Chapter 5801

After the battle in the desolate valley, Ling Shuang's attitude towards Kai underwent a complete transformation.

Her former disdain and skepticism vanished, replaced by genuine awe and a barely perceptible dependence.

She began to actively seek Kai's opinion, and when directing her disciples, she would frequently glance at him, only feeling reassured when he nodded slightly.

The interrogation of the prisoners went smoothly. Under the absolute intimidation of force and the unique interrogation techniques of the Sword Sect disciples, the remaining Demon Sect disciples and Beast Fusion Warriors quickly revealed the information they knew.

"My lord, spare our lives! We were merely ordered to patrol this area, searching for the remnants of the Myriad Beasts Sect who had escaped, especially the sect leader Lie Tian and his confidants... oh, and the spies of the Xuan Tian Sword Sect

," a Demon Sect disciple confessed tremblingly. "We were told to send a signal immediately upon discovering any trace, and experts would lead a team to encircle and annihilate them."

"What is the defense situation in this area? How many patrol teams are there? Where are the experts distributed?" Ling Shuang asked coldly.

"Well... I only know that our team is led by Elder Liu and Commander Fang."

“The others… I heard that Sect Master Zheng Gu and several important figures from the Wan Hun Demon Sect are stationed at the Wan Beast Sect headquarters, while the outer perimeter is searched by mixed teams of various Fusion Beast races and Demon Sect disciples, divided into different areas. I really don’t know the exact number of teams.”

Another Fusion Beast warrior provided slightly different information: “Sect Master Zheng Gu has ordered a focused search of several old hunting grounds and abandoned mines in the northwest and southwest directions, saying that those places are easy to hide in…”

Kai listened quietly, memorizing this information.

The northwest and southwest directions… this might be the escape route that Lie Tian and the others might choose.

After dealing with the prisoners, the team rested briefly. Kai looked at the map, pondered for a moment, and then said, “We’ll move southwest, carefully concealing our tracks along the way.”

“If Sect Master Lietian and the others really retreat in this direction, we might find clues. At the same time, avoid known patrol routes.”

“Yes, Senior Chen,” Ling Shuang immediately replied, then instructed her disciples to use concealment spells to hide their auras and proceed according to Kai’s instructions.

For the next two days, Kai and his group moved like ghosts through the complex terrain of the Ten Thousand Beasts Mountain Range.

They avoided three sizable patrol teams and discovered several places that appeared to have been the site of battle, but they found no definite trace of Lietian and the others.

Kai’s brow furrowed deeper and deeper.

The mountain range was too vast, and Lietian and the others had deliberately concealed themselves; searching like this was like looking for a needle in a haystack.

Moreover, he could sense that the search net was tightening.

The Fusion Beast Clan's familiarity with the mountain range far surpassed that of outsiders, and with the tracking methods provided by the Demonic Sect, Lietian and the others' situation was likely becoming increasingly dangerous.

Ling Shuang also felt the pressure. Seeing the seriousness in Kai's eyes, she couldn't help but whisper, "Senior Chen, searching like this isn't working. Shouldn't we..."

Before she could finish, Kai suddenly raised his hand to signal silence, his sharp gaze fixed on a dense ancient forest to his left.

A moment later, an extremely faint rustling sound came from the forest, almost imperceptible if not for Kai's powerful divine sense.

Then, two cautious figures, almost blending into their surroundings, quietly emerged from the shadows of the forest.

Two beastmen! They remained in a semi-beastly state, one resembling a wolf, the other a leopard, both wounded, their auras weak, their eyes filled with vigilance and exhaustion.

When they saw Kai and his group, especially Kai and Ling Shuang, they were initially startled and assumed a defensive posture. However, upon recognizing Kai's face, an incredulous gleam of joy suddenly erupted in the wolf-like beastman's eyes!

"It's...it's Senior Chen?!"

The wolf-like beastman's voice trembled, almost uttering a cry, but he forcefully suppressed it.

Kai recognized him; he was a rather clever fourth-rank Celestial Immortal wolf elder beside Lie Tian, whose name seemed to be Jifeng.

“Elder Jifeng?” Kai stepped forward, lowering his voice. “Where is the Lord of the Rift Heaven Sect? Where are the others?”

Elder Jifeng, upon seeing Kai, was overjoyed, his eyes reddening with excitement. He hurriedly said, “Senior! It really is you! The Lord and the others… they are in a hidden valley not far ahead!”

“Everyone… everyone is in bad shape. Many brothers are injured, and the Lord’s injuries are particularly severe. We were sent out to scout and search for resources…”

“Lead the way!” Kai said without hesitation.

Led by Elder Jifeng, the group moved more cautiously, bypassing several natural mazes and a seemingly calm but actually deadly swamp.

Finally, they arrived at the entrance of a valley completely hidden by vines and strange rocks.

The entrance was set up with a simple but ingenious illusion array and warning restrictions, clearly hastily constructed.

Elder Jifeng cast a few specific beastman hand seals, causing the illusion array to ripple slightly, revealing a gap just wide enough for one person to pass through.

The group quickly slipped inside.

The valley was not large, but it was quite deep.

More than twenty disciples of the Ten Thousand Beasts Sect sat or lay down, most of them wounded and weak, the air thick with the faint smell of blood and herbs.

Seeing Jifeng bring back strangers, many wounded struggled to get up and be on guard. But when they saw Kai, especially when some of the older disciples beside Lie Tian recognized him, a suppressed, excited murmur rippled through the valley.

“Senior Chen!”

“Senior is here!”

Deep in the valley, on a relatively flat boulder, Lie Tian sat leaning against something, his face as pale as paper, his chest wrapped in thick bandages, blood seeping through.

Seeing Kai, his dim eyes suddenly lit up, and he struggled to stand: “Senior…you…you’ve finally come!”

Kai flashed to his side, pressing down on his shoulder: “Don’t move.”

At the same time, his divine sense swept over him, his heart sinking slightly.

Lie Tian not only suffered severe external injuries, but his internal organs had also been severely shaken, his meridians damaged in several places, and the traces of demonic energy corrosion were obvious; he had clearly been through a fierce battle.

Chapter 5802

“How could he be so badly injured?”

Kai frowned, took out several healing pills he had refined, and without a word, stuffed them into Lie Tian’s mouth. At the same time, he channeled a wisp of pure Chaos Immortal Power to help him neutralize the medicinal effects and clear the blocked meridians.

The pills melted instantly upon entering his mouth, and the pure medicinal power and the gentle yet powerful life-giving energy quickly

spread. A trace of color returned to Lie Tian's pale face, and his breathing became much more stable.

He let out a long sigh of relief and looked at Kai gratefully: "Thank you, Senior. If it weren't for your timely arrival and the gift of these spiritual pills, I'm afraid..."

"This is not the time to talk about such things."

Kai interrupted him, his gaze sweeping over the remaining disciples of the Ten Thousand Beasts Sect in the valley, a surge of anger rising in his heart.

The once bustling and prosperous Ten Thousand Beasts Sect was now reduced to only a few dozen wounded and defeated remnants. "Where is Elder Xiong Tuo? Where are Shi Yan and Ying Wu? I don't see them."

Mentioning Xiong Tuo, Lie Tian's eyes instantly filled with deep sorrow and anger, and his voice choked up: "Elder Xiong Tuo... to cover our retreat, he was besieged by Zheng Gu and the Demon Sect thieves... he has... he has fallen..."

Although he had a premonition, Kai still felt a pain in his heart when he heard the news with his own ears.

That fiery yet loyal Elder Xiong...

He closed his eyes, suppressing the killing intent in his heart, and continued to ask, "Where are Shi Yan and Ying Wu?"

Lie Tian suppressed his grief and said, "After breaking through the encirclement that day, we dispersed and agreed to meet here."

"Shi Yan and Ying Wu's injuries were relatively minor, and they had a close relationship with the senior, so I sent them each with a team of clever disciples to scout out information and search for the senior's whereabouts in the direction of the Xuan Tian Sword Sect and near the old site of the Ten Thousand Beasts Sect."

“We agreed that regardless of whether we found anything, we must return here within ten days. Now… eight days have passed, but there is still no trace of them, nor have we received any communication talismans from them…”

Kai’s heart sank!

An ominous premonition arose spontaneously.

Shi Yan and Ying Wu were both cautious people; unless there were special circumstances, they would never fail to return on time, much less fail to send a message.

“Which direction did they go? Are there any distinguishing features or agreed-upon secret marks?”

Kai pressed, his tone unconsciously becoming urgent.

Lie Tian explained in detail the direction the two had left in and the possible routes they might take, as well as some simple secret marks they had agreed upon.

Kai quickly memorized them.

Just then, a leopard clan disciple responsible for guarding the valley entrance rushed in, his face pale, and said urgently in a low voice, “Sect Master! Senior! Something bad has happened! Outside… outside, we’ve discovered a large number of traces of enemy activity!”

“They’re searching in our direction! They’re less than a hundred miles away! There are many of them, at least three patrol teams have joined together, and two of them have extremely strong auras, they’re probably… probably experts at the sixth rank of the Heavenly Immortal Realm!”

“What?!”

Everyone’s expression changed drastically.

Lie Tian struggled to get up and give orders, but Kai held him down.

“The enemy came prepared, they have the advantage in both numbers and experts, there’s no chance of winning in a direct confrontation.”

Kai calmly analyzed, “Although this valley is hidden, it’s not absolutely safe, it’s only a matter of time before we’re discovered. We must move immediately.” ”

But… but where can we go?” An elder lamented in despair, “The mountain range is vast, but the Fusion Beast Clan knows this place inside and out, and the Myriad Souls Demon Sect has its tracking techniques. With so many wounded, we can’t move fast at all. No matter where we hide, we’ll be found sooner or later.”

“How about coming to my Xuan Tian Sword Sect?” Ling Shuang couldn’t help but speak up. “Our sect’s protective array is sturdy enough to protect you all.”

“And who is this?” Lie Tian looked at Ling Shuang, his face full of confusion. He didn’t recognize her.

“This is Sect Master Ling’s beloved daughter, Ling Shuang,” Kai introduced.

Upon hearing this, Lie Tian quickly greeted her, then shook his head with a wry smile, saying, “I appreciate Miss Ling’s kindness. However, this place is too far from the Myriad Swords Mountain Range, and there will undoubtedly be many obstacles along the way. Our team simply cannot cross safely.”

Silence fell upon the group, and an atmosphere of despair spread through the valley.

With pursuers behind and no way forward, were they truly destined to perish here?

Just then, Ling Shuang's eyes lit up, as if she had remembered something.

After hesitating for a moment, she looked at Kai, then at Lie Tian, and said, "There's another place we might be able to hide in for a while."

"Where?" Kai asked.

"The Blazing Fire Secret Realm,"

Ling Shuang said. "This secret realm is an independent small world discovered by my master, the Heavenly Fire Sword Venerable. The entrance is hidden and requires a special token and incantation to open."

"The interior of the secret realm is vast and complex, with abundant fire-attribute spiritual energy. Ordinary people can't stay there for long, but it's an excellent place to evade capture."

"Most importantly, it's less than two days' journey from our current location, and the route is relatively remote."

"The Blazing Fire Secret Realm?" Kai's heart skipped a beat.

Secret realms usually have unique rules, which can indeed block most tracking methods.

Lie Tian and the other elders of the Ten Thousand Beasts Sect also showed hope, but it quickly faded: "Miss Ling, such a precious secret realm, we outsiders..."

"We can't worry about that now!"

Ling Shuang said decisively, "My master always taught me that the path of sword cultivators is to uphold righteousness and help those in distress."

“The Ten Thousand Beasts Sect has suffered such a great calamity, and the Demonic Sect is rampaging. How can my Xuan Tian Sword Sect sit idly by? Besides, this is also my father’s wish.”

She looked at Kai, “Senior Chen, what do you think?”

Kai pondered for a moment, and this was indeed the best choice at the moment.

He looked at Lie Tian: “Sect Master Lie Tian, what do you think?”

Lie Tian took a deep breath, cupped his hands and bowed deeply to Ling Shuang: “Miss Ling’s great kindness will never be forgotten by the entire Ten Thousand Beasts Sect! If we can survive this calamity, the Ten Thousand Beasts Sect will repay you with all our might in the future!”

“Sect Master Lie Tian, you flatter me.”

Ling Shuang quickly returned the bow, and then said seriously, “There is no time to lose. We must set off immediately and leave before the enemy surrounds us. I know a relatively safe shortcut.”

Chapter 5803

Kai shook his head: “You go first.”

“Senior?” Ling Shuang and Lie Tian were both taken aback.

“I’m going to find Shi Yan and Ying Wu.” Kai’s gaze was firm. “They haven’t returned on time, they must have encountered trouble. I can’t abandon them.”

“But Senior, there are search parties everywhere outside, it’s too dangerous for you to act alone!” Ling Shuang said anxiously, her eyes showing genuine worry.

Lie Tian also advised: “Senior, Shi Yan and Ying Wu are both alert children, perhaps they were just delayed by something, or they are hiding somewhere. If you go out now, what if…”

“There is no ‘what if’.”

Kai’s tone was calm, but with an undeniable determination. “I came to the Ten Thousand Beasts Sect with them, it is my responsibility to find them and get them out of here safely.”

“You go to the secret realm first, tell me the exact location and how to enter, I will meet up with you after I find them.”

Seeing that Kai’s mind was made up, Ling Shuang knew that further persuasion was useless.

She bit her lip, took out a fiery red, feather-shaped jade pendant from her bosom, and handed it to Kai: “Senior, this is the Blazing Fire Pendant, one of the keys to opening the entrance to the secret realm.”

“The entrance to the secret realm is located about 20,000 miles southwest, at the deepest part of the Crimson Flame Canyon, where there is a crimson rock wall that burns eternally.”

“Hold the Blazing Fire Pendant, circulate your fire-attribute spiritual power to activate it, and simultaneously use your divine sense to inscribe the seal I’m passing on to you. This will open the temporary entrance.”

As she spoke, she transmitted a complex and profound seal into Kai’s mind with her divine sense.

Kai sensed it briefly and memorized it, then took the Blazing Fire Pendant and put it away.

“Senior, please be careful! We’ll be waiting for you in the secret realm!” Ling Shuang looked at Kai, her eyes

filled with complex emotions. “Senior Chen, take care!” Lie Tian and the other disciples of the Myriad Beasts Sect also bowed, their eyes filled with gratitude and anticipation.

Kai nodded, said no more, and with a flicker, disappeared from everyone’s sight as if merging into the air.

Not even a spatial fluctuation was caused.

Ling Shuang stared blankly in the direction Kai had disappeared, stunned for a moment before snapping back to reality. Suppressing the strange emotions within her, she turned to Lie Tian and said, “Sect Master Lie Tian, we must set off immediately!”

“Please have the less seriously injured disciples help support the severely wounded. We’re leaving now!”

Led by Ling Shuang, this mixed force, composed of elites from the Xuan Tian Sword Sect and remnants of the Ten Thousand Beasts Sect, silently withdrew from the hidden valley, stealthily heading southwest towards the Crimson Flame Canyon.

…

After leaving the valley, Kai pushed his spatial escape techniques and concealment abilities to their limits.

Like an invisible shadow, he swiftly traversed the dense forest, rocky cliffs, and shadows, his divine sense like the most sophisticated radar, radiating outwards in all directions from his own center.

He meticulously searched for any traces that might be related to the rocks and shadow dance, while skillfully avoiding squads of visible and hidden sentries.

Following the route provided by Lie Tian, he searched a distance towards the Xuan Tian Sword Sect, discovering several faint traces of a battle and the unique hidden marks of the Ten Thousand Beasts Sect.

The marks pointed in another direction—seemingly a secluded path leading to the old site of the Ten Thousand Beasts Sect.

Kai's heart tightened. Had the two been exposed while scouting the old site of the Ten Thousand Beasts Sect?

He immediately changed direction and followed the marks.

The closer they got to the outer area of the old site of the Ten Thousand Beasts Sect, the greater the density of patrols and the more tense the atmosphere became. Kai had to be even more cautious, sometimes needing to lie in wait for long periods, waiting for the patrols to change shifts before he could pass.

Along the way, he discovered more signs of battle, and… bloodstains.

Judging from the aura, it was mixed with Shi Yan and Ying Wu's!

Kai's heart sank.

Finally, near a narrow mountain stream about a hundred miles from the original core area of the Ten Thousand Beasts Sect, Kai discovered strong residual energy and a large amount of fresh blood.

The rocks on both sides of the stream had obvious marks of sword and knife strikes and spell bombardment, a scene of utter devastation.

In the air, besides the aura of Shi Yan and Ying Wu, there were at least five or six different, violent auras of fused beasts, as well as two chilling auras of demonic cultivators.

"They were ambushed here…"

Kai's eyes turned cold.

Judging from the traces at the scene, the battle was quite fierce; Shi Yan and Ying Wu had obviously put up a fierce resistance, but the enemy outnumbered them and seemed to have come prepared.

He searched carefully and found a small piece of torn black clothing in a crevice, carrying Ying Wu's faint scent, with some bloodstains on it.

Kai clutched the hem of the garment, his knuckles turning slightly white.

Following the faint lingering scent and barely perceptible drag marks on the ground, Kai tracked the trail.

The tracks eventually disappeared near the entrance of a cave halfway up a mountain, concealed by dense vines.

The cave entrance was covered by a simple barrier, but faint sounds of voices and… a woman's sobs and struggles could be heard from inside!

Kai's eyes suddenly turned cold, his killing intent almost materializing. He moved like lightning, silently passing through the rudimentary barrier and entering the cave.

The cave was quite spacious, illuminated by several eerie green soul lamps.

Seven or eight Fusion Beast Warriors of various forms were sitting together, laughing and talking loudly, sharing food and drink. Scattered on the ground were some odds and ends taken from Shi Yan and Ying Wu.

Deeper into the cave, two people were bound to two thick stone pillars.

It was Shi Yan and Ying Wu!

Shi Yan's condition was extremely bad. He was covered in blood, with multiple deep wounds exposing bone, and one arm was bent unnaturally, clearly broken.

He hung his head, his breath weak, in a semi-conscious state.

As for Ying Wu… her condition infuriated Kai even more!

Her outer garment was torn in half, revealing her blood-stained undergarments, her fair skin covered in bruises and wounds.

A beast leader with goat-like, crooked horns and a lewd face was grinning wickedly.

He reached out to try and tear off her remaining clothing, his breath reeking of alcohol: “Little beauty, don’t struggle. After I’ve had my fill, maybe I can spare your life and offer you to the Sect Master of the Bone-Slaying Sect as a plaything, hahaha!”

Ying Wu struggled desperately, her eyes filled with tears of despair and humiliation, but her spiritual power was sealed, and her injuries were severe; she was powerless to resist.

Chapter 5804

“Stop!”

Shi Yan barely managed to lift his head, roaring angrily, only to be kicked hard in the chest by a nearby beast warrior, causing him to spit out another mouthful of blood.

“Heh, you piece of trash, you’re pretty tough, huh? I’ll deal with this little wench first, then slowly torment you!”

The goat-horned leader leered, his hand almost touching Ying Wu’s shoulder.

Just at this critical moment—

“Boom!”

The rudimentary barrier at the cave entrance shattered like paper!

A chilling, violent, terrifying killing intent, like a prehistoric beast awakening, swept through the entire cave like a tangible tide!

The laughter of all the beast warriors abruptly ceased, like ducks being choked.

They turned in horror, only to see a figure in a green robe standing at the cave entrance.

The person stood there, seemingly calm, but his eyes were like ancient ice, or a volcano about to erupt, containing a furious intent to destroy everything.

A mere glance was enough to plunge these normally ferocious beast warriors into an ice cave, their blood seemingly freezing.

“You…who are you?!”

The goat-horned leader, jolted awake by the murderous intent, shouted, his voice trembling despite his bluster.

Kai didn’t answer.

His gaze fell on Shi Yan and Ying Wu, seeing their miserable state, especially the sudden glimmer of hope in Ying Wu’s eyes, like seeing a savior, followed by a flood of tears of grievance. His anger reached its peak.

“You…all deserve to die.”

Five simple words, yet like a death sentence.

The next instant, Kai moved.

No earth-shattering display, no flashy moves.

He simply raised his right hand, fingers spread, and gently clenched it around everyone in the cave except Shi Yan and Ying Wu.

“Buzz—!”

The air in the cave seemed to vanish instantly, time itself frozen for a moment.

Then, under the horrified, speechless gazes of all the Beast Fusion Warriors,

their bodies, along with their weapons, the wine jars beside them, and even the soul lamps, were as if gripped by an invisible giant hand, and then—

“Pfft! Pfft! Pfft! Pfft!…”

A series of muffled explosions rang out!

The seven Beast Fusion Warriors, including the goat-horned leader who was at the fourth rank of the Celestial Immortal Realm, didn’t even have time to scream before their bodies exploded on the spot!

They turned into a cloud of blood mist and fragments of flesh and bone, splattering all over the cave walls!

A thick stench of blood instantly filled the air.

In the entire cave, apart from Shi Yan and Ying Wu, who were tied to the stone pillars, there was no other living creature.

Kai withdrew his hand, as if he were merely dusting off some dust. He strode to the stone pillar, and with a flick of his finger, the specially made animal sinew ropes binding the two snapped.

Shadow Dance lost her support and slumped downwards, but Kai caught her just in time.

Leaning against Kai’s chest, she felt his strong, reliable arms and the familiar, faint scent of his body.

The fear, grievances, and despair of the past few days finally erupted. She clutched Kai's clothes tightly, buried her face in his chest, and burst into tears, her delicate body trembling uncontrollably.

"Senior…Senior…you really came…I knew…you would come…"

she sobbed, her words incoherent.

Kai sighed inwardly, gently patting her back and channeling a wisp of gentle, chaotic immortal energy to calm her and alleviate her injuries.

Then he looked at Stone Rock, who was struggling to his feet.

Although Shi Yan was severely injured, his eyes burned with rage and lingering fear. He knelt on one knee, his voice hoarse, "Senior! Shi Yan is incompetent. I failed to protect Ying Wu and even caused you to risk your life…"

"Get up. This is not the time to talk about this."

Kai helped him up, channeling his immortal power to heal his injuries and giving him a pill. "How did you end up in their hands?"

Shi Yan took the pill and felt a warm current spread through him, easing his injuries considerably. He then quickly recounted what had happened.

It turned out that after they split up, Shi Yan's group had made the most progress, sneaking to the outskirts of the Ten Thousand Beasts Sect's ruins.

They captured a lone Fusion Beast Warrior, extracting some information about the sect's inner workings. Just as they were about to leave, they unexpectedly encountered Ying Wu's group

. Ying Wu and her group seemed to have been exposed and were being pursued by a group of Fusion Beast Warriors.

Shi Yan immediately decided to provide backup, and the two groups joined forces, fighting and retreating simultaneously.

Although they killed many pursuers, the enemy's numbers continued to grow, even attracting experts from the Demonic Sect.

During the fierce battle, the group was scattered. Shi Yan and Ying Wu, to cover the retreat of the other disciples, deliberately drew away most of the pursuers, ultimately being ambushed near the mountain stream and captured after exhaustion.

The fate of the other disciples was unknown.

"Those bastards... after capturing us, they humiliated us in every way, and even tried to..." Shi Yan gritted his teeth, his eyes bloodshot.

"I understand,"

Kai interrupted him, his voice icy. "I will avenge you a hundredfold. But now, we must leave immediately."

"Although I tried my best to control the commotion, it might have attracted the attention of other enemies nearby,"

Shi Yan and Ying Wu nodded hurriedly.

Kai helped Ying Wu put on one of his spare robes to cover her torn clothes.

Then, supporting one of them with each hand, he flashed out of the cave, disappearing back into the shadows of the forest, speeding southwest.

About half an incense stick's time after they left, several powerful auras descended upon the cave. Upon seeing the horrific scene inside, they all gasped in shock, followed by angry roars and piercing alarms...

But by this time, Kai, along with Shi Yan and Ying Wu, were already dozens of miles away.

Following the route and method provided by Ling Shuang, he sped towards the entrance to the mysterious Li Huo Secret Realm.

Chapter 5805

Crimson Flame Canyon, located in the southwest of the Ten Thousand Beasts Mountain Range, is named for the strange, ever-burning crimson flames deep within it.

The canyon's steep walls are a dark red, scorched by intense heat, and the air is thick with a scorching, dry atmosphere.

Ordinary plants struggle to grow here; only a few fire-resistant, exotic ferns and lichens dot the landscape.

When Ling Shuang led Lie Tian and the other wounded remnants of the Ten Thousand Beasts Sect, after a grueling ordeal, to the deepest part of the canyon, everyone was exhausted.

Days of fleeing, tense nerves, and untreated injuries had brought the team's morale and stamina to rock bottom.

Before them stood a hundred-zhang-high, smooth, mirror-like crimson rock wall.

This wall was not ordinary rock, but a rare mineral called "Crimson Flame Crystal," upon which burned a seemingly faint yet eternally burning pale golden flame, the intense heat distorting the air itself.

This was the entrance to the Blazing Fire Secret Realm that Ling Shuang had spoken of.

"This is it."

Ling Shuang stopped, her pale face flushed an unnatural red from the intense heat, but a glimmer of hope shone in her eyes.

She turned to Lie Tian and the others, saying, “Please wait a moment while I open the entrance to the secret realm.”

Lie Tian and the others gazed at the burning rock wall, feeling the vast and pure fire-attribute energy contained within, and felt somewhat relieved.

This entrance to the secret realm was so unique and well-hidden; perhaps they could truly escape the pursuit of the Demon Sect and the Fusion Beast Clan for the time being.

Ling Shuang took a deep breath, suppressing her fatigue and the lingering pain from her injuries, and walked to about three zhang in front of the rock wall.

She took out her crimson feather jade pendant, the same one she had given Kai—the “Fire Pendant”—and formed hand seals, transforming her pure Xuan Tian Sword Qi into blazing fire-attribute spiritual power, which she then poured into the pendant.

The “Fire Pendant” immediately shone brightly, emitting a clear phoenix cry, and a crimson beam of light shot out, striking the center of the burning rock wall.

At the same time, Ling Shuang focused her divine sense and began to inscribe the complex and profound opening seals.

However, just as the magic seal was about to be completed, and the flames on the rock wall began to fluctuate rhythmically, faintly revealing a portal’s phantom image—

“Hmph!”

A cold and authoritative snort exploded in everyone’s ears like thunder!

The snort contained a powerful impact on the divine soul and a blazing sword intent. Ling Shuang was the first to be hit, feeling a sharp pain in

her sea of consciousness, and the divine seal she was inscribing instantly collapsed!

She groaned, a trickle of blood spilling from the corner of her mouth, and staggered back a few steps, the light of the Li Huo Pendant in her hand dimming .

The portal's phantom image that was about to take shape on the rock wall dissipated, returning to its original burning state.

"Who goes there?!"

Lie Tian mustered his strength and stood in front of Ling Shuang, his silver pupils scanning the surroundings warily.

The other disciples of the Ten Thousand Beasts Sect also braced themselves, assuming defensive postures.

"Shuang'er, how dare you!"

Accompanied by an authoritative voice, the space in front of the burning rock wall rippled like water, and a figure slowly emerged. The newcomer was a middle-aged man who appeared to be around forty or fifty years old. He wore a crimson robe embroidered with golden flame patterns, his face was ancient, and his eyes shone brightly, like two leaping flames.

He carried a strangely styled crimson longsword on his back. Although it was not drawn, it naturally exuded a scorching and sharp sword intent that seemed capable of incinerating everything.

The strength of his aura far surpassed that of Lie Tian at his peak, clearly indicating that he was a top-tier sword cultivator at the eighth or even ninth rank of the Heavenly Immortal Realm!

"Master!"

Upon seeing the newcomer, Ling Shuang's face instantly turned deathly pale. Ignoring her injuries, she hurriedly bowed and paid her respects, her voice trembling.

This man was none other than Ling Shuang's master, Ling Yan, a genius sword cultivator of the previous generation of the Xuan Tian Sword Sect who later left the sect to venture out on his own and was later revered as the Heavenly Fire Sword Venerable!

Ling Yan's gaze was like lightning. He first swept over Ling Shuang, noticing the bloodstains at the corner of her mouth and her listless aura. A barely perceptible pity flashed in his eyes, but it was quickly overshadowed by even greater anger.

His gaze then swept over Lie Tian and the other beastmen, who were clearly not sword cultivators and were all injured with mixed auras. His face immediately turned so gloomy it could drip water.

"Shuang'er, have you forgotten my rules?"

Ling Yan's voice was icy cold, devoid of any emotion. "The Blazing Fire Secret Realm is my place of quiet cultivation, and I absolutely forbid any outsiders from setting foot here!"

"You left the secret realm without permission to meddle in the conflict between our sect and the Demonic Sect, and I haven't even pursued the matter yet. Now you dare to bring so many... random strangers here without permission, and you still want to open the secret realm?"

"Where do you place my rules? Where do you place the precepts of the Xuan Tian Sword Sect?"

"Master, please calm down!"

Ling Shuang knelt down with a thud, and said urgently, "Disciple knows her mistake! But there was a reason! The Myriad Beasts Sect was ambushed by the Myriad Souls Demonic Sect and a traitor, and the sect was destroyed."

“Sect Master Lie Tian and the others fought desperately to break through the encirclement, and now they are pursued from behind and have no way forward. Disciple… Disciple really couldn’t bear to see them being slaughtered by the Demonic Sect, so I dared to bring them to the secret realm for temporary refuge.”

“We implore Master to have mercy and allow them to enter the secret realm to hide for a while. They will leave once the storm has passed! Father… Father also agreed to my assistance!”

“Ling Yunzi agreed?”

Ling Yan frowned, but his anger did not diminish. “His agreement is his business! This is the Li Huo Secret Realm, my territory! The rules are set by me!” ”

Don’t even mention Ling Yunzi, even if the ancestors of the Xuan Tian Sword Sect were resurrected, it wouldn’t change anything!”

He looked at Lie Tian and the others with cold eyes, as if looking at a group of ants: “A bunch of stray dogs, do you even deserve to defile my place of cultivation?”

“Get out of the Crimson Flame Valley immediately! Otherwise, don’t blame me for being merciless with my sword!”

“Senior!”

Lie Tian endured the humiliation, stepped forward, and bowed deeply. “This junior, Lie Tian, is the sect leader of the Ten Thousand Beasts Sect. The sect has suffered this calamity, which is truly unavoidable. I have absolutely no intention of offending your cultivation, senior.”

“We only beg for your help, senior, to allow us temporary refuge. We are willing to offer all the remaining resources and treasures of the Ten Thousand Beasts Sect as a reward. In the future, if you command us, the entire Ten Thousand Beasts Sect will go through fire and water without hesitation!”

“Ten Thousand Beasts Sect? Hmph, what right does a piece of trash that can’t even protect its own gate have to negotiate with me?”

Ling Yan sneered mercilessly. “Your resources and treasures? I don’t care! Get out of here now! Don’t force me to personally send you on your way!”

Chapter 5806

“You!”

A wolf clan elder with a fiery temper was enraged upon hearing this and wanted to step forward to argue, but was firmly stopped by Lie Tian.

Seeing her master’s resolute attitude, Ling Shuang felt both anxious and ashamed.

She looked at the Ten Thousand Beasts Sect disciples behind her, whose eyes had been rekindled with despair, and then at Lie Tian, who was still seriously injured and even paler.

Then, she gritted her teeth and kowtowed three times to Ling Yan, her forehead instantly swelling red.

“Master! It’s all my fault! I acted on my own and broke the rules!” ”

I am willing to accept any punishment, even if it means losing my cultivation and being expelled from the sect, I will have no complaints! I only beg Master… I only beg Master to have mercy and save them!”

“They really have nowhere to go! If they are caught by the Demonic Sect, they will surely die a horrible death! Master! I beg you!”

Ling Shuang cried, knowing that although her master was strict, he had always loved her. Perhaps… perhaps there was still a glimmer of hope.

Seeing his beloved disciple pleading so humbly, Ling Yan's anger intensified, but this time it seemed directed more at Lie Tian and the others.

He felt that these outsiders had bewitched his disciple, causing her to disobey her master's orders and even resort to self-harm to beg for mercy.

"Stubborn fool!"

Ling Yan shouted sharply, without making any move, he simply flicked his sleeve.

"Boom!"

A scorching and violent invisible force erupted, like a volcanic eruption, or a sweeping sword aura, directly striking the kneeling Ling Shuang!

"Pfft—!"

Ling Shuang was struck as if by a heavy blow, flying backward, spitting out a mouthful of blood in mid-air, and crashing heavily to the ground several feet away.

After struggling for a few moments, she couldn't get up, her aura instantly weakening to the extreme, clearly severely injured.

"Senior Sister Shuang!"

"Miss Ling!"

The Sword Sect disciples and Lie Tian and the others exclaimed, wanting to step forward, but were instantly frozen in place by Ling Yan's icy gaze, as if plunged into an ice cave.

"This is your punishment for disobeying your master's orders, bringing outsiders without permission, and showing no respect for your elders!"

Ling Yan's voice was icy. Looking at Ling Shuang, whose mouth was bleeding and whose eyes were filled with pain and despair, his heart ached, but his face remained ashen.

"Now, take these trash and disappear from my sight immediately! If you dare linger, the next blow will be far more severe than just injury!"

Despair, like the heaviest mountain, weighed heavily on the hearts of every remaining member of the Ten Thousand Beasts Sect.

Even the last glimmer of hope had been extinguished by the powerful and ruthless Heavenly Fire Sword Master.

Many disciples had lost their light, slumped to the ground, awaiting their final judgment.

Lie Tian clenched his fists, his nails digging deep into his palms, blood dripping from between his fingers.

He looked at the heavily injured Ling Shuang, at his despairing clansmen, a wave of grief and helplessness almost consuming him.

Was the heavens truly going to destroy the Ten Thousand Beasts Sect?

Just as all

hope seemed lost—a strange fluctuation suddenly emanated from the direction of the canyon entrance.

The fluctuation was not an ordinary spiritual energy or spatial fluctuation, but a kind of... fiery, agile rhythm, as if a living flame was leaping and shuttling! Immediately afterward, to everyone's astonishment, a figure in cyan robes appeared in the arena, traversing hundreds of feet in an unbelievable manner!

Beneath his feet seemed to tread on invisible staircases of fire; with each step, a crimson-gold lotus-shaped flame bloomed and extinguished in mid-air.

This propelled him forward at a speed far exceeding ordinary escape techniques, yet without creating any wind or spiritual energy surges, appearing incredibly elegant and mysterious.

It was Kai, accompanied by Shi Yan and Ying Wu, who were barely keeping up thanks to his immortal power!

“Fire Control Steps?!”

The Heavenly Fire Sword Master Ling Yan, who had been standing with his hands behind his back, his face cold and stern, suddenly had his pupils contract upon seeing the profound footwork beneath Kai’s feet and the familiar crimson-gold lotus phantom.

For the first time, his face revealed undisguised shock and confusion, and he even cried out in disbelief!

Kai stopped, and the lotus flames beneath his feet dissipated.

He first glanced at the scene—Ling Shuang, heavily injured and lying on the ground, her breath faint;

Lie Tian and the others ,

their faces ashen and filled with despair; and the red-robed swordsman who, despite his imposing aura, was now staring at him with suspicion.

He instantly understood.

It seemed this was Ling Shuang’s master, the Heavenly Fire Sword Master.

Moreover, it appeared some unpleasantness had occurred.

“Senior Chen!”

“Senior!”

Shi Yan, Ying Wu, Lie Tian, and everyone who knew Kai cried out excitedly, as if seeing light in endless darkness.

Kai nodded slightly to Lie Tian and the others, signaling them to calm down.

He first went to Ling Shuang's side, knelt down, and examined her injuries.

Ling Yan's attack was clearly not at full strength, but the intense sword intent it contained had invaded Ling Shuang's meridians, causing considerable internal injury.

Kai frowned slightly, channeling a wisp of pure and gentle chaotic immortal energy to protect her heart meridian, temporarily stabilizing her injuries.

"Senior..."

Ling Shuang's eyes welled up with tears again when she saw Kai, tears of grievance and guilt welling up. "I'm sorry... I... I couldn't..."

"It's alright, don't speak, just focus on your breathing."

Kai comforted her, helping her to a rock a little further away to lean against.

After doing this, Kai slowly stood up, his gaze calmly meeting that of Ling Yan, the Heavenly Fire Sword Master who had been staring intently at him.

The shock in Ling Yan's eyes gradually gave way to scrutiny and deep doubt.

He looked Kai up and down. This young man in blue robes, whose cultivation was only at the seventh level of the Human Immortal Realm, gave him an extremely strange feeling.

Despite his low cultivation, his demeanor was as steady as a mountain. Facing the pressure of his Heavenly Immortal Realm cultivation, he showed no fear whatsoever, and… he actually knew the “Fire Control Step”!

“Boy, who are you?”

Ling Yan asked in a deep voice, his tone like the clash of metal. “Why do you know the Fire Control Step? This technique is a secret passed down only by the Fire Spirit Star Lord. There are only a handful of people in the world who know this step! Where did you learn it from?”

Chapter 5807

Faced with Ling Yan’s questioning, Kai did not answer directly.

He first glanced at the injured Ling Shuang, then turned his gaze back to Ling Yan, his tone calm but tinged with coldness: “You are the Heavenly Fire Sword Master? Ling Shuang’s master?”

“Indeed, it is I!”

Ling Yan said proudly, his eyes flashing, “Answer my question!”

Kai countered, “Why should I answer you? It is you, as the master, who, without asking any questions, dealt such a heavy blow to your own disciple. What is the reason for this?”

“She brought people here to save them from danger. What wrong has she done?”

“Insolence!”

Ling Yan’s face darkened. “How I discipline my disciple is none of your business, you junior!”

“The Blazing Fire Secret Realm is my place of seclusion. The rule is that no outsider may set foot here!”

“She brought people here without permission, which is a violation of the rules and she deserves punishment! I have not crippled her cultivation, which is already out of consideration for our master-disciple relationship!”

“Now, answer me immediately, where did your Fire Control Steps come from? Otherwise, don’t blame me for capturing you, searching your soul, and refining your spirit to get an answer!”

Facing Ling Yan’s threat, Kai’s expression remained unchanged. Instead, a slightly mocking smile appeared on his lips: “Your secluded cultivation place? You set the rules? This Blazing Fire Secret Realm… is it really your territory?”

He paused, his gaze seemingly able to pierce through the burning rock walls, seeing the essence deep within the secret realm, and slowly uttered a name: “I feel… this secret realm is more like something left behind by that old guy, the Blazing Fire Demon Lord.”

“What?!”

Upon hearing Kai’s words, Ling Yan was struck dumb, his aura fluctuating violently uncontrollably.

His face showed even greater shock than when he saw the Fire Control Steps, even carrying a hint of horror and disbelief!

He stared intently at Kai, his voice distorted with extreme surprise and doubt: “You… how do you know about the Blazing Fire Demon Lord?! Who exactly are you?!”

Seeing Ling Yan’s reaction, Kai became even more certain of his guess.

When he first heard Ling Yunzi mention the Blazing Fire Secret Realm, the name sounded familiar, as if it were related to that Blazing Fire Demon Lord.

Now, considering Ling Yan's reaction, it seems pretty much true.

Kai remained unfazed, meeting Ling Yan's astonished gaze, and said calmly, "Who am I? Since you recognize the Fire Control Step and know about the Blazing Fire Demon Lord, telling you won't hurt."

"The Blazing Fire Demon Lord is a long-time friend of mine, with whom I share a deep personal bond. Since this secret realm was left behind by him, what's wrong with me, as his friend, taking a few people in for temporary refuge?"

"Friend?"

Ling Yan was first taken aback, then his shock turned into deep suspicion and mockery, as if he'd heard a ridiculous joke. "Hahaha!

You're just a brat, spouting nonsense! The Blazing Fire Demon Lord has lived for tens of thousands of years!" "You, a mere Human Immortal Realm junior with a bone age of no more than a hundred years, dare to claim to be his friend? Utterly absurd!"

His laughter abruptly stopped, his eyes sharp as swords, as if trying to see right through Kai: "Fine, even if you've obtained some of the Demon Lord's inheritance by chance and know his name..."

"Then how do you explain the Fire Control Step? This is the unique skill of the Fire Spirit Star Lord!"

"The Fire Spirit Star Lord and the Blazing Fire Demon Lord, one righteous and one demonic, though both possessing the attribute of fire, are natural enemies, having fought each other for countless years, their bond as strong as fire and water!" "

Since you claim to be a friend of the Blazing Fire Demon Lord, how do you know the Fire Spirit Star Lord's ultimate technique?" "Are you simultaneously friends with these two irreconcilable beings? That's utter nonsense, utter rubbish!"

The more Ling Yan spoke, the more convinced Kai was of fabrication. His initial doubts subsided, but his anger flared again: "Boy, I don't have time to listen to your ramblings! Immediately confess, where did you steal your Fire Control Steps from?" "

And how do you know the name of the Blazing Fire Demon Lord? If there's even a hint of falsehood, I'll annihilate you, body and soul!" Before

his words were finished, the terrifying sword intent surrounding Ling Yan erupted!

Crimson flames shot into the sky, illuminating half the canyon in a fiery red glow. The scorching heat caused the air to crackle and pop, and the ground even began to melt!

The ancient sword on his back automatically drew half an inch from its sheath with a clang, revealing a section of its blade as red as blood, as if magma flowed within it, radiating a sharpness and heat that sent chills down one's spine! The pressure of a Celestial Immortal Realm

expert was released without reservation, like the might of heaven descending!

Lie Tian and the others groaned and retreated in unison, their faces deathly pale. Those with lower cultivation levels even coughed up blood and collapsed, utterly unable to withstand the pressure.

Even the heavily injured Ling Shuang felt difficulty breathing, her eyes filled with worry.

However, Kai, at the very center of the oppressive aura, remained calm, not even the hem of his robe fluttering.

He seemed to exist in another dimension; the scorching sword intent and terrifying pressure, powerful enough to incinerate mountains and boil seas, couldn't even get within three feet of him!

"You're right, the Fire Demon Lord and the Fire Spirit Star Lord don't get along."

Kai nodded, as if stating a simple fact. "However, that's between them. My acquaintance with them was due to a chance encounter."

"The Fire Demon Lord invited me for drinks and we discussed the Dao; the Fire Spirit Star Lord took a liking to me and taught me a few steps of the Fire Control Steps for fun. What's wrong with that?"

"Fun?" Ling Yan laughed angrily. "Fine! Fine, fun! It seems you won't tell the truth unless I teach you a lesson!"

He completely lost patience and stopped dwelling on the contradictions in Kai's words.

Since he couldn't get an answer from him, he'd beat him into submission first!

Regardless of this kid's background, secretly learning the Fire Control Steps, knowing about the Fire Demon Lord, and spouting nonsense here was already a grave offense!

"Crimson Flame, unsheathe!"

Ling Yan shouted coldly, and the ancient sword on his back was fully drawn!

The sword was entirely crimson, and as soon as it appeared, the temperature in the canyon soared again. The air around the sword was scorched and distorted, emitting a piercing hiss.

The longsword transformed into a crimson rainbow, carrying the power to scorch the heavens and boil the seas. It didn't directly strike Kai, but instead slashed through the air!

"Burning Heaven Sword Domain, rise!"

Rumble!

Centered on Ling Yan, the space within a hundred feet was instantly filled with endless crimson flames!

This was no ordinary flame, but the "Burning Heaven Sword Qi," refined to its extreme and containing the essence of Ling Yan's lifelong swordsmanship!

Chapter 5808

Flames, sometimes sword-shaped, sometimes lotus-like, sometimes like flowing clouds, danced and darted within, each wisp enough to easily incinerate the physical body and soul of an early-stage Celestial Immortal!

Within the sword domain, space was completely sealed off, the intense heat distorted perception, and the sharp sword intent was omnipresent, frantically compressing and scorching everything within!

This was the signature technique of the Heavenly Fire Sword Master, his greatest reliance for dominating the Ten Heavens!

"Senior!"

"Senior Chen!"

Lie Tian, Ling Shuang, and the others exclaimed in horror upon seeing this.

Under such a terrifying sword domain, they could barely protect themselves, let alone help.

Facing this Heaven-Burning Sword Domain, powerful enough to kill even an ordinary seventh-grade Celestial Immortal, Kai merely sighed softly.

“It seems reasoning won’t work.”

He reached out and grasped the hilt of the seemingly ancient longsword behind him.

“Buzz—!”

A clear and melodious sword cry, like a dragon’s roar across the heavens, or the first wisp of Dao sound at the beginning of chaos, suddenly rang out!

The sword’s cry wasn’t particularly loud, yet it strangely pierced through the raging flames and sword intent of the Burning Heaven Sword Domain, clearly reaching everyone’s ears, even causing the surging flames to momentarily pause!

Kai drew his sword.

The Dragon-Slaying Sword was unsheathed!

There were no earth-shattering phenomena, no overwhelming momentum.

The Dragon-Slaying Sword’s blade presented a chaotic, dark color, as if it could devour all light.

But when Kai held the sword in his hand and casually swung it forward—

an indescribable “intention” suddenly spread out!

It wasn’t scorching, nor icy, nor sharp, nor heavy.

It was a kind of… a state of mind where “destruction” and “rebirth” intertwined, seemingly transcending the Five Elements and above the rules!

It was the grandeur and vastness of the primordial chaos, the initial separation of Yin and Yang!

Before this “sword intention,” the Burning Heaven Sword Domain’s scorching heat and sharpness, capable of burning everything, actually seemed… somewhat “petty,” somewhat “merely there in form”!

“What?!”

Ling Yan’s expression changed drastically! He felt his proud Burning Heaven Sword Intent, upon contact with the opponent’s strange sword intent, was like a subject encountering a king, involuntarily experiencing a feeling of being suppressed, even on the verge of collapse!

How could this be?!

His Burning Heaven Sword Intent was the supreme fire sword intent he had comprehended after thousands of years of observing the “Undying Flame Seed” at the core of the Blazing Fire Secret Realm, enduring countless hardships!

How could it be suppressed by the sword intent of a mere junior in the Immortal Realm?

“Break.”

Kai uttered a simple word.

The Dragon-Slaying Sword in his hand, following an indescribably profound trajectory, gently thrust forward.

This thrust, seemingly slow, was actually extremely fast, as if ignoring the barriers of space and flames. This thrust

had no vast sword energy, no dazzling light.

But wherever the sword tip passed, the surging and roaring fiery sword energy in the Burning Heaven Sword Domain, like ice and snow under the scorching sun, silently melted and dissipated!

The sword domain itself emitted cracking sounds, as if a huge piece of glass had been lightly struck, instantly becoming covered with countless fine cracks!

“Crack—!”

A clear sound of shattering echoed through the canyon.

Ling Yan’s Heaven-Burning Sword Domain, powerful enough to trap and kill opponents of the same level, shattered under Kai’s seemingly casual sword strike!

It dissipated into countless sparks, quickly extinguishing in the air.

“Pfft!”

The sword domain was forcibly shattered, and Ling Yan, his mind injured, groaned, a trickle of blood spilling from the corner of his mouth, his eyes filled with utter horror and disbelief!

His sword-wielding hand trembled slightly.

It wasn’t a difference in strength, but… a crushing defeat in the level of swordsmanship!

The “intent” contained in that sword strike far surpassed his understanding of “fire” and “sword”! It was a higher-dimensional realm of swordsmanship that he had dreamed of but could never reach!

Kai sheathed his sword, the Dragon-Slaying Sword pointing diagonally at the ground, the chaotic light on its blade slowly receding.

He looked at the pale-faced, confused Ling Yan, and said calmly, “Now, can we go in?”

Ling Yan stared intently at Kai, then at the Dragon-Slaying Sword in his hand, his chest heaving violently.

That sword strike had completely overturned his understanding.

This seventh-grade Immortal Realm youth was no ordinary person!

His eerie sword intent, that strange sword, and the Fire Demon Lord and Fire Spirit Star Lord he mentioned… all of this pointed to one possibility—this person might truly have an unimaginable background and extraordinary opportunities!

Should they continue fighting?

Ling Yan wasn’t confident.

The opponent’s sword intent was too strange, completely countering his fire sword path. Moreover, he vaguely sensed that the opponent’s previous sword strike… seemed… not at full strength?

After a full ten breaths of silence, the overwhelming aura emanating from Ling Yan slowly subsided, and the sword intent that had burned everything receded like a tide.

He took a deep breath, as if to expel all the shock and pent-up emotions in his chest.

Finally, he stepped aside to clear the path to the burning rock wall, his voice dry as he said, “…Let’s go in.”

He didn’t ask any more questions.

Some answers are better left unknown.

Kai secretly breathed a sigh of relief upon hearing that the Heavenly Fire Sword Venerable had agreed.

If the Heavenly Fire Sword Venerable had attacked again, he simply wouldn't have been able to withstand it.

If it weren't for the inheritance of Wan Jianxing and the incredibly pure sword intent he forged using those fire meteors in that void passage, Kai wouldn't have been able to withstand the Heavenly Fire Sword Venerable's attack.

Kai dared not think further and said to Lie Tian, Shi Yan, Ying Wu, and the others behind him, "Let's go in."

He walked to the rock wall, took out the Li Huo Pendant given to him by Ling Shuang, and without needing to deliberately transform it, he poured a wisp of chaotic immortal power into

it, causing the Li Huo Pendant to light up again. At the same time, with a slight movement of his divine sense, the hand seal taught by Ling Shuang instantly took shape and was imprinted into the rock wall.

This time, there was no obstacle.

The flames on the crimson crystal rock wall surged violently, quickly parting to both sides to reveal a stable portal three zhang high, burning with golden flames.

Behind the portal was a light curtain interwoven with crimson and golden hues, twisting and undulating. The specific scene was unclear, but the extremely rich and pure fire attribute energy was already overwhelming.

"Let's go."

Kai took the lead and stepped into the light curtain.

Shi Yan and Ying Wu quickly followed, helping the heavily injured Ling Shuang up.

Lie Tian then led the Wan Shou Sect disciples, who had survived the ordeal and were still in a daze, into the legendary Blazing Fire Secret Realm one by one, their emotions filled with complex and indescribable feelings.

Ling Yan stood still, watching the group gradually disappear into the light curtain, especially Kai's back, his eyes shifting uncertainly before finally settling into a long, complex sigh.

Crimson Flame Canyon returned to its usual scorching heat and silence, with only the flames on the rock walls still burning tirelessly.

Chapter 5809

As Kai stepped into the golden flame-filled light curtain, a scorching energy, a hundred times more concentrated and pure than that of the Crimson Flame Canyon outside, carrying an ancient and primordial aura, like a primordial beast awakening, opened its fiery maw and instantly enveloped and devoured him.

"Buzz—"

After a brief period of dizziness from the spatial shift, the scene before him suddenly opened up.

Even with Kai's composure, he couldn't help but be slightly moved by what he saw.

This was far beyond the description of an ordinary cultivator's cave or a small secret realm; it was a truly complete and magnificent world of fire origins, independent of the Tenth Heaven!

The sky was an eternally burning, ever-changing dome of flames.

There were no sun, moon, or stars, only endless, thick, liquid-like divine fires of various colors.

Near the eastern horizon was a crimson-gold color like the rising sun, radiating a warm yet domineering fire of life.

The west was permeated with the orange-red of the setting sun, containing a serene and majestic stillness of all things returning to silence.

In the southern sky, a dazzling, blazing white light churned—the illusory phantom of the sun's true fire, purifying all things.

In the north, however, drifted deep, mysterious, purplish-black flames, seemingly capable of devouring light, heat, and even the soul.

These flames were not static; they flowed, intertwined, and collided as if possessing a life of their own.

At times, they transformed into soaring phoenixes, their cries echoing through the air; at other times, they coalesced into roaring fire dragons,

swirling and radiating light. The entire sky was painted with a shimmering, breathtaking beauty, yet also terrifyingly dangerous.

The earth, a dark red crystalline rock forged over millions of years, was incredibly hard, yet riddled with deep, spiderweb-like cracks.

From the depths of each crack, pure pillars of fire, several meters or even tens of meters high, erupted from within, each a different color.

Some were a deep, icy blue yet unbearably hot; others were pitch black yet blazing brightly.

These pillars of fire shot skyward, merging with the fiery tassels hanging from the heavens, forming fiery waterfalls connecting heaven and earth, their roars incessant.

The magma wasn't merely confined to fissures; it flowed freely across this land like rivers and seas.

Crimson, golden, and dark purple magma rivers crisscrossed, slowly surging.

Floating on their surfaces were unsinkable fiery lotuses and burning pumice.

The air was thick with a complex odor, a mixture of sulfur and a strange, fragrant aroma.

In the distance, colossal mountains, purely composed of fire crystals, stood majestically.

These mountains weren't rock, but naturally formed from the purest "Crimson Flame Crystal Essence," "Solar Fire Crystal," and "Earth Core Flame Jade"—top-tier fire-elemental treasures powerful enough to cause bloodshed in the outside world!

They were translucent, their interiors seemingly sealed with flowing flames, refracting a dreamlike, ethereal halo under the interplay of external sunlight and internal firelight.

Atop the mountain peaks burned "Eternal Flames" of various shapes.

Some had coalesced into giant crimson fiery lotuses covering half a mountain, slowly rotating, each petal flowing with runes of the Great Dao.

Some transformed into the phantom of a crouching, head-raised fiery Qilin, roaring silently yet exuding overwhelming power.

Even more strikingly, some appeared as the outline of a blazing palace, its eaves soaring upwards, its doors faintly visible, as if an ancient fire god resided within.

In the air, the intensely concentrated fire-attribute spiritual energy was no longer gaseous, but had formed a mist of pale red, gold, and purple, flowing slowly like a veil.Even a single breath brings a searing heat to the lungs.

But for fire-elemental cultivators, this is undoubtedly a top-tier cultivation sanctuary.

Even more miraculously, this land of origin for fire has nurtured unique fire creatures.

There are fist-sized “fire spirits,” shaped like flickering candle flames, yet possessing lively little eyes; they frolic and weave in groups through the flames.

There are “flame-scaled dragon carp,” several feet long, their scales like rubies, swimming freely in lava rivers, occasionally leaping out of the water, sending sparks flying everywhere.

There are also magnificent “fire sparrows,” with wingspans exceeding ten feet and trailing ornate seven-colored fiery tail feathers, gliding gracefully through the air, emitting clear, phoenix-like cries. One

can even see “lava giants,” several feet tall, pieced together from burning boulders, moving slowly yet possessing immense strength, lingering at the foot of distant mountains, each step causing the earth to tremble slightly.

Everything here showcased the fury, brilliance, creation, and destruction of flames, forming a magnificent picture of primitive, wild, yet vibrant life.

The completeness of its fire-based laws and the high level of its energy far surpassed any known perilous or blessed land in the Tenth Heaven.

“Cough…cough cough…”

Following Kai, Lie Tian, Shi Yan, Ying Wu, and the dozens of surviving disciples of the Ten Thousand Beasts Sect experienced a sudden and dramatic change the moment their feet touched the dark red crystalline ground!

The omnipresent, dense, and terrifyingly high temperature and violent fire elemental energy seemed to find an outlet.

No longer a gentle embrace, it transformed into countless red-hot, barbed steel needles, frantically drilling into every pore of their bodies!

Their skin felt like it was being branded with a hot iron.

The air they inhaled through their mouths and noses felt not like air, but scalding magma steam, directly burning their trachea and lungs! Even

with their eyes closed, they could feel the intense light and heat from the outside world piercing their eyelids, causing stinging pain and dizziness!

“Ugh!”

A Qinghu Clan disciple, whose cultivation was only at the second rank of the Heavenly Immortal Realm, was the first to succumb, letting out a short, painful scream.

His exposed skin instantly swelled with countless blisters, which then burst, oozing yellowish-brown pus.

He collapsed to the ground, his breath rapidly weakening.

“Hold on! Circulate your cultivation technique to protect your heart meridian!” Lie Tian roared hoarsely.

He himself was in no better shape.

As a Silver Moon Sky Wolf, he was biased towards wind and moon attributes, naturally incompatible with this extreme fire environment.

At this moment, he felt as if his internal organs were being roasted over a fire, and the demonic energy that had flowed smoothly through his meridians became sluggish and scalding.

His injuries were aggravated; a sweet taste rose in his throat, and another mouthful of blood surged up, which he forcibly swallowed, his face turning purplish-red.

Shi Yan, whose true form was a Rift Earth Demon Ape, possessed a strong earth attribute and slightly higher resistance to fire, but he too was scorched red all over.

Sweat evaporated as soon as it seeped out, leaving behind white salt stains.

He gritted his teeth and shielded the nearly fainting Shadow Dance behind him.

Chapter 5810

Shadow Dancer, being of the shadow attribute, was even more severely suppressed in this intensely hot and luminous place.

If Kai hadn't previously transferred immortal energy to her to protect her heart, she would likely have already fainted.

The other disciples of the Myriad Beasts Sect were in even worse condition.

Eagle Clan disciples' feathers were charred and ruffled, Tiger Clan disciples' fur reeked of burning, Snake Clan disciples' scales were cracked...

Painful groans and suppressed moans rose and fell.

They were like blocks of ice suddenly thrown into a furnace, rapidly melting.

Although Ling Shuang was a disciple of the Heavenly Fire Sword Master and cultivated the “Burning Heaven Sword Technique,” a top-tier fire-based technique,

she was still injured and her meridians were fragile. The influx of such violent and pure fire elemental energy was a tremendous burden for her.

Her face was deathly pale, cold sweat poured from her forehead, and her delicate body trembled slightly. She struggled to circulate her energy to guide the heat, but it was like a drop in the ocean, only slowing the rate of the scorching heat.

Despair once again surfaced in everyone’s eyes.

Having barely escaped their pursuers and entered this legendary secret realm that was said to offer them refuge, were they destined to be burned alive and have their very foundations scorched because they couldn’t adapt to the environment?

Just as they were on the verge of death, almost refined by the flames of this secret realm, a calm, clear voice, seemingly imbued with supreme authority, rang out like a stabilizing force, penetrating the ears of everyone almost overwhelmed by the heat and pain, reaching the very depths of their souls.

It was Kai! He didn’t even glance back at the carnage behind him; he simply raised his right hand, his long, slender fingers pressing gently down on the surging inferno before him. There was no burst of dazzling magical light, no earth-shattering energy fluctuations. But with this press, an indescribable, profound Daoist aura, centered on him, rippled outwards like ripples created by a pebble thrown into a calm lake, silent yet unstoppable! This Daoist energy wasn’t simply using icy cold to combat the flames; it was a higher-level, almost law-like, commanding force! In an instant, a miracle occurred! From Kai’s position, the space within a hundred-foot radius seemed to be gently caressed by an invisible hand. The terrifyingly high temperature, capable of burning metal, instantly subsided like a tamed beast, decreasing to a comfortable level. The chaotic, rampaging fire elemental energy, as if receiving a supreme command, became orderly. The violent elements were

eliminated, leaving only the purest, gentlest, and easily absorbed fire elemental energy. Even the omnipresent, blinding light seemed to be filtered, becoming bright but not harmful to the eyes. The burning pain on everyone's bodies receded like a tide, their scalding lungs instantly cooled, and their rapid, difficult breathing became steady and long. They stared in astonishment at the clearly defined, almost miraculous scene around them. Outside the safe zone, it remained a scene of raging flames, distorted heat, and blinding light—a veritable inferno. Inside, however, lay a paradise of pleasant temperatures, abundant and gentle spiritual energy, and bright, comfortable light! An invisible boundary clearly separated these two drastically different worlds. On the ground, the dark red crystalline soil remained, but the violent fire it contained had been subdued. Not far away, a small pool of milky-white spring water, exuding a cool spiritual energy and a faint fragrance, gushed forth from a rock crevice that had been completely evaporated by the high temperature.

Around the spring, several clusters of vibrant green, strangely shaped flame-like spiritual herbs even sprouted rapidly!

"This... what kind of method is this?!"

Lie Tian, feeling the rapidly subsiding burning pain within his body and the now active and gentle demonic power, was utterly shocked.

Altering the environmental laws of a world, and with such violent fire-based secret realm laws at that, this could not be explained by ordinary formations or supernatural powers!

This was more like... words becoming law, acting on behalf of Heaven!

Ling Shuang stared blankly at Kai's back, her beautiful eyes filled with extreme shock and an indescribable tremor.

She understood the difficulty and significance of this better than Lie Tian and the others.

The core law of the Li Huo Secret Realm was fire—violent, primal, and supreme.

Even her master, the Heavenly Fire Sword Venerable, who had cultivated here for thousands of years, could only rely on his own cultivation and the characteristics of his techniques to create a relatively stable cultivation environment in a fixed area.

It was absolutely impossible for anyone to create an oasis within a forbidden zone of flames with such ease and effortless skill as Kai, and the effect was so vast and thorough!

This was beyond her comprehension of power and magic.

Shi Yan and Ying Wu exchanged a glance, both seeing deep awe and relief in each other's eyes.

The senior's strength was indeed as deep as the abyss, immeasurable.

Seeing the strange looks from the crowd, Kai simply smiled faintly.

He was a professional at playing with fire.

The ultimate fire source within him was a fusion of multiple flames.

The demonic ultimate fire was many times stronger than the flames in this Fire Separation Secret Realm.

Otherwise, he wouldn't have been able to show off.

"Rest here and heal your injuries as quickly as possible."

Kai turned around, his expression calm and composed, as if he had just done something insignificant.

He glanced at the newly formed spiritual spring and the fire-spirit grass, and nodded.

"That spiritual spring contains gentle life essence, which has miraculous effects on healing injuries."

“Thank you so much for your life-saving grace, Senior! Your supernatural powers are beyond comprehension!”

Everyone knelt down in unison, their voices trembling with excitement. They had been

saved from a desperate situation and were now protected and healed by this blessed land; this kindness was like a second life.

Lie Tian, with tears in his eyes, kowtowed heavily: “Senior’s great kindness will never be forgotten by the remnants of the Ten Thousand Beasts Sect! Lie Tian hereby swears that if the sect can be revitalized in the future, he will honor Senior as the Supreme Lord, and the entire Ten Thousand Beasts Sect will forever be at Senior’s command!”

Kai raised his hand slightly, and a gentle force lifted everyone up: “No need for formalities, it’s best to focus on recovery.”

Soon, under the arrangement of Lie Tian and several elders who still had the strength, everyone began to settle down in an orderly manner.

Chapter 5811

The most seriously injured disciples were prioritized for treatment at the spirit spring, where disciples with some medical knowledge assisted in cleaning their wounds, administering medicinal pills, and guiding them to absorb the gentle life essence from the spring water. Those with

minor injuries were assigned to guard the edge of the safe zone.

Although the area designated by Kai seemed absolutely safe, years of caution prevented them from being careless.

Some also began carefully collecting the newly sprouted flame spirit herbs, distributing them to suitable disciples to aid in healing, as instructed by Kai.

Shi Yan and Ying Wu recovered the fastest and took the initiative to coordinate and care for the seriously injured.

Ling Shuang was also carefully helped by Ying Wu to sit down on a flat, warm crystal stone beside the spirit spring.

She took the medicinal pills Kai had given her earlier and drank a mouthful of the clear spirit spring water.

She felt a cool and refreshing sensation flow through her limbs, and a tingling, healing sensation came from her burned meridians, making her almost groan with pleasure.

She began to focus on circulating the “Burning Heaven Sword Technique.” The pure and gentle fire elemental energy within the secret realm seeped into her meridians, repairing her injuries with far greater efficiency than outside.

Seeing that everyone had settled down and order was gradually returning, Kai looked up at a towering fiery crystal mountain in the distance, its summit ablaze with the phantom of a golden palace.

At the mountain’s peak, a familiar figure in crimson robes stood alone, his back to the safe zone below, facing the endless sea of fire deeper within the secret realm.

The heatwave ruffled his sleeves, his back revealing a hint of loneliness and desolation.

It was none other than Ling Yan, the Heavenly Fire Sword Master.

With a slight thought, Kai’s figure vanished from his spot.

The next moment, he appeared silently beside Ling Yan, standing shoulder to shoulder with him.

Ling Yan’s body trembled almost imperceptibly, but he didn’t turn around, as if he had already anticipated Kai’s arrival. Silence fell

between them for a moment, broken only by the low roar of the fiery world below and the howling of the hot wind.

Silence flowed, yet it wasn't awkward; rather, it possessed a subtle, unspoken understanding between masters.

After a long while, Ling Yan broke the silence.

His voice was no longer the initial arrogant and cold interrogation, but carried a complex emotion—inquiry,感慨, and a hint of barely concealed weariness.

"Just who...who are you?"

he paused, as if carefully choosing his words, before continuing.

"Seventh Rank of Human Immortal Realm... No, just now when you used your technique, your aura had a momentary sense of perfect harmony and sublimation, clearly indicating that you were on the verge of a breakthrough, far beyond what an ordinary seventh rank cultivator could achieve."

"Your methods of dispelling, calming, and even controlling the violent fire spirit power here are definitely not from any known cultivation technique passed down in the Tenth Heaven."

"And that sword strike you displayed outside the canyon... what exactly was that sword intent?"

"I have cultivated swordsmanship for thousands of years, and I believe I have unique insights into both 'fire' and 'sword,' but I have never seen, and cannot even comprehend, that kind of... realm that seems to transcend the Five Elements and surpass the rules."

Kai did not directly answer Ling Yan's series of questions. His gaze drifted far, fixed on the area he had tamed below, where the figures busily healed.

Then, he looked towards the even more intense and unpredictable depths of the secret realm, asking a question instead of answering.

“Heavenly Fire Sword Master, what is your connection with the Fire Spirit Star Lord and the Blazing Fire Demon Lord? How much do you know about this Blazing Fire Secret Realm?”

Ling Yan’s body stiffened noticeably for a moment, as if Kai’s question had touched upon a secret buried deep within his heart.

He slowly turned his head, scrutinizing Kai’s profile for the first time with an equal and discerning gaze.

This young face was calm and serene, his eyes deep as ancient wells, yet seemingly reflecting the raging flames and the endless starry sky.

Another long silence followed, Ling Yan’s face flashing with struggle, reminiscence, bitterness, and other emotions, finally culminating in a long, heavy sigh, as if a tremendous burden had been lifted.

“Very well… Since you possess the Fire Control Steps, can readily identify the name of the Blazing Fire Demon Lord, and have… such incredible sword intent and methods, there are some things I might as well tell you. Perhaps… this is fate.”

Ling Yan’s gaze turned to the deepest part of the secret realm, the direction where the flames were most vibrant and the energy fluctuations most subtle and terrifying. His voice became ethereal, as if traversing endless time.

“Fire Spirit Star Lord and Blazing Fire Demon Lord…”

he slowly began, each word seemingly carrying the weight of time.

“They are my senior brothers.”

“Senior brothers?” Kai raised an eyebrow.

This answer surprised him greatly. The Fire Spirit Star Lord and Blazing Fire Demon Lord fought each other upon meeting, the kind that was life-or-death. They didn't seem like fellow disciples at all.

"That's right."

Ling Yan nodded, a complex expression of nostalgia and self-mockery on his face.

"That was… a very, very long time ago. So long that the current structure of the Tenth Heaven wasn't even fully formed yet."

"Back then, I was just a naive young man wandering the world, living hand to mouth. Because I possessed a faint trace of the Fiery Sun bloodline, I was saved from a near-death experience by a mysterious old man who had traveled here."

His eyes shone with reverence and warmth.

"That old man, we all respectfully call him Master Yan. He had an ordinary appearance and simple clothes, but he had a pair of eyes that seemed to see through the past and future, and understand the origin of the universe."

"He saw that although I had mediocre talent, I had a tenacious spirit and a natural affinity and obsession with fire, so he made an exception and took me under his wing."

"At that time, Master already had two exceptionally talented and brilliant disciples—Eldest Brother Li Jin and Second Brother Huo Ling."

"Li Jin? Huo Ling?"

Kai repeated softly. These were clearly the real names of the Fire Demon Lord and the Fire Spirit Star Lord before they became famous.

Chapter 5812

“Hmm.”

Ling Yan continued, his tone filled with boundless longing for past glories.

“Our eldest brother, Li Jin, was born unruly, his nature a mix of righteousness and wickedness. He acted solely on his conscience, disregarding all rules and regulations.”

“He deeply understood the demonic and domineering nature of flames—the power to burn everything, destroy all, and then give birth to new life. He believed that the essence of fire lay in the cycle of destruction and rebirth.”

“He cultivated with near-madness, often testing the fire with his own body, walking the line between life and death, forging an earth-shattering Li Huo Demon Art. Later, he became known as the Li Huo Demon Lord, his power shaking the heavens, causing all demons to bow down, and immortals and gods to fear him.”

“Our second brother, Huo Ling, on the other hand, was gentle and upright, with a broad mind and compassion for all humanity. He understood the light, warmth, purification, and life-giving divinity and benevolence contained within flames, believing that fire was the beginning of civilization and the light of hope.”

“His Fire Spirit Immortal Technique was upright, magnificent, and profound, capable of purifying evil spirits and nourishing all things. Later, he attained the position of Fire Spirit Star Lord, ruling over a star field, receiving offerings from countless beings, and was hailed as the source of starlight and the embodiment of light.”

At this point, the bitterness on Ling Yan’s face deepened.

“As for me… Ling Yan, I am dull-witted and have mediocre comprehension. Although I have been fortunate enough to study under renowned masters and be on the same level as two peerless geniuses, I have never truly grasped the essence of fire.”

“I lack the demonic comprehension of my eldest brother, who breaks through and rebuilds, dominating the world, and I also lack the divine magnanimity of my second brother, who is righteous, peaceful, and benevolent to all living beings.” ”

I can only struggle to find my own path of sword and fire under the dazzling light of my two senior brothers, making slow progress.”

He sighed, his tone filled with deep regret and helplessness.

“What’s even more regrettable is that shortly after our master imparted the basic Dao techniques to us and laid the foundation for us, he mentioned that he had gained some insights and needed to go beyond the barrier of the universe to pursue the ultimate Dao. After that, he drifted away and was never heard from again.”

“Your two senior brothers are exceptionally talented. Even without our master’s subsequent guidance, they have made great strides forward with their own comprehension and opportunities, traveling through various worlds.”

Ling Yan turned to look at Kai, his eyes filled with sincerity, but also with a hint of barely perceptible melancholy.

“And I guard this Blazing Fire Secret Realm, discovered by my master in his early years and later transformed by my eldest brother, Li Jin.”

“This place was originally a strange space formed by a fragment of chaotic primordial fire falling at the beginning of the universe, containing the most primordial fire laws.”

“Before leaving this realm, my eldest brother entrusted it to my care, firstly out of consideration for our shared sect, giving me a safe haven to settle down and comprehend the Dao of Fire;

secondly, he hoped I could protect this place, preventing its essence from being defiled by unworthy individuals and causing a great disaster.”

“Within this secret realm, relying on some cultivation insights left by my eldest brother, occasional fragments of guidance from my second brother, and the boundless fire elemental energy of the realm itself,”

“I spent thousands of years barely fusing the Dao of Sword and the Dao of Fire, creating the Burning Heaven Sword Technique, which is why I now possess this meager reputation as the Heavenly Fire Sword Master.”

“But compared to my two senior brothers who have already roamed the heavens and worlds and wielded the laws… ha, fireflies are to the moon, dust is to mountains, they are truly insignificant, too shameful to mention.”

Chen listened calmly to Ling Yan’s explanation and understood. So this is the complex origin story.

A mysterious and powerful master, two senior brothers who took completely opposite paths yet both reached the pinnacle of their abilities, and a junior brother with limited talent who steadfastly upheld his duties and strived to catch up.

This Blazing Fire Secret Realm is both a treasure trove and, to some extent, a complex place in Ling Yan’s heart where glory and regret intertwine.

“Since the Blazing Fire Demon Lord entrusted you with the protection of this Blazing Fire Secret Realm, why did you set such strict rules, forbidding any outsiders from entering?”

“Even when we came here to escape disaster, we almost ended up fighting each other?” Kai asked another question that had been nagging at him.

Ling Yan’s expression turned serious, suppressing his previous sentiments.

He pointed to the deepest part of the secret realm, to the area where the flames were most chaotic, seemingly capable of swallowing and distorting even light, and said in a deep voice.

“There are two reasons. First, this place was solemnly entrusted to me by my senior brother, Li Jin. Since I, Ling Yan, have accepted this entrustment, I must be loyal to it and will never allow outsiders to arbitrarily defile or destroy the tranquility and integrity of this place, nor will I allow the resources of the secret realm to be exploited and abused. This is my promise to my senior brother, and it is also where my Dao heart lies.”

He paused, his tone becoming more solemn, even carrying a hint of apprehension.

“Second, and most importantly, the core of the secret realm is not an ordinary cultivation paradise or treasure vault, but the true dwelling place of that fragment of the Chaos Origin Fire, and also the place where my senior brother left behind part of its true inheritance and restrictions!”

Ling Yan’s gaze was fixed on that chaotic area, his voice lowered.

“Before leaving, my senior brother sternly warned me that this Chaos Origin Fire is the primordial fire that existed before the creation of heaven and earth and before the separation of primordial chaos. It is the ancestor of all fires and the root of destruction and creation.”

“It is violent and unpredictable, and the fragments of laws it contains far exceed the limits of this world’s tolerance.”

“Those who do not possess the purest source of fire, have a will as firm as the Chaos Divine Iron, and have gained its approval must never approach the core forbidden area!”

“Otherwise, even if I had entered at my peak, I would have been devoured by the Origin Fire. At best, my Dao foundation would be

completely destroyed, and I would become a cripple; at worst, my body and soul would be annihilated, and I would never be reborn!”

He withdrew his gaze and looked at Kai, his eyes filled with unprecedented solemnity and warning.

“Fellow Daoist Chen, I do not know your origins or what you rely on.”

“You can dispel the outer fire spirits, perhaps you possess extraordinary treasures or a special physique. But this Chaos Origin Fire is no ordinary matter! It cannot be resisted by brute force or ordinary magic weapons.”

“I have guarded this place for a thousand years, and every day I can feel the terrifying pressure emanating from the core, a pressure that makes even the soul tremble.”

“Even I only dare to absorb the scattered, gentle fire spirits filtered through layers of the secret realm for cultivation on the outer perimeter, never daring to cross the line even half a step!”

“Although your methods are profound, you must not approach that core forbidden area out of curiosity! That is a realm that no Human Immortal, or even an ordinary Heavenly Immortal, can touch!”

Chapter 5813

“The Primordial Chaos Fire… the very essence of fire…” Kai murmured, repeating these two words, a barely perceptible glint of light flashing deep within his eyes.

The long-dormant primordial space within his body trembled slightly, on its own!

A faint yet incredibly pure heat, seemingly originating from the very beginning of creation, quietly spread, resonating with the mysterious fire elemental energy of the secret realm that touched his pores.

This feeling was both familiar and strange, as if a dormant bloodline was being awakened.

Kai remained expressionless, nodding slightly to Ling Yan: “Thank you for your frankness, Sword Master. I will remember it.”

In the following days, everyone found unprecedented peace and recovery in this safe oasis created by Kai’s divine power.

The pure and gentle fire elemental energy within the secret realm, combined with the nourishment of the miraculous spring, the pills provided by Kai, and his occasional use of pure immortal power to unblock the meridians of the seriously injured, resulted in miraculous healing effects.

The gruesome wound on Lie Tian’s chest, still bearing traces of demonic energy, was healing, scabbing over, and peeling away at a visible speed, revealing new flesh.

His pale complexion gradually regained its rosy hue, his weakened aura grew stronger day by day, and the damaged meridians within his body were slowly but steadily repairing themselves under the dual nourishment of gentle fire spirit energy and life essence.

He even felt that, after this ordeal and the tempering of the secret realm environment, the bottleneck in his cultivation, which had stagnated for many years, was beginning to loosen.

Ling Shuang’s recovery speed was even more astonishing.

She cultivated top-tier fire-based techniques, making her extremely compatible with the environment here.

After sitting quietly by the spiritual spring for three days, not only were her internal injuries completely healed, but her sword heart, which had been somewhat dimmed due to the forced activation of her sword technique,

became even more clear and refined under the cleansing of pure fire spirit energy and the invisible nourishment of Kai's profound "Daoist charm," and her cultivation showed a faint tendency to advance further.

Her feelings towards Kai had evolved from initial disdain to shock and awe, subtly incorporating a complex and indescribable curiosity and concern that even she herself couldn't fully grasp.

Shi Yan and Ying Wu, whose injuries weren't the most severe to begin with, recovered the fastest and were already moving normally, becoming invaluable assistants to the Lietian management team.

Most of the other Wan Shou Men disciples had also stabilized their injuries; those with lower cultivation levels even benefited from the misfortune, progressing several times faster in this blessed land than outside.

Kai, meanwhile, seemed to be casually strolling through the secret realm these past few days.

He wasn't in a hurry to reach the core area warned by Ling Yan, but instead explored outwards along the edge of the safe zone, carefully sensing every rhythm of this fiery primordial world.

He stepped across a slowly flowing, golden stream of true solar fire; the water was scorching hot, but it automatically parted when his toes touched the surface, transforming into two gentle streams of fire that circled around him, as if welcoming a monarch.

He ascended a low mountain entirely composed of "Earth Core Flame Jade," where a cluster of eternally flickering flames, shaped like a Vermilion Bird,

spontaneously separated a tiny flame, which drifted to his palm, affectionately nuzzled his fingers, and then transformed into a pure fire spirit that entered his body, nourishing his chaotic immortal power.He tried to approach a group of "fire spirits" frolicking in the fiery mushroom forest. These newly awakened creatures, instead of fleeing,

curiously gathered around him, emitting subtle, melodious sounds like the tinkling of wind chimes, as if communicating with him.

He even observed a ten-zhang-tall “lava giant” sleeping in the distance, its heart containing a core of ever-changing flames pulsating rhythmically, the fluctuations subtly harmonizing with a deep rhythm of the entire secret realm.

All of this was observed by Ling Yan, who had been keeping a sliver of his attention focused on him. His shock and doubt grew wildly.

He became increasingly certain that Kai was no ordinary immortal cultivator!

His affinity and control over fire transcended mere talent or possession of extraordinary treasures; it was more like… a resonance and a high-level suppression originating from the very essence of life!

“Could he truly possess some kind of ‘source of ultimate fire’ within him? Otherwise, how can one explain the affinity with all fires?”

Ling Yan’s heart surged with turmoil, and a bold yet chilling thought surfaced: “Could it be… that he truly has some connection with Senior Brother, or even with Master?”

That day, Kai wandered aimlessly, finally arriving at the deepest part of the secret realm, the edge of what Ling Yan had sternly warned him about as an absolute forbidden zone.

The scene before him made even the well-informed Kai hold his breath slightly.

This place seemed to be the heart of the entire world of fire, or perhaps the location of its wound.

No longer were the relatively orderly fiery mountains and rivers, but a vast and boundless “chaotic sea of fire,” entirely composed of the most primal and violent divine fires of all kinds!

The sea of fire stretched endlessly, as far as the eye could see, a raging, boiling inferno.

The crimson “Heaven-Burning Flames” roared like dragons, scorching the space in their wake with blackened marks;

the golden “Solar Essence Flames” were dazzling, yet carried the extreme heat of purifying and annihilating everything;

the purple “Purple Heaven Thunderfire” snaked like a serpent, crackling and exploding with an aura of divine punishment;

the pale white “Bone Spirit Cold Flames” burned silently, icy cold yet capable of freezing the soul;

and then there were the pitch-black “Void Devouring Flames,” seemingly capable of devouring all light, heat, and matter, forming dangerous vortexes in the sea of fire…

Countless terrifying flames, seen only in legends or even existing only in theory, intertwined, collided, merged, and annihilated here in a chaotic yet seemingly deeper order.

Explosions, howls, crackles, hisses… all sorts of sounds mingled into a raging symphony of destruction.

Chapter 5814

Above the sea of fire, space twisted and shattered, displaying bizarre and fantastical phenomena. At times, it revealed the chaotic scene of the world’s beginning, at other times, it reflected apocalyptic images of star destruction.

At the heart of this chaotic and raging inferno, the outline of a magnificent building was faintly visible.

The building seemed to be sculpted from the purest “chaotic crystal,” crystal clear yet containing boundless radiance, exhibiting a strange texture that was neither black nor white, encompassing all colors.

Its form was not that of an ordinary palace or pavilion, but rather a multi-tiered, slightly rotating “pyramid of fire,” its apex pointing directly to the most chaotic fiery dome above.

The entire pyramid was tightly enveloped and protected by a layer of dense, ever-changing, chaotic flames—the Chaotic Origin Fire.

Even from a great distance, Kai could clearly feel the supreme aura emanating from the Chaotic Origin Fire, a power that made all things tremble and the laws of nature weep.

At the edge of the forbidden area, a colossal stone tablet, ten zhang tall, blood-red in color, seemingly formed from countless compressed and solidified flame runes, stood majestically.

Two deep engravings on its surface appeared to be written directly with supreme power, each stroke containing a terrifying will to burn souls and imprint on the void—the warning left by the Fire Demon Lord:

【Chaotic Origin Fire, Burning the Dao and Refining the God!】

【Those who do not attain the ultimate fire, will have their souls annihilated!】

Sixteen ancient and profound flame runes, strong and powerful, exuded an overwhelming aura. Even after countless ages, their remaining will remained like a raging fire, scorching the hearts and courage of those who dared to approach.

Kai stood at this boundary of flame and destruction, gazing at the roaring chaotic sea of fire and the mysterious chaotic crystal tower at its center.

The chaotic immortal power within his body accelerated its circulation. Deep within his dantian, the previously dormant chaotic vortex now

spun noticeably faster, radiating an increasingly intense yearning and resonance!

At the center of the cyclone, a faint yet incredibly pure spark of chaotic fire, seemingly reflecting the birth and death of countless flames, was gradually being ignited and grown stronger!

The feeling was incredibly clear—the chaotic source fire ahead shared the same origin as some kind of primordial energy within him!

It wasn't a threat, but rather... a call!

It was the mutual attraction of long-lost, shared energies!

"The ultimate source of fire... the chaotic source fire..."

Kai's eyes gleamed, and a barely perceptible smile curved his lips. "It seems this was prepared for me."

Without the slightest hesitation, under the gaze of Ling Yan's suddenly contracting pupils in the distance, he took a step forward, his figure as swift as lightning, directly plunging into the chaotic sea of fire—enough to instantly reduce even a peak Celestial Immortal Realm expert to ashes!

"Fellow Daoist Chen! No! Come back!"

Ling Yan's cry of alarm was instantly drowned out by the raging roar of the flames.

However, the anticipated scene of Kai being engulfed by the myriad flames and annihilated with screams did not occur. The chaotic sea of fire, powerful enough to incinerate stars and scorch through space, underwent an incredible transformation the moment it touched Kai's body!

The raging flames, as if meeting a supreme ruler, instantly subdued their wildness!

They no longer attacked and burned haphazardly, but became exceptionally “docile” and “orderly.”

The crimson blazing fire automatically parted to form a channel;

the golden solar essence fire transformed into specks of light, gently sprinkling on Kai’s body, not only without burning him, but also penetrating him and transforming into the purest source of ultimate fire;

the purple Zixiao thunderfire no longer crackled and exploded, but instead, like a docile pet, coiled around his wrists, sending a tingling, tempering sensation through him;

the pitch-black void-devouring flames no longer devoured, but instead surrounded him, first “filtering” and “taming” other overly explosive fire energies…

A thin layer of strange halo, constantly shifting in chaotic colors, naturally appeared on Kai’s body.

This halo, though seemingly weak, exuded an ancient aura of supreme power, commanding all flames—the spiritual light of the Chaotic Fire Source!

This was the natural manifestation of the primordial phenomenon of the Chaotic Qi Cyclone and Chaotic Spark within his dantian, stimulated by external forces of the same origin!

He walked calmly and composedly through the Chaotic Sea of Fire, a place that even Ling Yan feared, as if he were strolling in his own courtyard rather than walking through a land of destruction.

Even more astonishing was that as he continued to advance towards the center of the sea of fire, towards the Chaotic Crystal Tower, the endless, raging flames around him seemed to receive a call from the most primal source, actively and joyfully converging upon him!

It wasn't an aggressive encirclement, but rather a "fusion" and "dedication" like hundreds of rivers flowing into the sea!

Crimson, gold, purple, white, black... countless colors of flames shed their violent outer shells, revealing their most core, most primordial law runes and energy essence.

Transforming into dazzling, multicolored torrents, they surged towards Kai from all directions, flowing unimpeded into the chaotic fire source spiritual light surrounding him.

They were then rapidly absorbed and refined by that light, merging into the increasingly bright and solidified chaotic vortex and sparks within his dantian!

With each step he took, the surrounding sea of fire dimmed slightly, the roar of the flames subsided, and his aura grew more powerful and refined!

Wherever he passed, the flames extinguished, leaving a brief, relatively calm passage, though it was quickly filled by the surging flames from the outside.

But this spectacle of "pulling chestnuts out of the fire" and "all fires converging" was enough to leave Ling Yan, who was barely able to perceive it with his divine sense, utterly astonished and speechless!

"The source of ultimate fire...it really is the source of ultimate fire! And it is...it is the legendary 'Chaotic Fire Seed'!"

Ling Yan's voice trembled, filled with extreme shock and disbelief.

Chapter 5815

At the end of the plaza stood the majestic and mysterious Chaos Crystal Tower, enveloped in dense Chaos Origin Fire.

Beneath its base, the Chaos Origin Fire was at its most concentrated, almost flowing in a liquid state.

The Chaos Origin Fire around Kai was also at its most intense, and the Chaos Fire Lotus within his dantian trembled slightly with excitement.

He stretched out his hand, his palm covered in solidified Chaos Origin Fire, and gently pressed it against the tower's incredibly thick, mysteriously patterned Chaos Crystal Gate.

"Buzz—!"

The Chaos Origin Fire on the gate seemed to come alive, emitting a joyful hum, parting like flowing water to reveal a complex, lotus-shaped three-dimensional groove in the center.

Every detail of the groove perfectly matched the shape of the Chaos Fire Lotus within his dantian!

Without any prompting, Kai focused his mind on his dantian, and the Chaos Fire Lotus, now with a clearly defined outline, trembled slightly, releasing a wisp of its purest primordial energy.

It was a small, faint yet incredibly dazzling cluster of chaotic flames, flowing along his meridians into his palm, and then slowly pouring into the lotus-shaped groove.

"Click…click-click…"

A series of crisp, melodious sounds, like the divine pronouncements of the Great Dao, rang out.

The chaotic crystal gate, heavy as a mountain and seemingly isolating from countless ages, slowly and solemnly opened before Kai.

From the crack in the gate, there was no blinding light, but rather a warm, inclusive, maternal-like chaotic luster, and an indescribable, intimate, and vast ancient aura.

Without the slightest hesitation, Kai stepped forward, his figure disappearing into the chaotic luster and vanishing from the crystal tower.

In the distance, Ling Yan's divine sense watched the slowly opening crystal tower gate—the one that even the Fire Demon Lord had solemnly warned him against trespassing—and Kai's unhindered entry. He stood frozen, as if a statue, unable to recover for a long time.

Finally, facing the crystal tower, he concealed all his aura, straightened his clothes, and bowed deeply to the ground with the utmost solemnity.

He knew that the secret and duty he had guarded for thousands of years had perhaps finally met its destined master today.

And he was witnessing a legend that would shake the heavens and the myriad realms, officially setting sail from this place.

As Kai's figure completely disappeared into the warm light flowing from the chaotic crystal tower's gate, he seemed to have crossed some kind of temporal and spatial boundary, stepping into a strange space entirely constructed of "fire" and "the Dao."

The tower was not a hall or room as imagined, but a boundless, yet seemingly all-encompassing, chaotic void.

In the void, there was no distinction between up, down, left, or right, only countless flickering, multicolored flame runes and threads of law, slowly rotating, flowing, and intertwining like a galaxy.

These runes and threads formed countless forms of flame—as small as a candle flame, as large as a star;

as gentle as a warm current, as violent as a thunderbolt;

born like a tender sprout just beginning to bloom, extinguished like embers scattering… like a living encyclopedia of the universe about "fire."

At the center of the void, suspended, was a ball of the most solid and brilliant chaotic light source. The light source, seemingly still, was in fact undergoing countless cycles of birth and death every moment, radiating an indescribable aura of antiquity, vastness, intimacy, and majesty.

It was the core of this Blazing Fire Secret Realm, the true core imprint of that fragment of “Chaotic Origin Fire,” something the Blazing Fire Demon Lord desired but could not obtain.

The moment Kai stepped into this place, the nascent Chaotic Fire Lotus within his dantian resonated most strongly with the chaotic light source!

Without guidance, the fire lotus flew out of his dantian on its own, hovering above his head, slowly rotating, scattering chaotic light.

The chaotic light source at the center of the void seemed to have found its home, separating a gentle yet incredibly pure stream of chaotic light, like a bridge, connecting with the fire lotus above Kai’s head.

“Buzz—!”

A vast and boundless flow of information, mixed with unimaginably powerful chaotic fire essence, surged wildly into Kai’s body along this bridge of light!

This was no longer the relatively coarse, refined energy of the outer chaotic sea of fire, but the most primordial and purest essence of “Chaotic Dao Fire”!

Every wisp contained the complete mysteries of fire-based laws.

Kai’s sea of consciousness was instantly filled with golden flame runes and a torrent of profound Daoist rhymes.

At the same time, the massive amount of chaotic Dao Fire essence was absorbed by the Chaotic Fire Lotus without any hindrance.

The fire lotus grew, solidified, and bloomed at a speed visible to the naked eye! The petals became real from illusory, clear from blurry, and each petal naturally displayed intricate and profound chaotic patterns, as if recording the epic history of fire since the beginning of time.

At the center of the fire lotus, a dazzlingly bright chaotic lotus seed phantom was slowly gestating.

Under the infusion of this primordial inheritance and the baptism of the supreme Daoist rhyme, Kai's cultivation began its second, even more rapid leap!

The barrier of the peak of the eighth rank of the Human Immortal Realm melted away silently, like the remaining snow under the spring breeze.

Ninth rank of the Human Immortal Realm!

Breakthrough!

Moreover, the momentum of the breakthrough did not diminish but rather increased! The essence of the Chaos Dao Fire seemed inexhaustible, and the growth of the Chaos Fire Lotus seemed endless.

Early Ninth Rank... Mid-Ninth Rank... Late Ninth Rank...

Finally, the surging momentum only gradually subsided and stabilized when it touched upon a colossal chasm existing in the darkness, separating Human Immortals from Celestial Immortals.

Peak of the Ninth Rank of Human Immortal!

Only one step away from the Celestial Immortal Realm, which signifies truly entering the ranks of high-level cultivators and undergoing the first qualitative change in one's life level!

Chapter 5816

This step cannot be achieved simply through energy accumulation; it requires a complete understanding of one's own "Dao," a deeper resonance with the laws of heaven and earth, and a crucial transformative opportunity, like a butterfly emerging from its cocoon.

Even so, Kai's strength has undergone a dramatic transformation!

His Chaotic Immortal Power has increased several times over, and its quality has reached an unbelievable level.

As his Immortal Power circulates, faint chaotic flames rise, possessing both the domineering power to incinerate all things and the vitality to nourish them, carrying a supreme aura that commands all the flames of the heavens.

He even feels that a casual burst of his Immortal Power is comparable to a full-force attack from an ordinary early-stage Heavenly Immortal!

His physical body, thoroughly cleansed from within by the Chaotic Dao Fire, has been completely reborn.

Beneath his skin, a faint, chaotic jade light flowed; his bones were as crystalline as chaotic crystal; his blood flowed with a faint golden and fiery hue; his internal organs were tempered as if forged from divine metal, forming a self-contained cycle, brimming with vitality.

With his physical body alone, he was no longer afraid of the magical attacks of ordinary mid-stage Celestial Immortal cultivators!

His divine soul had also undergone unprecedented growth and sublimation. His

divine sense could cover a radius of a thousand miles!

His perception was so acute that he could "hear" the breath of flames, "see" the veins of spiritual energy, and "touch" the threads of law.

With each thought, countless inspirations about fire-based divine abilities and the evolution of chaos burst forth, as if a single thought could generate myriad laws.

More importantly, he had mastered the “Chaotic Fire Dao.”

The Chaotic Fire Lotus above his head, now fully solidified and slowly rotating, was not only a manifestation of his primordial power but also the prototype of a “natal Dao artifact” with boundless potential.

With a thought, the Fire Lotus could spew forth chaotic true fire, capable of scorching mountains and boiling seas; it could evolve into a myriad-fire barrier, providing unparalleled defense; it could aid him in comprehending the laws of fire, accelerating his cultivation;

and it could even subtly resonate with and gain deeper control over this Fire Separation Realm.

Kai slowly opened his eyes, a fleeting vision of the primordial chaos and the birth and death of myriad fires flashing within them before returning to a deep and calm state.

With a slight thought, the Chaotic Fire Lotus above his head transformed into a stream of light, merging into his dantian and floating within the ocean of chaotic immortal power, becoming the new core of his strength. He surveyed the inherited void, still flowing with endless fiery runes, and solemnly bowed to the central chaotic light source.

The chaotic light source flickered slightly, as if in response, then its light gradually subsided, finally transforming into a fist-sized crystal, neither gold nor jade, with chaotic flame patterns flowing across its surface, which slowly flew into Kai’s hand.

The crystal felt warm to the touch, yet was as heavy as a mountain, its interior seemingly sealing a miniature chaotic sea of fire. This was both a token of inheritance and a key to controlling a portion of the core authority of this Blazing Fire Secret Realm.

Kai put it away.

He knew that the inheritance here was complete.

It was time to leave and see what was happening outside.

However, just as he was about to leave the crystal tower along the way he had come, a faint yet exceptionally sharp warning, like an ice needle piercing his newly stabilized and strengthened divine soul,

came from within the secret realm, but rather... from the distant outside world, from the direction of the Xuan Tian Sword Sect!

Immediately afterward, the extremely subtle Chaos Immortal Power imprint he had left on Ling Shuang, intended for location purposes, emitted violent fluctuations and a clear danger signal!

Simultaneously, the sword-shaped communication jade talisman given to him by Ling Yunzi at his waist was vibrating and heating up wildly, almost exploding!

Kai's expression suddenly darkened!

His divine sense instantly swept through the crystal tower towards the entrance of the secret realm.

He saw Ling Shuang's aura unstable, her face anxious, speaking to the communication jade talisman. Lie Tian, Shi Yan, Ying Wu, and others were gathered around her, their expressions grave.

What had happened? Had something happened to the Xuan Tian Sword Sect?

And judging from the situation, it was no small matter!

Kai's figure flickered, instantly disappearing from the crystal tower.

Chapter 5817

...

Meanwhile, at the Xuantian Sword Sect, in the Ten Thousand Swords Mountain Range.

The once peaceful scene of soaring sword energy and flocks of cranes was gone, replaced by rolling demonic clouds that blotted out the sky and countless ferocious, roaring beast shadows!

Deafening shouts of battle, explosions, the clang of metal on metal, and the groaning of the mountain-protecting array, all mingled together to form a cruel and grand symphony of war, echoing throughout the entire mountain range.

The Ten Thousand Souls Demonic Sect and the Fusion Beast Saint Sect had actually joined forces!

Moreover, they had launched a full-scale surprise attack on the Xuantian Sword Sect! On

the Ten Thousand Souls Demonic Sect's side, led by Sect Master Hun Sha, although the five-finger mark on his face was still visible and his aura was much weaker than in his prime, the resentment and flames of revenge burning in his eyes were more intense than ever before!

Behind him, dozens of elders of the fifth rank or above of the Heavenly Immortal realm, hundreds of elite deacons of the fourth rank of the Heavenly Immortal realm, and tens of thousands of low-ranking demonic sect disciples formed a formidable demonic battle formation.

Countless vengeful spirits surged forth from the magical artifacts they unleashed, such as the Myriad Soul Banner and the Soul-Devouring Bowl, forming a ghostly realm covering dozens of miles. The wailing of ghosts and the overwhelming demonic energy relentlessly assaulted and corroded the protective array of the Xuan Tian Sword Sect.

Even more chilling was the appearance of a more concealed yet dangerous figure beside Hun Sha.

This person was shrouded in a wide black robe, obscuring their face, revealing only a pair of eyes glowing with eerie green flames. The soul pressure emanating from this figure was even stronger than Hun Sha's, clearly indicating that this was also a demonic giant at the peak of the seventh rank of the Heavenly Immortal Realm!

It was none other than the Supreme Elder of the Myriad Souls Demon Sect, Ghost Bone Elder, who had been in seclusion!

Clearly, the Demon Sect had unleashed its true power to destroy the Xuan Tian Sword Sect.

Meanwhile, on the other side, the Myriad Beasts Sect, led by its sect leader Zheng Gu, displayed astonishing destructive power.

Thousands upon thousands of Fusion Beast warriors of various forms roared and charged at the forefront.

Thick-skinned and fearless, they relied on their powerful physiques and innate supernatural abilities to withstand the sword energy and array light of the Sword Sect.

Many of the Fusion Beast Warriors had bloodshot eyes, clearly having taken drugs like "Bloodlust Pills" to stimulate their potential, making them even more ferocious.

Zheng Gu himself swelled to five zhang tall, his body covered in dark red demonic scales, wielding a giant axe burning with pitch-black demonic flames. Each swing carried the power to split mountains and shatter rocks as he frantically attacked a certain node of the great array.

Beside him followed several other ferocious Fusion Beast leaders, clearly enhanced by the secret techniques of the Demonic Sect.

The Xuan Tian Sword Sect, on the other hand, struggled to hold on with its ancient protective array—the Big Dipper Sword Qi Subduing Demon Array. Seven sword peaks, built according to the orientation of the Big Dipper, shone brightly, emitting seven thick, dazzling sword beams that intertwined to form a massive light screen covering a hundred miles above the sect.

Within this screen, countless tiny sword energies darted and flowed like fish, forming intricate and profound sword diagrams, constantly eroding and annihilating the incoming demonic energy and beastly shadows.

Inside the sect, all disciples and elders were mobilized.

Ling Yunzi, pale and with blood at the corner of his mouth, clearly had suffered new wounds on top of old ones, yet he still stood tall at the highest point of the mountain gate, wielding the sect leader's sword, "Xuantian," continuously channeling his pure sword energy into the core of the grand formation, commanding with unwavering composure.

The elders each performed their duties: some guarded the sword peaks to maintain the formation's core, while others led disciples in sword formations to intercept enemies who managed to breach weak points in the array.

Sword light rained down, crisscrossing and maneuvering.

The disciples of the Xuantian Sword Sect possessed formidable individual combat strength, exquisite swordsmanship, and perfect teamwork.

Often, a small sword formation composed of a few people could hold their own against, or even kill, a number of Fusion Beast warriors or Demon Sect disciples.

But the enemies were simply too numerous!

Moreover, the Demon Sect and the Fusion Beast clan were cooperating, their demonic energy eroding and weakening the formation, while the

Fusion Beasts' brute force broke through the formation, putting immense pressure on the Sword Sect.

The great formation's light barrier rippled violently under countless attacks, flickering and emitting a teeth-grinding "creaking" sound.

Alarms constantly came from various formation bases indicating damage, and the disciples left behind desperately tried to repair them, but often, just as one was repaired, another would be in danger.

"Sect Master! More than 30% of the formation base on Tian Shu Peak has been damaged, and Elder Wang, who is guarding it, is seriously injured!"

"The Demon Sect is launching a concentrated attack outside Yao Guang Peak, and Elder Li is requesting reinforcements!" "

A Fusion Beast in the southeast corner has broken through the sword energy seal and rushed into the outer buildings; Deacon Chen is leading men to intercept it!"

Bad news kept coming in.

Although the Xuan Tian Sword Sect disciples were brave, they were outnumbered and exhausted after days of fighting without proper rest.

In contrast, the Demonic Sect and the Beast Fusion Holy Sect were clearly well-prepared and had been conserving their strength, launching wave after wave of attacks.

Chapter 5818

"Hehehe! Ling Yunzi! Today is the day your Xuantian Sword Sect is destroyed!"

Hun Sha's maniacal laughter echoed across the battlefield. He commanded several "Soul-Devouring Demon Dragons," formed from

thousands of ferocious souls, to continuously ram into the light barrier of the great formation. “Once the great formation is broken, I will slaughter your entire Xuantian Sword Sect to avenge the humiliation of that day!” Zheng Gu

roared as well, his giant axe slamming into the light barrier, creating ripples across the sky: “The accomplices of that old man Lie Tian! And that damned brat Kai! Once we break through here, you will be next! I will use your skulls to decorate my Holy Sect’s main hall!” Ling

Yunzi’s face was ashen, the Xuantian Sword in his hand gleaming. He shouted sharply: “Disciples, listen to my command! As long as the sword is here, we are here; if the sword dies, we die! Protect the sect, fight to the death! Activate the ‘Seven Star Immortal-Falling Sword’ preparatory formation!”

“Yes! Fight to the death!”

All the Sword Sect disciples roared in unison, their voices like swords, soaring into the sky, tragic and resolute.

They knew they had reached a critical juncture, a matter of life and death for their sect.

The “Seven Star Immortal-Falling Sword” was the last desperate measure of the mountain-protecting formation.

Once activated, the sword intent accumulated over ten thousand years by the seven sword peaks would erupt all at once, unleashing earth-shattering power, but it would also cause the formation to completely collapse, destroying its foundation—a final choice of mutual destruction.

The battle entered its most brutal phase.

Every moment, Sword Sect disciples fell, their blood staining the mountain gate’s stone steps; every moment, Demon Sect disciples or Beast Fusion Warriors were annihilated by the fierce sword energy.

Yet, the light of the formation dimmed visibly under the countless attacks.

At this moment, at the entrance to the Blazing Fire Secret Realm,

Kai's figure suddenly appeared before Ling Shuang and the others.

His aura was different now. Though still restrained, the profound depth and oppressive power he inadvertently revealed caused Ling Yan's pupils to shrink slightly, his heart filled with shock: "Such a transformation in just a few days?! What did he obtain within the Crystal Tower?"

"Senior Chen!"

"Senior!"

Seeing Kai appear, Ling Shuang rushed forward as if seeing a savior, even disregarding etiquette, handing him the vibrating communication jade talisman in her hand.

A voice, trembling with tears, cried out: "Senior! A message from the sect: the Myriad Souls Demon Sect, in conjunction with the Beast Fusion Holy Sect, is launching a massive attack on our Xuan Tian Sword Sect!"

"The mountain-protecting formation is about to break! Father... Father has activated the preparatory phase of the 'Seven Star Immortal-Falling Sword,' he's going to perish with the enemy! Please, Senior, go to our rescue immediately!"

Lie Tian and the others also paled.

If the Xuan Tian Sword Sect fell, the remnants of their Myriad Beasts Sect would completely lose their external support, and the Demon Sect's next target would undoubtedly be them! Kai took the jade talisman and scanned it with his divine sense. Inside was Ling Yunzi's urgent and brief final message.

It explained the critical situation and subtly mentioned that he hoped Kai could, out of consideration for his past acquaintance with Ling Shuang and their joint fight against the Demonic Sect, perhaps... preserve a sliver of the Xuan Tian Sword Sect's lineage.

His eyes flashed with a cold light! Soul Fiend! Bone-Rending! What a brilliant move, what a treacherous scheme!

"Miss Ling, Sect Master Lie Tian, you should continue to heal here. It's safe here,"

Kai said quickly, his tone leaving no room for doubt. "Sword Venerable Tian Huo, please keep an eye on things."

Ling Yan, already aware of the drastic changes outside, nodded solemnly, "Don't worry, with me here, the secret realm is safe. You..."

Before he could finish speaking, Kai had already turned to face the exit of the secret realm.

He took a deep breath, unleashing his full power—the peak of the ninth rank of the Human Immortal Realm—without reservation!

The chaotic immortal power awakened like a dormant volcano, his body enveloped in chaotic radiance. The phantom of the chaotic fire lotus faintly appeared behind him, radiating a supreme aura that commanded all fires.

The flames throughout the entire Li Huo Secret Realm seemed to sway gently, paying homage to him.

"I'll be right back."

Before the words were even finished, Kai's figure had already transformed into a chaotic streak of light that tore through space, breaking through the flame barrier at the entrance of the secret realm at a speed several times greater than before, rushing towards the Xuan Tian Sword Sect!

Wherever he passed, the clouds in the sky were forced aside by his majestic aura and scorching Daoist charm, leaving behind a trace that lingered for a long time.

Ling Shuang stared at the direction he disappeared in, clenching her fists tightly, her beautiful eyes filled with worry and anticipation.

Lie Tian and the others also prayed silently.

Ling Yan gazed at the rapidly disappearing streak of light in the sky, muttering to himself, “The Chaos Fire Seed… the peak of the ninth rank of the Human Immortal Realm… this boy’s departure will likely stir up the winds and clouds of the Ten Heavens. The Xuan Tian Sword Sect… perhaps still has a glimmer of hope.” In

the Ten Thousand Swords Mountain Range, the decisive battle had reached its climax.

The light of the Big Dipper Sword Qi Subduing Demon Formation had dimmed like a candle in the wind, teetering on the verge of collapse. Soul Fiend and Ghost Bone Elder joined forces, their ferocious bones roaring wildly, preparing to launch a final, fatal blow.

Meanwhile, a chaotic light, carrying the power to scorch the heavens and boil the seas, and an icy, bone-chilling killing intent, was tearing through the sky at an unimaginable speed, approaching this battlefield of carnage.

Chapter 5819

Before the gates of the Xuantian Sword Sect in the Ten Thousand Swords Mountains, a

once sacred land of immortals, where

sword energy soared to the heavens and spirits flourished, had now become a bloodbath of carnage. Dark, swirling demonic clouds obscured

the sun; the roars of beasts shook the heavens and earth, tearing the sky apart.

The brilliant light curtain formed by the Big Dipper Sword Qi Subduing Demon Array, under the relentless erosion of demonic energy and the onslaught of brute force, had become as thin as a cicada's wing, flickering and emitting a heart-wrenching, creaking sound, as if it could not bear the weight any longer.

The seven sword peaks had dimmed, and cracks had even appeared on their surfaces, as if they might collapse at any moment.

Inside and outside the gates, corpses lay strewn everywhere, and blood flowed in streams.

There were the tattered sword robes and mangled bodies of Xuantian Sword Sect disciples, the charred bones of demonic cultivators, and the massive corpses of fused beast warriors.

The air was thick with the stench of blood, the acrid smell of burning flesh, and the cold, deathly stillness of annihilated souls. The surviving disciples of the Sword Sect, mostly wounded and their robes stained with blood, still gripped their swords tightly, their eyes resolute as they held fast to their positions.

Yet, deep within their eyes, an undeniable weariness and despair crept in.

The mountain-protecting formation had reached its limit.

Ling Yunzi stood atop the crumbling main peak, the "Mysterious Heaven Sword" in his hand no longer as dazzling as before, its blade even showing fine cracks.

His face was deathly pale, his chest soaked with blood, his breathing erratic, clearly on the verge of collapse.

Yet, he still stood tall, like an unyielding mountain, his gaze fixed on the two figures outside the formation radiating overwhelming ferocity—Soul Fiend and Bone-Eyed.

“Hehehe… Ling Yunzi, why fight like a trapped beast?”

Soul Fiend stood in mid-air, demonic energy churning around him. His face, once slapped by Kai, was contorted with resentment and pleasure, appearing exceptionally grotesque.

“Look at your mountain-protecting formation, how much longer can it hold?”

“When the formation breaks, I will personally extract your soul and refine your spirit, reducing your Xuan Tian Sword Sect’s ten-thousand-year heritage to ashes! And that little beast Kai… I will find him and grind him to dust!”

The massive body of Zheng Gu was like a moving volcano, its dark red demonic scales gleaming coldly in the dim light. He wielded a giant axe burning with demonic flames, his voice like a broken gong.

“Lackeys of Lie Tian, accomplices of Kai! Today, I will use your blood to commemorate the rise of my Fusion Beast Saint Sect! Kill them all! Leave no one alive!”

Zheng Gu roared, like a maddened beast.

Inside the formation, the Sword Sect disciples, hearing this, felt their grief and anger intensify, yet not one of them retreated.

They knew that there was no way out today; only a fight to the death was possible.

Ling Yunzi took a deep breath, suppressing the metallic taste rising in his throat. His voice was hoarse but carried an undeniable resolve:
“Disciples of the Xuantian Sword Sect, heed my command! Follow me… activate ‘Seven Stars Fallen Immortal,’ and perish together!”

“Perish together!!”

The surviving disciples roared in unison, their voices filled with tragic grandeur, soaring to the heavens.

They poured their last ounce of sword energy into the array beneath their feet, some even burning their life essence for a momentary burst of power.

The seven sword peaks trembled violently, their surfaces cracking. Ancient sword intents, originally hidden deep within the earth and incomparably sharp, were forcibly awakened, like dragons emerging from their slumber, converging towards the summits! That was the last vestige of the Xuantian Sword Sect’s power, a final act of mutual destruction!

Seeing this, Soul Fiend and Bone-Rending showed no fear, but instead revealed even more cruel and excited smiles.

This was exactly the effect they wanted!

By forcing the Xuantian Sword Sect to destroy its own foundation, they could completely eliminate this major threat from the Tenth Heaven with minimal cost!

Just as the Xuantian Sword Sect was about to ignite its final, glorious, and ultimately destructive flame—

“Boom—!!!”

An indescribable roar did not come from the battlefield, but from the very depths of the vast sky!

Like the first thunderclap at the dawn of the universe, or the heavy sigh of a chaotic giant awakening, it instantly overwhelmed all the fighting, roars, and mournful cries of the formations on the battlefield!

Immediately afterward, an indescribable, terrifying pressure, like an invisible curtain of heaven, suddenly descended!

This pressure was not merely powerful, but carried an ancient and boundless aura of supreme authority, surpassing all things, as if it held the power of creation and destruction!

Under this aura, the churning demonic clouds suddenly froze, the roaring beasts ceased abruptly, and even the impending eruption of the "Seven Stars Falling Immortal" sword intent seemed to be gently suppressed by an invisible hand, its agitation subsided.

Everyone, whether disciples of the Demonic Sect, the Beast Fusion Sect, or the Sword Sect, involuntarily stopped what they were doing and looked up at the sky in horror.

The sky, shrouded in demonic clouds, had unexpectedly torn open into a massive vortex-like void!

At the edge of the void, space shattered like glass, revealing the deep, dark void behind it.

A figure stepped out of the void, unhurried and unhurried.

He wore a seemingly simple blue robe, its hem fluttering in the invisible energy turbulence, yet it remained spotless.

In his hand he held an ancient longsword, its blade devoid of light, yet seemingly capable of devouring all surrounding light.

Most chilling of all was his gaze—calm, indifferent, like an ancient, icy pool, or an endless starry sky.

Looking down at the devastating battlefield below, a scene of utter carnage, there was no anger, no killing intent, only an absolute indifference and detachment, as if a god were watching over the struggle of ants.

It was Kai!

But the man he was now was worlds apart from the one who had fought on the Crimson Blood Plains days before!

Back then, though strong, he still retained a trace of human warmth.

Now, however, an indescribable “Daoist aura” flowed around him, as if he breathed with the heavens and earth, pulsed with the laws of nature. He

simply stood there quietly, yet he exuded a terrifying aura heavier than mountains, more vast than the starry sky, and more unfathomable than the abyss!

Especially the faint, ethereal halo of chaotic light surrounding him, and the occasional phantom of a fiery lotus that seemed capable of incinerating everything within it, sent shivers down the spines of all those with keen senses!

Chapter 5820

“Chen… Ping!!!”

A roar filled with endless resentment, hatred, and a hint of fear that even Hun Sha himself didn’t realize, like the howl of a wounded beast, suddenly shattered the deathly silence.

Hun Sha stared intently at the figure in the air, his eyes instantly bloodshot, the muscles on his face contorted and twitching with extreme rage, and the clear five-finger mark that had brought him the greatest humiliation of his life seemed to throb with pain again!

New and old grudges erupted completely at this moment like a volcano!

“You little beast! You dare to show your face again! Today I will tear you to pieces and refine your soul for ten thousand years!”

Hun Sha's demonic energy exploded, shooting into the sky like black smoke, his voice sharp and distorted with excitement.

Zheng Gu recognized Kai, his massive, bell-like eyes flashing with ferocity as he roared, "You're Kai?! The bastard who killed my Holy Sect elder and ruined my Holy Sect's grand plans! You've come at the perfect time! Saves me the trouble of searching for you! Today, I'll use your head as a sacrifice to the flag!"

Facing the two below's hysterical roars and overwhelming killing intent, Kai didn't even lift an eyelid.

His gaze didn't linger on Hun Sha and Zheng Gu, merely sweeping across the horrific battlefield below.

It swept over the heavily wounded, dying, yet still standing Sword Sect disciples, finally settling on Ling Yunzi on the main peak, whose aura was weak but whose eyes were resolute.

He nodded slightly as a greeting, then turned his calm, unwavering eyes to Hun Sha and Zheng Gu.

There were no angry questions, no fierce rebukes.

Kai spoke slowly, his voice calm to the point of chilling despair. Though not loud, it carried clearly to every corner of the battlefield and to the ears of every living being:

"I intended to let you live a few more days, to settle scores with you one by one when I had the time."

"How could you, you ants, be so ignorant of death, daring to commit such a despicable act of annihilation while I was away?"

He paused, his gaze seemingly piercing through the狰狞 faces of Hun Sha and Zheng Gu, seeing the fear and madness deep within their souls. A faint, yet utterly mocking and contemptuous, smile curved his lips.

“Very well, since you are so eager to die, then today I will grant your wish.”

“This Tenth Heaven has been too peaceful for too long. It’s time to wash it clean with your filthy blood.”

The indifference in his words, and the absolute confidence that seemed to control life and death, enraged Hun Sha and Zheng Gu to the point of near explosion!

Who were they?

One is the Demon Sect Master who has dominated the Crimson Blood Plains for tens of thousands of years; the other is the newly risen, ambitious leader of the Beast Fusion Holy Sect!

Never before have they been so despised, treated like ants that can be crushed at will! “Arrogant! Ignorant brat, you’ve become arrogant after getting a few opportunities!”

Soul Fiend roared. “Today I’ll show you just how vast the gap is between the Celestial Immortal Realm and your ant-like Human Immortal Realm power! Attack! Capture this fiend alive, I’ll personally deal with him!”

Ferocious Bone was even more direct, roaring, “Demon Rock! Tear him apart for me!”

A Beast Fusion General, nearly three zhang tall, covered in dark brown, rock-like keratin, with a pair of curved bull horns on his head, and possessing an aura reaching the peak of the fifth rank of Celestial Immortal Realm, let out a deep, thunderous roar upon hearing the order. His

massive body slammed into the ground, displaying astonishing speed, like a cannonball launched from a gun, carrying a terrifying aura capable of shattering mountains and splitting the earth, straight towards Kai in the sky!

He swung a black heavy sword the size of a door down at Kai's head!

Before the sword even arrived, the heavy wind pressure had already caused the air below to explode!

This was a fierce general under Zheng Gu, renowned for his strength and defense, who had once shattered the protective magic treasure of a cultivator of the same level with sheer brute force!

Zheng Gu sent him to deal with Kai, this "pretentious" brat, in the most brutal and domineering way, to blast him into mincemeat, venting his anger and boosting his own morale, which had been dampened by Kai's imposing entrance.

Below, countless eyes were fixed on this scene.

The Demon Sect and the Fusion Beast faction eagerly awaited General Mo Yan's decisive blow;

the Xuan Tian Sword Sect members were on tenterhooks. Although Kai's entrance was impressive, he was, after all, a peak fifth-grade Heavenly Immortal, possessing astonishing brute force!

Faced with this ferocious attack capable of splitting mountains and shattering peaks, Kai finally moved.

He didn't even raise the Dragon-Slaying Sword in his hand.

He simply raised his left hand casually.

With long, slender fingers, he flicked his sleeve lightly, as if swatting away an annoying fly, at the onrushing, menacing Demon Rock General.

The movement was effortless, even languid.

There was no earth-shattering burst of spiritual power, no dazzling magical light.

Only an invisible, intangible, yet seemingly imbued with the ultimate principles of heaven and earth, irresistible and overwhelming force, surged forth with the flick of his sleeve!