It’s good that you didn’t tell lies. If you did, you would regret it.”

Ning Fan had already activated his Mind Reading Technique. When he was asking Fen Chi, he was finding out all of the information he could from her mind at the same time.

Thus, whether Fen Chi was telling the truth or telling some lies, it did not matter to him.

However, since Fen Chi had told him the complete truth, his attitude towards her naturally became slightly more friendly. At least, the way he looked at her was no longer that cold.

He let go of Fen Chi and let her tiny primordial spirit stay on his shoulder. He spread his Fu Li demon wings outwards and summoned a gust of black-purple demon wind. He dashed towards the Six-Winged Clan swiftly while also carrying Yue Lingkong and the female corpse.

“Little Cucumber, are we really going to aid the Six-Winged Clan? It’s nothing if there is only the Demon Sealing Sect. As for the Ghost Eye Clan and the Mist Horn Clan, it’s not good to mess with them. Apparently, they are eager to obtain something called the Devil Statue Slate. Moreover, they are even willing to annihilate the Six-Winged Clan for it. If we intervene in this, we will definitely seriously offend the two devil clans. Apart from that, the Lan Ling Sect is actually involved in this too. It’s not wise to provoke any of them.”

Yue Lingkong calmly analyzed the situation. During crucial moments like this, she would never be muddle-headed. In fact, she really was a very reliable partner.

“You must be Venerated Ming’s partner – Venerated Moon! Please. I beg you. Lord Venerated Moon, you must help my Six-Winged Clan!” Fen Chi’s small captivating face was filled with nervousness and despair.

This time, there were a total of two Void Glimpse Stage experts and two Illusory Void Stage experts in the four different forces attacking the Six-Winged Clan. As for the Six-Winged Clan, it only had the great elder who was just a Void Glimpse Stage expert. A pair of fists could not win against four pairs of hands. Without Ning Fan and Yue Lingkong's help, the Six-Winged Clan would certainly be eradicated.

Prior to this, Fen Chi might have been extremely arrogant and self-conceited but she had heard of the rumors claiming that Ning Fan possessed three Void Refinement Realm spiritual puppets.

Ning Fan and Yue Lingkong were also rumored to be Half-Step Void Refinement Realm experts. Experts at their level were incapable of resisting true Void Refinement Realm old monsters.

However, the three spiritual puppets that Ning Fan had was the greatest hope to saving the Six-Winged Clan.

Fen Chi was already pleading with all of her heart.

Yue Lingkong gently knitted her brows after hearing her pleadings. She was not a kind person. If it isn't necessary, she would not take the risk of offending the Ghost Eye Clan, the Mist Horn Clan and the Lan Ling Clan.

In regards to being addressed as Venerated Ming's partner, she wanted to argue instinctively but she did not know why she swallowed her words and did not raise any objections against being called this when she recalled Ning Fan's gentle expression.

"Little Cucumber, I don't like offending these great forces. However, if you still decide to act in the end, I won't hesitate to help you." Yue Lingkong's tone sounded extremely firm.

Ning Fan felt a sense of warmth in his heart. Yue Lingkong's words actually meant following him no matter what decision he made in the end even if it meant death.

As long as it was for Ning Fan, Yue Lingkong would not hesitate to face all of these terrifying forces.

Ning Fan raised his hand and gently held Yue Lingkong's hand. The corners of his mouth curved into a warm smile.

“Only the great elder of the Six-Winged Clan can activate the Revival Platform to perform the treatment on Weiliang's Sea of Consciousness. The Six-Winged Clan can't be destroyed. Thus, I have to act in order to protect them. Yue Er, this time, whether to help me or not, it's for you to decide.”

“Don't worry. I will certainly help you! Let go of me...”

Yue Lingkong's delicate body trembled. She nervously withdrew her hand. Nowadays, her heartbeat would race and she would feel like her thoughts were in a whirl whenever Ning Fan randomly touches her.

She could not help but feel strange.

It's really weird...

In the past, even though she did 'that' with Ning Fan, she did not experience this kind of feeling.

Now, however, her mood was being completely influenced by him.

“Little Cucumber, be rest assured. My cultivation base has already recovered to its peak. Moreover, it has improved quite a lot compared to before. It will certainly be no problem even if I fight two Void Glimpse Stage experts and two Illusory Void Stage experts all on my own. This time, I will protect you. I can fight four of them all by myself!”

Yue Lingkong had never seen the terrifying scene in the Black Lightning Tower where Ning Fan instantly killed someone at the Void Refinement Realm. She was not aware that Ning Fan could even defeat a Void Inquiry Stage expert if he goes all-out.

She told Ning Fan that she could face the four of them on her own because she wanted Ning Fan not to feel worried.

However, when her words entered Fen Chi's ears, the latter felt like she was speaking arrogantly.

“What?! Venerated Moon said that she can handle the four experts on her own?! Even the great elder can't fight against two Void Glimpse Stage experts and two Illusory Stage experts by himself. This Venerated Moon is a little too arrogant, isn't she...?”

Fen Chi could not believe that Yue Lingkong had the strength to fight against four experts on her own. However, even though she did not believe it, she did not dare to speak her mind in front of Yue Lingkong to avoid enraging her.

Ning Fan, on the other hand, had confidence in Yue Lingkong's combat power. Just her second primordial spirit alone could defeat three Void Glimpse Stage spiritual puppets. If it was Yue Lingkong herself, her combat power would naturally be much stronger. Moreover, after her primordial spirit's power recovered, her combat power had improved by quite a lot.

The current Yue Lingkong was not any weaker than an ordinary Void Inquiry Stage old monster if she gives her all.

Just Yue Lingkong alone was enough to resolve the disaster of the Six-Winged Clan today.

Of course, Ning Fan did not plan to wash the territory of the Six-Winged Clan with blood.

Yue Lingkong might be willing to go against the Ghost Eye Clan, the Mist Horn Clan and the Lan Ling Sect for him, but he was not willing to kill all of the experts of the three forces to save the Six-Winged Clan who just had a shallow relationship with him.

It was still not the right time to completely go against the forces of this level. This time, Ning Fan was just prepared to protect the Six-Winged Clan from being annihilated but he was not prepared to slaughter all of the top-level experts of the three great forces.

With Ning Fan's dual identity as a revered elder from the Rain Palace and the important guest of the Zhou Clan, it was already enough to make the three forces afraid of him. Hence, they would not dare to hold him responsible if he just kills some insignificant fries.

Just keeping the Six-Winged Clan from being destroyed was enough. If the Six-Winged Clan gives the devil slate to the Ghost Eye Clan and the Mist Horn Clan, it would not be destroyed since they had to give Ning Fan some face.

“However, the appearance of the devil slate is somewhat strange. The time when the strange phenomenon where the devil blood dyed the blue sky was a short while after I eliminated Mo Luo and obtained his devil blood. I wonder if there is any connection between them...”

“To err on the side of caution, I’ll make a copy of the devil statue slate first before handing it to the two foreign clans. Then, I can study it carefully later. Perhaps some information in this devil statue slate can help me devour Mo Luo’s blood completely!”

Bang *Bang* *Bang*

In the distance, the Six-Winged Clan was faintly visible. Fire signals were already lit up in many areas and the sounds of battle could be heard everywhere.

In the depths of the ocean, the great elder of the Six-Winged Clan was soaked in blood. He was battling against four experts and his body had been inflicted with countless wounds. Blood flowed out from him like a river. Even so, he still did not concede defeat.

“Xuan Yi, hurry up and hand over the devil statue slate. Then, I will keep your corpse intact!” A black-armored burly man who had a single horn on his head spoke with a cold smile. His cultivation base was at the Early Void Refinement Realm. Each punch he threw could make mountains collapse and the lands to crack. His strength put the great elder in a difficult situation.

“In your dreams, Gui Jiao! This slate contains the method to ‘free ourselves from the slave marks’. Furthermore, it even contains one-fourth of the cultivation method of Mo Luo’s Ancestral Talisman! This is the hope for our Six-Winged Clan to break free from Mo Luo’s slave mark forever. Even if I have to die, I absolutely will not give you the slate!”

“Hehe. Since Great Elder Xuan Yi is reluctant to hand the devil statue slate to us, then don’t blame me for being ruthless.” Lu Jiefen let out a hollow laugh with a gloomy expression. Then, he summoned a demon dagger-axe burning with purple flames and hurled it at Xuan Yi.

The might of this attack could burn mountains and boil the ocean. It was already extremely close to a Void Refinement Realm attack!

While facing four experts on his own, Xuan Yi had put most of his focus on the two Void Glimpse Stage experts and only used his remaining strength to deal with Lu Jiefen and the other Illusory Void Stage expert. He did not expect that Lu Jiefen would have such a strong killing technique.

All of a sudden, he became absent-minded and the fiery dagger-axe directly cut off one of his arms. He cried in agony with his qi becoming chaotic. The other three experts seized this opportunity and attacked with all of their might. In an instant, his injuries became even more severe and he was on the brink of death.

Furiously, Xuan Yi glared at Lu Jiefen. He knew that he was not far away from death now but he was not satisfied to die like this!

“Lu Jiefen, if it wasn’t because you have become a dog of the Ghost Eye Clan, how could a lowly Divine Transformation Realm ant like you be granted the devil pill and reach the Illusory Void Stage! I am really not satisfied to be sneak-attacked and killed by an ant like you! I am not satisfied!”

“Humph! You’re indeed courting death!” The old eyes on Lu Jiefen’s face turned grim. He hated being called an insignificant ant by others the most. He would take revenge on everyone who had humiliated him before.

Be it Xuan Yi or Ning Fan!

Of course, in Lu Jiefen’s eyes, Ning Fan was far more unfathomable than Xuan Yi. Before he truly breaks through to the Void Refinement Realm, he would continue to pretend to be afraid of Ning Fan. When the day he attains the Void Refinement Realm and obtains the power to suppress him comes, he would then take revenge for all of the humiliation he had suffered in the past!

He changed his hand seals and manipulated the fiery dagger-axe to go rush straight to Xuan Yi’s dantian. The force of that strike would be enough to directly kill Xuan Yi whose qi was already weak!

Both of Xuan Yi's eyes turned bloodshot. He widened his eyes so big that his eyes were about to pop from their sockets.

He had finally seen the hope of rescuing the entire Six-Winged Clan after the occurrence of the abnormal phenomenon and the appearance of the slate.

He was not satisfied for the Six-Winged Clan to be annihilated at a time like this!

“I am not satisfied!”

Xuan Yi ignited his devil flames and his eyes turned like those of an ancient devil. He then condensed starlight on his palms. He wanted to use all of his strength to display the Star Punishing Bow to block the strike of the fiery dagger-axe.

At this moment, a few figures descended from the sky.

The person leading the group was a young man in white robes. He gently lifted his finger and pointed at the dagger-axe.

That dagger-axe was already close to becoming a Void Grade treasure. However, under the massive force of Ning Fan's finger, it trembled violently. At the next second, cracks started to spread across its body, its spiritual light gradually diminished and then it disintegrated completely!

With just a single finger, he crushed a Half-Step Void Grade treasure!

Only a body cultivator at the Golden Body Realm could have such a frightening physical body!

“Who are you?! How dare you intervene in my business?!” Lu Jiefen was enraged when he saw that his magic treasure had been destroyed. He glared fiercely at the young man in white robes.

When he noticed the young man's appearance, Lu Jiefen's eyes were suddenly filled with great shock. In his look of surprise, there was also an indiscernible trace of enmity.

That enmity was deeply rooted in him. It started from the Broken World and then continued in the Star Palace and eventually in the External Endless Sea. Due to the circumstances, Lu Jiefen had to put up with Ning Fan's challenges time after time. It was not because he was magnanimous but because he could still tolerate it!

However, having high tolerance did not mean that he would not harbor hatred!

“Zhou Ming, it's you! Did you attain the Golden Body Realm? No. You didn't! Your physical body is still not at the Golden Body Realm. It has been rumored that a body cultivator at the Golden Body Realm will have ten thousand traces of golden light shining on their bodies when hurling their fists. You haven't attained the Golden Body Realm!”

Lu Jiefen intentionally reminded the other three experts that Ning Fan was not a Golden Body Realm cultivator.

He might be pretending to be afraid of Ning Fan, but he was inwardly planning to kill him using a borrowed knife.

The reason why he pointed out that Ning Fan was not at the Golden Body Realm was because he wanted to let the other three look down on Ning Fan and kill him!

“Zhou Ming, even though you have the protection of Yun Tianjue and the Rain Palace and three Void Glimpse Stage spiritual puppets, you are basically not putting the Ghost Eye Clan, the Mist Horn Clan and the Lan Ling Sect in your eyes by openly interfering in their struggle for the slate today! If you leave right now, I will consider our old relationship and ask for mercy on your behalf to spare your life.”

Lu Jiefen might be speaking for Ning Fan on the surface, but he was actually laying it on heavily and making a false claim that the reason why Ning Fan appeared here was to seize the slate.

After hearing that Ning Fan had come for the slate, the expressions of the two Void Glimpse Stage old monsters of the Ghost Eye Clan and the Mist Horn Clan turned a little grim.

“Lu Jiefen, your pleading for mercy on his behalf is useless! If this Zhou Ming came here to seize the devil statue slate, no matter who he is, he is the great enemy of our Mist Horn Clan and Ghost Eye Clan. He shall be eliminated! Even if he has three Void Glimpse Stage spiritual puppets, it’s not enough to make us fear him!”

Before Ning Fan could state his intentions of coming here, Lu Jiefen had already made the situation confusing, trying to scheme into making Ning Fan and the experts from the Ghost Eye Clan and the Mist Horn Clan fight among themselves.

After he kills Ning Fan with a borrowed knife, he would have a greater chance of seizing that slate to see what secrets exactly the slate held.

Ning Fan’s eyes flashed with a cold light.

This Lu Jiefen certainly didn’t change. His ambition is not small and he always likes to make use of others.

He had used Li Ban and the other demon generals. He had used the White Devil Sect. He had used everybody that he could make use of.

In the past, he dared to scheme to try to snatch the emperor’s star. Now, he even dared to scheme in trying to seize the devil statue slate. Apparently, there is nothing he wouldn’t dare to do.

“It’s clear that I must not spare him again today! If he obtains power in the future, he will certainly be a nuisance and he will obviously find me to settle an old score!”

Ning Fan had already activated his killing intent. Today, he would definitely kill Lu Jiefen.

Originally, he planned on negotiating with them kindly and peacefully. However, it seemed like there was no need for negotiation anymore.

It was the Ghost Eye Clan and the Mist Horn Clan who sought for trouble themselves!

He gently placed his hand on Yue Lingkong's shoulder and said gently.

“Yue Er, if you fight the four of them on your own, how long do you need to defeat them?”

“At most, the time it takes for an incense stick to burn. I will certainly beat the life out of them!” Yue Lingkong revealed a look of confidence and arrogance. She took a step forward and she then vanished like a ray of faint moonlight, dashing quickly towards her opponents.

“What?!”

All of the four experts including Lu Jiefen were greatly astonished. Judging from Ning Fan's words, Ning Fan was not going to use his three Void Refinement Realm spiritual puppets this time in interfering with the Six-Winged Clan's predicament. Instead, he planned on letting Yue Lingkong, who was just a female cultivator, to face the four of them on her own.

In their eyes, Yue Lingkong was only a Half-Step Void Refinement Realm expert. This would be a fight between a Half-Step Void Refinement Realm against two Void Glimpse Stage experts and two Illusory Void Stage experts. She actually still claimed that she could defeat the four of them in just the time it takes for an incense stick to burn. It was indeed an extremely arrogant remark!

“Kill!”

Lu Jiefen and the other three experts turned into four rays of moving light and immediately surrounded Yue Lingkong.

Since Yue Lingkong had come to seek death, they naturally would not hold back!

Especially Lu Jiefen, as a hint of viciousness flashed in his eyes.

He had heard that Yue Lingkong was Ning Fan's woman. If she dies, it would certainly make Ning Fan extremely broken-hearted. It would achieve his objective of taking revenge.

“In the past, I was just a Half-Step Void Refinement Realm cultivator and I was not as strong as Yue Lingkong. However, after obtaining the devil pill from the Ghost Eye Clan, I have already touched the threshold of the Void Refinement Realm. Now, I can already be considered as an Illusory Void Stage expert. Besides, I still have the help of two Void Glimpse Stage experts and another Illusory Void Stage expert. Killing Yue Lingkong will be as easy as raising my hand!”

Lu Jiefen secretly fished out a golden dart burning with purple flames. As he imbued his magic power into it, he threw it at Yue Lingkong, attempting to attack her stealthily.

His move did not escape from Yue Lingkong’s spirit sense at all. Instead, her expression showed a hint of contempt.

“Lu Jiefen, you are still so weak and despicable... I don’t care if you harm anyone else. But if you try to harm Little Cucumber, I’ll kill you!”

Yue Lingkong’s face was as cold as ice. Her presence emanated a terrifying killing intent. Facing the joint attacks of the four experts, she raised her hands and summoned four traces of silk-like moon rays. Then, she lashed the four of them with them.

When those moon rays which were as light as cotton fell into Yue Lingkong’s hands, they turned into the deadliest weapons.

Bang *Bang* *Bang* *Bang*

The four traces of moon rays struck the bodies of the four old monsters. The force was extremely close to a single strike from a Void Inquiry Stage expert!

Four traces of earth-shattering explosions were heard from the four cardinal directions. Upon receiving the attack, the chest armors of the two Void Glimpse Stage experts broke and they both suffered some minor injuries. As for Lu Jiefen and the other Illusory Void Stage experts, their physical bodies were nearly destroyed. Both of them took some serious damage, particularly Lu Jiefen who received a ‘special treatment’ from Yue Lingkong!

A trace of moon ray grievously injured Lu Jiefen's demon soul, making him cough out blood incessantly. After taking that hit, he was already not that far away from death!

The four of them could not believe that Yue Lingkong, who was rumored to be only a Half-Step Void Refinement Realm cultivator, would actually be an Early Void Refinement Realm old monster. Moreover, she was still the kind of expert that was unrivalled among all Void Glimpse Stage experts. Her strength gave the Void Glimpse Stage old monsters from the Mist Horn Clan and the Ghost Eye Clan a massive sense of danger!

Ning Fan nodded his head. Yue Lingkong's ferocity and strength were within his expectation.

However, Fen Chi's tiny primordial spirit who was standing on his shoulder covered her mouth with her small hands. She was filled with utter disbelief.

Before this, she only thought that Yue Lingkong was just being arrogant saying that she could take on the four of them on her own. She only thought that she was just boasting by saying those shocking words. Now, she realized how strong Yue Lingkong was exactly and the words she spoke earlier were all true!

"This is the true strength of Venerated Moon! Even the great elder is definitely not her opponent!"

"However, I still can't understand why such a strong expert would be willing to become Venerated Ming's woman. She must be a lofty and haughty person. Why would she be willing to offend the three great forces just for Venerated Ming...? Does Venerated Ming really have such a great charm? Why can't I notice it at all?"

Fen Chi's beautiful eyes were filled with utter amazement.

She carefully looked at Ning Fan from head to toe. As she looked at Ning Fan's weak and feeble figure, she found it even more difficult to understand.

She could not see what good qualities Ning Fan had that could make Yue Lingkong follow him so resolutely.

Chapter 439: King Lan Ling

Yue Lingkong's hair cascaded down her shoulders like a waterfall. She had eyes that were bright like the moon. She wielded traces of silk-like moonlight rays with her bare hands and parried all the attacks of her four enemies.

Standing under the faint moonlight, Yue Lingkong was like a celestial concubine who was aloof from the entire world. Her actions were full of elegance but each move she made was domineering and overpowering.

Bang *Bang* *Bang*

The Void Glimpse Stage expert of the Mist Horn Clan was called Gui Jiao. He was a muscular man with a single horn on his head. He wore a set of black armor. The strength of his physical body was already not far away from the Golden Body Realm. That single horn he had was especially strong. It was as thick as a rhino's horn. A single charge could flatten mountains and fill the sea. Its destructive power was even greater than a Low Grade Mortal Void magic treasure!

However, after being attacked by the silk-like moon rays that Yue Lingkong wielded casually, the devil horn which Gui Jiao had always been proud of was literally cut off by the moon rays!

Gui Jiao let out a terrifying roar of rage. However, it could not do any harm to Yue Lingkong.

Bang *Bang* *Bang*

The Void Glimpse Stage expert of the Ghost Eye Clan was called Wang Liang. He had a vertical ghost eye between his glabella. Other than that, there were strange and eerie eyes growing on some parts of his body like his arms, neck and abdomen.

There were more than fifty ghost eyes on his body in total. It was the innate secret technique of the Ghost Eye Clan – One Thousand Devil Eyes. In the Ghost Eye Clan, other than the supreme elder of the clan, no one could cultivate to the level of having one thousand eyes.

Each time Wang Liang acted, the fifty plus ghost eyes on his body would shoot out black flames. When several waves of black flames combine into one, even experts who were on the same level as him would find it difficult to handle.

Facing the ghost eye black flames that Wang Liang summoned, Yue Lingkong merely swept the surroundings with her moon rays, extinguishing each and every one of them. Then, she pointed her finger at the air gently and one million rays of moonlight flew towards Wang Liang all of a sudden, blinding all of his ghost eyes. After receiving this attack, it would be extremely difficult for him to heal his eyes!

Wang Laing roared in agony. His eyes were filled with absolute fear.

Bang *Bang* *Bang*

The Illusory Void Stage cultivator of the Lan Ling Sect was called Luo Song. He was just a step away from attaining the Void Refinement Realm. His strength was much weaker than Yue Lingkong's. However, depending on the nine-section bamboo whip in his hands, he managed to parry Yue Lingkong's attacks time after time.

That nine-section bamboo whip was just an imitation of the original magic treasure. However, it was already so powerful. If it was the original magic treasure, its destructive power would certainly be much greater.

Even though Luo Song managed to block Yue Lingkong's attacks, every time his bamboo whip collided with Yue Lingkong's moon rays, he would suffer excruciating pain on his chest due to the force of the impact of their magic treasures. It would make his qi and blood flow chaotically, worsening his injuries.

After they exchanged blows for another few rounds, Yue Lingkong raised her wrist and moonlight fell upon Luo Song like a mountain or an ocean. The nine-section bamboo whip could no longer withstand the force and it suddenly broke into nine different parts.

Seeing his bamboo whip break and the incoming moonlight which was as heavy as a mountain above his head, Luo Song's expression looked so scared that he nearly died because of his fear. He took out a silver-colored talisman and placed it on his chest. Then, he turned into a ray of silver light and ran away hurriedly. His speed was comparable to a Void Glimpse Stage expert.

He might be fast, but the falling moonlight was even faster. When the moonlight caught up with him, traces of moon blades cut through his body. He let out a miserable cry as one of his arms was completely severed from his body. Blood drained from his face, making his face as pale as joss paper. Chills ran down from his gut to his spine. Yue Lingkong's strength really struck complete terror in him!

Bang *Bang* *Bang*

Lu Jiefen was struck by layers upon layers of moon rays. Facing these attacks, he had a wrong impression. Even though Yue Lingkong was attacking four individuals simultaneously, most of her attacks were focused on him!

“Detestable! I'm sure I have concealed the enmity I harbored against Zhou Ming and Yue Lingkong very deeply. It certainly wasn't exposed. Why would I be heavily targeted by Yue Lingkong's attacks?! This b*tch has actually broken through to the Void Refinement Realm. Moreover, she is still at the level where she is nearly unrivalled among Void Glimpse Stage experts. Even if I attain the true Void Refinement Realm, I might not necessarily be her match! Detestable! It's truly detestable! Why would Zhou Ming always interfere and ruin my plans each time I schemed for something big?! I am not satisfied!”

The old eyes of Lu Jiefen turned grim. From his storage pouch, he took out his supreme magic treasures one after another.

His Yin Yang Purple Flame Mirror was the magic treasure he originally favored the most. However, during his encounter with the Realm Beast in the Star Palace, it was destroyed and there was nothing he could do about it!

His fiery dagger-axe was also an excellent magic treasure. Unfortunately, Ning Fan had destroyed it with a single finger!

His Purple Flame Golden Dart was also another excellent concealed magic treasure that he had spent a great deal of effort to build and refine. Even a true Void Refinement Realm expert would be injured after being punctured by this golden dart. However, this magic treasure was crushed by Yue Lingkong with a trace of her moon ray!

Now, he took out several magic treasures like his Azure Copper Hammer, Black Iron Cauldron, a multi-colored flying sword which was also a Spiritual Grade treasure.

Each of these magic treasures was precious and rare. Among them, there were many magic treasures which were also useful even to Void Refinement Realm old monsters.

However, these magic treasures could not stop any of Yue Lingkong's attacks at all. In the face of Yue Lingkong's domineering moon rays, each of them was broken with a single strike and were turned into fragments.

Each time he lost one of his magic treasures, Lu Jiefen would feel extremely pained. Those were supreme treasures that he obtained using his blood, sweat and tears!

He stared at Yue Lingkong and his eyes shone with hatred. If he could survive today, he would certainly keep this hatred in mind and make an extra effort to strengthen himself. When he breaks through to the next cultivation realm, he would get his revenge in the future and he would definitely put Yue Lingkong in despair!

His enmity did not get past Ning Fan's eyes.

From Lu Jiefen's eyes, Ning Fan found out about his enmity against Yue Er. Hence, it was impossible for him to let Lu Jiefen go again in order to prevent a disaster in the future.

Today, he certainly would not give Lu Jiefen a chance to flee again!

Xuan Yi, the great elder of the Six-Winged Clan, was watching the fight on the side. Just as he was about to die, Ning Fan saved him. Looking at Ning Fan's figure, his eyes were filled with gratitude.

If it wasn't for Ning Fan who appeared at the right time, Xuan Yi would certainly be dead and the Six-Winged Clan would be annihilated!

Xuan Yi never expected for Ning Fan to actually be so strong.

He crushed a Half-Step Void Grade treasure with just a single finger. He possessed three Void Glimpse Stage spiritual puppets. He even had a woman who was peerless among Void Glimpse Stage experts and is even willing to risk her life just for him.

With regards to Yue Lingkong's strength, Xuan Yi was greatly astonished. Now, he felt extremely fortunate for his action of befriending Ning Fan in the past. He felt fortunate that he had made a wise choice.

Ning Fan and the female corpse stood side by side, getting ready to assist Yue Lingkong whenever she needed it. They did not have the intention to save the other members of the Six-Winged Clan.

There was a primordial spirit of a woman standing on Ning Fan's shoulder. Her qi was weak and feeble. When Xuan Yi took a closer look, he realized that that woman was none other than Fen Chi.

“Fen Chi! This woman has a unique identity. Why would she be together with Venerated Ming?”

“Judging from her injuries, they were caused by the magic techniques of the Ghost Eye Clan and the Mist Horn Clan. That is to say that she was injured by our enemies but has been saved by Venerated Ming?”

“I don't know if Venerated Ming just acted out of kindness or consciously did it after knowing her unique identity...”

“Based on Venerated Ming's actions, even though he is willing to save me, he isn't going to save the other members of the Six-Winged Clan. Well, it's the correct thing to do. This person's personality is cold and merciless. He won't act without rewards. The reason why he saved me is just to keep me alive to help him activate the Revival Platform. As for whether the Six-Winged Clan survives or perishes and how many members of the clan will lose their lives, he naturally won't care. Evidently, the other members of the clan still need me to save them.”

Since Xuan Yi can become the great elder of the clan, his intelligence was, of course, not weak. Countless thoughts ran across his mind. After a while, he had already figured out a lot of things.

Staring at the countless dead bodies of the members of his Six-Winged Clan, Xuan Yi heaved a sigh. Ning Fan might have helped him resist the four strong experts, but the low-level cultivators of the Six-Winged Clan were still far weaker than the troops of the four great forces.

If no one intervenes in their fight, all of the low-level cultivators of the Six-Winged Clan would probably be slaughtered completely in another two hours.

Since Ning Fan did not plan to save them, Xuan Yi could only do it himself.

Xuan Yi was not going to blame Ning Fan for being cold-blooded. After all, Ning Fan was not someone who was related to the Six-Winged Clan. Why did he need to kill for the Six-Winged Clan?

Ning Fan was already merciful enough for being willing to rescue Xuan Yi. Xuan Yi naturally would not request anything else.

“Ignite my devil blood! Today, even if I become severely injured and my cultivation realm will fall from the Void Refinement Realm, I have to prevent the Six-Winged Clan from being eradicated!”

The six wings on Xuan Yi’s back began to burn with black ferocious flames at the same time.

He had ignited his blood veins and cultivation base. He forcefully suppressed his injuries and turned into a ray of devil light, dashing into different parts of the battlefield. Using lightning and thunder techniques, he killed countless cultivators from the opposing side.

Among those cultivators he killed, there were Nascent Soul Realm and Divine Transformation Realm old monsters. However, in the eyes of Xuan Yi who was at the Void Refinement Realm, these old monsters were nothing but ants. How could they withstand a single strike from him.

Moreover, he had ignited his devil blood now. He was already in a state of desperation. Aside from experts who were at the same level as him, who else could stop him?!

All of their enemies were slaughtered by Xuan Yi on the battlefield. It was a bloody battle!

Be it the Six-Winged Clan or the four great forces, Ning Fan was not concerned about their life and death at all.

Even though the Six-Winged Clan which was currently facing the danger of annihilation looked pitiful, it actually did not invoke any sympathy in him at all.

If Ning Fan had been weak, he would have been hunted down by the Six-Winged Clan in the past after he incurred their hatred.

The reason why the Six-Winged Clan established a friendly relationship with Ning Fan and did not dare to seek revenge was because they were afraid of Ning Fan's strength. Who could be certain that the Six-Winged Clan would not think like Lu Jiefen and bite the hands that fed them when they become stronger in the future.

In this world, a man's heart was the most unpredictable thing. Hence, Ning Fan was pleased to witness the annihilation of the Six-Winged Clan. In that way, he could have one less hidden threat to worry about. All he needed to do was to keep Xuan Yi alive in order to help him activate the Revival Platform.

"V-Venerated Ming, please. I beg you. Please save the members of my clan..." Fen Chi sat on Ning Fan's shoulder with her heart riddled with anxiety. Finally, she could not help it and asked for Ning Fan's help.

"What benefit will I get?" Ning Fan uttered coldly.

"Benefit? If Venerated Ming acts and saves my clan when we are in danger, you will be able to obtain the favor of our Six-Winged Clan!"

"Is that so? But I don't think saving the Six-Winged Clan can make them have a good impression on me. If a great disaster was not happening to your clan today, I'm afraid there would be many members of

the clan trying to cause some trouble to me when I pay a visit to your clan today. Miss Fen Chi, isn't that right?"

"This..." Fen Chi was at a loss for words. Ning Fan's guess was correct.

The Revival Platform was a treasure of the Six-Winged Clan that could not be passed to others. It had a shocking divine effect in healing wounds but it had never been used to help any outsiders.

Even though Xuan Yi had promised to lend Ning Fan the use of the Revival Platform, there were many objections within the clan.

They could not change the command of the great elder. Thus, they plotted in secret. They planned on teaching Ning Fan a lesson when he pays a visit to the Six-Winged Clan.

Unexpectedly, the devil statue slate appeared at a moment like this and it brought a disaster to the Six-Winged Clan.

Because of that disaster, the Six-Winged Clan was already about to be annihilated. How would they still have the mood to plot against Ning Fan.

The Six-Winged Clan was like a wolf, a wolf that would eat its owner. Unless Ning Fan was a fool, he would never save such a wolf.

"Light...Someone...is...coming..." The female corpse suddenly raised her hand and pointed her little finger in a direction where no one was coming. Her expression was majestic and cold.

Ning Fan was filled with curiosity. With the strength of his spirit sense and his Fu Li Eye, he could not see anyone coming. The female corpse, however, managed to notice someone.

As her Sea of Consciousness recovered slowly, she became more and more stronger than before.

Ning Fan did not doubt the female corpse's words. It was not only because he completely believed in her, but also because he gradually sensed a massive aura force approaching from the sea currents in the distance.

A Void Inquiry Realm old monster! Aside from that, this person can be considered to be unrivalled among those at the same level as him!

“Yue Er, come back!”

Just as Yue Lingkong was about to kill Lu Jiefen, Ning Fan suddenly spoke and called her back forcibly to stay by his side.

“Little Cucumber, why did you ask me to come back? I was about to finish off Lu Jiefen to help you vent out your anger!” Yue Lingkong sounded rather discontented but she did not disobey Ning Fan's words and returned obediently.

“Someone is coming...” Ning Fan explained and his expression turned solemn.

At the next moment, a rush of vigorous aura force that could make the air heavy and stiff came from afar. That person was treading on the sea waves, heading towards their location.

There was an arrogant and indifferent man. He wore robes with beautiful embroidery and also wore a crown. He looked like a young emperor.

His arrival made Luo Song, the expert from the Lan Ling Sect, loosen the muscles of his brows. It was as if the latter had known that this person was going to come.

To Gui Jiao and Wang Liang, however, the two of them were stunned upon noticing his arrival.

His arrival also made Lu Jiefen's expression greatly change. His entire face looked like he had miscalculated.

“It is unexpected that this person was also trying to get the devil statue slate! Detestable! I knew it! The reason why the Lan Ling Sect joined this mission is not because they were bribed by the Ghost Eye Clan at all! With this person here, my chance of obtaining the devil statue slate is extremely slim! Humph! However, with him here, no matter how many Void Glimpse Stage spiritual puppets Zhou Ming has and no matter how strong Yue Lingkong is, their struggle would all be futile!”

“In the Rain World, who below the Void Fragmentation Realm could resist this man?!”

Lu Jiefen felt like he had lost something significant but gained another thing at the same time. However, he behaved like how the other three experts did. All of them stopped fighting and waited for that person’s arrival.

All the fights that were going on in the Six-Winged Clan were literally stopped because of the man’s arrival. The experts of the four great forces retreated to the side.

Chi

Just like a flash of mist, that man who was several hundred thousand li* (500m per li) away just a moment ago traveled across a large distance with a single step. Then, he appeared right above the wasteland of the Six-Winged Clan.

This strange and evil man was dressed like a young emperor. There was a touch of cinnabar between his glabella but it added some evilness to his disposition.

His aura force was righteous and massive. It was the qi of a cultivator practicing the righteous path.

However, his eyes were much colder than a majority of devil cultivators.

“This king, Lan Ling, came to obtain just one item. Those who dare to compete for the treasure with me shall die!”

This young emperor was actually a cultivator of the previous young generation whose name shook the Rain World, King Lan Ling!

Chapter 440: Killing Lu Jiefen

This young emperor was actually someone of the previous generation whose name once shook the entire Rain World, King Lan Ling!

The King Lan Ling in the rumors was a Half-Step Void Fragmentation Realm expert. The cultivation base he was emanating right now was just at the Void Inquiry Stage. It was a little strange.

When Ning Fan studied him carefully, he discovered some clues. The King Lan Ling standing in front of him was actually just the second primordial spirit of the original. He was not the true person.

There should be a lot of them who could see through the identity of this King Lan Ling as the second primordial spirit of the original.

However, even if it was just his second primordial spirit, no one had the intention to resist him.

As soon as Liu Yi saw this person's arrival, his eyes were instantly filled with hopelessness. If this person wants to eliminate the Six-Winged Clan, no matter how strong or how skilled Ning Fan was, he would not be able to protect the Six-Winged Clan! Luckily, this person just wanted to seize the slate. It can already be said that no one could keep the slate from King Lan Ling. However, no one could be sure whether the Six-Winged Clan could survive by chance after handing over the slate...

Yue Lingkong's beautiful eyes were filled with shock. She was ready to activate the moon portal anytime and bring Ning Fan to flee. It was enough to show how terrified she was of King Lan Ling.

"Little Cucumber, let's get ready to escape. We can't afford to mess with this King Lan Ling...In the Rain World, no one below the Void Fragmentation Realm can fight against him!"

"You don't have to worry. This person isn't the original. He is just the second primordial spirit..."

“Even though he is just the second primordial spirit, you still can’t underestimate him... Rumor has it that King Lan Ling’s second primordial spirit is strong enough to kill ordinary Void Pierce Stage experts...”

Yue Lingkong’s voice carried some concern. She was worried about Ning Fan’s safety.

No one knew since when Ning Fan’s safety had become something that could make her worry.

“Don’t worry. This King Lan Ling’s enmity isn’t focused on us. Instead, his enmity is against the members of the Ghost Eye Clan and the Mist Horn Clan... He claimed that his reason for coming to the Six-Winged Clan is to obtain one item. That item is probably the Devil Statue Slate... Interesting. The Lan Ling Sect might only be joining forces with the Mist Horn Clan and the Ghost Eye Clan on the surface. I wonder what agreement they had amongst themselves. However, just as the slate was about to fall into their hands, King Lan Ling personally came to seize the slate and even wanted to pocket the profits without sharing. There is an old saying which goes: benefits make people fight. Those who cooperate in order to obtain benefits will eventually go against each other because of them.”

Just as Ning Fan had expected, as soon as King Lan Ling showed himself, his spirit sense targeted Gui Jiao and Wang Liang. It seems clear that he really harbored the intention to keep the slate for himself.

Even though Yue Lingkong was strong, she was just at the level where she was undefeatable among Void Glimpse Stage experts. She also did not have a strong and powerful background. Thus, she was not qualified to make King Lan Ling regard her with importance.

The only thing that could make King Lan Ling afraid was the forces backing Gui Jiao and Wang Liang – the Mist Horn Clan and the Ghost Eye Clan.

Especially the Ghost Eye Clan, which would be King Lan Ling’s greatest opponent in competing for the devil statue slate!

“Xuan Yi, hand over the devil statue slate!”

King Lan Ling’s bone-chilling voice carried an unimaginable aura force which directly pressed against Xuan Yi. To Xuan Yi who was already grievously injured, this aura force was difficult to resist!

Xuan Yi's eyes looked extremely fearful. In the face of King Lan Ling's aura force, he actually felt like he was suffocating. There was no way he could resist it.

If only Void Glimpse Stage old monsters came to seize the slate, he would still dare to fight against them. However, a strong expert like King Lan Ling had also come today. Of course, Xuan Yi did not need to think that he would still be able to keep the slate.

His eyes were filled with reluctance. The contents carved on this devil statue slate was extremely abstruse and difficult to understand. What's more strange about it was that the words on the slate would constantly change after a while.

After Xuan Yi tried to study it, he only managed to find out that it contained methods to "break free from the devil marks" and "condensing the devil ancestral talisman'.

What Xuan Yi was particularly concerned about was that the slate seemed to also contain a trace of a massive power. He did not know what it was. It seemed to be the source of the power that kept changing the words.

Xuan Yi made a copy of the words that had appeared on the slate. Each time, the words were different from before. He deeply understood that if the power that was sealed in the slate did not exist, these abstruse and constantly changing words would not carry any meaning. They would not be able to eliminate the devil marks of the Six-Winged Clan. Hence, he was definitely unwilling to hand over the slate unless he could figure out the secrets behind it.

Now, since King Lan Ling had arrived, Xuan Yi finally did not have any other options but to give the slate away.

It was a deep black ancient slate which was emanating a faint devil qi. Even so, that trace of qi was boundless and heavy.

When Xuan Yi took it out, it immediately caught everybody's eyes. Countless old monsters revealed covetous expressions and secretly spread their spirit sense to study what the words were on the slate.

However, after they checked it, the expressions of those old monsters changed. Not only were the words on the slate abstruse and difficult to understand, but they would also change from time to time.

Even Ning Fan's expression also changed slightly. Similarly, he also could not understand what was written on the slate.

However, at the time he saw this slate and the words with his own eyes, Ning Fan suddenly felt that the drop of Mo Luo's blood in his primordial spirit seemed to be boiling. As for the Profound Earth Devil Marks on his back, they actually became scorching hot. Gradually, they were showing signs of advancement!

This slate contained the secret of Mo Luo's blood! Moreover, it also contained a mysterious power that could allow his devil marks to advance!

Ning Fan secretly activated Mo Luo's Eye. His heart was instantly overwhelmed with shock. He discovered that when he looked at those words again after activating Mo Luo's Eye, those words actually began to wriggle and eventually restructured into clear and readable words. Furthermore, they never changed again.

Only Ning Fan could see it. As for the others, what they saw was still words that constantly changed.

Aside from that, what Ning Fan did not expect was that he sensed a rush of massive devil qi from the slate.

That devil qi seemed to be resonating with the drop of Mo Luo's blood in his dantian. It was as if he could take out the devil qi that was sealed in the slate with his will.

It was that devil qi that made the devil marks show signs of advancing to the next level!

Now, in this place, only Ning Fan could truly understand the slate!

In the Rain World, only Ning Fan could extract the devil qi that was sealed in the slate!

“That trace of devil qi can make my Profound Earth Devil Marks improve to the next level and raise my body refinement realm!”

“I have already committed the texts on the slate to memory. I just need to extract the devil qi in this slate and it will be equivalent to obtaining all of the value of the slate. After that, it won’t matter whether I get this slate or not!”

“After extracting the devil qi of this slate and jotting down the true texts, it will be similar to a useless piece of stone to me. However, the outsiders might not know about it. For example, King Lan Ling, the Mist Horn Clan and the Ghost Eye Clan will continue to fight among themselves for this slate... Now, I just need to obtain the devil qi within it and let them compete among themselves for it!”

Ning Fan’s eyes glinted. A plan to cheat the others gradually took form in his mind.

Currently, King Lan Ling had personally requested for the slate and it left Xuan Yi with no other options but to yield. His request also made countless experts not dare to seize it anymore. However, his action had caused the two Void Glimpse Stage old monsters, Gui Jiao and Wang Liang, to gnash their teeth in rage.

Detestable! King Lan Ling had promised to help the Ghost Eye Clan seize the slate over and over again. In the end, however, he wanted to forcefully keep this slate from the Six-Winged Clan all to himself!

The two of them were completely disgusted by the betrayal of the Lan Ling Sect but they did not dare to say a single word about it. It was all because of King Lan Ling being too strong. However, the two clans were also not easygoing forces that could be bullied easily. They had already made precautions to prevent the Lan Ling Sect from turning against them by sending experts here. However, they had just not arrived yet.

Since King Lan Ling wanted the slate, no one dared to have any thoughts of seizing that slate.

Except for Ning Fan!

Ning Fan took a step forward. Beyond everyone’s expectations, he stood in front of Xuan Yi and gently took the slate from his hands. His face wore a playful smile.

“Hehe. I didn’t expect that so many people have actually come for this devil statue slate. I am rather curious about what kind of mysterious effect a mere stone slate has that could make everyone die fighting for it... Great Elder Xuan Yi, could you lend it to me so I can have a look?”

Ning Fan took the slate from Xuan Yi’s hands and immediately activated his Mo Luo’s blood. Using the power of the ‘blood’, he extracted the devil qi within the slate and it went into his body.

Just as it entered his body, it instantly went into the devil marks on his back, beginning to fuse with the devil marks.

All of a sudden, the devil qi of the slate waned. The frequency of change of the texts also began to slow down. However, no one could notice the changes that were happening to the slate from the surface.

No one had thought that Ning Fan would actually ‘seize’ the slate in front of King Lan Ling. It was similar to giving King Lan Ling a slap on his face right in front of him.

What everyone noticed was the moment Ning Fan took the slate to have a look, King Lan Ling’s eyes flashed with killing intent.

“What a fool! King Lan Ling wanted that item for sure but Zhou Ming grabbed it for himself. He literally is seeking his own death!” Lu Jiefen sneered inwardly. He knew that Ning Fan had a gut so huge that it could envelop the sky but he did not expect that the latter would actually be bold enough to compete for the treasure with King Lan Ling.

Lu Jiefen also wanted to get the slate but he did not have the courage to seize it in front of King Lan Ling because he knew that it was equivalent to digging his own grave.

“Why would Little Cucumber be so reckless?! Even though he always does things without following rules and tradition, he still has a sense of propriety. Even though he’s aware that King Lan Ling wanted this item no matter what, he still went to grab this hot potato. There must be some kind of underlying meaning in his actions... No matter what, even if he offends King Lan Ling, I will still help him. I shall get ready to open the moon portals to flee!” Yue Lingkong secretly made some hand seals and was ready to summon the moon portals anytime it’s necessary to bring Ning Fan and the female corpse away.

Everyone was speculating that Ning Fan was seriously provoking King Lan Ling by taking the slate boldly and the latter might directly eliminate him right there.

However, no one expected that King Lan Ling still did not make a move to kill him even though his eyes were filled with intense killing intent. He was actually holding back his killing intent.

There were times when King Lan Ling was actually not bold enough to kill. As a matter of fact, Ning Fan was someone that the Rain Palace had repeatedly urged King Lan Ling not to hurt!

“So you are the newly-promoted revered elder of the Great Heaven Palace, Zhou Ming, aren’t you? You have the Indestructible Fire Body and are still useful to the Rain Sovereign. Even I was urged by the Rain Sovereign in person not to lay a finger on you at the moment. However, the fact that I am prohibited from killing you doesn’t mean that I can’t kill your woman or your loved ones. If you provoke me, your woman will pay for your foolishness. Hand over that slate and get lost!”

Every word that King Lan Ling said was filled with threat. In his eyes, Ning Fan was just an ant. The reason why he could not kill Ning Fan was just because the latter’s Indestructible Fire Body was of great use to the Rain Sovereign.

After all, King Lan Ling was an expert of the same generation as Yun Tianjue. Today, he was already at the Half-Step Void Fragmentation Realm and he had hopes of attaining the Void Fragmentation Realm in his current lifetime.

He was a supreme expert whereas Ning Fan was just a lowly weakling.

The words that King Lan Ling uttered caused Ning Fan to clench his fists. His eyes turned icy cold.

What he could not tolerate the most was someone using his women to threaten him.

The reason why he spent a great deal of effort to obtain the protection of the Rain Palace and the Zhou Clan was to make sure no one dared to touch his women.

Unfortunately, be it the intimidating reputation of the Rain World or the ferocious prestige of the Zhou Clan, none of them was enough to cause experts at King Lan Ling's level to fear him.

In the eyes of Half-Step Void Fragmentation Realm old monsters, Ning Fan was still just an ant. However, he had a larger head than other ants.

He had to recognize his own strength clearly. He had to get stronger!

Ning Fan had already activated his killing intent within his heart. At the next moment, however, he dismissed that intention. His expression remained unchanged as he planned for something.

The plan to trick Lan Ling Sect was not going to change.

Frankly, with Ning Fan's current strength, it was far from enough to battle against King Lan Ling. However, tricking someone had no direct relation to one's strength.

Today, if he doesn't make the Lan Ling Sect, the Ghost Eye Clan and the Mist Horn Clan fight among themselves and cause all of them to suffer losses, he would be considered to have cultivated the devil path in vain!

Ning Fan shifted his gaze to a place in the distance. From that direction, he sensed two traces of vigorous qi rushing to his location.

They were two Void Inquiry Stage old monsters! Judging from their qi, one of them was from the Ghost Eye Clan while the other one was from the Mist Horn Clan. Clearly, they had certainly come for the slate!

Lan Ling Sect wanted to keep the slate for themselves but the other two clans were not fools. They also had their own plans.

Very well. Everyone wanted to seize the slate of the Six-Winged Clan but no one was aware that Ning Fan had done something to it and turned it into a useless piece of stone.

I shall just use this piece of junk to cause a fight among the Lan Ling Sect, the Mist Horn Clan and the Ghost Eye Clan!

By muddling this situation, perhaps Ning Fan would have the chance to sneak into the Mist Horn Clan and the Ghost Eye Clan to steal their devil statue slates away.

“King Lan Ling, huh? I’ll remember you!”

A trace of cold light flashed in Ning Fan’s eyes. At the next moment, he tossed that piece of useless slate to King Lan Ling and then pulled the female corpse and Yue Lingkong towards him.

“Our business is done now. Next, we shall watch a play!”

King Lan Ling’s expression which was cold and unemotional moved for the first time when he met Ning Fan’s cold gaze. Somehow, he actually felt chills in his gut when he saw Ning Fan’s smile.

That was an instinctive feeling of danger! He, the dignified King Lan Ling, actually felt a sense of danger from Ning Fan’s smile... How could that be possible?

“It’s probably a wrong impression... This man is just a Divine Transformation Realm junior. It’s unknown whether or not he could attain the Void Refinement Realm. He’s just a nobody. Even if he cultivates for another one thousand or even ten thousand years and breaks through to the Void Refinement Realm by chance, he still won’t be an opponent who can withstand a single round with me. He’s just an ant. How could an ant like him give me a feeling of danger?”

King Lan Ling still regarded Ning Fan with contempt. However, he never expected that the threats he had spoken earlier had already touched Ning Fan’s bottom line and he would pay for it in the future.

He kept the slate and coldly stared at the two figures who were rushing towards him from far away. The figures of the two individuals were getting closer and closer.

“Lan Ling! You indeed harbored ill intentions. How dare you seize the most important treasure of my Four Clans of the Hidden Sea! You’re courting death!” The Void Inquiry Stage experts of the Mist Horn Clan and the Ghost Eye Clan who had come to help roared in anger.

“The few devil clans that had been suppressed by the thunder sovereign still dare to speak to me in such a manner? Did you say I am courting death? Well, let’s see who is really courting death here!”

Lan Ling took a step forward. When he raised one of his palms, he directly blasted the two Void Inquiry Stage experts away in midair. His combat power was extremely great.

The expressions of the two Void Inquiry Stage experts changed greatly. None of them dared to act slow. They used all of their strength to display their secret techniques and fought Lan Ling together. Eventually, they managed to be on equal footing with their opponent.

The three of them battled at the side. Slowly, their battlefield became further and further away from the Six-Winged Clan.

At this moment, no one cared about the life and death of the Six-Winged Clan anymore. All of their attention was placed on seizing the slate.

The experts of the three great forces also tailed after the travelling light of the three old monsters. Along their path, they fought and killed each. Blood flowed like a river.

There was not a permanent friend in this world. A single slate was enough to cause three great forces to turn against each other.

On the wasteland of the Six-Winged Clan, only the members of the Demon Sealing Sect were unable to retreat.

After the three great forces left, Lu Jiefen also wanted to leave as well but he was heavily surrounded by the members of the Six-Winged Clan.

The members of the Demon Sealing Sect had killed countless people in the territory of the Six-Winged Clan. Without the members of the other three forces, Great Elder Xuan Yi did not put Lu Jiefen in his eyes at all.

It was time to repay the humiliation he suffered earlier and vent out his hatred.

“Kill!”

As Xuan Yi yelled the command, all of the experts of the Six-Winged Clan swarmed in full strength and charged fearlessly at the members of the Demon Sealing Sect.

In just an instant, the cultivators of the Demon Sealing Sect suffered a crushing defeat. Many cultivators died and countless were injured. None of them had the strength to resist.

Lu Jiefen took out a teleportation formation disk. He was planning to run away.

At this moment, a teasing voice suddenly resounded behind him.

“Are you planning to flee? Unfortunately, it’s too late.”

Bang

Ning Fan pointed using one of his fingers and a massive force blasted Lu Jiefen’s back.

Lu Jiefen had always been cautious when it involved his life. When he came to cause trouble in the Six-Winged Clan this time, he had actually attached more than ten traces of protective talismans on his back.

All of them were activated one after another due to Ning Fan’s sneak attack. Each talisman formed a formation light that was enough to defend against a full strike from a Half-Step Void Refinement Realm expert.

However, all of those defensive layers collapsed one by one in the face of the strength of Ning Fan's finger. It was overwhelming.

Lu Jiefen's expression changed greatly. He was sure that Ning Fan had yet to break through to the Golden Body Realm. However, when he felt the strength of Ning Fan's finger at such a close distance just now, he clearly felt that his strength was not any weaker than that of cultivators with the Golden Body Refinement Realm...

The force of Ning Fan's single finger directly destroyed his armor. Moreover, there was still some force remaining which landed on Lu Jiefen's back. All of a sudden, it pulverized his physical body, leaving only his demon soul which was on the brink of death. He hurriedly took his storage pouch and retreated. Along the way, the grievous injuries he suffered caused him to constantly cough out blood.

As for the teleportation formation disk, Ning Fan had already destroyed it. He did not give Lu Jiefen a chance to run away at all.

"Zhou Ming!"

Lu Jiefen stared at Ning Fan and clenched his teeth in rage.

It was Ning Fan who ruined his plan once again! If Ning Fan did not interfere, he would definitely not end up like this along with his schemes. Besides, he might even have a high chance of seizing the devil statue slate!

Once he obtains the devil statue slate, he could then get away from the Endless Sea and look for a secret place to study the secrets of the slate with all of his focus.

Since the earth and heavens were boundlessly vast, who could find him and catch him?

When Lu Jiefen discovers the secrets of the slate thousands of years later, he would certainly become an expert who could shake the entire Rain World!

"Zhou Ming! I can no longer tolerate you anymore! I want to fight you with all I have!"

Lu Jiefen's miniature demon soul suddenly took out an old spiritual puppet from his storage pouch which was at the Illusory Void Stage. It seemed to be a little broken. No one knew where he had obtained it from.

His eyes burnt with hatred. This was his last trump card. Before this, he was certainly not willing to use it. Today, however, he had to use it no matter what! Otherwise, he definitely could not escape from Ning Fan alive!

“Puppet Fusion Technique!”

When Lu Jiefen used that technique, his demon soul turned into a ray of light and went into the spiritual puppet of the Illusory Void Stage.

After refining the Illusory Void Stage spiritual puppet and merging with it, his original Illusory Void Stage cultivation base had actually broken through the bottleneck and attained the Void Refinement Realm!

From this moment onwards, he was no longer Lu Jiefen. Instead, he had become an Early Void Refinement Realm spiritual puppet!

After merging with the spiritual puppet, Lu Jiefen's lifespan got reduced to only one-tenth of his original lifespan. If he survives today, he would still die in another one hundred years.

He already had no chance to pursue longevity!

“Zhou Ming! You have ruined several opportunities I had in the past. You made me lose my physical body and become a half-dead spiritual puppet. I will make you pay!”

Lu Jiefen threw his punches in anger, killing a number of the members of the Six-Winged Clan. The destructive power of his single fist which was at the level of the Void Glimpse Stage crushed rocks on the seabed as big as mountains to pieces.

Xuan Yi's eyes were filled with a hint of surprise. After fusing with his spiritual puppet, Lu Jiefen's strength was not any weaker than him.

Yue Lingkong's beautiful eyes flashed with killing intent. She blamed herself for being too weak as she was not able to help Ning Fan seize the slate from King Lan Ling.

However, no matter how weak she was, she could never tolerate Lu Jiefen from attacking Ning Fan.

She took a gentle step forward. Just as she was about to deliver a strike and directly eliminate Lu Jiefen with her Moon Burial Technique, Ning Fan gently pulled her behind him.

"Let me deal with him... Anyhow, he is still a Void Glimpse Stage spiritual puppet. Don't destroy him. Void Technique, Double Dragon!"

Ning Fan moved forward with both of his fists coiled with the shadows of black dragons. When he pushed both of his fists, heaven and earth resounded with the roar of dragons. Wind and clouds trembled.

His physical body was nearly at the First Level of the Golden Body Realm. As for the technique he had just used, it was the body technique King Ying Long was proud of. It was a Low Grade Mortal Void Realm technique. Even so, the destructive power of this technique was extremely strong compared to other Low Grade Mortal Void Realm techniques.

Even though Lu Jiefen willingly turned himself into a Void Glimpse Stage spiritual puppet, the difference in strength between him and Ning Fan was still worlds apart!

Boom

Two traces of black dragon shadows violently crashed onto the body of Lu Jiefen's spiritual puppet. All the force of his punches had been offset.

Lu Jiefen's expression was filled with disbelief. He had given up everything to obtain Void Glimpse Stage power. However, he was still not Ning Fan's match. Ning Fan was actually so strong!

Even upon death, he still could not believe that the gap between him and Ning Fan was so vast...

How can this be?! How?!

After Ning Fan's attacks struck the spiritual puppet, its body was severely damaged whereas Lu Jiefen's demon soul was literally eliminated. He was killed instantly by the force of Ning Fan's fists.

After Lu Jiefen died, this Void Glimpse Stage spiritual puppet lost all of its spiritual intelligence and became a mindless object.

It was an Illusory Void Stage puppet at first but it had broken through to the Void Glimpse Stage after fusing with Lu Jiefen.

Because of Ning Fan's attacks which had erased Lu Jiefen's existence, this Void Glimpse Stage puppet became a mindless object once again.

Even though it was seriously damaged, it would become as good as new once Ning Fan spends some immortal jade and spiritual minerals to repair it.

"Lu Jiefen, thank you for your gift."

Ning Fan's mood became slightly better. Now, he tossed the displeasure which King Lan Ling had caused to the back of his mind.

Lu Jiefen had always obtained and secured his own personal gains through trickery. It made him no different than a fly. Whenever an opportunity arises, he would put one of his legs into it.

People like him must not be spared again and again. Otherwise, he would turn into a great disaster from a clown someday in the future.

Thus, killing Lu Jiefen today is just the same as getting rid of a hidden danger.