

## **My Master 661**

Chapter 661: "We can't comprehend it, but what about Master and Third Senior Brother?" Little Beiyang raised his hand and pointed to Cao Zhen and Xiang Ziyu by his side.

Beichen Ying was slightly startled, and then realized and said, "This... Peak Master Cao is a reincarnated great ability and can understand, even achieve enlightenment, which isn't all that surprising. After all, Peak Master Cao has an extra lifetime of experiences compared to us."

Little Beiyang continued to ask, "Then what about Third Senior Brother? Third Senior Brother doesn't have a previous life; he, like us, has never experienced the life of an ordinary person. How did he achieve enlightenment?"

Beichen Ying was at a loss for words; he really couldn't understand how Xiang Ziyu could have achieved enlightenment.

Meanwhile, Li Ke was also puzzled. Why could Cao Zhen and Xiang Ziyu achieve enlightenment? She knew that Cao Zhen was not a reincarnated great ability; just like everyone else, he had not lived through those fifty years as an ordinary person. So why could he achieve enlightenment?

In the midst of everyone's puzzled looks, Xiang Ziyu was the first to come out of his enlightenment, followed closely by Cao Zhen who returned to his senses.

Seeing the two of them come around, everyone hastily asked.

"Old Six, have you reached enlightenment? What did you just comprehend? We couldn't see anything in that sword technique."

"Third Senior Brother, how did you achieve enlightenment? Why are you able to, despite not having gone through those fifty years like us, and yet you understood it?"

Cao Zhen listened to everyone's questions and was stunned for a moment. What did they mean, Xiang Ziyu also achieved enlightenment?

Xiang Ziyu could understand the Sword Dao?

The moment he saw the swordsmanship, he knew why one needed to live fifty years as an ordinary person to understand it—it truly originated from the mortal realms!

He could understand because he had always been a mortal before, and in the era he lived in, information was incredibly developed. He came from an age of information explosion.

Moreover, he had connected with many mortals, whether it was Mozi, Zhao Ji, Gao Jianli, or his parents—all were ordinary people, and he had some of their insights and knowledge.

Therefore, he understood this Sword Dao, but what about Xiang Ziyu? How did he understand it?

Xiang Ziyu, sensing everyone's gaze, proudly said, "What's so difficult about it? Isn't it just a set of swordsmanship? The Heaven Illusion Sword Monarch has taught us how to use sword techniques. Why couldn't I learn it?"

Swordsmanship?

Cao Zhen frowned. What the Heaven Illusion Sword Monarch had demonstrated was not some sword technique, but the Sword Dao. Yet Xiang Ziyu referred to it as swordsmanship. So, what he saw wasn't the Sword Dao but the swordsmanship?

What swordsmanship did he see?

Cao Zhen quickly opened Xiang Ziyu's profile panel to check.

Indeed, Xiang Ziyu had learned something new.

Heavenly Illusion Sword Technique (Modified): Level One.

So, Xiang Ziyu had indeed learned the sword technique, but he had modified it.

Is this the power of understanding all things from one point?

Whether it was the Sword Dao or Sword Intent, Xiang Ziyu could forcefully interpret it as swordsmanship and then succeeded in modifying it.

This...

Cao Zhen looked around him and, finally facing the direction of the cemetery and tombstones, he bowed and said, "Many thanks for bestowing the Sword Dao!"

After speaking, he turned to the crowd, raised his hand and pointed forward, "Alright, we have obtained the legacy of the Heaven Illusion Sword Monarch. Next, we'll open the passage of the Blood Prison. Fortunately, opening the passage to the Blood Prison doesn't require the power of the Earth Immortal Realm."

Hearing this, Little Beiyan curiously asked, "Master? The Heaven Illusion Sword Monarch said that we could gain his legacy here and naturally know how to open the passage to obtain the secret technique to leave. We haven't received the legacy, so naturally we don't have the secret technique to open it. Master, have you gained the legacy and the secret technique?"

Cao Zhen nodded, "Of course. Whether it's the method to leave this place or to enter it, it's all Sword Intent. Just executing the Heaven Illusion Sword Monarch's Sword Intent is enough."

Little Beiyan nodded in understanding, "Oh, in that case, only you and Third Senior Brother can open the passage and leave this place."

Cao Zhen didn't directly answer; he was capable of opening the passage and leaving this place, but what about Xiang Ziyu? That kid got a modified sword technique. Could he open the passage or leave this place?

Thinking this, he turned to Xiang Ziyu and said, "Zi Yu, you've also received the legacy; go open the passage."

"Sure, it's these kinds of ceremonious tasks that need to be done by a main character like me," agreed Xiang Ziyu with a nod, making his way towards the frozen Blood River.

Around them, everyone's expression turned grave. Golden Cores arose, and everyone held Divine Weapons in hand, watching the Blood River closely, ready to strike down any emerging Demonic Beasts the instant the seal was broken.

After all, they had only guessed that Earth Immortal Realm Demonic Beasts wouldn't appear, but they didn't know the strength or the number of Demonic Beasts that might emerge.

In everyone's view, Xiang Ziyu raised his hand and, using it as a sword, slashed towards the encased Blood River.

Instantly, his whole demeanor changed, filled with an ethereal sense.

In that moment, it seemed as if hundreds of Xiang Ziyus appeared in the sky, each swinging his sword at the same time.

A hundred swords flew out, each brimming with Unparalleled Sword Intent, with a thick aura of ethereality.

The hundred swords were all different, as if a hundred exceptional swordsmen executed their strongest strike simultaneously, and these hundred phantoms were incredibly elusive, giving the faint impression that there were not a hundred people performing sword techniques, but rather none at all.

As the sword fell, the whole world shook violently.

For a moment, the world seemed filled with sword light, and yet, at the same time, there appeared to be only one sword.

With the fall of this sword,

A shockingly powerful aura burst forth from within the Blood River.

Then, a sword light shot out, aiming straight for the sword light released by Xiang Ziyu.

The next moment, Xiang Ziyu's released sword light dissipated completely.

A force of sealing, accompanying the sword light that flew out from the Blood River, shot forth. It sealed Xiang Ziyu's strike, and at the same time, the sealing force aimed at Xiang Ziyu and everyone else, seeming to want to seal them all!

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Throughout the world, there are countless Blood Rivers, through which blood demons can enter the human world from the Boundless Bloody Hell. For the entire cultivation world of humanity, whether it's the Immortal Sects of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty or those of the Great Jin Dynasty or even other dynasties, once they discovered a Blood River, they would suppress it.

After all, once blood demons entered this world, they would go on a frenzied killing spree, not just against ordinary people but also against cultivators. To the blood demons, it was the cultivators who were the real nourishment.

Blood demons were the common enemy of the Immortal Cultivation world.

But until now, of the countless Blood Rivers that the cultivators had discovered, none led back to the Boundless Bloody Hell.

The cultivation world could only let the blood demons enter their own world and could not enter the Boundless Bloody Hell, always remaining passive.

Now, everyone had finally found a channel that could enter the Boundless Bloody Hell, and this channel was so important to the Immortal Cultivation world.

Moreover, this channel was two-way; people could enter the Boundless Bloody Hell from here, and naturally, the blood demons from the Boundless Bloody Hell could also use it to enter the human world.

Even, due to the special nature of this Blood River or channel, perhaps the blood demons that could enter the Immortal Cultivation world from here would be stronger, and more numerous.

Therefore, the Heaven Illusion Sword Monarch had gone to great efforts to arrange for such a tomb to suppress this channel.

And due to its importance, he had set those trials to test those who entered this place, and only those who received his inheritance could freely open and close the Formation here.

Moreover, to receive his inheritance, one must understand the sufferings of ordinary humans.

He believed that those who could understand the suffering of ordinary humans would definitely not commit acts of betrayal against the cultivation world.

Even though Xiang Ziyu appeared to have learned his inheritance on the surface, when Xiang Ziyu truly tried to break the Formation later, he was attacked.

A beam of sword light shot out, as if it intended to seal all the people here.

Sensing the Sword Intent within that sword light, Cao Zhen hurriedly waved his hand, using his finger as a sword, pointing outwards with a jab.

He wasn't proficient in any particularly profound Swordsmanship.

However, when he pointed his finger out, the image of the Swordsmanship displayed by the Xu Ying of the Heaven Illusion Sword Monarch involuntarily came to his mind.

Suddenly, Cao Zhen himself became filled with a sense of ethereality, and in the sky above, there appeared hundreds of Cao Zhen's Xu Yings, each unleashing a sword strike.

Cao Zhen's sword strike looked exactly like the one Xiang Ziyu had executed earlier, and yet, while equally ethereal, as though descending from the highest heavens, when Cao Zhen's sword strike fell, the sword filled with sealing power simply disintegrated.

As this sword strike landed in the Blood River, the seeming-to-be-sealed river suddenly began to flow outward from the tomb.

"Is this... the seal of this place has been lifted just like that?" Beichen Ying, watching the now-flowing Blood River and glancing at Cao Zhen, immediately turned his gaze to Xiang Ziyu, his eyes filled with deep mistrust.

"Didn't you say you had learned the Heaven Illusion Sword Monarch's Swordsmanship? Why didn't you break the seal? Not only did you not break it, but you also brought about the attack from the seal? If it wasn't for Lao Liu's intervention, we would have been attacked by the Formation here. What was that about?"

"I just made a slight mistake for a moment, must be because I've just learned the Swordsmanship and am not yet proficient," Xiang Ziyu said seriously, looking towards the Formation. The Swordsmanship he used was the same as what his master had used. Besides, with his genius, how could he be wrong!

"That wasn't about being unskilled; what you learned was simply incorrect," Cao Zhen mercilessly interrupted Xiang Ziyu, pointing outside and saying, "The Blood River is flowing outward, and who knows whether the blood demons will appear from inside or outside. We should leave a few people here and a few to check outside."

As he spoke, he rushed outwards.

Ling Xi originally planned to rush outside, but she suddenly stopped and turned to Little Beiyan, "You and Master go outside to guard."

Had Xiang Ziyu already recovered from his injuries, she naturally would have gone outside with her master, but Xiang Ziyu was not yet recovered.

Aside from her master, the strongest person here was her, and she naturally needed to split up with her master, one in each place.

Cao Zhen had just led Little Bei out of the tomb, only to find that outside, the Blood River was boiling as if alive, and it seemed that the entire world was shaking along with it.

Inside the tomb, Ling Xi and the others felt the changes in the Blood River outside and quickly left the tomb.

In the Blood River outside, the crimson blood churned wildly like a series of blood-colored dragons, almost ready to break free from the river itself.

It even gave the illusion that the entire world was enveloped in blood mist. From the river, bubbles of blood rose as if to pierce through the sky, continually moving upwards.

At the same time, a brutal, bloody aura emerged from the Blood River.

The next moment, the endless Blood River erupted into the sky, as if a giant mountain had plunged into the sea, sending the water soaring, only in this case, it was blood that surged skyward!

As the blood fell back down, within the Blood River, silhouettes of gigantic blood demons appeared.

Although Cao Zhen had encountered the Blood River before, he had seen only a single blood demon fly out from the river, but now, from the Blood River in front of him, six blood demons erupted at once!

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The Blood demons varied in appearance, some resembled venomous snakes with dozens of short legs underneath, some had two heads with one resembling a wolfhound and the other akin to a bat, and some were covered in tentacles...

A terrifying ferocity surged wildly from their bodies.

In the next moment, a streak of sword light flashed by.

Xiang Ziyu made his move.

Just now, he attempted to unlock the seal, but his sword strike led to a great setback.

As the main character, how could he fail?

He had to recover all that he had lost from that failure.

Suddenly, in the sky, over a hundred of Xiang Ziyu's illusions appeared once more, each mirroring the exact same move with their sword as he had done previously with his swordsmanship. However, although the swords fell, this caused the illusions to seem even more ethereal, making one doubt if the illusions existed at all.

Though the illusions became more illusory, the sword light they wielded became more solid. These hundreds of Sword Qi either became sharper, heavier, or more unpredictable...

The same sword move, used twice in succession, felt as if it was executed by two completely different people, as if the first user was a Disciple, and the latter was the Master revealing the same swordsmanship.

The sword light descended.

Instantly, in the Blood River, the newly emerged gigantic bodies of the Blood demons were severed into pieces, completely obliterated!

Even though Xiang Ziyu's injuries had not yet healed, even though he had not wielded a Divine Weapon, and even though he had just learned this sword technique, his single strike resulted in the death of six Blood demons!

As the Blood demons perished, they dissolved into pools of blood, flowing back into the Blood River, but within it, there appeared six distinctly conspicuous droplets of blood.

Behind him, Beichen Ying reached out to grab, and with a motion snatched the six droplets of blood from midair, frowned as he looked down at the roiling Blood River and said with a headache, "Heaven Illusion Sword Monarch said that by dyeing the tombstone red with the fresh blood of the Blood demons, we would be able to leave.

However, when the Blood demons die, their blood directly falls into the Blood River, and each demonic beast only leaves behind a droplet of blood as concentrated as essence.

We're not expected to dye the tombstone red with these droplets, are we? That would take forever."

Cao Zhen's brows also furrowed. Initially, when he heard the lingering image of the Heaven Illusion Sword Monarch say that simply dyeing the tombstone red would allow them to leave, he didn't think much of the task.

Although the tombstone was massive, so were the Blood demons, which were all transformed from fresh blood; how could it be difficult to thoroughly dye the tombstone red?

However, the current situation suggested that they would likely have to use these concentrated blood droplets, one by one, to dye the tombstone red—imagine how long that would take!

"Or perhaps, we're not supposed to use this concentrated blood to dye the stone? What if these droplets are treasures for Cultivation, and we should test whether we can directly irrigate it with the blood from the Blood River?"

Xiang Ziyu raised his hand and drew in, and instantly an endless surge of Mana flowed out, causing the blood of the Blood River to spin into a vortex-like state, uncontrollably flying out and rushing towards the tombstone.

Yet the next moment, a flash of golden light burst forth from the tombstone and the streams of blood evaporated cleanly in midair.

"Forget it, this is a Great Formation created by someone who, in his time, was ranked third among strongmen, there's no chance that we could dye this tombstone red with the blood of the Blood Pool."

Beichen Ying shook his head and then reached out with his hand, shooting a drop of concentrated Blood demon's blood directly at the tombstone.

This time, no light emerged to obstruct its fall, and the Blood demon's essence blood stained the tombstone, leaving a small red dot.

Given the size of the tombstone, this dot of red could practically be ignored. The group could sense that if they hadn't regained their Spiritual Energy and strength, in their prior mortal state, they might have even failed to see this tiny red dot.

Yi Sheng looked at the size of the tombstone, then at the drop of essence blood in Beichen Ying's hand, and asked softly, "The essence blood of the Blood demon... has fallen onto the tombstone... so we really have to use this blood to dye the tombstone thoroughly?"

"Not necessarily!"

The Blood River surged once again, but this time, instead of six Blood demons, only five flew out.

Perhaps because the Blood River had just been opened, the strength of the emerging Blood demons wasn't particularly strong, roughly around the level of the Golden Core stage.

While Xiang Ziyu did have injuries, they only weakened him, and dealing with a few Blood demons equivalent to the Golden Core stage presented no problem for him.

He did not wait for the others to take action, but instead reached out towards the Blood demons before him and drew them in.

Immediately, just as these five Blood demons emerged from the Blood River and before they could react, they were dragged out of the river's domain, landing directly atop the tombstone.

Xiang Ziyu then looked towards Little Beiyang and ordered, "Detonate them."

Hadn't the blood of the Blood River been ineffective just now?

He decided to directly detonate these Blood demons on top of the tombstone to see if that would work.

Little Beiyan understood his elder brother's intention, although he was somewhat puzzled as to why his brother would have him do it rather than doing it himself!

After a moment's hesitation, Little Beiyan still raised his hand and with a sweep, a Giant Hammer illusion descended from the sky. With one strike, the bodies of the five Blood demons burst open, and their crimson blood spilled down, raining towards the tombstone.

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The next moment, a beam of light shot from the top of the tombstone, and a golden sword light suddenly took flight.

Almost simultaneously, Xiang Ziyu swung his sword as well.

He had refrained from striking down those blood demons before this very moment for a reason.

Indeed, the formation had been laid by the Heaven Illusion Sword Monarch. Under normal circumstances, with his current cultivation base, he naturally couldn't contend with this formation.

But now the Minor Era of Inversion of Heaven and Earth had arrived, and the Heavenly Dao no longer permitted the existence of power beyond that of a Golden Core.

The masters of the Earth Immortal Realm, one after another, had to slumber. Even if they hadn't fallen into slumber now, the moment they exerted the power of the Earth Immortal Realm and were detected by the Heavenly Dao, they would immediately fall into a deep sleep.

The same went for formations; although a formation itself cannot sleep, it is no longer able to wield power beyond that of the Earth Immortal Realm.

If it was a force of the Golden Core Stage, could he still be unable to block this sword light?

Xiang Ziyu brandished his sword once more, and it seemed to be for the sake of proving himself. For this strike, he still used what he called the Heavenly Illusion Sword Technique. Compared to the previous two times, the technique appeared even more refined and powerful.

In the void, the golden sword light that shot from the tombstone collided with hundreds of sword lights unleashed by Xiang Ziyu, and for a moment, the sword lights he conjured shattered one after another.

Even if this sword bore only the power of a Golden Core Stage, it came from one who, during his era, might rank as the third most powerful existence.

The current Xiang Ziyu, not at the peak of his strength, could not compare, especially considering that the sword technique he used was one he had just learned.

In just the blink of an eye, the golden light had broken through the hundred sword lights and fell upon the scattered blood below.

Each trace of blood was instantly vaporized.

However, although the sword light Xiang Ziyu shot out was broken, it ultimately still affected the golden sword light. This strike hadn't evaporated all of the blood, and some still splattered onto the tombstone.

Yet the next moment, the tombstone itself began hissing, and the spilled blood vanished in an instant, leaving no trace on its surface.

"Alright, there's no need to try any longer," Li Ke said, shaking her head upon seeing this, "You can regard this entire world as a formation, after all, which was laid by an unparalleled master. Its momentum isn't so easily exploited by finding a flaw.

To leave this place, to completely drench this tombstone in red, we must use the essence blood of those blood demons."

As Li Ke spoke, she gave Xiang Ziyu another look, her gaze filled with amazement. Xiang Ziyu had just started learning the sword technique, and what he learned might even be a false version.

Yet every time Xiang Ziyu executed the technique, one could sense his immense progress.

She considered herself a genius; she was quick to learn divine skills and to master various sword and blade techniques, but she couldn't keep pace with Xiang Ziyu, who made such vast improvements in such a short time.

She now somewhat understood why Cao Zhen had previously appointed Xiang Ziyu as the Elder of Transmissions. If Xiang Ziyu's cultivation of other divine skills was also this swift...

Impossible. Sword techniques and divine skills are different, after all, and every divine skill is unique. Some specialize in flame divine skills, others in the divine skills of water; it's impossible for one person to excel at all divine skills.

Xiang Ziyu's cultivation of divine skills may indeed be rapid, but it could not possibly be as freakish as this.

Cao Zhen, however, was once more inspecting his own status screen.

Heavenly Illusion Sword Technique (Modified): Level Eleven!

In just a short time, having executed the sword technique merely thrice, the modified technique had already reached level eleven!

This is the strength that comes from mastering one thing and thus understanding all!

Therefore, this youngster, Xiang Ziyu, had not put enough effort into his divine skill cultivation before. Upon returning, he would surely have to ensure Xiang Ziyu earnestly cultivates divine skills.

No, making him cultivate might not ensure his diligent effort.

Now that he was Sect Leader, everyone in the Hundred Peaks Sect had to follow his arrangements, and he also had access to the sect's many facilities.

As a Sect Leader, finding a small dark room wasn't asking too much. Then, he'd confine Xiang Ziyu there, forcing the lad to cultivate divine skills. Until he brought each divine skill to the pinnacle of Great Perfection at the Golden Core Stage, he wouldn't be allowed to leave. That wasn't too much to ask, was it?

As Cao Zhen pondered, the Blood River surged again, and several blood demons flew out from within, this time seven, but before the blood demons could launch an attack, everyone's assault landed.

In a flash, all seven blood demons were slain.

On the two previous occasions when blood demons had appeared, it was Xiang Ziyu who directly struck them down or captured them. But this time, as the blood demons emerged, everyone joined the fight, and Xiang Ziyu managed to slay just one.

"This, the blood demons are emerging too slowly," Xiang Ziyu complained as he sent the essence blood of a blood demon onto the tombstone. As expected, the tombstone showed no reaction to the blood demon's essence blood – a fresh crimson mark was simply added on its surface.

"These blood demons, they're nowhere near enough for us to kill. Master, why don't we just go down there, into the Boundless Bloody Hell?" Xiang Ziyu straightforwardly proposed to Cao Zhen, "After all, at this moment, no force greater than the Golden Core Stage is allowed to exist.

We are the strongest beings in the world. With our strength, where couldn't we effortlessly go? We could just directly go in and kill until we've slain enough blood demons, then bring the essence blood back."

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"The strongest in the world? Don't think that just because you made it to the final four in the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty's martial arts tournament, you're without opponents, let alone the fact that you haven't recovered yet. However..." Cao Zhen looked at the tomb before him and felt genuinely tempted.

On their side, with so many at the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection, and without any Earth Immortal Realm existence present, their combined strength should keep anyone from stopping them, unless their opponents resorted to zerg tactics.

But if they couldn't beat zerg tactics, couldn't they still run?

With their strength, as long as they weren't layered up and boxed like cabbages, no one could detain them.

Now, staying aboveground to kill those blood demons was indeed too slow, but entering the Boundless Bloody Hell to slay blood demons was indeed much faster!

After pondering for a moment, he nodded and said, "If that's the case, then let's enter the Boundless Bloody Hell! However, once inside, do not venture too deep, and if there's any danger, immediately retreat."

After understanding the Sword Intent of the Heaven Illusion Sword Monarch, he naturally possessed the methods to open and close the channel into the Boundless Bloody Hell in his mind.

Upon entering the Boundless Bloody Hell, the channel was to be closed.

After all, once the Heaven Illusion Sword Monarch entered the Boundless Bloody Hell, he wouldn't always be in the channel; he would go deeper, and if he didn't close the channel, countless blood demons would rush out through it.

The group rushed into the blood prison channel right after killing a wave of blood demons.

Upon entering, they discovered that this so-called channel to the Boundless Bloody Hell was not filled with blood as they had previously imagined.

It seemed due to the influence of the Minor Era of Inversion of Heaven and Earth, the channel was likewise filled with anomalies, where the sun and moon coexisted.

The channel was incredibly wide, with a turbulent river of blood running through the middle, endless blood flowing from the far end of the channel into their world.

On either side of the channel were two narrow strips of land.

In the river of blood, there were many blood demons, radiating endless ferocity.

Outside, the smell of blood was already pungent, but inside the channel, it was so strong it almost suffocated them.

In the middle of the channel, the blood demons in the Blood River noticed the intruders and let out roars of anger. In an instant, streams of blood arrows, blood lights, and foggy blood mists rose and attacked the group.

And greeting them were two blazing flames.

The Scarlet Flame Heavenly Phoenix, the Vermilion Bird's searing fire!

Suddenly, the world of the channel was filled with intense flames, and even the blood in the river was dried instantly under the high temperature, let alone the blood demons within it.

Under the combined efforts of Li Ke and Yi Sheng, even a vacuum appeared in the Blood River momentarily, but soon, the bloody water returned to fill the channel.

And the number of blood demons in the Blood River was also astonishingly high.

"Are there so many blood demons in this channel because they couldn't use this route to enter our world all these years, and are now all pressed together?"

"Given this situation, we might not even need to leave the channel. We just need to keep slaying blood demons here."

All of them were top-tier Golden Core Stage, with even the weakest Yi Sheng being at the Nine Abnormal Phenomenon Golden Pills, and Beichen Ying and Li Lingwei being at the Wind Fire Tribulation stage.

The majority of these blood demons corresponded to the First, Second, or even Third Layer of the Golden Core, with those equivalent to the Sixth Layer of normal Golden Cores being rare.

Although these blood demons were weak compared to the group, the continuous onslaught without a break meant they didn't need to leave the channel and could just slay blood demons right there, in the channel connecting the Boundless Bloody Hell with the human world.

Gradually, Cao Zhen even began to reminisce about playing online games, killing monsters to level up in his previous life.

As they were killing blood demons, suddenly the entire sky darkened.

The sun and moon in the void vanished all of a sudden. The fluctuating Heavenly Dao also came to a halt at that moment.

Beichen Ying quickly realized what was happening and exclaimed in a low voice, "The Heavenly Dao has stopped, the anomalies have disappeared, this is... the complete arrival of the Minor Era of Inversion of Heaven and Earth. Now, I fear all existences above Golden Cores are asleep! Now, this world has truly become a place where the Golden Core is supreme, the strongest in the world!"

"Quickly, continue to kill the blood demons, we must return to the Hundred Peaks Sect as soon as possible. All masters above the Golden Core are asleep, and some conspirators are likely to act. Although we all know that our Hundred Peaks Sect has many at Great Perfection, the fact that we are not at the Hundred Peaks Sect is known to others.

Those from Ten Thousand Horse City who left the Golden Core Stage probably saw us entering here, and they know we are not at the Hundred Peaks Sect.

If they spread the word or even directly act against our Hundred Peaks Sect..."

Within the crowd, Yi Sheng hesitated for a moment before speaking up, "Master, I always feel that the people from Ten Thousand Horse City might not be from the Great Lai Dynasty.

If they truly were people from the Great Lai Dynasty, causing trouble near our Hundred Peaks Sect would lead us to easily suspect them. They shouldn't be that foolish. I suspect that someone might be deliberately inciting conflict between us and the Great Lai Dynasty."

Chapter 666:

Great Lai Dynasty.

Star Moon Mansion.

The Great Lai Dynasty's three major Immortal Sects comprised of the Eastern Sea Mirage Pavilion above the vast ocean, while the Void Breaking Sect and the Star Moon Mansion occupied the two highest mountains within the Great Lai Dynasty.

Among them, the Void Breaking Sect was situated on the highest peak, and the Star Moon Mansion on the second highest.

Although the three great Immortal Sects were closely matched in strength, there was still a discernible hierarchy among them.

The Eastern Sea Mirage Pavilion was the strongest, while the Star Moon Mansion was the weakest.

Every thousand years, the Great Lai Dynasty would select one Immortal Sect to govern the dynasty.

Within a span of ten thousand years, the Eastern Sea Mirage Pavilion had controlled the Immortal Sect for almost half the time, while the Star Moon Mansion had only governed twice.

Atop the Star Moon Mansion, on the highest point of Star Moon Peak, two men and a woman, the three acting heads of Star Moon Mansion and also its strongest three beings in the Golden Core Stage, were gathered together. Besides these three, there was a man shrouded in a black robe, his face obscured by a black mask, rendering his features indiscernible.

Among the three from Star Moon Mansion, the sole woman turned to this mysterious figure in black and asked, "What now? The Eastern Sea Mirage Pavilion already knows everything. They've discovered that Elder Xue and Elder Yang are from our Star Moon Mansion and the Void Breaking Sect.

"They must also suspect, among our two great Immortal Sects, that one wishes to assassinate them or even suspects we have joined forces.

Now that the Minor Era of Inversion of Heaven and Earth has fully arrived, all masters above the Golden Core Stage are sleeping. The people from the Eastern Sea Mirage Pavilion have already messaged us, asking all three great Immortal Sects to join forces and head towards the Hundred Peaks Sect to eliminate them.

However, if there was not another force already attacking the Hundred Peaks Sect, they surely would not have made their move. Once they do, they will grow even more suspicious of us, and with the people from the Eastern Sea Mirage Pavilion becoming more cautious, our plans will only become more difficult to accomplish."

Elder Xue and Elder Yang were respectively from their Star Moon Mansion and the Void Breaking Sect, but in fact, both were from their Star Moon Mansion.

Elder Yang, although he had attained the Earth Immortal Realm and had joined the Void Breaking Sect when he was a child, was now no longer the Elder Yang of the past, after becoming an Earth Immortal.

It was none other than the mysterious person before them who had somehow used a special method to control Elder Yang.

Then, he revealed his plan.

Once successful, their Star Moon Mansion would become the only Immortal Sect in the Great Lai Dynasty!

The Great Lai Dynasty did not need three Immortal Sects, one would suffice!

The plans were all well and good, but who could have foreseen the appearance of the Sun and Moon Demon Sect? These people from the Sun and Moon Demon Sect also knew which day the Minor Era of Inversion of Heaven and Earth would arrive, and that within one day of its arrival, all masters above the Golden Core would fall into a deep sleep!

Even more, these people from the Sun and Moon Demon Sect knew that Cao Zhen, Ling Xi, Xiang Ziyu, and others were not in the Hundred Peaks Sect! They wanted to join forces with the people from the three great Immortal Sects of the Great Lai Dynasty to attack the Hundred Peaks Sect, completely disrupting all their plans!

With his face masked, there was no telling what expression the man in black was making, yet through his exposed eyes, it was clear there was no change in his gaze.

He let out a strange, sardonic laugh and said, "Attacking the Hundred Peaks Sect was originally part of our plan, just that our initial plan was far greater and more complex. This time, the Sun and Moon Demon Sect has actually helped us, accelerating the progress of our plan!"

So, why should we not send people to attack the Hundred Peaks Sect? And who told you that no other forces would attack the Hundred Peaks Sect before us?

Do not worry, the Red Refinery Demonic Sect has already set out. They will attack the Hundred Peaks Sect before us."

"The Red Refinery Demonic Sect?" One of the men, who looked handsome and remarkably young, immediately showed a look of surprise on his face and exclaimed, "Why would the Red Refinery Demonic Sect attack the Hundred Peaks Sect? They shouldn't know that Cao Zhen, Ling Xi, Xiang Ziyu, and the others are not there. Have they gone mad to assault the Hundred Peaks Sect directly?"

Wait, the Hundred Peaks Sect is still one of the ten Immortal Sects of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty. Even without Cao Zhen and the others, the foundation of the Hundred Peaks Sect remains.

If the Red Refinery Demon Sect clashes head-on with the people from the Hundred Peaks Sect, they would suffer heavy losses even if they take it down. Why would they do such a thing?"

"Why can't they do it? The Red Refinery Demonic Sect has a grudge against the State Preceptor, but they also harbor resentment against the ten Immortal Sects.

Originally, the Red Refinery Demonic Sect and the Sun and Moon Demon Sect approached the ten major Immortal Sects hoping for a united front against the Grand Preceptor. This included the current ten major Immortal Sects.

They believed that with the combined strength of the various Immortal Sects, it was plausible to severely injure or even slay the Grand Preceptor. Yet, all the Immortal Sects refused.

The reason for the refusal was that, as Sects of the Righteous Path, they would not join forces with those of the Demonic Path against the Grand Preceptor.

Because of the incident back then, the Red Refinery Demonic Sect and the Sun and Moon Demon Sect harbored a deep grudge against all the major Immortal Sects. Thus, it's not surprising that they would seek revenge against the ten Immortal Sects.

And the Hundred Peaks Sect... currently, the National State Preceptor of the Town Immortal Dynasty resides there. If they were to choose, they would naturally target the Hundred Peaks Sect first for revenge.

In short, the people from the Red Refinery Demonic Sect will certainly attack the Hundred Peaks Sect. When the time comes, you and the people from the Sun and Moon Demon Sect will enter the Hundred Peaks Sect together."

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The man in black finished speaking and quickly disappeared into the darkness.

And the three people just stood there.

After a long while, among the three, the one who had not spoken until now, who appeared incredibly young—indeed, the youngest of them all.

Yet, the only thing that could be felt emanating from him was a sense of steadiness.

He looked into the distance and said in a low voice, "Even if the Red Refinery Demonic Sect hates the Hundred Peaks Sect greatly, they would not possibly mobilize their entire force to attack the Hundred Peaks Sect. There must be reasons unknown to us.

Moreover..."

He paused slightly and continued, "There's another possibility that the Red Refinery Demonic Sect has already allied with the Sun and Moon Demon Sect. The ones who went to the East Sea Mirage Tower were from the Sun and Moon Demon Sect, while the person here is from the Red Refinery Demonic Sect."

Among the three, the woman reacted immediately, exclaiming, "He is from the Red Refinery Demonic Sect? How is that possible? They are supposed to be the ones to first attack the Hundred Peaks Sect.

If their attack on the Hundred Peaks Sect is not as fierce as we imagined, we won't take action either. That way, they would have wasted their manpower in vain.

If they truly commit all their strength to the attack on the Hundred Peaks Sect, they strike first, and we follow suit, they will be the ones to deplete their forces first. No matter how you look at it, they are the ones who will suffer losses. How could that person be from the Red Refinery Demonic Sect?

Moreover, when the Sect Leader was present, we had already made contact with the opposing force.

The various methods they withheld... I don't mean to look down upon the Red Refinery Demonic Sect, but if they had such methods, they would not have been hiding here and there over the years, even concealing their stronghold."

"I'm just stating a possibility. In any case, this is a rare opportunity. If we can truly annihilate the Hundred Peaks Sect, we can not only divide everything that belongs to the Hundred Peaks Sect, but since our Great Lai Dynasty is the closest to the Hundred Peaks Sect, we will eventually take over all their territories.

This is only beneficial for our Great Lai Dynasty and Star Moon Mansion, and not at all detrimental. Besides, we have already cooperated with them and cannot break it off now.

If we do break it off, and the plan fails, when the Minor Era of Inversion of Heaven and Earth ends, that will be the day our Star Moon Mansion perishes.

However, we must be careful when we get to the Hundred Peaks Sect. If the people from the Red Refinery Demonic Sect do not fight intensely enough with the Hundred Peaks Sect's people, and the Sun and Moon Sect tries to lure us into taking action, we must absolutely not take the bait!"

Having said this, he sighed deeply. At the beginning, when they from Star Moon Mansion elected him as Mansion Master for the Minor Era of Inversion of Heaven and Earth and informed him of everything, he sighed in his heart.

He had not expected the old Mansion Master to choose to cooperate with such a mysterious organization.

He knew that the old Mansion Master wanted to change everything, to alter the current situation of the Great Lai Dynasty, and to make their Star Moon Mansion the sole ruler of the Great Lai Dynasty.

He also knew that not only their Star Moon Mansion but the other two Immortal Sects were plotting against the East Sea Mirage Tower and the Void Breaking Sect.

All three great Immortal Sects know that the reason why the Great Lai Dynasty had always maintained these three Immortal Sects was that they had formed a delicate balance among themselves.

None of the Immortal Sects had the power to obliterate the other two.

And there are disparities in strength among these three Immortal Sects.

The Void Breaking Sect had once approached their Star Moon Mansion wanting to join forces to eliminate the strongest East Sea Mirage Tower.

But the then Mansion Master of their Star Moon Mansion had refused, as the strength of the Void Breaking Sect was above that of their Star Moon Mansion. Once the strongest East Sea Mirage Tower was eliminated, the next one in line would be their Star Moon Mansion.

The Star Moon Mansion had also once sought an alliance with the Void Breaking Sect to first eliminate the weakest Star Moon Mansion, but the people from the Void Breaking Sect had also rejected the proposal, for if the Star Moon Mansion fell, it wouldn't be long before the Void Breaking Sect perished, too.

It's precisely because of this subtle relationship that, over the tens of thousands of years, the Great Lai Dynasty had maintained a delicate balance, always having three great Immortal Sects.

However, any balance is bound to be broken one day, and the most anxious to do so is their Star Moon Mansion, as they are the weakest.

The world of cultivation has always seen the strong remain strong. The East Sea Mirage Tower has been in control of the Great Lai Dynasty for the longest time, accumulating strength increasingly fast.

Therefore, their Star Moon Mansion and the Void Breaking Sect certainly do not wish to see the East Sea Mirage Tower grow stronger and stronger, so there will come a day when they will unite to strike first against the East Sea Mirage Tower.

But their strength is less than that of the Void Breaking Sect!

Even if they manage to eliminate the East Sea Mirage Tower, due to their Star Moon Mansion's Mountain Protection Array, the Void Breaking Sect would not be able to annihilate them.

Yet, with greater strength, the Void Breaking Sect could suppress them in various ways and continuously weaken their power over time.

Over a thousand years, ten thousand years, or even a hundred thousand years, once the Void Breaking Sect's strength completely crushes them, their Star Moon Mansion will likewise fall.

Therefore, he could understand why the old Mansion Master sought external forces, wishing to annihilate the other two sects.

But why would the old Mansion Master seek such a mysterious force?

The old Mansion Master didn't even know the true nature of the other party before agreeing to cooperate with them.

If it were up to him to decide, he would never have chosen to work with such an unknown and mysterious power. But it was too late now.

Their collaboration had gone too deep, and he could only continue to cooperate, even though he knew the cooperation was akin to making a deal with a tiger for its skin!

"Enough, it's useless to consider it now." He turned to look at his senior brother and senior sister, his expression slowly becoming stern. Although he had now become the Mansion Master of the Star Moon Mansion, he always referred to them as senior sister and senior brother. Yet, this time, he did not address them in the usual manner.

"Grand Elder Huang, Vice Mansion Master Liu." He looked at them solemnly, "After some thought, I've decided to lead the team to the Hundred Peaks Sect myself."

"What? You're going? But you're the Mansion Master, how can you leave so easily!" The woman's voice rose in alarm, "Grand Elder Huang is already amidst the Wind Fire Tribulation and should not move. And you, as the Mansion Master, should not move either. Let me lead the team this time."

"No, I must lead the team this time. It's likely not as simple as we thought. Vice Mansion Master Liu, you can be too impulsive sometimes, and absolutely must not lead the team on this occasion.

Remember, as soon as I leave with the team, seal the mountain immediately, forbidding any disciple from leaving."

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The relationship between the three great Immortal Sects of the Great Lai Dynasty was extremely complex. Each of the sects wanted to annihilate the other to reign supreme alone, yet they had to unite against a common external threat. That's because, oftentimes, their interests aligned.

For example, none of the three wanted a powerful Immortal Sect appearing near their own nation.

And near the Great Lai Dynasty, there was only one powerful Immortal Sect—Hundred Peaks Sect.

Ever since they learned of the results of the competition held by the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty and knew of the Golden Core masters from Hundred Peaks Sect, they had abandoned any thoughts of instigating troubles during the Minor Era of Inversion of Heaven and Earth to eliminate Hundred Peaks Sect.

However, with only three Perfect Completion Golden Core masters remaining in the Hundred Peaks Sect and with the arrival of people from the Sun and Moon Demon Sect, the three Immortal Sects, regardless of their own calculations, all wanted to seize the opportunity to destroy Hundred Peaks Sect.

Unless, in the worst-case scenario, no force attacked Hundred Peaks Sect, at which point they would have to consider whether the other two Immortal Sects were conspiring something.

Among the three great sects, the one closest to Hundred Peaks was Void Breaking Sect.

Therefore, the meeting place chosen by the three great sects was also within Void Breaking Sect.

At the foot of the mountain of Void Breaking Sect, the masters of the sect had already assembled, and without exception, all were at the Golden Core Stage.

Not just Void Breaking Sect, but once individuals from East Sea Mirage and Star Moon Mansion arrived, those who appeared were all at the Golden Core Stage, too.

Now, during the Reversal Mini Epoch Period, the strongest beings were at the Golden Core Stage.

They would certainly bring along masters at the Golden Core Stage.

As for the others at the Core Formation Stage...

This time, after all, they were going to attack another Immortal Sect. Bringing Core Formation Stage disciples wouldn't be very meaningful.

After all, the gap between Core Formation Stage cultivators was simply too wide.

Moreover, the people of the three great sects hadn't mobilized all their Golden Core Stage members.

They couldn't possibly abandon their own sect and its foundation en masse.

At the foot of Void Breaking Sect's mountain, a man dressed in dark water-green silk robes, hair like clouds, and a handsome appearance with clear and bright eyes, stood leisurely. He first looked in the direction of Star Moon Mansion, his gaze landing on the eminently steady-looking man leading the group, and a hint of surprise crossed his face as he said in astonishment, "Older Brother Su, no, I should address you as Sovereign Su. I thought Sister Liu would lead the team this time, I didn't expect it to be you."

Star Moon Mansion had only two Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection experts, one of whom was the current Mansion Master and the other was the deputy.

An Immortal Sect wouldn't let their leader descend the mountain lightly.

Unexpectedly, it was the Mansion Master whom Star Moon Mansion sent this time!

Sovereign Su gave a salute and said, "I haven't descended the mountain in a long while. Hearing that Yan Yourong from Hundred Peaks Sect, as well as Liè Yàn, are among the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty's top ten Immortal Generals, especially Yan Yourong, who entered the top four of the imperial competition, I wanted to see for myself the pinnacle of the Golden Core Stage within the True Immortal Dynasty. Thus, I volunteered to come down."

He paused for a moment and then looked at the man opposite him, asking, "Deputy Sect Leader Xu, you are now the Vice Sect Master of Void Breaking Sect. It seems this time Deputy Sect Leader Xu is leading the team."

Vice Sect Master Xu of Void Breaking Sect responded with a salute, "Just like Older Brother Su, I too wish to visit Hundred Peaks Sect to witness the highest existence of the Golden Core Stage within True Immortal Dynasty."

As he spoke, a sneer flickered in his heart. If someone else had given that reason, he might have believed it, but Su Fangrong was known across the entire cultivation world of the Great Lai Dynasty for his prudence, not to mention after becoming the Mansion Master of Star Moon Mansion, he surely grew even more cautious. He did not believe that Su Fangrong would lead a team for such a reason.

Indeed, the invitation by East Sea Mirage and Sun Moon Demon Sect to attack Hundred Peaks Sect wasn't as simple as it looked.

Speaking of which, Xu Wenxuan turned to look in the direction of East Sea Mirage.

Unlike Void Breaking Sect and Star Moon Mansion, East Sea Mirage didn't have one person leading; instead, it was three.

One of them, a stranger clothed in black and exuding endless Demonic Qi, was evidently the Eclipse Demon of the Sun Moon Demon Sect.

His gaze quickly passed over the Eclipse Demon and landed on the other two.

These two, a man and a woman—the man handsome, and the woman of plain appearance, exuded a cold aura like a thousand-year Frost, chilly and detached.

Xu Wenxuan gave a salute with a smile towards the two, "Older Brother Wen and Older Sister Tang, you are always together. The other must be the Eclipse Demon of the Sun Moon Demon Sect."

Both Void Breaking Sect and Star Moon Mansion had only two Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection individuals, whereas East Sea Mirage boasted three. Among them, Wen Zhanyan and Tang Yushuang, a pair of Dao companions.

The two were admitted into East Sea Mirage in the same year; they even shared the same master, lived together since childhood, and later developed mutual affection, becoming Dao companions.

Their relationship was solid with perfect synergy, and they excelled in Combined Attack Technique.

Xu Wenxuan felt that in a one-on-one fight, whether against Wen Zhanyan or Tang Yushuang, he didn't believe he would necessarily lose.

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However, if he teamed up with Su Fangrong, who was not weaker than himself, and possibly even slightly stronger, to face Wen Zhanyan and Tang Yushuang, it was certain that the two of them would be defeated.

Within the Great Lai Dynasty, there had always been competition among the three major Immortal Sects, and people of similar cultivation bases would often spar with each other.

When he had just entered the Golden Core Stage, he had once joined forces with a senior brother from the Void Breaking Sect, who was the current Sect Leader of their sect, to spar with Wen Zhanyan and Tang Yushuang.

At the beginning, they seemed to have the upper hand, suppressing the two of them.

However, once Wen Zhanyan and Tang Yushuang deployed their Combined Attack Technique, they lost.

Back then, he even had the feeling that he and his senior brother were not fighting against two people of the same cultivation realm, but four.

At that time, Wen Zhanyan and Tang Yushuang had also just entered the Golden Core Stage. Now, as both of them have reached the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection, their Combined Attack Technique must be even stronger.

Tang Yushuang lived up to her name, her entire presence was exceptionally cold, and upon hearing the voice, she merely nodded towards Su Fangrong and Xu Wenxuan.

It was Wen Zhanyan who nodded slightly and smiled, saying, "This one is the genius of the Sun Moon Demon Sect, Sun Erosion Demon."

"Oh?" Xu Wenxuan looked at Sun Erosion Demon and asked, "This time, it is the Sun Moon Demon Sect who has come to us, but I do not know, where are the people of the Sun Moon Demon Sect?"

The number of disciples from the Mirage of the East Sea this time surpassed that of any single Immortal Sect from the Void Breaking Sect and Star Moon Mansion, yet he did not see any from the Sun Moon Demon Sect.

The disciples of the Demon Sect were very easy to recognize.

Just like the disciples of the Zen Sect, one can easily feel the Buddha Power emanating from them, and as for the disciples of the Demon Sect, the Demonic Qi simply cannot be hidden.

However, now, apart from Sun Erosion Demon, he did not sense Demonic Qi from anyone else.

"The Sun Moon Demon Sect will naturally send people, they have already arrived near the Hundred Peaks Sect by now. Once we reach the Hundred Peaks Sect, naturally, we shall know and see them," Sun Erosion Demon said.

"Your people have already reached near the Hundred Peaks Sect?" Xu Wenxuan furrowed his brows slightly and looked around. Eventually, he nodded and said, "Given that's the case, then I have no further questions. Now, since all of us have arrived, can we set off?"

The absence of the other party's people in this location indeed posed a problem, but after some thought, it didn't seem to be a major issue for him.

After all, the number of Golden Core disciples he took with him this time didn't even amount to half of those from the Void Breaking Sect.

And the Mirage of the East Sea mobilized so many Golden Core disciples, likely half the number of their sect's Golden Core disciples.

Even if the Mirage of the East Sea wanted to take advantage of this opportunity to attack the Void Breaking Sect in conjunction with the Sun Moon Demon Sect, with the strength that the Void Breaking Sect had left behind, the opposing side would not be able to overtake them for a while.

When the people from Star Moon Mansion noticed the situation, they would surely dispatch forces to the Void Breaking Sect, after all, when the lips are gone, the teeth will be cold.

And he was not worried that the people of Star Moon Mansion would join hands with the Mirage of the East Sea to eradicate their Star Moon Mansion, unless the citizens of the Star Moon Mansion went mad.

Moreover, with the Mansion Master of Star Moon Mansion, Su Fangrong leading the team away, there would be no issues.

After discussing, the representatives of the three major Immortal Sects quickly maneuvered their flying boats together towards the direction of the Hundred Peaks Sect.

Actually, while the internal political stability of the Great Lai Dynasty was maintained, and despite each of the three major Immortal Sects having their own schemes, they still took turns in power.

Yet, despite this stability, all over the Great Lai Dynasty, one could still see a sight of ruins everywhere; the Great Lai Dynasty had been constantly plagued by war, engaging in external conquests.

The life of the people within the Dynasty could not rival those of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty.

But as everyone crossed the border of the Great Lai Dynasty and entered the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, they found that the cities along the border of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty were not faring any better than those of the Great Lai Dynasty.

The Grand Preceptor fell into a deep slumber, and the Minor Era of Inversion of Heaven and Earth was so peculiar that in just one day, many experts above the Golden Core had fallen asleep.

Suddenly, the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty was in complete chaos!

After all, when the Grand Preceptor was present, the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty was too powerful. They had offended too many Dynasties and Immortal Sects, and, one by one, these other Dynasties and Immortal Sects stabilized themselves, then dispatched experts to enter the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty.

Those areas protected by the top ten Immortal Sects were still fine, but some remote places, without the protection of the top Immortal Sects or even any powerful Immortal Sects, seemed to have turned into hell!

In the northwest direction of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, at the border.

Here, the bitter cold was unbearable, the climate hostile, making it a typical sparsely populated region unsuitable for human habitation and survival.

Yet even so, this area, due to its unique environment, was home to some rare poultry and precious medicinal herbs.

There were still humans living here.

Sky Plum City, the largest city in this region, was named after the plum blossom.

It was said that years ago, this city witnessed the blooming of a Magical Plum Blossom, a flower only found in the Immortal Realm.

Although Sky Plum City was the largest city in the vicinity, it could not compare with the bustling cities in prosperous areas. The whole city, including the surrounding villages, towns, and villagers in the mountains, probably did not amount to a hundred thousand people.

And today, in the villages near Sky Plum City, flames surged into the sky one after another.

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Soon, flames surged to the sky throughout Sky Plum City.

In the city, figures of Demonic Cultivators filled with Demonic Qi appeared, unleashing Divine Skills as if venting their wrath, bombarding the direction of the city center in a frenzy.

In a moment, buildings collapsed, and the ground constantly exploded, with bursts of flames and thunder descending from the heavens.

Among the civilians of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty within the city, some were crushed by falling buildings, others perished in the sea of flames, or were directly hit by the Divine Skills, instantly turning into a cloud of dust. Yet more were just affected by the overflow of power and were blasted into severe injuries, issuing agonized screams.

And those Demonic Cultivators, hearing the agonized screams of these people, were even more excited, shouting frantically and delighting in the chaos they had caused.

Near Sky Plum City, there was no shortage of mountains.

The most famous of these was Sky Plum Mountain, which, while not the tallest in the region, was the most abundant in Spiritual Energy.

Moreover, the only Immortal Sect in the region, Celestial Plum Sect, was located on Sky Plum Mountain!

The Celestial Plum Sect was not large; all the members of the sect together did not even number one hundred.

At the summit of Sky Plum Mountain, Qiao Jingyao noticed the sudden blaze in Sky Plum City in the distance, along with the faint Demonic Qi that could be heard, and an expression of anger immediately crossed her beautiful face.

"Demonic Qi, those Demonic Cultivators are here again. They hold a grudge against the Grand Preceptor and against all the Immortal Sects of our Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty. They could seek vengeance against the various Immortal Sects, but why harm these civilians, these mortals?"

Master, wait for me; your Disciple will go down the mountain now and eradicate these Demonic Cultivators!"

This was her home, and although she was a Cultivator, she had much interaction with these mortals. Unlike many other sects, her Celestial Plum Sect did not prohibit mortals from entering.

Even though those mortals had no aptitude for cultivation, she would still chat and converse with them when they came to the Celestial Plum Sect.

Having cultivated for many years, her constant contact with mortals had convinced her she was not so different from them.

In fact, she had formed deep bonds with some of these mortals.

But just two days ago, those Demonic Cultivators suddenly appeared, slaughtering the civilians of Sky Plum City. Although she had rushed there as soon as she discovered the attack, she was too late.

A large number of Sky Plum City's residents died under the Demonic Cultivators' blades, including two whom she knew well.

And now, only two days later, those Demonic Cultivators had returned to this place!

Around her, one after another, Disciples of the Celestial Plum Sect heard the news and began to shout: "Senior Sister, are you going to kill those Demon Heads?"

"Senior Sister, let us go too!"

"Yes, I want to go too, I want to exterminate all those Demon Heads."

"They're too detestable, they even killed Little Hu!"

Qiao Jingyao turned to look at her junior brothers and sisters and shook her head gently, "Listen to me. Continue with your cultivation in the sect. Your Senior Sister promises to avenge them; not one of these Demon Heads will escape."

No sooner had her words fallen when a loud boom echoed from below the mountain gate; amid the thunderous noise, Sky Plum Mountain itself began to shake.

Qiao Jingyao's face changed dramatically: "This is an attack on the Mountain Protection Array, there's an intrusion at our Celestial Plum Sect!"

Without wasting another moment on her junior brothers and sisters, Qiao Jingyao revealed six fantastical Golden Cores behind her, hurrying towards the mountain base.

While she was still in flight, explosions echoed through the air again, and the sky shook violently. An earth-shattering roar suddenly erupted, so loud that it gave the illusion that Sky Plum Mountain itself had completely burst open at that moment.

At the same time, a plume of smoke and dust rose to the sky at the foot of the mountain, completely obscuring part of the horizon.

"The Mountain Protection Array has been breached!"

In her horror, Qiao Jingyao sped towards the mountain base, but an arrogant voice had already sounded through the air.

"This thing dares to call itself a Mountain Protection Array? I've never seen such a pathetic excuse for a protection array."

"What is this supposed to be?"

"Haha, this tiny Immortal Sect even has Golden Core Stage Cultivators."

"Oh, look, here come two old men, both at the Golden Core Stage, and both at the seventh level of the Golden Core Stage."

At the base of Sky Plum Mountain, the Mountain Protection Array had been completely shattered, and the mountain gate itself was blown open.

A group of black-robed Demonic Cultivators, seething with Demonic Qi, burst into the Celestial Plum Sect. It was clear they were invading someone else's sect, yet they acted as carelessly as if they were in their own backyard, showing no regard for the sect's inhabitants.

Cultivators generally do not have an unpleasant appearance, whether due to the subtle transformation under the influence of cultivation or other reasons.

The same was true of Demonic Cultivators. However, among this group, there was one skinny man with a pointy chin and shifty eyes, who pointed to two old men flying in from the Celestial Plum Sect and laughed scornfully, "Golden Core at the seventh level, so impressive, truly so impressive. I'm only at the sixth level of the Golden Core, and they're far more formidable than me. What should I do, I'm so scared, really scared.

These are seventh-level Golden Cores; they have one more Golden Core than me. Among us, except for Shaoze Senior Brother, no one else has more Golden Cores than they have, it's really frightening."