

## King Hall 901

Chapter 901: Li Zhexiong's Intent Domain Mastery!

Li Zhexiong's eyes were hollow, as deep as black holes, seemingly capable of swallowing all gazes directed at him.

He heard Ye Wushuang's trembling inquiry and responded coldly, "This is the Intent Domain! The Selfless State!"

"Intent Domain?!"

Ye Wushuang had cultivated for many years but was always circling within the Divinity Transformation Realm, completely unable to touch the sphere of the Fanxu Realm, and didn't know what Intent Domain was.

Li Zhexiong continued, "Intent Domain is the further sublimation of Sword Intent, Saber Intent, Fist Intent, etc. Those who comprehend the Intent Domain, regardless of the weapon used, can still wield extreme effectiveness!"

"But the Intent Domain is mysterious and profound, impossible to describe; it relies solely on personal comprehension. Not all cultivators can grasp it after reaching the Fanxu Realm!"

"And my Selfless State is when I can 'fundamentally forget myself' during combat. At that time, I am a part of all things in this world; I am dust, I am leaves, I am also the wind, and the rain..."

"Every particle of dust, every leaf, every strand of wind, every drop of rain can bear my entire strength, and without being limited by the physical body, the power can advance further!"

As Li Zhexiong spoke, his hollow eyes gradually returned to a bewildered look, and in an instant, the dust swirling in the sky dispersed its terrifying killing intent, silently falling!

Now Ye Wushuang felt the chilling sense of crisis fade significantly.

Li Zhexiong looked at Ye Wushuang and said indifferently, "Now, do you still think you aren't just an ordinary Fanxu Realm cultivator?"

"I..."

Ye Wushuang heard Li Zhexiong's words, was tongue-tied, and subsequently showed a look of shame, unable to speak.

Li Zhexiong's voice was calm, without the slightest hint of mundane humanity, truly like a Banished Immortal.

He looked at Ye Wushuang and said blandly, "I am kindly advising you; going back like this to seek revenge against the Dragon King Hall, you have no chance of breaking through their Mountain Protection Array..."

"Then what should I do?"

Ye Wushuang bit his lip unwillingly, even to the point of biting through his lip, strands of fresh blood seeping out.

Li Zhexiong glanced at Ye Wushuang, his eyes becoming more bewildered, silent without speaking.

Time passed slowly, and five minutes went by like that.

Just when Ye Wushuang thought Li Zhexiong might have immersed himself in past memories again, forgetting to answer him, Li Zhexiong once more spoke:

"Go participate in the Hidden Dragon Conference!"

"What?!"

Ye Wushuang was momentarily stunned upon hearing Li Zhexiong's words!

He then frowned and said, "But Senior Brother, the Hidden Dragon Conference stipulates that participants must be of the younger generation with a bone age not exceeding one jiazi, and I have long surpassed a hundred years, how can I participate?"

Li Zhexiong chuckled lightly and said, "Did you forget you just underwent rebirth?"

"Hmm?!" Ye Wushuang was puzzled upon hearing Li Zhexiong's words, but then focused his gaze sharply, before bursting forth with endless radiance!

He lowered his head and started examining his body, eventually discovering his bone age had indeed reverted to about forty-five years!

So, in that way...

His current bone age is under one jiazi, meaning he could cheat his way into participating in the Hidden Dragon Conference?!

Ye Wushuang had spent a good amount of time at Kunlun Ruins, so he was naturally aware of the various benefits the Hidden Dragon Conference held.

The one who wins first place almost seizes the Dragon Vein Qi Luck of the Kunlun Ruins for a hundred years, becoming the unchallenged chosen one.

This doesn't even mention the ability to join the Heavenly Palace, ascending to the sky in one leap and becoming a person eminently overlooking others.

And ordinary participants, though not as formidable as the True Dragon fought out by the first place, can also receive some Dragon Vein Qi Luck, and the benefits they enjoy are endless.

Given that he can participate in the Hidden Dragon Conference now, there's no reason not to join!

After excitement subsided, Ye Wushuang looked up at Li Zhexiong and asked, "Senior Brother, will you be participating in the Hidden Dragon Conference?"

"Perhaps?" Li Zhexiong did not provide a definite answer.

After speaking, seeing Ye Wushuang didn't have that many questions anymore, he said, "Continue cultivating in the Sword Burial Pool, strive to enhance your strength before the Hidden Dragon Conference begins!"

"Alright." Ye Wushuang responded, then steeling himself, glanced at the deep and cold Sword Burial Pool, clenching his teeth, and leaped with a splash into it.

Seeing Ye Wushuang begin cultivating, Li Zhexiong no longer paid attention to him; his eyes grew increasingly bewildered, sitting on the side, and muttering softly, "Many years ago... exactly how long ago was it? I remember, I remember... but I can't recall..."

Soaking in the icy Sword Burial Pool, Ye Wushuang listened to Li Zhexiong's almost indistinguishable muttering, and only felt a tingling in his scalp.

Li Zhexiong often displayed such behavior, like a madman.

He did not understand Li Zhexiong's behavior at the time, even thinking he had gone mad from cultivation and Fallen into Demon, thus maintaining the Seventh Layer of the Divinity Transformation Realm for many years.

But after Li Zhexiong's recent explanation, he finally understood Li Zhexiong was cultivating the Intent Domain!

Although he did not know what Intent Domain was, he had surely seen Fanxu Realm experts before, who definitely comprehended Intent Domain!

Yet Ye Wushuang has never seen any Fanxu Realm expert who, like Li Zhexiong, remained immersed in the Intent Domain for so long.

Ye Wushuang then recalled the scene not long ago when he and his senior brother met again after many years.

At that time, after spending decades, he advanced from the Third Layer to the Seventh Layer of the Divinity Transformation Realm, highly self-regarding, believing he was qualified to challenge the top of the Divine Rankings.

While Li Zhexiong, originally in the Seventh Layer of the Divinity Transformation Realm, showed no progress in Cultivation. At one point, he secretly mocked, thinking his senior brother was reduced to a cripple from madness.

But now seeing Li Zhexiong also at the First Layer of the Fanxu Realm, Ye Wushuang finally realized that his senior brother could improve his strength at any time.

His strength cannot be distinguished simply by the level of cultivation!

General Fanxu Realm cultivators of the Third and Fourth Levels, facing Li Zhexiong, likely would have a greater chance of losing than winning!

This could barely be understood; however, Li Zhexiong's Intent Domain cultivation was truly unfathomable, revealing no hint of his profound mastery in the Intent Domain.

It's likely all these years, his cultivation hasn't advanced because he's been concentrating on diligently cultivating the Intent Domain?!

"Intent Domain? Intent Domain... I must also comprehend the Intent Domain!"

Ye Wushuang whispered to himself for a few moments, his heart filled with intense longing.

If he could comprehend an Intent Domain, his strength would likely soar, allowing him to return and sweep away Yinlong Mountain with one sword, annihilating everything related to Mu Jinyu!

"I must comprehend the Intent Domain!"

Ye Wushuang vowed fiercely in his heart.

Afterward, he tightly shut his eyes, enduring the excruciating pain from the Sword Qi corroding his body in the Sword Burial Pool, while practicing cultivation.

Chapter 902: Learning New Divine Skills!

With the shattering of the Blood Essence Crystal and the depletion of the Sacred Wood Essence, Mu Jinyu finally stopped cultivating.

"Whew..."

Mu Jinyu opened his eyes, exhaling a long breath. His eyes sparkled with a gleam of joy.

In just eleven days, he had advanced from the First Layer of the Fanxu Realm to the Peak of the Third Layer. Such a cultivation speed was truly astonishing.

However, the resources consumed were also enormous.

Ordinary people could not afford such a terrifying expenditure.

Mu Jinyu stood up with a smile, casually undoing the restrictions around him, and then flew towards the Sect Master Hall.

While flying, Mu Jinyu saw the Heavenly Sword Mountain Range below looking peaceful, knowing that the Blood Sword Sect had not yet noticed the changes in the Blood Essence Pool, his heart felt at ease.

At this time, he was already at the Peak of the Third Layer of the Fanxu Realm. If he truly faced the Great Elder of the Blood Sword Sect and used the "True Dragon Art," he wouldn't be afraid.

However, the longer he could delay, stabilizing his realm further would naturally increase his chances of winning. He certainly hoped the Blood Sword Sect wouldn't notice the changes in the Blood Essence Pool for half a year.

In that case, by then, he should be stable at the Fourth Layer of the Fanxu Realm, and he would be even less afraid of the Blood Sword Sect.

Of course, that was just wishful thinking and not realistic. The Blood Sword Sect would never take that long to notice something wrong with the Blood Essence Pool.

Very soon, Mu Jinyu arrived at the Sect Master Hall.

Xie Chenkun was sitting in a study room, sipping tea and chatting with the Great Elder. On the surface, they appeared calm, but if one looked closely, there was a hint of worry hidden deep in their eyes.

More than twenty days had passed since the Four Sects Martial Meeting, and it had been eleven days since Mu Jinyu took the Blood Essence Crystal back to the Heavenly Sword Faction. During this time, the Heavenly Sword Faction had already obtained the first batch of cultivation resources from the Yan Kingdom, far surpassing the other three sects.

But due to the Blood Essence Crystal being a ticking time bomb, they were finding it hard to feel joyful about these resources. Instead, they were increasingly worried, always fearing that the Blood Sword Sect might suddenly come knocking.

"Knock, knock, knock!"

At this moment, a knocking sound echoed.

"Hmm?! Who is it!"

Hearing the knocking, both Xie Chenkun and the Great Elder's expressions changed slightly.

With their strength, having someone arrive outside this study room in the Sect Master Hall without noticing was alarming. If the visitor had malicious intentions, wouldn't they be at a disadvantage or even gravely injured?

But who could it be?

The Great Elder of the Blood Sword Sect?!

At this moment, Mu Jinyu spoke, "Sect Leader, it's me, your disciple."

Hearing Mu Jinyu's voice, the originally tense Xie Chenkun and the Great Elder relaxed immediately and smiled, "Jinyu, you've exited seclusion?"

After speaking, Xie Chenkun waved his hand, releasing the restrictions on the study, and the door opened automatically.

Outside the door stood a young man in white, with long black hair that reached his waist and back. He was handsome with an extraordinary temperament, looking at them with a smile.

It was Mu Jinyu, who had just exited seclusion.

Xie Chenkun initially smiled at Mu Jinyu, but upon discerning Mu Jinyu's cultivation level, his smile froze, and his expression immediately changed, filled with disbelief.

"You... you've reached the Peak of the Third Layer of the Fanxu Realm already?!"

"How did you progress so quickly?!"

The Great Elder beside him also gasped, stunned in place.

His own cultivation was only at the Peak of the Third Layer of the Fanxu Realm, yet he was the first among the Heavenly Sword Faction.

Unexpectedly, a few months ago, the young junior who was only at the Fourth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm had caught up to him in such a short time. How extraordinary was this?

"I'm lucky to have accomplished the mission. This disciple is now at the Peak of the Third Layer of the Fanxu Realm."

Witnessing their shock, Mu Jinyu didn't grow overly proud or lose himself. He bowed respectfully to them and said modestly.

"Good, good, good..."

Xie Chenkun regained his composure, suppressing the shocking waves in his heart, and then smiled with gratification and praise.

"As expected, the Wood Spirit Root faces no boundary limitations; as long as there are sufficient resources, cultivation will continue to improve. It's truly enviable."

Saying this, Xie Chenkun suddenly seemed puzzled and asked, "But wait... it's only been eleven days. Even if you're not constrained by boundaries, you shouldn't have refined the Blood Essence Crystal so quickly?"

He initially thought that after Mu Jinyu ended his retreat, he might have reached the mid or late First Layer of the Fanxu Realm and come to inquire about the Blood Sword Sect's situation.

But who would have known that in eleven days, he not only reached the Second Layer of the Fanxu Realm but directly advanced to the Peak of the Third Layer, close to the Fourth Layer. How could this not be unbelievable?

Hearing Xie Chenkun's question, Mu Jinyu certainly couldn't reveal the matter of the mystical little tree in his Sea of Consciousness assisting him in refining the Blood Essence Crystal, so he smiled and said, "Perhaps the cultivation technique I practice tends towards the blood essence attribute, making the refining process much easier."

"Oh, I see..."

Upon hearing this, Xie Chenkun pretended to realize suddenly, nodding.

But in his heart, he knew this couldn't be the real reason. There had to be some secret method involved, but he didn't want to pry further.

So, he changed the topic, "Since you've cultivated to the Third Layer of the Fanxu Realm, the Blood Essence Crystal should have been fully refined, right?"

"Yes," Mu Jinyu nodded.

"Well, it doesn't matter. Since you're at the Peak of the Third Layer of the Fanxu Realm, even if the Blood Sword Sect discovers that you've taken the Blood Essence Crystal, we won't fear them!"

Xie Chenkun clapped and said.

After speaking, he pondered for a moment and added, "However, since there is time, you can further increase your strength to be more assured when the time comes..."

Mu Jinyu, hearing Xie Chenkun's suggestion, initially thought he planned to allocate the resources obtained from the Four Sects Martial Meeting to further his cultivation and shook his head, saying:

"Sect Leader, those resources should be left to the junior disciples who need them. I've taken the Blood Essence Crystal but haven't shared it with the Heavenly Sword Faction, causing the sect to share the risk, so I already feel quite guilty."

Hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Xie Chenkun was momentarily stunned, then laughed:

"My suggestion wasn't to continue giving you resources to push to the Fourth Layer of the Fanxu Realm. After all, though you have no boundary bottleneck, allowing continuous strengthening, you haven't yet adapted to the power of the Third Layer of the Fanxu Realm. If you continue to elevate, control over your power will be increasingly difficult. So my suggestion is for you to go to the Scripture Pavilion and select some techniques and divine skills to learn!"

"This way, you can increase your combat power while also becoming familiar with the strength of your Third Layer of the Fanxu Realm."

"Moreover, the techniques and supernatural powers you've been using are still at the Yellow Grade and Profound Rank. At this stage, continuing to use such techniques is inappropriate."

Mu Jinyu, hearing this, also found it reasonable. Back when he was in the Outer Gate and Inner Gate of the Heavenly Sword Faction, he felt the "Great Freedom Heavenly Wood Sword Qi" was still handy. But during the Four Sects Martial Meeting, it had already become unusable.

Now being at the Third Layer of the Fanxu Realm, this divine skill was almost entirely useless, and it was indeed time for him to learn a few new divine skills.

Chapter 903: Scripture Pavilion Level 4!

Mu Jinyu bid farewell to Xie Chenkun and set off on the road to the Scripture Pavilion.

He also felt that the Sect Leader's words made a lot of sense. Although he had now broken through to the peak of the Third Layer of the Fanxu Realm, he was indeed not yet very familiar with his strength.

If he were to rashly engage in combat with an opponent at the Fourth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm, he might not be able to defeat them across realms as he did before!

He might even struggle to defeat opponents of the same level.

Just in time, while there's still some time left, he should quickly familiarize himself with this power and learn a new Divine Skill to support himself.

Soon, Mu Jinyu arrived at the entrance of the Scripture Pavilion.

The Guardian Elder, who looked very frail, could no longer discern Mu Jinyu's strength, and his eyes flashed with a sharp gleam.

He knew that Mu Jinyu had already won first place in the Four Sects Martial Meeting, and he felt both happy for him and for the Heavenly Sword Faction.

Taking the token handed over by Mu Jinyu, the Guardian Elder smiled and said, "Alright, feel free to go in, you can choose as many secret manuals as you like."

"Thank you, Elder." Mu Jinyu took back the token, bowed to the Guardian Elder, and then stepped into the Scripture Pavilion.

"Senior Brother, why can he choose secret manuals freely while I can only take one from the first floor?"

At this moment, a newly arrived disciple couldn't help but ask curiously upon hearing Mu Jinyu's conversation with the Guardian Elder.

His senior brother, upon hearing this, said: "Because he is Senior Brother Mu, the number one person in the Four Sects of Yan Kingdom, he naturally has this privilege. If you achieve such accomplishments, I believe the sect will grant you the same treatment!"

"So, he is Senior Brother Mu?!"

The new disciple in the Heavenly Sword Faction was amazed upon hearing his brother's introduction.

Unexpectedly, the Senior Brother Mu, praised by everyone recently, turned out to be so young, appearing to be not even twenty years old.

Thinking about this, he felt that with his own talent, he could eventually shine like Senior Brother Mu in the Four Sects Martial Meeting.

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After entering the Scripture Pavilion, Mu Jinyu didn't linger on the first or second floors, as they only contained Yellow Grade and Profound Rank secret manuals, which were essentially useless to him.

He went straight to the third floor, which was exclusively for core disciples on the List of Outstanding Talents as well as the sect's senior Elders.

It housed Earth Rank secret manuals.

Mu Jinyu could originally access this floor, but he never found the time to come, and he felt that the few Divine Skills he had were sufficient, so he never came before.

Unexpectedly, he found himself here today, which made him somewhat emotional.

The secret manuals on the third floor of the Scripture Pavilion were far fewer than those on the first and second floors, with only about fifty or so.

It was unknown how many had been borrowed by others.

Mu Jinyu didn't rush to the last floor but went to the bookshelves on the third floor, carefully examining each secret manual.

After all, the level of techniques and supernatural powers mattered greatly, but compatibility with oneself was even more crucial.

For instance, if the third floor held a Wood Attribute Divine Power secret manual of mid-grade Earth-level, and the fourth floor had a Fire System Divine Ability of supreme-grade Earth-level,

Mu Jinyu's choice would naturally be the mid-grade Earth-level Wood Attribute Divine Power, rather than the supreme-grade Earth-level Fire System Divine Ability, as it simply wasn't suitable for him!

After half an hour, Mu Jinyu perused these fifty or so secret manuals and found one Divine Skill that seemed quite suited to him.

He held it in his hand and then headed towards the last floor of the Scripture Pavilion.

If he couldn't find a suitable secret manual on the last floor, Mu Jinyu would choose to learn this Divine Skill he was holding.

Arriving at the fourth floor, the number of secret manuals was even fewer, only five.

And they were no longer books but stored as scriptures and methods in jade slips.

These appeared to be the Heavenly Sword Faction's sect-protecting secret scriptures.

Mu Jinyu stepped forward, took out his token, lifted the restrictions on the bookshelves, and then took a jade slip and placed it on his forehead, channeling his Divine Sense into it to browse.

"The 'Great Sword Canon', high-grade Earth-level Cultivation Technique, encompasses Cultivation Methods, movement technique, Martial Techniques, Divine Skills, and Techniques, requiring Innate Sword Bone for practice..."

Upon seeing this, Mu Jinyu gave up on this secret manual.

Although it was a high-grade Earth-level cultivation method, he felt it was inferior to the 'Green Emperor's Wood Emperor Art'. Moreover, he lacked the Innate Sword Bone and couldn't learn it anyway.

Then, Mu Jinyu switched to another jade slip and browsed, "The 'Frost-Congeeing Mysterious Sword Record', high-grade Earth-level Cultivation Technique, suitable for Ice Spirit Root cultivators..."

Well, it wasn't suitable for him!

Mu Jinyu could only put it back and pick another jade slip.

"'Fleeting Light Shadow', supreme-grade Earth-level movement technique, when executed, like light and electricity, like a dream, like a shadow..."

"Hmm? This one is pretty good..."

Although Mu Jinyu felt that his current movement technique, 'Ten Steps Move', was quite decent as he practiced it to the point of Transcendence, almost like teleportation.

However, 'Ten Steps Move' was ultimately only a top-quality Profound Rank movement technique with limited potential.

In contrast, 'Fleeting Light Shadow' didn't require one to reach the level of Transcendence; mastering it to the level of Masterful Skill would achieve near teleportation speed.

And mastering it to the level of Mastery Level could multiply into countless avatars, confounding the enemy's vision.

It was said that when mastered at the level of Transcendence, those shadow avatars could possess a portion of the owner's power.

At that point, 'Fleeting Light Shadow' wouldn't merely be a movement technique but also an offensive means.

Mu Jinyu was quite intrigued by this prospect, although he couldn't immediately master 'Fleeting Light Shadow' to the level of Masterful Skill, learning it was undoubtedly a wise choice. After all, he would eventually become more proficient in this technique than 'Ten Steps Move'.

After carefully reading the introduction of 'Fleeting Light Shadow', noting that it didn't specify any particular Spirit Root requirement for practice, Mu Jinyu took an empty jade slip placed aside and began to inscribe 'Fleeting Light Shadow' onto it.

The reason for this was that the secret manuals on the top floor wouldn't be lent out like the ones below. Losing any would be too great a loss for the Heavenly Sword Faction.

The fourth-floor secret manuals were only available for core Elders and the most core disciples to transcribe onto a jade slip to take away and study. Once learned, they must be immediately destroyed, prohibited from leaking. Otherwise, the Heavenly Sword Faction would use all its might to eliminate the traitor!

Quickly, Mu Jinyu finished transcribing the 'Fleeting Light Shadow' secret manual onto a jade slip and stored it away. He then proceeded to review the last two jade slips.

The fourth jade slip was an Earth Elemental Divine Power, which Mu Jinyu dismissively set aside without a second thought.

Afterward, he picked up the last jade slip and began to examine it.

"'Killing Character Secret Technique', its specific rank indeterminable, suspected Heaven Rank Martial Technique, the ultimate Killing Technique. Every part of the cultivator's body, elbow, fist, finger, hair, can be used to attack and kill. It can also deduce Techniques, Divine Skills, and all offensive means, requiring extraordinary comprehension to learn. Otherwise, one will suffer a backlash..."

Chapter 904: The Taboos of the "Killing Character Secret Technique"!

"Hmm? What is this secret manual? Martial technique? Or divine skills?"

Mu Jinyu looked at the introduction of the "Killing Character Secret Technique" feeling a little confused, and also felt that the name might not be its true name. Perhaps the high-level members of the Heavenly Sword Faction who placed it in the Scripture Pavilion didn't know its exact name when they obtained it, so they gave it this name.

However...

Suspected heaven rank martial technique!

That's incredible!

Moreover, it only demands extremely high comprehension, without any physical requirements. Mu Jinyu thought that his comprehension should be decent, right?

Whether it was alchemy or formations, he grasped them quickly.

So why not take a look?

After all, even if he suffers a backlash, with Life Source Energy, he can recover no matter what, so he wasn't afraid of it.

Thus, Mu Jinyu didn't hesitate much and officially began watching the cultivation method of this "Killing Character Secret Technique."

"Boom!!"

Mu Jinyu's mind formally plunged into the jade slip, yet no various runes or scriptures appeared as he had imagined, comprising its cultivation method.

Instead, a hazy human figure emerged, with features unclear.

'What's going on?'

Mu Jinyu stood in the illusory space, feeling he couldn't move at all, and a wave of unease surged within him involuntarily.

At this moment, that hazy human figure began to move.

It posed a very peculiar stance, likely the initial move of a martial technique?

Mu Jinyu wasn't sure, only feeling this initial stance was very profound, and gradually, the unease dissipated, his mind immersing alongside the figure's motion.

"Boom!"

After posing an initial stance, the figure began twisting, crackling sounds arose, as if his whole body's bones were following suit.

Suddenly, his muscles surged instantly, the spine behind him tossing and turning like a living great dragon, waist and hips turning, all the strength concentrated into one punch, then launched straight out!

At once, the large expanse of void ahead was directly blasted by the human-like shadow!

Mu Jinyu witnessed this, feeling his scalp explode, what a terrifying punch!

This was executed without using True Essence Power, just a punch of pure physical strength, yet it broke the void!

How terrifying!

Though he was now in an illusory space, the power of this shadow's punch might not be real. But Mu Jinyu didn't doubt at all that if he mastered this "Killing Character Secret Technique" to a transcendent level, he could indeed break the void outside!

This is more than a suspected heaven rank martial technique; it's essentially top heavenly rank grade!

Didn't know how the Heavenly Sword Faction's high-level members assessed it as suspected heaven rank!

Mu Jinyu watched with his blood boiling, his heartbeat thumping louder and louder, showing his excitement.

Immediately after, the figure again started moving, but this time, it wasn't fists being executed, but finger techniques.

Finally, still, just one finger broke the void!

Then the shadow started demonstrating other offensive techniques using elbows, legs, knees... practicing extremely complex, deducing attack methods of all body parts to the extreme!

Every demonstration filled Mu Jinyu with passion, wishing he could learn them instantly.

Ultimately, the figure specialized the killing method of the human body parts to the limit, even deducing it to the hair, showing how to kill using hair.

Just like that, strands of hair floated, emitting radiant divine light, resembling billions of divine feathers fiercely blossoming, then with a twist of the head, the hair swung, directly smashing a section of void!

"Thump thump!"

Mu Jinyu watched, his eyes sparkling, his heartbeat accelerating, feeling something amiss, then spit out a mouthful of fresh blood.

"Damn! Is this the backlash?!"

Mu Jinyu started feeling weak physically, while images of that human-shaped shadow demonstrating the killing technique of body parts kept appearing in his mind, making them unforgettable, further driving his passion, causing his heart to be unable to bear!

And then, the shadow, after breaking the void with his hair, didn't stop deducing killing techniques, instead continued to demonstrate.

Seeing him rotating his hands like practicing Tai Chi Fist, then pushing out a blazing sun with the left hand, and a cold bright moon with the right, causing Sun and Moon Shine Together, breaking this illusory space directly.

Mu Jinyu, feeling as if his body was torn into pieces!

That shock deeply engraved into his soul!

"This isn't martial techniques, it's techniques, it's divine skills!"

"The introduction wasn't wrong; this truly is the supreme secret art that can deduce all offensive techniques!"

Mu Jinyu yelled wildly in his heart.

Soon, the illusory space reorganized, the figure performed the same techniques again, only this time, instead of Sun and Moon Shine Together breaking the void, it was Sun and Moon Descent, plunging the world into endless dark despair, shattering again!

Mu Jinyu understood.

These indeed are two different methods.

The previous Sun and Moon Shine Together was dominated by the sun, ultimately shining brilliantly, illuminating the universe, and finally destroying the world.

Whereas Sun and Moon Descent was led by the moon, pulling the world into endless darkness, ending in despair!

These are two different intent domains!

Mu Jinyu watched, extremely excited, while vomiting several mouthfuls of fresh blood, realizing his body grew increasingly weak, unable to continue viewing any longer.

"I can't, I must finish watching, if interrupted like this, even with strength to watch later, the intent of transmission will greatly weaken, I need to persist!"

Mu Jinyu gritted his teeth, unwilling to end the spectatorship like this.

...

In the Sect Master Hall.

Xie Chenkun chatted with the Great Elder for a while, then shifted the topic to Mu Jinyu!

"Great Elder, what do you think he'll choose to learn to enhance his combat power?"

Xie Chenkun asked with a smile.

After suggesting several divine skills suitable for Mu Jinyu, the Great Elder suddenly frowned and said, "Hmm? Sect Leader, did you put away the 'Killing Character Secret Technique' first or explain its oddities to him beforehand?"

Upon hearing the Great Elder's query, Xie Chenkun's eyes twitched, cold sweat emerged instantly, his face filled with tension.

The Great Elder, seeing his look, knew this guy forgot there was a "Killing Character Secret Technique" on the fourth layer of the Scripture Pavilion, hence also neglected reminding Mu Jinyu.

"Damn, quickly check if it's still in time to save him!"

The Great Elder instantly darted out of the study, flying toward the Scripture Pavilion's location!

Xie Chenkun nervously followed.

The reason they were so tense was that the "Killing Character Secret Technique" in the Heavenly Sword Faction counted as a forbidden secret technique. Besides the historical Supreme Elder who mastered it, no one else did.

Once one observes it, it leads the observer's mind to fully immerse, unable to withstand the deduced killing methods, resulting in severe backlash injuries.

Even after treating the external injuries, the observer's mind remains immersed in the killing method's deduction, behaving like an idiot, ignoring the outside world.

Once the observer escapes that immersive state and realizes, many years may have passed, cultivation wasted, upon recalling the deduced killing methods, their mind turns blank, unable to remember.

This wasn't an isolated case; many such tragic events occurred in the Heavenly Sword Faction, leading them to finally move it from the third layer to the fourth layer of the Scripture Pavilion.

Were it not for the historical Heavenly Sword Faction elder truly mastering it, they would have decided long ago to discard it.

And even preserving it this way, whenever elders or eligible core disciples ascend, the Sect Leader would remind them of the "Killing Character Secret Technique's" wickedness, urging caution.

Advising not to immerse the mind too deeply, watching one or two methods is enough to exit, or disaster might sooner or later occur.

This matter wasn't a secret within the Heavenly Sword Faction, leading to Xie Chenkun getting careless.

Forgetting Mu Jinyu didn't grow up in the Heavenly Sword Faction, having only stayed for a few months, might not be aware of this.

And as he ascended the fourth layer of the Scripture Pavilion, no way to ensure whether he's observing it, unaware where he has reached, how could they not be tense?

Now the Blood Sword Sect might arrive anytime due to the Blood Essence Crystal issue; if Mu Jinyu turns foolish due to the "Killing Character Secret Technique" and gets wasted, they would have nowhere to cry!

Chapter 905: Little Tree's Help!

Under great anxiety, the Great Elder and Xie Chenkun quickly rushed to the Scripture Pavilion and went straight to the fourth floor.

This commotion caused the Outer Sect disciples on the first floor of the Scripture Pavilion to quietly discuss what had happened that made the Sect Leader and the others so worried?

Only the Guardian Elder vaguely guessed something and his face also changed dramatically.

However, he had to guard the Scripture Pavilion and could not go up with them to check the situation.

The Great Elder and Xie Chenkun arrived at the fourth floor of the Scripture Pavilion in an instant.

As soon as they opened the door, they saw Mu Jinyu standing in front of the fifth bookshelf.

They just saw him bleeding from his seven orifices, his face pale, and his eyes dull and empty.

They immediately knew they were still too late.

"Damn, we're still too late!"

The Great Elder seeing Mu Jinyu like this, really wished to kill Xie Chenkun!

Xie Chenkun also had a face full of guilt and regret, urgently said: "What should we do now? Enter his Sea of Consciousness and wake him up?"

"Can't do it, seeing his condition, according to the records, he has at least observed up to the technique deduction, at this time he simply can't be forcibly awakened, we can only wait until he can't bear it himself, then the observation ends..."

The Great Elder sighed.

Xie Chenkun said: "In any case, let's check first, maybe he has already stopped observing the killing technique deduction, just his mind is still immersed in it, then we can take him away from here and take care of him."

The Great Elder, hearing what Xie Chenkun said, was moved and thought it made sense.

After all, the Heavenly Sword Faction has not had disciples daring to try to observe this "Killing Character Secret Technique" for many years, they only knew the situation from the sect's passed down records.

Perhaps Mu Jinyu has stopped observing, only his mind lingered on the killing technique deduction so he couldn't wake up in a short time.

"Let me try."

The Great Elder said in a deep voice, standing next to Mu Jinyu, and simultaneously forming a spell, his Divine Sense surged out.

His strength was very strong, even though the Scripture Pavilion was equipped with restrictions to isolate the overflow of Divine Sense, he could still forcefully surge out part of his Divine Sense.

Afterwards, he used his Divine Sense carefully, surging towards Mu Jinyu's Sea of Consciousness, trying to enter it to see what condition Mu Jinyu's soul was in now.

Unfortunately, during his careful operations, that thread of Divine Sense was simply unable to enter Mu Jinyu's Sea of Consciousness.

"What's going on?"

The Great Elder's action failed, and he suddenly became doubtful and uncertain.

Subsequently, he remembered Mu Jinyu's current strength, which was at the Peak Third Layer of the Fanxu Realm, even stronger than him, making it indeed difficult for him to enter Mu Jinyu's Sea of Consciousness with just a small thread of Divine Sense.

Thus, considering Mu Jinyu's life and death, the Great Elder gritted his teeth, burned Essence Blood, and fully activated his Divine Sense, surging it towards Mu Jinyu's Sea of Consciousness even more forcefully.

Unfortunately, still a failure!

"Poof!"

The Great Elder suffered backlash, instantly spitting a mouthful of blood.

His whole complexion also became haggard.

"Great Elder?!"

Xie Chenkun saw the Great Elder's appearance and couldn't help but be shocked, unconsciously exclaiming.

The sound of his exclamation rang out, and he immediately covered his mouth, fearing that the sound of his exclamation would disturb Mu Jinyu and put him in an even more dangerous situation.

"I'm fine..."

The Great Elder glanced at Xie Chenkun sideways, his face pale, he waved his hand at him and replied in a weak tone.

"What just happened?"

Xie Chenkun asked worriedly and softly.

The Great Elder frowned and thought for a while, then said in a low voice: "It should be that there is a 'Soul Protection' Magic Treasure stored in his Sea of Consciousness, or even a Spiritual Treasure, so it can isolate my Divine Sense's intrusion?"

The so-called Soul Protection Magic Treasures are naturally referring to treasures that protect the soul from harm.

Cultivators who reached from the Divinity Transformation Realm to the Fanxu Realm can no longer fight solely through physical combat like ordinary Martial Artists, they can kill with Spiritual Thought, which is more unpredictable.

As long as one's soul is stronger than others, they can use Divine Sense to rush into another person's Sea of Consciousness, easily eradicating their Spiritual Sense!

Turning them into an idiot with no self-awareness, only a powerful physical body left!

Therefore, Soul Protection Magic Treasures came into being to guard the soul and protect it from foreign invasion!

However, such items are very precious, much more so than ordinary Defensive Spiritual Treasures.

The Heavenly Sword Faction doesn't have a single Soul Protection Magic Treasure.

The Great Elder speculated that there might be such a Soul Protection Magic Treasure stored in Mu Jinyu's Sea of Consciousness, which caused his Divine Sense intrusion to be fruitless and suffer backlash!

"Soul Protection Magic Treasure? How did he manage to have that?"

Hearing the Great Elder's speculation, Xie Chenkun couldn't help but frown and wonder.

Such a precious Soul Protection Magic Treasure, even their Heavenly Sword Faction doesn't possess one, Mu Jinyu who entered Kunlun Ruins from Huaxia, how could he have such a thing?

He felt very puzzled.

The Great Elder also uncertainly said: "Perhaps he has other opportunities? Forget it, it's none of our business, let's not think too much about it, and don't try to invade his Sea of Consciousness anymore. Let's wait quietly..."

After saying this, the Great Elder sat cross-legged, took a pill to treat soul injuries, and began to cultivate to heal.

Xie Chenkun had no choice but to watch Mu Jinyu quietly, observing if anything unusual would happen later, if it did, it would indicate that he was still observing the deduction of the "Killing Character Secret Technique".

If not, it should signify that he was no longer observing, just that his mind was still immersed in the grand deduction.

In that case, the situation would be very troublesome.

He still hoped that Mu Jinyu was a person with great perseverance and would wake up soon after stopping the observation of the killing technique deduction.

There were such people in the history of the Heavenly Sword Faction, but they were very few.

But each person who succeeded was a remarkable figure who achieved astounding accomplishments, back then the Heavenly Sword Faction could overpower the other Three Sects in Yan Kingdom, and expand their influence to other countries.

Therefore, Xie Chenkun was very hopeful in his heart that Mu Jinyu wouldn't be lost within!

...

Mu Jinyu didn't know the actions of the Great Elder and the others outside.

He was still observing the endless and intricate killing techniques deduced by the illusory figure.

However, his state is also close to exhaustion, with bulging eyes, full of blood, the body constructed by Spiritual Thought, was already full of cracks, as if it could explode at any time.

But he was like a demon, indifferent and reckless, just watching all the killing techniques deduced by this figure.

"Buzz!"

At this moment, the silent Mystical Little Tree, seemed to have some reaction due to the Great Elder's interference from the outside world, its dense canopy slightly shook, streams of crystal-like light left Mu Jinyu's Sea of Consciousness, drifting into the illusory space constructed by the "Killing Character Secret Technique", flowing into Mu Jinyu's Spiritual Thought body.

Instantly, Mu Jinyu, who was somewhat like a demon, restored his awareness to clarity, no longer frantically fixated on the killing techniques deduced by the illusory figure.

"Huff...Phew..."

Mu Jinyu regained consciousness with clarity, breathing heavily, his eyes filled with terror.

## Chapter 906: Mu Jinyu Crippled?

Mu Jinyu, after escaping the maddening state, no longer continued to observe the Killing Technique deductions.

His eyes revealed a sense of fear, along with gratitude.

With the help of the mystical light from the Mystical Little Tree, Mu Jinyu had already realized that the "Killing Character Secret Technique" was indeed as introduced, not something that could be learned without great comprehension!

Ordinary people, upon observing the endless Killing Technique deductions of the "Killing Character Secret Technique," would inevitably become greedy, trying their best to remember all the techniques.

How terrifying must the mental strength consumed be?

And the killing techniques of the world are vast and boundless; not even one could imagine them, let alone Qiongqi in its lifetime could fully understand them, let alone master them all?

Therefore, the true intent of this "Killing Character Secret Technique" is not to have people remember all the deductions and transformations of these techniques but to focus on the unity of all techniques.

Whether it's the Killing Technique of fingers, fists, elbows, shoulders, knees, or feet... these bodily techniques, or the Killing Techniques derived from various divine skills, ultimately, their deductions only focus on the word "kill"!

As long as one can comprehend the true meaning of "kill," then under the deductions and transformations of the "Killing Character Secret Technique," one can achieve full comprehension, all techniques become accessible, and one thought can evolve into countless killing techniques!

But the truth hidden within the "Killing Character Secret Technique" can only be seen through by those with great comprehension.

One also needs great willpower to early escape from the binding of the Killing Technique deductions, allowing one's spirit to return to reality.

Those who can't see through and indulge themselves in it will eventually end up wasting time with nothing but vain efforts.

Yet, how many people can truly give up when faced with such vast and endless killing techniques, each possessing the power of the Top Heavenly Rank Grade?

The words "give up" are easy to say but extremely difficult to truly execute.

The decision between gaining and losing lies within a single thought of the observer.

Initially, Mu Jinyu was also unable to see through this, became greedy, attempting to master as many killing techniques as possible, which led to mental exhaustion and nearly the collapse of his soul.

If it weren't for the help of the Mystical Little Tree, alerting him in time, the consequences would have been unimaginable.

He would have spent at least a few years with his spirit immersed in the Killing Technique deductions, ignoring external matters, and by that time, the Heavenly Sword Faction might have already cooled down.

"Huff... huff..."

Mu Jinyu breathed heavily, not daring to glance again at the deductions of the illusory figure, instead sitting cross-legged with closed eyes, integrating and forgetting the various killing techniques he had previously observed...

As Mu Jinyu moved, the illusory figure that was constantly displaying various killing techniques within the Illusory Space gradually became more illusory and eventually disappeared.

Within the empty and silent void space, only Mu Jinyu remained quietly sitting cross-legged, beginning to comprehend the true "Killing Character Secret Technique."

...

As Mu Jinyu formally began comprehending the "Killing Character Secret Technique," three shichen had passed outside.

The Great Elder and Xie Chenkun, who were guarding him, had gone from expecting to complete despair.

"Sigh, three shichen without any response, and no signs of backlash, it seems he should have stopped observing long ago, but now his spirit is still immersed in the Killing Technique deductions and can't extricate himself..."

The Great Elder sighed and said.

Xie Chenkun's eyes also revealed a look of utter despair.

Initially, upon seeing Mu Jinyu only take eleven days to go from initially entering the First Layer of the Fanxu Realm to reaching the Peak Third Layer of the Fanxu Realm, he held great expectations for Mu Jinyu.

Believing that if Mu Jinyu learned a few more divine skills, thoroughly familiarized himself with his strength, when the Blood Sword Sect came knocking, they would be fearless.

Even possibly exterminating the Blood Sword Sect in one fell swoop, allowing the Heavenly Sword Faction to truly achieve dominance in the Yan Kingdom.

But now, Mu Jinyu has become half-disabled because of the "Killing Character Secret Technique."

It can be said that the Heavenly Sword Faction has lost everything!

The Heavenly Sword Faction took on the huge risk of Mu Jinyu seizing the Blood Essence Crystal, going all out against the Blood Sword Sect, but the entire Blood Essence Crystal was devoured by Mu Jinyu, giving them no benefits, and now Mu Jinyu remains half-disabled, unable to regain consciousness anytime soon, while the Blood Sword Sect might confront them at any moment.

Xie Chenkun felt completely dumbfounded.

But who could he blame?

Blame Mu Jinyu for being too reckless?

No, blame himself for having his brains kicked by a donkey!

Why didn't he accompany Mu Jinyu to the Scripture Pavilion when he went there?

That way, he could have reminded Mu Jinyu when he saw the "Killing Character Secret Technique," avoiding the despairing situation they fell into.

"Great Elder, what should we do now?"

Xie Chenkun asked hoarsely and with difficulty.

The Great Elder's face turned pale, shaking his head and said, "first recall all the disciples of the Heavenly Sword Faction, prepare to face the Blood Sword Sect's attack at any moment, we have to swallow the bitter fruit we've brewed ourselves."

"Then... what about him?"

Xie Chenkun pointed at the dazed Mu Jinyu, asking with a difficult and complicated tone.

In that moment, Xie Chenkun had actually thought about how to resolve the matter with the Blood Sword Sect.

That was to hand over the root of the problem, Mu Jinyu, along with the Bi Fang Cauldron, leaving nothing behind, giving them all to the Blood Sword Sect, then compensating with a portion of the Heavenly Sword Pool, this should appease the Blood Sword Sect.

But thinking about his interactions with Mu Jinyu, realizing his responsibility in this situation, he couldn't bring himself to make such a decision.

The Great Elder, upon hearing this, also looked at Mu Jinyu with complicated eyes, but said nothing.

Logically speaking, Mu Jinyu, now careless and reduced to a wasteland, nobody knows how long it will take for him to wake up, nor how much of his strength will remain when he does, sacrificing him might be the best choice for the maximal interests of the sects.

But the Great Elder had never done such a thing in all his years at the Heavenly Sword Faction, and fearing it would chill the hearts of other disciples if revealed, he couldn't make the decision either.

Long sighing, the Great Elder said, "Forget it, first send him back to his residence, let his woman take care of him."

...

As Xie Chenkun and the Great Elder struggled to make a decision, finally sending Mu Jinyu back to his residence and issuing the highest alert.

Blood Sword Sect.

The Supreme Elder with the fierce and gloomy appearance had been in an extremely foul mood for the past ten days!

Although they failed to plot against Mu Jinyu, and the sect had no intention of holding him accountable, he had consumed over five hundred Top-Quality Spirit Stones during the plotting against Mu Jinyu.

These were his offerings as an elder for many years.

Lost without compensation, the sect wouldn't reimburse him, how could he be willing?

But Mu Jinyu was gone, with no place for revenge, making it hard for him to find an outlet for his resentment.

"Damn it, I won't die in vain, in these past ten days, the Blood Essence Pool should have at least restored some Blood Essence Power, I must enter it for cultivation, regain some loss somehow!"

The sinister elder mumbled, then sneaked into the Blood Essence Pool after diverting the attention of the kindly-looking elder.

Chapter 907: The Blood Sword Sect Attacks!

"Hmm?! What's going on here?"

Grim Elder stood at the edge of the Blood Essence Pool, staring at the faint red water with no Spiritual Energy, feeling something was amiss.

"Something's wrong, the Blood Essence Liquid has been drained for eleven days now, right? It can't possibly recover at all. There's something strange!"

Grim Elder then seemed to think of something and immediately plunged into the Blood Essence Pool with a splash, rushing towards the bottom!

Quickly, he reached the bottom of the Blood Essence Pool and was thoroughly stunned.

The large, intact Blood Essence Crystal that was supposed to be there had disappeared without a trace, leaving only scattered pieces of red crystal at the bottom!

The Blood Essence Crystal has been stolen!

Grim Elder snapped out of it, and this thought immediately surfaced in his mind.

Fear unconsciously welled up in his eyes, and he hurriedly scrambled towards the shore.

"Boom!"

Grim Elder burst out of the Blood Essence Pool, leaping onto the shore, ignoring the need to evaporate the water from his clothes with True Yuan, and hurriedly flew towards the Elder's Grand Hall!

"Hey, where are you going?!"

The kind elder, whom he had sent away, saw Grim Elder flying off dripping wet and couldn't help but shout at his retreating figure.

However, Grim Elder ignored him entirely, solely focused on reporting this monumental matter to the Great Elder.

"Bang!"

Grim Elder soon arrived outside the Great Elder's residence in the Elder's Grand Hall, disregarding any courtesy and kicked the door open.

"What the hell are you doing?!"

The Great Elder of the Blood Sword Sect was startled by Grim Elder's actions, thinking with hindsight that fortunately he wasn't practicing in seclusion, otherwise he might have been thrown into a devilish trance from such disturbance.

"Great Elder, something terrible has happened, it's awful..." Grim Elder did not apologize, his voice full of panic.

"Hmm? What's going on? What happened?"

The Great Elder, hearing him speak so, forgot to blame him and hurriedly asked.

Grim Elder took a breath, saying, "I just went to check the Blood Essence Pool and found that during these past ten days, not a drop of Blood Essence Liquid was added; it felt wrong, so I jumped into the bottom of the pool and discovered... the Blood Essence Crystal is gone!"

"Stolen by someone!" Grim Elder said, crying bitterly.

"What?!"

The Great Elder's expression drastically changed upon hearing Grim Elder's words, as if hearing news of the sudden death of his whole family.

This Blood Essence Pool is of utmost importance, being the foundation of the Blood Sword Sect, an irreplaceable part. If truly gone, the trouble would be immense!

He no longer asked anything and directly rose, flying out of the grand hall toward the mountain where the Blood Essence Pool was.

"Go inform the other Elders and the Sect Leader, I'll go check first!"

Leaving those words behind, the Great Elder's figure vanished from Grim Elder's sight.

Grim Elder, hearing the Great Elder's words, did not hesitate and quickly went to inform the other Elders and Sect Leader, trying to escape from taking responsibility.

Ten minutes later.

Ten Supreme Elders of the Heavenly Sword Faction and Sect Leader Zhou Taiping were all standing at the edge of the Blood Essence Pool.

Every single one of them was soaking wet, faces looking extremely grim.

During this time, none of them believed the Blood Essence Crystal could fly away under their supervision, so each jumped into the Blood Essence Pool bottom to inspect.

After checking again and again, the facts proved that the Blood Essence Crystal was really stolen!

"It must be that kid from the Heavenly Sword Faction!"

Grim Elder said through gritted teeth.

Everyone wasn't foolish, knowing it was unlikely Grim Elder dared to steal the Blood Essence Crystal, and ten days ago was exactly when Mu Jinyu was cultivating in the Blood Essence Pool. If the Blood Essence Crystal wasn't stolen in the ten days after Mu Jinyu left, then it was basically stolen by Mu Jinyu!

In the eyes of everyone, the likelihood that Mu Jinyu stole it was the greatest!

"At that time, people from the Heavenly Sword Faction came with a strong presence, we all went out to deal with them, and didn't pay much attention to the Blood Essence Pool, which let that kid succeed!"

"That's certainly it. That kid was avenging us for plotting to kill him back then, so he stole the Blood Essence Crystal! Ruthless, really courting death!"

"He truly is shameless, stealing the Blood Essence Crystal and still daring to threaten us to continue providing twenty days of cultivation time. Damn it, I truly want to swallow him alive!"

The crowd discussed fiercely, gritting their teeth. If Mu Jinyu were in front of them at that moment, they'd probably pounce and tear him limb from limb!

The Great Elder, with a somber face, suddenly raised his palm and brandished it.

Suddenly, a thick hand formed by the condensation of Heaven and Earth Vital Energy brilliantly shined, slapping towards Grim Elder's face.

"Slap!"

The sound of a slap was exceptionally crisp and pleasant, causing Grim Elder to be dumbfounded on the spot, his body spinning backward, crashing through stone pavilions along the way!

"I told you not to make rash decisions!"

With the loss of the Blood Essence Crystal, the first person the Great Elder wished to condemn was indeed Mu Jinyu, but he also hated the person who orchestrated this – the Grim Elder tasked with guarding the Blood Essence Pool.

If not for the merits the other had brought to the Blood Sword Sect over the years, merely for not properly guarding the Blood Essence Crystal, the Great Elder would've slapped him into a bloody mist!

Without a glance at the thoroughly embarrassed Grim Elder, the Great Elder coldly said, "Send out the order to gather the Fanxu Realm Elders and Ninth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm disciples, to go to the Heavenly Sword Faction!"

The Great Elder knew the likelihood that Mu Jinyu stole the Blood Essence Crystal was the largest but that there was still a one percent chance the Blood Essence Crystal wasn't stolen by him.

No matter what, given the feud between the Blood Sword Sect and Heavenly Sword Faction, combined with the impossibility of swiftly identifying other culprits, naturally they would need the Heavenly Sword Faction to provide some explanation!

...

Heavenly Sword Faction.

It's been a day since the Great Elder and Xie Chenkun brought back Mu Jinyu for Wen Rou to care for.

They observed Mu Jinyu for any signs of regaining consciousness while initiating the highest alert, recalling all disciples outside, and placing numerous Top-Quality Spirit Stones into the Energy backup storage pool of the Mountain Protection Array, ready for the Blood Sword Sect's impending confrontation!

"It's been a day, it seems he's truly struggling to wake up."

Xie Chenkun had been furrowing his brows all day, never having them relax, and after once more inquiring about Mu Jinyu's state, he sighed in the courtyard.

"Boom!!"

"Rumble!!"

Just then, the Heavenly Sword Mountain suddenly shook violently, as if a magnitude-ten earthquake, with the earth trembling and splitting, countless rock fragments crashing down in a doomsday scene.

Causing the already uneasy and fear-stricken Outer Sect Disciples of Heavenly Sword Faction to turn pale, dropping onto the ground in a panic.

"They came so quickly?!"

Xie Chenkun, feeling the intense tremors, didn't fall from his stone bench, he abruptly looked up.

He saw above the Heavenly Sword Mountain Range, a dazzling golden Protective Shield was descending like a bowl over the range, securing it as firmly as a castle, impenetrable!

It was the Mountain Protection Array of the Heavenly Sword Faction activated to its extreme defense state.

If not for such readiness, possibly the Defensive Shield would have declared its demise at the first moment of the enemy assault!

Chapter 908: The Determination to Fight to the End!

"Boom!!"

Just as Xie Chenkun's face turned grim, several figures in scarlet robes suddenly appeared high above, outside the golden protective shield.

Afterward, an elderly man with a weathered face, looking grim, raised his fingers like a knife and gently waved them towards the golden protective shield below.

"Screech!"

A dazzling scarlet Sword Qi, gleaming like the scorching sun, slashed from the elder's hand, fiercely striking the protective shield below.

"Boom!!"

Instantly, the Mountain Protection Array of the Heavenly Sword Faction quaked once more.

Unlike the previous tremors, the protective shield remained intact. But now, the golden shield, clashing with the elder's strike, instantly opened up a huge crack as if it were just paper, accompanied by a screeching sound.

"Whoosh! Whoosh!!"

With the shield broken, the group of scarlet-robed figures, exuding murderous aura, orderly walked into the protective shield.

They forcibly intruded into the Heavenly Sword Faction!

"Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!!"

As they forced their way through the mountain gate, the previous two thunderous sounds had already alerted the high-ranking members of the Heavenly Sword Faction.

Not only did Xie Chenkun leave the courtyard, soaring into the sky to confront them, but also the Supreme Elder including the Great Elder, Second Elder, and Third Elder all mobilized.

The Great Elder of the Heavenly Sword Faction wore a grim expression, flying into the sky with several Supreme Elders to face the scarlet-robed group, shouting, "Blood Sword Sect, what do you mean by breaking our Mountain Protection Array and forcibly entering our mountain gate?"

Although they knew well the other party was here for the Blood Essence Crystal, the Great Elder naturally would not admit outright they were behind the Blood Essence Crystal.

Thus, he questioned angrily.

"Humph, barging into the Heavenly Sword Faction's mountain gate is naturally to demand accountability and explanations!"

The Great Elder of Blood Sword Sect, hands behind his back, let out a cold snort and glanced at Xie Chenkun, saying coldly, "Xie Chenkun, hand over your disciple Mu Jinyu, or today I will wash the Heavenly Sword Faction in blood!"

Xie Chenkun directly faced the chilling gaze of the Great Elder of Blood Sword Sect, immediately unable to withstand the pressure of the Fourth Layer of the Fanxu Realm, his face paled, nearly spitting out blood.

"Humph!"

The Great Elder of the Heavenly Sword Faction let out a light snort, unleashing a formidable and righteous aura that shielded Xie Chenkun, relieving him from the sensation of falling into an abyss.

At the same time, he spoke coldly, "Breaking into our mountain gate, yet pressuring us to hand over our disciples, threatening to bloodbath our Heavenly Sword Faction; Zhou Yun, do you truly think yourself Invincible? Are you prepared for a blood battle with our Heavenly Sword Faction?"

"So what if it's a blood battle to the end!"

The Supreme Elder of Blood Sword Sect Zhou Yun coldly eyed the Great Elder of the Heavenly Sword Faction, his voice filled with murderous intent reaching the sky, "Your disciples destroyed our Blood Essence Pool, stole our Blood Essence Crystal, don't pretend you know nothing!"

"Xie Yuan, I will say it again, hand over Mu Jinyu, return the Blood Essence Crystal to us, if anything happens to our Blood Essence Crystal, I'll hold your Heavenly Sword Pool accountable!"

"What?!"

At this time, some uninformed elders, upon hearing the news that Mu Jinyu took the Blood Essence Crystal from Blood Sword Sect, changed their expressions drastically, their eyes revealing disbelief.

They never expected Mu Jinyu to be so bold, to dare do such a thing.

No wonder Blood Sword Sect came so aggressively today, their words implying an all-out feud, it turns out Mu Jinyu indeed committed such an act, truly breaking the heavens, it's no surprise Blood Sword Sect people keep threatening wholesale annihilation!

Great Elder of Heavenly Sword Faction, known as Xie Yuan, upon hearing Zhou Yun's overwhelming tone, felt deeply distressed and helpless but still kept a stern face, "I don't know what you're talking about, you claim my disciples destroyed your Blood Essence Pool, stole your Blood Essence Crystal, where's your proof?"

"Empty claims demand my most talented disciple as compensation; should I also claim our Heavenly Sword Pool was destroyed by your Blood Sword Sect and ask for compensation from you?!"

"Today, if you can't present evidence of my disciples destroying your Blood Essence Pool, yet forcefully storm into the Heavenly Sword Faction, you will know what the foundation of the Yan Kingdom's oldest sect entails!"

Xie Yuan's attitude was equally strong, sharp-edged, directly confronting Zhou Yun.

He didn't feel he was being unreasonable, nor did he have any guilty conscience.

After all, this incident truly stemmed from Blood Sword Sect first attempting to murder Mu Jinyu, which led to Mu Jinyu surviving by chance and angrily seizing the Blood Essence Crystal later.

Why should he feel remorse or guilt towards Blood Sword Sect for this?

If Heavenly Sword Faction had the ability to destroy Blood Sword Sect, merely their attempt at harming Mu Jinyu would have been enough for them to annihilate Blood Sword Sect in retaliation upon learning of this!

Although Mu Jinyu has now become a useless person without any value to leverage, never would he be handed over to settle scores with Blood Sword Sect just to quell their wrath!

After all, Mu Jinyu has already refined the Blood Essence Crystal; knowing this, Blood Sword Sect would eventually never let it rest, then why try to resolve things peacefully? Better to fight to the end!

Thinking this, Xie Yuan felt a sense of clarity, no longer entangled in whether to hand over Mu Jinyu, sacrificing one worthless individual to appease Blood Sword Sect's fury to protect the whole Heavenly Sword Faction!

The unyielding pride is the path for us Sword Cultivators!

Upon hearing Xie Yuan's resolute words about fighting to the death, Zhou Yun felt a chill, slightly apprehensive.

After all, the Heavenly Sword Faction is Yan Kingdom's oldest sect. In the thousand years, the Four Great Sects of Yan Kingdom have changed countless times, yet only the Heavenly Sword Faction has remained unshaken.

If Blood Sword Sect truly fights to the death with Heavenly Sword Faction, even if victorious, the price paid would be immense!

Snorting coldly, Zhou Yun said, "Don't babble with me! How can this incident be the same? Our Blood Sword Sect members never came to your Heavenly Sword Pool, but your Heavenly Sword Faction's Mu Jinyu cultivated in the Blood Essence Pool for ten days, and the Blood Essence Crystal disappeared after he left!"

Seeing Xie Yuan wanting to say more, Zhou Yun coldly interjected, "Don't ask why I didn't come immediately, waiting till now; it's our negligence, not expecting you to commit such ruthless acts!"

Saying this, he grew impatient, unwillingly continuing, "I will say it again, my patience is limited, if you don't hand over Mu Jinyu, our two sects shall settle the matter today, and if needed, mutually perish!"

"Anyway, without the Blood Essence Crystal, Blood Sword Sect faces inevitable decline, it's better to perish together now!"

Zhou Yun spoke with madness in his eyes!

Chapter 909 Escape and Interception!

Xie Yuan could see that Zhou Yun was indeed prepared to fight to the death with them because of the loss of the Blood Essence Crystal. Essentially, it was a case of mutual suffering.

With a cold snort, Xie Yuan showed no intention of backing down and shouted in a deep voice, "Not to mention that Jinyu is no longer in our Heavenly Sword Faction, having gone to the Dayan Dynasty to participate in the Hidden Dragon Conference. Even if he were still here, I would not hand him over!"

"If you want to fight, then fight!"

Xie Yuan shouted angrily, and instantly, the entire Heavenly Sword Mountain Range began to tremble violently. Waves of unparalleled Sword Qi shot up from each peak into the sky, flying in mid-air before finally coalescing into a massive sword tens of feet tall!

When Zhou Yun and the people from the Blood Sword Sect saw this scene, a few shades of shock appeared in their eyes.

Rumor had it that the Heavenly Sword Mountain Range where the Heavenly Sword Faction was located was the battleground of Ancient Immortal Swords. The last Immortal Sword shattered and fell to the earth, its fragments forming peaks that eventually became a mountain range.

This mountain range was the Heavenly Sword Mountain Range.

At the time, people heard this and dismissed it as mere talk, but it seemed that the rumor might not be false after all!

However...

Zhou Yun gazed at that chilling giant sword, and the crazed battle intent in his eyes grew even stronger.

Since the Blood Sword Sect had lost the Blood Essence Crystal and would have no successors in the future, they might as well perish together with the Heavenly Sword Faction today!

Either they fight until the Heavenly Sword Faction hands over Mu Jinyu and half of the Heavenly Sword Pool, or they all get erased from the Yan Kingdom together!

"Attack!"

Zhou Yun shouted loudly, drawing his sword while taking out a scarlet pill and swallowing it.

The Elders and disciples of the Blood Sword Sect heard this and followed suit, taking the peculiar scarlet pill as well.

"Boom!!"

After they consumed the pill, their already fierce and aggressive auras became even more ferocious.

"This is... the Blood Demon Life-Reducing Pill!"

Xie Yuan and Xie Chenkun, upon seeing the immense boost in strength of those who had consumed the scarlet pill, looked extremely serious and their faces were very grim.

The Blood Demon Life-Reducing Pill was a unique pill of the Blood Sword Sect.

As the name implies, it's made from the special Blood Essence Liquid of the Blood Essence Pool. Taking it reduces the consumer's lifespan but at the same time enhances their strength!

The extent of the power boost depends on the consumer's strength and talent, but generally speaking, it can advance a minor realm!

This kind of forbidden pill is rarely used by the disciples and elders of the Blood Sword Sect in battle unless it becomes a life-or-death situation where they have no other choice.

After all, though a cultivator's lifespan far exceeds that of ordinary people, it is still limited. Frequent use of such a pill would deplete their lifespan—how could they continue their cultivation and strive for longevity?

Right now, the fact that everyone in the Blood Sword Sect had taken the Blood Demon Life-Reducing Pill without hesitation showed their determination to fight to the death with the Heavenly Sword Faction!

Originally, the Blood Sword Sect was much stronger than the Heavenly Sword Faction, but with the advantage of their terrain and the use of formations, the Heavenly Sword Faction could match them in battle. However, with the Blood Sword Sect having consumed the Blood Demon Life-Reducing Pill, the situation had become unpredictable!

"Kill!"

Even though Xie Yuan was worried, under these circumstances, he had no choice but to shout and take the lead, directing that giant sword above to strike at the Blood Sword Sect!

"Kill!"

"Kill!"

The numerous elders and inner sect disciples of the Heavenly Sword Faction shouted in unison, their murderous aura soaring to the sky, as they rushed towards the Blood Sword Sect!

And so, the two sides became entangled in a chaotic battle!

...

Mu Jinyu's residence.

Wen Rou, Jian Ruyan, and Ji Li, the three women, had been carefully attending to Mu Jinyu, whose mind was still immersed in the "Killing Character Secret Technique."

When they took Mu Jinyu from the Great Elder yesterday, they had known that Mu Jinyu's condition was dire.

Now, hearing the shouts from outside and recalling the tremors from not long ago...

It likely meant that the Blood Sword Sect had come to attack.

Mu Jinyu hadn't hidden the matter from them. They all knew that when Mu Jinyu returned from the Blood Sword Sect that day, he had taken the Blood Essence Crystal. Now, the Heavenly Sword Faction must be at war with the Blood Sword Sect.

"What do we do, Ruyan? Should we go out and fight, or get Little Mu out of here quickly?"

Wen Rou glanced at Mu Jinyu, who lay like a vegetable, her brows full of worry, her heart in chaos, unable to decide, she turned to ask Jian Ruyan.

"Hmm..." Jian Ruyan pondered for a moment, then frowned and said, "Let's leave first. Although this is the mountain gate of the Heavenly Sword Faction, their home field, there is still the chance something might go wrong. If the Heavenly Sword Faction ends up losing, and they want to hand over Jinyu to placate their anger, we won't have the means to resist. It's better to leave first."

"Okay, let's leave quickly then."

Ji Li was not originally a disciple of the Heavenly Sword Faction and didn't have a sense of belonging there. Hearing both Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan say they wanted to leave, she naturally nodded in agreement.

In her view, Mu Jinyu's safety was far more important than the entire Heavenly Sword Faction.

If the Heavenly Sword Faction was destroyed, it didn't matter, as long as Mu Jinyu was safe, they could eventually avenge them!

The three women quickly packed essential items into their storage bags. Then, Wen Rou carried Mu Jinyu on her back, and with Jian Ruyan and Ji Li, they opened the door and headed outside.

Wen Rou was no longer a weak young woman; she possessed the strength of the Fourth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm, which made it easy to carry Mu Jinyu on her back.

But as they reached the courtyard gate, they saw someone standing with his back to them, blocking the way!

Realizing the situation, their hearts sank.

Was someone from the Heavenly Sword Faction monitoring them to prevent them from taking Mu Jinyu away?

That meant the Heavenly Sword Faction indeed had the intention of abandoning Mu Jinyu!

"Please go back. The sect is currently officially at battle with the Blood Sword Sect. It's dangerous outside, and since Senior Brother Mu is unconscious, to prevent any accidents, it's best that you don't leave."

The man facing away turned around, speaking in a cold tone.

"And, don't even think about taking Senior Brother Mu out!"

Jian Ruyan recognized the man's face immediately.

Ranked eighteenth on the List of Outstanding Talents, with the strength of the Seventh Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm, was Li Daochen!

Both Jian Ruyan and Wen Rou only had the strength of the Fourth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm—how could they be his match?

If that's the case, how could they take Mu Jinyu away?

Jian Ruyan felt anxious and uneasy.

"We have urgent business to attend to, get out of the way!"

Though Ji Li saw that Li Daochen had the strength of the Seventh Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm, she showed no fear, as she herself possessed the strength of the Sixth Layer.

After all, she was once an inner sect disciple of Mingyue Valley!

"Go back, or I won't be able to explain to the Elders!"

Li Daochen spoke, eyes bursting with coldness, indicating that he intended to force them back into the courtyard.

"Elder Sister Wen Rou, Elder Sister Ruyan, take Young Master and leave; I'll hold him off!"

Seeing this, Ji Li knew that without preoccupying this man, Wen Rou and the others wouldn't be able to take Mu Jinyu out, so she resolutely drew her sword and said to the two women.

"Ji Li..."

Wen Rou was somewhat startled by Ji Li's words, hesitating.

Ji Li charged at Li Daochen with her sword while speaking without looking back, "Go quickly; the young master has saved my life multiple times. Now is the time for me to repay him!"

Chapter 910: Heavenly Sword Faction Defeated! You Must Achieve Great Merit!

"Clang, clang, clang!!"

Ji Li darted forward, his eyes filled with determination, quickly engaging Li Daochen in combat!

"Ji Li..."

Wen Rou shouted painfully, then hesitated no longer, immediately carrying Mu Jinyu on her back, turning with Jian Ruyan to run down Tianlan Peak!

One minute later.

"Boom!!"

"Plop!"

Ji Li was sent flying by a sword strike from Li Daochen, heavily smashing into the courtyard wall, violently coughing up crimson blood, his head tilting to the side as he passed out.

"You wretched girl, you dare try to stop me!"

Li Daochen furiously struck Ji Li aside with a sword, his face a bit displeased.

After all, with his Seventh Layer Divine Transformation Realm strength, he had been held up by Ji Li, a mere Sixth Layer Divine Transformation Realm fledgling, for an entire minute.

To him, this was an utter humiliation.

After injuring Ji Li, Li Daochen didn't spare her a glance, hurrying to chase the over a minute head start of Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan.

The elder who instructed him warned clearly that if they succeeded, there'd be great merit, but should Mu Jinyu escape, he would face obliteration, and the entire Heavenly Sword Faction could very well be annihilated!

Li Daochen believed the elder wasn't merely trying to scare him, hence he definitely wouldn't let Wen Rou take Mu Jinyu away!

Luckily, it was only a minute; Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan shouldn't have gotten too far.

Moreover, with the battle now raging, the mountain gate was likely sealed, they'd probably find it hard to escape the Heavenly Sword Mountain Range.

"You won't escape!"

While tracking Jian Ruyan and Wen Rou's trail, Li Daochen murmured coldly, eyes filled with icy malice.

...

Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan, carrying Mu Jinyu, hid behind a fake mountain, exerting all their effort to perform the Concealment Art Mu Jinyu taught them, completely masking their cultivation, even erasing any trace of life force.

When Li Daochen arrived near them, scanning inch by inch with his divine sense, they sensed it, their bodies trembling slightly, terrified of being discovered.

Fortuitously, Mu Jinyu's Concealment Art was indeed extraordinary; although Li Daochen's divine sense swept over them, it seemed oblivious, as if they had merged with the fake mountain, passing them by, continuing downward.

"Phew..."

Once Li Daochen left, Jian Ruyan and Wen Rou exhaled deeply.

Wen Rou looked troubled, whispered, "That guy caught up, no clue how Ji Li's doing."

Speaking, she anxiously glanced at Mu Jinyu, leaning against her shoulder, sleeping serenely, a pure, infant-like smile at his lips deepened her worries.

"Maybe, should we not run and just hide here?"

Wen Rou suggested quietly.

She thought, carrying Mu Jinyu around might easily bump into others, increasing the chance of detection.

Since this Concealment Art was so marvelous, better hide here until the battle between the Blood Sword Sect and Heavenly Sword Faction ends, then leave quietly.

"No, we must hurry and go."

Jian Ruyan shook her head, "Li Daochen didn't find us because he's too weak, aided by our Concealment Art masking Jinyu. But the Blood Sword Sect's Great Elder, possessing the Fourth Layer of the Fanxu Realm, if he comes searching, relying solely on us won't fully hide Jinyu's life force, leading to discovery!"

"Staying here is more dangerous!"

"We must hurry and leave."

Jian Ruyan explained and led the way out.

Wen Rou, hearing Jian Ruyan's explanation, realized her previous thought was indeed naive, quickly shouldered Mu Jinyu, chasing Jian Ruyan!

...

"Bang!"

"Boom!"

"Plop!!"

"Ah!!"

In the high skies, amidst fierce booms and blood-spitting cries, the battle between the two factions skewed into a one-sided affair.

The Heavenly Sword Faction stood no chance against the Blood Sword Sect, whose members consumed the Blood Demon Life-Reducing Pill!

The gap was simply too vast!

Even with the Heavenly Sword Faction holding the terrain advantage, activating the Mountain Protection Array for defense and attacks, they faced overwhelming foes.

Against Zhou Yun of the Fifth Layer Fanxu Realm, Xie Yuan immediately fell behind, eventually being forcefully struck, spewing blood as he was sent flying, smashing down a mountain peak!

Xie Yuan ended embedded in the ground, his life force extremely weak, like a candle flickering in the wind.

Zhou Yun, seeing this, didn't bother diving underground to finish off Xie Yuan.

He scanned the field with a sneer, watching Heavenly Sword Faction elders crushed by Blood Sword Sect elders, coldly laughed, "Your Great Elder is beaten, why not surrender yet? Still resisting futilely?!"

Upon hearing Zhou Yun, Heavenly Sword Faction elders, who fought desperately without much awareness of others' battles, tentatively surveyed around, finding indeed no sign of Xie Yuan.

All turned pale, losing their will to resist.

"We surrender!"

Then, many elders of the Heavenly Sword Faction stopped fighting in despair.

Meanwhile, some chose battle to the end, but with freed-up Blood Sword Sect elders, they were quickly subdued!

"Now, where is Mu Jinyu?"

Zhou Yun, eyes chilling, stared at the heavily injured Xie Chenkun, demanded.

"Huh huh..."

Xie Chenkun chuckled coldly, spat blood, sneered, "The Great Elder just told you, Jinyu left the Heavenly Sword Faction to join the Hidden Dragon Conference in Dayan Dynasty..."

"Humph, don't joke, he stole the Blood Essence Crystal, wouldn't he stay and cultivate instead of heading to the Hidden Dragon Conference? With his First Layer Fanxu Realm strength, going there's courting death!"

Zhou Yun didn't believe Xie Chenkun, especially noting Xie Chenkun's evasive gaze during his speech. He knew Mu Jinyu must still be in Heavenly Sword Faction!

"Refusal, huh? Then when I find Mu Jinyu, I'll torture him to death in front of you!"

Saying, Zhou Yun prepared to extend his divine sense, searching Sword Mountain for Mu Jinyu!

"I know where Mu Jinyu is!"

At this moment, a Heavenly Sword Faction elder, unharmed, one of the first to surrender, raised his hand high.

"Hmm?!"

Xie Chenkun turned abruptly, glaring at him, eyes filled with intense warning.

This elder, also a Supreme Elder in the Heavenly Sword Faction, Wei Ziping's master, named Wu Dayong!

Wu Dayong shrunk his neck instinctively, intimidated by Xie Chenkun's warning glare.

Zhou Yun noticed, laughed heartily, "Alright, speak up, I'll spare you and allow you to join the Blood Sword Sect!"

"Alright, alright..."

Wu Dayong immediately showed a flattering smile, like a dog trying to please its master.

"Dare you!"

Xie Chenkun shouted angrily.

"Boom!"

Before he could finish, Zhou Yun waved a hand, a powerful pressure silenced him.

Wu Dayong sighed relief, surveyed Xie Chenkun and his furious peers with disdain, sneered:

"Mu Jinyu took the Blood Essence Crystal for himself, leaving us to shoulder risks and fight, where's the fairness in that? If you're willing to serve him, I refuse!"

He was already unhappy with Mu Jinyu overshadowing Wei Ziping, definitely unwilling to sacrifice himself for Mu Jinyu!

Thus, during the battle with Blood Sword Sect, Wu Dayong slacked off, barely contributing!

During surrendering, he was the first to comply.

Mocking his peers, Wu Dayong saw Zhou Yun's displeasure, quickly showed an obsequious smile, disclosed Mu Jinyu's reckless attempt to cultivate a secret technique, becoming an imbecile.

Then, he patted his chest, laughing, "However, I realized when you attacked, Mu Jinyu's companion would try to flee, so I had people keep watch, intercept them if they attempt escape!"

Wu Dayong's words startled Xie Chenkun, who thought Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan had taken Mu Jinyu safely out, now glared with hatred at Wu Dayong!

"Hahaha..."

Zhou Yun delighted, said, "Excellent, upon finding the brat, you'll be greatly rewarded!"

"Lead us to his place!"