

Myth Beyond 1431

Chapter 1431 A Person With Great Fortune

Zhou Ling'er was surprised by Zhou Xianyang's approach. Normally, the relationship between them could be described as dysfunctional. No love or bond. Each had their own doings. Hence, Zhou Xianyang's approach was obviously stuffed with a hidden motive.

Zhou Ling'er smiled and said. "Thank you for your concern, Brother Crown Prince. However, you don't have to worry about this. Even if I took the pill back, it didn't mean the pill would work on mother."

Zhou Xianyang sighed regretfully. "Unfortunately, I couldn't do anything about Auntie Ximen's condition."

He said further after a short pause. "By the way, I heard you have a good relationship with the newly appointed Vice President Lin. I wonder if you could make an appointment with him for me?"

Zhou Ling'er's expression didn't change in the slightest, as she had already expected this. She replied softly. "To tell you the truth, we aren't that close. If it wasn't for my cousin, I wouldn't have known him."

"However, I could convey Brother Crown Prince's message to him. Whether he wants to see you, I can't help it."

Zhou Xianyang smiled and said. "That's more than enough."

He took a sip of tea and got up. "Although I can't help you with Auntie Ximen's illness, you can come to me when you encounter trouble later."

"Thank you, Brother Crown Prince. I'll remember this." Zhou Ling'er got up and said politely.

"No need to send me out." Zhou Xianyang nodded gently and left directly.

Watching Zhou Xianyang walk away, Zhou Ling'er's smile gradually disappeared. The National Teacher was Zhou Xianyang's master. It was impossible for Zhou Xianyang to not know about the situation behind her mother's condition.

At first, Zhou Ling'er was only suspicious about it, but now she was certain that Zhou Xianyang was aware of it.

"Master, do you really want to contact Senior Lin?" Chu Tong'er asked in a low voice.

Zhou Ling'er thought for a moment and said. "The decision is in his hand. We only need to send him a message."

Although Zhou Ling'er didn't want to drag Yun Lintian into this muddy water, she knew that Zhou Xianyang would eventually go to him. It was better to tell Yun Lintian in advance about this and let him prepare.

She sighed softly. "I owe him again. I'm afraid there's no way I can repay this debt of gratitude for the rest of my life."

Chu Tong'er opened her mouth, but no word came out in the end.

After leaving Zhou Ling'er's palace, Zhou Xianyang returned to his residence directly.

When he entered his room, his maidservant suddenly walked up and bowed her head. "Your Highness, Zhi Dazun has already left the city with his apprentice. As for Lin Tian, he went back to the Ximen Clan with Qin Mei. Looks like they have a close relationship."

Zhou Xianyang sat down on his dragon chair and asked. "Do you know why they left in a hurry?"

The maidservant replied. "We all know that the Divine Alchemy Association has been looking for a capable alchemist to refine the Thousand Calamities Pill in recent years. There shouldn't be a mistake that Zhi Dazun came here for this purpose."

"Coupled with the appearance of the pill tribulation earlier, there's a chance that Lin Tian has managed to successfully refine the pill."

"It's troublesome." Zhou Xianyang frowned slightly while tapping his finger on the table.

If Yun Lintian successfully refined the pill, his status in the association would improve by leaps and bounds. No longer on a level he could afford to mess with.

Zhou Xianyang thought for a moment and said. "Send him an invitation to the banquet as an honorable guest."

The maidservant hesitated. She didn't think Yun Lintian would come.

Zhou Xianyang glanced at her and said. "Do as I said. It doesn't matter whether he wants to come. All we need to do is show our sincerity and intention to befriend him."

"Understood." The maidservant no longer hesitated and went out.

Zhou Xianyang fell into deep thought for a long while before deciding to visit his master to ask for his advice.

When Zhou Xianyang arrived at Zhao Shuimu's residence, he suddenly saw a wretched-looking man walk out of the building. This person was no other than the spirit doctor that his master invited over, Yao An.

"Crown Prince." Yao An smiled when he saw Zhou Xianyang showing his yellow teeth.

Zhou Xianyang resisted the disgust in his heart and greeted him politely. "Doctor Yao."

Without waiting for Yao An to speak, Zhou Xianyang said further. "I'll visit my master first."

Afterward, he quickly entered the building without looking back.

Yao An's eyes narrowed slightly, and a disdainful grin emerged on his lips. "Heh. You think too highly of yourself."

With that, he flickered his sleeve and left in a huff.

Zhou Xianyang headed straight to the study room after entering the building. When he arrived at the door, he bowed his head gently and said. "Master, disciple has something to discuss with you."

"Come in." Zhao Shuimu's voice resounded from the inside.

Zhou Xianyang pushed the door open and walked into the room.

Zhao Shuimu glanced at a vacant seat before him and said. "Sit."

Zhou Xianyang respectfully sat down and said. "Presumably, Master is aware of the man named Lin Tian. Please give me advice."

Zhao Shuimu calmly sipped the tea and said. "This person possesses a great fortune but is also a doom bringer to his foe. Anyone who comes into contact with him would either flourish or completely sink to the ground."

Zhou Xianyang was shocked. "What should I do, Master? I've already sent him an invitation."

Zhao Shuimu raised his eyebrows slightly. "You'll be fine as long as you have no malicious intent toward him. On the contrary, if you could make friends with him, your future would be limitless."

Zhou Xianyang's eyes glowed in splendor light. "I understand. Thank you, Master. I've almost committed a grave mistake."

Zhao Shuimu smiled amiably. "You have to cultivate your mind more. Don't be petty like your third brother. Such a person has no future."

"I will try my best." Zhou Xianyang responded solemnly. His eyes were filled with determination.

"How's your preparation?" Zhao Shuimu asked gently.

Zhou Xianyang said confidently. "Except for Jian Ziqi of the Battle Sword Sect and Wang Jiakai of the Blood Mountain Sect, no one can be my opponent."

"Good. I'm looking forward to seeing your performance." Zhao Shuimu said with a smile.

"I won't lose your face, Master." Zhou Xianyang said with a serious expression.

Chapter 1432 Invitation

After returning to the Ximen Clan, Yun Lintian stayed in his courtyard and practiced with Ning Yue while waiting for good news from Shen Yan.

At this moment, Qin Mei watched as Yun Lintian absorbed millions of the Divine Stones in astonishment. She swore that she had never seen anyone practice like this before.

What surprised her the most was the absorption speed. Millions of the Divine Stones could only last for an hour at most before turning into a bunch of wasted stones.

"Now I understand why you need so many Divine Stones. What a freak." Qin Mei said when she saw Yun Lintian open his eyes.

Yun Lintian waved his hand to store all the emptied Divine Stones away and said. "How are people usually practicing?"

Qin Mei pursed her lips. "We also use the Divine Stone, but it's impossible for us to absorb a large amount in one go like you. Usually, it took me around five minutes to absorb a single best-graded Divine Stone."

"That long?" Yun Lintian was surprised.

"Not everyone is a freak like you, alright?" Qin Mei rolled her eyes annoyingly as she felt her self-esteem was hurt.

Yun Lintian chuckled. He didn't mean to look down on her but rather genuinely surprised by the revelation. He always thought that a top-talented individual like Qin Mei would be able to absorb divine energy as fast as he could. Clearly, he was completely ignorant about this.

In the future, he must restrain himself and conceal this fact carefully.

"The environment is also essential. Back in the Mystic God Realm, there's a pocket space dedicated to training. It's similar to the Heavenhold Secret Land but much worse, and only one person can enter at a time." Qin Mei said further.

She looked at Yun Lintian curiously. "Seriously. I don't understand why you choose to stay here instead of going back with my Young Miss. Although she has a conflict with her family, her authority is still there. She can easily arrange a good place for you to live in. It's certainly better than this place."

Yun Lintian responded. "I don't want to owe her, and there's no guarantee that Ning Yue and I will be safe over there. Since she has a conflict with her family, imagine what would happen when she brings us back? I probably become an entry for her enemy to attack."

Qin Mei shook her head. "You're overthinking. The Shen Clan is different from others. While the competition in the clan is highly intense, they are competing in absolute fairness. Whoever displays higher strength and talent will eventually become a winner in the end."

"Even so, it doesn't mean they don't resort to an underhand method." Yun Lintian shrugged. "Wait until they are in a desperate situation. Anything could happen by then."

Qin Mei frowned slightly. "It seems you have a prejudice against our Shen Clan, huh? Why would you trust me then?"

"You've misunderstood me." Yun Lintian explained. "I don't have any prejudices against the Shen Clan nor doubt about what you have just said. It's just that I preferred to be cautious first than sorry later."

He took a deep look at Qin Mei and said further. "As for you, it couldn't be said that I trust you. It's more like I believe you won't do anything recklessly... Would you?"

Qin Mei let out a chuckle. "So you're telling me you have a way to keep me in check?"

Yun Lintian spread his arms, offering no explanation.

Just as Qin Mei was about to say something further, she frowned slightly. "Oh? Someone from the Zhou Clan is here."

Yun Lintian was slightly surprised and looked toward the entrance. At this moment, Zhou Xianyang's maidservant arrived in front of the courtyard with the accompaniment of Mu Qing.

"Greetings, Vice-President Lin. I am the Crown Prince's servant. I am here to send you an invitation to the upcoming banquet." The maidservant said.

Yun Lintian frowned slightly. He had no intention of participating in the banquet at all. Moreover, he had never met this so-called crown prince before. Why would he send him an invitation out of nowhere?

"Oh? It seems someone is plotting against you." Qin Mei curled her lips playfully.

Yun Lintian shook his head and walked out of the courtyard.

The maidservant stepped forward and handed a golden letter to Yun Lintian. "Crown Prince said it doesn't matter whether Vice-President Lin wants to join in."

Yun Lintian retrieved the golden letter and looked at it briefly before saying. "Please tell him. I'm truly appreciating his kindness. I'll give him an answer later."

"Understood. I'll take my leave first." The maidservant bowed politely and left directly.

Watching the maidservant disappear, Mu Qing said in a low voice. "Her name is Gu Xin. She's the closest servant of the Crown Prince."

Yun Lintian nodded slightly. "Her strength is not low."

With a glance, he could see that Gu Xin's profound strength had already reached the peak of the Divine Transformation Realm. Such a person could uphold a top position anywhere, yet she was willing to be a maidservant. Obviously, this crown prince must have something.

"She's a daughter of the Gu Clan in the Great Xia Dynasty. Since her clan got destroyed, she managed to flee and was rescued by Zhou Xianyang. Although extremely talented, she doesn't want to take any position besides a maidservant. It can be said Zhou Xianyang is a lucky bastard to have her." Qin Mei walked out and said with a disdainful smile.

"Oh?" Yun Lintian was slightly surprised. "Her clan should be powerful, right? What happened to them?"

"Long story short. The Gu Clan had offended a figure from the top force called Dark Sea Palace and had no way to resist them." Qin Mei explained casually.

"The Dark Sea Palace? How could they appear here?" Mu Qing's expression became serious. She obviously heard about this faction before.

"The Dark Sea Palace is a force under the Dark Sea God Emperor. I heard they are looking for someone in various middle star realms lately." Qin Mei said.

She turned to Yun Lintian. "You better don't offend them. Although my Young Miss can protect you, it will be very troublesome."

Yun Lintian spread his arms. "How could I know them? Are they having a plate hanging around their necks saying they belong to the Dark Sea Palace?"

"Well, as long as they don't come to me first. There shouldn't be a problem."

Chapter 1433 Talents

Qin Mei was speechless. For some reason, she had a hunch that Yun Lintian would eventually meet people from the Dark Sea Palace in the near future. Perhaps she should inform her young miss in advance?

She glanced at the gold letter in Yun Lintian's hand and asked. "What about this?"

Yun Lintian put it away and replied. "It depends on the good news from your young miss. If there's no mistake, I will leave in a few days."

"Zhou Xianyang probably took a fancy to your talent. He even dispatched his beloved maidservant to come here personally." Qin Mei pursed her lips.

"It doesn't matter. He is nobody to me. Why should I help him?" Yun Lintian shrugged and returned to his room.

Two days passed by in a flash. During this period, the Great Zhou Capital City was bustling with people flocking over from all directions. Naturally, their goal was the upcoming banquet.

At this moment, a luxury carriage gradually moved along the bustling street on the city's eastern side. The word "Qin" was displayed vividly on the side of the carriage. Obviously, it was the Qin Clan from Chu Country.

Inside the carriage, Qin Weizhe looked at the lively scenery with a hint of excitement. The day he had been looking forward to for so long finally arrived.

On the side, Chen Xue was not much different. She couldn't wait to participate in the banquet directly.

Huan Yuchun was also tagging along. Among them, his existence was the lowest. No one seemed to care about him much.

On the contrary, Qin Weizhe and Chen Lan were relatively calm. Their confidence came from a superb preparation they had been doing for years. Even though they couldn't get into the top ranking list, their strength should be enough to enter a second list of the academy.

"It seems everyone has arrived ahead of us." Chen Lan said gently. "I heard that Jian Ziqi of the Battle Sword Sect is coming this time."

As she spoke, she glanced at Qin Jun with a meaningful smile.

Qin Jun's eyes flickered slightly as if he was thinking of something. He glanced back at her and asked. "What do you want?"

Chen Lan covered her mouth and laughed amusingly. "Hehe. Why? Are you nervous about seeing your unforgettable lover?"

Qin Jun ignored her and looked at the scenery outside.

The atmosphere in the carriage became awkwardly silent instantly.

Qin Weizhe and Chen Xue were aware of the woman named Jian Ziqi. She came from a small Jian family in the Chu Country. However, she possessed a special physique called Sword Heart Physique. This allowed her strength to improve several times faster compared to her peers.

Moreover, Jian Ziqi possessed a breathtaking appearance. She was considered the number one beauty of the Chu Country. Every man there had her as their dream lover, and Qin Jun was no exception.

However, Jian Ziqi was spotted by the Supreme Elder of the Battle Sword Sect later. Since then, she transformed into an existence that Qin Jun and others couldn't afford to even dream of. This left a scar on Qin Jun's heart.

When the Qin Clan proposed to engage Qin Jun with Chen Lan, Qin Jun calmly accepted it, knowing it was impossible for him to get Jian Ziqi in this life. Even if he could enter the Heavehold Divine Academy, the gap between their talents was still huge.

While Chen Lan was aware of this point, she wasn't jealous of Jian Ziqi or anything. Anyway, she didn't have a feeling for Qin Jun. The engagement between the two was nothing but an agreement for benefits to her.

"Look. Aren't they Blood Mountain Sect's people?" Huan Yuchun suddenly exclaimed as he saw a group of people clad in scarlet-red attires.

Chen Lan and the others glanced over with a hint of surprise.

When Chen Lan saw a handsome young man who stood at the forefront, her expression turned solemn instantly. "That's Wang Jiakai."

"Wang Jiakai? The one and only disciple of the Blood Mountain Sect Master?" Chen Xue exclaimed in surprise. She had heard about this heavenly genius before. It was said he had achieved divinity at thirty, which was highly impressive.

"It's him." Chen Lan nodded gently. "I didn't expect him to reach the peak of the Divine Origin Realm now."

Qin Weizhe, Chen Xue, and Huang Yuchun were shocked. No matter how they looked at this Wang Jiakai, he shouldn't be more than a hundred years old. What kind of talent was that?

"You don't have to be surprised. The resources of the Blood Mountain Sect are incomparably abundant compared to a low-level sect like the Profound Pill Sect. And with his innate talent, it's normal for him to reach this realm at a young age." Qin Jun said with a gloomy expression.

Deep down in his heart, he was jealous of Wang Jiakai for having all the resources around him. Qin Jun believed that if he got that amount of resources, he would definitely be better than Wang Jiakai.

However, the reality wasn't something he could control. Wang Jiakai was lucky enough to meet the Blood Mountain Sect Master during his journey. Even if Qin Jun's talent was better, he still lost to Wang Jiakai in terms of luck in the end.

At this moment, the young man, Wang Jiakai, seemed to notice something and looked toward the carriage. However, his gaze briefly paused on Qin Jun and Chen Lan before turning elsewhere. It was as if both of them were nothing but pebbles in his eyes.

Qin Jun clenched his fists angrily but was helpless to do anything. The gap between them was too huge. It would be no different from courting death if Qin Jun wanted to do something here.

He took a deep breath and turned to the coachman. "Can you move faster?"

The coachman had no choice but to urge the horse to move faster.

While the carriage was heading toward its destination, another luxury carriage was coming ahead, seemingly heading toward the Ximen Clan.

Inside the luxury carriage, Shen Yan sat opposite a gentle-looking woman wearing a green robe.

"There are so many talented youngsters this year." The gentle woman said softly as she looked at the lively scene.

Shen Yan pursed her lips and said. "These people couldn't even be compared to those outer division disciples of your Heavenhold Sect."

The gentle woman smiled elegantly. "They are the future of the Heavenhold Realm anyway."

Chapter 1434 Test

Shen Yan curled her lips upon hearing what the woman said. If it wasn't because of her excellent temperament, she would laugh out loud by now.

They were the future of the Heavenhold Realm? That was probably the most ridiculous sentence she had ever heard in recent years.

Everyone knew how cruel the world was. Only a handful of these so-called heavenly geniuses could climb to the top, or perhaps none of them could.

Shen Yan looked at the woman and said jokingly. "You better disguise yourself well. Otherwise, this small kingdom probably falls into chaos once your identity is exposed."

The gentle woman in front of her had an astonishing identity. She was the Supreme Elder of the Heavenhold Sect. A woman whose status was only second to the Heavenhold Realm King. Tian Hualing.

The woman, Tian Hualing, laughed gently. "Don't worry. I had played a maidservant role before."

Twenty minutes later, the carriage gradually arrived at the Ximen Clan manor, and when Shen Yan reported her identity, Ximen Jue and the others hurriedly came out to welcome her.

"Welcome to our humble abode, Young Miss Shen." Ximen Jue said politely. "Please forgive us. Our patriarch has an important task to do. He can't come out to greet you personally."

Shen Yan said with a faint smile. "You're too polite. I'm here to visit Lin Tian. Can you bring me to see him?"

Ximen Jue responded readily. "Please."

Under Ximen Jue's guidance, Shen Yan, Tian Hualing, and Xu Chang quickly arrived at Yun Lintian's courtyard.

At this moment, Yun Lintian was teaching Ning Yue basic swordsmanship in the backyard, with Qin Mei boringly watching them from the side.

During this period, Yun Lintian rapidly progressed to the second level of the Divine Spirit Realm, which could be considered a miracle. However, Qin Mei felt nothing strange, counting a few billion worth of Divine Stones Yun Lintian absorbed.

Suddenly, Qin Mei perceived Shen Yan's aura. She quickly got up from the seat and bowed respectfully. "Young Miss."

Shen Yan nodded gently and said to Ximen Jue. "You can leave."

"Understood." Ximen Jue bowed slightly and retreated with Mu Qing.

"Well done. Let's take a rest first." Yun Lintian praised Ning Yue as she completed her thousand times sword swinging.

Ning Yue wiped the sweat off her forehead and walked back to the table. The arrival of Shen Yan didn't seem to have anything to do with her.

Yun Lintian put the wooden sword in his hand on a rack nearby and walked toward Shen Yan. "How is it?"

At the same time, he noticed the unusual gaze of the gentle woman beside Shen Yan. This woman seemed to seize him up and down as if she wanted to see through his secret.

Shen Yan shook her head and said. "Unfortunately, Tian Yuhuan didn't agree with my request."

"Oh?" Yun Lintian was surprised. "Is there another way?"

"Don't be impatient." Shen Yan rolled her eyes at him. "She didn't agree but didn't reject entirely either. This is Tian Hualing, the Supreme Elder of the Heavenhold Sect."

Two days ago, Shen Yan went to the Heavenhold Sect to talk with Tian Yuhuan. However, Tian Yuhuan disagreed with her request directly, even though she was aware of Shen Yan's identity.

To Tian Yuhuan, accepting a disciple wasn't a small matter. It was related to the Heavenhold Realm's future. She needed to ensure that her disciple was talented and capable enough to inherit her position.

Since Shen Yan couldn't tell Tian Yuhuan about Yun Lintian's identity, she naturally had no way to prove that Yun Lintian was more than enough to be Tian Yuhuan's disciple. In the end, Tian Yuhuan sent Tian Hualing over to check on Yun Lintian.

Yun Lintian cupped his fists and greeted Tian Hualing politely. "Junior Lin Tian greets Supreme Elder Tian."

Tian Hualing smiled gently. "I can see that you're very strong. No wonder Young Miss Shen wants our Realm King to accept you directly."

She paused briefly and continued. "It's not that our Realm King doesn't give Young Miss Shen's face; rather, she wants to test your strength first. After all, this is related to the future of the Heavenhold Realm. I hope you can understand."

Tian Hualing didn't know Yun Lintian's background but could see that he wasn't ordinary. Otherwise, Shen Yan wouldn't personally recommend him to Tian Yuhang. Hence, she had to explain the reason carefully to avoid offending him.

"Please do tell. How do we test it?" Yun Lintian said calmly.

"Coincidentally, there's an incoming competition here. Our Realm King said as long as you obtain the first place, she will consider accepting you." Tian Hualing said.

"Competition? Senior means the royal banquet?" Yun Lintian asked.

"Indeed. It is a competition for a quota to enter our Heavenhold Divine Academy." Tian Hualing explained briefly.

Yun Lintian frowned slightly. In fact, he didn't want to participate in such a meaningless competition at all. Since Tian Yuhang didn't want to accept him. He could just find a way himself. In this way, he didn't have to risk exposing his identity.

Just as Yun Lintian was about to reject Tian Hualing, Shen Yan suddenly sent a sound transmission to him. "You should accept it. I just got the news that those people have been actively looking for you recently. I don't know how they got the news about you entering the Divine Realm."

"The Heavenhold Secret Land is certainly the safest place for you in this situation. You can stay there until you reach a certain realm, and it won't be too late to come out later."

The frown between Yun Lintian's brows grew deeper upon hearing this. He suddenly thought of the giant golden hand that attacked him on the way to the Heavenhold Realm. Perhaps it was that existence who notified everyone about his arrival?

"Wouldn't it be more risky in this way?" Yun Lintian asked through a sound transmission. If he wanted to win the competition, he needed to expose his strength to a certain extent, which didn't seem like a good idea.

Shen Yan curled her lips. "Well, there's another secret you don't know about this Heavenhold Realm."

Yun Lintian looked at her questioningly.

"The Heavenhold Realm is in a state of shutting itself right now. Anyone who comes and goes has to get permission from Tian Yuhan. So, you don't have to worry about your identity being exposed in this period." Shen Yan explained. "It's called Heavenhold for a reason. It can hold a secret."

Chapter 1435 No Other Choice

"What do you mean by that?" Yun Lintian didn't quite understand.

"The Heavenhold Realm is unique because the entire star can be shut at will by Tian Yuhan. If she doesn't want anyone to leave, no one can. This includes all the communications." Shen Yan explained.

"But that means we have to tell her about my identity, right?" Yun Lintian asked.

"No. I already told her to close the realm to hide my identity." Shen Yan chuckled. "Tell me. How are you going to repay me?"

Yun Lintian ignored her and fell into contemplation. Once again, he felt that coming here wasn't a coincidence. It was as if the person who pulled his string of fate had predicted this outcome ahead of time. With the Heavenhold Realm's unique ability, he didn't need to be afraid of being exposed at all.

Tian Hualing glanced at the two and remained silent. Although she didn't know what they were talking about, it wasn't difficult to guess. Shen Yan must be persuading Yun Lintian to accept the test.

"Really. What other options do I have?" Yun Lintian asked again. He still didn't want to participate in this meaningless competition.

"I can't bring you back with me, as you know. It's not safe there once they know your identity. And I also don't think it's a good idea for you to wander around in this kind of situation." Shen Yan spread her arms. "So, this is your best bet."

Yun Lintian went silent for a moment and turned to Tian Hualing. "Senior, can you guarantee there won't be another test like this one afterward?"

Tian Hualing looked at Yun Lintian thoughtfully. For some reason, she suddenly felt that Yun Lintian didn't want to participate in the competition, not because his strength was insufficient but for other reasons. It was as if he didn't want to show himself in public.

"Can you tell me why?" Tian Hualing asked in doubt.

Yun Lintian took his personal token out and showed it to her. "I am an honorable elder of the Divine Alchemy Association. I don't think it's a good idea for me to join in such an event. Furthermore, if you want to test me, why don't we have a sparring match here?"

Tian Hualing shook her head. "Unfortunately, I can't agree with you. First of all, our Heavenhold Sect always has this tradition where a disciple of the Realm King must come from the Heavenhold Divine Academy. So, even if I vouched for you, others would ultimately disagree."

"Secondly, our Realm King is different from the previous generations. She attaches great importance to the sect's tradition. No matter what kind of status you have, you still need to prove yourself according to her wishes."

She glanced at Shen Yan and said further. "Look. She didn't care about the Young Miss Shen of the Mystic God Realm. Even if the Mystic God Emperor comes forward himself, I don't think our Realm King will agree with his request."

Shen Yan added. "In short, she's a very stubborn woman."

Yun Lintian frowned deeply upon hearing this. He didn't expect things to be this troublesome. While he could stay here and try to practice by himself, the progress speed must be plodding compared to the so-called Heavenhold Secret Land. Yun Lintian didn't want to waste his time that much.

After thinking for a long while, Yun Lintian nodded and said. "Alright. I'll participate in it. However, I don't know if I can still join the event."

"It's not a problem. I've prepared everything. Hopefully, you don't disappoint me." Tian Hualing said with a faint smile. She wanted to see what kind of strength Yun Lintian had to make Shen Yan come forward for him.

"There are two days before the banquet starts." Shen Yan said gently. "Good luck."

Yun Lintian didn't say anything further and went to Ning Yue's side, continuing to teach her.

Inside Zhao Shuimu's residence, Yao An carefully checked the surrounding before erecting an isolating barrier.

Seeing that everything was fine, Yao An entered the living room and sat opposite Zhao Shuimu, who was leisurely reading a book.

"That Concubine Ximen is no longer useful. Her body is too weak. I cannot harvest her Yin energy anymore." Yao An complained while pouring himself a cup of tea.

Zhao Shuimu put the book down and looked at Yao An with a hint of dissatisfaction. "Didn't I tell you before to slowly absorb it? Why did you hasten your progress?"

Yao An didn't seem to care about Zhao Shuimu's dissatisfaction. He took a gulp of tea and said. "We've been staying here for almost a hundred years now. How long are you going to wait further?"

Zhao Shuimu's face turned cold. "It's not the right time. The fortune hasn't reached its limit yet."

"Screw it." Yao An sneered. "I would definitely die before you could harvest the fortune here. What's wrong with me doing this? Besides, that Ximen woman will eventually die in a few days. It doesn't make a difference here."

Zhao Shuimu stared at Yao An coldly for a while before calming down. "Forget it. What's done is done... How's your recovery?"

Yao An smiled wretchedly. "Although her foundation is weak, her Yin energy is quite abundant. As expected from a woman who gave birth to a child... I've recovered more than seventy percent of my strength. As long as I absorb that little princess's vital Yin, I will definitely be recovered fully."

Zhao Shuimu closed his eyes and began to count his fingers. A moment later, he opened his eyes and said. "You can't touch her during this period. Her fortune is on rising. Once you touch her, you will certainly encounter a mishap."

"What!? How come?" Yao An frowned in dissatisfaction. "Don't tell me it's because of that man named Lin Tian?"

Zhao Shuimu didn't confirm directly as he said. "I've already contacted my master. He will arrive here soon."

Yao An was surprised. "That's great."

Zhao Shuimu took a deep look at him and said. "You better be honest during this period."

Yao An showed his yellow teeth and said. "Don't worry. That's my thing."

Zhao Shumu said nothing further and continued to read the book. However, a strange glint in the depths of his eyes seemed to reflect what he was thinking currently...

Chapter 1436 Gathering Of Geniuses (1)

Another two days passed by in a flash. Today was the first day of the Royal Banquet event. At this moment, countless people had already gathered outside the palace, waiting to see the exciting competition.

"How's the preparation?" Inside the vast hall, Zhou Xianyang asked a male servant nearby.

The servant replied respectfully. "Everything is ready, Your Highness. We can start at any time."

Zhou Xianyang briefly swept his gaze over a vast arena at the center of the hall and various tables and chairs around the hall and nodded. "Good. You can tell them."

"Yes, Your Highness." The servant bowed deeply and went out.

Zhou Xianyang looked at a small book in his hand and skimmed through the name list on it. Since his Great Zhou Royal Clan was assigned by the Heavenhold Divine Academy to organize this event, he didn't want to see a tiny mistake happen here.

"Hmm?" Zhou Xianyan was surprised when he saw Yun Lintian's name on it. "Why did he join in?"

His surprised expression was gradually replaced with a frown.

In fact, with Yun Lintian's status as the vice president of the Divine Alchemy Association, he didn't need to participate in such an event at all. He could go straight to the academy directly... Why would he come here then?

If Zhou Xianyang remembered correctly, Yun Lintian was only at the first level of the Divine Spirit Realm. While he wasn't a threat to Zhou Xianyang, his status was still there. It was difficult for him to handle.

Zhou Xianyang pondered for a while and decided to ask his master for an opinion.

While Zhou Xianyang headed to Zhao Shumu's residence, various participants slowly entered the venue under the guidance of the palace servants.

Qin Jun's group was also among them. They looked around carefully to see the environment here, as well as their potential opponents.

The Great Zhou Royal Palace was a wide area of a sparse emerald-green bamboo forest, and in it stood a huge palace that emitted a dignified atmosphere. This was the biggest and most extravagant building in the entire Great Zhou Kingdom. It was well known as the "Emerald Palace."

Usually, all the important matters inside the palace were conducted in the Emerald Palace, and the upcoming banquet was also conducted here.

"So beautiful." Chen Xue exclaimed in a low voice. Though she grew up in a relatively powerful clan, she had never seen such a magnificent palace before.

"The divine energy here is highly abundant. It's several times higher than the outside." Qin Weizhe said enviously. If he could practice in this kind of environment all year round, his strength would be several times higher than the current one by now.

"Have you seen these servants?" Huang Yuchun drew closer to Qin Weizhe and whispered. "All of them are actually in the Divine Spirit Realm. I fully understand now why the Great Zhou Royal Clan could dominate the eastern land."

Hearing this, Qin Jun frowned slightly and reprimanded. "Be quiet. Don't be rude here."

Huang Yuchun immediately shut his mouth and peeked at Qin Jun resentfully.

"Brother Qin." At this moment, a burly young man came up from behind and said to Qin Jun. This person possessed a powerful aura that oppressed anyone looking at him.

"Brother Chu? When did you come?" Qin Jun was surprised and asked. The burly man in front of him was no other than a son of the Chu Country's governor, Chu Teng.

"I just arrived here today." Chu Teng laughed and patted Qin Jun's shoulder. "We haven't seen each other for a while. Brother Qin's strength has improved a lot."

Qin Jun shook his head and said. "Please don't make a joke on me, Brother Chu. You're a dignified disciple of the Long River Sect. How could I dare to say I've improved a lot?"

Five years ago, Chu Teng was recruited into the Long River Sect, one of the top five sects in the Great Zhou Kingdom. The last time they met, Chu Teng didn't even enter the Divine Foundation Realm, but now, he had already reached the eighth level of the Divine Spirit Realm. This speed was something Qin Jun would never achieve.

"What are you talking about? No matter what status I have, I am still your good friend. And I have no intention of joking with you." Chu Teng said with dissatisfaction. "Your talent is obviously above mine. As long as you can enter the academy later, you will definitely soar to the sky and surpass me."

Qin Jun smiled warmly and said. "I'm sorry, Brother Chu."

"Let's go." Suddenly, an old man clad in a white robe walked up to Chu Teng and said calmly.

"This is my master, Jiang He." Chu Teng said and turned to the old man. "Master, this is my good brother, Qin Jun."

Qin Jun quickly cupped his fists and said respectfully. "Junior Qin Jun greets Elder Jiang."

The old man, Jiang He, glanced at Qin Jun briefly and walked away without a word.

Seeing this, Qin Jun was a little angry in his heart, but there was nothing he could do.

"My master is like that. Don't take it to heart." Chu Teng chuckled. "Let's go. I can't wait to see our opponents."

"Alright." Qin Jun nodded slightly and followed Chu Teng into the Emerald Palace.

Far behind Qin Jun's group, Yun Lintian, Ning Yue, Qin Mei, Shen Yan, Xu Chang, and Tian Hualing got off the carriage and looked around briefly before heading to the Emerald Palace.

Meanwhile, Ximen Wu and his clan members followed closely behind.

"The venue is too small." Shen Yan didn't even look at the environment as she said.

On the side, Tian Hualing said. "It can't be helped. This Great Zhou Kingdom happened to be a host this year. It's not something I can change."

Shen Yan shook her head and said. "Your sect is too stubborn. The ancient tradition is good, but it doesn't mean you have to stick with it all the time. You should learn how to adapt to the ever-changing era."

Tian Hualing pursed her lips and said nothing. The tradition of the Heavenhold Sect had been passed down for countless years. It wasn't something that she or Tian Yuhan could change overnight.

Yun Lintian listened to their conversation with no comment while looking around casually. Suddenly, his gaze met a pair of mesmerizing eyes that happened to look at him...

Chapter 1437 Gathering Of Geniuses (2)

The owner of the pair of mesmerizing eyes was a beautiful young woman in white. She was around 170cm, and her body gave off a menacing air, like an unsheathed sword.

Facing her gaze, Yun Lintian smiled and nodded gently, showing his friendly side before turning away. With a glance, he could see that she was a top-tier sword practitioner.

Although the woman was beautiful, Yun Lintian didn't feel anything special. After all, he had seen so many beauties throughout his life.

"She's Jian Ziqi, a top talent from the Battle Sword Sect." Qin Mei said softly upon seeing this scene. "She is only fifty years old this year and has already reached the peak of the Divine Origin Realm. Even if she was placed in the upper realms, she would still be regarded as one of the best among the geniuses over there."

"Her physique is special." Yun Lintian said.

"Indeed. It's called the Sword Heart Physique." Qin Mei said approvingly. "Unfortunately, her Battle Sword Sect isn't strong enough. Otherwise, she should have already stepped into the higher realm."

"In fact, she is one of the candidates our Realm King pays attention to." Tian Hualing, who was disguised as Shen Yan's maidservant, said.

Shen Yan glanced at Jian Ziqi briefly and said. "She's not bad. A cold woman like the Heavenhold Realm King."

"One of the candidates? What about others, Senior?" Yun Lintian asked curiously.

"Wang Jiakai of the Blood Mountain Sect. He's here too. Also, there are a few from the Great Xia Dynasty. I believe you will see them later." Tian Hualing replied gently.

While everyone was talking, a middle-aged woman behind Jian Ziqi asked. "What's wrong, Ziqi?"

Jian Ziqi retracted her gaze and said. "Nothing."

Although she spoke this, Jian Ziqi had already noted Yun Lintian down in her heart. Her sharp intuition told her he was the most dangerous person in the upcoming competition.

The middle-aged woman glanced at Yun Lintian's group and was surprised. "That should be the young miss of the Mystic Auction House. I didn't expect her to come here."

In her opinion, this royal banquet was nothing but a small event to a lofty existence like Shen Yan. It was bizarre that she came here.

At the same time, the middle-aged woman looked at Yun Lintian strangely. Judging from his appearance, it seemed he possessed a high status among them... Who could he be?

A while later, Yun Lintian arrived at the entrance of the Emerald Palace and handed the golden invitation letter to a servant. When the servant saw this, he quickly brought Yun Lintian's group to a particular area prepared for distinguished guests.

When Yun Lintian's group walked into the palace under the servant's guidance, Chen Xue happened to look toward the entrance. Her entire body froze, and her eyes widened in shock when she saw Yun Lintian and Ning Yue.

On the side, Qin Weizhe noticed Chen Xue's strange reaction. He asked in doubt. "What's wrong with you?"

His question immediately attracted the attention of Qin Jun and the others.

Chen Xue pointed at Yun Lintian and said tremblingly. "He..."

Qin Weizhe followed Chen Xue's pointing direction, and his entire body immediately froze.

"H-How could he?" Huan Yuchun was no different.

Qin Jun frowned slightly as he stared at Yun Lintian. "Who are they?"

"He..." Qin Weizhe didn't know how to answer.

Meanwhile, Chen Lan seemed to recognize Ning Yue. She asked in doubt. "Was she a little girl all of you often bullied in the past?"

Chen Xue replied mechanically. "It's her."

Chen Lan frowned deeply. "What about the man?"

Huang Yuchun swallowed hard as he replied. "He was a cripple that little bitch picked up back then. How could he recover? This is impossible!"

Qin Jun and Chen Lan glanced at each other solemnly. They knew that their younger siblings had caused a disaster for them. No matter how they looked at Yun Lintian, he was far from being crippled, as Huang Yuchun said. The only possibility was that they were deceived by Yun Lintian.

"What's going on? Tell me in detail." An old man behind Qin Jun asked with a frown.

"This..." Huang Yuchun didn't know how to start. Once he spoke out, he would definitely get killed.

Qin Weizhe took a deep breath to calm down and explained everything about Yun Lintian and Ning Yue to the old man.

"Bastard! Do you know what kind of disaster you have just caused?" The old man was enraged instantly after listening to Qin Weizhe's narration.

"Calm down, First Elder. No matter how powerful he is, is it possible for him to go against us here?" Qin Jun said.

The old man, Qin Yuan, glared at Qin Jun and said coldly. "Why is it impossible? Do you know who are those people beside him?"

Qin Jun looked at Shen Yan and the others. "They have a powerful background?"

"More than powerful!" Qin Yuan was so angry that his body constantly trembled. "That young woman in a blue robe is the one and only daughter of the current Mystic God Emperor. Not to mention that senior behind her. He is the famous Senior Xu of the Mystic Auction House. Tell me. Do you think he has no ability to deal with us!?"

Qin Jun and the rest were shocked stupidly when they heard this. That was a God Emperor's descendant they were talking about! How could she appear here?

Thinking of what she did to Yun Lintian and Ning Yue in the past, Chen Xue's face turned even more ghastly pale. Her entire body kept trembling uncontrollably.

In fact, she had a chance to leave a good impression on Yun Lintian, yet she was stupid enough to poison him... What should she do now?

Huang Yuchun was no exception. He tried to kill Yun Lintian back then with a sinister method. Even if Yun Lintian was merciful enough, he didn't think Yun Lintian would let him go.

Meanwhile, Qin Weizhe was frozen in place. The scene where he bullied Ning Yue over the years came to his mind one after the other.

"W-What should we do now?" Qin Jun stammered. It was his first time to lose his composure like this.

"What else? If you don't want to die, go and give him a sincere apology." Qin Yuan said angrily. "I won't help you with this."

Chapter 1438 Gathering Of Geniuses (3)

At this moment, Yun Lintian noticed this and looked toward Qin Jun's group. A strange expression appeared on his face as he saw these familiar faces.

On the side, Ning Yue had also seen them. She subconsciously grabbed Yun Lintian's sleeve and drew closer to him. Years of being bullied made her timid in front of these people.

"An acquaintance?" Shen Yan asked casually.

"Yeah." Yun Lintian smiled faintly. He didn't take a chance to avenge Ning Yue before leaving the Profound Pill Sect because he wanted her to do it herself. However, he didn't mind doing it here for her if she asked him.

Shen Yan looked at him strangely. Obviously, there was more of a story in this.

Yun Lintian looked at her and explained the ins and outs briefly.

Hearing this, Shen Yan chuckled. "Seriously. They are really unlucky to meet you here."

If Yun Lintian wasn't forced to participate in this event, these people would definitely be off the hook. It seemed fate didn't allow them to live longer.

Yun Lintian held Ning Yue's small hand and asked. "Do you want me to take care of them here?"

Ning Yue tightened her grip and hesitated for a while before shaking her head. "I want to do it myself."

"Alright. It won't be long." Yun Lintian had always respected Ning Yue's choice. He naturally won't interfere with this.

"You sure like to spoil her." Shen Yan teased.

Yun Lintian shrugged and continued to follow the servant to the special zone nearby a throne.

Seeing Yun Lintian walk away, Qin Weizhe and the others were relieved. However, they knew it was a temporary relief. They still had to solve this problem as soon as possible.

Qin Jun and Chen Lan frowned deeply. They were trying to find a solution to this. Money? Resources? They didn't think Yun Lintian was short of these things. What could they do now?

Perhaps they should ask Chu Teng to come forward?

While Qin Jun and the others fell into a dilemma, more and more people arrived, filling vacant spots in the hall.

Asides from Jian Ziqi and Wang Jiakai, there were other top talents from various factions around the Great Zhou Kingdom. Although they weren't as famous as the former two, their talents couldn't be underestimated.

At this moment, Yun Lintian walked onto a high platform prepared for his group and saw a familiar face sitting there.

"President Zhi. I didn't expect to see you here." Yun Lintian smiled and greeted Zhi Wei.

Zhi Wei laughed slightly. "Since I am about to leave, I still need to maintain a good relationship with the Zhou Clan for him."

As he spoke, he pointed at a middle-aged man beside him.

The middle-aged man cupped his fists and said. "Jin Zheng greets Elder Lin."

Yun Lintian cupped his fists and responded politely. "There's no need to be polite, Senior Jin."

He naturally knew that Jin Zheng would succeed in Zhi Wei's position once the former left.

Yun Lintian brought Ning Yue over and sat beside Zhi Wei, looking at the crowd below.

"Look like we had missed a great opportunity back then." Shi Nanhua glanced at Yun Lintian above and sighed to himself. He didn't expect Yun Lintian to have such a high status. Clearly, he had committed a huge mistake by not helping Yun Lintian while he had a chance.

Wu Jinjian and Lou Xuan were not much different. Thinking how they looked down on Yun Lintian back then, they wanted to slap themselves badly.

Especially Lou Xuan. When his younger brother, Lou Ping, came back and told him about Yun Lintian's promotion, he couldn't sleep at all.

On Ye Lianyu's side, although her face was cold as usual, her heart wasn't as peaceful as she appeared to be. During this period, she often went to the Ximen Clan to form a connection with Yun Lintian, as he displayed remarkable combat skills.

Unfortunately, Yun Lintian always refused to see her.

Sitting beside her, Ye Jingran lowered her head in regret. If she had been more sincere and put her arrogance away back then, Yun Lintian should have had a good impression of the Ye Clan.

"Don't think about it too much. Since we missed it, just let it be." An amiable old man beside her said. "Even if you change everything in the past, there's no guarantee we can form a good relationship with him."

Ye Jingran sighed softly and said. "It's my fault. I made our clan lose a good chance to rise."

"Silly girl." The old man, Ye Cang, shook his head with a smile. He was a great elder of the Ye Clan and watched the two little girls grow up since they were born. He always treated them as his granddaughters.

Ye Cang raised his head to look at Yun Lintian with a trace of admiration in his eyes. This was the first time he saw a twenty-two-year-old-top alchemist with his own eyes.

Yun Lintian noticed this and turned to look at Ye Cang before nodding with a smile. In fact, he didn't have a bad impression of the Ye Clan at all. To him, they were simply a passerby that he would forget later.

"Crown Prince is here." Suddenly, a servant shouted, and Zhou Xianyang gradually appeared on the high platform backstage.

"We greet Crown Prince." Immediately, the crowd got up and said in unison.

Zhou Xianyang raised his hand and said. "Thank you, everyone, and welcome to the royal banquet today. Please sit down and enjoy our delicacies first. The banquet will start once everyone has arrived."

The crowd expressed their words and backed down to their seats, enjoying the delicacies that had just been served.

Meanwhile, Zhou Xianyang walked toward Yun Lintian and said politely. "Greetings, President Zhi, Vice-President Lin, and Young Miss Shen. Thank you for visiting our humble abode."

"You're too polite, Crown Prince." Zhi Wei replied with a smile, while Shen Yan merely nodded her head in return.

Yun Lintian cupped his fists and said. "Thank you for the invitation, Crown Prince."

"It's nothing. Even if I didn't invite Vice-President Lin, you would still come here." Zhou Xianyang said with a smile.

Yun Lintian smiled and said nothing further.

"Please take a good rest first. My Royal Father will arrive soon." Zhou Xianyang said politely and returned to his seat on the right side of the throne.

"He doesn't give up on you, it seems." Qin Mei teased Yun Lintian through a sound transmission.

Yun Lintian chuckled in response, unbothered to talk with her about this topic.

Chapter 1439 The Royal Banquet (1)

As soon as Zhou Xianyang went to his seat, Zhou Junyi and two young men who looked similar to him appeared on the high platform.

The crowd quickly got up and greeted them one by one. "We greet Third Prince, Fourth Prince, and Fifth Prince."

Zhou Junyi nodded and said. "You can go down."

Everyone seemed familiar with Zhou Junyi's personality. They didn't feel offended by his arrogance and quietly sat back in their seats.

Zhou Junyi looked at Shen Yan and went to greet her without hesitation. "I pay respect to Young Miss Shen. What happened in the auction house last time was my fault. Please forgive me."

Shen Yan merely glanced at him and said. "Go away."

A flame of fury was instantly ignited in Zhou Junyi's heart, but he had to suppress it. He forced a smile and said. "I'll take my leave now."

Afterward, he turned around and went to his seat.

The Fourth and the Fifth Prince glanced at each other briefly and went away after greeting Shen Yan.

"There are so many flies here." Shen Yan shook her head annoyingly.

This scene left everyone in the crowd speechless. However, knowing her status, they didn't think it was inappropriate for her to say this.

A while later, Zhou Ling'er walked out and came to Yun Lintian's side. "Little Girl Ling'er pays respect to Young Miss Shen, Fairy Qin, Senior Xu, and Senior Lin."

When everyone thought Shen Yan would chase Zhou Ling'er, she suddenly said. "Sit here with us."

Zhou Ling'er was surprised and quickly said. "I won't be polite then."

As she finished her sentence, she calmly sat down beside Shen Yan. This scene stunned everyone below... Wouldn't this mean Shen Yan declared that she supported Zhou Ling'er? And it could also include the Ximen Clan behind Zhou Ling'er.

Seeing this scene, Ximen Jue and the others from the Ximen Clan were delighted. As long as they could maintain a good relationship with Shen Yan, they no longer have to be afraid of the Zhou Royal Clan.

While Zhou Xianyang was calm, Zhou Junyi's face was terribly gloomy upon seeing this. As much as Zhou Junyi wanted to get rid of Zhou Ling'er, it was almost impossible now.

At this time, the lead actor of the event, the Great Zhou Emperor, Zhou Xun, finally showed up. His face held an expression of gentle and unflustered calm, and deep wisdom could be seen in his clear eyes. He emanated a majestic aura that made everyone feel reverent.

Following Zhou Xun were Zhao Shuimu and Yao An.

"That's Zhao Shuimu and Yao An." Qin Mei sent a sound transmission to Yun Lintian. "Their strength cannot be underestimated. I may not be able to restrain both of them alone."

Yun Lintian didn't say anything. With a glance, he could see the strength of the two was deep and unfathomable. They should be in the Divine King Realm, at the very least.

Except for Shen Yan's group, everyone in the crowd quickly got up and said in unison. "We pay respect to Your Majesty Great Zhou Emperor and National Teacher Zhao."

Zhou Xun smiled and raised his hand slightly. "No need to be polite, everyone. Please take a seat."

The crowd was relaxed by Zhou Xun's amiable approach. They bowed gently and sat back in their seats.

Zhou Xun turned to Shen Yan and said politely. "Welcome, Young Miss Shen, to my humble abode. I hope you have a pleasant time here."

Shen Yan nodded gently without saying anything.

Zhou Xun wasn't angry about it. He looked at the crowd and said. "Since everyone has arrived, I won't waste your time further. Let's invite our esteemed judges from Heavenhold Divine Academy over."

As his voice fell, two old men and a middle-aged woman appeared on the high platform and sat on their respective seats.

Zhou Xun looked at the old man in blue and said. "I ask Elder Wen to preside over the banquet today."

The old man, Wen Qian, smiled and said. "That's natural. It's my purpose of coming here, after all."

Zhou Xun smiled and sat back on his throne. Although it was called the Royal Banquet, in fact, he had no role in it at all. All he did was to provide a venue for the academy.

Wen Qian swept his gaze over the crowd and said. "Presumably, everyone is already aware of the rules here, so I won't talk about it further. We will start with the third tier list first."

"Those below the Divine Foundation Realm can go up now. Reminder. We will accept the top twenty into our academy."

Hearing this, Yun Lintian was slightly surprised. There was no sense of ritual or anything. The event started just like that.

"This person is the head of the academy's law enforcer. He doesn't like to waste time." Qin Mei explained to Yun Lintian.

At this moment, a youngster beside Chu Teng leaped high from his seat onto the center of the arena. He cupped his fists and swept his defiant eyes toward the crowd. "This one is Long River Sect's humble disciple, Xuan Ye, thirty years old. Who will come up and advise me?"

Once Xuan Ye stepped onto the stage, all the eyes immediately gathered on his body. This Xuan Ye was really thirty years old, but he was already at the peak of the Divine Ascending Tribulation Realm—a half step to the Divine Foundation Realm. It could be seen he was suppressing his realm, especially for this event.

"No one?" Xuan Ye swept his gaze over the youngsters in the crowd with a disdainful smile. Obviously, no one dared to fight him.

On the west side of the hall, Wang Jiacai chuckled and turned to look at a young man beside him. "Lin Hao, go ahead and teach him."

The young man, Lin Hao, grinned and said. "Alright, senior brother."

Lin Hao got up and leaped to stand in front of Xuan Ye. "Blood Mountain Sect's Lin Hao. I'm here to teach you."

Xuan Ye laughed as he replied. "Teach me? Hehe. Let's see."

Instantly, he took a step forward as the profound energy that was condensed in his right fist smashed toward Lin Hao's face with an ear-piercing sound.

"Only at this level?" Lin Hao's eyes were full of contempt as he brought up his right hand, which suddenly flashed with a layer of red light.

Boom!

Chapter 1440 The Royal Banquet (2)

As the two fists collided, red and blue lights burst forth with a deafening explosion.

Xuan Ye, who was originally haughty, revealed a painful expression as his upper body was pushed back from the force.

Meanwhile, Lin Hao let out an insidious laugh as his left fist suddenly stuck out. It had the same bloody-colored layer of light and ruthlessly smashed toward Xuan Ye's abdomen. This time, it was not just a simple fist, but rather, one of the most powerful profound arts, Bloody Cloud Palm.

Perceiving a terrifying force emitted from Lin Hao's fist, Xuan Ye's expression changed drastically. He clasped his hands together and let out a roar. "Come out!"

Instantly, a water serpent appeared coiling around Xuan Ye's body, letting out a cold hiss before lunging toward the incoming bloody fist.

"Useless!" Lin Hao revealed a sinister grin as the bloody light around his fist abruptly blasted out.

Boom!

The bloody-colored fist severely smashed the water serpent away before going deep into Xuan Ye's abdomen.

Xuan Ye's complexion immediately became incomparably pale, barely let out a groan as he was sent flying. He flipped several times in the air and violently crashed onto the floor outside the arena.

The blood in his chest rolled about, and with a puff sound, he finally vomited out an arrow of blood. He laid face down on the floor with both hands clutching his stomach and was already unable to stand back up.

"Senior Brother Xuan!" Several youngsters behind Chu Teng called out in alarm. They wanted to rush forward to help Xuan Ye but were stopped by Jiang He.

"Let him come up by himself. He should pay a price for his arrogance." Jian, He said coldly.

"This..." The youngsters swallowed hard and returned to their seats while watching Xuan Ye twitching on the ground.

"Cheh. What a trash. I didn't even use half of my strength." Lin Hao clicked his tongue in dissatisfaction and paid no heed to Xuan Ye further.

He turned to the crowd and said. "Is there anyone who wants to exchange a move with me?"

The group of youngsters in the hall could only glance at each other back and forth. With such a terrifying feat Lin Hao displayed, who would dare to fight with him?

"Lu'er. Do you want to teach him a lesson?" The middle-aged woman, Jian Xue, who sat beside Jian Ziqi, turned to look at a delicate young girl on her left and asked.

The young girl, Jian Lu, didn't reply immediately. She looked at Jian Ziqi and asked. "Senior sister?"

Jian Ziqi said calmly. "Just don't kill him."

Jian Lu smiled brightly upon hearing this. "Understood."

As she finished her sentence, her figure blurred and disappeared from the place before reappearing a few meters away from Lin Hao.

She clasped her hands together and said. "The Battle Sword Sect's useless disciple Jian Lu. Please be careful."

Lin Hao's eyes flickered slightly as he knew this young girl. Jian Lu was a sword practitioner prodigy that wasn't inferior to Jian Ziqi when she was young. She was only sixteen years old this year, but her strength had already reached the peak of the Divine Ascending Tribulation Realm.

"This little girl is something." On the high platform, the middle-aged woman, Ling Han, one of the three judges, looked at Jian Lu with a trace of surprise.

"Indeed. If she could enter our Sword Pavilion, she would definitely become a top sword practitioner that could shake the middle star realms." Sitting beside her, the old man, Hu Wuyou, stroked his long beard while staring at Jian Lu as if he had just discovered a peerless treasure.

"Do you think who will win?" On Yun Lintian's side, he looked at Ning Yue and asked.

Ning Yue thought briefly and said. "The dangerous aura from her is stronger than his. She should win this."

Yun Lintian nodded in satisfaction. "Not bad. Your judgment is getting better again."

In the arena, Lin Hao took a deep breath and said. "You should be careful as well."

Instantly, his entire body was covered with bloody colored light, making him look insidious. Both his hands clenched into fists as he leaped up and violently crashed down like a bloody meteor.

Jian Lu's expression was tranquil, as if nothing could disturb her mind—not even the terrifying pressure from Lin Hao.

When Lin Hao approached, Jian Lu simply stretched her slender finger out and made a cut gesture in the air. There was no aura or anything from her.

At this moment, Lin Hao's intuition screamed desperately, telling him to escape at all costs. However, Lin Hao's momentum was difficult to draw back. All he could do was to continue forward.

Riipp—

All of a sudden, the bloody-colored light around Lin Hao's body was cut in half, and a long deep wound appeared on Lin Hao's chest, followed by a terrible ripping sound.

Puff!

Arrows of blood shot out of Lin Hao's chest and turned into blood mist in the air. Lin Hao didn't even have a chance to scream as his body was sent flying and crashed to the ground in a similar fashion as Xuan Ye's.

The entire hall fell into silence immediately. All the youngsters could only stare at Jian Lu, who used her profound energy to block the blood mist... This delicate young girl was so terrifying!

Swoosh!

Wang Jiakai immediately appeared beside Lin Hao and used his divine energy to suppress the wound on the latter's chest. He raised his head to look at Jian Ziqi and said calmly. "Don't disappoint me later."

Jian Ziqi didn't even look at him. She calmly looked at Jian Lu on the stage as if nothing had happened.

Wang Jiakai wasn't angry. He picked Lin Hao up and returned to his seat.

After getting rid of the bloodstain on the floor around her, Jian Lu looked at the crowd with an innocent smile. "Please advise me."

The youngsters in the crowd remained silent. They didn't even dare to fight Lin Hao. Let alone someone stronger in Jian Lu.

After waiting for a full two minutes and no one came up, Wen Qian announced. "Jian Lu will be temporarily placed at the first rank. Anyone can challenge her later."

"Thank you, senior." Jian Lu clasped her fists and said politely before returning to her seat.

Wen Qian looked at the crowd and said further. "You can continue."