

## Nine-Dragon 121

Chapter 121: Crowning the Stars

Sun Tianyang, trapped in the pillar of ice, suddenly opened his eyes!

Rumble—

Purple light filled the sky, the sounds of thunder boomed everywhere.

The might of the Purple Star Thunderbolt, if not properly defended against, could even overcome Third Level Holy Kings.

But Su Yu was not happy that he had successfully struck his opponent, instead, his expression was grave as he retreated without hesitation!

Clank—

Su Yu flew backward. A steel fist flew toward him from within the purple light!

Su Yu's expression changed. He flicked his fingers and Divine Ice Threads danced in the air, narrowly blocking the treacherous steel fist! He looked towards the steel fist as the dust in the air settled.

Sun Tianyang's body was coated with a dull gold glow as if a layer of ancient copper had latched itself on his body. The Divine Ice Threads, which could cut anything, were unable to pierce him before turning into ice dust!

His body was incredible.

"Could that be the secret technique that hones the body in the depository, the Golden Transformation Mantra?" An Inner Sanctum disciple at the corner was shocked.

The Golden Transformation Mantra was a fraction of a legacy level technique. It was the only secret technique that honed the body within the faction. After cultivating that technique, the user's body became immune to physical harm, as if his body was made of copper.

"In just a month, he had cultivated that technique to Stage One Lower Class. While he had received pointers by the Great Elder and the benefit of the various materials used during his training, Sun Yangtian's level of perception should not be downplayed. Without those, he would not be able to even understand the Great Elder's experiences, much less cultivate the technique." Mo Wu calmly analyzed.

At the side, a lady was visibly envious, "Having a famous teacher teaching him makes his journey of cultivation so smooth. Without a capable teacher, Sun Yangtian would not have been able to understand a legacy-level technique without one or two years of the basics, no matter his levels of perception."

Then, the lady smiled, "Of course, Mo Wu being the personal disciple of the Second Elder is also cause for envy."

Mo Wu did not comment, his eyes locking on Su Yu, his expression perplexed. "Envy... Maybe," he lightly muttered,

Purple Star Thunderbolt was, after all, at Stage One Upper Class.

Sun Tianyang, despite using the Golden Transformation Mantra in time, still suffered some injuries. Multiple spots on his body were burnt. The smell of burning flesh spread throughout the surroundings.

The intense pain caused Sun Tianyang's calm expression to contort slightly. He raised his eyebrows, his raspy voice harboring some form of emotion for the first time, "You deserve death!"

Su Yu, who did not deserve to fight him, had wounded him!

Both his body and mind had been provoked!

"Open!"

Sun Tianyang let out a low grunt. His body trembled violently, shaking away all of the Divine Ice Threads!

His horrifying energy followed the path of the Divine Ice Threads, all the way towards Su Yu's body.

Thud, thud, thud—

Su Yu trembled, taking multiple steps back in retreat!

He had taken nine steps back before neutralizing the energy that was transferred to him. But his organs still lightly trembled. He had to suppress the mouthful of blood gushing up his throat.

Ultimately, the difference in cultivation levels between them was too huge!

First Level Upper Tier against Second Level Peak; it was an absolute, irreconcilable difference.

Whoosh—

A sound broke the silence. Sun Tianyang's expression was that of hatred, his killing intent surfacing! He moved at the speed of light!

Su Yu's expression changed slightly as he activated his Icy Divine Wings.

As he began to fly, Sun Tianyang's figure appeared where he was standing, a fist of ancient copper rumbling as it struck.

The resulting air current brushed past Su Yu's face. It cut Su Yu, causing intense pain.

Had he taken the hit head-on, would he have been defeated with severe injuries?

Did his path stop here?

Could he never pass the steel bridge, across the divide between Outer and Inner Sanctum disciples, across the divide between him and Xianer?

Was he powerless to stop Xianer from marrying somebody else?

A gale assaulted him, causing his silver hair to dance wildly. His starlike pupils flickered violently!

Was this really the end of the road?

Multiple Outer Sanctum disciples observing the fight were dumbfounded.

Zhao Wuxie was deeply shocked. Su Yu's strength shook his soul. The last technique was Worldly Ice Seal. Had Zhao Wuxie taken the brunt of the attack, he would have been thoroughly defeated!

To think that there was another worthy opponent that he did not have the opportunity to fight in the Fallen Star Contest.

But looking on at the desperate Su Yu, Zhao Wuxie could only sigh in regret, "Ultimately, he still lost..."

The Inner Sanctum disciples at the corner muttered amongst themselves. "The contest is over, what a pity," one lady felt sorry for Su Yu. Su Yu had the chance to fight for and accept the test of the Icy Pearl and step into the Inner Sanctums of the faction.

Unfortunately, he had to face off against Sun Tianyang.

Mo Wu gravely stared at Su Yu, then turned away, "Let's go, his abilities are simple."

The lady was stunned, who was he referring to when he said 'but so'? Was it Su Yu? Mo Wu was not acquainted with him, why was he so disappointed?

Rumble—

Sun Tianyang struck with his palm, the ancient copper fist harboring a horrifying power.

Su Yu evaded with all his might, but the fist rubbed across his shoulder.

Crack—

Merely rubbing against his shoulder had broken Su Yu's arm!

An intense pain spread and Su Yu grimaced, his heart shouting with unjust.

Ring—

Su Yu used the last of his energy to conjure a wave from the Icy Azure Lake, its waters falling onto Su Yu's arm.

Creak—

The water was incredibly chilly, freezing Su Yu's arm into solid ice.

A bolt of strange energy flickered in his eyes!

Rumble—

Sun Tianyang struck again with his fist, his icy gaze locked onto Su Yu, "This is the last fist. Kneel!"

But Su Yu's grave expression gradually changed!

"Everything is not over yet!" Su Yu wiped away the blood at the corner of his lips, his head of silver hair dancing wildly in the wind. What followed was an equally maniacal gaze!

Creak—

Su Yu shot out a Divine Ice Thread from his palm, driving it into the Icy Azure Lake under the bridge.

The chill above the lake was enough to bring fear to Second Level Lower Tier Holy Kings, much less the waters of the icy lake!

Crack—

The terrifying chill followed the Divine Ice Thread into Su Yu's body, freezing his organs!

Su Yu felt a bone piercing pain. His heart throbbed, using the chill to activate the Sigh of Ice, accelerating the absorption of spirit energy!

Back then, when he had been forced into a corner by the silver robed guards sent by the Empire of Darkness, what he used was the chilly energy from the Seal of Ice to accelerate the breakthrough of the Sigh of Ice.

Buzz, buzz—

Under the activation by the horrifying chilly energy, Su Yu's absorption of spirit energy exponentially increased!

Coupled with the fact that the area they were in had ten times more spirit energy than the outside world, no, there were twenty times more spirit energy in the waters of the icy lake than the outside world. The spirit energy was mixed into the chilly energy, directly absorbed into Su Yu's body through the Divine Ice Threads!

Boom, boom—

The bottleneck in his cultivation level was like a shaking tree, on the verge of collapse!

Only a bit more!

But, Sun Tianyang's palm had already struck out.

Sun Tianyang calmly glanced at the state Su Yu was in at the moment, coldly sneering, "It's useless! You do not have time to achieve a breakthrough!"

Rumble—

But as the fist rumbled in the air, Su Yu clenched his teeth, letting out a deep growl, "Worldly Ice Seal!"

Creak—

Multiple Divine Ice Threads shot out from Su Yu's ring!

Sun Tianyang was in disdain, "Reusing old tricks, useless struggling..."

Thereafter, Sun Tianyang could not continue his words, slightly shocked.

Su Yu was not attempting to seal Sun Tianyang, but... he sealed himself!

Ten Divine Ice Threads surrounded himself, binding his body. The other end of the threads were all shot towards the Icy Azure Lake!

Crack—

Crack—

Ten Divine Ice Threads, in addition to the one that was first shot out; a total of eleven!

He was absorbing chilly energy ten times faster to activate the Sigh of Ice. Su Yu had turned into an ice mountain in the blink of an eye.

But the rate he was absorbing spirit energy shocked everybody!

A vortex of spirit energy appeared above Su Yu's head, maniacally entering his body!

The Inner Sanctum disciples who were about to leave turned around after sensing the motion behind them.

Mo Wu contracted his pupils, "Is he crazy? Absorbing chilly energy at this rate would kill him before his cultivation level achieved a breakthrough!"

Zhao Wuxie's expression was grave, "He... is too crazy!"

Sun Tianyang was deeply shocked, did Su Yu not care about his life?

The Inner Sanctum was a tempting place.

But what was the point of obtaining the right to enter the Inner Sanctum if he lost his life?

This thought crossed his heart only once and quickly replaced by a merciless idea.

This level of insanity... Should Su Yu have the chance to enter the Inner Sanctum, he would surely become a fierce competitor.

"With me around, you will never enter the Inner Sanctum!" Sun Tianyang shot out a palm, shattering the ice mountain and putting pressure on Su Yu's forehead!

But Su Yu had not achieved his breakthrough! Just a bit more!

The curtains of the battle above the icy lake had closed!

But, just as all hope seemed lost, Su Yu suddenly extended two fingers toward his pupils, taking off two thin films.

A pair of purple pupils appeared after!

"Seal of Time!"

Time stopped. Heaven and Earth stood still.

Sun Tianyang's body was frozen in time as if a wooden statue.

That horrifying palm was just an inch away from Su Yu's forehead!

A moment passed and Sun Tianyang regained control of his body, his expression changing suddenly!

"Kneel!" A mixture of fear and anxiety was evident in his trembling voice. His body had been frozen in time for a moment!

He could not let Su Yu enter the Inner Sanctum!

He materialized another palm, once again striking at Su Yu's forehead!

But at that moment, the insane Su Yu had finally achieved the breakthrough!

Buzz, buzz, buzz—

A vast and powerful energy shot into the air! A thick air current billowed in the air and a strong will to live spread throughout the surroundings!

"Purple! Star! Thunderbolt!" the cold growl pierced the sky!

It was as if a sleeping dragon had finally been awoken, its first roar shaking the heavens!

Rumble—

Rumble—

A luscious purple lily appeared, far more elegant than it had ever been.

Silent and elegant, yet it struck the soul with much awe!

At the moment of its explosion, it was as if a heavenly thunderstorm had descended!

It was deafening, scattering the clouds.

It was not just the Chilly Star, the Seventeen Stars or the Star of the Inner Sanctum. The entire Liuxian faction shook with the roar of the thunder!

Air currents billowed, dust scattered everywhere!

The Icy Azure Lake had furious waves, the waters rising in agitation!

The three bridges were shaky, about to get obliterated in the vast thunderstorm!

Crash—

A figure was blasted a hundred feet away!

He flew from the surface of the icy lake back a hundred feet, falling to the ground.

Thud—

The sound of the impact was as if a meteorite had hit the ground!

The crowd looked over. Sun Tianyang's mouth was full of blood. He had crashed into a bed of minerals, slipping into a coma!

Was Su Yu as fearsome as a First Level Peak Holy King?

Pulling the gap closer between the cultivation levels, Su Yu's battle ability was shocking!

Gasps filled the surroundings!

The newest champion of the Inner Sanctum, Sun Tianyang, had been thoroughly defeated!

Before this, he was overwhelming Su Yu! Now, he was thoroughly defeated!

Su Yu had taught a deep and shocking lesson to everyone here!

In desperation, in darkness, in despair, fight back. Use your shouts, use your guts, use the insanity in your life—never blame it on fate, fight back against adversity with all you have!

In this very moment, no one could remain calm. The souls of everyone present was shaken to the core.

Looking at Su Yu who was breathing hard under the steel bridge, everyone felt increasingly pressured by Su Yu!

Why could he fight with such insanity, such disregard for his life, such defying of fate?

They would probably not forget this purple robed, silver-haired figure even years later!

His brilliance had crowned the stars in the sky!

They could never forget. What was most shocking was not the brilliant Purple Star Thunderbolt, what was most powerful was not the cultivation level, but instead the rebellious intent, fighting against fate!!

That was truly Su Yu's most shocking, most permanent splendor.

Chapter 122: Eventually be back

Ripple, splash—

At this moment, a giant whirlpool appeared in the Icy Azure Lake.

The azure waves rippled. An alarming chilly energy and spirit energy poured out from within.

At the same time, an azure pearl the size of a house slowly floated above the water.

The pearl was bright, and had dreamlike qualities!

The referee came to his senses from the soul-wrenching fight earlier, announcing in a high pitched voice, "The strongest candidate in the Fallen Star Contest is the Outer Sanctum disciple, Su Yu! Finally, he shall receive the test of the Icy Pearl. Should he be qualified, he will earn the right to enter the Inner Sanctum!"

The crowd held their breath. A historic moment was about to happen.

Su Yu was incredibly talented, incredibly extraordinary. Could he leap over the hurdles and fly amongst the dragons?

"Touch the Icy Pearl with your hands. If you are qualified, the pearl would turn red. If not, the pearl would once again sink to the bottom of the lake. Start!" The referee gravely announced.

There hadn't been anyone that managed to activate the Icy Pearl in the past century. Could Su Yu succeed?

Whoosh—

Su Yu took a few deep breaths. He was pale. After forcing a breakthrough and using his full powers, coupled with the heavy injuries he sustained during the fight, his stamina could not hold up!

He was shaky as he walked to the edge of the bridge. He placed his hands on the Icy Pearl. A chill spread within him, sending an invisible wave of energy into his body, inspecting his situation.

After some time, the Icy Pearl vibrated slightly.

The contest hall was silent, only a few soft breaths could be heard.

When the Icy Pearl vibrated, the hearts of everyone reached their throats.

Would it turn red? Would Su Yu become an Inner Sanctum disciple?

But, under the witness of many, after the slight vibration of the Icy Pearl, it... sank back down into the water!

In the blink of an eye, a good portion of the Icy Pearl had resubmerged into the water, leaving only a small fraction above the water surface!

Failed!

Su Yu did not qualify!

After that soul-wrenching fight, after Su Yu had broken through his despair, after the fight that defied fate, he had still failed!

Was there no way to free these hundred-year-old shackles?

Even the fate-defying Su Yu could not shatter the century-old shackles of destiny!

Su Yu's eyes gradually turned expressionless, his heart quickly turned cold.

It had an unprecedented impact on him! He could not accept the scene he saw before him. He had charged forward to this point, and all he got was an unfeeling failure.

Why? He had charged forward to the front of the Inner Sanctum, to the front of the steel bridge, and to Xianer. Could he not pass this final hurdle?

There was only an inch between him and the Inner Sanctum, between him and Xianer.

Was he doomed to a lifetime of regret, simply because of this Icy Pearl?

Would he truly be blocked out of the Inner Sanctum by the Icy Pearl and forced to helplessly watch Xianer marry another man?

Why was heaven so unfair?

He let out a piercing shout from his heart!

His feelings of anger and injustice materialized into a ball of air within him, threatening to pierce through his chest and kill everything under the sky, obliterating fate and destiny altogether!

At this moment, a thick killing intent pierced the clouds!

Su Yu's purple pupils gradually turned into a wine-red shade. From afar, they looked like a pair of bloody eyes! His silver hair and purple robe, coupled with his blood red eyes, made him look evil and sinister!

The mysterious and noble aura of the past was no more. At this moment, there was only a demonic presence that was not mortal, one that made mortal's tremble.

"The heavens have forsaken me. I would rather become a demon!" Su Yu raised his head, sighing. blood rippled within his red eyes.

His dark words shook the hearts of many. His message was sent loud and clear towards the heavens; fate had turned him into a demon. Su Yu was a mix of fury and rebellion.

Whoosh—

The power of the blood-red eyes caused the hearts of many to race in fear. Su Yu shot a cold look to the Icy Pearl that was steadily sinking.

"Not even the heavens can stop my fate, much less a mere pearl!" Su Yu's tone was icy.

While the crowd struggled to find words, Su Yu flew above the Icy Azure Lake and, with a flick of his fingers, he summoned countless Divine Ice Threads, circling the Icy Pearl.

"Rise!"

Letting out a low grunt, Su Yu's silver hair danced. He grabbed out with his hand, fixing the house-sized Icy Pearl in place!

"Him! What is he doing?" The crowd was shocked by Su Yu's insane gesture!

The referee felt a chill run across his scalp. "Su Yu! Stop!"

"Hmph! A mere pearl wants to decide my fate?" Su Yu turned his palm, pulling it from the water.

Creak—

The Icy Pearl was pulled ten inches above the water's surface!

"This... this is too insane! He wants to claim the Icy Pearl!"

No one had done something this insane throughout history! It was truly as if a heaven-defying demon was fighting the unjust wheels of fate!

Whirr—

But the Icy Pearl seemed to have a will of its own. It spun quickly as it forced itself down towards the water.

Snap—

Su Yu was connected to the Divine Ice threads, and he was brought plunging down together with the pearl.

His appearance was icy cold. Su Yu's blood eyes glowed like the last vestiges of sunlight during sunset.

The sky, ground, meteor, and faction—everything was drowned in the wine-red glow.

In that moment, everyone lost their spatial awareness. Everything around them slipped into an unreal dimension.

"Space Manipulation!"

Letting out a low grunt, the wine-red glow spilled out. Su Yu was a king of time. At his command, the surrounding space prostrated itself and was transformed!

Creak—

The Icy Pearl was still spinning, without realising it had been teleported before Su Yu.

"Pass!" Su Yu ordered, striking the Icy Pearl with his palm!

Other than the slight vibration, the Icy Pearl showed no other signs of acknowledgment.

"Hmph! Then I shall continue until I have shattered you!" Su Yu's palm manifested the Purple Star Thunderbolt, the spiritual energy and the energy of his blood fully activated!

The blood droplets from within the Nine-Dragon Cauldron in his veins fused into his attack.

Rumble—

A horrifying attack shook the Icy Pearl.

A light cracking sound surrounded the Icy Pearl. It had developed a crack under Su Yu's attack!

The crowd gasped. He... he wanted to destroy the Icy Pearl?

If it did not obey his wishes, he would destroy every trace of it! It was total insanity!

After the blow, the Icy Pearl, as if felt an intense pain, stopped its spin and showed a radiant red glow!

Pass! Su Yu passed!

The Icy Pearl had submitted to Su Yu's killing intent!

Su Yu, who had failed, had forced the Icy Pearl to revoke its initial decision!

The contest hall fell silent; no one could say anything! A light breeze dissipated the cold fog, but it could not blow away the awe in the hearts of the crowd.

It was the same for the Outer Sanctum disciples, the Inner Sanctum disciples, and even the referee.

After awhile, the referee hesitated before he announced the ultimate decision. "Su Yu... passed! He has earned the right to enter the Inner Sanctum!"

The century old shackles had ultimately been shattered. As the announcement of the referee slowly reverberated around the contest hall, a silence enveloped the audience.

Rumble—

Suddenly, an unprecedented cheer erupted within the arena!

There was deafening applause, excited shrieks, and crazy shouts. The fanfare rained down on the brilliant genius!

A mortal body had fought against all the talents from the same generation! His singular power had done what all had failed to do for the past century. After declaring himself a demon and forsaking heaven, he had channeled his fury into his power and had forced the Icy Pearl to submit to his will!

These events would be forever etched into the hearts of the disciples. He would be the inspiration for an entire generation! Su Yu was like a ruler. He sat silently suspended in the air, accepting the respect of everyone around him.

Su Yu looked up, wearing a mocking smile as he thought of the wheels of fate. "No one can stop me! Not even heaven or Earth!" These words reverberated through the air, clearly audible to everyone in the arena.

They would never forget, even years later, that there was one a legendary youth that even heaven failed to stop!

Rumble—

Amongst the fanfare of the crowd the Icy Pearl suddenly spun hurriedly more violently than ever before.

Suddenly, Su Yu was dragged down towards the Icy Azure Lake!

The strong wind blew beside his ears. Su Yu wore a mocking and cold smile. "You wish to drag me into the depths of the abyss? You hate me!" He was dragged along by the Divine Ice Threads without an opportunity to free himself.

Before he plunged into the water, he looked up at the clouds and let out a rebellious sigh. "I, Su Yu... will eventually be back!" These were the final words of a rebellious demon!

He would not die.

He had forsaken the heavens and turned into a demon, the heavens could not bury him so easily.

He would return!

Plosh—

The Icy Pearl dragged Su Yu along and plunged into the ice cold Icy Azure Lake.

Ten foot tall waves washed over him as they transformed into a terrifying chilly energy, freezing multiple areas around the arena.

Crack—

Where the water landed, the earth turned into pitiful ice!

The vast chilly energy froze the water vapours in the air, transforming into a celestial fog, enveloping half the arena.

The temperature of the arena dropped quickly! The area around the arena was frozen rapidly and began to flood. Many trembled under the cold and the lips of many turned blue.

But no one left.

The passionate fanfare from earlier had abruptly stopped, as if the string had snapped from a violin, slipping the arena into silence.

Su Yu had plunged under the Icy Azure Lake!

He had rebelled against the heavens. He had smashed the wheels of fate. He had obtained the right to enter the Inner Sanctum—why did his story have to end here?

After a moment, feelings of fury and pity suddenly surfaced on the audience's faces!

Such a figure, such an undefeatable king... Why was this his fate?

Whoosh, whoosh, whoosh—

Upwards of a thousand disciples flew toward the Icy Azure Lake. They did not accept that Su Yu would perish here! He was a figure who had crowned the stars. He was a person who had fought against fate and continued fighting on the stage.

Why had he disappeared?

There were still ripples on the Icy Azure Lake, Su Yu's grave disguised as waves.

"No!" A person from within the crowd could not stop himself, unable to hide his grief.

Su Yu had provided them with a sliver of hope to cling to among despair and anger. He had provided the hope that maybe someday things could change. Maybe, someday, they too could achieve what he had done!

But all that hope had disappeared along with Su Yu into the water!

The referee was shocked for a long moment. Everything had happened too fast, even he didn't have the power to save Su Yu.

He was silent for a while before announcing the grim news. "Su Yu has died!"

Under the Icy Azure Lake rested the remains of previous generations of warriors; the ice cold water swallowed any hopes of survival. A Holy King would undoubtedly die if they fell in! Even powerful Dragon Realm warriors would have much difficulty surviving.

"He will eventually be back!" A low voice came from within the crowd.

The referee shuddered slightly. "Su Yu has died..."

"He will eventually be back!" Another voice came from the crowd.

The referee creased his brows. He had a duty to report the situation. "Su Yu..."

"He will eventually be back..."

"Will eventually be back..."

"Be back..."

A thousand voices fused into one, shaking the Liuxian faction.

Su Yu's last words reverberated in the air.

Under the uproar, the referee no longer had the heart to announce Su Yu's death!

The final words of Su Yu were ringing in his ears.

I, Su Yu, will eventually be back!

Chapter 123: Xianer's forced marriage

After a moment of shock, the referee softly sighed. "Su Yu's fate is unknown!"

Once a person entered icy lake, they would undoubtedly die. Yet, Su Yu was deemed an exception!

It was hard to distinguish the expression on Mo Wu's beautiful face. Her eyes showed a feeling of loss for a brief moment.

"Let's go," Mo Wu muttered after a while, turning to leave.

The lady following her gravely glimpsed at the Icy Azure Lake and sighing pitifully. "Even though his power was not very strong, he was still worthy of our respect.

Hours later, the lake was quiet. Small ripples formed as the chilly wind blew across its surface. The eyes of the disciples who had deeply believed that Su Yu would return gradually turned dull.

He had not come out after two hours; it was highly likely that he had already perished.

A big bulk of the disciples turned to leave. Half a day later, only a handful of disciples were left. A day later, the arena sat empty, with the exception of Yun Yan's lone figure. Within the Outer Sanctum, Su Yu only had Yun Yan as a friend.

Gravely staring at the Icy Azure Lake, Yun Yan recalled how she had met Su Yu. While they had only known each other for as short time, Su Yu had made a massive impact on her.

"Su Yu..." Yun Yan sobbed. She had waited a day in the chilly wind, and the last vestiges of hope in her heart had been put out.

Su Yu was dead.

Yun Yan pushed her robe back as she knelt, gently bowing. "Thank you for saving me that day," she said shakily, "I will help deliver your final wish to Qin Xianer. I will tell her you, Su Yu, once stepped onto the Zhenlong continent!"

Yun Yan rose, her heart overcome with grief as she left.

Su Yu once asked Yun Yan to deliver a message to Qin Xianer and Xia Jingyu during their battle with the pirates. He had wanted to tell them that he had, in fact, managed to follow them to the continent. Who would have thought that Yun Yan would be the one to deliver his message only a month later?

In front of the steel bridge, the armored guard's face remained impassive. His abilities as a Third Level Holy King stopped anyone from the Outer Sanctum from entering.

Yun Yan silently waited at the other end of the bridge.

A moment later, a handsome youth walked over from the other end of the bridge. He was dressed in a pale gold robe, his noble aura suppressed those around him. He was about twenty years old and his cultivation level had reached a scary Fourth Level Peak Holy King! He was a prince from the Liuxian faction, Li Hao. This man was Yun Yan's fiancé!

"You called me here urgently, what's the matter?" His expression was stoic as he brought Yun Yan to a nearby pavilion.

Sensing Li Hao's indifference, Yun Yan put on a calm expression. "Can you do me a favour?"

"Speak!" Li Hao creased his brows.

"Within the Inner Sanctum there is a person called Qin Xianer. I wish to meet her. I heard that she was going to be married to Cao Xuan, and you are a good friend of Cao Xuan. I believe that you have a way to bring Qin Xianer out."

Li Hao's gaze wavered. "Why do you want to meet her?"

Yun Yan's expression remained calm. "To pass on a message for a dead person."

"Hmph! Su Yu?" Li Hao's gaze instantly turned cold!

Yun Yan was slightly shocked, how did Li Hao know of Su Yu? Suddenly, Yun Yan's heart felt a little chill. Could it be...

"So it is him!" Li Hao's eyes were murderous, "He is lucky that he already died in the Icy Azure Lake! Otherwise, I would kill him myself!"

During the battle with the pirates, Wu Pangyun had severely injured Yun Yan, causing her to nearly die. Li Hao had received this news from the captured pirates. Those same pirates also told him of the indecent behavior of another young man who had stayed with his future bride for several nights, alone on an island together!

Li Hao's fury was understandable!

Yun Yan remained composed as she sighed. "So you know... I won't explain then. Su Yu and I are innocent, it is up to you to believe it."

Li hao slightly squinted his eyes, slowly beginning to believe her. He understood the character of his fiancée. She was not the kind to commit such indecent acts.

Secretly, Li hao let out a sigh of relief. His stoic expression gradually softened. "It would be impossible to meet her. The wedding is two days away. I can help you pass on the message, but it has to be after the wedding so as to not affect Qin Xianer's emotions."

Yun Yan thought for a moment before silently nodding her head. This was the best outcome she could fight for. She turned to leave, but was stopped by Li Hao attempting to grab onto her slender arm.

Wrinkling her brows slightly, Yun yan evaded his grasp. "Is there anything else?"

Li Hao stared at the elegant, beautiful lady before him with deep admiration in his eyes. "I have obtained news about the fire style Legacy level technique that your Yun family wants. With the help of Brother Cao Xuan, I can soon read it and teach it to you."

She was unable to hide her happiness. She tightened her fists, visibly excited. But Li Hao's next sentence caused her to freeze.

"The day I pass you the manual is the day we are going to get married. I believe that you have made the necessary preparations." Li Hao was smiling, his lustful eyes attempting to swallow her whole.

Yun Yan trembled slightly, hesitating for a moment. Her chin pointed down slightly. "The preparations are complete."

"That's great. Wait ten days for me. I will pass the fire style Legacy level technique to you"—Li Hao was smiling—"I'll go back first to help Senior Cao Xuan with the wedding preparations. Wait another ten days for me at the Outer Sanctum.."

She lifted her eyebrows, clenching her fists as she watched Li Hao's leaving figure.

Her long fingernails dug into her flesh. A shred of hatred and indignance flashed through her eyes.

The Yun family was a family of blacksmiths, they needed to use fire style techniques to control temperature. Only with proper control could they forge great weapons.

Among the hundred vassal clans, the Yun family was ranked fiftieth, they barely had any influence to speak of.

Three years ago the Tie family competed with the Yun family. The Tie family, with some mysterious outside help, had vastly improved their control over fire and made better weapons. Customers began going to the Tie family for weapons rather than the Yun family.

The situation worsened everyday for the Yun family, they urgently needed to increase the competitive ability of the family. There was only one technique suitable to help them, the Fire Dragon Mantra technique that was rumoured to be hidden in the Liuxian faction!

It was a fragment of a Legacy level technique, only having one stage. If they could cultivate it, they could definitely make better weapons.

The Liuxian faction forbid the sharing of Legacy level techniques. Flouting this rule would result in a bloody punishment!

This was the reason why, even though the vassal clans had disciples in the Inner Sanctum, none of the families had a Legacy level technique. Even disciples of the family were forbidden to bring Legacy level techniques back into their families.

But, every rule has a loophole.

If you exited the faction and returned to your family, you could use the technique without teaching it to the other members of the family. This was not against the rules.

Yun Yan could obtain the Legacy level technique and cultivate it for herself before helping the family as an ex-member of the Liuxian faction. This way, she could help her family for a hundred years—they would eventually have to replace her, but that was a worry for another time.

Unfortunately, this fire style Legacy level technique could only be found in the Liuxian faction. It was nearly impossible for the Yun family to get hold of it.

But incidentally, Li Hao from the royal family had asked for her hand in marriage. The betrothal gift they had promised was to help the Yun family get its hands on the fire style technique!

The Yun family, forced by their present circumstances, had readily agreed... Even though the Yun family understood that the rise of the Tie family definitely had something to do with Li Hao. He intentionally allowed the Yun family to slip into a crisis, forcing them to betroth Yun Yan to him.

Yun Yan's name was widely known. Her beauty was unparalleled and her demeanor was elegant. Most importantly, she had the blood of the Fiery Lotus, which could help males breakthrough the bottleneck in their cultivation.

Thus, many people eyed Yun Yan.

Li Hao was one of them. Early in his years, he had already achieved Fourth Level Holy King. Today, he was only a Fourth Level Peak Holy King. If he could use the power of the Fiery Lotus within Yun Yan, then there was great hope that he would breakthrough into Fifth Level Holy King!

He had asked for her hand in marriage three times, only to be rejected. But after the incident with the Tie family, he ultimately succeeded.

In ten days, after obtaining the Legacy level technique, Yun Yan would have to let herself get violated by Li Hao.

While indignant, Yun Yan had to bow down to fate and submit to Li Hao.

Still, Yun yan grieved over her innocence and freedom.

If she had a choice, would she ever hand her body over to someone as despicable as Li Hao?

Pathetically, Yun Yan slowly left.

Within the Inner Sanctum, deep within the great meteor, two maids of the level of a Holy King stood guard outside a sealed room.

Xu Rong hurried forward, wrinkling her brow. "She still refuses to eat?"

"Yes! Including today, it has been five days since she had anything." The maids were courteous.

Xu Rong's expression turned dull. "Come in with me!"

Creak—

The doors opened. A weak, slender figure laid on the bed, not moving.

her once cute face was gaunt. The skin on her lips had dried up and flaked off. Her chest rose and fell weakly, on the brink of stopping altogether. Though she was about to starve to death, food and water lied within her reach—rejected.

Xu Rong felt pity for the girl, but her expression was replaced by one of heartlessness!

"Force her mouth open!" Xu Rong ordered.

The two maids could not bear to do it. "She will stick her finger up her throat and induce vomit if you force feed her," one said.

"No matter! I spent too much effort into getting a stamina regaining elixir. It melts in the mouth. She can't vomit that out! Go!" Xu Rong whipped out an azure pill.

The two maids sighed, supporting the weak Xianer.

In her coma, Xianer sensed some movement. She struggled to open her eyes, her lips wavering. "I... am not eating... I want Brother Su Yu, I'm not marrying... anyone else."

Xu Rong stepped forward with a heartless expression. She had lost all her patience coaxing her over the days.

No matter how she nagged or tempted her with rewards, Xianer had insisted that she would not marry Cao Xuan.

"Xianer! Grandma had made it very clear to you! Marrying Cao Xuan would bring much benefit to you, to grandma, and to the Xu family! Why do you cling onto Su Yu? He is stuck at the lowest levels of Holy Kings. You would suffer under him!"

Xu Rong forced the azure pill into Xianer's mouth. Xianer struggled, but she was overly weak. She could not even find the energy to lift her fingers.

As the pill was ingested, energy nourished her weak body. Color gradually came back to her body. Xianer tried to vomit, but could only produce bile.

"I'm not marrying. I'm Brother Su Yu's fiancée. If you want to, you can marry him yourself!" Xianer shouted.

Xu Rong's wrinkles deepened, her patience long gone. "Hmph! You have to marry him even if you don't want to! It is not up to you!"

"Then I shall die in front of you!" Xianer was serious. She charged toward the wall behind her.

"Hmph! Wild child! Not knowing what's good for you, just like your mother!" Xu Rong grabbed her, locking Xianer's shoulder in her grip. "You'll have to marry Cao Xuan even if you die!"

The Xu family's ranking within the vassal clans was toward the back. With Cao Xuan as an ally, along with the ten elders, they could rest easy.

Xu Rong realized she was too harsh. After all, the success of the Xu family in the future depended largely on Xianer. If she hated the Xu family, it would deeply harm them.

Xu Rong eased her tone, nagging instead. "Xianer, a person needs to understand giving back and sacrifice. As a member of the Xu family, how could you not sacrifice for the family? Marrying Cao Xuan would bring great benefits to the Xu family. Everyone in the family would be grateful to you, understand?"

Xianer was struggling, her large eyes glaring at Xu Rong. "Xianer does not understand. I was born and grew up in the Xianyu prefecture. It was father and mother who nurtured me. Why must I sacrifice for the Xu family who I have never even seen once? All I know is that I am Brother Su Yu's fiancée, I will only marry him in this lifetime."

Xianer was young. Her words were childish, spiteful, and entirely true.

Chapter 124: Return of the king

Xianer had never once received anything from the Xu family, why did she have to sacrifice herself for the family she did not recognize?

The direct rebuttal caused Xu Rong to completely give up on coaxing Xianer. Her expression turned cold. "Grandma would ask you for the last time. Are you going to marry, or not?!"

"I am not! I'm not marrying even if I die!" Xianer's will was as tough as steel.

Xu Rong's killing intent surfaced. "Okay! If you do not marry, I'll go kill Su Yu right now! He is in the Outer Sanctum!"

"Brother Su Yu is here?" A radiant glow exploded on Xianer's petite face. But Xu Rong left with a boiling killing intent, causing Xianer's heart to drop.

"No, Grandma! Don't kill brother Su Yu!" Xianer was flustered, grabbing onto Xu Rong's arm.

Xu Rong looked back heartlessly. "Then I'll ask you again. Are you going to marry, or not?"

Xianer bit her lips, tears welling up in her eyes as she hesitated to give an answer.

"Hmph! Grandma will go kill Su Yu now! I'll completely destroy your hopes!" Xu Rong heartlessly shrugged Xianer away!

"No, I... Don't kill him, I... I'll marry!" Xianer's spirit finally collapsed. She could die of thirst and hunger, but she could not let Su Yu die. Tears rolled down from the corner of her eye, down her cheeks, and onto her arm.

The tears gradually turned cold, just like Xianer's heart. She raised her head, staring at the old lady in front of her. This woman called herself Xianer's grandma, but Xianer had never felt any kinship from her. Xianer was only a political pawn to this woman.

They may share blood, but they were not family.

"I'll marry him... but I hate you!" Tears dropped from Xianer's face as she said the word 'hate' for the first time in her life.

Xu Rong's heart trembled. Facing Qin Xianer's sincere hatred, she felt a little remorse.

Was this too much? Would Xianer always hate her family now? But things had come to this. She did not have the luxury of regret.

Furthermore, Xianer was still young. After she grew and understand the hardships of this world, maybe she would show gratitude towards her grandma.

"Grandma has your interest at heart..." Xu Rong reemphasized, trying to salvage the divide between them.

But Xianer, with her teary eyes, felt even more hatred. She clenched her fists. "You are not my grandma!"

With a slight shudder, Xu Rong knew that the last shreds of kinship between her and Qin Xianer had disappeared. "You do what is good for you! Should you commit suicide or run away, I will kill Su Yu right away!" Lightly scolding Xianer, Xu Rong turned to leave.

Creak—

The door closed and Xianer was once again imprisoned. Slipping into loneliness, she could no longer keep up with her determined facade.

She squat, weakly hugging her knees and choking as she wept. The teardrops fell onto the floor like flowers blooming.

"Brother Su Yu... I'm sorry... I can't be your bride." Xianer's lonely and pathetic cry reverberated around the empty house.

The two maids outside the door had pitiful expressions. "The Xu family was indeed heartless in their attempt to establish connections with Cao Xuan!"

"But compared to Su Yu, Cao Xuan was indeed more suitable for Qin Xianer. One day, she might become grateful to the heartlessness of the Xu family."

Two days later, the meteor was plastered with lights and decorations, creating a happy atmosphere. It was the wedding day of the personal disciple of the Tenth Elder, Cao Xuan!

Cao Xuan had invited the few Inner Sanctum disciples that he was on close terms with. His teacher Han Zhi, his grand teacher the First Elder, as well as seven other elders. All stepped forward to congratulate him.

Even though the nine elders were always fighting amongst each other, they still seemed harmonious on the surface. They did not want to tear each other apart during this joyous occasion.

Thus, even though they could refuse to attend, they still came. All but one elder refused to come despite receiving the invitation—the Second Elder.

The Second Elder was eccentric and her moods were unpredictable. No one could befriend her.

Her abilities were ranked third in the entire faction, just below the Master and the Great Elder. Everyone wanted to be on good terms with her, but her eccentric personality often caused problems. There were even some who were nearly killed by her for no rhyme or reason.

As time went by, members of the Liuxian faction avoided her with caution.

In the eyes of the disciples, the Second Elder was a presence they did not want to upset. No one would even retaliate when they were bullied by her due to her unpredictable moods and willingness to strike down the disciples, coupled with her powerful abilities.

Today, her not appearing despite receiving the invitation was completely within reason. In fact, some of the elders secretly heaved a sigh of relief.

Cao Xuan was dressed in a fiery red robe and smiled as he entertained the guests.

"Congratulations Senior Cao for marrying such a wonderful person." Yuan Hu's injuries were fully recovered. He was obviously trying to suck-up to Cao Xuan.

Cao Xuan smiled. "Junior Yuan you need not be anxious. Once you grow up, I will definitely introduce you to some incredible female disciples in the faction!"

Yuan Hu chuckled. "Your wife has the bloodline of Nine Phoenixes, her potential is alarming and she's as beautiful as a fairy." In his heart, Yuan Hu was elated!

Su Yu, Su Yu! So what if you were powerful. After your death, your woman ultimately became the property of my Senior!

Sun Tianyang walked over, his calm expression showing a hint of a smile. "Congratulations on your wedding."

"Thank you, Uncle Sun." Cao Xuan was junior to Sun Tianyang and naturally had to call him uncle. But, his tone had no traces of respect, for Cao Xuan's abilities were much better than his.

"Uncle, how are your injuries?" Cao Xuan inquired with a smile.

Sun Tianyang's expression turned rigid. "The injuries have healed. In fact, I have to thank Su Yu. My level of cultivation has increased after my battle with him. I'm now approaching Third Level Holy King! If we were to fight again, I would defeat him with one move!"

Sun Tianyang could not forget the humiliation of being defeated by Su Yu. It was a pity that Su Yu had died, he had lost the chance to redeem himself.

Multiple elders looked over at the three disciples with weird looks in their eyes. Of the four core disciples in the faction, two of them were under the Great Elder and the Tenth Elder respectively. One was Cao Xuan and the other was a disciple of the Great Elder, who was currently practicing behind closed doors.

Of the new disciples, Sun Tianyang and Yuan Hu rested at the top. The other elders were envious—the Great Elder and Tenth Elder both regularly abused their powers and refused to follow the rules!

According to the rule, elders of the faction could only take in two disciples. The rationale behind this was to stop elders from competing against each other for disciples. They would not be able to care for too many disciples.

Han Zhi obviously already had Yuan Hu and Cao Xuan, and now he was using marriage to obtain Qin Xianer for himself!

Technically, Qin Xianer wasn't a disciple of Han Zhi, but instead the wife of Cao Xian. But in reality, she would definitely be nurtured as a disciple of Han Zhi. The other elders would naturally not dare to accept Qin Xianer as their disciple. She would completely become the property of Han Zhi.

Qin Xianer had the rare Medium Grade Dark Class constitution!

This kind of potential only shows itself once every few generations.

Cao Xuan was also of the Medium Grade Dark Class constitution, and today he had entered the Dragon Realm. Within a few decades, he would definitely be an elder in the faction. If Qin Xianer did not get into any accidents, she would also become an elder of the faction.

Should an elder cultivate two future elders, together with the disciples of the Great Elder, they would control four elders within the faction.

Even the Master's position would be put in jeopardy.

Han Zhi had three disciples, which was cause for concern.

The Great Elder held much influence and had formed an alliance with Han Zhi. The rest of the elders did not dare fight against the Great Elder. The Master's abilities were only on par with the Great Elder's. If there was no need to, he did not wish to disrupt the harmony.

This was the secret of the Liuxian faction. Many elders were afraid that there was going to be a mutiny in the Liuxian faction in the foreseeable future.

There had been people who tried to fight against the alliance of the two elders. There was once an elder who tried to fight them. The outcome had been... sudden death!

Han Zhi was over a hundred years old but looked forty. His was handsome, inspiring awe without fury. At his side was Xi Ruolan, quietly observing the wedding ceremony.

Behind him was the Vice-Master, Qin Gang.

"The hour is here, the bride may enter the hall." The emcee announced.

Under the accompaniment of a bunch of flower ladies, a slender figure adorned with a gold crown, dressed in a gold robe with embroideries of phoenixes and dragons entered the hall.

Her petite face was like a wild pixie's. She was cute and beautiful. A thin film of makeup accentuated her beauty, but her eyes were puffy and devoid of emotion.

At her side, Xu Rong was smiling, coldly threatening. "Remember my words, if you destroy the wedding, I'll immediately take Su Yu's life! Stop crying! Smile!"

Xianer forced a smile, her eyes red and swollen. The smile was rigid and devoid of life. It was more like crying than a smile.

Many elders noticed this. In their hearts, they had guessed that Qin Xianer was being forced into this marriage. While they had guessed this, they could not do anything about it.

"I hate you! I'll hate you forever!" Qin Xianer tried to stay calm.

Xu Rong smirked. "One day, you will thank me! Go in! After the ceremony, you will be the wife of Cao Xuan and will have nothing to do with Su Yu anymore!"

Stepping into the hall, Xianer's beauty shook the hearts of those present. She had such beauty at just fourteen. When she grew up, her beauty would topple countries.

Cao Xuan's eyes flared with passion. Even though he had received orders to take Xianer as his wife in order to consolidate power, obtaining such a petite and beautiful bride was still a blessing in and of itself.

Yuan Hu was visibly envious. Many youths who had come with their elders were overcome by Xianer's beauty. It was a pity that she was in a bridal gown, about to become Cao Xuan's wife.

The ceremonial sounds spread from the Inner Sanctum to the Outer Sanctum. Atop the chilly star, within the arena, two disciples were going about their daily duties.

Hearing the fanfare, they glanced to the side, secretly envious. "Was there someone getting married in the Inner Sanctum?"

"Such fanfare. It must be someone important."

Crack—

Suddenly, whilst the two were cleaning the center of the arena, a crack of the ice spread out from the bottom. It came from where the Icy Azure Lake was sealed!

The lake had been sealed again after Su Yu's battle three days ago.

The sudden strange sound caused the expressions of the two youths to change. They hurriedly retreated from the arena, curiously listening for more signs.

Crack—

Crack, crack—

The cracks sounded like falling hail.

"Not good! There's a situation within the Icy Azure Lake, go report to the miscellaneous hall!"

Creak—

Rumble—

They did not have time to inform the hall before a deafening rumble came from within the Icy Azure Lake!

Rumble—

The rumble shook the sky. Under the arena, a hundred foot tall mountain of ice appeared out of nowhere, blasting the sealed arena into pieces!

The azure waters of the lake radiated an alarming chill as if they were attempting to bore into the arena! Snow fell onto the earth!

The Icy Azure Lake was destroyed by the horrifying mountain of ice!

"What... what is that?" A disciple was astonished, shivering as he pointed towards the peak of the mountain of ice.

There was an ice sculpture of a purple-robed, silver-haired youth standing atop the peak!

In the sunlight, the ice sculpture was radiant, diffusing seven colors of light. His features were lifelike.

"It's... the king of the fallen star, Su Yu"

"His... his corpse has been delivered by the mountain of ice!!"

Crack—

The ice sculpture produced a crisp sound, suddenly shattering into countless shards of ice, flying in the air! The figure of the youth was freed from the ice.

His closed eyes slowly opened! His left pupil was purple, his right pupil red. They were the mysterious eyes of a king, standing atop the peak of the mountain of ice and looking down upon the land!

The two disciples were ignored by his gaze.

Thud—

One of the First Level Holy Kings spat out blood on the spot, kneeling on the ground!

A single glimpse could kill him!

What... what kind of terrifying eyes could do such a thing?

The purple and red pupils saw far and wide. They glanced toward the Inner Sanctum, towards the decorated and cheerful land.

"Xianer..." A deep sigh reverberated from the peak of the ice mountain, spreading around the arena and toward the heavens.

A light sigh dropped the temperature of the Earth exponentially! It was like a sigh from an ancient frost king!

Creak—

The two First Level Holy Kings froze! A thin layer of frost enveloped their bodies, completely shocking them! A sigh could freeze them!

Fear, paranoia, respect, agitation, and excitement filled them!

Su Yu had come back!

The words he had said before he plunged into the lake had come true. He had come back!

He had defied fate and stayed alive!

Their excitement caused them to shiver as they raised their heads to look. They realized that there was nothing atop the peak of the ice mountain anymore.

That silver-haired, purple-robed king with purple and red pupils had long since vanished.

All that was left was his sigh which reverberated through the heavens.

Chapter 125: The frost king

The wedding ceremony continued.

The emcee was joyously singing. The guests were all in a jovial mood.

Amidst the fun and laughter, no one took notice of Xianer's pitiful plight.

In Xu Rong's eyes, Xianer was a tool for her family to gain connections to nobility. To Han Zhi, she was the artistic sculpture soon to be his. To Cao Xuan, she was going to be his plaything, something for him to lord over. In the eyes of the guests, she was a puppet that had nothing to do with them. Even though they knew of Xianer's plight, they could not do anything to help her.

Clenching her fists, Xianer was lonely, pitiful, and bitter. While the Earth was vast, no one could help her.

The complicated rituals were almost over, they were finally arriving at the final step.

"A bow to the heavens!" The emcee joyously shouted.

Xianer's heart trembled and tears welled up in her eyes. She was going to be married, but not to Su Yu!

Under the cold stare of Xu Rong, Xianer's petite frame trembled. She slowly bent down, bowing down to the heavens together with Cao Xuan.

Crack—

The sound of ice forming could suddenly be heard! The crowd was shocked.

Crack—

Crack, crack—

A wave of crackling ice flooded the room!

"What's that? It's so cold!" Multiple disciples gasped. Their breath turned into white frost. It was in the middle of summer, but it felt like winter.

"Look outside!"

Everyone looked, their eyes narrowing! A blanket of white fog had suddenly appeared outside the hall! The cold of the fog seeped into the souls of many. The frosty white cloud obscured everything from view. Furthermore, the fog was billowing out rapidly, rolling forward with incredible might. From afar, it looked like a tsunami about to engulf them.

Everything the ice touched froze in place. Radiant flowers dancing in the wind were frozen in a split second. Their petals turned crystalline, frozen in their most beautiful moment. The grass on the side of the road stood alone. As the chilly energy passed, it became a field of silver crystals, shining radiantly under the sunlight. The ancient trees in all their green glory had their bark, branches, and even leaves frozen under the chilly energy. Multiple insects were frozen in the air, causing them to crash down with a thud onto the frozen bed of grass.

In a blink of an eye, every inch of the Earth, sky, animals, and plants had been frozen. The surrounding area had turned into a beautiful winter wonderland

The red lanterns decorating the yard frozen and could not support their weight. They crashed down to the ground, shattering into ice shards.

The fanfare and music gradually stopped. The joyous atmosphere in the hall was swallowed by the icy world, slipping it into a dead silence.

As it approached the house, the icy fog stopped just outside the yard. The fog's pressure was much more intense than before, like the calm before the storm.

It was silent in the hall. Everyone gravely looked on, unable to speak.

Crack—

Any icy carpet rolled out from within the fog. It rolled past the yard and the pavilions, through the icy wasteland before coming to a stop before the hall.

Thud, thud—

The sound of rhythmic footsteps walked into the hearts of many.

With every footstep, the cold seemed to get worse.

Everyone stared, their hearts gently thumping. They could feel the arrival of a frost king!

A purple figure gently stepped out of the fog, wrapped in a scarf of ice. He danced gently, his noble aura indescribable. His silver hair gracefully swayed, mysterious and elegant. His purple left eye and his red right eye were inhuman, secretive, and unfathomable.

Su Yu felt like a divine king in control of all the ice in the world.

"Su Yu!"

Staring at the person who had appeared, exclamations of surprise rang through the hall!

Xu Rong's ancient face showed deep awe!

Yuan Hu screamed in shock!

Sun Tianyang could not believe his eyes!

Cao Xuan's eyes narrowed and he grunted in surprise. Su Yu had plunged into the Icy Azure Lake. His corpse should have disappeared without a trace.

How had he reappeared like an immortal king? Why was he still alive? What had happened to his body?

Xianer was frozen with shock. She had been apart from Su Yu for too long!

She had cried every night as she thought and reminisced about the time she had spent with Su Yu.

The person she had thought about day and night had shown up at the loneliest, most pitiful point of her life—as he had that day in the Xianyu prefecture.

His eyes had changed, his demeanor had changed, but his soul was the same one she had loved all along!

Tears silently fell down her cheeks. Xianer finally showed a smile.

Thud, thud, thud—

They had been apart for too long. She had suppressed her longing for too long. Finally, her emotions erupted.

Her fiery-red slender figure flew toward the embrace of Su Yu like a ball of fire.

"Su Yu!" She wept with happiness. Her shout shook the hearts of many. The atmosphere was cold, but in Su Yu's embrace, Xianer felt warm.

Su Yu's heart wavered, ripples of light flashing in his purple and red eyes.

He shakily extended his palm, placing it across Xianer's waist.

Finally... After the goodbye at the Xianyu prefecture, he could finally have her in his embrace once again.

The unease he had felt in his soul finally dissipated.

Xianer was back where she belonged, in his embrace.

"Xianer," Su Yu said shakily. His breath caused the ice around him to spread, freezing multiple lower level disciples—but Xianer was unaffected.

In the icy world, under the witness of many, Su Yu had been reunited with Xianer. They passionately hugged each other!

Many slowly came to their senses.

This purple-robed, silver-haired youth with strange eyes had descended like a king, only to fetch away Qin Xianer?!

Many elders had strange, expectant looks.

Han Zhi's raised his thick brows, his expression turning darker. Someone had actually interrupted such a solemn wedding ceremony! Now, he was going to steal the bride away! He coldly glanced at Cao Xuan, his expression merciless. Under the presence of many of the elders, he could not strike out immediately without reason.

Cao Xuan also had a nasty expression, dark and sinister. How could Cao Xuan maintain his reputation if his wife was taken away from him?

He fiercely glared at Xu Rong! Had she destroyed the engagement between Su Yu and Qin Xianer earlier, would they be in this situation? Even if the wedding ceremony were conducted again, the events today would leave a mark on Cao Xuan's heart.

Xu Rong was shocked for a long moment. Su Yu had clearly dropped into the Icy Azure Lake, but he was still alive!

Feeling Cao Xuan's cold gaze, Xu Rong's body shuddered. A fury ignited within her heart!

Su Yu had harmed her in multiple ways!

"Su Yu! I have already given you many chances to let you survive! You are still not going to let go of Xianer! This time, I will not spare you!" Xu Rong's face was filled with fury!

She had heard that Su Yu had become very powerful, capable of defeating even Sun Tianyang. But Xu Rong had been cultivating for years. With a Legacy level techniques in her arsenal, Sun Tianyang was not even comparable to her!

Her abilities were enough to kill Su Yu!

"Grandma, no! I'll marry! Please don't kill Brother Su Yu..." Xianer was flustered, struggling to break free from Su Yu's embrace as she sobbed.

So she's being forced?

Su Yu blocked Xianer's petite frame, hugging her even tighter. He would not let her go, not again. He would never give her up again, he would never let her down again.

Purple and red, his eyes coldly stared at Xu Rong.

"Give me your life!" Xu Rong struck out furiously! Had she known this was going to happen, she would have killed Su Yu back at the start, even at the expense of fighting Li Guang!

"Bone Fracturing Finger!" Xu Rong struck him mercilessly, wishing to get rid of him as fast as possible!

Many of the disciples present were warned not to strike by their elders as they watched the fight begin. Seeing how merciless Xu Rong was, they all felt concern for Su Yu.

Even though Su Yu had the ability to defeat Sun Tianyang, it would be difficult to last more than ten moves against a senior fighter.

Suddenly, all the disciples gasped in disbelief.

Su Yu's expression was calm, merely taking a step forward into Xu Rong's attack.

His step was filled with a terrifying cold energy!

Xu Rong had been reduced to an ice sculpture in the air!

She was in the midst of charging forward, but an extremely chilly energy had enveloped her and turned her into an ice sculpture.

She fell and rolled toward Su Yu's feet. Her face twisted with merciless fury!

Su Yu lowered his head, looking down impassively. He lightly stepped on her forehead.

Crack—

The ice on her forehead disappeared, replaced with Su Yu's shoeprint.

Xu Rong awoke from her frozen state. Her killing intent had been replaced by cold fear.

To think that she was frozen with just a step! Now, Su Yu's foot rested on her forehead! Her anger was quelled by her surprise and terror. To think he had once been so weak!

The stark difference in his strength assaulted her mind, causing Xu Rong to shiver in fear.

"You wish to kill me... I am Xianer's grandma, you best consider Xianer's feelings." Xu Rong could feel death creeping up on her. Her heart thumped wildly.

Her ancient eyes shifted about vigorously, seeking Xianer's help!

Su Yu's foot was firmly on her forehead. He made it hard for her to move, much less look into Xianer's eyes.

"Unremorseful even in death..." Hearing Xu Rong's attempt to make use of Xianer's emotions caused Su Yu's expression to turn colder. He slowly increased the pressure of his step, sighing

mercilessly. "When you first manipulated Xianer into marriage, you should have already prepared for death. You deserve death!"

Xu Rong felt a mixture of remorse and fury! Had she known that Su Yu would grow to become this powerful she would have never forced Xianer! She would have never used Su Yu's death to threaten her!

"Su Yu... let's... forget it. I'm fine." Qin Xianer was a compassionate lady. Even though Xu Rong had forced her into such a pathetic circumstance, and while she really hated her, she could not bear to kill her.

Xu Rong was elated! Her ancient face showed manic happiness. She was going to cheat death!

She was lucky that Xianer was still young and her mind was still pure. Xianer ultimately could not bear to kill her. It looks like the plan was correct. No matter how much Xianer hated her, she was still her granddaughter. With their blood ties, she could ultimately control Xianer.

But a cold voice completely shattered the fantasies in Xu Rong's heart.

Chapter 126: Fight to the Death

"Xianer, do you want me, or do you want her?" Su Yu asked coldly.

Today Su Yu was able to step on Xu Rong. He could probably let her go. But in the future, when Xu Rong had the upper hand, would she show him the same mercy?

Xu Rong had already attempted to kill Su Yu three times. The first time was when he first entered Fenghuang Valley. She failed in her attempt to break off the engagement between him and Xianer and had attacked him, only to be stopped by Li Guang.

The second time was during the battle in the forbidden grounds, where she had failed to force him to spare Liu Guang. She had again been stopped by Li Guang.

The third time was today when she had tried to murder him in front of everyone.

Every time, Xu Rong had not had a shred of pity. She would never show him mercy.

If he let her go today, she would gather the full force of her family and, one day, she would step on Su Yu's head.

Su Yu would definitely die.

Thus, Xianer had to choose between Xu Rong and Su Yu.

Xianer was silent. She thought for a moment before burying her head into Su Yu's chest, closing her eyes. "In this world, Xianer is satisfied to have Su Yu alone."

Su Yu nodded his head, coldly staring at Xu Rong. He softly sighed. "For Xianer, you are better off dead than alive."

"No—" Xu Rong howled in panic, but she was suddenly silenced as her head was completely frozen.

With a light tap from Su Yu's toe, her entire body crumbled into icy dust, scattering into the galaxy.

"Let's go. Let's leave the Liuxian faction and roam the world." Su Yu hugged Xianer, turning to leave.

Xianer batted her eyelashes, dimples adorned her happy face. "Alright! I'll never leave you again."

Looking at the two step into the snow holding hands, many regained their senses.

Seeing Su Yu strike, then kill Xu Rong seemed like a long moment, but in reality, it only took a split second.

No one had the time to interfere. They hadn't expected someone to commit murder in front of the elders of the faction!

"Stop! Su Yu, you disrupted the wedding ceremony of Cao Xuan. Do you think you can just leave from here?"

Whoosh—

Sun Tianyang approached the couple, his expression sinister.

Yuan Hu also approached furiously from the side, cornering Su Yu between him and Sun Tianyang.

Su Yu had stolen Cao Xuan's bride in the presence of everyone.

Su Yu's eyes harbored an intense cold. "Scram! I just want Xianer, I do not wish to kill anyone else!"

Sun Tianyang was looking for a battle. "Losing the chance to fight you to the Icy Azure Lake was the only regret of my life! I did not have the chance to get my revenge! To think you've now delivered yourself to me! Let us have a rematch for my honor!" Sun Tianyang let out a low growl.

"Golden Transformation Mantra!" In his fury, Sun Tianyang transformed into a man of ancient copper in the blink of an eye. A massive energy spread throughout his body, pressuring the people around him. He had improved since the Fallen Star Contest!

"All thanks to you! I have finally reached the lower tier of this legacy level technique! Kneel!"

Rumble—

His powerful fist struck forward!

The wind generated by the fist blew out in all directions, dissipating the icy fog and causing Su Yu's silver hair to dance.

Yuan Hu also seized the opportunity to strike from the other direction, his gaze cold. "Let's see how arrogant you are after this!"

One was a Second Level Lower Tier Holy King and the other was a Second Level Peak Holy King. Who could doubt the power of their combined attack?

Su Yu stood at his original position, letting the wind blow past his purple robe and silver hair. His supernatural eyes were calm and peaceful.

Only when the attacks came within a few feet of him did he extend his palm, grabbing at the space in front of him.

Crack—

Sun Tianyang and Yuan Hu both howled pathetically at the same time!

Their bodies were fully covered with frost!

The frost on their skin spread to their muscles and organs. In the blink of an eye, they were both reduced to ice statues. They were forever sealed in the world of ice, still braced in attack stances.

Sun Tianyang's eyeballs wavered, showing his unbridled fear!

To think that Su Yu could kill him with just a palm!

Su Yu lightly shook his head. "Your abilities are average."

Su Yu struck his palm forward, attempting to shatter the ice.

"Vermin, how dare you!" A thunderous howl came from outside the yard!

Rumble—

A muscular man in black-armored descended from the sky, his face full of fury!

He grabbed down and retrieved Sun Tianyang and Yuan Hu, protecting them from Su Yu's death blow.

Su Yu recognized the man as the guard of the steel bridge with black-armored.

His abilities were at a terrifying Third Level Lower Tier Holy King!

Once, he had stopped Su Yu outside of the steel bridge. His palm had caused Su Yu to vomit blood as he retreated.

Su Yu had finally passed him at the speed of light, not giving the guard a chance to stop him. He had been in pursuit of him until now.

Furious and murderous, the black-armored guard finally had a clear look at Su Yu. He angrily realized Su Yu looked familiar. "So you are the ignorant Outer Sanctum disciple! Small vermin practicing a strange movement technique, why are you trying to cause trouble in the Inner Sanctum?"

Protecting the steel bridge and not allowing people from the Outer Sanctum to pass was his duty. Su Yu had not only snuck in, but he had also caused trouble during the wedding ceremony with the elders present. If he did not kill Su Yu and redeem himself, he would definitely be punished!

Su Yu calmly retracted his palm, looking back. "Sneak in? I didn't sneak in, I just did not want to fight you."

"Hmph! Of course you do not want to fight me, how could you ever defeat me? Immediately kneel and surrender!" The black-armored guard scowled in fury, stepping forward with large strides.

He was looking down on Su Yu, for he had previously beaten Su Yu with a single palm.

But Su Yu's expression was peaceful as he slowly shook his head. "You're wrong, I just didn't want to kill you!"

Xianer's forced marriage was underway; had he been caught in a tangle with the black-armored guard, Su Yu might find it hard to hold back!

The black-armored guard shivered slightly, then laughed angrily. "Five days ago you were a vermin that vomited blood after receiving my palm. Today, you are really arrogant."

Su Yu shook his head. He did not pay much attention to what the guard was saying. He hugged Xianer as he walked out of the yard.

Seeing he was ignored, the black-armored guard became visibly furious. He clenched his teeth. "Vermin! Kneel!"

"Five Mountain Seal!" the black-armored guard let out a low growl!

The horrifying vital energy of a Third Level Holy King encircled in his palm! It was a world-altering energy, one that trailed waves of fire across anything it touched.

Su Yu's chilly energy was forced back, the energy pouring out in waves! Strong winds howled, inspiring fear in the hearts of many!

Sun Tianyang, who had just been freed from the ice, was thrown in the air by the currents, crashing into a corner. He let out a grunt as he spat out a mouthful of blood.

"This is a Third Level Holy King? It completely surpasses the levels of a Second Level Holy King!" Sun Tianyang was in deep awe. He felt helpless under the pressure, unable to muster any attempts to fight back.

Third Level Holy King... its power was greater than imagined!

Rumble—

The Third Level Holy King ferociously struck out in the direction of Su Yu's head!

"Kneel! Accept your punishment!" The black-armored guard looked down on Su Yu as he growled!

But Su Yu's eyes remained calm as he peacefully extended a finger! "Perish!"

Chilly energy billowed and consolidated on his finger!

Creak—

A great impact did not come as expected. But!

Ah—

A pathetic howl was heard!

Everyone looked toward the direction of the sound and gasped!

A Third Level Holy King, the black-armored guard, spat out a mouthful of blood as he flew backward!

A finger had completely suppressed a Third Level Holy King!

A mere finger!

How powerful had Su Yu become since he had returned from the Icy Azure Lake?

Sun Tianyang's breathing was rapid and his eyes were opened wide. He couldn't believe what he saw before him!

His throat seemed to have been blocked by something and he was unable to speak for a moment. "He... he is already this strong?"

A numbness spread throughout his scalp.

He felt a fear he'd only felt before when he had faced his senior. He felt powerless.

Multiple elders observing the spectacle raised their eyebrows, their expressions turning grave. They looked at each other, speculating about Su Yu. Su Yu's fight at the Fallen Star had made him famous in the Outer Sanctum. But, in the eyes of the high and mighty elders, the Fallen Star Contest was not worthy of attention. They did not know of Su Yu's existence.

In fact, a huge bulk of Inner Sanctum disciples did not care about the Fallen Star Contest. They did not know what had happened and did not know of Su Yu's existence.

"This person was an Outer Sanctum disciple? I can believe he beat the new disciples Sun Tianyang and Yuan Hu, but to defeat a Third Level Lower Tier Holy King?!"

"This guy's potential is horrifying! Even I misjudged him!" The eyes of multiple elders ignited with passion.

Sun Tianyang and Yuan Hu's talents were already considered brilliant, they were highly sought after in the faction.

What about Su Yu, who had defeated the both of them?

Quickly, the passion in their eyes died down. They caught a glimpse of Han Zhi and their hearts filled with a shred of pity.

His talent was above average. Unfortunately, he could not live past today.

Stealing Xianer meant that Su Yu was fated to die.

Su Yu calmly stared at the surprised black-armored guard that he had sent flying.

His mouth was full of blood. His pupils contracted, full of fear. He was severely injured by a mere finger! Was this the vermin that he defeated with just five days ago?

Retracting his finger, Su Yu unfeelingly shook his head. "You're much weaker than I imagined."

The face of the black-armored guard turned red, but he could not find any words to retort.

Hugging Xianer, Su Yu continued to leave. He had a look of satisfaction, a look of relief and bitterness as he lightly sighed. "Xianer, seeing you once again, I no longer have any regrets."

He had taken Xianer in front of the elders of the faction, Su Yu knew that it was the end of the road for him.

When he had decided to take the bride away, he had understood that he would ultimately have to bid farewell to Xianer for forever.

He was going to die at the hands of Cao Xuan, the Tenth Elder, and the Great Elder.

Xianer would still be forced to marry Cao Xuan. This was a predetermined outcome. Under their absolute power, Su Yu was but a weak ant. Su Yu was unable to change this predetermined outcome. All he could do was see Xianer for the last time before he died.

To tell her that he, Su Yu, had once come and that he still loved her.

To make sure she knew he had died in a blaze of glory.

He knew that he would definitely die, but Su Yu still came forward; he could not bear to see his fiancée, the person he had sworn to protect with his life, the slender figure that he could not erase from his heart, marry someone else.

Even if he would die, he wanted to see Xianer one last time.

Feeling the grief in his voice, the young Xianer seemed to understand.

The pain of a permanent loss, of an imminent farewell, spread into her soul.

"Brother Su Yu... don't go!" Xianer hugged Su Yu's neck, choking as she wept. Silent grief flowed into her heart. Heart-wrenching feelings of loss assaulted her young soul.

Su Yu caressed her, bending down to kiss her forehead. "I no longer have any regrets."

"Xianer, please keep your eyes open. I will fight for you for the last time!" Su Yu lifted his head, his purple and red eyes giving out an unparalleled glow. The glow fell on the figures who had appeared out of nowhere at their backs!

The ceremonial red robe, the ordinary appearance, the sinister expression, the cold gaze—combined, it all gave Su Yu a terrifying appearance!

Cao Xuan had appeared behind them in an instant, standing with his hands behind his back, his eyes full of contempt!

While he remained silent, everyone could feel his killing intent. Su Yu was like a volcano waiting to erupt!

"Su Yu! I'll give you a chance, die for your sins!" Cao Xuan did not have any form of energy surrounding him. Had he surrounded himself with an aura, Su Yu would already have died!

A powerful warrior who had entered the Dragon Realm, Cao Xuan had a power of unimaginable heights. Even his aura would be enough to kill Su Yu a hundred times over!

Su Yu had a look of decisiveness! A pitiful smile appeared on his face.

"All my life, I, Su Yu, have been a failure! I have not healed my father-in-law's arm. I have not avenged my teacher. My fiancée was kidnapped and forced into a marriage by others, but I, can do nothing about it!"

But!"—an astonishing killing intent rumbled out of Su Yu's chest like a thunderbolt, striking the hearts of many—"While I am incompetent, while I have been a failure all my life, I want to do something for Xianer before I die! I want to kill you!"

Su Yu let out a deep howl. His dying wish turned into willpower, piercing through the clouds!

Even if he had to die, he would drag Cao Xuan down with him!

Chapter 127: Perishing together

The killing intent Cao Xuan had been suppressing finally erupted. He slowly put down his hands, his tone extremely cold. "You overestimate yourself! I really regret giving you the chance to kill yourself to atone for your sins. I guess I should just send you on your way myself!"

Extending his finger, Cao Xuan calmly pointed toward Su Yu.

His finger was ordinary, but it harbored an indefensible power.

Even Su Yu, who was standing far away, involuntarily turned rigid. The vital energy and spirit energy in his body slowed down to a halt.

He had only felt this helpless against the Second Elder. Back then, he could not even move an inch against the Second Elder. Cao Xuan, in comparison, only affected the energy flow within his body.

"No matter how I overestimate myself, my abilities are enough to kill you!" Su Yu grunted.

He wore a decisive expression. Su Yu struck his hand up into the air. "Icy Pearl! Appear!"

Rumble—

A rumble came from the Icy Azure Lake in the Chilly Star, its azure waters raging.

An azure pearl the size of a house pierced the heavens! With the speed of light, it crossed the barrier between the Inner and Outer Sanctums, descending upon Su Yu's head!

The terrifying chill had become more powerful. It made the skin of everyone present to crawl! Several normal disciples turned into ice sculptures after they looked at it!

As the azure chilly energy billowed out from the pearl, freezing the heavens!

Creak—

Pillars of icy fog froze into ice pillars, dropping onto the earth with a sharp pling.

The expressions on the calm elders' faces changed!

Stern and surprised looks were shown on the faces of the crowd. "The Icy Pearl from the Icy Azure Lake!"

"This pearl was the core of the Chilly Star, sealing an extreme chill! If it shatters, everything will perish within a mile radius! Unless you have achieved the Dragon Realm, you will definitely die! Even in the Dragon Realm, there's no guarantee of survival should he attack at such close range!"

"Protect the disciples!" The master of the Liuxian Faction, a horse-faced man, did not stop Su Yu. Instead, he used spirit energy to protect the disciples at his side!

The multiple elders did not hesitate, they used their hands to protect the disciples around them, their eyes flickering with surprise.

How had Su Yu come to control such a terrifying weapon?

The sinister Han Zhi's expression changed, surprise and fury written all over his face. "Retreat! Danger!"

A surge of anxiety rushed up into Han Zhi's heart. How could he have expected that an ant-like Su Yu could control such a terrifying Icy Pearl?

Cao Xuan's belittling expression had stayed rigid since the appearance of the Icy Pearl!

Initially, he was confused. Then, he recognized what the object was. His pupils gradually contracted into needlepoints!

Finally, he felt fear, a skin crawling, heart-wrenching fear!

The Icy Pearl from the Icy Azure Lake!

It was because of the Icy Pearl that the Icy Azure Lake had boundless chilly energy. That lake had existed due to the presence of the pearl.

Even people who had achieved the Dragon Realm would have slim chances of survival when they plunged into the icy lake.

If he allowed the azure chilly energy from the Icy Pearl to enter his body, being a low-level dragon, there was only one fate awaiting him, death!

There was no doubt about it, the Icy Pearl would strip him off any chances of survival!

Su Yu, he... actually controlled the Icy Pearl!

Cao Xuan swallowed. His face was as pale as a sheet!

Hearing his teacher's howls of fury, his legs trembled as he retreated without hesitation!

At this moment, the Su Yu that he had found unworthy of even speaking to him, the Su Yu he could kill with just a finger, became the source of fear in his heart!

"I said, you must die!" Su Yu let out a low grunt. He hugged Xianer, flying above the Icy Pearl. He stepped on the Icy Pearl and was in hot pursuit!

The Icy Pearl had remarkable speed, quicker than imagined. It had arrived from the Chilly Star to the Inner Sanctum in just a blink of an eye.

Now it was chasing Cao Xuan?

In just a fraction of the time it took to take a breath, the Icy Pearl had caught up to Cao Xuan.

"Perish! This is the last thing you could do for Xianer!" Su Yu was as cold as a frost king.

Han Zhi slammed down his arm as he rose, furiously growling. "Vermin, how dare you!" Cao Xuan was a disciple he had nurtured for years. Was he going to be killed in front of his eyes?

Han Zhi had not been negligent, but he did not even have any regard for the weak Su Yu. He underestimated Su Yu, which gave him a chance to display his powers!

Su Yu had no regard for Han Zhi, his expression cold. "Han Zhi, you old villain! It's a pity that I do not have the ability to kill you, otherwise, I would send you to meet your maker too! For now, you can say goodbye to your disciple!"

Crash—

The Icy Pearl struck forward, crushing Cao Xuan under it!

Ah—

In a cry of pain, Cao Xuan was completely crushed under the Icy Pearl!

The azure chilly energy sealed within the Icy Pearl threatened to spill out!

Just a shred of the chilly energy caused Cao Xuan to scream pathetically in fear!

His cold eyes had been completely replaced with fear.

"Su Yu... You wish to kill a core disciple in the presence of so many? Kill me and there would no longer be any escape for you!" Cao Xuan, in the face of his death, angrily howled as his survival instincts kicked in.

Su Yu's lips formed a cold arc. "If I do not kill you, you people would kill me anyway. Before I die, if I could drag you down with me, wouldn't it be worth it?"

"You... We could discuss this! Keep the Icy Pearl, I... I can give you a way out!" Cao Xuan's gaze was wavering. On the surface, he looked like he was going to submit—but, in all honesty, he was as murderous as ever.

He could give Su Yu a way out, but there was no guarantee that his teacher or the faction would give him a chance of survival.

Today, Su Yu had disrupted the wedding ceremony and publicly killed Xu Rong. The faction would not forgive him, he would definitely die!

"You wish to stall for time and let your all-powerful teacher help you?" Su Yu glanced toward the Second Elder who was stepping toward the yard. His words shattered the plans in Cao Xuan's heart.

Giving Cao Xuan a chance to speak was all part of Su Yu's plan. He wanted to attract the Second Elder over. Then, Su Yu planned to send Cao Xuan on his way. Before he died, he could severely injure the Second Elder too!

"Explode!" Su Yu was laughing, furiously howling!

The azure chilly energy within the Icy Pearl billowed out violently!

Crack—

A deep crack formed on the Icy Pearl!

"Not good! He's going to blow up the Icy pearl! Quick, protect the disciples and retreat!" The expression of the Master of the Liuxian faction changed.

The multiple elders were also shocked. They did not need the reminder of the Master of the Liuxian faction to know what to do. They left quickly.

"He has really gone insane!" An elder said shockingly in his retreat.

"When one is pushed to the edge, he will do anything. Cao Xuan and his teacher have pushed him too far. The evil will get their retribution. They deserve this! We do not need to interfere and help them!" Multiple elders exchanged looks.

Crack—

Crack, crack—

The rapid cracking sounds were followed by a cold energy that spilled out from the fractured pearl.

Cao Xuan was extremely fearful!

Looking on at the insane Su Yu, a deep regret and bitterness filled his heart. Had he known that this would happen he would have killed him back at Shenyue Island!

Han Zhi's expression changed, deep in his eyes was a bolt of caution. His sinister face was filled with fury. "Vermin! You should die, just like your teacher!"

Rumble—

How powerful was an elder's attack?

Cao Xuan and Su Yu would perish together!

But, being able to take Cao Xuan down with him and injure Han Zhi as he died, everything was worth it!

"Die together? You're daydreaming." A raspy voice with a mocking tone suddenly floated around Su Yu's ears!

Just three inches away from where Su Yu was, a person suddenly appeared out of thin air!

Su Yu turned rigid. They were so close, but he hadn't noticed their approach!

Even Han Zhi could not compare to these abilities!

The voice was incredibly familiar to Su Yu! It was the Second Elder!

A dainty hand rested on Su Yu's shoulder. Her strength immediately immobilized Su Yu!

The Icy Pearl under his feet lost its motivation, gradually turning silent. At the critical moment of its explosion, it had been forcefully stopped!

Cao Xuan was elated! His expression was ferocious. "Su Yu! I want you dead!"

Han Zhi was shocked by the Second Elder's abilities. Seeing Su Yu get suppressed, a murderous intent flared in his eyes. "You are the same as your teacher, not knowing your place! Die!"

Taking advantage of Su Yu's immobilization, Han Zhi suddenly struck!

Su Yu was filled with hatred! At the final moment, he had been stopped by the ugly Second Elder! He could not drag Cao Xuan down with him, and was helpless as Han Zhi took the opportunity to kill him!

But!

Whoosh—

A bolt of energy shot out from the hand on Su Yu's shoulder,

It did not kill Su Yu. Instead, it flew straight to Han Zhi!

Han Zhi did not expect this.

Rumble—

A mere bolt of energy had caused Han Zhi to fly back several hundred meters!

His robes had been torn to shreds, his hair was disheveled. His breath had also been knocked out of rhythm, turning visibly haggard.

Han Zhi was surprised as he was furious. "What are you doing? Why did you attack me?"

"Hehe..." the Second Elder stepped out from behind Su Yu, her ugly, disfigured face was like a demon's.

Even in the daylight, she caused the hearts of many to shudder. Many of the junior disciples did not dare to look at her. Some of the more senior disciples also looked away, harboring faint feelings of disgust. Even some of the elders despised her, though their expressions never changed.

Her appearance was too hideous, making it hard for anyone to develop any affection for her. Her milky-white pupils coldly stared at Han Zhi. "He is the person I want to kill, and only I can kill him. Did you ask me before you touched him?"

Han Zhi had mixed emotions, but he did not dare rebut her.

The Second Elder was eccentric, her moods were unpredictable. He did not dare offend her.

"He killed members of the faction, I am punishing him under the name of the faction." The Second Elder still had to respect the name of the faction.

The Second Elder squinted. "That old hag? Hmp, her granddaughter was already engaged to someone else, but she forced her to marry Cao Xuan. Dishonorable! She was despicable and heartless! These kinds of people deserve to be killed!"

"He, as an Outer Sanctum disciple, barged into the Inner Sanctum. How do you explain that?" Han Zhi felt as though the Second Elder was protecting Su Yu!

The Second Elder laughed coldly. "Three days ago, he gained the approval of the Icy Pearl. He already had the right to enter the Inner Sanctum, how is that barging in?"

"Hmph! He severely injured many of our disciples and the guard of the steel bridge. What about that?" Han Zhi felt that something was off.

The Second Elder lifted her ugly face, putting on a mocking smile. "A bunch of imbeciles. They were weaker than Su Yu and was injured by him, who can they blame but themselves?"

"Nonsense!" Han Zhi was furious!

The Second Elder let out a malicious growl and clenched her teeth. "So you're saying that I am being unreasonable here?"

Han Zhi relaxed. Those who were familiar with the Second Elder knew that her clenching her teeth was a sign that she was going to attack!

Once she entered one of her rampages, no one except the Great Elder and the Master could stop her!

Swallowing lightly, Han Zhi did not dare offend her any further.

"Hmph! You understand the situation. If you spout any more nonsense, I'm going to pluck all the teeth out of your mouth!"

The Second Elder turned to face Su Yu, jokingly staring at him. "Hehe... Let's go, pitiful worm. You cannot die at the hands of others! I haven't had enough fun with you!"

"Thank you..." Su Yu said quietly. A smile of gratitude crept across his face.

At this point, how could Su Yu not understand?

Even though she was ugly and hideous, the eccentric Second Elder was helping him!

Ever since that day in the miscellaneous hall, telling him of Xianer's marriage, spurring him to train hard to save Xianer... She had strived to help him.

Today, she had hidden outside the hall, quietly observing until Su Yu was in danger. Then, she had come in to get Su Yu and Xianer out of danger.

While she looked evil, she was the only person truly helping him in the Liuxian faction!

Otherwise, she could have jokingly observed him die on the spot. Why would she get involved and bring trouble to herself?

The Second Elder's joking expression turned serious, her gaze rippled.

Su Yu understood what the ripple meant. He unintentionally empathized with her suddenly, beginning to understand her feelings.

She glared ferociously at Su Yu. "I was just toying with you! Idiot!"

But Su Yu continued smiling, seeing through all her disguises.

The Second Elder's lips quivered. She ducked her head, hiding from Su Yu's starlike eyes. After a while, she averted her gaze and a cold sneer escaped her lips. "Follow me!"

If her skin were perfect, an awkward blush would certainly be visible.

Su Yu was filled with gratitude. He had only seen the Second Elder once. Even though he did not know why the Second Elder was helping him, Su Yu now realized the Second Elder was truly beautiful at heart.

She intentionally angered people as a form of self-protection.

"Hmph!" A heavy, cold grunt came from the elders!

It was a white-haired old man, his face full of wrinkles. He seemed like he was going to die at any moment! He was dressed in a dark red robe, a glow flowing throughout his body. His eyes were sunset yellow, like a dead man's. But no one dared to look him in the eye!

The other elders' expressions changed, their hearts thumping wildly. Their eyes were filled with fear and respect!

The Master of the Liuxian faction had a serious expression, his eyes wavering with caution.

Just a grunt had caused the entire hall to turn silent, no one daring to breathe!

This person's status must be extraordinary!

The Great Elder of the faction, Han Zhi's teacher!

He was the strongest person in the faction, comparable to the Master of the faction!

His old eyes floated toward the Second Elder. His voice was calm but filled with unimaginable authority. "Without my permission, all of you cannot leave!"

The Second Elder was lawless, but her eyes shone with rare caution. "Hmph! What are you going to do about it?"

"Su Yu will be executed! Qin Xianer will continue her wedding with Cao Xuan!" the Great Elder calmly said. It was as if an order from the Master, no one dared to oppose him.

The Master was silent. He would not disrupt the harmony between him and the Great Elder just for Su Yu.

The other elders did not dare oppose the Great Elder.

The Great Elder's sentence had turned the situation around!

Cao Xuan let out a ferocious laugh. "Su Yu, ah, Su Yu! After you die, I'll take care of your woman for you! I will love her well!"

Su Yu's killing intent flared in his eyes!

A pathetic smile crept across his face. He gently pushed the Second Elder's palm away, his eyes harboring gratitude. "Second Elder, you have done all you can. Now I can only count on myself!"

He stepped once again on top of the Icy Pearl. Su Yu eyes flashed murderously.

Rumble—

The Icy Pearl suddenly sank down, causing Cao Xuan, who was crushed under it, to squeal pathetically!

The Great Elder was calm, slowly shaking his head. "Your death is insignificant!"

Whoosh—

His figure suddenly disappeared!

When he reappeared, he seemed to have materialized from thin air in front of Su Yu!

His old palm seemed ordinary, but it caused Su Yu to lose all his strength. He pushed toward Su Yu's forehead!

Su Yu was serious, his lips forming a cold smile. "Old fogey! Do you really think you are a god? Don't even think about stopping me from killing someone!"

His purple left eye shined radiantly. His Seal of Time was about to be activated!

Chapter 128: The arranged match

Crash—

Just as Su Yu was about to activate his space-time manipulation technique, a female figure flew to the front of Su Yu. She hit the palm of the Great Elder away!

Thud, thud—

The Second Elder and the Great Elder stepped back at the same time.

"You dare fight me?" Surprise and shock filled the eyes of the Great Elder, he didn't understand what was happening.

The Second Elder had struck him, the First Elder, for a simple student!

Her ugly face was raised slightly, harboring a cold intent. Her raspy voice caused many to shiver. "I said only I can kill him! Those who defy me shouldn't blame me for being heartless!"

The crowd did not understand. Why would the Second Elder protect Su Yu?

She had even opposed the Great Elder!

The Great Elder's yellow pupils slowly became cold. He did not allow anyone to challenge his authority!

Whoosh—

A middle-aged man flew in between the two. It was the Master of the Liuxian faction!

The Second Elder was the third most powerful person in the Liuxian faction. Should she be wounded or killed by the Great Elder, it would be hard for the Master to find powerful allies to maintain the arms race against the Great Elder.

Thus, he had to show himself and mediate the situation.

The Great Elder was cautious. "Even the Master wants to fight against me?"

"Naturally not. The both of you are the pillars of the faction, how could we disrupt the harmony? A situation between juniors should be resolved by juniors, our sole job is to judge it fairly." the Master of the Liuxian faction had a harmonious tone as he redirected the conflict toward Su Yu and Cao Xuan.

The Great Elder looked at the two of them, nodding his head after a moment. "Great! But he has to keep the Icy Pearl. They should resolve this with a fight!"

The Second Elder laughed. "Someone who has entered the realm of the Dragon against a Holy King, how's that fair? Rather than let the two of them fight, how about we fight? It would be more meaningful that way!"

The Master of the Liuxian faction shifted his gaze, relieving the tension. "How about this? Cao Xuan will suppress his cultivation level to the same standard as Su Yu before the two of them fight."

"Qin Xianer was engaged to Su Yu, but was lied to by the villain Xu Rong. Cao Xuan and Elder Han Zhi were also being led along, resulting in such a misunderstanding. We should not be such petty people, disrupting the harmony as we have. Peacefully settling this with a battle is the best idea."

Cao Xuan would suppress his cultivation level? The wrinkles on the Second Elder's face deepened!

At the realm of the Dragon, every technique holds an unparalleled power. Su Yu would find it hard to overcome such power, even if his opponent suppressed his cultivation level to match Su Yu's.

She was about to object, but a warm hand grabbed her arm and shook it lightly.

Looking back, she saw Su Yu. He was smiling as he shook his head. "Thank you, this is already the best outcome. Now, I will face this myself."

Feeling his hand on her arm, the Second Elder shuddered. A gentle gaze swept across her ferocious eyes.

Turning back, she stared coldly at the Master of the Liuxian faction. "Settling this with a battle? How are we going to settle this? What happens if Su Yu loses? Is he going to have to kill himself to atone for his sins?"

the Master of the Liuxian faction glanced toward Qin Xianer, smiling. "Since the conflict arose due to Qin Xianer, then she should naturally be the one to resolve it.

"If Su Yu is victorious, Qin Xianer will return to Su Yu and all animosity will be forgotten. Disciples and elders are not to find trouble with Su Yu. We will bear witness to this. Second Elder and Great Elder are both respectable figures, and will not break the promise. As for Cao Xuan, should he break the promise, other elders will have the authority to punish him!"

The Second Elder slowly nodded her head, this was fair.

The Great Elder calmly nodded. "Alright! If Cao Xuan cannot best Su Yu, there's no point in me interfering."

He meant Cao Xuan could not possibly lose.

"Similarly, if Cao Xuan is victorious, the wedding will continue. Cao Xuan will marry Qin Xianer, and the Second Elder and Su Yu are not allowed to interfere. How's that?" the Master of the Liuxian faction continued.

Su Yu hesitated.

Cao Xuan freed himself from under the Icy Pearl, coldly mocking Su Yu as he rose up. "You understand that, even at the same cultivation level, you cannot survive a hit from me. Isn't that why you're hesitant? If that's the case, let go of Qin Xianer and leave immediately! Worthless beings are not fit to be beside her!"

Su Yu held little regard for Cao Xuan's words. He looked down at the trembling Xianer. "I merely do not wish to take the person I love as a wager! Even if I know I am going to win, I do not wish to... for she's a person I cannot afford to gamble with."

The crowd fell silent upon hearing this.

Su Yu's love ran deep.

Even though he knew that he was going to die today, he had still come from the Icy Azure Lake and had attempted to steal the bride!

They were truly in love.

A sweet smile spread across Xianer's nervous face. Her blushing face showed dimples of happiness. "Su Yu! Go, I believe that you will win, for I will only be Brother Su Yu's bride."

"Xianer..." Su Yu's heart trembled. He looked up slowly, his eyes radiating a piercing glow. "I accept the challenge!"

the Master of the Liuxian faction secretly heaved a sigh of relief. "Great! But today is not a good day for the challenge. This place is messy and some hidden threats have to be quickly removed."

Between his words, he glimpsed at Su Yu and the Icy Pearl under his feet.

Wherever Su Yu walked, there were multiple lower level disciples who had turned into ice sculptures. They needed immediate attention.

The Great Elder creased his brows, accepting the fact that the most urgent matter was to get rid of the Icy Pearl. Without getting rid of this threat, the disciples of the Inner Sanctum were in danger.

"Alright. Incidentally, there's a small sparring contest organized by the Law Enforcement Tribunal. The both of you will attend and spar there!" The Great Elder was in charge of the Law Enforcement Tribunal and knew the details.

Cao Xuan coldly stared at Su Yu and a mocking smile crept past his lips. "Su Yu! You can stare helplessly as I, Cao Xuan, marry your woman!"

Su Yu's gaze was calm. "I hope you still smile tomorrow!"

A peaceful confidence bloomed within Su Yu as if his win was guaranteed.

The crowd started to take care of the messy hall. The Icy Pearl was sent back into icy Azure Lake, completely sealed. The lower level disciples who were frozen were given aid in time. The celebratory wedding ended quietly.

The news of what happened had spread all throughout the Inner and Outer Sanctums. The King of the Fallen Star, an Outer Sanctum disciple, had the gall to charge into the wedding of the Great Elder's disciple and steal away the bride in front of everybody. A duel between elders had been struck as a result of Su Yu's actions.

Once the news spread, there was commotion everywhere!

Su Yu had not entered the Inner Sanctum, but his name had spread throughout the faction.

Su Yu and Qin Xianer had been temporarily brought to the yard of the Second Elder to speak with her.

"Much thanks for the help, Second Elder." Su Yu bowed in respect. He did not thank the Second Elder just for himself, but also for Li Guang. In the past, the Second Elder had helped Li Guang escape death.

"Who helped you? I only wanted to save you so I could kill you myself!" the Second Elder chided him fiercely.

Staring into her eyes, Su Yu laughed. His eyes were full of gratitude.

The Second Elder averted her gaze, the tips of her ears turning red! If she still had her beauty, perhaps her blush would be visible on her cheeks as well.

She stared fiercely at Su Yu, a little shy now that she knew he understood her true feelings. She could not hide it any longer, her nostrils flaring. "What are you laughing at? Let's see if you can still laugh after you lose to Cao Xuan tomorrow and get your woman stolen!"

"If Cao Xuan really suppresses his cultivation level, I might not lose!" Su Yu was smiling, gently caressing Xianer's head.

Even if it would kill him tomorrow, he had to win! The Second Elder had fought to give him this chance. Otherwise, he would definitely have been killed by the First Elder and Xianer would have been forced to marry Cao Xuan in front of his corpse.

Now, by defeating Cao Xuan, he and Xianer would have little to worry about.

All of this was thanks to the Second Elder!

The other elders did not help them, for they did not wish to oppose the Great Elder. Even the Master of the Liuxian faction did nothing when the wedding was ongoing. In his eyes, Su Yu was but an ant.

It was only after the Second Elder had struck out that the Master of the Liuxian faction had no choice, creating a chance for Su Yu.

Seeing Su Yu's confidence, the Second Elder was perplexed. Where did Su Yu's confidence come from? His cultivation level had risen significantly after spending three days in the Icy Azure Lake, climbing from First Level Peak Holy King to Second Level Peak Holy King.

He had achieved a breakthrough of a whole level!

In three days, Su Yu had used the extremely chilly energy in the Icy Azure Lake to rapidly improve his Sigh of Ice. Previously, his Sigh of Ice still had some way to go before reaching Stage One lower tier.

But now, with the help of the chilly energy, it broke through into the upper tier!

His spirit energy reserves were now seven times that of other disciples of the same level; his rate of absorbing spirit energy could be classified as horrifying.

Thus, Su Yu was able to survive in such a drastic situation.

It was also through his absorption of the chilly energy that he could form a connection with the Icy Pearl, granting him the ability to control the azure chilly energy within it.

Thus, he could use the Icy Pearl as his trump card to kill Cao Xuan!

The Second Elder could more or less see Su Yu's improvements, but could not understand where Su Yu's confidence was coming from.

"Hmph! Best you get killed tomorrow and get your woman stolen by Cao Xuan!" the Second Elder fiercely grunted as she left. Before she left, she gave one final warning. "You can rest here today. If you need anything, find Mo Wu."

Qin Xianer was a little afraid of the Second Elder, so her nose wrinkled slightly. "Su Yu, that woman was so fierce!"

Su Yu rubbed her head, smiling. "That was not being fierce. It is a mask used to hide her gentle heart."

Seemingly understanding what Su Yu said, Xianer scratched her head. Her face was filled with doubt.

What Su Yu did not know was that after the Second Elder left the hall, she had entered the backyard.

Cough, cough—

Her face suddenly turned pale as a sheet, a cold sweat breaking out on her forehead. She coughed violently, spitting out a black-red, discolored spray of blood.

"Teacher! Medicine!" Hearing the coughing, a beauty rushed over, her expression serious. She immediately whipped out a vial full of black pills.

After consuming a pill the color gradually returned to the Second Elder's face.

The beauty was the personal disciple of the Second Elder, Mo Wu!

In the past, she had received orders from her teacher to go watch the Fallen Star Contest, to observe Su Yu.

Otherwise, being one of the four core disciples, why would she bother with the Fallen Star Contest? Why would she even go watch the matches? Everything was because her teacher had ordered her to observe Su Yu!

Mo Wu could not bear seeing the discomfort in the Second Elder's face. "Teacher! Why do you treat him so well? Even though you were still tending to your injuries, you forsake your treatment and hurried over when you heard that Su Yu, the Outer Sanctum disciple, was begging you to teach him.

"Today too, even though you were injured and should not fight against others, why did you have to make an exception and face off against the Great Elder for Su Yu? Now your internal injuries are acting up again!

"Teacher, you guys have never met, why must you go to such lengths for Su Yu?" Mo Wu did not understand, she was deeply envious.

Why would her teacher help him at any cost?

#### Chapter 129: Four Rising Stars

After taking a deep breath, the Second Elder's expression calmed.

She lifted her face up, looking at the horizon. Her lips formed a faint smile, her voice was no longer raspy as it turned into a crisp, melodious sound. Her voice did not match her ghostly appearance!

"Wu-er, do you remember how you felt the first time you saw me?"

Mo Wu froze, feeling guilty as she stuttered a reply. "I... I respected you."

"It was not an expression of respect on your face, but fear and repulsion. My face is uglier than a ghost's..." The Second Elder laughed. Her voice was gentle as if it came from a fairy.

Mo Wu blushed, kneeling in a fluster. "Teacher, forgive me for being young and ignorant, I was judging a book by its cover." Her guilt showed on her face.

When she first saw the hideous face of the Second Elder... How could the thirteen-year-old her then hide her true feelings?

Fear and repulsion were, indeed, her initial reaction upon meeting the Second Elder.

It was only after spending some time together that she realized that the Second Elder had a really good heart; she was more kind than any handsome face in the faction.

Now that she thought back about it, she was filled with guilt.

Even though her teacher did not express this, Mo Wu knew her gaze had hurt her teacher.

"Then do you know what Su Yu looked like when he first saw me?" The Second Elder had a compassionate smile, deep in her eyes was a look of warmth and gratitude.

Mo Wu hesitated. "He's only fourteen, was he mature enough to remain calm?"

"He was not calm... instead, it was a look of compassion." The melodious voice of the Second Elder showed a ripple of emotion.

That day flashed in her mind.

The sun had been warm, with a slight breeze was blowing around her.

It had been a normal summer afternoon when a silver-haired, purple-robed, smiling stranger made his way toward her, asking her about the rules of the depository.

After seeing her hideous face, he wasn't afraid or flustered. He didn't despise her, instead, he had a look of... compassion.

For the first time, a stranger had looked at her hideous face and showed compassion.

Those clear eyes were like the midsummer sun shining deep into her heart.

Since she was young, she had endured the strange looks of many. She had already become numb to all the staring and glaring.

Su Yu's gaze was like rays of sunlight penetrating the black clouds, shining deep into her icy inner world and causing her soul to shudder.

She had remembered the silver-haired, purple-robed youth. She had remembered Su Yu.

Because of his compassion, she had decided to help him.

Mo Wu clenched her fist, feeling guilty but also unjust.

She deeply understood how much pain her teacher was going through, so she could understand why her teacher was helping Su Yu.

It was all due to gratitude. She was thanking him for never once belittling, despising, or hurting her.

But why can't I be the one she's grateful for? Mo Wu felt indignant.

The Second Elder turned to leave.

"Tomorrow, I shall help teacher observe the fight and tell you of the details. You should tend to your injuries," Mo Wu said.

The Second Elder did not turn around, though her melodious voice was gentle. "It is a fight concerning his fate, how could I leave him alone?"

Clenching her fists, Mo Wu stomped her feet. "I cannot accept this... Why is he the one teacher is happy about, not me..."

In the middle of the night, a lone candle lit up a single room.

"Xianer, it's late. Go back to sleep in your room." Su Yu lightly patted Xianer's back.

Ever since they were reunited, Xianer had clung to So Yu and refused to let go.

"I don't want to, I want to sleep with Brother Su Yu!" Xianer whined, her arms hugging Su Yu even tighter. "If I let go, you're going to run away!"

Once upon a time, he had knocked her unconscious and sent him over to Elder Qin. Another time, he had lied to her to get her to leave without him.

Su Yu had no choice. He held her lovingly and went onto the bed.

Xianer buried her head deep into Su Yu's embrace, enjoying the long-awaited hug. She closed her eyes, her cheeks forming blissful dimples.

Hugging the petite Xianer, Su Yu was filled with love and no immoral thoughts. "Sleep peacefully."

Xianer nodded obediently. She laid in Su Yu's embrace, satisfied as she slipped into a deep slumber.

Looking at the girl who was as cute as a porcelain doll, Su Yu's gaze was clear and free of indecent thoughts. Xianer was too young to do anything beyond cuddling each other as they slept.

Su Yu could not love her enough, how could he let her come to harm?

Su Yu had to win in tomorrow's battle!

He had to fight for a place within the Liuxian faction, for him and Xianer—for their future.

If he was to lose and Xianer was to be violated by Cao Xuan, he would spend his life in guilt and regret.

Clenching his fist, Su Yu hugged Xianer and slipped into a slumber.

The next day, Xianer awoke and yawned like a cat.

Opening his eyes to look at the silently sleeping Xianer, Su Yu noticed she looked like an adorable pixie.

Suddenly, Su Yu's gaze fell on her neck. A mark of a fire phoenix was clearly visible. This was Xianer's mark of her bloodline of the nine phoenixes, it had been there since her birth.

But what Su Yu could not understand was a faint, black fog surrounding the fire phoenix.

Had it always looked like that?

Xianer yawned again and turned her body, blocking the seal. Su Yu could not observe it further.

Seeing the sunrise, Su Yu got out of bed.

The fight concerning the fate of Xianer was approaching!

As he left the yard, a lady stood silently at the door. She was about twenty years old and beautiful. She had fair skin and a sharp chin; her features were gentle and exquisite like cherry blossoms in April.

A green silk robe was draped over her. Her yellow shirt hugged her mature body, accentuating her curves.

What a beauty. But her demeanor was cold, making it hard for anyone to approach her.

"Finally awake! Hmph! My teacher ordered me to take you to the Law Enforcement Tribunal!" The beauty's expression was cold and composed, making it hard for anyone to discern her feelings. But Su Yu could faintly feel discern some animosity.

She was the personal disciple of the Second Elder, Mo Wu. She was also one of the four core disciples of the Liuxian faction.

Her abilities were in the Dragon Realm.

Slightly nodding, Su Yu remained calm and followed her to the Law Enforcement Tribunal.

The Law Enforcement Tribunal was the punitive agency of the faction. It needed to inspire fear amongst the disciples of the faction, and so its entry requirements were very high.

Every month, they organized a small sparring contest to train the disciples.

Today's sparring contest had an extraordinary purpose.

The elders of the faction were going to be observing this contest.

The Second Elder and the Tenth Elder were going to be present.

"The battle between the two of you will take place at the same time as the Four Rising Stars of the Law Enforcement Tribunal." Mo Wu stepped forward with her slender legs.

The Four Rising Stars of the Law Enforcement Tribunal? Su Yu raised his head. "How strong are they?"

"At least Third Level Holy King," Mo Wu coldly replied, pausing for a moment. "Meanwhile, I wish to remind you that the Law Enforcement Tribunal is the strongest organization in the Liuxian faction in terms of battle power. Its members have access to Legacy level techniques as long as they are above Third Level Holy King. They are not comparable to the black-armored guard you beat in the past."

Cultivating Legacy level techniques? Su Yu was calm, he had never belittled the Law Enforcement Tribunal, and thus he can't say that he was surprised.

Looking back to see Su Yu's calm expression without a hint of nervousness, Mo Wu thought that he was overconfident. She sneered. "You had better take this seriously. It's alright if you lose your woman, but don't dishonor my teacher!"

"Yes, Senior Mo," Su Yu replied with a smile.

"The Four Rising Stars are the best disciples the Law Enforcement Tribunal has recruited over the past five years. Each of them has punished evildoers by themselves. Their skills are stunning and they have much experience in actual combat. Among them, the strongest is Wang Shenxue, a Third Level Peak Holy King. He once sparred with Fourth Level Holy Kings!"

Su Yu was shocked. Wang Shenxue was strong, he had no competition among the Third Level Holy Kings.

"During the fight, if you lose against other people before facing Cao Xuan, it will mean that you have completely lost. According to the agreement, Qin Xianer will have to marry Cao Xuan and you cannot object."

In the backyard of the Law Enforcement Tribunal, there was a practice venue. The area was encompassed by a murderous aura, A group of men dressed in black stood at the side. Their every breath carried incredible pressure.

A weak-willed person entering the Law Enforcement Tribunal would undoubtedly be terrified by their presence, but Su Yu was calm as he approached the practice venue.

Four black-robed youths had long since arrived. They did not speak much as they stood under the arena, a cold aura spreading through their bodies.

"When is it my turn?" Su Yu took a light breath. He wanted very much to fight Cao Xuan as soon as possible so he could resolve the issue once and for all.

Mo Wu was impassive. "The second battle!"

After a while, the Second Elder and the Tenth Elder arrived. The Great Elder had considerable status and did not have time to observe such a small sparring.

The Master of the Liuxian faction had achieved his aim. No matter the outcome of the fight, the animosity between the two parties would be solved.

Cao Xuan came together with the Tenth Elder, shooting a cold laugh at Su Yu from afar. "I, Cao Xuan, will definitely take your woman!"

"I, Su Yu, will definitely take your life!" Su Yu coldly replied.

They locked eyes, murderous anger evident in their glares.

Their battle would decide the future of Xianer and Su Yu.

Su Yu had to win.

If he lost, he will destroy Xianer's future!

Chapter 130: Preying the weak and fearing the strong

With the arrival of the two elders, the contest began.

"First round, Luo Hao against Song Yu!"

Whoosh—

A lady and a man flew into the practice venue. They were dressed in black and their expressions were merciless. A ferocious energy surrounded their bodies.

"Luo Hao is ranked fourth among the Four Rising Stars and is a Third Level Lower Tier Holy King. Song Yu is ranked third, she's also a Third Level Lower Tier Holy King," Mo Wi introduced them both impassively.

Su Yu observed the two. They were of the same cultivation level, but the lady Song Yu was ranked slightly higher than Luo Hao.

"The contest begins!"

Whoosh—

The two fighters made their moves!

Song Yu was a lady, so her flexibility was naturally superior. Coupled with the technique she used, she became light as a sparrow. Her movements were agile, striking elegantly yet accurately.

Luo Hao was muscular, but it did not affect his agility. He struck with both his arms and legs, attacking and defending with the same technique.

Crash—

They exchanged multiple moves. Their movement techniques, as well as their attacking and defensive capabilities, were more or less equal.

It was hard to discern why Song Yu was ranked above Luo Hao.

After ten moves, the two clashed palms before stepping away from the other.

"Your movement techniques have improved, not bad. You still need to spar more with outsiders, this contest is over." Song Yu had an expression of approval.

Luo Hao cupped his fists in respect. "Thank you for your pointers, Senior. Please, don't hold back any longer. I wish to see if I can last longer than I did last time."

Song Yu had deliberately suppressed her abilities to spar with Luo Hao.

"Alright!" Song Yu lowered her chin, her fingers pointing in the air.

A water bubble the size of a palm materialized in her hand. Clenching her fist, the bubble turned into a ribbon encircling her arm.

"Wave of the Heavens!" Song Yu exclaimed as she pressed forward!

The ribbons around her body danced in the air like flying dragons!

Su Yu's expression turned serious. "A Legacy level technique!"

This was the first time he had seen a disciple use a true Legacy level technique since coming into the faction!

Luo Hao's expression turned serious. He extended his arms into the shape of large wings and suspended himself in the air!

"Wings of Flight!"

With a low grunt, his legs twisted like tops as his body descended.

The quick spinning motion agitated the surrounding air which exploded with a loud boom!

The waves of strong wind assaulted their surroundings. Su Yu's silver hair danced wildly.

"That is nearly at the level of a Legacy level technique," Su Yu muttered.

Song Yu had a look of admiration. "Not bad! In just a month, your understanding of the Legacy level technique has improved. Unfortunately, it's not enough!"

The ribbons in her hands danced gently, suddenly turning sharp as a whip. The water ribbons struck downwards, causing the air to shimmer!

Crack Crash—

A thunderous boom filled the room.

Luo Hao was struck, his spinning body coming to a sudden halt and flying backward out of the arena!

Whoosh—

The water ribbons turned into a ball of water, cushioning Luo Hao's fall.

"Thank you Senior for holding back." Luo Hao thanked her in gratitude but was visibly bitter. "To think that I still cannot take one of Senior's attacks."

Song Yu had a smile on her face. "The power of a Legacy level technique is immense, it's a huge boost to a person's combined strength. In the future, after you completely learn a Legacy level technique, the difference between our strengths will naturally narrow."

Song Yu kept her smile, impassively looking toward Su Yu with wrinkled brows. "You're Su Yu? Come up, I have received orders to spar with you."

From her expression, it seemed that she was not happy about fighting Su Yu.

Is it finally my turn?

Su Yu stepped forward, cupping his hands in respect. "I am Su Yu, I hope to learn something from Senior Song Yu."

"Learn something? How could I teach anything to such a lawless person!" A murderous intent developed between Song Yu's brows.

She was a disciple of the Law Enforcement Tribunal and bore deep hatred for anyone who broke the rules of the faction.

Su Yu had not only barged into the Inner Sanctum, killed Xu Rong, and injured the guard of the steel bridge, but he had even caused trouble at the wedding of the disciple of the Great Elder. He was a troublemaker!

His reputation was not good in the Law Enforcement Tribunal

Without the protection of the Second Elder, he would already have been punished by the Law Enforcement Tribunal!

Sensing Song Yu's animosity, Su Yu remained calm. "I was only trying to save my fiancée. Under the urgent circumstances, I might have broken a few of the faction's rules. If that's any cause for Senior's unhappiness, I hope that you can understand."

"Hmph! Nonsensical logic! The rules of the faction are absolute. No matter what reasons you have, breaking them would warrant punishment!" Song Yu's expression was turning colder by the minute.

Su Yu wrinkled his eyebrows. This lady was too obsessed with the rules. "So based on your logic, knowing that my fiancée was being forced to marry someone else, I should have just observed from the side?"

"Yes!" Song Yu's answer was short and decisive. "The rules of the faction are above everything. How can your fiancée compare to the rules of the faction?"

His gaze turning colder, Su Yu did not want to continue arguing with such a lady. He calmly said. "Let's battle, I have no more words to say to you."

"Hehe..."—Song Yu's lips curled upward—"it seems that you have grown overconfident of your abilities after defeating the guard of the steel bridge.

"That's good! I shall use my abilities to teach to you respect the Law Enforcement Tribunal! In front of the Law Enforcement Tribunal, your abilities mean nothing!

"Wave of the Heavens!"

Splatter—

A water ribbon encircled her arm.

As Song Yu pressed forward, she spiraled in the air with deadly precision. The water ribbon pointed toward Su Yu.

Crash—

"Scram!" Song Yu was furious as she struck downward! The water ribbon whipped out at Su Yu!

Though his back was targeted, Su Yu did not try to evade the attacks. Instead, he extended both of his hands, using one hand to strike Song Yu who was in front of him. He used the other hand to point towards the water ribbon at his back!

Crash—

Ah—

The palms of the two collided in the air.

Song Yu, a Third Level Lower Tier Holy King, fell back—she was unable to stand the collision!

She spat out a mouthful of blood, flying backward with a shocked expression. At the peak of the battle, she had been defeated by Su Yu!

She was indignant. "Scram!" She flicked her arm, the water ribbon assaulting Su Yu's back. It was a Legacy level technique from a Third Level Holy King, its power was not to be underestimated!

Su Yu did not look back. Instead, he merely pointed a finger.

Crack—

The ferocious water whip stopped midair, turning into an ice sculpture! An alarming chill spread through the whip rapidly.

Song Yu made to let go of the water ribbon, but it was too late! The chilly energy had traveled up the length of the water-whip, turning Song Yu's arm into ice.

With a fearful shriek, her entire body turned into a crystalline ice sculpture.

With just one move, Su Yu had defeated Song Yu!

Luo hao was immensely surprised. Even someone as strong as Song Yu had been defeated with one move!

Su Yu calmly retracted his palms, turning to look at the frozen Song Yu. "Actually the one who was overconfident was yourself." He tapped the ground gently with his toe.

Crumble—

The frost on Song Yu's body shattered, freeing her body.

Exhale—

Taking a few deep breaths, Song Yu's face turned red—partially due to her lack of oxygen, but also due to shame.

To think Su Yu was so powerful! His defeat over the black-armored guard that day was not a fluke!

Cao Xuan's unfeeling eyes showed a shred of emotion for the first time. "Hmph! His basics are not bad!"

The Second Elder and the Tenth Elder showed a little surprise. Su Yu had not shown his true powers at the wedding. Many had assumed that Su Yu's limit was fighting someone of one tier higher than him, like the black-armored guard. They did not expect the powerful Song Yu to also lose to him.

"The third round will begin, Song Yu against Chen Xiang!"

Chen Xiang was ranked second out of the Four Rising Stars of the Law Enforcement Tribunal, under only Wang Shenxue! His abilities reached Third Level Upper Tier Holy King. He was extraordinarily terrifying.

Song Yu steadied her breathing, flying into the practice venue.

"Senior Chen, please teach me." Song Yu was expectant. Sparring with a person like Chen Xiang resulted in lessons rather than victories, which she appreciated. She could only get such a learning opportunity once a month.

Chen Xiang, a stern and stable figure, had a sinister aura around him. The looks he gave people were often dull and sinister.

Chen Xiang nodded his head. "Your move."

Song Yu was elated, putting her all into her attack! "Wave of the Heavens!"

A water ribbon encircled her body as Song Yu pressed forward. This was the battle she had been waiting for. Just as she was about to cross attacks with Chen Xiang, his look turned fierce!

"Dragon Splitting Palm!"

Chen Xiang's palm struck down like a heavenly great sword!

His power was unparalleled, the resulting dust storm created by his attack made it hard for people to observe the fight!

Su Yu's gaze turned serious. Had Chen Xiang used a Stage One Upper Tier of a Legacy level technique?

No; the attack was only very close to Stage One Upper Tier, just a slight distance away. Still, the attack's power was terrifying!

Ah—

With a pathetic howl, Song Yu fell onto the ground helplessly! Her cracking ribs could be heard around the arena.

What a merciless attack. Though it was only a sparring match, Chen Xiang was merciless!

Song Yu had blood all over her mouth. Bearing the intense pain, as she stood up with difficulty. She was afraid and frustrated as she looked at Chen Xiang. "Senior Chen, we had said that this was a sparring match, why did you not hold back?"

Chen Xiang stood with his hands behind his back, his gaze sinister. "Hmph! You have the guts to ask? You can't even win against a Second Level Holy King, utterly trash! You disgrace the Law Enforcement Tribunal! This palm was a punishment, this shall not happen again!"

Biting her lips, Song Yu dragged her injured body down the stage in humiliation.

Chen Xiang looked toward Su Yu. "I would advise you to surrender immediately before facing me, otherwise you shall suffer!"

Su Yu's expression was calm. "I would also advise you to take your opponents seriously. No matter how much you look down on them, you should never disregard them."

"You're not even worthy of my direct gaze!" Chen Xiang chided coldly.

"The fourth match, Chen Xiang against Cao Xuan!" the referee announced.

Was it finally Cao Xuan's turn? Su Yu wanted to observe how powerful he would be after suppressing his cultivation level to match Su Yu's.

"I admit defeat!"

But, before Cao Xuan could step onto the stage, Chen Xiang admitted defeat.

Cao Xuan slowly retracted his step, lightly arranging his robe. He frowned. "You know your place."

Chen Xiang's sinister face had formed beads of cold sweat. The stern Chen Xiang had forced out a patronizing smile.

His visible fear and respect for Cao Xuan, warrior of the Dragon Realm, ran deep in his heart. He did not even dare battle Cao Xuan—even though Cao Xuan's cultivation level was severely suppressed.

Wang Shexue, who was observing from the side, shook his head. "A martial artist can lack power, but must never lack spirit."

Chen Xiang sniffed.

The Dragon Realm... Even if Chen Xiang had lowered his cultivation level, the abilities he had cultivated and his experience in battle were still present. How could Cao Xuan ever beat him?

"The fifth round, Su Yu against Chen Xiang!"

Chen Xiang replaced his patronizing stare with a sinister expression. "Boy! I'll give you a chance to admit defeat now. Otherwise, you might not be able to get back down the stage on your own! The honor of the Law Enforcement Tribunal will not be easily sullied by you!"

Whoosh—

Flying towards the stage, Su Yu calmly smiled. "Not everyone is like you, preying on the weak but fearing the strong. Furthermore..."—Su Yu's gaze turned cold—"I think you are not that strong at all. A single move will be enough to defeat you!"