

My Master 521

Chapter 521: The Grand Preceptor Goes to Sea_6

Upon entering the sea of flames, the phantom grasses around her began to tremble violently, disappearing wildly under the blaze.

Wood is always overcome by fire.

Yet she made no pause, charging forward. In the blink of an eye, the phantom images of grass on her had vanished, and the scorching flames were already burning her flesh, but still, she pressed on.

Her gaze was fixed firmly on the area around Cao Zhen's chest.

They were far apart, but with the full power of her Golden Core Stage cultivation unleashed, she reached him in the blink of an eye, thrusting her long spear fiercely forward.

In an instant, the spear was covered in the phantom images of vines with barbs all over them, and in that moment, the spear seemed to be formed solely from those vines.

Cao Zhen looked at the incoming spear without a hint of panic on his face; he did not even step back, as a golden light suddenly shot out from the heretical Golden Core above his head.

Golden light poured down, forming a golden protective aura that completely enveloped Cao Zhen, and within the golden light, there was the sound of tigers roaring and dragons chanting.

Dragon and Tiger Golden Body.

This time, his Dragon and Tiger Golden Body was cast from the heretical Golden Core.

As the spear descended, a phantom image of a dragon and a tiger suddenly shot out from his body, charging towards the spear as if to devour it entirely.

The next moment, the spear touched the Dragon and Tiger Golden Body and seemed to hit an insurmountable barrier, unable to advance further. At the same time, the terrifying force transmitted through the spear caused Cao Zhen's body to uncontrollably stagger back three steps.

Terrifying strength!

Surprise crossed Cao Zhen's face; due to the Record of Deities and Demons, his physical strength far exceeded others at the same cultivation realm, and even among those with a Golden Core, he was extremely powerful.

After all, his Record of Deities and Demons came from Xiang Ziyu, and Xiang Ziyu's Record of Deities and Demons had reached the zenith of the Golden Core Stage.

And yet, he was still forced back by this spear.

The woman before him possessed strength far beyond what her cultivation realm should allow.

From afar, the leader of the Hundred Peaks Sect sighed lightly as he watched Cao Zhen being pushed back, lamenting for Qiao Jingyao, "What a determined child. Her physical strength is extremely powerful, probably because she knows that her Divine Skills are not strong enough. To compensate, she must have desperately enhanced her physical strength.

But physical strength... everyone relies on close combat Protective Divine Powers to improve it. She clearly lacks such Divine Skills and seems to have enhanced her strength solely through various rigorous training methods.

Such a talented and determined disciple would be wonderful for our Hundred Peaks Sect, but alas, she belongs to that Celestial Plum Sect, not receiving the best guidance and wasting such a treasure!"

Cao Zhen could feel the terrifying power contained in that spear thrust, but that was all—he was merely forced back.

The spear of Qiao Jingyao could not break his Protective Divine Power.

His Protective Divine Power was none other than the Dragon and Tiger Golden Body of Dragon and Tiger Mountain!

And in his view, Qiao Jingyao's strike had only brute force; it could not compare to his Dragon and Tiger Golden Body in terms of Divine Skills.

As for that spear.

Cao Zhen even felt that it could hardly be considered a Divine Weapon.

This thrust was her all-out effort, the full strength of a Golden Core with five different phenomena.

If she had a Divine Weapon in her hand, it would not have resulted in merely this much.

In the Hundred Peaks Sect, many disciples in the Core Formation Stage possessed divine weapons, and some even had two.

But now, a genius disciple with all five of his Golden Cores exhibiting phenomena had not a single divine weapon.

It was clear how destitute the other party's sect must indeed be.

It was truly a sigh-worthy situation.

From a distance, Qiao Jingyao's mentor watched as his disciple's full-powered strike failed to break the golden body, a trace of self-blame flashing in his eyes. Their Celestial Plum Sect was just too poor.

Although both he and the sect leader were in the Golden Core Stage, neither had ever had their own divine weapon.

It wasn't that they couldn't trade for divine weapons with their resources, but they felt it wasn't necessary because those resources couldn't fetch particularly powerful divine weapons anyway.

Average divine weapons wouldn't significantly enhance their combat power.

Instead of wasting those resources on asking someone to forge two divine weapons, it was better to leave them for their disciples to focus on their cultivation.

In the end, their sacrifices were rewarded; the Celestial Plum Sect now had two genius disciples in the Golden Core Stage.

Before the start of the Immortal Struggle for Martial Supremacy, they had thought of forging divine weapons for their disciples, but time was too short.

Besides, their disciples had said that they wanted to preserve those resources for the cultivation of their junior brothers and sisters; they did not need divine weapons. If they truly needed divine weapons, they would rely on themselves to acquire them.

Therefore, his disciple didn't even have one divine weapon in hand.

She might well be the only one in the Golden Core Stage without a divine weapon at the Immortal Struggle for Martial Supremacy.

Perhaps, he had made a mistake in the beginning.

He sighed deeply, for humans are creatures of emotion.

Having spent a long time with Qiao Jingyao, he had long since come to treat her as his own daughter. Countless times he had watched her exhausted from cultivation, even nearly going mad from cultivation in her desperate attempts to advance. He did not know how many times he had felt regret.

He regretted bringing Qiao Jingyao to the Celestial Plum Sect after discovering her talent.

He believed that, had he not taken Qiao Jingyao away, her talent would have been noticed by someone from another Immortal Sect.

More than once, he had thought that perhaps if Qiao Jingyao had joined another sect—such as one of the top ten Immortal Sects—she might now be a proud talent who had achieved the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection.

He felt regret, yet he still kept Qiao Jingyao in the Celestial Plum Sect.

He hoped that Qiao Jingyao would be able to revitalize the Celestial Plum Sect.

This was his selfishness.

Qiao Jingyao, feeling the spear that could not advance an inch, continued to frantically channel her own power. This was the best opportunity; if she defeated her opponent, a reincarnated person with great abilities, everyone would know of the Celestial Plum Sect. That way, they could recruit more genius disciples and might have the chance to obtain more resources.

She had to defeat the opponent, no matter what.

Although the opponent was a reincarnated individual with great abilities, he was only in the Core Formation Stage, while she had reached the fifth level of the Golden Core, each core exhibiting a phenomenon. How could she lose to him?

If she lost to him, how could she face the cultivation and resources the sect had invested in her, how could she face her master's efforts!

Chapter 522:

Cultivators have many criteria for judging a genius.

Some believe that those with exceptional talent and extremely fast cultivation speeds are geniuses.

Others think that those whose cultivation speed may be slow, yet possess an unyielding Dao heart, are geniuses.

Still, others believe that only those with both insight and an indomitable Dao heart, solid as a rock, can truly be considered geniuses.

However, everyone agrees on one thing: those who can break through during battle are definitely geniuses!

Qiao Jingyao, feeling her spear unable to advance an inch, was filled with endless defiance in her chest. She didn't care if her opponent was some reincarnation of a great power; she only knew that the opponent only had a cultivation base of Core Formation with seven Golden Cores. Seven Golden Cores?

She herself was at the fifth level of a Golden Core, one whose every Golden Core was a phenomenon!

Yet, she couldn't even break through her opponent's defenses. How would others view their Celestial Plum Sect in the future? When the time came to recruit new disciples, would anyone choose their sect?

People would say, "That sect's Golden Core can't even break through the defenses of a seventh-layer Core Formation! Why join such a sect?"

Now, with the Minor Era of Inversion of Heaven and Earth imminent, if true chaos broke out in the world, and others saw how weak the Celestial Plum Sect was, they might indeed attract attacks from other powers.

We absolutely cannot suffer such a defeat.

She wanted the whole world to see the perseverance of the Celestial Plum Sect, to let them know that the Celestial Plum Sect also had outstanding disciples!

She, Qiao Jingyao, absolutely could not allow others to look down on the Celestial Plum Sect!

In Qiao Jingyao's chest, boundless defiance transformed into a heaven-reaching battle intent.

Behind her, the illusory Golden Core, under the surge of battle intent as vast as the ocean, gradually solidified, becoming a Golden Core.

The Golden Core shone brilliantly, revealing within the perfect sphere two colossal boulders stacked together, and a verdant sapling forcing its way between the cracks, stubbornly reaching up.

Her entire aura soared accordingly.

In the distance, atop Gao Shan, consecutive exclamations broke out.

"Golden Core sixth layer!"

"Her sixth Golden Core is also a phenomenal one."

"To think she made a breakthrough in the midst of battle!"

"Such natural talent is indeed high!"

"Now that she has broken through, is it possible for her to defeat Peak Master Cao?"

As Qiao Jingyao's sixth Golden Core took shape, the sapling rose and grew, and in an instant, the entire arena seemed to be filled with the sensation of all things growing.

On the formation-enhanced arena stage, grasses broke through the hard stone slabs, wildly sprouting; in a flash, the entire stage turned verdant green.

It seemed as if plants were sprouting from everywhere on the stage.

Beneath Cao Zhen's feet, atop each of Qiao Jingyao's Golden Cores, and even on her spear in hand.

On her silver spear, newly grown plants enveloped it, forming into sharp, piercing spikes, as if they could penetrate through all things in the world, viciously thrusting toward Cao Zhen.

Crash!

A sound like that of a breaking stone pillar or collapsing mountain echoed, and Cao Zhen's Dragon and Tiger Golden Body shattered abruptly.

Almost at the same moment, atop his head, his Heretical Golden Core emitted black and white lights.

Record of Deities and Demons!

The black and white glow appeared; the black was like a prison, the white like two Milky Ways, shielding Cao Zhen in the middle. The spear, entering into the whirling black and white lights, seemed to be caught in mire. As the lights spun, the sharpness of the spear was gradually consumed.

Cao Zhen seized the moment of deadlock between Qiao Jingyao and the Record of Deities and Demons. Above his head, on the Heretical Golden Core, strands of Purple Thunder appeared.

Five-thunder Righteous Method!

Terrifying and frightening thunder descended from heaven.

Qiao Jingyao had already been injured when she passed through the Explosive Sun Flames and it was only by her willpower that she managed to launch a strike. Although she had made a breakthrough during battle, the breakthrough could not heal her injuries.

She looked at the descending Purple Thunder, wanting to dodge, but her injuries made her movements slower.

The next moment, the Purple Thunder crashed down heavily, striking her with force.

In an instant, purple light erupted violently.

Under the terrifying strike, Qiao Jingyao's body was directly blasted away, flying over ten yards before crashing heavily to the ground.

On her body, strands of purple lightning arced continuously, dazzling and leaping like purple electric snakes.

Defeated?

Even though she had advanced to Golden Core sixth layer during the fight, was she still destined to lose to Cao Zhen?

No!

She refused to accept defeat just like that.

Struggling, Qiao Jingyao moved her hands, trying to push herself up, but with each pulse of lightning on her body, uncontrollable tremors shook her.

Her injuries were far too severe; even controlling her own body became a challenge, let alone standing up to fight.

Though neither Cao Zhen nor Qiao Jingyao were cultivators with ten phenomenal Golden Cores, the Grand Preceptor announced that Cao Zhen was of the Core Formation stage, this battle captured the attention of countless onlookers.

Similarly, everyone also took notice of Qiao Jingyao.

Observing her uncontrollably trembling body that continued to defy defeat and struggle to stand up, many were deeply moved.

"Such a persistent disciple; it's a pity..."

"Indeed, it truly is a pity. Her cultivation base is higher than Peak Master Cao's, yet her Divine Skills are too weak."

"If she were fighting someone else, it might not have been obvious that her Divine Skills were weak. But in comparison to Peak Master Cao's Divine Skills, the gap is too large."

Chapter 523:

"Peak Master Cao's divine skills are either top-notch or specifically designed to counteract hers,"

"If she were part of our Bright Heart Sect, she would certainly possess far more powerful divine skills to combat Peak Master Cao, and even with the divine skills from our sect, she could have triumphed. Sadly, she comes from that what's-it-called Celestial Plum Sect, a sect that can't even provide her with a divine weapon."

"However, no matter what, Peak Master Cao has won again and has advanced to the fourth round with his Core Formation Stage cultivation."

"In fact, if Qiao Jingyao had hailed from one of the top ten Immortal Sects, this battle might not have necessarily resulted in a victory for Peak Master Cao."

Amidst the sighs of the crowd,

Cao Zhen walked up to Qiao Jingyao and stopped in front of her. He did not attack her again but instead tried to console her, "Alright, you've done well enough. To have a breakthrough during the battle, you've shone brightly enough."

Qiao Jingyao did not reply but struggled with her hands to prop herself up.

Cao Zhen did not persuade Qiao Jingyao to admit defeat; from her combat spirit, he could feel her stubbornness, her unyielding nature.

He knew that even if he urged her to concede, she would not, so he had no choice but to eliminate her from the match.

Cao Zhen raised his arm and with a gesture toward Qiao Jingyao, who had just propped up the upper half of her body, a gentle mana surged forth, forming a gust that blew her, now devoid of strength to continue the fight, straight towards the edge of the arena.

Qiao Jingyao struggled to move her body, wanting to land, but with her injury, she was simply no match for Cao Zhen's strength.

In just the time it takes to breathe, she hit the edge of the arena, and instantly, the arena's formation was triggered, a light screen rose, and simultaneously, Qiao Jingyao was rebounded back into the arena.

The force exerted by Cao Zhen was exceptionally gentle, so when Qiao Jingyao fell back onto the arena, she did not fall again. Waves of mana protected her in the center.

As Qiao Jingyao triggered the light of the arena, the voice of the referee quickly rang out from below.

"On arena Alpha, the winner is Cao Zhen from Four Treasures Peak of the Hundred Peaks Sect."

Following the referee's announcement, Cao Zhen flew down to where Qiao Jingyao was and took out a Tianyuan Yiqi Pill, whispering, "Open your mouth."

He truly admired the opponent before him, a girl from an unknown little Immortal Sect, so poor that they couldn't even afford to equip her with a divine weapon, and the divine skills she used were low-level ones that even Core Formation disciples of the Hundred Peaks Sect wouldn't bother with.

Under such circumstances, one could imagine her mentor likely couldn't teach her much.

Yet, she had still become a Golden Core cultivator at the sixth layer, and each of her golden cores was a miraculous one, a testament to her astonishing talent.

What was even rarer was her persistence, her spirit of never giving up.

Had it been any other opponent, he would not have used his own pills to heal them after defeating them.

But his current opponent was worthy of his newly concocted Tianyuan Yiqi Pill.

Qiao Jingyao just stubbornly looked up at Cao Zhen, refusing to open her mouth.

Cao Zhen let out a soft sigh and said, "I offer you the pill, not to belittle you, nor like those people who say to a beggar on the street, 'Hey, come and eat.' I offer it to you because I feel that you deserve respect.

Moreover, while your injuries are neither severe nor trivial, having just made a breakthrough is precisely when you need to stabilize it. Being injured and unable to cultivate could impact you.

You wouldn't want to see your Sect having to liquidate assets again to scrape together healing pills for you."

Upon hearing the latter part, Qiao Jingyao thought of her own mentor and Sect Leader, and immediately opened her mouth. She knew that after her injury, her mentor would certainly find a way to help her obtain healing medicine.

Healing pills were never cheap, and she couldn't let her mentor and her Sect waste their resources because of her again.

The next moment, Cao Zhen flicked a finger and the Tianyuan Yiqi Pill shot into Qiao Jingyao's mouth.

As the pill dissolved, Qiao Jingyao immediately felt an extraordinarily gentle and life-filled aura enter her body through her throat and quickly spread throughout her entire body.

This aura, though gentle, had a sense of vastness.

It felt as if a stream was washing away the filth on her body, and as though the soft sunlight from the sky was bathing her.

Her whole body was indescribably comfortable.

She had been injured before, and after getting hurt, her mentor would also provide her with healing pills, but those pills would always take time to become effective.

She remembered the time she was most badly injured, just after becoming a Golden Core cultivator, when she had gone out to eliminate evil demons for a certain material. Although she managed to slay the evil demon, she was also heavily wounded.

That time, her mentor was with her and administered a pill immediately, but she still had to lay in bed for seven days before she could sit up and meditate to heal her injuries.

But now, this pill took effect instantaneously, making her feel as if all her injuries had been healed.

Cao Zhen's voice quickly followed, "This pill cannot fully restore you, but after taking it, there's no need to rush your recovery. You can continue to stay here and watch the martial arts tournament of the assembly of immortals. Once the tournament is over, go back and practice your own cultivation technique and circulate a complete cycle, and your injuries should be completely healed."

Having said that, he leaped off the arena.

These Tianyuan Yiqi Pills were what he specially concocted to treat the injuries for himself or his disciples, particularly those incurred during battles by cultivators at the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection.

Chapter 524:

Now, healing Qiao Jingyao's injuries is naturally no problem at all.

In fact, he initially wanted to say that if Qiao Jingyao returned and circulated her cultivation technique for two small cycles, she would recover, but recalling Qiao Jingyao's divine skills, he felt her cultivation technique was probably mediocre, so he changed his advice to rotating through one big cycle.

It was only a blink of an eye, and Qiao Jingyao's injuries were largely healed. She looked at Cao Zhen, who had already stepped down from the arena, and bowed with her fists clasped, saying, "Thank you, Peak Master Cao." Had it not been for Peak Master Cao, her master would not know how much money would be needed to treat her injuries.

After thanking Cao Zhen, she took a step and was about to jump off the arena when suddenly a whistling sound came from the sky.

In her field of vision, a golden light shot towards her, aiming straight for her forehead.

The light was faster than lightning. Her injuries had already recovered significantly, but as soon as she saw the light, and just as the thought of dodging arose in her mind, the light had already penetrated her forehead.

Suddenly, a vast sea of knowledge poured into her mind.

This...

This is a cultivation technique!

A top-tier cultivation technique!

Although she had not seen the complete technique, just a glimpse was enough to sense the technique's profound depth and its mysteriousness.

Moreover, this was a technique that fitted her divine skills perfectly.

At the same time, on the mountain peaks, many eyes turned toward the front, looking at the peak with the best view.

The Grand Preceptor!

They saw clearly that the light was emitted by the Grand Preceptor. What had the Grand Preceptor done?

From afar, the Grand Preceptor looked toward Qiao Jingyao standing in the arena with an impassive face and calmly said, "The technique I've given you is the Real Solution of Dark Wood; it is well suited for you. You shall cultivate this technique from now on."

Surrounding them, everyone was utterly astonished.

"Did the Grand Preceptor use his supreme magical powers just now to imprint a cultivation technique directly into Qiao Jingyao's mind?"

"Why would the Grand Preceptor give a cultivation technique to Qiao Jingyao?"

"What is the Grand Preceptor thinking?"

Everyone was completely baffled, with some also wondering.

"Real Solution of Dark Wood?"

"What kind of cultivation technique is that?"

"How come I have never heard of this technique?"

From the direction of Thousand Caves Door, an elder's face displayed a trace of surprise as he whispered, "Real Solution of Dark Wood, isn't that the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, the Immortal Sect's technique? It's a foundational cultivation technique of the Green Tree Sect from the Great Jin Dynasty. Only those with the Immortal Body of Wood can cultivate it."

All around, people gasped in surprise again.

"All of Qiao Jingyao's Golden Cores are of extraordinary phenomena, and the phenomena within those cores belong to the Wood element. Clearly, she possesses the Immortal Body of Wood."

"This technique is most suitable for her."

"The Green Tree Sect, in the Great Jin Dynasty, is also an incredibly powerful Immortal Sect, almost comparable to the ten great Immortal Sects of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty. How does the Grand Preceptor possess a cultivation technique from a certain sect of the Great Jin Dynasty?"

"The key point is, the Grand Preceptor has their technique and has given it to someone else."

"So what if it was given to someone? The people of the Great Jin Dynasty, those of the Green Sect, even if they find out, would they dare to invade the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, to confront the Grand Preceptor for it?"

There was no one to answer him around.

The people of Green Tree Sect naturally wouldn't dare to offend the Grand Preceptor, but that was under normal circumstances.

Now, with the Minor Era of Inversion of Heaven and Earth drawing closer by the day, and a master falling into slumber every few days, just yesterday they received news that the Grand Elder of Thousand Caves Door had entered slumber.

Under such circumstances, no one knew when the Grand Preceptor himself might fall into slumber, and some even suspected that the Grand Preceptor might fall asleep before the Convention of Immortals Martial Contest ended.

Once the Grand Preceptor enters slumber, wouldn't the people from Green Tree Sect, upon receiving the news, come looking for retribution?

However, these concerns, they didn't dare to voice in the presence of the Grand Preceptor.

Even with so many here, and even if they could discuss in hushed tones, with the Grand Preceptor's Tongtian cultivation, who knew whether the Grand Preceptor might overhear them.

After the Grand Preceptor finished speaking, he raised his hand again, extending one finger toward Qiao Jingyao and pointing again, instantly, another beam of golden light shot out from his fingertip, entering Qiao Jingyao's forehead.

The Grand Preceptor's voice also sounded once more.

"I shall also pass onto you two great Divine Skills, First Wood Dance, and Ten Thousand Trees Prison."

"First Wood Dance?"

"What is that Divine Skill?"

"I have never heard of this Divine Skill before."

"I do not know, I have never heard of the name of this Divine Skill."

Many disciples looked towards their respective leaders, but the elders shook their heads one after another.

"We also do not know of this Divine Skill."

"Perhaps, it is a Divine Skill created by the Grand Preceptor himself."

"However, any Divine Skill that the Grand Preceptor deigns to impart must be extraordinary."

"We may not have heard of the First Wood Dance, but we have heard of the Ten Thousand Trees Prison!"

"Ten Thousand Trees Prison? Isn't that the Divine Skill of Old Man Kuimu?"

"Indeed, it is Old Man Kuimu's Divine Skill!"

"Old Man Kuimu..."

In the crowd, many recognized the name, but some, with puzzled expressions, inquired, "Who is this Old Man Kuimu? I've heard of the Four Great Sages, even Old Man Zhi Ran, but I have never heard of any Old Man Kuimu."

"Old Man Kuimu is already dead."

In the crowd, someone explained, "Everyone knows that the Grand Preceptor once uprooted the Sun and Moon Demon Sect and the Red Refinery Demonic Sect. What they may not know is that after that, the Grand Preceptor accomplished one more thing—he killed Old Man Kuimu."

Chapter 525:

The Old Man of the Withered Tree was an existence on par with Old Man Zhi Ran and the Four Extremes Elder. In fact, after the Sun and Moon Demon Sect and the Red Refinery Demonic Sect were driven out of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, no one dared to cross the Grand Preceptor anymore.

No one knew what the Old Man of the Withered Tree was thinking, but he simply did not take the laws enacted by the Grand Preceptor seriously. Perhaps he thought that, being alone in this vast world, if he could not defeat the Grand Preceptor, could he not still hide from him?

Yet, he was still found by the Grand Preceptor and slain on the spot."

"To be named alongside Old Man Zhi Ran and the Four Extremes Elder, the divine skills of this Old Man of the Withered Tree must have been exceptionally exquisite."

"As for Qiao Jingyao, her weakest aspect was previously divine skills. Now, the Grand Preceptor has directly granted two top-tier divine skills to Qiao Jingyao. Her weaknesses were instantly compensated for."

"If Qiao Jingyao masters the divine skills and faces Peak Master Cao again, I'm afraid the victor won't be Peak Master Cao any longer."

"But why would the Grand Preceptor give cultivation techniques and divine skills to Qiao Jingyao the next day?"

While everyone was puzzling over this, the Grand Preceptor waved his arm again. A slender green whip flew out. This whip was very thin, almost like a willow branch, yet as everyone watched it land on the stage, they felt as if it were a divine dragon's tail piercing through the void and descending upon the platform.

"This is the Dragon Cloud Green Tail Whip, which I also bestow upon you."

Qiao Jingyao gazed at the divine weapon beside her and felt the profound mysteries of the divine skills in her mind. She was stunned for a moment, then suddenly knelt down and kowtowed gravely toward the direction of the Grand Preceptor: "Thank you very much, Grand Preceptor!"

Although she did not know why the Grand Preceptor gave her divine skills, cultivation techniques, and a divine weapon, she knew she had acquired a divine weapon and stronger divine skills and techniques.

Therefore, when the Minor Era of Inversion of Heaven and Earth arrives, she will be even more confident in protecting her sect.

"There is no need for this." The Grand Preceptor looked at Qiao Jingyao from afar, saying, "These are what you deserve."

The reason the emperor holds the Tournament of Immortals is not only to select the State Preceptor and the Immortal Generals to protect the nation. Simultaneously, it is to discover talented individuals throughout the world, to assist and reward them. You deserve the divine weapon, the divine skills, and the cultivation techniques."

As the Grand Preceptor's voice fell, those around were even less able to understand.

"The Tournament of Immortals is also for selecting the talented people from all over the world?"

"This..."

Everyone glanced at each other. Some things, although not spoken aloud, everyone understood the implication.

Was the Grand Preceptor not afraid of being bitten back by picking talented individuals?

The Grand Preceptor didn't think that by merely bestowing upon others cultivation techniques, divine skills, and divine weapons, they would loyally follow and serve him at his beck and call, did he?

After all, Qiao Jingyao belongs to a sect.

Her first thought would naturally be about her sect.

And the Grand Preceptor, by suppressing so many cultivators, would inevitably face conflict. What then?

Wasn't the Grand Preceptor simply bringing trouble upon himself?

Even if the Grand Preceptor did not care about someone who was merely at the sixth stage of the Golden Core,

the Grand Preceptor, who had always suppressed cultivators, had no reason to help such a person.

The crowd was utterly baffled.

Cao Zhen found that he, too, could no longer understand the Grand Preceptor.

The suppression of the Immortal Cultivation world by the Grand Preceptor was something he had personally told Cao Zhen.

Now, the Grand Preceptor claimed the Tournament of Immortals was to select the talented heroes of the world, and he even aided a disciple from a lesser Immortal Sect.

Just what was the Grand Preceptor trying to do?

The Grand Preceptor, however, did not care about what others thought. After sending out the divine weapon, he stopped speaking.

In the west of the A-ranked arena, the referee, seeing that the Grand Preceptor had fallen silent, spoke up: "A-ranked arena, contestant number three hundred and seven... come to the stage."

The Tournament of Immortals continued.

Since the competition was now randomly drawing participants, the disciples of Four Treasures Peak did not know when it would be their turn to take the stage.

Cao Zhen looked around, took out the Tianyuan Yiqi Pills he had concocted, and handed them to his Senior Disciple Ling Xi, saying, "I must return to alchemy now and can no longer watch your matches. Take these pills. Whenever your junior brothers and sisters get injured, give them one to take."

He was indeed feeling quite urgent now.

If he encountered Qiao Jingyao, whose divine skills became even stronger and who possessed powerful divine weapons after her breakthrough to the Six Abnormal Phenomenon Golden Core, he was afraid he would really be in trouble.

And this was only the third round.

Towards tomorrow, the fourth round, the opponents will definitely be stronger, and if he hasn't entered the Golden Core stage himself, he really might lose.

So now, he must seize every moment to return and concoct pills.

Surely, out of his five disciples, four being at the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection and even Yi Sheng, who had just received the divine skills he transmitted and was at the Eight Abnormal Phenomenon Golden Core, should face no difficulties that can trouble them in the third round.

Even then, leaving behind the pills was just a precaution.

"By the way," Cao Zhen looked towards Yi Sheng and transmitted a secret message, "You better find someone to inform your father, not to increase my odds, otherwise, the betting shop will lose money. Also, how much money do we still have? After your match is over, you go straight to Tongbao Gambling House and bet it all on me to win first place."

Now, Xing Kui Betting Shop had a share in it, and he couldn't afford to watch Xing Kui Betting Shop lose money.

After giving his instructions to Yi Sheng, Cao Zhen quickly left the area where the arena was located and flew directly towards the Capital City.

Chapter 526:

Now, today's grand assembly of competing immortals had just begun, and not a single person had left. The moment Cao Zhen left, he immediately caught the attention of countless onlookers.

"Peak Master Cao left again?"

"It seems like he leaves early every day, but unlike before, he used to wait for his disciples' arena battles to finish before leaving. Today, he left right after his own fight ended."

"None of his five disciples have taken the stage yet, right? Is he not even staying to watch his own disciples' battles?"

"What do you think, why is Peak Master Cao always in such a hurry to leave? It can't be just for cultivation, right? How much can one really improve with just one or two days of additional practice?"

"I'm doomed this time!" Suddenly, a person in the crowd said with a look of distress, "I had seen that Peak Master Cao's odds were higher than those of Star Lord Hao Yue, so I bet on Peak Master Cao to win first place. Who would have thought that Peak Master Cao was only at the Core Formation Stage."

At the Core Formation Stage, even if he could overcome the last few inner cores and directly advance to the Golden Core Stage, how many Golden Cores could he possibly have? All my Spirit Stones are going to be lost."

"You actually bet on Peak Master Cao? Ah... How much did you wager on Peak Master Cao in Spirit Stones?"

"One million liang of Spirit Stones."

"This... what can I say? Had you listened to me earlier and bet with me on Star Lord Hao Yue, how good would that have been. Although Star Lord Hao Yue's odds were even lower, like me, you could have bet one million liang of Spirit Stones, and had Star Lord Hao Yue won, you would have also made one million liang of Spirit Stones."

By directly betting on Cao Zhen, aren't you going to lose? Now, you regret it, but it's probably too late to bet on Star Lord Hao Yue getting first place."

After all, among the two reincarnated beings with great abilities, one of them has suddenly been proven to be only at the Core Formation Stage. First place could almost certainly go to Star Lord Hao Yue, and those betting houses will surely adjust his odds."

"I regret not heeding my senior brother's advice."

In Yi Mansion, Gu Chengyu was stunned when he saw Cao Zhen return not long after he had left: "Peak Master Cao, what's this about?"

Cao Zhen, replacing Elder Gu, while casting an alchemy technique into the Pill Furnace, spoke, "My battle has ended, so I've come back to practice alchemy. Thank you, Elder Gu, for looking after things before. You may now head to the arena.

I believe I won't need to trouble Elder Gu tomorrow either."

"No need for tomorrow, does that mean..." Gu Chengyu suddenly realized and asked with a look of joy, "Peak Master Cao, do you mean to say that your pills could be finished today?"

Cao Zhen's face revealed a smile, "If there are no accidents, it will be tonight."

"Oh? The pills could be finished today?" Gu Chengyu's face showed a look of anticipation as he asked, "Peak Master Cao, I wonder if I could stay here to learn from your alchemy? Don't worry, after the pills are completed, I will immediately leave the room."

Alchemy, especially on the last day of pill concoction, is the most important. It is also the day one can learn the most.

Typically, alchemists do not allow others to watch while they are practicing alchemy.

However, his situation was different. After all, Peak Master Cao had taught him how to practice alchemy many times before, and when Peak Master Cao was away, he was the one who would take care of the Pill Furnace.

Moreover, given that Peak Master Cao was wholeheartedly devoted to the Hundred Peaks Sect, he should allow him to stay and watch the alchemy, considering Peak Master Cao's open-mindedness.

Of course, he also knew that after the pills were finished, Peak Master Cao would undoubtedly need to consume them. At that time, it wouldn't be appropriate for him to stay in the room any longer.

"Elder Gu, no need for formalities. If there's anything you don't understand, just ask," Cao Zhen said, not only not asking Elder Gu to leave but also teaching Gu Chengyu how to practice alchemy while he worked on his own concoction.

Outside, the competition among the immortals continued unabated.

As the number of eliminated contestants increased, the number of remaining contestants decreased, and the time for the grand assembly to end came earlier and earlier each day.

Today, while the sun had not yet fully set, the grand assembly of the immortals had already concluded.

And even more people today headed towards the various betting houses.

Having learned that Cao Zhen was not at the Golden Core Stage, they now knew the likelihood of Star Lord Hao Yue being the champion of this contest among the immortals was nearly certain.

Many believed that betting on Star Lord Hao Yue to win was almost like picking up free money.

Suddenly, the Capital City's betting houses were filled with cultivators.

"Why are Star Lord Hao Yue's odds so low? One to 1.1? So, betting one million liang of Spirit Stones would only earn one hundred thousand liang of Spirit Stones?"

"That's too little."

A few cultivators looked at the odds posted by the betting houses and hesitated for a moment. They guessed that as news of Cao Zhen being only at the Core Formation Stage spread, the betting houses would surely adjust the odds. They just didn't expect the betting houses to be so shameless and lower Star Lord Hao Yue's odds so much.

As they were hesitating, several impatient voices from behind spoke up.

"Those at the front, if you're not betting, move aside. There are people behind waiting to place their bets."

"If you're not betting, please let others through."

Hearing the urging from behind, the two cultivators in front exchanged glances. One of them, a slightly taller young cultivator, whispered, "Senior brother, why don't we just place our bets? Even if it's a small win, it's still a profit. The chances of Star Lord Hao Yue taking first place are too high."

"But the genius disciples of the ten great immortal sects, including the disciples of Old Man Zhi Ran and the Four Great Elders, are not to be underestimated. If Star Lord Hao Yue really loses, all the Spirit Stones we've bet will be lost. The risk is so disproportional to the reward."

Chapter 527:

"But..."

As they hesitated, suddenly someone shouted from behind, "Hurry to the Xing Kui Betting Shop, Xing Kui Betting Shop—Star Monarch Hao Yue's odds for taking the crown are even higher, at ten to one two."

"The odds at the Xing Kui Betting Shop are so high? Let's go, to the Xing Kui Betting Shop!"

"If we bet on Star Monarch Hao Yue at the Xing Kui Betting Shop with a million taels of Spirit Stones, we could make a profit of two hundred thousand taels. Tongbao Gambling House offers one hundred thousand less. Let's go, to the Xing Kui Betting Shop."

Within the gambling house, one after another, cultivators started to leave, all heading towards the Xing Kui Betting Shop.

Soon, the owner of the Tongbao Gambling House realized that something was wrong. This time, he didn't even wait for someone to report from upstairs; he ran down himself. Looking at the nearly empty betting shop, he anxiously asked the shopkeeper, "What's going on? They've all left? Gone to the Xing Kui Betting Shop again? Has Xing Kui Betting Shop come up with a new betting scheme?"

The shopkeeper hurriedly responded, "Owner, Xing Kui Betting Shop hasn't come up with a new betting scheme, but their odds for Star Monarch Hao Yue to win the championship are higher, at ten to one two. That's why everyone's gone there."

"Ten to one two, have they lost their minds? If all those people bet on Star Monarch Hao Yue and he actually wins first place, how much would the betting shop have to pay out! That bastard Yi Qiancheng..." After weighing his options, the owner gritted his teeth and said, "Go on, change our odds for Star Monarch Hao Yue winning the championship to ten to one two as well."

Indeed, should Star Monarch Hao Yue truly claim first place and become the State Preceptor, their betting shop would lose a lot of money, but that was still better than having almost no one around!

Moreover, now that they too had adopted a new betting strategy, there were still some people who chose the new option, thereby increasing their chances of failure considerably.

Even if they had to pay out more, they could potentially catch other bets, and their betting shop would still make money.

Very quickly, the news that Tongbao Gambling House changed the odds for Star Monarch Hao Yue winning the championship to ten to one two spread.

Suddenly, many people who had been queuing at the Xing Kui Betting Shop once again left, heading towards Tongbao Gambling House. After all, the odds were the same now, but with so many people at Xing Kui Betting Shop and a wait involved, why not go to Tongbao Gambling House instead?

Inside Tongbao Gambling House, the owner watched as patrons started appearing in droves and nodded in satisfaction before returning to his position on the second floor.

However, it wasn't long before he was surprised to discover that the number of customers in the betting shop had started to dwindle significantly once more.

This time, without waiting for him to ask, the shopkeeper had already rushed upstairs to report.

"Owner, Xing Kui Betting Shop has adjusted their odds once again. They've changed the odds for Star Monarch Hao Yue winning the championship to ten to one three, and now people are heading over to Xing Kui Betting Shop," reported the shopkeeper.

"Ten to one three!" The owner of Tongbao Gambling House became so enraged that he smashed the teacup in front of him to the ground, bellowing, "They're insane, Yi Qiancheng has truly gone mad. He's not just smashing his own rice bowl, he's smashing everyone's rice bowl."

The shopkeeper, looking at the shattered teacup on the ground and sensing the owner's fury, tentatively asked, "Owner, shall our betting shop follow suit?"

"Follow? Follow what! Do you understand what ten to one three means? How likely is it that Star Monarch Hao Yue will win?"

Although Cao Zhen is a reincarnated talent, he's just at the Core Formation Stage. How can he possibly stop Star Monarch Hao Yue? Everyone knows how high the chances are for Star Monarch Hao Yue to win.

Before, when it was at ten to one two, others might have felt that the odds were low and chosen not to bet on Star Monarch Hao Yue or to bet in combinations.

But with ten to one three, by betting a million taels of Spirit Stones, you could earn three hundred thousand. That's not a small amount, and who knows how many people, after seeing these odds, will decide to bet solely on Star Monarch Hao Yue. When the time comes, our betting shop could very well end up losing money!

Let Yi Qiancheng have his ten to one three. Let's see how many days he can sustain it. It's better for him to hold out until the end.

If he lasts until the end, I'll personally go to their Xing Kui Betting Shop and bet on Star Monarch Hao Yue to win. I will bet him to his ruin."

"Owner, your wisdom is unparalleled," the shopkeeper quickly flattered, then as if recalling something he said, "By the way, owner, the odds for Cao Zhen at the Xing Kui Betting Shop are now ten to one two five, and they've not been raised at all."

"Hmph, he doesn't raise Cao Zhen's odds because his daughter is Cao Zhen's disciple—it's just to save face for Cao Zhen. Actually, raising the odds for Cao Zhen wouldn't make much difference for us. After all, how can Cao Zhen, a mere Core Formation stage cultivator, possibly win first place?"

Xing Kui Betting Shop.

Inside the betting shop, the managers, looking at the packed crowd below, did not show even a hint of joy on their faces; instead, they were filled with anxiety.

An elderly man with a slightly hunched back, watching the crowd that continued to pour into the betting shop, couldn't help but remind, "Chairman Yi, isn't the ten to one three odds too high? If Star Monarch Hao Yue really wins, our betting shop might end up losing money."

Initially, he had advocated setting the odds the same as Tongbao Gambling House, at ten to one one. When the chairman adjusted the odds to ten to one two, he already had some objections. With such odds, their betting shop might truly be unable to make money, or if it did, the profits would be minimal.

This ten to one three could indeed end up costing them.

After all, bookmaking in the betting shop has always been about making money, never losing it.

"No matter, Star Monarch Hao Yue may not necessarily claim first place," said Chairman Yi nonchalantly.

Yi Qiancheng gazed at the entrance of the betting arena, his expression equally grave. He had previously received a message from his daughter, who advised him not to raise the odds for her master.

His daughter had assured him, with absolute certainty, that her master would definitely come in first!

Tonight, her master could make a significant breakthrough!

He had chosen to trust his daughter; he knew she would never lead him astray.

Furthermore, his daughter and her master held shares in the betting shop. There was no reason for her master to go against his own interests.

So, he had decided to raise the odds for Star Monarch Hao Yue.

Of course, he did not dare to raise them too much.

After all, no matter how you looked at it, Star Monarch Hao Yue had a tremendous chance of finishing first.

Everything would depend on tonight, on whether his daughter's master would achieve a substantial breakthrough!

Chapter 528:

The third round of the Great Martial Contest of the Immortals was rather smooth for the five disciples of Four Treasures Peak, as they did not encounter overly challenging opponents and all won with ease.

After returning to Yi Mansion, they each made their way to the new Pill Room prepared by Yi Qiancheng for Cao Zhen and began to wait.

Their master had mentioned that today could be the day for a major breakthrough.

Full of curiosity, Yi Sheng looked at his senior brothers and sisters and asked, "What realm of Cultivation Base do you think Master could break through to today, as he said he would make a breakthrough?"

Without a second thought, Ling Xi blurted out, "If Master is to make a breakthrough, it will certainly be straight to the realm of Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection."

"I don't think so," Little Beiyang said, looking at the others. "Remember before, we had all broken through to ten Jindan, yet Master only had seven."

So, after we break through to the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection, I believe Master is unlikely to achieve the same. He'll probably just reach seven Jindan."

As Little Beiyang spoke, she turned to glance at Yi Sheng beside her, adding, "You're the exception, Little Junior Sister. I didn't include you in this."

Hearing this, Yi Sheng lowered her head, expressing self-reproach, "Junior Sister knows that her talent is indeed no match for yours, Senior Brother and Sisters. Senior Brother, I will definitely work hard in cultivation to catch up with you all as soon as I can."

Seeing her Little Junior Sister's reproachful expression, Ling Xi quickly comforted her, "Little Junior Sister, don't listen to your Little Senior Brother. You started with a lower Cultivation Base than us, but you have caught up so quickly already."

Furthermore, our achievements today are all thanks to Master. Without the Pills he provided, we wouldn't have been able to break through to Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection."

Listening to her senior sister's comforting words, Yi Sheng shook her head gently, "But... Master also provided Pills for me, yet I've only managed to break through to eight Abnormal Phenomenon Golden Pills, whereas my Senior Brothers and Sisters have all broken through to ten."

Ling Xi found herself at a loss for words, unable to come up with a response.

She knew that the four of them were born with Ancient Immortal Bodies, incapable of cultivation. When they were initially chosen as disciples, the others from the various peaks didn't even consider them, and that's why they joined Four Treasures Peak.

Her Little Junior Sister, however, possessed the True Yang Immortal Body.

She was a genius fervently sought after by all the Peak Masters of the Hundred Peaks Sect.

In terms of talent, they were no match for their Little Junior Sister.

However, faced with her Junior Sister's point, she found herself unable to refute or pinpoint any flaws in the argument.

After all, Master truly did prepare the same potent Pills for all of them. As a result, the four of them broke through to the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection, while the Little Junior Sister managed only eight Abnormal Phenomenon Golden Pills.

Even though they previously had ten inner cores, and the Little Junior Sister had fewer, the combined power of ten inner cores could not compare to that of a single Jindan.

If her Junior Sister had nine Abnormal Phenomenon Golden Pills now, she would know how to console her. But Little Junior Sister had only eight Abnormal Phenomenon Golden Pills, and she truly didn't know what to say.

The blame could only be placed on Little Beiyan.

Master had said before that Little Junior Sister was lacking confidence and shouldn't be provoked. But Little Beiyan would always tease and provoke her without cause.

As Ling Xi recalled Master's previous admonitions, her expression turned somewhat discontented as she looked at Little Beiyan, saying sternly, "Beiyan, I remember Master told you to write 'Master is the greatest' a thousand times. You haven't written it yet, have you?"

Little Beiyan, utterly confused, looked at his senior sister, "Senior Sister, I've already finished writing that long ago. Have you forgotten?"

At that moment, Yan Yourong, who had been silent all along, turned to look over, her voice cold as a warning, "If Senior Sister says you haven't written it, then you haven't. Now, go back and write."

"I..." Little Beiyang felt indignant. His senior sisters were becoming more and more unreasonable. He was puzzled - he clearly wasn't the youngest, so why was it always him who got picked on?

And the critical issue was that he couldn't beat his senior sisters.

If only he could beat them.

Cultivation - after he had written 'Master is the greatest' a thousand times, he would devote himself to cultivation. Sooner or later, he would surpass his senior sisters, and then it would be them writing 'Master is the greatest', not him.

In the room, as the flames of the Pill Furnace began to dwindle, Cao Zhen reached out and pulled out one pill after another, all crystal clear and flawlessly formed.

Before he could get a clear look at the Pills, Cao Zhen had already swallowed one.

In an instant, a torrent of wild energy surged forth.

The very air in the room turned wildly tumultuous.

The Pills he had refined, having been forcibly molded into form and mixed with a plethora of ingredients, had also turned particularly volatile upon completion.

As the Pill entered his body, dazzling dragon and tiger phantasms burst forth within him, their images entwining majestically. The sounds of dragons roaring and tigers howling filled the room, the noises reverberating with an oppressive force that could be heard even from outside the room.

Soon, Cao Zhen's entire body began to shake uncontrollably.

Waves of fierce energy relentlessly battered his body, causing him to feel as if the meridians within him could split open at any moment.

"This... this situation..." Gu Chengyu looked at Cao Zhen's state and couldn't help but recall Xiang Ziyu after he took the Fierce Heart Increasing Pill refined by Peak Master Cao.

Furthermore, he sensed that the Pill Cao Zhen was now ingesting was even more intense than the Fierce Heart Increasing Pill.

Veins bulged out on Cao Zhen's body.

Gu Chengyu felt he could almost make out the pulsing of those swollen veins and feared that in the next moment, Peak Master Cao's meridians would burst open entirely.

Chapter 529:

Cao Zhen felt the violent energy of the pill within his body, and the Heretical Golden Core began circulating rapidly within him.

As the Heretical Golden Core flowed, the swollen veins and muscles on his body, visibly began to shrink to the naked eye.

However, in the places the Heretical Golden Core had yet to pass, his veins and muscles were crazily bulging and then, when the Heretical Golden Core moved over, these veins and muscles began to shrink again.

With the veins continuously swelling and shrinking, an indescribable excruciating pain spread from all over his body.

He even felt that some of the finer veins had torn open, spilling streams of fresh, crimson blood.

Cao Zhen hurriedly exercised the Healing Divine Power modified by Xiang Ziyu, and suddenly, a glow full of vitality emerged.

The Yin-Yang Breath Regulation Technique modified version!

Back when Xiang Ziyu had taken the Fierce Heart Increasing Pill he had given him, he also couldn't withstand the pill's violent strength and had to use the modified version of the Yin-Yang Breath Regulation Technique.

However, at that time, Xiang Ziyu was only at the Core Formation Stage, and his modified Yin-Yang Breath Regulation Technique was only Level Twenty-five, but now, Xiang Ziyu's modified version had reached Level Fifty-one!

As the glow full of life enveloped his entire body, the fresh, crimson blood seeping out from his body instantly stopped bleeding.

But soon, under the impact of the violent medicinal power of the pill within him, his veins tore open once again, and he had to once more use the modified Yin-Yang Breath Regulation Technique.

Just like that, his veins kept tearing open and then healing, tearing open and healing again and again...

Normally, when a person's veins are torn, they would become much weaker after healing. It's like when a normal person breaks a bone, the site of the break would be weaker afterward and more prone to injury.

But now, he had taken a pill, and each time he healed, the pill's effects suffused within.

Moreover, he was also exercising his cultivation technique, which was in fact, a remolding of the meridians. His veins were actually growing stronger.

Time slowly passed by.

Gu Chengyu had initially agreed that once Cao Zhen finished refining his pill, he would leave, but Peak Master Cao took the pill right away after refining it, without any intention of avoiding him, so he simply stayed as well.

After all, if something unexpected happened to Peak Master Cao, by staying here, he could offer some help.

However, it seemed that Peak Master Cao was unlikely to encounter any problems.

Cao Zhen kept counteracting the violent force within the pill while distributing its power to various parts of his body, and his own aura was also growing stronger.

Gradually, behind him, the eighth inner core appeared, followed by the ninth, the tenth...

Ten Phenomena Inner Dan Great Perfection!

Gu Chengyu looked at the ten dragon-like and tiger-like Golden Cores behind Cao Zhen, but his face showed no surprise.

As a reincarnated being with great ability, how could it not be Ten Phenomena Inner Dan Great Perfection under his cultivation.

Next, Peak Master Cao should be forming his Golden Core, right?

In Gu Chengyu's contemplative gaze, the first inner core that Cao Zhen had originally condensed began to turn golden.

Gu Chengyu's expression was calm. Before, when he saw Xiang Ziyu condense one Golden Core after another before him, he was incredibly shocked, even questioning his own life.

But after experiencing that once, seeing Peak Master Cao condense a Golden Core, he no longer felt any disturbance in his heart.

Next, Peak Master Cao should be forming his second Golden Core, right?

Hm?

That's not right; why does this Golden Core seem incomplete?

Gu Chengyu's expression suddenly changed. This Golden Core, why did it seem so unstable? And shouldn't the phenomena be within the Golden Core? Why were the dragon and tiger in Peak Master Cao's Golden Core on the outside, making the Golden Core seem empty?

An empty Golden Core?

Could that even be considered a Golden Core?

Amidst his puzzled gaze, Cao Zhen raised his hand, and strands of purple lightning appeared in his palm.

"What is he trying to do?"

Gu Chengyu's expression suddenly changed. He recognized this divine skill, and in fact, the entire Hundred Peaks Sect, even those who participated in the Immortal Martial Assembly, were familiar with this divine skill and knew its name.

Five-thunder Righteous Method!

After all, the disciples of Four Treasures Peak had used this skill, and with its extremely shocking power, it was undoubtedly a best quality divine skill.

But why was Peak Master Cao suddenly using the Five-thunder Righteous Method? Wasn't he in the process of forming a Golden Core?

Why use an offensive divine skill? Who was he going to attack?

Apart from himself, there was no one else in this room.

Could it be?

Did Peak Master Cao encounter inner demons?

But as a reincarnated being of great ability, it shouldn't be possible for him to face inner demons while forming his Golden Core, right?

Amidst his shocked gaze, Cao Zhen used the Heretical Golden Core to suddenly unleash the Five-thunder Righteous Method. However, the lightning was not aimed at anyone but was hurled directly at that seemingly condensed but seemingly hollow Golden Core.

"Not good!"

Gu Chengyu's expression drastically changed. Peak Master Cao was actually attacking his own Golden Core. He must have been overtaken by inner demons!

He quickly gathered his internal energy, trying to block Peak Master Cao's Five-thunder Righteous Method, but Cao Zhen's attack was too sudden, and since he was targeting his own Golden Core, the distance was close enough.

Chapter 530:

Just as Gu Chengyu gathered his mana, the purple thunder struck his Golden Core.

All of a sudden, Gu Chengyu froze. The expected thunderous explosion did not occur, and the Golden Core did not crack. On closer examination, he could see a streak of purple lightning within the core.

This is...

Has the Five-thunder Righteous Method entered the Golden Core?

To integrate Divine Skills into the Golden Core? Is that even possible?

Gu Chengyu was momentarily at a loss. As a being of the Earth Immortal Realm, he had witnessed the formation of Golden Cores by others.

Moreover, he had heard many strange tales within the realm of Immortal Cultivation, but he had never heard of a Golden Core that could integrate Divine Skills directly within it.

What happens if a Divine Skill is merged? Is the Divine Skill released directly through the Golden Core?

As Gu Chengyu pondered, before his eyes, Cao Zhen's hands began to conjure a seething flame.

In the next moment, Cao Zhen infused the flame into his Golden Core.

"Two Divine Skills?"

Gu Chengyu was stunned again. Was Peak Master Cao's Golden Core capable of manifesting not one, but two Divine Skills?

Soon, however, he realized he was mistaken again. Peak Master Cao's Golden Core was not limited to one Divine Skill but the third, the fourth...

He watched dumbfounded as Peak Master Cao infused various Divine Skills into the Golden Core, completely numbed by the spectacle.

Ten!

Peak Master Cao actually managed to infuse ten Divine Skills into the Golden Core!

These ten Divine Skills, upon entering the Golden Core, caused it to suddenly burst forth with dazzling brilliance. The entire Golden Core became immensely solidified, and a boundless power surged ceaselessly from within it.

"What a terrifying aura!"

Feeling the frightening power emanating from the Golden Core, Gu Chengyu was utterly shocked. He truly could not imagine that Divine Skills could be integrated into a Golden Core.

No, the feeling was not that simple; it was as if the power of the ten Divine Skills was also bolstering the Golden Core. It seemed that the stronger the Divine Skills, the stronger the Golden Core!

Is this what it means to be a reincarnated being of Great Ability?

Is this the foundation of a reincarnated Great Ability?

After the ten Divine Skills were integrated and a complete Golden Core was formed, a brilliant radiance shot upwards.

The roof of the room was instantly pierced by the light.

The next moment, a golden light appeared in the sky.

It was not that a column of light had risen but that a light spot, akin to a Golden Core, suddenly appeared in the sky. The light was too small and obscure amid the night sky, and in the blink of an eye, the light vanished.

In the Imperial Tutor Mansion, the Grand Preceptor suddenly turned his head to look towards Yi Mansion, his eyes shining with a sharp gleam.

"The Golden Core is formed... Merely by gathering it, almost causing a Heavenly Phenomenon, interesting, truly interesting..."

In the Immortal Reception House, several Earth Immortal Realm experts turned their heads to peer into the distance, their eyes reflecting surprise.

They had sensed a peculiar aura fluctuation in the world just then.

After gathering the Five-thunder Righteous Method and nine other similar, fiercely powerful Divine Skills into a Golden Core, Cao Zhen then consumed another Pill.

Under the Pill's medicinal effects, the second strangely conjured inner core behind him gradually turned into a Golden Core as well.

In the next instant, he cast a Gold Light Spell with his hand.

The Gold Light Spell, the Dragon and Tiger Golden Body, the Record of Deities and Demons... He infused several Protective Divine Skills into the Golden Core. He found that his disciples were quite a handful. Although he had always instructed them to focus on defense first and cultivate Protective Divine Powers, they still lacked substantially in that area.

Eventually, he could only gather eight Protective Divine Skills.

Left with no other choice, he integrated both Xiang Ziyu's modified Yin and Yang breathing technique and Little Bei Yan's Healing Divine Power into the Golden Core.

He remembered asking Little Bei Yan what battle tactics she excelled at, and her response had been that she could take hits, dish out attacks, and heal. Little Bei Yan was not bragging—she indeed possessed a Healing Divine Power.

Cao Zhen began to condense one Golden Core after another, infusing each one with ten similar Divine Skills.

Soon, his second, third, and up to his sixth Golden Core materialized.

The Pills he had concocted were now all gone.

With a long sigh, Cao Zhen expressed relief. The creation of such Golden Cores consumed a tremendous amount of the Pills' potency, indeed a great expenditure of his power.

If he had only condensed ordinary Exotic Golden Cores, he would have had enough Pills to achieve the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection. But now, he had managed to condense just six Golden Cores.

Across from him, Gu Chengyu looked at the six Exotic Golden Cores floating behind Cao Zhen, feeling the power within them—wild, sharp beyond compare, endlessly adaptable, and some filled with Talismans. Though he hadn't witnessed Peak Master Cao in battle, he could ascertain that Peak Master Cao, even without his Special Strange Core, was no match for any ordinary six or seven Anomalous Golden Core practitioners.

After all, the power emitted by Peak Master Cao's Golden Cores was too terrifying.

He was absolutely certain that should Peak Master Cao achieve Perfect Completion Golden Core with Ten Anomalies, no one at the Golden Core Stage would be a match for Peak Master Cao.

Cao Zhen consecutively condensed six Exotic Golden Cores. He glanced at the Pill Furnace in the room, but instead of tending to it, he simply pushed open the door and stepped outside. The six Exotic Golden Cores remained levitating behind him.

Outside the room, it wasn't just Ling Xi and others; even Li Ke, who had been staying at Yi Mansion, had rushed over after sensing the sudden surge of power from this place.