

My Master 791

Chapter 791:

Behind the cave, Chen Yexian and the other two watched in utter horror as the Ultimate Blade Protector's body, severed in two, lay before them.

This...

What is this!

The Ultimate Blade Protector was an entity at the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection!

Even if the Ultimate Blade Protector had attacked someone earlier, that still wouldn't justify being split in half by a single slash!

Moreover, they were all Golden Cores themselves, and within their Immortal Sect, there were those at the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection stage; they had sparred with such beings and even witnessed them fight with all their might!

None of those at the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection could unleash such a terrifying attack!

To kill someone at the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection with a single strike!

Is there really such a powerful existence in this world?

Who exactly are these people?

Furthermore, the Ultimate Blade Protector just now attacked the leader of the group, Cao Zhen!

But Cao Zhen, who was merely at the sixth level of the Golden Core, managed to block the Ultimate Blade Protector's sneak attack!

The Ultimate Blade Protector earned his name precisely because of his flying blade.

Even a master at the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection from their Hanging Sky Island admitted they were no match for the Ultimate Blade Protector. Within the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection, he was definitely one of the strong.

Moreover, the Ultimate Blade Protector managed to sever a skeleton's arm with his flying blade, which clearly demonstrated the horror of his strike.

However, such a strike was blocked by someone at the sixth level of the Golden Core.

That's right, after the leader of the opposite group blocked the Ultimate Blade Protector's attack, he shouted a name in surprise, Cao Zhen!

Clearly, the Ultimate Blade Protector knew the identity of his opponent after the latter made his move, or else he wouldn't have fled!

So, the Ultimate Blade Protector knew he was no match for Cao Zhen.

They couldn't even begin to imagine how famous this Cao Zhen must be, making the Ultimate Blade Protector, a Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection, not dare to continue fighting against someone at the sixth level of the Golden Core and rather face those terrifying skeletons and wronged spirits outside!

Unfortunately, they had too little contact with the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty to know who this Cao Zhen really was.

The Ultimate Blade Protector's Jinxi Island, although also part of the South Ocean, had more contact with the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty – he knew the name, the person should be from the Dynasty.

At this moment, the three of them recalled the earlier scene when they attacked Cao Zhen right after he entered the cave, wondering why those Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection masters didn't enter the cave first to ensure safety before allowing Cao Zhen to do so.

Now, they finally understood the reason.

With Cao Zhen's cultivation base, he didn't need anyone else to explore for him.

It's even possible that Cao Zhen was the leader among them not because of his status but rather his own strength.

They were initially wrong; these Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection beings were not there to protect Cao Zhen.

However, how did someone at the mere sixth level of the Golden Core cultivate to such strength?

The sixth level of the Golden Core, that was far from achieving Core Formation.

When the opponent adds four more Abnormal Phenomenon Golden Pills, completing the Pill Fusion, just how strong will he become!

They knew that the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection wasn't something you could just decide to condense.

The further you are in the Golden Core Stage, the harder it becomes to condense an Abnormal Phenomenon Golden Pill.

Especially the last Abnormal Phenomenon Golden Pill, who knew how many prodigies were stuck just one pill short of Nine Abnormal Phenomenon Golden Pill Perfect Completion.

But the person before them was so terrifying at the sixth level of the Golden Core, they had no doubt that he could condense ten Abnormal Phenomenon Golden Pills.

Now, what worried them was whether these people would attack them.

Although, from their previous encounter, those present didn't seem like excessively brutal people, the situation was different now; they hadn't witnessed them in action, and the group had just acquired a map.

Why did the Ultimate Blade Protector attack? Wasn't it because after obtaining the map, he wanted to silence any witnesses?

What about these people?

It was fortunate that whether Li Ke took action or Yan Yourong did, they intentionally controlled their attacks, not destroying this part of the cave.

Still, flames and blade light flew every which way, inevitably touching the walls.

Especially where the blade light passed, the walls of the cave peeled away layer by layer, revealing a smoother surface beneath.

The smoothness of these walls even gave off the impression of mirrors.

Linghu Gudu's attention was immediately drawn to the walls. Filled with curiosity, he stretched out a hand and gently touched the wall, wondering, "That's strange, why is this wall so different? What kind of wall is this?"

These people had claimed that the caves they dug were unable to stop the skeletons, but I'm not sure if that's really true. Could it be that the reason the skeletons and wronged spirits can't enter the caves is because of these walls?

But, I don't see any Formations on these walls."

Just as his words ended, the map the dead Ultimate Blade Protector had taken from the skeleton suddenly flew up and attached itself to the smooth wall.

The next moment, the smooth walls around them suddenly began to ripple, and slowly an image emerged on them.

Cao Zhen was surprised to discover that the walls before him had turned into something like surveillance screens, displaying various images, each depicting the interior of a cave.

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Quickly, the scene started to freeze, and in their field of vision, a cave appeared.

Inside the cave, there were six people. Three of them were seated cross-legged on the ground in the foreground, with the rest behind them. One of the three in the front had disheveled hair that made him look extremely wild, and another was naked from the waist up, covered only with leaves around his waist, his beard so unkempt that it could not simply be described as disheveled.

The third person in the foreground was a woman, and although she was female, her skin was a bronze color. Moreover, she was dressed almost the same as the wild-looking man, with just a few leaves around her waist, the only difference being that she had two additional leaves covering her chest.

Behind these three were three familiar figures.

"Lan Mei, Young Master Lian Hua, and TaMu!" Linghu Gudu recognized the three and immediately muttered, "These three guys are really not dead. And this wall, it can actually reveal other places... or rather, the situation inside other caves!"

"I don't care if the other two die, but Young Master Lian Hua must die! He was lucky to escape once, does he think he can escape a second time?" Yan Yourong's eyes revealed a chilling intent to kill.

Chen Yexian, listening to the conversation behind them, suddenly realized something: did this mean that they had previously been in conflict, and Young Master Lian Hua's trio were the losers who had narrowly escaped doom by fleeing?

However, considering the cultivation realm of Cao Zhen, Linghu Gudu, and others, it all seemed quite reasonable.

After all, even the formidable Ultimate Blade Protector had been slain with a single blade!

The strength of these people was terrifyingly boundless!

She even wondered if there was any force among those who entered the ruins, other than those dozens or even hundreds of large factions with Golden Core Stage practitioners, that was stronger than the group in front of her.

"I also find that Young Master Lian Hua disagreeable, count me in when it's time to kill him," said Linghu Gudu, and then pointed to the people sitting cross-legged in front and introduced them, "Those two wild-looking fellows are a pair of Dao companions. The male is named Rong Peak and the female calls herself Rong clan.

Both of them have reached the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection, with Rong Peak wielding a Divine Weapon, a Giant Hammer, and the woman using a long whip. Their strength among the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Core Great Perfection is just average, but they are skilled in the Combined Attack Technique.

When united, they can exhibit far more power than their normal strength. As for the other person, I do not recognize him."

Upon hearing this, Chen Yexian from behind felt that it was her chance to prove her worth and hurriedly said, "The other person is also from Evil People Island. People do not know his name, but everyone calls him the Axe Lunatic.

He is a complete battle maniac, attacking anyone he sees fervently, and even if there is no enmity, he challenges those he perceives to be immensely strong or invincible within their cultivation realm.

Others spar with restraint, but when he challenges someone, it can genuinely result in death.

I don't know how many talented experts have fallen by his hand. Moreover, when he challenges you, you can't even refuse; if you do, he will forcefully provoke a fight with you!

Of course, if he wins a challenge and the other party doesn't die, he will not pursue them to their death. His only purpose is the pure thrill of challenging someone, of testing himself against the strong.

Even when he encounters someone of a lower cultivation realm, he challenges them by willingly suppressing his own cultivation level to match or even be lower than theirs before engaging them.

Because of this, he has been gravely injured and nearly died from being ganged up on. However, once he recovered, he continued to challenge others as before.

Speaking of which, the inhabitants of Evil People Island are those who have committed crimes or are wanted by the Immortal Sects or those who are hiding from their enemies.

Most people on the island are indeed evil, but the Axe Lunatic is not entirely a bad person.

He kills merely because the fights he engages in are too fierce, and apart from this, no one has ever heard of him killing without reason.

He ended up on Evil People Island after killing someone's disciple during a fight, which led to the master coming down the mountain to slay him, leaving him no choice but to take refuge on the island.

Upon arrival, he battled fiercely across Evil People Island, challenging everyone he encountered. Eventually, after provoking widespread resentment, the island's experts stepped in to stop him.

However, with the advent of the Minor Era of Inversion of Heaven and Earth, there was no longer anyone who could control or deter him, and he started challenging people everywhere once again."

"So, he's the Axe Lunatic!" Linghu Gudu nodded upon hearing this and said, "I heard of the Axe Lunatic as soon as I came to the South Ocean. It seems we are somewhat similar. The difference is he likes challenging people everywhere, while I enjoy adventuring in various places.

It's just that I've never met him before."

It wasn't that he didn't have a chance to meet the Axe Lunatic, but that he deliberately avoided him.

In the past, he had heard the Axe Lunatic was nearby and promptly fled. That guy was too crazy. What if he challenged him to a duel?

He had no desire to get into a pointless fight with such a lunatic!

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Cao Zhen nodded with understanding and said, "So, this is what a martial arts fanatic is like. But exactly how many individuals at the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection are there on Evil People Island?"

Now, he had already seen six from Evil People Island of the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection.

In the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, among the ten Immortal Sects, only their Hundred Peaks Sect had so many of the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection!

And that was just what he saw, there were those he hadn't seen yet, and the power of Evil People Island was somewhat terrifying!

"We also do not know how many Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection there are on Evil People Island, but there will not be less than ten!" Chen Yexian explained, "Evil People Island is where all those wanted by the Immortal Sects and being hunted down take refuge, it could be said to indeed be the gathering place of all the scoundrels of our South Ocean, even of the whole world.

Especially here in the South Ocean, although I don't interact much with the Guardian Immortal Dynasty, I still know that there are laws in the Guardian Immortal Dynasty. However, things are much more

chaotic here in the South Ocean, hence there are more evil-doers, and incidents of murder and looting are fairly common. Many people, after offending those who should not be offended, would end up escaping to Evil People Island.

Over time, the number of experts on Evil People Island grew. However, although they are all on Evil People Island, they are not united and cannot be seen as a single faction.

If the people of Evil People Island were to all come together and form a power like that of an Immortal Sect, the various Immortal Sects of the South Ocean would have joined forces long ago to eliminate Evil People Island."

Chen Yexian's voice had just fallen when Young Master Lian Hua's voice rang out from the wall smooth like a mirror.

"Madman, Rong Peak, let's join hands."

The Axe Madman did not speak, but Rong Peak who was beside him sneered disdainfully and coldly said to Young Master Lian Hua, "Join hands? With you? I'm afraid it would dirty my hands. If it weren't for TaMu, do you think I would have let you into this cave? You should be grateful that we did not kill you, instead of suggesting to join hands with us."

A cold glint suddenly crossed Young Master Lian Hua's face; Rong Peak had actually insulted him to his face. If it weren't for the fact that Rong Peak had a Dao companion, and that Rong Peak had once saved Axe Madman, he would have already turned against Rong Peak!

Without his Dao companion to perform the Combined Attack Technique with him and without Axe Madman, what was he?

Seeing Young Master Lian Hua at a loss, Lan Mei stood up from one side, walked over to the three men and sat down, whispering, "Actually, what Young Master Lian Hua said makes sense. This relic is even more terrifying than we thought, and there are countless experts who have entered this relic.

You should be able to tell—Young Master Lian Hua, TaMu, and even myself are injured. The reason we are injured is because we were attacked before entering the relic.

We encountered three women, all female cultivators, and they did not seem to be from our South Ocean.

We don't know their background, but their strength was far superior to ours. One of the women who used flames might be a little weaker, perhaps she did not exert her full strength, but the other two female cultivators were extremely terrifying. One of them had a Sword Technique filled with unstoppable power, and another was casting Talismans.

We were injured by just one face-off, and if we hadn't entered this relic right away, it would be a question whether the three of us could still be alive."

TaMu next to him nodded and responded, "Not only that, but the woman who was casting Talismans also deployed a type of Formation Map that looked like a disk. Inside that Formation Map, I felt completely restrained, as if streams of water were everywhere, with an invisible force binding me.

Furthermore, aside from those three, they had one more person who seemed to be the leader. But that person didn't make a move, so we aren't clear about their strength."

"Formation Map? Talisman? And one wielding a sword?" Axe Madman suddenly turned his head and asked the trio, "Are those three women all extremely beautiful?"

TaMu appeared not to expect Axe Madman to ask that, showing a clear look of surprise on his face. After a moment of hesitation, he answered, "That's right, all three female cultivators were stunning beauties."

With that, he looked at Axe Madman with an extremely strange expression. According to the rumors, Axe Madman was a complete martial fanatic, not concerned with anything else and especially indifferent towards women. Why was he suddenly concerned about the appearance of those three female cultivators?

However, Lan Mei appeared to think of something and asked, "Do you know who they are?"

Axe Madman was not one of their South Ocean people but had escaped here from elsewhere, so he had a better understanding and awareness of the outside world than they did.

"The three women you encountered should be from the Hundred Peaks Sect of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty. Among them, the one using flames should be named Li Ke, one of the ten Immortal Generals of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty. The one with the sword is called Yan Yourong, also one of the ten Immortal Generals of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, and a disciple of the Four Treasures Peak of the Hundred Peaks Sect. As for the one using talismans and Formation Maps, it's Ling Xi, another of the ten Immortal Generals of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, also from Hundred Peaks Sect, Four Treasures Peak.

And the leading man can only be one person, their master, Peak Master Cao Zhen of Four Treasures Peak, the current State Preceptor of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, the first place winner of the Imperial Dynasty's Martial Contest, or in other words, the strongest person in the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty. And he, is also a reincarnated being with Great Ability!"

"What? A reincarnated being with Great Ability!"

"The Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, the strongest person of the present!"

Everyone around was stunned upon hearing this.

As for why Axe Madman knew so much about the opponent, it was clear that he must have wanted to challenge them but it had not come to pass because of some matters.

Inside the cave, Chen Yexian and the other two also heard Axe Madman's words, and in an instant, their gaze all fell on Cao Zhen.

The man before them was actually the master of those two!

And not only that, but he was also a reincarnated being with Great Ability!

And yet, the man before them was clearly at the sixth layer of Golden Core, but Axe Madman claimed that he was the strongest of the Golden Core Stage in the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty!

The Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty was certainly not smaller than the entire South Ocean, so just how strong was the strongest person in the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty?

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Cao Zhen did not know whether those six people from Evil People Island had joined forces.

In front of him, the smooth wall that was just like a mirror suddenly changed without any warning, transforming into a mountain cave.

Inside this mountain cave, it was crowded with people. At first glance, there were more than thirty men, crammed into the cave and filling it completely.

All thirty were men, each with sleeveless garments that revealed a pair of muscular, bulging arms, making them look extraordinarily strong.

At that moment, as they squeezed into the tiny cave, every one of them had a solemn expression on their face.

"How did the image on the stone wall suddenly change?" Li Ke looked at the changing image on the wall with a slight pause, and asked in surprise, "Does it automatically change after a while, or is it for some other reason? And who are these people? They shouldn't be from our Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty."

At the back of the cave, Chen Yexian looked at the shadows on the stone wall and shook his head, "These people are not from our South Ocean either."

"They are from the Hui Zhu Dynasty."

The crowd turned their heads to look at Linghu Gudu upon hearing this.

Linghu Gudu shrugged his shoulders lightly, speaking casually, "Nothing special, I've traveled a lot and seen many people. The Hui Zhu Dynasty has two big Immortal Sects. Look at the clothes they're wearing."

Linghu Gudu pointed at the clothing on the left chest of the people in the image on the stone wall, where the pattern of a Strange Beast with two heads was drawn.

"This is the Exotic Beast Worship Barbarian. They come from one of the two major Immortal Sects of the Hui Zhu Dynasty, Chong Wu Mountain. Looking at these people, it's clear that Chong Wu Mountain had many entering the relics. Now, only so many have survived; sadly, the others have probably died on the way.

After all, when night falls, only within the caves can one successfully find shelter. However, when there are too many people, the cave cannot fit everyone. Those who are unable to enter the caves will surely be killed by skeletons and resentful spirits outside."

Chen Yexian looked puzzled and asked, looking behind her, "If the cave isn't big enough, why not expand towards the back?"

"I would advise you not to touch anything recklessly." Linghu Gudu pointed at the people in the image and said, "Look at them, even though they are already packed to such an extent, they still have not attacked the back of the cave to expand it.

Clearly, they must have tried before, but the outcome was not good, which is why they have refrained from doing it."

Hearing this, Chen Yexian quickly moved forward to distance herself and raised her hands to signal that she had no intention of attacking the cave behind her.

Linghu Gudu sighed slightly as he glanced again at the stone wall, "Those powers that had entered with many people at this time are probably going to be unlucky.

They entered with hundreds of people, but at night when a cave cannot accommodate everyone, who knows how many will perish."

Behind, the silence fell among the three from Chen Yexian's group. Fortunately, not many from their Hanging Sky Island had entered the ruins, and those powerful forces with many members entering the ruins experiencing bad luck implied that the few before them might be even stronger.

After all, no matter how strong they were, it would be troubling for them if the opposing side had more people. But after those numerous groups were weakened, who else could challenge them?

As they spoke, the image on the stone wall in front of them changed again.

This time, what appeared before them was no longer a group of people, but one person!

This cave seemed even larger than the previous ones they had seen, but there was only one person in the entire cave.

He was a man with a face like fine jade, his eyes shining with a wise light, as if cleansed by the river of history, his white hair tied behind his head, giving off an indescribable sense of elegance.

Although merely sitting there, he seemed to carry an aura as if he were the center of the world no matter where he appeared.

He sat cross-legged in the cave, with a long tea table even set up in front of him, laden with tea sets.

There he sat leisurely drinking tea, gazing at the wall opposite to him.

The wall!

His wall also had a series of images.

As Cao Zhen and the others looked towards his wall, the images on it suddenly changed, showing the figures of Cao Zhen and his companions.

Cao Zhen's eyes bulged suddenly; in the previous instances, while they could see others, those people couldn't see them. But this man's wall could also see others!

The man didn't seem surprised that others were observing him; upon seeing several figures appear on the wall, he even raised his tea cup and made a toasting gesture towards them as if clinking glasses through the air.

Then, he gently sipped the tea in his cup and the image before everyone vanished.

Linghu Gudu spoke in a low voice, "This person is extraordinary."

Upon hearing this, Ling Xi couldn't help but ask, "How can you tell?"

"Intuition!" Linghu Gudu answered seriously, "I can sense it just relying on intuition and my intuition is very accurate. It's like when I saw you for the first time, I knew you were no ordinary people."

As they spoke, the light and shadows on the stone wall before them started to shift again.

Cao Zhen gradually realized that the images on the stone wall changed with time, shifting every once in a while.

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Moreover, he also discovered that it wasn't just them who could see others; others could see them as well.

Just like them, however, the number of people who could see others wasn't particularly large.

It seems, it must have something to do with that map.

It was only after they had snatched the map from the skeleton's hand that the walls underwent a change.

Therefore, it was very possible that they were being observed yesterday, but because they didn't have the map at the time, they didn't see anyone else.

But what use was the map? Was it just for the purpose of seeing others?

Moreover, the stone walls around them, clearly devoid of any formations, why did the map, once it appeared, automatically fall upon the wall and then a picture emerged?

Cao Zhen's heart was filled with doubts and confusion.

And the image on the stone wall didn't persist indefinitely either.

About two hours later, a burst of light shot out from the wall, and the map flew out, falling to the ground.

Cao Zhen raised his hand to catch it, and immediately, the map landed in his hand.

Ling Xi and Linghu Gudu's group came up one after another, looking over the map.

Linghu Gudu, seemingly because he had been to many places, was the first to understand upon seeing the map. He pointed to the map and said, "This map, you see, this is clearly the place we passed by earlier. This map is of the surrounding area, and then, this route, the map is directing us to go to this place..."

Chen Yexian and the other two, however, kept their distance in the back, not daring to step forward at all.

Now, others hadn't killed them, perhaps because the others weren't bloodthirsty, nor did they consider them significant enough to bother with.

But they dared to guarantee that if they were to step forward to look at the map, the others would definitely slay the three of them on the spot.

Everything still came down to strength.

They saw the map at the same time, yet in the end, the map was in the hands of Cao Zhen and his group, simply because his man was the strongest.

So, often times, when people enter various heritage ruins, the person who ultimately obtains the treasures within is usually someone with a higher cultivation base, and there's a reason for that.

After Linghu Gudu finished examining the map, he quickly started to analyze, "This map comes from a skeleton's hand, so the skeleton must have been a person in life. Then, many people battled and vied for something here, likely for some treasure, and the map ended up in its possession. Because the map was so important, he, out of obsession, held onto the map even in death. It should be something like that.

Therefore, we were right to assume this place was an ancient battlefield at first, but it's also not wrong to think of it as a heritage ruin.

It must have been a heritage ruin at first, then many people vied for the ruin here, turning it into an ancient battlefield.

We've only entered the ruin for a short while, and we've already seen so many skeletons of people who died here. Who knows how many people fought over this place in the past.

A ruin that attracted so many contenders must indeed be a top-tier ruin!

Thus, this ruin we've entered this time might be even more elite than many people imagine. But this ruin is also far more terrifying and dangerous than we anticipated."

"But regardless of the danger, now that we have the map, we must go and see for ourselves."

Cao Zhen did not continue to discuss with the others, but sat down cross-legged, closed his eyes slightly, and quietly connected with the Eclipse Demon.

Today was the second day since they had entered the ruins, he wondered how the Eclipse Demon was faring.

Soon, the Eclipse Demon appeared in his field of vision,

At this moment, twelve people had gathered in this cave, with the Eclipse Demon merely sitting on the outer edge.

Cao Zhen's brow furrowed at once.

The Eclipse Demon was at the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection, and now, he was still on the periphery — could it be that all the remaining people were also at the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection?

Were all these people from the Sun and Moon Demon Sect?

How could the Sun and Moon Demon Sect have so many individuals at the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection?

At this time, the images on the wall before them kept changing continuously.

They had obtained a map as well!

The next moment, the image vanished, and the map fell in front of them.

Among them, positioned nearer to the center, a woman with unnaturally pale skin and bright red lips exuding charm picked up the map and handed it to a plain-looking middle-aged man sitting beside her.

Most of those who had entered the ruins were young people; middle-aged cultivators were few and far between.

And this man was the only middle-aged man among these twelve individuals.

He glanced at the map, then put it away, turned his head to look towards the very center of the crowd, where a young man dressed in a purple robe with a handsome and noble appearance sat, and said respectfully, "Third Prince, the map has not changed from yesterday."

Third Prince!

Cao Zhen was suddenly jolted to attention!

The man in purple clothing was obviously the leader among them. Initially, Cao Zhen thought this man was the Sun Moon Demon from the Sun and Moon Demon Sect!

But now, he was being called the Third Prince.

The Third Prince?

Of which dynasty's prince could he be?

Or was he the prince of remnants from a former dynasty?

To the side was the Eclipse Demon from the Sun Moon Demon Sect, so this person could very well be a prince of remnants from the former dynasty, and the Sun Moon Demon Sect truly had allied with those remnants.

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Moreover, the members of the Sun and Moon Demon Sect were clearly led by the opposite party.

After nodding, the Third Prince turned his gaze towards a young man not far away, his expression cold as if he were a stone sculpture, and commanded, "Sun Moon Demon, advance in the direction pointed out by the map tomorrow. You lead the way."

"Yes," Sun Moon Demon nodded firmly.

Sun Moon Demon!

Cao Zhen's expression changed again. Was that the current Sect Leader of the Sun and Moon Demon Sect?

The Sect Leader of the Sun and Moon Demon Sect was actually taking orders from that Third Prince.

Therefore, the Sun and Moon Demon Sect was not merely cooperating with the remnants of the former dynasty; they were completely following the other party's assignments.

The power of the Sun and Moon Demon Sect was in no way weaker than the top ten Immortal Sects, perhaps even stronger; yet now, they had to follow the other party's instructions.

Especially now, what does "leading the way" mean? It was clearly scouting ahead, being sent to the frontlines as cannon fodder.

But the Sun Moon Demon did not refuse.

The relationship between the two parties was clearly that of superior and subordinate.

Just how powerful were the remnants of the former dynasty, to make the Sun and Moon Demon Sect willing to be their tool?

The Third Prince!

One wonders if there are also a Grand Prince and a Second Prince!

Cao Zhen's brows furrowed deeply, as the current situation seemed to be such that simply killing the Sun Moon Demon might not be of much use.

The key was to uncover what arrangements the remnants of the former dynasty had made, where they were now, and what their true strength was.

He needed to think this through carefully.

Cao Zhen watched for a while longer; when he realized that these people were no longer saying anything useful, he also withdrew from the China Cloud.

Soon, a night passed by.

On the third day of entering the ruins, as the day broke, all the skeletons and wronged spirits disappeared just like yesterday.

"Let's go, follow the map," the Third Prince said. They also had maps, and they naturally followed the direction indicated on the map.

However, from last night's observation, he found that those with maps were not few in number; it was unknown whether everyone's maps ultimately pointed to the same place.

The group flew on, and as they progressed, the path before them grew more desolate.

Since entering the ruins, they had seen mountains, rivers, and green trees and grasslands, but now, they were flying over a desert.

"There are no plants here, but where are the mountains?" Ling Hu Gudu said in a low voice while flying, "Without mountains, where would we find caves? If by evening we can't find any, wouldn't that be troublesome?"

As soon as the words left his mouth, the air around them began to fluctuate violently.

The desert, which was utterly calm and without wind, seemed to pulse with life as the whole world seemed to vibrate along with it.

Especially around the five of them, at a distance of about a hundred yards, the space unexpectedly cracked open without warning, revealing dark crevices!

"What's happening here? The Void is splitting open? Now, during the Reversal Mini Epoch Period, what force could possibly cause the Void to split open? Unless the Void here is inherently flawed!"

Ling Hu Gudu exclaimed softly, looking at the shattered space. Just as he thought about flying away, suddenly, about three yards in front of him, the Void also suddenly split open.

The Void around them continued to crack, forming numerous fissures.

The next moment, chilling Wind Blades blew out from these cracks, and as they descended, an intense cold air assaulted them.

In an instant, they felt as though the air and space before them were being sliced apart by the Wind Blades, which seemed capable of effortlessly carving through mountains, filled with endless sharpness. Moreover, the speed of these Wind Blades was extremely fast, reaching them in the blink of an eye.

Furthermore, as these Wind Blades fell, they were utterly unpredictable, like a series of fierce Sword Qi or blade lights, crisscrossing and nearly filling the entire space, making it continuously shake.

In the shaking space, a giant vortex formed instantly.

Great forces of suction emanated from the maelstrom, pulling the five uncontrollably toward it.

Behind Cao Zhen, six Golden Cores of different apparitions and one Heretical Golden Core appeared instantly; his aura soared to the extreme as he quickly flew towards the distance.

But the suction from behind affected his flight speed, even slowing down his movements significantly.

In an instant, a barrage of Wind Blades descended.

Instantly, a Golden Core behind Cao Zhen emitted a dazzling brilliance, and rays of Protective Divine Power shone from his body.

Lights emerged from his body, and from afar, he resembled an ancient war deity on the battlefield!

In the next moment, the Wind Blades struck down.

Suddenly, golden lights tremored around his body, and Dragon and Tiger apparitions circled, fending off the Wind Blades. But in just a brief moment, these apparitions began to shatter.

Cao Zhen moved swiftly, evading the continuous fall of Wind Blades. In a short span of breaths, four of his Protective Divine Powers were breached.

Beside him, Yan Yourong was surrounded by a myriad of Talismans converging to form a massive Turtle Shell.

An ancient and mysterious aura spread rapidly in all directions.

Chapter 797:

Blade after blade of wind fell, smashing onto the tortoiseshell shield, and instantly, obscure and enigmatic runes appeared upon it, each rune seemingly a massive mountain, withstanding the descending wind blades.

Elsewhere, in front of Yan Yourong, a mountain's phantom also emerged.

The next moment, an immensely majestic mountain rose up in front of her.

Atop the mountain, towering trees thrived, their dense branches and leaves obscuring the sky as if veiling the void of this part of the world with their verdant life force that spread out in all directions.

Amidst the mountainside, waterfalls cascaded like a galaxy in reverse, impacting the ground and forming a meandering river that encircled the mountain like a mighty dragon,

Along the riverbanks, the earth was studded with sharp weapons planted upside down, like embankments of the river, emitting an endless aura of sharpness.

At the peak was an enormous volcanic crater, igniting everything around it, as if the very mountain were a burning sun.

Gold, wood, water, fire, and earth—the five-colored lights rose from behind Yan Yourong.

A single mountain managed to block all the surrounding wind blades.

On the other side, Linghu Gudu's left and right hands each bore a massive shield.

Both shields were a deep blue color.

However, one shield was round, like a lake.

The other radiated intense cold, chilling the surrounding air as if it were freezing everything.

Wind blades fell, striking the shields, but were completely blocked.

Meanwhile, Li Ke's body was enveloped in intense flames, which from a distance, appeared as though she were wearing a fiery cloak.

Beneath her feet, a massive fiery red disc appeared as if the setting sun had descended beneath her feet.

As wind blades attacked, the blazing sun at her feet suddenly shot up, exploding in front of her. In an instant, the space itself seemed destroyed, and the wind blades before her were completely obliterated by the overwhelming fiery aura.

Yet, wind blades continued to assault her from all sides.

Among the crowd, her cultivation base was relatively low.

She did not know how strong Linghu Gudu was, but one thing was certain: Linghu Gudu's life-saving and defense methods were much more profound than hers.

She merely used flames to defend against the wind blades, but under the relentless assault of numerous wind blades, her fiery defenses were being torn apart.

Blades sharp enough to easily level mountains struck her directly.

Instantly, a golden light enveloped her body.

The Gold Light Spell!

However, there were far too many wind blades, and it seemed the Gold Light Spell alone could not fend off their onslaught.

In a mere instant, the Gold Light Spell broke, and a wind blade fell, cleaving into her body, causing her to stagger. A pallid hue spread across her beautiful face.

The next instant, a wind blade descended directly on her shoulder.

Suddenly, without the protection of the Gold Light Spell, her clothing was torn open, revealing a bone-deep gash on her fair skin, from which bright red blood spurted.

And in front of her, even more wind blades plummeted toward her.

Li Ke's complexion drastically changed.

Just one wind blade had made her feel as if she were struck by a blow from a Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection master; with several more descending...

Suddenly, Cao Zhen's figure abruptly appeared in front of her, shielding her with his body.

Above Cao Zhen's head, a Heretical Golden Core spun wildly, its vast and boundless aura rippling outwards.

His hands swung in two different directions. In a flash, white and black lights emanated from each hand.

The white light was blindingly brilliant, more so than the descending sunlight; the black was as dark as ink, seemingly deeper than the black of night.

The air around them also began to whirl with the movement of his arms, forming a rotating current. The two lights converged into this current, within which the phantom of the sun and moon emerged.

The Sun and Moon Sect's Sun Moon Star Shift!

The Sun Moon Star Shift could reflect divine skills, and the wind blades, in his view, were also divine skills that he could reflect back.

For a time, a small whirlpool even appeared in front of him as if it were a miniature version within the Endless Sea's giant maelstrom. Though it couldn't face the giant whirl directly, it caused a brief disruption to its swirling motion.

Wind blades descended into this whirlpool, then the next moment, countless wind blades were repelled outward, colliding with others.

Not far away, Linghu Gudu watched this scene, his eyes widening in shock. Such divine skills—what kind of divine skills were they, to be able to reflect so many wind blades back?

"Quick, break out!" Cao Zhen bellowed, seizing the moment of collision between the wind blades to rush through the vacuum created in their wake.

If they remained within this Wind Blade Whirlpool, their mana would be depleted until they perished from exhaustion. To survive, they must break free from the wind blades' range.

However, just as they made some distance, terrifying suction forces began to emanate from one side, and countless wind blades once again bore down on them.

Chapter 798:

Li Ke watched as the wind blades fell, and from behind her, atop the giant Golden Core formed by ten different phenomena, suddenly burst forth an incomparably dazzling radiance.

The scorching aura instantly filled the entire space.

Suddenly, the image of a Vermilion Bird materialized behind her, radiating an aura full of ferocity, savagery, and wildness that surged toward the distance.

Vermilion Bird's Flame!

Indeed, she was not adept at defense, but she excelled at offense; if a path needed carving, then let her flames blaze the trail!

A cry of the sacred Vermilion Bird echoed, and a being composed of flames resembling the sacred bird emerged, shooting toward the space before her.

In an instant, the air around was spontaneously ignited.

The Vermilion Bird's Flame was far stronger than the flames she had released, devouring the falling wind blades as they descended.

Linghu Gudu, feeling the scorching air around him and witnessing the devouring flames, finally showed a glimmer of enlightenment in his eyes.

He had noticed during the previous battle, when Ling Xi, Yan Yourong, and Lan Mei were exchanging blows, that Li Ke seemed much weaker than Ling Xi and Yan Yourong, which he found very strange.

Now, seeing this flame, he finally understood why Li Ke could walk alongside the trio and why she could become Cao Zhen's partner.

This flame was definitely not a normal flame.

Unfortunately, although the flame was strong, there were simply too many wind blades. In the next moment, more and more wind blades fell.

However, that was enough; the recent fiery onslaught had blocked a large number of wind blades, and Cao Zhen also swung out with his sword.

Suddenly, his entire demeanor changed in that moment.

As Cao Zhen swung his sword, hundreds of his images suddenly appeared in the void, each one striking with a sword at the same time.

A hundred swords flew out, each one carrying an unparalleled sword intent, suffused with a dense ethereal quality.

These hundred swords, each unique, were as if a hundred peerless swordsmen were simultaneously executing their strongest strike, and these hundred phantoms appeared incredibly elusive, faintly giving one the impression that not a hundred people were wielding swordsmanship, but that no one was.

With that sword's descent, the entire world began to tremble wildly.

This time, these hundred visions didn't merge into a single sword; it was a hundred swords! Wherever the sword light passed, everything, everything, shattered to pieces.

Wind blades burst apart in its wake!

Then, taking advantage of the vacuum created by this sword, they quickly moved forward, and Yan Yourong swung her sword!

Five people, led by Cao Zhen, Li Ke, and Yan Yourong, were responsible for blazing the path ahead, while Ling Xi and Linghu Gudu covered the rear, blocking the wind blades from behind, and in this manner, they steadily advanced.

The hurricane had come too suddenly and was too fierce, but all of them were top existences at the Golden Core Stage, even Linghu Gudu; Cao Zhen felt that Linghu Gudu's strength was in no way inferior to when he left.

Working together, they gradually neared the edge of the hurricane, and just as they were about to break through the periphery, suddenly, at the center of the hurricane's vortex, the vast whirlpool exploded with a thunderous bang.

And with it, a sound as if the entire world were shattering echoed, and in a flash, countless wind blades scattered in all directions.

Innumerable wind blades, each as powerful as a Golden Core's attack and even the impact of a Golden Core master, the whistling blades fell, some shooting into the void, piercing the clouds in the sky, some striking the earth, cutting into the desert surface, grinding numerous sand grains into powder, and the tremendous impact stirred up the powder as if a sandstorm had hit.

Some of the wind blades were aimed directly at the five people.

On Cao Zhen's body, multiple protective divine powers reemerged, but the incoming wind blades were simply too numerous, too overwhelming, even for him. As they swept across him, his protective divine powers were completely shattered, and the wind blades directly struck his body.

Although he was not yet at the Perfect Completion Golden Core Stage, thanks to the Sky Demon Record and the refinement when breaking through the Golden Core Stage, his physical strength was far stronger than those at the Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection.

Even so, in an instant, his flesh and blood were strewn about.

Beside him, Linghu Gudu's two shields in front were ringing crisply under the assault of the wind blades. The one radiating frost and cold breath especially showed clear cracks, as if it were ice being relentlessly struck by sharp tools, ultimately unable to withstand the blows, shattering at last.

Following that, wind blades slammed down upon him, pounding him heavily into the ground.

Elsewhere, Ling Xi's large tortoise shell had also shattered, turning into talismans that fell to the ground with her.

Yan Yourong's Five Elements Glow had faded away, and she too crashed onto the ground.

The sudden outbreak of wind blades was overwhelming; despite their collective efforts, they could not fend off the onslaught.

Within this maelstrom of wind blades, Li Ke relied solely on the Gold Light Spell and her gathered flames for protection, with few other life-saving means at her disposal.

In just the span of a single breath, the Gold Light Spell on her body had been torn apart by the wind blades, which crashed down upon her, slicing her skin open and penetrating her body with their piercing chill rampaging violently within!

This is bad!

Upon seeing Li Ke bombarded by countless wind blades, Cao Zhen's face changed drastically. He wanted to rescue her, but the terrifying impact of the exploding tornado struck him, sending his body flying into the distance.

Chapter 799:

The colossal dragon tornado burst open, the terrifying force flinging the group of five—including Cao Zhen—all over the place, crashing heavily onto the sandy ground.

All five were injured, but not all to the same degree.

Thanks to his robust physique and more protective divine powers, Cao Zhen, despite appearing to be drenched in blood and constantly oozing scarlet streams, suffered mostly from external wounds.

Protected by the Heaven and Earth Bagua Talisman, Ling Xi's injuries even seemed lighter than Cao Zhen's.

If it had been the previous Yan Yourong, without any means to save her life, she wouldn't stand a chance, but she had already mastered the supreme technique of the Five Elements Peak, which allowed her to utilize the Five Elements Power to protect herself.

Naturally, her style was still more offensive, her blade being particularly formidable, yet even so, her injuries were only slightly worse than Cao Zhen's, mostly external, with just a bit of internal trauma.

As for Linghu Gudu, this guy, was definitely quite the survivor.

While others might have a shield for defense, he had two!

Cao Zhen could tell that Linghu Gudu was not a simple Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection; he even felt that Linghu Gudu had the strength to enter the top ten of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty's fighting competition.

It also made sense—if Linghu Gudu didn't have some special tricks up his sleeve, would he really dare to foolishly team up with so many others without fearing they might turn on him after seeing the treasure?

Yet despite his strength not matching Yan Yourong's, Linghu Gudu suffered even lighter injuries than she did from the explosion of the tornado.

Among the five, only Li Ke was seriously hurt!

Her cultivation base was the weakest among them, along with Linghu Gudu, and she wasn't as survival-focused as he was.

Under the relentless assault of the endless gales, she instantly turned into a bloody figure, spitting out mouthfuls of blood and being struck unconscious before crashing heavily onto the ground.

Like the others who fell to the ground, Cao Zhen and his companions controlled their bodies using their mana to mitigate the terrifying impact upon landing, but with Li Ke seriously injured and unconscious, how could she manipulate her mana or control her body? She truly fell from high in the sky, hitting the earth hard.

With that fall, her blood gushed out like a fountain.

Endless sands and stones flew skyward; the desert floor was smashed into a giant crater by her impact, and she lay at the bottom of the crater.

Cao Zhen, ignoring the blood oozing from his body, immediately flew to Li Ke's side. He could hardly feel her life force anymore.

Her injuries looked as severe as Yu Tuoyu's had after his Golden Core had self-destructed.

He looked at Li Ke, unconscious, quickly picked her up while reaching into her Qiankun Bag with his other hand.

He accessed Li Ke's Qiankun Bag and took out a Nirvana Pill.

He remembered Li Ke mentioning she had never taken a Nirvana Pill before!

Therefore, Li Ke could still use the Nirvana Pill!

Cao Zhen quickly stuffed the Nirvana Pill into Li Ke's mouth, and only then did he pull a piece of clothing out of her Qiankun Bag to cover her.

He then turned to the others and said, "How are everyone's injuries? If you can still fly, let's leave immediately and find a cave."

If they were all in peak condition, they could possibly escape from the skeletons and resentful spirits in the night, which would be troublesome but manageable.

However, in their current state, each with injuries, if they encountered skeletons and resentful spirits in the night again, he truly did not have confidence they could get away.

He had anticipated trouble during this trip to the ruins, but all the difficulties he had envisioned came from other people.

Say, many Ten Different Phenomena of Golden Elixir Great Perfection cultivators besieging them.

Therefore, initially, he did not want to draw attention or reveal his presence before entering the ruins.

He could never have imagined that with their current combat power, during the Reversal Mini Epoch Period, they would actually face danger! That all of them would be injured!

So, this was the danger of the ruins!

This was the path of immortal cultivation!

On the path of immortal cultivation, never assume you're invincible.

This time, he had learned his lesson.

Also, his defense was still not strong enough!

If he could have layered on even more armor, he could have remained unharmed, he could have protected Li Ke from the attack.

This time, it was Li Ke who was injured, and she had a Nirvana Pill to help her recover.

But once a Nirvana Pill has been used, it can't be used again—the next time it would have to be a Cycle of Nirvana Pill that he provided.

Li Ke had one less chance to save her own life.

And what if it hadn't been Li Ke who was injured but Ling Xi or Yan Yourong? Taking a Nirvana Pill would be useless for them.

What then?

He had been too careless!

"Master, our injuries are not serious," Yan Yourong said. She too had some internal injuries, but still insisted, shaking her head, "Disciple can leave any time."

Ling Xi quickly nodded, "Master, I can help junior sister."

Cao Zhen nodded slightly, and as he was about to inquire about Linghu Gudu, Linghu Gudu pointed to the center of the storm they had just escaped from and yelled, "Over there, there's a skeleton! Before, there was no trace of skeletons around here, but after the tornado exploded, suddenly, a skeleton appeared... I'll go check out what's going on."

Chapter 800:

Linghu Gudu spoke and, without hesitation, soared into the air, flying towards the skeleton and towards the position where the storm's eye had been.

Cao Zhen, at that moment, didn't know how to describe Linghu Gudu – he always seemed so cautious, yet now he was boldly flying towards the center of the furious wind. Wasn't he afraid the violent storm would blow again?

Just now, there were five of them together, and only then had they managed to break out. If Linghu Gudu was alone, he would be unable to escape the center of the storm.

Linghu Gudu always appeared to be an extremely cautious person, but now, he was daring to an unbelievable degree.

Fortunately, the storm did not rise again, and Linghu Gudu had taken two items from the skeleton.

Subsequently, he flew back at a startling speed.

Everyone also saw the treasures Linghu Gudu had injured himself to get – in his left hand he held a string of bells, and though it's called a string, there were actually only two bells, one large and one small, both of silver.

Cao Zhen didn't know what these bells were, unaware of the kind of Treasure they represented. He glanced at the bells but said nothing.

After all, these bells were retrieved by Linghu Gudu himself. He had already obtained a Spirit Pill before, so it was no issue if Linghu Gudu got the bells.

In Linghu Gudu's other hand, he clutched a map, which at first glance looked identical to the map they had obtained, though this one seemed much larger.

"Another map?"

Cao Zhen, looking at the map in Linghu Gudu's hand, showed a look of surprise on his face.

"This map is different. Let's study it once we're back. For now, shall we look for a cave?" Linghu Gudu said while tossing the map to Cao Zhen.

Cao Zhen was the leader of the group, and since they were going to study the map together later anyway, it didn't matter if he held onto it.

Moreover, he had retrieved a powerful Treasure; even without studying it, he could feel its strength.

Cao Zhen and the others glanced at the Treasure but asked no questions, clearly consenting to let it be Linghu Gudu's.

Since that was the case, he indeed should give the map to Cao Zhen.

"Alright, let's go find a cave now."

Cradling Li Ke, Cao Zhen and the group quickly flew forward.

Following the map's guidance, they had been flying east all along, but despite their journey, they discovered only an endless desert ahead with no sign of any caves.

However, in that direction, they could vaguely make out a series of tall mountains.

"Let's turn around. Continuing to fly eastward won't lead us to any high mountains. For now, let's head south temporarily and find the high mountains first."

Cao Zhen and his companions quickly turned and flew towards the promising direction.

They could see those tall mountains only because they were truly towering.

Only after flying for more than half an hour did they reach the vicinity of the high mountains, and finding a cave took them another half an hour.

It was already their third day entering the ruins and on the previous two days, they had always used caves found by others. Today, they finally didn't need to rely on someone else's cave.

This cave appeared to be even smaller than the ones they had encountered before.

Upon entering the cave, Cao Zhen placed Li Ke at the very back.

Carrying Li Ke all this way, he could distinctly feel her body growing hotter, to the point where flames had started to lick her body, instantly burning away the clothes he had put back on her.

Layers of flames enveloped Li Ke, obscuring her form from view.

Eventually, Cao Zhen had to wrap himself in Mana to protect his own body, yet still, he felt as if the flames rising from Li Ke were scorching his hands and body.

He had just laid Li Ke down when the ground below was instantaneously melted, revealing the smooth stone wall.

This stone wall wasn't limited to the sides of the cave; it was also underneath and above.

At this moment, Li Ke was completely engulfed in roaring flames, which made her resemble a massive silkworm cocoon, except her outer shell was made of fire.

A rich aura of life kept surging around her, and Cao Zhen even sensed a particularly unique Aura.

Linghu Gudu, inside the cave, suddenly felt the Aura emanating from Li Ke and with wide eyes, exclaimed, "This Aura, it's the Aura of Reincarnation, the Nirvana Aura! She... I see now, her mastery of Flame must mean she is a Fire Body; she surely has taken a Nirvana Pill!"

After so many years traversing far and wide, he was familiar with the Nirvana Pill. He understood that Li Ke, as a Fire Body, could recover from even grave injuries after taking the Nirvana Pill, and might even make significant advancements – there was no need to worry about her.

Now, he needed to attend to his own injuries.

Although they hadn't suffered injuries as severe as hers, each of them had wounds to deal with.

Soon, Cao Zhen and Linghu Gudu left the cave first to change out of their blood-stained clothes, which resembled beggar's rags, and only returned after stemming the bleeding.

Meanwhile, Ling Xi and Yan Yourong had also changed their clothes within the cave.