

Nine-Dragon 151

Chapter 151: The Abyss Assessment

What? There's another way?

Su Yu's lost eyes suddenly lit up. "Senior Brother Wu, please quickly say it!"

The other twenty-nine people also showed surprise at the same time and they gathered around one after another.

Startled by Su Yu's look, Wu Qingzhou gently sighed after a while. "There is indeed a way, but Junior Brother Su, you'd better mentally prepare yourself, luck may not be with you."

Su Yu's eyes burned with unquenchable hope. "Senior Brother, there's no harm in telling me!"

"The Faction has two quotas for the Xianyun Contest; the first portion is assigned to the Faction's disciples, all three hundred places are filled—that is the quota which you are familiar with.

"There is also another portion which many people do not know about; it is set aside for the disciples who are dispatched on external missions for years. For example, at the Abyss of Wutong, where one hundred disciples are stationed to help the Faction unearth treasures. They are busy with their mission and therefore unable to return to the Faction in time to register. So, the Faction set aside an additional quota of ten places for the disciples at the Abyss of Wutong. Currently, those ten spots are not fixed yet."

The Abyss of Wutong was an ancient ruin discovered by the Liuxian Faction, there were some remnants still intact, and stunning treasures were often found among them. Many of the Faction's cultivation techniques came from the Abyss of Wutong.

To carry out the excavation there, the Faction had sent hundreds of disciples to continue with the mining many years ago.

Given the sheer volume of the population there, an additional quota of ten places was allotted.

"But those spots are allocated for the senior brothers and sisters at the Abyss of Wutong, how can I take it?" Su Yu was perplexed.

Wu Qingzhou looked a little sad. "Usually it would naturally not be allocated to Junior Brother Su. But... a month ago, during the return of those disciples escorting the treasures, a few of our senior and junior brothers fell. The Abyss of Wutong needs to bring in new blood. They are heading to the Faction to select new disciples at this moment."

A month ago, Wu Qingzhou and the others who encountered the attack that resulted in Su Yu accepting the task of going to the Wolong Snowfield to kill the murderer.

With the loss of those disciples, the Abyss of Wutong obviously needed to select new disciples once again from the Faction to make up for the shortage of manpower.

"If Junior Brother Su Yu is selected and becomes part of the garrison at the Abyss of Wutong, you will be eligible to vie for those ten spots," Wu Qingzhou explained.

Not only Su Yu, but the other twenty-nine people also coveted those spots!

But, immediately after, Wu Qingzhou added, "Junior Brother Su, I hope you will mentally prepare yourself for this selection because luck may not be with you.

"For this selection of the best disciples, four members have already been predetermined... They are the Faction's Elders' disciples. You should be able to understand this, they want to learn through experience for two months at the Abyss of Wutong, to prepare for the Xianyu Contest. So, in truth, that only leaves you with only one spot." \

The Abyss of Wutong was an ancient ruin which was rumored to be rich in spiritual energy and excellent for cultivation. Those responsible for unearthing the treasures would receive extremely generous rewards if they found any astonishing valuable objects.

There was a story of a disciple who was there for two months and had successfully broken through to the Dragon Realm!

That was the place where many Faction disciples yearned to go.

Unfortunately, it was controlled by the influential disciples and their relatives, so it was hard for the ordinary disciples to squeeze in.

"There are too many people vying for the last spot, many Fifth Level Holy Kings and even... a Sixth Level Holy King is in contention!"

A Sixth Level Holy King?

These four words, like a bucket of ice water, instantly froze their impassioned hearts!

"Are... are you joking? With a Sixth Level Holy King around, how can we be eligible for this contest?" Song Qingshan's face flushed, he felt like he was being played.

Wu Qingzhou glanced at him. "I'm only saying this to Junior Brother Su, what does it have to do with you?"

Song Qingshan was indignant but felt a burst of despair within.

Ah a Sixth Level Holy King, with such a strong contender around, how could they compete?

Su Yu was shaken; a Sixth Level Holy King was...an unimaginable terrifying level.

How to compete with such a strong contender for the last spot?

No wonder Wu Qingzhou was blunt with his words and said that luck might not be with Su Yu. This was not a maybe, but it was almost certain that it was not with Su Yu!

But the most desperate person in the world was not the one with a faint hope, but the one who was complete without any hope.

Being given a little hope, Su Yu could still create a miracle!

He had done it before and now, he would do so again!

"Senior Brother Wu, please guide me. I want to participate in the assessment! The last spot belongs to me!" Su Yu's gaze was firm and steady, and completely fearless.

No matter how daunting the conditions were, he had crashed his way through before. He would not be afraid of an assessment!

Wu Qingzhou stared blankly for quite a while, the determination in Su Yu's eyes had unexpectedly deeply pierced him in his heart.

Exactly how resolute was his will to have such a determined expression in his eyes?

"Very well! Senior Brother will sign you up on your behalf. The assessment begins tomorrow, I hope that Junior Brother will be well-prepared." Wu Qingzhou said and walked away soon after.

"Humph! If Su Yu can compete even at his level, what's there for me to be afraid of?" Song Qingshan gnashed his teeth and said. "I also want to compete! Without an expert to secretly help this time, who knows if a certain someone can still amaze the world with a single brilliant feat!"

"Me too. Even if I can't compete for a spot, I also want to expose that certain someone's true colors!"

Many pairs of eyes swept past Su Yu with their old flares of jealousy.

Su Yu looked calm and cupped his fists. The final spot for the Abyss of Wutong must be his!

After a while, Su Yu left in a flash.

Tomorrow was the challenge and he needed to think of everything he could to improve his ability.

The best shortcut right now was to take a marrow cleansing elixir!

Especially a top-grade marrow cleansing elixir!

The power of this elixir, surpassed that of one hundred medium grade marrow cleansing elixirs. The refinement process was extremely difficult, and the Faction did not have many.

Even, within the Faction, other than the core disciples, no one had ever seen it.

Its specific efficacy was a legend.

If he could obtain such an elixir, would Su Yu's cultivation base advance by leaps and bounds?

With hope, Su Yu rushed to the Faction Hall of Credits.

The person in charge was an aged Fifth Level Peak Holy King.

"I want to exchange my credits for a marrow cleansing elixir. I have a total of one hundred and thirty-five credits to exchange for one piece of a top-grade marrow cleansing elixir and thirty-five pieces of the medium grade marrow cleansing elixirs." Su Yu gave his name.

The old man checked, Su Yu indeed had one hundred and thirty-five credits under his name.

After he had finished checking, the old man took out the thirty-five pieces of the medium grade marrow cleansing elixirs and without an expression, he deducted the thirty-five credits under Su Yu's name. "Take them!"

From the beginning to the end, the old man did not vary his expression.

Huh? Su Yu's eyebrows slightly twitched. "I also want to exchange for a piece of the top-grade marrow cleansing elixir."

That piece of elixir was the most important!

But, the old man lightly said. "A precious thing like a top-grade marrow cleansing elixir? How can it be stored here? You need to ask the Faction Master to acquire it and then you can exchange for it two days later."

Two days later? Su Yu's heart suddenly sank.

Tomorrow was the assessment. He needed it to compete with a Sixth Level Holy King. What was the point of having it two days later?

But it was the Faction's rule. What could he do about it?

Su Yu cupped his fist in respect and left.

Soon after he left, the old man's expression suddenly turned deferential as he faced the darkness behind him and bowed in respect. "Fourth Elder, I've acted according to your instructions and stopped him for the time being, but he's under the care of the Second Elder. I fear I'm unable to further put him off for more than two days."

In the dark, the Fourth Elder sighed softly. "If I didn't have an urgent need for a top-grade marrow cleansing elixir, I would not have to scheme to take a junior's elixir. You need not take care of the rest of the matter, I will talk it over with him within these two days."

The old man respectfully obeyed.

The Fourth Elder took the urgently needed top-grade marrow cleansing elixir in his hands. His purpose for it was unknown and extremely mysterious. He did not want others to know. Therefore, it was awkward to discuss this with the other Elders.

Only by secretly handling the matter, he was able to seek the top-grade marrow cleansing elixir.

Coincidentally, the only one who was recently eligible to exchange for the top-grade marrow cleansing elixir was Su Yu.

For this reason, the Fourth Elder secretly instructed the old man to use a pretext to obstruct Su Yu for the time being.

Taking this opportunity, the Fourth Elder would have to have a chat with Su Yu and promised him some benefits to secretly exchange for the top-grade marrow cleansing elixir.

In fact, the old man knew clearly that if the Second Elder did not have Su Yu's back, perhaps the Fourth Elder would use tougher means.

The old saying of an innocent person's only guilt of the crime lain with the fact that he possessed a treasure, had made sense here.

Su Yu did not know that he had already entered the purview of the Fourth Elder.

In the Second Elder's courtyard, his palm stroked the big bottle full of the marrow cleansing elixirs. He was ready to take them all at once tonight.

However, when he returned to the courtyard, Mo Wu was sitting alone in the courtyard.

She was a beauty alone in the dim moonlight.

Her classical jade-like face with an exquisite aesthetic was framed by the faint moonlight, like her face was covered with a translucent veil which made her even more alluring.

Except she had a dry expression in her eyes and was completely emotionless. She gave off an icy air.

"You want to participate in the Abyss of Wutong assessment?" Mo Wu turned her head around and asked icily when she sensed Su Yu's return.

"Why not?" Su Yu calmly asked in return.

Mo Wu glared at Su Yu and said with composure. "You should give up immediately!"

"Why?" Su Yu raised his eyebrows. His eyes coldly looked back at her too.

If Su Yu were to give up, who was going to save Xianer?

"Because you will not be able to pass the assessment, so don't waste your time and energy! The difficulty of the assessment is greater than you can imagine!" Mo Wu looked stony.

"If you just want to persuade me to give up, you have said your piece. I, Su, will not keep you company here any longer!" Su Yu evenly said and stepped into the house.

Mo Wu's jade-like face looked icy as she casually tossed a piece of paper which flew straight to Su Yu's back.

When he felt the strong wind, Su Yu turned his head and grabbed the paper. On a closer look, it was a list of names.

"The participant name list for the assessment?" Su Yu was surprised. He hastily took a glance. Not only did it have the competitors' names from the Abyss of Wutong, but also their corresponding cultivation bases, commonly used moves and so on. The descriptions were detailed and clear.

To know oneself was to know one's enemy and to emerge victorious in every battle. Such a precious intelligence was rare and remarkable to Su Yu.

Su Yu's heart was slightly moved.

These were naturally unnecessary to Mo Wu as she had stayed at the Faction for years and knew her rivals' abilities inside out.

This... was prepared for Su Yu!

It was Mo Wu who prepared for Su Yu!

When he looked up, Mo Wu had gone straight back into her room, leaving Su Yu with a lonely but beautiful image of her.

Feeling grateful, he rushed to bow in respect towards the view of her back.

Although Mo Wu's character was cold, her heart was warm. It belonged to a warmhearted person with a cool exterior.

On some level, she had that in common with the Second Elder.

This pair of master and disciple was interesting.

In his room, Su Yu immediately memorized all the names and information.

A total of one hundred people had enrolled. But, the lowest cultivator was a Fourth Level Peak Holy King!

There were plenty of Fifth Level Holy Kings, the Lower Tier ones were already thirty people! The Upper Tier ones were already ten people! And there were two Peak ones!

The most ridiculous thing was that there was a Sixth Level Holy King who signed up!

This powerful Sixth Level Holy King was ranked thirtieth in the Faction!

With his abilities, he was a rare opponent within the Faction.

And now, Su Yu had to compete with him for the same spot?

The heavy pressure made Su Yu felt a bit breathless.

This competition was so intense, it was terrifying!

But even if he were a god, Su Yu would still challenge him!

Chapter 152: Eyesight Assessment

After he had memorized the name list, Su Yu deeply felt an enormous pressure.

He took a light breath and brought out a big bottle of azure colored medium grade marrow cleansing elixirs.

Was it possible to break through with all thirty-five pieces? With anticipation, Su Yu took one medium grade marrow cleansing elixir.

The powerful potency imbued his limbs and bones as always.

However, the cultivation base that he had imagined did not improve significantly.

Feeling doubtful, Su Yu took another four pieces and the result was the same as before.

The powerful potency, after being absorbed by his body, immediately settled into his bloodstream, but it did not drive his cultivation base to advance further.

"What's going on?" Su Yu opened his eyes and looked bewildered. "Why are the elixirs no longer effective for me?"

Unwilling to give up, Su Yu took another ten pieces, and there was still completely no response!

Finally, all the elixirs had been taken and their potency just settled into his bloodstream!

Su Yu's expression was somewhat ugly. He examined his body for a long time and could not help but laugh bitterly. "Don't tell me that there was some hidden damage left from that incident which caused my body to be immune to the elixirs' potency?"

He had taken the fiery lion's tainted Universe's Miracle Mineral Plants and now their effect had finally emerged.

Those are the elixirs which had never been purified, and the energy they contained was too intense.

Once his body had adapted to the intense energy, his body had produced an immunity to the current elixirs' gentle energy!

Although he only needed to wait for some time before his body could return to normal, tomorrow was the Abyss of Wutong Assessment. His cultivation base advancement was crucial!

With a sense of helplessness and agony, Su Yu gave up his cultivation and focused on the comprehension of his cultivation techniques until dawn.

The Artifact Control Technique, a remnant volume with only one layer of the lower tier, already had early signs of successful comprehension. During the three days of hurrying on the road, Su Yu had seized the time to comprehend.

With last night's comprehension, he finally completed the cultivation of its only tier under the right conditions.

He could finally unleash the power of the Divine Ice Ring!

Su Yu was rather looking forward to the divine artifact's specific power.

But, what made Su Yu quite helpless was that remnant piece of Immortal level cultivation technique with a hundred or more characters. So far, he had only scratched the surface of it, he still required some time to comprehend the hundred or more characters.

Thump thump—

There was a sound of knocking at the door. It was Mo Wu.

Without even waiting for Su Yu to open the door, she said some cold words and left. "The Abyss of Wutong Assessment, the Inner Sanctum competition room now!"

The Inner Sanctum competition room? Su Yu left immediately.

The competition room was the place where Inner Sanctum disciples swapped pointers and compete with one another.

The area was not big, it could only accommodate one thousand people, far less than the vast arena outside of the Sanctum which could seat ten thousand people.

But the competition room had all the complete facilities. It not only provided a platform for martial force competitions, but was equipped with many props for cultivation, it far exceeded what outside of the Sanctum had.

After all, this place was primed for the outstanding Inner Sanctum disciples.

When Su Yu arrived, most of them were already present.

Among the familiar faces were Song Qingshan, the various Fifth Level Holy Kings from the Golden Bell Hall who were jealous of him, and... Mo Wu!

Somewhat feeling Su Yu's eyes on her, Mo Wu's beautiful eyes lightly glanced at Su Yu and turned back without an expression.

Could it be that she was participating in the Abyss of Wutong Assessment?

Again, he recalled what Wu Qingzhou had said; the four places had already been set aside internally for the Elders' disciples. Then the corners of his mouth twitched in the realization that one of the predetermined places was for Mo Wu!

Soon when the enrolled competitors were all present, two of the Elders came in separately.

One of them was Third Elder whom he had met and the other was an unfamiliar old man.

"The Fourth Elder! He is the one who watches over the Abyss of Wutong. Why is he back here especially for the selection of qualified disciples?" Whispers of excitement filled the room.

The Fourth Elder? Su Yu secretly observed him. He was about sixty-something years old and stern-looking with a square head with big ears.

Though he was old, his back was straight as a ramrod and he was unmoving like a mountain, dignified and solemn.

"Since everyone is here, then the assessment shall begin!" The Fourth Elder spoke coolly as he looked around.

As the Third Elder already knew about the Empire of Darkness' attack on the Abyss of Wutong's disciples, it was well within reason that he would assist the Fourth Elder at this moment to select the suitable disciples to be stationed at the Abyss of Wutong.

"The first round of assessment is the contest of movement techniques!"

Su Yu's eyebrows were slightly raised. Was the quota not decided through duels?

Looking at the crowd again, everyone's face registered surprise.

"The Abyss of Wutong has many dangers. In case of emergencies and crisis, movement techniques are the basis for saving your lives. Therefore, the first round of assessment is based on movement techniques!" The Fourth Elder solemnly said, "The assessment method is such, everyone will fly a circle around the Inner Sanctum Fallen Star. The first fifty to arrive can enter the next round! The rest will be eliminated!"

The Inner Sanctum, which was surrounded by seventeen fallen stars, was the largest fallen star with a perimeter of ten miles.

Based on the speed of a Fourth Level Holy King, a loop was around ten minutes. A Fifth Level Holy King needed about half that time.

One Sixth Level Holy King, forty-two Fifth Level Holy Kings, and fifty-seven Fourth Level Holy Kings were present.

Obviously, all the Fourth Level Holy Kings would be eliminated!

Among the Fourth Level Holy Kings, only those with excellent movement techniques could possibly advance to the next round!

"The time required is within ten minutes! Ready, get set, go!"

Upon the Fourth Elder's command, all one hundred people flew out and maximized their movement techniques to make haste with lightning speed.

Su Yu's spiritual energetic wings unfolded, he soared to a high altitude and was ready to transform his wings into the Icy Divine Wings.

Whoosh—

A gale hit and abruptly pushed Su Yu to one side.

Caught off guard, he almost stumbled and took a fall.

Looking over with a frown, it was Song Qingshan and several of the malicious Fifth Level Holy Kings. They intentionally used their Fifth Level Holy Kings' formidable spiritual energy to push Su Yu aside.

"Isn't that Su Yu who could wipe out a Fifth Level Holy King? You must feel really aggrieved not to be in the first place for such a powerful person like you." A Fifth Level Holy King coolly spoke with a slightly mocking smile. "How about we give way a little? That way you won't be left behind by us, otherwise, your secret expert helper will give us trouble."

Su Yu turned a deaf ear to them, maintained his spiritual energetic wing as he unhurriedly flew close to a group of Fourth Level Holy Kings.

Song Qingshan looked down his nose at him, gave him a quick glance and sneered. "Let's wait to fly again, we better behave ourselves in front of a powerful killer of a Fifth Level Holy King and follow behind him."

The surrounding Fifth Level Holy Kings, with deeply mocking smiles on their lips, stood coolly with their arms folded in front of them.

They all had taunting looks in their eyes. They waited and thought it would be wonderful to see Su Yu's expression when they easily overtook him.

Without the Second Elder's protection, what could a mere Fourth Level Holy King like Su Yu do?

When he clocked that Su Yu had already flown several hundred meters, Song Qingshan's lips curled into a sneer, he activated the spiritual energy on his back, and his feathered wings suddenly fanned out!

Whoosh—

His blurred figure streaked across the sky with an astonishing speed, he was closing in!

With looks of relish, the other Fifth Level Holy Kings also began to chase.

But, just when they thought they could amuse themselves and get ready to overtake him one by one, they were caught off guard!

The leisurely Su Yu suddenly put away his spiritual energetic wings!

A pair of icy-light wings unexpectedly emerged from his back!

The life-like feathers of his wings were like a bird's and they produced gusts of cold air which swept into a powerful gale.

He had cultivated the Icy Divine Wings to the Stage Three Top Class which was the first formation of the Icy Divine Wings. He had been cultivated it to the peak level, his current speed surpassed others of the same realm which was just under that of a Fifth Level Holy King, so the disparity was not great.

After switching to the Icy Divine Wings, Su Yu's speed soared! He suddenly pierced through the sky in a blur with the speed of light!

Zigzagging between the Fourth Level Holy Kings, he overtook them all!

"Ah! He's so fast! Isn't that Fourth Level Lower Tier Holy King, Su Yu?"

"What type of amazing movement technique is that? He's as fast as the Fifth Level Holy Kings!"

A group of Fourth Level Holy Kings watched Su Yu, entranced.

Song Qingshan's sneer froze. He could not believe his eyes. Su Yu's movement technique speed was not that much weaker than his?

It was just a moment of distraction and Su Yu had already disappeared from his line of vision!

Song Qingshan's face changed colors. He gnashed his teeth and used all his energy to give chase!

The rest of the Fifth Level Holy Kings' expressions also frozen as they were trying their best to catch up!

At this time, all of them felt their faces burned. They were supposed to have some fun with Su Yu and made sure to wait till he flew a certain distance before they slowly overtook him.

Who would have thought that Su Yu had withheld such an astonishing movement technique!

Whoosh—

A group of people swiftly circled the Inner Sanctum and gave chase.

The more Song Qingshan accelerated, the uglier his expression became! Su Yu's movement technique was only a little weaker than his—to the extent that he was unable to close a distance of a few hundred feet at all!

Finally, they returned to the competition room after they had completed the loop.

The Fourth Elder and Third Elder stood at the competition room entrance and registered each name.

"The Sixth Level Holy King and thirty-five Fifth Level Holy Kings have returned. It seems the remaining seven Fifth Level Holy Kings...have inadequate movement techniques." The Third Elder secretly frowned.

The Fourth Elder looked solemn. "No hurry, they should be the next batch of returnees, no one can be faster than them."

Whoosh—

He had not finished speaking before a thin figure was the first to fly in.

Both elders were shocked.

Swish—

The seven Fifth Level Holy Kings finally caught up and were breathless!

The Third Elder looked astonished. He appraised Su Yu.

He was even faster than a Fifth Level Holy King! His movement technique was truly extraordinary!

The Fourth Elder was slightly surprised. He turned his gaze and recorded Su Yu's ranking.

When his gaze swept over Song Qingshan and the others, he lightly snorted. "You can't even hold a candle to a Fourth Level Holy King. You all live like princes for too long! Better reflect upon yourselves!"

Song Qingshan and the others flushed, they were unable to raise their heads.

Especially the Fifth Level Holy Kings who had returned first, many of them noticed Song Qingshan and the others purposely targeted Su Yu. They were whispering and snickering among themselves right now.

"They wanted to humiliate Su Yu, instead they ended up being ridiculed by Su Yu."

"They shot themselves in the foot a bit, huh?"

"But speaking of which, Su Yu was quite astonishing. His movement technique was unimaginably close to a Fifth Level Holy King."

Song Qingshan and the others clenched their fists and were full of anger at Su Yu.

Gradually, everyone flew back.

The fifty people who had returned first were qualified. The remaining fifty sadly exited the competition.

"Well, you fifty competitors will advance to the next round of assessment.

"This round is the assessment of your eyesight!

"The Abyss of Wutong is perennially pitch-dark, you can't even see your fingers in front of you. You will require a powerful visual strength, so this round is the assessment of your eyesight!

"The rule of this assessment goes like this, I am going to turn the room into a pitch-black state, and place fifty pieces of black paper in the room. Your task is to imbue both your pupils with your spiritual energy till you have the ability to see in the dark to find these pieces of black paper.

"Only twenty-five people will be retained from this round! Moreover, each piece of black paper that you find will be counted as one point and the points will be accumulated for the next round of assessment. The final score will determine which five individuals will remain! Therefore, you must take this seriously. Every piece of black paper that you find means one more bit of hope to qualify!"

With these words, the Fourth Elder glanced at the Third Elder, and they completely wrapped up the competition room tightly with some black cloth that they had found.

Instantly, the room was pitch-dark. It was even hard to see one's fingers.

When they used their spiritual energy to enhance their eyesight they could make out indistinct figures.

One's specific visual ability was based on the strength of one's spiritual energy as well as their delicate control of one's spiritual energy, it varied from person to person.

Often, those with solid foundation had more sophisticated control of their visual abilities.

Su Yu stood with his arms folded. His pair of crystalline pupils exuded a faint light from deep within.

He smiled deeply. "Eyesight assessment?"

Chapter 153: The Final Assessment

The pitch-black environment was no different from daylight to Su Yu.

Swish—

Suddenly, he could hear faint movements.

Su Yu glanced over from the corner of his eyes and saw the Fourth Elder quietly slipped Mo Wu and the other four disciples, each a piece of the black paper in the dark!

The Fourth Elder had thought no one would detect this and did not realize that Su Yu saw everything.

So, was this considered predetermination? Su Yu felt somewhat powerless.

Then, the Fourth Elder just took out a large piece of black paper, tore it to pieces, and scattered the pieces to every corner of the competition room.

"The assessment starts now!"

At his command, the fifty contenders immediately activated their spiritual energy in their pupils to see in the dark.

While they were still trying hard to adjust their vision, Su Yu was already darting around the competition room, swift as lightning.

He was able to grab a piece of the black paper at every pause.

In the blink of an eye, Su Yu obtained more than five pieces of the black paper!

"How dare you snatch from me." Just at this moment, a soft hum drifted over in the dark.

A faintly discernible terrible force slowly dispersed.

This man was the only Sixth Level Holy King, Tang Yixuan!

After much effort, he had just adjusted his vision, when he found a dark figure taking away a piece of the black paper at his feet, and he was upset.

But there was not enough time to bicker with Su Yu. With this assessment, the black paper pieces affected the total score. The odds of success increased as one more piece was grabbed.

Whoosh—

While Su Yu was swiftly in action, Mo Wu also began to grab.

Her beautiful eyes shot a quick glance at Su Yu in astonishment. She had found out that Su Yu had already started seizing the black paper pieces at the beginning.

While the other Holy Kings were still struggling to activate their spiritual energy, Su Yu had treated the darkness like it was nothing.

Was his eyesight really that good? Did he not even have to use his spiritual energy? Mo Wu was slightly stunned.

While the three of them were ransacking the room, everyone else had just adjusted their visions well enough at this time and adapted to the dark environment.

When they started looking for the black paper pieces, those pieces were already being plundered by more than half.

There was a rush of pillaging. Some people were happy and some were worried.

A moment later, the black veil outside the room was taken off.

The assessment was over!

"Those who did not get any black paper pieces, you're eliminated!" The Fourth Elder announced without any expression.

Crashing—

In that instant out of the fifty contenders, thirty people left and only twenty contenders remained!

The original plan was to eliminate only twenty-five people, and now thirty people were eliminated in one shot, more than what the Fourth Elder and Third Elder had estimated.

"What's going on?" The Third Elder was baffled.

The Fourth Elder's eyes flashed. "Take out your black paper pieces to calculate your scores."

After a moment, he said, "Song Qingshan, one piece, one point.

"Tang Yixuan, six pieces, six points.

"Mo Wu, eight pieces, eight points!"

These three had seized a total of fifteen pieces, no wonder so many people were eliminated.

However, what happened next stiffened the expressions of the Third Elder and Fourth Elder at the same time.

"Su Yu... nineteen pieces!"

Looking at the thick pile of the black paper pieces in Su Yu's hands, everyone was shocked!

Mo Wu was stunned; even if he could see in the dark, he should not be this powerful. Unless in addition to being able to see in the dark, his eyesight was extremely sharp, and he was able to easily inspect every nook and corner!

His pile of the black paper pieces alone was nearly more than everyone's total!

After a long while, the Four Elder then announced. "Su Yu, nineteen points!"

"And now the final assessment! The Comprehensive Ability Competition! In short, duels!"

Finally, a segment for duels?

"There are many great dangers at the Abyss of Wutong. If your ability is not good, there's no point in you going. The twenty of you will have duels with each other to vie for the spots. You get five points each time you defeat one person. Finally, only the five contenders with the highest scores will remain, these five people will then become members of the Abyss of Wutong!" The Fourth Elder solemnly announced.

Everyone was excited, the final battle had begun at last!

Apart from Mo Wu and the disciples who were already predetermined, Tang Yixuan, the superior Sixth Level Holy King, was the only target they needed to defeat.

Su Yu clenched his fists. The only way to save Xianer was right in front of his eyes!

Tang Yixuan was the biggest obstacle ahead of him!

"Before you start, you can rest a little for only an hour and prepare." The Fourth Elder swept his gaze towards Su Yu. "You're Su Yu? With regards to your performance just now, I have something to ask you. Come with me."

Su Yu was slightly stumped. Could it be his performance just now was so exceptional that it aroused his suspicion?

On the other side, Song Qingshan felt even more pressure and his eyes burned with jealousy.

"Senior Brother Song, don't tell me because this kid performed so well just now that he was lucky enough to catch the Fourth Elder's eye? Is he going to give him the final spot by default?"

"I too have this worry. After all, the Second Elder has Su Yu's back!"

Song Qingshan's gaze was direct and hard. There was deep resentment and indignation. "Humph! It's still too early! Even if it's by default, he must also have the ability to defeat us!"

With all the Fifth Level Holy Kings present, if Su Yu was unable to defeat them and pass this round, how could it be by default?

It was sparsely populated outside the building.

The Fourth Elder smiled and said. "Su Yu, you have performed well. As an Elder, I intend to recommend you enter the Abyss of Wutong."

Huh? Su Yu was stunned, but he quickly regained his composure. "Thank you, Fourth Elder, for your generous favor, but I'm not sure what does Fourth Elder have in mind?"

"It's amazing how your intelligence is beyond someone of your age!" The Fourth Elder's high praise was from his heart. Su Yu looked only about fifteen years old, but his wisdom and intelligence were incomparable and his quick reactions greatly surprised him.

He had thought that he had to waste his breath to explain. However, Su Yu had understood immediately.

"I, the Elder, am relieved that you understand. I will give you a spot to the Abyss of Wutong and as an exchange, I hope you can secretly procure a top-grade marrow cleansing elixir for me... This matter needs to be kept a secret. Also, after you enter the Abyss of Wutong, I will secretly give you a pointer or two as an Elder."

Su Yu's heart slightly sank, did he want the top-grade marrow cleansing elixir?

This elixir was hard to come by. It was unlikely that Su Yu would have the chance to acquire one again.

The temporary emergency mission only happened once a year!

And it was not possible for him to take the credit every time.

The Xianyun Contest was close at hand and it could be said that the top-grade marrow cleansing elixir was the pivotal elixir for Su Yu to enhance his ability!

But, if he did not agree, his hope of winning for this assessment would be slim. Once he had offended the Fourth Elder, even if he did enter the Abyss of Wutong, he might overtly or covertly receive unfair treatment.

Although, according to the projected schedule, the Abyss of Wutong was about to rotate to the Third Elder for him to oversee. But even it was one day in the Abyss of Wutong, the Fourth Elder would still have the authority to deal with Su Yu.

Su Yu was suddenly caught in a dilemma.

"There's no hurry to answer right this moment, you can think about it a little more. If you agree, give me a signal using your eyes," The Fourth Elder said warmly and looked around watchfully before he went in without an expression on his face.

But, before he left, he looked gloomy for a moment. He had originally thought he had Su Yu in the bag, but Su Yu actually had some resistance!

"Humph! Just because he is backed by that ghost-faced hag, does he think he can somehow rely on her support?" The Fourth Elder looked cold and gloomy.

Su Yu silently sighed. He could sense that the Fourth Elder was genial on the surface, but he was already angry.

If he did not agree, it would be difficult to predict the consequences.

It was just that the Xianyun Contest was imminent, and Xianer...

Gnashing his teeth, Su Yu headed back to the competition room.

The duel segment began.

"The duel follows the rules of the ring. The winner is entitled to challenge the next opponent. And after five duels, there will be a short break."

With these words, the Fourth Elder looked at Su Yu meaningfully.

"The first ring defender is Ma Feiming!" The Fourth Elder appointed a ring defender.

Ma Feiming, around twenty-three years old, was a Fifth Level Lower Tier Holy King and had his breakthrough half a month ago.

Racing up to the ring, Ma Feiming looked around. When his gaze fell on Song Qingshan, in a flash, his finger immediately pointed to Song Qingshan. "Senior Brother Song, come up for a fight!"

"Senior Brother Song, this kid Ma Feiming still bears a grudge against you." The disciple beside Song Qingshan had a smirk on his face.

Previously when Ma Feiming was at the Fourth Level Peak, he had accompanied Song Qingshan on an external assignment. They had found a piece of spiritual treasure in the mountains. In the end, it was commandeered by Song Qingshan.

After handing it over to the Faction, Song Qingshan received ample rewards and advanced his cultivation base.

Due to this, Ma Feiming was disgruntled but he had no opportunity to take revenge.

Until today, now he could challenge him openly and aboveboard!

Song Qingshan half smiled. "A grudge? Who, him? The one who has just broken through to the Fifth Level Holy King, what can he do to me?"

Swish—

Leaping onto the ring, Song Qingshan stood with his arms folded and icily glared. "Ma Feiming, you finally had some progress and dare to challenge me now?"

Under his opponent's glare, Ma Feiming felt a little dread. After all, when he was still a Fourth Level Holy King, Song Qingshan was already a veteran Fifth Level Holy King and had carried out countless of dangerous assignments. He was impressively famed for his fighting prowess.

But when he recalled the humiliation he had suffered, he remembered his grudge. "Song Qingshan! You went too far on that day, so don't blame me being tough! I, Ma Feiming, am no longer the same as before, you'd better take me seriously!"

"Let me see, you're pretty confident but you overestimate yourself!" Song Qingshan put down his arms with purpose.

Ma Feiming growled and immediately made his move!

"Seven Stars Attack!" Ma Feiming roared and used a Legacy level cultivation technique!

He had impressively reached the Stage One Upper Class!

Coupled with his Fifth Level Holy King cultivation base, his power was unfathomable!

When he took a step, he moved so swiftly that he was a blur!

After taking seven steps, his seven movements continuously emerged in quick blurs.

What made his seven endless-looking steps imposing were, his movements were all very focused and deliberately created quick blurs!

Each of his quick blurs contained a strong power.

"Destroy!"

After his seven steps, Ma Feiming made a feint to move closer and he growled!

Whoosh—

There were clearly seven quick blurs before, but at this moment he looked like his real body was besieging Song Qingshan from all seven directions at the same time!

There were seven steps, seven stars, and seven quick blurs. He was using the formation of all the stars surrounding the moon to besiege Song Qingshan!

This was his Seven Stars Attack!

Boom—

His seven quick blurs were all airtight formations and impossible to guard against!

However, Song Qingshan looked calm.

His Seven Stars came attacking in quick blurs, yet Song Qingshan had an indifferent smile on his lips as he just lightly extended his finger!

"Barren Mountain Fingerprint!"

Clearly, it was an ordinary point of his finger; it felt like the mountains and rivers were eradicated. A heart-palpitating, deathly stillness encircled his fingertip. Surges of gray draft flowed out with a faint life-devouring force.

The Third Elder nodded slightly. "That's right, this remnant volume of the Barren Mountain Fingerprint was cultivated by him to the Stage One Top Class not too far off from Stage Two."

The Fourth Elder lightly nodded. "It's indeed original. Even if they are not dead, those with weak physiques will be put into a coma by the gray drafts of life-devouring force."

Mo Wu and several others also secretly nodded.

Among the Fifth Level Lower Tier Holy Kings, Song Qingshan was truly the finest competitor.

Boom—

His finger swept across and the gray draft rolled out in all directions!

Pop—

The seven quick blurs were unexpectedly crushed!

Ah—

At the same time, Ma Feiming suffered a heavy physical blow.

With a blood-curdling screech, he was flung back on the spot, smashed under the ring, and nearly fainted.

Horror and loathing filled his eyes. With so much hard work for so long, he still could not defeat Song Qingshan.

Retracting his finger, Song Qingshan towered above and said with disdain. "Crawl back to the hole you came from to cultivate a few more years! Otherwise, you'll always be defeated by me!"

"You..." Ma Feiming was furious, but in the end, his ability was inferior to him, so he could only swallow his humiliation and leave.

Soon after, Song Qingshan's cold eyes fixed on Su Yu and the corners of his mouth cracked a heart-palpitating grin. "Su Yu! It's your turn! Let me see how you were able to kill a Fifth Level Holy King!"

Everyone's eyes shot towards Su Yu, who was the only Fourth Level Holy King.

"Is it his turn? I wonder if that expert will suddenly pop up to defeat Song Qingshan."

"Finally, are his true colors going to be exposed? This is interesting, let's see how Senior Brother Song is going to torture and defeat him."

"That day he was clearly secretly helped by an expert, but he had waited for a Junior Brother to die before showing himself to take advantage of the situation. Such a person should have encountered today's fate a long time ago, I hope Senior Brother Song will show no mercy!"

Even though he sensed all the sharp looks, Su Yu looked calm as he leaped onto the ring in a step.

"Let's begin, since you want to experience the power of how I had killed a Fifth Level Holy King, I'll grant your wish." Su Yu spoke evenly and slowly extended his forefinger.

Chapter 154: Flinging a Dead Dog

Song Qingshan stood with his arms folded and looked unruffled. "Please be sure to let this Senior Brother open his eyes..."

However, his speech spontaneously came to an end!

His composed look gradually vanished and was replaced with disbelief!

Aha—

A ball of light stemmed from Su Yu's fingertips.

It was a deep green color mixed with a light azure color, and it formed a ball of gentle bluish-green glimmer.

This glimmer of light floated and drifted. When seen, the flame was not brilliant and the size of a thumb.

No, it was an ice flame!

An ice flame of a deep green and azure fusion! Though it was weak, it emitted a scalp-numbing deadly chill!

Crack—

The sound of forming icicles traveled around the ring. With Su Yu in the center, the chill froze everything! The bluestone ring was instantly covered with ice.

Unable to withstand the extreme chill, the ring, which had never been cracked before by the various fights, had densely-packed cracks unexpectedly appearing!

The Fourth Elder looked bewildered. "This is..."

The Third Elder, who saw Su Yu made his move on that day, was deeply surprised. "That's the Glazed Ice Flame, he had... actually cultivated it to Stage One Upper Class!"

"What? The Glazed Ice Flame can be called the most powerful of all the Legacy techniques, and he has cultivated it to Stage One Upper Class? An individual with an excellent powerful insight requires at least ten years to comprehend the Lower Class and twenty years and above for the Upper Class. He only entered the Sanctum a few months ago, and he could comprehend the Stage One Upper Class? He's inhuman!"

Mo Wu's pretty eyes were set with deep disbelief, was Su Yu's powerful insight this terrifying?

The smiles of the Fifth Level Holy Kings, who sat and waited for Su Yu to be taught a lesson, froze.

Even beside the ring, they were deeply gripped by that terrible chill! What type of ice-cold flame had such a horrifying power?

On the ring, ten feet away from Su Yu, Song Qingshan's body was coated with a thin layer of mist which gradually transformed into ice!

His relaxed enfolded arms had long since been unconsciously put down and he was commanding his spiritual energy to drive out the chill!

Just the mere dispersing of the chill was already so terrifying if that ice flame had blasted his body...

Song Qingshan's expression had an unprecedented change. An illusion of death shaded his heart.

A bad feeling bubbled up within and at that moment, he had already believed that the person who chopped and killed the Snow Lion was probably Su Yu himself!

From start to finish, no one had helped Su Yu, it was the result of his own efforts!

He and those other Fifth Level Holy Kings were just jealous and envious. It was their malicious speculation and slander.

But, even if he was wavering on the inside, Song Qingshan also had no way to retreat.

Moreover, that flame was too weak. It just appeared to be frightening, its true power might not necessarily be strong!

"Trickster!" Song Qingshan composed himself and calmed down in the face of danger.

"Barren Mountain Fingerprint!" Growling, a rolling gray draft flowed out from Song Qingshan's finger.

That life-devouring, obscure, and sinister power was heart-palpitating.

It was the same move that defeated Ma Feiming, also a Fifth Level Holy King, in one fell swoop!

Swish—

Song Qingshan attacked first. He moved like lightning, his one step spanned a distance of twenty feet!

His ten-foot gap was closed in a blink of an eye.

A strong wind, mixed with the gray draft, struck and it stirred up Su Yu's damaged clothes.

His silver hair fluttered and swept over his handsome and calm countenance. His pair of placid eyes did not waver at all.

Su Yu simply stepped forward once. "Glazed Ice Flame!" Su Yu coolly spat out the words.

The weak ice flame on his fingertip, like a candle in the wind, was about to go out.

But in that instant, his two fingers touched!

Aha—

The weak ice flame that clearly was the size of a thumb, had instantly erupted a hundredfold!

It was like a spark that suddenly became the size of a house! Abrupt and fierce, it was powerful and dreadful! It contained an infinite chill, like a volcano dormant for a long time that had finally erupted!

Crack—

Crack—

The infinite chill came and froze everything in the surrounding!

The Fifth Level Holy Kings who were closer to the ring swiftly stepped back with their expressions suddenly much changed!

Those who hesitated a little were covered with ice, they were almost frozen on the spot!

The Third Elder and Fourth Elder had to raise their voices to warn everyone. "Everyone, step back!"

Crash—

The crowd moved like a tide and scattered in retreat. They stared in disbelief at that volcanic eruption of ice!

Not only the ring, but the entire competition room was plunged into a world of ice and snow!

Snow-white icicles thickly covered the competition room. The roof had icicles, the ground was covered in a layer of thick ice. The stands had become ice sculptures and the martial arts props were frozen.

The chilling cold air transformed this place into an ice sculpture in that instant.

Even breathing in the cold air felt unbearably cold to one's body and soul.

The source of all these was even more chillingly astounding!

That high, blazing ice flame was burning with a rumble. Its bluish-green color was magnificent and wonderful. It radiated the beauty of ice.

Su Yu stood within the sixty high ice flame as if he dominated all the cold ice in the world like its supreme ruler.

In front of him, an ice sculpture preserved its attack stance.

His eyes, expression, and posture were all preserved in the freeze-frame state.

Even his gray draft was frozen.

It was like he was frozen in space and time.

Su Yu slowly put down his finger. His one finger could have easily killed Song Qingshan, but he would have little satisfaction from it.

That day inside the Snow Lion's body, Su Yu had gobbled up a large amount of the Snow Lion blue icy chill and he had finally advanced the Glazed Ice Flame to Stage One Upper Class.

The strength of the most powerful Legacy level cultivation technique was enough to make Su Yu possessed the power to kill a Fifth Level Holy King!

He was so strong that even Li Xiaoyu promptly decided to escape and was visibly afraid of his cultivation technique.

Su Yu coolly gazed at the frozen Song Qingshan and trampled on him with one foot.

Crack—

When the icicles shattered, Song Qingshan shook uncontrollably from head to toe. His skin had turned blue in a blink of an eye, his whole body was stiffly lying on the ground, and he looked at Su Yu in fear.

He... he had actually lost in one move!

No, he was almost killed in one move!

If this was a death match... he would have been easily killed by Su Yu long ago!

For Su Yu to attain his long line of credits, it was not due to the Second Elder's assistance, but his own. He possessed the ability to kill a Fifth Level Holy King!

Su Yu lightly glanced at him and slightly shook his head. "This was what you were intensely proud of, the ability to bully and humiliate others? How disappointing..."

Song Qingshan's face turned red, he was utterly humiliated!

However, due to his fear of being shocked and killed by a snap of Su Yu's fingers, he dared not refute Su Yu. He lowered his head and left in a fluster.

The Fourth Elder looked deeply appalled. "Is the Glazed Ice Flame so formidable? In terms of its power, it has gone beyond the standard Stage One Top Class of a Legacy level cultivation technique, it's much closer to Stage Two!"

"This matter needs to be reported to the Faction Master! The evaluation of the formidable power of the Glazed Ice Flame may perhaps have been too low! Its power is beyond any imagination!" The Third Elder's gaze was bright.

Everyone in the Faction was aware of the existence of the Glazed Ice Flame.

But no one was willing to spend decades to cultivate a remnant volume. And now for the first time, Su Yu had revealed its formidable power, stunned the Elders into acknowledging it and made them realized the unprecedented importance of this volume of Legacy level cultivation technique.

On the ring, it was Su Yu's turn to defend the ring.

Two duels had already completed, so Su Yu could still challenge three people!

Su Yu ignored all the shocked looks, raised his hand and pointed towards a Fifth Level Lower Tier Holy King!

This Fifth Level Holy King was that type of person who was full of slander and deliberately waited for the other disciples to destroy Su Yu before he would take advantage of the situation.

Since this was a duel segment, in that case he was going to challenge him first!

"You, come up!"

The targeted Fifth Level Holy King gave his body a shake and took a hard swallow.

Among the Fifth Level Holy Kings, Song Qingshan, who was the best, had already been badly defeated, what chance did they have?

But, even if he felt fearful, he had no other choice but to step onto the ring.

"Su... Junior Brother Su, I am Pu Nan, the purpose of this duel is to learn from each other. I hope we can both somewhat exercise some restraint, so as not to damage our good relationship." This Fifth Level Holy King said fearfully as he braced himself.

Pu Nan's face was slightly flushed. Not so long ago, Su Yu was someone who was unable to withstand a single blow in his eyes.

And now, he had to lower himself to beseech Su Yu to give him a break.

"Sure." Su Yu said indifferently.

His reply slightly relieved Pu Nan.

"Many thanks!" Pu Nan cupped his fists and then grimly waited.

"Meteor Kick!" Pu Nan roared and was the first to attack!

With his long strides, he was extremely fast!

Everyone could only see a blur and was unable to tell where his body was.

At the same time, a dim starlight surrounded Pu Nan, making it more difficult to discern what was real.

In an instant, Pu Nan attacked.

Boom—

His leg struck, and he was now fighting with Su Yu!

"Glazed Ice Flame!"

However, Su Yu only coolly ignited a weak ice flame, it was not erupted at all. He simply touched the arch of Pu Nan's foot.

Crack—

But even so, Pu Nan stiffened from head to toe and his whole body froze.

He wanted to strike with his leg, instead he was frozen on the spot!

Seeing how he was about to stumble and fall, Su Yu reached out with his hand and grabbed Pu Nan's calf at this time.

"Thank you, Junior Brother Su..." Pu Nan looked grateful that Su Yu had stayed his hand.

However, just as he was speaking, he felt something was not right!

Su Yu had grabbed his calf and unexpectedly swung him into mid-air!

It was as if Su Yu was holding onto a stick and swinging it in his hand!

"Junior Brother Su, what are you doing?" Pu Nan was appalled to be up in the air.

But Su Yu did not reply.

With a flick of his wrist, he grabbed Pu Nan's calf and slammed him to the ground with a loud bang!

Bang—

Plop—

Pu Nan's forehead was covered with blood, several of his teeth were knocked loose and his internal organs quaked. He belched out his fractured teeth mingled with his blood at the same time.

Pu Nan was upset by the severe pain, making him ashamed and furious. He turned his head and yelled. "You..."

However, just as he spoke, Su Yu once again swung up his whole body, and then ferociously smacked him on top of the bluestone floor!

It was followed by another blow.

On the ringside, everyone was dumbfounded.

Su Yu swung Pu Nan around in the air like he was swinging a dead dog. He then smacked him down on the ground.

It was one round after another until Pu Nan was all covered in blood and completely unconscious!

At this point, Su Yu finally stayed his hand and threw him out of the ring like he had flung a dead dog.

Bang—

The unconscious Pu Nan was like a dead dog which made everyone gasped.

Su Yu was so ruthless!

"People need to be responsible for their words! People who fabricate stories and slander their dead peers to attack others deserve to be severely punished!" Su Yu said coldly.

Soon after, Su Yu's eyes swept across and fell on a second Fifth Level Holy King.

"You! Come up!" Su Yu pointed to a distance.

This person had previously mocked him and wanted to expose Su Yu's true colors.

Now, Su Yu had indeed revealed his true colors. Nevertheless, what he revealed was a ruthless and terrifying ability!

"I... I think..." The one who was targeted had jumped onto the ring, trembling with fear. He cupped his fists and was ready to concede!

Although a spot for the Abyss of Wutong was incomparably valuable, Pu Nan was still lying on the ground like a dead dog!

But, he had not finished speaking when a gust of strong wind struck!

Shockingly, it was Su Yu who took advantage of the moment to come closer!

"Glazed Ice Flame!"

Ah—

Then, Su Yu did the same thing, picked up his body and flung him up!

Bang—

Bang—

Bang—

Everyone's expression slightly changed as Su Yu once again did the same "fling the dead dog" routine with ease.

It hit three times, his body was covered in blood, and like a dead dog, he threw him to the side of Pu Nan.

Compared to Pu Nan, Su Yu did stay his hand and did not cause him to be unconscious.

But, he was all covered with blood and vexed with unparalleled shame. "You... I had already conceded defeat. Why did you still make your move?"

Su Yu retorted. "Did you concede? When was this? Why didn't I know?"

Puh—

He was so angry that he coughed up another mouthful of blood!

He did not even finish his words before he had already been deliberately interrupted by Su Yu!

"You did not speak clearly, how was I to know that you had conceded?" Su Yu coolly glanced at him, and pointed to his last opponent. "You! Come up!"

"Ah! I... I give up! I'm not participating in the Abyss of Wutong Assessment!" The last man had looked deathly white and was trembling.

He fled on the spot with a scream!

Five duels had passed with Su Yu winning four in a row. He was awarded twenty points.

During the break, Su Yu was once again summoned by the Fourth Elder to speak alone amidst everyone's envy.

"So, have you thought it over? You only have one chance." The Fourth Elder's eyes are shining brightly with his strong desire to get hold of the top-grade marrow cleansing elixir no matter what.

Feeling slightly threatened, Su Yu's heart felt heavy.

If he did not give in, he was afraid that it would be difficult to pass the assessment. Even if he had passed, he would also suffer harsh treatment.

Taking a deep breath, Su Yu's eyes flashed. "I've thought it over."

"Tell me!" The Fourth Elder looked calm, yet his eyes projected an imposing power!

Chapter 155: The Ultimate Clash

"I cannot agree." Su Yu was clear and concise. He spoke from his heart.

The Fourth Elder was startled, Su Yu had indeed refused!

"Was the condition that I, this old and revered man, offered, not sincere enough?" the Fourth Elder calmly asked.

The Abyss of Wutong's predetermined spot and the additional guidance; though the information would not be as good as the top-grade marrow cleansing elixir in terms of value, it was also not too far off.

Su Yu tactfully refused. "This Elder's offer was hard to come by. But it's just that this disciple is unable to let go of the elixir."

"Why?" The Fourth Elder had a cold glint deep in his eyes, which was a warning sign of his impending anger.

"This disciple is in urgent need of a breakthrough and the top-grade marrow cleansing elixir is crucial for this disciple," Su Yu helplessly sighed.

He couldn't give up the elixir!

Would the Fourth Elder even honor his promise? The so-called guidance lacked a precise explanation.

Having received such a reply, the Fourth Elder's eyes gradually narrowed. He slowly nodded after a long while. "Well, I understand. You can go back."

After waiting for Su Yu to leave, the Fourth Elder's face became gloomy. "I have tried to be nice and you refused. Maybe you prefer the hard way!"

At this point, the break was over.

"The duel segment continues. Five matches had already been completed and the ring defender will be changed. Another five duels start again! It's now your turn." The Fourth Elder appeared to have randomly chosen a Fifth Level Holy King.

But everyone knew in their hearts that this person named Yang Fan was one of the four predetermined disciples.

He was the Fourth Elder's young disciple! Among the four predetermined disciples, his ability was the weakest.

Therefore, the Fourth Elder selected him to get on the ring first, to let him have the chance to challenge the remaining Fifth Level Lower Tier Holy Kings and win a few more duels to gain enough points.

Of all the competitors present, apart from Su Yu (who was a Fourth Level Holy King), there were four Fifth Level Lower Tier Holy Kings. They were enough for Yang Fan to obtain five consecutive points!

If Yang Fan could defeat his opponent in the final duel, he could rely on his score to successfully pass and advance.

Fierce and imposing, Yang Fan was of a medium stature with messy hair. Both his eyes were bright and full of expression, they occasionally shone with an astonishing gleam. He was a strong, powerful presence as he stood tall and towering on the ring.

"Zhang Liangli, come up!" Yang Fan pointed to a female Fifth Level Lower Tier Holy King of that name.

Swish—

The woman who was over thirty years old with attractive looks—though, she was already a married woman. Her features were natural and without makeup. Her gaze was crystal clear. She was virtuous and respectable.

Looking at Yang Fan, Zhang Liangli's brows slightly creased; she felt a little helpless and worried.

She was a good-looking woman and her husband's ability was merely that of a Fourth Level Peak Holy King. With no one to rely on, her beauty was inevitably lusted after in the Faction.

One admirer was Yang Fan.

His ability was strong, he was the Fourth Elder's second disciple! His repeated harassment of her did not work. He had secretly threatened and tried to coerce her into submission.

A month ago, her husband was challenged to a fight and was seriously injured. He was still bedridden to this day. All of these incidents were secretly instigated by Yang Fan.

If she still did not submit to his wishes, obey him, and satisfy his demands, the married couple's days would become even more difficult.

Zhang Liangli was already wavering and struggling within, but she was worried that once Yang Fan had a taste of her sweetness, he would become greedy and want more from her. Then she would never escape his clutches and be reduced into his plaything in the future.

Now, Yang Fan had found a chance to directly challenge her, and to seize the opportunity to beat her.

"Senior Sister Zhang, make your move." Yang Fan looked severe, only his eyes were burning with passion and scorn.

Zhang Liangli took a light breath and with no other choice, she made her move!

It was one thing for her ability to be less than Yang Fan, but with the Fourth Elder watching ringside too, how would she dare to strike with a heavy blow?

"Heartless Fallen Petals!"

Zhang Liangli's lovely figure gracefully danced and twirled, like a spinning flower.

A pink mist began to envelop and wrap her body with a charming veil, she looked like a spring flower.

But the pink mist contained a power that made people drowsy.

Su Yu looked surprised. Zhang Liangli's cultivation technique was closer to the auxiliary type, when it was paired with someone else's, it would achieve a multiplier effect.

Yang Fan slightly smirked. "Senior Sister Zhang's Heartless Fallen Petals has matured and become more skilled!"

Thud, thud—

With a mocking smile, Yang Fan took a few steps back to avoid being hit.

In this way, he would not get too close to Zhang Liangli.

However, Yang Fan's teasing smile deepened. "Unfortunately, I'm destined to be the bane of your existence!"

Only Zhang Liangli could understand the hidden meaning in his words. And that was if he could not get Zhang Liangli, he would never rest.

At the same time, there was another meaning!

And that was... he could restrict her cultivation technique!

Swish—

Yang Fan activated his spiritual energy and concentrated it within his eyes.

Instantly, his eyes changed from his ordinary dark color and suddenly to a scarlet color!

Waves of gleaming light which also looked like a burning flame circulated within his eyes.

"Divine Pupils Flames!" Yang Fan lightly chuckled.

Pop—

Suddenly two small beams of scarlet flames blasted out from within his eyes!

The speed was comparable to a light beam!

When Zhang Liangli became aware that something was wrong, it was a little too late. The beams of scarlet flames had already passed through the powder mist and had struck her chest and abdomen!

Ah—

Crying out in pain, Zhang Liangli was so badly hit by the two seemingly weak flames that she vomited blood and flew backward!

She was hurled exactly toward Su Yu beside the ring.

With a calm expression, Su Yu's hands reached out and caught Zhang Liangli so he could avoid being hit by her body as well.

Feeling his strength behind her, Zhang Liangli lifted her eyes and mournfully smiled. "Thank you, Junior Brother Su..."

On the ring, Yang Fan saw the two people in close contact and his eyes turned cold. "Boy, mind your own business!"

Zhang Liangli belonged to him, he would not tolerate other men touching her!

Su Yu fearlessly looked up into his cold eyes. "You can challenge me!"

As a powerful Fifth Level Upper Tier Holy King, he had exceeded Su Yu's limit.

But, in the end, a fight was inevitable. Even if Su Yu was no match for him, he also needed to try his best!

Yang Fan contemptuously smiled. "Soon it'll be your turn, so there's no rush! Enjoy your last moments!"

With these words, Yang Fan gave Zhang Liangli a deep meaningful look.

Zhang Liangli's lovely body shuddered. Fear and a sense of powerlessness sprang up in her eyes.

Her wavering heart was going to crumble, she... had no other choice. If she did not submit to him and satisfy his needs, it would be impossible for her and her husband at the Faction. Things would only get worse.

Aware of Zhang Liangli's change of mind, Yang Fan looked away in satisfaction. Then he immediately challenged the next Fifth Level Lower Tier Holy King instead of Su Yu!

Furthermore, the next three matches were all with the other Fifth Level Lower Tier Holy Kings.

Yang Fan would rather choose the same level of Fifth Level Upper Tier Holy King than Su Yu! To avoid any mishaps, Yang Fan was saving the weakest Su Yu for the end, to ensure that the last duel was foolproof!

After all, if he were to be defeated, there was still some leeway. With the Fourth Elder's status, the rules for the next round of assessment could still be revised at the last moment to allow him to get on the ring again and no one would object.

But if the last duel was lost to someone of the same level, then he would not have a chance again!

Therefore, he would rather challenge the contenders of the same level now, and to save Su Yu for the end, to use him as a stepping stone!

You want to use me as a stepping stone? Su Yu's eyes flashed icily!

The duel between Yang Fan and the Fifth Level Holy King was brilliant.

Although he was facing a comparably strong opponent of the same level, his pair of scarlet-flamed pupils was indeed a thorny challenge.

The two competitors dueled for fifty rounds. Then Yang Fan finally had the upper hand and swept his opponent off the ring!

The Fourth Elder nodded a little and lightly breathed a sigh of relief. Everything proceeded according to plan.

So far, ten duels had completed.

Ten competitors were eliminated and ten remained.

"For the final round of duel, we will match you with your opponent. It is a one-on-one duel. If you can defeat five competitors, you will become a member of the Abyss of Wutong!" The Fourth Elder announced and provisionally added, "Also, your cumulative score will be taken into consideration too."

Everyone was mystified by the last sentence.

However, the allocation of opponents soon began and the Fourth Elder took the initiative to assign them.

Su Yu noticed that for the four predetermined disciples, their assigned opponents were not each other but the other disciples who were not part of the prearrangement.

A Fifth Level Peak Holy King predetermined disciple was up against a Fifth Level Upper Tier Holy King.

The disciples like Mo Wu, who were beyond the Holy King level, would face a Fifth Level Peak Holy King.

Furthermore, to guarantee that everything would go according to plan, the Fourth Elder did not assign the four predetermined disciples to Tang Yixuan, the Sixth Level Holy King.

So, Tang Yixuan's opponent must be a non-determined disciple.

Unsurprisingly, Su Yu's opponent was Yang Fan!

When their pairing was announced, the Fourth Elder seemed to unintentionally glance at Su Yu. His eyes were frosty with a hint of reprisal.

Su Yu secretly shook his head. He was a dignified Elder, and yet he was so narrow-minded!

It was one thing to shamelessly demand a disciple's item, but when his demand was not met, he would go as far as to secretly harm him; his dark nature was sickening!

When he analyzed the Faction's upper echelon, the ugliest-looking Second Elder turned out to be the most admirable.

After he had been in contact with the upper echelon of the Faction, he could tell that the Faction Master might be sanctimonious, but he lived in fear of offending the Great Elder. He stood by and did nothing when Su Yu was going to be killed by the Great Elder.

The Third Elder had used rewards to deceive the disciples to accept a deadly six-people mission. Though he looked earnest, he regarded the disciples' lives as worthless in his heart.

Not to mention the Great Elder, Fourth Elder, and Tenth Elder.

Such a large Faction, and yet only the Second Elder was trustworthy.

In such a Faction, it was hard for Su Yu to have a sense of belonging.

At this point, the single-elimination duel finally began.

Tang Yixuan was first up and his opponent was a Fifth Level Upper Tier Holy King.

Towering on the ring, Tang Yixuan stood with his hands behind and coldly glared at his opponent. "Do you want an invitation from me to leave the ring, or do you want to roll off on your own?"

His opponent, a Fifth Level Upper Tier Holy King, gave a bitter smile, cursed his bad luck and took the initiative to concede!

A Fifth Level Upper Tier Holy King's gap from a Sixth Level Holy King was just too wide!

Soon after it was Mo Wu of the Dragon Realm and she was the Faction's Four Great Core Disciples. In the presence of such transcendental existence, the Fifth Level Peak Holy King did not even step up to the ring, he had no choice but to concede.

The remaining two predetermined disciples also swiftly defeated their opponents with their absolute crushing advantages.

In a blink of an eye, out of the seemingly endless five duels, four duels had ended with jaw-dropping speed!

Finally, only the last duel remained!

It was the predetermined disciple Yang Fan against Su Yu!

A Fifth Level Upper Tier Holy King and a Fourth Level Lower Tier Holy King.

Their huge gap was like heaven and Earth.

Swish—

Yang Fan took the lead and leaped onto the ring. His fierce eyes held a hint of taunting. "Come on up for a fight, Su Yu!"

After he finished speaking, his lips were still moving as he vaguely mouthed a few words.

The others did not notice, only Su Yu could read his lips and understood.

They were those three words—my stepping stone!

The Fourth Elder had arranged a stepping stone for his own disciple!

With a cold look, Su Yu walked up to the ring with a calm expression. "Your stepping stone? I hope you don't trip over your stepping stone!"

The two men looked at each other and their battle ignited in a flash!

Chapter 156: Divine Ice Battle Armor

"You're fated to be my stepping stone, and you still dare to resist?" Yang Fan's sharp gaze pierced through Su Yu!

Su Yu's gaze was calm. His bluish-green ice flame clustered around his fingertips.

The extreme cold spread throughout the entire place.

In a split second, the ring had misted over and was covered with a dense mist. It was dreamily hazy and looked like a paradise on earth.

"Glazed Ice Flame!" Su Yu took the lead and attacked!

The bluish-green ice flames on his fingertips made a faint glow wafting in the cold mist.

In the blink of an eye, it flitted across to quietly strike Yang Fan!

Just when it was close to Yang Fan, it suddenly burst into a brilliant ice flame!

The sixty-foot high raging flame blazed everywhere in the competition room!

The place was plunged into a world of icicles in a flash!

The surging cold air with its power to freeze all living things rumbled toward Yang Fan!

The powerful Fifth Level Lower Tier Holy King was frozen into an ice sculpture without the slightest bit of resistance.

However, Yang Fan's sharp gaze hid a hint of mockery.

"Has no one ever told you that fire can control chill?" Yang Fan smiled with contempt as both his pupils burned with two balls of scarlet fire. "Divine Pupils Flames!"

Growling, Yang Fan's pupils projected two beams of weak scarlet flames.

Although they looked weak and faint, all the chill disappeared wherever he looked!

It was like the ice-cold world was consumed by a raging flame; it had completely shattered!

With the scarlet flames penetrating through space, all the mist instantly dissipated!

Every icicle had shattered and splashed and was turned into scalding water droplets which spattered everywhere.

When faced with the Divine Pupils Flames, Su Yu's most powerful strike had unexpectedly crumbled at the first counterblow!

Furthermore, when the flames headed straight for Su Yu, their power was only slightly weakened! Within one move, the stronger of the two was immediately determined!

Yang Fan absolutely crushed Su Yu with his ability! It was almost without a doubt that Yang Fan would win this duel!

Mo Wu softly sighed. "In the end, he was not as resolute as he had been at that time. Su Yu will not be able to embark on the road to the Xianyun Contest."

Previously, Su Yu had emphatically and forcefully pledged an oath in front of the Second Elder; that no matter how arduous and hard-pressed he would feel, he would use whatever means necessary to enter the Ancient Xianyun Temple and to seize the Phoenix Blood Elixir.

Now, he could not even participate in the competition to qualify for a spot, how could he talk about saving Xianer?

Unsurprisingly, Su Yu would have to make the most humiliating choice in his life.

He either had to watch his beloved woman die in front of him or let his beloved woman become his enemy's woman.

How similar was Su Yu's fate to his former master's, Li Guang's, fate?

The Fourth Elder's lips revealed a hint of coldness since Su Yu had refused to accept his request he would become Yang Fan's stepping stone!

Several defeated Fifth Level Holy Kings felt deep regret for themselves. So, it appeared that Su Yu had no chance of entering the Abyss of Wutong in the end.

Su Yu's eyes were calm and clear.

Up until the two beams of scarlet flames came attacking, he still never panicked.

That pair of calm and placid eyes reflected the two oncoming beams of scarlet flames. When they got close to his body Su Yu finally moved!

He lifted a single finger.

Swish—

Swish—

The Divine Ice Threads streamed out everywhere like a volcanic eruption from the Divine Ice Ring!

The countless strands of threads, densely woven, had quick-wittedly wrapped around Su Yu's body on their own.

At the same time, they rapidly interlaced and had woven into a layer of airtight surface!!

On closer examination, they were woven into a suit of battle armor!

A helmet, chest plate, and leg armor... An entire suit of armor covered Su Yu's body. The battle armor was crystalline and refracted ice-cold rays of light. Seen from a distance, it looked like a carved crystal battle armor. It was beautiful beyond compare.

But, within its beauty, there was dominance and might!

The extensions of the shoulder plates were turned up into the shapes of two spikes. The chest plate had a carving of nine dragons, looking like they were soaring to the highest of heavens. Row upon row of armor lamellae emitted an awe-inspiring astonishing chill.

The top of the helmet had a clear engraving of these two words 'Divine Ice'! The puny Su Yu, bolstered by the battle armor, had never looked so tall and mighty till now!

He stood tall like he was a crystal god of battle!

At this exact moment, the two beams of scarlet flames finally struck! With a flash of lightning, they shot straight at Su Yu's face!

Su Yu's eyes slowly opened and radiated ice-cold rays through the crystal helmet. "Divine Ice Battle Armor! Begin!"

In the middle of his shout, Su Yu's body suddenly erupted in bluish-green raging flames!

Before this, what was clearly only a sixty feet tall bluish-green ice flame, had now unexpectedly soared to seventy feet high!

The throbbing cold air was thirty percent stronger than before!

The power of his divine artifact, the Divine Ice Ring had finally come alive after his Artifact Control Technique had reached Stage One Lower Class!

After countless of years, the silent divine artifact of the Divine Ice Ancient Kingdom had returned to the world!

The ice-based attack power of the Divine Ice Battle Armor had been elevated, and at the same time, this greatly strengthened his defense.

As it was a divine artifact, this was part of the Divine Ice Ring's power!

Swish—

As Su Yu raised his palm, his Divine Ice Battle Armor was lifted.

The terrible two beams of scarlet flames had unexpectedly been seized in mid-air by Su Yu's right hand!

His movement was effortless and fluid. Everyone gasped!

Hiss—

The terrible scarlet flames had unexpectedly... been seized and extinguished!!

How terrible was the temperature of the bluish-green raging flame to have instantaneously dissolved the terrifying scarlet flames?

Even a Fifth Level Upper Tier Holy King would not dare to seize the flames with his bare hands!

Looking at Su Yu again, his Divine Ice Battle Armor was not damaged at all! It was like such terrible scarlet flames had never caused him any harm!

It was such a frightening defense and such a terrible chill! Everyone's eyes quaked with horror as they stared at the crystal battle armor on Su Yu!

The Third Elder and Fourth Elder gasped in shock at the same time. "A divine artifact!"

Both supreme Elders' eyes were ablaze. A divine artifact was something which even the Liuxian Faction only had a few, and only the Elders could have them.

But there were only one or two people who could control a divine artifact! Divine artifacts were from the ancient times and had previous masters. Those that came afterward in the chain of ownership could not control them.

But Su Yu, merely a disciple from outside of the Sanctum, held a divine artifact in his hands!

Moreover, he could successfully control the divine artifact and unleash the power of this divine artifact!

Could it be that the divine artifact in Su Yu's hand had already acknowledged him as its master?

If so, could Su Yu be ordered to give up his right as its master and change the acknowledgment of its master to them?

The two Elders betrayed the greed in their hearts at the same time.

Mo Wu was taken aback. "A divine artifact? He... controls a divine artifact?"

It was like a stone had stirred up a thousand waves! Su Yu had successfully controlled a divine artifact!

He had never done something so shocking!

Opposite him was Yang Fan, whose expression was stiff and frozen, he could not believe the scene before his eyes.

It was... a divine artifact!

The divine artifact had effortlessly seized and extinguished the scarlet flames!

That body which was protected by the crystal battle armor, that calm towering figure, had unexpectedly given Yang Fan an enormous amount of pressure at this moment!

An oppressive sense of being crushed by a mountain surged within him for the first time!

After a long while, the shaking on the ground gradually came to a stop.

The Third Elder's breathing slightly labored, and his old eyes stared at Su Yu's finger projecting a terrifying radiance.

At this moment, despite everyone being present, he said. "Su Yu, regardless of the outcome of this duel, come with me afterward, I've something to ask you!"

"Su Yu! I too have something to ask you!" The Fourth Elder's eyes burned with a greed of his pressing need.

If he could control the divine artifact, would his ability be raised to a whole new level?

The two Elders openly coveted his Divine Ice Ring!

Standing on the ring, Su Yu looked calm and indifferent as usual. "Wait till I finish this duel, then we'll see."

Once he finished speaking, his gaze shot towards Yang Fan from afar. In a flash, he took a single step forward, and a cold air came rolling in like it was accompanying the majestic arrival of a king on earth. "Now, it's my turn to make a move!"

Chapter 157: Imminent Departure

Swish—

Su Yu swept seventy-foot high ice flame along. His body was decked out in the Divine Ice Battle Armor.

With a touch of his toe, a cracking sound was immediately heard on the surface of the blue stone floor.

The bluestone floor fractured because he was too powerful! Under the powerful rebounded force, Su Yu shot out like an arrow taking off from a bow.

Everyone could barely see his blurred figure making a beeline for Yang Fan!

Yang Fan looked exceptionally grave with an anxious and uneasy feeling in his heart. If he was not careful, he could become a stepping stone!

With matters coming to a head, Yang Fan had no way to retreat!

"Divine Pupils Flames!" growled Yang Fan.

Both his eyes burned with the scarlet flames once again, they contained extreme heat—as small as the fire beams were.

Whoosh—

The two beams of flames shot out from his eyes and straight at Su Yu.

Su Yu had already darted closer. His huge palm was clenched into a fist. Under the impact of the high speed, the force of his fist swept the ferocious ice flame along.

It was like a burning iron ball!

Bash—

The terrifying scarlet flames were instantly crushed by the iron ball. With all the spark gone, the flames sputtered everywhere!

Yang Fan's face finally changed color. He activated his spiritual energy in his right fist and hurriedly forged ahead to meet his opponent!

"I don't believe I'll lose to you!" Tightly clenching his teeth, Yang Fan concentrated his intense spiritual energy in his fist and charged with a powerful force. He clashed with Su Yu with a loud bang!

Crack—

Both of their fists collided with a muffled sound.

Thud, thud—

Yang Fan grunted in pain and he stumbled three steps back. The taste of bile surged up his throat. His spiritual energy in his right fist dispersed while traces of the bluish-green ice flame remained.

In contrast, Su Yu stood on the same spot; he had not moved one bit.

With this punch, the greater power of the two was determined.

"Su Yu! You better consider your situation clearly!" Yang Fan was increasingly rattled within like he was suddenly falling from a precipice into an infinite abyss.

He thought Su Yu was his stepping stone, but the fact was, he turned out to be Su Yu's stepping stone!

Therefore, he used the fact that his master was overseeing this to secretly threatened him!

"My situation is already clear!" Su Yu looked calm. "My situation is this, if I fight, I will die. If I don't, I will die too. In that case, I may as well fight!"

Perhaps even if he had attained the qualification to the Abyss of Wutong, it would still be difficult to save Xianer.

But, if he did not, there would be no hope at all!

Since that was the case, it would be better for him to go for broke and fight! Even if it meant offending the Fourth Elder!

Whoosh—

Once again Su Yu was like an arrow unleashed from the bow and kitted out with his Divine Ice Battle Armor to collide with Yang Fan!

"I'll fight you!" Yang Fan roared with rancor and gave it his all to fight Su Yu head-on.

Boom—

With all his strength, Yang Fan exploded with exceptional combat power.

While driving him back at the same time, Su Yu also suffered some minor injuries.

The more the two fought the fiercer they got, both were risking it all for the last spot!

Boom, bang—

Pow—

On the ring, only the pitter-patter sounds of the intense collision could be heard.

Their figures were indistinct, only two blurred shapes could be seen. Sometimes they were separated, sometimes they clashed, and sometimes they were entangled. It was too overwhelming to follow.

After several hours, a figure finally flew backward with a huge spray of blood!

On a closer look, it was indeed Yang Fan!

He was completely covered in ice. His hair and eyebrows were coated with a dense frost. His cheeks were very pale, almost deathly pale like the color of an icicle.

He coughed up a large amount of blood from his mouth, fell from the ring, and crashed into the spectator stand!

The violent impact caused him to faint on the spot.

In comparison, slightly panting, Su Yu was out of breath and severely worn out.

Even his Divine Ice Battle Armor had some signs of wear and tear and the battle armor was loosened in many places. But, it was undeniable that Su Yu had won in the end, even though it was a hard-won victory!

The Fourth Elder's blazing eyes gradually subsided. His face was ugly.

He had arranged for Su Yu to be the last and to be used by his disciple as his stepping stone. Who knew, Yang Fan was the one who was being reduced to a stepping stone instead!

Under normal circumstances, Su Yu's final opponent would most likely be one of the four predetermined disciples or it could even be the Sixth Level Holy King, Tang Yixuan.

At that time, Su Yu would lose without a doubt!

It was under his arrangement that gave Su Yu the opportunity to trample on his disciple and get the spot!

Yang Fan, completely ruined, had already lost the qualification for the top five places.

The spot that he had prepared for his disciple was forcibly taken by Su Yu!

Concealing the chill in the depths of his eyes, the Fourth Elder gave a forced smile.

"Congratulations to you all for passing the final assessment. You all have successfully obtained the honor of becoming a garrison member of the Abyss of Wutong. You have one day to prepare, you will set off immediately tomorrow."

With these words, his gaze swept over to Su Yu. "You come with me. I, the Elder, have some queries about your performance."

The Third Elder also stood alongside the Fourth Elder with a glint in his eyes!

Unknowingly, the two Elders had unexpectedly reached a tacit understanding on the sly. Regarding the divine artifact, the Divine Ice Ring with its control technique, the two of them would first get their hands on it and then decide to whom it would belong to.

Otherwise, once the news was leaked, they might not have a chance with it!

But at this time, the expressionless Mo Wu came over with her usual detachment and coolness. "My two Elders, my master has an order. We must return the divine artifact without any delay after the completion of the duels. We have to take our leave now."

After she had spoken, her jade-like hand reached out, took hold of Su Yu's hand, and left the competition room straight away.

The eyes of the Third Elder and Fourth Elder slightly narrowed.

Could it be that Su Yu's divine artifact really belonged to that ugly lunatic?

Oddly, the two Elders did not call that into question, it was as if the Second Elder possessing a divine artifact was the most natural thing in the world.

Halfway through their return, they made sure that no one had followed them.

Su Yu then slipped his hand out of Mo Wu's delicate and warm palm.

"Thank you." Su Yu smiled, the palm of his hand still warm from her residual heat.

She was cold on the outside but warm on the inside. During crucial moments, she had always revealed her inner warmth.

Mo Wu stopped walking and turned around. Her eyes were placid. "I'm just following the Master's orders taking care of you a little, there's no need for thanks."

Su Yu smiled as before and felt gratitude in his heart.

"Senior Sister Mo, I will repay you someday. If you have any wish, I am willing to do my best to fulfill it!" Su Yu solemnly said. He would never forget anyone who had shown him kindness and grace.

To repay me? Mo Wu's beautiful eyes contemplated the distant sky.

The quiet time and space, the remote heaven and earth...that empty void was reflected in Mo Wu's eyes.

Su Yu suddenly became aware of her loneliness.

"My wish..." Mo Wu softly murmured and then slightly shook her head. "You cannot realize it... I will have to achieve it myself and use everything in my life to achieve it!"

Su Yu was slightly shocked. What type of wish did she have that she would use everything in her life to realize?

Exactly what was Mo Wu's inner, secret wish?

After returning to the courtyard with her, Su Yu immediately went into seclusion.

The ultimate clash just now was rather hard. Even though he had defeated Yang Fan, he also sustained some injuries.

However, Su Yu discovered to his surprise, that huge amount of elixir potency that settled within his body had unexpectedly begun to show some results while his blood was inflamed!

Whilst nursing his injuries at the same time, Su Yu immediately activated the "Sigh of Ice" to speed up the elixir potency in his body, circulate in his muscles and blood, improve his physique and absorb the spiritual energy from heaven and earth.

Early next morning, there were a few hours left before they had to leave and set off for the Abyss of Wutong.

Su Yu slowly opened his eyes and a flash of radiance burst forth!

His Fourth Level Upper Tier Holy King vigor slowly radiated, and abundant spiritual energy surrounded his body.

All his injuries were gone, and his ability had a breakthrough. At the same time, he had a completely new comprehension of all his cultivation techniques.

Among the ice cultivation techniques, the amplification of his spiritual energy from the Sigh of Ice was now at Stage One Top Class, he was only one step away from the rumored Stage Two!

His Icy Divine Wings were already at Stage One Top Class, he just needed a little more maturity to reach Stage Two. Then, his Icy Divine Wings would break away from his current 'Flying Wings' form and they would morph into the second form! What form would his Icy Divine Wings be at that point? How amazing would his speed be?

The Glazed Ice Flame had required two kinds of extreme ice flame to break through to Stage One Upper Class and its formidable power was exceedingly strong. If he wanted to break through to the next layer, he needed to find a new ice flame fusion. Would the formidable power surge again at that time?

The Incredible Moon-Lit Demon Eyes was only at Stage One, Su Yu had only cultivated it to Stage One Lower Class. He was still a long step away from the Upper Class. If he could cultivate the Upper Class, Su Yu would be able to induce hallucinations in strong opponents not higher than him by three tiers. It would be extremely useful when the time came.

Finally, that remnant piece of the Immortal level cultivation technique with a hundred or more characters, Su Yu could not crack the profound mystery of its inner meaning.

But, Su Yu believed that once he successfully comprehended the hundred or more characters of the Immortal level cultivation technique an extremely formidable power would erupt.

With half a day left, Su Yu still had a precious opportunity under his name to enter the Depository of Buddhist Scriptures.

But, after thinking it over repeatedly, Su Yu decided to give it up for the time being.

Firstly, in the Depository of Buddhist Scriptures, there were no legacy level lightning cultivation techniques that he wanted.

Secondly, there were many cultivation techniques already in his hands. Biting off more than he could chew and choosing to cultivate by force would be detrimental to his cultivation.

After his return from the Abyss of Wutong, he could decide again based on his ability.

Just at this time, a junior from the Li Family delivered a letter from Zhao Guang.

A month ago, Zhao Guang had left the Faction and had built a secluded cottage to mourn beside Li Guang's grave.

Su Yu felt deeply moved to even have received his letter. He felt comforted after he opened and read his letter.

Zhao Guang had already broken through to the Holy King level. At the time of writing, he had been meditating in front of Li Guang's grave.

Regarding his presence, although many members of the Li Family had opposed, they did not banish him in the end. It was said that it was tacitly approved by Patriarch Li.

Zhao Guang had entreated two things; the first was to ask Su Yu to wipe away the humiliating smear on their master's name. The second was to scrub away the injustice that their master had suffered so that he could return to the Li Family mausoleum and let his soul traveled home.

Even without Zhao Guang's reminder, Su Yu had not forgotten his oath to avenge and exonerate their master.

However, Zhao Guang's last paragraph stopped Su Yu in his tracks.

"Finally, many thanks to Junior Brother, for sweeping our master's tomb every seven days and leaving me a medium grade marrow cleansing elixir each time. Your kindness and grace I, Zhao Guang, will forever keep in mind. But I hope that when Junior Brother comes the next time, you will approach me in person. Why do you insist on coming quietly in the middle of the night?"

Wait a minute! Su Yu was taken aback!

He had previously pledged an oath that if he could not take those two people's heads, he would not be able to show his face in front of Li Guang's grave.

He had spent the last month in the Wolong Snowfield. How would he be able to cross tens of thousands of miles to travel to Li Guang's grave? And to leave the precious medium grade marrow cleansing elixir for Zhao Guang?

It was not Su Yu! It was someone else!

Could it be Patriarch Li? Only Patriarch Li would handle that so quietly.

But, how was the Li family able to easily procure the medium grade marrow cleansing elixirs to give to Zhao Guang so frequently?

Even if it was Su Yu, he would have to go through many trials before he would be lucky enough to obtain just a bottle of marrow cleansing elixir. The Li family had no such resources!

But because it was not Su Yu and not the Li Family, Su Yu realized there was another person who was willing to sweep Li Guang's tomb and secretly help his disciple to cultivate.

That person must be able to evade the attention of the Li Family's many experts and be able to avoid Zhao Guang's detection. His ability must be seriously powerful!

At least, his ability must not be beneath Patriarch Li's!

But who exactly was that person?

Who was the mystery tomb-sweeper?

Chapter 158: Heaven's Palm Print

After a short rumination, Su Yu still could not solve the Immortal technique's code. But there was no more time, the imminent departure was here at last.

When he arrived at the courtyard, Mo Wu was already waiting outside. Her lofty lovely figure was standing still. Under the weak sunlight, the classical beauty was slender and elegant; she was youthfully beautiful.

"Let's go," Mo Wu whispered without turning back. She gracefully walked away to lead the way. As it turned out, she had been waiting for Su Yu. Su Yu smiled and kept pace with her. His eyes held her beautiful reflection and her delicate fragrance wafted to his nose. When they reached the assembly point outside of the Sanctum, three other people had already arrived.

The Fourth Elder stole a look at Su Yu. He closely examined his fingers and the Divine Ice Ring was no longer there. Slightly sighing on the inside, the Fourth Elder was somewhat disappointed. "In the end, it was still taken back by the Second Elder."

As Su Yu had exposed the divine artifact to the world, it would attract others' covetous attention. If the Second Elder had not taken it back, it was inevitable that Su Yu would meet with danger. And now, any chance of that was taken care of.

Just at this point, five large birds flew in and landed. They were the Liuxian Faction's distinctive flight transportation. That year, when one of them had descended on the Shenyue Island, Su Yu could only look up. Now, he could strike and kill one with a flex of his fingers.

Although their builds were smaller than that of the eagle which arrived at the Shenyue Island, their strengths were not that different. A mere six months, Su Yu could not help but sigh with regret at the huge disparity between now and before.

"It's a long trip, so we're using the eagles to travel instead. There are only five red eagles, so five of you will have to share the four eagles," The Fourth Elder coolly said while he glided onto the one with the largest build. The remaining four were up to the five disciples to allocate among themselves.

It was inevitable that two people would have to squeeze together on the same eagle. Though each eagle was not small, it was slightly crowded for two people. No one would likely want to share with another person.

Swish—

Without a word, Su Yu reacted very quickly and went towards the nearest one to claim it first. However, just as Su Yu was about to climb onto the eagle, a blast of biting cold palm force suddenly came from behind. Although it was not packed with spiritual energy, the momentum of that palm force concealed an extremely strong cold stream. Su Yu was blasted off and flew to the side about three feet away.

Swish—

A piercing noise streaked past his side at the first chance. On a closer look, the snatcher was astoundingly Tang Yixuan, the Sixth Level Holy King!

The other three people were predetermined disciples, so Tang Yixuan would not dare to snatch from them. But Su Yu was just like him, they did not have any powerful backers. If he did not snatch from him, who could he snatch from?

"Get lost!" Tang Yixuan flexed his fingers and attacked with a strong force that left Su Yu with no choice but to fall back a few steps. Feeling slightly angry, Su Yu clenched his fists. He wanted to look for another one among the rest of the eagles, but they were all taken! He was the only one left without a ride.

The Fourth Elder's expression was calm, he turned a blind eye to the fighting. "Prepare to set off!"

Whoosh—

All the five eagles immediately flapped their wings, getting ready to fly.

Tang Yixuan coldly glanced over to Su Yu. "You got into the Abyss of Wutong by luck. You're not fit to ride with me, Tang Yixuan!" With those words, he piloted the eagle and soared to the skies. Several other eagles also left in succession.

In a blink of an eye, all the eagles were gone. But, just above the ground, Mo Wu's eagle was still hovering in mid-air. With both eyes closed, Mo Wu was sitting crossed-legged in meditation on an eagle's back and her back was facing Su Yu.

"Do you want my invitation to come up?" she asked without turning to look at him.

Su Yu smiled knowingly and swiftly got up. "Thank you, Senior Sister Mo."

Mo Wu was cold and unresponsive. She piloted the eagle to catch up with the others. Until they had caught up with Tang Yixuan's eagle, she then slightly opened her pretty eyes and swept her gaze towards Tang Yixuan. A hint of coldness burst forth in her eye. "Need my help to teach him a lesson?"

"No need! It's a problem between us, we can solve it on our own! Someday, I will personally return his favor!" Su Yu coldly glanced at Tang Yixuan and then turned back his gaze.

Mo Wu slowly closed her eyes. "Whatever, it's up to you." However, a hint of approval flashed in the corner of her eyes. Without any further words, she tended to her own cultivation and ignored Su Yu's presence. Su Yu was grateful and sat crossed-legged to cultivate too.

At the Liuxian Faction, the Faction Master and several Elders had gathered together. Apart from the Second Elder who was in seclusion and the Fourth Elder had to oversee the Abyss of Wutong, the rest of the Elders were present. The Liuxian Faction Master and the others sat around a circular table.

There were four pitch-black tokens on the table, with the word "Empire" engraved on them. Looking at the four tokens, all the higher-ups present wore grave expressions. The atmosphere was heavy.

"Three of them were found in the Wolong Snowfield, the other one was found in the vast sea." The Liuxian Faction Master's brows tightly knitted in deep contemplation.

"In the vast sea, the silver-robed guards of the Empire of Darkness snatched our Liuxian Faction's new disciple entrants; at Wolong Snowfield, the silver robed guards of the Empire of Darkness plundered our Liuxian Faction's precious treasures... What does everyone think of this?" The Liuxian Faction Master gloomily inquired.

The Third Elder said seriously. "In my opinion, it's time to notify the Alliance and inform them of this matter. The tentacles of the Empire of Darkness have already reached the hinterlands of the Liuxian Faction, we no longer have a way to retreat."

Everyone felt nervous, the Empire of Darkness was outlawed in the Zhenlong Continent. It was like an invisible blade hanging over everyone's head. If they were provoked, it would be annihilation in an instant!

"What if the Empire of Darkness decides to seek revenge ahead of time? After all, we killed four disciples from the Empire of Darkness! The one found in the vast sea had been killed by an unknown person so that could still be explained, but the three people at Wolong Snowfield were cut down by our Faction disciples!" The Fifth Elder felt apprehensive.

Everyone was quiet after hearing that. In the end, after a long silence, the Faction Master spoke again with a sigh. "If... such a day comes, we have no choice but to give up that disciple..."

After ten days, they had already crossed over a hundred thousand mountains. Traveling millions of miles on the road, the vast expanse was ten times larger than the Shenyue Island! The vastness of the Zhenlong Continent was an eye-opener for Su Yu. It was not exactly known whether the Liuxian Faction was the only power in the Zhenlong Continent.

Thinking back to the Empire of Darkness, Su Yu slightly shook his head. Outside of the Liuxian Faction, there might be other powers. It was just not known when comparing both the Liuxian Faction and Empire of Darkness which one was stronger and which one was weaker.

Shriek—

Following the eagles' screams, the several eagles finally arrived. They had landed within a misty primeval forest. There were pale and towering ancient trees. The vicissitudes of time had changed the landscape and no one could identify its real terrain from ages ago. But, there was an imprint that not even the passage of time could erase!

And that was... a palm print!

Looked down from above, the lush green and densely primeval forest had a colossal palm print a hundred-miles wide! Where the palm print was, not even a blade of grass grew. Thus, that extraordinary terrifying palm print was easily sighted!

The Twilight Mountains of the Shenyue Island, the forbidden grounds of the Fenghuang Valley, and the Divine Ice Ancient Kingdom in the vast sea all had that terrifying palm print of destruction. But the palm print in front of his eyes was even more terrifying!

In terms of its size, it was ten times bigger than any of the previously seen palm prints! An obscure force which had passed through the eons of time had remained to this day.

The eagles shuddered and shrieked. They were hovering high in the air and were afraid to land here. In the middle of that palm print, a crack of a hundred-mile length ran through it.

Striking and startling, it was as if that terrifying heaven's palm print had split the earth open with an earth-shattering crack! This crack was an abyss—The Abyss of Wutong! At the bottom of the abyss was the ruins of a civilization.

Perhaps the master of that civilization had become aware of the changes in the world and hid everyone underground ahead of time. But unfortunately, they still failed to escape their doom.

"We have arrived at the Abyss of Wutong. We can now land our eagles!" The Fourth Elder shouted, took the lead and swiftly descended. The rest of the people followed, they flew through the air and landed before the rift.

Viewed from above, the abyss was a hairline crack. But standing right in front of the rift, they found that their eyes could not see the other side! It was ten miles wide!

It was pitch-black inside the abyss. Some of the ferocious beings inside the darkness were also sending out horrible heart-pounding monstrous cries. Droughts of deathly strange smells from within the abyss assaulted their senses!

"We'll rest here for a night. Tomorrow at dawn, I'll assign you to your units." The Fourth Elder waved a hand and immediately went to check on the rest of the disciples.

Mo Wu stood still with her arms folded before the abyss. "Inside the Abyss of Wutong, there are still remnants of ancient spells. Hence, there is abundant spiritual energy here. If you have the opportunity, you must strive to join the excavation unit." These words were naturally spoken for Su Yu who was behind her, to hear.

"Excavation unit?" Su Yu was puzzled. "Don't tell me the one hundred members of the Abyss of Wutong are divided into many units?"

Mo Wu lightly nodded with her pointed snow-white chin. "There are three units. The hauling unit must quietly bring the excavated treasures back to the Faction. As you have already seen, the Wolong Snowfield was almost destroyed. The support unit arranges the food provisions, tools, and so on. In short, they are the odd-jobs members. Finally, the excavation unit enters the abyss to dig in the ruins.

"The excavation unit is not only near the ancient spells and can absorb the spiritual energy there, but the members also have the chance to unearth treasures and hand them over to the Faction to receive ample rewards. If they find a remnant volume of a Legacy level cultivation technique, they are free to enter the Depository of Buddhist Scriptures once and receive a rare top-grade marrow cleansing elixir; If they find a complete volume of legacy level cultivation technique, they are free to enter the Depository of Buddhist Scriptures three times and receive get a divine elixir, which only the Elders can take! As for an Immortal level cultivation technique, it was only discovered once and that was Han Zhi. As you can see, he became the Great Elder's disciple and went on to become the Tenth Elder.

"So, since you have taken the risk in coming here, joining the hauling and support units will make your trip pointless and a waste. It is only useful if you can join the excavation unit. At tomorrow's assignment of units, you must strive for the excavation unit assignment." At the end of her speech, Mo Wu walked toward a camp where a large numbers of disciples were stationed. They were the members of the Abyss of Wutong.

The excavation unit? Su Yu stared into the depths of the abyss with deep anticipation. His purpose was to enter the Abyss of Wutong, wasn't it? So, he had to get into the excavation unit!

With a light breath, Su Yu went to the camp. However, just as he arrived, he heard a fight! Or more accurately, it was a one-sided assault!

Ah—

Plop—

A figure came flying backward and was smashed right in front of Su Yu!

Chapter 159: The Forbidden Ruin

Su Yu's face slightly changed. Without thinking, he reached out and tried to catch the person who was tossed right in front of his face.

When he put the person down and took a closer look, Su Yu was slightly taken aback. "Senior Brother Wu!"

It was indeed Wu Qingzhou! While escorting the treasures from the Abyss of Wutong, the entire team was wiped out and he was the only one who escaped.

It was Wu Qingzhou who told Su Yu about the Abyss of Wutong's recruitment of members and gave him a way out of his predicament.

Su Yu was grateful. He had been too late to thank him, as Wu Qingzhou had already left for the Abyss of Wutong.

He never thought that when they met again, much less that it would be Wu Qingzhou who was being beaten!

"Junior Brother Su? Go quickly! Don't invite trouble to yourself." Wu Qingzhou gratefully turned back, though he was shocked to see Su Yu!

Su Yu had successfully passed that nearly impossible assessment and had come to the Abyss of Wutong?

He urged Su Yu on.

Whoosh—

Several figures darted out from within the camp and dashed over.

The one taking the lead was a boorish youth clad in red. He had squinty eyes with hanging brows and a ferocious face.

His ability was rather strong, he was a Fifth Level Upper Tier Holy King like Yang Fan! Several Fifth Level Lower Tier Holy Kings followed him. The four of them charged towards Wu Qingzhou like an angry mob!

"Who gave you permission to pick him up? Put him down and get lost!" The red-clad youth's behavior was rather fierce and harsh.

Su Yu relaxed his supporting grip on Wu Qingzhou. "Is this place so far away from the Faction that the prohibition on fighting in private no longer applies?"

"Why? Do you want to stick up for him?" The red-clad youth was surprised. He looked at Su Yu and found him unfamiliar. But, he realized Su Yu's cultivation base was only that of a Fourth Level Upper Tier Holy King, so the red-clad youth sneered. "You actually have the nerve to stick up for him? Mind your own business! Scram now before I count to three! One!" The red-clad youth coolly started counting.

Wu Qingzhou's face changed as he tried to block Su Yu. Though he was grateful, he urged Su Yu on. "Junior Brother Su, quickly go! This is the Abyss of Wutong. The Faction's rules are relaxed here! You don't want to provoke Lu Haosen because of me!"

"Relaxed rules? That's fantastic!" Su Yu moved Wu Qingzhou aside and looked over. "I will also count to three, so scram immediately! One!" Su Yu was serious.

This move stumped the fierce Lu Haosen. In the Abyss of Wutong, how could someone with such a low cultivation base be so clueless?

Suddenly, a Fifth Level Lower Tier Holy King at Lu Haosen's side seemed to realize something. He quietly whispered in his ear, "Senior Brother Lu, he looks unfamiliar, can it be... he's a new member who has just arrived today? It is said that they are mostly the Elders' predetermined disciples!"

Lu Haosen's face slightly changed. He was afraid of the consequences.

Because of the deaths of five members, the rumor was that the Faction wanted to add another five strong disciples whom they had selected. In addition, they knew early on that some of arriving members were the Elders' disciples here for the experience. Their abilities were strong and their statuses were illustrious. How could they afford to offend such people?

"So, you're Junior Brother Su. I, Lu, am to be blamed for this misunderstanding." Lu Haosen's gaze changed and he immediately looked contrite. How could he have dared to offend an Elder's disciple, even just a little bit?

"Get lost!" Su Yu flatly said. He had naturally seen Lu Haosen's fear and realized he had mistaken Su Yu for an Elder's disciple.

Su Yu despised people who bullied the weak and feared the strong.

"Yes, yes." Lu Haosen's forehead had a sheen of cold sweat. He left in a panic with the others.

Wu Qingzhou was worried instead of relieved. "Junior Brother Su, you're in big trouble! Lu Haosen is vindictive, he will retaliate! He didn't attack now, he has mistaken your identity. Once he knows the truth, he will double his reprisals against you! It's Senior Brother who implicated you!"

With a smile, Su Yu flicked a look at Lu Haosen and the others before he slightly shook his head. "Let him be."

He asked about the cause of this incident. The cause was still about that escort assignment. Among those who were wiped out, one of them was Lu Haosen's friend.

Because all of them had died in combat and only Wu Qingzhou had escaped alive, Lu Haosen was furious and wanted to seek him out to vent to his fury.

"Junior Brother Su, you really came at the wrong time!" After the brief exchange, Wu Qingzhou lightly sighed.

Su Yu raised his eyebrows. "That was the reason?"

"Junior Brother Su, you must be here to join the excavation unit? If it was a month ago, Junior Brother Su might still have a chance to get some credit, but now...ah," Wu Qingzhou said.

It turned out that the excavation within the Abyss of Wutong had already entered the finishing stages!

After decades of excavation, even if there were more ruins in the hundred-mile long Abyss of Wutong, they would not survive the years of excavation. At this time, every part of the ruin which could be excavated had already been cleaned out.

A month ago, there was a clean-up for the last section of the ruins. The sensational Artifact Control Technique and a remnant piece of an Immortal level cultivation technique were unearthed. But, tragically, the escorting members were intercepted and killed midway. The two items had fallen into the hands of the Empire of Darkness.

And now, there were no ruins left to excavate. It was not possible for Su Yu to get any credit.

"What's the point of the Faction's assessment to bring us here?" Su Yu felt deeply disappointed. After all the trials and tribulations that he had to face, only for him to arrive here and be faced with this?

Wu Qingzhou sighed. "Although the excavations were finished, there is still a forbidden ruin, yet to be unearthed. The Faction has dispatched strong disciples here for the forbidden ruin."

Su Yu was puzzled. "The forbidden ruin? How is it different from the common ruins?"

"As you can see, the common ruins have been thoroughly cleaned up. A special restricted area still exists was because, within the forbidden ruin, there are many dangers. Many ferocious demonic beasts occupy the ruin and dangerous spells also exist there. If the ordinary disciples were to enter, nine out of ten will not make it back. Therefore, it has never been excavated."

Su Yu deliberated. "Since that was the case, why did the Elders not personally undertake the task? Aren't they here to keep watch and deal with such dangerous situations?"

"If that was the case, the Elders would have already done so, why would they wait till now? A special spell exists in that forbidden ruin, anyone higher than the Dragon Realm Level Three will be forced to leave. Thus, none of the Elders can enter."

Among the Elders of the Liuxian Faction, the one with the lowest cultivation base was the youngest Tenth Elder, Han Zhi, who was of the Dragon Realm Level Four! Even he was unable to enter.

Therefore, the lower level Dragon Realm disciples like Mo Wu had come here.

Firstly, it was for their improvement through practice and, secondly, it was to use their power to open the forbidden ruin!

"I see, in that case, within the forbidden ruin, there must be many hidden never-seen-before legacies." Su Yu's eyes flashed.

Wu Qingzhou nodded seriously. "That's right! There was once a disciple who took a risk to venture into it and he brought out an ancient martial arts stone with traces of wood-based and thunder-based cultivation techniques.

"According to the Elder's conjecture at that time, the traces of techniques were preserved for tens of thousands of years; even a Legacy level cultivation technique could not achieve that. It was most likely an Immortal level cultivation technique! Therefore, in the forbidden ruin, it is possible that an Immortal level cultivation technique still exists!"

An immortal level cultivation technique? Furthermore, it was a lightning technique?

Su Yu's heart started beating wildly as his eyes narrowed! His heart surged with an uncontrollable desire within!

A lightning technique! A rare lightning technique! His Purple Star Thunderbolt had long since been cultivated to its limit and there had been no new Legacy level cultivation techniques.

If... if he could obtain that Immortal level lightning cultivation technique...

Su Yu found it hard to imagine how powerful an Immortal level lightning cultivation technique could be.

"Not surprisingly, since the Fourth Elder has brought back the Faction's high-level disciples, he will certainly make them enter the forbidden ruin to investigate." Wu Qingzhou was a bit envious.

Excitement sparkled deep within Su Yu's eyes. If he could get hold of the Immortal level lightning cultivation technique, Su Yu's hopes of charging into the Ancient Xianyun Temple would be greater!

If such a cultivation technique really existed, he must get his hands on it!

Early next morning, Su Yu was in high spirits after a day of rest. From the middle of the camp, the sound of a soft call was heard by everyone. "The Abyss of Wutong disciples are to assemble now!"

Swish—

Everyone dashed out from within the tents.

Su Yu joined the crowd and came to a vast space in the center of the camp.

As far as the eye could see, a hundred disciples were standing erect in the center. Their abilities were unevenly matched; the weakest ones were Fourth Level Lower Tier Holy Kings and the strongest ones were Sixth Level Peak Holy Kings.

Among them, the Sixth Level Holy Kings were the core excavation disciples of the Abyss of Wutong. They were responsible for upholding safety and were indispensable.

As for the preparations and hauling, they were mainly assigned to the Fourth Level Holy Kings.

The Fourth Elder scanned the crowd and when his gaze swept past Su Yu, his eyes were cool.

"The main excavation had already been completed. Everyone's main task is to sweep through the ruin once again and check for any gaps," The Fourth Elder announced.

The Abyss of Wutong disciples had no change in their expressions, they had known that the main excavation was over as early as a month ago.

"I need to build a new team to go into the remaining forbidden ruin and the team is as follows: the team leader is Mo Wu, the assistant team leaders are Wei Kang and Lan Ling, and the ordinary members will be selected among you."

Mo Wu was a strong Dragon Realm Level One Peak!

Wei Kang was the Fifth Elder's disciple and a strong Dragon Realm Level One Lower Tier!

Lan Ling was the Sixth Elder's disciple and a strong Dragon Realm Level One Lower Tier!

Mo Wu had the absolute ability to crush anyone present, hence she deserved to be the team leader and no one would refuse to comply.

"Now you can start to pick your team members!" the Fourth Elder said, "Ten Sixth Holy Kings are needed to be responsible for assisting the three team leaders to eliminate the dangers and twenty Fifth Level Holy Kings will carry out the main excavation work. If you want to enroll, you can join now!"

Rustling—

A large group of people joined immediately!

All the nine Sixth Level Holy Kings from the Abyss of Wutong had signed up and Tang Yixuan, who just arrived from the Faction, also enlisted. They made up a group of ten people.

Forty Fifth Level Holy Kings enrolled. Fifteen of them were Fifth Level Peak Holy Kings, Fifth Level Upper Tier Holy Kings numbered more than twenty and the rest were Fifth Level Lower Tier Holy Kings.

No, there was a Fourth Level Upper Tier Holy King.

The specified number of excavation workers had somehow been exceeded.

The Fourth Elder slightly frowned. "The fifteen Fifth Level Peak Holy Kings are all through. The remaining five places will be assigned in accordance with the sequence of registration!"

Whoosh—

Without any hesitation, Su Yu had swiftly acted and immediately rushed up to the Fourth Elder to put his name down.

"Ah! You're really fast!"

Everyone immediately came forward to grab a spot, soon the last four places were completely taken.

The Fourth Elder coolly glanced at Su Yu with a slight frown. He had run over quickly!

But he could not disqualify Su Yu, so he had to tacitly approve. "The team is complete. You can get ready to leave."

However, just at that moment, a red-clad figure sprang out from the crowd. He glowered at Su Yu with indignation. "Elder! I object! How could a Fourth Level kid take a spot that belonged to us, the Fifth Level Holy Kings?"

After a night of inquiries, Lu Haosen had found out that Su Yu was not any Elder's disciple, but an ordinary disciple!

He felt humiliated when he recalled his public apology.

A hidden smile flashed across the Fourth Elder's lips and he slowly nodded. "If your ability can surpass him, you can replace him."

Lu Haosen was slightly startled and he immediately flashed an icy look at Su Yu. "You took away my spot! You want to get lost on your own or shall I help you?"

Su Yu had no other choice but to step forward. "You want to challenge me?"

"Challenge? You think you deserve my challenge?" Lu Haosen bared his teeth and exposed a row of white teeth.

Su Yu slightly frowned. "Well, let's quickly get this fight over with!"

Chapter 160: The Ghost of the Ruin

Lu Haosen was stunned and he immediately grinned. "A quick fight? Yes, it will be a quick fight to defeat a piece of trash like you."

Swish—

Lu Haosen boldly made his move.

Underneath his red clothes, his muscle convulsed and gradually expanded with his abundant spiritual energy.

His soft body had been transformed into an iron-like physique! He was full of muscles!

Popping sounds came from his body and he crackled with a bang. The reverberating sound was actually his bones undergoing astonishing changes. His height grew by more than half!

"Senior Brother Lu's Golden Transformation Mantra has been cultivated to Stage One Top Class. Not only he can transform his muscles, he can also change his bones as he has reached the third realm." A junior brother looked envious.

"Junior Brother Lu is conscientious. Although his appearance may be quite unruly, he's quite cautious at the heart. You could learn more from him." A Fifth Level Peak Holy King stood with his arms folded and with admiration in his eyes as he admonished the disciples around him.

Everyone agreed. There were many dangers in the Abyss of Wutong. Caution and prudence were essential for survival and Lu Haosen understood this point extremely well.

Therefore, his habit dictated that, even if he despised Su Yu, he would never be careless.

In the blink of an eye, Lu Haosen transformed into a two-foot-high metal giant!

The terrible power of his inner strength flooded his entire body and the surface of his body appeared to have formed a thick layer of blood membrane.

Not only could the blood membrane be transformed into a form of offensive force, it could also weaken the opponent's attack as a form of defense.

Unexpectedly, Lu Haosen was a master of body refinement!

"Although I don't know how you got into the Abyss of Wutong, it's unfortunate for you to have met me the moment you have arrived!" Lu Haosen took a step and the ground slightly quaked!

The rocks underneath his feet fractured into several fine lines.

"And now, I'm going to beat you up so that you will show your true colors!" Lu Haosen growled. With his knees slightly bent, he was ready to launch!

Bang—

The rocks underneath his feet rumbled. His entire person turned into a red blur and he charged straight toward Su Yu!

He got closer within that brief instant despite the seemingly long distance.

Lu Haosen's humongous right fist, strengthened with the force of his crimson color inner strength, struck with a loud bang.

It was powerful and crushing. Su Yu felt as if he was still a mortal and a large stone had suddenly fallen on top of his head.

His body felt crushed. He found it hard to breathe and his chest felt tight.

What a powerful physical force! It was unfortunate that he had met Su Yu!

Crackle—

Bluish-green ice flames burst up, sixty feet high!

The terrible chill immediately caused a cold mist to fill the entire place.

Su Yu looked calmly at his opponent's terrible fist while his own right fist rapidly absorbed a large amount of the bluish-green ice flame.

Wheezing—

The bluish-green ice flame rapidly increased in size and converged within Su Yu's small right fist as it transformed it into a massive fist!

His opponent's gigantic fist came attacking!

Su Yu slightly turned sideways with his right fist drawn back and then...like a dragon rising from the sea, he suddenly struck with his fist!

Boom—

Both their fists collided and erupted in an explosion.

Su Yu's extreme chill clashed with Lu Haosen's inner strength and the fallout of the collision sprayed everywhere!

Thud, thud, thud—

Lu Haosen tumbled backward.

The corners of his mouth overflowed with traces of blood, his entire right arm was burnt by bluish-green ice flames and had completely turned into an icicle.

A look of anguish emerged on his face. His confidence and calm vanished in an instant. Instead, shock and alarm filled his eyes.

Was his full strike inferior to his opponent's?

He was very aware that Su Yu had held back. Otherwise, that strike would not have just jolted his insides.

The Abyss of Wutong disciples gasped. "Lu Haosen was defeated?"

"The real shocker is this new kid... When did such a freak emerge from the Faction?" Another senior disciple lightly gasped.

A Fourth Level Upper Tier Holy King had defeated a Fifth Level Upper Tier Holy King. If they had not seen it with their own eyes, they would have found it hard to believe.

The Fourth Elder slightly frowned; Su Yu had become stronger in just a few days! He could still easily prevail without the aid of the divine artifact.

Even when there was the divine artifact in his last duel with Yang Fan, it was still a hard-won victory for him.

Su Yu withdrew his fist and the sixty-foot high ice flame slowly pulled back into his body. He gave Lu Haosen a cool glance and walked away with the departing team without a word.

His cold look of indifference made Lu Haosen felt deeply humiliated. He felt the loss of face even more.

This fight was indeed fast, but it was Su Yu who easily won!

"Time is pressing. You can set out now," the Fourth Elder ordered indifferently.

Mo Wu took the lead and quickly led her team to down toward the bottom of the Abyss of Wutong. "Use your spiritual energy in your eyes to maintain your vision!" During their fall, Mo Wu immediately became aware that the abyss was pitch-black. No wonder the assessment required a strong eyesight.

Everyone activated their spiritual energies and adjusted their vision to adapt to the dark.

Only Su Yu's crystalline pupils were flickering as the darkness appeared like daylight to his eyes. Furthermore, Su Yu could even penetrate the dark abyss and see the deep bottom with a glance!

The abyss was more than thirty miles deep. If Su Yu's vision had been unable to reach fifty miles, it would have been difficult for him to detect the deep bottom.

"Everybody, pay attention to the formation!" Mo Wu stared at the bottomless dark abyss and coldly commanded them. "The three team leaders will form a drag angle and lead the way. The ten Sixth Level Holy Kings shall encircle the twenty Fifth Level Holy Kings to protect them. We'll slowly advance in a triangular formation!"

Hearing those words, the team immediately regrouped.

Su Yu and the rest of the Fifth Level Holy Kings were in the center and were swiftly surrounded by the ten Sixth Level Holy Kings. Every angle had a strong guard. They would be protected at any time if danger struck.

In terms of the angle, it just so happened that Tang Yixuan had inopportunistically appeared in Su Yu's direction.

When he saw that it was Su Yu, Tang Yixuan's lips slightly twitched. He was mean and taunting. "Aren't you powerful? Do I even need to protect you?"

Su Yu's expression was calm. "If you have the time to mock others, you better pay attention to the surroundings. Be careful, you don't know when something may attack."

"There's that self-righteousness again. I, Tang Yixuan don't need your reminder."

However, Tang Yixuan's voice had just trailed off when the team leader Mo Wu called out, "Tang Yixuan! Be careful!"

Screech—

Subtle and rapid sounds came in a dense rush from the precipice of the rock wall, aiming for the center of the team. And it just so happened to be the direction that Tang Yixuan was responsible for.

Tang Yixuan's face changed as he looked over in a fluster. It turned out to be a group of powerful bats!

A bat with the lowest cultivation base was a Fourth Level Peak Holy King and the highest was a Fifth Level Upper Tier Holy King!

There were hundreds!

Tang Yixuan hurriedly responded to the sudden invasion. His Sixth Level Holy King power erupted like never before!

Boom—

Plop—

Tang Yixuan was indeed a Sixth Level Holy King. His ability was profound and unpredictable. He killed a bat with every move he made.

When the colony of bats swarmed over, many of them were killed by him!

There were only a few bats left. There was not enough time to ward the bats off.

Two of them bypassed him and charged into the pack of Fifth Level Holy Kings and were strangled to death on the spot.

The last Fifth Level Upper Tier Holy King bat seized the opportunity to take a bite out of Tang Yixuan.

Ah—

Tang Yixuan groaned, there was a soul-stinging pain in his shoulder where he was bitten!

Tang Yixuan killed the last bat in fury, but the pain deep in his soul was slow to dissipate. So, his features were twisted and he was in pain.

"These are the demonic blood bats, you should be thankful that they are not poisonous. You will only feel the pain that's all!" Mo Wu coldly snorted with barely concealed anger!

Mo Wu's phoenix eyes were cool. "Pay attention to the surroundings. The next time, you will be beheaded without mercy!"

Obviously, Tang Yixuan's carelessness had almost caused losses to the team.

Tang Yixuan swallowed his pain and his heart slightly quivered. He did not feel that Mo Wu was making a joke.

Regaining his composure, Tang Yixuan paid close attention to the surroundings.

Though, whenever his gaze swept past Su Yu and Mo Wu, a hint of hidden venom slithered within his eyes.

Due to Tang Yixuan's encounter, many inattentive Sixth Level Holy Kings quickly braced themselves. They looked at each other because they all felt there was something strange going on.

After taking a moment to consider, they decided to voice it out to Mo Wu.

"Senior Sister Mo, there is a matter I feel like I should tell you!"

Mo Wu raised her eyebrows slightly. "Speak."

"The demonic blood bats normally live at the bottom of the abyss, they rarely venture out! We are not even down below for less than a tenth of the distance and we have encountered the demonic blood bats. This almost never happens, unless there are very special circumstances." They had been stationed here for years and knew a lot about the demonic blood bats.

Now, the appearance of the demonic blood bats in this section greatly attracted their attention.

A vigilant look slipped across Mo Wu's pretty eyes; even if it was only a coincidence, they had to guard against it.

"What type of special circumstances?" Mo Wu questioned closely.

"For the demonic blood bats have only left once before, and that was a month ago. The bottom of the abyss had an earthquake and many demonic blood bats fled the abyss in terror."

Was there an earthquake in the area a month ago? She had not heard of it before. Could it be that the Fourth Elder did not report it to the Faction?

However, an earthquake did not seem significant enough for it to be reported.

Curbing her misgivings, Mo Wu insisted, "We need to strengthen our security!"

Swish—

They crossed the darkness and encountered a few more colonies of demonic blood bats along the way.

The strange phenomenon made Mo Wu and the others even more alert.

Finally, they succeeded in their descent to the bottom of the abyss.

When their feet stepped onto the ruin, everyone was more vigilant.

"Stay in your formation! Be highly alert! There will be other dark demonic beasts other than the demonic blood bats from the precipices of the rock walls and bottom. With their strong abilities, we must not be careless!" Mo Wu lightly called out and immediately led the team to proceed to the forbidden ruin.

Su Yu's brilliant pupils looked through the dark and scanned the bottom.

Unfortunately, the bottom of the abyss had twists and turns. His line of sight was blocked by the ruin's rubble. Su Yu could only observe the surroundings within ten miles.

Suddenly, Su Yu was stunned to discover that there was an unexpected flash of a black figure ten miles away!

The figure's speed was very fast, it was beyond the speed of any Holy King! A spine-chilling scary energy also surrounded the figure's body!

His gaze quickly pursued the figure. They stood in a section of the rubble, looking for something. A moment later, he looked like he had found something and ducked into the ruin.

Thump, thump—

Su Yu's heart jumped.

Was that a man or a demonic beast?

Rumor had it that there were human-like demonic beasts in existence. Could it be that the Abyss of Wutong also had such peculiar monsters?

Su Yu gasped. The figure seemed to have discovered Su Yu's gaze and they thrust out from within the ruin!

A pair of eyes produced two scarlet rays of light! Only ten miles away, he stared coldly at Su Yu!

His body gave a shudder. Su Yu felt a numbness washed over him as those scarlet ghostly eyes stared at him!