

the mans Decree: Kai Ping / Chen Ping

Chapter 4861

At the same time, a golden dragon slowly emerged on Kai's back, and an overwhelming bloodline pressure spread across the entire Wuwang Land!

Everyone felt the dragon's terrifying aura, their expressions shifting dramatically!

Huo Zhao's eyes narrowed as he locked onto Kai, shock surging through him.

This bloodline pressure... it's monstrous!

For the first time, a sense of unease crept into Huo Zhao's heart.

Kai... he's no ordinary human cultivator. The golden dragon's bloodline aura rolling off him was enough to make others tremble!

"Who the hell is this guy?"

Huo Zhao turned to Huo Zhenfeng and demanded an answer.

If they had unknowingly provoked someone with a powerful background, the Huo family could be in grave danger!

"Elder," Huo Zhenfeng quickly explained, "Kai is a rogue cultivator. He destroyed the Ten Palaces of the Temple and subdued their masters. He also has a deep grudge against the Temple itself!"

Now that he knew Huo Zhao was the Eighth Palace Master, Huo Zhenfeng wasted no time revealing Kai's conflicts with the Temple.

Huo Zhao frowned. So there was no way to back down now.

Meanwhile, Kai's face twisted with intensity as he drew the God King Bow once more!

Every shot from the God King Bow drained an immense amount of power, but Kai had just broken through, advancing two small realms in one go—giving him the strength to fire again!

As he pulled the bowstring taut, a black arrow slowly formed, hovering ominously over the bow!

The moment it materialized, waves of terrifying energy surged through the heavens and earth!

Huo Zhao's expression grew solemn.

His gaze locked onto Kai, and he slowly clenched his right fist.

He couldn't retreat now.

Since Kai was an enemy of the Temple, it was his duty, as the Eighth Palace Master, to eliminate him!

Narrowing his eyes, Huo Zhao suddenly lunged forward, throwing a devastating punch at Kai!

With that single strike, the very fabric of the world seemed to shatter!

At the same time, Kai released the bowstring!

The black arrow tore through the air, heading straight for Huo Zhao!

Neither dodged.

This was a direct confrontation!

BOOM!

With a deafening explosion, the entire Wuwang Land twisted violently, on the verge of collapse!

Kai was blasted back dozens of miles, blood spewing from his mouth as cracks spread across his body!

At the same time, Huo Zhao was also forced back. His form flickered, becoming even more illusory!

Staring at Kai in disbelief, Huo Zhao struggled to comprehend what had just happened.

That arrow... it actually made me feel fear!

He was an immortal. Even if this wasn't his true body, wiping out a mere Mahayana cultivator should have been effortless!

Yet, Kai had repelled him.

Despite multiple attacks, he had failed to kill Kai.

What was even more terrifying—Kai's bloodline power was growing stronger, impossible to suppress!

A deep unease settled in Huo Zhao's heart.

"This boy... he's becoming something unnatural."

At that moment, a voice echoed in Kai's mind.

"Kid, let me take over. If you don't let me possess you, you'll really die this time."

Seeing the situation, Red Cloud Demon Lord had no choice but to intervene. If Mr. Shi didn't arrive in time and Kai was killed, it would be a wasted effort!

“Alright!” Kai gritted his teeth. “Senior, do whatever you need. Even if I lose this body, so be it!”

His rage burned fiercely.

Too many Sun Moon City cultivators had died for him—this vengeance had to be exacted!

“So ruthless?” Red Cloud Demon Lord was momentarily stunned.

“We must kill him. Otherwise, the sacrifices of the Sun Moon City monks will be in vain!”

“Don’t worry,” Red Cloud Demon Lord sneered. “This fool is just a minor immortal—and it’s not even his true body. There’s nothing to fear!”

It had been too long since he had unleashed his full strength, and the Red Cloud Demon Lord was eager for battle!

“Senior, do it!”

With that, Kai’s consciousness withdrew, surrendering control of his body to Red Cloud Demon Lord.

BOOM!

A surge of demonic energy erupted from Kai, his entire aura undergoing a monstrous transformation!

Chapter 4862

Huo Zhao frowned as he stared at Kai, who suddenly seemed like an entirely different person.

“What are you looking at? Come here, little trash...”

Kai waved at him provocatively.

Huo Zhao froze for a moment, his expression darkening. “You dare speak to me like that? You’re courting death!”

Without hesitation, he stepped forward and threw a powerful punch!

Kai didn’t flinch. Instead of using the God King Bow, he clenched his fist and struck back!

BOOM!

Two vastly different forces collided, unleashing a chaotic surge of energy that shook the heavens and the earth. If not for the Ladder to Heaven holding the realm together, the Land of Wuwang would have collapsed under the pressure!

Huo Zhao’s eyes widened in shock. “Who... who are you?”

Just moments ago, his attack should have crushed Kai—yet Kai had taken the blow head-on without even flinching!

This is impossible!

“I’m your ancestor...” Kai sneered before launching another punch, taking the initiative to attack!

“You’re pushing it too far!”

Huo Zhao’s fury erupted. How could he, a mighty immortal, allow himself to be mocked by a mere Mahayana cultivator?

Roaring, he retaliated with a punch of his own!

Neither of them used weapons. This was a pure contest of raw strength—flesh against flesh, power against power!

BOOM!

Their fists clashed again, twisting the entire Land of Wuwang into distortion. In an instant, both Kai and Huo Zhao vanished, seemingly swallowed by the chaotic void!

The spectators were left speechless.

The battlefield had turned eerily silent, and no one could sense their presence anymore.

A deep worry settled in Lin Chong and the others. Kai had indeed ascended two realms, but there was still a vast gap between him and Huo Zhao!

Even Young Master Ming, who had been watching smugly, now wore a tense expression.

“Master Huo, is your family’s elder really struggling against a mere Mahayana cultivator like Kai?”

Qian Xiaohan turned to Huo Zhenfeng, his voice tinged with disbelief.

Huo Zhenfeng scoffed. “Impossible! The direct bloodline of the Huo family stands at the pinnacle of the heavens—they are immortals! There’s no way one of them could lose to Kai!” Huo Zhenfeng shook his head in disbelief. There was no way an immortal from the heavens could lose to Kai, a mere Mahayana cultivator—that would be absurd!

Yet, at this moment, neither Kai nor Huo Zhao could be seen, nor could their auras be sensed. The two had vanished into the twisted void, continuing their battle somewhere beyond sight.

“Master Qian, do you have any reinforcements?”

Ming Shao turned to Qian Xiaohan, knowing that the Huo family had already used their token to summon an elder. Now, it was up to Qianmen to act.

“Of course...”

Qian Xiaohan's fingers formed a seal, and suddenly, a Bagua diagram appeared in the sky, radiating mystical energy!

As everyone looked up, a towering figure emerged from within the diagram. A burly man, clad in massive armor and wielding a meteor hammer, slowly stepped forward.

His body stood at a staggering hundred meters tall, resembling a living mountain.

With every step he took, the ground trembled violently, sending shockwaves through the air.

The crowd watched in stunned silence.

“Who summoned me?”

The colossal Guardian lowered his gaze, scanning the surroundings with an imposing presence.

Qian Xiaohan stepped forward respectfully. “Master Guardian, I am the leader of Qianmen. I have summoned you because Qianmen is facing a crisis!”

The Guardian glanced at Qian Xiaohan and nodded. “You have indeed mastered the Dao of deduction. Speak—who is the enemy? I will crush them!”

His voice boomed like thunder, filled with absolute confidence and dominance.

“His name is Kai. The moment he appears, please hammer him to death!”

Qian Xiaohan commanded.

The Guardian nodded. “No problem. Since I have sworn to protect Qianmen for three thousand years, I shall fulfill my duty.”

Meanwhile, Li Chunfeng turned to Nan Batian with a smirk.

“Batian, why don’t you enlarge yourself too? Go stand next to him—your size alone might scare him to death!”

Nan Batian chuckled. “Give me a moment. Let me absorb some more immortal stones first!”

Sitting down, he continued to absorb immortal stones, replenishing his strength.

Once fully restored, he too could grow to a hundred meters tall—and when that happened, he wouldn’t fear the Guardian in the slightest!

Chapter 4863

The sky trembled as the void quaked!

Kai and Huo Zhao, who had vanished without a trace, suddenly reappeared!

The two stood facing each other in mid-air, and a bitter smile appeared on Huo Zhao’s face.

“You win...”

Huo Zhao admitted.

Kai grinned. “Heh, I could have crushed you effortlessly, but this body just isn’t up to the task!”

Huo Zhao let out a faint smile. At that moment, he understood—this Kai before him was no longer himself. He had been possessed by a powerful being!

And not just any being, but a peerless master from the heavens!

Before such an existence, he, a mere immortal, was nothing more than an ant.

“Elder Huo, haven’t you killed Kai yet?”

Huo Zhenfeng, seeing Kai still alive, shouted in frustration.

Huo Zhao glanced at Huo Zhenfeng, shook his head slightly, and said, “You can do it yourself...”

With those final words, Huo Zhao’s body rapidly faded until he disappeared completely!

Seeing this, Huo Zhenfeng was dumbfounded.

Even Ming Shao frowned slightly, his expression growing increasingly uneasy.

“Master Guardian, this is the one—kill him!”

Qian Xiaohan pointed at Kai.

“A mere Mahayana realm cultivator, and you’re all so afraid? Watch, I’ll finish him with one punch!”

The Guardian sneered at Kai, contempt gleaming in his eyes.

“Kid, do you still need my help? If I act again, your body really won’t hold up!”

Chiyun Demon Lord warned.

“Senior, I’ll handle it myself!”

Kai knew that if he let Chiyun Demon Lord take over again, his body would be completely destroyed.

Although he could reconstruct it, the process would take too long, and he wasn't willing to wait.

“Alright, have your fun then!”

Chiyun Demon Lord relinquished control back to Kai.

Kai was speechless. To the Chiyun Demon Lord, fighting immortals was nothing more than a game! I'm just a Mahayana cultivator—who would believe it if I said this?

A mere Mahayana cultivator daring to challenge an immortal!

“Mr. Chen, let me take on this big guy...”

At that moment, Nan Batian expanded his body to a hundred meters tall and spoke to Kai.

“You're probably not his match...”

Kai could tell at a glance that Nan Batian wasn't strong enough to defeat this opponent.

Although Nan Batian was once an immortal, he had been trapped on the ladder for too long. His strength had been suppressed in this realm, making it impossible for him to be an equal opponent.

“Mr. Chen, even if I can't beat him, I can still wear him down.”

“Otherwise, you won't stand a chance!”

With that, Nan Batian threw a punch at the guardian!

The two towering figures, each over two hundred meters tall, clashed in battle!

Everyone could only look up in awe.

Boom!

Their massive fists collided, sending shockwaves through the air. Nan Batian's enormous body staggered backward, and his entire arm began to fracture!

One punch had decided the outcome—Nan Batian was still at a disadvantage!

Moreover, he had fought several battles before and hadn't fully recovered!

Looking at his broken arm, Nan Batian sighed in frustration. "Mr. Chen, I can't do it..."

"I'll handle it myself!"

Suspended in mid-air, Kai fixed a cold gaze on the guardian.

"Boy, I really don't want to dirty my hands by killing a mere Mahayana cultivator."

"But I swore to guard Qianmen for three thousand years, and I intend to keep that promise!"

"I'll make sure you die quickly—don't worry."

With that, the guardian launched a punch at Kai from a distance!

As his fist tore through the air, countless vengeful souls emerged, shrieking and howling. Their cries echoed across Wuwang Land!

In that moment, the land itself seemed to transform into a living purgatory!

"Mr. Chen, be careful! That's the Death Soul Fist..."

Nan Batian shouted in warning.

This technique was deadly—as long as one was engulfed by the vengeful souls, even without taking a direct hit, survival was impossible!

Chapter 4864

A soul engulfed by these vengeful spirits will be gradually corroded, eventually becoming one of them, trapped within the Death Soul Fist!

The guardian's punch contained millions of vengeful souls, a testament to the countless lives he had taken with this technique!

Facing the terrifying attack, Kai's expression darkened, his face filled with unease.

He wanted to use the Condensation Heart Technique to absorb and refine the vengeful souls, but doing so would take time—time that his opponent would never allow him!

Instead, Kai gripped the Dragon Slashing Sword, preparing to carve an opening and escape from the Death Soul Fist's range.

But before he could act, his storage ring suddenly trembled.

In the next moment, the little Swallowing Beast darted out!

Its eyes gleamed as it faced the countless vengeful souls.

Then, it opened its mouth wide!

In an instant, the millions of vengeful souls were sucked directly into its stomach.

The little Swallowing Beast's mouth became a vortex, pulling in the souls with an irresistible force. Even as they struggled to escape, they were devoured completely!

The guardian stood frozen in shock, utterly dumbfounded.

He had no idea what this bizarre creature was.

Yet, in the blink of an eye, it had consumed all the vengeful souls, restoring the world to normal!

Everyone stared in stunned silence.

Under their bewildered gazes, the little Swallowing Beast licked its lips before casually retreating into Kai's storage ring.

Kai, watching it return, burst into laughter. He turned to the guardian and said with a grin, "My little pet was starving—thanks for the meal!"

Everyone was left speechless.

The guardian, meanwhile, looked at the empty space where his millions of vengeful souls had been—and began to wail!

"Those were the souls I spent my entire life cultivating! You have to compensate me!"

His cries were filled with grief. His life's work had been devoured in an instant by a strange little creature!

Watching the massive guardian sob so pitifully, even Kai was momentarily stunned.

After crying for a long time, the guardian wiped his tears, then glared at Kai with burning hatred.

"Boy, you'd better remember this—I won't forget it!"

With that, he turned and left.

"Master Guardian, why are you just walking away?"

Qian Xiaohan, unable to believe what he was seeing, called out in alarm! "I've lost my millions of vengeful souls—what else do you expect me to

do? I only promised to guard Qianmen for three thousand years, but I never said I'd be your servant!"

The guardian glared at Qian Xiaohan as he spoke.

"Master Guardian, but Kai wants to destroy Qianmen! You must protect us!"

Qian Xiaohan pleaded.

The guardian cast a brief glance at Qian Xiaohan before turning to Kai.

"My friend, do me a favor—let this go. Spare Qianmen!"

He was actually begging Kai for mercy, talking about saving face!

"Qianmen must be destroyed..."

Kai shook his head.

From the moment they stood against him, siding with Ming Shao, their fate had been sealed.

"Dammit, can't you give me some face? Do you really want to force me to act?"

The guardian roared in frustration.

"You're welcome to try."

Kai remained calm, completely unafraid.

"Boy, I tried to be nice, didn't I?"

The guardian's expression darkened, and he threw a punch!

Even without the vengeful souls, the sheer force of the attack made the void tremble, and the sky shift in turmoil!

“Don’t worry, son-in-law—your father-in-law is here!”

A powerful voice rang out, followed by a dazzling sword beam that instantly blocked the incoming punch!

“Father?”

Hua Yueying gasped in shock when she saw the newcomer.

It was none other than the Lord of the Northern Territory!

With an air of immortality, he held a heavy black iron sword in his hand.

“Old Bei, since when did Mr. Chen become your son-in-law?”

“And besides, you old man, you never even mentioned having a daughter!”

Lin Chong frowned as he looked at the Lord of the Northern Territory.

Kai had always been with Lin Keting—when did he end up involved with the Lord of the Northern Territory’s daughter?

Chapter 4865

“Emperor Lin, I didn’t have a daughter before, but I do now. And she’s been married to Kai for quite some time!”

The Lord of the Northern Territory declared.

Hua Yueying’s face flushed red upon hearing this. She had slept with Kai, and if anyone checked, his bloodline would undoubtedly be within her.

“Old man, do you really think you can stop me with just a seventh-rank Immortal Realm cultivation?”

The guardian glared at the Lord of the Northern Territory and shouted angrily.

“I can’t stop you alone, but what about five of us?”

As he spoke, four more overwhelming auras descended from the sky!

The five Lords of the East, South, West, North, and Center had all arrived!

Kai recognized the Lords of the South, West, and North, as he had met them before. However, the other two were unfamiliar to him.

Especially the Lord of the West, who had once fled in terror the moment Mr. Shi appeared!

“My friend, how are you? We five old men are here to assist you—there’s no need to worry!”

The Lord of the West approached Kai, his tone unusually flattering.

Everyone was left bewildered by his attitude.

Especially Lin Chong, who couldn’t understand what had gotten into the Lord of the West for him to act so subservient toward Kai!

The Lord of the North chuckled at the sight, knowing all too well that the Lord of the West had practically wet himself in fear while rushing over!

“Senior, thank you for your assistance!”

Kai smiled slightly.

“No need for thanks, no need at all! Since you’re the Northern Lord’s son-in-law, we’re family—no need to worry!”

After saying this, the Lord of the West turned his gaze to the guardian.

“You oversized brute! The five of us will take you on and see if we can put an end to you!”

With that, he charged forward, eager to prove himself in front of Kai!

The other four Lords followed suit, launching a joint attack on the guardian!

Seeing this, the guardian engaged them in battle!

Ming Shao frowned, his expression filled with disbelief as he observed the five Lords.

He couldn’t understand why these five old figures—who had remained detached from worldly affairs for so long—had suddenly appeared to aid Kai.

Could it be that Kai had a powerful backer, someone these five were trying to curry favor with?

“Do you have anyone else? I can wait while you call for reinforcements!”

Kai looked at Young Master Ming, his tone deliberately arrogant.

Young Master Ming’s expression darkened. He never allowed anyone to outdo him in arrogance, yet now Kai was openly flaunting his superiority in front of him!

His body trembled with rage, his face flushed red, but at this moment, he truly had no one left to send into battle.

Now, his only hope was that the Qianmen Guardian would defeat the five domain lords and restore the balance in his favor.

Above them, deafening roars echoed across the sky as dazzling rays of light burst forth.

But in just a single breath, several figures slowly emerged!

The Guardian's face was grim, yet the five domain lords didn't appear much better off either.

“Forget it. I only made a promise—I'm not about to throw my life away. I'm leaving!”

With that, the Guardian turned and disappeared into the sky.

Qian Xiaohan stood frozen in place, completely dumbfounded.

What kind of guardian was this?

Running away at the first sign of real danger—what was the point of guarding anything?

Standing on his bone ship, Ming Shao cast a cold glance at Qian Xiaohan and Huo Zhenfeng.

“Pathetic...”

Neither dared to utter a word.

After all, their lives depended entirely on Ming Shao's mercy.

If not for the protection of the Four Nether Palaces, Kai would have already wiped them out!

“Good thing the Heaven and Earth Suppression Array was in place—otherwise, the five of us really wouldn't have been a match for that oversized brute!”

The Lord of the Northern Territory took a deep breath, still shaken by the battle.

Seeing that the five domain lords had won, Kai's expression instantly turned mocking.

“You bunch of fools! Siding with Ming Shao against me—did it never occur to you that I might have powerful backers of my own?”

“Since you’ve chosen your side, don’t blame me for what happens next!”

With that, Kai turned to the five domain lords.

“Honored seniors, I ask for your aid in destroying Lian Sanmen and the Huo family!”

“Son-in-law, no problem!”

The Lord of the Northern Territory nodded, then turned to the others.

“Brothers, let’s get started!”

Without hesitation, the five domain lords charged toward Qian Xiaohan, Huo Zhenfeng, and their forces!

Chapter 4866

Seeing this, Lin Chong and Taoist Wuji led their forces to attack Lian Sanmen and the Huo family as well.

With the five domain lords joining the battle, Lian Sanmen and the Huo family had no chance of holding their ground!

“Ming Shao, help us! Please!”

“Ming Shao, save us!”

Qian Xiaohan and Huo Zhenfeng desperately pleaded for Ming Shao’s assistance.

But Ming Shao remained still, making it clear he had no intention of intervening.

At that moment, regret consumed Huo Zhenfeng. He had tried to align himself with the powerful Four Nether Palaces, only to find himself betrayed and on the verge of destruction!

A one-sided slaughter unfolded as the monks of Lian Sanmen and the Huo family were cut down one after another.

“Now, it’s our turn to have some fun...”

Kai smirked as he turned his gaze toward Ming Shao.

Ming Shao’s face twisted with frustration. His arrogance had always stemmed from the fact that he had powerful backing.

The Moshan forces, along with the four old ghosts, had been his source of confidence!

But now, there was no one left by his side.

“One-on-one, you’re no match for me!”

Ming Shao glared at Kai, clearly trying to prevent him from calling for reinforcements.

But he conveniently forgot that just moments ago, he had been the one begging for help!

“You’re nothing...”

Kai sneered before swinging his sword at Ming Shao!

He had grown tired of this arrogant fool.

A terrifying sword light slashed toward Ming Shao with overwhelming force!

His expression changed drastically in an instant.

Boom!

The sword's energy exploded, sending Ming Shao flying backward. The bone ship beneath his feet was instantly reduced to ashes!

Before he could even steady himself, another streak of sword light came hurtling toward him!

This one was even faster—stronger!

It came without warning, giving Ming Shao no time to react!

Panic surged through him. Gritting his teeth, he clenched his fists as a dark aura erupted around his body, desperately trying to block the attack.

Boom!

Once again, Ming Shao was sent flying! Boom!

Ming Shao was sent flying again!

In front of Kai, he had no power to fight back!

“And yet, you still dared to act so arrogant?”

Kai smirked in disdain.

He hadn't expected Ming Shao to be this pathetic. The guy had put on an impressive front, but in the end, he was nothing more than an empty show of bravado!

Blow after blow, Ming Shao was relentlessly knocked back. The dark shield surrounding him had already begun to crack!

By now, he was speechless.

He had already called for reinforcements, used every trick he had.

But who could have predicted that Kai had such a seemingly endless supply of powerful allies? One after another, they kept appearing—unstoppable, unrelenting!

Even the five domain masters had stepped in to help Kai!

If not for them, Kai would have been nothing more than a corpse by now!

But with all his options exhausted, Ming Shao had no escape left!

And worse—he still had no idea that the true powerhouse behind Kai was Mr. Shi!

Mr. Shi hadn't even made an appearance yet. If he had, the Four Nether Palaces would have long since been wiped out!

“Pretentious fool, here comes another sword!”

Kai raised his sword and slashed at Ming Shao once more!

His words made it clear—he was toying with him!

Ming Shao's expression darkened. He hurriedly raised his hands to block!

But the moment the sword light reached him, it suddenly vanished—without striking!

Ming Shao froze, then his anger flared.

“If you want to fight, then fight! Who are you trying to scare?”

He thought Kai was just messing with him!

But Kai merely smiled and said nothing.

Something about that smile sent a chill down Ming Shao's spine—it was eerie, unsettling.

Then, a sudden surge of danger prickled at his senses!

Instinctively, he turned his head—only to see a sword light appearing behind him!

His face contorted in shock.

“Impossible!” he gasped.

He had clearly seen the sword light disappear in front of him—so how had it suddenly appeared behind him?

What Ming Shao didn’t know was that Kai’s Dragon Slashing Sword was no ordinary weapon—it was a spiritual sword. Even without Kai’s direct control, the sword spirit, Zhongli, could command it to attack on its own!

Chapter 4867

As the sword light closed in, Ming Shao could only let out a furious roar, unleashing a surge of evil energy that enveloped his body.

At this point, he was completely on the defensive—he had no power to counterattack against Kai!

Boom!

The sword light struck in an instant, shattering the evil aura surrounding Ming Shao and sending him hurtling through the air!

But before he could stabilize himself, another sword strike followed!

One slash after another!

Kai refused to give Ming Shao even a moment to catch his breath!

He was doing this on purpose—to completely break Ming Shao, who had spent his days flaunting his arrogance!

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Like a helpless ragdoll, Ming Shao was battered back and forth by Kai's relentless sword strikes.

"Enough!"

Suddenly, Ming Shao let out a desperate scream. His body began to convulse, his face twisting in agony—until, at last, he transformed into a ghostly entity!

With his mouth wide open, he inhaled deeply, drawing in the black mist rising from the corpses of fallen monks on the battlefield. Each wisp of darkness was absorbed into his body, fueling his power!

Seeing this, Kai immediately activated the Condensation Heart Technique, engaging in a battle with Ming Shao to seize control of the evil energy!

He knew exactly what Ming Shao was doing—draining the spirits of the dead monks to restore his own strength!

Time passed, though it was impossible to tell how long.

By the end, the bodies of the fallen monks had completely vanished, leaving only dark, human-shaped scorch marks on the ground!

Ming Shao, now surrounded by thick black mist, gradually reverted to his human form.

"Kai, we had no deep grudge, yet you keep humiliating me today. You leave me no choice!" Ming Shao spat coldly.

Kai let out a disdainful snort. "No grudge? You slaughtered so many of my people, and now you want to play innocent?" His gaze darkened. "Today, you die!"

"Mr. Chen, we're here!"

At that moment, Lin Chong and the others arrived!

With Lian Sanmen and the Huo family already annihilated, Lin Chong, Taoist Wuji, Li Chunfeng, Nan Batian, and the five domain masters—all powerful figures—surrounded Ming Shao from every direction!

Seeing this, Ming Shao's fleeting confidence and fighting spirit crumbled in an instant.

No matter how powerful he was, facing so many formidable opponents, there was no escaping death this time! Ming Shao's body trembled violently, his face filled with panic—there was no trace of arrogance left in him!

“Kill him...”

Even though Ming Shao was visibly shaking, his facade completely shattered, Kai had no intention of sparing him!

With Kai's command, everyone slowly closed in on Ming Shao.

The sheer pressure radiating from them made Ming Shao's legs go weak—he was on the verge of losing control out of fear!

“Kill!”

In an instant, a coordinated attack was launched at Ming Shao!

A terrifying surge of power erupted, threatening to obliterate him completely!

“Stop!”

A thunderous voice rang out, followed by a surge of overwhelming energy that instantly blocked Kai's attack!

Startled, Kai and the others looked up—an elderly figure was descending swiftly from the sky!

“Father!”

At the sight of the newcomer, Ming Shao’s despair turned to joy, his face lighting up in relief.

Everyone else, however, wore grim expressions—the Lord of the Four Nether Palaces, Ming Tian, had arrived!

Ming Tian’s gaze swept over Kai and his allies, his expression darkening. “So many of you ganging up on my son... Are you all courting death?”

With that, he suddenly raised his hand and struck downward with immense force!

Boom!

The entire Taoist sect crumbled beneath the impact, and a suffocating pressure enveloped all of Wuwang Land!

Many people were instantly crushed to the ground, unable to move!

Even Kai and the others were shaken. It felt as if mountains had been placed upon their shoulders—they struggled desperately to resist!

Blood trickled from the corners of Kai’s mouth, while the others gritted their teeth, enduring the immense force!

With just a single movement of Ming Tian’s hand, they could feel the breath of death upon them—it was a testament to just how terrifying the Lord of the Four Nether Palaces truly was!

Seeing this, Ming Shao’s arrogance returned.

“Kai, still trying to act tough?” He sneered, regaining his usual pretentious demeanor. “With a mere wave of my father’s hand, all of you will be reduced to ashes!”

Chapter 4868

Kai's expression darkened—he hadn't expected Ming Shao's father to appear as well!

Now, they were all utterly exhausted. How could they possibly stand against him?

Fear spread across many faces. Even the five domain masters were struggling to hold their ground and had no time to spare for him.

Despair.

A crushing sense of hopelessness filled everyone's hearts.

Against such overwhelming power, there was no escape.

Gritting his teeth, Kai felt the forces within him surging wildly, yet he remained powerless against the immense pressure.

Buzz!

Suddenly, a mysterious force erupted between heaven and earth. In an instant, the oppressive aura shattered!

Everyone exhaled in relief.

Ming Tian's expression tensed as he instinctively scanned his surroundings.

Just then, an old man cloaked in black mist approached. As the mist slowly dissipated, Kai's eyes widened in shock!

The moment Ming Tian saw the old man, his body trembled violently before he dropped to his knees with a loud thud!

"Father..." Ming Shao gasped, stunned to see his father kneeling!

“Kneel! Now!”

Ming Tian yanked his son down beside him.

“Ming Tian of the Fourth Nether Palace pays his respects to the ancestor of Yin Mo...”

He kowtowed deeply, not daring to meet Yin Mo’s gaze.

Yet Yin Mo didn’t spare him a glance. Without hesitation, he walked straight toward Kai.

“Senior, have you regained your physical form?”

Kai asked excitedly upon seeing that Yin Mo now had a body.

“Hahaha, all thanks to you, little brother.” Yin Mo laughed heartily, patting Kai on the shoulder. “You’ve grown much stronger in this short time!”

“Compared to you, Senior, my strength is hardly worth mentioning,” Kai replied humbly. “I have trained for tens of thousands of years. How long have you been cultivating? Once you reach my level of experience, your achievements will surely surpass mine!”

Yin Mo praised Kai.

Lin Chong and the others instinctively stepped back upon seeing Yin Mo. Even though he wasn’t exuding any aura, his mere presence made them uneasy and fearful.

The five domain masters regarded Yin Mo with visible apprehension. The Western Domain Master, in particular, felt numb with shock as he watched Kai interact so casually with Yin Mo.

First, there was Mr. Shi, whose mere glance was enough to terrify him. And now, another master had appeared—one whose realm was beyond comprehension. Just how many powerful figures were backing Kai?

Even Li Chunfeng, Nan Batian, and the Wuji Taoist Priest, who resided in the Heavenly Realm, struggled to steady their breathing at the sight of Yin Mo.

Clearly, even their strength paled in comparison to his.

Ming Tian stood frozen, stunned by Yin Mo's casual conversation with Kai.

Meanwhile, young master Ming was so terrified that his legs trembled uncontrollably, his fear overwhelming.

There was no trace of arrogance on his face—only sheer terror.

He could hardly believe that Kai, a mere Mahayana cultivator, was on such familiar terms with the ancestor of their Yin Demon lineage.

And from the looks of it, Yin Mo and Kai had known each other for quite some time.

“Senior, cultivators of your lineage love to flaunt their strength. If you hadn't appeared just now, I would probably be a corpse by now,” Kai remarked, glancing at the trembling Ming Shao with a slight smile.

Yin Mo then turned his cold gaze toward Ming Tian and his son. Snorting, he said, “With such meager strength, you dare claim to be from my lineage? What an embarrassment.”

“Kill them both. I won't dirty my hands...”

His words made Ming Tian's body tremble even more, while Ming Shao lost control of his bowels in sheer terror.

“Grandmaster, please spare my life! Grandmaster, have mercy!” Ming Tian pleaded, kowtowing desperately.

“Senior, just kill his son,” Kai interjected. “That arrogant brat has taken too many innocent lives.”

He didn't want the Four Netherworlds to be completely destroyed.

If they surrendered to him, he could unite them with Sun and Moon City's forces and lead them to the Fire Sect to rescue the leader of the Weapon Refining Sect.

As the most dominant force in the Heavenly Realm, the Fire Sect would not be easy to confront. Kai knew that all too well.

Chapter 4869

"Did you hear that?" Yin Mo asked coldly.

"I heard it, I heard it..." Ming Tian nodded repeatedly, then turned to look at his son.

"F-Father... you... what are you going to do?"

Ming Shao was so terrified that he could barely speak.

"Son, don't blame me. In your next life, don't pretend to be something you're not!"

"Arrogance invites disaster—you won't die well..."

"Remember that!"

With that, Ming Tian struck with his palm. In an instant, Ming Shao was reduced to ashes, leaving not even a corpse behind.

Kai watched in astonishment. This Ming Tian was ruthless—he hadn't even spared his son a proper burial!

"Now leave, and remember—stay in line from now on!"

Kai waved his hand dismissively.

Ming Tian hesitated, sneaking a glance at Yin Mo.

“What are you waiting for? Didn’t you hear what my brother said?” Yin Mo snapped coldly.

“I heard it, I heard it...” Ming Tian nodded quickly before vanishing in an instant.

Once he was gone, Yin Mo turned to Kai.

“Brother, what brings you here?”

Kai pointed to the distant staircase.

“I’m climbing the ladder. If I pass all nine levels, I can ascend to the Heavenly Realm.”

Yin Mo glanced at it and scoffed.

“Do you need me to check which fool created this ridiculous thing just to toy with these ants in the Heavenly Realm?”

“No, I think it’s a good idea. Even if one can’t cultivate to ascend, they can still reach the heavens through the ladder,” Kai replied, shaking his head.

“Fine. If you want to go through the experience, then go ahead,” Yin Mo said.

“Senior, where are you headed?” Kai asked.

“I have preparations to make. The great formation of heaven and earth is about to break, and I must be ready to return to the Heavenly Realm,” Yin Mo replied before vanishing in an instant.

Meanwhile, on the ninth level of the ladder, an old man and a young man silently observed everything happening below. “Master, someone just called you a fool. Should we deal with him?”

The young man asked eagerly.

“Shut up!” The old man shot him a glare before continuing, “Listen carefully—let Kai go. That guy is not someone to mess with.”

The young man: “.....”

Climbing to the Third Floor of the Ladder

After a few days of recovery, Kai and Li Chunfeng ascended to the third floor of the Sky Ladder. Nan Batian did not follow, as his broken arm needed to be restored.

“Mr. Chen, you’ve only been recovering for a few days, yet you’re already advancing to the third floor. This could be dangerous,” Li Chunfeng cautioned.

“It’s fine. If we can subdue the guardian of the third floor, we’ll gain another powerful ally,” Kai replied confidently.

His goal was to bring the guardians of the Sky Ladder under his command.

The more guardians he controlled, the greater his chances of rescuing the leader of the Refining Sect.

Just as Kai and Li Chunfeng stepped onto the third floor, an enormous palace loomed before them. It stood a hundred feet tall, with a massive stone staircase leading directly to its entrance.

Beyond the palace, there was nothing—only emptiness.

The third floor seemed like a dead world, devoid of any life except for this solitary hall.

“What’s going on? Could the guardian of the third floor be inside this palace?”

“This seems too easy. Weren’t the previous floors vast, with entire worlds to explore?”

Kai stared at the palace, puzzled.

“I have no idea...” Li Chunfeng admitted, just as confused.

After all, he had never set foot on the third floor before and had no prior knowledge of it.

“Mr. Chen, regardless of what this place is, you should remain cautious,” Li Chunfeng warned.

Kai nodded. He certainly wouldn’t underestimate the challenge ahead.

The guardians of the first and second floors—Nan Batian and Li Chunfeng—were both formidable.

It was only natural that the guardian of the third floor would be just as strong, if not stronger.

What puzzled Kai the most was why the Sky Ladder seemed to be working against him.

Yun Li and the others had already reached the fourth floor with ease, yet Kai had struggled just to reach the third.

Chapter 4870

Kai gripped the Dragon Slaying Sword tightly and suddenly charged toward the grand hall. With a swift strike, a brilliant sword light slashed directly at the towering structure, aiming to cleave the ten-thousand-foot-high palace in two.

But just as he approached, a golden light shot out from within the hall!

Boom!

Kai's sword light was instantly shattered, and an invisible force repelled him, sending him crashing heavily to the ground.

His attempt to reach the top of the stone steps in a single bound had failed—it was impossible!

Kai was stunned. Despite advancing two levels in succession, he had been forced back without even catching a glimpse of his opponent!

His expression grew increasingly serious as he stared at the grand hall. If simply approaching it was this difficult, then the guardian within must be even more formidable!

Realizing there was no other choice, Kai steadied himself and began ascending the stone steps, moving forward one step at a time.

He exerted no force, wielded no sword, and carried no hostility.

Step by step, he advanced without resistance, until at last, he reached the massive doors of the hall.

As he arrived, the heavy doors creaked open on their own.

Kai stepped inside and found the interior shrouded in darkness—like the gaping maw of a beast, exuding an eerie, inexplicable sense of dread.

“A mere Mahayana cultivator dares to intrude upon the third floor?”

A sudden light flickered to life within the hall, illuminating a lone figure.

Kai looked over and was surprised to see a Confucian scholar—dressed in pristine robes, wearing a scholar's crown and belt, exuding the demeanor of a refined intellectual.

At first glance, he didn't resemble a powerful master at all.

"Junior Kai greets the senior," Kai said respectfully, clasping his hands together.

Anyone who served as a guardian here was certainly from the Heavenly Realm. It was only proper to address him as a senior.

"With your level of strength, you made it here? The guardians of the first two floors must be utterly useless!"

The scholar scoffed disdainfully.

Outside the hall, Li Chunfeng, upon hearing this remark, clenched his jaw and muttered under his breath, "MLGB..."

"Senior, that's not quite fair," Kai countered. "The seniors on the first two floors are incredibly powerful. However, they've been imprisoned here, their strength forcibly suppressed." "I assume you're imprisoned here as well, senior? You probably can't leave this hall, can you?"

Kai asked the Confucian scholar.

"Yes, I am imprisoned here, but my life is quite comfortable. Believers bring offerings every day. Even if I can't leave this hall, so what?"

The Confucian scholar replied smugly.

"Senior, are you mistaken? From what I've seen, this floor contains only this hall. Where are these believers you speak of?"

Kai asked, puzzled.

"Impossible!" The Confucian scholar frowned.

"If you don't believe me, take a look outside..." Kai suggested.

As soon as he finished speaking, the entire hall was suddenly illuminated with brilliant light.

The Confucian scholar looked out through the hall's window and was shocked to find only a hazy void—an expanse of chaos with no discernible world, no structures, and certainly no believers.

“How can this be? Why is it like this?”

His expression changed drastically, filled with disbelief.

“Senior, this was the state of the third floor when I arrived. I have no idea what happened.”

Kai replied honestly.

The Confucian scholar fell into deep thought. After a moment, he sighed bitterly.

“Perhaps they decided I was living too comfortably and erased this level's world entirely.”

“But it doesn't matter. If you wish to advance, you'll have to defeat me first.”

“Then I won't hold back, senior!”

Kai gripped the Dragon Slaying Sword tightly, not daring to underestimate his opponent.

Activating the Indestructible Golden Body, he unleashed all his strength and swung his sword fiercely at the Confucian scholar.

Boom!

As the sword struck, the Confucian scholar casually waved his hand in dismissal—only to be sent flying by the sword's force. His chest cracked open, and blood spurted out!

Kai stood stunned.

He hadn't expected the guardian of the third floor to be so weak!

The Confucian scholar, equally bewildered, muttered in disbelief,

"Why is my strength suppressed again? I have less than one-tenth of my original power!"

Chapter 4871

"Senior, I didn't mean to... It's just that you don't seem to be able to handle a fight!"

Kai said, looking a little embarrassed.

"Nonsense! I can't handle a fight? I was just going easy on you, a mere Mahayana cultivator! I'll teach you a lesson!"

"Come again!"

The Confucian scholar leaped into the air and charged straight at Kai.

Having experienced the first exchange, Kai held back slightly, not unleashing the full power of the Dragon Slaying Sword.

Boom!

With another slash, the Confucian was struck once more. Several fresh wounds appeared on his body.

"What's going on?"

The Confucian looked down at his wounds, his face flushing with anger.

He couldn't understand why his strength had weakened so drastically.

Just the other day, he had exchanged blows with someone without feeling any drop in power.

What was happening now?

“Put that sword away! Let’s fight properly!”

The Confucian glared at the Dragon Slaying Sword in Kai’s hand, convinced that the weapon was the cause of his weakness.

“Alright.”

Kai nodded and sheathed the sword.

Seeing this, the Confucian clenched his teeth, his eyes flashing with determination. With a roar, he lunged at Kai again.

But this time, Kai no longer felt any concern. Instead, a smirk appeared on his face.

“Holy Light Fist!”

He threw a punch, and golden light erupted from his fist.

Boom!

The Confucian was sent flying once again, crashing hard into the ground and spitting out blood.

At this point, Kai was completely at ease. It turned out the so-called guardian of the third floor wasn’t as formidable as he had imagined—he had no real strength at all!

Meanwhile, the Confucian scholar looked utterly defeated, his spirit crushed.

“This... this is impossible!”

He roared in frustration.

Hearing the commotion inside the hall, Li Chunfeng slowly stepped inside.

His eyes widened in disbelief when he saw the Confucian lying battered and bruised on the ground.

He couldn't comprehend it.

When had Kai become so powerful?

He had defeated the third-floor guardian with just a few punches and kicks!

“Senior Li, the guardian of the third floor isn't as strong as you or Nan Batian!”

Kai explained as he followed Li Chunfeng.

Li Chunfeng was momentarily stunned. He turned to look at the Confucian scholar, then, without hesitation, drew his sword and slashed.

The motion was fluid—smooth as flowing water, executed in one swift stroke.

“What are you doing?!”

The Confucian scholar was caught off guard. He hastily tried to defend himself but was still sent flying by the strike, another fresh wound appearing on his body.

Li Chunfeng frowned. “With your level of strength, how did you have the audacity to call the guardians of the first and second floors rubbish?”

“Who... who are you?”

The Confucian scholar looked at Li Chunfeng in shock.

“I am Li Chunfeng, guardian of the second floor,” he replied.

“Impossible!” The Confucian scholar shook his head in disbelief. “If you were truly the guardian of the second floor, how could you have left it?”

“I was able to escape thanks to Mr. Chen. He helped me break the prison seal and resist the punishment of heaven.”

Li Chunfeng’s words made the Confucian scholar’s eyes widen in shock.

“You... A mere Mahayana cultivator can break the prison seal and withstand the punishment of heaven?”

Kai simply nodded without saying a word.

“I don’t believe it! Not unless you prove it by breaking my seal as well.” The Confucian scholar demanded.

“I can help you, but it comes at a price,” Kai replied.

“What price?” the Confucian scholar asked warily.

“You must follow me for three hundred years, obey my commands, and fight for me.”

Kai then smirked and added, “But with your level of strength, I’m not sure you’d be much help. You’re too weak.”

“I am not weak!” the Confucian scholar protested loudly. “I am a celestial being from the heavens! Even if my strength is suppressed, I should never have lost to a Mahayana cultivator like you!”

“It’s only because my realm is restricted here! Right now, I’m operating at less than one-tenth of my true power.”

Kai raised an eyebrow. “Then why were you imprisoned here in the first place?” He gave the scholar a teasing look. “You weren’t caught spying on a young lady bathing, were you?”

“Absurd!” the Confucian scholar roared indignantly. “I am a man of letters! How could I stoop to such vulgarity?”

Chapter 4872

Li Chunfeng stood off to the side, looking both embarrassed and ashamed.

“Then why were you imprisoned?” Kai asked curiously. “Tell me the truth, and I’ll help you break the prison seal.”

“I... I...” The Confucian scholar hesitated before muttering under his breath, “I accidentally touched a female fairy’s... uh, backside.”

His voice grew quieter as he spoke, his guilt evident. Then, sighing, he added, “But who would’ve thought her father was a Golden Immortal? He found out and locked me up here!”

From the way he spoke, it was clear this was no accident.

Kai stifled a laugh and exchanged a glance with Li Chunfeng. It seemed they had both offended the same fairy!

“I’ll help you break the prison seal, but in exchange, you’ll serve me for three hundred years. Deal?” Kai proposed.

“Fine,” the Confucian scholar agreed. “But if breaking the seal triggers heavenly punishment and you end up dead, that’s on you!”

“Don’t worry,” Kai replied confidently. “The so-called heavenly punishment of a mere Golden Immortal doesn’t scare me in the slightest.”

With that, he pressed his palm against the ground of the hall.

A soft glow spread from beneath his hand, illuminating the floor. Soon, the prison seal appeared—just like the ones that had bound Nan Batian

and Li Chunfeng. Crimson lines, resembling flowing blood, pulsed within the seal.

But just as Kai was about to break it, the seal suddenly trembled and—without warning—vanished!

The Confucian scholar froze, then moved his body in disbelief. His face was full of shock.

“The prison seal... it’s gone?” he murmured.

Kai stood stunned. “Wait... what? It just ran away?”

“Mr. Chen, the prison seal must have been afraid of you!” Li Chunfeng quickly suggested. “It fled the moment you made a move!”

“Don’t be ridiculous,” Kai replied. “A prison seal is nothing more than a restriction—it doesn’t have a will of its own. There’s no way it just ‘ran away.’”

He frowned in thought. “Someone must have withdrawn the seal... but why? Could it be that the Golden Immortal who imprisoned you has some kind of connection to me?”

The Confucian scholar eyed Kai curiously. “Do you have any ties to that Golden Immortal?”

Kai shook his head. “Not at all—I don’t even know him.”

“Well, senior, you’re free now,” Kai reminded him. “Don’t forget your promise.”

“Of course,” the Confucian scholar assured him. “Since I gave my word, I will serve you for three hundred years.”

“But,” he added with a serious expression, “you’d better be prepared. The heavenly punishment will come soon. If you survive it, we can talk about what’s next!” “You two, stay back! Don’t let it affect you!”

After experiencing two previous heavenly punishments, Kai felt more at ease this time.

If the little Swallowing Beast didn't appear, he was prepared to use the Dragon Pattern Bell for protection.

Taking a deep breath, he activated his Indestructible Golden Body, covering himself in a golden glow, while keeping the Dragon Pattern Bell at the ready.

With all his defenses in place, Kai stood firm, waiting patiently.

Soon, an immense force descended from the sky!

"Mr. Chen, be careful! The punishment of heaven is coming!" Li Chunfeng warned.

Kai nodded, gathering all his strength and layering multiple shields around himself.

Ding...

Just as he braced for impact, a crisp sound rang out—

It was as if a small hammer had lightly tapped his head!

Then, in an instant, the overwhelming heavenly force vanished without a trace.

Li Chunfeng: "....."

Confucian Scholar: "....."

Kai: "....."

The three stood frozen in place, speechless.

None of them could comprehend what had just happened.

Since when had heavenly punishment become so... underwhelming?

This wasn't even as powerful as a mere mortal throwing a rock!

Was this truly the power of a Golden Immortal's Heavenly Dao?

Kai was utterly baffled.

What he didn't know was that someone had gone easy on him.

And not just a little... they had completely watered it down!

"I told you already, a mere Golden Immortal is nothing worth worrying about..." Kai said, smugly dismissing the event as he retracted his powers.

Li Chunfeng and the Confucian Scholar stared at him in awe.

How many years had he cultivated? What realm was he truly at?

Compared to Kai, these so-called immortals—who had trained for tens of millions of years—should probably just find a hole to crawl into!

Chapter 4873

"I am Shen Zhiyan, and I pay my respects to you, Mr. Chen..."

The Confucian scholar knelt on one knee, fully submitting to Kai.

"Get up," Kai waved his hand.

After Shen Zhiyan stood, he asked, "Mr. Chen, do you intend to move on to the next level?"

"Of course!" Kai nodded.

“Mr. Chen, the guardian of the fourth floor is formidable, and the fourth floor itself is home to many powerful beings. If you decide to go, you must be careful,” Shen Zhiyan warned.

“I helped him remove the prison seal; can he really defeat me?” Kai smiled slightly.

But Shen Zhiyan shook his head. “The guardian of the fourth floor wasn’t imprisoned by anyone. He locked himself here to train. If you try to help him remove the seal and give him freedom, I’m afraid it won’t be that simple.”

“Self-imprisoned for training? Isn’t that a serious mental issue?” Kai felt perplexed. Who in their right mind would imprison themselves?

“That’s why I advise Mr. Chen to proceed with caution. People like that are often unstable, and their mental state can be unpredictable,” Shen Zhiyan cautioned.

Kai fell silent for a moment before asking, “Is there any way to skip the fourth floor and go directly to the fifth?”

“Definitely not. The Ladder to Heaven must be climbed step by step,” Shen Zhiyan replied, shaking his head.

“Who cares? When the enemy comes, the general will block and the earth will cover. Let’s go to the fifth floor first!” Kai said.

“But how can your strength be suppressed so much? You’d better find a way to recover. Otherwise, with your current strength, it’ll be easy to be killed in the Heavenly World!” Shen Zhiyan advised.

Kai then took out a storage bag and tossed it to Shen Zhiyan, filled with fairy stones.

After his battle with Young Master Ming, despite losing many on his side, Kai had gained plenty of resources from the three gates, the Huo family,

and the Four Underworlds. After cleaning up, he ended up with a million fairy stones.

“Mr. Chen, I’m not as weak as you think. For some unknown reason, my strength was suddenly suppressed. If we were to fight now, I’m afraid you wouldn’t be my match,” Shen Zhiyan said. “How is this possible? I knocked you away with a single punch!” Kai couldn’t believe it.

Suddenly, Shen Zhiyan struck back, landing a punch squarely on Kai and sending him flying.

Caught off guard, Kai was hurled straight out of the hall’s entrance, crashing heavily onto the ground. A sharp pain coursed through his body as his internal organs churned.

“Damn it! Why did you attack without warning?” he exclaimed, frowning.

“This is called a preemptive strike. You can only blame yourself for not being cautious enough,” Shen Zhiyan replied with a faint smile.

“Alright, let’s go again...”

As soon as Kai finished speaking, his body transformed into a golden blur, vanishing in an instant. In the blink of an eye, he reappeared in front of Shen Zhiyan.

With a swift motion, Kai swung his Dragon Slashing Sword, unleashing a terrifying sword intent that enveloped his opponent.

If this had been the same situation as before, Shen Zhiyan would have been knocked out instantly.

But this time, a book suddenly appeared in Shen Zhiyan’s hand. As its pages flipped rapidly, flashes of light emerged, forming countless sharp blades.

Kai's sword intent shattered instantly. At the same time, a barrage of luminous blades shot toward him.

Reacting quickly, Kai retreated at high speed. His indestructible golden body emitted a series of loud impacts as the blades struck.

By the time he exited the hall, he noticed cracks forming on his once-impenetrable golden body.

Clearly, Shen Zhiyan had become far stronger than before.

Shen Zhiyan followed Li Chunfeng out of the hall.

"Mr. Chen, are you alright?" Shen Zhiyan asked.

"Senior, when I was breaking through the level earlier, did you go easy on me?"

Kai found it hard to believe—how could Shen Zhiyan's strength have grown so drastically in such a short time?

"I was nearly beaten to death and left covered in injuries. Do you really think I was holding back?"

Shen Zhiyan sighed helplessly. He had simply stopped suppressing his power—there was no question of going easy.

Little did Kai know that the true master of the ladder had been the one to let him pass.

Chapter 4875

As soon as he stepped into the hall, Kai spotted Ning Zhi, draped in a fiery red cape with a mask covering his face.

Beside him stood a female cultivator dressed in the same attire, gripping a long sword engulfed in flames. Her gaze remained fixed indifferently on the shadows within the hall.

Ning Zhi also noticed Kai. When he saw that Kai had actually reached the fourth floor, his expression shifted slightly.

“Brother Ning, you made it to the fourth floor as well.”

Kai approached and greeted him.

Ning Zhi gave a slight nod, but his face darkened when he noticed Li Chunfeng and Shen Zhiyan trailing behind Kai.

He recognized Shen Zhiyan—who had just been the guardian of the third floor!

Now that Shen Zhiyan was following Kai, it could only mean one thing: the third-floor guardian had submitted to him.

Ning Zhi wasn’t sure what to think at that moment.

“Your senior sister...” Kai glanced at Su Yuqi’s back and asked in a low voice.

“She’s in the middle of a challenge,” Ning Zhi replied.

Just as he finished speaking, a flash of sword light suddenly appeared in front of Su Yuqi—without any warning!

It came from the darkness, with no way to tell who had unleashed it.

The blade was aimed directly at Su Yuqi’s face—an unmistakable killing move!

But her reaction was swift. The instant the sword light appeared, she had already swung her own blade.

Clang!

The attack was instantly deflected by Su Yuqi's sword. Without hesitation, she retaliated, sweeping her blade forward!

In an instant, flames engulfed the entire hall.

What had once been shrouded in darkness was now illuminated by the raging fire!

A figure emerged from within the flames, though his form appeared different.

"The ultimate fire... The demon clan's ultimate fire?" Kai frowned as he felt the scorching heat, then turned to Ning Zhi.

"We are demon cultivators. Brother Chen doesn't look down on us, does he?" Ning Zhi asked calmly.

"Of course not..." Kai shook his head and said nothing more.

At that moment, amidst the raging flames, streaks of sword light continued to shoot out. The opponent showed no fear of the fire!

Su Yuqi wielded her long sword, swinging it rapidly to deflect the dazzling attacks.

Clang!

As the final sword light was struck down, Su Yuqi's weapon shattered instantly!

Her eyes narrowed slightly at the broken blade, but without hesitation, she pressed her palms downward.

Boom!

A surge of fire erupted around her, and from within the flames, a sword forged entirely from fire slowly took shape!

Several more sword lights shot toward her, but this time, the surrounding flames shielded her from harm.

Had she been even a fraction slower, the opponent's attack would have pierced her!

With an angry shout, Su Yuqi gripped the fire-forged sword tightly in her right hand and swung it with force.

Thousands of blazing sword lights surged from the ground!

Yet, the opponent did not seem troubled. With a simple wave of his hand, every flaming sword light was instantly extinguished—along with all the fire in the hall!

Darkness engulfed the space once more.

Su Yuqi was struck hard, sent flying backward before crashing heavily onto the ground.

“Your senior sister lost...” Kai said to Ning Zhi.

Yet, watching Su Yuqi's defeat, an unsettling feeling lingered in Kai's heart. An urge to avenge her welled up inside him.

He wasn't sure why.

Perhaps it was a sense of justice, an unwillingness to see a woman being overpowered.

But Su Yuqi refused to concede.

She rose to her feet, gripping her sword once more!

As she swung, the entire void trembled!

In an instant, the hall was flooded with blinding light as a black-robed man calmly extended his hand.

The world shook violently.

Su Yuqi's body froze as if imprisoned, and in that moment, the fire-forged sword in her grasp vanished without a trace!

Chapter 4876

Su Yuqi's eyes dimmed, her fighting spirit fading. She knew she was powerless before the guardian of the fourth floor.

Yun Li was equally shocked. Judging by Su Yuqi's strength, he knew he could never be her match. If even she couldn't break through the fourth floor, there was no hope for him!

"I'll face him..."

Seeing Su Yuqi imprisoned, an inexplicable rage surged within Kai. Gripping the Dragon Slashing Sword, he prepared to strike.

"Mr. Chen, allow me to help..."

Li Chunfeng stepped forward, stopping Kai before turning to the black-robed man. "Fellow cultivator, may I—"

"Get lost."

With a wave of his hand, the black-robed man unleashed a terrifying aura toward Li Chunfeng!

Reacting instantly, Li Chunfeng hurled two flying swords forward.

The powerful aura was torn apart in an instant, dissipating into nothingness!

The black-robed man was momentarily stunned before charging directly at Li Chunfeng.

Without hesitation, Li Chunfeng stepped forward, slashing out a streak of sword light!

Slash!

The moment his blade swung down, the sword light seemed to descend from the heavens!

The black-robed man snorted coldly and threw a punch in response.

Boom!

A deafening explosion erupted as a violent shockwave spread outward!

Kai immediately activated his Indestructible Golden Body, shielding Su Yuqi from the blast.

Seeing this, Shen Zhiyan flicked his sleeve, dispersing the lingering force.

“Are you alright?” Kai turned to Su Yuqi, his voice filled with concern.

He didn’t know why, but he instinctively stepped in front of her, unwilling to see her hurt.

Su Yuqi glanced at him, then simply shook her head without saying a word.

Ning Zhi observed the scene with unease. He feared that if Kai recognized Su Yuqi beneath the mask, his entire plan would crumble!

“You... you’re not a cultivator from the Heavenly Realm, are you?”

The black-robed man turned his gaze toward Li Chunfeng.

“I am the guardian of the second floor, not a cultivator from the Heavenly Realm,” Li Chunfeng replied. “Where is the prison seal in your body?” the black-robed man asked in surprise.

“Mr. Chen broke it,” Li Chunfeng replied, glancing at Kai.

The black-robed man shifted his gaze to Kai, then let out a cold sneer. “Are you trying to fool a three-year-old? He’s only at the Mahayana realm—how could he possibly break the prison seal? Even if he did, could he withstand the punishment of heaven?”

“You don’t believe me?” Li Chunfeng asked.

“Not at all,” the black-robed man scoffed.

“Mr. Chen, he doesn’t believe it...” Li Chunfeng looked at Kai helplessly.

“Step aside. Let me face him—maybe then he’ll believe it,” Kai said, gripping the Dragon Slaying Sword as he stepped forward.

“Boy, I am not like the other guardians. I will kill you,” the black-robed man warned.

“If you can, then go ahead!”

Without hesitation, Kai swung his Dragon Slaying Sword.

A thunderous dragon roar echoed as the sword light transformed into a massive dragon, surging toward the black-robed man.

“Hmph!” The black-robed man snorted coldly.

He waved his hand lightly.

Yet, to his shock, nothing changed—the heavens and earth remained still. The dragon formed by the sword light crashed into him with full force!

Boom!

The black-robed man was sent flying, blood spraying into the air before he slammed into the ground.

Ning Zhi and Su Yuqi stared in disbelief.

Neither of them could comprehend how Kai had done it. With a single strike, he had overpowered such a formidable guardian!

Yun Li's eyes widened, his jaw dropping in shock. Defeating the fourth-floor guardian in one blow? That was absurd!

Li Chunfeng frowned slightly, his expression filled with confusion.

Only Shen Zhiyan seemed to grasp something. He lifted his head slightly, gazing upward.

Could it be that the master of the ladder was giving Kai an advantage?

After all, when he had fought alongside Kai, his own strength had suddenly been restricted!

"What... what just happened? How is this possible?" the black-robed man stammered in shock, completely at a loss.

Chapter 4877

"You are no match for me. Killing you would be effortless!"

Kai exuded an air of mystery as he sheathed the Dragon Slaying Sword.

The man in the black robe studied Kai, his expression shifting repeatedly. Then, he suddenly grinned and said, "You have quite the background..."

"That's right," Kai nodded.

“Even the owner of this ladder has started going easy on you. That proves just how powerful your background is!”

The man in the black robe realized that the ladder’s owner had been subtly helping Kai.

“So, what do you think? Want to leave with me? If you do, you’ll serve me for three hundred years!”

Kai extended the offer.

The man in the black robe shook his head. “If I wanted to leave, I could do so anytime. I’m not imprisoned—I chose to stay here. In fact, I had to beg the ladder’s owner for a long time before he finally agreed to let me stay.”

Kai was stunned. He looked at the man in black with disbelief. “Why? Why would you imprison yourself? Is it for the resources within this ladder?”

The man in black shook his head. “No amount of resources is worth sacrificing my freedom.”

“Then what is it, Senior?” Kai asked curiously. “Tell me—maybe I can help you!”

The man in black stared at Kai for a moment, then said, “Come with me.”

“Alright,” Kai replied, following him into the depths of the hall.

Meanwhile, Li Chunfeng and Shen Zhiyan waited outside.

Kai had no idea how long they walked or where they were going. He only noticed that the light ahead grew brighter and brighter.

Finally, a house appeared before him. It was simple yet old-fashioned, with a wooden door secured by two copper bolts.

The man in black robe pushed the door open and stepped inside. Kai followed.

But the moment he entered, he froze in shock. The entire room was draped in pink silk, creating a warm and cozy atmosphere. Scattered around were rag dolls, making the space look surprisingly cute.

Kai couldn't fathom how a grown man could live in such a room. Soon, Kai noticed a woman sitting on the bed, dressed in a pink gown. Her wide eyes stared unblinkingly outside.

"Who is she?" Kai asked curiously, gazing at the woman.

He couldn't sense any aura from her. If she had even the faintest breath of life, he would have known someone was in the room.

"My wife," the man in the black robe replied, handing Kai a stool. "Sit."

Kai accepted the seat without hesitation, then asked, "Your wife... is she dead?"

The man in black robe nodded. "She has been dead for nearly a thousand years."

"A thousand years?" Kai was stunned.

This man was unbelievably devoted. His wife had been dead for almost a millennium, yet he still preserved her body.

"You used secret techniques to keep her body intact, but this is unfair to her. She has no way to reincarnate," Kai said.

"My wife asked me to do this," the man in black robe explained. "She doesn't want to reincarnate—she only wants to stay with me."

"She told me that when I become strong enough to bring her back, we can be together again."

As he finished speaking, he gazed at his wife with deep affection.

“You sealed yourself inside the Ladder to Heaven just to cultivate and resurrect her?” Kai asked.

The man in black robe shook his head. “My power is suppressed here. No matter how much I cultivate, I can’t grow much stronger. But in this place, my wife’s body remains better preserved.”

“Even if I can’t bring her back, simply looking at her makes me feel as if she’s still with me.”

“Maybe... I can find a way to bring your wife back,” Kai suddenly thought of Mr. Shi.

Back then, Mr. Shi could revive someone, even if their soul had long perished.

“Really?” The man in black robe’s eyes lit up. “If you can resurrect my wife, I will serve you for three hundred years!”

Chapter 4878

“Resurrecting your wife shouldn’t be too difficult, but I still need to confirm it. After all, she has been dead for nearly a thousand years,” Kai said.

“But Mr. Shi can instantly revive even those who have been completely annihilated. If that’s the case, bringing your wife back should be possible!”

“If he can bring back people who have been utterly destroyed, then reviving my wife should be no issue at all! You must contact this Mr. Shi immediately!”

The man in the black robe was growing impatient.

“I can’t reach Mr. Shi right now, but I know he will find me eventually. When he does, I will ask him on your behalf,” Kai replied honestly.

Mr. Shi always appeared unexpectedly, and Kai had never known where to find him.

“If I can bring my wife back, I’m willing to sacrifice my cultivation—even my life!”

The man in black robe’s voice trembled with emotion.

“There aren’t many men in this world as devoted as you. If your wife is watching from the heavens, she would surely be at peace,” Kai said with admiration.

But the man in black robe shook his head. “I don’t deserve to be called devoted. I’m the one who killed my wife…”

“You… killed her?” Kai was stunned.

How could a man so deeply in love be responsible for his wife’s death?

The man in black robe nodded slowly, then removed his cloak.

Underneath, he was gaunt and deathly pale, his appearance resembling that of a vampire.

“My wife and I grew up together. We cultivated side by side, climbed the ranks together… we even bathed together,” he said bitterly.

“She was more talented than me, and her cultivation was always ahead of mine.”

“After we married and became dual cultivation partners, she continued to help me, yet I could never surpass her.”

“Over time, my pride as a man got the better of me. Watching her strength exceed mine, I grew resentful.”

“In secret, I began practicing dark arts, hoping that through forbidden techniques, I could finally surpass her...” “In the end, I did surpass my wife. My power grew rapidly, but my mind changed as well—my reason was slowly consumed.”

“To cultivate, I began draining the blood of innocent people, becoming nothing more than a demon.”

“My wife eventually realized something was wrong. During our dual cultivation, she forcibly absorbed the dark energy from my body. In the end, to prevent herself from turning into a demon, she sacrificed her soul, leaving behind only an empty body.”

“When I finally came to my senses and saw her lifeless form, regret consumed me—but it was already too late...”

“Nearly a thousand years have passed, and my body is still corroded by demonic energy, unable to fully recover.”

“My wife has never spoken to me since. Now, all I can do is stare at her in silence every day...”

As he spoke, tears streamed down his face.

Kai didn't know how to comfort him. Only someone who had experienced such a tragedy could truly understand his pain.

“What's your name? I don't even know who you are,” Kai asked.

“I'll do my best to help you. Since her body is intact, resurrection shouldn't be too difficult!”

“My name is Musha,” the man replied. With a gentle wave of his palm, his wife's body disappeared into his storage ring. “I will go with you.”

After taking a final look at the room, Musha raised his hand, and in an instant, flames engulfed the entire space.

Kai followed Musha back to the hall.

“Let’s go!” he said to Li Chunfeng and the others.

The group left the fourth floor, which sealed itself behind them, ceasing to exist.

“Mr. Chen, are you still planning to ascend to the fifth floor?” Musha asked.

“Not for now. I have more important matters to attend to,” Kai replied, retrieving a jade slip from his robes.

It was the fourth jade slip of the Heaven and Earth Formation. At that moment, a faint glow emanated from it.

Kai understood immediately—the fourth jade slip was about to activate. Once it did, the Heaven and Earth Formation would finally reveal itself!

Chapter 4879

“Mr. Chen, what is that?” Musha asked curiously.

“This is the jade slip of the Heaven and Earth Formation. Once I activate it, the formation will reveal itself,” Kai explained, gazing at the jade slip in his hand.

“When I break the formation, you will be able to return to the heavens.”

Li Chunfeng and Shen Zhiyan’s eyes burned with anticipation. If the Heaven and Earth Formation was broken, they would finally be free!

“Brother Chen, you focus on your task. We’ll head to the fifth floor first,” Ning Zhi said.

“Be careful, Brother Ning!” Kai nodded.

With that, Ning Zhi took Su Yuqi and ascended to the fifth floor, while Kai turned his attention to unlocking the fourth jade slip.

As he held it in his palm, its glow intensified, radiating a powerful energy as if something immense was about to break free from its cocoon.

Taking a deep breath, Kai infused the jade slip with his spiritual power.

The moment his energy surged into it, ancient runes etched on the surface began to flicker and shift, emitting a deep, resonating hum.

Suddenly, a blinding column of light shot skyward, expanding outward with Kai at its center.

The sky seemed to be torn apart by an invisible force, revealing a massive and mysterious magic formation.

Runes pulsed, intricate lines intertwined, and an overwhelming aura spread across the heavens, sending waves of energy throughout the world.

Wherever cultivators were, they instinctively stopped in their tracks, lifting their eyes toward the unfolding phenomenon.

Some stood in stunned silence, their mouths agape, too mesmerized to notice as their magic tools slipped from their hands. Others, filled with reverence, dropped to one knee and bowed toward the sky. Yet there were also those whose eyes gleamed with greed, already scheming about the hidden opportunities within the formation.

“This... What kind of power is this?” A white-haired elder trembled. Though he had cultivated for centuries, he had never witnessed anything like this.

“Could it be the legendary Heaven and Earth Formation?” A young cultivator clenched his fists, his eyes burning with excitement.

“It has appeared! The Heaven and Earth Formation has finally appeared!”

Nearby, the formation demon gazed at the grand spectacle, his voice trembling with exhilaration. “Brother, we will return to the heavens soon!” The ancestor of the Divine Pattern Clan gazed up at the Heaven and Earth Formation, his eyes brimming with tears.

In the far north, the Flame Demon, cloaked in raging fire, looked up at the colossal formation, his expression filled with raw emotion.

At this moment, countless cultivators trapped in the Heavenly Realm trembled with excitement. They had been waiting—waiting for thousands upon thousands of years!

Now, the Heaven and Earth Formation had finally appeared. All that remained was for someone to break it, and they would at last be free!

Kai stood before the formation, his heart a mix of excitement and apprehension.

He understood that revealing the Heaven and Earth Formation would stir a storm across the realms, and he was now at its very center.

“Mr. Chen, the Heaven and Earth Formation has manifested! Can you break it now?” Li Chunfeng asked eagerly.

Kai shook his head. “I’ve only managed to make it appear. I still need time to study how to break it properly.”

“Then focus on your research, Mr. Chen! We will protect you!”

Shen Zhiyan’s voice was filled with determination.

“Alright!” Kai nodded before slowly levitating into the air, his gaze fixed on the immense formation as he entered a deep state of concentration.

Meanwhile, in the Huofen Sect, Wen Haotian suddenly opened his eyes, a deep frown forming on his face.

“Ancestor, the Heaven and Earth Formation has appeared. It seems someone is attempting to break it!”

Wen Nanxing hurried into the secret chamber, his voice tense.

“Stop them immediately!” Wen Haotian ordered, glancing at the ancient bronze coffin beside him. “The time is not yet right. The formation cannot be broken now!”

“Understood!” Wen Nanxing nodded.

Soon after, a large group of cultivators from the Huofen Sect, led by Wen Nanxing, set out toward the Land of Wuwang. Among them were Wen Qing and Wen Shi, the brother and sister duo who had fled when Kai was engaged in a fierce battle with the Four Nether Palaces.

Chapter 4880

In Wuwang Land, Kai remained in a state of deep concentration, completely unaware of the world around him.

He had no idea when the powerful Heaven and Earth Formation would finally break.

Surrounding him, Lin Chong, Taoist Wuji, the five domain masters, Nan Batian, Li Chunfeng, Shen Zhiyan, Musha, and others stood guard, ready to protect him at all costs.

Suddenly, a wave of terrifying energy surged from the sky above Wuwang Land, closing in fast!

Feeling the immense pressure, everyone’s expressions turned grim.

In just a heartbeat, Wen Nanxing and the warriors of Huo Fen Sect appeared before Lin Chong and his group.

Wen Nanxing's gaze locked onto Kai, who remained motionless within the great formation. His eyes burned with cold, murderous intent.

“Wen Nanxing? What are you doing here?”

Lin Chong's face tensed when he recognized the members of Huo Fen Sect.

The Four Underworlds had already caused them enough trouble. Now, with Huo Fen Sect—the most powerful force in the world of heaven and man—appearing before them, panic gripped him even more.

“The Heaven and Earth Formation can't be broken right now,” Wen Nanxing said coldly. “So the one trying to break it... must die.”

Lin Chong didn't respond immediately. Instead, he turned to Taoist Wuji.

Taoist Wuji calmly waved his whisk and gave a firm nod.

“Kill!” Lin Chong roared, charging forward.

Without hesitation, Kai's allies surged ahead, meeting the enemy head-on.

There was no need for words. In an instant, the sky darkened, and the battlefield erupted into chaos. Spells and energy attacks clashed, shaking heaven and earth.

Amid the raging battle, Wen Nanxing didn't move. His eyes remained locked on Kai.

Then, with a simple flick of his finger, a deadly force shot straight toward Kai!

“Protect Mr. Chen!” Lin Chong shouted in fury.

But it was too late—everyone was already locked in combat with Huo Fen Sect’s warriors, unable to break free! After all, not just anyone could block Wen Nanxing’s attack!

As the leader of the most powerful force in the world of heaven and man, Wen Nanxing’s strength was terrifying. He had reached the peak of the Immortal Realm and could ascend to the heavens at any moment.

Yet, as the deadly force closed in on Kai, he remained completely unaware—eyes shut, still immersed in the Heaven and Earth Formation.

Then, suddenly—

A large hand reached out, caught the attack mid-air, and clenched slightly.

Boom!

The attack exploded instantly, sending out a shockwave so powerful that everyone on the battlefield was thrown back, forcing the fight to a halt.

The sheer force of it stunned everyone. Who could unleash such terrifying power?

When the dust settled, a figure stood in front of Kai—Musha. His thin frame and pale complexion made him seem unassuming, yet he radiated an overwhelming presence.

Wen Nanxing’s face turned serious. The moment he laid eyes on Musha, a sense of danger gripped him. He was shaken—how could such a powerful master appear in the world of heaven and man?

Here, he was supposed to be invincible. So who was this man standing before him?

“Who are you?” Wen Nanxing demanded.

“You’re not worthy of knowing,” Musha replied calmly.

“Hmph!” Wen Nanxing scoffed. “Even if you’re a cultivator from the heavens, in the world of heaven and man, you must obey the rules. If you are a dragon, you must coil. If you are a tiger, you must crouch. I alone am invincible here!”

With a cold snort, he traced a shape in the air. Instantly, a massive cage formed, trapping them within.

“Do you dare to fight?” Wen Nanxing challenged.

“Why wouldn’t I?” Musha stepped inside without hesitation.

This was the only way to contain their battle. If they fought in the open, the entire Wuwang Land could be destroyed, and countless lives would be lost.

Wen Nanxing sneered and entered the cage as well. Slowly, he raised his right hand. A blinding light burst from his palm, making the entire Wuwang Land tremble violently.

Musha let out a cold laugh. “A petty trick.”

Then, he threw a single punch.

Boom!

In an instant, an overwhelming force erupted from Musha’s body. As an immortal from the heavens, his combat skills and experience were leagues beyond Wen Nanxing’s!