

## King Hall 1061

Chapter 1061: Luring the Enemy into Danger!

"You all wait here for now, I'll go out and give it a try."

Mu Jinyu didn't let Wen Rou and the others follow him, and after reminding them, he headed towards the exit with the Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend and the Bi Fang Cauldron.

As for the little Phoenix, it was still quite useful in specific situations, but in an absolute power confrontation, its Phoenix True Fire was likely no more than a tickle for Ji Ran.

So it was better left in Wen Rou's hands, to help her suppress the curse and ominousness in the Cursed Soul Forest.

With the Bi Fang Cauldron in his left hand and a small jade vial in his right, Mu Jinyu walked at a steady pace and soon reached the exit of the Cursed Soul Forest.

From afar, he saw an elderly man with a gaunt face, sitting cross-legged a hundred meters outside the Cursed Soul Forest.

"That old bastard, he really hasn't left."

Mu Jinyu cursed under his breath upon seeing this.

"Hmm?"

At this moment, Ji Ran seemed to sense something, his cloudy eyes suddenly bursting with brilliant light, like two sharp swords being drawn, or lightning ripping through the night sky.

When he saw Mu Jinyu standing on the perimeter of the Cursed Soul Forest, he paused briefly, and his gaze changed, as if flames of anger were about to erupt from his eyes.

"Little bastard, your life is pretty tenacious, huh? You've been in the Cursed Soul Forest for five whole days and yet you're not dead!"

Ji Ran's eyes were sinister and cold as he stared at Mu Jinyu, and with a grim smile said, "But you didn't expect that I'd still be waiting outside, right? Let's see how you manage to come out!"

Then, Ji Ran's tone suddenly turned frivolous and mocking, "Hey, where are those useless companions of yours? Why don't I see them anymore?"

"Could it be..." he said, grimly grinning, "they all died inside? Looks like their friends and family should have met an unfortunate end outside, and your friends and family are likely in a worrisome situation now."

The reason he talked so much to Mu Jinyu was firstly to provoke Mu Jinyu into coming out of the Cursed Soul Forest to face death.

Secondly, he had thought for a long time, wondering if Mu Jinyu dared to rush into the Cursed Soul Forest without knowing its terrifying curse.

Therefore, he intentionally hinted that their friends and family might meet an unfortunate end, making Mu Jinyu aware of the consequence of continuing to hide inside.

Even if Mu Jinyu ultimately didn't dare to come out and face him, he wanted to ensure he suffered mental anguish and torment inside the Cursed Soul Forest!

"Hmph, sorry to disappoint you, but they are all alive and well inside, and we've even found quite a few Rank Four Spiritual Medicines, all thanks to you, old bastard!"

Upon hearing Ji Ran's probing words, Mu Jinyu sneered, flipping his hand to take out several top-grade spiritual medicines he had obtained from Lustrous Immortal Realm from his storage bag!

These spiritual medicines each had thousands or nearly ten thousand years of age. Though they couldn't bring the dead back to life, they were capable of prolonging life and extending longevity for a century.

Particularly some of these spiritual medicines, their purpose wasn't in healing or cultivation enhancement but specifically in life extension.

If one were to consume such a spiritual medicine, it could extend a person's lifespan by two hundred years!

For those nearing the end of their life, their allure was simply greater than that of a Top Heavenly Rank Grade Technique or a Heaven-reaching Spiritual Treasure!

Ji Ran, having failed in tribulation transcendence, forcibly merged paths to survive, had little lifespan left. When he saw those spiritual medicines in Mu Jinyu's hand glistening with a lustrous sheen and exuding ethereal immortal qi, his cloudy old eyes immediately turned red.

"This... Fortune Longevity Fruit, Life-Extending Scarlet Orchid, Eternal Life Bamboo..."

Ji Ran stared fixedly at the spiritual medicines in Mu Jinyu's hand, continuously muttering the names of those spiritual medicines.

These top-grade spiritual medicines, originally after maturity, when consumed, could extend a person's life by about a hundred years; with their long age now, they could further extend life between one hundred and fifty to two hundred years.

And the effect of these life-extending spiritual medicines was best with the first one consumed, the second less so, the third nearly ineffective...

If he could lay his hands on all of the life-extending spiritual medicines Mu Jinyu held, he might not be able to extend his life by a thousand years, but around five hundred years should be achievable!

How could Ji Ran not be envious! Not go wild?!

"You little bastard, you really are fortunate! Surviving the Cursed Soul Forest is one thing, but you even managed to gather so many spiritual medicines!"

Ji Ran's gaze reluctantly pulled away from those spiritual medicines, fixating on Mu Jinyu with resentment.

With his eyesight, he could tell these spiritual medicines weren't picked long ago and stored in Mu Jinyu's storage bag but were harvested about a day ago!

So he believed this was indeed what Mu Jinyu picked from the Cursed Soul Forest.

After a moment's thought, Ji Ran suddenly said, "How about this, if you hand over those spiritual medicines to me, I won't hold you accountable for my brother's death at your hands, how about it?"

"Ha!" Hearing Ji Ran's words, Mu Jinyu couldn't help but want to laugh at the thick-skinned old man.

A moment ago he called him a little bastard, and now seeing several life-extending spiritual medicines in his hand, he shamelessly referred to him as 'young friend', willing to overlook Ji Bufan's death!

This old man indeed has always been self-serving.

However, Mu Jinyu didn't believe a word of the old man's, fearing if he really gave him the spiritual medicines, he would turn on him the first chance he got and continue his assassination.

"Why are you laughing?"

Ji Ran heard Mu Jinyu's mocking sneer, somewhat ashamed and resentful, but no color change was visible on his dark old face.

"If it weren't for me, could you have entered the Cursed Soul Forest to gather these top-grade spiritual medicines? So it's only natural that I should get a share, hand them over to resolve our conflict; won't you agree?"

Ji Ran spoke in a very earnest and sincere manner.

Mu Jinyu heard his words, chuckled coldly, and said, "I agree with your mother's head!"

"If you want these spiritual medicines, come get them yourself!"

With that, Mu Jinyu turned and dashed into the Cursed Soul Forest without hesitation!

Indeed, Ji Ran wanted Mu Jinyu to come out voluntarily to face death, so Mu Jinyu naturally also wanted Ji Ran to step into the Cursed Soul Forest to meet his end!

Under normal circumstances, Mu Jinyu knew that no matter how he taunted Ji Ran, he probably wouldn't follow in.

But now, firstly, he showed he had been safe all along in the Cursed Soul Forest, and secondly, he had several life-extending spiritual medicines!

That gave a great possibility that Ji Ran would follow inside.

Indeed.

When Ji Ran saw Mu Jinyu turn again and dash towards the Cursed Soul Forest, his expression changed dramatically, and after hesitating a bit.

He thought, if even someone of Mu Jinyu's cultivation could survive so long in the Cursed Soul Forest, and although it had a dire reputation, a few people historically had made it out safely.

Then he thought, not venturing deep into the Cursed Soul Forest to seek the old medicines but just staying in the peripheral area, killing Mu Jinyu and seizing the spiritual medicines in his hand, then leaving immediately should be safe!

After reassuring himself a few times, seeing Mu Jinyu's figure about to disappear from sight.

Ji Ran gritted his teeth and followed him into the Cursed Soul Forest.

Chapter 1062: Role Reversal!

Mu Jinyu quickly rushed into the Cursed Soul Forest, his Divine Sense continuously observing the movements behind him.

At first, he was worried that the old fellow Ji Ran would not take the bait.

But soon, as he sensed the whistling wind from behind, he knew that the old fellow had finally bitten the hook.

The corners of his mouth curved upward into a mocking, cold smile. Mu Jinyu's eyes were icy, carrying a murderous intent as he leaped directly into the Bi Fang Cauldron and swiftly headed toward the position of Jian Ruyan and the others.

His original plan was to lure Ji Ran into a region of the Cursed Soul Forest where the Power of Laws was suppressed, and then fight the old guy!

Later, considering the possibility that the old fellow might discover Wen Rou and the others, putting them in danger, he changed his mind.

He decided not to confront the old fellow directly but to lead him into various dangerous areas, weakening his strength first.

The key part required the help of Little Phoenix.

Otherwise, he feared he might also get tainted with those eerie and ominous things.

Soon, Mu Jinyu arrived at the location where he had first separated from Wen Rou and the others.

In his sight, they were still standing there, not speaking, with expressions of worry.

It wasn't until they saw the Bi Fang Cauldron enter their line of sight that their worried expressions dissipated, replaced by one of delight.

Mu Jinyu swiftly moved next to them, halting, then brought the three into the Bi Fang Cauldron, before quickly rushing back into the Cursed Soul Forest!

Ji Ran, who was chasing from behind, naturally saw this scene when Mu Jinyu intentionally paused.

"Those two worthless Divinity Transformation Realm cultivators actually survived in the Cursed Soul Forest. Could it be..."

"Is the Cursed Soul Forest no longer a death trap due to some change?"

Originally, having ventured somewhat into the Cursed Soul Forest, Ji Ran was feeling a bit hesitant, but seeing even cultivators like Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan surviving there for five days, he hesitated once more!

And then, seeing the Bi Fang Cauldron leaving without looking back,

Ji Ran gritted his teeth, a sinister glint flickered in his murky eyes, and he took up the chase after the Bi Fang Cauldron!

He decided to take a gamble!

Inside the Bi Fang Cauldron,

Before Wen Rou and others could ask anything, Mu Jinyu hastily continued controlling the Bi Fang Cauldron forward, their eyes casting a glimmer of confusion.

"What happened?"

"Could it be that guy is chasing us?"

Before Mu Jinyu could respond, they heard a deafening roar from behind, answering their question.

Ji Ran, surprisingly, had been waiting outside, and he had indeed followed Mu Jinyu into the Cursed Soul Forest.

No wonder Mu Jinyu hurriedly took them in without saying much.

"Boom!!"

In their uneasy state, suddenly, with a thunderous shake, the entire Bi Fang Cauldron started to tremble violently, almost shaking their brains out.

"He's caught up!"

Zhuo Yue observed the distance of just one or two meters between them and Ji Ran, his face drastically changed, speaking with a trembling voice.

He knew that earlier, Ji Ran, when chasing Mu Jinyu, only relied on his Physical Body's speed and hadn't used True Yuan or the sparse Power of Laws he commanded.

That's why he always lagged slightly behind Mu Jinyu.

But Mu Jinyu had clearly shaken him off by a hundred miles just now, yet he managed to catch up in an instant and landed a palm on the Bi Fang Cauldron without them noticing, nearly killing them.

Clearly, Ji Ran had finally used the Power of Laws.

Otherwise, he couldn't have caught up so fast.

Fortunately, the Bi Fang Cauldron was a top-grade spiritual treasure. Otherwise, even if the magic treasure was unharmed, the people inside would have been shaken to death!

Mu Jinyu steadied the Bi Fang Cauldron with a serious expression, a mix of tension, thrill, and excitement in his eyes, with no trace of fear or unease.

Because he knew Ji Ran had finally taken the bait and was destined to die in the Cursed Soul Forest!

Mu Jinyu didn't get carried away, continuing to control the Bi Fang Cauldron, then unfurling a transparent domain, instantly teleporting a hundred meters away.

"Hmph! Can you really run?!"

Behind, Ji Ran saw the Bi Fang Cauldron teleport away, his old face briefly showing surprise before he coldly snorted and continued using the Power of Laws he mastered, chasing the Bi Fang Cauldron down.

"Bang!"

"Thud!"

"Clang!!"

As they chased and fled, Ji Ran, commanding the Power of Laws, dictated as he pleased, always managing to catch up to the Bi Fang Cauldron and began using the Demon God Tower to attack it.

Ji Ran's offensive became increasingly fierce, with fewer and fewer restraints in the Cursed Soul Forest, becoming more unrestrained.

Several times, the Bi Fang Cauldron was nearly breached.

Although the Bi Fang Cauldron remained intact in the end, the people inside felt far from well.

Mu Jinyu and Zhuo Yue were still alright, having the strength of the Fanxu Realm, they could endure.

But Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan were in a tough situation; without Mu Jinyu's protection, they might have perished the moment Ji Ran used the Demon God Tower.

"Hold on a bit longer, soon, we'll make this old fellow pay!"

Mu Jinyu held Jian Ruyan and Wen Rou, tense, continuously infusing them with Life Source Energy, healing their wounds, improving their condition significantly.

Finally, in Mu Jinyu's sight, appeared a swamp pond of dark purple and black hues.

"We've finally arrived, now, it's time for the hunter and the prey to switch roles."

Seeing the Poison Marsh Pond, a sharp murderous intent erupted in Mu Jinyu's eyes, like two sharp swords drawn, ready to pierce the heavens!

Thereafter, Mu Jinyu vigorously stimulated the transparent domain, causing the Bi Fang Cauldron to flicker swiftly into the Poison Marsh Pond.

"Hmm?! What is this place!"

Ji Ran, who was prepared to teleport and catch up with the Bi Fang Cauldron, instinctively halted upon seeing them charge into a strange marsh pond, sensing something amiss.

His previously excited blood cooled down, and he refrained from charging ahead impulsively.

He cursed internally: "Damn, after dozens of teleportations, I've delved deep into the Cursed Soul Forest!"

Ji Ran suddenly felt uneasy, his scalp tingling at the sight of the Poison Marsh Pond ahead.

However, he was unwilling to give up the pursuit, even after delving deep into the Cursed Soul Forest without achieving anything, so he considered for a bit, finally attempting with the Demon God Tower in hand, to take a step toward the Poison Marsh Pond!

"Ssshhaa—!"

The Demon God Tower, emitting a ghostly white bone light, barely entered the Poison Marsh Pond before it triggered an intense toxic haze, almost causing a massive explosion.

Had Ji Ran not been vigilant and retreated in time, even if not dead, half his old life would be gone!

"That little brat wants to lure me into danger? Dammit!"

After pondering briefly, Ji Ran understood why Mu Jinyu and the others could enter the Poison Marsh Pond unscathed while he faced such peril. It was because they resolved the poison gases with Wood Spirit Power.

Since he lacked Wood Spirit Power, he couldn't do as they did. Forcefully charging in like Mu Jinyu would likely lead to a disastrous outcome.

As such, he deduced that Mu Jinyu was deliberately provoking him to lose his head and recklessly rush into danger.

"Unfortunately, I'm not falling for it!"

Ji Ran sneered, although it pained him to have ventured deep into the Cursed Soul Forest for nothing, he unhesitatingly turned around to leave!

He calmed down, eager to depart this haunting place swiftly.

With a flicker, Ji Ran vanished from the spot, teleporting to a hundred meters away!

He traced his path back, wary of encountering another perilous area like the Poison Marsh Pond if he veered off course.

However, as he flashed above a small grove,

"Roar!"

Suddenly, a thunderous roar erupted from the grove below.

Chapter 1063: It Was Fine When Coming!

In the dark and sinister grove, a thunderous roar suddenly erupted.

Ji Ran, standing in the void above, felt his head buzzing, nearly causing his form to collapse.

He was terrified, finding it unbelievable why he would stumble upon such a dreadful lord's area.

Wasn't everything fine when he arrived?

Why can't he go back?

"Ah-hou!"

At that moment, billowing black smoke surged from the grove, instantly sealing the entire void.

Ji Ran was just about to use teleportation to leave, but to his horror, he discovered that the laws here were suddenly sealed, locking heaven and earth, there was no way he could escape.

"Damn it, I've been tricked!"

Ji Ran racked his brain but couldn't understand why when he chased Mu Jinyu and the others, he could move safely, but returning alone, he encountered such terrifying evil beings.

In the current situation, extremely dangerous, he couldn't afford to be distracted.

Ji Ran hurriedly controlled the Demon God Tower to strike against the eerie presence beneath the grove!

"Boom!"

The deafening roar rang out like a mountain collapse, followed by another earth-shattering roar.

Under Ji Ran's horrified gaze, he saw a monster composed entirely of sinister white bones, resembling a humanoid shape but standing over three meters tall, leaping from the grove, charging at him.

This monster exuded an ominous bone light throughout its body, with three pairs of bone wings growing from its back, and a one-meter-long white bone spur on each shoulder and elbow, glimmering with a chilling light.

It rotated its arms and instantly sent two cross slashes towards Ji Ran!

The void along the way was directly torn by the eerie blade light.

"Xu... Asura King..."

Ji Ran stammered in a trembling voice, drenched in cold sweat, frantically placing the Demon God Tower in front of him to withstand the Asura King's lethal attack!

"Boom!!"

The White Bone Tower was instantly struck away, but due to its special material, being a heaven-reaching spiritual treasure, it remained undamaged!

"Ah-hou!"

After the Asura King struck away the Demon God Tower, it pressed on, brandishing its sharp, sinister bone spurs, slicing through the sky, forcing a kill towards Ji Ran!

"Crackle!!"

"Boom!!"

Despite being full of terror, Ji Ran had no choice but to muster all his spirit to face this Asura King.

Otherwise, he would certainly die!

...

In the distance, the Bi Fang Cauldron emerged once more from the Poison Marsh Pond.

Mu Jinyu noticed the earth-shattering sounds of combat coming from the grove several hundred meters away, realizing that Ji Ran indeed was cautious, returning by the safe route he took, and ultimately encountered the sinister grove on this path, second only to the Poison Marsh Pond.

Every time he passed by that grove, he'd feel a chill, knowing something extremely dangerous was hidden beneath, hiding a terrifying evil being.

If he hadn't brought along the Little Phoenix, slightly related to the Fallen Demon Phoenix, and if the evil beings lacked spiritual wisdom, he might not have made it here safely each time.

Now, seeing the battle between Ji Ran and the Asura King, Mu Jinyu finally understood what kind of evil being was hidden in that grove!

It was the Asura King!

A peerless fiend born from a place of mass graves, possessing Fanxu Realm strength from birth, and upon adulthood, would have Unity Realm Stage strength!

Innately capable of restraining all evil beings weaker than it, with the four bone spurs on shoulders and elbows, its sharpness rivals top-quality spiritual treasures!

This Asura King seems not yet fully matured, but its strength is already at the Ninth Layer of the Fanxu Realm, with four spurs equivalent to top-quality spiritual treasures, naturally restraining the flawed heaven-reaching spiritual treasure, Demon God Tower.

Although Ji Ran is in the False Merged Path Realm, he ultimately isn't a true Unity Realm Stage, how could he be a match for the Asura King?

"Seems I overthought it, an Asura King alone is enough to deal with the old thing."

Mu Jinyu observed from afar the combat between Ji Ran and the Asura King, gently touching the Little Phoenix's head, murmuring to himself.

Now, the Little Phoenix finally grew feathers, feeling the smooth plumage is indeed much more comfortable than the bald, molting chicken it was before.

Mu Jinyu looked down at the displeased Little Phoenix, smiling, "Now that we've dealt with the old thing, you take the lead role!"

Indeed, without the Little Phoenix's intimidation, they couldn't have run here unscathed.

Nor could they have made Ji Ran hesitant, leading to him stumbling into the Asura King's domain.

"If you appreciate me, then let me go. Bastard!"

The Little Phoenix bore the discomfort of being treated as a pet, shouting at Mu Jinyu.

"Sigh, I want to let you go, but now isn't the right time. After all, you've previously transcended tribulation successfully as the Demon Emperor of the Unity Realm Stage, who knows if after releasing you, with your memory restored, your strength might follow suit, wouldn't that put me in danger?"

Mu Jinyu said seriously.

"I won't hold a grudge over that anymore, since I've gained nine drops of Divine Phoenix Bloodline Essence, strengthening my bloodline power, so I won't anymore exact revenge on you, quickly let me go."

The Little Phoenix promised.

Mu Jinyu hesitated for a moment, shook his head, "Forget it, after my paths merge, I'll let you go, it won't be long!"

The Little Phoenix wanted desperately to curse Mu Jinyu, but fearing that after bursting into curses, this guy might never let her go, she could only sulkily remain silent, full of depression.

"Ah-hou!"

"Bang!!"

"Rrip!!"

In the distant sky, the battle between Ji Ran and the Asura King seemed to reach its conclusion.

With the Asura King's angry roar echoing across the miles, rolling deadly qi poured into its body, it suddenly slapped the Demon God Tower aside from Ji Ran's front, then charged at Ji Ran with a step, and with a rip, tore off one of his arms.

"Ah!!"

Ji Ran let out a pained scream, his heart filled with hatred towards Mu Jinyu reaching its peak.

He started desperately, burning the blood qi of that arm, transformed into blood escape technique, and enveloped himself and the Demon God Tower in a bloody mist, breaking through the sealed void and flying away!

The Asura King chased for over a hundred miles before finally giving up, returning to the grove with billowing black clouds, continuing its slumber.

Luckily the Asura King hadn't yet developed high spiritual wisdom, otherwise, there would've been no escaping for Ji Ran!

"Let's go, follow and watch the show!"

Mu Jinyu, steering the Bi Fang Cauldron, coldly laughed as he chased after Ji Ran.

What followed was Ji Ran's highly pathetic end.

He barely managed to escape the Asura King, dared not return the original path, yet found himself among a flock of Ghost-Faced Death Butterflies, whose wings gently fanned, unleashing terrifying corpse powder, almost turning him into a puddle of corpse water.

After wrecking his brains with various tactics, and losing a leg, he finally escaped the chase of the Ghost-Faced Death Butterflies.

Then, he ran into the millennial blood corpse!

This blood corpse was formed from the remnants of a potent figure of the Mid Hedao Realm, who unexpectedly died in the Cursed Soul Forest thousands of years ago, and ended up as a terrifying evil being full of malice, no less fierce than the Asura King.

Ji Ran fought desperately to the end, paying the heavy price of another arm to get rid of the blood corpse's pursuit.

After which, he lay on the ground, gasping, his face as pale as gold paper, filled with despair.

Now with only one leg remaining, he had no strength to escape the Cursed Soul Forest.

"Old thing, comfortable?"

Seeing Ji Ran not running anymore, ready to wait for death at the original spot, Mu Jinyu wasn't patient enough to wait until he dies before showing himself.

He stepped out from Bi Fang Cauldron, clutching the Small Jade Vial containing Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend, took the initiative to walk towards Ji Ran.

Chapter 1064: Approaching Out of Control!

"You little beast, such a vicious heart, such sinister calculations!"

Ji Ran lay on the ground gasping for air. When he saw Mu Jinyu appear, an uncontrollable surge of intense resentment overflowed in his eyes.

He hated Mu Jinyu to death, this kid!

First, he killed his brother.

Then, he deceived him with life-extending spiritual medicine to lure him into the Cursed Soul Forest, leading him into a situation where he barely survived, left with only a crippled leg, and now utterly hopeless of escaping the Cursed Soul Forest.

"Hehe, I'm here to send you off."

Mu Jinyu had nothing more to say to Ji Ran, he raised his hand and tossed out the Bi Fang Cauldron, intending to crush him to death.

"Boom!!"

As the Bi Fang Cauldron was tossed, it instantly grew larger against the wind, transforming into a gigantic cauldron three zhang high, carrying an overwhelming destructive might, like The Immortal of Colossal Spirit lifting a mountain and fiercely throwing it at its enemy, pressing down on Ji Ran below!

"Clang!"

At the critical moment, Ji Ran burned his essence blood, activating the Demon God Tower to clash against the Bi Fang Cauldron.

The two spiritual treasures clashed with each other, rules emerged, divine light erupted, constructing chains of order that bound the spiritual treasures, entwining them so they couldn't separate from each other.

"Little beast! Let's die together!"

Taking advantage of this opportunity, Ji Ran burned his broken pill, essence blood, soul, essentially all of his lifelong cultivation, and then, like turning into a blood-flame evil spirit, he charged menacingly at Mu Jinyu!

A powerhouse at the False Merged Path Realm, burning his lifetime of cultivation, at this moment, the brilliant wonder that erupted was extremely dazzling, enough to unleash an angry strike of a genuine Unity Realm Stage powerhouse.

At this moment, Ji Ran was like a meteor cutting through the night sky, with only a moment of splendid brilliance, but enough to leave a deep impression.

"Crap, Ji Ran intends to perish together with Brother Mu!"

Zhuo Yue behind Mu Jinyu saw this scene and became extremely tense, very much breaking into a cold sweat for Mu Jinyu.

Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan were equally worried; they didn't expect that after cornering Ji Ran with dangerous moves, he could still unleash such a terrifying strike, which truly caught them off guard.

Watching the whole body burning intense blood flame, Ji Ran, like an evil spirit escaping from hell, pounce at him, a trace of surprise flashed in Mu Jinyu's eyes as well.

Feeling the terrifying oppressive pressure of a Unity Realm powerhouse, Mu Jinyu felt his whole body incapable of moving, and his expression became all the more grave.

Luckily, he knew Ji Ran was always deeply scheming, where would someone who could wait at the exit for five days after they entered the death zone of the Cursed Soul Forest, be a good person?!

This is an absolutely ruthless guy!

Thus, Mu Jinyu had always kept the Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend ready, just in case!

"Bang!"

In the critical moment, Mu Jinyu pulled off the cork, throwing the bottle at the Ji Ran engulfed in a turbulent blood flame.

The jade bottle shattered, and a creature entirely pitch-black, resembling both a dragon and a phoenix, instantly broke free from its constraints. After letting out a roar to the sky, it expanded rapidly, reaching over ten zhang long in an instant, then opened its giant mouth and swallowed the blood-flamed Ji Ran whole.

After swallowing Ji Ran alive, this creature, over ten zhang long, resembling a Five-Clawed Golden Dragon but covered in black scales, and with a pair of Phoenix Wings grew from its back, suddenly had a fleeting red glimmer over its body.

But it quickly dissipated.

There was no further bizarre transformation induced in the Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend.

Evidently, this old Ji Ran, whether it's his bloodline, cultivation, or the aura of resentment and the curse and deathly qi he carried, was not enough to induce another mutation in the Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend.

It's merely an appetizer!

"Roar!"

The Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend revived and roared upwards, not satisfied with only devouring an old undying one. It then turned its attention to the Demon God Tower clashing with the Bi Fang Cauldron!

"No!"

Mu Jinyu, exerting full force in operating the "Dragon Transformation Scripture" was activating the latent Dragon Soul within him to suppress the Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend, saw this, and couldn't help but panic.

He thought that after the Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend came out and dealt with Ji Ran, it should first target the Dragon Soul within him, thus hastening the Dragon Soul out to suppress it.

But unexpectedly, after solving Ji Ran, it didn't target him first, but rather fixated on the two spiritual treasures.

And whether it was the Bi Fang Cauldron or the Demon God Tower, both were top-grade spiritual treasures, the Demon God Tower in particular was once a Heaven-reaching spiritual treasure, if lost, it would cause Mu Jinyu great heartache!

"Roar!"

A piercing roar lit up; the chains of order binding the two spiritual treasures immediately separated, the Bi Fang Cauldron flew towards Mu Jinyu, while the Demon God Tower fled desperately as if a mouse met a cat, attempting to escape through the void!

"Roar!"

But how would the Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend allow it to succeed, after all, it was no longer a Heaven-reaching spiritual treasure, and its internal artifact spirit lacked any spiritual wisdom. With an angry roar, the Demon God Tower was forcefully locked in midair, unable to escape.

Then, the Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend, resembling a giant snake, flew to the side of the Demon God Tower, twisted its body around the three zhang long bone tower form, then opened its large mouth and gulped down the skull on the top of the tower and the two jet-black gemstones embedded in its eye sockets.

"Buzz!!"

As the gleaming white skull and the two jet-black gemstones embedded in it were ingested, suddenly, the entire body of the Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend glowed with an additional dark radiance, almost turning into violently burning black flames.

Thereafter, bone spurs sprouted from its black scales, making the Dragon-Phoenix creature all the more ferocious and fearsome.

"Ah roar!"

The Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend opened its giant mouth and consumed the first four layers of the five-layered bone tower, leaving only the final pedestal.

With a few chews, the Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend began to emit a faint ivory bone light from its entire body, making the bone spurs it sprouted even more fierce.

Just as Mu Jinyu was worried that the situation was slipping out of control.

"Roar!!"

A majestic, awe-inspiring dragon roar echoed through the entire Cursed Soul Forest, and the Dragon Soul hidden in Mu Jinyu's body was finally forced out.

Immediately, the Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend, who was ready to swallow the bone tower pedestal, was suppressed to the point of immobility.

But Mu Jinyu found, unlike during its initial suppression after devouring the Fallen Demon Phoenix's deathly qi, where it became completely immobile like a black stone sculpture, the current Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend, possibly due to ingesting the Divine Phoenix's origin and growing a pair of phoenix wings, and recently consuming the strange skull and two black gemstones, had transformed significantly, becoming less dragon-like, leading to a reduced suppressive power from the Golden Dragon Soul.

The Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend, though motionless after the Dragon Soul appeared, trembled all over, seemingly a little push away from breaking free...

This made Mu Jinyu extremely uneasy.

Thus, Mu Jinyu dared not delay further, hurriedly taking out a jade bottle engraved with multiple layers of restrictions and storing the Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend within.

"Plop!"

With the Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend taken away by Mu Jinyu, the last layer of the Demon God Tower's pedestal suddenly fell from mid-air.

Chapter 1065: Refining the Demon God Tower!

"Whoosh!"

The Dragon Soul of the Five-Clawed Golden Dragon followed the Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend and entered Mu Jinyu's body.

"Huff... Huff..."

After the two dragons disappeared, Mu Jinyu took a deep breath, immediately carving additional layers of constraints on the Jade Bottle to prevent the Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend from escaping and causing a disaster.

After spending more than ten minutes, Mu Jinyu engraved almost all the restrictions he knew onto the Jade Bottle before putting it away, feeling a wave of fear!

"Out of control again!"

Mu Jinyu lamented with a wry smile.

Originally, when he was on the cliff outside the valley, he used the Dragon Resentment Evil Poison to transform into Nine Dragons Locking Phoenix, successfully resolving the crisis, and eventually suppressed the Dragon Resentment Evil Poison with the Dragon Soul.

At that time, he thought he could smoothly control the Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend, gaining another deadly weapon!

But unexpectedly, taking out the Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend again almost led to loss of control.

This made Mu Jinyu realize that the Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend was still beyond his control and could only serve as a last resort for survival.

"What was that just now?"

As Mu Jinyu put away the Jade Bottle and stopped being busy, Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan, who were always worried about his condition, both spoke up to ask.

Mu Jinyu explained, "It was when I was at Yinlong Mountain, completing the ninth Dragon Vein and pulling out the resentment formed from severed Dragon Veins. I didn't expect it to become even stranger after devouring the Phoenix Resentment, almost out of control."

"That's formed from Dragon Vein resentment?"

Zhuo Yue, upon hearing Mu Jinyu's explanation, was astonished, "I thought it was an Evil Dragon. Isn't this too incredible? It's almost forming a physical entity."

"Hmm, better not use it recklessly in the future." Mu Jinyu nodded.

Indeed, as Zhuo Yue said, originally the Dragon Resentment Evil Poison had no physical form, like a mass of black liquid that changes constantly. During the confrontation with the Fallen Demon Phoenix, it transformed into nine Evil Dragons to fight the Demon Phoenix, absorbing the resentful energy within it.

But now this Dragon Resentment Evil Poison was almost becoming a solid entity, having consumed ninety percent of the Demon God Tower, followed by the growth of bone spurs, presumably becoming even more terrifying.

If given the opportunity, it might truly become an Evil Dragon!

Mu Jinyu thought, unless absolutely necessary, he must never use this thing again.

After a few discussions about the Dragon-Phoenix Resentful Fiend, the group reminded Mu Jinyu a few times but did not continue the topic, then looked at the Demon God Tower, which fell on the ground, leaving only the last layer of the Bone Tower base!

"Ah, what a pity, the original Demon God Tower was a Heaven-reaching spiritual treasure, but in a great battle almost got shattered, leaving its Artifact Spirit incomplete, nearly falling out of the Heaven-reaching spiritual treasure rank, and now has been devoured by resentment, only the base remains..."

Zhuo Yue, looking at the Bone Tower base, couldn't help but sigh with regret.

Within the Kunlun Ruins, Heaven-reaching spiritual treasures that develop Artifact Spirits are very rare, and witnessing one being devoured is truly displeasing.

Mu Jinyu said, "Though it is heavily damaged, it's still fragments of a Heaven-reaching spiritual treasure, not to mention the base is truly the foundation of the Pagoda, not inferior to the Skull and Black gemstone atop it. Perhaps there's still something good inside."

Saying so, Mu Jinyu waved his hand, intending to summon the Demon God Tower's base.

Unexpectedly, the heavily damaged Demon God Tower didn't move at all.

It lay quietly on the ground, its dim bone light flickering occasionally.

Seeing this, Mu Jinyu and Zhuo Yue were pleased rather than surprised.

If the base could be effortlessly summoned by Mu Jinyu, it would suggest it had become worthless.

But since it resisted summoning, it indicated that the Dao Rhyme Divine Principles still remained within, retaining significant value.

Faced with this, Mu Jinyu stepped forward, squatting down next to the base and picking it up.

"Buzz!"

Once Mu Jinyu lifted the base, it radiated a penetrating bone light, trying to envelop him.

But now it was only a single layer of the base, lacking the terrifying power it once had when sweeping the Bi Fang Cauldron aside outside the Cursed Soul Forest.

With a casual wave, Mu Jinyu scattered the bone light.

"Buzz!"

The base of the Demon God Tower trembled slightly, then tried shaking free from Mu Jinyu's grip, attempting to flee.

"It can still counterattack and move on its own. Does it retain a part of its Artifact Spirit?"

Mu Jinyu, witnessing this, couldn't help but smile joyfully. Pinching a spell in his hand, he called forth the Bi Fang Cauldron, which opened its lid with a clatter, capturing the Demon God Tower base inside.

After that, Mu Jinyu sat cross-legged on the spot, pressing his hand against the Bi Fang Cauldron, activating the Bi Fang Flame to refine the Demon Pagoda's base.

"Boom boom boom!"

"Clang clang clang!!"

Inside the Bi Fang Cauldron, the temperature rose sharply, forcing the Demon Pagoda's base to struggle fiercely.

But the Bi Fang Cauldron was an intact Top-Quality Spiritual Treasure, whereas the Demon God Tower was merely a damaged Heaven-reaching spiritual treasure. Added to Mu Jinyu's assistance, it was impossible for it to escape the seal.

After several days, the clanging noises within the Bi Fang Cauldron finally faded, leaving it silent.

Under Mu Jinyu's Divine Sense observation, the Bi Fang Cauldron now contained a pool of cold white Bone Liquid, emitting a chilling evil aura.

And a peculiarly distorted illusion hovering above it, neither human nor object.

Mu Jinyu guessed that the illusion was likely the remaining Artifact Spirit of the Demon God Tower's base.

Hence, without hesitation, Mu Jinyu refined the skeleton into a Bone Pill and expelled the unsettling liquid from the Bi Fang Cauldron, reserving the illusion for further refinement.

"Caw!"

After a few more days, the illusion was integrated into the Bi Fang Cauldron, followed by the sound of a bird's cry.

A fiery red bird, resembling a Phoenix in its beautiful plumage, stood atop the Bi Fang Cauldron.

Startling the Little Phoenix, thinking it saw its kin.

But soon its expression relaxed again.

Because the bird, though resembling a Phoenix, had only one foot.

This was not a Phoenix but a Bi Fang.

Though the Bi Fang had just one foot standing on the Bi Fang Cauldron, it emitted endless Divine Charm, not seeming strange or malformed at all.

"This is... an Artifact Spirit..."

Zhuo Yue was thrilled upon seeing this, "Am I witnessing the birth of a Heaven-reaching spiritual treasure?"

The Bi Fang Cauldron was originally a Top-Quality Spiritual Treasure, very close to becoming a Heaven-reaching spiritual treasure. Refining the remaining Artifact Spirit from the Demon God Tower to form a Bi Fang Spirit seemed logical.

Unfortunately, barely after Zhuo Yue exclaimed, the Bi Fang illusion on the Bi Fang Cauldron glowed intensely, transforming into flames, sinking back into the Bi Fang Cauldron.

"What a pity..."

Mu Jinyu opened his eyes, his gaze tired and disappointed as he spoke.

Chapter 1066: Turbulent Winds and Clouds!

"How is it? What exactly is the situation? Did the refining ritual fail?"

Zhuo Yue looked very agitated, eager to know the result, and urgently asked Mu Jinyu.

Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan, as well as Little Phoenix, all seriously paid attention, wanting to know the outcome.

Mu Jinyu stood up, shook his head slightly, and sighed, "Just a little short. If it had been the complete Demon God Tower, my refining could perhaps have allowed the Bi Fang Cauldron to give birth to an artifact spirit and ascend to the heaven-reaching spiritual treasure sequence."

"It's a pity, it still failed. Although the Bi Fang Cauldron has now given birth to an artifact spirit, it's not stable, uncontrollable, and lacks spiritual wisdom. It's more like a pseudo sky-reaching spirit treasure."

"Is that so?"

The three people and one beast felt very regretful upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words.

Wen Rou couldn't help but ask, "So the Bi Fang Cauldron is stabilized as a pseudo sky-reaching spirit treasure? Is there no chance for it to ascend to a heaven-reaching spiritual treasure again?"

Mu Jinyu shook his head and said, "No, if we can find fragments of heaven-reaching spiritual treasures containing artifact spirits, it should be possible for it to ascend. However, due to the different refined artifact spirits, the artifact spirit born from the Bi Fang Cauldron will have low spiritual wisdom and needs years of nurturing to compete with those heaven-reaching spiritual treasures!"

Although Wen Rou and the two others felt it was still a pity, at least it wasn't a dead end for the Bi Fang Cauldron, so they accepted it.

After a moment of reflection, Mu Jinyu collected the Bi Fang Cauldron into his dantian to nurture it with Life Source Energy, then picked up the Bone Pearl that had been expelled during the refining of the artifact spirit.

The Bone Pearl was pale, icy to the touch, as if holding a piece of ancient ice, emanating a sinister coldness, giving off an unsettling feeling.

The bones used to forge the Demon God Tower are certainly not ordinary bones; they're made from special remains. Therefore, even after refining the artifact spirit, Mu Jinyu would not just cast away this Bone Pearl.

Upon examining the power contained within the Bone Pearl, Mu Jinyu found that although it lost its artifact spirit and most of the restrictions and array patterns had been refined away, due to its extraordinary material, it contained mysterious power, equivalent to a one-time forbidden artifact.

If fully unleashed, it could explode with the full force of a Peak Ninth Layer Fanxu Realm expert!

But after one strike, the Bone Pearl would turn to dust, vanishing forever.

"Wen Rou, take this for protection."

After some thought, Mu Jinyu decided to give the Bone Pearl to Wen Rou.

He gave it to Wen Rou because, firstly, Jian Ruyan now had Little Phoenix with her, making her fearless of Fanxu Realm attacks, and Wen Rou, due to the Ice Phoenix Bloodline, was not favored by Little Phoenix's proximity, so this Bone Pearl would be beneficial for her protection.

Secondly, Wen Rou's Ice Phoenix Bloodline can suppress the cold power of the Bone Pearl, ensuring she won't be eroded by it. Additionally, she can let the Ice Phoenix Power nurture the Bone Pearl, potentially enhancing its power.

"Okay."

Though Wen Rou wasn't very fond of the eerie white Bone Pearl, given Mu Jinyu had offered it, she accepted it.

"It's so cold."

Upon catching the Bone Pearl, Wen Rou felt its intense chill, nearly unbearable, almost dropping it.

One must know, Wen Rou is using Jian Ruyan's body, infused with Ice Phoenix Bloodline power, alongside cultivating an Ice Attribute Technique, feeling almost nothing from ordinary cold objects.

Yet facing this Bone Pearl, she still found its chill unbearable, showing the immense power within.

Of course, this is also because Wen Rou's cultivation is at the Fifth Layer of the Divinity Transformation Realm. If she were at the Seventh Layer of the Fanxu Realm, she wouldn't feel this.

If Wen Rou had Seventh Layer Fanxu Realm power, Mu Jinyu wouldn't have given the Bone Pearl for protection as it wouldn't be necessary.

"You'll get used to it," said Mu Jinyu.

"Hmm." Wen Rou activated her Profound Skill, feeling much better, like a person holding an ice cube; it's intensely cold at first, but over time, seems less impactful.

Sticking out her tongue, Wen Rou put the Bone Pearl away.

"Alright, Ji Ran, this old thing has died, and his Demon God Tower is settled. We got the Soul Shatter Grass, so we can leave the Cursed Soul Forest."

Mu Jinyu calculated the time, saying, "Let's go, the old ruins outside should be opening soon, and we can't miss out on the Hedao Fruit."

"Yes, yes, tricked by that old thing, we wasted much time in the Cursed Soul Forest, and we don't even know how many people have gathered outside Chu Kingdom now," Zhuo Yue exclaimed upon Mu Jinyu's reminder.

Then, the four people and one beast hopped back into the Bi Fang Cauldron, swiftly heading out of the Cursed Soul Forest.

After more than half a day.

They finally left the Cursed Soul Forest safely.

Outside, the stillness and silence persisted, without any chirping birds or buzzing insects, or anyone guarding the entrance.

In such restricted areas, usually, no one stays outside.

After exiting the Cursed Soul Forest, Mu Jinyu had Little Phoenix spray fire on each of them, purging away the traces of sinister auras and curses from their bodies. Changing into clean clothes, they left for the secret realm entrance previously visited.

In half a day, they reached the nearby town of the secret realm.

Along the way, they didn't encounter scenes like when Zhuo Yue was pursued; with the upcoming secret realm, most keys had long changed hands and belonged to powerful factions.

Now everyone mostly waited for the secret realm's opening.

Upon entering the town, Mu Jinyu searched multiple inns, finding them all full.

Finally, he found a less crowded inn. They entered, ordered some food, and began gathering information, occasionally asking questions.

Soon, Mu Jinyu gathered a lot of information.

Post Hidden Dragon Conference, those Heaven's Pride monsters gained substantially and returned to their sects and families to retreat and cultivate.

They aimed for further progress.

They didn't come to compete for the Hedao Fruit as their forces would naturally help them to acquire it.

Mu Jinyu understood that with the emergence of the Hedao Fruit, chaos thrived in the Chu Kingdom, with major forces sending Unity Realm experts to obtain the fruit for their youthful sect and family members.

Many were the Heaven's Pride from the last Hidden Dragon Conference.

Now, they've passed the Heavenly Tribulation, becoming powerful Unity Realm experts.

Some weren't Unity Realm, but very strong, holding Peak Ninth Layer Fanxu Realm power.

These individuals were often locked at the Unity Realm for years, unable to progress, almost frenzied upon learning of the Hedao Fruit, rushing to Chu Kingdom.

Another group, not stuck for years, though young at sixty or seventy, were Ninth Layer Fanxu Realm, having missed the Hidden Dragon Conference due to age.

But this didn't mean their talent was inferior to Ji Changxin and others.

These came to seize the Hedao Fruit for Unity Realm ascent, also eager to compete against each other!

"It's truly unsettling."

Mu Jinyu shook his head, sighing upon hearing the news.

Chapter 1067: Malicious Heart! As You Wish!

Compared to the aforementioned bad news of those powerful cultivators gathering.

The only news that made Mu Jinyu feel relieved was that this secret realm is ultimately not some large-scale secret realm, therefore it can only withstand limited pressure from powerful cultivators.

Generally speaking, those at the Unity Realm Stage cannot enter the secret realm.

If those at the Unity Realm Stage forcibly charge into the secret realm, their terrifying power would destroy this secret realm.

Therefore, when the powerful cultivators at the Unity Realm Stage come over, they're essentially just waiting in a watchful state. After the competition for the Hedao Fruit is over, if the juniors on their side fail to pick any Hedao Fruit, they will naturally seek out those without any background who luckily managed to snatch a Hedao Fruit for a "talk".

Hence, Mu Jinyu's opponents in picking the Hedao Fruit initially aren't the powerful cultivators at the Unity Realm Stage but those who have stayed at the Peak of the Ninth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm for decades, or even hundreds of years.

In addition to those who missed the Hidden Dragon Conference due to age, but whose actual strength is equally unfathomable and who are unrivaled Heaven's Pride.

"In this case, there shouldn't be much pressure, it just depends on how many Hedao Fruits there are inside."

Mu Jinyu murmured softly to herself.

"Such boastful words."

A beautiful girl sitting next to Mu Jinyu couldn't help but roll her eyes at Mu Jinyu upon hearing her mumbling, with a degree of disdain and contempt in her look.

She sat so close to Mu Jinyu that she naturally heard the words Mu Jinyu inquired about, and hearing Mu Jinyu's final statement, it was apparent that this fellow believed that upon hearing the powerful cultivators of the Unity Realm Stage cannot enter the secret realm, she would become invincible within the realm, with all Hedao Fruits hers for the taking.

This naturally made her unsatisfied.

Because Mu Jinyu simply wasn't one of those legendary monsters whom she knew truly unbeaten and invincible around the world.

Had Mu Jinyu been one of those experts stuck at Peak Ninth Layer of Fanxu Realm for decades, or even hundreds of years, she could barely understand such arrogant words.

But Mu Jinyu's strength was just at the Seventh Layer of Fanxu Realm...

Having just broken through to the Late Stage of Fanxu Realm, where did she get the courage to say such things?

Mu Jinyu only smiled upon hearing the girl's words and continued to eat with Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan, ignoring the provocation.

The girl felt as though she had punched into the air, leaving her feeling rather uncomfortable.

Then, seeing Mu Jinyu continue eating calmly and conversing happily with two girls whose appearances and figures were even stronger than hers only made her more jealous and angry.

The girl then thought for a moment, and a hint of malice flashed through her beautiful eyes.

She asked loudly, "Hey, Little Ghost, listening to your words about wanting to capture all Hedao Fruits, do you also have a key?"

The girl's voice was crisp and pleasant, like jade beads falling on a silver plate, making it stand out and draw attention from the rough and chaotic discussions in the inn.

Upon hearing her words, everyone turned to look at Mu Jinyu's table, their eyes blazing with undisguised greed and desire.

Currently, almost all keys to the secret realm have been taken by major forces, and even some late-arriving Hidden Sects and Super Clans could not obtain one.

Therefore, they've offered sky-high prices to purchase secret realm keys.

The price for one key nowadays almost equals the treasure vault of a Third-Rate Force.

At this moment, hearing there might be a key right beside them, among four people whose highest cultivation was only at the Seventh Layer of Fanxu Realm, and two weak girls at the Divine Transformation Realm; how could they not be tempted?

Even if they couldn't dream of venturing into the secret realm to obtain Hedao Fruits, selling the key to others was a fine prospect indeed.

Mu Jinyu stopped picking up food, raising her head to face the girl next to her, with cold eyes.

Originally, Mu Jinyu wasn't bothered by the girl's teasing, simply considering it the ignorant words of a naive girl, something to laugh off rather than pick a fight over.

But her recent words drew every eye in the inn upon them with ill intent rather than genuine concern.

"What a vicious heart!"

Mu Jinyu looked at the girl coldly and shook her head, "As far as appearances go, you're barely passable, but your heart is venomous, rivaling the most poisonous Snake."

"What did you say?!"

Seeing Mu Jinyu's icy gaze, the girl's heart couldn't help but feel a twinge of fear, causing her slender neck to shrink somewhat involuntarily, yet upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, her face instantly changed in anger.

Her shamed and angered fury completely overshadowed her fear of Mu Jinyu, and she exclaimed angrily, "You clearly said there would be no threat after hearing the powerful cultivators of the Unity Realm Stage couldn't enter the secret realm! So asking if you have a key—is that wrong?"

"Hmph, still denying it. If you insist on seeking death, I don't mind granting your wish!"

Seeing the crowd in the inn itching to move, Mu Jinyu's face turned completely cold as he spoke softly.

Even though Mu Jinyu didn't fear those people in the inn, he did not wish to engage in a pointless battle instigated by someone else's provoking words.

If it truly came to blows, he would first punish the guilty to set an example!

"You want to fight? Then try it! Truly think your Seventh Layer of Fanxu Realm is anything special! Dare to be arrogant in front of me!"

Despite fearing the signs of Mu Jinyu's burgeoning killing intent, the girl shouted fiercely.

At the same time, she unleashed her aura, reaching the Eighth Level of Fanxu Realm!

In secret, Mu Jinyu also sensed several obscure auras of Ninth Layer Fanxu Realm experts begin to stir.

Evidently, they were likely the girl's close-guard Hidden Guards!

Seeing this, Mu Jinyu smirked coldly with disdain.

Though young, she had the cultivation of Eighth Level Fanxu Realm; backed by a powerful force with several Ninth Layer Fanxu Realm guards protecting her, no wonder she developed such a reckless and vengeful demeanor, eager to retaliate at the slightest dissatisfaction!

"Well then..."

Mu Jinyu quietly spoke as he drew the sword from Jian Ruyan's side.

"Clang!" Suddenly, an awe-inspiring cold light burst forth within the inn, resembling the overturning Nine Heavens Galaxy, or the shattering Milky Way.

All present felt their hearts jump, trembling as if facing an apocalyptic disaster!

This sword seemed to pierce through eternity, freezing time.

Though the several Ninth Layer Fanxu Realm Hidden Guards saw Mu Jinyu's attack and were poised to resist, they were unable to intercept.

The girl facing Mu Jinyu's sword, her beautiful eyes, previously glass-like, narrowed in sharp fear, stripped of all arrogance and disdain, filled instead with terror and despair!

"Slice!"

A soft sound like tearing fine silken fabric.

The sword light dissipated.

"As you wish..."

Mu Jinyu finished the sentence he could not complete while swinging his sword, as he returned it to Jian Ruyan's sheath.

"Miss!"

"Miss!!"

Only then did the Hidden Guards manage to break free from frozen time, rushing toward the girl in alarm.

Unfortunately, they arrived too late.

The girl's previously smooth and full forehead now bore a sudden crimson mark in the center, steadily expanding.

While her once-bright eyes had dulled, having lost all their luster.

Chapter 1068: Wu Family of the Central Domain! A Great Slaughter!

The girl is dead!

A girl with a notable background, a heavenly maiden at the Eighth Level of the Fanxu Realm, was unexpectedly killed with a single sword strike by a youngster at the Seventh Layer of the Fanxu Realm...

Everyone present stared blankly at this scene, abandoning any thoughts of seizing the key from Mu Jinyu.

They all just wanted to leave the inn quickly, lest they get caught in the crossfire of the impending battle.

"That girl, her guard... it seems to be from the hidden Wu family of the Central Domain?"

"It really seems so... We're done for, this is big trouble now..."

At this moment, someone recognized the guards' identity from the family crest on their uniforms, who rushed to the girl's corpse.

A great hidden family from the Central Domain, the Wu family!

And a girl of such age, possessing such cultivation, protected by Hidden Guards, her identity was thus revealed.

She must be the only daughter of the current head of the Wu family, Wu Yumeng!

Therefore, they looked at Mu Jinyu with eyes full of pity.

In the Kunlun Ruins, the division of power is not by the territories of the Chu Kingdom, Yan Kingdom, Zhao Kingdom, etc., these kingdoms are not even regarded in their eyes since even the strongest national scholars of Yan or Zhao are only at the Mid-Stage of the Fuxuan Realm, how could they be taken seriously?

Only the Dayan Dynasty could make those great sects and noble families slightly wary.

In the Kunlun Ruins, territory is simply divided into the Central Domain and the East, West, South, and North Regions, completely ignoring these kingdoms.

And the Wu family, is a very powerful hidden family situated in the Central Domain of Kunlun Ruins.

It is said the modern head of the Wu family is in the Late Stage Hedao Realm, truly an unparalleled figure in Kunlun Ruins.

He has only one daughter, Wu Yumeng, and Wu Yumeng's biological mother died unexpectedly shortly after giving birth, so he is filled with guilt and love for his daughter, treating her with extreme care.

Yet now, Wu Yumeng has died under a young man's sword!

This is an earth-shattering incident!

The Wu family would never let this slide!

They presume that after killing Mu Jinyu, even those staying in the same inn wouldn't meet a good end!

Everyone felt regret and hatred at that moment.

Regretful for coming to this inn to exchange information with others!

Hatred for failing to recognize Wu Yumeng's identity at first sight.

But recognizing Wu Yumeng isn't really their fault.

After all, the daughter of the head of the Wu family, how can everyone in the world have seen her?

Similarly, from appearances, they couldn't recognize Mu Jinyu as the champion of this Hidden Dragon Conference.

And Wu Yumeng sneaked out to have fun on her own, she naturally wouldn't be swaggering around in attire bearing the Wu family crest.

Therefore, outsiders couldn't easily identify her as the young miss of the Wu family from looks and clothing.

But those Hidden Guards were different, they openly wore the Wu family crest, portraying Wu family's bloody valor and killing intent.

They emerged to protect Wu Yumeng's safety, and naturally, people recognized their identity immediately.

Unfortunately, they still couldn't save Wu Yumeng's life.

"Miss, Miss!!"

The Hidden Guards stood by Wu Yumeng's side, shouting desperately.

Trying to awaken Wu Yumeng's consciousness and save her life.

Unfortunately, even though they gave Wu Yumeng precious elixir to swallow, they couldn't save her life.

The girl's weak breath quickly faded away completely.

Her dim and lifeless eyes stared straight at Mu Jinyu, filled with regret and hatred!

The Hidden Guards were on the verge of madness; under their watch, even when facing a mighty one who merged paths, they could immediately show their Wu family identity, deterring the opponent from acting rashly.

But the miss only faced a Seventh Layer of the Fanxu Realm boy, and just a slight delay led to her tragic demise.

Their failure to protect her would definitely result in a death sentence upon their return!

"Die!"

At this moment, the Hidden Guards were frenzied; regardless of Mu Jinyu's identity or background, since he killed Wu Yumeng, his fate was sealed with death!

"Clang!!"

In a flash, they drew out long black spears, bloodthirsty spear tips did not reflect any cold glint, only darkness and deathly stillness!

"Ignorant!"

Mu Jinyu said lightly; this time he did not draw Jian Ruyan's sword but took out a rust-covered long bronze spear from the storage bag.

He couldn't recall from which subordinate's storage bag he got it from, but it served him well, so he kept it.

"Clang!"

"Bang!"

"Boom!"

Facing the onslaught of five Ninth Layer of the Fanxu Realm Hidden Guards, forming a dreadful killing formation, their combined strength was formidable. Despite Mu Jinyu's previous feat of defeating Ji Bufan with one strike, he did not underestimate them.

Thus, Mu Jinyu did not remain seated in place but moved swiftly, standing in front of Jian Ruyan and Wen Rou, wielding his spear to slash!

A spear slash erupted; the brilliant spear light burst forth, instantly shattering the formation of five!

This forced the five Hidden Guards to pale, spitting red from the corners of their mouths, involuntarily staggering backward!

"How is this possible?"

The people in the inn witnessed this scene and were all petrified.

The Hidden Guards sent by the Wu family to protect Wu Yumeng, how could they be weaklings?

They had all climbed out from mountains of corpses, experienced countless battles, and having learned a profound battle formation, they could even hold off a newly entered Unity Realm stage mighty one for a while.

But facing Mu Jinyu, their wrathful attack was blown apart by one spear strike, forcing them into retreat!

"Clang!"

"Swoosh!"

Before anyone could marvel at Mu Jinyu's formidable prowess, he took yet another step forward, eyes cold, brimming with bone-chilling killing intent, with a wave of his hand, the spear tip shot out like a meteor tearing through the night sky, instantly piercing through a terrified Hidden Guard's forehead.

The first Hidden Guard, dead!

Then, with a turn of his hand, the tarnished bronze spear swiftly blocked two incoming dark spear strikes, and he punched out fiercely, blasting another Hidden Guard's head to pieces!

The second Hidden Guard, dead!

Subsequently, Mu Jinyu's right leg whipped backward, snapping a dark spear in two, while his back withstood the last dark spear's rapid thrust.

"This... what bronze skin iron bones?!"

"Could he be a descendent of the Dragon Elephant Sect?"

Witnessing the dark spear striking Mu Jinyu's back, everyone thought he was done for, clenching their fists nervously.

Yet, they found that the dark spear couldn't even puncture Mu Jinyu's skin let alone harm him!

They covered their mouths in shock!

"Bang!"

Mu Jinyu kicked and broke a dark spear, taking on the last dark spear with his back; his eyes grew colder. The leg he kicked out, after breaking the spear, continued its momentum, directly shattering his opponent's heart under their shocked gaze!

The third Hidden Guard, dead!

Then, Mu Jinyu turned around, delivering a right elbow strike, shattering the head of the fourth Hidden Guard who was sweating and frantically trying to pull the dark spear embedded in Mu Jinyu's back muscle.

The fourth Hidden Guard, dead!

At this time, the last remaining Hidden Guard, whose attack was thwarted by Mu Jinyu's bronze spear blocking the two dark spears, was utterly terrified.

He didn't hesitate to abandon the dark spear and attempted to flee out of the inn!

"Swoosh!"

A terrifying whistling sounded!

Mu Jinyu threw the bronze spear, which instantly pierced through his back!

"Clang!!"

The last Hidden Guard was nailed alive to the inn's doorstep by the bronze spear, blood splattering and contrasting with the pallor of the guests at the entrance.

"No..."

The Hidden Guard, still clinging to life, tried to reach out towards the entrance, hoping to crawl away from this horrifying place.

Just one more step, and he might have escaped the inn...

But alas, it was one step too short!

His vision blurred, then he died!

"Buzz!"

The last Hidden Guard thus met his end, nailed to the entrance by the bronze spear, its handle vibrated perpetually where it was lodged in the corpse.

Chapter 1069: Piercing the Heavens! Hard to Survive!

The inn fell into silence.

Everyone looked at Mu Jinyu with eyes filled with fear and awe.

Too terrifying.

The hidden guards trained by the Wu Family were incomparable to ordinary Ninth Layer Fanxu Realm experts!

Yet, in front of Mu Jinyu, they couldn't take even a single move!

Either a punch or a shot marked the end of their lives!

Who exactly is this guy?!

Mu Jinyu was filled with uncertainty.

Mu Jinyu took out a handkerchief to wipe away the red and white substance on his hands, then turned to Wen Rou and the others and said, "Let's go."

"Okay."

The three nodded, then followed Mu Jinyu out of the inn.

The scene turned bloody with reckless slaughter; how could they stay and continue eating?

With the departure of Mu Jinyu and the others.

The once silent inn gradually came back to life, reviving from deathly stillness.

"So terrifying! Faced five Peak Ninth Layer Fanxu Realm experts head-on at Seventh Layer, and they were dealt with one by one with a single shot!"

"Who exactly is he? Just now, he even blocked a blow from the hidden guard with his back?"

"Could he be an ageless prodigy from the Dragon Elephant Sect?"

"No way, right? The descendants of the Dragon Elephant Sect are easy to recognize, each one looks robust and vigorous, how could he be so delicate?"

While everyone was uncertain about Mu Jinyu's identity, someone timidly spoke:

"At Seventh Layer of the Fanxu Realm, with such a formidable physical body... I think it's likely he's the leader of this Hidden Dragon Conference!"

As these words came out.

The inn momentarily fell silent.

Then it erupted into lively discussion.

"You're right!"

"Indeed... a Seventh Layer Fanxu Realm, accompanied by two absolute beauties, with such a forceful approach, apart from Mu Jinyu, the Hidden Dragon Head Leader, it shouldn't be anyone else!"

"I've heard, Mu Jinyu seems to be emerging from a small sect slowly, with no grand background, would his powerful slaying of Wu Yumeng not lead to dire consequences?"

"Probably not... with his talent and achievements, he has likely been absorbed into the Heavenly Palace early on, Wu Family probably wouldn't dare to harm him, right?"

"Haha, you've thought too much. Even if he joined the Heavenly Palace, what status do you think he would hold there? And the Wu Family Head is already a high-ranking person within the Heavenly Palace, with his only daughter killed, who would stop him from avenging her?"

"Those who haven't truly become invincible heroes will ultimately be abandoned at any time; I think his end truly is worrisome!"

"Yeah, if Mu Jinyu had a hidden family background, the Wu Family might either retaliate with thunderous vengeance or grudgingly swallow the bitterness!"

"But since he lacks such background, even as the Hidden Dragon Head Leader, or just recently joined the Heavenly Palace and is well-regarded, the Wu Family can dictate terms as they please!"

After fierce debate among the inn's patrons, they all firmly believed the Wu Family surely wouldn't spare Mu Jinyu.

And faced with the Wu Family's pursuit of Mu Jinyu, the Heavenly Palace's final decision would probably be to stay neutral.

Thus lacking any background, under the pursuit of experts at the Fusion Realm, he might barely hold for a week.

...

With the tragic death of Wu Yumeng and her five hidden guards, the news quickly spread like wings to heirs of various hidden sects and super clans in this small town within the Chu Kingdom.

"Haha, I initially thought he was someone worth noting, would be a formidable opponent to us in the future, but didn't expect him to be so foolishly arrogant, killing Wu Family's only daughter even before establishing himself fully after the Hidden Dragon Conference, Wu Family surely won't let this slide!"

"This person, although unparalleled in talent and invincible in combat, still can't compare to us, thus leaving us one less formidable enemy competing for the Hedao Fruit!"

"They apparently clashed because Mu Jinyu had a key, which we still don't have, should we go take it and simultaneously favor the Wu Family?"

"Let's not, this guy is too strong, while we have Fusion Realm experts among us, if we fail to capture him right away, letting him escape, and neither can Wu Family handle him, his vengeance would be dire later."

During the discussion among prodigies in the small town, some were tempted, both wanting to seize Mu Jinyu's key and also do the Wu Family a favor, thus began searching for Mu Jinyu.

But most of them opted to watch and wait.

And when the news reached the Wu Family in the Central Domain.

Wu Family Head Wu Xiongfei instantly burned with rage, leveling a hundred-mile-long hill to the ground!

The entire Wu Family trembled like cicadas caught in cold, not daring to utter a word.

Then, Wu Xiongfei rushed toward the Chu Kingdom while contacting his nephew already within Chu Kingdom to ensure Mu Jinyu is captured, so he can deal with him properly upon arrival!

"Mengmeng, rest assured, I will make that brat suffer worse than death, tortured for a hundred days before sending him off to serve you below as a slave!"

Wu Xiongfei murmured furiously.

...

Chu Kingdom, within the small town.

After switching to another inn.

Mu Jinyu quickly learned of the identity of the girl killed by him, understanding her father turns out to be a powerful Fusion Realm expert.

He couldn't help but be a little surprised.

Simultaneously, he was aware Wu Xiongfei was a Heavenly Palace high rank, facing such circumstances, the Heavenly Palace would likely remain neutral.

Nonetheless, Mu Jinyu felt indifferent, after all, his main reason for joining the Heavenly Palace, the Soul Snatching Resolution Technique, he already had in hand, leaving Heavenly Palace did not matter much.

As for the Wu Family's pursuit, he wasn't very concerned.

Though he is currently at the Seventh Layer of the Fanxu Realm, he actually possesses ample cultivation resources, such as that piece of Phoenix Tree, enough for him to advance to Ninth Layer of the Fanxu Realm!

However, he preferred a more steady approach to cultivation, improving step by step; hence, after refining the Phoenix Saliva Grass, he didn't continue refining the Phoenix Tree.

So if he indeed must clash with the Wu Family from the Central Domain, he can simply train up to the Ninth Layer in the Secret Realm and immediately eat the Hedao Fruit to advance to the Fusion Realm!

With the secret techniques from the Dragon Transformation Scripture enhancing his cultivation, he has no fear of Wu Xiongfei!

Just unless absolutely necessary, he didn't want to do this.

As doing so would render his realm very unstable, possibly halting at the early stage of the Fusion Realm.

"Thankfully, the Secret Realm will open tomorrow, giving me time to consider what decision to make."

Mu Jinyu, hands behind his back, stood before the window, speaking softly.

"Kid, offer the key along with your head for my use!"

Suddenly, a middle-aged man at the Peak Ninth Layer of the Fanxu Realm appeared in Mu Jinyu's room, wielding a dagger, sneeringly aimed it at Mu Jinyu's neck from behind.

"Alas..."

Mu Jinyu sighed softly, and before there was any noticeable action, the top-grade assassin was frozen in place.

Soon, a crimson dot slowly appeared on his glabella, his gaze scattered.

Chapter 1070: He's here!

The next day.

Early in the morning, the young representatives of various forces flocked to the entrance of the Secret Realm in the Chu Kingdom, each securing their position, quietly waiting for the Secret Realm to open.

"I heard that the Wu Family Head's only daughter in the Central Domain has died, and the culprit is this year's Dragon Head Leader. Wu Xiongfei is on his way here. Do you think the Dragon Head Leader can survive?!"

"He should be able to survive for a while. After all, the Secret Realm is about to open, and the Wu Family Head is rushing here in a hurry, definitely won't make it in time. Plus, the Dragon Head Leader has a Key, so he should be able to hide in the Secret Realm for a while."

"I heard that Wu Zhiyuan, the nephew of the Wu Family Head, who is designated as the next Wu Family Head, said yesterday that he would block the Dragon Head Leader outside the Secret Realm and won't let him in."

"If that's the case, then the Dragon Head Leader is really in trouble."

During the waiting time for the Secret Realm to open, those who already had the Secret Realm Key casually chatted away while leisurely waiting.

Meanwhile, some people looked around with eyes holding a hint of killing intent, vigilantly observing those standing on the outermost perimeter.

These people were not only members of the Wu Family searching for Mu Jinyu's whereabouts to avenge Wu Yumeng,

but also those who hadn't gotten a Key early on, preparing to seize it when those holding the Key try to enter the Secret Realm upon its opening.

This group originally wouldn't consider Mu Jinyu as a target, since they absolutely couldn't afford to provoke the Heavenly Palace.

But after Mu Jinyu decisively killed Wu Yumeng with one sword yesterday, they turned their sights on Mu Jinyu.

Should they manage to kill Mu Jinyu during the chaos, they would gain favor with the Wu Family, acquire the Key to enter the Secret Realm to compete for the Hedao Fruit, and not incur the wrath of the Heavenly Palace—it's an opportunity not to be missed.

Of course, it's only those with the strength who consider themselves not inferior to monsters like Mu Jinyu who dare to target him.

The majority, in fact, still don't dare to provoke Mu Jinyu. Even now, in his state akin to a stray, he is not someone ordinary people can bully.

As long as the forces behind them don't have a powerful figure in the Unity Realm Stage and are not confident in killing Mu Jinyu with a single strike, allowing him to leave alive would surely spell huge disaster for their forces.

"If that guy dares to show up here today, I'll crush him alive with one hand to comfort my cousin Yumeng's spirit in heaven!"

At this moment, a young man, occupying a good spot, seemed to hear the discussions and spoke with a sinister expression.

The crowd turned to look at the young man, displaying various emotions—mockery, admiration, expectation...

This young man was none other than Wu Zhiyuan, the top candidate for the next Wu Family Head.

At the age of sixty-three, he had been at the Peak Ninth Layer of the Fanxu Realm for ten years.

He was an unparalleled monster, no less than Ji Changxin, but since he was over sixty years old, he couldn't participate in the Hidden Dragon Conference.

After hearing the news of the Hedao Fruit, he decided to come here in person, aiming to pick several Hedao Fruits to help himself and some other Wu Family members stuck at the Peak Ninth Layer of the Fanxu Realm breakthrough to the Unity Realm Stage.

Wu Yumeng, who was only in the Eighth Level of the Fanxu Realm and was highly favored by the Wu Family, wanted to follow along but was naturally refused by everyone.

In the end, Wu Yumeng decided to sneak over to play, leading to yesterday's tragedy.

Therefore, upon learning the news, Wu Zhiyuan was very remorseful and self-blaming. If his cousin had followed him, how could he have allowed such a thing to happen?

This morning, he arrived early at the Secret Realm entrance to block Mu Jinyu, determined to kill him if he dares to come, avenging his cousin!

As time slowly passed, under the expectant and excited eyes of the crowd, the entrance of the Secret Realm finally trembled slightly, allowing those with a Key to enter.

"That guy didn't come!"

"He probably left the Chu Kingdom!"

"It's also a wise choice. With his talent, even without the Hedao Fruit, he's destined to breakthrough to the Hedao Phase, just a few years later. But now the Wu Family is determined to kill him, and it's hard to

withstand their fury; he might as well endure it for a while, and when he advances to the Hedao Phase, he can reverse the situation and even the Wu Family can't do anything to him!"

"Ah, what a pity, no good show to watch..."

Seeing the Secret Realm open and not spotting Mu Jinyu, the crowd couldn't help but feel disappointed and sighed.

Then, some people, considering that while many stayed outside the Secret Realm awaiting Mu Jinyu and the Wu Family's clash, thought they might as well seize the opportunity to enter the Secret Realm first and see if they have a chance to grab the Hedao Fruit.

Therefore, some people, tired of waiting with Wu Zhiyuan, stood up and pressed their Key onto the Stele, and then the light screen appeared, swallowing them inside.

Seeing someone make the first move, others feared falling behind and began hurriedly using their Keys, pressing them onto the Stele to enter the Secret Realm.

Seeing this, Wu Zhiyuan's eyes flashed as he hesitated whether to continue waiting outside the Secret Realm for Mu Jinyu to appear.

Then he thought about it: Anyway, it's only half a day's time, and even if these people go in first, they probably won't have the chance to get the Hedao Fruit. By then, Uncle Wu Xiongfei will arrive, and the revenge can be left to him.

So, he continued standing guard at the entrance, his eyes vigilantly sweeping over those heading to the Stele to enter the Secret Realm.

He had to keep an eye out in case Mu Jinyu had disguised himself to sneak in.

"Kill!"

At this moment, a thunderous shout of "kill" erupted from a distance, and soon intense fighting broke out among many people.

The reason for this was the appearance of some loose cultivators holding Keys, attempting to enter the Secret Realm, and naturally attracting those ready to rob them.

"Things sure are chaotic, but at least I'm not too late."

About three hundred meters away from the Secret Realm entrance in the small forest, Mu Jinyu arrived with Wen Rou, Jian Ruyan, and a disguised Zhuo Yue.

He naturally wouldn't choose to avoid the sharp edge, avoiding the fight for the Hedao Fruit.

Originally, he planned to come alone without bringing Wen Rou and the others, but since many assassins showed up to kill him, he feared dangers might arise for Wen Rou and the others after he left, with no good arrangements for their safety. Consequently, he decided to bring them along.

Upon arriving, he saw a group in a fierce struggle for Keys to the Secret Realm, which made him feel the grim reality of it all.

"He's here!"

As Mu Jinyu let out a soft sigh, a group of people fighting suddenly recognized him, and someone couldn't help exclaiming in shock.

"Kill!"

Some forces with connections to the Wu Family saw Mu Jinyu appear, and their eyes flashed with killing intent. They immediately took action without hesitation, forcing their way towards Jian Ruyan, Wen Rou, and Zhuo Yue.

They aimed to make Mu Jinyu scrupulous about causing harm to the others, eventually perishing under their siege.

They couldn't help but sneer in their hearts, thinking that even having offended the Wu Family and having no place in the world, he still dared to bring three useless people over. Did he think this was a leisurely outing?

"Tsk!"

Mu Jinyu flicked his fingers, shooting out strands of Sword Light, instantly killing the group attacking him under his sword.

Afterward, Mu Jinyu extended his hand and summoned two Keys from the bodies of the dead.

They had just killed two loose cultivators to snatch the Keys, already preparing to enter the Secret Realm, but upon seeing Mu Jinyu, they couldn't resist trying to get an extra Key so their subordinates could enter the Secret Realm too.

Unfortunately, due to this unnecessary greed, not only did they hand over the keys they had just robbed to Mu Jinyu, but they also forfeited their lives too.