

King Hall 931

Chapter 931: Ji Li's Decision!

Xie Yuan quickly introduced Mu Jinyu, then signaled Lin Yi and the others that if they had questions, they could ask Mu Jinyu directly.

Xie Yuan collected himself and said to Mu Jinyu, "Young Master Mu... I wonder if you can spare us Beixue Mountain Villa; we are willing to surrender and will never again be enemies of the Heavenly Sword Faction..."

Mu Jinyu had already understood the intentions of Beixue Mountain Villa on the way here. Watching Lin Yi and the others' reverent expressions at this moment, he found it somewhat amusing.

He smiled and gently shook his head.

Seeing this, Lin Yi thought that Mu Jinyu was rejecting their surrender, and his face turned ghostly pale, his back quickly drenched in cold sweat, his heart sinking.

Did I really make a wrong move with this step?

Is Mu Jinyu truly bloodthirsty, determined to wipe out Beixue Mountain Villa?

If they had known it would end this way, they wouldn't have tried to surrender to the Heavenly Sword Faction, even if bleakly wandering as strays in another country was better than being destroyed.

In Lin Yi's despair, Mu Jinyu spoke with a smile, "Elder Lin, you're overthinking. I've not planned to eliminate Beixue Mountain Villa unless you provoke my Heavenly Sword Faction. Why would I destroy Beixue Mountain Villa? Do you truly think I'm insane and bloodthirsty?"

Hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Lin Yi and the elders from Beixue Mountain Villa breathed a sigh of relief, thinking they shouldn't have overthought just now.

Then Lin Yi thought of something, his expression stiffened again, and muttered, "But hasn't Flowing Cloud Sect also..."

He didn't dare to be too explicit, fearing to anger Mu Jinyu.

But Mu Jinyu understood his meaning and laughed, "You're trying to say that Flowing Cloud Sect also didn't provoke my Heavenly Sword Faction, but because of a slight grudge between me and Di Shitian from the Four Sects Martial Meeting, I decided to destroy them?"

Lin Yi and the others' expressions were awkward, but they dared not nod in acknowledgment.

Mu Jinyu chuckled and shook his head, saying, "You've overthought. That minor grudge with Di Shitian couldn't possibly lead me to take it out on the entire Flowing Cloud Sect. The reason I destroyed Flowing Cloud Sect wasn't for the Heavenly Sword Faction or the grievance with Di Shitian, but for my friend..."

"Friend?" Lin Yi and the others heard these words, looked at Mu Jinyu with strange eyes, thinking whether he was finding excuses again.

Mu Jinyu looked back at Ji Li briefly, then introduced to everyone, "Her name is Ji Li, originally an Inner Sect Disciple of Mingyue Valley."

"Huh?" Lin Yi and the others were momentarily stunned by Mu Jinyu's words, then suddenly came to understand, "Ah, that's how it is..."

Now he understood. Mu Jinyu destroyed the Blood Sword Sect because they attacked the Heavenly Sword Faction for unknown reasons, so he just wiped them out.

While Flowing Cloud Sect had no grievance with him, since Mu Jinyu had a friend who was a disciple of Mingyue Valley, possibly an intimate relationship, he cleared Flowing Cloud Sect in revenge for Mingyue Valley.

In that case, Beixue Mountain Villa wouldn't face the danger of annihilation, right?

Thinking this way, Lin Yi and the others somewhat regretted rushing over to the Heavenly Sword Faction to declare allegiance.

However, now that the words had been spoken, was it too late to regret?

Lin Yi was torn inside, cautiously looked up at Mu Jinyu, trying to test if he could change his mind.

However, upon seeing Mu Jinyu's faintly smiling expression at the corner of his mouth, he didn't dare utter a word.

If he tried to change his mind and angered Mu Jinyu, even if they didn't want to destroy Beixue Mountain Villa, they might have to.

"Then Young Master Mu, as we surrender Beixue Mountain Villa to the Heavenly Sword Faction, can we... can we retain the Heaven Cave Blessed land within the sect?" Lin Yi asked softly.

He now dared not regard Mu Jinyu as a junior at all.

Not just because of Mu Jinyu's terrifying achievements, but also his power, which was comparable to his own, both at the Peak Third Layer of the Fanxu Realm.

Mu Jinyu shook his head saying, "I don't really understand these things. You should discuss with our Sect Leader and Great Elder."

"All right, all right..."

Lin Yi quickly responded, and also felt relieved inside.

Compared to discussing with old rival Xie Yuan about becoming a vassal sect, he much preferred not to talk with Mu Jinyu.

After all, Xie Yuan and others, he interacted with many times, knowing their character and limits; Mu Jinyu, he truly didn't understand his character and disposition, feeling fearful of discussing with him, afraid he'd always be at a disadvantage, conceded boundaries that shouldn't be conceded, agreed to terms that shouldn't be agreed to...

Negotiating terms with Xie Yuan and others was the lesser of two evils for him.

Mu Jinyu led Ji Li and the three women, got up and left.

Afterward, Xie Yuan and Lin Yi began their heated negotiation and bargaining.

Upon exiting the Elder's Grand Hall, Ji Li followed behind Mu Jinyu, took a deep breath, and said to Mu Jinyu, "Young Master, I've decided to have the female elders of the Heavenly Sword Faction join Mingyue Valley and rebuild it together."

Hearing this, Mu Jinyu paused his steps, turned back to look at Ji Li, and softly said, "Don't rush to decide so early, and don't be influenced by Beixue Mountain Villa. You can first find those surviving senior and junior sisters, discuss with them before making any decision."

"Hmm, actually I feel that my abilities are limited. Even if I reluctantly rely on you to rebuild Mingyue Valley, maintaining it long-term might be difficult, soon causing Mingyue Valley to disintegrate, sooner or later the senior sisters will ask me to seek support and dependency. Given this, resisting outside stubbornly doesn't make sense; I am quite self-aware."

Ji Li said.

"Well, whatever you think is best for you." Mu Jinyu hesitated briefly, then nodded without saying more.

He didn't have much advice for Ji Li, not being adept at managing things himself, Dragon King Hall mostly operating independently.

And whether Mingyue Valley depends on the Heavenly Sword Faction or not was irrelevant to him, as long as Ji Li doesn't regret her choice.

Even if Ji Li regrets later, if rebuilding Mingyue Valley faces issues, he can still reconstruct a Mingyue Valley without much difficulty.

"Well, I've thought it through..." Ji Li's expression relaxed considerably, and said, "Young Master, I'll go find those scattered senior and junior sisters now..."

"Hmm, I'll call some people to help you." Mu Jinyu thought for a moment and said.

"Good, thank you, Young Master." Ji Li accepted.

She knew that to find those struggling escapee sisters would be difficult on her own.

Because during her time at the Heavenly Sword Faction, she had tried searching for them but found no one.

Now with Mu Jinyu's help, she might at least find a few fellow disciples.

If she truly can't find a single Mingyue Valley fellow disciple, she alone cannot rebuild Mingyue Valley?

So, if she refused the Heavenly Sword Faction's support, and reconstructed Mingyue Valley successfully with Mu Jinyu's help, but couldn't ensure the new disciples' loyalty to Mingyue Valley, would they not infiltrate from other factions?

Ultimately leading to her being sidelined, and Mingyue Valley devoured entirely?

This was one of the reasons she made the decision to rely on the Heavenly Sword Faction.

She actually never had much choice.

Chapter 932: Winds and Clouds Rising!

The downfall of the Blood Sword Sect and the Liuyun Sect, as well as the submission of Beixue Mountain Villa to the Heavenly Sword Faction, were major events that naturally couldn't be suppressed.

Therefore, the news quickly spread throughout the Yan Kingdom.

In a royal mansion of the Yan Kingdom's capital.

A handsome prince with an elegant and scholarly demeanor, upon hearing the news, had a gleam of intrigue in his eyes.

His name was Yan Ran, the Third Prince of the Yan Kingdom. Due to his outstanding abilities and his practice of recruiting talented experts, as well as his mother's influential family, he held a prominent position in the Yan Kingdom.

However, he ultimately could not surpass the Crown Prince Yan Hua.

Yan Hua was quite wary of Yan Ran's reputation and influence, always viewing him as a thorn in his side.

Especially as the King of Yan's health declined in recent years, he feared that Yan Ran might rebel and seize the throne, always wanting to eliminate him quickly.

Therefore, Yan Ran had a very difficult time in recent years.

"Interesting, among the Four Great Sects, there emerged such a figure who could suppress the other three. Uncle Chi, how do you think he compares to our Yan Kingdom's top-grade national scholars?"

After listening to the general news about the downfall of the Blood Sword Sect and the Liuyun Sect, Yan Ran looked up at a middle-aged man opposite him and spoke softly.

Uncle Chi, hearing this, hesitated for a moment and said, "To suppress three sects alone, his strength should not be much inferior to 'Yeqing City', 'Li Mufan', or 'Suxiao', at least he could rank around the top three on the 'National Guard List'."

"Hmm, I think so too. Then invite him to our mansion; I want to host him properly."

Yan Ran said with a sigh, "Recently, my imperial brother has been getting quite close with the national scholar. If I continue to retreat, I'm afraid that after Father is gone, they truly intend to make a move against me!"

"Hmm." Uncle Chi also showed a hint of concern in his expression and said, "If Your Highness can enlist this extraordinary Heaven's Pride who reached the early peak of the Fanxu Realm before twenty, the Great Crown Prince certainly won't dare to act ruthlessly towards you. I will personally go invite him..."

With that, he hastily left the royal mansion.

As Yan Ran stood at the window after he left, looking at the bright moon in the sky, he whispered, "The top three of the National Guard List, if I can truly make good relations with him, then once Father is gone, my imperial brother would definitely not dare to act ruthlessly towards me."

The National Guard List they mentioned was the most authoritative and top-grade ranking list in the Yan Kingdom.

It was incomparable to the so-called Inner Gate List of Outstanding Talents of the Heavenly Sword Faction or the Four Sects' Genius Ranking.

After all, the Four Sects' Genius Ranking, with the top-ranked Dao Wuming, had strength only at the Peak Ninth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm, and the recent breakthrough into the Fanxu Realm was only recent.

However, the individuals on the National Guard List, at the very least, possessed strength at the peak of the First Layer of the Fanxu Realm, and the top-grade national scholars among them had strength at the Fourth and Fifth Layers, incredibly powerful, incomparable to Dao Wuming.

Of course, this huge disparity was also related to the different statistical methods used for the lists.

The Four Sects' Genius Ranking included talents of the recent generation of Heaven's Pride disciples and did not account for strong individuals like Zhou Yun at the Fourth Layer of the Fanxu Realm.

On the National Guard List, however, it was different. Most were around a hundred years old; even the youngest were sixty.

Like Zhou Yun, who died at the hands of Mu Jinyu, was ranked sixth on the National Guard List.

That's why the gap between the two lists appeared so large!

If Dao Wuming hadn't died at Mu Jinyu's hands, he might have had a chance to break into the National Guard List fifty years later.

Thus, the original Heaven's Pride ranked Mu Jinyu, who instantly gained the strength to enter the National Guard List, naturally made the Third Prince Yan Ran excited, wishing to befriend him.

He was a significant figure with the strength to be in the top three of the National Guard List, and the strong individuals on it all have the ability to guard a region, intimidate the surroundings, and keep invaders at bay. The top three of the list are even more exceptional.

For instance, Yan Hua became the Crown Prince because his mother's family had two generals who were in the top ten of the National Guard List, keeping Yan Ran suppressed!

And recently, getting close to the Yan Kingdom's first strongman, the unparalleled national scholar "Yan Chengyun," had the alarm bells in Yan Ran's heart ringing, feeling an immense threat to his life.

Therefore, Yan Ran recently visited various national scholars on the National Guard List, hoping to get closer to them so that Crown Prince Yan Hua would hesitate to act against him after the King's death.

Unfortunately, those he visited mostly either slammed the door in his face or treated him coldly, indifferent.

So upon hearing the news of Mu Jinyu, though excited to befriend him, Yan Ran didn't hold much hope.

"No, letting Uncle Chi invite him seems not sincere enough. Although there's little hope, meeting this extraordinary Heaven's Pride isn't bad."

At this moment, Yan Ran calmed down and felt he should personally invite Mu Jinyu.

Thus, he immediately called for someone to prepare a horse and went to the Heavenly Sword Faction to visit Mu Jinyu.

...

At the Crown Prince's Mansion.

The stern-faced Crown Prince Yan Hua quickly learned from underlings' reports that Yan Ran left the royal mansion late at night, heading south.

He had already known about Mu Jinyu and, coupled with Yan Ran's recent frequent visits to national scholars on the National Guard List, he naturally guessed that his brother was prepared to earn favor and make a personal attempt to win over Mu Jinyu.

"Your Highness, should we also visit the Heaven's Pride of the Heavenly Sword Faction?"

An underling respectfully inquired.

"No need." Yan Hua waved dismissively and said, "That Mu Jinyu, though young, has broken into the Peak Third Layer of the Fanxu Realm, becoming famous in one fell swoop. He must be conceited and arrogant. How could my brother's influence win him over?"

"Besides, even if this guy doesn't know when to stop and insists on colluding with Yan Ran, so what? The Yan Kingdom Scholar has agreed to protect our Yan Kingdom for another century; how could one Mu Jinyu be a threat?"

When Yan Hua spoke, his eyes were full of reverence and pride when mentioning the Yan Kingdom Scholar, but hidden disdain and envy when mentioning Mu Jinyu.

After speaking, he paused, then waved again and said, "However, although I don't care about Mu Jinyu, letting Yan Ran have his way unopposed doesn't seem right either. Let Uncle Guan take a trip to the Heavenly Sword Faction."

"Yes." The underling replied respectfully.

Then he stepped back to summon the butler of the Crown Prince's Mansion, Uncle Guan.

After a conversation with Yan Hua, Uncle Guan also set off on an exotic beast carriage, heading for the Heavenly Sword Faction.

Not only were Yan Ran and Uncle Guan heading to the Heavenly Sword Faction, but also notable noble families within the Yan Kingdom, upon learning of Mu Jinyu's divine prowess, sent people to invite him.

Whether it was the head of a family personally inviting or sending a clan's Heaven's Pride, a storm was brewing within the Yan Kingdom.

Chapter 933: Mu Jinyu Leaves Seclusion!

Mu Jinyu was unaware of the upheaval taking place in the Yan Kingdom.

After instructing the elders of the Heavenly Sword Faction to mobilize and assist Ji Li in searching for the surviving disciples of Mingyue Valley,

he himself entered closed-door cultivation once again.

This time, he entered seclusion not to enhance his cultivation.

For now, he does not have enough substantial cultivation resources to allow him to advance further into the Fourth Layer of the Fanxu Realm.

This seclusion was primarily aimed at cultivating the supreme-grade Earth-level movement technique "Fleeting Light Shadow" and the "Dragon Elephant Prison Suppression Scripture" obtained from the top floor of the Scripture Pavilion of the Blood Sword Sect.

Although he lacked resources to enhance his cultivation, by relying on these two secret manuals, his peak Third Layer of the Fanxu Realm strength could still see improvement.

After inspecting the storage bags of the high-ranking elders from the Blood Sword Sect and Liuyun Sect, he found a lot of spiritual materials suitable for body refinement, leading Mu Jinyu to decide to cultivate these two manuals first.

Half a month passed in a blur.

The noble family youths and imperial princes who originally arrived at the Heavenly Sword Faction, eager to invite Mu Jinyu to visit their families and royal mansions, mostly left after failing to hear of Mu Jinyu's emergence from seclusion.

Only a few attendants remained, waiting to greet Mu Jinyu once he emerged.

Ultimately, only Third Prince Yan Ran, with his distinguished status, insisted on staying.

During this half-month period,

Ji Li, with the help of the Heavenly Sword Faction, found over a hundred Mingyue Valley disciples who narrowly escaped death and reestablished Mingyue Valley.

However, at this moment, Mingyue Valley's strength was naturally far from matching the Four Great Sects, only serving as one of Heavenly Sword Faction's affiliated sects.

Nevertheless, the reconstruction of Mingyue Valley occupied the original mountain gate of the Blood Sword Sect.

This was because the original site of Mingyue Valley had been destroyed by the battle between Mu Jinyu and Liuyun Sect, making it unsuitable to serve as a sect location again.

Though the Blood Sword Sect no longer had the Blood Essence Pool, the mountain region was rich in spiritual energy, making it still a good place for a new mountain gate.

They only needed to retrieve and relocate the core of Mingyue Valley's Heaven Cave Blessed Land to the Blood Sword Sect's site.

Of course, due to the core of the Heaven Cave Blessed Land being taken out and reestablished, a lot of Heaven and Earth Vital Energy was lost, and the level of the Heaven Cave Blessed Land naturally couldn't compare to before, preventing Mingyue Valley from ever becoming a first-class sect in the Yan Kingdom again.

Heavenly Sword Faction, out of respect for Mu Jinyu, did not seize the core of Mingyue Valley's Heaven Cave Blessed Land.

Everything went smoothly.

The reconstruction of Mingyue Valley continued to develop positively.

Yet amidst the many rebuilding needs, Ji Li also anticipated Mu Jinyu's emergence from seclusion to return the secret manuals to Mingyue Valley.

Mu Jinyu had promised her this before entering seclusion.

However, at that time, Mu Jinyu didn't expect her to rebuild Mingyue Valley so quickly, and since he couldn't identify the differences between the Mingyue Valley's secret manuals, Liuyun Sect's manuals, and the legacy in relics, he went into seclusion.

As a result, even though Mingyue Valley was rebuilt with the help of Heavenly Sword Faction, lacking cultivation methods and various secret manuals, they couldn't recruit disciples on a large scale.

They could only wait for Mu Jinyu to emerge from seclusion.

...

Another half-month passed in the blink of an eye.

Mu Jinyu was still in seclusion.

Tianlan Peak's first courtyard.

Yan Ran once again came from the guest room to visit Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan, asking for news of Mu Jinyu's emergence from seclusion.

"Misses, has Mu Country Knight emerged from seclusion yet?"

Yan Ran asked somewhat anxiously.

During a month in which he hadn't been in the Imperial Capital, the situation had become precarious, and there was news that the King of Yan wouldn't hold on much longer. If Mu Jinyu didn't come out of seclusion soon, he couldn't stay here much longer.

He had to hurry back to the Imperial Capital, or else if the King of Yan died en route and Yan Hua ascended the throne, given their enmity, Yan Hua would target him with various accusations to eliminate him!

"I'm sorry, Third Prince, he hasn't emerged from seclusion yet."

Wen Rou replied apologetically.

As for the Third Prince, Wen Rou had a rather good impression of him.

He was courteous and polite, without a hint of arrogance, and during this month, noble family youths and imperial nobles from various parts of Yan Kingdom came to visit. However, most stayed for three to five days, or a week, and left when they couldn't meet Mu Jinyu, suspecting he didn't want to see them.

Only Yan Ran, esteemed as the Third Prince, persisted until now.

Moreover, there were rumors that the Third Prince's current situation was quite poor. The longer he stayed here, while all his confidants remained in the Imperial Capital, the greater the danger he'd be in if the King of Yan passed away. Still, he insisted on staying, showing true loyalty.

Wen Rou even felt sorry for him and considered whether she should seek Mu Jinyu out, seeing if he could emerge from seclusion early.

However, even though Yan Ran had left her with a good impression, Mu Jinyu's seclusion was of paramount importance, and she certainly couldn't rashly decide to call Mu Jinyu out.

"Alas..."

Yan Ran sighed lightly upon hearing Wen Rou's words, his eyes showing regret, "It's a pity, not long ago a message pigeon from the Imperial Capital informed me that the Father King is in increasingly poor health, and I must return to stay by his bedside..."

Upon hearing this, Wen Rou sighed as well and softly said, "Then, Third Prince, you should return, and after my husband emerges from seclusion, I'll tell him about your situation."

"Thank you for the trouble."

Yan Ran nodded, stood up, and could not help but sigh, "We missed the chance to meet, which is regrettable..."

Afterward, Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan also stood up and escorted Yan Ran to the courtyard entrance.

Once Yan Ran reached the courtyard entrance, he suddenly thought of something and turned back to Wen Rou saying, "By the way, Miss Wen, could you take me to the place where Mu Country Knight is secluded..."

Seeing the expressions of Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan change slightly and grow colder, he hurriedly explained, "I have no other intentions, nor would I dare disturb Mu Country Knight's seclusion. I merely wish, after being here for so long without seeing Mu Country Knight, to at least stand aside and see him from afar."

Hearing Yan Ran's words, Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan's expressions softened.

Wen Rou thought of how Mu Jinyu had arranged a defensive formation around his seclusion, ensuring no disturbance was possible, though he also set up a formation to block surveillance, making it unlikely Yan Ran could see Mu Jinyu.

She informed Yan Ran of this.

Yan Ran, hearing the words, showed regret, sighed, "Though I can't see Mu Country Knight's divine presence, merely standing nearby satisfies me. Please, allow it."

At the end, Yan Ran even bowed to Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan.

Wen Rou furrowed her brow slightly, glanced at Jian Ruyan, and then finally nodded, "Alright, we'll take you there, but you mustn't have any other thoughts."

"I wouldn't dare, thank you both." Yan Ran promptly responded.

Afterward, Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan led Yan Ran to the rear mountain of Tianlan Peak where Mu Jinyu was secluded.

A dense bamboo forest lay ahead.

With the isolating formation present, Mu Jinyu's figure was wholly obscured.

Yan Ran, seeing this, closed his eyes, inhaled deeply, then opened them and said to Wen Rou, "Thank you both, I shall return now."

"Boom!!"

Just as his voice fell.

A sudden change occurred.

The nearly a thousand-meter-high Tianlan Peak suddenly shook violently, as if it were about to collapse.

"What's happening?!"

Yan Ran's complexion changed slightly.

Whereas Jian Ruyan and Wen Rou steadied themselves, exchanging glances, both had sparks of surprise in their eyes.

Both knew that Mu Jinyu's current seclusion was majorly for cultivating the "Dragon Elephant Prison Suppression Scripture," and now with such a severe tremor at Tianlan Peak, it's highly likely Mu Jinyu was about to emerge.

Chapter 934: Agreement and Support!

"Boom!!"

Amid the intense tremors, Yan Ran's face changed dramatically, somewhat suspecting that Yan Hua sent people to assassinate him.

Then, to his horror, he found that with the intense vibrations, the once nearly kilometer-high Tianlan Peak was actually sinking down, foot by foot.

This scene was as if The Immortal of Colossal Spirit had descended, pressing Tianlan Peak into the ground with one mighty foot!

In an instant, Yan Ran felt as if Tianlan Peak had already sunk two or three hundred meters!

"This, this..."

By this time, Yan Ran no longer suspected that Yan Hua had sent someone to assassinate him. He certainly didn't have the means to invite such a person.

However, what exactly was causing the change in Tianlan Peak?

Could it be that there was an Exotic Treasure emerging from under Tianlan Peak?

Or could it be...

Mu Jinyu has emerged from seclusion?

But as soon as this thought emerged, he shook it off.

Although Mu Jinyu was strong, he shouldn't be capable of causing such a commotion. Even Yan Chengyun, the first powerhouse of Yan Kingdom, probably couldn't achieve such a feat.

Yan Chengyun could exhibit Divine Skills to cut down the top of Tianlan Peak, foot by foot, but he couldn't make the mountain base sink like this.

"Boom!"

As Yan Ran was wavering in his speculation.

With yet another thunderous boom, the bamboo forest in front shattered into a sky full of wood chips.

Accompanied by the clear and prolonged sound of a long howl, a figure, exuding an endlessly terrifying and imposing aura, appeared before Yan Ran.

"This... he is..."

Seeing the imposing figure before him, with a terrifying pit beneath his feet, Yan Ran's pupils contracted sharply.

He suddenly thought that Mu Jinyu had emerged from seclusion.

Furthermore, looking at the deep pit under Mu Jinyu's feet...

Could it be that the terrifying motion, which caused Tianlan Peak to sink foot by foot, was truly caused by him alone?

"Jinyu..."

"Little Mu."

Jian Ruyan and Wen Rou couldn't help but call out when they saw that Mu Jinyu had emerged from seclusion.

"Hoo..."

Upon hearing their calls, Mu Jinyu stopped his long howl, exhaled slowly, opened his eyes, looking like stars, seemingly containing the universe.

"You've come..."

Mu Jinyu gave them a slight smile and began to walk towards them.

"Whoosh!"

Mu Jinyu took a step, and his figure instantly disappeared from where he stood, appearing right in front of Wen Rou in the blink of an eye, hugging her tightly.

After embracing Wen Rou for a moment, Mu Jinyu released the blushing Wen Rou, intending to open his arms for a hug with Jian Ruyan as well.

But Jian Ruyan avoided it with a look of disdain.

Mu Jinyu wasn't annoyed by this; he smiled and turned to look at Yan Ran, who appeared surprised and suspicious, and asked, "Who is this?"

Wen Rou introduced, "He is Yan Ran, the Third Prince of Yan Kingdom. Knowing you eradicated the Liuyun Sect and Blood Sword Sect, he came specially hoping to meet you, but since you were in seclusion, he waited here for a month."

"Oh." Upon hearing Wen Rou's introduction, Mu Jinyu nodded slightly to Yan Ran, saying, "Hello, I'm Mu Jinyu."

His demeanor was indifferent, not overly respectful nor nervous upon hearing Yan Ran's title as the Third Prince.

In his eyes, the Yan Kingdom didn't matter much, and he wouldn't take it seriously.

However, Yan Ran's determination in waiting earned a greeting from Mu Jinyu.

Yan Ran, hearing Mu Jinyu's greeting, still stood dumbfounded, unable to react.

He was stunned by Mu Jinyu's incredible movement technique and, after he stopped the long howl, the earth-shaking motion of the sinking mountain also came to a halt.

This indicated that the earth-shattering commotion that just occurred was indeed caused by Mu Jinyu.

Does this mean that, in some regard, Mu Jinyu's strength might surpass even Yan Chengyun's?!

And that he and Uncle Chi's predictions were wrong, and Mu Jinyu's strength is much more than merely the third on the National Guard List?

If this is the case, wouldn't forming good relations with him ensure his safety even after Yan Hua ascends to the throne?

Perhaps even more than that...

"Third Prince?"

At this moment, an inexplicably puzzled and slightly impatient voice interrupted Yan Ran's thoughts.

Yan Ran immediately came back to his senses, smiling apologetically at Mu Jinyu, and bowed, saying, "Apologies, Mu Country Knight. I was overwhelmed by the display of strength when you emerged from seclusion. I didn't expect your power to be so formidable..."

"Hmm? What did you call me?" Mu Jinyu asked, slightly frowning at Yan Ran's title for him.

Knowing that Mu Jinyu had been in seclusion and probably unaware of his recent ranking as third on Lingyan Country's National Guard List, Yan Ran quickly explained it to him.

"National Guard List? Third? Interesting..."

After hearing Yan Ran's explanation, Mu Jinyu touched his chin and chuckled.

He wasn't overly interested in the National Guard List. After all, he couldn't stay in Yan Kingdom forever. With the Hidden Dragon Conference approaching, he anticipated leaving soon, and after finding a way at the conference to help Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan swap back their bodies, he expected to leave the Kunlun Ruins as well, making it impossible to settle down in Yan Kingdom as some so-called National Scholar.

Wen Rou could see Mu Jinyu's disinterest in Yan Ran, hesitated for a moment, and then shared with Mu Jinyu how in recent days, with his ascent to third on the National Guard List causing a stir throughout Yan Kingdom, various major forces came to visit, but only Yan Ran stayed for an entire month.

"Oh, really?"

Upon hearing Wen Rou's account, Mu Jinyu raised an eyebrow, looked at Yan Ran, his eyes softening significantly, saying, "You really have some determination."

Yan Ran was overjoyed, gratefully glancing at Wen Rou, and then immediately seized the opportunity to invite, "Mu Country Knight, you probably also want to attend the Hidden Dragon Conference to witness the prowess of various powerhouses of Kunlun Ruins, right? It so happens that many Heaven's Pride strongmen from other countries have recently arrived in the Imperial Capital for the conference, and my residence has invited quite a few to stay. Would you like to come with me and have some exchanges with them?"

Mu Jinyu initially had little interest in such invitations, but from Wen Rou's words, he learned of Yan Ran's current dilemma, being heavily suppressed by the Crown Prince and urgently needing a powerful figure as support to intimidate others, lest his life be in danger.

Therefore, considering Yan Ran's persistence in waiting for a whole month, Mu Jinyu decided to help him.

After all, backing Yan Ran and confronting the Crown Prince of Yan Kingdom was a trivial matter to him; even if the future of Yan Kingdom bears a grudge against him, what does it matter?

Should he be willing, he could even help Yan Ran ascend to power, though it was clear their relationship wasn't at that level.

"Alright, I can go with you, but I've just come out of seclusion and have some matters to handle. Will a few days be alright?" Mu Jinyu asked.

Yan Ran was overjoyed at these words, feeling fortunate for persisting till now, he promptly said, "No problem, no problem, as long as you're willing to come, Mu Country Knight, it doesn't matter how late..."

"Alright, then, Your Highness, please feel free to leave. I need to go out for some things," Mu Jinyu nodded gently, then left the back mountain with Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan.

He realized that, after emerging from seclusion and achieving success in cultivating the "Dragon Elephant Prison Suppression Scripture", he lost himself in the moment, causing Tianlan Peak to sink by several hundred meters, and he didn't know whether anyone got hurt.

He needed to quickly go and check.

Soon after, Mu Jinyu learned that there were no inhabitants at the base of Tianlan Peak, so the terrifying disturbance he caused thankfully resulted in no casualties.

It was a great relief.

But unfortunately, quite a few Inner Sect Disciples residing mid-mountain were disturbed from their cultivation by the commotion and sustained significant injuries.

Mu Jinyu immediately went to tend to their wounds one by one.

After spending half a day, he finally healed the injured disciples and went to find Elder Cheng and Elder Lin Feng.

The purpose was to repay them for the favor they gave him with the Sacred Wood Branch.

Chapter 935: Repaying Kindness! Limb Regeneration!

When Mu Jinyu was at the Blood Knife Sect, he discovered that the Sacred Wood Branch was refined into Sacred Wood Essence through the Bi Fang Cauldron, and finally found that the Sacred Wood Essence could be consumed, with effects far superior to the spiritual liquid of the Heavenly Sword Pool and the Blood Essence Pool.

At that time, he thought about giving a portion back to Elder Lin Feng and betting with Elder Lin Feng, eventually winning the Sacred Wood Branch but gifting it to his own Elder Cheng.

To repay their kindness.

However, because removing the Blood Essence Crystal might cause the Blood Knife Sect to discover and come to kill him at any time, Mu Jinyu eventually decided not to distribute the Sacred Wood Essence, but to use it for his own cultivation.

Fortunately, this gamble of his was not incorrect, and eventually, his strength broke through to the Peak Third Layer of the Fanxu Realm, gaining the power to resist the Blood Knife Sect.

Unfortunately, due to the "Killing Character Secret Technique," he couldn't wake up in time, causing countless deaths and injuries among the Blood Knife Sect elders and disciples.

This was a painful loss that even the destruction of the Blood Knife Sect could not repair.

What relieved him was that neither Elder Lin Feng nor Elder Cheng died in that battle.

Elder Cheng's injuries were not severe, and he treated them immediately, but Elder Lin Feng lost an arm in that battle!

This situation was extremely difficult to handle.

Mu Jinyu's Life Source Energy could even save Jian Ruyan when her heart was pierced and shattered by Ye Wushuang's sword.

But at that time, Jian Ruyan's heart was only shattered, and all the fragments were still retained.

However, Elder Lin Feng was different; his severed arm was long lost somewhere.

Although Life Source Energy has effects similar to reviving the dead and restoring flesh to bones, it is not truly omnipotent and cannot regenerate an arm for Elder Lin Feng.

Therefore, Mu Jinyu felt quite guilty towards Elder Lin Feng's severed arm.

After all, for cultivation, the meridians and acupoints involved are a whole; losing an arm doesn't mean one cannot continue to cultivate, but the situation would be like Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan's soul-seizing, almost with no progress.

This means that Elder Lin Feng nearly became a cripple.

Because of this, Mu Jinyu didn't dare to face Elder Lin Feng, even though Elder Lin Feng never once blamed him from beginning to end.

But now, after exiting seclusion, Mu Jinyu inspected the storage bags he obtained from the Blood Knife Sect's high-level members and the Liuyun Sect's high-level members and discovered a spiritual material supposedly obtained from the Liuyun Sect's own relics, offering a turning point.

Divine Liujiong Spiritual Liquid!

A rare and priceless treasure.

This is a true super divine liquid with the power to revive the dead and restore flesh to bones.

Of course, if it were in someone else's hands, they would definitely be unable to use the Divine Liujiong Spiritual Liquid to regenerate a severed arm and grow back flesh and blood.

However, with the assistance of his Life Source Energy, Mu Jinyu had a seventy percent chance of restoring Elder Lin Feng back to his original state!

So, when Mu Jinyu came out of seclusion, he did not immediately accept Yan Ran's invitation, nor did he go to return Mingyue Valley's secret manuals to Ji Li; instead, he wanted to first find Elder Lin Feng.

Soon, Mu Jinyu, along with Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan, found Elder Lin Feng's residence.

Elder Lin Feng used to be the outer sect's teaching elder, but due to losing his arm in a great battle a month ago, he lost sixty percent of his cultivation body and was too disheartened to continue teaching the outer sect disciples regularly.

He was almost in a half-retired state.

Mu Jinyu brought Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan here, and a trace of surprise crossed both of their eyes.

They, of course, accompanied Mu Jinyu to see Elder Lin Feng before, aware of Mu Jinyu's guilty feelings towards Elder Lin Feng, thus reducing his visits.

Unexpectedly, he came again today to visit Elder Lin Feng.

Could it be that Mu Jinyu was planning to leave the Heavenly Sword Faction and came to see Elder Lin Feng for the last time?

They speculated in their hearts.

Mu Jinyu gently knocked on the courtyard door.

Soon, along with a series of heavy footsteps, the courtyard door opened.

Clad in ordinary cloth, with disheveled hair and an empty right sleeve, appearing older than before, Elder Lin Feng stood before Mu Jinyu and the two women.

"Ah, it's Jinyu, how come you're here, come in, have a seat.">

Seeing the trio, Elder Lin Feng showed a hint of surprise, then smiled and quickly invited them in.

Mu Jinyu looked complexly at Elder Lin Feng's empty right sleeve, then withdrew his gaze and spoke, "Elder Lin, I've come to help you restore your severed arm."

"What!"

Hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Elder Lin's steps toward returning inside suddenly paused, turned to Mu Jinyu, and his slightly cloudy eyes gleamed brilliantly.

"What did you say?"

Mu Jinyu repeated, "I've come to help you restore your severed arm!"

Once Elder Lin confirmed Mu Jinyu's words, he suppressed his shocked expression, though the turmoil within his heart could not be contained.

He understood that Mu Jinyu must have obtained some top-grade treasure, acquiring the confidence to heal his severed arm; such treasures are scarce even among the elites at the peak of Kunlun Ruins.

He truly didn't want Mu Jinyu to waste such a precious item on an old, useless man like himself.

A person like him, even if restored, wouldn't be much useful, but for Mu Jinyu, conserving it could save his life in the future.

"No need, I'm quite content with my current state, and I'm glad to peacefully live this way."

Elder Lin composed himself and declined with a smile.

Mu Jinyu's smile froze upon hearing Elder Lin's words.

Initially, he couldn't fathom why Elder Lin was refusing.

But soon, he understood Elder Lin did not want him to squander the Divine Liujiog Spiritual Liquid but wanted him to keep it for future life-saving purposes.

Mu Jinyu thought, having the Life Source Energy made his recovery ability extremely strong, rarely would anyone be able to kill him in one strike, allowing him to rapidly heal.

If he genuinely encounters a situation against which even Life Source Energy is powerless, he surely wouldn't have time to use the Divine Liujiog Spiritual Liquid for rescue.

Slightly shaking his head, Mu Jinyu responded firmly, "Elder Lin, in this matter, it's not up to you."

"You..."

Elder Lin's face changed at Mu Jinyu's words and he was about to say something.

But Mu Jinyu swiftly moved, pressing several acupoints on him, immobilizing him, then carried him into the house.

Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan watched helplessly yet amusedly.

Mu Jinyu carried Elder Lin Feng into the house, while instructing Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan, "Protect me while I treat Elder Lin's severed arm."

"Okay."

Wen Rou crisply answered, agreeing, and then stationed herself at the courtyard entrance.

If anyone came to visit Mu Jinyu, she'd intercept them.

Jian Ruyan did likewise, not entering to disturb Mu Jinyu's treatment for Elder Lin's severed arm.

She was indeed curious about how Mu Jinyu intended to regenerate Lin Feng's lost limb.

Inside the room.

Mu Jinyu placed the anxious and eager Elder Lin Feng down, positioning him cross-legged.

He then brought out the Divine Liujiong Spiritual Liquid, first rolling up Elder Lin Feng's right sleeve, and sliced away the newly grown flesh nub from his severed arm that had appeared over the past month with a single stroke.

Chapter 936: Bet on the Right Treasure!

"Ah!"

Mu Jinyu restrained Lin Feng, rendering him immobile and speechless, yet as Mu Jinyu swung his sword, Lin Feng couldn't help but cry out in pain.

His face turned ashen in an instant, and beads of cold sweat appeared on his forehead.

"Elder Lin, my apologies, just endure it for a bit, it will be over soon."

Mu Jinyu spoke apologetically to Lin Feng.

He had no other choice — if he didn't first scrape off the newly grown flesh at Elder Lin Feng's severed arm, how could he let new bone grow, regenerate, and produce flesh again?

But it was just this one instance of pain; it would be fine in a moment.

After saying another word of apology to Lin Feng, Mu Jinyu immediately fetched the Divine Liujiong Spiritual Liquid and applied it to the re-bloodied severed arm.

Then, he began to channel the Life Source Energy within him with all his might, continuously pouring it into Lin Feng's severed arm.

"Sizzle, sizzle..."

In an instant, the fountain-like gush of blood spewing from Lin Feng's severed arm gradually ceased.

Then, miraculously, a piece of forearm bone appeared out of nowhere, followed by hand bones...

Next, strands of flesh grew from the severed arm under the influence of Life Source Energy, wrapping and growing around the arm bone.

Soon, it became an arm identical to Elder Lin Feng's original one.

The newly grown skin was smooth and delicate, contrasting sharply with the rough, dark skin of the left arm.

However, this minor difference was insignificant compared to the regeneration of a lost limb.

Elder Lin Feng would overlook it, at most feeling displeased and thinking a bit of sun exposure would solve it.

"I... have I truly regenerated my severed limb?"

Watching this miraculous scene, Lin Feng trembled, speaking incredulously with quivering lips.

After speaking, he realized he could talk and move again.

So, he immediately wanted to kneel before Mu Jinyu to express his gratitude for the help.

"This won't do, this won't do..."

Mu Jinyu quickly supported Elder Lin Feng, shaking his head as he spoke.

Previously, Lin Feng was reluctant for Mu Jinyu to waste such a precious spiritual liquid on him, but now that the situation had settled, and with his limb regenerated, there was no point in resisting, and his mindset naturally changed.

Seeing Mu Jinyu stopping him, he sighed: "Jinyu, your immense kindness is something I cannot repay; if you don't even allow me the chance to express my gratitude, I will feel greatly troubled."

Mu Jinyu smiled wryly: "If I were to accept such a grand gesture from you, I would be the one troubled. You needn't thank me this way; instead, I should thank you for the Sacred Wood Branch. Without its help, I wouldn't have been able to break through to my current strength, nor avert disaster during the Blood Sword Sect's assault."

"All this is thanks to you. Helping you regenerate your severed limb is merely making amends; how could I dare accept such a grand gesture from you?"

Lin Feng had already heard Mu Jinyu mention that his rapid breakthrough to the Third Layer of the Fanxu Realm wasn't solely due to the help of Blood Essence Crystals, but also largely owed to the Sacred Wood Essence refined from the Sacred Wood Branch.

However, he didn't feel it was due to his own contribution, as the Sacred Wood Branch in his hands was just an object with no opportunity to transform into Sacred Wood Essence for cultivation.

Moreover, the Sacred Wood Branch wasn't something he gifted to Mu Jinyu; it was a bet lost to Elder Cheng, who then gave it to Mu Jinyu as a welcoming gift.

Lin Feng sighed deeply and said, "This credit truly has nothing to do with me, after all, it wasn't me who gave you the Sacred Wood Branch, it was given by your teacher, and you should be grateful to Old Cheng, not me..."

Mu Jinyu smiled gently and said, "Teacher has already told me, the Sacred Wood Branch was also very important to you; though not a Spiritual Treasure, it was more valuable than one, and you wouldn't have bet it unless you had high hopes for me, knowing he intended to gift it to me as a welcoming token... How can you say this has nothing to do with you?"

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Lin Feng's expression froze, followed by a helpless smile with a shake of his head, "That Old Cheng, always spilling everything..."

Indeed, Mu Jinyu was right.

Though he often gambled with Elder Cheng, the Sacred Wood Branch was too precious to easily wager.

It was only due to Elder Cheng's persuasive words, combined with his high hopes for Mu Jinyu, that he reluctantly wagered it as a bet.

At the time, if he lost, it would be a gesture to form a good acquaintance with Mu Jinyu; if he won, it would signify that Mu Jinyu lacked the fortune, sparing him from forming ties unnecessarily.

Unexpectedly, though he lost the Sacred Wood Branch that day, it turned out that due to the connection through the Sacred Wood Branch, his severed arm was regenerated.

It truly was a mysterious turn of events.

Mu Jinyu chuckled, then pulled out several storage bags from his waist, handing them to Elder Lin Feng, "Helping you regenerate your severed limb merely compensates for your loss; these cultivation resources in the storage bags are to repay the favor you did by gifting me the Sacred Wood Branch."

"There's no need..."

Upon hearing Mu Jin Yu's words, Lin Feng was immediately inclined to refuse.

He felt that Mu Jinyu sacrificing such an invaluable treasure to regenerate his severed limb was paying a far greater price than the Sacred Wood Branch, so how could he accept further cultivation resources?

To him, had he not provided Mu Jinyu with the Sacred Wood Branch that day, when the Blood Sword Sect arrived at the Heavenly Sword Faction, although having it would raise his combat ability, it would also make him a target for others.

At that point, it wouldn't just cost an arm, but his life as well, losing it to robbers after his treasure!

Thus, he never felt Mu Jinyu owed him anything.

While he could reluctantly accept Mu Jinyu's help with regenerating his severed limb, taking any more cultivation resources would be truly difficult for him.

Seeing the situation, Mu Jinyu firmly placed the storage bags into Elder Lin Feng's hands, saying, "Just take them, Elder, these resources are still very useful for you, and can help you break through to the Fanxu Realm sooner, whereas for me, they aren't of much use. If you don't want them, just discard them, because I don't take back what I've given."

With that, without waiting for Elder Lin Feng to refuse again, he utilized his movement technique to swiftly leave the room.

In a flash, he arrived at the courtyard entrance.

Jian Ruyan and Wen Rou, hearing the commotion, turned to look at him and asked, "How did it go, is Elder Lin alright now?"

Mu Jinyu said, "He is fine, let's go."

Then, just as Elder Lin Feng was about to catch up, he took Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan and left his courtyard, heading to Elder Cheng's cave residence.

Elder Lin Feng quickly caught up, but didn't see Mu Jinyu's group, and then recalled Mu Jinyu's words before leaving — if he didn't want the resources, they would truly be discarded.

Sighing deeply, Lin Feng murmured complexly to himself, "Who would have thought that it seemed like I lost that day, but I actually made the right bet..."

Chapter 937: The Eve of Departure!

Mu Jinyu left Elder Lin Feng's courtyard and headed to Elder Cheng's cave residence, unable to help but sigh along the way:

"Alas, such a pity, the quantity of Divine Liujiong Spiritual Liquid is scarce. After using it on Elder Lin, there's not much left, yet there are still so many severely injured individuals within the sect, alas..."

In that battle with the Blood Sword Sect, the Heavenly Sword Faction lost over a thousand people, with even more left severely injured, and among them, the majority were maimed.

Cases like Elder Xie Yuan and others where the dantian was crippled or meridians shattered were ultimately the minority.

The majority were missing arms or legs.

Unfortunately, the amount of Divine Liujiong Spiritual Liquid Mu Jinyu found in the storage bags of high-level elders in Liuyun Sect was truly minimal, barely enough to regenerate Elder Lin Feng's severed limb, leaving very little behind.

Even if he wanted to help another person with a severed arm to regenerate, it just couldn't be done.

Wen Rou, hearing Mu Jinyu's sigh, gently advised: "Don't think too much about it. While the battle between the Blood Sword Sect and the Heavenly Sword Faction had a little to do with you, you did compensate them enough with resources after destroying the Blood Sword Sect and Liuyun Sect, so there's no need to continue blaming yourself."

"I understand." Mu Jinyu nodded lightly.

Subsequently, he collected his thoughts and walked towards Elder Cheng's cave residence.

"Master, I am here."

He stood at the entrance of the cave residence and announced aloud.

"Boom!"

As his voice rang out, there was a resounding noise from inside, accompanied by a faint burnt smell.

Mu Jinyu displayed a wry smile, understanding that Elder Cheng had just been interrupted while refining elixirs, resulting in a furnace explosion.

Originally, Elder Cheng's cave had restrictions set, which generally prevented anyone from disturbing his alchemy sessions.

But because Elder Cheng had lifted the restrictions for him, allowing him to come in at will, this led to the failure of the refining session.

Though Mu Jinyu felt apologetic, he did not take it too seriously.

It was just a furnace of pills, after all. If it exploded, then it exploded; it wasn't anything major.

"Clang!"

The door of the cave opened, and the familiar face of Elder Cheng appeared before Mu Jinyu. He laughed heartily and said, "You brat finally came out of seclusion."

His expression reflected a satisfied and contented demeanor, showing no sign of caring about the previous disturbance by Mu Jinyu that led to the explosion of the refining session.

His contentment was not solely because Mu Jinyu came out of seclusion; he was also pleased with the recent period when Mu Jinyu gained significant fame, making it to the third place on the National Guard List, attracting countless people to favor the Heavenly Sword Faction.

And as Mu Jinyu's teacher, he also received considerable flattery.

Initially, it made him overly elated, and later, feeling a bit annoyed, he simply hid in his cave residence for alchemy.

Seeing Mu Jinyu emerge from seclusion at this moment reminded him of the events of the recent past, naturally putting him in a good mood.

Mu Jinyu nodded and smiled, "Yes, Master, I've already organized the pill formulas acquired from the Blood Sword Sect and Liuyun Sect, as well as from their relics, and am here to hand them over to you."

During this month's seclusion, he was not solely focusing on cultivating the "Fleeting Light Shadow" and "Dragon Elephant Prison Suppression Scripture." During breaks, he also frequently reviewed the spoils obtained from those storage bags.

That's how he learned about the existence of the Divine Liujiong Spiritual Liquid and had memorized and compiled the pill formulas together.

As he spoke, Mu Jinyu handed a storage bag to Elder Cheng.

Elder Cheng took it with a smile, ready to check if it contained the pill formula for the Blood Demon Life-Reducing Pill or the Twin Armor Extreme Breaking Pill.

Just then, Mu Jinyu said, "Master, I also came to bid you farewell this time. I'm planning to visit the Imperial Capital of the Yan Kingdom, to see how the prodigies from other nations are faring, and then I'll depart for the Dayan Dynasty to participate in the upcoming Hidden Dragon Conference."

"Ah?" Elder Cheng's actions paused, a trace of reluctance flashing across his face, "So soon..."

Although he was mentally prepared, knowing that Mu Jinyu would leave sooner or later, he still felt a sense of melancholy when that day finally arrived.

Even though his time with Mu Jinyu was quite brief and far removed from the familiar teacher-student relationship, and he hadn't taught Mu Jinyu much, he always felt proud to have even a bit of a master-disciple relationship with him.

"Mm." Mu Jinyu nodded, unsure of what else to say.

Elder Cheng smiled after a brief silence and said, "Since you're leaving soon, how about we have a good drink together? Let's not leave until we're wasted."

"Alright." Mu Jinyu thought for a moment and agreed with a smile, "Speaking of which, I haven't had a drink with you yet, Master."

"It's not too late now, is it?"

Elder Cheng chuckled and then called someone to prepare a feast, and began drinking happily with Mu Jinyu.

Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan stayed by their side, not speaking much.

Soon, by noon, Elder Cheng was completely drunk.

Mu Jinyu had Elder Cheng's real disciples come over to take good care of their Master and, along with Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan, went to the Sect Master Hall.

Ready to bid farewell to the Sect Master and others.

As he was leaving, he could still hear Elder Cheng drunkenly saying from behind, "Jinyu, do your best and become the number one alchemist in Kunlun Ruins; your Master is proud of you..."

Mu Jinyu smiled, didn't look back, and left Elder Cheng's cave residence.

Soon, Mu Jinyu arrived at the Sect Master Hall and found Xie Chenkun.

"Are you leaving?"

Xie Chenkun noticed the unusual expression on Mu Jinyu's face, and his eyes were complex, tinged with a sense of melancholy as he asked with a smile.

"Sect Master, how did you know?"

Mu Jinyu was somewhat surprised upon hearing Xie Chenkun's words.

Xie Chenkun smiled, "Since you made it onto the National Guard List, causing a stir throughout the Yan Kingdom, I've known that you, this true dragon, have reached the moment to emerge from the water;

our Heavenly Sword Faction, this little pond, can no longer contain you. You were bound to leave sooner or later..."

Seeing Mu Jinyu show an apologetic expression with his words, Xie Chenkun smiled and waved his hand:

"You don't need to feel guilty about it. Ultimately, you are the chief disciple of our Heavenly Sword Faction; we won't blame you. Moreover, you aren't truly leaving but are going to the Hidden Dragon Conference; I can't possibly stop you."

Saying this, Xie Chenkun smiled, his tone tinged with sentimentality, and continued:

"Our Heavenly Sword Faction has been established in the Yan Kingdom for so many years, and only our founding ancestor once obtained a fair rank in the Hidden Dragon Conference, acquiring merely the qi of the snake, which protected our Heavenly Sword Faction for years. If you can achieve a good result in this Hidden Dragon Conference, our Heavenly Sword Faction will be blessed by your fortune, and we might be able to step out of Yan Kingdom..."

The Hidden Dragon Conference is a competition for the qi of the Kunlun Dragon Veins, transforming from snake to python, from python to anaconda, from anaconda to flood dragon, and flood dragon to dragon...

Once someone transforms into a true dragon, they would carry the most abundant qi fortune of the Kunlun Dragon Vein, not just for themselves but also their family, sects, all gaining protection.

And the founding ancestor of the Heavenly Sword Faction once only gained the qi of the snake in the Hidden Dragon Conference, which was actually very weak, barely making any waves, but still protected the Heavenly Sword Faction for years.

This illustrates how terrifying the true qi of a Kunlun Dragon could be!

It's no wonder that each session of the Hidden Dragon Conference would cause a stir everywhere, with countless hidden sects sending their disciples to vie for the dragon qi.

Chapter 938: Returning Secret Manuals and Leaving!

Mu Jinyu ultimately bid farewell to Xie Chenkun, similarly leaving him some resources to compensate the disciples and elders who died or were injured in battle.

Then, he took Jian Ruyan and Wen Rou, and headed to the former Blood Sword Sect site, now the location of Mingyue Valley's mountain gate.

Arriving at the rebuilt Mingyue Valley.

Mu Jinyu stood outside the mountain gate, feeling a mix of emotions.

As for the disciples guarding the mountain gate, perhaps they were the sisters Ji Li had found, they did not recognize Mu Jinyu and questioned, "Who are you, and what is your purpose at Mingyue Valley?"

Mu Jinyu was not annoyed and smiled faintly, saying, "Please inform them that Mu Jinyu from the Heavenly Sword Faction has come to return Mingyue Valley's secret manuals."

"Ah?" The two female disciples were stunned upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, then looked at him with suspicion and exclaimed, "Are you Senior Brother Mu?"

Mu Jinyu's reputation in the Four Sects of Yan Kingdom was already well known, and after ranking third on the National Guard List, he was even more renowned, known by everyone.

Therefore, although they had not met Mu Jinyu, they knew he was the genius ranked first on the Four Sects' Genius Ranking and a great benefactor who helped rebuild their Mingyue Valley.

The two female disciples looked at Mu Jinyu with suspicion and then thought, a handsome young man in his twenties, accompanied by two stunning beauties, indeed resembled the description Sister Ji mentioned.

Hence, they dared not block him too much and quickly said, "Please wait a moment, Senior Brother Mu, we will fetch the Sect Leader to greet you."

After speaking, one stayed behind to accompany the three, while the other hurriedly went into Mingyue Valley to pass on the news.

They spoke politely, but in fact, they went to let the elders and Ji Li appear and verify whether this Mu Jinyu was genuine. If he dared to impersonate, he'd be slain without mercy!

They couldn't hide their intentions from Mu Jinyu.

He smiled and indifferently waited for a moment.

Soon, within minutes, Ji Li and the original Heavenly Sword Faction elder, now an elder of Mingyue Valley, hurriedly came out from the mountain gate.

"Young master, you have finally emerged from seclusion."

Ji Li saw Mu Jinyu appear, her face lit up with joy and excitement.

Like a little girl seeing her beloved toy.

Mu Jinyu nodded, greeted Ji Li and several elders, then led Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan into Mingyue Valley.

"He really is Senior Brother Mu."

A little breathless, the female disciple who ran back and forth watched as Mu Jinyu and others disappeared from view, involuntarily sighing.

The other female disciple who stayed with Mu Jinyu earlier had eyes filled with admiration, speaking softly, "Senior Brother Mu is really handsome. I wish I was the one saved by him back then."

"Come on, you really think the Sect Leader was saved by Senior Brother Mu just because he would intervene for justice? They already had ties. If it were you who met him back then, Senior Brother Mu might save you and leave, but he wouldn't bring you back to the Heavenly Sword Faction!"

"Humph, knowing it's impossible, can't I even dream a little..."

...

Mu Jinyu followed Ji Li to the Sect Leader's secret chamber in Mingyue Valley, and after letting the elders leave, took out the organized secret manuals and handed them to Ji Li.

"These secret manuals should mostly belong to Mingyue Valley; there might be some missing ones I mistakenly took as those of Liuyun Sect. Check them again, and if you are unsure, you can discuss them with your sisters to see which ones are missing."

Ji Li, as a disciple of Mingyue Valley and an Inner Sect Disciple, might have been accepted as a disciple by the core elders to become a Core Disciple. If she were a Core Disciple, she likely visited the first three layers of Mingyue Valley's Scripture Pavilion.

If she had visited the first three layers of the Scripture Pavilion, she would probably have checked every layer's secret manuals, looking for those suitable for herself.

So, when Mu Jinyu handed her these secret manuals, a cultivator's memory wouldn't be too poor; if any manuals were missing, she would naturally recall which ones were absent.

This way, Mu Jinyu could also find the missing ones and return them to her.

As for the fourth layer's secret manuals, Mu Jinyu didn't know if any elders from Mingyue Valley were still alive, so he just picked out those he thought might be Mingyue Valley's and handed them to Ji Li.

Anyway, the quality grade of these manuals seemed similar, so he temporarily ignored them.

If Ji Li consulted the records in the future and found discrepancies in the Earth Rank manuals, he could return them later.

Ji Li deeply trusted Mu Jinyu, knowing he wouldn't deliberately swap Mingyue Valley's secret manuals. If he had such intentions, why would he need to take out these manuals to aid in the reconstruction of Mingyue Valley?

Nonetheless, trust is trust; since Mu Jinyu allowed her to carefully compare the correctness of the manuals, she would naturally strive to correctly restore Mingyue Valley's secret manuals.

Thus, Ji Li did not say much but began checking them one by one.

"Young master, see if you have Yuanyang Technique, Taiqing Moonshadow Technique, Hua Shuang Shadow Moon over there..."

After spending more than half a shichen, Ji Li completed her examination and listed a series of manuals, then queried Mu Jinyu.

While speaking, she took out dozens of manuals, adding, "These are not our Mingyue Valley's secret manuals."

Among these, some were longstanding secret manuals of Liuyun Sect, others were obtained in ruins, and the latter's manuals were actually superior to those of Mingyue Valley.

Yet, when Ji Li took them out, there was no sign of reluctance.

In her mind, regardless of how good these manuals were, if Mu Jinyu didn't give them to her, she wouldn't think of secretly keeping them.

She felt it was enough to preserve the inheritance of Mingyue Valley with Mu Jinyu's help, without indulging in greed.

"Let me see."

Mu Jinyu responded, and without taking the dozens of manuals, he used Divine Sense to probe into a storage bag and quickly found the manuals Ji Li mentioned.

In this situation, Mu Jinyu never doubted that Ji Li was deceiving him. After all, whether they were longstanding manuals of Liuyun Sect or those obtained from ruins, how could Ji Li know them so clearly?

Before Mingyue Valley's demise, Liuyun Sect was merely a small sect, and as disciples of the Four Great Sects, why would they pay attention to the secret manuals of a small sect?

Only Mingyue Valley's secret manuals would Ji Li know so thoroughly.

Mu Jinyu took out these manuals and returned them to Ji Li, without taking the ones Ji Li offered back, saying, "These manuals are quite suitable for Mingyue Valley; just keep them."

"How can this be alright?" Ji Li was startled by his words and refused hurriedly.

Finally, under Mu Jinyu's persuasion, she chose to have these dozens of manuals copied and stored in Mingyue Valley's Scripture Pavilion.

The original manuals were returned to Mu Jinyu.

As for the Earth Rank manuals on the top floor of the Scripture Pavilion, Ji Li indeed wasn't clear about them, though she felt it wasn't crucial to differentiate them so precisely; it seemed close enough.

Mu Jinyu advised her that if she remembered any irregularities in the Earth Rank manuals later, she could find him to rectify them.

After that, Mu Jinyu bid farewell to Ji Li and, accompanied by Jian Ruyan and Wen Rou, embarked on the journey to the Imperial Capital!

Chapter 939: First Arrival at King's City! Offending the 6th Princess!

A few days later.

Mu Jinyu and the two women, Wen Rou, arrived at the bustling and lively Yan Kingdom Royal City.

The streets were crowded with people, brushing shoulders, among them were cultivators, as well as ordinary mortals without any cultivation.

When cultivators passed, ordinary mortals had to step aside, not daring to bump into them, or according to the laws of Yan Kingdom, their death would be given for nothing.

Mu Jinyu did not, like those Martial Artists in the Divine Transformation Realm, put on a lofty attitude with some minor skills.

He was just like ordinary mortals, standing in front of a small stall, buying some famous Yan Kingdom snacks with the two women, Wen Rou.

These snacks looked good in color and smell, but he didn't know how they tasted. If they were delicious, he planned to take some back to Huaxia for Su Zijin and Gu Xiyan to try.

In the blink of an eye, it had been more than half a year since he left Huaxia and came to Kunlun Ruins.

Mu Jinyu felt quite nostalgic and missed his wife and mother very much, although he had never shown it in daily life.

"Yah, yah, yah..."

The snack vendor had not yet managed to prepare the snacks Mu Jinyu wanted when suddenly there was a shout, followed by a handsome and robust white horse charging and causing chaos on the street, knocking over people and stalls!

This caused the originally orderly street to become chaotic.

"Get out of the way, get out of the way, the Sixth Princess is coming out to play..."

"Crack!"

Someone shouted in panic, followed by the sound of a whip cracking loudly like thunder.

Mu Jinyu stood still, his brow furrowed, turning to look in the direction of the sound.

He saw a beautiful woman in black tight-fitting clothes, riding a white horse with about the strength of the Sixth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm, charging down the street, scaring people away in panic, while some who couldn't avoid her were directly whipped, their clothes exploding, with not only their skin torn but their white bones visible.

Mortal men, without any cultivation, were so severely injured that they were instantly hovering between life and death, grievously wounded and dying.

"Huh?"

Mu Jinyu's brows furrowed tighter, with strands of anger jumping in his dark, bright eyes.

If mortals had crashed into her, showed disrespect, or even verbally insulted her, Mu Jinyu could understand such punishment.

A Grandmaster should not be insulted, let alone those far beyond the Grandmaster like Terrestrial Immortals. Of course, they cannot allow mortals any insult or disrespect!

But now, these people clearly hadn't done anything disrespectful, and they had even fled when the woman appeared, afraid of crashing into her, but some simply failed to escape in time and were treated this way, with their lives in danger!

What kind of logic is this?

Can having some ability allow one to treat lives as worthless, mortals as ants?

Besides, in the Yan Kingdom Royal City, there seems to be a law prohibiting riding Spirit Beasts on the street, right?

Breaking the law and hurting people is even more punishable!

Mu Jinyu felt justified in taking action!

"Sir, let's leave quickly."

The snack vendor, scared out of his wits, dared not think about earning from Mu Jinyu now, hurriedly closing his stall to run away while kindly reminding Mu Jinyu.

He had been in the Royal City for a long time, his eyes sharp enough to see at a glance that the three of them were not mortals.

However, it seemed they weren't very powerful figures either. If they directly clashed with the Sixth Princess, they might not be able to preserve their lives!

However, seeing Mu Jinyu unmoved by his words, standing in the street as the white horse charged nearer, he dared not speak further, hurriedly carrying his stall aside.

"Get out!"

Sixth Princess Yan Xuefei rode her most beloved white horse, a Spirit Beast, flaunting her power on the street, and every time she whipped some ignorant mortals, their skin burst open and blood flowed, a cruel smile spread across her face.

At this moment, she saw the three standing right in the center of the road, Mu Jinyu and the two women. Although they saw her coming, they didn't intend to avoid her!

This instantly displeased Yan Xuefei!

In this Royal City, aside from those National Scholars on the National Guard List, even high and mighty cultivators of the Fanxu Realm, encountering royalty, have to step aside, not daring to clash.

But now, there are actually people ignorant enough to dare deliberately block her way!

Especially, Yan Xuefei noticed that the two women behind Mu Jinyu were of absolutely stunning beauty, with delicate skin, extraordinary temperament, and impressive figures, surpassing her in every aspect except birth!

This filled her with jealousy!

As the distance to them grew closer, the three still showed no intention of stepping aside, a cruel smile appeared on Yan Xuefei's face. She raised her thorn-covered whip with a savage shout, aiming straight at Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan's pretty faces!

If that whip landed, Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan's beautiful faces would undoubtedly be torn apart, maybe even an eyeball would burst!

They would be utterly ruined!

"Huh? A lot of guts!"

Seeing this scene, Mu Jinyu's eyes grew angrier!

Before him, this woman was galloping down the street, indifferent to human life, and now she deliberately wanted to ruin Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan's faces, a true ignorance of life and death!

"Humph!"

Mu Jinyu snorted coldly.

That terrifying aura of the Peak Third Layer of the Fanxu Realm erupted instantly.

Immediately, like a collapsing mountain, a tidal wave pressed down, petrifying the proud and expansive white horse, making it seem as if it encountered its nemesis, filled with terror, instantly stopping its hooves, standing firmly, not daring to move an inch!

The white horse's abrupt halt almost threw Yan Xuefei off its back, leaving her both shocked and angry, quite confused about what was happening.

It took her a while to steady herself.

"Smack!"

With a clear, pleasant crack, the thorn-covered whip suddenly reversed, carrying terrifying force, whipping across her face!

"Smack!!"

On the spot, Yan Xuefei's pretty face was torn apart, blood dripping, people nearby could clearly see a bloody whip mark stretching from her eye corner all the way to her mouth and chin, with flesh curling out, very terrifying!

"Ah!!!"

Yan Xuefei felt the burning pain on her face and immediately let out a shrill scream, not quite human, like a night owl's agonizing screech!

"Kill him for me, dare hurt the Princess, kill him!! Kill him!!"

The Imperial Guards following Yan Xuefei, ensuring her safety, frightened to the core by her terrifying injury!

The Princess was injured like this; being her bodyguards, they would not have a good fate upon returning to the palace!

Hence, their faces fell one by one.

"Clang!"

"Clang!!"

The guards drew their swords and spears, shouting angrily, charging towards Mu Jinyu!

They could all see Mu Jinyu was very strong, but no matter how powerful, daring to hurt the Sixth Princess still meant he had to pay with his life!

Chapter 940: Yan Xuefei's Overwhelming Resentment!

"You know nothing!"

Mu Jinyu stood with hands behind his back, watching the guards advance to kill him, a disdainful sneer appeared on his lips as the formidable aura of a Fanxu Realm expert surged forth!

"Boom!!"

The guards personally felt the oppressive force of this aura, their faces drastically changed, turning pale with fright.

This overwhelming aura could never belong to the Divine Transformation Realm, it must be the Fanxu Realm to wield such stormy power!

"Clang!"

"Clang!!"

They were merely cultivators of the Seventh to Eighth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm, unable to withstand the oppressive aura of the Fanxu Realm, all failed to hold their weapons, involuntarily falling to their knees!

"You... you... you..."

Yan Xuefei forced herself to endure the intense pain, eyes filled with a cruel and bloodthirsty smile, prepared to witness Mu Jinyu's brutal death at the hands of her guards.

Little did she know, her guards couldn't even withstand Mu Jinyu's aura? All kneeling before Mu Jinyu, her pupils shrank drastically, the fiery pain on her face felt even more unbearable.

Yet she was so frightened that she couldn't utter a word.

At this moment she was no match for Mu Jinyu, and her guards were no match either. If Mu Jinyu killed her, even if the Yan Kingdom hunted him to death afterward, it would be pointless!

So no matter how unreasonable and domineering she was, she dared not demand Mu Jinyu's life at this moment.

"Hmph."

Mu Jinyu glanced coldly at Yan Xuefei, not considering her identity as the Sixth Princess at all.

Yet on the street, the crowd who had spread out due to the commotion stood dumbfounded, watching this scene.

They were first astonished by Mu Jinyu's audacity, then stunned by how he alone suppressed the guards of the Sixth Princess.

Once the people came to their senses, they began to whisper among themselves:

"This young man is so powerful, he can suppress the Sixth Princess like this, he must at least be a peak Ninth Layer Divine Transformation Realm expert, right?"

"Calling him a young man? That's an Immortal Master, surely his fate will be miserable after daring to suppress the Sixth Princess like this!"

"Indeed, the Sixth Princess is His Royal Highness the Crown Prince's own sister, the Crown Prince always dotes on her, even if she wanted a star from the sky, he would find a way to get one for her. Now that the Sixth Princess is injured like this, His Royal Highness won't let him off!"

"True, if not for the Crown Prince's extreme care, the Sixth Princess wouldn't have become so arrogant and domineering."

"But I must say it was satisfying to watch. My lame leg was beaten by the Sixth Princess when I didn't leave in time during her outing!"

"Yes, it was satisfying, hope this Immortal Master stays safe..."

Mu Jinyu didn't care about the people's whispers, not even the so-called Crown Prince could stir his heart.

After suppressing Yan Xuefei's many guards, he walked towards the people injured by her.

"Ugh..."

The sight was quite gruesome with their tattered clothes, skin torn, and blood flowing, white bones clearly visible.

If they weren't treated quickly, they'd surely not live past ten minutes.

Since Mu Jinyu saw this, he couldn't bring himself to leave after teaching Yan Xuefei a lesson.

He decided to save them.

Casually taking out one low-level elixir after another, he fed them one by one, then Mu Jinyu used his Life Source Energy to swiftly heal their injuries, not even leaving a scar.

"Thank you, Immortal Master, for saving us!"

"Thank you, Immortal Master, for saving us!"

These people cried out the miracle, hurriedly kneeling to thank Mu Jinyu for his rescue.

Mu Jinyu waved his hand and said, "Go home, don't stay here."

"Yes, Immortal Master."

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, they quickly packed up their stalls and carts, rushing home.

Mu Jinyu was there, able to suppress the Sixth Princess and her guards from acting, but once he left, if they stayed on the street, the disfigured Yan Xuefei might vent her anger by taking their lives.

If they don't leave now, when will they?

In a blink, not only those treated by Mu Jinyu went home.

Even those uninjured didn't dare stay long, afraid of being implicated, running faster than rabbits.

Once they left, Mu Jinyu didn't even glance at the Sixth Princess and headed towards the location of the Third Prince's Royal Mansion.

"It's a pity, those snacks looked so good and smelled so delicious, missed out, such a shame..."

"I'll take you out to eat another day."

"Alright."

Mu Jinyu and the two women walked further away, but his conversation with Wen Rou still lingered in the ears of Yan Xuefei and others.

Once Mu Jinyu walked far enough, the terrifying aura that forced them to kneel vanished.

The guards all stood up one after another, exchanged glances, their eyes full of fear and despair.

Though Mu Jinyu didn't kill them, not protecting the Sixth Princess well meant they likely faced death upon return!

"Ah!!! I want to kill this bastard!!!"

Sure enough, at this moment, Yan Xuefei could move again, letting out a piercing scream filled with a resentment too deep to be cleansed by all the water in Jianghu!

The guard commander felt a chill in his heart, stiffly turning his neck, saw Yan Xuefei sitting on a white horse, a watery mirror floating in front of her.

It was indeed the technique, Profound Light Mirror!

She looked into the Profound Light Mirror, seeing her bloody, flesh-torn face, eyes filled with intense hatred and madness!

"Princess, we should return quickly..."

The guard commander took a deep breath, suggesting the Sixth Princess return to find His Royal Highness the Crown Prince and have him send experts to capture the three Mu Jinyu!

"Smack!"

The nearly crazed Yan Xuefei couldn't hear his suggestion.

Upon hearing the guard commander's words, she recalled how this group of weaklings was scared to kneel on the ground before Mu Jinyu, her hatred for Mu Jinyu partly transferring to them!

Yan Xuefei immediately swung the thorny leather whip in her hand towards the guard commander's face!

"Thud!"

Fortunately, the guards wore helmets and armor with special materials, the whip that could kill a large elephant only made a clang on the guard commander's helmet, failing to break it.

However, the intense recoil made the guard commander's face burn, feeling stinging pain.

Secretly angry, yet he dared not resist nor evade, continuing to let the Sixth Princess vent her anger!

If he dared dodge, the Sixth Princess would surely ransack his home, implicating the Nine Tribes!

"Smack!!"

"Thud!!"

Yan Xuefei viciously whipped the guards for ten minutes, until her strength waned, taking a few gasps, and angrily said, "Let's go back, find the Imperial Physician to treat my injuries!"