

My Master 481

Chapter 481: Cliff-jumping Little Prince_6

Off to the side, Ling Xi and Yan Yourong, as well as Little Beiyan, hadn't listened to a word Xiang Ziyu said after mentioning cliff jumping. Jump off a cliff? They weren't fools—there was no way they would ever consider such a gamble.

Cao Zhen didn't know what to say. Such a small pool, yet Xiang Ziyu had managed to land in it. If it hadn't been for the branches and leaves blocking his fall, and the presence of the pool, Xiang Ziyu would probably have been smashed to a pulp.

Moreover, this kid Xiang Ziyu, had cultivated the modified version of the Record of Deities and Demons, resulting in physical strength far surpassing others with the same Cultivation Base.

If it had been Ling Xi and the others who actually jumped and fell into that pool, it also wasn't certain they would've survived.

Yi Sheng, however, was completely captivated, and eagerly asked, "So what happened next?"

"What happened next? Well, I just felt a bit of turbulence in my blood and qi, had some injuries, but nothing serious; after all, I am the protagonist, what could possibly happen to me?"

Xiang Ziyu patted his chest and said, "But the others weren't so lucky. I found many skeletons on the ground, some of which had already fragmented and weathered away. Clearly, over the years, many people have jumped off this cliff, ultimately meeting their deaths.

However, some of these people had Qiankun Bags, with treasures inside like Secret Manuals and remnants of Divine Weapons."

"That's all not important—the important thing is that inside the Cliff of Falling Immortals, I discovered a Cave Mansion, which turned out to be the former dwelling of Jian Yun. Inside, mana could be operated, and it was also the inheritance of Jian Yun.

"It had the Divine Skills of the Sun, Moon, and Stars, but that skill could only be cultivated at the Earth Immortal Realm. I felt something was off about the skill, so I modified it, and somehow, I've managed to cultivate it."

Cao Zhen finally understood why, after learning the Sun, Moon, and Stars skill, he had so many other Divine Skills; clearly, Xiang Ziyu had picked them up from others and then managed to cultivate them.

As for Xiang Ziyu modifying Divine Skills that should only be practiced at the Earth Immortal Realm so that they could be learned at the Golden Core Realm? Nothing about that was surprising.

If Xiang Ziyu could take the Record of Deities and Demons, two incomplete and unrelated Divine Skills, and hard-train them into a single skill, then what was so surprising about him mastering the Sun, Moon, and Stars at the Golden Core Realm?

However, upon reflection, the Divine Skills modified by Xiang Ziyu could probably only be cultivated by him. If someone else tried, the chances were that they would either suffer from cultivation deviation or die in the process.

Xiang Ziyu didn't make any effort to keep his conversation private; although his voice wasn't particularly loud, it carried clearly to many listening ears.

Suddenly, quite a few people started to chuckle softly.

"What modified skill? That's a Divine Skill created by the founder of the Sun and Moon Sect's master. The Sun and Moon Sect has fostered countless geniuses and masters over tens of thousands of years. If the skill could be modified, those masters would have done it long ago—why would it be his turn?"

"Exactly, how could Xiang Ziyu, at Perfect Completion Golden Core, have more insight than those masters?"

"It must have been the Ancestral Elder Jian Yun who modified the skill, and this guy insists it was him."

"I've heard of the Cliff of Falling Immortals; it's not far from our Sect. Originally, the Debate Team from Hundred Peaks Sect came to challenge ours. This kid really has incredible luck to have survived such a fall."

"So if you just find a cliff and jump off, you could really stumble upon a great fortune?"

"How come we never encounter such peculiar adventures?"

The crowd around felt the world was unjust, and even a few amongst them appeared tempted to try their luck.

"You guys, you're not seriously thinking about following Xiang Ziyu's example, are you?"

"Have you lost your minds?"

"Such adventures aren't that common."

As Yi Sheng pondered over Xiang Ziyu's tale, he suddenly realized a question and asked curiously, "Then, what about the white ape? Did it really go to guide you?"

"The white ape? The white ape fell to its death," Xiang Ziyu replied to Yi Sheng, "Its death was too tragic, it was smashed into a pile of flesh."

All around, the disciples who were just previously a little tempted instantly abandoned the idea of trying it out for themselves.

As people talked, very quickly, the winners were decided on one platform after another.

Suddenly, a low cry came from Yi Sheng.

"Someone's dead. Over there, on the Geng character platform, a Dao Companion has died."

Upon hearing Yi Sheng's words, everyone turned their heads to look.

The battle on the Geng character platform hadn't ended, but at this moment, one person had already fallen into a pool of blood.

This was different from the competition at Hundred Peaks Sect. During the Hundred Peaks' contest, since everyone was from the same Immortal Sect, the matches were only to decide winners and losers. If someone were in danger, the referees below the platform would intervene immediately.

But now, with people from various Immortal Sects competing, everyone was fighting full out to win, and the referees below weren't about to save anyone.

Moreover, in a melee with ten people, even if no one intentionally tried to kill, once everyone unleashed their Divine Skills, the multiple attacks could be unavoidable, leaving nowhere to hide.

If the disparity in Cultivation Base was too significant, death was indeed a possibility.

Ling Xi and the others had already fought countless matches by now, but their battles were only to decide the victor, not matters of life and death.

Even on the platform where Ling Xi was, though Hou Qianjun's attacks were lethal, he hadn't killed anyone. Now, seeing someone dead on a platform, their expressions turned strange.

For the first time, they seemed to truly understand the cruelty of the Immortal Cultivation world.

Cao Zhen said nothing more. He had traveled from Hundred Peaks Sect to the Capital City with Lan Pili, experiencing countless ordeals and witnessing numerous deaths along the way.

Everything before them was something all Cultivators must face.

He could only let his disciples experience it for themselves to understand the Immortal Cultivation world.

With so many platforms active at once, as soon as one concluded its match, a new group was quick to take their place.

Some platforms had quickly decided matches, like the one Xiang Ziyu had been on, where the second group had already been fighting for quite some time.

Yet on other platforms, the first group's battles were still ongoing due to slower fights.

Cao Zhen from his vantage point on the mountain kept an eye on the Bing character and Wu character platforms.

Yan Yourong was Bing character thirteen, and Little Bei was Wu character nineteen—both had yet to enter their second-round matches.

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The Immortal Martial Gathering, those who weren't on the stage, almost all stood atop a high mountain on one side.

And it wasn't just random standing; basically, each Immortal Sect occupied a spot. Among them, the ten major Immortal Sects had taken the best positions.

Four Treasures Peak was a bit special; Cao Zhen had not been with the people of Hundred Peaks Sect, so the disciples from Four Treasures Peak independently found a place among the mixed sects.

After all, no matter how large the Immortal Reception House was, there was limited space, and many disciples from each sect were not arranged within the Immortal Reception House, so, from the major sects, some were not with their sect's main force.

After Xiang Ziyu and Ling Xi had flown back to where the Four Treasures Peak was located, Lv Chaoqiong spoke softly to Ai Yunqi beside her, "Peak Master Cao and his disciples are our people from Hundred Peaks Sect, it's not too good for them to be outside, I'll go bring them back."

Having said that, she soared down to where Cao Zhen and the others were.

Almost at the same time, a voice came through.

"It's the Bing stage, numbers eleven to twenty, please take the stage."

As the announcement ended, figures dashed out rapidly from the crowd, Yan Yourong also flew out.

Although she, like Little Beiyan, was in the second batch to take the stage, because each stage's battle progressed at different speeds, Yan Yourong got on the stage before Little Beiyan.

Thanks to Ling Xi's earlier performance, everyone had taken a good look at the disciples from Four Treasures Peak. The moment Yan Yourong landed on the stage, the other nine competitors tacitly flew to both sides and enclosed her in the center.

Several of them spoke up one after the other.

"There's no need to disguise it; we know you are a disciple of Four Treasures Peak; we know that you are at the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection."

"The nine of us will join forces against you alone. Though it's somewhat shameful for nine of us to fight one, for the sake of victory, this is all we can do."

"I really want to see just how big the gap is between myself and someone at the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection."

Yan Yourong, surrounded by nine adversaries, did not reply, but the fighting strength within her body climbed staggeringly.

Behind her, ten Elixir Hallucination pedestals, ten Immortal Bridge Hallucinations, and ten Golden Core Hallucinations appeared, creating a sight containing elements like sharp metals and stones, lush grass

and trees, endless flowing waters, blazing flames, towering mountains, and among them, a Golden Core that resembled a sharp long sword.

"A long sword?"

From atop the high mountain, Lv Chaoqiong's face revealed a look of surprise as she softly asked Cao Zhen, "Peak Master Cao, I remember that your disciple's Hallucinations did not include a long sword. Ten days ago, when I saw her breakthrough, the Heavenly Phenomenon changed, and I found it strange, why has she added a long sword Hallucination?"

Cao Zhen sighed in response, "Actually, it's my fault for holding her back. Her temperament is more suited to the Sword Technique; yet, I always had her use a sword.

Fortunately, she later obtained the Grieving Anger Dragon Blade and switched from the sword to the blade. Because of her intense longing for the way of the blade, one of her Elixir Hallucinations turned into that of a long sword after her breakthrough."

Golden Cores are transformed from inner cores, and generally speaking, the shape of the condensed Elixir Hallucination determines the shape of the resulting core—if it still possesses a Hallucination, it should match the inner core's Hallucination.

But the disciples of Four Treasures Peak were truly out of the ordinary.

Just like Little Beiyan; although Bei Yan's Hallucinations overall did not change after becoming a Golden Core, those who had seen his Hallucinations before could easily spot the changes.

On the Bing stage, as all ten competitors arrived, the judge's voice quickly followed from below.

"Begin!"

As the two words fell, the competitors surrounding Yan Yourong on the stage all moved simultaneously to launch their attacks.

Streams of Mana, gathering into glows, surged indecisively atop their Divine Weapons.

Suddenly, the next moment, a sonorous sound rang out, and with that, an aura filled with endless grief and anger erupted from the center of the stage. The intense feeling even affected the nine on the stage, who felt traces of sorrow and rage.

They were influenced.

Yan Yourong pulled out the Grieving Anger Dragon Blade and, swinging it all around her, suddenly struck out, tracing a semicircle.

With one strike, domineering and unmatched, a clear sound of a dragon's lament echoed through the air. In that moment, the Grieving Anger Dragon Blade seemed like an Ancient Divine Dragon that had awoken after slumbering for millions of years, swinging its paws capable of shattering mountains and tearing the void, pounding ferociously at the nine around her.

The nine had barely shot out their Divine Skills when the sharp, imperious Sword Energy slashed their way.

The blade swept past, effortlessly cutting through their Divine Skills and striking them solidly.

In just a breath's time, whether their Cultivation Base was high or low, all nine were sliced by the single stroke, and the overwhelming Sword Energy burst into their bodies, wreaking havoc in their organs and meridians.

Only then did the Void reveal the arc left by the sweep of the blade, giving the impression that this part of space had been cleaved in two by that strike.

The slash was too fast, so fast that the shadow of the blade's sweep only appeared in the space after Yan Yourong had finished her strike and sheathed her blade.

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Under the terrifying force of that slash, some of them were knocked back and flew directly towards the edge of the arena, only stopping when they triggered the formation light curtain surrounding the stage, which then rebounded them back onto the platform.

Others, although not sent flying, were in pain as they collapsed to the ground, their faces filled with horror.

That slash was truly terrifying; just now, they had felt the presence of death.

Yan Yourong was a Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection being, a rare genius few and far between. Every appearance of a cultivator of her level would attract everyone's attention, and she was no exception.

In this battle, except for a few who were preoccupied with their sect's disciples or their own fellow disciples' combats on other stages, nearly all eyes were on Yan Yourong.

Witnessing just a single slash that brought down all her opponents, gasps of shock even came from atop the high mountains.

"Has it begun?"

"Hasn't it already ended?"

"Is... is that just a single slash?"

"Is she that dominant?"

"Among them, there's even a Golden Core sixth layer, and two of the fifth layer, but in front of Yan Yourong, they seemed no different from a first-layer Golden Core, or even someone at the Core Formation stage."

"The gap is too vast, the difference between Ten Different Phenomena Golden Core Great Perfection and other Golden Cores is simply immense."

"It feels like she's even more dominant than Xiang Ziyu!"

Countless people were immersed in the terror of Yan Yourong's slash.

Wu Jianzi looked towards Yan Yourong on the stage, his gaze growing brighter the more he watched:
"Although she uses a saber, her Way of the Sword is so similar to my own path.

Both decide victory or defeat, life or death, in a single strike. The outcome is determined in the moment the weapon is drawn.

The only difference is that she draws a saber, while I draw a sword."

Wu Jianzi turned to Cao Zhen, admiration on his face, "Senior Cao, is this the path you've guided her on?"

"She discovered all of this on her own," Cao Zhen, for a moment, truly didn't know whether Yan Yourong's Way of the Sword was influenced by him.

Previously during the Hundred Peaks tournament, Yan Yourong's strikes were decisive, but they were not as extreme as they were right now.

Now, watching the moment Yan Yourong drew her saber, he felt an unstoppable, irreversible momentum!

He genuinely didn't know whether this was a path Yan Yourong had carved out herself or whether she had misunderstood when she overheard his conversation with Wu Jianzi—praising his own Sword Dao and assuming that drawing the sword represented the pinnacle of Sword Dao, which led her to research drawing the saber.

After sheathing her saber, Yan Yourong turned to look down at the referee and asked, "Aren't you going to announce it?"

"Bing character platform, second match, the winner is Bing character number thirteen."

As the referee announced, Little Bei quickly descended onto the Wu character platform; his match was about to begin.

Having seen Xiang Ziyu and Yan Yourong fight, the crowd had already realized the chasm that separated them from a Ten Different Phenomena Golden Core Great Perfection.

At this point, they didn't even dare to hope that by joining forces, they could defeat a Ten Different Phenomena Golden Core Great Perfection.

But even so, as the referee started the match, the other nine contestants still launched a joint attack on Little Bei Yan.

Even if they couldn't win, they wanted to seize this opportunity to experience the might of a Ten Different Phenomena Golden Core Great Perfection firsthand.

Suddenly, nine Divine Skills shot forth from the hands of nine Golden Core masters on the platform.

Little Bei Yan, watching the attacks fall towards him, showed an excited expression on his face. He'd been bullied by his senior brothers and sisters for so long, and today, it was finally his turn to bully others.

Behind him, among the ten unique Golden Cores, apart from the one bearing the flame-burning Evil Chicken that remained unchanged, the other nine ignited with a radiant, multicolored glow.

Instantly, within the Golden Cores, tremendous war hammers, pagodas, and materials like gold, silver, glazed glass, coral, amber, and agate...

These various phenomena seemed to materialize in that moment, as if they were nine different Treasures, each exuding endless divine might, aiming at the nine contestants.

The next moment, these nine Divine Weapons, born from the unique Golden Cores, collided head-on with the nine contestants' attacks, and massive booms resounded through the Void.

The space above the platform roiled wildly, and the nine contestants' attacks visibly fast retreated.

Within a breath's time, the Divine Weapons shaped from the nine unique Golden Cores had heavily bombarded the nine contestants, sending out successive explosive sounds like muffled thunder.

All nine fell to the ground.

"Another crush."

"Another instant defeat of the opponents."

"Have you noticed? With the four Ten Different Phenomena Golden Core Great Perfection masters who've appeared so far, excluding Ling Xi, the other three have all defeated all of their opponents instantly."

"The gap is too great!"

"Actually, all four of them are from the Hundred Peaks Sect. To be more precise, they're all disciples of the Four Treasures Peak."

"The people of Four Treasures Peak are overwhelmingly strong."

Discussions about Four Treasures Peak filled the air.

On the high mountain, upon seeing Bei Yan's victory and with no other disciples of Four Treasures Peak competing, Lü Temple Master looked to the side.

At that moment, Cao Zhen was conversing with Xiang Ziyu.

"So, as Master did, I have also done; I've simply altered 'Revolution of Sun, Moon and Stars.' Master, what do you think? Isn't your disciple a genius? Alright, Master, there's no need to be so surprised; your disciple is the protagonist, it's merely tweaking a Cultivation Technique. There's nothing to be astonished about."

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However, Master, you are still only at the Core Formation Stage; you cannot learn the 'Sun and Moon Star Shift' yet.

Forget it, I'll go back and study it further to see how I can teach Master the 'Sun and Moon Star Shift.'"

"No need." Cao Zhen raised his hand to cut off Xiang Ziyu, who wanted to continue showing off. Still studying? What's there to study? What you know, Master knows. In other words, yours is mine, but what's mine is still my own.

Seeing that the conversation between the two had ended, Lv Chaoqiong looked toward Cao Zhen and whispered, "Peak Master Cao, by now, you must have broken through to the Golden Core Stage, right? So, to be precise, you are now the Master of Hidden Dragon Observatory."

"Master Lv, please wait a moment," Cao Zhen hurriedly interrupted Master Lv, "I haven't broken through to the Golden Core Stage; I'm still at the Core Formation Stage."

"You're still at Core Formation? How is that possible?" Master Lv looked at Cao Zhen in disbelief and asked, "All four of your disciples have already reached the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection, how can it be that you haven't even reached the Golden Core Stage?"

"Well, that's just how it is," Cao Zhen spread his hands and said, "There isn't a rule that says a Master's Cultivation Realm must be higher than that of their disciples, right? I really am just at the Core Formation Stage."

The Grand Competition of the Immortals had progressed to this point, and the disciples from Four Treasures Peak had been the most outstanding. At this moment, countless people were paying attention to the situation at Four Treasures Peak and to Cao Zhen.

When everyone suddenly heard Cao Zhen's words, they burst into incredulous laughter.

"Is Cao Zhen still trying to deceive people?"

"If he isn't at Perfect Completion Golden Core Stage, how did his four disciples break through to Golden Core?"

"At this point, does his deception still serve any purpose?"

"All four of his disciples are at the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection; even if not all Cao Zhen's Golden Cores are of a unique phenomenon, he is still someone at the Great Perfection of Golden Core."

"With his strength, as long as his luck isn't terribly bad, and he doesn't come up against an opponent at the Ten Different Phenomena Golden Core Great Perfection, he's almost certain to advance. Why is he still lying? What's the point?"

Cao Zhen ignored the clamor of the crowd around him and looked earnestly at Lv Chaoqiong, "I'm not deceiving you; I really haven't reached the Golden Core Stage. Master Lv, with your Cultivation Base, can't you feel whether I'm at the Golden Core Stage or not?"

"With so many tricks up your sleeve, who knows if you have a way to conceal your own cultivation," Lv Chaoqiong flatly refused to believe Cao Zhen's words.

Seeing Cao Zhen still trying to explain, she helplessly said, "Alright, alright, even if you're only at Core Formation. But once the Grand Competition of the Immortals is over, I have to officially resign as the Hidden Dragon View Master. By then, you will be the new Hidden Dragon View Master.

This matter has also been communicated to all the Peak Masters by the Sect Leader. Peak Master Cao, you should also prepare early on your return. Actually, after becoming the Hidden Dragon View Master, one should not continue to be a Peak Master.

But this time, due to special circumstances, and with the Minor Era of Inversion of Heaven and Earth approaching, we won't force you to leave Four Treasures Peak."

Cao Zhen said with some headache, "So, by then, I will be both the Peak Master of Four Treasures Peak and the Master of Hidden Dragon Observatory, and I will also have another title, that of the State Preceptor of Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty. I will indeed be quite busy then."

Everyone around, upon hearing this, began to whisper again.

"Does Cao Zhen really think the position of State Preceptor is going to be his?"

"It's laughable; how could he possibly be the State Preceptor!"

"Does he think that within the realm of Golden Core, no one can compete with him?"

"That's not right. He just said he was only at Core Formation, but now he feels certain that the position of State Preceptor is his. He slipped up, didn't he? If he isn't at the Ten Different Phenomena Golden Core Great Perfection, how could he be so confident of claiming the position of State Preceptor!"

In the midst of everyone's discussions, from afar, under platform A, the referee's voice rang out.

"Platform A, numbers eleven to twenty, proceed to the stage."

Some faster platforms had already moved onto the third group's matches, but platform A was only now finishing with the first group.

Following the referee's announcement, several figures flew down onto platform A, at the same time, exclamations erupted.

"Fairy Qin Yao!"

"Fairy Qin Yao from Sun and Moon Sect!"

"It's really Fairy Qin Yao!"

"Truly worthy of being ranked high on the Heart's Desire List of Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, Fairy Qin Yao is indeed too beautiful."

"Not only beautiful but that aura, that otherworldly allure is even rarer."

"It is said that Fairy Qin Yao, too, has reached the Ten Different Phenomena Golden Core Great Perfection!"

"Several months ago, Fairy Qin Yao had already made her breakthrough!"

Cao Zhen followed the sound of the crowd and his gaze instantly fell on a figure in a light yellow dress, flying across the sky.

Beneath the long dress that fluttered in the wind, one could see a pair of jade-like white legs; even from a great distance, one could feel that the exposed calves seemed to glow white, and her face was so refined it seemed flawless.

This was the classic beauty with fair skin and long, shapely legs.

But...

Cao Zhen glanced briefly at Qin Yao from afar, then at Ling Xi next to him. They were both people, but the difference was truly beyond comparison.

If Qin Yao were to dress as a man, she wouldn't need to hide anything at all.

Also, wearing a dress and flying around like this, don't you feel a bit... chilly?

Cao Zhen turned back to Li Ke, who had been mostly silent since their arrival, and said, "This name sounds somewhat familiar, as if it has some connection to you?"

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"Master, you don't even know this?" Little Beiyang flew back from a distance and, upon hearing the voice, looked toward Cao Zhen with a face full of disdain, "Fairy Qin Yao, like our Master's wife, is one of the top ten beloved fairies on the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty's Admiration List.

To be more precise, ever since our Master's wife and Fairy Qin Yao both broke through to achieve the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection, they have been in the top five on the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty's Admiration List. In the Immortal Cultivation world, many people compare Fairy Qin Yao and our Master's wife together."

After expressing his disdain, Little Beiyang paused for a moment and then said discontentedly, "However, that Admiration List is a bit outdated. Our Master's wife already has a master, so how can she still be on the Admiration List!"

As soon as Little Beiyang finished speaking, he suddenly felt two exceptionally cold gazes shooting toward him.

These two gazes came from his master and the woman he regarded as his Master's wife in his heart.

"I've said before, we are not yet dao companions; do not call her Master's wife," Cao Zhen glared at Little Beiyang with hatred, "At such a young age, you're not focusing on Cultivation; instead, you're paying attention to some Admiration List every day. Are you thinking about puppy love or what?"

Little Beiyang looked puzzled, "Master, what does puppy love mean?"

"That's not for you to know. Go back and copy 'Master is the greatest' a thousand times, Ling Xi, you're in charge of supervising."

"Yes, Master!" Ling Xi looked seriously toward Bei Yan, her expression as though she wished Little Beiyan would take out pen and paper right then and there to start copying the words 'Master is the greatest.'

Little Beiyan found that his master was becoming more and more formidable. In the past, his master wasn't like this; he only had his older female disciple copy 'Master is the greatest.' Why has it included him now?

Clearly, he wasn't the youngest; he had a younger female disciple too. If Master was asking anyone to copy, it should be the younger female disciple who should do it.

The competition for the Immortal Wars has been ongoing until now, and everyone has reached a consensus that if there is a person at the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection, then they would join forces and strike at this strong contender first.

Even though Qin Yao was called an Immortal by everyone, even though she was one of the top five on the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty's Admiration List, once she appeared, the other nine contestants also initiated their attacks.

However...

As ten Golden Cores rose behind Qin Yao, each core turned incredibly hot, as if ten suns were descending from the sky.

Ten Golden Cores, nine of them were directed towards nine people respectively.

In an instant, the entire arena turned into a sea of fire. Within the inferno, the other nine didn't even manage to withstand the time it takes for a single breath before they all fell.

"This is the Divine Skill of the Sun and Moon Sect, Descending Fiery Sun."

"This is one of the most common Divine Skills in the Sun and Moon Sect."

"She actually used such a Divine Skill and defeated nine people in an instant!"

Little Beiyang looked at Qin Yao above the arena, then at Xiang Ziyu beside him, and suddenly spoke up, "Senior Brother, do you think she did it on purpose? You used one of the three great Divine Skills of your Sun and Moon Sect to defeat nine people at once, and she used the most common Divine Skill to defeat nine people in a blow. Compared to that, the superior and inferior are immediately clear."

Xiang Ziyu nodded in agreement and said, "You're right, indeed, as the protagonist, you always have this kind of luck with the ladies. In this place with so many people attending the conference, yet she targets me..."

Cao Zhen could no longer listen to the conversation between the two and didn't bother with them as he got up and flew towards the distant arena.

Qin Yao had been in the A-character arena, and with Qin Yao defeating nine people, the progression of the A-character arena, which had been lagging far behind, immediately caught up. Now, it was his turn to make an appearance.

In the A-character arena, Qin Yao had already left, and the remaining disciples, although they appeared to be badly injured, weren't so hurt that they needed support to walk. They all left the arena one after another.

Cao Zhen and nine others landed in the A-character arena.

No sooner had he landed on the arena than the nine people, from different Immortal Sects, immediately scattered in a surprisingly coordinated fashion, encircling Cao Zhen in the middle.

Cao Zhen, looking at the burn marks on the arena and then at the nine people, said innocently, "Come on, what are you doing? I'm really just at the Core Formation Stage."

"Core Formation Stage?"

"At this point, you still want to deceive us?"

"Your disciples, each and every one of them, are at the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection; could you really just be at the Core Formation Stage?"

"No matter what, we will join forces to attack you later on."

Cao Zhen, with a speechless face, asked, "Do any of you belong to the ten great Immortal Sects?"

Three of the nine people gave a slight nod and spoke one after another.

"I am a disciple of Four Extremes Sect, Wu Haopeng."

"I am from Thousand Caves Door, Zhang Zhongzhan."

"Bright Heart Sect disciple, Xiang Raozhi."

"Then forget it," Cao Zhen said to the three, "You all are from the ten great Immortal Sects; aren't you afraid of losing face if you gang up on someone in the Core Formation Stage like me?"

He was genuinely troubled, as there were nine of them and he was only at the Core Formation with seven cores. If among those people there were some at the fifth or sixth level of Golden Core, and they joined forces to attack him, he genuinely wouldn't be able to withstand it.

"Stop quibbling."

"Do you think we'll believe you?"

None of the crowd believed Cao Zhen.

From a distance, Little Beiyang looked at the situation on the A-character arena and became immediately anxious, blurting out in panic, "They're going to join forces to attack Master! Master is just at the Core Formation Stage; he won't be defeated in the first round, will he?"

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Ling Xi's face also showed a look of concern as she intently watched the direction of the arena.

Upon hearing Little Beiyang's words, Lv Chaoqiong turned back doubtfully and asked, "Your master, is he really just at the Core Formation Stage?"

"Really." Little Beiyang said earnestly, "Didn't my master tell you before? He's just got seven Golden Cores. He didn't lie to you, did you not believe him? Why are you asking again now?"

At a loss for words, Lv Chaoqiong thought, Did I believe him? I didn't want to argue with him anymore, who would have known that he actually...

Lv Chaoqiong glanced at the people around and whispered to Ling Xi through a secret sound transmission, "Tell me, what is your master's real cultivation realm?"

She truly did not believe it, Cao Zhen's disciple was at the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection, while Cao Zhen himself was just at the Core Formation Stage; Cao Zhen, the great reincarnated ability, he had allowed his disciple to break through, could it be he himself had not?

She still felt that Cao Zhen's disciple was someone else. That's why she chose to inquire through a secret sound transmission so that no one else would hear.

The reason she queried Ling Xi was because, among the disciples of Four Treasures Peak, she found Ling Xi to be the most dependable.

Ling Xi was puzzled as to why the observatory master would ask such a question through a secret sound transmission, but she still honestly replied the same way, "Master, he really has just seven Golden Cores!"

"What? It's true? Then under these circumstances, won't he lose immediately? He might even die on the spot! Those are nine people, and all of them are at the Golden Core..."

Lv Chaoqiong looked toward the direction of the arena, her demeanor grave, "Nine people, one with a Golden Core First Layer, two with a Second Layer, two with a Third, two with a Fourth, and two with a Fifth Layer! With their combined attack, your master..."

With a look full of worry in Lv Chaoqiong's eyes, down below the 'A' arena, the judge's voice rang out.

"Begin!"

As the two words fell, Cao Zhen felt that the air around him suddenly became incomparably heavy, and with it, the air surged wildly.

Behind Cao Zhen, ten Deity Platforms of Phenomena, ten Immortal Bridges of Phenomena, and seven Phenomenon Pills all emerged.

Following that, he violently spat out his Heretical Golden Core. On his body, a golden light rose.

Dragon and Tiger Golden Body!

Following that, another golden light rose.

Gold Light Spell.

The next moment, two more lights, one black and one white, rose up.

They came from Xiang Ziyu's Record of Deities and Demons.

He had no choice; these people were clearly after him, so the first thing he certainly had to do was defend!

Up on the mountain, Little Beiyan exclaimed loudly as he saw the black and white light of the Record of Deities and Demons breaking through on Cao Zhen's body, "Senior brother, does master also know your Record of Deities and Demons? Master forbids us from cultivating it, yet he secretly practices it himself!"

"Bang!" Ling Xi smacked Little Beiyan's head hard.

"Don't speak ill of Master, that's another thousand practice runs as punishment. Master is the greatest!" Ling Xi said, her gaze, however, was tightly fixed on the direction of the arena.

Although she had immense faith in her master, believed he was the greatest, and that he would surely not lose, she couldn't help but feel worried for her master now as she saw so many people with Golden Core cultivation attacking him.

These were nine people with Golden Core cultivation.

She herself was once known as the strongest below Golden Core, but during the contest at Hundred Peaks, she also lost to a Golden Core, and it was only someone at the First Layer of Golden Core.

She was all too aware of the gulf between Core Formation and Golden Core.

Not to mention, her master was still just at seven Golden Cores, not even having reached the peak of Core Formation. How was her master going to fight?

Beside her, Yan Yourong looked towards the arena, her face showing little concern, though she herself couldn't comprehend how her master was going to face nine people with Golden Core cultivation.

But she believed that her master must have a way.

Whatever others could not accomplish, her master would surely be able to do.

Because her master was a great reincarnated ability!

Moreover, when her master had helped her improve her cultivation, she could feel that the power emanating from him was definitely not something that someone at the Core Formation Stage could possess.

Even that single Golden Core of her master's felt like it had the might of around a Fifth Layer Golden Core!

Xiang Ziyu was completely baffled, when had his master learned his own Record of Deities and Demons? Oh, right, he remembered, he had shown his master the Record of Deities and Demons before, so his master had also learned it.

Yi Sheng clenched her fists tightly, her eyes locked firmly on her own master, she wanted to watch carefully and learn how her master would fight against someone of a higher cultivation realm.

On the 'A' arena, lights were just beginning to shine on Cao Zhen.

Above in the sky, a thunderbolt had already crashed down.

The Thunderbolt Proficiency, always known for its ferocity, had always been used by him to strike others, but this time, it was others using it to strike him.

The terrifying thunderbolt shook his entire body violently, and with it, a shadow of a dragon and a tiger burst forth from him, charging fiercely towards the falling thunderbolt.

Amid the faint sounds, roars of dragons and tigers could be heard.

But under the onslaught of the thunderbolt, the phantom images of the dragon and the tiger dissipated, and the next moment, the light from the Dragon and Tiger Golden Body on his body shattered under the force of the thunderbolt.

This was an attack from someone at the Golden Core Stage!

As the Dragon and Tiger Golden Body broke, the light even fell upon the Gold Light Spell, causing the spell on his body to tremble violently.

Chapter 487: Has it started? It's already over_6

After the thunder, a series of piercing wind blades, sword lights, and sword energies came sweeping across the sky.

On Cao Zhen's body, the Gold Light Spell from Li Ke couldn't hold up any longer and burst open, a series of chilling auras fiercely struck upon the protective radiance of the Record of Deities and Demons.

For a moment, the black and white radiance surged rapidly, with lines of incomprehensible text emerging to withstand the incoming divine skills.

The black and white radiance looked like two rivers, guarding Cao Zhen in the middle.

Amidst the dual hues, there was also a heretical Golden Core spinning at high speed, fending off the triple assault that was crashing towards him.

He placed the heretical Golden Core inside the Record of Deities and Demons for the last line of defense!

But it still wasn't enough!

This was the attack of three individuals at the Golden Core Stage.

Moreover, it was the attack of one at the Golden Core fifth level and two at the Golden Core fourth level!

Even if his heretical Golden Core were stronger, his cultivation base wasn't at the Golden Core Stage—fending off a fifth-level Golden Core cultivator was manageable, but against one such cultivator, along with two at the fourth level...

He still couldn't block it!

Although the Record of Deities and Demons had greatly weakened the opponent's attacks, the residual force had caused Cao Zhen to uncontrollably fly backward.

And across the sky, the attacks of six others changed direction and continued to assault Cao Zhen.

Cao Zhen's disciples were all Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection, and now that Cao Zhen had entered the fray, countless people were watching his battle with rapt attention.

As the battle on the 'A' stage commenced, more than half of the crowd from the various Immortal Sects who had gathered here saw him being blasted away.

At once, a myriad of exclamations rang out.

"Cao Zhen is injured?"

"He got blown away?"

"He only has seven elixirs, is he really not at Core Formation?"

"How could he just be at the Core Formation Stage?" A man with a rather sharp chin and monkey cheeks said disdainfully from the crowd, "Do you really think someone at the Core Formation Stage could block so many high-level Golden Core stage attacks? If he were truly at Core Formation, he would've been directly killed by those attacks just now.

He must undoubtedly be at the Golden Core stage, it's just that he only released seven elixirs. Just keep watching, he won't be able to keep up the pretense much longer."

"Master!"

At Four Treasures Peak, the expressions of several people drastically changed. Their master had been injured! Could it be their master...

As Cao Zhen flew backward, feeling the tumultuous blood qi within his body, he cursed inwardly, actually being at the Core Formation Stage, and yet, these people refused to believe!

And what was he doing, testing out the power of a heretical Golden Core?

Just now, he hadn't released his divine skills through the heretical Golden Core but simply used his own power.

And now, he had been blasted away.

In the future, he would no longer do such random experiments.

The other nine competitors on the platform seemed to be in unison at their first meeting, as their six remaining attacks simultaneously launched from different directions, effectively blocking all possible escape routes for Cao Zhen.

Now, Cao Zhen had nowhere to dodge even if he wanted to and could only brace for impact!

They wondered, what would Cao Zhen use to block?

Unless, Cao Zhen stopped hiding and revealed all his strength.

Cao Zhen looked at the six divine skills converging from different directions. Behind him, ten Phenomenon platforms and seven Phenomenon Pills on the Immortal Bridge all vibrated frantically.

He raised his aura to its peak in an instant, and a wave of pure qi surged forth into the heretical Golden Core.

The heretical Golden Core, the size of a broad bean, spun rapidly around his body.

With each spin of the heretical Golden Core, intense mana gushed forth, vast and powerful, like an endless ocean of rolling waves.

This time, he did not want to experiment with the power of the heretical Golden Core alone, but directly released divine skills with it.

On the platform, the expressions of the other nine competitors abruptly sharpened.

Their gazes fell upon the broad bean-sized golden Exotic Pill that was spinning rapidly around Cao Zhen.

They didn't know what that pill was, but they could confirm it wasn't a Golden Core.

Yet, at that moment, the power emanating from the Exotic Pill was no less than that of a Golden Core; in fact, they felt that the power it radiated could stand up to about five cores' worth.

What was that thing?

The crowd watched in astonishment as the intense aura from the heretical Golden Core that was spinning non-stop poured into Cao Zhen's body.

Cao Zhen suddenly stretched out both hands toward two different directions and swept them through the air.

Suddenly, each hand radiated different lights—one black, one white—absorbing almost all the light on the platform.

As these two rays of light rose, the air around them also swirled with the motion of his arms, forming a rotating air current.

The two lights merged into the current.

The next moment, two different phantoms arose abruptly, one of the sun and one of the moon!

Sun and moon phantoms?

The other nine competitors on the platform were instantly stunned; this divine skill, this...

"Day and Night Rotation!"

"That's the Day and Night Rotation of the Sun and Moon Sect!"

"Cao Zhen must undoubtedly be at the Golden Core stage, they of the Sun and Moon Sect have said that only those beyond the Earth Immortal Realm could cultivate Day and Night Rotation. Xiang Ziyu received Day and Night Rotation and was able to cultivate it at the Golden Core Stage, but in any case, it would not be possible to cultivate it at the Core Formation Stage!"

"Cao Zhen can also use Day and Night Rotation? Xiang Ziyu has taught Cao Zhen Day and Night Rotation as well!"

"Cao Zhen is Xiang Ziyu's master, it's only natural for Xiang Ziyu to pass on Day and Night Rotation to Cao Zhen,"

"What's natural about it! Xiang Ziyu only received Day and Night Rotation not long ago. Cao Zhen has also been absent from Capital City until recently. How much time has Cao Zhen been back in Capital City? He learned Day and Night Rotation in such a short period of time? Is that normal?"

On the high mountain, Ling Xi, Yan Yourong, Little Beiyan, and Yi Sheng all turned to look at Xiang Ziyu with eyes full of confusion and incomprehension.

Others may not know, but they were well aware that neither they nor their master knew about Xiang Ziyu's ability to use Day and Night Rotation until today.

How could their master have performed Day and Night Rotation?

Xiang Ziyu was equally bewildered. I just briefly mentioned it to Master, and he's already mastered Day and Night Rotation in such a short time?

Chapter 488: Invincible in the Core Formation Stage_1

Atop the "A" character arena.

Cao Zhen, utilizing his Heretical Golden Core, unleashed the Sun and Moon Stellar Transformation. Centered around him, a rotating whirlwind formed, with dense bursts of Yin Yang Qi surging from within the whirlwind, filling the arena.

In the next breath, atop the arena, the Six Divine Powers had already descended.

Streams of scorching Flame, mighty thunderbolts weighing thousands of pounds, and mountain-like heavy Water, all fell upon the whirlwind of the Sun and Moon Stellar Transformation, rotating along with the whirlwind.

The next moment, these Divine Skills suddenly reversed, shooting back toward the direction of the six individuals, moving faster than before.

Although the six had never anticipated that Cao Zhen could also use the Sun and Moon Stellar Transformation, by the time they thought to dodge, it was already too late.

For an instant, rays of light descended, striking heavily upon the six individuals.

Immediately, the six of them were sent retreating, flying backward.

At the edge of the arena, a light barrier rose up, their bodies striking heavily against the barrier before being sent flying back, crashing down onto the arena.

The six of them, eliminated.

At this point, atop the arena, only Cao Zhen and the three who had attacked first, also from the top ten Immortal Sects, remained.

The three individuals looked at Cao Zhen, and for a moment, they did not know how to initiate their attack.

If they attacked and Cao Zhen used the Sun and Moon Stellar Transformation to reverse it back at them again, what then? They had already witnessed the terror of the Sun and Moon Stellar Transformation twice.

A Divine Skill reversed by the Sun and Moon Stellar Transformation was far more terrifying than when the caster initially unleashed it.

In the distance, atop the high mountain, the crowd watching the three motionless individuals seemed to understand their hesitation, their gazes turning towards the direction of the Sun and Moon Sect.

"The Divine Skills of the Sun and Moon Sect are indeed too terrifying."

"They can even return so many Divine Skills, and with even greater speed and power."

"There must be some limitations to the Sun and Moon Stellar Transformation, right?"

In the direction of the Sun and Moon Sect, the disciples, all looking expectantly towards Elder Kang, wished that they could cultivate the Sun and Moon Stellar Transformation as well. Although they could not practice it now, if they were to break through and become Earth Immortals, they would have the chance to learn it.

In the crowd, an elder from one of the top ten Immortal Sects saw his sect's disciples look toward the Sun and Moon Sect, and suddenly spoke, "Sun and Moon Stellar Transformation is indeed extremely

powerful, and one might even say that as long as one's Cultivation Base is below one's own, then employing the Sun and Moon Stellar Transformation almost guarantees domination over the opponent.

However, if the Cultivation Base of both parties is close, then the Sun and Moon Stellar Transformation will not be nearly as effective.

Whether it's Cao Zhen in this fight or Xiang Ziyu, their Cultivation Base is far above their opponents, that's why they have this invincible aura.

Of course, being below one's own Cultivation Base does not mean that if their Cultivation Bases are added up, they are below or equal to Cao Zhen's, they could significantly diminish the power of the Sun and Moon Stellar Transformation.

When the Sun and Moon Stellar Transformation is executed, it separates and reverses each descending Divine Skill.

Hence, having more people is of no use against the Sun and Moon Stellar Transformation.

Of course, if there are enough people, say one hundred Golden Cores attacking Cao Zhen simultaneously with Divine Skills, then certainly Cao Zhen could not withstand it."

The high-ranking members of the various Immortal Sects, especially the Sect Leaders and Grand Elders of the top ten Immortal Sects, were also well aware of their respective sect's foundational Divine Skills.

He might not be considered among the absolute high ranks of his sect, yet he had quietly heard his senior brother mention the Sun and Moon Stellar Transformation.

Upon hearing this, the surrounding people all breathed out in relief.

"So that's how it is."

"I was saying, no matter how terrifying a Divine Skill is, it couldn't possibly be invincible."

"But, if their Cultivation Base is lower than yours, then you can directly turn their Divine Skills back at them; doesn't that mean the three people left on the arena have no chance of winning?"

"I find it odd, at this stage, why Cao Zhen still bothers to feign weakness."

"Exactly, he was able to return every Divine Skill cast by six people, he must be in the Golden Core Stage, so why continue the pretense?"

Above the arena, Cao Zhen looked at the three individuals, none of whom showed any intent to act, as Thunder surged in his hands.

On his Heretical Golden Core, about the size of a broad bean, purple Thunder roamed uncontrollably, with an oppressive, raging aura emanating from it.

Five-thunder Righteous Method!

Cao Zhen raised his hand, and a thick Thunderbolt descended from the sky, heading straight for Zhang Zhongzhan of the Thousand Caves Door sect.

The frightening power seemed as if it might crush the entire arena into dust.

Zhang Zhongzhan's face instantly reflected a look of horror. He had also been to the Thousand Caves Door when Cao Zhen engaged in a discourse there, just that as a disciple, he did not present himself to challenge Cao Zhen—those who did were the Cave Masters of his sect.

Back then, he too believed Cao Zhen was at the seventh stage of Core Formation, only upon arriving in the Capital City and learning that Cao Zhen's disciples had each broken through to become entities of the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection, did he realize that Cao Zhen must have concealed his true Cultivation Base.

Now, Cao Zhen's strike elicited a shudder in his soul, even a sense of threat to his life!

Perfect Completion Golden Core!

Even if Cao Zhen were not a Ten Different Phenomena Golden Elixir Great Perfection entity, he was at least at the stage of Perfect Completion Golden Core.

Chapter 489: Invincible in the Core Formation Stage_2

He had once witnessed two senior brothers at the Core Formation Stage with Ten Different Phenomena of Perfect Completion Golden Cores from his own Sect, the Thousand Caves Door, spar with each other. The force they emitted was exactly this kind of feeling!

Behind Zhang Zhongzhan, five golden cores shot out blinding rays of light, with two of them resembling sharp long swords, exuding a sense of domination and sharpness.

Among his five golden cores, two were sword phenomenon golden cores.

The path of his cultivation was precisely the sword!

Streams of intense mana flowed into the jade-green long sword in his hand. The sword trembled slightly, causing the air around it to emit a low humming sound.

He faced this thunderbolt that set his heart trembling.

Under this terrifying threat, his spirit was more focused than it had ever been before. With the pressure mounting, his aura quickly climbed to its peak in just a moment.

He concentrated all his strength into the long sword in his hand and slashed upward with all his might.

In an instant, a green sword light shot out from the blade, and in a blink of an eye, it transformed into the shape of a divine dragon, charging towards the purple thunder with an aura of domination and ferocity.

Faintly, within the sword light, the sound of a dragon's roar could be heard.

As the sword light soared into the sky, just as it was about to make contact with the thunder in the void, the front end of the sword light, resembling a divine dragon, suddenly expanded as if the dragon had opened its enormous mouth, intending to completely devour the thunder.

This slash, though overwhelmingly powerful, also contained ingenious variations.

This slash, he had put forth all his strength.

He even felt that this slash was the mightiest one he had ever delivered in his lifetime!

The sword light seemed to truly be a divine dragon, opening its massive maw and biting fiercely into the thunderbolt above.

In an instant, the purple thunder was visibly shortened by a segment.

But in the next moment, an immense power of the thunderbolt erupted, instantly piercing through the sword light.

This was the Five-thunder Righteous Method that had reached Level Fifty-one!

This level of Five-thunder Righteous Method theoretically could only be breached by someone who had reached the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection.

As the thunderbolt fell, it struck Zhang Zhongzhan heavily.

Zhang Zhongzhan's body shook violently, stumbling backward a step and falling to the ground, feeling as if his organs were being shattered at that moment.

With just one strike, he was nearly entirely deprived of his combat ability, but his face showed a look of confusion.

This strike had severely injured him, and was extremely powerful, but after the thunderbolt hit him, he felt that its might was somewhat weaker than he had anticipated.

Could it be that Cao Zhen hadn't released his golden core?

But if Cao Zhen hadn't released his golden core, then how could he unleash such a powerful attack?

His face was filled with confusion and incomprehension.

In the Thousand Caves Door, a dignified middle-aged man looked at Zhang Zhongzhan, who had fallen to the ground, but his face showed a look of admiration, saying, "Zhongzhan has made a breakthrough, not in cultivation base, but in his sword technique. Under such pressure, he has improved it by another layer.

Previously, his sword technique lacked variety despite its ferocity. Just now, his slash had evolved to include more variations.

Although he lost, he has gained progress in his sword technique. This conference was indeed worth it."

Why did so many participate in this grand competition of the Immortal Martial Assembly?

Everyone knows that the positions of State Preceptor and even the Immortal General are destined to be held by those at the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection, and even those who have been through the Wind Fire Tribulation might participate in the assembly.

Those with a Level One or Two Golden Core, or even those at the Core Formation Stage, essentially have no chance to rank in the top eleven. Why then do they still participate in the assembly?

Their purpose is to spar with masters during the assembly in order to hone themselves.

Although Zhang Zhongzhan was defeated, he also achieved his goal of self-improvement.

After knocking down Zhang Zhongzhan, Cao Zhen turned his attention to the other two. Speaking of which, the remaining three were also odd.

Initially, when they attacked, they knew to join forces against Cao Zhen, but when facing Cao Zhen's attacks again, they did not collaborate to wield their Divine Skills, instead facing Cao Zhen's strikes separately.

Cao Zhen could feel that his cultivation base, after unleashing a Heretical Golden Core, was roughly between having four and five phenomena golden cores.

This level of cultivation base was not much higher than the other two.

Furthermore, the Divine Skill he wielded was the Five-thunder Righteous Method, which was Zhang Daoling's Divine Skill!

His Divine Skill had also reached Level Fifty-one, and with this, the power of his Divine Skill vastly surpassed that of his opponents, making it feel like he was overwhelmingly crushing them with his attacks.

Shortly thereafter, the other two also fell in succession.

Once the referee announced his victory, Cao Zhen got up and flew off into the distance.

He noticed that in this martial competition, after winning, the referees wouldn't give out anything; they would only announce the victor.

In fact, there was nothing distributed to prove the identity of the winner.

This assembly was ordered by the currently enthroned Emperor, and the person in charge was none other than the Grand Preceptor.

With the Grand Preceptor present, who would dare to falsify their identity as the victor!

On the high mountain, the crowd watching Cao Zhen, who had flown back, all wore grave expressions, with the leaders of the major Sects now viewing Cao Zhen with eyes full of wariness.

Without releasing his golden core, Cao Zhen was already terrifying. If he were to release his golden core, what then?

How much more formidable would he be?

"Cao Zhen, from the start of the battle to the end, only released seven elixirs."

Chapter 490: Invincible in the Core Formation Stage_3

"He didn't release his Golden Core, yet he was able to unleash such a degree of Divine Skills. What if he actually released his Golden Core?"

"I am somewhat puzzled. Although, after becoming a Golden Core, even without releasing the Golden Core, the power one possesses far exceeds that of the Core Formation Stage.

Yet, the main source of power during the Golden Core Stage is the Golden Core. Without releasing the Golden Core, the power one can exert is still greatly affected. By rights, without releasing his Golden Core, he shouldn't have been able to unleash such terrifying power."

"Have you all noticed that Exotic Pill? Each time he used Divine Skills, it was through that pill. It seems that he is using that Exotic Pill to release his power."

"What kind of Exotic Pill is so unique that it can release the power of a Golden Core? And not just any ordinary Golden Core power. Who has ever heard of such a pill?"

"Right, I've never come across any records of such an Exotic Pill."

"What a pity, the Formation around the arena blocks us from fully feeling the power of that Exotic Pill."

Atop the high mountain, everyone's attention quickly focused on Cao Zhen's chickpea-sized Exotic Pill. Yet they discovered that they had never seen any records concerning such a pill.

Suddenly, someone speculated aloud, "Why does Cao Zhen always release only seven elixirs? If he were hiding his strength, he should be releasing ten elixirs, or if not ten, at least nine elixirs.

Is he always releasing seven elixirs because that's all he truly has formed?"

As soon as these words were spoken, a chorus of rebuttals arose from the crowd.

"He's doing that probably to deceive people like you. I can't believe someone would actually fall for it."

"Didn't you see the might of his Thunderbolt Proficiency just now? That's definitely the power of a Perfect Completion Golden Core."

"Only seven Core Formation Elixirs? You've seen it yourself, so many people at the fourth and fifth levels of the Golden Core Stage were defeated by Cao Zhen. Do you really believe he has only seven?"

"Stop talking about seven elixirs, even with ten Core Formation Elixirs, all of which are Elixir Phantasms, it would be impossible to be that strong. You're also at the Golden Core Stage, so you should know how huge the gap is between different levels of Core Formation!"

"Defeating ten Golden Cores during the Core Formation Stage, is that possible?"

Considering Cao Zhen's current performance, there wasn't a single person who believed he was merely at the Core Formation Stage.

Cao Zhen quickly flew back, and as soon as he landed, Xiang Ziyu looked at him puzzled and asked, "Master, how come you... How did you master the Sun and Moon Revolution so quickly? I just finished telling you about it, and you've learned it already? That was just for a short while."

"Was it a short time? I didn't feel it," said Cao Zhen, feigning simplicity. "Besides, is that Divine Skill hard to learn? Isn't it something you can use after seeing it once?"

As he said this, he silently heaved a sigh of relief in his heart.

Fortunately, before he stepped onto the arena, out of curiosity, he had asked Xiang Ziyu about the Divine Skills he cultivated; otherwise, he couldn't have convincingly played the part.

He couldn't tell his disciple that what's his is his, and what's mine is still mine, right?

Ling Xi and Yi Sheng, standing by the side, felt an endless admiration for Cao Zhen, who seemed so effortlessly composed; their master was indeed magnificent and formidable.

With just one explanation from Xiang Ziyu, Cao Zhen had mastered the Sun and Moon Revolution, one of the three major Sect-Defending Divine Skills of the Sun and Moon Sect, and he executed it so proficiently that he didn't seem like someone who had just learned it; it even appeared that he was no less adept at it than Xiang Ziyu.

Yan Yourong was equally astonished, knowing her master was a reincarnated being of Great Ability. But... could a reincarnated being of such Great Ability be that terrifying?

So easily mastering a Divine Skill and then immediately being able to deploy it?

Little Beiyan even looked at Xiang Ziyu beside her and whispered, "Elder Brother, you keep mentioning the protagonist all the time, but to me, Master seems much more like the protagonist."

"Nonsense... what do you know, you little junior brother..." Xiang Ziyu looked at Little Bei seriously and said, "The reason why Master can learn this Divine Skill is that he is the master of someone who is the protagonist."

Wu Jianzi and Lu Yiren, standing nearby, were completely astounded. They believed what Xiang Ziyu had said, so... Peak Master Cao learned the Sun and Moon Revolution that quickly, and then even managed to execute it?

That was, after all, one of the Sect-Defending Divine Skills of the Sun and Moon Sect!

No wonder, Cao Zhen seemed to excel in everything—Sword Dao, Scholar Path, Musical Rhythm, painting and calligraphy, even Military Law... there seemed nothing Cao Zhen wasn't proficient in.

It turned out it was because Cao Zhen's talent was so astounding.

It was only with such a talent, where one needed only a short while to learn things, that one could become someone like Cao Zhen who excels at everything.

This was what being a real Heavenly Pride meant.

Now look at them.

In the Immortal Sects, they had always been called geniuses among geniuses, viewed as Heavenly Prides seen only once in a thousand or even ten thousand years.

Compared to Cao Zhen, what kind of Heavenly Prides were they?

The rest of the people from various Immortal Sects merely ignored the dialogue between Cao Zhen and Xiang Ziyu, not believing that someone could be so talented to learn a Divine Skill in such a short while, especially one of the Sect-Defending Divine Skills of the Sun and Moon Sect, one of the top ten Immortal Sects.

They were certain that Cao Zhen and Xiang Ziyu were just putting on a show for them.

About two hours after Cao Zhen returned to the mountain, over at the area with a collection of arenas, the voice of the referee came from below the Self-characters Arena.