

## **My Master 311**

### Chapter 311: The Invincible Grand Preceptor\_3

Cao Zhen watched Chang Tiance with a speechless expression, wondering what there was to clean in this spotless room.

However, having just seen the officials here, he grew curious. Now that Chang Tiance was here, it was a good opportunity to ask.

"I'm a bit puzzled," he inquired, "why didn't the town mayor prostrate before us when he saw us? Although he was cordial and inquired after our health, it felt like his attitude towards us was one of equality. Why is that?"

He didn't actually have any desire for others to kowtow to him, but it was strange in his heart. Shouldn't mortals behave with utmost respect and reverence, or be extremely nervous, fearing they might make a mistake, when in the presence of Immortals?

And yet, why did the officials, even the soldiers, remain so calm upon seeing them, as if they were just ordinary mortals?

Chang Tiance quickly shut the room door and softly explained: "Peak Master Cao, they are officials of the imperial court, and within our Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty where the Hundred Peaks Sect resides, the strongest existences are in the court. It's the Grand Preceptor of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty."

He paused slightly, then gesturing outside, continued, "This place wasn't always called the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty. The emperor of that Dynasty had to submit to all the Immortal Sect forces.

Back then, all the Dynasty's officials would be extremely respectful upon seeing us Cultivators.

But since the Grand Preceptor entered the court, the times have changed.

The Dynasty has decreed that Cultivators indeed can practice cultivation, and their power is indeed stronger, but they are not allowed to rule over mortals.

The only difference between Cultivators and mortals is in strength; however, their status is the same—all are citizens of the Dynasty!"

Cao Zhen was greatly surprised and asked, puzzled, "Cultivators clearly have the power, but their status is the same as mortals, and they're all citizens of the Dynasty? With this, would the major Immortal Sects agree? Have they not rebelled?"

"Rebelled? Of course they have." Chang Tiance gave Cao Zhen a somewhat strange look, wondering how the Peak Master did not know these common facts of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty and the Immortal cultivation world.

Even though he found it odd, he kept on explaining: "Many years ago, I don't know exactly how many since it's been very long ago,

after the current Grand Preceptor assumed his position, he sent letters to all the major Immortal Sects. Essentially, these were the rules he had set, instructing the Sects to control their Disciples and informing them that they, along with every mortal, were citizens of the Dynasty and by no means superior. Should an Immortal kill a mortal, they would be subject to the Dynasty's legal punishments just the same.

How could we, as Cultivators, be the same as mortals?

Upon receiving the Grand Preceptor's rules, the major Immortal Sects were enraged, and many from these Sects thought that the Dynasty's Grand Preceptor had lost his mind, failing to see the big picture.

But many Sects thought it was a provocation from the Grand Preceptor against major Sects.

At that time, within our Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, there was a Sect known as the Sun and Moon Demon Sect, and it's said, only rumored—I've read it in some ancient texts—that at the time, the Sun and Moon Demon Sect was even a little stronger than our Hundred Peaks Sect.

Especially the Sect Master of the Sun and Moon Demon Sect, Cosmos Unrivaled, was known as the number one master in the Eastern Wasteland.

Upon receiving the Grand Preceptor's rules, he directly went alone to the Capital City of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty to confront the current Grand Preceptor for an explanation.

At that time, everyone believed there would be a fierce battle.

Yet, Cosmos Unrivaled was gravely injured by the Grand Preceptor in one move and killed on the spot with the second.

Cao Zhen's eyes suddenly widened: "The top expert of the Eastern Wasteland, a Sect Master of an entire Sect, was killed in just two moves? What is the Grand Preceptor's Cultivation Realm?"

Chang Tiance shook his head, "I don't know, I truly don't."

Cao Zhen didn't dwell on this question and continued to ask, "What happened afterward? The Sect Master of the Sun and Moon Demon Sect was killed, did they not seek revenge?"

"The killing of their Sect Master was a provocation, an insult to the entire Sect. The Sun and Moon Demon Sect instantly mobilized its entire force to overthrow the newly renamed Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty.

However, the Grand Preceptor alone withstood the incoming members of the Sun and Moon Demon Sect.

After battling for half a month, the forces of the Sun and Moon Demon Sect were completely dispersed.

Following that, the Grand Preceptor single-handedly entered the Sun and Moon Demon Sect, completely upending their foundation. Since then, the Sun and Moon Demon Sect has lain dormant, scarcely mentioned anymore."

Cao Zhen's brows were tightly furrowed. The Sun and Moon Demon Sect was stronger than the Hundred Peaks Sect back then, so their Sect Master's strength must have been immense, yet he was killed by the

Grand Preceptor in two moves; what's even more terrifying is that the entire Sect could not defeat a single Grand Preceptor and ended up scattered and thoroughly overturned.

All major Sects have their Mountain Protection Arrays; the stronger the Sect, the stronger their Mountain Protection Array. Having such an Array usually means that unless the opposing party is significantly stronger, it's difficult to annihilate a Sect.

And yet, the Grand Preceptor alone entered the enemy's Sect and nearly destroyed it—how terrifying!

After a brief silence, he continued to inquire, "Then what? Afterward, did the other Sects just accept it?"

"Of course not. The Grand Preceptor had just overturned one of the strongest Sects at that time, the Sun and Moon Demon Sect, and after such a great battle, many believed that he couldn't have come out unscathed, that he must be at his limit.

Among them, the Sect Master of the Red Refinery Demonic Sect, a Sect nearly equal in strength to our Hundred Peaks, immediately went to challenge the Grand Preceptor. Yet, just like the Sect Master of the Sun and Moon Demon Sect, the Sect Master of the Red Refinery Demonic Sect was killed in two moves.

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The Sect Master was killed, and the Red Refinery Demonic Sect naturally went mad, launching an attack on the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty. They didn't believe that the Grand Preceptor, after annihilating two top-notch experts and the entire Sun and Moon Demon Sect, could still suppress them.

However, this time, the Grand Preceptor didn't suppress the Red Refinery Demonic Sect but, just like with the Sun Moon Demon Sect, directly overturned the very foundation of the Red Refinery Demonic Sect.

The Red Refinery Demonic Sect...

Cao Zhen did know of this Demon Sect, for he had happened upon some descriptions about the Red Refinery Demonic Sect while idly browsing through some books within the Sect.

Without saying a word, he continued to listen to Chang Tiance, "But this time, the Grand Preceptor took slightly longer to overthrow the Red Refinery Demonic Sect than it took to defeat the Sun Moon Demon Sect.

Thus, at that time, many experts believed the Grand Preceptor must have been injured. Hence, the premier expert of the contemporary Buddhist sects, the Non-Abstinent Monk, also made a move.

However, he was much smarter. Instead of confronting the Grand Preceptor to seek an explanation, he claimed to want a spar with the Grand Preceptor.

As a result, he and the Grand Preceptor exchanged just one round, and then he returned to his Sect. After that, he led his entire Sect to bring the imperial edict written by the mortal emperor into the grand hall of the Buddhist sect, accepting the official recognition."

Hearing this, Cao Zhen scoffed, "Those monks are all the same, speaking such fine-sounding words about 'sparring.' In reality, they want to pick up an easy victory. That move must have been a loss for him, and he must have felt an enormous gap, so he accepted the official recognition. If the victor had been him, I fear the situation would not have been described as a 'spar.'"

Chang Tiance did not respond, understanding that Peak Master Cao could say such things. As just a disciple of the Hundred Peaks Sect, he dared not speak too much.

After all, there were quite a few Zen practitioners within the Hundred Peaks Sect.

After scoffing, Cao Zhen continued to inquire, "What about the other sects then? What did our Hundred Peaks Sect do?"

Chang Tiance recounted, "After the Non-Abstinent Monk, the Limitless Taoist of the Taoist schools also sought a spar with the Grand Preceptor, with the same outcome. Besides, it is said that several other experts approached the Grand Preceptor for a spar, but without exception, they all lost, very decisively at that, to the Grand Preceptor.

No one knows just how strong the Grand Preceptor truly is. As for our Hundred Peaks Sect, I haven't seen any records of the True Person, our Sect Leader, seeking a spar with the Grand Preceptor.

However, including the Hundred Peaks Sect, the current top ten Immortal Sects have all accepted the official recognition.

And individuals from the Demon Sects have all withdrawn from the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty."

Cao Zhen, however, thought of another matter, "Oh? In that case, doesn't this mean that the True Immortal Dynasty would be unrivaled under the heavens, with the Grand Preceptor there, how could other dynasties possibly stand against the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty?"

"Not necessarily," Chang Tiance promptly explained, "The Grand Preceptor has said that the territorial expansion of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty should be accomplished by mortals themselves. The Grand Preceptor will not participate in the wars of mortals.

However, if territories are acquired by the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, the Grand Preceptor will deal with the Immortal Sects within. Moreover, if people of the Immortal Sects dare to participate in the wars of mortals, then the Grand Preceptor will involve himself in mortal warfare!"

"Only deal with the Immortals?" Cao Zhen wondered, "What exactly does the Grand Preceptor want to do then?"

"I do not know either," said the disciple, "but I've heard that the Grand Preceptor advocates that Cultivators should behave like mortals, and it seems the Grand Preceptor even said that those with greater abilities should serve mortals even more."

"Serve mortals?" Cao Zhen started to feel puzzled. In his past life, he had been a mortal, so unlike most Cultivators, he could understand mortals better.

But it was different for others. During his time in the Sect, he had sensed that all Cultivators believed themselves superior to mortals, rightfully claiming higher status, looking down upon them.

Yet this Grand Preceptor was now requiring Cultivators to serve mortals?

He was reminded again of the scenes he had witnessed on the way here, where Cultivators in drought-stricken areas created rain, stopped floodwaters, and the Immortals of the Guardian Immortal Dynasty were indeed serving mortals.

But these Immortals serving mortals were probably out of fear of the Grand Preceptor's might. Once the Grand Preceptor...

No, that's not right!

It suddenly occurred to Cao Zhen, his face showing bewilderment, "Now, as the Minor Era of Inversion of Heaven and Earth is soon to arrive, many of the older, more potent experts have gone into hibernation.

Based on what you've said, the Grand Preceptor is clearly very old, and his Cultivation Base immensely high; he should have gone into hibernation by now, shouldn't he? Could it be that he has already hibernated, and no one is aware of it?"

"No, the Grand Preceptor has indeed not gone into hibernation," Chang Tiance shook his head, "The Grand Preceptor has been seen recently, everyone knows he has not hibernated, and no one knows why."

Cao Zhen speculated, "If he hasn't hibernated, it must be due to some secret technique. Nevertheless, no one can contend with the Heavenly Dao; even with a secret technique, the Grand Preceptor must be about to hibernate now, right?"

With him suppressing Cultivators like this, once he goes into hibernation, won't all the Cultivators in the world want to dig up his 'living grave'?"

"The Grand Preceptor is not just concerned with his own interests," Chang Tiance shared what he knew with Cao Zhen, "It's rumored that the Grand Preceptor has eight major disciples, each stronger than the last. Among them, there are four disciples at the pinnacle of the Golden Core Stage, known as 'Unparalleled in Golden Core Stage,' and they are not going to hibernate."

Cao Zhen shook his head, "Four? No matter how strong they are, they are all still in the Golden Core Stage; how strong can they be? They may be 'Unparalleled in Golden Core Stage,' but don't the major Sects have their own talents who claim to be unmatched at the Golden Core Stage? Leaving others aside, Li Ke and Nie Jie from our Hundred Peaks Sect are both those with complete Golden Core phenomenal manifestations, and even if they're not equal to those four, how much worse off can they be?"

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"Our Hundred Peaks Sect has geniuses, but don't the other Sects have geniuses of their caliber? Besides, how many disciples do the various Sects have? When you add them all up, even if you had to pile them on, they would overwhelm them with sheer numbers."

"That's why many people seem to think the same way," Chang Tiance said, glancing outside to confirm no one was around before continuing in a low voice, "Peak Master Cao, I also heard this from my master. My master said, basically all Immortal Sects, everyone is waiting for the Grand Preceptor to fall into slumber."

Suddenly understanding a point, Cao Zhen asked, "So, among these Immortal Sects, our Hundred Peaks Sect is also included?"

"Yes, our Hundred Peaks Sect is among them," Chang Tiance whispered. "Our Hundred Peaks Sect is not a selfish and self-serving Demon Sect; we can assist mortals. However, as Immortals, we cannot allow mortals to command us at will, to dictate where we go, command us to bring rain, or to stop the floods.

We are Immortals, and we have our pride. How could we accept orders from mortals!

My master told me that one of the very important reasons we entered the capital to pay our respects this time was to probe Taishi and the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty's true situation.

However, our Hundred Peaks Sect cannot dispatch exceptionally strong experts. For one, the Qiankun small epoch is approaching, and the experts wouldn't dare move around casually.

Moreover, sending out top experts might alert the Grand Preceptor and his people. Presumably, many other Sects, much like ours, will send people, but they won't dispatch their strongest experts."

Cao Zhen finally understood why the top-ranked Peak Masters didn't attend that day, leaving Lan Pili to become the chief envoy and himself the deputy envoy.

After the recent reshuffling, Lan Pili's Lightning Peak was ranked ninety-third.

After conversing with Chang Tiance, Cao Zhen left promptly.

Unbeknownst to them, the sky had already grown dark.

In various rooms, many Sect disciples had chosen not to enter their rooms. Instead, they gathered in the large hall of the Immortal Reception House to meditate and practice Cultivation.

Presumably, everyone in their rooms had also begun their practice.

Cao Zhen looked around and then stepped out of the Immortal Reception House.

Since coming to this world, he had always been within the confines of his Sect and hadn't taken a good look at what the world was like.

He did not wish to be like those transmigrators in novels who, upon arriving in a new world, do nothing but fight, fight, and fight, ascending to the highest ranks without ever appreciating the scenery along the way.

Taking advantage of being outside, he wanted to see the scenic beauty of this world.

As he walked out of the Immortal Reception House, strolling along the town's streets, he discovered that this place was very different from Earth. The night here was too quiet, so quiet that one couldn't even hear a dog bark.

"No, this quietness is excessive! How could there not be a single sound?"

Cao Zhen walked a few more steps into the town, then suddenly paused, lightly twitching his nose.

"The smell of blood! This isn't right; if one household had the smell of blood, it would be normal. But why does it seem like the entire town, everywhere, there's the scent of blood?"

With a leap, Cao Zhen jumped over the wall of a nearby courtyard and landed inside.

By the light of the moon, it was clear to see that in the center of the courtyard, there was a wooden basin filled with crimson blood.

"This blood is fresh. What's going on here?"

Cao Zhen glanced around, only to find that aside from the basin brimming with fresh blood, there was nothing else peculiar in the courtyard.

"The smell of fresh blood is everywhere. Could the other households be the same?"

Cao Zhen quickly left, vaulted over the walls into other homes to check, and discovered that every courtyard had a wooden basin filled with fresh blood.

"This isn't normal, this is definitely not normal. I must go back and inform everyone from the Hundred Peaks Sect."

Cao Zhen moved swiftly towards the Immortal Reception House. His Cultivation Base was the strongest among the envoy group, but his experience was not abundant, and there was much he did not understand. Perhaps someone from the Hundred Peaks Sect's envoy group would know what was going on.

"Wuu wuu..."

He had just scaled the courtyard wall when suddenly, from a nearby courtyard, a faint sound of whimpering came through, a sound that echoed briefly before disappearing, yet in this quiet night, it was exceptionally distinguishable.

"What's going on?"

With a leap, Cao Zhen landed in the courtyard from which the sound originated.

In this courtyard, there was also a basin filled with fresh blood, and beside the basin lay a sleeping child.

The child was asleep, and the whimpering obviously hadn't come from the child—could it be from the child's parents?

Cao Zhen's gaze shifted towards the darkened room.

All around, sounds of whooshing pierced through the air.

Cao Zhen suddenly turned around and discovered in the darkness that several shadows were leaping from different locations, advancing into the distance with a peculiar gait. Among them, one shadow was rushing towards him at high speed, an intense malice coming straight at him.

Five-thunder Righteous Method!

Purple lightning twined around Cao Zhen's hand, and he hurled a bolt of lightning at the shadow charging towards him.

As the purple lightning fell, the blackened night sky suddenly brightened, and he could finally see the assailant's appearance clearly.

This shadow, which had resembled a human figure, was now confirmed by Cao Zhen to indeed be a person.

But the person before him was different from normal people.

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The creature before him was barefoot, and its hands and feet, exposed to the air, had nails sharp like daggers. Its gaping mouth was filled with canine teeth, equally lethal, and atop its terrifying face, both eyes glowed a demonic red.

A demon envoy of the Red Refinery Demonic Sect!

Cao Zhen's expression changed abruptly. He had seen these demon envoys described in the Red Refinery Demonic Sect's books. Indeed they were human, yet not human at all.

All of them were crafted from the dead, and although they moved in leaping motions and might not be as agile as a human, each of their bodies was impervious to blades and incredibly strong; ordinary cultivators found them hard to harm.

How could there be so many demon envoys from the Red Refinery Demonic Sect here? Didn't the sect withdraw from the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty?

Despite their formidable bodies, what they feared most was the purest form of Thunderbolt Technique, and the Five-thunder Righteous Method was exactly that!

Purple thunder crashed down, and the demon envoy exploded violently.

At the very instant the Five-thunder Righteous Method struck, two dark shadows suddenly dropped into the center of the courtyard.

Two demon envoys—one grabbed a child sleeping on the ground, while the other picked up a wooden basin. They immediately turned and fled into the distance.

"Dammit!"

Watching the fleeing demon envoys, Cao Zhen's hand shimmered with thunder and then faded away. Although his Five-thunder Righteous Method could kill a demon envoy outright, it would also kill the child they were holding.

He had no choice but to give chase.

Throughout the town, shadowy figures of demon envoys emerged, each clutching a basin full of fresh blood, hurrying away at great speed.

"Blood? What on earth do these demon envoys intend to do?"

Cao Zhen pursued them closely. He might not be a saint, but he couldn't just stand by and watch these demons kidnap a child right before his eyes.

As he continued the pursuit, his surprise grew. He was chasing after them with a Divine Weapon, yet despite their leaping movement, he couldn't catch up for the life of him.

"These demon envoys... their speed, it's almost that of a Golden Core. They're burning their very essence to escape!"

By burning their essence, these demon envoys would soon exhaust themselves completely; they needed no assistance from him to die.

Cao Zhen dared not attack rashly. His combat experience was negligible and he couldn't guarantee the child's safety or kill the distant demon envoys, so he continued the pursuit.

Before long, he followed the demon envoys out of the town, all the way to a remote mountain.

Entering the mountain, he immediately sensed a rich scent of blood and an increasingly intense aura of eerie and sinister energy.

Suddenly, his vision caught sight of lights flickering in the distance.

The demon envoys all leaped towards the direction of the lights.

Cao Zhen followed closely and saw that within a mountain gorge, a pile of firewood was ablaze, heating a huge iron basin hung above it. Beneath the basin, there was a hunched figure with disheveled hair, making it difficult to discern their face.

A terrifying, chilling energy emanated from his body.

"The master of the demon envoys!"

Cao Zhen immediately realized.

The master of the demon envoys across from him suddenly looked up, revealing half of a scorched face with venomous eyes that conveyed both shock and disdain: "Someone actually followed? There don't seem to be any immortals around here... those clothes, are you a Peak Master from the Hundred Peaks Sect? Just Seven Elixirs, has the Hundred Peaks Sect fallen so far? One doesn't need an inner core to be a Peak Master now?"

"People of the Red Refinery Demon Sect." As Cao Zhen approached, he called out, "I have no interest in whatever you're doing. Return the child to me, and I will leave."

"You want the child? Ha! What a joke. Such a compassionate cultivator." The demon envoy's master erupted with a dense killing intent.

"Do you think I would let you go back? Since you've come, then stay!"

As his words fell, behind him, there instantly appeared ten Great Perfection Daoist platforms, nine Immortal Bridges, and nine elixirs, among which, two had already turned into Golden Cores!

Golden Core Second Layer!

Cao Zhen was greatly startled, having casually encountered a Golden Core master. In his hand, the Unparalleled Formation Diagram appeared instantly, and the Array Plate unfolded.

"A mere seven elixirs dares to threaten me now, today you will know, the one who kills you is the Bloodthirsty Mad Demon!"

The Bloodthirsty Mad Demon bellowed and stretched his hand towards the surroundings. From the bodies of Red Refinery Demonic Sect enforcers who had fled here after burning their origins, streaks of black qi suddenly flew out, falling into the body of the Bloodthirsty Mad Demon. In an instant, his momentum grew stronger.

And those Red Refinery Demonic Sect enforcers, after their frantic escape, had little origin energy left. As it was drained away, their bodies rapidly withered, collapsing to the ground one after another.

The Bloodthirsty Mad Demon sneered and reached toward Cao Zhen.

In a flash, a pitch-black claw shadow suddenly emerged, lunging directly at Cao Zhen.

The next moment, his face showed a look of astonishment. As the opposing Formation Diagram spread, he instantly felt as if an invisible shackle appeared on his body, trapping him, and a feeling of confinement instantly spread throughout him.

Formation Diagram...

It was that Formation Diagram; he felt restrained! It seemed he could only exert about ninety percent of his strength.

Under the restraint of the Unparalleled Formation Diagram, the claw strike from the Bloodthirsty Mad Demon was much slower than he had expected.

Cao Zhen, sprinting with all his might, instantly reached a fallen Red Refinery demon enforcer and scooped up the child in their arms.

Only then did the huge black claw fall.

"Break!"

Cao Zhen lifted his hand and pointed, and in an instant, a beam of golden light burst forth.

Zen Cultivation Divine Skills, Bo-Re-Pure Yang Finger.

This proficiency was cultivated by Xiang Ziyu, and furthermore, Xiang Ziyu had cultivated it to the extreme he could bear before leaving the Hundred Peaks Sect.

Although he disliked those monks who always put themselves on a moral high ground to judge others, some of their Divine Skills were indeed powerful, and some Zen Cultivation skills could indeed restrain many of the Demon Sect skills.

The Bo-Re-Pure Yang Finger was one such skill, a restraint against Demon Sect proficiencies.

The beam of golden light shot out, faintly resembling a golden holy lotus blooming. In the deathly silent canyon, solemn and thunderous Buddhist chants echoed.

The moment the black claw touched the golden light, it instantly dissolved into nothingness, while the golden light still flew towards the Bloodthirsty Mad Demon.

The Bloodthirsty Mad Demon snorted coldly, and a visible wave of sound surged out, instantly scattering the falling beam of golden light.

Gazing at the opponent, who merely had seven elixirs as the leader of the Hundred Peaks Sect, his eyes, however, revealed a clear sense of astonishment.

He was at the Golden Core Second Layer; even though the strike just now wasn't with full force, it was an attack of a Golden Core master.

The opponent, a mere seven-elixir stage youngster, had shattered his attack so effortlessly.

The might of that proficiency was not something an inner-core stage person could cultivate to such a degree.

This person in the Hundred Peaks Sect must also be a sort of genius, but unfortunately, having encountered him, even a genius must die.

"You do have some ability, but unfortunately, you are too merciful. Earlier, you had the chance to escape with your full outburst. Now, you've missed the best opportunity to run away."

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The Bloodthirsty Mad Demon was shrouded in endless black Demonic Qi, seeming even darker than the night itself, and waves of intense, ghastly, terrifying, gloomy, and bizarre auras permeated the space.

Then suddenly, a look of shock crossed his profound and terrifying eyes.

What was that?

Opposite him, from behind that Peak Master of the Hundred Peaks Sect, a golden core the size of a broad bean suddenly flew out.

A Golden Core?

He was clearly at the Core Formation Stage, how could he possibly have a Golden Core?

Moreover, this aura, it wasn't that of a Golden Core. What was it?

The Heretical Golden Core behind Cao Zhen suddenly fell into his palm, where streaks of purple thunderbolt had already begun to appear.

The Five-thunder Righteous Method!

Xiang Ziyu, before leaving, had already cultivated the Five-thunder Righteous Method to its ultimate limit, reaching Level Fifty-One.

But Xiang Ziyu was at Perfect Completion Golden Core, while he was only at Core Formation Stage.

Though he had reached Level Fifty-One of the Five-thunder Righteous Method due to his connection with Xiang Ziyu, he was unable to wield the Level Fifty-One Five-thunder Righteous Method.

Under normal circumstances, his body couldn't withstand the power of the Level Fifty-One Five-thunder Righteous Method.

Unless he used the Heretical Golden Core.

Wielding the Five-thunder Righteous Method through the Heretical Golden Core!

On the surface of the broad bean-sized Heretical Golden Core, streaks of purple thunder crawled over it, like snakes of electricity slithering across.

In the next moment, within the canyon, a muffled sound rang out, as if it could shatter mountains.

In the darkness, a thick bolt of thunder descended from the sky, painting the entire night sky with a splendid purple. The boundless might pressed toward the ground, giving off the feeling that the entire canyon might become dust under the impact of the thunderbolt!

How could this be!

In the Bloodthirsty Mad Demon's eyes, his pupils suddenly contracted, filled with endless horror. How could a Cultivator at Core Formation Stage deliver such a terrifying strike?

Even he, at full power, could not unleash such a fearsome Divine Skill!

How could he possibly endure such a powerful Divine Skill?

Overwhelmed by alarm, the mana around the Bloodthirsty Mad Demon surged crazily as segments of black mist gathered before him, compressing over and over again to form a massive black mound.

It was just a mound, but it brought about the impression that the entire canyon had been transformed into a graveyard, the chilly and terrifying aura spreading.

But in the next moment, the boundless mana of the Righteous Path fell from the sky, and the purple thunderbolts slammed onto the black mound. In an instant, the mound, which was nearly the size of a small hill, shattered to pieces, and the black Demonic Qi, under the relentless assault of the thunderbolts, was completely dispersed, vanishing without a trace.

The vast Power of Thunderbolt shattered the mound and struck heavily on the Bloodthirsty Mad Demon. In an instant, flesh flew in all directions, half of the demon's body almost completely obliterated, as blood ceaselessly flowed.

"Cough, cough..."

The Bloodthirsty Mad Demon coughed twice, and with each cough, he spat out mouthfuls of blood; his face was utterly devoid of any color, and he lay powerlessly on the ground, eyes filled with disbelief as he watched the slowly approaching figure.

This strike, the power of this strike, was almost on par with a Mid-Stage Golden Core existence.

How could a Cultivator at Core Formation Stage launch such a powerful strike?

Cao Zhen slowly approached the Bloodthirsty Mad Demon. He had held back on that strike, otherwise, the Bloodthirsty Mad Demon would be nothing but a corpse by now.

"Speak, what exactly are you doing? Why do you need so much blood? What are you planning to do with these children?"

The Bloodthirsty Mad Demon heard this and suddenly burst into a jeering laugh: "You're still asking me this question, you really are a fool."

Anyway, he wouldn't survive the night, and even if he pleaded for mercy, the other party would not let him go.

If death was inevitable, then he might as well curse freely.

"Fools, all of you are fools. You actually followed me here. And those people in the town, even more so, do they think that by sacrificing a bit of blood, and a child each night, they could save their lives?"

Tonight is the night this entire town is destroyed, everyone will die!"

As the words of the Bloodthirsty Mad Demon fell, in the distance, a towering Demonic Qi surged towards the heavens from the small town, seemingly overshadowing all the light above the town.

"No good, the disciples of the Hundred Peaks Sect!"

Cao Zhen suddenly realized the danger and raised his hand, delivering another strike of the Five-thunder Righteous Method.

The purple thunderbolt fell, completely obliterating the head of the Bloodthirsty Mad Demon. Without checking his surroundings, he hastened towards the direction of the town.

The closer he got to the town, the more oppressive the air became; the Demonic Qi in the town seemed to still be growing.

Cao Zhen sped up, charging ahead.

The darkness around the town was markedly thicker than elsewhere, and the moonlight in the sky seemed mostly obscured. Only upon flying into the town did he clearly see the situation there.

In the central plaza of the town, the Mayor along with various officials of the imperial court, and the common folk knelt on the ground.

Not far from them, with Lan Pili at the forefront, the disciples of the Hundred Peaks Sect were encircled in the center, with streams of black Demonic Qi constantly swirling towards the people, entwining them like tendrils of black thread.

The source of the black threads was a woman with a pale face that showed no hint of color, dressed in a red robe. Her long hair was snow-white, her mouth like an ink stain, void of a nose, and her pupils an eerie red. Most bizarrely, on either side of her head were lumps as large as fists.

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Members of the Hundred Peaks Sect each sat cross-legged on the ground, frantically gathering their own mana, resisting the strands one after another, yet no matter how they resisted, they could still feel streams of mana flowing out from their bodies towards that bizarre female demon head.

"Still trying to resist? With just you all, you think you can stop me? Today, all of you will be refined by me." The female demon looked in the direction of the members of the Hundred Peaks Sect, a smile appearing on her face, but paired with that eerie face of hers, this smile was even more bone-chilling.

"I thought I was just refining a small town casually, but I didn't expect to find such a windfall of fine materials."

As the last syllable fell, she suddenly turned her head and shot a black thread of Qi towards Cao Zhen.

Cao Zhen instinctively saw a flash of black light before his eyes, and his body was already wrapped in these threads of black Qi.

Such speed!

Ever since he had come to this world, this was the first time he faced such a fast attack; he hadn't even had time to react before the Qi threads had already landed on him.

That Qi seemed to be nothing more than a thread of demonic Qi, but he could feel a torrent of pure and incomparable demonic Qi surge towards him like a raging river.

Among the officials, Tao Ruo Chang, the town mayor, knelt on the ground. He didn't even glance at Cao Zhen but instead shouted in rage, "White-haired witch, why must you do this? I did everything you asked, you promised to spare my family."

"Spare your family? What a joke." The white-haired witch let out a piercing screech as a hand emerged from her wide sleeves.

Her fingers, like her face, were pale without a trace of blood and exceedingly thin, looking as if they were merely skin stretched over bone, as if there was no flesh at all.

She extended a finger towards Tao Ruo Chang.

Suddenly, a black Finger Energy shot out, like a black arrow, slicing through the air and violently penetrating Tao Ruo Chang's body.

In an instant, a large hole opened up in Tao Ruo Chang's chest, and his body fell straight back, with a face full of resentment, he shouted at the white-haired witch, "White-haired witch, do you think you can live? You won't live much longer either; I had already secretly burnt the imperial edict. The Town Immortal Imperial Dynasty will soon send experts here.

You will die as well, and I'll have you accompany my family in death!"

As the last word from Tao Ruo Chang fell, his breath was no more, being just a mortal whose chest had been pierced, he was as dead as one could be.

"Imperial edict!" Fear flashed across the face of the white-haired witch. She knew that the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty provided officials with an imperial edict that could be burnt to alert the imperial court if they encountered trouble involving cultivators.

If the court sent experts...

The white-haired witch grew anxious, and an even richer Demonic Qi suddenly burst forth from her, causing the black threads to thicken considerably at that moment.

Cao Zhen felt an endless surge of Demonic Qi coming, seemingly intent on draining his very essence alive.

This demoness, she was even stronger than the Bloodthirsty Mad Demon!

In an instant, Cao Zhen unleashed his Heretical Golden Core!

At once, a vast and boundless mana exploded from within the Heretical Golden Core, and under the sudden force of impact, the black Qi threads connected to Cao Zhen were shattered.

"What is this?"

The white-haired witch, looking at the Exotic Pill that suddenly appeared in the sky like a Golden Core, her face showed a trace of astonishment, "A mere Core Formation able to sever my refining threads."

As Cao Zhen shattered the Qi threads, the Heretical Golden Core immediately fell into his palm, with strands of Purple Thunder energy pouring into the Heretical Golden Core.

Five-thunder Righteous Method!

Behind Cao Zhen, the Phenomenon Altar, Phenomenon Immortal Bridge, and Phenomenon Pill all manifested.

His aura soared in an instant, using the Heretical Golden Core as the source, he launched a powerful strike using the Five-thunder Righteous Method.

This attack was without any reservation!

In the sky, the thick Purple Thunder, like a Purple Thunderbolt Dragon, seemed to break through the heavens, coming from the distant end of the sky with unrivaled power and crashing down suddenly.

"Hm? Core Formation Stage, yet capable of unleashing such might?"

The astonishment in the white-haired demon's eyes intensified. With a casual wave above her head, black Qi converged to form a cloud of black Demonic Qi that blocked above her head.

The Purple Thunder, seemingly capable of destroying mountains and cleaving rivers, pounded heavily onto the cloud of Demonic Qi, but it was as if it had fallen into a bottomless sea of endless Demonic Qi, consumed completely without raising even the slightest sound or ripple.

"Interesting, truly interesting."

She looked at Cao Zhen, and though surprised, she showed no fear, instead smiling as if looking at an amusing toy, "It has been long since I've seen someone as interesting as you. A mere Core Formation, yet capable of unleashing such a mighty blow. That strike just now, not even those who have condensed five or even six Golden Cores would necessarily be able to block it."

Cao Zhen, seeing the complete disappearance of the Five-thunder Righteous Method, was utterly stunned. His attack had been blocked just like that?

This was the Five-thunder Righteous Method cultivated by that guy Xiang Ziyu, reaching the peak of Perfect Completion Golden Core!

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Although he had not yet reached the Perfect Completion of the Golden Core, making his execution of the Five-thunder Righteous Method less potent than Xiang Ziyu, he was shocked that his Level Fifty-one Five-thunder Righteous Method was so easily neutralized.

After descending from the mountain, this was only his second exchange of blows with someone, and it was turning out to be quite pathetic.

"You... what is your Cultivation Realm?"

Even someone with a Perfect Completion Golden Core could not have effortlessly resolved his attack, so the Cultivation Realm of this white-haired witch must be above that of the Golden Core.

Upon hearing this, the white-haired witch's face immediately displayed a look of proud contempt as she said, "This seat is in the Earth Immortal Realm, in the Longevity Period! However, for fear of being discovered by the imperial court, I have never exercised my true strength."

Cao Zhen was greatly alarmed. An Earth Immortal from the Longevity Period—was there really no hope for resistance, when even his Core Formation was not yet at Great Perfection?

The only option was to detonate his Heretical Golden Core!

Only by doing so would there be a chance to harm the opponent and escape with everyone.

The Mana within him surged rapidly...

Yet the white-haired witch, looking at Cao Zhen, extended her tongue and gently licked her lips. Her tongue was unnervingly long and thin, almost as long as her face, and a dark green in color, making for a strangely eerie sight.

"Since you're so interesting, I'll spare your life for now. I will capture you first, then I can refine the others at my leisure."

The face of the white-haired witch suddenly flashed with a ferocious light as she extended her hands from beneath her wide robe. From her fingers, as thin as if only the skin remained, a thread-like beam shot out from each, aiming directly towards Cao Zhen from different directions.

Suddenly, from the sky came a sharp sound of tearing through the air, followed by the descent of a massive silver halberd shadow.

The silver light drew a semicircle in the air, like a crescent moon falling from the sky, slicing through the black night, cutting through the endless Demonic Qi, and severing the ten black qi threads.

Who is this?

Cao Zhen abruptly raised his head to look towards the sky.

Under the night sky, a huge Strange Beast emerged into his line of sight, resembling a fierce tiger, yet covered in silver scales that shone blindingly against the dark, and it had hooves like those of a cow. Beneath its mouth, there were a pair of sharp teeth as formidable as Sharp Swords.

Astride the Strange Beast was a man wearing a silver three-pronged crown, clad in silver Chain Armor, with a precious blue silk belt around his waist, his face powdered, eyebrows like drawn swords reaching into his temples, eyes clear and discerning, exuding a lofty demeanor.

In his hands, he wielded The Square Heaven Halberd, and behind him, ten Dao platforms, ten Immortal Bridges, and ten Golden Cores radiated surging Mana.

Perfect Completion Golden Core!

And what's more, all the Golden Cores bore unique marks.

A look of astonishment appeared on Cao Zhen's face. Were there so many people with uniquely marked Perfect Completion Golden Cores in the world?

The face of the white-haired witch turned to one of resentment as she said coldly, "Silver Dragon Blade Tiger Beast, The Square Heaven Halberd... You are Master Gou's disciple, Yu Tuoyu!"

The Grand Preceptor's disciple?

Cao Zhen instantly recalled what Chang Tiance had mentioned to him about the Grand Preceptor's eight personal disciples. Could this man be one of them?

Could he be that imperial relative?

The town chief had burned the imperial edict, had the Grand Preceptor sent out one of his disciples?

But the witch in front of him was at the Earth Immortal Longevity Period, how could a mere Golden Core, even at Perfect Completion, hope to be her match?

The white-haired witch stared fiercely at Yu Tuoyu, her face exuding boundless hatred: "That year, your master destroyed our Red Refinery Demonic Sect, and today, I will take his disciple as a tribute! Even if it's just a minor Golden Core, killing Master Gou's disciple will make my name renowned throughout the world, die!"

The white-haired witch's face twisted grotesquely, and the dense Demonic Qi behind her suddenly erupted like a boundless expanse, filling the heavens and earth, permeating the entire small town.

She stretched out her hand towards Yu Tuoyu and grasped fiercely towards him.

In an instant, a giant black hand formed in the sky, the hand composed of dark Demonic Qi took on a substantial form, exuding an intense and sinister aura, reminiscent of the legendary branches of ancient trees from times long past, reaching out to grab Yu Tuoyu and blotting out the sun and moon.

Yu Tuoyu's gaze towards the white-haired witch was ice-cold, devoid of any trace of fear. He patted an area on his chest with his hand.

Suddenly, a brilliant golden light shot out from his Chain Armor at the chest, so dazzling that it turned the dark town as bright as day, dispelling all darkness in one stroke.

Within the golden light, a young figure emerged.

He was dressed in a multicolored python robe and a vast cape floated behind him; his long hair waved gently, and the man's handsome visage was filled with a heroic spirit.

Cao Zhen even sensed that the man in the golden light seemed like a war-hardened General that had triumphed over countless battles.

As soon as the figure appeared, he simply reached out and grabbed towards the white-haired witch.

With nothing more than a mere grasp, despite seeming as casual as reaching for an immovable object, it conveyed a feeling that everything in heaven and earth, all of time, was within the control of this hand.

"Grand Preceptor!"

The face of the white-haired witch suddenly altered drastically, and no longer caring about concealing her power, the full force of the Earth Immortal Longevity Period erupted as she tried to flee into the distance.

But before she could move, a giant golden hand had already descended from the sky.

The white-haired witch, just moments before so imposing and threatening, was now grasped by the ethereal giant hand, rendered as powerless as an infant in an adult's grip, completely immobilized.

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Is this the Grand Preceptor?

Cao Zhen looked at the heroic figure he had just received, filled with amazement in his heart. The image of the Grand Preceptor he remembered should have been extremely old, an elder with a head full of white hair. But now, the person before him didn't even resemble an Immortal Cultivator; instead, he seemed more like a General's phantom—actually the current Grand Preceptor of the Dynasty!

This phantom should be an embodiment of the Grand Preceptor's power. According to the cultivation knowledge recorded by Zhang Daoling, once one's cultivation base reached a certain level, one could separate a strand of power, sealing it within another person's body or into a Divine Weapon.

Of course, these strands of power could naturally not be as strong as the original body; they were indeed much, much weaker. Yet, just such a phantom of power made it so that an Earth Immortal in the Longevity Period had no strength to resist in the slightest.

The phantom of the Grand Preceptor grabbed hold of the white-haired witch, and immediately, a majestic voice sounded.

"How dare you act recklessly within the boundaries of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty? On any ground under the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty's control, all Cultivators, without exception, must abide by the rules set by me, the Grand Preceptor. Offenders will be dealt with by the national law!"

As the voice fell, the Grand Preceptor's phantom pointed toward the white-haired witch repeatedly in succession.

Suddenly, a series of crisp sounds rang out, like the crackling of burning firewood. All of the acupoints around the white-haired witch's body were sealed in an instant.

Following that, the phantom raised a hand and cast a hand seal. In the Void, a command light that resembled a Talisman flew out, entering the body of the white-haired witch.

All at once, the cultivation base of the white-haired witch plummeted at an alarming rate. An Earth Immortal in the Longevity Period, within just a few breaths' time, had already fallen as low as a mortal being.

Cao Zhen's expression changed; even a single strand of the Grand Preceptor's power was so terrifying that he completely suppressed an Earth Immortal in the Longevity Period!

Suppression was much more difficult than killing.

If one's strength was greater than the opponent's and the opponent did not flee, it was possible to kill the opponent.

But suppression required one to be far stronger than the opponent, to the point of overwhelming power, before it could be accomplished!

After casting the decree, the Grand Preceptor's phantom vanished completely.

Yu Tuoyu, however, pulled out a long rope from his waist and tossed it toward the now mortal-like white-haired witch. The rope fell upon her and automatically coiled around, binding her tightly.

Yu Tuoyu held one end of the rope in his hand and coldly stated, "A female Earth Immortal of the Red Refinery Demonic Sect, perfect to bring back and punish solemnly, showing all those insignificant beings the consequence of violating the laws of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty."

"Bring her back?" Cao Zhen looked at Yu Tuoyu sitting atop the Silver Dragon Blade Tiger Beast, still holding the rope, and couldn't help but ask curiously, "Why go through so much trouble to capture her? Wouldn't it be simpler to just kill her?"

Yu Tuoyu pulled with his hand, directly bringing the white-haired witch in front of him, then turned his head with a solemn face to explain to Cao Zhen, "The Dynasty has its own laws. She violated the Dynasty's laws and thus must be judged according to them. Whether she will be executed or imprisoned, the trial will determine. The rules of the Dynasty must be followed by everyone."

With that, he paused briefly, glanced at the clothes on Cao Zhen and the child that Cao Zhen had been holding in his arms, and asked, "Which Peak Master of the Hundred Peaks Sect are you?"

"I am Cao Zhen, Peak Master of Four Treasures Peak," Cao Zhen replied honestly, as he had nothing to hide.

Yu Tuoyu nodded slightly and said, "This time, you did well and acted as a Cultivator should. I will also report your merit to the Grand Preceptor. In our Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, rewards are granted for contributions and punishment for crimes."

Meanwhile, he turned to look at the officials and soldiers kneeling around the town and said, "You all, as officials appointed by the imperial court and soldiers, live off the court's stipend and military provisions, yet you have committed acts that aid the wicked, collude with the Demonic Path, and harm the common

people. You failed to report your knowledge of such crimes. Are you worthy of the court's trust? Do you deserve the townspeople's respect?

All of you are guilty!"

"My lord!"

The officials and soldiers all bowed deeply, knocking their heads on the ground with great force.

"There's no need to kowtow to me; if you are guilty, you must be punished. Tomorrow morning, all of you go to the county government office and turn yourselves in. How you'll be punished is for the county government to decide."

Having said that, he patted the Silver Dragon-toothed Tiger Beast beneath him, and immediately the beast leapt up into the air.

"Wait a moment." Cao Zhen saw that the other was about to leave and quickly spoke up, "Since you are a person of the Dynasty, and we too need to go to the Capital City, why don't we travel together?"

He had just discovered upon leaving the mountain how dangerous the outside world was. In a small town, he had encountered a high-level expert of the Earth Immortal Realm. How far was it from here to the Capital City? What if they encountered danger again on the road?

The person before him was at the Perfect Completion Golden Core stage and also a disciple of the Grand Preceptor. Travelling to the Capital City with him would surely be the safest option.

"Sorry, each person has their own matters to attend to, and I have other missions to complete. Gentlemen, you should make your own way to the Capital City."

As Yu Tuoyu finished speaking, the Silver Dragon-toothed Tiger Beast had already soared up, flying towards the sky, and the white-haired witch was being pulled along by the white rope, floating continuously through the air.

Cao Zhen watched Yu Tuoyu's figure until he disappeared, then turned back to Lan Pili with a puzzled face and said, "What's going on? Why are there people from the Red Refinery Demonic Sect here?"

Lan Pili, since leaving the Hundred Peaks Sect, had become much more courteous towards Cao Zhen than when he was in the Sect. Initially, when he had been assigned as a regular disciple, he looked down on Cao Zhen. Being the Peak Master of the mere least-ranked peak with only four or five disciples, he didn't see what was there to value.

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But who could have known that later on, Cao Zhen's disciples, during the grand competition of the Hundred Peaks Sect, displayed their might. Although none of Cao Zhen's disciples won against their opponents, their strength was something he had witnessed with his own eyes.

Apart from Yi Sheng, he was no match for any of Cao Zhen's disciples.

Furthermore, Cao Zhen's Dao companion was currently the foremost person in the Hundred Peaks Sect, beneath only the Earth Immortals.

Even though Cao Zhen's Four Treasures Peak was still the Hundredth Peak, he truly couldn't surpass Cao Zhen.

And now, he somewhat wanted to be on good terms with Cao Zhen.

After all, once the Minor Era of Inversion of Heaven and Earth arrived and all the experts above the Golden Core stage fell into slumber, Cao Zhen's Dao companion would become the number one figure of the Hundred Peaks Sect.

Upon hearing Cao Zhen's question, he quickly clarified, "After the Grand Preceptor overturned the foundations of both the Sun and Moon Demon Sect and the Red Refinery Demonic Sect, the other demon sects also withdrew from the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty.

Although they left the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, they were disgruntled in their hearts. Every once in a while, they would infiltrate the dynasty to cause trouble, especially in the Eastern Wasteland region, where the disturbances were most rampant."

Cao Zhen, perplexed, asked, "So doesn't the Grand Preceptor care? If he was powerful enough to overturn the Sun and Moon Demon Sect and Red Refinery Demonic Sect, then he naturally could go out and overturn the other demon sects."

"I don't know why the Grand Preceptor does not intervene; he always behaves oddly, as if he would never leave the Guardian Imperial Dynasty. He only guards this land, but if someone dares to enter this territory and stir up trouble, the Grand Preceptor would certainly mete out punishment."

Cao Zhen grew even more puzzled, "The Grand Preceptor neither leaves the Dynasty nor does anything but guard it? What on earth does he want to do? Why would he guard the Guardian Immortal Dynasty? Is it because of some oath?"

Lan Pili shrugged and said, "No one knows. I'm afraid no one in the world knows what the Grand Preceptor really wants to do, why someone so powerful would guard the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, and set such rules.

He's really strange, but there is one thing that everyone knows. The Grand Preceptor was once a general of the Guardian Immortal Dynasty."

Cao Zhen was taken aback, "He was really a general? How could a general suddenly possess such a high level of cultivation?" Previously, when he saw the Grand Preceptor's apparition, he felt that the Grand Preceptor did not seem like a cultivator, but more like a general. He had thought it was because the Grand Preceptor had been in the imperial court of the Guardian Immortal Dynasty for so long that he got that impression. He never expected that the Grand Preceptor had indeed been a general at one point.

"That's where the story of his military expeditions comes in. He once led his troops into battle, but they were ambushed by an enemy army, and the entire force was annihilated.

This event caused a huge stir within the human world's imperial court, as it was inconceivable for an army on the march to be entirely wiped out by the enemy, without any prisoners captured or deserters returning.

Yet in that battle, their entire army, all the soldiers, vanished without a trace, leading everyone to believe they had been completely destroyed.

However, rumors later surfaced that the Grand Preceptor had disappeared, and the enemy nation was also searching for him.

No one knew where he had gone.

Some said he'd fallen off a cliff and inherited a legacy, while others believed he had been saved by a person of Great Ability, becoming that person's disciple.

In any case, he must have encountered an extraordinary stroke of luck, a truly earth-shattering fortune. When he reappeared, he was already a cultivator. Although his cultivation was not high at the time, he possessed strange abilities that made him almost invincible among those within the same realm.

Afterward, he broke through and ascended rapidly, defeating geniuses from both Immortal Sects and Demon Sects, quickly being hailed as the number one figure among the younger generation. And his rise did not stop there. While people were still debating when he might compare with the long-established experts, he reappeared already among the few top masters of his time.

In just a few short years, he had become the premier master of the age. Never before had anyone within the Empire's territory risen as swiftly as he."

Cao Zhen couldn't help but say, "This Grand Preceptor is somewhat terrifying. It's like he has an unfair advantage."

It's like he's the protagonist out of various novels, precisely the template Xiang Zi Yu wanted to follow. Moreover, this Grand Preceptor treats mortals and cultivators equally, even strictly enforcing the law, with everything subject to legal judgment before sentencing.

Who else would do this?

Only someone like me, a transmigrator, would act in such a way.

Could it be that this Grand Preceptor, like me, is also a transmigrator, just one who arrived earlier than me?

"What kind of cheat is that?" Lan Pili looked at Cao Zhen with a puzzled face.

Cao Zhen did not explain but instead asked, "That Grand Preceptor, aside from declaring that mortals and cultivators are equal, has he issued any other decrees? After he became the Grand Preceptor, has the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty undergone any reforms?"

Lan Pili shook his head and said, "Reforms? No, there haven't been any major changes apart from that decree. The Grand Preceptor hasn't issued any other regulations, and the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty hasn't seen any significant reforms."

Cao Zhen became even more puzzled. Listening to Lan Pili, it seemed that the Grand Preceptor might not be a transmigrator after all.

After all, if the Grand Preceptor were a transmigrator, and he still valued the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty so much, then he would likely have become the emperor himself, or at the very least, he should have implemented some governmental reforms.

Even if the transmigrator had never passed history and politics from childhood to adulthood, and was not adept at political reform, at the very least, they should have attempted some technological reforms.

Anyone who has undergone nine years of compulsory education should have some basic knowledge, even if they don't understand physics or chemistry.

Don't they at least know addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division?

Moreover, with even a slight understanding of physics and chemistry, one could make some changes.

Although this world is different from Earth, there are many similarities; if someone were a transmigrator, they could surely find those similarities and then change the world.

Yet, this world still remains a purely agricultural and feudal society, without any signs of technological advancements.

All things considered, the Grand Preceptor probably isn't a transmigrator like myself.

If he isn't a transmigrator, then the Grand Preceptor's way of thinking is rather interesting.

Nonetheless, it's best for me to keep my distance from the Grand Preceptor, even when I arrive in the Capital City and an encounter with him becomes inevitable, I must avoid having too much interaction with him.

After all, I can't see through the Grand Preceptor's way of thinking at all, and even from an Earthling's perspective, I can't grasp what he wants to do, which is quite terrifying.

As they were talking, Chang Tiance had already come over, asking curiously, "So, what does this person from the Red Refinery Demonic Sect want to do? Gathering so much fresh blood and demanding the town's people to sacrifice children."

Lan Pili mused, "It must be for practicing some dark arts, or perhaps to forge some kind of evil weapon? It's also possible that they're trying to summon some kind of terrifying demonic beast."

As his words fell, a series of crisp explosion sounds suddenly rang out.

The crowd quickly looked around, and one by one, the white-haired witches, who had been taken away without leaving, saw the residents of Yu Min Town, whose bodies suddenly began to crack, bleeding from every orifice, and then their bodies completely exploded. For a moment, streaks of crimson blood sprayed across the land.

"What's going on here?"

"Be careful."

At Hundred Peaks Sect, disciples quickly backed up against each other, warily looking around.

"This isn't right, the white-haired witch's cultivation was sealed, and she was taken away. How could the townspeople suddenly die? This is too strange."

Cao Zhen, frowning deeply, looked at the ground, where the blood of the dead townspeople spread out and flowed toward the same direction. He quickly took a few steps forward.

Suddenly, he stopped in his tracks and slammed his palm downward.

In an instant, the ground violently burst open, clumps of soil flew into the air, revealing pieces of jade which clearly should not have appeared there. Streaks of blood seemed to be drawn by an invisible force, flowing eerily quick across the jade. For a moment, each of these jades emitted a wicked, chilly aura.

"A formation! There's another formation underneath the town." Cao Zhen suddenly understood, whispering, "The townspeople had previously offered their blood in sacrifice, and it's their blood that triggers this formation. Now, it has been activated. Not good, the blood, all of their blood has entered into this formation, it's about to start."

Lan Pili suddenly came to a realization and exclaimed in shock, "Demonic beasts! The white-haired witch isn't trying to practice dark arts or forge evil weapons; she's trying to summon demonic beasts!"

Chapter 320: Hundred Peaks People, Hundred Peaks Soul\_1

In the center of the small town, streaks of crimson blood flowed, entering the underground Great Formation. The Great Formation surged, shaking the entire town. The blood gathered into a long river of red, like a scarlet dragon soaring through the town.

It was merely the convergence of the townspeople's blood, yet the entire town seemed enshrouded in a mist of blood. A nauseating, rich stench of blood permeated the surroundings.

"Quick, take off."

Lan Pili looked at the eerie and terrifying scene before him and urged everyone to leave the ground repeatedly.

Upon hearing this, the disciples of the Hundred Peaks Sect immediately took to the skies on their flying swords, soaring straight into the high altitude.

Just as everyone took to the air, the Blood River below erupted like a tsunami, churning furiously.

Lan Pili flew upward with a grave expression, "Demonic Beasts, the demonic beast is about to emerge."

In the center of the Blood River, columns of blood seemed to break through to the sky, reaching upward as if they would pierce the heavens. Even though everyone had risen into the air, the soaring crimson blood almost reached them.

As the skyward blood fell back down, a raw and bloodthirsty aura of brutality suddenly emerged under the disciples' feet.

A huge blood demon figure materialized within the Blood River.

It had a body the color of blood, resembling a giant frog, towering over thirty feet tall. Its head tapered from thin to thick, forming a conical shape, with four bizarre and long tentacles growing from the top, each tipped with a massive claw. Where its nose should be, there grew a clump of short, pinkish tendrils.

A torrents of ferocious energy burst forth from it, terrifying to behold.

"What kind of demonic beast is this?"

High in the sky, not a single person recognized what this demonic beast was!

No sooner had the crimson demonic beast appeared than it stretched out its four tentacles. In an instant, the air around each tentacle began to swirl rapidly, forming whirlwinds.

A powerful suction force spread in all directions. In no time, every living creature in the town—birds, fish from the ponds, livestock, guard dogs—was swept up toward the blood-colored beast. With just a few breaths' time, all these animals burst apart, their blood flowing directly into the body of the demonic beast.

In an instant, the ferocity of the crimson beast intensified even further.

Above, everyone felt a strong pull, as if an invisible giant hand was dragging them downward.

Chang Tiance and the other disciples of Hundred Peaks Sect immediately activated their mana, struggling to ascend. However, several disciples with weaker cultivation bases were still pulled downwards.

Cao Zhen frantically channelled his mana into the Heretical Golden Core. In an instant, the Heretical Golden Core began to grow rapidly, soon becoming as huge as a ship.

The Heretical Golden Core fell suddenly, catching the falling disciples. After a rotation, all of the Hundred Peaks Sect disciples landed atop the Heretical Golden Core.

Before the rescued could even relax, the blood-colored demon below suddenly raised its head and let out a terrifying roar that shook everyone to the core.

It flung its arm towards the heavens, and instantly countless streaks of blood shot out towards Cao Zhen and the others, as if to shatter the Heretical Golden Core.

"Great Thunderfall Technique!" Lan Pili finally snapped out of it, standing atop the gigantic Heretical Golden Core, fully unleashing his battle power, executing his most powerful strike.

In an instant, a deafening boom resounded across the sky as if the heavens themselves had split apart.

The next moment, a streak of blue lightning descended from the sky, striking the blood-colored brilliance that resembled the Blood River.

The river of blood visibly diminished, but only by a small segment, not even one-third. Meanwhile, the blue lightning completely dissipated.

The relentless torrent of the blood river continued its upward assault.

"How is this possible!"

Lan Pili's entire being revealed a look of shock. The name Lightning Peak derived from this Great Thunderfall Technique.

Though currently Lightning Peak was only among the lower ten peaks of the Hundred Peaks Sect.

However, there was a time when Lightning Peak was one of the Upper Fifty Peaks, and the Great Thunderfall Technique was the peak's mightiest Divine Skill.

Yet now, his strike of the Great Thunderfall Technique could not completely obliterate the Blood River!

He may not have condensed a Golden Core, but he was a presence of nine Core Formation stages!

The masters of the lower peaks were not particularly strong, and several were only at the Immortal Bridge Period. But he was an exception.

During the last Hundred Peaks competition, he was young and his cultivation was not high, which is why Lightning Peak's ranking was not prominent.

Every Peak Master in the Hundred Peaks Sect had one chance to enter the Hidden Dragon Observatory.

After the last Hundred Peaks competition, he entered the Observatory and cultivated for a long time. Returning after many years, he had reached the ninth stage of Core Formation.

He had thought that with his cultivation, he could significantly raise Lightning Peak's ranking in the next competition.

Yet, this competition met with the arrival of the Qiankun small epoch, and the Peak Master contest was cancelled.

His disciples were not strong in their cultivation, and they remained among the lower ten peaks.

Although Lightning Peak was a lower peak, his cultivation was by no means fitting for a Peak Master of the lower ten peaks.