

the mans Decree: Kai Ping / Chen Ping

Chapter 5021

Is it because cultivation is harder for the human race than for demons or beasts?

The man asked excitedly, “Where are your people? Where are they?”

“It’s just a few of us,” Mo Qingyun replied.

The man was stunned, and the smile on his face quickly disappeared. “Just a few of you? That’s useless! Seventy percent of Cangxuan Continent has already fallen. A few people won’t change anything!”

“I suggest you leave now, before you end up as someone else’s prisoner!”

“You punk, are you looking down on us?” Hu Mazi snapped, clearly displeased.

But before the man could respond, the ground and sky suddenly trembled violently!

The man’s expression changed dramatically, and he frowned. “You’d better get out of here. The people from the Temple are coming...”

As he spoke, more than a dozen black-clad men from the Eight Palaces appeared in the distance. One of them was an elderly man in a gray robe, with his hair tied in a traditional bun.

Just the arrival of these few men caused the surrounding space to tremble. A terrifying pressure surged toward them!

Screams erupted from every direction as many people collapsed under the weight of the pressure, gasping for breath.

Seeing this, Kai immediately summoned the Dragon Slaying Sword. A fierce sword intent erupted from him, and with a single light wave, the overwhelming pressure vanished!

Everyone felt their chests loosen and quickly got up from the ground.

The man now looked at Kai in astonishment and confusion.

He realized Kai was only at the first-grade Scattered Immortal Realm—the same level as himself—but he had easily dispelled that terrifying force!

The gray-robed elder also looked surprised, but he quickly approached Kai and the others.

When he saw Master Huo, his eyes lit up with excitement.

“Third Elder, save me! Save me!” Master Huo cried out as soon as he saw the man.

“Release our prince, and we’ll spare your lives!” the Third Elder shouted angrily.

The man was stunned again. He hadn’t expected that among Kai’s group was a prince of the Temple.

By now, tens of thousands of people had gathered around to watch Kai and his companions.

Faced with more than a dozen black-clad men from the Eight Palaces, none of the tens of thousands of human cultivators dared to step forward. Fear was written across every face.

Seeing this, Kai sighed in disappointment. When had the human race become so weak and spineless?

“With so many of you, are you really afraid of just a dozen men?” Kai asked the man.

“We’re not strong enough. Numbers don’t mean anything in the face of true power,” the man replied helplessly.

“Then what do you plan to do?”

Kai wanted to understand the mindset of the people of Cangxuan Continent.

If they were worth saving, he would step in.

But if they were all cowards, he had no intention of wasting his time.

“What else can we do? It’s either surrender or fight to the death.”

“But we won’t surrender. Even if we can’t beat them, we’ll smear their faces with blood and snot before we go down.”

“You’re not from Cangxuan Continent, so you’d best leave now. I’ll lead a group to make their lives miserable.”

The man looked at Kai as he spoke.

“This is how you resist?” Kai said with a faint smile.

“What choice do we have?” the man replied, exasperated.

“Stop this nonsense! Release our prince immediately! Didn’t you hear me?” the Third Elder shouted, furious that Kai was ignoring him.

“You’re really annoying...” Kai finally turned to look at the Third Elder, then suddenly swung the Dragon Slaying Sword in his hand.

A sharp sword light burst forth like a shooting star!

The surrounding airspace compressed instantly, freezing everything in place. It felt like time had nearly stopped, and no one could move.

The Third Elder’s eyes widened in disbelief.

He watched the sword light slash through his neck!

His head flew high into the air. He could still see his own headless body falling heavily to the ground.

His head remained suspended for a moment, eyes blinking—his consciousness lingering for a few final seconds.

Chapter 5022

As the head hit the ground with a heavy thud, the Third Elder's consciousness vanished instantly.

Killed with a single sword strike...

Everyone stared at Kai in disbelief.

Especially the man—he simply couldn't fathom how someone in the first-grade Scattered Immortal Realm could do such a thing!

Seeing this, the dozen black-clad men exchanged glances, then suddenly turned and fled.

"Run, run..." the man shouted in panic as he watched them go.

Kai smiled slightly and tossed the Dragon Slaying Sword.

The sword traced an arc through the air, and despite the black-clad men having already fled a hundred miles away, they were all beheaded in an instant!

More than a dozen heads flew skyward before crashing heavily to the ground.

The Dragon Slaying Sword returned smoothly to Kai's hand—spotless, not a drop of blood on it.

The man stood frozen, and everyone around was utterly stunned.

“Now do you think that just a few of us are enough to help Cangxuan Continent out of this crisis?” Kai asked calmly.

The man nodded blankly, then suddenly dropped to his knees at Kai’s feet. “Savior... you’re the savior of our Cangxuan Continent...”

“Savior...”

“Savior...”

“Savior...”

Tens of thousands of people knelt down one after another, their unified voices echoing through the heavens.

Surrounded by this scene, Kai felt deeply satisfied.

“Feels good, doesn’t it? If you ever want to show off again, how about letting me take a turn?” Hu Mazi said enviously to Kai.

“Of course. I just worry that you’re not strong enough and might end up showing off only to get slapped in the face,” Kai chuckled.

“Don’t give me that! Don’t forget, I was already an immortal when you were still swimming around like a tadpole.”

Hu Mazi rolled his eyes at Kai.

“You’ve died several times already. You still haven’t figured it out? What’s so great about showing off anyway?” Kai sighed and said nothing.

“Why do you always have to show off? It’s not good to keep pretending,” Hu Mazi asked.

Kai: “.....”

“Who dares to kill someone from our Eighth Palace?!”

A sharp, commanding voice rang out!

A woman in white armor, her graceful figure outlined beneath the plating, stormed forward. She wore a golden helmet, her eyes wide with fury.

Behind her, more than a dozen women clad in black armor followed closely.

Their presence was far more imposing than that of the Third Elder just moments ago.

“Master Hu, here’s your chance to show off. They’re all women...” Kai said with a faint smile.

“Hehe...” Hu Mazi grinned, drooling slightly.

Mo Qingyun, standing nearby, frowned at the sight.

“Don’t worry, Miss Mo,” Kai quickly explained. “Master Hu doesn’t have any strange hobbies—he just really likes women.”

“Sister!” Master Huo suddenly called out when he saw the armored woman.

Kai blinked, a little surprised—he hadn’t expected Huo Zhao to have a daughter.

But the woman ignored Master Huo completely. Her eyes locked onto the dead Third Elder and the others, and she shouted angrily, “Who killed the Third Elder? Step forward, or I’ll kill you all!”

“I did! I killed him!”

Hu Mazi jumped out and stood in front of her.

“Little beauty, I killed your Third Elder. I apologize!” he said with a smile. “If you won’t accept my apology, I can give myself to you.”

“I’ll do anything you ask, be completely obedient. How does that sound?”

As he spoke, Hu Mazi actually started to take off his pants!

The woman’s face turned red with rage. She glared at him and shouted, “You filthy old pervert—I’ll kill you!”

She immediately drew her sword and lunged at him.

“Damn, are you serious?!” Hu Mazi cried out, dodging in alarm.

“Hold him down! I’ll castrate him myself!” the woman screamed.

In an instant, the dozen black-armored female soldiers surrounded Hu Mazi!

Chapter 5023

At the woman’s command, more than a dozen black-armored female soldiers instantly formed a battle formation.

The spears in their hands turned into streaks of cold light, surrounding Hu Mazi from all sides.

Their coordination was impeccable—wherever their spears pointed, they wove an impenetrable net of spiritual power in the air.

“Oh my, you ladies are ruthless!” Hu Mazi cried out, dodging frantically among the shadows of the spear tips, while frantically tossing out talismans.

But as soon as those talismans touched the black-armored soldiers, they vanished without a trace.

His expression changed. “Forbidden magic armor of the Protoss?”

Before he could finish the thought, a spear sliced through his sleeve, leaving a bloody gash on his arm.

Wincing in pain, Hu Mazi quickly pinched his fingers together, summoning a talisman that radiated a brilliant golden light.

But the female soldiers merely narrowed their eyes slightly, their assault undeterred.

As the danger closed in, Hu Mazi finally yelled at the top of his lungs, “Kai! Are you just going to stand there and watch?!”

“Master Hu, I gave you a chance to show off,” Kai laughed. “Too bad you blew it!”

“Cut the nonsense and help me, or I’m going to die!” Hu Mazi roared.

Kai and Mo Qingyun exchanged a glance—then attacked in unison.

The Dragon Slaying Sword turned into a blood-red arc, instantly slicing through the spear tips of three female soldiers.

Meanwhile, Mo Qingyun formed a series of hand seals, and dozens of black vines erupted from the ground, wrapping tightly around the ankles of several more soldiers.

Seeing this, the golden-helmeted woman’s eyes suddenly glinted coldly. “Lowly humans dare defy the divine?”

Her sword flared with a brilliant white light, releasing a burst of sharp sword energy that slashed through all the black vines with ease.

“Kill!” someone from the Cangxuan Continent shouted, rallying the others.

Tens of thousands of cultivators surged forward like a tidal wave—finally choosing to fight instead of wait for death.

With Kai and Mo Qingyun joining the fray, the female soldiers began to falter. Now, with the mass of Cangxuan monks joining in, they were quickly overwhelmed and subdued one after another.

But just then, the black-armored female soldiers who had been restrained suddenly shouted in unison, “The glory of the Gods cannot be desecrated!”

The armor on their bodies suddenly flared with a blinding red light, and the spiritual power within them began to surge chaotically in reverse.

“Not good! Fall back, now!”

Kai’s pupils contracted sharply as the Dragon Slaying Sword swept forward, forming a blood-red barrier before him.

In the next instant, a series of deafening explosions erupted, and over a dozen blinding white flashes burst within the crowd.

A violent storm of spiritual energy swept across a hundred-foot radius, instantly reducing hundreds of monks at the front lines to blood mist.

As the dust settled, more than a dozen craters—each over a hundred feet wide—scarred the battlefield.

“Oh, what a waste of beautiful girls. They all blew themselves up before I could even enjoy their company!”

“Why go to such extremes? Better a miserable life than a glorious death,” Hu Mazi said mournfully.

The cultivators of Cangxuan Continent were equally stunned.

The gods were always arrogant, but no one expected their women to be this determined—unyielding to the end. Their resolve was terrifying.

At that moment, Master Huo's face turned red and pale in quick succession—he was humiliated.

He too was a god, a prince of the Eighth Palace, yet he feared death.

He carried only the pride of the gods, without their courage.

The woman stared at the severed limbs and mangled bodies around her, her eyes icy as she declared, “Did you see that? We gods will never be defiled!”

She slowly discarded her sword, and her white armor began to emit a golden glow. “With my soul, I offer tribute to—”

“Damn it, this woman's going to self-destruct!” Hu Mazi cried out in alarm.

“Stop!”

Kai shouted abruptly, and the source of time within his body surged outward, instantly freezing time in the area.

The exploding energy within the woman was halted in an instant. She struggled fiercely, her golden helmet falling off to reveal a striking and defiant face.

“Let me go! You low—”

Pah!

Kai stepped forward and slapped her across the face.

Chapter 5024

This slap left the woman stunned, and she stared at Kai in disbelief!

“You're bold enough to hit me? I'll tear you apart...”

The woman screamed, but under Kai's suppression, she had no power to resist.

"You want to tear me apart?" Kai sneered. "Believe it or not, I'll strip you right here."

As he spoke, Kai casually slapped her, shattering the white armor on her body!

Beneath the armor, the woman wore a tight-fitting dress that accentuated her alluring curves. Her figure was mesmerizing, full of striking contrasts and impossible to ignore.

Seeing this, Hu Mazi couldn't help but drool like a waterfall.

The woman's face burned with a mix of anger and shame.

Eventually, she began to cry.

"Let my sister go! Please, let her go..."

Master Huo shouted when he saw this!

But Kai ignored him. He looked at the woman and said, "Be obedient and stay quiet, and I won't hurt you."

"Now, answer everything I ask. If you refuse, I'll strip you bare..."

"And let this old man here have his way with you."

Hearing this, the woman glanced at the drooling Hu Mazi, a flash of fear in her eyes.

"What's your name?" Kai asked.

The woman glared at him, refusing to answer.

"Huo Jingjing! My sister's name is Huo Jingjing..."

Master Huo hurriedly replied.

Huo Jingjing glared at her brother, eyes full of helplessness. Her brother was too spineless—he didn't have the spirit of the God Clan at all.

“What is the Eight Palaces doing in the Cangxuan Continent? Are you still plundering resources and capturing slaves?”

Kai demanded, staring at Huo Jingjing. Huo Jingjing still remained silent, but Master Huo quickly spoke up: “I know, I know...”

“Flying Tiger City has been taken over, so my father has to find a new place. The Cangxuan Continent is the best option.”

“The Cangxuan Continent is vast, with plenty of people, but more importantly, it has no real strength. The one in charge here is only at the third level of the scattered fairy realm—truly pathetic.”

“And there's no backing force for the Cangxuan Continent. No experts from the second or third heavens are here.”

“So the Cangxuan Continent is the easiest to bully.”

After Master Huo finished, tens of thousands of cultivators from the Cangxuan Continent felt a mix of shame and anger. Although the words were harsh, they were undeniably true.

The Cangxuan Continent had the size, it had the numbers, but its overall strength was too weak. The ruler of the entire continent was only at the third level of the scattered fairy realm—how could they possibly fend off external threats?

“I'll ask you—where is your father, Huo Zhao?” Kai questioned Huo Jingjing.

“Hmph!” Huo Jingjing snorted coldly, refusing to answer.

This time, even Master Huo couldn't help, as he genuinely didn't know. He'd been dragged here from Rhino City by Kai, and had no idea where his father was.

"If you don't tell me, I'll strip you naked..." Kai warned, making a move to tear off Huo Jingjing's clothes.

Mo Qingyun, standing nearby, could no longer bear to watch. As a fellow woman, she found this method too cruel—even if Huo Jingjing was from an enemy faction.

But before Mo Qingyun could speak up, a terrifying pressure suddenly descended from the sky!

Many cultivators with lower cultivation levels were instantly crushed to the ground, unable to resist. Some even coughed up blood and died on the spot!

Huo Zhao arrived, bringing hundreds of Eight Palaces experts with him!

"Kai, how dare you! Let go of my daughter, now!" Huo Zhao roared, his expression fierce.

"And didn't you promise to release my son? Why are you breaking your word?"

Kai looked calmly at the furious Huo Zhao, smiling faintly. "Withdraw your pressure—or I'll take action against your daughter."

Chapter 5025

"Judging by your daughter's appearance, she's still a virgin," Kai sneered, "but I wonder if she can handle my touch!"

As he spoke, Kai grabbed Huo Jingjing and began groping her!

"Stop!" Huo Zhao roared in fury.

But despite his anger, Huo Zhao obediently withdrew his pressure. The cultivators of the Cangxuan Continent all breathed a collective sigh of relief—if the pressure had continued, they would have been crushed to death!

“Kai, doing something so shameless in front of so many people—don’t you feel any shame?” Huo Zhao gritted his teeth, barely suppressing his fury.

“Shame? Why should I feel ashamed?” Kai retorted coldly. “I don’t steal or rob. I’m not like you—bullying the weak, plundering resources, and invading other people’s lands.”

“You temple people always act so high and mighty, but now you come crawling for the resources of the Cangxuan Continent? Do you still think you’re superior?”

Kai’s words hit hard, and Huo Zhao’s face darkened.

“Enough! Release my son and daughter immediately, and I’ll let go of the hatred between you and the temple,” Huo Zhao said in a low voice, his tone threatening yet pleading.

Kai burst out laughing. “Don’t talk big. You’re just the Lord of the Eighth Palace—do you think you can represent the temple?”

“If it comes to it, I’ll have you stripped of your position as the Lord of the Eighth Palace. You’re nothing more than an empty title. Don’t act so arrogant.”

“You—” Huo Zhao’s face twisted with rage, but Kai’s words left him speechless.

Huo Zhao knew all too well—he, as the Lord of the Eighth Palace, held little real power. Within the temple, he ranked at the very bottom.

Especially after being summoned back to the Heavenly Realm by the Huo family's descendants, only to return injured, he'd become a laughingstock in the temple.

Even the temple's resource allocations to the Eighth Palace had been slashed.

Huo Zhao had no choice but to lead the Eighth Palace into the First Heaven, occupy Flying Tiger City, and use it as a base to plunder resources.

Now, seeing things turn out like this, Huo Zhao felt a deep bitterness in his heart—but he couldn't voice it aloud.

Huo Jingjing pleaded with Huo Zhao.

At the same time, the Huo family's young master cried out in terror, "Father, save me! I don't want to die!"

Kai looked at Huo Zhao and said coldly, "Huo Zhao, take your people and leave the Cangxuan Continent, and I'll let your son and daughter go. How about it?"

Huo Zhao's expression darkened as he replied, "Impossible. I won't abandon the brothers of the Eighth Palace just to save my children."

"You can kill them both if you want, but remember this: I'll make sure everyone on the Cangxuan Continent dies with me."

His grim words sent panic rippling through the cultivators of the Cangxuan Continent.

Kai's brow furrowed. While he could escape the pursuit of the Eighth Palace, he couldn't protect the countless people of the Cangxuan Continent.

Mo Qingyun's expression grew tense as well.

She had promised her best friend Lan Lianhua, but if the Eighth Palace ended up massacring the entire Cangxuan Continent, Mo Qingyun knew she wouldn't be able to live with herself.

Mo Qingyun glanced at Kai, pinning all her hopes on him.

It all depended on how Kai negotiated with Huo Zhao.

Kai stared at Huo Zhao and sneered, "Huo Zhao, stop your boasting. You're my defeated opponent. I bested you in the Heavenly Realm, and I can do it again here."

"Do you dare to fight me one-on-one? If you lose, you'll lead your people out of the Cangxuan Continent immediately."

"If I lose, I'll let your son and daughter go right away, and I'll never interfere in the affairs of the Cangxuan Continent again."

Kai's words were a clear provocation.

Mo Qingyun quickly tried to stop him. "Fellow Daoist Chen, don't be reckless! You're only at the first level of the scattered fairy realm, and Huo Zhao appears to have reached the fifth level."

"Challenging him is like an egg trying to break a rock!"

Chapter 5026

"Kai, I support you—you can do it!" Hu Mazi cheered for Kai.

The cultivators of the Cangxuan Continent, however, all looked at Kai in disbelief.

In their eyes, a first-level Scattered Immortal fighting a fifth-level Scattered Immortal was impossible. To put it politely, it was like an egg trying to smash a rock.

Even though Kai had displayed impressive strength earlier, the gap between the two realms was simply too large.

“Alright, I’ll take you on! It seems that if I don’t show my true power, you won’t understand just how strong I am!”

Huo Zhao stepped forward, releasing a terrifying wave of pressure.

But Kai only smiled coldly. With a flick of his hand, he dispersed the pressure with ease.

He then instructed Mo Qingyun to keep a close eye on Huo Jingjing to prevent her from escaping.

Kai didn’t dare entrust Hu Mazi with Huo Jingjing—he worried that Hu Mazi wouldn’t be able to resist making a spectacle of it in front of tens of thousands of people, and that could cause a lot of trouble.

Given Huo Jingjing’s temper, she might just explode on the spot.

Kai drew the Dragon Slaying Sword, soared into the sky, and faced off against Huo Zhao from a distance.

“Go ahead, make your move.” Kai gestured at Huo Zhao.

“Hold on!” Huo Zhao raised his hand. “Kai, let’s fight fair. You’re not allowed to be possessed by anyone else. If you do, it’s not really your own strength.”

“No problem,” Kai replied with a nod.

He knew Huo Zhao feared the Red Cloud Demon Lord taking over his body, but even without that, Kai was confident he could defeat Huo Zhao.

Kai still had several powerful treasures, the Fire Qilin, and the unpredictable little Swallowing Beast on his side—he was certain he wouldn’t lose.

“Come at me!” Huo Zhao shouted, launching his attack at Kai.

Boom!

Thunder rumbled through the sky as Huo Zhao’s figure blurred, leaving a shadowy afterimage. In an instant, he appeared a hundred feet above Kai’s head.

Forming seals with both hands, he channeled a surge of spiritual power that boiled like magma. The clouds within a hundred miles were obliterated by his overwhelming aura.

“Tiangang Divine Palm!”

With a roar, Huo Zhao’s right palm slammed downward with immense force. In an instant, a golden giant palm materialized in the air, so vast it seemed to blot out the sky. Its lines were clearly visible, and each groove radiated terrifying, destructive power.

Even before the palm fell, the ground beneath began to collapse. Countless rocks were crushed into dust under the overwhelming pressure.

“Fellow Daoist Chen, be careful!”

Mo Qingyun cried out in shock, clenching her fists so tightly that her nails dug deep into her palms.

She could clearly sense the terrifying power contained in the palm—she, a peak third-grade Scattered Immortal, knew she could never withstand it.

“It’s over... it’s over.”

The cultivators of the Cangxuan Continent were pale with dread, many already collapsing to the ground.

An elderly man, his hair and beard white as snow, trembled as he muttered, “This palm’s power could flatten a thousand miles in an instant.”

Just when everyone thought Kai was finished, his tall figure suddenly moved.

“Break!”

Kai shouted, and the Dragon Slaying Sword in his hand erupted with a dazzling, blood-red glow.

The sword hummed as if a dragon roared, the blade trembling with raw power.

Kai gripped it with both hands, thrusting it upward to meet the giant descending palm head-on.

A blood-red arc shot into the sky, trailing like a rising blood moon.

Boom—!

A deafening explosion echoed across the heavens.

The blood-red sword light clashed with the golden giant palm in mid-air, erupting in a blinding flash.

A violent shockwave of spiritual energy rippled outward in all directions, tearing through every building within several miles and leaving them split in half.

As the smoke and dust settled, everyone’s eyes widened in shock—the seemingly unstoppable giant palm had been split in two!

“What?!”

Huo Zhao’s pupils shrank in disbelief, and the muscles on his face twitched involuntarily.

He stared at Kai, his voice trembling, “You’re only a first-grade Scattered Immortal... How could you possibly break my palm?!”

Chapter 5027

Kai’s mouth curled into a cold smile, the tip of his sword pointing to the ground. “Realm doesn’t determine strength,” he said.

Before he even finished speaking, his figure blurred—and in the next instant, he appeared less than three feet from Huo Zhao.

The Dragon Slaying Sword let out a sharp whistle as it sliced through the air, aiming straight for Huo Zhao’s throat.

Huo Zhao hurriedly dodged to the side, but Kai’s sword movements were relentless—each strike precise, every attack deadly.

The sword light poured down like a rainstorm, weaving an impenetrable, blood-red net in the air.

Forced into retreat again and again, Huo Zhao’s luxurious battle robe was slashed to ribbons by the sword energy, revealing the golden, radiant soft armor beneath.

“How is this possible?!”

Master Huo’s eyes widened in disbelief, his jaw nearly hitting the ground.

He had never seen anyone suppress his father in a head-to-head fight.

The cultivators of the Cangxuan Continent were equally stunned, unable to speak.

A young monk rubbed his eyes and muttered in shock, “Am I seeing things? A first-grade Loose Immortal is actually suppressing a fifth-grade Loose Immortal?”

“Hahaha!” Hu Mazi slapped his thigh with excitement, spitting everywhere. “Kai is awesome!”

“Awesome! Awesome!”

Tens of thousands of Cangxuan Continent cultivators roared in unison.

Hearing the cheers, Kai felt his legs go weak, his entire body floating with excitement.

Meanwhile, in the center of the battlefield, Huo Zhao’s face grew darker and darker.

He realized he couldn’t keep up with Kai’s rhythm at all.

Every sword strike from Kai blocked his retreat path, forcing him to confront it head-on.

What was even more terrifying was that Kai’s spiritual energy seemed endless, showing no signs of exhaustion.

“The secret technique of the Protoss—Heaven and Earth Net!”

Finally, Huo Zhao couldn’t hold back anymore. He bit his tongue and spat out a mouthful of blood.

As the blood turned into a mist and dissipated, countless golden chains appeared in the void.

Each chain was inscribed with ancient runes, exuding an aura that suppressed all things, and they surged toward Kai from all directions.

“It’s bad!”

Mo Qingyun’s expression changed drastically as she instinctively rushed forward. “This is the God Clan’s binding technique! Once entangled, even a sixth-grade Loose Immortal can’t break free!”

The cultivators of the Cangxuan Continent closed their eyes in despair.

A middle-aged female cultivator covered her face and sobbed. “It’s over... Senior Chen will die here.”

Huo Zhao’s “Heavenly Net” technique fully erupted, and countless golden chains surged forward like venomous snakes, wrapping around Kai layer by layer!

The ancient runes on the chains flickered, each one radiating a power that could suppress everything.

Kai’s spiritual power was forcibly sealed, and even the Dragon Slaying Sword dimmed under the overwhelming suppression.

“Hahaha! Kai, you’re finished after all!”

Huo Zhao laughed maniacally, his eyes filled with vicious triumph. “A mere first-grade Loose Immortal dares to challenge the might of the God Clan? Today, you die!”

He formed seals with his hands, and the golden chains suddenly tightened!

With a crackling sound, Kai’s bones strained under the immense pressure, and blood began trickling from the corners of his mouth!

“Senior Chen!” the cultivators of the Cangxuan Continent screamed in despair.

“Kai!” Mo Qingyun’s face was as pale as paper. She tried to rush in to help, but Huo Zhao waved his hand casually, and a golden barrier sent her flying back!

Hu Mazi’s eyes were bloodshot as he roared, “If you kill him, I’ll fight you to the death!”

Huo Zhao sneered. “You ants think you can stop me?”

But just when everyone thought Kai was doomed—

“Roar——!!!”

A deafening roar shattered the silence!

Flames erupted like a volcanic explosion, shooting straight into the sky and instantly reducing the golden chains to ashes!

“What?!”

Huo Zhao’s pupils contracted sharply, and he turned toward Kai in disbelief.

Surrounded by flames, Kai stood tall, and perched on his shoulder was a small unicorn, its entire body glowing red and covered in fiery scales, roaring with its head held high!

Its eyes glowed like molten lava, radiating an overwhelming divine beast aura that swept across the battlefield!

Chapter 5028

“Fire... Fire Kirin?!”

Huo Zhao’s voice trembled. “Impossible! How can a mere first-rank casual cultivator possess a divine beast?!”

The cultivators of Cangxuan Continent were stunned, their mouths agape, speechless with shock.

“Oh my God! That’s the legendary divine beast!”

“Senior Chen actually has the help of a Fire Kirin!”

Hu Mazi trembled with excitement, laughing wildly. “Hahaha! I knew this kid had something up his sleeve!”

The small Fire Kirin cast a disdainful glance at Huo Zhao, then turned into a beam of flame and vanished into Kai's storage ring.

With the restraints shattered, Kai's suppressed spiritual power surged back in an instant—stronger and more terrifying than before!

“Huo Zhao, did you really think you could kill me?” Kai smiled coldly, and with a flick of his wrist, the God King Bow appeared in his hand.

“The God King Bow?!”

Huo Zhao's face twisted in shock, and for the first time, a trace of fear flickered in his eyes.

“You broke your word! Didn't you agree not to summon help?” Huo Zhao shouted at Kai.

“I didn't summon anything. The Kirin beast is my pet. If you're capable, go tame a divine beast yourself. I won't complain,” Kai replied with a smirk.

Huo Zhao's face darkened as if he had swallowed something foul. A divine beast as a pet? How could he possibly find one?!

Kai calmly drew back the bowstring, and the Dao patterns surged wildly around him. A star-like arrow of light condensed on the bow, radiant and lethal.

“This arrow will send you on your way!”

Swish!

The arrow tore through the air, and the sky seemed to lose its color.

Huo Zhao scrambled to summon every defensive artifact at his disposal, but in front of the God King Bow's power, his defenses crumbled like paper!

Boom!!!

Puff... Blood spurted like a fountain.

Huo Zhao groaned, staggered forward, but barely managed to stay on his feet.

With great difficulty, he turned to Kai, eyes filled with fear. “Who... who are you?!”

How could someone wield so many magical weapons and control a divine beast? What kind of identity did Kai truly have?

After all, Kai was only a first-grade Scattered Immortal!

When they had fought in the Heavenly Realm, Huo Zhao had lost because he was only a spirit, limited in strength. And back then, Kai had relied on being possessed to win.

But now, Kai—just a first-grade Scattered Immortal—had defeated him, a fifth-grade Scattered Immortal.

Though Kai had the Fire Kirin’s help, Huo Zhao was deeply shaken by his ability to fight far above his level.

Kai calmly put away the God King Bow, then slowly raised the Dragon Slaying Sword, pointing it directly at Huo Zhao.

His voice was cold and indifferent: “I’m someone you can’t afford to provoke.”

The moment he spoke, Kai vanished. In the blink of an eye, he appeared before Huo Zhao, the tip of his sword pressing against Huo Zhao’s throat.

“Now,” Kai asked coldly, “do you admit defeat?”

The audience was deathly silent. Even the sound of breathing seemed deafening. Everyone held their breath, waiting for the outcome of this earth-shaking duel.

Huo Zhao's face twisted with shifting emotions—struggle, anger, unwillingness—all flashing in his eyes. But in the end, they all faded into deep, bitter frustration.

Lowering his head, he rasped in a hoarse voice, “I admit defeat.”

For someone from the God Clan to admit defeat was no small matter!

Huo Zhao wasn't just shocked by Kai's power—he also had to consider his children, still in Kai's hands.

“Victory! Senior Chen has won!”

After a brief pause, the cultivators of Cangxuan Continent erupted in thunderous cheers.

Many burst into tears, embracing each other with joy.

The elderly man who had once been in despair fell to his knees, tears streaming down his face. “The heavens have eyes... Cangxuan Continent is saved!”

Hu Mazi jumped with excitement, accidentally tripping over his own robe and falling flat on his back. He didn't care at all, still laughing in delight.

Huo Jingjing collapsed onto the ground, her delicate face filled with disbelief. “Impossible... how could my father lose? How could this happen...?”

In that moment, her arrogance was completely shattered, and her eyes became hollow and lifeless.

Chapter 5029

Kai sheathed the Dragon Slaying Sword and stared coldly at Huo Zhao. “Fulfill your promise. Take your people and leave Cangxuan Continent.”

“I’ll leave,” Huo Zhao replied, “but only if you release my children. If not, I’ll wage war against all Eight Palaces and destroy the entire Cangxuan Continent.”

Kai responded firmly, “That won’t do. I’ve already released the others. What if you refuse to leave and continue your rampage in Cangxuan Continent?”

“I’ll release only one of your children to show my sincerity. The choice is yours.”

Huo Zhao hesitated, torn as he looked at his son and daughter.

“Father, save me! I’ve been locked up for days, while my sister was just captured,” cried Huo Shizi desperately. “I don’t want to die or suffer anymore—please, save me!”

Seeing this, Huo Jingjing turned to her father. “Please save my brother. I’ll stay behind as their hostage. I believe they won’t dare harm me.”

Reluctantly, Huo Zhao nodded. Seeing his response, Kai gestured for his men to release Huo Shizi.

Freed at last, Huo Shizi’s demeanor instantly changed, revealing his arrogance.

“Kai, how dare you imprison me! Just wait—our temple is far beyond your reach. I’ll make sure your life becomes a living hell...”

Kai looked at him coldly and sneered. “If you don’t want to leave, believe me—I can capture you again right now. Don’t forget, I defeated your father. No one can stop me from taking you.”

Huo Shizi fell silent immediately and quickly grabbed Huo Zhao’s arm. “Father, let’s go. We need to leave, now...”

Huo Zhao shot Kai a cold glare. “If even a hair on my daughter’s head is harmed, I’ll never forgive you. I may have lost, but the temple stands behind me—and behind the temple is the entire God Clan. You can’t afford to provoke us.”

Kai replied calmly, “As long as you leave Cangxuan Continent in peace, your daughter will remain unharmed.”

“Fine, I won’t target Cangxuan Continent again,” Huo Zhao said coldly. “But don’t think I’ll ever let you go.”

“Whatever. Even if you let me go, I won’t spare the temple,” Kai said casually.

“Jingjing, take care of yourself,” Huo Zhao said before turning to leave with the people of the Eight Palaces.

Once Huo Zhao departed, all the cultivators of Cangxuan Continent knelt down before Kai.

It was Kai who had saved the entire continent from slaughter and enslavement.

Mo Qingyun looked at Kai with admiration and envy.

A cultivator in the first-grade scattered immortal realm possessing such strength was truly remarkable.

In a world where strength commands respect, Kai’s cultivation level might seem unimpressive, but the power he displayed was truly awe-inspiring.

“Take us to see your Xuannv,” Kai said to the man who had first welcomed him to Cangxuan Continent.

“Yes, of course...” the man replied quickly, nodding. “Senior Chen, please follow me...”

With that, Kai and the others leapt into the air, following the man toward the palace where the blue lotus resided.

The cultivators of Cangxuan Continent remained kneeling until Kai and his group disappeared into the distance.

An old cultivator murmured, “It was Senior Chen who saved us—he saved all of Cangxuan Continent...”

“We must build a golden statue of him, so our descendants can worship him for generations to come...”

At that moment, Kai had no idea they were planning to honor him with such a tribute. He was focused on his journey to meet the blue lotus.

Mo Qingyun kept sneaking glances at Kai.

Though they hadn’t known each other long, Mo Qingyun found himself increasingly drawn to Kai.

Especially when Kai, a first-grade scattered immortal, went toe-to-toe with Huo Zhao, a fifth-grade scattered immortal—it was nothing short of heroic.

Meanwhile, Hu Mazi couldn’t take his eyes off the subdued Huo Jingjing, practically drooling.

After all, with Huo Jingjing wearing tight-fitting clothes, it was hard for any man not to have a reaction.

Chapter 5030

Inside a grand palace on Cangxuan Continent, Lan Lianhua frowned slightly, a deep sense of anxiety clouding her expression.

So much time had passed, yet Mo Qingyun had not arrived. Without support from the Mo family, Cangxuan Continent alone stood no chance against the invasion of the Eight Palaces.

“Xuan Nu, are the reinforcements you mentioned actually coming?” the King of Dongmeng asked anxiously. “If we wait any longer, who knows how many more lives will be lost to the temple.”

“Wait a little longer. They should be arriving soon,” Lan Lianhua replied.

“Xuan Nu, I can’t afford to wait anymore,” the King of Dongmeng said urgently. “Our Dongmeng Kingdom is already being trampled under the iron heel of the temple. If we don’t act, we’ll be wiped out.”

“What do you plan to do?” Ashnu asked, eyes narrowing.

“If we can’t resist, then surrender is the only option. We can’t just stand by and watch everyone die,” the King of Dongmeng declared.

“You traitor! I knew you’d surrender!” Ashnu shouted, drawing his weapon. “I’ll deal with you myself—”

“Enough! Do you think things aren’t chaotic enough already?” Lan Lianhua snapped, her voice cutting through the tension.

Everyone fell silent. All eyes turned to Lan Lianhua, waiting to hear her thoughts.

But what could she do? All she could do was wait—wait and hope.

Yet with every passing second, more cultivators of Cangxuan Continent were falling in battle.

Just then, someone burst into the hall, breathless and excited. “Xuan Nu! They’ve withdrawn—all of them have withdrawn!”

“What do you mean, withdrawn?” Lan Lianhua asked, clearly confused.

“The temple forces—they’ve all evacuated Cangxuan Continent!” the messenger exclaimed.

“What happened?” Lan Lianhua asked again, now overjoyed.

“I don’t know,” the messenger admitted, shaking his head.

The other three kings were equally stunned. None of them could comprehend why the temple forces had suddenly pulled out. “I know—it must be the person I asked for help. She must have driven the temple forces away!”

Lan Lianhua’s eyes suddenly lit up with excitement.

As she spoke, a powerful aura approached swiftly and then slowly descended in front of the palace gates.

“Xuan Nu, your friend is here to see you...” the man who had escorted Kai and the others announced loudly.

“Hahaha, it’s her!” Lan Lianhua exclaimed with joy. “Let them in—quickly!”

Mo Qingyun entered, leading Kai and the others.

Upon seeing Lan Lianhua, Mo Qingyun rushed forward, and the two embraced tightly.

“Qingyun, thank you so much. Without your help, I fear Cangxuan Continent would’ve been completely taken by the temple,” Lan Lianhua said gratefully.

“Don’t thank me—I didn’t do anything. The credit all goes to Kai,” Mo Qingyun replied, pointing toward Kai.

“Kai?” Lan Lianhua looked at him curiously. When she noticed he was only at the first grade of the scattered immortal realm, she was visibly confused.

“Don’t judge him by his realm—his strength is incredible. The Eighth Palace Master, who was at the fifth level of the scattered immortal realm, was defeated by him and forced to retreat.”

“That’s why the temple’s forces withdrew from Cangxuan Continent...” Mo Qingyun explained, seeing the doubt in Lan Lianhua’s eyes.

“Xuan Nu, is this the so-called helper you found?” the King of Dongmeng scoffed. “It seems the temple’s retreat had nothing to do with your reinforcements.”

He gave them a quick glance and snorted in disbelief.

Among them, Mo Qingyun, at the peak of the third-level scattered immortal realm, was the strongest. The others—Hu Mazi and Kai—were even lower in realm.

The idea that this small group could drive out the temple forces seemed laughable to him.

Lan Lianhua said nothing in response—she, too, found it hard to believe. After all, their cultivation levels were far from impressive.

She had expected Mo Qingyun to bring powerful experts from the Mo family, but instead, he had arrived with just two companions.

Chapter 5031

“Xuan Nu, it’s true—Senior Chen was the one who drove away the temple forces. He even defeated the Eighth Palace Master. We all saw it with our own eyes—it’s not a lie,” said the man who had brought Kai and the others.

If he hadn’t witnessed it himself, he wouldn’t have believed that someone in the first-grade scattered immortal realm could defeat someone at the fifth-grade.

“Is that true?” Lan Lianhua asked in shock.

“What nonsense are you spouting?” the King of Dongmeng snapped.
“Did they pay you to spread these lies?”

“A first-grade scattered immortal defeating a fifth-grade one? That’s absurd!”

His voice was sharp with disbelief.

The man’s expression changed slightly—it was clear he was intimidated by the King of Dongmeng.

“What would it take for you to believe it?” Kai asked, looking directly at him.

“If we saw it with our own eyes, then we could believe it,” the King of Dongmeng replied.

“Then may I ask, what realm are you currently in?” Kai asked calmly.

“I’m at the peak of the second level of the scattered immortal realm. With some time, I’ll break through to the third,” the King of Dongmeng said proudly.

Pah—

Before he could finish basking in his own praise, Kai suddenly appeared in front of him and slapped him across the face.

The King of Dongmeng was stunned. When he came to his senses and tried to fight back, he realized his body was completely immobilized—as if bound by an unseen force.

Kai slapped him again and again.

Pah! Pah! Pah!

“How about now? Do you believe it?” Kai asked as he struck him repeatedly.

The other two kings stood frozen in disbelief.

Lan Lianhua gasped, her face full of shock.

Even she wouldn't have believed it if she hadn't seen it herself. Not even she had the ability to completely overpower the King of Dongmeng like that—leaving him helpless. Kai, a first-grade scattered immortal, had actually done it.

“Kai, you're going too far! Didn't you say I could be the one showing off this time?”

Seeing the scene unfold, Hu Mazi pulled Kai aside and launched his own attack on the King of Dongmeng, striking him with both hands.

He landed several slaps of his own.

Though they were in different realms, the King of Dongmeng was utterly helpless against Kai and Hu Mazi—like a child with no power to resist.

“Kai, Master Hu, that's enough! Don't beat him to death,” Mo Qingyun called out quickly, trying to stop them.

By now, the King of Dongmeng's face was swollen like a pig's head.

The man who had led Kai and the others into the palace couldn't help but laugh.

Ashnu burst out laughing as well. “Hahaha, now do you believe it? Your face says it all!”

Though the King of Dongmeng was furious, he was now filled with fear at the strength Kai and Hu Mazi had shown.

Their realms were low, but their power was undeniable.

Truly, appearances could be deceiving—like mistaking the depth of the sea at a glance.

“Qingyun, where did you meet these two masters?” Lan Lianhua asked, clearly intrigued.

“In Feihu City...” Mo Qingyun replied, then briefly explained the events that had taken place.

Upon hearing this, Ashnu suddenly grew excited. He stepped forward, grabbed Kai’s hand, and exclaimed, “In Feihu City? Then you’re the one who saved my daughter and our people?”

“Your daughter?” Kai asked, surprised.

“My daughter is Ayisha,” Ashnu explained.

Kai immediately recalled and nodded. “Yes, I remember now—I rescued them in Feihu City.”

“Benefactor, thank you so much...” Ashnu said gratefully, preparing to kneel.

But Kai quickly extended a hand and gently stopped him. Ashnu found himself unable to kneel, and this only deepened his respect for Kai.

So young, with only first-grade scattered immortal strength, yet his power was immeasurable.

When Lan Lianhua heard that Kai had also saved many people from Cangxuan Continent in Feihu City, she was filled with gratitude.

Chapter 5032

“Today, I will give our honored guests from Cangxuan Continent a proper welcome,” Lan Lianhua said warmly.

“Are we going to the floating island?” Mo Qingyun asked.

“I knew you’d want to go! I already had everything prepared,” Lan Lianhua replied with a smile.

“Miss Mo, what is the floating island?” Kai asked curiously.

“You’ll find out when we get there. It’s incredibly beautiful,” Mo Qingyun answered.

Soon, everyone exited the hall, and outside, Lan Lianhua noticed three women waiting.

One of them was Huo Jingjing, who was under guard by the two women from Hu Mazi’s side.

To prevent the arrogant Huo Jingjing from self-destructing, Kai had sealed her meridians.

Now, she was no different from an ordinary person, completely unable to use her powers.

“Who are these three?” Lan Lianhua asked, intrigued.

Mo Qingyun gave a brief introduction. When Lan Lianhua learned that Huo Jingjing was the daughter of Huo Zhao, her eyes immediately burned with anger.

Huo Zhao had led a brutal invasion of Cangxuan Continent, killing countless people and looting vast resources. How could she not be furious?

However, in front of Kai and the others, Lan Lianhua restrained herself. After all, Huo Jingjing was captured by them, not her.

And as long as Huo Jingjing was in their hands, she could be used to keep Huo Zhao in check and prevent further trouble for Cangxuan Continent.

With that, everyone took to the skies, heading toward the floating island.

Meanwhile, as Kai and the others made their way there, Huo Zhao—the Eighth Palace Master—was already leading the remaining Palace Masters toward the Demon Clan’s territory.

He stopped in front of a blood-red city.

This was Bone Erosion City, domain of the Bone Erosion King. Huo Zhao gazed coldly at the blood-red skeleton soldiers lining the city wall. With a casual wave of his hand, all the skeleton soldiers instantly turned to dust.

“Who dares cause trouble in my Bone Erosion City?”

A furious voice rang out. A towering, fearsome demon cultivator appeared on the city wall.

Behind him stood thousands of skeleton warriors, each wielding a curved blade, their red eyes gleaming with menace. “Stop shouting and kneel.”

Huo Zhao barked coldly.

The Bone Erosion King trembled slightly at the sight of him, then quickly forced a grin, revealing sharp, glinting teeth. “So it’s the Eighth Palace Master of the Temple. Forgive me for not welcoming you sooner... truly, my apologies.”

In an instant, the Bone Erosion King appeared before Huo Zhao. Behind him, the thousands of skeleton soldiers seemed to vanish into thin air.

“I wonder what brings the Eighth Palace Master to my city?” the Bone Erosion King asked respectfully.

“You have our Palace Master standing at the gates to speak?!” the Great Elder of the Eighth Palace scowled.

“Please, come in, come in...” The Bone Erosion King waved his hand, and the massive city gates slowly opened.

Huo Zhao led the Eighth Palace members into the city.

He wouldn't have come here if he had any other option. As a noble of the God Clan, Huo Zhao deeply despised demon cultivators like the Bone Erosion King.

These kinds of cultivators often relied on absorbing the Yinsha Qi of the dead to grow stronger. Some refined corpses into puppets, others turned skeletons into warriors.

Such practices were considered vile even within the demon clans. As a proud member of the God Clan, Huo Zhao normally wouldn't associate with this kind of filth.

But now, he had no choice—he needed them.

Inside the main hall of Bone Erosion City, Huo Zhao seated himself in the central throne without hesitation. The Bone Erosion King didn't dare utter a word of protest.

Not even with a hundred times his courage would he dare offend a member of the Temple.

“Bone Erosion King, if I order you to attack Cangxuan Continent, can you do it?” Huo Zhao asked directly.

He could no longer take action against Cangxuan Continent himself—his daughter was still in Kai's hands. But that didn't stop him from using others to do it.

He couldn't bear swallowing this humiliation.

“Master Huo, although Bone Erosion City commands one hundred thousand warriors, we're still somewhat weaker than Cangxuan Continent,” the Bone Erosion King replied tactfully.

“Then unite with the other demon clans. Bring in the beast clans too. In return, you can split the resources of Cangxuan Continent.”

“I’ll also give Bone Erosion City a million immortal stones. What do you say?”

Huo Zhao offered calmly.

Chapter 5033

“One million immortal stones?” The Bone Erosion King was momentarily stunned. After a long pause, he nodded repeatedly and said, “Alright, alright... I’ll contact someone immediately. I will make sure the Cangxuan Continent is destroyed.”

“Palace Master Huo, please rest here for now. Let me go find someone...”

“Go!” Huo Zhao waved his hand.

After the Bone Erosion King left, Master Huo turned to Huo Zhao and asked, “Father, do we really have one million immortal stones?”

If the Eight Palaces possessed such a sum, they wouldn’t need to plunder across the First Heaven.

“It’s just a promise—bait. Otherwise, how would they be willing to do the job for you?” Huo Zhao said with a cold smile.

Master Huo nodded, a look of realization dawning on his face. Cangxuan Continent

On a floating island, a waterfall cascaded like the Milky Way. Birds chirped, flowers bloomed—it was a true earthly paradise.

“It’s so beautiful...”

Mo Qingyun gazed at the island and lay down on the grass. “What I’ve missed most over the years is this floating island.”

“You miss the floating island, but not me?” Lan Lianhua rolled her eyes playfully.

“Of course I miss you too!” Mo Qingyun smiled softly.

On the floating island, Lan Lianhua had already ordered spiritual fruit wine to be prepared.

Everyone sat amidst a sea of flowers, surrounded by spiritual energy and circling cranes—it felt like paradise.

“Come, Daoist Chen, try the ‘Nine-Turn Spiritual Wine,’ a specialty of our Cangxuan Continent. Brewed with thousand-year-old spiritual fruits, it’s excellent for cultivation!”

Lan Lianhua smiled warmly as she raised her glass, eyes shining with enthusiasm.

Kai accepted the cup and took a small sip. A warm current of spiritual energy spread through his limbs, leaving him invigorated.

“Excellent wine!” Kai praised.

Hu Mazi had already downed his cup, his face flushed with delight. “Hahaha! This is far better than any wine from the mortal world!”

Mo Qingyun leaned against a spiritual tree, gazing at the distant waterfall, his eyes filled with nostalgia. “I used to come here often as a child to cultivate. There’s always been something mysteriously profound about this place.”

Kai felt a slight stir in his heart upon hearing this.

He glanced around. For some reason, the floating island gave him a strange feeling.

Though the island brimmed with spiritual energy, it didn't seem naturally formed—it felt as though some force had deliberately gathered it.

Even stranger, when he extended his divine sense, he detected a faint fluctuation from a restriction, as if something was concealed.

“Could it be... there's a secret hidden on this island?” Kai wondered silently.

Just then, the low voice of the Red Cloud Demon Lord echoed in his sea of consciousness:

“Boy, something's wrong with this place.”

Kai frowned and responded with his divine sense, “What did you discover, Senior?”

“This island... isn't naturally formed.”

The Red Cloud Demon Lord's tone was grave. “It appears to be an ancient relic, forcibly raised into the sky by a formation and disguised as an ordinary floating island.”

“A relic?!” Kai was startled.

“Yes. And the restrictions on this relic are extremely powerful—even a peak Loose Immortal would struggle to break through by force.”

The Red Cloud Demon Lord paused in thought. “If we get the chance to explore it, we might uncover something valuable.”

Kai's eyes gleamed with intrigue. Just as he was about to respond again—

“Boom!!!”

A deafening explosion echoed from the distant sky, and the entire Cangxuan Continent shook violently!

“What’s happening?!”

Lan Lianhua jumped to his feet, his expression shifting dramatically.

A cultivator from Cangxuan Continent flew in hurriedly, face filled with panic: “Report! The Bone Erosion King is leading a large force of demon cultivators to attack our border formation!”

“What?!” Everyone was stunned.

“We’ve never had any enmity with Bone Erosion City—why would they suddenly attack us?”

“And Bone Erosion City’s strength is no match for Cangxuan Continent.”

Lan Lianhua looked utterly bewildered.

Chapter 5034

Mo Qingyun’s expression darkened. “It must be Huo Zhao. It seems the Eighth Palace Master truly refuses to give up!”

Kai’s eyes glinted with cold light. “Looks like he’s trying to kill us using someone else’s hand.”

Lan Lianhua gritted her teeth. “Let’s go! We’ll head out to support them immediately!”

Everyone rose and prepared to leave the floating island.

Kai glanced back at the mysterious island, a trace of reluctance in his heart. But given the urgency of the moment, he had no choice but to postpone his investigation.

“After dealing with the demon clan, I’ll come back and uncover the truth!” he vowed inwardly.

Yet just as they were about to depart, a faint golden light flickered deep within the island—quiet, almost imperceptible—as if responding to something unseen...

Kai and the group rushed to the border of Cangxuan Continent. By the time they arrived, tens of thousands of cultivators had already assembled!

The King of Dongmeng, the King of Chelie, and Ashnu had all led their people to defend against the Bone Erosion King's assault.

As Kai and the others approached, they saw a vast, dark aura sweeping across the land. The sky was overcast with swirling black clouds, and the air was thick with the stench of war.

“Has the Bone Erosion King gone mad? Why is he pushing this fight to the brink?” Ashnu gripped his battle axe tightly, bewildered yet ready for battle.

Many Cangxuan cultivators stared ahead with wide eyes, gripping their weapons, holding their breath.

Although the battlefield was filled with tens of thousands of people, an eerie silence hung in the air. The atmosphere was suffocating. Kai hovered midair, staring into the darkness—he could even smell the faint stench of decay.

War was imminent.

Cangxuan Continent had already endured the assault from Feihu City, the siege from the Eight Palaces, and now, an attack from Bone Erosion City...

Each strike had been a devastating blow. Once home to hundreds of thousands of cultivators, Cangxuan Continent could now barely rally a force of tens of thousands.

The cultivators of Cangxuan Continent, sensing the breath of death all around them, wore solemn expressions—some even began to tremble uncontrollably.

Aisha stood among the crowd. Though she was a princess of a kingdom, at a moment when the fate of the entire continent hung in the balance, even Xuannv had stepped forward—what significance did her title hold now?

Rumble...

From within the darkness, movement finally stirred. The earth trembled, a terrifying aura surged from the distance, and the black mist poured in like a raging flood.

“Get ready...” Lan Lianhua shouted, and every cultivator in Cangxuan Continent braced themselves.

Kai summoned the Dragon Slaying Sword, eyes fixed on the encroaching black fog, which surged forward like a monstrous tide threatening to engulf the entire continent.

Mo Qingyun and Hu Mazi also stood at the ready. This battle would determine Cangxuan Continent’s very survival.

The black mist rolled in like a sentient beast, smearing the sky into a thick, ink-black shroud.

The Dragon Slaying Sword grew hot in Kai’s hand. Ancient runes carved along the blade glowed faintly, as though signaling the looming catastrophe.

By now, the mysterious golden light from the floating island had faded from memory. All focus was on the border—soon to be swallowed by the tide of darkness—that now bore the fate of the entire continent.

“Your Majesty, the spiritual fluctuations at the northwest defense line are weakening!”

The Dongmeng State Master's voice quivered. The spirit-measuring plate in his hands spun wildly, the needle nearly carving a crack into the dial.

King Che Wuji of Chelie State gripped the gilded soft sword at his waist, his knuckles pale from tension. "Issue the order—have the shield armor camp retreat three miles and form the tortoise shell formation!"

Before his words even faded, the ground split open with spiderweb-like cracks. From the fissures seeped a foul, black liquid that hissed as it touched fabric—monks' robes instantly corroded into charred holes.

Princess Aisha's silver armor shimmered with a faint blue defensive light, but her hand clutching the spear trembled slightly.

Chapter 5035

The maid beside her tried to wipe the cold sweat from her forehead, but the moment she reached out, she was struck by an invisible force and instantly turned into a mist of blood in the air.

"Hold on!"

Lan Lianhua's clear voice rang out sharply across the grim battlefield. With a graceful turn of her jade-like hands, thirty-six blue lotus phantoms bloomed behind her, each glowing with a light meant to purify demonic energy.

But despite her determined front, the solemnity in her eyes could not be concealed—those lotus phantoms were fading at a speed visible to the naked eye as they were corroded by the encroaching black fog.

"Roar—"

A chilling sound like bones grinding together echoed from within the black fog, and suddenly, a tide of skeleton soldiers surged forward.

These skeletal warriors had flickering green ghost flames in their eye sockets and strange black runes wrapped around their bones. Even when shattered, they quickly reassembled in the fog—seemingly impossible to kill.

“Damn it! Why won’t these skeletons stay dead?”

Hu Mazi crushed the skulls of three skeletons with a punch, only to watch the broken bones rise again in seconds, fully reformed.

Kai frowned. With a sweep of the Dragon Slaying Sword, dozens more skeletons shattered—yet moments later, the pieces floated back together and stood once more.

“They’re under an immortal curse,” he suddenly realized. “Only the Ultimate Fire can destroy them completely!”

“Little Fire Kirin!”

As Kai called out, a burst of dazzling red light erupted from his shoulder.

From within his storage ring, a small Kirin—its body red and its flame-like scales blazing—leapt out and let out a thunderous roar.

“Roar—”

The little Fire Kirin grew rapidly, expanding into a ten-foot-tall beast engulfed in flames within seconds.

Wherever its four hooves landed, the ground ignited in blazing fire. As soon as the skeleton soldiers touched the flames, they shrieked in agony. The black runes on their bones sizzled and burned away until nothing remained but ash.

“Well done!”

Seeing this, Mo Qingyun immediately commanded the monks to form a battle formation and lure the skeleton soldiers into the range of the Fire Kirin's flames.

However, just as the tide of battle began to turn, a chilling wave of energy suddenly surged from deep within the black fog.

Twelve massive bone puppets, each standing a hundred feet tall, slowly emerged from the mist. Each puppet was formed from the bones of thousands of monks, with green ghost flames flickering in their hollow eye sockets.

Wherever the bone puppets stepped, the earth beneath them decayed inch by inch. Dense clusters of blood-red mushrooms sprouted in their wake, and the mucus dripping from their umbrella-like caps corroded the ground into bottomless pits.

"The ghost soldiers of the Bone Erosion King!" someone cried out in terror.

Ashnu let out a shout, and a golden gust from his battle axe slammed into one of the puppets' arms—but it only left a faint white mark on the bone.

Several of the bone puppets raised their massive bone knives. These weapons were coated with a dark purple demonic poison, and even before the blades landed, the skin of the monks in the front ranks began to fester and rot.

The defensive line of Cangxuan Continent fell into chaos. The monks began to fight individually, and the once orderly formation quickly crumbled.

Mo Qingyun's sword glowed with icy light as he struck, encasing the lower halves of three bone puppets in layers of frost. But within moments, the puppets shattered the ice, and new bone spurs grew from their shattered limbs.

“This won’t hold!”

Kai stared at the shrinking defensive line, a chill creeping into his heart.

Then he noticed something strange—although the bone puppets moved slowly, their movements followed a consistent pattern. After a brief observation, his eyes widened in shock. These puppets were forming an ancient magical array!

At the array’s center, the black fog coalesced into a gigantic human face—rotting and pustule-covered—the hideous visage of the Bone Erosion King.

“Cangxuan ants,” he roared, “your doomsday has come! Demonic Bone Devouring Heaven Array—activate!”

In that instant, all twelve bone puppets let out an earth-shaking roar, raising their bone knives, which then interlocked in the sky to form a vast web of blades.

Simultaneously, every blood mushroom on the battlefield exploded, releasing a suffocating cloud of poisonous gas.

Chapter 5036

The monks of Cangxuan Continent struggled in agony within the poisonous fog. Defensive magical artifacts shattered one after another, and agonized screams echoed across the battlefield.

The soft sword of King Chelie was severed by a bone blade, leaving a deep gash across his chest.

Aisha’s spear corroded into a mangled mess. She staggered and fell, nearly crushed beneath the foot of a bone puppet.

Lan Lianhua's Qinglian formation collapsed entirely. She spat a mouthful of blood and, just before being consumed by the black fog, hurled a jade talisman toward Kai with all her remaining strength.

The moment Kai caught the talisman, a flood of ancient knowledge surged into his mind.

It was an ancient sword technique passed down by Lan Lianhua's master. It required using one's life essence and blood as a medium, compressing all spiritual power into a three-inch blade of light—capable of severing all demonic forces in existence.

But the price for wielding this sword was steep: it drained the cultivator's life force. Even if successful, the user would be left a cripple.

“Fight!”

Kai bit the tip of his tongue and spat blood onto the Dragon Slaying Sword.

The blade let out a piercing cry like a dragon's roar. The three-foot-long sword stretched and extended until it transformed into a blade of light a thousand feet long. As it swept forward, space itself cracked in its wake.

Just as the Demonic Bone Devouring Heaven Array was nearing completion, Kai soared into the sky, the massive sword of light carrying the force of world-ending destruction, slashing straight toward the array's center.

The Bone Erosion King's wild laughter halted abruptly. He rushed to gather his demonic energy to defend, but the moment it met the sword light, his body began to disintegrate.

The twelve bone puppets shattered into bone dust simultaneously, yet the Bone Erosion King—being a half-step Mahayana demon—still had strength left to strike back even in his heavily wounded state.

His remaining arm suddenly swelled and morphed into a massive black claw, lunging directly at Kai's heart.

At that critical moment, the Dragon Slaying Sword in Kai's hand erupted with dazzling, multicolored light.

Kai bellowed, voice echoing like thunder: "Filthy demon, how dare you act so brazenly!"

A golden dragon shadow burst from the sword and collided with the descending claw.

The resulting shockwave flattened everything within a hundred-mile radius. A massive crater tore into the land beneath.

When the smoke and dust cleared, the Bone Erosion King's figure was gone, leaving only a black token engraved with strange, sinister runes.

"Victory!"

The surviving monks erupted in cheers—but the celebration was cut short as a new crisis emerged.

The true army of Bone Erosion City had finally arrived. Waves of densely packed demon soldiers surged forth like a black tide, blotting out the sky.

Even more terrifying, the skeleton soldiers that had been reduced to ashes by the Fire Kirin had reformed within the black fog—and their numbers had multiplied several times over!

"How is this possible?"

Mo Qingyun's face turned pale, her spiritual power nearly depleted.

Kai struggled to stay upright, gripping the Dragon Slaying Sword. His meridians had been severely damaged by using the ancient sword technique, and he could barely remain standing. The flames surrounding the little Fire Kirin had also dimmed, weakened by overuse.

The relentless strain had pushed Kai and his allies to their limits.

Just as despair loomed, the sky suddenly darkened.

A darkness deeper than the black fog descended over the entire battlefield. Even the howling demon wind fell silent.

“What is that...?” Hu Mazi widened his eyes and pointed upward.

Above the clouds, a massive shadow slowly emerged.

“The Sky-Swallowing Beast!” Kai’s eyes lit up with hope.

He didn’t know when this usually sleepy creature had appeared, but its timing was perfect.

With the arrival of the Sky-Swallowing Beast, Kai felt a wave of relief. After all, this beast had the power to devour anything in its path.

“Go! Swallow them all—devour every last one of those demons!” Kai commanded.

But the Sky-Swallowing Beast merely glanced at him, unmoved.

“Kid, that beast is my mount, not yours. Why would it obey your orders?”

“And show some respect—it’s not some dog you can boss around.”

The voice of the Red Cloud Demon Lord echoed in Kai’s mind, clearly displeased with his tone.

Chapter 5037

Kai was momentarily stunned, then quickly changed his expression and smiled at the little Sky-Swallowing Beast. “Brother Swallowing Beast, please lend a hand and devour all these demons for me!”

To his surprise, as soon as he finished speaking, the Sky-Swallowing Beast actually opened its enormous mouth—wide enough to consume mountains—and began inhaling the skeleton soldiers scattered across the sky!

“Whoosh—”

A terrifying suction force formed a swirling black vortex, pulling in tens of thousands of skeleton soldiers.

They didn’t even have time to struggle before being swallowed into that abyss-like maw.

Even more astonishing, the immortal curse that had kept the skeleton soldiers alive was completely dissolved inside the beast’s belly, leaving no trace and preventing any chance of reformation.

With the addition of the Fire Kirin and the Sky-Swallowing Beast, the tide of battle turned instantly.

The little Fire Kirin, bolstered by the arrival of an ally, roared with renewed energy, and the flames on its body surged once more. It worked in perfect harmony with the Sky-Swallowing Beast—

The Fire Kirin burned through the demon soldiers on the ground, while the Swallowing Beast devoured the skeletal army in the air.

“It’s time to strike back!” Kai gritted his teeth against the pain and raised the Dragon Slaying Sword. “Follow me into battle!”

“Kill!”

With Kai’s rallying cry, the monks of Cangxuan Continent reignited their fighting spirit.

They regrouped into a new battle formation and launched a desperate counterattack against the demon army.

In the sky, sword energy clashed with demonic energy, and magical weapons blazed through falling blood rain.

Kai weaved through the chaos, every swing of his sword claiming the lives of multiple demon soldiers.

His clothes were soaked in blood, but his eyes burned with fierceness—as if he were a god of war risen from the abyss.

The brutal battle raged on for three days and three nights.

When the final demon soldier fell, the first rays of morning sunlight finally pierced through the dark clouds, casting golden light across the scarred and battered land.

Cangxuan Continent had been saved once more!

Lan Lianhua was filled with gratitude for Kai. If not for him, Cangxuan Continent would've been destroyed long ago—especially during the Eight Palaces' assault. "Fellow Daoist Chen, thank you so much. It's just a shame that we have no resources left in Cangxuan Continent," Lan Lianhua said apologetically upon seeing Kai's weakened state.

"It's nothing. I just need a few days of rest to recover fully," Kai replied with a faint smile.

With the Demon Suppression Tower, Kai only needed to enter and cultivate for a few hours to quickly regain his strength.

After arranging everything, Kai brought Hu Mazi into the Demon Suppression Tower.

Hu Mazi had also exhausted a great deal of energy during the battle.

The two of them stayed in the tower for one day and emerged completely rejuvenated, their energy fully restored!

Lan Lianhua was astonished when she saw Kai again.

Mo Qingyun, however, was not surprised—she had experienced the tower’s power before and knew how extraordinary it was.

“Fellow Daoist Chen, you’ve fully recovered in just one day? That’s incredible,” Lan Lianhua exclaimed, eyes filled with disbelief.

Kai simply smiled and then asked, “Xuan Nu, may I ask—how did the floating island above Cangxuan Continent come to be?”

Lan Lianhua shook her head. “I don’t know either. When I took charge of Cangxuan Continent, the floating island was already there. It’s been around for countless years—so long that no one remembers when it first appeared.”

“Do you like the floating island’s environment, Fellow Daoist Chen? If you wish to live there permanently, you’re more than welcome. You are a great benefactor to Cangxuan Continent—no one would object if you made it your home.”

“Oh no, not at all—I’m just curious, not looking to settle there,” Kai said, waving his hands quickly.

He was only interested in exploring the floating island. If it truly turned out to be a remnant of an ancient civilization, he could strike it rich!

However, it seemed the people of Cangxuan Continent were unaware of the island’s true nature. For now, it was just a hunch. The Chiyun Demon Lord had called it a relic, and that made it worth investigating.

Just then, a cultivator rushed over and reported to Lan Lianhua, “Xuan Nu, Huo Jingjing is refusing to eat. She’s threatening a hunger strike...”

Chapter 5038

“She’s a monk—fasting won’t kill her, so stop worrying!” Lan Lianhua said.

“Monks don’t need food. Fasting won’t harm them.”

But Kai interjected, “I’ve sealed her meridians. She’s just an ordinary person now. If she doesn’t eat, she’ll starve to death.”

“I’ll go see what she wants...”

With that, Kai decided to check on Huo Jingjing himself.

“Kai, how about I go feed her some soy milk?” Hu Mazi joked with a grin.

Kai rolled his eyes at him and walked off.

Huo Jingjing was Huo Zhao’s daughter, and Kai still planned to use her as leverage to keep Huo Zhao from making any reckless moves.

Once Kai had enough power to destroy the Eight Palaces with a wave of his hand, Huo Jingjing would no longer be of any use.

After descending into the dungeon and passing through several layers of formations, Kai finally saw Huo Jingjing.

She was still wearing the same tight-fitting clothes, but her hair was disheveled and she looked noticeably more worn out.

When she saw Kai, her eyes filled with rage.

If he hadn’t captured her and sealed her meridians, she wouldn’t be in this humiliating state.

“Either let me go or kill me. But I suggest you kill me—because if I ever get free, I’ll stop at nothing to take your life,” Huo Jingjing said, glaring at him.

“Even if I set you free, you wouldn’t be a match for me. I already defeated your father—what do you have that could possibly threaten me?”

Kai smiled faintly.

Huo Jingjing fell silent, knowing deep down that his words were true.

“If I can’t kill you, then I’ll starve myself to death. As a member of the God Clan, I’d rather die than live as your prisoner.”

Her expression was one of fierce resolve.

“You people from the so-called God Clan love to deceive yourselves. You’re just humans, yet you pretend to be something superior and call yourselves divine.”

“Isn’t that laughable?”

Kai’s eyes were filled with scorn for the God Clan.

“You dare to insult our God Clan? You deserve to die!” Huo Jingjing shouted in fury. “How can you compare the lowly human race to the noble God Clan?”

“We are a thousand—no, ten thousand times more noble than your kind!”

Kai scoffed. “Ten thousand times more noble? Don’t make me laugh. If a human has a child with one of your so-called God Clan women, is that child noble or not?”

“Ridiculous! As if the women of the God Clan would ever defile themselves with humans. Keep dreaming!” Huo Jingjing snapped.

Kai narrowed his eyes. “Then maybe it’s time someone humbled you. Let’s see just how noble you are when faced with reality.”

He stepped toward her, his energy surging. Huo Jingjing backed away, alarmed.

“What are you doing? Stay back!” she shouted, preparing to defend herself.

But her sealed meridians left her powerless. Kai, however, didn't strike. Instead, he unleashed a wave of spiritual pressure, forcing her to her knees.

"You feel that? That's the strength of the 'lowly' human race you mock," Kai said coldly. "Still think you're superior?"

Huo Jingjing said nothing, dazed and humiliated—not by violence, but by the helplessness she was forced to confront.

Kai turned and walked out of the dungeon, where Hu Mazi was waiting.

"Master Hu, why are you still here?" Kai asked.

"I've been standing here all night," Hu Mazi replied with mock irritation. "I could hear her yelling the whole time. You could've at least let me in on the fun."

Kai raised an eyebrow. "You already have two women. At your age, isn't that enough?"

Hu Mazi chuckled. "You youngsters think you have all the stamina. But you've got some serious technique—teach me a few moves sometime, eh?"

Kai smirked. "Maybe later. I've got more important things to take care of."

He patted Hu Mazi on the shoulder and walked away.

Chapter 5039

"Tsk, if you won't teach me, then forget it. I'm off to have some fun with those two beauties..."

Hu Mazi rolled his eyes, then turned and left.

Zhao Yu had already found Mo Qingyun, hoping she could speak with Lan Lianhua and help arrange another visit to the floating island.

“Fellow Daoist Chen, don’t bother following her. If you want to go to the floating island, I can take you there myself,” Mo Qingyun offered with a smile.

“I can be considered half a master of this Cangxuan Continent...”

She had lived in this region for many years and knew the floating island very well.

“Alright then,” Kai nodded.

Mo Qingyun took Kai by the hand, leapt into the air, and flew straight toward the floating island.

In just over ten minutes, the two arrived.

The island’s scenery was as stunning as ever, but no one could step foot there without Lan Lianhua’s permission.

“Fellow Daoist Chen, if you like, you can stay here long-term. The spiritual energy here is much denser than elsewhere,” Mo Qingyun said.

“Miss Mo, have you been living on this floating island for many years?” Kai asked.

“Yes,” Mo Qingyun nodded. “I’ve lived here for quite a while. I really like the environment.”

“Then have you ever felt that something about this floating island is unusual or strange?” Kai asked.

Mo Qingyun thought for a moment, then shook her head. “Not really. It’s just a floating island. What’s supposed to be special about it?”

“For an island this large to remain suspended in the air, it’s definitely not normal,” Kai said.

“It’s very likely being held aloft by a massive formation, not something formed naturally.”

“That’s impossible!” Mo Qingyun replied. “To lift an island of this size, the formation would have to be unimaginably huge.” “Such a massive formation would require an enormous amount of energy. This floating island has existed for tens of thousands of years—how could a formation sustain it for that long?”

Mo Qingyun clearly didn’t believe it.

She couldn’t accept that anyone had the ability to construct such a colossal formation, let alone maintain it for millennia without it failing.

Seeing her disbelief, Kai said nothing more. Instead, he began searching for signs of a formation on the floating island.

Without further explanation, he carefully started to explore the area.

Gathering spiritual energy at his fingertips, he gently ran them across the ground, sensing the flow of energy in every inch of the land.

Mo Qingyun stood off to the side with her arms crossed, skepticism in her eyes. “Fellow Daoist Chen, you don’t seriously believe this island is being held up by a formation, do you?”

Kai didn’t respond. Suddenly, he stopped in front of a small, unremarkable rock.

He crouched down, placed his palm on the surface, closed his eyes, and focused.

“Strange...” he muttered, frowning. “The spiritual energy here seems to be guided by some kind of force.”

Mo Qingyun, intrigued by his serious expression, stepped closer. “What did you find?”

Kai scratched the surface of the rock with his fingertip. As the moss flaked away, it revealed a faded rune etched into the stone.

Though dim, the rune gave off an aura of ancient power.

“Is that... an ancient array rune?” Mo Qingyun’s eyes widened in shock. She was finally starting to believe it.

“And it’s not the only one.” Kai stood up and surveyed the surroundings. “The spiritual veins throughout the island are being directed by these runes, forming a massive support array.”

Mo Qingyun was stunned. “But this array has been running for thousands of years. Where is it drawing its energy from?”

Kai didn’t answer. He began walking toward the island’s center, guided by the rune’s energy flow.

Seeing him move with purpose, Mo Qingyun quickly followed.

The two soon arrived at a crystal-clear lake in the heart of the island. The water was transparent, but its depths were unfathomable.

“The array’s core should be at the bottom of this lake,” Kai said solemnly.

“You’re thinking of going down there?” Mo Qingyun hesitated. “The surface may look calm, but who knows what lies beneath?”

Chapter 5040

Kai smiled. “Miss Mo, if you’re afraid, feel free to wait here.”

“Who’s afraid?” Mo Qingyun gritted her teeth. “I’m coming with you!”

The two dove into the lake. The water was icy cold, but for cultivators of their level, it posed no challenge.

After descending dozens of feet, a massive stone platform slowly came into view at the lake's bottom. It was covered in intricate array patterns, and at its center was a fist-sized blue crystal emitting a faint glow.

"Is that... the 'Heavenly Crystal'?" Mo Qingyun gasped. "The legendary divine object said to hold the power to sustain heaven and earth!"

Kai's expression grew serious. "So that's it. This grand array uses the Heavenly Crystal as its core and draws on the spiritual energy of the earth veins to keep running for ten thousand years."

He swam closer to the platform, carefully examining the engraved patterns. Suddenly, he noticed several runes that appeared to have been altered by hand.

"No..." he murmured. "This formation has been tampered with. It looks like... there's a hidden restriction embedded within it!"

Mo Qingyun was stunned. "What do you mean?"

Before Kai could answer, the patterns on the stone platform suddenly flared with blinding light, and the Heavenly Crystal began to tremble violently.

"This is bad!" Kai shouted, grabbing Mo Qingyun. "Retreat now!"

But it was too late. A powerful suction erupted from the platform, pulling them in with overwhelming force.

"Kai! What's happening?" Mo Qingyun cried out, panicked.

"The formation's been triggered!" Kai gritted his teeth, struggling to break free. But the suction was too strong, and in the blink of an eye, both were dragged into a sudden spatial rift.

The world spun wildly around them. When they regained their senses, they found themselves in the midst of ancient ruins.

All around were shattered stone pillars and crumbling palace walls, the air heavy with a sense of age and decay.

In the distance stood a colossal stone pillar, towering ten thousand feet high, covered in countless arcane runes.

Behind it loomed a mountain, split down the middle and carved into two monstrous statues of evil spirits.

“Who would be mad enough to carve an entire mountain into statues?” Mo Qingyun said in awe.

Kai remained silent, staring intently at the two demonic figures. A chill crept through his heart, as if something invisible had gripped him tightly, stealing his breath. Kai was struck with horror. He staggered backward and shouted, “Back off—retreat quickly!”

“Fellow Daoist Chen, what’s wrong with you?” Mo Qingyun asked, confused.

She couldn’t understand why Kai had suddenly reacted this way.

Seeing that Mo Qingyun appeared unaffected, Kai was momentarily stunned. The suffocating pressure he had just felt vanished without a trace.

“Was I just being overly nervous?”

He took a deep breath and turned his gaze back to the two demonic statues.

Kai was certain the ancients wouldn’t have carved such things into a mountain for no reason. The statues had to serve a purpose.

But as he looked at them again, his chest tightened, and the overwhelming sense of suffocation returned.

“Break, damn it!”

This time, instead of backing away, Kai drew the Dragon Slaying Sword and slashed forward.

He was determined to shatter the fear that gripped his heart.

Yet no matter how much power he released, the oppressive feeling remained, unmoved.

Kai slowly closed his eyes and began reciting a meditation mantra. He had to calm his mind.

This fear could lead him to make serious misjudgments.

What puzzled him was why Mo Qingyun felt nothing, while he was overwhelmed.

As he continued to chant, the fear gradually subsided, and a sense of calm returned to him.

When he finally opened his eyes, Kai avoided looking directly at the statues again.

The sky overhead was a dull gray. There was no sign of the sun or moon, as though the area was sealed off by some unseen force.

Mo Qingyun looked at him nervously and asked, “Fellow Daoist Chen, where exactly are we...?”