

My System 691

Chapter 691: There, Is the True Central Location of the Four Directions Mortal World _2

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At this time, there was no Buddha Head Statue for Cheng Guang to practice with.

So Cheng Guang made use of the Seven-Star Lotus Platform to practice.

At this time, the Seven-Star Lotus Platform had already turned entirely black, resembling a lotus.

It was a Black Lotus.

Cheng Guang sat on the Seven-Star Lotus Platform,

...

Under the moonlight, Cheng Guang was seated on the Seven-Star Lotus Platform, his body enveloped in a faint silver halo.

He knew that the energy within the Seven-Star Lotus Platform was filled with evil and filth, and Tang Sanzang's Divine Powers might well be effective against the wickedness within it.

With this in mind, Cheng Guang no longer hesitated.

He closed his eyes, took a deep breath, and silently recited Tang Sanzang's Buddhist scriptures.

Simultaneously, a Cross Mark symbolizing Buddha suddenly appeared on Cheng Guang's forehead.

As the Cross Mark symbolizing Buddha emerged on Cheng Guang's forehead, the ancient and wise words he was silently reciting resonated around him as if turning tangible, cleansing his body like a spring.

Each word, each syllable, was charged with power and exuded a sense of sanctity, as if it could purify all evil.

As he continued reciting, Cheng Guang's body, unbeknownst to him, started glowing faintly.

While silently chanting Tang Sanzang's Buddhist scriptures, Cheng Guang, without any hesitation, started to utilize the Seven-Star Lotus Platform.

As soon as he began to activate the Seven-Star Lotus Platform, a stream of ink-like dark power flowed out and surged into Cheng Guang's body.

The moment this mysterious dark force, ink-like in appearance, flowed from the Seven-Star Lotus Platform into Cheng Guang, entering his body,

Cheng Guang shivered uncontrollably.

His whole body trembled slightly.

Cold!

Intensely cold!!

At the same time, this coldness seemed to carry a thick, ghastly aura.

It made every part of Cheng Guang's skin, every pore, every bone feel bitterly cold.

All sorts of confused speech emerged from the depths of Cheng Guang's heart.

These confused voices rang loud in his mind,

Even overwhelming the Buddhist scriptures Cheng Guang was reciting silently.

For a moment, it seemed as though Cheng Guang's mind was about to collapse.

But still, Cheng Guang managed to retain his mental clarity.

The Buddhist scriptures in his mind never paused for a moment.

Regardless, Cheng Guang continued to recite the scriptures wholeheartedly.

Simultaneously,

Cheng Guang was also gauging his own capabilities.

If he found himself unable to bear the strain, he would not act recklessly and would immediately stop the Seven-Star Lotus Platform's activation.

While Cheng Guang's heart was immersed in the recitation of Buddhist scriptures,

The glow that had begun to flicker on his body gradually changed color.

Initially silver-white, but as the Seven-Star Lotus Platform took effect, with a great deal of vile mysterious power at play, even though the Seven-Star Lotus Platform's purpose was to purify the body, at this time it became the chief culprit polluting Cheng Guang.

The silver-white glow that had initially flashed because Cheng Guang was constantly chanting Tang Sanzang's Buddhist scriptures and exhibiting Tang Sanzang's Divine Power, due to the mysterious power emanating from the Seven-Star Lotus Platform, began to turn murky.

It also filled with a wild, violent aura.

Yet,

As the energies originally full of wickedness were purified by the Buddhist scriptures, they gradually softened.

Cheng Guang's body began to tremble slightly; this was a sign that the sinister energies were coursing through his veins.

At first, the mysterious power flowing from the Seven-Star Lotus Platform was pitch black.

But,

After circulating within Cheng Guang's body for a while,

It really seemed to have lightened a bit.

Initially, it should have been the Seven-Star Lotus Platform that purified him.

But now,

It was Cheng Guang who purified the Seven-Star Lotus Platform.

Truly, the process was reversed.

The energies that had been purified were circulating within his body, as if performing a deep cleansing for Cheng Guang's physique.

Cheng Guang could feel his body becoming lighter, purer.

Time seemed to stand still at this moment.

He had no idea how much time had passed.

When Cheng Guang opened his eyes again, he saw that the Seven-Star Lotus Platform's glow had become as transparent as crystal.

Those energies once filled with evilness were now pure like morning dew.

He deeply understood.

This time it was definitely not him acting as a purifier for the Seven-Star Lotus Platform.

It was a reversal evolution.

Because he was not the Seven-Star Lotus Platform, nor would he retain all the filth flowing from the Seven-Star Lotus Platform through his body.

This purification not only made his body purer but also strengthened his Primordial Spirit.

His recent breakthrough into the Heavenly Human Realm had now reached another step higher.

And he was firmly stabilized.

Cheng Guang let out a sigh of relief.

He stored away the now-purified Seven-Star Lotus Platform and looked up toward the window.

At this time.

The sky outside was bright again.

Judging by the light, it must be almost noon.

Cheng Guang's eyes flickered in surprise; he had truly not expected that he had only intended to cleanse the Seven-Star Lotus Platform of its evilness, to test out the Sect method recently learned from Tang Sanzang.

But unexpectedly,

One meditation session, one trial, and he had become addicted.

He simply could not stop.

By the time he came back to his senses, it was already this hour.

Cheng Guang took a deep breath, ready to rise from bed when he heard Qing Luan's voice outside the door.

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Chapter 692: There, Is the True Central Location of the Four Directions Mortal World_3

"Princely Heir, are you okay?"

Cheng Guang heard Qing Luan's slow and gentle voice, and the fatigue in his heart from cultivating had also eased a bit.

"I'm fine."

Outside the room, Qing Luan, having received Cheng Guang's response, slowly pushed open the door, looking at him.

"Princely Heir, why have you been staying in your room for several days without going out?"

"I saw that you were cultivating, so I didn't come to disturb you..."

...

"The Wife of Crown Prince said she wanted to return to the Taihao Sword Sect for a visit and planned to bring you along, Princely Heir, but since you had not ended your retreat, I didn't bother you."

"Now that you're out, I'll go tell the Wife of Crown Prince."

Saying this, Qing Luan was about to walk outside.

Listening to Qing Luan, Cheng Guang was almost dumbfounded.

He had originally thought that he had only cultivated overnight.

But from what Qing Luan implied, it seemed that it had been more than just one night???

Instead, it had been several days straight.

Cheng Guang stopped Qing Luan with one hand and asked, "How long have I been cultivating?"

After pondering for a moment, Qing Luan replied to Cheng Guang, "Princely Heir, it's been three days."

"When you did not leave your room, Princely Heir, on the second day, the Wife of Crown Prince received a letter from the Taihao Sword Sect, saying they wanted her to return. Currently, the Wife of Crown Prince doesn't want to go alone and has been waiting for you."

Qing Luan once again reminded Cheng Guang about Ning Qianxue.

"The Taihao Sword Sect wants Ning Qianxue to return?"

Cheng Guang frowned slightly, still bewildered by his prolonged cultivation and momentarily puzzled by the Taihao Sword Sect's request for Ning Qianxue's return.

Did they miss Ning Qianxue?

Logically, there should be a visit to her parental home.

Without overthinking, Cheng Guang let Qing Luan proceed, saying, "Let's go, take me to see Ning Qianxue. Since she is waiting for me to return to the Sword Sect together, we'll set out after a while."

Cheng Guang himself had been cultivating for several days, already losing track of time.

A new system task had appeared.

Cheng Guang had to establish his own kingdom.

This task was neither small nor simple.

Cheng Guang had already informed Wu Ling.

As for Cheng Zihai and Cheng Shiyuan, Cheng Guang had not yet disclosed his plan.

Firstly.

He had not found a suitable place to establish his kingdom.

Secondly.

If he told them prematurely, Cheng Guang was unsure whether Cheng Shiyuan and Cheng Zihai would oppose him.

Regardless of whether Cheng Shiyuan and Cheng Zihai agreed, the decisions made by Cheng Guang were definite.

Cheng Guang planned to handle matters and inform Cheng Shiyuan and Cheng Zihai later—it would not be too late.

For now, he could accompany Ning Qianxue back to the Taihao Sword Sect for a visit.

At this time, Cheng Guang also pondered.

The Taihao Sword Sect, along with many Martial World sects, were located at the boundaries of the four great kingdoms, in the Crossroads Region, which belonged to no one.

In a sense.

That place was the true heart of the Four Directions Mortal World.

The borders and lands were actually quite vast.

There, it was a mix of dragons and snakes, with all kinds of people present, the hidden powerhouses and the newcomers.

For Cheng Guang to establish a kingdom in this lawless Crossroads Region, the difficulty was extraordinary.

After all, this was originally unrestrained territory where anyone could survive.

If Cheng Guang were to establish a kingdom here, the local residents would be the first to express their dissatisfaction.

Moreover.

By establishing a kingdom in the Crossroads Region, Cheng Guang would essentially border all four great kingdoms.

A lawless place could, due to this action by Cheng Guang, turn into a place regarded by all.

Just thinking about the difficulty was enough to make one's scalp tingle.

Yet Cheng Guang was not afraid.

He just contemplated.

If he could establish a powerful enough kingdom here, it could truly be called the center of the mortal world.

This thought merely flashed through Cheng Guang's mind for an instant.

He quickly suppressed it deep in his consciousness.

After all, Cheng Guang was bold, but not foolish.

Without sufficient strength, that place was off-limits.

He would see if there was an opportunity later to gather more forces.

If he could garner more support, it was not impossible to establish his own kingdom in this triplicate lawless area.

For now, following Ning Qianxue to the Taihao Sword Sect to observe the situation there was the plan.

If possible, he might even bring the Taihao Sword Sect on board with him.

After all, he was also a son-in-law of the Taihao Sword Sect.

Cheng Guang stroked his chin while he pondered.

“Princely Heir, we’ve arrived.”

When Qing Luan’s voice reached Cheng Guang’s ears, he came to his senses.

Looking forward, he finally saw Ning Qianxue standing before him.

Ning Qianxue was daydreaming at that moment.

When Qing Luan and Cheng Guang appeared not far from her, despite her cultivation level, she hadn’t reacted immediately.

It was only when Qing Luan started pouring new tea for Ning Qianxue that she came to her senses with a start.

She subconsciously uttered a thank you.

Before her words ended.

Ning Qianxue seemed to sense something, suddenly turned her head, and cast her gaze upon Cheng Guang standing to the side.

Ning Qianxue exclaimed with a look of surprise, "Princely Heir, you've finished your retreat."

Cheng Guang nodded slightly, smiling, "Yes."

The joy on Ning Qianxue's face did not subside, but she quickly put on a reproachful expression.

"Princely Heir, really."

"Why would you abruptly go into retreat to cultivate, and for several days at that?"

"You've forgotten the advice to rest more."

Listening to Ning Qianxue, Cheng Guang felt embarrassed for a while, not knowing what to say.

After all, even he had not expected.

To cultivate for so long this time.

It was truly an oversight.

An oversight indeed.

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Chapter 693: Time is Better Sooner Rather Than Later

Ning Qianxue casually mentioned this matter; she felt relieved just seeing that Cheng Guang had emerged from seclusion.

"Princely Heir, the Sect recently asked me to return for a visit. Would you like to come with me?"

Ning Qianxue asked as she looked at Cheng Guang.

Cheng Guang nodded: "Of course I'll go."

Cheng Guang understood that Ning Qianxue hadn't left on her own in the past few days because she was waiting to go to the Taihao Sword Sect with him.

Cheng Guang wouldn't squelch Ning Qianxue's enthusiasm.

...

When Ning Qianxue heard that Cheng Guang didn't say anything else and simply nodded in agreement, a touch of elation surfaced on her face, and she quickly got up.

"Princely Heir, let's start preparing to depart now."

"The sooner, the better."

Cheng Guang had no objections to this. After all, Ning Qianxue had been longing to visit the Taihao Sword Sect, and Cheng Guang himself was eager to see what the situation was like there.

It was better to see the situation at the Taihao Sword Sect in advance, to observe the unmanaged area and assess the opportunity to establish a dynasty.

If there was a chance to establish a dynasty, Cheng Guang naturally wouldn't want to miss it.

Now that the system task had been issued, Cheng Guang didn't want to waste a single moment.

It wasn't just because of the system task weighing on Cheng Guang.

Apart from the system task, the Celestial Gods lurking in the shadows, the Western Buddhas, and even the visible Great Tang Emperor were all significant threats to Cheng Guang at this time.

After Cheng Guang nodded his agreement.

Ning Qianxue, accompanied by Qing Luan, went to pack their luggage.

This time to the Taihao Sword Sect.

Qing Luan was also to be brought along.

There was no danger, and having her with him was convenient for her to take care of him personally.

After a while.

A huge Flying Boat rose from Duke Zhen's Mansion and swept towards the Taihao Sword Sect.

En route.

No incidents occurred.

Soon enough.

Standing atop the Flying Boat, Cheng Guang caught sight of the Taihao Sword Sect.

He directly descended into the heart of the Taihao Sword Sect.

When Cheng Guang's Flying Boat appeared above the Taihao Sword Sect, it instantly attracted the attention of countless disciples.

"Is that..."

"Is that the Princely Heir's Flying Boat?"

"The Princely Heir has arrived."

"The Princely Heir has come. So does that mean the eldest disciple sister has returned too?"

The many disciples of the Taihao Sword Sect were abuzz with discussion as they watched Cheng Guang's Flying Boat, and a wave of surprised exclamations followed.

Under the watchful eyes of the crowd of disciples, Cheng Guang headed straight into the back mountain of the Taihao Sword Sect.

At the rear of the Taihao Sword Sect.

A bamboo cottage named the Liuguang Water Pavilion stood by the pond, the place where Granny Qianhua, the Sect's sole Sky-Man, would usually receive guests. It was nested amidst the back mountains of the Taihao Sword Sect, its placement beside Bamboo Cottage complemented by the meandering Liuguang pond waters from which it derived its name.

The bamboo cottage, surrounded by water on three sides, offered an excellent view of the beautiful reflections on Liuguang pond. With blue bricks and green tiles, the rooftop featured a hip-and-gable architecture with slightly upturned eaves, exuding the quaint elegance of a Jiangnan garden-style dwelling.

Cheng Guang, in his previous life, had explored many gardens and knew the Great Zhou Capital was one of the most bustling places in the Four Directions Mortal World, but compared to Granny Qianhua's abode, it lacked in depth of meaning.

For the most part, the lodgings in the Capital city were places of extravagance.

Whereas this bamboo cottage, the Liuguang Water Pavilion, was a haven of fresh simplicity and elegance.

They were not to be discussed in the same breath.

The Taihao Sword Sect, as one of the Four Great Hidden Sword Sects, certainly had its foundation. It was not merely relying on ancestral privilege and even in this tripoint borderland untouched by the four great dynasties, it was a foremost power.

Ordinary forces or, rather, ordinary powerhouses would not dare to offend the Taihao Sword Sect lightly.

Cheng Guang entered the bamboo cottage and upon entering, he immediately realized that besides Granny Qianhua, there were several other people already inside.

It seemed as if they had known in advance that Cheng Guang would be bringing Ning Qianxue back.

Inside, people were seated in front of rosewood desks, sipping tea.

As Cheng Guang entered the cottage, those within cast their eyes upon him.

“The Princely Heir has arrived.”

At the head of the cottage, Granny Qianhua looked towards Cheng Guang; her aged face bore a radiant smile.

She rose to greet him.

Cheng Guang also was unpretentious, paying his respects to Granny Qianhua.

“I’ve come to see you, Granny.”

Cheng Guang said, and to his side, Ning Qianxue also said, “Granny.”

“Granny, you’ve put all your thoughts on the Princely Heir and didn’t even see me.”

Ning Qianxue pouted slightly as she spoke.

Hearing Ning Qianxue’s words, Granny Qianhua couldn’t help but laugh aloud, first gesturing for Cheng Guang not to stand on ceremony before turning her gaze to Ning Qianxue.

“Qianxue, you child,” Granny Qianhua said with a smile, shaking her head and gently stroking Ning Qianxue’s head.

“It seems you’ve been doing very well with the Princely Heir these past days, not sending even a single message back.”

“Have you become so happy as to forget home?”

Ning Qianxue’s cheeks flushed pink, “Granny, that’s not what I meant at all.”

Granny Qianhua teased with a laugh: “If it weren’t for Granny asking you to return, I’m afraid you might have forgotten about this old Granny altogether.”

“By the way, has there been any movement in your belly lately?”

Ning Qianxue’s lips parted as if to say something, but then she saw her Granny’s jesting look and also glanced toward her abdomen.

Ning Qianxue’s face turned crimson with shyness, and for a moment she was at a loss for words, unable to speak.

Chapter 694: Time is Better Sooner Rather Than Later _2

Cheng Guang untied Ning Qianxue’s bindings. “Granny, how could it be so fast? It will still be a few more days.”

Upon hearing Cheng Guang’s words, Granny Qianhua turned her gaze back to him. “Princely Heir, you need to hurry as well, bearing heirs early so the legacy can be maintained.”

“Don’t blame an old woman like me for being talkative, Princely Heir.”

Cheng Guang responded with a smile.

Cheng Guang also knew that what Granny Qianhua said made sense and was true.

Ning Qianxue marrying him was itself a transaction of interests.

...

Taihao Sword Sect wanted to leverage the power of Duke Zhen's Mansion to help the Taihao Sword Sect establish a firm foothold in this land and prevent other forces or powerhouses from readily moving against Taihao Sword Sect.

And Duke Zhen's Mansion chose Taihao Sword Sect only because it was currently the best option for the Duke Zhen's Mansion.

The core purpose was still to bear heirs for Cheng Guang as soon as possible.

Only when Ning Qianxue bore Cheng Guang's heir would Duke Zhen's Mansion and Taihao Sword Sect truly be tied together.

Understanding this, how could Cheng Guang blame Granny Qianhua for being talkative?

"Granny, I understand. I'll spend more time on this matter," he said with a smile. Towards the end, his gaze fell on Ning Qianxue, who was standing aside.

"It's just that it will be tough on Qianxue later on."

Hearing Cheng Guang's words, Ning Qianxue's face turned even redder, her earlobes tinted with the hue of cherry blossoms.

Noticing Ning Qianxue's demeanor, Cheng Guang and Granny Qianhua exchanged a smile, and the atmosphere gradually warmed.

Granny Qianhua invited Cheng Guang to take a seat.

After some casual conversation,

Cheng Guang took the initiative to start a topic.

“Granny, what did you ask Qianxue to come back for this time?”

As soon as Cheng Guang brought up this topic, Ning Qianxue also raised her head slightly, her bright eyes shimmering with curiosity as she looked towards Granny Qianhua.

This question was also something Ning Qianxue herself wanted to ask. However, she had been cut off by Granny Qianhua earlier and had been briefly at a loss for words, not managing to ask before Cheng Guang did.

Granny Qianhua pondered momentarily before answering, “Actually, there’s no major issue, just two points.”

“Firstly, this old woman was missing Ning Qianxue.”

“Secondly, Ning Liang has recently disappeared, and it’s very possible that he’s already...”

“So my intention was to call Qianxue back because if Ning Liang truly has come into trouble, then she should shoulder the burden of Taihao Sword Sect.”

Granny Qianhua said this with a calm tone.

After Granny Qianhua finished speaking, Cheng Guang was nearly dumbstruck.

No major issue??

This counts as no major issue??

Granny Qianhua, do you have some misunderstanding about what a major issue is?

As for Granny Qianhua missing Ning Qianxue and inviting her back, Cheng Guang had already guessed as much, so it wasn't a surprise.

But the second reason Granny Qianhua provided truly caught Cheng Guang off guard.

In other words, Cheng Guang was directly shocked.

Ning Liang had an accident...

It was very possible that something happened...

Having Ning Qianxue return to take up the burden of Taihao Sword Sect...

What was all this about??

How could something happen to Ning Liang so suddenly??

At this moment, after hearing Granny Qianhua's words, Cheng Guang's eyes unconsciously narrowed, and his eyebrows slowly furrowed as he gazed at Granny Qianhua's calm visage.

And he was somewhat baffled.

Why could Granny Qianhua remain so calm after something happened to Ning Liang?

Cheng Guang was very shocked.

Ning Qianxue's reaction wasn't any better, similarly stunned into a wooden statue by Granny Qianhua's words.

“My father?”

“He had an accident?”

It took quite a while before Ning Qianxue came back to her senses and spoke stiffly.

“How could my father have an accident all of a sudden? Granny, what exactly happened?”

Ning Qianxue’s bright eyes showed a hint of urgency.

Yet, for the most part, she was still in a state of confusion,

So her whole demeanor appeared rather bewildered.

Granny Qianhua sighed, “Our region has been in chaos lately. The Four Great Sword Sects belong to the Sword Sect and thus considered forming an alliance to advance and retreat together.”

“Your father was previously representing our Taihao Sword Sect to discuss this matter with the other three Sword Sects.”

“However, who could have imagined that overnight, Huashan Sword Sect was annihilated, and the place where The Four Great Sword Sects were discussing was at Huashan Sword Sect...”

Granny Qianhua spoke slowly.

Her expression remained tranquil as water.

But beneath that calm visage were countless unspoken sorrows.

Even though Granny Qianhua controlled herself well, those sorrows in her heart weren't perfectly concealed.

Upon closer observation,

One could see Granny Qianhua's fingers quietly gripping her garment tightly.

Even though Granny Qianhua controlled her strength, her fingertips still unavoidably turned a tinge of blue.

Upon hearing Granny Qianhua's words, Cheng Guang's eyes blinked in astonishment.

"Huashan Sword Sect?"

"Huashan Sword Sect was wiped out overnight? And Ning was merely affected by it?"

Granny Qianhua looked toward Cheng Guang and nodded slightly.

"Huashan Sword Sect unknowingly offended someone, and overnight, the tens of thousands of lives within Huashan Sword Sect were extinguished."

"This old woman had intended to go to Huashan Sword Sect to see for herself, but the land of Huashan Sword Sect has been trampled flat, nothing left, not even a trace of dust."

Chapter 695: Time is Better Sooner Rather Than Later _3

"The Huashan Sword Sect was comparable to our Taihao Sword Sect in strength, and could even be considered slightly stronger," Granny Qianhua said, her aged eyes inevitably dimming. "And yet, even a sect of such caliber was utterly destroyed with a single stomp. In front of that adversary, our Taihao Sword Sect is likely not even worth mentioning."

After Granny Qianhua spoke,

the room instantly lapsed into silence.

A heavy quietude settled in.

Even without her saying it, everyone knew that Granny Qianhua was deeply shaken at this time.

A sect like the Huashan Sword Sect, slightly superior to the Taihao Sword Sect,

...

could be obliterated overnight, even their gates stomped flat.

Compared to the might of the Huashan Sword Sect's enemy, the Taihao Sword Sect would probably fare even worse.

Powerless.

It was an overwhelming feeling of powerlessness.

Otherwise,

even the faintest glimmer of hope would prevent Granny Qianhua from appearing so defeated, even if death was inevitable in seeking revenge for Ning Liang.

But...

At this moment, there was not a single thread of hope.

No glimpse of a chance.

In the midst of the pervasive silence,

Granny Qianhua sighed, forcing a strained smile as she said, "Let it be; all has been decided."

"It's of little use to speak of it now."

"Compared to the Huashan Sword Sect, which was directly annihilated, we should be grateful that the Taihao Sword Sect still survives."

"In this world today, I don't know whether the next Huashan Sword Sect might be our Taihao Sword Sect."

"Regardless, even if it means death, I shall die before any of you."

Though Granny Qianhua's face bore a smile, the expression was anything but relaxed.

The sudden destruction of the Huashan Sword Sect

levied immense pressure on Granny Qianhua.

It could even be said to have instilled profound fear in her,

reducing the once proud Sky-Man to a childlike bewilderment, groping blindly in ignorance.

Even if Ning Liang was likely caught in the midst of the Huashan Sword Sect's destruction and had perished,

Granny Qianhua scarcely entertained thoughts of vengeance.

It was not for lack of desire,

but out of sheer dread.

That unknown, powerful force that could eradicate the entire Huashan Sword Sect could just as easily do the same to the Taihao Sword Sect. If that entity so wished, such an act might be as simple as a wave of their hand.

Just the thought left Granny Qianhua despairing of any revenge.

Now, maintaining the existence of the Taihao Sword Sect, not offending any powerful beings, and simply surviving quietly was Granny Qianhua's utmost hope for the Taihao Sword Sect, for Ning Qianxue.

As for avenging Ning Liang in the future, that was no longer something Granny Qianhua could contemplate.

Ning Qianxue stood there, listening to Granny Qianhua's words, suddenly feeling the urge to cry.

"Granny, this..."

"What suddenly happened?"

"How could my father just..."

"Who was it that destroyed the Huashan Sword Sect? But they were clearly... clearly so strong..."

Ning Qianxue couldn't understand.

Granny Qianhua, listening to Ning Qianxue, gently shook her head.

“I don’t know either.”

“I don’t know who it was.”

Granny Qianhua looked at Ning Qianxue with complex eyes, walked over to her, caressing her forehead, and continued, “Regardless of who that person is, they’re not someone we can afford to offend. The world is increasingly chaotic. If even the Huashan Sword Sect can be leveled overnight, that being is very likely to have reached a level above Sky-Man.”

Ning Qianxue looked up at Granny Qianhua and asked, “Granny, is there a realm beyond Sky-Man?”

Cheng Guang, at this moment, also turned his gaze to Granny Qianhua.

Under the watchful eyes of Cheng Guang and Ning Qianxue, Granny Qianhua nodded slightly, “Indeed.”

“Sky-Man is not the endpoint of cultivation.”

“Previously, when we reached the Sky-Man level, we struggled to make further progress. Only minor improvements in the Realm of Heavenly Humans would earn the title of Celestial Realm Level Two.”

“The so-called Celestial Realm Level Two is just a slightly stronger Sky-Man, not a fundamental promotion.”

“And the Immortal Realm is the existence beyond Sky-Man.”

“Above Sky-Man, are the Immortals.”

“The Mortal Path, Earth Immortal.”

Granny Qianhua spoke, her tone unavoidably becoming complex, "But..."

"In the Four Directions Mortal World, for thousands upon thousands of years, no Immortals have emerged. The title of Earth Immortal and such a realm, I've only seen them mentioned in ancient texts."

"I used to believe that this Mortal World would not house any Immortals."

"But now, with the fall of the Huashan Sword Sect, the sudden emergence of the Great Tang, and the turmoil in the world, the mysteries everywhere, I start to wonder whether there are hidden Earth Immortals, yet to reveal themselves."

"I suspect that the shadowy power behind the destruction of the Huashan Sword Sect might be an Earth Immortal. I just can't comprehend how the Huashan Sword Sect managed to offend a being of such a realm."

Granny Qianhua concluded with a hint of confusion on her aged face.

Someone capable of cultivating to Earth Immortal, yet with little fame in the world, clearly showed a detachment from fame and fortune beyond even The Four Great Sword Sects.

And yet.

The Four Great Sword Sects, largely removed from world power struggles and alliances with the World Royal Family,

how could they inexplicably provoke such a powerful entity's targeting?

An entire sect flattened overnight.

It was inconceivable.

Even though several days had passed, Granny Qianhua had not expressed the shock in her heart, but that feeling of shock remained, unable to be swiftly quelled or forgotten.

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Chapter 696: Above the Sky-Man, Is the Immortal

Cheng Guang furrowed his brow slightly upon hearing Granny Qianhua's words and muttered to himself, "Earth Immortal..."

"Above Sky-Men are Immortals."

Cheng Guang suddenly realized.

If there are Immortals above Sky-Men,

then could the Great Tang Emperor also be an Immortal?

Sky-Men can easily crush those below them.

...

So, could Earth Immortals just as easily crush Sky-Men?

With just a wave of their hand,

they could flatten the grand Sects of the Huashan Sword Sect.

Such power is not something ordinary Sky-Men can wield.

To flip one's hand for clouds, to cover one's hand for seas.

Tactics that can change the colors of heaven and earth.

It's probably only possible for Immortals.

Cheng Guang thought about this and couldn't help but be astonished.

After being shocked for a while,

Cheng Guang took a deep breath and gradually calmed the shock in his heart.

"Granny, when did this happen?"

"A week ago."

"I received the news five days ago,"

Granny Qianhua said as she lowered her eyes, her aged gaze fixed on Ning Qianxue while holding her hand.

"Qianxue, during this period, I won't insist that you immediately take on the burden of the Taihao Sword Sect."

"After all, this old body of mine still has some use."

"However, you must hurry to raise your cultivation level, although even a Sky-Man in these times cannot be fully guaranteed safety, even so, increasing your strength a bit is always good."

Granny Qianhua's tone was very calm, but everyone in the room could hear the intense and lingering worry in her peaceful voice.

Granny Qianhua was very concerned.

Not about herself,

but about the Taihao Sword Sect.

And about Ning Qianxue.

Worried about the future.

First, the Sky-Men from various dynasties entered the Secret Realm and then suddenly disappeared.

Then came the incident with Great Tang.

Now, this mysterious powerful being has appeared.

The world has already started to descend into chaos.

The majesty of Sky-Men, imperceptibly, has been completely eroded.

If Sky-Men were still of any use,

Granny Qianhua could ensure the continued existence of the Taihao Sword Sect by herself.

But...

Granny Qianhua couldn't.

Sky-Men are no longer as powerful as they once were.

After Granny Qianhua spoke, the air went silent for a while.

Ning Qianxue's bright eyes, without notice, began to well up with tears.

Ning Qianxue was saddened by the disappearance of her father and shocked by the sudden destruction of the Huashan Sword Sect.

A multitude of emotions surged into Ning Qianxue's heart, leaving her unsure of what to do.

"Princely Heir."

Ning Qianxue looked towards Cheng Guang, her lips slightly parted, softly calling out to him.

Cheng Guang slowly shook his head, raised his hand slightly, and gently wiped away the tears from Ning Qianxue's eyes before softly saying, "It's going to be alright."

"Ning's location is unknown right now, he might not be dead."

"After a while, I will go check out the Huashan Sword Sect area; perhaps I can find some clues. If it really is an Earth Immortal, we need to clarify who that Earth Immortal is."

Once Cheng Guang said this,

Ning Qianxue still didn't show much reaction, but she couldn't help leaning on Cheng Guang's shoulder, tears soaking his clothes.

Granny Qianhua, hearing Cheng Guang's words, began to feel uneasy.

She looked concerned as her eyes slightly changed, her expression turning grave.

"Princely Heir, you want to go to the Huashan Sword Sect area?"

Cheng Guang nodded confidently.

To tell the truth, the sudden destruction of the great Huashan Sword Sect was more than likely the act of an Earth Immortal level being.

Just on this point alone,

Cheng Guang wanted to see for himself.

If that legendary Earth Immortal truly existed,

then it could very likely be one of the Celestial Gods or Western Buddhas.

These two factions, always lurking in the shadows, were the most probable suspects.

According to the system task notification and the memories of the real Princely Heir, there was no mention of the incident at Taihao Sword Sect, nor of the destruction of Huashan Sword Sect.

It seemed likely,

not that such an event didn't occur in the real Princely Heir's timeline,

but that it simply hadn't caught the true Princely Heir's attention.

After all, the real Princely Heir had not married Ning Qianxue and likely hadn't had much contact with the Taihao Sword Sect.

Thinking this, Cheng Guang resolved that he must visit the Huashan Sword Sect.

Even if there was nothing to see,

just observing the traces left by the mysterious powerful being would be worthwhile.

"That place must not be approached!" Granny Qianhua said with a serious look.

Cheng Guang, hearing her words, couldn't help but show confusion.

"Granny, what's wrong?"

"Is there a problem there?"

Cheng Guang couldn't understand why Granny Qianhua was so adamant about refusing him the moment she heard he wanted to go to the Huashan Sword Sect, even showing such a cautious demeanor.

Could it be that there was some danger near the Huashan Sword Sect?

Granny Qianhua nodded gravely.

"There's a problem."

“Princely Heir, the area around the Huashan Sword Sect is now filled with malevolence, with a nefarious aura everywhere. Ordinary people who get close lose their minds, their cultivation becomes unstable, and without great caution, they can fall into demonic deviation.”

“Even an old woman like me felt uneasy when I approached the Huashan Sword Sect.”

Chapter 697: Above the Sky-Man, Is the Immortal _2

“Princely Heir, don’t take risks.”

Granny Qianhua spoke, her face still betraying a trace of lingering fear.

Seeing Granny Qianhua reveal such an expression,

Cheng Guang didn’t need to guess to understand that Granny Qianhua had already been to the Huashan Sword Sect to see for herself.

“Demonic filth?”

“Will one risk possession upon close approach?”

...

Having experienced the incident with the Buddha Head Statue, and with the recent system task reward he acquired, the Seven-Star Lotus Platform,

Cheng Guang was already quite familiar with demonic filth.

For ordinary people, the perilous demonic filth was indeed dangerous, but for Cheng Guang himself, it wasn’t as hazardous.

As long as Cheng Guang was willing,

even if he was imbued with demonic filth, it was no big deal.

Firstly,

Cheng Guang possessed the Seven-Star Lotus Platform, capable of purifying the demonic filth within his body.

Secondly,

Having learned most of Tang Sanzang's Buddhist Divine Powers, Cheng Guang already had the ability to purify demonic filth to some extent.

With both abilities at his disposal, Cheng Guang believed he was no longer afraid of demonic filth.

The demonic filth that terrified Granny Qianhua and caused her great caution,

to Cheng Guang himself, was indeed nothing much.

Cheng Guang had already made up his mind; he definitely intended to visit the Huashan Sword Sect.

However,

he didn't immediately disclose his intentions.

He would simply sneak away later.

There was no need to have Granny Qianhua consent to his actions.

Otherwise, if he told Granny Qianhua, she would certainly disagree, and it would only lead to her excessive worry over Cheng Guang himself.

Cheng Guang was quite confident in his own strength.

Mulling over the matter in his heart, Cheng Guang still nodded obediently on the surface.

“I’ll listen to Granny then, I won’t go to the Huashan Sword Sect.”

At this moment, Granny Qianhua, oblivious to Cheng Guang’s cultivation strength that had reached Sky-Man, heard him, the Duke’s Heir, agree so docilely, and she herself also relaxed.

“That’s good.”

“Princely Heir, why don’t you and Qianxue rest for a while at the Taihao Sword Sect, then return later?”

Cheng Guang complied with a smile and a nod.

During this time, Granny Qianhua called Ning Qianxue back and asked Cheng Guang to accompany her to stay at the Taihao Sword Sect for a while.

The main purpose

was not entirely because Granny Qianhua wanted to tell Ning Qianxue the news about Ning Liang’s trouble,

nor was it entirely to have Ning Qianxue shoulder the responsibility of the Taihao Sword Sect.

Otherwise, Granny Qianhua would not have just said that her old bones could still be of some use.

It seemed,

perhaps it was merely because Granny Qianhua missed Ning Qianxue.

Ning Liang was Granny Qianhua's son.

How could the pain of losing a son not cut to the bone?

No matter how strong Granny Qianhua was, at this moment, she was just a mother who had lost her son.

She needed comfort.

She needed company too.

Realizing this, Cheng Guang also felt some compassion for Granny Qianhua, this seemingly strong old woman.

“Qianxue, you stay here and keep Granny company for a while, I’ll just get our luggage sorted out.”

Cheng Guang said softly, patting Ning Qianxue’s hand as he did so.

Hearing Cheng Guang, Ning Qianxue became anxious, jumping to her feet and hastily saying, “Princely Heir, let me do the packing.”

Cheng Guang shook his head, pressing Ning Qianxue back down into her chair.

“That’s not necessary, Qianxue. Just keep Granny company for the time being.”

"As for packing, I can manage that myself. Besides, I have Qing Luan to help me. Nothing will go wrong."

Ning Qianxue frowned slightly, shaking her head, "I'm not worried about your packing abilities, Princely Heir, but such tasks..."

Cheng Guang laughed, tapping Ning Qianxue's forehead.

"Don't fret over it, I am capable of handling it."

With that, Cheng Guang departed with Qing Luan.

After Cheng Guang left with Qing Luan,

Granny Qianhua watched his receding figure and couldn't help but express her admiration:

"The Princely Heir is truly commendable."

"To be the Duke's Heir yet have such a grounded attitude to life, Qianxue, you are fortunate to marry someone like the Princely Heir."

Ning Qianxue, being complimented by Granny Qianhua, blushed a bit.

She lowered her head, unsure of what to reply.

Seeing Ning Qianxue's response, Granny Qianhua smiled gently.

The weighty matters from before seemed a little lighter because of Ning Qianxue.

Afterward,

Granny Qianhua and Ning Qianxue chatted, hit or miss.

Mostly, Granny Qianhua spoke while Ning Qianxue listened.

The atmosphere between the two quickly became very pleasant.

While Granny Qianhua was conversing with Ning Qianxue,

Cheng Guang, with his luggage, arrived at Ning Qianxue's courtyard with Qing Luan.

After quickly packing,

Cheng Guang unfurled the Flying Boat, preparing to head in the direction of the Huashan Sword Sect for a look.

The Huashan Sword Sect was not too far from the Taihao Sword Sect.

With the speed of the Flying Boat, it would only take a few hours to return.

He could even make it back before dinner.

It wouldn't draw Granny Qianhua's or Ning Qianxue's attention.

Qing Luan, seeing Cheng Guang summon the Flying Boat, spoke in surprise, "Princely Heir, are you planning to go somewhere?"

Cheng Guang glanced at Qing Luan, "I'm going to the Huashan Sword Sect."

“Do you want to come with me?”

He had no intention of hiding this from Qing Luan.

After all, she would have to find out that he was leaving.

If he didn’t tell Qing Luan, Granny Qianhua would eventually ask, and it would be impossible to keep it a secret.

Chapter 698: Above the Sky-Man, Is the Immortal _3

Qing Luan listened to Cheng Guang’s words, her red lips slightly parted, her beautiful eyes filled with shock.

Qing Luan had been listening to every word from Granny Qianhua.

She knew that Granny Qianhua had mentioned that the Huashan Sword Sect was an especially dangerous place.

Even Granny Qianhua herself dared not tread there lightly.

How could the Princely Heir dare to go alone?

Qing Luan wanted to dissuade Cheng Guang, but upon seeing the profound gaze in his handsome face, she found herself unable to utter the words of caution.

...

Because Qing Luan knew.

The decisions made by the Princely Heir were rarely swayed by the persuasion of others.

That Cheng Guang could bring her along this time was already an exceptional case.

“Princely Heir, I will go.”

After thinking for a moment, Qing Luan took a deep breath and nodded firmly.

She wanted to accompany the Princely Heir and see for herself.

If they encountered any danger, Qing Luan thought to herself that she could still protect the Princely Heir.

At this moment, Cheng Guang was unaware of Qing Luan’s thoughts.

Had he known.

He would probably have been unable to suppress a chuckle.

After all, he did not need Qing Luan’s protection.

It was more like he was there to protect Qing Luan.

Seeing that Qing Luan had agreed, Cheng Guang wasn’t particularly surprised, he nodded slightly, then with a wave of his hand, a stream of Qi surged from his body, binding Qing Luan’s body like a rope.

He pulled her onto the Flying Boat.

Then, without much fanfare, Cheng Guang piloted the Flying Boat, flying straight out of the Taihao Sword Sect. After cloaking the Flying Boat with his Primordial Spirit, he then steered it out of the Taihao Sword Sect.

With Cheng Guang's current level of cultivation, if he intended to conceal himself, even Granny Qianhua would have found not even a trace.

After leaving the Taihao Sword Sect, Cheng Guang headed towards the direction of the Huashan Sword Sect.

The Huashan Sword Sect was situated in the eastern or western direction from the Taihao Sword Sect.

Along the way, one could see that the air was filled with sounds of combat.

A lawless land.

The four great dynasties were preoccupied with their own troubles.

Countless bandits and refugees had come here.

Various forces also established their bases here, forming their own factions.

Every moment, lives were lost here.

At this moment, Cheng Guang could not manage so much and had little interest in the conflicts between these forces.

His entire focus was now on the Huashan Sword Sect.

Cheng Guang was curious about who had leveled the Huashan Sword Sect.

Whether that person was a foe or a friend.

If they could become friends, or better yet, if he could control them, then setting up his own dynasty afterward would also mean having a powerful enforcer.

Just Cheng Guang alone, even though he was already a Sky-Man, found the idea of setting up his own dynasty a bit strenuous.

Especially in this lawless region.

The difficulties were exponentially higher.

Cheng Guang thought, if he could utilize the person who had flattened the Huashan Sword Sect, then establishing his own dynasty in this lawless land wouldn't be too problematic.

After all.

That powerful individual had single-handedly flattened the entire Huashan Sword Sect.

In the whole lawless region, how many forces were there like the Huashan Sword Sect?

They could be counted on one hand.

With such a formidable backing, there wouldn't be many who dared to resist.

Afterward, establishing his own dynasty would be a natural progression.

Just thinking about it, Cheng Guang felt a wave of relief wash over him.

But.

Cheng Guang was just thinking.

After all, whether that strong figure was friend or foe was still unknown.

The likelihood of being a foe was greater.

The likelihood of being a friend, much less.

After all, that powerful individual was probably one of the Celestial Gods or one of the Western Buddhas, not someone Cheng Guang could bribe.

Thinking this, Cheng Guang's heart gradually grew heavy again.

Cheng Guang shook his head, stopping his wild thoughts and lifted his gaze towards the distance.

Cheng Guang could see.

The continuous stretch of mountains.

In the midst of those mountains, there was a segment that suddenly broke off.

As if it had been forcefully severed by someone.

Seeing the broken layer of mountains, Cheng Guang realized that this must be where the Huashan Sword Sect was located.

As Cheng Guang got a little closer to the Huashan Sword Sect.

The closer he approached the Huashan Sword Sect, the more involuntarily his eyes began to widen, revealing traces of amazement.

The once towering gate of the Huashan Sword Sect no longer existed, replaced by a flat expanse of land.

The original rocks, trees, and the stele that represented the Huashan Sword Sect, all reduced to fine dust, as if they had never existed.

In their place, there was a huge palm imprint.

As if the entire Huashan Sword Sect had been flattened by a single palm.

The mysterious strong figure, with their overpowering strength and ruthless methods, was chilling to the bone.

The winds began to pick up, blowing across where the gate of Huashan Sword Sect once was, sounding intermittently within the mountains as if it were the roar of heaven and earth, mixed with endless sadness and desolation.

The entire Huashan Sword Sect trembled under this sound, every inch of land mourned.

The site that once bristled with sword qi and was clouded with formidable figures, now laid nothing more than ruins. The air throbbed with a heavy oppressive feeling, as if even the sky was dimmed by this overwhelming force.

Around the Huashan Sword Sect, there were some disciples who had survived.

Those who had once lived by the sword, and regarded the sword as their life, were now silently watching all this from a distance.

Their eyes filled with shock, grief, and anger.

But more so, helplessness, for they knew that the strength of that mysterious strong figure was far beyond their capability to contend.

These hard-pressed disciples were mostly wandering outside the mountain, by sheer luck escaping this catastrophe.

But upon returning near the gate, seeing their own sect gate gone, their spirit was utterly shattered.

Like walking corpses.

Near the Huashan Sword Sect.

Staring blankly.

With distant eyes and empty hearts.

.....

Chapter 699: The Mind is Largely Dominated by Evil

Cheng Guang looked at the scenery surrounding Huashan Sword Sect and frowned slightly.

He was quite puzzled by the current state of Huashan Sword Sect.

The surviving members of Huashan Sword Sect behaved nothing like normal people.

Their eyes were filled with deadness; there was not a trace of light.

“Is this because they witnessed the crushing defeat of Huashan Sword Sect and their dao hearts shattered, unable to come to terms with it, that they’ve become like this?”

“Or is it because...”

...

As Cheng Guang muttered to himself, his gaze fell upon the blood mist shrouding the surroundings of Huashan Sword Sect.

It was unclear if the blood mist was the result of the countless disciples' shed blood or left behind by the person who had razed Huashan Sword Sect.

Cheng Guang had not seen this blood mist when he first approached Huashan Sword Sect from a distance.

Too far away, under the sunlight, the blood mist was hardly noticeable.

Only when you got close.

Only then could Cheng Guang make out the presence of the blood mist.

And all members of Huashan Sword Sect with deadness in their eyes were now engulfed in this blood mist.

“Granny Qianhua mentioned before that a strange power envelops the vicinity of Huashan Sword Sect, filled with evil, queer, and filthy energies.”

“Could she be referring to this blood mist?”

Cheng Guang whispered to himself and then brought the Flying Boat to a halt.

“Qing Luan, stay on the Flying Boat and keep your distance; I’ll go over by myself.”

Cheng Guang spoke to Qing Luan.

He then planned to enter Huashan Sword Sect alone to see the situation.

But upon hearing Cheng Guang’s words, Qing Luan hastily said, “Princely Heir, take me with you, I...”

Without letting Qing Luan finish, Cheng Guang interrupted, “Alright, be obedient.”

“If you come with me and we encounter any danger, I won’t be able to protect you.”

Cheng Guang spoke and patted Qing Luan’s shoulder, offering a few soothing words before sweeping down from the Flying Boat.

He flew towards the blood mist that loomed over Huashan Sword Sect.

Qing Luan stood on the deck of the Flying Boat, watching Cheng Guang disappear into the blood mist.

Feeling inexplicably forlorn and lost.

Cheng Guang’s departure this time might be fraught with danger, something even Qing Luan didn’t know.

But now, she could do nothing.

She could only wait quietly on the Flying Boat for the outcome.

.....

Having left the Flying Boat, Cheng Guang swept toward the blood mist.

As he approached the mist, he already felt the pungent evil aura, which eerily felt somewhat familiar to him.

It was a sensation akin to what he had faced previously before the Buddha Head Statue.

But there was a subtle difference.

It wasn't the exact same entity.

"Last time in the Eight-layered Devil Realm, I came across a Buddha Head Statue; it can't be that I'll find another one in the Four Directions Mortal World."

"Is Buddha unable to stay concealed?"

With narrowing eyes, Cheng Guang thought this, and the likelihood seemed to increase.

Cheng Guang had heard from Gu Wushuang before, about the existence of a Buddha Head Statue at the bottom of the Abyss Demon Sea.

If the Eight-layered Devil Realm had it and the Abyss Demon Sea had it, there was no reason for the Four Directions Mortal World to lack one.

Cheng Guang guessed there was a high probability that Buddha's presence lay within the Four Directions Mortal World too.

However.

A slumbering Buddha shouldn't be capable of destroying Huashan Sword Sect, could it?

Did a slumbering Buddha possess such formidable power?

Cheng Guang pondered this and furrowed his brow again.

Looking around at the enveloping blood mist, he felt an increasing sense of unease because Cheng Guang gradually realized that,

since he'd entered the range of the blood mist,

the closer he approached the location of Huashan Sword Sect, the more intense the evil power contained in the blood mist became.

Just outside of the blood mist was evil aura pervasive enough to be unbearable for ordinary people.

At this moment.

Cheng Guang entered the blood mist and found himself surrounded by the oppressive evil aura.

He was without the slightest ability to resist.

And Cheng Guang had no thoughts of resisting.

All the evil that surged towards him was fully absorbed.

In only a moment, Cheng Guang's body seemed to boil, emitting large plumes of black smoke.

At this time, Cheng Guang silently utilized Tang Sanzang's Divine Power in his heart.

Tang Sanzang's incantations were recited word by word from Cheng Guang's lips.

Inside Cheng Guang's body, faint Buddha light began to shine, though not as dense as the blood mist.

Although the Buddha light was not robust, it could melt away the evil within and around him that was coiling towards his being.

All the evil that approached or already entered his body dissipated like snow under the sun as Cheng Guang used Tang Sanzang's Divine Power.

Gone without a trace.

As Cheng Guang walked through the blood mist, he was not affected much by the evil aura.

Instead, the surrounding evil seemed faintly purified by Cheng Guang himself.

If this scene were to be seen by others, it would undoubtedly cause many jaws to drop.

At this time.

However, no one was aware.

After Cheng Guang entered the blood mist, he didn't draw much attention, even though he had reached the vicinity of the surviving disciples of Huashan Sword Sect.

Chapter 700: The Mind is Largely Dominated by Evil _2

Those disciples did not fix their gaze upon Cheng Guang.

They still directed their eyes toward the distance at Huashan Sword Sect.

As they looked at the ruins of the Huashan Sword Sect, they seemed to get lost in thought, the color of death in their eyes visibly deepening.

Cheng Guang walked along the mountain path, observing the disciples of the Huashan Sword Sect, his brows slowly furrowing again.

“These disciples of the Huashan Sword Sect survived, they did not die, but were contaminated by the evil aura.”

“Their minds were mostly dominated by the evil.”

...

“Logically, they should be in a state of madness or irritability, regardless of what the condition is, it definitely should not be this calm.”

“Is there something in the depths of the Huashan Sword Sect that keeps attracting them to look towards its depths?”

Cheng Guang murmured doubtfully to himself.

Seeing these disciples of the Huashan Sword Sect, not crazed or irritable after being tainted, but just serenely gazing into the depths of Huashan Sword Sect.

Cheng Guang could not help but suspect that there might be something within the depths of the Huashan Sword Sect attracting these disciples.

Even though they were contaminated by the evil within the crimson mist, they did not exhibit the behavior that they should.

Thinking this, Cheng Guang shifted his gaze from the disciples who survived around him and looked towards the depths of the Huashan Sword Sect.

Although these disciples of the Huashan Sword Sect were still alive, it was not much different from being dead.

Contaminated by evil, even if the evil on their bodies was completely removed, their minds could no longer be restored.

The deepest impact of the evil on a person is not on their cultivation, but on their mind.

If the mind is disturbed, the cultivation will naturally also be affected.

Of course, in Cheng Guang's view, this could also be stated another way: if the cultivation encounters problems, it will lead to issues in the mind.

Ultimately, the mind is the most deeply affected and the most helpless to change.

Cheng Guang pondered for a moment, his eyes slightly narrowed, taking one step at a time, he walked toward the Huashan Sword Sect.

Passing through the crimson mist, the closer he got to the Huashan Sword Sect, the more numerous the surviving disciples of the Huashan Sword Sect became.

Initially, only a few could be sporadically seen, but now, with each step Cheng Guang took, he could see dozens to hundreds of figures through the crimson mist.

These were all disciples of the Huashan Sword Sect.

Most were like walking corpses, wandering around in this vicinity.

Their eyes were uniformly focused, all looking in the direction of the Huashan Sword Sect.

At this time, Cheng Guang was able to see the ruins of the Huashan Sword Sect.

When Cheng Guang entered the ruins of the Huashan Sword Sect.

His entire being was shocked.

The Huashan Sword Sect, which originally consisted of dozens of high peaks, had all become flat land at this time.

The intricately delicate pavilions and towers had all become ruins, fragments scattered everywhere.

And in the central area of the Huashan Sword Sect, one could clearly see a large depression.

This depression almost covered the entire Huashan Sword Sect.

Standing at a distance, Cheng Guang saw the appearance and shape of this depression and felt that something was off.

Initially, from the Flying Boat, it was impossible to see through the crimson mist for a clear view of Huashan Sword Sect.

At this time.

When Cheng Guang reached the ruins of the Huashan Sword Sect himself and saw the appearance and shape of this depression.

Cheng Guang suddenly realized.

This...

Isn't it an enormously huge handprint!?

Someone had flattened such a vast Huashan Sword Sect with just a slap??

Even the entire mountain range of the Huashan Sword Sect was flattened???

How powerful must that be????

Cheng Guang discovered that on the original site of the Huashan Sword Sect, there was an enormously huge handprint, and he was taken aback.

The Huashan Sword Sect was not small.

It could even be said to be extremely large.

Its area was, at the very least, half the size of the Capital city.

Just a single handprint was so enormous; how large must the hand of its owner be?

Even if this hand was not the actual size, being able to flatten the entire Huashan Sword Sect with just one palm was not something a regular Sky-Man could achieve.

At least in Cheng Guang's knowledge, Zhou Qingxu was not capable of it.

Perhaps the Great Tang Emperor could give it a try.

But even that might not be possible.

After all, Cheng Guang had yet to see the Great Tang Emperor in action, and he currently had no specific standard to measure the Emperor's strength.

At the same time,

Cheng Guang also began unconsciously to stroke his chin.

"The surrounding blood-colored mist, from which an evil aura exuded, already made me feel somewhat similar to the Buddha Head Statue within the Eight-layered Devil Realm."

"Could it be that this time, the Huashan Sword Sect was also done by a Buddha?"

"However, the Buddha that obliterated the Huashan Sword Sect must be far more powerful than the Buddha Head Statue in the Eight-layered Devil Realm, and it's very likely that it has completely awakened."

Cheng Guang murmured to himself, and upon reaching this point, he already had some thoughts of leaving.

Cheng Guang himself had no solution when faced with the Buddha Head Statue in the Eight-layered Devil Realm.

If it hadn't been for his Saint Dao Fruit making an impact,

Tang Sanzang himself intervening, Cheng Guang guessed he would have been in grave danger in the Eight-layered Devil Realm.

This time,

even though Cheng Guang had gained some confidence, he did not want to take any more risks.

Firstly,

Tang Sanzang had been able to handle the Buddha Head Statue in the Ten Thousand Mile Dragon Cave in the Eight-layered Devil Realm, but he might not be able to deal with this Buddha that might have awakened.

Secondly,

Cheng Guang was already thinking that if it's possible to avoid provoking this current Buddha, then he'd rather not provoke it.

After all, Cheng Guang had already killed a Buddha before.

And had been targeted by the "Buddha Lord" behind that Buddha.

If he killed another Buddha, wouldn't that just hasten the "Buddha Lord" coming after him?

Cheng Guang was not in a hurry to offer his head on a platter.

Regarding the Huashan Sword Sect matter, Cheng Guang was merely here to join in the excitement and see if there was a possibility to subdue the powerhouse who had obliterated the Huashan Sword Sect.

There wasn't much opportunity now.

Cheng Guang thought about giving up.

When it's impossible, there's no need to force it.

It would be better to complete the system task and plan to establish his own dynasty afterward.

Thinking this, Cheng Guang prepared to turn around and leave the place.

However,

Just as Cheng Guang was about to turn around,

he caught something out of the corner of his eye and suddenly noticed a wooden house still standing in the center of the ruins of the Huashan Sword Sect.

The wooden house was quite large.

In terms of its shape, it resembled a colossal hall made of wood.

This giant hall was particularly conspicuous.

Even from a great distance, one could immediately see its presence.

However,

Cheng Guang was a bit puzzled at this time.

He hadn't noticed this hall just before.

And as he was preparing to turn around and leave, the hall had revealed itself to him.

What was going on?

Could it be that the hall knew I was about to leave and revealed itself to retain me?

Cheng Guang thought this, his eyes narrowed slightly, and he immediately found it interesting.

With his cultivation level, it was rare for anything to deceive his eyes.

Not only could this hall do so,

but it could also reveal itself actively to attract him.

Just this point

made Cheng Guang start to suspect that this grand hall, still standing intact amidst the ruins of the Huashan Sword Sect, was related to the person who had obliterated the Huashan Sword Sect.

Cheng Guang felt in his heart,

The person who had obliterated the Huashan Sword Sect

was very likely that Buddha.

Thus, he subconsciously regarded the sudden appearance of this grand hall as a trick by that Buddha.

“If the person who obliterated the Huashan Sword Sect is the same kind of entity as in the Buddha Head Statue.”

“Then why has he suddenly made this grand hall appear before my eyes now?”

...