

King Hall 791

Chapter 791 Bets Among the Elders!

"Hmm, let's work hard together."

Wen Rou, upon hearing that they would be splitting up, did not show any sign of disappointment. With a determined expression, she clenched her small fist tightly and chose a fork in the path, swiftly walking down it.

Jian Ruyan gave Mu Jinyu a glance, didn't say anything, and also picked a fork in the path to proceed.

After watching their figures disappear, Mu Jinyu's gaze then turned to the fork that Chen Qiuqiao had previously taken, a hint of hesitation in his eyes.

He was considering whether or not to follow the path taken by Chen Qiuqiao.

Then beat him up badly, take away the pass tokens he had obtained, no matter how many he had, and snatch them all, ensuring he would be directly eliminated during the selection process.

To turn him, the so-called top contender of the Outer Gate, into a complete laughingstock.

However, that would be a bit of a waste of time.

After all, there are more than fifty pass tokens in total, and there are at least three tokens in each fork of the path. Even if he were to take all the tokens in the path that Chen Qiuqiao had chosen, Chen Qiuqiao could still go to another path to search for more.

That would mean he would have to keep following Chen Qiuqiao, which would certainly be a waste of time.

And it could also easily provoke public anger.

"Forget it, doing this would be somewhat troublesome and ungrateful; better to defeat him fair and square in the upcoming matches."

After hesitating for a while, Mu Jinyu finally gave up on this idea and chose a path to enter.

...

As Mu Jinyu and the other five Outer Sect Disciples at the Mid Divine Transformation Realm entered the selection path.

Out in the plaza, on the high platform.

Elder Cheng said with a chuckle to Lin Feng, "Elder Lin, who do you think will be the first one to come out among the fifty selected candidates?"

Lin Feng, feeling quite bored as well, casually analyzed, "It should be Wu Lei, I think. He has great potential, naturally immense strength, and a special constitution. It would be very easy for him to defeat the wooden dummies and obtain the pass tokens. The second one should be Chen Qiuqiao. This disciple is best at Qinggong, coupled with profound inner strength, making them a strong contender for first or second place..."

Elder Cheng caught a strange look in his eyes upon hearing Lin Feng's analysis and asked, "So, you're not optimistic about that Spirit Root genius?"

"Him?" Lin Feng shook his head with a smile on hearing Elder Cheng's question, "It's not that I underestimate him, but even though he has unparalleled talent, his current cultivation is only at the Fourth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm, not too far ahead of Wu Lei and the others. They have been in the Outer Gate for several years and have participated in the Outer Gate Examination multiple times, so they are very familiar with this environment. Under these conditions, it would be quite impressive for Mu Jinyu to come out among the top five."

"Oh, then shall we make a bet?" Elder Cheng's eyebrows raised, suggesting upon hearing the words.

"A bet? Bet on what?" Lin Feng turned his head towards Elder Cheng, asking curiously.

Elder Cheng said, "Let's bet on who will be the first to come out. I'm backing Mu Jinyu. You want to back Wu Lei, right?"

"What's the stake?" Lin Feng asked.

Elder Cheng said, "The stakes... Let's just wager for fun. If I lose, I'll refine a batch of elixir for you for free, how about that?"

"Really?" Lin Feng's eyes widened like bells as he exclaimed to him in astonishment.

Although Elder Cheng's alchemy skills were not very high, he was actually considered average in Kunlun Ruins and was moreover the only alchemist of the Heavenly Sword Faction.

Usually, so many people sought his services to refine a batch of elixir, and he was often indifferent to them.

Moreover, assisting with alchemy wasn't free, for a single act from an alchemist required payment of numerous Superior-grade spirit stones, and the materials for the process had to be provided by oneself. And if the alchemy failed, the alchemist wouldn't offer any compensation; but if it succeeded, the alchemist would still take a third of the formed elixirs as a fee for their efforts.

Under such harsh terms, if Elder Cheng said he would assist someone in alchemizing a batch of elixirs, countless members within the Heavenly Sword Faction would flock to him!

This was why Lin Feng couldn't help feeling shocked when he heard about this bet.

"Of course," Elder Cheng, seeing Lin Feng's shocked expression and feeling quite pleased with himself, proudly said, "Moreover, I'll provide the materials for the alchemy."

Hearing Elder Cheng's words, Lin Feng, after his initial shock, wore a strange look and said, "In that case, if I lose, what must I give up?"

There was no free lunch in the world, nor were there unequal bets. Since Elder Cheng was willing to place such a hefty gamble, it was clear he would demand a sizeable 'piece of flesh' if he lost.

Elder Cheng said indifferently, "If you lose, just give me that Sacred Wood Branch you picked up a while ago."

"What?! You're asking for my life, I refuse to bet!" Lin Feng, upon hearing Elder Cheng's words, immediately changed his expression and rejected outright.

The Sacred Wood Branch Elder Cheng was asking for was something Lin Feng had obtained in a secret realm not long ago. Although it was merely a branch, it contained a mysterious strength that could easily shatter even a Superior Grade magic treasure!

At that time, the entire upper echelon of the Heavenly Sword Faction had been alarmed, suspecting that the branch might belong to an Invincible Sword Cultivator. It appeared merely as a branch, yet it contained the invincible power of allowing the Sword Cultivator to use it as a sword and not be inferior even to those wielding Divine Weapons.

This didn't diminish its prestige at all!

Some guessed that it might be a branch of the Builder Wood.

Builder Wood, that was a Divine Tree, the legendary tree that reached the heavens and connected the realm of man with the divine!

If this branch was indeed from the Builder Wood, then its significance was beyond incredible.

Within the Heavenly Sword Faction, there was much speculation about the origin of the Sacred Wood Branch.

But without exception, everyone believed the Sacred Wood Branch was a great find!

Everyone coveted it, and if the Heavenly Sword Faction weren't a righteous sect, Lin Feng might have long since met with foul play, killed for his treasure.

Now Elder Cheng wanted to bet against him, asking for this Sacred Wood Branch as the wager. Naturally, Lin Feng was unwilling.

Elder Cheng, knowing Lin Feng would refuse, was not surprised. He chuckled and said, "Don't rush to refuse. Didn't you say you had more faith in Wu Lei and others, thinking they had a higher chance of winning? Do you really distrust your own judgment that much?"

Lin Feng, upon hearing this, was momentarily annoyed and stammered, "Yes, I do favor Wu Lei, but everyone makes mistakes. What if Mu Jinyu really comes out first? Wouldn't I lose big time? No, I don't want to..."

Elder Cheng persuaded, "Actually, it's not that I want the Sacred Wood Branch. Think for yourself, what is Mu Jinyu's Spirit Root attribute?"

Lin Feng, hearing this, his expression changed again. "He is... a Wood Spirit Root!"

Speaking, his anger grew, "A new disciple who just joined and he dares to covet my belongings? This is totally unreasonable..."

"Don't get angry, don't get angry..." Elder Cheng quickly pacified him, "He has only been at the Heavenly Sword Faction for a few days, right? Most of that time he was out on sect missions, how could he possibly know about the Sacred Wood Branch in your possession? This was my idea..."

"What do you mean?" Lin Feng looked toward Elder Cheng, visibly irritated.

Elder Cheng came closer and whispered a few words in his ear.

After listening, a sharp glint flashed in Lin Feng's eyes followed by hesitation, but eventually, under Elder Cheng's persuasion, he sighed and said, "Fine then, if he can really be the first to emerge, then there's no harm in giving him the Sacred Wood Branch!"

Chapter 792 Wooden Dummy!

In the selection passageway.

Wen Rou walked briskly and quickly reached the end of the fork she had chosen...

Then, she saw five more forks!

Noticing this, Wen Rou paused, a bitter smile appearing on her face.

Indeed, even if she hadn't separated from Mu Jinyu earlier, they probably would have ended up going their separate ways eventually.

Without much hesitation, Wen Rou randomly picked another fork and walked in.

"Boom!"

"Bang!!"

After walking through this fork for a few minutes, Wen Rou finally began to encounter others up ahead.

About a dozen people were scattered around, continuously throwing punches at puppets made from special wood.

These wooden puppets were what Lin Feng referred to as Wooden Dummies.

They were shaped like humans, with heads, faces, features, arms, and legs. They moved within the small space, their movements so lively they seemed almost identical to living people, as if they were the ingenious creation of Master Luban.

However, whether by design or flaw, these wooden puppets could only move within a three-foot radius and couldn't leave that distance.

For this reason, once the Outer Sect Disciples they were fighting found themselves outmatched, they would voluntarily retreat beyond the three-foot distance, causing the puppets to cease their attacks and stand motionless in place.

Perhaps, this was why, despite their exquisite craftsmanship, they were also called Wooden Dummies.

"Wow, this is so tough. Even though I'm already at the Ninth Layer of Body Refinement, I still can't shake these Wooden Dummies. They're really hard to fight!"

An Outer Sect Disciple created distance from the Wooden Dummy he was fighting and leaned against the wall, panting and speaking in a wistful tone.

Wen Rou overheard his words and looked over. She saw the Wooden Dummy in front of the man. Although motionless, the dummy erupted with the aura of someone in the Half-Step Divinity Transformation Realm.

It was no wonder the disciple couldn't move it.

After all, he was only at the Complete Energy Transformation Stage, far from the Half-Step Divinity Transformation Realm.

Thinking this, Wen Rou felt a stirring in her heart and stepped forward toward the Wooden Dummy.

"Be careful!"

The disciple resting against the wall exclaimed as he saw a female disciple appear and start fighting the Wooden Dummy he had been struggling with.

But as the words left his mouth, he got a clear view of the female disciple.

Isn't she one of the two beautiful women who were standing together with the three top Outer Sect experts and that Spirit Root talent who had just joined the Heavenly Sword Faction?

This woman had the strength to stand with them, so she certainly didn't need his warning.

The male disciple's lips curled into a bitter smile.

Just as expected!

"Bang, bang!"

In his line of sight, Wen Rou engaged with the Wooden Dummy, swiftly subduing it within a few moves.

"That's amazing." The male disciple watched, dumbfounded, filled with admiration.

Wen Rou suddenly turned to him and said, "Hey, I want to ask you something. How can I tell if I've defeated this Wooden Dummy and how do I check if it has a Pass Token inside it?"

The male disciple snapped out of his daze and quickly explained, "There's a red button near the heart of the Wooden Dummy. Press it, and its chest will open up. If there's a Token inside, it will be there; if not, then there's nothing..."

"Oh, thanks." Wen Rou said, giving thanks, then raised her hand and pressed on the heart area of the still Wooden Dummy.

"Click!"

A crisp sound followed as the Wooden Dummy's chest automatically opened up, revealing its empty inner compartment.

Nothing at all.

The male disciple looked on with a hint of disappointment.

Wen Rou, however, didn't feel much disappointment—she had merely come to try her hand. The likelihood of a Wooden Dummy at the level of Half-Step Divinity Transformation Realm having a Pass Token was already very slim.

Having bid farewell to the male disciple behind her, Wen Rou took another step forward, continuing deeper into the passageway!

She wanted to check out the Wooden Dummies in the second and third layers of the Divinity Transformation Realm.

...

After separating from Mu Jinyu and the others at the fork, Wu Lei swiftly marched down the corridor he had chosen.

Soon, several more forks in the road appeared before him, and without any hesitation, he randomly picked one and charged in.

After a few more minutes of running, Wooden Dummies began to appear before him.

"Bang Bang Bang!!"

Wu Lei strode forward, his burly frame causing the ground to tremble as if a minor earthquake had occurred.

The few people who were fighting the rows of Wooden Dummies stopped their battles and retreated to the side upon hearing the commotion.

"Boom!!"

Without uttering a word, Wu Lei threw a fierce punch that directly hit the chest of a Wooden Dummy.

"Crack!"

In an instant, the chest of the Wooden Dummy was shattered, revealing the empty wooden grid inside.

Wu Lei only took a glance before swiftly moving on to another Wooden Dummy, and with another punch, he broke open the hidden compartment!

In the blink of an eye, all of the ten-odd Wooden Dummies in the passage had been destroyed by Wu Lei.

Unfortunately, none contained a Pass Token.

Wu Lei did not show any sign of disappointment; he understood that Wooden Dummies at the level of the Body Refining Realm might not hide a Pass Token even among hundreds of them.

The reason he took action was solely that defeating them was easy, so he tried his luck with the attitude of scavenging.

Wordlessly, Wu Lei once again took big strides and ran forward!

The disciples whose Wooden Dummies had been snatched away watched him leave in silence. Although they were somewhat angry at his domineering behavior, they didn't dare say much.

...

Wu Lei was like this, so were Li Xiaoxiao and Chen Qiuqiao.

After entering the corridor, upon finding Wooden Dummies, they would directly snatch them away from anyone, whether they were currently fighting them or not, and shatter them!

In their eyes, these Outer Sect Disciples were simply not on their level; they could already be considered Inner Sect Disciples—why would they need to negotiate or be concerned about their feelings?

Mu Jinyu did not know how the three great experts from the Outer Gate acted after they entered the corridors to select.

He chose a fork to enter, and soon after, he came across six branching paths ahead, which left him speechless.

He thought to himself that it was good he had given up the idea of tricking Chen Qiuqiao earlier, as even if he had followed the same fork she took, he still wouldn't have been able to find her!

He guessed that this was probably a protective measure from the Sects meant to disperse the crowd as much as possible, to prevent someone from successfully finding a Pass Token, only to have it snatched away by another person.

With so many forks, unless one was really unlucky and encountered someone stronger in the same passage, even if you obtained a Token, Chen Qiuqiao and the others wouldn't know who got it and couldn't snatch it even if they wanted to.

"In that case, I must hurry up," said Mu Jinyu, his expression growing slightly serious as he chose another fork and went in.

After walking for a few minutes, the sounds of chaotic fighting arose in front of him. Mu Jinyu looked up to see a group of people engaging with Wooden Dummies.

First marveling at the exquisite craftsmanship of the Wooden Dummies, Mu Jinyu then started using Divine Sense to see if any of the Wooden Dummies held a Pass Token.

To his finding, it seemed that the Wooden Dummies were engraved with Arrays that shielded against Divine Sense probing, making it impossible to see their insides.

"As expected," Mu Jinyu murmured, having anticipated this outcome; otherwise, there would be no need to fight every Wooden Dummy. With Divine Sense, the first to find a Pass Token would claim it.

"Hm? This..."

Mu Jinyu retracted his Divine Sense, but then, a spark of inspiration struck him, and he tried to sense these Wooden Dummies using the "Green Emperor's Wood Emperor Art."

To his surprise...

It actually worked!

Chapter 793: How Did He Come Out Too?

Mu Jinyu retracted his Divine Sense and subconsciously started to circulate the "Green Emperor's Wood Emperor Art".

To his surprise, not only the living flowers and trees succumbed to the "Green Emperor's Wood Emperor Art", allowing the cultivator to examine them at will, but he could also clearly sense the wooden dummies that had been chopped down and crafted, in the same way.

"How miraculous is this?"

In Mu Jinyu's "vision", these wooden dummies became utterly transparent, allowing him to see all the intricate mechanisms and precision parts inside.

And inside one of the unchallenged wooden dummies, he saw a small and exquisite token hidden in a secret compartment in its chest, with the word "pass" written on it.

"Looking at it this way, it's not difficult at all."

Mu Jinyu smiled effortlessly and then leisurely stepped forward, walking towards the wooden dummy standing still in its place.

As soon as he was within three feet of the wooden dummy.

Seemingly triggering a response, the wooden dummy's eyes lit up with a red glow, and it began to throw punches at Mu Jinyu!

"Stand down."

Mu Jinyu did not lift a hand, he merely spoke softly, and his not-so-powerful Green Emperor True Yuan surged out, covering the wooden dummy, which immediately ceased operation.

"Click."

The secret compartment was activated, and the wooden dummy's chest automatically split open, revealing a delicate wooden token inside.

Mu Jinyu reached out and took it, then thought for a moment. Since it was so easy, he decided to collect several more pass tokens, in case Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan were unlucky and failed to get any, he could still help them.

With this in mind, Mu Jinyu pocketed the pass token and, ignoring the rigid wooden dummy, stepped forward again toward the depths of the passage.

"My God, what just happened?"

When Mu Jinyu departed, the more than ten Outer Sect Disciples resting in the passageway, not engaged with the wooden dummies, witnessed the scene where Mu Jinyu had just taken the pass token. They exclaimed in astonishment.

"What was that about? Did he seem to know that the pass token was inside that dummy, so he just broke it open to take it and move on to the next target?"

"That shouldn't be possible, all these wooden dummies are shielded from Divine Sense probing by a formation, he couldn't possibly have seen it!"

"So that means... he was just lucky? The first time he fought a wooden dummy, he encountered one with a pass token?"

"Gosh, I'm feeling so sour again, I'm so envious!"

"Damn it, I should have chosen that wooden dummy just now. Then I would have passed the selection! Aaaaah!!!"

"Hey, that's weird, if he's already got the pass token, why keep going deeper? Why not just leave?"

"Who knows, maybe he wants to get a few more for friends? Ugh, I'm feeling envious again..."

These people were crazed with envy and no longer rested, immediately abandoning the wooden dummies in that passage to quickly follow Mu Jinyu!

...

Outer Gate Square.

On the high platform.

Lin Feng and Elder Cheng didn't converse, focusing their gaze on the screening passages, quietly waiting for disciples to emerge.

It had already been ten minutes since the screening passage opened.

But so far, not a single person has successfully obtained a pass token and come out.

However, neither Lin Feng nor Elder Cheng showed any signs of anxiety.

Because this was normal.

Under normal circumstances, it would take at least half an hour for the first person to come out with a pass token.

After all, among the hundreds of wooden dummies in the first level with only Body Refining Realm strength, there was only one pass token placed.

The chances of encountering it were incredibly slim.

Those Outer Gate experts who chose the wrong channel would continue moving forward; after all, the time spent challenging countless first-tier wooden dummies was better used persisting down one path. In doing so, they were more likely to obtain the Pass Token ahead of time by challenging wooden dummies at the first or second level of Divinity Transformation Realm.

However, now that ten minutes had passed, those who had failed would likely be giving up and walking out soon.

And so it was.

Just as this thought occurred to them, dozens of people came out of the selection channel, supporting each other.

Their appearance was rather wretched!

"Ouch, it hurts so badly..."

"Alas, I've failed again. When will I be able to defeat a wooden dummy?"

"I've already failed the wooden dummy challenge three times. If I can't pass the Outer Gate's grand examination next year, I'll be expelled from the sect, wuuu..."

"I'm in the same boat. Most of us joined the Heavenly Sword Faction during the same period, and we're the ones doing the worst. I guess next year we'll likely be expelled from the sect!"

These individuals lamented in low voices, an atmosphere of melancholy and desolation enveloping them.

Their strength, mostly ranging from Early to Completion Stage of Energy Transformation, indeed made challenging the first-tier wooden dummies, which possessed strength from Peak Energy Transformation to Half-Step Divine Realm, quite difficult.

Yet, according to their conversation, they had challenged the selection channel three or four times, having stayed in the Heavenly Sword Faction's Outer Gate for about a year and a half to two years. However, their strength still hadn't broken through from the Body Refining Realm to the Divinity Transformation Realm, indicating their poor aptitude!

Ultimately, being expelled from the sect was only to be expected!

Lin Feng and Elder Cheng listened to their conversation, remaining expressionless and standing in place, not bothering to comfort them.

These individuals not only had poor aptitude but also lacked perseverance. They feared sustaining severe injuries in battles against the wooden dummies, so they chose to exit early, truly a defeated mindset!

The use of wooden dummies as a selection tool for the Outer Gate's grand examination was not meant to be merely an obstacle; it held deeper significance.

After all, even the weakest wooden dummy possessed the strength of Peak Energy Transformation. If these disciples were willing to contemplate the combat experience gained while engaging with them, they would become more resilient with each setback instead of repeatedly facing defeat!

Even if they couldn't defeat the wooden dummies at first, retreating three feet would make the dummies cease their attack. If they rested for a while and then continued the fight, persisting slowly until the end of the Outer Gate's grand examination, wouldn't their gains be dozens of times greater than if they had exited the selection channel prematurely?!

Regrettably, there were far too few Outer Sect Disciples who understood this principle.

Before long, another group of people exited the selection channel.

Upon seeing this, Lin Feng and Elder Cheng's expressions turned sour, and they turned their heads away, choosing not to pay attention to this scene for now.

At this moment.

The crowd suddenly became noisy.

"What's going on? Why has he come out too?"

"Could it be that he was lucky and found the Pass Token on the first level?"

"Doesn't seem like it. I feel it's more like he gave up voluntarily, just like us!"

"Ha, could it be that this genius, participating in the Outer Gate's grand examination for the first time, got a bit flustered by the selection channel and decided to give up, planning to try again next time?"

As these disciples kept talking, their tone grew increasingly mocking.

Upon hearing their words, Lin Feng and Elder Cheng were stirred and immediately turned their heads to look towards the entrance of the selection channel!

Indeed, it was Mu Jinyu who had come out!

Lin Feng and Elder Cheng's eyes widened in surprise, calculating in their minds. It had been only about ten minutes since Mu Jinyu and hundreds of others had entered the selection channel until now.

Coming out so quickly, had he actually obtained the Pass Token before exiting?

Or, as these people speculated, did he feel that the channel was too complicated and chose to exit for now?

Thinking of how Mu Jinyu had declined the Sect Leader's offer to take him as a direct disciple, insisting on joining the Outer Gate, Lin Feng felt it might indeed be possible.

Lin Feng's brows became deeply furrowed.

Elder Cheng, however, had a slightly different idea from Lin Feng. Seeing Mu Jinyu coming out, his eyes showed some astonishment, but his expression didn't reveal much surprise.

Chapter 794: Taking the Lead!

Just as Lin Feng and many other Outer Sect Disciples were wondering why Mu Jinyu had come out so early.

Not long after Mu Jinyu had stepped out of the screening passageway, a large group of Outer Sect Disciples, panting heavily, followed him running out.

"Stop, you can't do this, it's too much!"

"Exactly, if you take all the tokens, how can we pass the selection?"

"One token per person is enough for you, why grab so many? Can you eat them or what?"

"..."

A tumultuous clamor arose, making Lin Feng's expression a mixture of astonishment and amusement.

The faces of those despondent Outer Sect Disciples, who initially sneered at Mu Jinyu for leaving early like them, now froze in disbelief.

"What's going on here?"

"From what they're saying, could it be that this guy grabbed a bunch of pass tokens all by himself?"

"So that's why he's drawn such ire, causing so many people to chase after him?"

They were a bit confused and bewildered, their hearts filled with flames of jealousy and resentment!

At that moment, Lin Feng reacted and spoke up at the right moment, demanding, "What is all this chasing and fussing about? Stop it all!"

The Outer Sect Disciples who had run out with Mu Jinyu, seeing Lin Feng speak up, could only reluctantly and resentfully stop in their tracks, still glaring angrily at Mu Jinyu.

Seeing them quiet down, Lin Feng looked solemnly at Mu Jinyu and then asked the crowd, "What are you all doing? Why aren't you in the screening passageway challenging the Wooden Dummies? Don't you want to challenge anymore?"

These disciples who ran out with Mu Jinyu were different from those dozens of disciples who had given up the challenge on their own accord!

Those who gave up on their own didn't possess strength beyond the Divinity Transformation Realm, but these disciples had strengths within the first and second layer of the Divinity Transformation Realm.

They were considered the backbone of the Outer Sect Disciples, and once Wu Lei and Chen Qiuqiao joined the Inner Gate, a few more prominent figures would gradually emerge among them!

But now, they were running out following Mu Jinyu, effectively giving up the selection challenge as well. Wasn't this absurd?

Even if Mu Jinyu had grabbed several more pass tokens, switching to a different screening passageway to challenge would have sufficed. Why doggedly fixate on him?

Hearing Lin Feng's inquiry, those few disciples whose strength was just below the top three outer gate experts immediately complained,

"Elder Lin, it's not that we want to give up the challenge, but... but this guy has gone too far, grabbing over thirty pass tokens by himself, how are we supposed to challenge now?!"

"Exactly, I was in a passageway challenging several Wooden Dummies with the strength of the Second Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm. I would definitely have gotten a pass token if I had beaten them, but this guy suddenly ran into the passageway I was in and took the only token there, and the rest are all Third Layer Divine Transformation Realm Wooden Dummies, how can I fight them?!"

"I faced the same problem, he took the token in the passageway I was in, I was going to switch to another passageway, but then I was told that he had taken them all, so I had no choice but to chase him out!"

"..."

The crowd complained all at once, and although it was a bit chaotic, Lin Feng and Elder Cheng, along with those disciples who had chosen to give up the challenge, all understood one thing.

That was, Mu Jinyu had created turmoil in the screening passageway and had taken at least over thirty pass tokens?!

Over thirty pass tokens?!

There were only fifty pass tokens in total, and he had taken more than half all by himself? Was he even human?

No wonder he had incited such rage!

Causing so many people to chase after him!

The Outer Sect Disciples who had voluntarily given up the challenge, their earlier mockery gone, now heard this news and felt their jealousy extinguished by a bucket of cold water!

Their hearts felt utterly cold!

They looked at Mu Jinyu with eyes filled with disbelief and despair!

Is this guy even human?

They struggled mightily, unable to defeat even the most ordinary wooden dummy, yet Mu Jinyu alone hoarded over thirty Pass Tokens.

And if he hadn't been forced out by being chased, who knows how many more he could have taken?!

Why is there such a huge gap between people?!

The expression on Lin Feng's face became quite strange after hearing these people's complaints, and he felt a chill in his heart.

Initially, when he found out that Mu Jinyu had obtained a Pass Token, he already felt uncomfortable, knowing that the Sacred Wood Branch might really be lost to Elder Cheng.

But now, knowing that Mu Jinyu had snatched over thirty Pass Tokens all by himself, he suddenly felt like his brain was going to explode.

This guy, in just ten minutes, took over thirty Pass Tokens. If he had only planned to take one Pass Token, wouldn't he just need a minute or two from entering to exiting?

What kind of freak is this!

Then, Lin Feng suddenly thought of the bet with Elder Cheng and felt like he had truly been trapped by him, immediately turning his head angrily towards Elder Cheng.

He saw that Elder Cheng looked slightly surprised, but not too shocked!

He immediately questioned, "Elder Cheng, did you already know he had this capability and deliberately set me up?"

Elder Cheng immediately shook his head, saying, "No, I just guessed that his possession of a Wood Spirit Root might give him an advantage in the wooden dummy challenge, but I didn't expect him to be this powerful!"

Yet, he thought to himself, this Spirit Root genius, Mu Jinyu, was ridiculously powerful, wasn't he? It was sure indeed no mistake to place one's bets on him!

Lin Feng wasn't very aware of Mu Jinyu's movements or how strong he was, so at the start of the bet, he leaned more towards the more experienced ones like Wu Lei.

But Elder Cheng and the Sect Leader, because of the Fine Elixirs, paid more attention to Mu Jinyu afterward.

Thus, they investigated thoroughly, and Mu Jinyu had in the Scripture Pavilion chosen the divine skill "Great Freedom Heavenly Wood Sword Qi."

With such a Wood Attribute Divine Power, it was too easy for Mu Jinyu to be the first to exit the trial.

But indeed, Elder Cheng hadn't expected Mu Jinyu to exaggerate to the extent of taking over thirty Pass Tokens in less than ten minutes!

Seeing that Elder Cheng denied it, Lin Feng had no way to argue; a loss was a loss. However, he wasn't too concerned about winning or losing anymore due to Elder Cheng's earlier persuasion, so he decided not to delve deeper.

Lin Feng immediately turned back, looked at Mu Jinyu's calm demeanor, showing no awareness of having caused trouble or provoked public anger, and asked, "Is there a problem with what they said? Is this how it happened?"

Mu Jinyu nodded calmly and then with a wave of his hand, many Pass Tokens floated up in front of him!

Lin Feng and Elder Cheng counted them and realized there were thirty-six Pass Tokens!

Doesn't this mean that only fourteen people in the selection channel could succeed?

If there were others like Mu Jinyu, the number of those passing the selection would be even fewer!

They were instantly rendered speechless.

The Outer Sect Disciples who had chased Mu Jinyu out, each glared at him with eyes that seemed to spit fire, wishing they could kill him!

At least half of them could have gotten a Pass Token and passed the selection smoothly.

But because of Mu Jinyu's outrageous actions, they were directly eliminated!

How could this not make them hate Mu Jinyu to death!

After a moment of silence, Lin Feng asked, "Why did you do this? Isn't one Pass Token enough?"

Chapter 795: Is There Such an Operation?

Mu Jinyu ignored the murderous glances from behind, showed no embarrassment, and answered:

"When I got the first Pass Token, I was thinking, did the score for coming first in the Outer Gate's grand exam, as mentioned by Elder Lin, include the results from this selection?"

"If it did, wouldn't obtaining just one Pass Token be insufficient? So, by accident... I took a bit more."

The Outer Sect Disciples who had come after him to kill him were fuming with anger upon hearing his words, and cursed:

"You call that a bit more? You've taken almost two-thirds of all the Pass Tokens, okay!"

"Exactly, do you have no shame? You've snatched away all our Tokens and still claim it was an accident!"

"..."

Everyone was seething with rage.

Lin Feng was speechless, pressed his hand to his forehead, and said, "One is enough, the score for becoming the first in the Outer Gate's grand exam does not include the results from this selection!"

"Oh, I see!"

Mu Jinyu, upon hearing this, showed no disappointment, as he had taken so many Pass Tokens just as a precaution, to increase his chances of winning.

After all, if he didn't take them, if someone else took more, and they ended up getting extra points for it, wouldn't he be at a loss?

It's better to take them than not, and even if he was wrong in the end, he wouldn't feel embarrassed; the embarrassment would fall on others.

With a wave of his hand, thirty-six Pass Tokens suddenly flew towards the crowd behind him—thirty-three of them!

"Mine! Mine!!"

The Outer Sect Disciples at first didn't understand what Mu Jinyu was doing. But soon, they realized he was giving them back the Pass Tokens as he found they were of no use to him.

Immediately, they started shouting and scrambling for the Tokens.

The fight was fierce!

They were left with black and blue faces, even worse than taking on the Wooden Dummy!

"Stop it right now, what kind of behavior is this!"

Seeing the chaotic scene, Lin Feng's face turned as dark as the bottom of a pot, and he loudly commanded them to stop.

The Outer Sect Disciples who were frantically fighting over the Pass Tokens heard Lin Feng's command and speeded up the fight. After about a minute's delay, a few managed to successfully grab Pass Tokens and distance themselves, and finally, the struggle came to an end!

The thirty-three Pass Tokens that Mu Jinyu had distributed were almost all snatched by the stronger disciples among them.

However, the price they paid was quite hefty. Almost everyone ended up with black eyes, bloody noses, and some even lost several teeth!

After all, with so many of them crowded together, whoever touched the Pass Token first would be subjected to a concentrated attack. Although they were stronger, they couldn't withstand such an onslaught.

And so, they ended up in this sorry state!

"Hiss hiss, that hurts..."

"Damn, who was attacking my lower body just now? Nearly crippled me!"

"Did anyone see my teeth? Damn, they weren't crushed, were they?"

The thirty-three who managed to snatch the Pass Tokens complained while grimacing in pain.

But they were still somewhat relieved in their hearts. Although it was tough, at least they obtained a Pass Token, and were not eliminated in the first round.

The disciples who had repeatedly failed and struggled were even more grateful, because they had already failed four times. If they had not passed the selection this time, they would have been expelled from the Sect!

Now it was okay. Although they might not achieve good results in the Outer Gate competition, at least they wouldn't be expelled from the Sect anymore.

Such luck did not befall too many, and there were dozens of Outer Sect Disciples who would be expelled if they failed the test this time. Seeing that the Pass Tokens were difficult to snatch from others, they once again cast their greedy gazes at Mu Jinyu!

Mu Jinyu had thrown out thirty-three of the thirty-six Pass Tokens. Now he still had three left, which he couldn't need all by himself. Maybe they still had a chance!

While they watched Mu Jinyu closely, they also secretly stayed on guard, ready to snatch at any moment.

This time, even if they had to risk half their lives, they must snatch one of those two Tokens!

Mu Jinyu felt a chill from their hungry, wolfish gazes and spoke up to remind them, "Hey, hey, hey, don't get me wrong. I'm not playing hard to get, trying to give out Tokens in two separate occasions. I'm not giving out these last three, remember, I still have a wife and a sister!"

Hearing Mu Jinyu's words, those who were hot-headed and secretly ready to fight felt their hearts cool by half.

That's right, how could they forget there were two women with Mu Jinyu.

Although they did not know the full extent of their strength, or whether they had obtained Pass Tokens, at the very least, as long as it was not guaranteed that they could pass the selection, Mu Jinyu certainly would not throw the remaining Tokens to them!

"Ah, had I known earlier, I should have fought even at the cost of three months bedridden to snatch a Token!"

"Me too!"

"Hey, why are you looking at me? The Elder is right here. You won't have any good outcome if you cause trouble,"

"..."

The crowd began to feel regretful, and some shifted their gaze towards those Outer Sect Disciples who were of lesser strength but lucky enough to have successfully snatched a Token at the last moment.

These Disciples were very alert and promptly brought up the Elders as a warning not to create disorder!

Lin Feng and Elder Cheng looked at the chaotic scene, feeling a bit of a headache!

This was the first time they had seen such a selection process, where one disciple had gotten nearly two-thirds of the Pass Tokens and then randomly thrown them to others.

And most of these Token-holders wouldn't have passed the selection under normal circumstances.

"What should we do now? Should we start the selection over?"

Lin Feng had a headache and turned to ask Elder Cheng.

Elder Cheng pondered for a moment and shook his head, "Starting over is not realistic. Most of these Disciples are exhausted from fighting in the selection passages, and they definitely won't agree to a redo. And those who obtained Tokens won't agree either. Anyway, since it's already been distributed like this, let's just leave it at that!"

He paused, then added, "At most this time, it won't be recorded in the assessment rankings. This way, those Disciples who were prepared to make a final stand in the last assessment but ended up in a mess because of him, will have another chance next time."

"Then that's the only way!" Lin Feng said hesitantly, then nodded in agreement.

Afterward, he announced this remedial measure to calm everyone down and to prevent those Outer Sect Disciples who had just failed to snatch a Token and were eager to act from being impulsive.

Hearing Lin Feng's announcement, those Outer Sect Disciples who had just proudly snatched a Token at the risk of half their lives, thus securing their place in the Sect, were now stunned.

There was such a maneuver?!

Wouldn't that mean they had endured that harsh beating for nothing, and they'd have to suffer another beating on the Competition platform?!

Chapter 796: Truly Worthy of Being Siblings!

Mu Jinyu breathed a sigh of relief when Lin Feng announced the remedy, that this assessment would not count towards the five failures that would result in expulsion from the sect.

If he had ruined so many "Wen Rous" due to his lack of attention to detail, he really would have felt extremely guilty and uneasy.

"Ah!! Why is this happening? I'm so angry! Who's going to compensate for my teeth?!"

"You, what did you just recklessly throw? You got me beaten up like this, I would have been better off not fighting for it!"

Seeing the Outer Sect Disciples who had been beaten half to death but had successfully snatched a token, now trembling all over, gnashing their teeth in fury as they glared at him as if they wanted to devour him, Mu Jinyu couldn't help feeling even more remorseful.

The injuries of these people were undeniably related to him; he really wanted to go over and use Life Source Energy to treat their wounds.

However, considering the risks such an action would bring, he eventually managed to restrain himself.

He did not go over to help them.

'At most, they'll lie in bed for a few months to half a year, and the injuries will heal. Better leave it at that.'

'No, I can't just ignore them like this; it would weigh on my conscience!'

Mu Jinyu was incredibly conflicted, but finally, he gritted his teeth and made a decision.

At the same time, he shouted, "You macaque!"

As he spoke, he unleashed the "Great Freedom Sky Eye Sword Qi" and conjured up wooden rulers, delivering three fierce strikes to the buttocks of each severely injured Outer Sect Disciple on the scene!

"Smack! Smack! Smack!"

The sound was extremely crisp and pleasant, causing everyone's cheeks to twitch along with the noise.

Those few whose buttocks had just been attacked and were already not lightly injured, now with Mu Jinyu's three strikes from the wooden ruler, immediately became even more miserable.

Literally blossoming buttocks!

"Damn it, what are you going crazy for now?!"

"Wow, it's killing me, my butt hurts so much!"

"..."

The Outer Sect Disciples, who were being smacked by Mu Jinyu's wooden rulers, were crying out loud, tears and snot running down their faces.

After they regained their senses, they no longer dared to shout anything at Mu Jinyu.

They all remembered that Mu Jinyu's strength was not inferior to the three great Outer Gate experts like Wu Lei, and he was a talented individual valued by the Sect Leader. How could they belittle him at will?

Thus, they all shut their mouths and gave Mu Jinyu several resentful glances, then dared not even look at him anymore!

They were terrified of having their buttocks "blossom" again!

Seeing Mu Jinyu's actions, Lin Feng's face darkened, and he helplessly said, "Come here, stop bullying people over there!"

Upon hearing this, Mu Jinyu walked towards Lin Feng while recalling the reactions of the Outer Sect Disciples, thinking to himself, 'Sigh, their reactions are a bit off, I wonder if they have seen "Journey to the West".'

'If they haven't seen it, then there's nothing to be done. It only means they don't have that fortune. They'll just have to lie in bed for a few months to half a year, and they can't blame me for that, can they?'

Soon, Mu Jinyu arrived by Lin Feng's side.

Lin Feng looked at Mu Jinyu with a mix of irritation and amusement, saying, "What are you doing? Why are you hitting them again?"

Mu Jinyu shook his head and replied, "I was helping them, but it seems they don't understand and are ungrateful, so let it be."

Lin Feng sighed, "For now, just stay by my side and stop causing trouble over there."

Mu Jinyu nodded indifferently, "Alright then."

Elder Cheng looked at Mu Jinyu with a strange expression and after he settled down, he looked up at Lin Feng and said, "Elder Lin, I guess I've won, haven't I? Hand over the bet."

He thought, since Mu Jinyu was right there, giving him the bet on the spot should gain him some favor.

When Lin Feng heard Elder Cheng's words, he glanced at Mu Jinyu, shook his head in refusal, and said, "No, although you did win, I can't give it to you now. After all, there's still the Outer Gate competition coming up, and it wouldn't be fair to the others if he took the Sacred Wood Branch now."

"Alright then," Elder Cheng said upon hearing this. He found the reason to be sound, so he nodded and said, "Then give me the Sacred Wood Branch after it's over."

Mu Jinyu listened to their conversation without any expression on his face.

But in his heart, he was muttering, 'Listening to their conversation, why does it feel like they're using me for a bet?'

'And, what did Elder Lin mean by that statement? Is he planning to give me something nice, which would make the upcoming Outer Gate competition even more unfair?'

'Sacred Wood Branch, what is that?'

Mu Jinyu was somewhat puzzled, but he also knew his place, so he chose not to ask them about it.

Time slowly passed.

Because Mu Jinyu had taken thirty-six Pass Tokens in the selection channel, only fourteen were left inside. Thus, more and more people were unable to find any tokens, and after hearing from others that a Madman had already taken all the tokens earlier and had run off after being chased by a group, they could only helplessly exit the selection channel.

These disciples came out of the selection channel one after another and after confirming again from their seniors that Mu Jinyu indeed had taken thirty-six tokens and even randomly distributed them to incite infighting among them, and after the infighting, Mu Jinyu had even beaten them up and other such news, they looked at Mu Jinyu with eyes full of wariness and oddness.

This new talent with a Spirit Root from the Heavenly Sword Faction seemed to have a peculiar nature, playing such tricks on them. It would be wise to avoid contact with him in the future.

Seeing their strange looks, Mu Jinyu felt helpless. He wanted to explain but was afraid he might make things worse and inadvertently reveal his Life Source Energy, so he opted to stay silent.

At that moment, a graceful figure of Jian Ruyan emerged from the entrance of the selection channel, drawing the attention of everyone.

Then, another scene that shocked the crowd occurred.

A group of people came running out after Jian Ruyan, shouting with cries of attack!

"Leave the Pass Tokens behind!"

"Despicable woman, you actually took so many all for yourself, how shameless!"

"..."

The many Outer Sect Disciples on the Outer Gate Plaza, including Lin Feng and Elder Cheng, looked at Mu Jinyu with strange expressions again after hearing these shouts pursuing Jian Ruyan.

Goodness, she truly is his sister; the siblings actually did the same thing in the selection channel.

One took thirty-six Pass Tokens and the other more than ten, hardly leaving any chance for others!

No wonder the hundreds of them couldn't find a single token in there!

It turns out they nearly monopolized all the tokens!

Lin Feng shook his head speechlessly, then calmed down the disciples chasing Jian Ruyan and informed them of the decision he had made with Elder Cheng just a moment ago.

Jian Ruyan came over to Mu Jinyu and after listening to Lin Feng's words, she complained faintly, "So it was you causing mischief. I heard in there that someone had taken several Pass Tokens, and I thought getting more would earn extra points, so I also took some extra tokens. It turns out to have been a waste of effort!"

Chapter 797: Screening Test Over!

"I was just thinking about scoring some extra points, who knew it would be completely useless."

Mu Jinyu, hearing Jian Ruyan's complaint, also said somewhat sheepishly.

Jian Ruyan didn't say much more and directly took the ten Pass Tokens she had in her hand, kept one for herself, and threw the remaining nine to the group of Outer Sect Disciples.

By this time, the Outer Sect Disciples all understood that even if they didn't get a Pass Token, it wouldn't count as a failure, so those who were not strong enough showed no interest in these nine Pass Tokens.

Only those who were strong enough and were already intending to participate in the upcoming Outer Gate competition would take the opportunity to snatch one.

In the process of fighting for the tokens, they also contended with one another to some extent.

Of course, it was all on a moderate level, there was no repetition of Mu Jinyu's previous situation where everyone ended up beaten black and blue with serious injuries!

Seeing this, Mu Jinyu said to Jian Ruyan, "You didn't need to keep one, I had already left one for you and Wen Rou when I made my move."

Jian Ruyan glanced at him and said indifferently, "I have my own token that I got, why would I want one from you? If you have extras, give them to them."

Upon hearing this, Mu Jinyu felt it made sense. If Jian Ruyan had let him throw away the last three Pass Tokens he had and then given him one, he certainly would have felt uncomfortable too.

Thinking this way, Mu Jinyu prepared to throw out another token, then check if Wen Rou had managed to get a token inside. If she did, then he would deal with the last extra one later.

However, the likelihood seemed quite small.

After all, there were only fifty Pass Tokens in total. He had taken thirty-six, Jian Ruyan had taken ten, there should have been four left inside, but he remembered that just before Jian Ruyan came out, a disciple had already come out with a Pass Token.

That was the first person aside from him and Jian Ruyan to come out with a Pass Token, so, in reality, there were only three Pass Tokens left inside the screening channel.

With only three Pass Tokens left, but Wu Lei, Li Xiaoxiao, Chen Qiuqiao, and Wen Rou all yet to come out, it was obvious that someone would end up without a Pass Token.

And among them, Wu Lei and the others were clearly more experienced in this type of selection test. In comparison, the chances of Wen Rou getting a Pass Token were even slimmer.

Mu Jinyu was about to throw out another Pass Token when someone else came out again from the entrance of the screening channel.

This person was neither one of the top three masters of the Outer Gate nor Wen Rou; instead, it was a disciple from the Third Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm.

After stepping out of the entrance, he displayed his Pass Token and then sat alone on one side, quietly beginning his Qi regaining practice.

As he revealed his Pass Token, a silence fell over the crowd for a few moments, then suddenly erupted into an uproar.

"Oh my, Brother Wei got a Pass Token and came out?"

"My God, does that mean there are only two Pass Tokens left inside?"

"But until now, Brother Wu, Sister Li, and Brother Chen haven't come out yet!"

"Doesn't that mean that among them, one will definitely not get a Pass Token? If they are even less fortunate, maybe only one of them will come out with a token?"

People murmured, casting surreptitious glances towards Mu Jinyu, their looks filled with reverence but also tinged with a thrill.

In past selection tests, the top three masters of the Outer Gate might not have been the first three to come out with Pass Tokens, but they had definitely been among the first five to come out with them.

But now, due to Mu Jinyu's sudden rise along with his sister stirring things up inside, they had taken forty-six tokens, making this selection test unprecedentedly likely to see at least one of the top three masters of the Outer Gate not get a Pass Token!

This sounded somewhat farcical and seemed like a charade, but without Mu Jinyu, they probably wouldn't have witnessed such a humiliating moment for the top three masters of the Outer Gate!

The situation was absurd yet somewhat exhilarating.

Everyone hoped the selection test would end soon so they could see the expressions on Wu Lei, Chen Qiuqiao, and the others when they came out!

"Wow, here comes one!"

Just then, Wu Lei strode out from the screening channel, his expression not looking too good, but he did have a Pass Token in his hand.

His unpleasant expression was not because he hadn't got a Pass Token, but because it took him far too long to finally get one, which he felt compromised his dignity.

However, just when he thought that after he came out, he would be teased by Li Xiaoxiao and Chen Qiuqiao, he instead heard the sounds of admiration:

"Wow, as expected of Brother Wu, besides those two who messed around, he's also the third one out, right?"

"Impressive, impressive, now, inside, there should be only one Pass Token left!"

"Ah, who knows, will it be Sister Li who gets it, or Brother Chen?"

"There's going to be a good show..."

Wu Lei heard these whispers, his expression slightly changed.

'What's going on? From what they are saying, haven't Li Xiaoxiao and Chen Qiuqiao come out yet? Am I actually the third one to come out?'

'But if I am the third to come out, how come there's only one last Pass Token left inside?'

Wu Lei felt a bit puzzled in his heart, but seeing that everyone looked at him with respect, it didn't seem like they were mocking him.

And, indeed, there was no sign of Li Xiaoxiao and Chen Qiuqiao in the square, so he quickly stepped forward to find someone familiar and ask what exactly was going on.

Soon, Wu Lei fully understood the situation and turned his head to look at Mu Jinyu who was standing with Lin Feng and the others on the high platform; his expression became even more grave.

Originally, he had felt that Mu Jinyu would be a formidable enemy, but he had not expected him to be ridiculously dominant to this extent, taking only about fifteen minutes to snatch thirty-six Pass Tokens!

And his unassuming sister had also managed to take ten by herself.

No wonder he had searched for so long only to finally find one!

'The fights to come are not going to be so easy.'

Wu Lei murmured cautiously to himself.

At that moment, a commotion arose again.

Wu Lei turned his head again, looking towards the screening passage entrance, and saw Li Xiaoxiao holding a Pass Token and coming out, the reason for the commotion.

The appearance of Li Xiaoxiao also signified the end of this screening test, and Chen Qiuqiao, being one of the top three experts of the Outer Gate, was surprisingly eliminated!

No wonder it caused a commotion!

"Dong Dong!!"

As all fifty Pass Tokens were taken, a deep bell sound suddenly echoed through the screening passage.

This was telling the disciples still inside that they could come out now, the screening test was over.

Soon, a large group of disciples came out dejectedly.

They had persisted until the end, desperately searching for Pass Tokens among the Wooden Dummies, but ultimately failed, which couldn't help but leave them disheartened!

Before long, Wen Rou also came out.

Her face bitter, she walked over to Mu Jinyu, her expression apologetic, and she softly said to Mu Jinyu, "I'm sorry, Little Mu, I've disappointed you..."

"It's okay, it's normal that you didn't get one, I was mistaken!" Mu Jinyu quickly took out a Pass Token and handed it to Wen Rou, while explaining to her about him and Jian Ruyan taking a total of forty-six Tokens!

After hearing this, Wen Rou couldn't help but open her mouth wide, feeling very surprised.

She hadn't expected Mu Jinyu to wreak such havoc, no wonder she couldn't find a single Pass Token no matter how hard she searched.

It wasn't that she was too weak; there were simply none left!

At that moment, a commotion rose up again in the Outer Gate Square.

Mu Jinyu, hearing the noise, looked toward it, and saw Chen Qiuqiao walking out from the passage entrance, her face ashen.

Chapter 798 I Will Make You Regret It!

Chen Qiuqiao walked out stiffly, his face extremely ugly!

It was as if his wife had run off with someone else, his ancestors' graves had been dug up, or as if someone owed him tens of millions!

In the selection passage, when he heard the bell sound that signaled the end of the selection, his entire head buzzed, almost exploding!

He had never imagined that, as one of the three great experts of the Outer Gate, there would come a day when he would fail the selection test!

He might barely accept not placing in the top three in the Outer Gate's major examination.

But this kind of despair and frustration, failing without even having the chance to fight, was truly unbearable!

'If Wu Lei and Li Xiaoxiao also didn't find a Pass Token like me...'

Suddenly, this thought crossed Chen Qiuqiao's mind.

If that were the case, perhaps this selection test wouldn't count, right?

His dignity, as one of the three great experts of the Outer Gate, could remain intact.

After all, if all three of them failed the selection test, the problem would lie not with him but with the selection test itself. No one would doubt or mock him again!

Thinking this, Chen Qiuqiao hurriedly raised his head, scanning the crowded Outer Sect square, searching for Wu Lei and Li Xiaoxiao.

During this scanning, he could not help but... see the pity and ridicule in the eyes of the crowd as they looked at him!

This made his heart skip a beat, giving him a faint feeling that things were very bad.

But however bad it might be, before getting definite evidence, he absolutely refused to admit his incompetent performance.

And then...

He spotted Wu Lei and Li Xiaoxiao!

They both held a Pass Token in their hands!

They noticed him watching them, and their looks toward him...

Were full of pity and mockery!

"Click!"

Seeing the pity in Wu Lei's and Li Xiaoxiao's eyes, Chen Qiuqiao's hands suddenly clenched tight, and jealousy surged wildly in his heart!

'How could this be?!'

'Why am I the only one bearing this pain?!'

'I will not accept this!'

Upon seeing Chen Qiuqiao's behavior after his appearance, Lin Feng helplessly glared at Mu Jinyu, but having no way to deal with him, he could only ascend into the air, landing beside Chen Qiuqiao and explaining the unexpected malfunction in this selection test!

"Kid, your failure is not your fault. You are still a very promising disciple. Do not undervalue yourself, or doubt yourself!"

Lin Feng patted Chen Qiuqiao on the shoulder, comforting him.

"What? It was that kind of thing?!"

After hearing Lin Feng's explanation, Chen Qiuqiao, stunned for a moment, reacted and issued a shocked and incredulous question:

"Impossible, how could he have collected thirty-six Pass Tokens in just ten minutes? He couldn't possibly have that kind of strength and speed!"

"But that's the reality!" Lin Feng said helplessly.

Chen Qiuqiao almost couldn't help saying Mu Jinyu must have cheated, otherwise, it couldn't be possible!

But before the words came out, he still restrained himself!

It was useless!

At this point, it was already done!

If he accused Mu Jinyu of cheating, it would only add to his impotent rage!

It would also leave the impression with the higher-ups of the Heavenly Sword Faction that he couldn't accept defeat, displaying a fragile personality!

"I understand, thank you for your guidance, Elder Lin." Chen Qiuqiao lowered his head and said quietly.

He no longer dared to look at the expressions in the eyes of the people around him!

Every look of pity felt like a sharp dagger piercing straight into his heart, making him even more furious and unable to accept reality!

Lin Feng's comfort was useless, even though the reason he failed the screening test wasn't his fault, but rather because Mu Jinyu had interfered.

But no matter how much he consoled himself, thinking of Wu Lei and Li Xiaoxiao, who were also among the top three experts of the Outer Gate and had successfully obtained the Pass Token, while he had not...

He felt like a complete failure!

He felt as if he was just a joke!

Sharp nails instantly deeply pierced into the palm of his hand!

Blood dripped down from between his fingers!

Mu Jinyu saw this scene and frowned secretly.

He had planned to defeat Chen Qiuqiao, to crush him severely, and make him pay for his arrogant behavior towards Jian Ruyan that day.

But he had not intended to humiliate him like this.

It was meaningless, more likely giving the appearance that he dared not fight him directly and humiliating him on purpose.

What he wanted was to defeat him outright on the competition platform, making him admit defeat willingly.

"Huh!"

Clutching another Pass Token in his hand, Mu Jinyu soared into the air and flew toward where Chen Qiuqiao was.

This token, just after he realized that Jian Ruyan already had a token, he had planned to give it away casually, but because Brother Wei and others had taken tokens out one after another, he eventually thought it might end up with Wu Lei or Li Xiaoxiao, so he was not in a hurry to give it away.

Now it could be given to Chen Qiuqiao, allowing him a fair fight with him on the competition platform!

It was just uncertain whether the other party would accept it!

"Clatter!"

The moment Mu Jinyu landed, Chen Qiuqiao, who had been keeping his head down and dared not look at anyone, suddenly raised his head, his eyes bloodshot as if dripping blood, staring fixedly at Mu Jinyu.

Mu Jinyu handed the Pass Token to him and said calmly, "Here, take it, I just happen to have an extra one!"

Chen Qiuqiao didn't reach out to take it, and said coldly, "Are you here to humiliate me further?"

"No!" Mu Jinyu shook his head, "Just giving you a chance. Don't tell me you really want to give up just like that?"

Chen Qiuqiao did not answer, still believing that Mu Jinyu was humiliating him, and continued to stare at him coldly!

Being one of the top three experts of the Outer Gate, having participated in many Outer Gate major exams, yet failing to obtain a Pass Token from the first round of screening earlier than Mu Jinyu, and now having to depend on his charity to get the opportunity to fight the next battle!

How ironic this was!

He simply couldn't accept it!

He felt even more that, if he accepted it, how would the people around view him?

Thinking he was trash, not fitting to be ranked among the top three experts of the Outer Gate!

Mu Jinyu said, "Don't be childish. I didn't understand the rules at first, so I took more Pass Tokens. After I understood, I gave them all away. Ask those with the Pass Tokens; how many of them obtained it by themselves?"

"I am different from them!" Chen Qiuqiao said hoarsely, like a wounded lone wolf.

Mu Jinyu nodded, "Yes, you are indeed different from them. If I am not mistaken, you should have been able to obtain a token. So here is your chance to redeem yourself. Don't you dare?"

"Or are you saying, the difference you speak of is just in words, lacking the courage to step up and face me in combat?"

Glancing at the Outer Sect Disciples who obtained the Pass Token, Mu Jinyu said lightly, "They are not the top three high experts of the Outer Gate, yet they still have the courage to hold the Pass Token and face me in combat later, tsk... perhaps this is what you meant by being different from them!"

Shaking his head and sighing, Mu Jinyu then attempted to take back the Pass Token in his hand!

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, despite knowing he was deliberately provoking him, Chen Qiuqiao couldn't bear it any longer!

How could the laughs and pity of ordinary Outer Sect Disciples compare to the cold taunting of Mu Jinyu, his nemesis?

He snatched the Pass Token from Mu Jinyu's hand and said coldly, "Fine, since you want it this way, wait and see, once we get up on the competition platform, I will make you regret giving me this Pass Token!"

Chapter 799 The Grand Competition Officially Begins!

Mu Jinyu saw Chen Qiuqiao snatching the pass token from her hand, a faint smile appeared on her lips, yet she said nothing, her figure soared through the air, and she returned to Jian Ruyan and Wen Rou's side.

"Will you blame me for giving him the token?" Mu Jinyu asked Jian Ruyan, who appeared calm.

Jian Ruyan gently shook her head and said, "I understand your intent. You want me to deal with him personally, letting him be eliminated in the first round is too lenient for him!"

Mu Jinyu: "..."

"Mm." Mu Jinyu nodded lightly, "As long as you understand."

Mu Jinyu was conversing with Jian Ruyan and Wen Rou.

Meanwhile, after Chen Qiuqiao had snatched the pass token from Mu Jinyu's hand, he couldn't calm his anger, proudly lifting his chest and gazing directly around at everyone!

He had endured Mu Jinyu's humiliation, so why would he fear the disdain and mockery of others?

However, contrary to his expectations of meeting with scornful looks and disdainful smiles as he lifted his head...

the gazes of the crowd appeared very calm, with hardly any mockery or even pity.

Chen Qiuqiao's gaze became bewildered.

It turned out that the pity and mockery he thought he saw in everyone's eyes were just his illusions; in fact, from the beginning, not many people looked down on him.

They only thought that he was extremely unlucky, being one of the top three outer sect disciples but still being eliminated!

Even a few who held the pass tokens had thought about giving their hard-earned tokens to him.

But Mu Jinyu was faster, so they gave up the idea.

Lin Feng saw that Chen Qiuqiao had accepted the extra pass token from Mu Jinyu's hand, he nodded in satisfaction, then patted Chen Qiuqiao on the shoulder without saying much, leaped back onto the high platform, and announced:

"Alright, the selection test ends here. Now, the fifty disciples who have obtained the pass tokens should start their matches according to the numbers on their tokens. Number one and number fifty, prepare for the first match, number two and number forty-nine, get ready..."

The rules of the match were easy to understand, and Lin Feng didn't elaborate further. After finishing his speech, he said to Mu Jinyu, "Let's go, let's go down!"

Mu Jinyu checked the back of her pass token, which was engraved with the number seven, indicating her match would be the seventh one, and it was still quite some time away.

Then she looked at the pass tokens of Jian Ruyan and Wen Rou. Jian Ruyan's number was three, Wen Rou was thirteen.

"Mm, let's go."

Mu Jinyu withdrew her gaze, called Jian Ruyan and Wen Rou, and followed Lin Feng and Elder Cheng down the platform.

This high platform was the competition platform used for the upcoming outer sect competition!

Since they were not the next ones to compete, staying on the platform was naturally inappropriate.

Mu Jinyu walked down the platform with Lin Feng. They didn't stay together but headed towards Wu Lei and Li Xiaoxiao along with Jian Ruyan and Wen Rou!

She wanted to ask them what their numbers were, to see if they might meet earlier in the competition.

While they were moving, those who had obtained tokens number one and fifty had already ascended the high platform!

They were only disciples of the first and second layers of the Divine Transformation Realm, considered the core strength of the outer sect disciples. They started fighting on the platform, and it was quite lively!

With each punch and palm strike, they stirred the nature's spiritual energy furiously!

If not for the competition platform being made of special material and engraved with defensive formations, it might have been destroyed by their blows in just a few hits!

Soon, these two had determined the winner, and the disciple with the number one token ultimately won!

Next, it was the turn for those with numbers two and forty-nine!

As it happened, the pass token obtained by Li Xiaoxiao bore the number forty-nine!

As soon as she stepped onto the platform, it caused an uproar!

Her opponent, however, was just a disciple at the first layer of the Divine Transformation Realm!

The young man turned pale with fright when he saw his opponent was Li Xiaoxiao.

"I concede," Li Xiaoxiao said, standing with her hands behind her back, her dress fluttering as if she were a fairy standing on a cliff, ready at any moment to ride the winds up to the moon's Guanghan Palace!

The young man clenched his teeth and bowed with clasped hands, "Sister Li, no offense!"

Unwilling to concede without a fight, even knowing he was bound to lose, he wanted to lose knowing he had given his all, and he wouldn't abandon hope and lose heart!

With that, he immediately made his move, drawing the sword from his waist, and with a flick, a bright sword light surged into action.

Some disciples below felt their eyes were almost dazzled shut!

"Good, that's the spirit. Sister supports you!"

Li Xiaoxiao saw the young man not giving up but instead taking the initiative to strike, she didn't get angry but smiled, lightly tapped the ground with her lotus foot, maneuvered to dodge the sword shadows, and then suddenly drifted in front of the young man and gently released a palm strike!

"Bang!"

The young man was instantly sent flying out of the competition platform and had already lost.

He stood up with a wry smile, finding himself unharmed, clearly, Li Xiaoxiao's palm strike, although sending him flying, was skillfully delivered and hadn't truly injured him!

"Thank you for the guidance, Sister Li!"

The young man said with his hands clasped in front of Li Xiaoxiao, his tone filled with admiration.

"Mm." Li Xiaoxiao nodded at him, then gracefully left the platform.

Next is number three against number forty-eight!

And Wen Rou was number three.

"Little Mu, I'm going up."

Wen Rou looked quite nervous, after all, this was her first time fighting someone in front of strangers under the public gaze.

"Mm, do your best!" Mu Jinyu smiled.

Jian Ruyan also rarely said, "Do your best."

Wen Rou then went up to the platform.

The disciple with the number forty-eight possessed surprisingly the strength of the Third Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm.

He watched Wen Rou slowly walk onto the platform, his expression turning somewhat ugly.

It wasn't that he thought Wen Rou was more powerful than him, and thus worried about not being able to defeat her.

He could tell that Wen Rou had just broken through to the Fourth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm, but her realm was somewhat unstable, and she obviously lacked combat experience, so he was confident he could defeat Wen Rou.

However, knowing that Wen Rou was Mu Jinyu's woman, if he accidentally used too much strength and injured her during the fight, wouldn't that offend Mu Jinyu, this spiritual genius?

So he was a bit conflicted!

If Mu Jinyu knew of this guy's worries, she probably would find it quite amusing.

A guy at the Third Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm looking down on Wen Rou seemed far too arrogant.

"Senior brother, please instruct." Wen Rou clasped her hands and spoke politely to her opponent.

"Hmm! Please!"

The disciple number forty-eight, gritting his teeth, decided to stop worrying about that much. If he did injure Wen Rou during the fight, then so be it.

Just being at the Third Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm, it was already difficult to fight against Wen Rou who was above his level. If he restrained himself further due to Mu Jinyu, he'd be even more prone to errors, increasing his likelihood of defeat!

As soon as he finished speaking, disciple number forty-eight suddenly made a move, launching a fierce attack on Wen Rou!

Wen Rou indeed lacked his combat experience and was caught off guard at the start, falling into a disadvantage, but she soon calmed down, fought steadily, and quickly pushed her opponent back into a disadvantage!

"Bang!!"

In the end, Wen Rou found an opportunity, delivered a palm strike, and sent disciple number forty-eight flying out!

"Is this... True Cold Ice Essence?!"

Lin Feng and Elder Cheng, seeing Wen Rou's move, couldn't help but widen their eyes in astonishment!

The day they inspected the True Yuan of the three people including Mu Jinyu to see if they were really from Huaxia, they only confirmed that Mu Jinyu had a Wood Spirit Root, but failed to detect that Jian Ruyan's body and True Yuan also contained Ice Attribute!

The reason was because Mu Jinyu's True Yuan had already transformed into Life Source Energy, and no matter what the Concealment Art was used, it couldn't suppress the nature of True Yuan!

But Jian Ruyan's True Yuan hadn't completely transformed into Ice Attribute, it was only when her Ice Phoenix Bloodline was activated, that her True Yuan would carry the Ice Attribute!

With the aid of the Concealment Art, they had managed to hide it from the Sect Leader!

Today, once Wen Rou made her move, it was naturally exposed!

Chapter 800: Dual Sword Intent!

"This little girl also has a Spirit Root? Did I misjudge that day?"

Mu Jinyu recalled the moment just now when Wen Rou had sent her opponent flying with a single slap, that icy-cold True Yuan, he was certain he had seen it correctly.

But when the three of them joined the Heavenly Sword Faction back then, why hadn't he noticed that Wen Rou also possessed an Ice Spirit Root?

Mu Jinyu was somewhat puzzled but knew it was not the time to ask; he decided to discuss it with the Sect Leader after the Outer Sect's major exam ended.

"I yield."

Standing on the competition platform, Wen Rou bowed to her opponent, who was rubbing his chest as he stood up, then gracefully descended from the platform with a poised demeanor.

"Wow, Senior Brother Wang lost. I didn't expect her to be so formidable."

"Tsk tsk, originally, it seemed that the top three ranks of this Outer Gate major exam would surely emerge from among Brother Wu, Sister Li, Brother Chen, and the newly arrived Spirit Root prodigy, but now it seems that might not be the case."

The crowd beneath the platform watched Wen Rou descend, whispering with a look of awe on their faces.

Wen Rou's victory caused a slight stir, yet it did not bring the Outer Gate's major exam to a halt.

Soon, the disciples who drew numbers four against forty-seven, five against forty-six, and six against forty-five all successively took the stage and settled their matches.

Finally, it was time for the battle between number seven and forty-four.

Mu Jinyu was number seven.

And the one who had drawn number forty-four's pass token...

Was Wu Lei!

When Mu Jinyu and Wu Lei both stepped onto the platform, the Outer Gate square instantly erupted with an extremely enthusiastic uproar!

The atmosphere reached its boiling point!

"Wow, Brother Wu and that Spirit Root prodigy are facing each other so soon?"

"Yeah, I thought they would meet in the final showdown. Who knew they'd encounter each other in just the seventh round!"

"This is going to be a great match, let's see who is more powerful!"

"Come on, place your bets, place your bets..."

It's no wonder that the clash between Mu Jinyu and Wu Lei made the atmosphere extremely lively; everyone was surprised that the two strong competitors for first place in the Outer Gate's major exam were facing each other so early!

This major highlight of the Outer Gate's exam came much sooner than anticipated!

Mu Jinyu stood on the high platform, looking at Wu Lei not far away, showing an unsurprised expression.

He had already known his opponent would be Wu Lei.

But he didn't like the crowd below, thinking that his battle with Wu Lei would be the biggest highlight of this Outer Gate's major exam.

Because the top three experts of the Outer Gate were really too weak, not at all in his league.

"Please enlighten me!" Wu Lei said as he stood opposite Mu Jinyu, serious and bowing slightly.

"Please," Mu Jinyu replied with a bow, his expression indifferent.

"Shoo!!"

Without being courteous, Wu Lei immediately drew his sword as soon as Mu Jinyu finished speaking. The gleaming sword light, like a splash of autumn water, also hinted at a sudden, rising murderous aura!

This was the Top Yellow Grade Martial Technique Wu Lei had learned, called "Solitary Peak Sword Technique." Although it wasn't a technique of divine skills, its power wasn't far behind!

In close combat, it was even easier to seize the initiative than using techniques!

Some cultivators with Lower Profound Rank Techniques, caught off guard, could not withstand it at all. One misstep meant the end, and they would leave with regrets!

"Clang!"

When Mu Jinyu saw Wu Lei make his move, emitting a killing intent as his sword shadows flickered, a trace of faint admiration appeared on his face. He then flicked a strand of Heavenly Wood Sword Qi with his fingers, which parried the blade!

"Swoosh, swoosh, swoosh!"

Wu Lei's sword did not achieve success but he did not feel disappointed. He continued to use the Solitary Peak Sword Technique, each move striking like a lone peak piercing the clouds, filled with murderous aura!

The targets of his blade were all critical parts of Mu Jinyu, truly the extreme of extremes!

Mu Jinyu's expression became slightly more serious at this, the admiration in his eyes grew stronger, but his move was still the initial variation of the Great Freedom Heavenly Wood Sword Qi, blocking the sword strikes!

At this stage, he didn't have any suitable weapons to hand, except for the Dragon Bone Bracelet Magic Treasure which was barely usable. However, he did not want to use his strength to bully the weaker.

Thus, during the duel with Wu Lei, he did not use this magic treasure and suppressed his cultivation from the Sixth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm to the hidden Fourth Layer he currently retained!

He wanted a fair duel with Wu Lei!

"Clang!!"

In a few exchanges, Mu Jinyu and Wu Lei had sparred for several rounds, with Wu Lei having executed all the major moves of the Solitary Peak Sword Technique!

Seeing that he couldn't get the better of Mu Jinyu, he withdrew and stood at the edge of the competition platform, laughing out loud

"Hahaha, good, worthy of being a genius with a Spirit Root. You've only been in the Heavenly Sword Faction for barely over ten days, and yet you've already mastered the Great Freedom Heavenly Wood Sword Qi to the initial stage, impressive indeed!"

As he spoke, Wu Lei's tone shifted, his expression became solemn, and he said in a deep voice, "However, next, I must get serious. I hope... you can still parry my sword!"

After finishing, he took out another sword from his storage bag, holding one in each hand, and rushed toward Mu Jinyu!

"Swoosh!!"

Wu Lei charged close to Mu Jinyu, his right-hand sword straightforwardly stabbing at Mu Jinyu's throat, while his left-hand sword aimed a blow at Mu Jinyu's waist, both moves appearing to be ordinary without any martial techniques.

Yet, these two strokes caused Lin Feng, Elder Cheng, Jian Ruyan, and Li Xiaoxiao and Chen Qiuqiao's expressions to change!

"Is this... Sword Intent?!"

"Wu Lei has actually mastered Sword Intent?"

Lin Feng's eyes showed surprise as he exclaimed.

"And not just that!" Elder Cheng's face also showed shock, "He has mastered Sword Intent in both sword techniques!"

Jian Ruyan, who always practiced swordsmanship, saw at first glance the dual Sword Intent in Wu Lei's twin swords. After a slight surprise, she didn't take it to heart.

After all, Mu Jinyu had never seriously fought Wu Lei!

The common Outer Sect Disciples below, whose eyesight couldn't compare to Lin Feng and the others, only realized after Wu Lei rushed close to Mu Jinyu and his Sword Intent truly erupted, that Brother Wu's execution of these two major moves actually contained Sword Intent!

They watched as Wu Lei's right-hand sword, executing a move from the Solitary Peak Sword Technique, directly stabbed at Mu Jinyu's throat, emanating a murderous intent that seemed to reach the skies.

It made everyone momentarily feel as if they were witnessing the astonishing sight of a lone peak piercing the clouds!

Meanwhile, his left-hand sword, aimed waist-high at Mu Jinyu, executed a Lower Profound Rank Quality Martial Technique called the Cloud Sea Sword Technique, also reinforced by Sword Intent!

Wu Lei's left-hand sword slowly moved toward Mu Jinyu's waist in a gentle motion, unlike the extreme danger of the Solitary Peak Sword Technique, making everyone feel as if they were watching layers of cloud sea converging towards a solitary peak!

"Incredible, he actually merged the extremely perilous Solitary Peak Sword Technique with the smooth as water Cloud Sea Sword Technique so perfectly, truly a Sword Dao genius!"

Lin Feng could not help but exclaim in admiration.

"Although Mu Jinyu has only taken about ten days to achieve initial insight into the Great Freedom Heavenly Wood Sword Qi, facing Wu Lei's perfectly merged dual Sword Intents, he might be in trouble if he doesn't have other measures!"

Elder Cheng's expression was solemn as he spoke in a low voice.