

Nine-Dragon 221

Chapter 221: Three Great Ancient Regions

Su Yu frowned slightly. He lifted his palm and waved.

"You are only a mere Dragon Realm Level One," growled Tan Lin. "How dare you put on an act!"

Tan Lin's pride had been wounded. Ouyang Yuxin had actually judged him to be inferior to this man! However, it could be said that it was extremely strange that Su Yu had stamped the Ice Dragon Snake to death with one leg. Regardless, if a Dragon Realm Level One fought with him face to face—a Dragon Realm Level Four—would he survive more than a single attack from him?

He could see that Su Yu's movements were stiff and slow. He was clearly a layman and a newcomer to the Dragon Realm. Yet, in Ouyang Yuxin's eyes, Tan Lin was not even comparable to someone like him! Tan Lin found it ridiculous.

Puff—

The two of them exchanged blows with their palms.

Abruptly, Tan Lin's determined expression became alarmed. Although his opponent's movement was slow, Tan Lin's attack felt as if it had landed on a mountain!

Even with his formidable spiritual energy and strength, he was unable to shake Su Yu in the slightest. Instead, the energy was reflected back onto him. Tan Lin was shaken to the point that he staggered for a moment and almost fell down!

Su Yu carried 17 meteorites with him. How could he be shaken by a random strike from Tan Lin? In addition, Su Yu's new White Moon Ice Spiritual Robe could block an attack from a Dragon Realm Level Four. At this point, Tan Lin could not even injure a single soft hair on Su Yu's body.

Tan Lin glared at Su Yu. Not only had he not defeated Su Yu with a single strike as planned, but he had suffered a small loss. Tan Lin was filled with anger and humiliation. One could imagine the anger in Tan Lin's heart.

"Mister, do you think you are untouchable?" demanded Tan Lin.

Su Yu frowned slightly. He had no intentions of dealing with Tan Lin, but Tan Lin kept forcing his hand.

"Red Moon Palm!" Tan Lin attacked furiously.

Red spiritual energy surrounded his palms. His palms then changed posture, morphing into a semi-circular shape. From afar, it would have looked like a bright red moon in his hand. It was a legacy-level cultivation technique at Stage Three Top Class!

Su Yu gave a small nod. Even if this was a genius from the Alliance City, he was unable to cultivate immortal-level cultivation technique as he pleased. Even after hundreds of years, the Liuxian Faction had only gotten a remnant of a manual of an immortal-level cultivation technique. On the continent, immortal-level cultivation techniques were considered lost knowledge and were highly prized.

His opponent had unleashed his full power and clearly had no intentions of holding back. Naturally, Su Yu would not hold back either.

"Wind Shadow Step!" Su Yu said. His heart hummed. He exerted force at the tip of his toes and stepped onto the void. A giant footprint formed by a gust of fierce wind appeared under Su Yu's feet.

Palm and step collided.

Ah—

With the horrible shriek, a silhouette was sent flying through the city and crashed into a wall.

Tan Lin landed roughly and spat out a mouthful of blood. Looking down, he realized his clothes were stained dark red across the chest.

His arrogant expression was gone. Instead, astonishment was written across his deathly pale face.

"Immortal-level cultivation technique?" he gasped. "Who are you?"

Only highly powerful martial artists of the Immortal Realm possessed immortal-level cultivation techniques. Those who could so much as approach immortal-level cultivation techniques were always outstanding people with great influence.

Moreover, his opponent had managed to comprehend the immortal-level cultivation technique, implying that he had a high level of comprehension! How dominating was Ouyang Yuxin, a Heaven Ruler's young girl? Yet even the Ouyang family only had three remnants of manuals of immortal-level cultivation techniques.

Ouyang Yuxin herself had been cultivating those immortal-level cultivation techniques since she had been young, and she had only managed to hone them to Stage One Lower Class! What kind of divine being was this man, that he also managed to touch a small part of an immortal level cultivation technique?

Su Yu floated down. He did not even look at Tan Lin. He continued on his path to the Lin family.

Whiz—

A sweet-smelling wind blew, and a beautiful figure appeared stood in front of Su Yu.

"Sir, please give way!" she said. She wore flowing clothes and had an extremely magnanimous temperament. Her face was beautiful and graceful. Who else could it be but Ouyang Yuxin?

She had hurriedly assigned Master Lin a task to make a piece of equipment and then chased after them. She had not expected to find them in battle, let alone Su Yu fatally injuring Tan Lin with his leg.

Under Su Yu's mask, he raised his deep eyes slightly and looked up as if to say, What do you need?

Tan Lin dragged his body toward Ouyang Yuxin. He hid half his body behind Ouyang Yuxin, and his eyes were filled with deep veneration mixed with resentment.

"Miss Yuxin," he said, "I talked to him nicely, but he suddenly attacked and injured me!" How could he willingly admit that in a fair fight, he was not Su Yu's opponent?

Talked to me nicely? thought Su Yu. He sneered indifferently. This man was a clown. His foolish actions had turned things upside down, and Su Yu was in no mood to deal with it.

Su Yu said nothing. He circled around Ouyang Yuxin, then left quietly.

"Miss Yuxin," said Tan Lin, "it is better for you to not associate with such a strange and ruthless person like him!"

Since Su Yu had not even bothered to explain himself, Tan Lin would try to exaggerate the matter. But Ouyang Yuxin's beautiful eyebrows twitched slightly. Her clear eyes narrowed on Tan Lin.

"Is that so?" said Ouyang Yuxin. "He injured you severely?"

"My injuries are not severe, but he attacked me with a surprise attack despicably. Miss Yuxin, please avenge me!"

Ouyang Yuxin nodded her sharp, snow-white chin. "Understood! I will avenge you..."

Tan Lin was delighted. However, something unexpected happened. Ouyang Yuxin turned her pretty body and slapped Tan Lin's face!

Slap—

Having been slapped with a great strength, Tan Lin's body wheeled in a full circle. A distinct, red palm print appeared on his face.

He looked at her, incredulous. He and could not understand Ouyang Yuxin's actions, but beneath the angry gaze of her beautiful eyes, he felt guilty and frightened.

He spoke evasively. "Miss Yuxin... You..."

"Since he did not injure you fatally, I gave you another slap on his behalf!" Ouyang Yuxin said, her beautiful face as cold as ice.

Tan Lin's was filled with humiliation. "It was he who injured me. Instead of standing up for me, you slap me on his behalf?"

"Humph!" Ouyang Yuxin snapped furiously. "I asked you to come here to get the name of that nobleman and his family. I did not ask you to come here to satisfy your personal grudge!"

She had wished to win Su Yu over—by any means. She had not expected Tan Lin to foolishly use his position for private gains, offending the gentleman as a result.

"If it weren't for you constantly being at my service over the past few days, your punishment would not be as simple as a slap!" Ouyang Yuxin berated him icily. "Now, you can leave! I do not need people like you by my side!"

Tan Lin's heart was filled with hatred. Despite the fact that he was constantly at Ouyang Yuxin's service, he was not as important as this mysterious, noble gentleman of a dubious background!

"Understood!" Tan Lin said, clenching his teeth. "I will leave!"

He left with humiliation but not before shooting a fierce glare at Su Yu's back!

Ouyang Yuxin did not even look at him anymore. Instead, she cast her coldness aside and chased after Su Yu. By the time she reached him, her beautiful face then wore an elegant smile.

"I am Ouyang Yuxin," she said. "That friend of mine has no sense of propriety. He must have offended you. Please forgive us."

Su Yu nodded his chin slightly but did not open his mouth. He did his best to stay away from this kind of young lady. Tan Lin may have been a fool, but he was constantly at her service. Even if he had not performed meritorious deeds, he had done hard work. Yet, just in order to gain the favor of a stranger, Ouyang Yuxin had not hesitated to slap him, causing him to leave with humiliation.

It was clear that young lady was extremely selfish and unfeeling. If he became her friend, she would most likely abandon him the moment he lost his worth in her eyes.

The ways of the world were malicious. Su Yu understood that in order for a young lady like her to live in a land with such brutal living conditions, she had to be greedy for fame and gain. However, he found it hard to accept a young lady who considered earning favors from people of strong influence to be more important than remembering her devoted allies.

Having received no reply, Ouyang Yuxin felt embarrassed. Many young men across the whole Alliance would have paid any price to talk to her. Most were unable to gain so much as a look from her. This silver-faced nobleman, however, was impassive.

"Can I ask for your great name, Sir?" Ouyang Yuxin asked him with a smile.

There was nothing that Su Yu could do. He shook his head indifferently and did not answer.

Ouyang Yuxin was surprised. Could he be a mute?

A thread of sympathy appeared in her bright eyes. This nobleman who had such unsurpassed elegance, a magnanimous temperament, and was as handsome as a celestial being... was a mute!

In Ouyang Yuxin's heart, her impression of the elegant nobleman in the corrupted world became worse. However, what was really important was this man's relationship with Master Lin.

Hence, she did not leave. Instead, she followed him closely and questioned him continuously along the way.

Ouyang Yuxin followed Su Yu until he arrived at the entrance of Lin family's territory. Then, to her surprise, he went straight to the yard!

The expression on Ouyang Yuxin's flower-like face changed slightly.

"The Lin Family?" she muttered. "Hundred Territories Alliance—the Three Great Ancient Regions?"

Chapter 222: Lin Family Disciples

In the past, the Hundred Territories had been entirely undeveloped and wild. Many powerhouses had disappeared and died off over the years, but since ancient times, three had survived and stood at the peak of the Hundred Territories. These three powerhouses were the Three Great Ancient Regions! And the Lin family was one of these regions.

The Lin family's abilities were ranked third within the Hundred Territory Alliance, making it a true powerhouse. Even 10 Ouyang families might not even be enough to match the Lin family.

The Ouyang family could only hope to form relations with the Lin family. This thought weighed heavily on Ouyang Yuxin's mind as she continued to follow the mysterious, mute nobleman.

"Could this mute be a nobleman from the Lin family?" Ouyang Yuxin muttered to herself as she stared at the Lin family sign, her expression stern.

She stopped in her tracks, not daring to follow the mysterious man any farther. Two guards, about 40-years-old, flanked the entrance to the Lin homeland. The guards' cultivation levels were both terrifying—each reaching Dragon Realm Level Three Peak!

"Who are you?" one of the guards demanded.

Su Yu took out a letter without expression and tossed it to them. The two guards took a look, their expressions changing.

"What is your name?" one asked.

Su Yu was silent for a moment, thinking of a name on the spot.

"Yin Yu..." said Su Yu.

Since he had decided to change his look, it seemed appropriate that he should undergo a complete transformation of his identity.

"Since you were recommended by Master Lin, come in," said the guard.

The two guards stepped aside, allowing Su Yu to enter.

Ouyang Yuxin, watching the scene from the distance, opened her eyes wide. "He's not a mute? Then he was... just deliberately ignoring me?"

Ouyang Yuxin felt a ball of vengeance welling up within her. Did she offend him? He had not said so much as a single word during the entire journey here!

But upon further consideration, Ouyang Yuxin felt a hit of victory. For one thing, she now knew his name: Yin Yu.

Secondly, she knew his background. He was not a person of the Lin family. In fact, he may have been someone from outside the Alliance City! If that was the case, she definitely needed to get him into the Ouyang family! A person who was regarded highly by Master Lin, and was able to use an immortal-level technique needed to be absorbed into the Ouyang family!

Within the Lin family's territory, a guard led the way.

"I'll first take you to pay respects to the Lin family master," he said.

Su Yu nodded. "Naturally."

At the Lin family, one naturally had to first pay respects to its master.

They cut through a garden and saw several youths sparring. Su Yu was struck by how young they were. The youngest was just 15-years-old—the same age as Su Yu—but had a cultivation level of Dragon Realm Level Three! The oldest was only 19 and had a cultivation level of Dragon Realm Level Four Peak! Their potential was just slightly below that of Ouyang Yuxin's!

These were undoubtedly disciples of the Lin family. And these people were only a fraction Su Yu of those whom could observe.

The Lin family disciples, thought Su Yu. What a strong heritage!

Anyone amongst them could have been classified as a super genius in the Liuxian Faction. But here in the Lin family's territory, they were merely average.

At this moment, two 18-year-old youths were sparring. One of them was Dragon Realm Level Four Lower Tier, the other Dragon Realm Level Four Upper Tier. The Dragon Realm Level Four Upper Tier disciple was a handsome youth, his looks slightly sinister. He faced a muscular teen of Dragon Realm Level Four Lower Tier.

Their sparring was intense, each move concealing mercilessness hidden just under the surface. It did not look like a normal sparring match. Upon closer observation, Su Yu noticed that they would occasionally steal glances at a woman in red robes nearby who stood silently watching the fight.

The woman in red robes was 18. Her appearance was beautiful, with a sharp chin and fair skin, and her cultivation level was a terrifying Dragon Realm Level Four Peak—making her the most powerful individual in the entire crowd.

But, perhaps due to the fact that she had been born in the Alliance City, she was as arrogant as Ouyang Yuxin. Her chin was slightly lifted, her eyelids partially closed. Self-importance radiated from her in waves.

Ouyang Yuxin was only arrogant in her heart; her appearance still carried a regular aura. But this red-robed woman was colder. Her conceit was written upon her face.

When Su Yu noticed the way all the other youths watching the match occasionally shot glances at her, the reason for such a heated spar was clear. These two fighters were young and passionate. They probably wanted to impress the lady in red.

Rumble—

Crash—

By the time Su Yu passed through, they had already exchanged ten strokes. Ultimately, the Dragon Realm Level Four Lower Tier Lin family disciple was slightly weaker than the Upper Tier and was sent retreating with a fist.

The Dragon Realm Level Four Upper Tier disciple wore a smile of victory.

"Lin Long, perhaps you would want to train for another two years?" the victor said, openly ridiculing his opponent. "With your talent, you are destined to follow behind me!"

Lin Long was a muscular and proud man. The humiliation he felt for losing on the spot was understandable. The lady in red flared her nostrils, and her arrogant eyes scanned past him in disdain, intensifying Lin Long's shame! But in terms of ability, he could not defeat the slightly stronger Lin Hai!

Coincidentally, Lin Long was sent retreating at the same moment that Su Yu was passing through the garden without expression. He backpedaled quickly in Su Yu's direction, about to collide with him. Calmly, Su Yu put up a hand, pressing it on Lin Long's back.

Thud—

Despite the intensity in which Lin Long was sent retreating, his figure halted when he collided with the mountain that was Su Yu!

Lin Long looked around to see an unfamiliar face. With a fierce glower, Lin Long turned leveled a finger at Su Yu's nose before exclaiming in fury, "Are you blind? Can't you see that I am sparring? Who told you to stand behind me and affect my performance?"

Su Yu was confused. The youths were sparring in the pavilion, and Su Yu was walking in the garden. They were about five to six meters apart. Obviously, Lin Long had been sent flying backward because he was weaker. Yet he placed all the blame on Su Yu!

Lin Hai was stronger than him. He had already lost face in his battle and would not gain it back. But Su Yu was only Dragon Realm Level One. Who better to take his frustration out on?

After understanding the situation, Su Yu let out an angry laugh. Without changing his expression, Su Yu said, "All I saw was that you cannot take a blow and were sent flying by another person's fist. How is that my problem?"

"You dare to make excuses!" Lin Long snapped, his facial features contorting like an angry lion. "Without your interference, would I have lost so quickly?"

Su Yu shook his head, "It is okay to fail. But one who cannot accept failure—who chooses instead to place blame on others—will forever be unable to pass the hurdle!"

Even though he understood the logic, Lin Long now felt obligated to find fault in Su Yu. After his embarrassing loss, he had to salvage his reputation. Lin Long's reputation may have been important, but could Su Yu allow his pride be trampled on like this?

Su Yu's words were direct and to the point. They cut straight to the heart of Lin Long, causing his cheeks to flush red. His anger only grew. He had wanted to find someone to vent his frustrations upon, to salvage a bit of dignity today. Instead, he had been mocked by the other party, making it even more difficult for him to step down.

In the pavilion, the Lin family disciples all laughed mockingly, as if they were watching a clown. Not least of all, the lady in red. Her eyes not only showed disappointment and humor but also mild disgust!

Lin Long's face was hot. His heart pounded with frustration.

"You bloody thing!" shouted Lin Long. "I shall teach you some manners!"

Lin Long struck in a fury. The distance between them—coupled with the suddenness of Lin Long's attack—gave Su Yu no chance to evade!

Chapter 223: Unleashing His Fighting Abilities

"Scram!" shouted Lin Long as he charged.

However, Su Yu did not even need to avoid his attack! He exhibited Wind Shadow Step, and a giant footprint attacked Lin Long's chest!

Puff—

Lin Long spat a mouthful of blood and gave a horrible shriek. He was sent flying into a cluster of flowers, creating a cloud of pollen and petals.

Lin Long sat up, his expression shocked.

"Immortal-level cultivation technique?" he said. "You? How is it possible? Even I have not managed to learn it. How could you...?"

"Do you want me to do it again?" Su Yu said indifferently.

Lin Long shut his mouth at once.

At the pavilion, everyone was stunned. Their silence seemed to say, A little kid of Dragon Realm Level One actually sent Lin Long flying with a kick?

Unless they were mistaken, Su Yu must have been hiding his true cultivation base. Considering his age—just 15 years old—for him to have such a cultivation base would have made him a rare genius.

Clap, clap, clap—

The arrogant young lady in the red robe stood up and applauded him. She lifted her snow-white chin, looking like an arrogant peacock standing on a flight of stairs looking down at Su Yu.

"Not bad," she said. "You are stronger than Lin Long. Who are you? A powerful disciple training with our Lin family? If that is the case, follow me in the future."

Yet another person with an exceedingly high opinion of herself? thought Su Yu.

He shook his head. "I am not anyone related to the Lin family. I only wish to meet the home grandmaster. Please excuse me."

"Stop right there!" said the red-robed young lady, displeased. "You have not answered my question yet! Who are you? I do not wish to repeat my question a second time!"

Su Yu did not even turn his head before disappearing into the flower garden.

"Hong-er, why are you concerning yourself with this kind of people?" Lin Hai said, glaring at Su Yu's back as he left.

Lin Hong was the prettiest woman in the Lin family. Many people wished to earn her favor but did not have the opportunity to do so. Yet a little kid of dubious background had become the first to earn her favor!

Lin Hong shot a glance at Lin Hai with disdain. "Do I need you to interfere in my affairs?"

Lin Hai relented. "I was a busybody," he said. The embarrassment made his heart burn with even more jealousy.

With a guide leading the way, Su Yu came before the home grandmaster's room.

"Home grandmaster," the guard announced to the closed door, "I come bearing an introduction letter from Master Lin. He has recommended a gentleman to train in the Nine Cloud Tower."

The house became quiet for some time. After which, a gust of wind swept past them and dexterously carried the letter into the room via a crack in the door.

The ability made Su Yu blink in surprise. He did not rely on spiritual energy or a cultivation technique. Instead, he controlled the wind from Heaven and Earth to retrieve the item. What kind of skill was that?

After a long time, a dull voice could be heard from the room. "Yes," said the voice. "It is a handwritten letter from Yunhe. Yin Yu, right? You can go ahead. You there, boy, please bring him."

At the entrance of the room, a nine-year-old boy who served as doorkeeper responded to the home grandmaster. He brought Su Yu along with him and left.

After a long time, a sigh could be heard from the room.

"This Yunhe," said the voice. "How many times has it been? How many times has he given the family's resources to outsiders for free? Humph! Please inform the other doorkeepers that from today onwards, if they receive any letters of recommendation from Yunhe, deny that person entry by saying that I am not in!"

There was nothing the guards could do. Su Yu was not the first disciple recommended by Lin Yunhe. In the past, there were some outstanding disciples whom Lin Yunhe felt were promising. However, their family backgrounds were often inadequate, and they lacked resources to train. As Lin Yunhe valued talent above all else, he recommended them to train in the Lin family's Nine Cloud Tower.

Out of consideration for Lin Yunhe's status as the Lin family's honored Great Elder—as well as an influential figure of the Hundred Territories Alliance—the home grandmaster could only exercise forbearance. However, the addition of an outsider meant that there would be one less opportunity for the house's disciples. Hence, this placed the home grandmaster in a difficult position. For this reason, the home grandmaster hatched his plan at the very moment.

"Home grandmaster, should we take this Yin Yu in and nurture him into a genius of the Lin family?" the doorkeeper asked.

Among the outstanding disciples recommended by Lin Yunhe, some of them, indeed, had shocking talents and were taken in by the Lin family to be mentored and nurtured into geniuses. However, such cases were few and far between.

At the age of 15, Su Yu had the abilities to suppress someone of Dragon Realm Level Four Lower Tier. Although his abilities appeared frightening, even this might not be able to catch the eye of the Lin family. There were quite a few disciples in the Lin family who were more outstanding than Su Yu. Hence, there was no need for them to take in an outsider.

"We will discuss this after looking at his performance," concluded the grandmaster.

The small boy guided Su Yu to a copper tower deep inside the Lin family home. The copper tower stretched all the way to the clouds and was surrounded by the clouds of Heaven. Hence, it was known as the Nine Cloud Tower.

"The Nine Cloud Tower contains the earth's core, which is filled with raging flame," said the boy. "Its temperature is extremely high, and it also gives off energy from the earth's core at the same time. Staying in the raging flame for a longer period of time allows one to absorb stronger earth energy, which will allow your cultivation base to progress more."

"Nine Cloud Tower is split into two levels," the boy continued. "The first floor is at ground level, and there are few flames from the earth's core. However, for disciples of Dragon Realm Level Five and below, even that small amount of raging flames is enough. The second floor is one level below ground level, and it is filled with raging flame. Moreover, the earth core's raging flames are unstable and prone to unexpected changes, making it is extremely dangerous. If you do not have abilities above Dragon Realm Level Five, please do not enter. This tower tests your endurance. The longer you endure, the greater your gains."

"One more thing," said the small boy, expressionlessly. "When opened, the first level can only accommodate nine people, and you must fight for the chance to get in."

Su Yu nodded. "Understood."

Whiz, whiz, whi—

A great number of shadows suddenly flew overhead. Most were young men with whom he was unfamiliar. However, among the crowd, Su Yu discovered three familiar faces. Lin Long, Lin Hai, and Lin Hong had all rushed to Nine Cloud Tower.

Among the disciples of the Lin family, Lin Hong's abilities were the greatest. However, when Su Yu swept his eyes across all the disciples on site, his eyes widened. There were three young men of Dragon Realm Level Five! Among the three of them, one had just turned 20 years old and the remaining two were around 19 years old!

What amazing talents! In the Liuxian Faction, only the Fifth Elder and onward had a cultivation base of Dragon Realm Level Five, and he had only achieved his cultivation base after training for over 80 years. Even though the three people in front of him were not fully 20 years old, they had great abilities! The Lin family hid three shocking geniuses. It was little wonder that the family was, indeed, hailed as the best!

Lin Hai noticed Su Yu with a glance. Su Yu had a magnanimous temperament, unique silver hair, and a mysterious mask. Hence, it was difficult for him not to attract the attention of other people.

Lin Hai's face became hostile at once. "It's you!" he said. "You are actually here to compete with us for the resources from the Nine Cloud Tower of our Lin family?"

After hearing what was said, the other Lin family members were filled with a similar hostility. Only Su Yu remained composed, saying leisurely, "I am recommended by Elder Lin Yunhe to come here. Do you have any comments?"

Lin Hai gave an angry grunt. "Lin Yunhe? Again? He's just a meddling old bastard!"

Eh? Su Yu frowned slightly and his gaze gradually became cold. "I do not know about the factions within your family. However, Lin Yunhe is an elder of your family, and you should speak kindly of him. A big family should have the manners of a big family!"

Su Yu was grateful to Lin Yunhe for recognizing his talents. Now, Lin Yunhe was vilified by a junior, and Su Yu could not remain neutral.

Lin Hai had a lot of complaints towards Su Yu. After hearing what was said, he became filled with anger. He separated the crowd, walked over fiercely, and berated coldly, "Do I need you, an outsider, to meddle in my own family? Realize your own identity. Who do you think you are that you can interfere with the Lin family's affairs?"

"Even if I am someone insignificant," Su Yu said without passion, "I am still better than someone who does not know how to respect his elders!"

Lin Hai glared at Su Yu. "You dare to be presumptuous of my Lin family? You really do not know how death word is spelled! Seems like if I don't wake you up, you will still be unable to understand what situation you are in!"

Lin Hong thought particularly highly of Su Yu. As a result, Lin Hai was burning with jealousy. He was just asking for a reason to lay his hands on Su Yu, and the geniuses of the Lin family had no intentions of stopping him. Although they felt that Lin Hai was being unreasonable, even the most accommodating among them was uncomfortable with the thought of their training resources being used by an outsider.

Whiz—

Lin Hai made his move. He took out a sword in an instant and swung it toward Su Yu's head!

"Sky Slicing Sword!"

In a split second, the sword glowed like fireworks. It carried a piercingly cold cutting edge, as if its blade could scar the very horizon. The Lin family's disciples watched in awe. Even a few of the Dragon Realm Level Five martial artists nodded their heads in commendation.

"As expected of the Great Elder's grandson," said one. "He has actually managed to comprehend a small part of Sky Slicing Sword—one of the three immortal-level cultivation techniques of the family—and he has high hopes of achieving Stage One!"

"If an immortal-level cultivation technique has been exhibited, who would fight him?" commented another.

The power of an immortal-level cultivation technique was extraordinary and unsurpassed, allowing one a fighting chance even against someone of a greater cultivation base.

"Little kid!" cried Lin Hai. "Do you think you are the only one who knows immortal-level cultivation technique? Eat my attack!"

Su Yu had a dull gaze. He lashed out with his leg.

"Wind Shadow Step!"

Rumble—

A huge footprint appeared! The footprint and the glowing sword collided between them. However, the outcome exceeded all expectations.

Snort—

The footprint was annihilated, and a thread of remaining light from the sword continued toward Su Yu's face! Although it was only a remnant of the full attack, it could still kill!

Su Yu's expression changed slightly. As he retreated, his White Moon Ice Spiritual Robe shook.

Clang, clang—

The White Moon Ice Spiritual Robe emitted a cold spark, and a shallow mark was left behind. It had successfully blocked Lin Hai's attack!

Rub, rub, rub—

Su Yu was forced by the sword energy to retreat by three steps, and his chest tingled.

Lin Long, who had been hit by Su Yu's Wind Shadow Step attack before, wore a mocking smile. "That's all you've got, isn't it?" he said. "By secretly learning a small part of an immortal-level cultivation technique from somewhere, you think you have become someone great?"

Lin Hong was a bit disappointed and shook her head, muttering, "Seems like he is nothing more than this!"

Lin Hai smiled coldly and quickly followed up with another attack.

"Your armor is not bad," he said. "I will like to see how long you can last!"

His sword glowed again. He did not give Su Yu any chance. Every one of his moves was ruthless!

Su Yu's expression iced over. "Well," he said. "It seems I do not need to hold back anymore!"

He shook his wrist, and the meteorite bracelet fell silently. But when that seemingly ordinary bracelet hit the ground...

Rumble, rumble—

The Earth shook ferociously, as if a giant mountain had fallen, and the ground sank three meters deep beneath the bracelet. The huge crack extended in all directions.

All the Lin family's disciples stiffened, stupefied on the spot! This mysterious nobleman had been fighting with Lin Hai while carrying such a frightening weight? Training while carrying such an extremely heavy load was insane!

After training with the bracelet for one month, this was the first time Su Yu had removed the extremely heavy meteorite bracelet since first placing it on his wrist. The blood energy and spiritual energy that was constrained in his body were released to an unprecedented level. It was as if a great river had shattered a dam within him, and the water flowed powerfully.

His cultivation base, which had been constrained, was restored abruptly! His body at once became hungry and thirsty, causing it to insatiably absorb the spiritual energy from Heaven and Earth! All the spiritual energy within a half a mile radius of Su Yu was absorbed. His cultivation base, which was supposed to be Dragon Realm Level Three Lower Tier, made a breakthrough to Dragon Realm Level Three Upper Tier! That was the benefit of carrying the heaviest load one could bear!

At that moment, Lin Hai's sword headed for Su Yu. The cutting edge was swift and fierce. It dispersed the silver hair in front of Su Yu's forehead with a gust of wind and revealed the icy-cold expression in his eyes.

"Wind Shadow Step!"

The abilities of Su Yu, now released from his restraints, rose exponentially. It was the same immortal-level cultivation technique, but when exhibited at the pinnacle of his condition, its abilities rose by a level!

Titter—

A 30-foot-wide footprint stamped toward the ground from the sky! When the footprint and glowing sword collided this time around, the glowing sword did not even manage to pierce the footprint. It was extinguished by the footprint as the footprint stamped onto it—and the footprint landed on Lin Hai's chest!

Ah—

Puff—

Lin Hai screamed, gasped in astonishment, spat blood, and was sent flying. Several of his ribs were cracked on the spot.

The change in Su Yu's abilities, before and after removing the bracelet, was like the difference between two unique people! The Lin family's disciples were stunned.

Su Yu squatted down and picked up his meteorite bracelet calmly. He did so much as not look at Lin Hai. It was as if defeating him was not even an achievement worth mentioning.

The Lin family's disciples watched, all wondering, How strong is this silver-haired youngster?

However, at that moment, a shadow flew out from the Nine Cloud Tower.

"You have behaved atrociously at an important place in my Lin family!" rebuked the shadow. "I will not forgive you!"

A lump of shocking, murderous aura swept out from the tower and abruptly locked onto Su Yu! Only someone of the Immortal Realm possessed an aura that strong.

Chapter 224: Blue Spirit Flames

An elder in green robes stepped out angrily. He was short and pale, and his face was clean-shaven.

Whoosh—

It was a Lin family elder with cultivation level in the Immortal Realm. Judging by his aura, he should have been much more powerful than the Master and Great Elder of the Liuxian Faction.

Su Yu could guess who this person was. Lin Yunhe had mentioned that the elder guarding the tower was not on good terms with him... It would seem that this was the elder before him now.

A wave of shock rippled through the crowd of Lin family disciples. "Great Elder!" they whispered, finding it hard to disguise the fear in their eyes.

"He has provoked the elder!" someone murmured. "Lin Hai's grandfather!"

Another replied, "With the protective personality of the Great Elder, how could he not come out, with Lin Hai so severely injured? This silver-haired kid is in trouble!"

"Even without the incident with Lin Hai," said another, "I think that the Great Elder would still take issue with him. In the past, what talent was introduced by Lin Yunhe that has not faced some trouble with the Great Elder? They two are at odds, after all."

Su Yu understood after hearing those murmurs. Inside, he shook his head wearily.

Su Yu looked at the Great Elder's angry eyes, calmly saying, "Behaving atrociously? Why didn't you come out and say that your grandson was behaving atrociously when he was being overbearing? Only now that I have injured him do you come out and say that I am behaving atrociously!"

The Great Elder had an ugly expression. "You injure a member of the Lin family and still dare to speak such insolent words?"

Su Yu shook his head. "Insolent words? Are the people of the Lin family incapable of truth and reason?"

"Stubborn fellow!" said the Great Elder. He slowly released his aura as an Immortal, blanketing the surroundings and causing the skin of many Dragon Realm disciples to crawl.

"Enough!" a crisp voice issued from the sky.

It was soft and difficult to trace where it came from, but the Great Elder's expression suddenly changed, suppressing his aura.

"Master," he said. "This ignorant lad injured a Lin family disciple. If we do not punish him, what will happen to our reputation?"

"Let's disregard the fact that Lin Hai was weaker than him," spoke the voice. The tone of the Lin family master was calm but harbored traces of anger. "You wish to bully the weak just because you are stronger. Do you not think that we have lost enough face today?"

The family master's reasoning was sound. Lin Hai had deliberately sought out trouble with Su Yu, but he had not managed to beat him. Instead, he had been taught a lesson by Su Yu. Now that Su Yu had beaten the younger one, the older one had come to seek trouble with him as well! If news of this spread, it would sully the reputation of the Lin family.

"Yes, Master!" said the Great Elder. Even though he was furious, he sensed the anger in the words of the Lin family master and had no choice but to suppress the feelings in his heart, rushing instead to check on Lin Hai's injuries.

The Lin family master let out a sigh. "All right. Enter the Nine Cloud Tower."

Creak—

The doors of the Nine Cloud Tower silently opened. As Su Yu entered, he instantly felt the assault of a fearsome heatwave. The pain on his skin was unbearable.

He looked at the Lin family disciples around him. They were also having trouble, barely able to contain their pain. But behind their pain, it looked as though they were also deeply anticipating something.

Su Yu felt that there was a warm energy within the heat, entering his body with every breath. When the energy entered his body, Su Yu was surprised to find that the Dragon Realm Level Three Upper Tier cultivation level he had just reached did not weaken!

"What a powerful energy!" Su Yu said aloud. He was shocked; this energy was thirty percent stronger than that of the Ancient Xianyun Temple's! And this was only the entrance! The closer to the center one got, the richer the energy became.

Scanning with his eyes, Su Yu found that there were nine floating lotuses at the middle of the tower. Each lotus could accommodate one person, and under each lotus were shreds of weak, blue spirit flames radiating pure energy as it spread its heat.

The energy at the entrance was already so pure. Su Yu could only imagine if he were to cultivate atop the lotus...

Whoosh, whoosh, whoosh—

Multiple figures speedily rushed for the nine lotuses. Su Yu was not willing to fall behind. No one in the crowd could best him in terms of speed. Releasing his Divine Spirit's Heavenly Wings, Su Yu

caught up with the Dragon Realm Level Fives, trailing just behind them and was successful in getting a seat!

The rest of the lotuses were gradually occupied, but the fight was not over. Those who were weaker were immediately kicked off their lotus.

Other than the three Dragon Realm Level Fives and the Dragon Realm Level Four Peak with some reputation—whom no one dared to challenge—fights immediately broke out for the rest of the lotuses.

But there was an exception. Su Yu!

None of the Dragon Realm Level Four Upper Tiers dared to cross paths with Su Yu after witnessing how he had managed to injure Lin Hai with just a kick. Lin Hai had scratched the surface of an immortal-level technique and was regarded as the most powerful Dragon Realm Level Four Upper Tier. If he had been reduced to such a pathetic state, what would happen to the rest of them?

Although many of the Lin family disciples were angry about Su Yu occupying a seat, they could not do anything about it. Su Yu's fierce attack had brought about several unexpected outcomes.

After about a tea's time, the fights for the lotuses settled down. The nine victors were enjoying the richest resources. The rest could only retreat and settle for second best, surrounding the nine lotuses.

Su Yu closed his eyes, greedily absorbing the energy.

Three days later, Su Yu had already reached the peak of Dragon Realm Level Three Upper Tier and was just on the cusp of entering Dragon Realm Level Three Peak. Finally, the disciples around the nine lotuses had begun to leave.

Su Yu could not deny he was started to feel a bit of discomfort. Observing closely, he noticed something he had not realized until now: The flames around him had grown larger!

Su Yu suddenly felt that he was being submerged in boiling water. His entire body was racked with burning agony. Looking down, he saw that the wisps of blue spirit flames under the lotuses had become expanding balls of dancing flames!

Many of the Lin family disciples were unable to tolerate the heat and were starting to leave. Even the three Dragon Realm Level Fives were creasing their brows and clenching their teeth.

"It looks like the second level is about to open," one of them said.

The second level was the true land of flames. The place was surrounded by burning blue spirit flames. Even Dragon Realm Level Fives had to exercise caution when they entered!

As the second level grew closer to opening, the blue spirit flames seeped into the first level, forcing those with weaker cultivation levels—or those who lacked determination—out of the tower.

Su Yu felt a richer energy, clenching his teeth as the cold energy between his brows enveloped him, fighting off the heat with determination. At first, Su Yu still felt a bit of cooling relief. But as the flames grew stronger, Su Yu had no choice but to continually release more chilly energy.

Other than the three Dragon Realm Level Fives and Su Yu, all the other disciples had left.

One group of disciples who were having a hard time stood at the entrance, watching in surprise.

"Look!" one of them said. "That silver-haired lad is persevering even now, just like the three Dragon Realm Level Five geniuses!"

"Hmph!" another replied. "He must be faking it. For all we know, he might have already been poisoned by the heat!"

"Let's continue observing. Soon, the second level will open. The blue spirit flames will then be constantly erupting. No way he can still tolerate that!"

At this moment, the three Dragon Realm Level Fives began exhibiting signs of pain, clenching their teeth tightly. But the longer they could stay here, the more energy there would be, and the more benefits they would receive!

Compared to them, Su Yu's expression was relaxed, absorbing the energy in the air in large amounts.

Buzz, buzz, buzz—

Finally, his cultivation level achieved another breakthrough. He had entered the ranks of Dragon Realm Level Three Peak!

In just three days, he had achieved another breakthrough. The Nine Cloud Tower was a wondrous place, but the first level was far from enough for him to break through to Dragon Realm Level Four!

Rumble—

At this moment, a large crack opened from the ground. Powerful blue spirit flames erupted from the crack. Every eruption filled the entirety of the first level with flames! The expressions of the three Dragon Realm Level Fives changed.

"It's no good!" one of them wailed. "We can't persevere any longer! Leave, quick!"

At the critical moment, the three Dragon Realm Level Fives finally abandoned cultivating and fled the first level!

And yet, Su Yu seemed to be relaxing, sitting with his eyes closed, not realizing that he was being swallowed by the blue spirit flames! A commotion broke out between the members of the Lin family outside the tower.

Chapter 225: Legendary Genius

Had Yin Yu died?

The expressions of the Lin family's disciples changed as they watched Su Yu's still body. The disciples of Dragon Realm Level Five who had escaped shook their heads in sympathy.

"It is such a pity," one of them said. "He managed to train himself to Dragon Realm Level Three at the age of 15, and his talents are considered decent. In addition, he had managed to comprehend a small part of an immortal-level cultivation technique. Because of that, he is also considered a top genius."

A number of other Lin family disciples treated the matter coldly.

"He is not worthy of our sympathy!" someone snapped. "One must estimate his own ability before doing anything so that he can achieve success in the Martial Path. By being eager for instant success and greedy for the energy within Nine Cloud Tower, without any sense of propriety, he was swallowed by the raging flame. It serves him right!"

Creak—

Within Nine Cloud Tower, the floor had completely cracked open. Raging, blue flames soared and burned the entirety of the first level. The extremely high temperature forced the Lin family members out of the entrance.

However, at that moment, within the Blue Spirit Flames, a lump of strange scarlet flame roared up abruptly! More than half of the surrounding Blue Spirit Flames went out at once.

In the middle of it was a handsome young man in a long, white robe, his silver hair fluttering. At that moment, he sat down with his legs crossed, sitting quietly, as if he were delighted. He had a calm expression, as though he were resting in the autumn waters of a quiet lake that had no waves. Amidst the violent raging flame, he looked like the world's purest, finest, most unapproachable celestial spirit. Even if he were to extinguish all the Blue Spirit Flames, no one dared disrespect him.

"Yin Yu!" But the Lin family's disciples could say no more; they were shocked to the point that they were speechless, as though they had seen a ghost.

The three Dragon Realm Level Five disciples revealed surprised expressions and were filled with conflicting emotions. "So, he's an ice-type martial artist! What strong endurance!"

"Among the juniors in my Lin family, only Big Brother Aojue can endure the raging flame at the second level!" someone said. "The level of Yin Yu's ice techniques is indeed high!"

After hearing what was said, Lin Hong's pretty face became angry. "Who does he think he is that he can compare with Big Brother Aojue?" she said.

When the three words "Big Brother Aojue" came out from her mouth, the proud Lin Hong revealed a rare expression of adoration. It was an expression only young ladies had.

Meanwhile, some young men had resentful expressions. "Humph! If we compare him to Big Brother Aojue, aren't we bringing disgrace to Big Brother Aojue?"

The Dragon Realm Level Five disciple's words had caused everyone to be furious. "What I meant was that, in the context of tolerating the Blue Spirit Flames, Yin Yu is not inferior to Big Brother Aojue," he explained hurriedly. "However, if we talk about abilities, there is no need for comparison. After all, one is a dragon in the sky while the other one is a snake crawling on the floor."

Lin Hong's pretty face turned red and her nose wrinkled. "Humph! That is more like it! Throughout our family's history, Big Brother Aojue is the strongest genius of our Lin family's current generation! He is known as one of the Hundred Territories' Three Great Legends. A slightly talented person like Yin Yu is not even worthy of carrying shoes for Big Brother Aojue."

The Hundred Territories' Three Great Legends were the Three Great Unmatched Geniuses who stood at the top in the Hundred Territories Alliance. Every one of them had exceptional talents that

surpassed hundreds of millions of geniuses and allowed them to stand at the summit. Hence, they were known as the legendary geniuses.

As one of the Three Great Ancient Regions, the Lin family had nurtured a legendary genius: Lin Aojue.

It was rumored that he had been born possessing a cultivation base of Level Three of the Martial Path. He made a breakthrough to Holy King at the age of ten and a breakthrough to Dragon Realm at the age of 15. At the moment, he was 19 years old and about to break through to the Immortal Realm! His whole life was a legend that people looked up to.

Within Nine Cloud Tower, Su Yu opened his eyes slowly, showing a hint of disappointment. He was at Dragon Realm Level Three Peak and was still a step away from achieving Dragon Realm Level Four. The reason was simple. He had made breakthroughs consecutively and quickly, resulting in greater obstacles in front of him.

As expected, he would need to train quietly for one month before it would be possible for him to overcome the great obstacles and make a breakthrough for Dragon Realm Level Four.

Creak—

Su Yu could hear a creaking sound. When he looked at the cracked floor, he realized that there was a flight of stairs leading downward.

The Nine Cloud Tower was split into two levels—ground level and underground level—and the Blue Spirit Flames on the ground level were only a small fraction of the flames that seeped out from the underground level!

When Su Yu felt these flames, which were many times fiercer, his eyes glowed. That meant that the energy at the underground level would also be many times more powerful!

Rustle—

Su Yu stood up. Without hesitation, he headed to the underground level.

"Quick, look!" someone said. "He has entered the underground level!"

The Lin family's disciples were speechless. Many cried out in alarm. Among the disciples, only Lin Aojue alone had the right to enter the underground level. Even the three Dragon Realm Level Five disciples had never entered the underground level before. It was holy territory that belonged to Lin Aojue alone!

Suddenly, someone else had managed to enter the underground level!

Rumble—

The raging flame which blew toward Su Yu carried an extremely high temperature. The fires were all-consuming, and the Fire Cloud Seal between Su Yu's eyebrows twitched even more violently. Still, the cold energy managed to protect his body.

"What thick energy!" Su Yu said, taking a deep breath.

The great obstacles within him, previously difficult to overcome, started to loosen up immediately. Without hesitation, Su Yu passed through the flame and headed toward the central area of the underground level. In his wake, all the Blue Spirit Flames were doused.

However, when Su Yu reached the central area, his eyelid twitched in surprise. In the central area, deep within the Blue Spirit Flames, a 19-year-old man sat with his legs crossed!

He wore a black, unlined robe and had a thin body. His temperament was extremely cold. What shocked Su Yu was that here, within the frightening, raging flames, this man was training—without any protection!

When the raging flames blew toward him, even from a mere foot away, all of them were repelled by the aura that he emitted.

What a strong aura! though Su Yu. Could he be at Dragon Realm... Level Seven?

Who was he? Could it be that the Lin family, although they did not have any Dragon Realm Level Six disciples, had a frightening Dragon Realm Level Seven? His aura was horrifying. If he truly was a disciple of the Lin family, he could have gotten rid of the rest of the Lin family's disciples single-handedly!

Suddenly, the young man in the black robe opened his eyes.

The icy, cold edge of a knife passed through Su Yu's heart. Instantly, Su Yu felt as if his heart had been frozen solid.

After some time, Su Yu managed to recover. The young man in the black robe only stared at Su Yu. It seemed that even an outsider unexpectedly appearing in the underground level was not enough to shake his cold-hearted gaze.

He said coldly, "I do not need to know who you are. I will give you three breaths' time to leave this place."

Although his eyes were not filled with disdain, his words contained a measure of authority that commanded other people not to interfere with him. It was as if he was the ruler of the place.

Su Yu looked back at him calmly. "I had not planned to tell you who I am."

Then Su Yu found a suitable spot and sat down with his legs crossed.

Seeing that Su Yu had no plans of leaving, the young man's gaze turned even more frigid. He got up slowly, clasped his hands behind his back and said, "I am Lin Aojue!"

It was only a single sentence, yet it was filled with the aura of an overlord looking down upon all he surveyed. The very name Lin Aojue signified a legend that was unsurpassed—the peak of perfection that one needed to look up to—and a phenomenon which one needed to regard with veneration!

Unfortunately, Su Yu did not know this. He replied indifferently, "I do not need to know who you are. Since no need stopped me from coming in, none will drive me out, either." Su Yu remained in his spot, untouched.

Lin Aojue icy face frowned for the first time. His eyes were filled with impatience as he instructed aggressively, "Get out! If an outsider were to touch my place, my place would be stained."

The real meaning behind his words was that the appearance of Su Yu had tarnished the sanctity of this place! After hearing these words, Su Yu laughed furiously. If Su Yu's abilities were above Lin Aojue, would Lin Aojue say that his place had been stained? Ultimately, Lin Aojue considered everybody beneath his notice, and he looked down on Su Yu.

"There! I have stained the air as well," Su Yu said flatly. "You can shut your mouth and not breathe this air ever again!"

Lin Aojue's eyebrows twitched, and he became even more impatient. "I will ask you one last time. Will you leave or not?"

He appeared thoroughly agitated. It was as if tolerating Su Yu's presence for one more moment would sicken him.

Su Yu's stern eyes flashed. "What if I don't leave? Will you fight with me?"

"Fight with you?" Lin Aojue shook his head indifferently. He took a few steps toward the stairway, saying without so much as turning his head, "If you don't leave, I will leave! You are too petty and low, and I do not wish to dirty my hands!"

Lin Aojue was extremely arrogant! The reason he refused to fight Su Yu was that he felt that Su Yu was too weak, and if he fought with Su Yu, he would dirty himself! And yet, if he could not dominate this place himself, he would rather leave.

His personality carried all the gravitas of his name. It seemed that he felt everything in the world was worthy of his disdain, like an overlord ruling over all of humanity.

Su Yu was not bothered by this breed of person. Rather, he felt it was humorous. "It's even better if you leave," he said. "I can train alone without anyone's interference!"

After making up his mind, Su Yu relaxed his mind and started to absorb the astonishing energy.

Lin Aojue exited Nine Cloud Tower with his hands clasped behind his back. His appearance immediately caused a ruckus, and at once, Lin Hong lowered her snow-white chin, which she had previously raised. Her face was slightly red and she jogged toward Lin Aojue to greet him like a doting schoolgirl. Her voice was as fine as a mosquito's whine as she said, "Big Brother Aojue! Aren't you training in seclusion? Why did you come out?"

Lin Aojue did not even look at her. He replied coldly, "Someone is there. Dirty!"

It was Su Yu!

Lin Hong wrung her beautiful palms. Her gaze, previously gentle, became filled with murderous intent in an instant. "It seems this Yin Yu does not value his life! He actually affected Big Brother Aojue's training!"

Previously, Su Yu had rejected Lin Hong's proposal to accept him as her disciple, and she already nursed a grievance. Now, he had gone so far as to affect the training of Lin Aojue, whom she held in veneration. It was an affront to her pride.

Su Yu's training within Nine Cloud Tower went on for more than half a month. In this place filled with such abundant energy, Su Yu succeeded in overcoming his great obstacles and achieved Dragon Realm Level Four! Moreover, he was only a step away from Dragon Realm Level Four Upper Tier!

Apart from that, his cultivation techniques had also made some progress. The legendary-level cultivation technique Buddhist Saint's Eight Characters was a step away from entry level. The immortal-level cultivation technique Heaven's Son Gazing at Air was 90 percent comprehended. By comprehending a bit more, he would achieve Lower Class!

At the snowfield, Su Yu had made a breakthrough to Stage One Lower Class for the immortal-level cultivation technique Nine Fingers of Imaginary Thunder. Even after more than half a month, there was still a big gap separating him from achieving Upper Class.

When Su Yu comprehended Nine Fingers of Imaginary Thunder again, he realized abruptly that his "Divine Decree," which had remained stagnant for a long time, had started to make some progress. In the past, because Purple Star Thunderbolt was honed to its highest level, his Divine Decree stagnated at half divine-grade level. Now, he had discovered Nine Fingers of Imaginary Thunder. Combined with Glazed Ice Flame, his Divine Decree finally showed signs of progressing again. He was not far away from the true "Divine-Grade."

Su Yu was filled with anticipation to find out what kind of power the Divine Decree contained at the realm of Divine-Grade.

Presently, Su Yu pinched his fingers and counted. There were only ten days left before the Hundred Territories Alliance Meet. It was time for him to leave Nine Cloud Tower and make some preparations.

Titter—

Su Yu stepped out of the Nine Cloud Tower. The sunlight was dazzling, and after so much time spent in the dark, Su Yu closed his eyes instinctively.

Chirp—

However, at that moment, a deafening explosion erupted. Su Yu maintained his composure. He stood at his position for a long time. He raised his palm and slapped the air.

Clang, clang—

The sound of jingling metal entered his ears. Looking down, he realized it was two darts.

The person who had thrown the two darts was a graceful young lady with a beautiful face. She raised her snow-like chin and looked at people with a posture that implied she was looking down on them. Who else would it be but Lin Hong?

Apart from her, there were a number of the Lin family's disciples gathered around the area. They crossed their arms and waited for the show to start.

During the half a month Su Yu had spent training, Nine Cloud Tower had opened several times. However, they had not seen Su Yu coming out and, thus, had been waiting for this confrontation for some time. Everyone knew that Lin Hong adored Lin Aojue, and the mysterious nobleman known as Yin Yu had angered Lin Aojue, driving him out of Nine Cloud Tower. How could Lin Hong not be furious?

Chapter 226: Paying the Price

Lin Hong, this small proud peacock, was one creature whom one cannot afford to offend within the Lin family. No matter her temperament, or her ability...

At this moment, Lin Hong glared at Su Yu. "You finally came out?" she called. "Dog!"

Su Yu creased his brows. Lin Hong may have been beautiful, but she was exceedingly immature, and he found it difficult to accept foul-mouthed girls.

Su Yu had deflected the two flying daggers intended for him, looking on the assemblage of Lin family disciples with a cold expression. He had not expected the Lin family to treat him like an esteemed guest just because he had a letter of recommendation from Lin Yunhe, and now that he had finished his cultivation at Nine Cloud Tower, it was naturally time to leave. He walked away.

"Stop!" commanded Lin Hong, chasing after Su Yu. "Did I give you permission to leave?" She would do anything to curry the favor of Lin Aojue!

Su Yu disregarded her, speaking without turning around. "Who do you think you are? Must I stay, just because you do not give me permission to leave?"

Lin Hong had an icy gaze. "Humph! This is the Lin family! Do you think you can just leave whenever you want?"

Eh? thought Su Yu, creasing his brows.

"Why?" asked Su Yu, his voice dropping dangerously. "Does the Lin family want to keep me?"

Other than Lin Yunhe, Su Yu did not have a good impression of any other members of the Lin family.

"Keep you? For the Lin family to use you?" Lin Hong was disgusted. "You used the Lin family's resources, injured members of our family, and chased Brother Aojue away from his cultivation. Do you think you can leave without leaving something behind?"

Su Yu understood. He turned around and said, "What do you want me to leave behind?"

"A blood debt must be returned by blood!" Lin Hong spat. "You injured Lin Long and Lin Hai, causing them to spit blood. For the price of their blood, you should also leave behind a mouthful of blood. That way, you would have paid your debt to the Lin family!"

Su Yu's heart turned cold. He had been recommended here by Lin Yunhe. The only thing he owed was the favor Lin Yunhe had done for him! He had never considered that the Lin family would use this against him.

Shifting his crystalline pupils in the direction of the family master, Su Yu asked coldly, "Do the two of you also think that I owe you people a favor?"

But his words confused the gathered disciples. They looked around, baffled.

"Your visual prowess is not bad, to be able to see me and the Great Elder from ten miles away," the family master's words of admiration floated down from the sky.

The disciples were shocked. Just how strong were Su Yu's visual abilities?

Su Yu calmly replied, "Answer the question."

His tone was filled with an unexplainable disappointment. The Lin family disciples frowned, enraged that he would talk like this to the master of their family!

After a moment's silence, the Lin family master said, "You do not owe us for utilizing Nine Cloud Tower; that reconciles the favor of Lin Yunhe. What you owe us for is your interruption of Lin Aojue's cultivation!"

The green-robed Great Elder's voice also sounded in the sky. "Humph! Aojue's latent talents are astonishing. Who are you, that you think yourself worthy of interrupting his cultivation? 100 of you could not repay for a day of Aojue's cultivation!"

So, that was it.

Su Yu's gaze was dark. "It is not within my power to interrupt your genius while he is cultivating. In fact, he left on his own accord. When did I force him?"

The green-robed Great Elder grunted. "Unreasonable! Even after you knew that Aojue preferred to have the place to his own, you continued to stay there. If that doesn't count as forcing him away, what does?"

Su Yu let out a cold laugh in his heart. "You are the unreasonable one!" he said. "According to your logic, if he wanted the whole world to himself, would I then be required to kill myself to satisfy his needs? Would I not be forcing him, then?" Su Yu continued his words forcefully, fighting back against the ridiculous words of the elder. "You have ruled that Nine Cloud Tower is a public cultivation area for Lin family members. What right does he, Lin Aojue, have to claim the area as his own?"

Judging by the looks on their faces, Su Yu's words were well-received. Several disciples of the Lin family also seemed to feel that the words of the Great Elder were a bit unreasonable. But ultimately, the Lin family held Lin Aojue in such high regard that even if it was his own fault for delaying his cultivation, they would find a way to place the blame on Su Yu.

"Do not try to twist our words!" shouted the Great Elder. "Would the Lin family frame you? Anyway, you have to pay the price in blood for interrupting Aojue's cultivation!"

Su Yu's gaze turned completely icy. He did not wish to argue further. "Fine," he said. "I understand your wishes! If that is what you desire, attack!"

No matter who was to injure him, Su Yu was going to let that person pay double the price!

The Lin family master sighed. "The Lin family would never use our might to bully the weak," he said. "Since the incident happened between you juniors, it should naturally be resolved between the juniors. Lin Hong shall battle you. If you can hold up against ten moves, you are free to go, no matter the outcome!"

Many of the Lin family disciples were filled with anticipation. Lin Hong was a Dragon Realm Level Four Peak. Su Yu, just half a month ago, at full power, had only barely managed to defeat Lin Hai, who was Dragon Realm Level Four Upper Tier. Against Lin Hong, his chances were slim. Escaping without several mouthfuls of blood would be incredibly difficult.

Is that so? thought Su Yu.

"Are there any restrictions?" asked Su Yu. "Anything I can't do?"

If Su Yu was permitted only to stand and take the beating without fighting back, the outcome would be clear.

"As you like," the Lin family master simply replied.

Su Yu nodded. "Then the outcome is clear."

As his words entered the ears of Lin Hong, a large smile crept across her face. "I see that you are an intelligent person. The outcome of our battle is clear! I do not need ten moves. Three moves will be enough! Prepare to spit blood and faint before the Lin family throws you out on the streets like the dog you are. I'm afraid you won't like the feeling!" Lin Hong was arrogant, looking down on the likes of Su Yu.

"You talk a lot," Su Yu calmly replied.

Lin Hong clenched her teeth. "It gives you more time to catch your breath..."

Creak—

At this moment, a white light flickered around Su Yu.

The ice-white wings behind him were a hundred zhang long, exaggerated and beautiful, as if they were the wings of a spirit. With hardly a move, Su Yu disappeared from where he stood.

When he appeared again, he was half a meter away from Lin Hong—the two of them practically face to face!

"Ah...!" Lin Hong cried in surprise.

She could not react in time, and her cry of surprise was ceased abruptly, replaced by a pathetic wail, when Su Yu's fist connected with her stomach.

The force pierced through her stomach, knocking her to ten meters back. A streak of fresh blood flowed from the corner of her lips.

The crowd of Lin family disciples gasped in shock.

"What a terrifying movement technique!"

"Lin Hong did not even have the chance to react before she was punched!"

Su Yu stood his ground. The pure white wings behind his back shimmered with a gentle glow.

"You still have nine moves," Su Yu said calmly. Anyone could have detected the hint of mockery in his voice.

Lin Hong, who had been confident that she could make Su Yu vomit blood in three moves, had been sent flying back and spitting blood from just one of Su Yu's fists! And that was because Su Yu had held back. Otherwise, she might have even been killed by his strike.

To Lin Hong, Su Yu's words felt like a higher being taking pity on her. How could the proud Lin Hong take this?

"It's not over!" Lin Hong said, clenching her teeth and striking in fury. "Azure Wave Fist!"

The top class of a legacy-level technique, coupled with the spirit energy of the Dragon Realm Level Four Peak, created a power mightier than that of Lin Hai's immortal level technique. Her hands were like waves, striking forward with many combinations.

Su Yu stood his ground, merely extending his palm. "Glazed Ice Flame!"

They were both legacy-level techniques, but the Glazed Ice Flame was considered more powerful—just below half-immortal level techniques.

Rumble—

Ah—

The two palms collided. Lin Hong felt as if she had been hit by a mountain. She violently spat blood as she retreated several steps back.

"You still have eight moves!" said Su Yu. He still stood at his original position, not moving an inch!

Lin Hong's stomach quivered. Her face grew red. She was more irate than ever. "I will never forgive you! White Moon Breeze Palm!"

It was a half-immortal level technique, its power halfway between immortal level and legacy level, and much more powerful than the Glazed Ice Flame. Furthermore, Lin Hong's level of perception was above average, allowing her to cultivate the technique to Stage One Lower Class.

Her palm reached out with hungrily, seeking to destroy everything, harboring an intense energy as it struck towards Su Yu!

"Die!" Lin Hong screamed in fury.

Su Yu's figure, which had remained in the same spot until now, finally moved.

"Wind Shadow Step!"

Rumble—

It was the same Wind Shadow Step move, yet its power must have doubled from the time he had defeated Lin Hai with it! Su Yu's cultivation level was revealed at this point!

"Dragon Realm Level Four!" several onlookers gasped.

The three Dragon Realm Level Five disciples were shocked. Before Su Yu had entered Nine Cloud Tower, he had only been Dragon Realm Level Three Upper Tier. But now, he was Dragon Realm Level Four!

The improved power of the Wind Shadow Step collided with Lin Hong's half immortal level technique!

Rumble—

Ah—

With another pathetic howl, Lin Hong's injured body suffered further trauma. She spat blood on the spot and fainted as her body went crashing limply into the flower bushes.

"It's over," said Su Yu. "It looks like you were unable to get any blood from me."

He gently shook his head, keeping his white wings as he quietly left!

The Lin family disciples were chattering. What a merciless person! He had not held back against the beautiful Lin Hong! But no one dared to seek revenge for her. He had knocked her out in just three moves. Other than the three Dragon Realm Level Five disciples, no one was confident that they could defeat Su Yu. Furthermore, this was a battle that had been arranged by the master and the Great Elder. If Su Yu won, he was free to go. Who would dare to stop Su Yu at this point?

In the house of the master, the expression of the green-robed Great Elder was ugly. "Aojue, what do you think?"

Behind him stood Lin Aojue. He wore a cool look, his eyes devoid of emotion. "Average," Lin Aojue said. "I can kill him in one second, with one move."

Hearing this, the green-robed elder relaxed. He threw a sidelong glance at the family master, an old man over 80 years of age. "Master, do you think we should absorb him as an affiliate of the Lin family? Let him work for the Lin family?"

The confrontation they had arranged between Lin Hong and Su Yu had simply been to estimate his abilities. They were trying to judge whether Su Yu would be useful for the Lin family.

The old man was silent for a moment before throwing the question back at him. "What do you think?"

"His potential is adequate," said the elder. "Based on past experiences, he makes the cut to be absorbed into the Lin family. I believe he is a lad from outside the city. There would have no reason to object." The elder paused a moment, then grunted. "His character is lacking, though. It would be problematic to make use of him."

The old man replied, "Isn't that obvious?"

In his heart, the old master sighed. This man known as Yin Yu had defeated a Dragon Realm Level Four Peak despite being Dragon Realm Level Four Lower Tier, which was quite impressive. Based on past experiences, the Lin family would, indeed, have tried to absorb him into the family and get him to work for them.

But this feeling of consideration quickly faded. Yin Yu had offended the Great Elder as well as Lin Aojue. Such a person was unable to stay in the family. Besides which, the master had seen many geniuses. Su Yu was but an ordinary genius.

As Su Yu walked out of the Lin family compound, a fiery red robe and an intoxicating fragrance approached him. A pretty face smiled, her lips bright red and her teeth shining white. Her nose was sharp, her figure slender. She was incredibly beautiful. It was Ouyang Yuxin.

"Sir Yin Yu," said Ouyang Yuxin, her voice lowered to a purr. She pouted slightly, looking mischievous. "I have waited for a long time."

Su Yu appraised her thoughtfully. This woman was gentle and friendly—very different from her arrogant personality back at the snowfield.

Chapter 227: Two Families' Feud

Su Yu frowned indifferently. Yuxin highly valued esteem. In addition, she was cold and heartless. Su Yu did not like this kind of girl.

"What do you have to offer me?" Su Yu said indifferently. After resting for more than half a month, his throat had recovered slightly. His voice was no longer hoarse and unpleasant to listen to like it had been in the past. Although, at the moment, it was a bit low and cold.

Combined with Su Yu's mysterious appearance, Su Yu's words were a bit unfathomable.

Ouyang Yuxin's beautiful eyes looked at him up and down. No matter how she looked at Su Yu, Su Yu gave her an impression that he was a handsome, free, and fine gentleman in the corrupted world. It was difficult for her to not have a good impression of him.

"Mister Yin Yu, do you have plans to go somewhere else?" Ouyang Yuxin said with a sincere expression. "If you don't mind, do you wish to come to my Ouyang family for a chat? We will treat you nicely."

Su Yu rejected her firmly. "I'm sorry. I have something that I have to attend to, and I cannot accompany you."

Ouyang Yuxin felt slightly resentful. This Mister Yin Yu was a bit cold. He did not spare a thought for her feelings and rejected her on the spot. At that moment, Ouyang Yuxin wondered if the looks she was so proud of were really so outstanding. Why was Yin Yu completely not moved by her?

"Wait!" she said. "Mister Yin Yu, are you here for the Alliance Meet?"

"You have investigated me?" Su Yu said, turning his head and his gaze gradually toward her.

Ouyang Yuxin said hurriedly, "Mister Yin Yu, keep calm. I have an opportunity that I wish to extend to you. It is an opportunity to take a look at the abilities of the strong martial artists participating in the Alliance Meet beforehand."

Su Yu perked up at this. "What opportunity?" he asked.

"Yunxiang Cabinet Master's birthday celebration!" Ouyang Yuxin said offhandedly.

Yunxiang Cabinet? thought Su Yu. A thread of murderous intent burned deep inside Su Yu. That was the place where An Yurou was imprisoned—the place where Lu Jun practiced his irregular cultivation techniques!

"The Yunxiang Cabinet Master is 18 years old," said Ouyang Yuxin, "and she is one of the Hundred Territories' Three Great Legends. She has invited many of the geniuses of the current generation in the Hundred Territories City to celebrate her birthday. On the surface, it is to celebrate her birthday. In reality, she wants to take a look at the abilities of the geniuses before the Alliance Meet." She paused, flashing a thin grin. "If Mister Yin Yu is interested, you can accompany me and participate in the birthday celebration."

Interested? Of course, Su Yu was interested!

Even if they did not test out the abilities of the geniuses, Su Yu wanted to know what kind of divine being was the Yunxiang Cabinet Master! As he wanted to rescue An Yurou, he would have to go the Yunxiang Cabinet eventually. Hence, even if he wished not to interact much with Ouyang Yuxin, he would have to make do with it.

"Lead the way," he said.

Ouyang Yuxin revealed a delighted expression. She smiled triumphantly; she had gotten her way.

Ouyang Yuxin brought Su Yu to the Ouyang family. In terms of influence, Ouyang family was not even one-tenth of the Lin family. However, its influence was more than three times that of the Liuxian Faction. There were more than thirty strong martial artists who were at Dragon Realm Level Three and above.

Su Yu stood at the entrance of the mansion and was about to enter. At that moment, a group of Ouyang family bodyguards filled with murderous intent returned hurriedly. The person leading the group was Ouyang Yuxin's brother, Ouyang Taiyi, who had suffered losses at the hands of Su Yu before.

"Sister! We have not found it yet!" said Ouyang Taiyi. He felt dejected, and his eyes were filled with a bit of hatred: "That damned bastard. He injured me and snatched the snakeskin of the Ice Dragon Snake away, causing us to pay a heavy price to finally prepare a present for Yunxiang Cabinet Master's birthday celebration. He committed a heinous crime!"

Su Yu's eyebrows twitched slightly, and he asked, "Miss Ouyang, who are they looking for?"

Ouyang Yuxin gave a helpless expression. "The Yunxiang Cabinet Master loves icy cold items. The snakeskin of the Ice Dragon Snake is quite a rare material. However, we did not expect a beggar to snatch the snakeskin of the Ice Dragon Snake away from us. To date, we still have not found him."

When Ouyang Yuxin mentioned the beggar, her beautiful eyes filled with detest.

At that moment, Ouyang Taiyi noticed the mysterious gentleman standing beside his sister. This strange man was mysterious, unpredictable, and had a magnanimous temperament.

"Sister, who is he?" Ouyang Taiyi frowned slightly, wearing an unsatisfied expression.

Ouyang Yuxin smiled gently. "He is a distinguished guest. Mister Yin Yu."

Ouyang Taiyi disliked other young men interacting with his sister alone. "Sister," he said with a frown. "Mister Feng Yue has taken a liking to you. You had better not mingle with a man of dubious background like this for long. What if Mister Feng Yue misunderstands and starts giving you the cold shoulder? The Ouyang family has finally gotten acquainted with the Feng family."

"Little child! What nonsense are you saying?" Ouyang Yuxin snapped, glaring at her brother.

However, it was not difficult to notice the pride etched on her beautiful face—a sense of pride at the idea that a young man who stood at the top had taken a fancy to her. She was ambitious and proud and certainly willing to join forces with her enemy. It could be seen that that young man's position was extraordinary.

"The Feng family is one of the Three Great Ancient Regions of the Hundred Territories," Ouyang Yuxin explained with a sense of pride. "Mister Feng Yue is one of the Three Great Legends!"

The Three Great Legends, though Su Yu. Lin Aojue, the Yunxiang Cabinet Master, and Mister Feng Yue!

Su Yu nodded his head indifferently. He was not very interested in Ouyang Yuxin's private life. It was difficult for him to have a good impression of a girl who placed such a high value on material gains.

Later, Su Yu paid an official visit to Ouyang family grandmaster—Ouyang Yuxin's father—in his private home. He had an old-fashioned look with a solemn expression. Almost at once, Su Yu concluded it would not be a good idea to have any dealings with him. Still, Su Yu was polite and respectful.

"Greetings to Ouyang family grandmaster," said Su Yu. "Junior Yin Yu has taken the liberty to come and visit you."

The Ouyang family grandmaster nodded his head slightly. He was expressionless: "Since you are Yuxin's friend, there is no need to stand on ceremony. For the next few days, stay at the Ouyang family as our guest. Taiyi, take him to the best room."

After waiting for Su Yu to leave, Ouyang family grandmaster looked at his daughter in an old-fashioned manner. "You have investigated his family's background; how is it?"

Ouyang Yuxin frowned slightly: "I am unable to find any information. I only know that his origin is mysterious, and his relationship with Master Lin... looks as if it is not as firm as I at first expected. They seem to be strangers who only met by chance, which is disappointing. His worth has decreased more than I expected. However, for Master Lin to see him off politely as he did, there must be something unique about him. Hence, it is not a bad idea to do our best and win him over."

After hearing Ouyang Yuxin's plot, the Ouyang family grandmaster's old-fashioned face turned strict. "Yuxin! In this world, you cannot put your own interests first in every matter!" he reprimanded. "You must be unbiased!"

Ouyang Yuxin was stunned. She had managed to solicit a talent that her family could use, and instead of being praised, she was scolded.

Dissatisfied, Ouyang Yuxin shot back, "The competition in the Hundred Territories is very intense. Only by fighting for benefits everywhere can our Ouyang family have opportunities endure and linger on. If we did that, we would not have fallen from being one of the Four Great Ancient Regions, and we would not be in such dire straits!"

"Are you saying I am incompetent?" the Ouyang family grandmaster said, glaring at her.

Ouyang Yuxin realized she had said too much. Seeing that she had enraged her father, she did not dare talk back to him anymore. However, stubbornness could be still seen deep in her beautiful eyes.

100 years ago, the Ouyang family had been an ancient force handed down from ages past. Although the Ouyang family was incomparable to the Lin family, it was roughly half as powerful as the Lin family and maintained a favorable reputation within the Hundred Territories.

However, the Ouyang family met with a disaster where they were attacked by a horde of beasts. More than half of the family's strongest martial artists died, and the family's influence plummeted.

In addition, her father had concerned himself with the well-being of others. During the disaster, he had helped all the weaker and smaller forces around him. In the end, the Ouyang family suffered heavy losses as a result. By chance, the influence of some of those small forces grew rapidly, and they became more influential than the Ouyang family.

Now, some of those forces had become very influential. They tried in vain to swallow up the inside information left behind by the Ouyang family, thus creating significant trouble and instability within the Ouyang family. Although the family members would never have said as much, they secretly blamed the grandmaster.

After receiving her daughter's message, the Ouyang family grandmaster became stupefied for some time. He then gestured in admonition and said, disappointedly, "You can leave now."

Ouyang Yuxin felt remorseful. As she was leaving, she said, "Father, with my hands, I will undoubtedly restore the Ouyang family to its former glory... even if I have to use... underhanded means!"

Yes, underhanded means! Gain the favors of as many forces as possible and use all the benefits she could find! Through her scheming, she had already managed to win over the Yunxiang Cabinet, Mister Feng Yue, and Mister Yin Yu.

After waiting for her to leave, the Ouyang family grandmaster's old-fashioned face changed. He wore an ashamed expression.

"Yuxin," he muttered, "your father who has let you down!"

As a parent, he had implicated his daughter, inadvertently forcing her to take on the heavy responsibility of the family. Even though she was at an age when she was supposed to be innocent and adventurous, she was full of schemes and plots.

Meanwhile, Ouyang Taiyi was quite hostile toward Su Yu. When he brought Su Yu to the room, he said angrily, "Humph! I'll warn you now: Don't even think of laying your hands on my sister! You are undeserving of her!"

Su Yu wore a dull expression. He was not interested in Ouyang Yuxin.

"She is fated to be Mister Feng Yue's woman," Ouyang Taiyi went on. "Mister Feng Yue's abilities, talents, and identity are not something that a person like you can compare to!"

Ouyang Taiyi took on an extremely eager look when he spoke of Mister Feng Yue. He seemed quite proud that his sister had gained his favor.

"I don't understand," he went on. "How could a person who needs to lodge here with my Ouyang family be of any use to us?"

Su Yu smiled but did not explain anything. It was true; his identity and talent were indeed ordinary and could not be compared to a nobleman of the ancient region. However, Su Yu had faith in himself. The Nine-Dragon Cauldron and Yun Yazhi... Su Yu's future accomplishment would not be bested by Mister Feng Yue.

At that moment, there was a ruckus outside. Su Yu could hear faint sounds of fighting.

Ouyang Taiyi was filled with anger at once. "It's the Zeng family bastards again! Behave yourself and wait here. After I deal with these bastards, I will come back for you again!"

Ouyang Taiyi left hurriedly. As soon as he did, Su Yu leaped onto the roof, revolved his crystalline pupils, and observed the situation with his hands clasped behind his back.

Su Yu squinted. It was actually a group of strong martial artists, smashing everything along the way and trespassing onto Ouyang family's land. A middle-aged man with a cultivation base of Immortal Realm led the group. There were four other attendants of Dragon Realm Level Seven and an 18-year-old young man with an extremely frivolous expression.

The Ouyang family grandmaster had already led strong martial artists over to meet them. There were three Dragon Realm Level Sevens in addition to the Ouyang family grandmaster himself, who had a cultivation base of the Immortal Realm. At face value, the Ouyang family was inferior to the Zeng family.

"Zeng Nantian, you are presumptuous!" the Ouyang family grandmaster called out. He was filled with anger and berated the trespassers as he swept his eyes across the area. Several decorations along the way were in tatters and numerous attendants of other families were injured.

The middle-aged man, Zeng Nantian, spoke up. "Greetings, Ouyang Long. You haven't changed a bit. Apart from barking like a dog, there are no improvements... Oh, no. Your barking is louder now!"

Zeng Nantian was extremely arrogant, stooping so low as to humiliate the Ouyang family grandmaster in front of everyone.

Ouyang Long was so furious that his face turned red. However, he restrained himself and did not make a move. "Zeng Nantian," he said, "this is the Hundred Territories City. If you wish to instigate a war between two families, you are risking that I will report you to the Alliance's Master!"

He was, however, no match for Zeng Nantian. Zeng Nantian had nothing to fear because of strong backing.

"Humph!" scoffed Zeng Nantian. "What's the harm of you reporting up all the way to Alliance's Master? It is only right and proper that you return the money you owe! Unless I sow discord unreasonably, the Alliance's Master will not concern himself with this matter!"

"Shameless!" a loud and charming voice called out.

Ouyang Yuxin walked over quickly. Her beautiful face was filled with anger.

"Since when does our Ouyang family owe you money?" she demanded.

Zeng Nantian laughed loudly. "Do you need me to repeat myself? 100 years ago, when your Ouyang family was attacked by the horde of beasts, our Zeng family helped your family by lending you 100,000 alliance coins. 100 years later, with compounded interest, your Ouyang family owes us 1 million alliance coins!"

Ouyang Yuxin laughed sardonically. "You are utterly shameless!" she replied. "100 years ago, it was our Ouyang family that offered your family 100,000 alliance coins—for free—to help your family get out of your difficult situation. Later, when your family managed to get back up on its feet, they returned us the 100,000 alliance coins. Where did this tall tale come from that we owe your family alliance coins?"

Chapter 228: Sending the Enemy Away with a Sentence

At this moment, the 18-year-old youth following the group threw his arms behind his head, walking forward with exaggerated movements, his eyes burning with passion. He greedily observed Ouyang Yuxin.

"Yuxin, my wife!" he declared. "What you say is wrong. Since the Ouyang family donated the money to us, the money belongs to the Zeng family. When we gave the same amount to you, that is called lending. Where's the wrong in that?"

Ouyang Yuxin's eyes filled with disgust. "Scram! Who is your wife? Zeng Shenbao, mind your words! The Zeng family forgets the favors others have done for them! We, the Ouyang family, do not owe you anything!"

Zeng Nantian laughed coldly. "We the Zeng family decide if you owe us anything or not. Is the Ouyang family still living 100 years in the past?"

The Zeng family broke into fits of mocking laughter. The Ouyang family became enraged by the humiliation.

Not only were they in trouble, but they were being hounded—and hounded by a dog that the Ouyang family had once saved!

"I'll give the Ouyang family two choices," declared Zeng Nantian. "First, you can repay the money owed, 1 million alliance coins and not one less! Or, we meet at the Life and Death Stage, where we will have a deathmatch!"

The Life and Death Stage was a platform in the Alliance City designed for resolving conflicts. With the approval of both parties, participants could battle to the death on the stage. With the Zeng family's current battle powers, the Ouyang family would be exterminated.

Ouyang Taiyi was furious. "You would dare? My sister is going to marry Sir Feng Yue! Just try to touch the Ouyang family!"

But Zeng Shenbao would not even look at him. "Did I grant permission to this piece of trash to speak?"

Even though they were the same age, Zeng Shenbao was Dragon Realm Level Five. By that account, he had the right to call Ouyang Taiyi trash.

"You are looking at Sir Feng Yue to help you?" Zeng Shenbao went on. "Who doesn't know that Sir Feng Yue is a big flirt. My wife Yuxin? Marrying him? What joke are you playing? At most, she would sleep with him for a day and get a little benefit from the Feng family. That is all!"

Zeng Shenbao was direct and to the point. After saying this, Zeng Shenbao looked at Ouyang Yuxin, laughing as he said, "My wife Yuxin. Why don't you marry me? Once you become my wife, the debt your family owes us can be waived off!"

Zeng Nantian nodded. "As long as Ouyang Yuxin is willing to marry, I do not even need to make provision for my son!"

1 million alliance coins equaled half of the Ouyang family's possessions. How could they be willing to give that away?

The Ouyang family was furious, their hearts filled with a silent anger and grief. "Have the two of you, father and son, had enough yet?" demanded Ouyang Long, his face stern. "What debt? You are merely trying to obtain the Ouyang family's Gray Dragon Coffin! And you dare to set your sights on my daughter! You seek to get two birds with one stone! Do you really think I am old and senile?" Ouyang Long grunted in rage.

Immediately, the expressions of the Zeng family father and son changed. Marrying Ouyang Yuxin and asking for the Gray Dragon Coffin as a betrothal gift had been their plan all along. The Zeng family was, indeed, planning to kill two birds with one stone!

Zeng Shenbao went from a cheery mood to an icy expression. "Old thing, it is well that you understand! Hand over the Gray Dragon Coffin, or return us the 1 million alliance coins! If you refuse, then we step onto the Life and Death Stage immediately!"

Ouyang Long was furious. "You go too far! If you are plotting against the Ouyang family, you had best be prepared for us to go down together! The Life and Death Stage, we accept! Name the time! Speak!"

Ouyang Long, to everyone's surprise, had accepted the deathmatch!

The Zeng family father and son turned rigid. Even though they were stronger than the Ouyang family, a deathmatch could severely weaken them, too. The outcome was clear, but they had set themselves up for this and had to follow through.

"All right!" returned Zeng Nantian. "But we challenge only you, Ouyang Long! I shall have a deathmatch with you!"

His motives were clear. Even if they had casualties, theirs would be more manageable. On the other hand, killing Ouyang Long would cause the entire Ouyang family to fall into disarray, making them easy pickings.

Just as Ouyang Long was about to accept in fury, a gentle voice came from deep within the Ouyang family compound.

"Always leave some leeway for the other party."

A figure flickered overhead with his arms behind him: a White Moon Ice Spiritual Robe, a headful of smooth, silver hair, and a mysterious mask. He exuded a nobility beyond description, accentuated by an unexplainable aura of mystery.

"What are you?" Zeng Shenbao instinctively called out.

Su Yu did not answer. Never once looking at Zeng Shenbao, he instead let his gaze fall on Zeng Nantian, calmly saying, "How much does he owe you?"

The pressing aura of nobility was overbearing, causing Zeng Nantian to doubt if this person was from the Ouyang family!

"Who are you?" Zeng Nantian said, deliberately speaking in a fierce tone. "You wish to interfere in our affairs?"

But Su Yu remained calm, repeating without emotion, "How much does he owe you?"

Seeing how he had been disregarded, Zeng Nantian felt even more certain that Su Yu was no ordinary person. Thinking for a moment, he said, "A million alliance coins. Why? Do you wish to return it for them?"

Su Yu did not answer. He took out a jade box from his robes. In the jade box lay a fiery feather. Shreds of pressing spirit energy spread from the feather. Bright red blood flowing within it.

Ouyang Long froze, observing the feather carefully, then gasped, "A Phoenix feather? Harboring the blood of the immortal Phoenix...?"

Even Zeng Nantian was shocked. "How can that be? In the Northern Continent, only the master of the Nine Phoenix Cabinet has a Phoenix. Where...? Where did you get this?"

But what Zeng Nantian really wanted to know was just who Su Yu was—and why he would have such an item. This feather was, indeed, from the fiery Phoenix from the Phoenix Cabinet. And there was no possibility of even touching the feathers of the Phoenix without the master of the Phoenix

Cabinet's approval! Could this mysterious gentleman be... someone from the Phoenix Cabinet? Perhaps even with close relations with the master of the Phoenix Cabinet?

"It looks like you already understand the value of this item," said Su Yu. "Take it. From now on, the Ouyang family has nothing to do with the Zeng family."

Su Yu flicked his finger, shooting the feather of the Phoenix out. Zeng Nantian unconsciously grabbed the feather, feeling a weight in his hand.

"Leave," said Su Yu, devoid of passion. "I dislike noise."

Without another word, Su Yu turned around and went back into the yard of the Ouyang family.

Ouyang and Zeng family alike were silent, frozen on the spot! Neither could believe that Su Yu would appear and so casually throw out a Phoenix feather of such alarming value. His generosity, his noble demeanor, and his mysterious identity shook the souls of everybody present!

"Ouyang... family headmaster," Zeng Nantian said, after opening his mouth with difficulty. He forced a smile as he offered the Phoenix feather. "Please... Please give this item back to that gentleman! The Zeng family... cannot accept this!"

The master of the Phoenix Cabinet was the fabled powerhouse who lorded over a third of the Northern Continent. How could a mere Zeng family dare to offend this person?

But Su Yu's calm voice filled the surroundings. "Take it," he said.

In reality, Su Yu said the sentence rather quietly, but to Zeng Nantian's ears, it sounded like an order bellowed at a high volume, causing him to freeze on the spot.

"Yes, sir!" Zeng Nantian said.

After a while, he accepted the Phoenix feather with unease before leaving with the rest of the family.

Later, long after the Zeng family had left the Ouyang family, Zeng Shenbao spoke up, filled with indignance. "Father, why are you so afraid of that lad?"

"It is not being afraid," said Zeng Nantian. Zeng Nantian became pale as a sheet. "It is... fear itself! If this Phoenix feather is real, then that man's background is too terrifying to contemplate!"

Zeng Shenbao was furious, coldly grunting under his breath, "I do not believe it! Both Ouyang Yuxin and the Gray Dragon Coffin are rightfully mine, and I will kill whoever stops me from getting them!"

Back in the yard at the Ouyang family mansion, a crowd of Ouyang family members stood in cold sweat! Many of the Ouyang family members stared at Ouyang Yuxin with shocked expressions. Their gazes only had one meaning: Just what kind of terrifying person have you brought home?

For this person to be in possession of a feather from the pet of the master of the Phoenix Cabinet, his status must have been extraordinary!

Ouyang Yuxin's heart trembled. She had met this mysterious nobleman on the streets. How was she to have known that his background was so... unnerving? She felt like she was in a dream. Didn't these things only happen in books?

Ouyang Taiyi was pale, his palms wet with sweat. Just a few minutes prior, he had mocked this mysterious man for his unremarkable status and having to seek shelter in the Ouyang family. But, in the blink of an eye, this man had proven to have a terrifying status that the Ouyang family could never have hoped to come into contact with under ordinary circumstances!

Only Ouyang Long's expression remained unchanged: grim and ugly. He stared deeply at Ouyang Yuxin, letting out a light sigh.

"Yuxin," he said, "follow me. I think it is time to arrange your marriage."

Chapter 229: Gaining Both the Person and the Money

Marriage? Ouyang Yuxin was intelligent, and she understood immediately. Her beautiful face turned red, and her clear eyes emitted an enchanting splendor. Her expression at that instant bewitched the Ouyang family's disciples and caused them to stop moving.

Later, back at the mansion, Ouyang Long wore an old-fashioned expression. After hesitating for some time, he said leisurely, "What do you think of Mister Yin Yu?"

In Ouyang Yuxin's mind, Su Yu was cold, magnanimous, handsome, and ostentatious. He could, more or less, be compared with Mister Feng Yue. Whether she considered her own feelings or her family's interests, Su Yu was one of the best choices. Ouyang Yuxin could not find any strong reasons to decline the thought of marrying him.

She did, however, feel a bit dissatisfied. She understood well that her greatest value was her beauty and her innate training talent. Without even picking her partner carefully, she was about to be married to someone who was practically a stranger. Perhaps, if she had waited longer, she might have had some better choices!

"He gives off a good impression," she said. "However, Mister Yin Yu might not be interested in me."

Ouyang Yuxin understood this point especially well. Thus far, Mister Yin Yu had not treated her with a very good attitude or said anything positive about her.

Ouyang Long said in a low voice, "If he wishes to obtain the Gray Dragon Coffin, he must marry you. Even if he doesn't want to marry... he still has to marry!"

"Father, do you mean you believe he has intentions of acquiring the Gray Dragon Coffin?" Ouyang Yuxin asked.

Ouyang Long shook his head. "Not necessarily."

"Then, father, why is there a need to give him the Gray Dragon Coffin and also ask me to..." Ouyang Yuxin did not understand.

Ouyang Long sighed. "Because," he said, "our Ouyang family is now indebted to him! We, the Ouyang family, must repay him! The Zeng family can be ungrateful to us. However, the Ouyang family must repay our debts!" Ouyang Long continued sternly. "Moreover, the Zeng family is not the only family with their eyes on the Gray Dragon Coffin. If we could use this opportunity to give the Gray Dragon Coffin to the Phoenix Cabinet, we could dispel the fear of any possible troubles at

home. At the same time, our family will become related to the Phoenix Cabinet. You will also have a lifelong partner who you can rely on."

Ouyang Yuxin understood tacitly that her father had given the matter a lot of thought. Being related to the Phoenix Cabinet was of many times more worth than being related to the Feng family. However, Ouyang Yuxin was an extremely proud person. The fact that she had to marry Su Yu with so little thought filled her with dissatisfaction. However, her family was in danger, and she had no choice.

"I agree... If Mister Yin Yu is willing to marry me," said Ouyang Yuxin.

She could not help but sigh silently. A hint of gloominess darkened her eyes as she thought about the fact that her prime was about to end. She had to sacrifice herself for her family. Ouyang Yuxin had a slight feeling of resentment. This just wasn't fair.

One hour passed, and there was a knock at Su Yu's door. Su Yu woke from a state where he was training in seclusion.

The Ouyang family stood outside the door. "Thank you, Mister Yin Yu for helping us," Ouyang Long said from the other side of the door. "There is something that we would like to discuss with you."

Su Yu said, indifferently, "Speak."

Seeing that Su Yu had no intentions of inviting them inside, Ouyang Long felt Su Yu's coldness deeply. He had no choice but to stand outside the door.

"We, the Ouyang family," he said, "are willing to give you our family's treasure, which has been handed down through the generations in exchange for your kindness. However, we have one condition. I hope that in the future, you can look after my daughter and keep her safe her whole life. This is my one and only wish." As a parent, it was difficult for him to let go of his children.

Inwardly, Su Yu sighed. He understood Ouyang Yuxin, but he could not bring himself to like her. Be it the fact that he had a fiancée or his thoughts on Ouyang Yuxin personally, it was impossible for him to agree to this ridiculous marriage. He graciously declined the offer.

"I appreciate the Ouyang family grandmaster's kindness," said Su Yu. "That incident was nothing, and you need not thank me. I only need Miss Ouyang to fulfill her promise to bring me into the Yunxiang Cabinet to celebrate the Yunxiang Cabinet Master's birthday. That alone is enough. As for Miss Ouyang's marriage, Ouyang family grandmaster, please consider carefully. Do not make her marry the wrong person and cause her to feel regrets for her whole life."

The Ouyang family grandmaster was stunned. As for Ouyang Yuxin, her gloomy eyes started to glow and become brighter. Su Yu had actually... rejected her!

Ouyang Yuxin heaved a sigh of relief. However, though she did not know why, she could not bring herself to be delighted. This Yin Yu could not be convinced to feel any interest toward her, and it seemed it would stay that way.

In the end, it was a good thing. After all, Ouyang Yuxin's life was fated to be extraordinary. Yin Yu might not necessarily have been deserving of her!

"My decision is firm and there is nothing more to say," Su Yu added, as if reading the grandmaster's thoughts.

Ouyang Long sighed. "We, the Ouyang family, will forever remember your kindness, and we will repay you one day!"

Su Yu frowned. He did not reply but simply re-entered his training state.

Early the next morning, the sunlight was dim. Su Yu opened his eyes. Ouyang Yuxin had been waiting for a long time at the entrance. She wore luxurious phoenix clothes that showed off her captivating figure and extremely beautiful face. Her beauty was a rarity that could not be found locally.

Su Yu swept his eyes past her dully and said indifferently, "Let's go."

By now, Ouyang Yuxin was used to being ignored by Su Yu. She grinned and led the way.

After four hours, they entered the heart of the Alliance City. A magnificent towering building stood before them. The two words "Yunxiang Cabinet" were clear and dazzling.

All the people in the Alliance City knew about Yunxiang Cabinet. It was a bustling place that had a highly prestigious reputation. There were many beautiful ladies in the cabinet who came from the Hundred Territories. By paying them a satisfactory price, one could get close to them and enjoy a sentimental night to the fullest.

Putting it in simple terms, the cabinet was a brothel! However, it was a top-grade brothel. If one did not have the proper abilities or identity, he would not be given the right to enter the brothel.

At that very day, the Yunxiang Cabinet Master invited outstanding geniuses of the Alliance City to gather together for a feast, and this was a grand occasion in the Alliance City because they knew that during the banquet, there would be a fight between the geniuses for the top spot.

At the entrance, Ouyang Yuxin took out her invitation card. The guard at the door was a strong martial artist of Dragon Realm Level Four, which was an even higher class than at the Heaven Treasure Building!

The entrance guard shot a glance toward Su Yu. "Who is he?"

"He is my... cousin who came from a distant place. He admires the Yunxiang Cabinet Master, and he is accompanying me to pay a visit."

The entrance guard nodded. "Permission granted! However, if he causes any trouble, as the person who recommended him, you must take responsibility for his actions."

Ouyang Yuxin smiled joyfully. "Naturally."

"Eh. Big Sister Ouyang, you have come, as well," said a like a silver bell—pleasant to the ears. It was a 17-year-old young lady. She had a petite and dainty figure, a pretty face, two big and round eyes, and two ponytails that were swinging here and there. She wore a gilded blue skirt which danced along with the wind, serving as a foil to make her small body look delicate and appealing.

Su Yu's eyes flashed with familiarity. Xianer's silhouette flashed past his mind. Similarly, she was petite and dainty, which caused people to have tender affection for her.

"Sister Ouyang, who is he?" the girl asked. "Your attendant? Yes, he is passable." However, the blue-skirted small little girl's mouth was quite sarcastic. Her two big eyes were glowing with craftiness.

Su Yu's positive first impression of her shattered with a bang. Although Xianer was mischievous like her, Xianer was pure, fine, and kind-hearted.

This woman was no Xianer.

"Little Sister Li Yan, stop your nonsense!" said Ouyang Yuxin. "He is my distant cousin and not my attendant."

Ouyang Yuxin was annoyed. Why did she have to come across Li Yan? The Li family was an emerging and promising household. In the past, it had been below the Ouyang family. After the attack from the horde of beasts, it rose abruptly and became above the Ouyang family.

Li Yan and Ouyang Yuxin had known one another when they were young. They always competed with one another socially and were both materialistic girls. Ever since the day they met one another, it had been hard for them to not provoke one another.

Li Yan opened her small mouth. "Share with me! However, he really looks like your attendant."

"What is your name?" Li Yan's big eyes looked Su Yu up and down as if guessing at Su Yu's identity.

Su Yu kept quiet and did not say anything. He was unwilling to mix with such a petty girl.

"Humph!" Li Yan said, standing with her small hands on her hips. She then raised her eyebrows indifferently, looked at Su Yu, and said in an annoying tone of voice, "The Ouyang family's servant is so haughty. You dare to ignore me?"

Ouyang Yuxin glared at her furiously, then shot a glance at Su Yu out of the corner of her eye. Perhaps it was a psychological effect, but after Li Yan inferring repeatedly that Su Yu was her attendant, it occurred to her that Su Yu really did look like her attendant.

In an instant, she felt a mix of anger and shame, as though she had lost her face. "Let's go in," she said. "We need not worry about her."

"Yes," said Su Yu. "After we enter, we will split up and do our own things. After that, we will be even with one another." Su Yu wanted to keep things simple and flexible.

After he entered, he separated from her straight away. He had a narrow escape. Regarding Ouyang Yuxin's thoughts, Su Yu's heart was as if it had a clear mirror. From the very start, he had been unwilling to interact much with Ouyang Yuxin. It was better for her to give Su Yu the cold shoulder, as they would then be no longer be associated with one another.

"Hey, you..." said Ouyang Yuxin. Su Yu left immediately, which caused Ouyang Yuxin to be taken aback. She extended her hand and was about to call out to Su Yu. However, behind her, she felt Li Yan's gaze, which implied that Li Yan had a conniving smile. Ouyang Yuxin had no choice but to withdraw her words, which had already arrived at her mouth.

It is good that he left, she thought. I can avoid being gossiped about by others.

Chapter 230: The Master of the Yunxiang Cabinet

The Yuxiang Cabinet was split into the Inner Cabinet and the Outer Cabinet. The Outer Cabinet was where the celebrations were currently being held. The Inner Cabinet was protected by countless guards, and entry was forbidden. An Yurou was probably imprisoned within the Inner Cabinet.

I wonder how she is doing right now? thought Su Yu.

He clenched his fist, feeling deep blame for himself.

If not for him, why would An Yurou have exposed herself to attract Lu Jun, causing her to get captured? Without her protection, Xianer would have become someone else's wife, and Su Yu might have been reduced to a pile of bones. Su Yu had to repay such a huge act of benevolence! Thus, he had to save An Yurou, no matter what. He would pay any price!

"Humph! Even you have the right to enter?" came a belittling grunt from behind him.

Su Yu turned his head. It was one of the Three Great Unmatched Geniuses: the arrogant Lin Aojue. Beside him was a slender and beautiful girl. It was Lin Hong, who had been completely defeated by Su Yu. She glared at Su Yu with hatred.

"If you think that I am polluting the area here, you can leave," replied Su Yu. "No one is stopping you."

Back at Nine Cloud Tower, Su Yu's presence had caused Lin Aojue, who could not bear being in the same space as Su Yu, to leave.

Lin Aojue creased his brows in disgust, "Did I grant you permission to speak? Who gave you the right to talk to me?"

He could belittle and scold Su Yu, yet did not allow Su Yu to say a word.

Su Yu returned a question, "Was I talking to you just now? I was merely replying to the bark of a dog."

Su Yu did not lose to anyone in terms of harshness.

"You dare humiliate Brother Aojue?" Lin Hong snapped, her eyes turning wide.

Su Yu glanced at her, then casually retracted her gaze, disregarding her. He did not hold any of the Lin family members with much regard.

Lin Hong was angry but fearful, clenching her teeth tightly. "In front of Brother Aojue, you are nothing. What are you being so proud for?"

Lin Aojue grunted, "Let's go, we do not need to care about a person like this. He could never understand our world."

"You are right, Brother Aojue," said Lin Hong. "Let's not care about him and enter quickly. We have to meet up with the Great Elder after the celebrations are over." Lin Hong smiled to curry favor.

The green-robed Great Elder had also come but was interacting with someone important in the Inner Cabinet of the Yunxiang Cabinet.

Soon, the celebrations started. The guests took their seats. The seats were split into three levels. The first level was for the VIPs and only had two seats. Those seats were for the two other legendary

geniuses besides the Yunxiang Cabinet master. Only they were worthy of the VIP seats. The second level was for distinguished guests, with 20 seats. Only geniuses such as Ouyang Yuxin and Li Yan could sit there. The third level was for normal guests. They were normally prepared for the escorts of the guests—not the direct recipients of invitations.

The highlight today was naturally the Three Great Unmatched Geniuses and the 20 distinguished guests. They were a generation of geniuses within the Alliance City, the strongest youths of this generation.

Su Yu was silently sitting at a normal seat when a lady beside him shrieked, "Look! Lin Aojue! He would naturally be placed in the top three during the Alliance Meet. He is sure to enter the Shentian Manor and be nurtured with priority—ah!"

She suddenly let out an ear-piercing shriek. She stood up, her face flushed, crying, "Look! It's Sir Feng Yue!"

The crowd went wild, especially the ladies. They displayed their slender figures, their eyes full of anticipation.

Su Yu had heard of this person's name a long time ago. Looking to the side, a 19-year-old youth with long, black hair and wearing a splendid white robe was casually walking in. He was handsome and had a classy demeanor. He was muscular and tall, and a friendly smile hung on his face. The sunlight on his clothes accentuated his handsome looks. What a handsome man!

But what was even more shocking was that his abilities were at Dragon Realm Level Six Upper Tier! In terms of power, he was just barely below Lin Aojue.

Even though Lin Aojue felt like he was a Dragon Realm Level Seven, his true cultivation level should only be at Dragon Realm Level Six Peak. The difference in ability between the two was not great! Another genius!

Ouyang Yuxin's eyes were bright, her face blushing. As if noticing her presence, Sir Feng Yue walked toward her, a warm smile adorning his face. "Sister Yuxin," he said, "would you want to sit with me at the VIP seat?"

Ouyang Yuxin's heart was thumping. He was her ideal husband-to-be in terms of status, talent, and ability. The ladies in the crowd were burning with envy. Ouyang Yuxin nodded with a blush, following him to the VIP area. For this, the organizers specially installed another seat beside Sir Feng Yue.

Sitting side by side, the two looked like a match made in heaven, much to the envy of the onlookers.

Ouyang Yuxin was enjoying the glamour. She had been carrying the burden of the family for a long time. Only in opportunities like this could she feel the glory that should have been hers.

"The Yunxiang Cabinet master has arrived!"

A young lady, 18 years of age, slowly walked out from within the Yunxiang Cabinet following the loud announcement. She was tall and slender, her black hair long and smooth, tied in a braid with purple silk. She was dressed in a long, black robe embroidered with butterflies and flowers. The exquisite embroidery accentuated the elegance of the black robe. Her beautiful face was paired perfectly with her exquisite features. Even though she was not an extreme beauty, she exuded a sense of natural beauty.

Her every movement and every smile harbored a unique aura. Many youths involuntarily showed looks of admiration. Even though she was not as pretty as Ouyang Yuxin, she could effortlessly become the center of attention.

Ouyang Yuxin felt a bit jealous. Even she had to acknowledge that the Yunxiang Cabinet master was stunning. Ouyang Yuxin was beautiful in appearance, but the Yunxiang Cabinet master was beautiful in her attitude and aura.

"It feels like I know her..." Su Yu muttered, his mind subconsciously thinking about the fairy etched deep in his memory. He wondered if she was doing well and where she was.

A shred of longing flashed in his eyes.

Unexpectedly, the Yunxiang Cabinet master seemed to share this thought. Her eyes froze when she looked at Su Yu, looking a little surprised. Then she gently nodded, showing a smile.

This scene was noted by many of the geniuses, each watching carefully. When they realized that the recipient of the Yunxiang Cabinet master's smile was a youth in the normal seats, they all felt jealous and angry. Based on his seat, he would be an escort or some miscellaneous person who wasn't directly invited.

Sir Feng Yue glanced at Su Yu, then coldly retracted his gaze. Beside him, Ouyang Yuxin was curious, quietly muttering, "Could they know each other?"

"Sister Yuxin, you know the silver-haired lad?" Sir Feng Yue said, having heard her mutter and slightly creasing his brows.

Ouyang Yuxin changed her expression in a hurry, feeling the looks of disgust shot at Su Yu. Her face was red as she shook her head. "I... I do not know him!"

Sir Feng Yue lost interest, nodding as he said, "That is right, Sister Yuxin. You should hang out less with people of such low status."

"I understand. I do not know him." Ouyang Yuxin smiled. The way she looked at Sir Feng Yue was full of anticipation and admiration.

The master of the Yunxiang Cabinet took her seat, looking on at the celebrations together with the guests as she engaged in conversation with some of them.

Sometime later, the Yunxiang Cabinet master spoke, her voice melodious and intoxicating to many.

"Thank you, my friends, for gracing this occasion," she said. "Next, I shall leave the venue to all of you. It is not every day where we get together like this. Let us engage in some sparring to get ready for the Alliance Meet that is going to be held in a few days. For this, I have managed to invite two respected elders to give their opinions."

Whoosh, whoosh—

Two figures flew out from the Inner Cabinet. One was a green-robed elder—the Lin family Great Elder! The other was a handsome young man of about 30, his appearance prim and proper.

This person was Lu Jun!

Su Yu's pupils dilated, overflowing with killing intent! It was him. The man who had taken An Yurou away by force! The man who had instructed his two escorts to kill Su Yu and Mo Wu!

The two descended, sitting beside the Yunxiang Cabinet master.

Su Yu maintained his killing intent, his heart a little curious. Just who was the Yunxiang Cabinet master? Not only could she gather all the geniuses of the city, but she also invited two Immortal Realm people to give their opinions? What a reputation she must have had!

"Sparring on the stage is purely voluntary," the Yunxiang Cabinet master said gently with a smile on her face. "There's no need to go all out, so as to keep the harmony."

Whoosh, whoosh—

She had just finished her sentence when two figures leaped onto the stage, obviously raring to go. Looking at them, Su Yu realized he recognized one. It was the young master of the Zeng family, Zeng Shenbao! He had already achieved Dragon Realm Level Five Lower Tier at just 18, on par with Ouyang Yuxin.

The other was a familiar male, about 19, but was already a Dragon Realm Level Five Upper Tier! He was skinny, his eyes long and narrow, and filled with a fierce glow.

"Tan Duanfei?" Zeng Tianbao would never have imagined that this person would fight for the challenge rights with him.

"Step down," Tan Duanfei said with a cold glare. "The person I want to challenge is not you, it's her!" He pointed at Ouyang Yuxin.

Ouyang Yuxin froze, then grunted, "Do you think I am scared of you?"

"You talk big now, but I'll make you cry pathetically later!" said Tan Duanfei. "What guts you have to slap my brother Tan Lin!"

So that was it—Tan Duanfei was Tan Lin's brother! On the day, Ouyang Yuxin had taken a liking to Su Yu, she had slapped Tan Lin, who had offended Su Yu. Today, Tan Duanfei was using sparring as an excuse to seek revenge against her.

Ouyang Yuxin's expression changed, her face showing some signs of regret, thinking she may have behaved too impulsive back then. But with the crowd looking on, she naturally did not want to admit defeat.

"Let's fight, then!" she said.

But atop the stage, Zeng Shenbao refused to back down, his expression ice cold. "What a coincidence!" he said. "The person I want to challenge is also not you. It's him!"

Whoosh—

He pointed a finger at Su Yu!

Su Yu was, after all, the man whose single sentence had cost Zeng Shenbao his rightful Gray Dragon Coffin—and Ouyang Yuxin's hand. His father was wary of Su Yu's status, but Zeng Shenbao was full of indignance.

Su Yu's expression was calm. He slowly said, "Choose someone else. You are not my match."

"What a joke!" Zeng Shenbao laughed with anger. "You are just Dragon Realm Level One. I can kill you with just a finger!"

Su Yu closed his eyes, silent.

The crowd broke into a commotion. Zeng Shenbao and Tan Duanfei were fighting for the right to challenge... to challenge someone else.

The Yunxiang Cabinet master smiled as she looked at Su Yu, retracting her gaze as she gently said, "Since the both of you wish to obtain the right to challenge, why not have a spar between you two first? After that, I'll let you two show us your abilities."