

Nine-Dragon 261

Chapter 261: Sharp Words

Anyone who had any power within the Alliance City would not have found that face unfamiliar. That was not another person. It was the alliance's Deputy Alliance Master, Lu Jun!

Everyone was at a loss at first. But soon, they became furious! This sudden revelation as good as confirmed that Su Yu's claims were, indeed, true!

Han Jianglin did not have the slightest intentions of giving out the Flesh Regeneration Elixirs as the prize. Instead, he had arranged for a trustworthy person to win back the elixir! A normal genius could not guarantee that he could deal with an unexpected situation. The numerous dark horses in the current Alliance Meet had explained it all.

Only a genius who was impossible to defeat could ensure that the elixir would go back to him! However, if there were such a genius, he would already be famous within the Hundred Territories Alliance. Hence, the only solution was to ask someone to pretend to be a genius!

Some intelligent people stared at the red-colored elixir and were filled with disdain! It was rumored that the Flesh Regeneration Elixirs that Han Jianglin obtained had come from historical remains. He had also obtained some other elixirs which defied the natural order from those same historical remains. However, no one knew exactly what those elixirs were.

At the moment, only Han Jianglin had elixirs which could change the appearance of a person! It was clear he created a dark horse king: Nameless, a genius of the Immortal Realm who was not 20 years old yet! But his real identity was the 30-year-old Deputy Alliance Master who had trained for many years!

After seeing this, many people who realized the truth could not help but laugh at themselves. In particular, those people who had blindly trusted Han Jianglin wished they could slap themselves for their foolishness.

Undoubtedly, Su Yu had revealed the truth. They had been filled with sarcasm. Little did they imagine that Han Jianglin was such a despicable and evil person! As a dignified Deputy Alliance Master, Lu Jun had pretended to be a young genius and competed with the geniuses shamelessly. How absurd was that? How funny was that? How impudent was that?

Atop the sky, Su Yu was slightly stunned. After which, a coldness which could rise to the skies gushed out from his eyes. "Lu! Jun!"

The uncertainties in Su Yu's heart were all explained in that split second! This was why Nameless, who was not associated with him, harbored this unexplained hostility. This was why Nameless had tried to kill him three days ago! It was why he had felt there was a problem with Nameless's identity.

All the questions were answered! It was because he was the very person Su Yu wanted to kill! Lu Jun!

It was him who brought An Yurou away from the Liuxian Faction forcefully. It was him who forced An Yurou to seal her soul! It was him who was ruthless toward Su Yu on the day of the birthday celebration at the Yunxiang Cabinet!

All this, plus the palm Su Yu had only narrowly escaped from three days ago, merged together to become an unprecedented hatred!

Lu Jun was fatally injured by Buddhist Saint's Eight Characters to the point that most of his internal organs were destroyed! If he swallowed a Flesh Regeneration Elixir, there was still the possibility of him recovering!

"Alliance Master!" he called out. "Quick, save me!"

After a short delay, Han Jianglin finally arrived! However, his expression was bitter like never before!

Lu Jun was exposed. The mighty name of the Alliance Master had been destroyed in a moment! It was clear to everyone that he had made arrangements for his subordinate to control the outcome of the competition. Hence, his heroic name had been completely destroyed in an instant! In the future, if anyone mentioned Han Jianglin, they might not forget this. It was a huge blow that was crushing to Han Jianglin's dignity!

Han Jianglin's eyes were glowing with coldness. A ruthless expression then flashed past his face and disappeared!

"Humph!" Han Jianglin said. "Lu Jun, you are extremely bold. For the Flesh Regeneration Elixir, you actually dared to pretend to be a young genius. This is a violation of the Alliance Meet's rules! Kneel down immediately, kowtow to everyone in the world, and admit your crime!"

Han Jianglin had hatched a contingency plan and now struck at the root of the problem. He sidestepped all the responsibility and shifted the blame solely on Lu Jun.

Although there were people who were suspicious, there was no concrete evidence to prove that everything had been done by Han Jianglin.

Lu Jun was extremely cunning. In an instant, he understood Han Jianglin's intentions. He then bent down and apologized hurriedly. "I, Lu Jun, was temporarily muddleheaded. For the Flesh Regeneration Elixir, I have done something despicable. Please forgive me."

With that, many people were relieved. Secretly, Han Jianglin broke into a frightened sweat. What a close call!

Han Jianglin cast the waves within his heart away. His face wore a shameful expression and he looked at everyone. "I have done an inspection and found out that I have let down my fellow compatriots. Hence, I am willing to resign and give up the position of the Alliance Master. Thereafter, another brilliant person will be selected as the Alliance Master."

Within the Hundred Territories Alliance, Han Jianglin's abilities were the strongest. Apart from him, who still had the right to take on the role of the Alliance Master? Even if he gave up the position, was there anyone who dared to take on the position?

His words had more or less restored his image, and it had also given everyone an explanation. The most important thing was that he had not lost anything. This promise had an extremely strong impact. At the same time, it was cheaper than any other promises he could have made.

As expected, at the audience's area, everyone looked at each other in blank dismay. Although some of the forces were moved, they were not stupid enough to agree with the Alliance Master's decision seriously.

That is, except for one person!

A voice which was not in harmony with the audience reverberated within the Beast Fighting Arena. "Eh? The Alliance Master knows that he committed an extremely serious crime. Fortunately for the Hundred Territories Alliance, you resigned from the position of the Alliance Master willingly and looked for another brilliant person to be the Alliance Master. I am filled with total admiration."

Many people's bodies trembled. They looked at Su Yu, and their mouths could not help but twitch! How excessively bold!

Han Jianglin's expression turned grave and then terrified.

Su Yu walked over expressionlessly. "Alliance Master Han, your feelings are noble, and I admire them extremely. This matter needs immediate attention. Please hand over the Alliance Master's Great Seal. We will take advantage of this opportunity, where all the Hundred Territories Alliance's forces are here, to choose a new Alliance Master."

Han Jianglin became stiff on the spot, and his expression became bitter at once. His eyes narrowed, and he stared at Su Yu secretly. Hidden from the view of anyone else, he mouthed the words, "Do you wish to die?"

Su Yu laughed coldly and replied by mouthing, "Are you an idiot? This is not the first time you have tried to kill me. If I don't make things difficult for you, will you have mercy on me and let me go?"

"Please, stop saying all this nonsense that has no meaning!"

After his speech, Su Yu opened his mouth and said, "Eh? Alliance Master, where is the Great Seal? Why aren't you handing it over? Could it be that you were only speaking thoughtlessly just now? Could it be that you did not have any intention to repent and mend your way? Could it be that you only wanted to deal with the difficult situation in front of you quickly, then send everyone away?"

Su Yu's consecutive questioning had forced Han Jianglin into a situation where the struggle was the fiercest! At the same time, the atmosphere within the audience became uneasy. It now dawned on everyone that it was impossible for Han Jianglin to give up the position of the Alliance Master. His words moments ago had just a method to calm down the situation.

Now, under the coercion of Su Yu, he revealed his true colors!

In Han Jianglin's mind, he was filled with unprecedented murderous intents, but on the surface, he was just inspiring awe by upholding justice. "Across the whole Hundred Territories Alliance," he announced, "my promises can be counted on. However, the changing of an Alliance Master is a huge matter, and I would need some time to come to a decision!" Han Jianglin's gaze landed on Su Yu directly, and he questioned him loudly, "As for you! You disregarded the Hundred Territories

Alliance's harmony. What are you trying to do by forcing me to resign from my position of the Alliance Master now? What motive do you have? Who sent you here to make trouble? Tell me!"

With a few words, he had shifted the problem onto Su Yu!

Su Yu looked at the sky and laughed. "Alliance Master, what a good way to turn things upside down! You leave your own matter unresolved and deal with my crime first?" Su Yu laughed for a long period of time.

Han Jianglin gave a cold hum. "I am still the Hundred Territories Alliance's Master. Each and every one of my actions is streamed from the Hundred Territories Alliance's interests. Your identity is suspicious. Hence, it is natural for me to question you first. After this matter is taken care of, I will plead guilty to the world again!"

Su Yu laughed coldly. "Plead guilty? Are you going to resign from your position of the Alliance Master again?"

After hearing that Su Yu's words were filled with mockery, Han Jianglin shouted loudly and strictly, "Enough! Haven't you created enough trouble in the Alliance Meet? Because of you, a good Alliance Meet ended up in its current situation. How would you answer to this?"

Su Yu laughed sardonically. "Are you so insistent on condemning someone that you will trump up a charge? As the Alliance Master, your eyes are indeed blind! Let me ask you. Who is the one who pretended to be a genius and drove real contestants with outstanding abilities away?"

Han Jianglin gave a cold hum. "Is there a need for me to answer you?"

"Of course, you do not need to answer," said Su Yu. "Because everyone in the world is looking. Everything was done by Lu Jun!" Su Yu continued to talk. "Let me ask you again. Who exposed this evil person who disturbed the order?"

Murderous intents flashed past Han Jianglin's eyes, and he was about to open his mouth. Instead, Su Yu gestured in disapproval.

"I know that as the Alliance Master, you naturally feel that it is beneath your dignity to answer me," said Su Yu. "However, everyone in the world can answer, it is me! The person who disturbed the order was exposed by me, Yin Yu! Can I ask, since I am the one who announced the person who disturbed the order to everyone—and have upheld the Alliance Meet's fairness and order—why is it that in the Alliance Master's own words, I am the one who landed the Alliance Meet in its current situation?"

Han Jianglin could not let this little brat find any loopholes in his words. If not, he would die from anger!

"Humph!" Han Jianglin scoffed, hurrying to change the subject. "Putting that aside first, you have killed five bodyguards, and you are cruel by nature. For this alone, I have the authority to kill you on the spot and make an example out of you to warn the others!"

Su Yu laughed for a long period of time without stopping. "What a hilarious joke! Let me ask you, why did I kill people?"

Han Jianglin gave a cold hum. "Of course, it was because you humiliated Lu Jun, and you are guilty —"

His words ceased abruptly as he realized, looking at the current situation, that Lu Jun was not humiliated at all.

Su Yu laughed coldly. "I did not humiliate him, did I? Since I did not humiliate him, is the Alliance Master not the one at fault for making an arbitrary decision and sending people to kill me? Since the Alliance Master was at fault, was it not appropriate for me to defend myself, thus killing them? Since it is appropriate, how am I cruel by nature? Could it be that being killed unjustly by your people would have been considered kindness?"

Su Yu went on, "Hence, Alliance Master, in this Alliance Meet, I am the person who has rendered outstanding service! If not for me, how many people would have been kept in the dark? Perhaps, Alliance Master's Flesh Regeneration Elixirs would have been swindled by Lu Jun—the despicable and evil person—gratuitously! Hence, if the Alliance Master still wants to kill me, it can only prove that the Alliance Master wants to kill me to silence me!"

Han Jianglin's eyebrows twitched, and he had an extremely ferocious expression.

This Su Yu had thwarted his plan completely and also caused him to suffer a loss in glory. And now, in the end, Su Yu actually dared to claim that he had rendered a great service!

However, what was even more unexpected was what Su Yu said next.

"Finally," said Su Yu, "I do not hope for the Alliance Master to give me any rewards. After all, helping the alliance avoid a disaster was a natural response for me. However, I request that the Alliance Master give me the prize: the two Flesh Regeneration Elixirs that I deserve."

The blue veins on Han Jianglin's forehead were pulsing continuously. He bit his teeth so tightly that his teeth were about to be shattered into pieces. His eyes were filled with anger, looking as if he were about to breathe fire.

"You still have the face to ask for the elixir?" he growled.

Su Yu had injured Han Jianglin's son fatally, to the point that his son was half dead. He had intended to give the only two remaining elixirs to his son to save him. He had finally arranged for Lu Jun to acquire the number one position to ensure that his plan would work. However, it had all been thwarted by Su Yu!

Although he had not found trouble for Su Yu, Su Yu still dared to demand the elixir!

Su Yu said indifferently, "Why, Alliance Master? Could it be that I hit the nail on the head when I said you never intended to give away the two elixirs? In fact, Lu Jun was under your orders to take back the elixirs, wasn't he?"

Chapter 262: Mo Wu's Whereabouts

"Nonsense! I always keep my promises," Han Jianglin scolded. "Since I promised the elixirs, I would naturally give them! But why should I give them to you?"

Su Yu surveyed the surroundings. "Do you think that there is anyone more worthy of the prize than me?"

Of the candidates, Wu Yaoyue had withdrawn from the contest, and Lu Jun—disguised as Nameless—had been severely injured. Su Yu was the undisputed champion of the Alliance Meet! If he was not worthy of the Flesh Regeneration Elixir, no one else was.

Han Jianglin squinted. "You seemed to have forgotten that I have already stripped you of the right to participate!"

He needed the Flesh Regeneration Elixir to save his son's life. How could he hand it over?

Su Yu chuckled. "Alliance Master Han seems also to have forgotten why I was stripped of the right to participate! I was wronged by the despicable Lu Jun, and you sent powerful fighters and tried to kill me. Reasonably, I had to fight back! After fighting back, you stripped me of the right to participate. Considering the entire situation, you were in the wrong, yet you wish to push the blame to me. Now that the truth is out, shouldn't you retract your wrongful punishment?"

The rounds of questioning had backed Han Jianglin to a corner. Under the scrutiny of the audience, he had to hand over Flesh Regeneration Elixirs, no matter how unwilling he was!

"Take it!"

Whoosh—

A reddish-brown jade bottle was thrown over. Su Yu grabbed it with his hand. Within the bottle silently were two yellow elixirs. Shreds of shocking life force spread out from the bottle.

Taking a breath of the life force, Su Yu's flesh felt excited, longing for the elixir. It was the first time Su Yu had encountered an item that could make his flesh tingle with excitement. This was, without question, the Flesh Regeneration Elixir!

"Satisfied?" Han Jianglin calmly said.

It was as if he was not worried that Su Yu was going to take the elixirs away. Su Yu was clear about what Han Jianglin was thinking. Su Yu should not hope to leave this place alive today!

Su Yu had already used his space teleportation and was unable to teleport away at the moment. Under these circumstances, it was impossible to escape from the strongest fighter in the Hundred Territories Alliance. Han Jianglin could relax and hand over the two Flesh Regeneration Elixirs.

Su Yu kept the jade bottle, shooting his gaze toward Lu Jun, his eyes full of killing intent. "I wish for Alliance Master Han to fulfill one more of my requests!"

"Speak!" Han Jianglin calmly said, his lips forming an icy arc.

"That is..." A black Tai Chi Fish suddenly appeared in Su Yu's palm. "Please punish Lu Jun for his crimes!"

Lu Jun had abducted An Yurou and caused her to seal her soul. He had assaulted Su Yu and put his life in mortal danger! If this person was not dead, Su Yu could not swallow his indignance!

Han Jianglin froze for a moment. Then his expression turned sinister. "I will naturally look into Lu Jun's crimes. You can await the news of my verdict!"

Su Yu took a step forward and said, "Lu Jun has committed many evil deeds. If you do not punish him on the spot, this crowd would not be pleased—"

Su Yu had not finished his words when Han Jianglin said with a sharp voice, shouting, "I said to back down! Are you the Alliance Master, or am I the Alliance Master? Lu Jun's punishment will be decided by me!" Seeing Su Yu's insistence, Han Jianglin dispersed a cold aura. "I'll say it for the last time, back down! Disregarding the Alliance Master is a grave offense!"

Shreds of spirit energy seeped out from Han Jianglin's pores. If Su Yu had any intention of fighting, Han Jianglin might really attack.

"Fine!" Su Yu nodded, slowly retreating a few steps back.

Han Jianglin shot a cold glance at him. Su Yu had ultimately submitted to his authority! But at that moment...

Crack—

A cracking sound was suddenly heard. The black Tai Chi Fish in Su Yu's palms was smashed into dust. Space energy billowed out into the air, enveloping Su Yu.

Han Jianglin's expression changed. "It's space energy again!"

His heart skipped a beat! If Su Yu was teleported away, the two Flesh Regeneration Pills...

"Stop! The contest is not over! Without my orders, no one is allowed to leave!" Han Jianglin let out a low grunt, striking a palm toward Su Yu, trying to blast him out of the ripple in space.

He was incredibly anxious. If Su Yu were to escape, wouldn't his son be dead without question?

"Seal of Time!"

Su Yu's abilities were not limited to space manipulation! Han Jianglin's body slowed down, unable to move.

Whoosh—

Seizing the opportunity, Su Yu flew toward Lu Jun.

"You have this day, too! Lu Jun!"

Lu Jun was clear about Su Yu's identity. It was no longer a secret from the day he saved An Yurou. The animosity between the two of them need not be made clear!

"Su Yu! Stop—don't you wish to save An Yurou?" Lu Jun anxiously said, throwing out a bomb.

Su Yu squinted. In these three days, the Shentian Manor had been seized by the Han family. The Yunxiang Cabinet would inevitably be controlled by the Han family. And An Yurou, who was being hidden in the Yunxiang Cabinet...

"Where is she?" Su Yu coldly said.

Lu Jun's eyeballs moved rapidly. "If you promise not to kill me, I will tell you!"

"You are not in a position to choose!" Su Yu let out a low grunt, grabbing Lu Jun, wishing to take him away with him.

But Lu Jun was obviously stalling for time, waiting for Han Jianglin to attack!

"Ah! I'll fight you to the death!" Lu Jun let out a loud growl, using his remaining power to stall for time!

"Humph! Contortion of Space!" Su Yu let out a low grunt!

Instantly, a twisted space enveloped Lu Jun's right leg.

Crack—

Creak—

A shocking scene ensued. Lu Jun's right leg was twisted by space, instantly turning into pulp. At that moment, he became a cripple who had lost his right leg!

With a pathetic cry, Lu Jun exhaled in pain, almost slipping into unconsciousness. Su Yu took the chance, grabbing his head and attempting to teleport him away using the space energy! He was about to succeed when Han Jianglin woke up at the critical moment! His eyes were filled with killing intent!

"Die!" roared Han Jianglin.

The strongest fighter in the Hundred Territories Alliance was striking in fury!

Rumble—

Every action caused the winds to rumble and the clouds to shift. At that moment, Su Yu felt as if a humongous mountain were exerting its pressure on him, causing his organs to tremble, once again on the verge of destruction!

No!

This was a threat of death far scarier than when he had overused the Buddhist Saint's Eight Characters!

"Perish!"

With that single word, Han Jianglin held a bolt of spirit energy as thick as a wrist, charging straight for Su Yu's chest! Everywhere he passed, the sky trembled violently, the earth filled with multiple cracks. Everything that had physical form was obliterated! It was the first time Su Yu had seen such tremendous power!

At this moment, Su Yu felt like an ant facing off against a dragon flying in the sky. The difference was too great—so great that even a legendary-level technique paled in comparison. This blow would not leave Su Yu with a whole corpse!

But at this critical moment, Su Yu clenched his teeth, forcefully suppressing the fear in his soul, using Lu Jun to block him!

Creak—

The terrifying spirit energy was like a divine power!

Lu Jun's chest, without any obstructions, was blasted open, presenting a gaping, bloody hole! Even though he was not fully penetrated, most of Lu Jun's chest was blasted into ashes!

The immense power spread to Su Yu through Lu Jun's chest.

Puuu—

Su Yu immediately spat out blood, suffering powerful trauma! But this was merely power from the first wave of the technique. Lu Jun's body continued to release destructive energy! The energy spread from Lu Jun's body, assaulting Su Yu!

But at this moment, the space energy had finished rumbling, completely teleporting them away!

Crash—

At the secret chamber of the Ouyang family, the space rippled. A figure shot out from within like a rock, crashing into the stone walls of the secret chamber, sending a hunk of flesh splattering in all directions.

Following that, Su Yu stepped out with blood at the corner of his lips!

Su Yu was immensely shocked.

Just what level is Han Jianglin at? He and Lu Jun are both Immortal Realm fighters, so why was the difference between them so vast?

Su Yu's soul was still filled with fear. That blow just now had been too terrifying! Forcefully collecting himself, he stepped forward to examine Lu Jun. He involuntarily gasped!

Lu Jun's chest area was empty. It had been reduced to nothing by the terrifying blow. The blood in his body had all been instantly evaporated, and the flesh was all dried out, as if it were preserved meat!

Seeing this scene, Su Yu felt relieved that he had acted cautiously by preemptively shattering the Tai Chi Fish. If he had been any later, he would have ended up like Lu Jun!

At this moment, Lu Jun was on the verge of dying, his breath shallow. He only had a few more breaths of life left.

"Where is An Yurou?" Su Yu said.

But Lu Jun remained silent.

Su Yu's expression sank. A few moments later, he added, "If you can still hear me, tell me where An Yurou is. I can promise you something! I will kill Han Jianglin for you!"

Han Jianglin had struck in fury. It was impossible that he had not considered that killing Su Yu also meant killing Lu Jun, for Lu Jun was in the hands of Su Yu. Yet he had still struck without hesitation. The person who had truly killed Lu Jun was Han Jianglin.

Hearing this, Lu Jun's lips quivered slightly. "At... Nine... Cloud.... Tower..."

Nine Cloud Tower? The Lin family's Nine Cloud Tower?

Thump—

After saying this with much difficulty, Lu Jun exhaled his final breath, and his body slumped on the ground.

Zi Yunxiang was surprised. "An Yurou? That lady with the extreme yin constitution?"

Zi Yunxiang knew about the woman Lu Jun had taken back. He had wanted to condition her in the Yunxiang Cabinet. The extreme yin constitution was incredibly cold, its yin energy far stronger than that of an average person. This was the reason why Lu Jun had gone to such lengths to obtain her!

"I don't think he is lying," said Zi Yunxiang. "An Yurou could really be in the Lin family's Nine Cloud Tower! Only the mysterious flames of Nine Cloud Tower can suppress the yin energy in An Yurou's body, consolidating it all in one place. This way, one could cultivate once to gain all of its benefits. Lu Jun had once planned to send her to the Lin family's Nine Cloud Tower but was rejected by the Lin family grandmaster. Thus, he had to wait until now, when the Alliance Master held the monopoly on power. Now, the Lin family grandmaster had no choice but to comply."

The Nine Cloud Tower!

Su Yu's gaze flickered. "There is no time to waste. I am heading for the Lin family immediately. Miss Zi, please stay here for the moment. The outside world is dangerous. I will come and take you away to safety."

Zi Yunxiang obediently nodded.

When Su Yu left, they did not notice a small, black bug crawling out from Lu Jun's ear. It flew out to the outside world through a slit in the secret chamber.

Multiple miles away, at an inn, a youth stood carrying a sword in his arms. He suddenly opened his eyes and extended his palm. The black bug landed on his palm.

"Prince Yaoyue, you planned well. I think even Nameless did not realize that we would leave behind a backup plan."

The youth was Wu Yaoyue, who had withdrawn from the competition! At this moment, other than Huang Xiaoyan, there was an old man standing behind Wu Yaoyue. He was about eighty, his skin full of wrinkles and saggy to the point of drooping. Multiple blemishes filled his face, giving off a sinister aura. His cultivation level was too deep to be estimated—as deep as an ocean. A single glance at him could cause one's hair to stand on end.

This aura was only present in powerful fighters such as Alliance Master Han and Zi Donglai. But at this moment, he was respectful. Wu Yaoyue's status was extraordinary!

Expressionless, Wu Yaoyue shot a fierce glare. "The Flesh Regeneration Elixir must be in his hands by now. That item is mine!"

The sinister old man let out a cold laugh. "After obtaining the Flesh Regeneration Elixir, you only need to find An Yurou before you fulfill your promise. When that time comes, Miss Mo Wu will definitely marry you without complaints."

Chapter 263: Earth Dragon's Technique

Huang Xiaoyan grinned and laughed loudly. "Brother Yaoyue went deep into an enemy's territory for a beautiful woman. If this piece of news spreads back into the Dark Forest, it will definitely be an anecdote!"

After hearing Mo Wu's name, Wu Yaoyue's arrogant face revealed a gentle expression that was rarely seen. He laughed, too. "Mo Wu is the most beautiful woman I have ever seen. In the whole world, apart from me, Wu Yaoyue, there is not a second person who is worthy of her. At the very moment, we have whereabouts of the Flesh Regeneration Elixir. After acquiring it, we will find her master and cure her face. According to the agreement, she will accompany me to the Dark Forest

and become my wife." Wu Yaoyue's eyes were burning with fighting spirit as he added, "Elder Huang, I will leave the task of acquiring the Flesh Regeneration Elixir to you. This task must be accomplished!"

The old man chuckled. "Prince, rest assured. If the Flesh Regeneration Elixir were in the hands of the Hundred Territories Alliance Master, then we could forget about it. But a mere junior of Immortal Level Two will be unable to escape from my hands!"

Wu Yaoyue nodded his head. "Good! Find Nameless and acquire the Flesh Regeneration Elixir. As for me... Humph. Since we already have acquired the whereabouts of An Yurou, I will look for her personally!"

At the Lin family's palace, everyone wore worried and gloomy expressions. To the Lin family, the death of Lin Lengjian was a huge blow that was indescribable!

In the Lin family grandmaster's room, Lin Aojue, who had just returned from the Alliance Meet, knelt down on the floor and pled guilty. "Grandmaster, please punish me. I am incompetent. Hence, I was unable to acquire the first position and win glory for the family."

The Lin family grandmaster wore green clothes. Bitterness and hatred appeared on his old face. "You are not to blame. I am the one to blame! Yunhe recommended Yin Yu here. It is I who did not have good eyes, and we let him slip away. Moreover, I did not kill him when I had the chance, and this has caused Lin Lengjian to be killed."

The Lin family grandmaster laughed at himself. The Su Yu of the past could have become a member of the Lin family and could have been at the Lin family's service. It was the Lin family grandmaster who had made the ill-advised decision to release Su Yu when he had incurred the hatred of the Lin family.

If he had known that this would be the result, he would have eradicated the source of trouble!

Whiz—

A guard rushed over and reported quickly. "Grandmaster, this is bad! Someone invaded the Lin family forcefully and has injured the guards at the entrance!"

The Lin family grandmaster's expression changed silently, and it was quite obvious that he was furious. "Does he really think that my Lin family is on the wane? Follow me!"

The Lin family grandmaster rushed towards the entrance furiously. However, apart from the ground being covered with guards who were wailing mournfully after having been beaten, no one else was present.

"Where is he? Where did he run to?" The Lin family grandmaster's eyes were filled with murderous intents.

"Grandmaster, he escaped!"

Escaped? The Lin family grandmaster was a bit surprised. From beginning to end, only a few minutes had passed. During those few minutes, the intruder had defeated the entire group of Dragon Realm Level Three guards who were at the entrance. His abilities were far above them, and there was no reason for him to have fled!

The grandmaster's old eyes narrowed and swept past the area. He shot his gaze in the direction of the Nine Cloud Tower. His eyes glowed brilliantly. "Quick! Head toward Nine Cloud Tower immediately! This is a trap to lure us away from the house!"

Outside Nine Cloud Tower, the floor was littered with knocked out guards. The entrance of the tower opened silently. The first layer was burning with violent Blue Spirit Flames. The passage connecting to the underground level had already opened.

A Moon White, Long-Robed silhouette stepped through the raging flame and headed toward to center of the raging flames at the underground level. A head of silver hair and a mask—who else could it be other than Su Yu?

Reflected in Su Yu's eyes was a crystal coffin. A graceful body lay quietly inside the coffin. As the body was being roasted by the raging flame, it had a serene expression, like it had fallen into an eternal sleep.

As for that ugly face, it was shocking. It was An Yurou!

At the moment, a red fluorescent light was circulating around An Yurou's body surface. It was as if the red fluorescent light was trickling sluggishly and flowing like a stream. It flowed toward her abdomen without any sound and gathered to become a curved, red pool. Lumps of marvelous energy radiated from the small pool.

When Su Yu got close, he felt many times cooler, and his body felt extremely comfortable. That was the yin element. Under these high temperatures, it had separated all the yin element from every part of An Yurou's body and gathered it all together.

At the very moment, the yin element was in its final form. It was no surprise that it was about to be taken by Lu Jun.

Staring at An Yurou, who slept peacefully and deeply, Su Yu's heart was extremely moved and filled with indescribable respect. Ten years ago, she had succeeded in escaping from Lu Jun's demonic claws. Ten years later, she willingly attracted Lu Jun over for Su Yu. Moreover, she had acted as though she had been happy to leave with Lu Jun.

From the first time they met, An Yurou had quietly protected Su Yu behind his back, even up until this very moment. If not for her, his fate would have been extremely miserable.

Su Yu opened the crystal coffin with a palm and cradled her to his chest. He then said with a gentle voice, "Second Elder, I, Su Yu, have come to repay you!"

Whiz—

Su Yu's eyes flashed, and he left Nine Cloud Tower. However, he did not bother to leave quietly. Instead, he flew toward the horizon hurriedly and flew far away from the Alliance City. With such a great ruckus, any strong martial artist within the Alliance City would notice him!

Rustle—

At that moment, the Lin family grandmaster rushed over. When he noticed a white-colored shadow at the horizon, his old eyes overflowed with absolute murderous intents. "You have invaded my Lin family, and you shall be pardoned with death!"

What was more surprising and enraging to him was that Su Yu did not even try to avoid attention. Instead, he tried to escape via the sky! It was as if he did not have the Lin family in his eyes at all!

Whiz—

The Lin family grandmaster flew and chased after Su Yu in the sky. His cultivation base was many times higher than Lin Lengjian. As the grandmaster of the Three Great Ancient Regions, his abilities were the strongest!

He was just below Han Jianglin!

The Alliance Meet had just ended not long ago. Hence, many strong martial artists from various forces were still in the city and had not left yet. How could the movements in the sky of the Alliance City escape their eyes?

Han Jianglin's cold eyes looked as if it had passed through layers of clouds. His pupils shrank and became filled with murderous intents abruptly. "Yin Yu!"

Yin Yu had snatched away the Flesh Regeneration Elixir that could save his son, and Yin Yu had also killed Lu Jun in front of everyone!

"Evil creature! You have killed the Deputy Alliance Master. Hence, I cannot forgive you!" Han Jianglin spoke with the force of justice, and he flew into the layers of cloud.

As for the remaining family forces, their expressions changed greatly in succession. The shadows of Su Yu and the Lin family grandmaster—escaping and giving chase, respectively—were as if they were skimming over the surface. They changed time and again yet still stayed the same in a flash.

Half a cup of tea's time passed. Outside the Alliance City, atop a snowfield, the Lin family's grandmaster shouted loudly, "Did you think that it would be so easy for you to leave after having invaded my Lin family?" A lump of spiritual energy which he released was shot toward Su Yu's back from a long distance away!

Su Yu's expression changed slightly, and he could not help but stop moving.

He turned his head and revealed his real face. The Lin family grandmaster's pupils shrank. "It's you!"

Coldness erupted from within the Lin family grandmaster in an instant. Losing a Great Elder of the Lin family had dealt them an unprecedented blow, both in terms of reputation and abilities.

"Lin family grandmaster, are you here to kill me?" Su Yu breathed lightly.

The Lin family grandmaster's old face was consumed with coldness. "If you had not appeared right in front of me and no one looked for you, I would have been fine with not killing you. However, you killed my family's Great Elder and invaded my Lin family. If I do not kill you, how will my Lin family answer to the public?"

The Lin family grandmaster's whole body released spiritual energy slowly, and it was accompanied by thick murderous intents on all sides.

Su Yu said coldly, "Lin Lengjian had tried to put me at death's door again and again. Was it so wrong for me to kill him? I am greatly indebted to An Yurou. I could not tolerate the fact that harm had come her way. Was it wrong for me to rescue her?"

The murderous intents within Lin family's old eyes gradually thickened. "No matter how at fault he was, there was no need for you to kill him! Don't forget. That day, who was the one who recommended you to the Lin family? Also, who gave you the chance to enter the Nine Cloud Tower and further your training? It was my Lin family! However, you are ungrateful! You did not think about the gratitude due to us in the slightest bit. You killed my Lin family's elder, causing my Lin family to be humiliated and also to lose a great portion of our power. Ask yourself, are you worthy of Lin Yunhe, worthy of my Lin family, or worthy of your own conscience?"

Every sentence that the Lin family grandmaster questioned in reply was filled with his anger and remorse. He hated himself for not killing Su Yu earlier!

Chapter 264: A Looming Crisis

"Ungrateful?" said Su Yu. "Lin family grandmaster, have you forgotten who was it that did not allow me to leave the Lin family, forcing me to take attacks from the geniuses from the Lin family? Who was it that said that all grudges would be resolved with one stroke? Now that it has come to this, you tell me that I, Su Yu, still owe the Lin family a debt of favor!"

The Lin family grandmaster could not find words. His expression showed his killing intent. "Fine! Let's say that you do not owe us any debts! But considering the face of Lin Yunhe, how could you strike so mercilessly at a member of the Lin family? Even if Lin Lengjian wanted to kill you, if you had told me, I naturally would have stopped him and warned him! But what did you do? You killed him!"

Hearing these nonsensical words, Su Yu could not stifle his laughter. "What a joke! It seems you also know that I had been recommended by Master Lin Yunhe! When you were finding trouble with me in the Lin family, did you stop to consider Master Lin Yunhe? When Lin Lengjian tried to kill me multiple times, did he stop to consider Master Lin Yunhe? No! Finally, when Lin Lengjian was about to kill me, what were you doing? As the Lin family grandmaster, you knew what he was doing! But what did you do? Did you warn him? Did you try to stop him? No! You only turned a blind eye as he attempted to kill an unimportant junior fighter! You only think about Master Lin Yunhe now that Lin Lengjian had been killed by me? Do you still value your reputation?" Su Yu scolded!

The Lin family grandmaster could not find words. He had not once thought about Lin Yunhe when he was finding trouble with Su Yu, nor when Lin Lengjian wanted to kill Su Yu multiple times. And now, he was demanding that Su Yu consider Lin Yunhe.

"Humph! What a glib tongue! It is a fact that you killed Lin Lengjian. My anger will not quell unless I kill you!"

The Lin family grandmaster struck suddenly! A destructive power was aimed at a spot in the sky. This destructive power was almost on par with Han Jianglin's, causing Su Yu's gaze to turn serious.

"No one can save you, lad!" said the Lin family grandmaster.

He had thick killing intent, striking decisively! But Su Yu's lips formed a mysterious smile, shooting his gaze to a corner of the earth.

"You have followed me all this way," said Su Yu. "Is it time for you to show yourself?"

He had just finished his sentence when the earth beneath his legs exhibited a strange phenomenon. The ground started to shift, forming a human figure! It was an ancient person, his eyes filled with wrinkles. He exuded a sinister aura! This person had been following Su Yu for a long time!

Before entering the Lin family, Su Yu had already sensed his presence. He had been following Su Yu all the way until now, never once attacking him.

The Lin family grandmaster's expression changed. "Who are you?"

The Lin family grandmaster had a feeling of unease. This sinister old man seemed to have horrifying abilities! Could this be a trap set by Su Yu?

His gaze wavering, the Lin family grandmaster retracted his attack, retreating speedily. But the sinister elder on the ground let out fits of cold laughter. "You have seen my true form and still think that you can leave here alive? Earth Dragon's Technique!"

The old man tapped his foot gently on the ground.

At that moment, the earth vibrated, and a 100 zhang long, three zhang thick earth dragon flew out from deep within the earth, striking towards the Lin family grandmaster.

The pupils of the Lin family grandmaster dilated. His face went pale with shock. "Earth Dragon's Technique...! You... You are...!"

He seemed to recognize the old man! But the assault of the earth dragon swallowed the Lin family grandmaster along with his words.

Su Yu could only hear the pathetic wails of the Lin family grandmaster from within the belly of the earth dragon, crying out, "How could it be...? How could you have freed yourself from the forbidden grounds...? Ah—!"

Creak—

The pathetic wails stopped. What replaced them was a large puddle of blood seeping out from the earth dragon's stomach!

Following that, the earth dragon returned to the earth, leaving behind only a pool of blood on the ground. The Lin family grandmaster, one of the most powerful fighters in the Three Great Ancient Regions, had been killed! His abilities were at least Immortal Realm Level Three! But this powerful fighter had been killed just like that!

The sinister old man lifted his head, his cold eyes staring at Su Yu. "Hehe... You are the first person who has dared to use me like that!"

Su Yu had long sensed the presence of this sinister old man. There was only one explanation as to why he had followed Su Yu all this way. Su Yu had something he wanted! This was the reason why Su Yu was not afraid.

"I would think that you have already planned for your demise? Nameless!" The sinister old man let out a low grunt. It was the sinister old man Wu Yaoyue had dispatched to obtain the Flesh Regeneration Elixir. Even now, he was still under the impression that Su Yu was Nameless.

Nameless? Su Yu was a little surprised.

"You wish to kill me?" Su Yu shook his head. "You would at least have to deal with them first!"

Whoosh, whoosh, whoosh—

He had just finished his sentence when multiple figures approached from the horizon!

The sinister old man's expression turned serious, saying, "Lad! You did this on purpose?"

Su Yu had not stealthily fled the Lin family. Instead, he had charged straight into the sky, causing a huge disturbance. This was not due to recklessness; instead, it was an intentional action!

Since he was being followed by a mysterious figure, Su Yu knew that if he had fled silently, he might have been able to escape the Lin family only to have been secretly attacked by this mysterious elder! Since that was the case, he had decided to take the gamble and break the situation wide open! That was how he had gotten the idea to lure out the Lin family grandmaster as well as the powerful fighters from the Alliance City.

In this case, the mysterious figure would take care of the grandmaster, and the fighters of the city would deal with the mysterious figure!

Expectedly, the sinister old man let out a grunt. "Lad! I will remember this!"

Whoosh—

The sinister old man immediately slipped into the ground, the entire process silent!

Whoosh, whoosh—

At this moment, Han Jianglin and the other fighters had finally caught up! What they saw were pulps of flesh littered on the ground. The Lin family grandmaster had been blasted into pieces! The fighters from the various families that had followed all gasped, gravely looking at Su Yu in disbelief.

Even the Lin family grandmaster had been killed! Just how terrifying were Su Yu's abilities?

Only Han Jianglin was looking at the direction where the mysterious elder had disappeared. He understood, more than anyone, that it was not Su Yu who had killed the grandmaster but instead a mysterious old man!

But shifting his gaze, Han Jianglin's expression was stern, coldly scolding, "Insolent criminal! To dare to kill the grandmaster of the Lin family? What animosity did he have with you? Why did you strike so mercilessly? You say that Lu Jun deserved his death for breaking the rules of the contest, but what wrong did the Lin family grandmaster do? Why did you kill him?"

Han Jianglin looked at Su Yu in fury. The fighters from the other families were also staring at Su Yu with angry eyes.

"Yin Yu! You are too barbaric!" spoke up one of them. "It was not enough for you to kill Lin Lengjian, but to kill the grandmaster, too! What animosity does the Lin family have with you for you to kill all of them like that?"

"Yin Yu!" growled another. "I initially had some sympathy for you, since it was indeed Lin Lengjian who repeatedly found trouble with you, but now I am thoroughly disappointed in you! The death of a person like you is not worth remembering!"

The public opinion against him now was powerful enough to melt metal. Even Ouyang Long did not dare interrupt.

Ouyang Yuxin, who had also followed the crowd, felt a mysterious sense of relaxation when she saw this scene. The more excellent Su Yu was, the worse she felt. This was the fate most suitable for him, backed against the corner, surrounded by the various powerhouses and on the verge of death! The discomfort and worry in her heart in the past had completely vanished.

Once again observing Su Yu, Ouyang Yuxin lamented silently, So what if you are a genius? You ultimately have no status and can only be slaughtered by others!

Thinking back to the worry and regret she had felt, Ouyang Yuxin scolded herself for being silly. The person she wanted to marry would not only have abilities; he needed to have a powerful background. Only then could she be totally relieved. Otherwise, talent alone cannot get you very far.

Facing the criticism of everyone, Su Yu remained silent and did not bother to explain.

Han Jianglin let out a cold laugh in his heart, followed by a long sigh. In this case, he could get back the Flesh Regeneration Elixir.

"Kneel! Die!" Han Jianglin took a step forward.

It was a casual step, but it felt as though a mountain were pressing down on Su Yu, causing his blood to boil. The familiar sense of death once again welled up in his heart.

But Su Yu let out a calm smile.

Chapter 265: Palace Master Yin Yu

"If you have the time to kill me, why not take a look and see who has come."

Su Yu's gaze passed through Heaven and was shot directly at the clouds. Atop Heaven, a thick white cloud unfolded leisurely. When looked at carefully, one would discover that amidst the white cloud was an indistinct, tall, sturdy figure. He stood with his hands clasped behind his back and looked down at mother earth as if he was a monarch of Heaven and Earth.

"Haha... Interesting."

Rustle—

The tall and sturdy figure disappeared blurry. A shadow then appeared in front of Su Yu abruptly! He looked handsome, and he had dashing eyebrows. He also had star-like eyes which were bright and piercing. He was composed, generous, dignified, and powerful. He had the status to govern a country.

Han Jianglin's pupils shrank. "The Empire of Darkness's Palace Master, Ling Xiaotian?"

After hearing what was said, strong martial artists from the group of families revealed frightening expressions! The Empire of Darkness was a legend that was taboo on the continent! It was a mysterious force that had been handed down since ancient times until now. The Sub Palaces that had been spread across the four continents were dark enigmas that frightened every continent!

The Palace Master, Ling Xiaotian, was a frightening martial artist who commanded the Sub Palaces of the Empire of Darkness in the northern continent. His abilities were considered top grade on the northern continent. Only the Phoenix Cabinet's Master and Snow Listening Tower's Master—the

two mysterious, unpredictable, mythological figures at the top of the northern continent—could compare. And now, this kind of matchless martial artist had actually appeared in the Hundred Territories!

Among the assembled family forces, all of them trembled in fear. They had no right to even see mythological figures like Ling Xiaotian, yet he had appeared right in front of their eyes.

Ouyang Yuxin's beautiful eyes trembled violently, and she respected him from the bottom of her soul. How noble and mighty was the identity of the Empire of Darkness' Palace Master? In his presence, the Ouyang family was merely an ant.

Ling Xiaotian looked once around the area, and his gaze landed on Han Jianglin for some time. He nodded his chin with dispensability. Finally, his gaze fixed on Su Yu.

Although it was clearly a dull look, Su Yu had a feeling as though his whole body had been seen through!

"Long time no see," Ling Xiaotian said with a sarcastic smile.

The Nine Fingers of Imaginary Thunder used by Su Yu had been bestowed by Ling Xiaotian. When An Yurou had been taken away, he had been there as well. How would he not know that the real identity of Yin Yu was Su Yu?

After hearing what was said, a collective gasp broke the silent scene! The Empire of Darkness's Palace Master actually knew Yin Yu! This discovery had caused them all to be astonished and heartbroken! Where did a divine being like Yin Yu come from?

Su Yu was secretly grateful that Ling Xiaotian did not reveal his real identity in front of everyone. If his identity was exposed, Shenyue island—as well as his close friends who were related to him—would be remembered by his enemies deeply. Hence, it would turn into a destructive disaster.

Su Yu bowed down and paid his courtesy. "I have seen Palace Master Lin before," he said. "As long as I live, I will not forget your kindness when you bestowed the cultivation technique upon me."

Ling Xiaotian laughed. "I did not expect the little kid who was in such dire straits that day to grow to such a high level in the few months since I last saw you."

That day, Su Yu was only a Dragon Realm Level Three. In front of the Liuxian Faction's Great Elder, he could have been killed with just a flick of the Great Elder's finger. Now, he had grown to a level where he could kill strong martial artists like Lu Jun. The change from beginning to the end was like Heaven and Earth! Even Ling Xiaotian inevitably treated him with increased respect.

"Seems like I didn't waste my time coming here," Ling Xiaotian laughed. "Yin Yu, are you willing to join the Empire of Darkness?"

When those words came out of his mouth, everyone was shocked.

What? He has invited Su Yu to join the Empire of Darkness?

"No!" Han Jianglin objected at once. "He killed people of my Hundred Territories Alliance. This kind of extremely vicious junior must be dealt with by my Hundred Territories Alliance!"

Ling Xiaotian turned his head and looked at Han Jianglin. "Alliance Master Han, for sake of the alliance between you and me, do not question my decision!"

Although Ling Xiaotian had a dull expression, he had a prestige which implied that he was above many others. The face of Han Jianglin, the Hundred Territories Alliance Master, who was unquestionably strong, changed repeatedly, taking on several unpredictable expressions, but he dared not argue! It could be seen that the abilities of Ling Xiaotian were far above Han Jianglin! He was the northern continent's Three Great Mythological Figures and only the Phoenix Cabinet's Master and the Snow Listening Tower's Match could match him!

"What will it be?" Ling Xiaotian smiled and stared at Su Yu.

Su Yu remained silent for some time. When the first Empire of Darkness came to the Zhenlong continent, it had forces that were mixed everywhere all along. Su Yu had never expected that there would come a day when he was invited.

As if sensing Su Yu's apprehension, Ling Xiaotian laughed indifferently and said, "As long as an area is populated, there will be people who wander from place to place and live by their wits. If you join my Empire of Darkness, I cannot assure you that there will not be malicious competition for power. However, what I can assure you is that anyone who is under my command will not be treated unjustly in the slightest degree. For all matters concerned, I will uphold justice."

Su Yu forced a smile. "Does Palace Master Ling think that I still have a choice?"

At the moment, the entire Hundred Territories was trying to kill him. If he did not join the Empire of Darkness, the outcome would be an ignominious death! Under the coercion of the Hundred Territories, Su Yu had to make a choice.

Su Yu raised his voice and said, "I am willing to join the Empire of Darkness!"

The words "willing" caused Han Jianglin's heart to sink completely! Not only had he not managed to kill Su Yu, but he had instead caused Su Yu to join the Empire of Darkness!

Ling Xiaotian laughed loudly to his heart's content. "Okay! From today on, you will be the Empire of Darkness's Deputy Palace Master of the northern continent, and you are ranked number ten! There are nine other Deputy Palace Masters before you. All of you are directly under my command."

Deputy Palace Master! Everyone was startled at the same time. Like the Hundred Territories Alliance's ten Deputy Masters, the Empire of Darkness also had ten Deputy Palace Masters, all of whom had frightening talents and were matchless geniuses with extraordinary abilities! They were all nurtured as candidates for the future Palace Master! Even if they did not become the Palace Master, after being nurtured for a period of time, they would be sent to the Empire of Darkness and become the Empire of Darkness's trusted subordinates. From then on, they would outmatch the entire continent! On Zhenlong continent, the Empire of Darkness was the strongest force!

Ouyang Yuxin staggered, and her flower-like face turned pale as she found it difficult to accept the scene in front of her. In the blink of an eye, from a pitiful worm being hunted by the Hundred Territories, Su Yu had become a Deputy Palace Master of the Empire of Darkness! His position was far from comparable to the insignificant Ouyang family!

"Yin Yu, do you still have any business to attend to here?" Ling Xiaotian said. "After you have finished what you wanted to do, come back to the Sub Palace with me."

Su Yu smiled. "Yes. There is something I have to do! Please give me three months' time."

Three months? Ling Xiaotian nodded his head slightly. "Understood. I will wait for you in the Alliance City for three months. During these three months, red-clothed bodyguards will accompany you and protect you as you finish what you wanted to do."

Clap, clap—

Ling Xiaotian clapped his hands.

At once, ten figures wearing matching red clothes came from Heaven. They were middle-aged men about forty to fifty years old. Every single one of them was a strong martial artist of Immortal Level Two and were not weaker than Lu Jun in the slightest bit!

"For the next three months, all of you will protect him as he finishes what he wanted to do." Ling Xiaotian gave a light hum indifferently. "If there are any accidents, all of you will be responsible!"

"Understood!" they said as one.

After his speech, Ling Xiaotian took a step and disappeared.

The ten red-clothed bodyguards knelt down on one knee. "Greetings to Palace Master Yin Yu!" Their voices were uniform. It passed through the horizon loudly and clearly, shaking the hearts of the people.

The group of families revealed extremely fearful expressions! The bodyguards' strength was more than enough to annihilate most of the families!

In an instant, Su Yu had officially become the Empire of Darkness's Tenth Deputy Palace Master—Palace Master Yin Yu!

A feeling of ultimate, incomparable power surged within Su Yu's heart. The change in his position was as if he had been reborn. Su Yu felt an extremely huge impact in his heart. However, as he had just had a narrow escape, he quickly recomposed himself.

"Yes, please stand up," Su Yu said, nodding his head.

The ten red-clothed bodyguards stood up. They stood while still bowing. However, there was one person who raised his neck up slightly. He had a cultivation base of Immortal Level Two Upper Tier, which was the highest among the ten people.

Chapter 266: The Faction Master in Danger

Even though he was stern and expressionless, Su Yu could see disdain deep in his eyes.

"Who is the leader of the guards?" Su Yu said.

Nine of them remained silent, The expressionless middle-aged man with his neck slightly lifted said, "I am!"

"Your name?" Su Yu asked calmly, looked him over.

"Li Tianqiang!" the middle-aged man did not hesitate in answering.

"Li Tianqiang, is it? Are you unwilling to accept me?" Su Yu's gaze flickered.

Even though Li Tianqiang did not wear any expression and remained silent, wasn't the deep disdain in his eyes telling enough?

"I'm asking you a question." Su Yu's tone became colder.

Li Tianqiang answered, "No. Since it is the order of the palace master, I will naturally protect Master Yin Yu."

In other words, he was not listening to the orders of Su Yu but was merely following the orders of Lin Xiaotian.

Squinting, Su Yu calmly nodded. "It's best that you do!"

"All right, let's set off!"

Under the respectful gaze of the crowd, Su Yu led the way, vanishing into the horizon. The ten red-clothed bodyguards followed closely. Han Jianglin coldly stared at Su Yu, leaving with hatred in his heart.

Outside the Alliance City, the sinister old man appeared in front of a tree. Wu Yaoyue and Huang Xiaoyan had been waiting here for a long time.

Wu Yaoyue's expression had traces of fury. "Darn it! They went to take away An Yurou earlier than me!"

Whoosh—

The sinister old man returned empty-handed.

"Where are the Flesh Regeneration Elixirs?" Wu Yaoyue scolded.

The sinister old man's face was filled with resentment. "That Nameless is very cunning, attracting all the powerful fighters from within the city. I had no chance to strike! An Yurou was also taken by them!"

"What? An Yurou is also in their hands? Where is he?" Wu Yaoyue was livid.

The sinister old man hesitated. "I do not know..."

"Useless!" Wu Yaoyue was extremely angry, "We were nearly about to succeed, but Nameless beat us to it!"

The sinister old man said with a deep voice, "Prince, why do you need to fulfill your promise? If you use force, I would think that Miss Mo Wu would not be able to retaliate. Why not just defile her first? Then she would naturally follow you."

"Humph! Do you think that I do not wish to?" Wu Yaoyue let out a low grunt, "Mo Wu is extremely proud. Unless she personally allows it, no one can violate her! She has cultivated an immortal-level sword technique, and her sword is hidden in her body. If I used force, she would activate the sword in her body and commit suicide!"

So, that was the reason Wu Yaoyue would put in so much effort.

"Prince, we have been away from the Dark Forest for too long," the sinister old man said. "It is time to go back. There are still important matters to attend to."

Wu Yaoyue was extremely unwilling, but hearing the words "important matters," he could only clench his teeth. "Fine! Take Mo Wu back to the Dark Forest first! I'll come for Nameless sooner or later!"

Two months later, leaping past the Wolong Snowfield, Su Yu entered the territory of the Liuxian Faction. Passing by the Abyss of Wutong, Su Yu involuntarily sighed as he saw the once familiar but now decrepit place.

Half a year ago, he was merely a Holy King, his fate controlled by the faction. Today, he had become the vice palace master of the most mysterious power in the continent, the Empire of Darkness!

What was most comical was that he had made enemies with the members of the Empire of Darkness on multiple occasions, yet he was ultimately forced to join the Empire of Darkness. The karma at play was laughable.

Suddenly, Su Yu realized that there were unfamiliar figures in the Abyss of Wutong, digging up the Abyss of Wutong.

"Could it be the neighboring Hehuan Faction?" Su Yu raised his brows.

The influence of the Liuxian Faction had declined considerably, its territories shrinking. This scene was reasonable. Su Yu remained indifferent.

"There are still many things for me to do." Su Yu shot his gaze toward the Liuxian Faction. "The Liuxian Faction was but one of them."

Multiple days later, Su Yu stood with his hands behind him outside the entrance of the Liuxian Faction.

On the way here, he saw the territory that once belonged to the Liuxian Faction being split by the neighboring factions, with the Hehuan Faction as its leader. A big part of the Liuxian Faction territory had been occupied by the Hehuan Faction. Now, the Liuxian Faction's sphere of influence was limited to a 100-mile radius from the faction.

Standing at the entrance of the Liuxian Faction, Su Yu could see a few Liuxian Faction disciples getting out of their Liuxian Faction robes, dejectedly leaving the faction. Most of them were Outer Sanctum disciples, but there were also a few Inner Sanctum Disciples.

The faction was in danger. A large bulk of disciples were choosing to leave. Even the Inner Sanctum disciples were not optimistic about the faction. It was only a matter of time before the faction was destroyed. The reason for all of this was the bloodbath that had happened months ago.

"Follow me in," Su Yu calmly said.

Li Tianqiang creased his brows. "Master Yin Yu, I would advise you to not enter. This faction seems to have suffered an upheaval. If you get mixed into their affairs, it is difficult to guarantee your safety."

Su Yu turned around coldly. "I'll say once again, follow me in!"

Li Tianqiang's eyes were filled with disdain. He calmly replied, "My mission is to ensure the safety of Master Yin Yu—not to follow the orders of Master Yin Yu."

"You are determined not to accept me?" Su Yu coldly said.

Li Tianqiang did not hesitate, replying without expression, "No. I am merely advising Master Yin Yu."

He denied it, but his eyes were filled with deep disdain. Su Yu becoming the tenth vice palace master might have invoked his jealousy, making him unhappy.

Su Yu squinted. "Fine. You'll wait outside. The rest of you, follow me in!"

The rest of the nine people did not have the guts of Li Tianqiang. They followed Su Yu in without saying a word.

In the Liuxian Faction meeting hall, the Liuxian Faction master had just returned a day before and his face filled with grief and anger. The Third, Fifth, and Sixth Elder stood beside the Liuxian Faction master, their eyes full of anger. Standing opposite them were three men and three women. The man who was leading the party had an evil vibe—a strange aura enveloped his body.

His cultivation level was shocking, being at Immortal Realm Level One Lower Tier, comparable to the Liuxian Faction master. He was the Hehuan Faction master: Zhao Qianghuan!

Behind him were five elders. The highest of them was Dragon Realm Level Seven Peak, followed by Dragon Realm Level Seven Upper Tier. The six of them were the most powerful fighters of the Hehuan Faction. In the past, they were not as strong as the Liuxian Faction, for the faction master and the Great Elder were both Immortal Realm level fighters.

But now, the Liuxian Faction master had lost an arm, his abilities taking a hit. There were also only three elders left, with the strongest being the Third Elder at Dragon Realm Level Six. The six people of the Hehuan Faction had all descended on the Liuxian Faction with unfriendly intentions.

Zhao Qianghuan let out an evil laugh. "Liuxian Faction master, have you considered the conditions?"

The Liuxian Faction master slammed the table in anger. "You want the Liuxian Faction to hand over our beautiful female disciples to be violated by the Hehuan Faction to cultivate yin energy? That's going too far!"

Zhao Qianghuan stood with his arms crossed, letting out an evil laugh. "So what if I am going overboard? Do you think that the Liuxian Faction is still the faction of the past? Your faction now is only slightly better than an average family! If you do not know your place, the Hehuan Faction is more than willing to replace you, taking the last of your territory. Since you cannot protect the territory you already have, why waste it and give it to outsiders?"

Chapter 267: Coming Back to the Faction

The Liuxian Faction Master felt furious. Even though he had only left the faction for one month, the faction's territory had shrunk by half—again!

"Zhao Qianghuan!" seethed the Liuxian Faction Master. "Give us a way out and don't be so overbearing. If not, there will be no benefits for everyone! Our Liuxian Faction already succeeded in sending a disciple into the Shentian Manor. After he finishes his training and comes back, are you not afraid that he will look for you and settle the score with you?"

To everyone's surprise, Zhao Qianghuan laughed loudly. "Is that so? My Hehuan Faction had also sent a disciple into the Shentian Manor! During the Alliance Meet, your faction's Ji Hongxue was ranked between the sixties and seventies. As for our Hehuan Faction's genius disciple, Duan Yu, he had fought into the top 50. Moreover, there is still his older male cousin who is inside the Shentian Manor, and his older male cousin's cultivation base is a lot greater than you and me! Do you think Ji Hongxue, who entered the Shentian Manor, would have a good life inside?"

What? The Liuxian Faction Master became anxious.

"Liuxian Faction Master, in this case, I will take ten female disciples with me this time around. How is that? At worse, I would send them back in their proper form a few days later!"

After hearing what was said, the Liuxian Faction Master and the three Elders felt humiliated. Even if those female disciples were returned, one could well imagine that their yin element would be sucked dry and they would suffer endless shame!

If this matter were to spread outside the faction, the Liuxian Faction's 100-year reputation would be destroyed in a moment! However, the four of them remained silent and did not continue rebutting. Did the Liuxian Faction have a choice in their current state?

The Liuxian Faction Master closed his eyes in pain. "Gather the... female disciples!"

Some time passed. The female disciples—none of whom had even the slightest idea what was happening—were gathered. Chan Yunfei was within them, and her beautiful face wore a surprised expression. As she stared at the unfamiliar strong martial artists of the Hehuan Faction with astonishment, her heart felt cold.

Zhao Qianghuan swept his eyes past the ten of them. When his gaze fell on Chan Yunfei's face, his eyes flashed! Delicate, pretty, and refined, as well as an extremely beautiful face. What a graceful young lady! In addition, her cultivation base was extremely high—at the Dragon Realm—making her an extremely good tool to extract and purify the yin element from!

"Okay, I will take her!" Zhao Qianghuan laughed jokingly.

When he lifted his palm and grabbed, a sucking force appeared in the void and sucked Chan Yunfei over. Zhao Qianghuan then grabbed her white wrist. When Zhao Qianghuan interacted with her in close proximity, her body had a sweet-swelling fragrant, which made him even more satisfied. He laughed. "She is still a virgin, and her yin element is extremely well preserved! This woman is mine!"

The other five of them had dirty looks. As the female disciples screamed alarmingly, nine female disciples with outstanding looks were chosen and taken. As such, the selection of ten female disciples was completed.

Zhao Qianghuan laughed jokingly and said, "Thank you, Liuxian Faction Master, for granting our wish! Don't worry. Three days later, I will naturally return them!"

The Liuxian Faction Master and the Three Elders clenched their fists secretly. However, they did not dare to resist! They could only allow those female disciples to wail and scream as they were hauled away.

The expression on Chan Yunfei's face changed. In an instant, she understood what was going to happen to her. Her beautiful eyes were filled with anxiety. "What are all of you doing? Faction Master, save us! Quickly!"

The Liuxian Faction Master dared not look at her. He gritted his teeth tightly and said in a low voice, agonizingly, "For the faction... All of you, bear with it just one time. The faction will be grateful to all of you!"

They were betrayed by the faction! No—the faction was incapable of saving them!

Chan Yunfei's beautiful face turned ghastly pale, and she struggled as if her life depended on it. "Let me go! I do not wish to leave with all of you!"

The consequences were too frightening. She understood from Zhao Qianghuan's expression the frightening experience she would go through in the next three days.

Zhao Qianghuan laughed evilly. "Little beauty, don't worry. I will make you feel so comfortable that even if I do send you away in three days, you will not feel like leaving! Now, since even your Faction Master cannot save you, who else can you count on?"

Chan Yunfei was so afraid that the tears flowed out from her eyes endlessly.

Suddenly, a figure appeared in her mind, and she hit upon a plan in desperation. "You! Let go of me! I... I am Su Yu's woman! If you dare to touch me, he will avenge me for sure!"

Su Yu? Zhao Qianghuan stopped moving abruptly!

How would he not know why the Liuxian Faction had declined over a night's time and landed in its current state? It was rumored that a unique genius who defied the natural order had appeared in the Liuxian Faction!

He was forced by the Liuxian Faction to rebel against the faction, and he flooded the place with the blood of half the Elders of the Liuxian Faction! His existence had become a legend in the Liuxian Faction that was considered a taboo!

Zhao Qianghuan became stiff for some time. After which, he regained his senses and gave a cold hum. "Do you think that my Hehuan Faction would be powerless like your Liuxian Faction?"

"If he dares to appear in front of me, I will kill him with one palm!" Zhao Qianghuan wore a cold smile. "Moreover, it is unknown as to whether he is still alive. You think he is able to come back and save you? What a joke..."

However, at that moment, a gust of cold wind swept across the big palace. The curtains were blown about, and the sound of the wind could be heard. An icy cold gale blew against the faces of everyone.

A silver-haired young man with his hands clasped behind his back appeared silently at the entrance. On the silver face, under the mask, was a pair of eyes which were dull, like vapor exhaled during autumn and winter. Although his eyes were clear, they were cold, as well!

"A joke?" the silver-haired young man said as he stepped into the palace. "I don't find it funny."

The Liuxian Faction Master's pupils shrank gradually. After which, he gasped, "The crownless king of the Alliance Meet... Yin Yu!"

He had observed the battles in person. How could he forget this genius who was as frightening as a demon?

With his abilities, he had killed the Deputy Alliance Master! He rivaled the warlords of the world. No one dared to have a match with him! He had actually appeared in the Liuxian Faction—in an out-of-the-way, desolate place like this.

The Liuxian Faction Master felt like he was in a dream! Yin Yu's name had not completely spread everywhere, yet. However, the Liuxian Faction Master believed that once his name had spread, it would reverberate through the entire Hundred Territories, and he would become number one in the Hundred Territories Alliance for all eternity!

As for the people of the Hehuan Faction, they did not yet know the details of the Alliance Meet. They had only heard that the so-called crownless king of the Alliance Meet was the young man who currently stood in front of them. They became serious in an instant.

Zhao Qianghuan assumed a polite tone. "What does this young knight-errant mean? Could it be that my words had offended your excellency?"

For him to achieve the number one position at the Alliance Meet, his background must have been out of the ordinary. Hence, it was natural for Zhao Qianghuan to be polite.

Su Yu ignored him. Instead, he looked toward Chan Yunfei and said indifferently, "Let go of her."

Zhao Qianghuan hesitated briefly. As he felt fearful, he released his hands slowly. The other five Elders realized that something was wrong, and they also released the female disciples. In no time, the group of tearful female disciples gathered in a group with Chan Yunfei in the lead and cried on each other's shoulders.

Zhao Qianghuan clenched his fists and wore a polite smile. "Can I know the name of this young knight-errant? Why have you come to the Liuxian Faction?"

"Who allowed you to talk to me?" Su Yu swept his eyes toward him dully.

Zhao Qianghuan's expression turned grave, and he lost control of his feelings. He bit his teeth slightly and the muscles of his cheek twitched furiously. However, he restrained himself rationally. He looked at Su Yu deeply and gave a cold hum. "We will take our leave!"

The five Elders stared at Su Yu deeply. After which, they looked at one another, and they could tell the intentions of one another. They had to first find out the specific details of Su Yu; they could not provoke their enemy recklessly.

"Who allowed all of you to leave?" Su Yu did not even turn his head as he said it.

Zhao Qianghuan stopped walking. He gave a hum with a ghastly pale expression. "Yin Yu, isn't this a bit too much? You did not allow me to talk. Could it be that you also disallow me to leave?"

Su Yu turned his body around and shook his head indifferently. "You can leave. However, you must leave your life behind!"

Chapter 268: Clearing His Name

Zhao Qianghuan laughed angrily, "Yin Yu! I respected your reputation as the undisputed champion of the Alliance Meet, but you force your way onto those around you. Don't blame me for turning nasty!"

Su Yu's gaze turned cold. "How nasty are you going to be?"

Surveying the surroundings, Zhao Qianghuan did not feel the aura of any powerful fighters. He laughed. "Don't forget that this is a remote area! No one would know if you died here!"

In other words, Zhao Qianghuan was implying that without the protection of the elders, Su Yu could very well be killed in this remote place.

"Is that so?" Su Yu calmly said, his figure suddenly blurring.

Ah—

Multiple painful screams sounded in the air.

The hearts of three Dragon Realm Level Seven Elders of the Hehuan Faction were destroyed at once! Shreds of lightning arcs remained on the wound, spreading an odor of burned flesh.

Su Yu stood behind them, a long sword formed by thin threads dripping blood. Everything had happened so fast that they had not even managed to react before their lives were taken. Only the Dragon Realm Level Seven Peak First Elder and the Upper Tier Second Elder managed to react in time, dodging the attack.

Zhao Qianghuan's expression turned rigid, shock and fear filling his eyes. He killed three Dragon Realm Level Seven fighters—with one move! This was the ability of the undisputed champion of the Alliance Meet? The elders of the Liuxian Faction were equally shocked.

Zhao Qianghuan clenched his teeth. He felt an indescribable threat from Su Yu. "Split up and leave!" he shouted, and the three of them charged out of the hall, flying in three different directions.

Su Yu locked his gaze onto Zhao Qianghuan and flew after him in pursuit.

Zhao Qianghuan's expression sunk as he turned around and saw Su Yu in pursuit. He shouted, "Lad! I have no animosity with you! Why do you want to kill me?"

Su Yu slowly caught up, calmly saying, "You came to the wrong place and humiliated the wrong people. That is our animosity!"

Lightning flashed past Zhao Qianghuan's brain. "Who are you? How are you connected to the Liuxian Faction?"

Closing the distance, Su Yu took a deep breath. "Don't you already know?"

Rumble—

Another flash of lightning zipped past Zhao Qianghuan's brain. He looked at Su Yu's head of silver hair and gasped, "You are—!"

"Buddhist Saint's Eight Characters! Lin!"

Roar—

A destructive soundwave assaulted the surroundings.

Creak—

Zhao Qianghuan was instantly dissolved into raindrops of blood.

The Hehuan Faction master was killed instantly.

Everyone in the Liuxian Faction—from the master to the disciples—was shocked! The master of a faction had been killed effortlessly by Yin Yu! Was the undisputed champion of the Alliance Meet so powerful?

Even the faction master, who had personally witnessed Su Yu killing Lu Jun, could not mask his shock! The silver-haired youth before him now was a genius with the power to wipe out the entire Liuxian Faction.

Outside the Liuxian Faction, Li Tianqiang witnessed the scene and his pupils dilated. "What a terrifying technique!" But a shred of disdain circled in his eyes. "Merely so-so! I can also kill an Immortal Realm Level One Lower Tier in a second!"

"Thank you, Sir Yin Yu, for your help," the Liuxian Faction master said as he led the elders forward.

The Liuxian Faction master pushed Chan Yunfei forward. From the exchange just now, he had surmised that Yin Yu might have a few connections with Chan Yunfei. His attack, after all, was due in large part to Chan Yunfei.

Chan Yunfei was shocked, her mind blank. She did not remember acquainting herself with such a powerful youth. But as the group stepped forward, nine red figures descended from the sky, guarding Su Yu from all directions.

"What guts! You dare be so insolent in front of Master Yin Yu?" the nine red clothed guards scolded in unison.

Master Yin Yu? The Liuxian Faction master had left the Alliance City in a hurry. He was aware of the appearance of the Palace Master of the Empire of Darkness, but the Liuxian Faction master could instantly recognize the nine red-clothed guards!

"Empire of Darkness? Red clothed guards?" The Liuxian Faction master lost his voice in shock!

It was rumored that the people of the Empire of Darkness were split into multiple levels. Silver-clothed guards were the lowest level, normally Holy Kings. Black-clothed guards were Dragon Realm fighters. Red-clothed guards were the fabled Immortal Realm level fighters! They would only listen to the orders of a palace master from the Empire of Darkness. At that moment, the Liuxian Faction understood what was meant by "Master Yin Yu."

His heart shuddering, the Liuxian Faction master had a face full of shock. With the protection of the nine red-clothed guards, Yin Yu was like an emperor from high above surveying the tiny Liuxian Faction.

"I... I pay my respects to Master Yin Yu!" The Liuxian Faction master bowed to pay his respects.

Just how influential was the vice master of the Empire of Darkness's sub palace? The rest of the people in the Liuxian Faction paid their respects in a fluster, each of them extremely polite. In the blink of an eye, the entire place was dead silent, no one daring to take a breath!

Su Yu nodded nonchalantly. "Liuxian Faction master, Chan Yunfei, come with me."

Whoosh—

Su Yu entered the meeting hall. The Liuxian Faction master and Chan Yunfei followed, their hearts filled with unease.

As the door closed, Su Yu turned, his gaze falling on Chan Yunfei. A slight smile formed on his indifferent face.

"Senior Chan," he said, "it's been a long time since I last saw you. Are you all right?"

Saying this, Su Yu took off his silver mask, revealing his true appearance.

"Su Yu!" Chan Yunfei and the Liuxian Faction master both lost their voices in shock!

It was true that Su Yu and Yin Yu both had silver hair, but Chan Yunfei and the Liuxian Faction master had not made the connection. Despite how powerful Su Yu was, he was far from being strong enough to obtain the glory of the undisputed champion at the Alliance Meet.

Chan Yunfei was in a daze for a long time, feeling immensely surprised. She finally understood why Yin Yu had stood up for her. The Liuxian Faction master also understood why Su Yu would come to the Liuxian Faction!

Chan Yunfei's eyes were filled with fear, respect, and surprise, her face turning red. She had tried to protect herself just now by anxiously claiming that she was Su Yu's woman.

"Thank you for saving us, Junior Su," Chan Yunfei said. She lowered her head, her face red.

With a smile, Su Yu said, "It was a small matter, Senior Chan. You need not think too much of it. In the future, you can use the name of Master Yin Yu, should you encounter any trouble."

Chan Yunfei was elated. Just how strong was the reputation of the Empire of Darkness? No one in the continent would dare to offend her.

After saying this, Su Yu turned to look at the Liuxian Faction master. This look caused the Liuxian Faction master to shudder. He let out a pathetic laugh, "You have come for revenge?"

His heart was bitter. This undisputed champion, the high and mighty vice palace master of the Empire of Darkness, should have been the pride and joy of the faction! But the Liuxian Faction master had forced him away, and now he must have come back to seek revenge!

"Do I need to seek revenge on you?" Su Yu calmly said.

The Liuxian Faction master froze, his expression relieved. He hesitated before saying, "Then you came to the Liuxian Faction to—."

Whoosh—

Su Yu took out an ancient bronze token from his robes. The token was laced with age. On it were carved the words Liuxian Token. With the token in his hand, memories flooded Su Yu, causing his heart to feel a little bitter.

Li Guang had waited at the Shenyue Island for 100 years in order to obtain this Liuxian Token to clear his name. Before he died, he had given the token to Su Yu for him to pass it to the Liuxian Faction master if needed for him to cultivate at the faction. But no matter how difficult the situation was for Su Yu, he had never used it. This was Li Guang's only wish!

He had used 100 years of his life—had devoted his entire wasted life and a lifetime of effort—to obtain this Liuxian token. How could Su Yu use an item as heavy as this?

"The Liuxian token?" the Liuxian Faction master said, surprised. This token had not made an appearance in over 100 years.

"Liuxian Faction master," said Su Yu, "if you will do one thing for me, all our grievances for each other will be resolved." Su Yu threw the token over to him. "This is the token of Outer Sanctum disciple Li Guang. He had been wronged for 100 years. He obtained the Liuxian token with his only wish being to investigate the events that happened in the past and for his innocence to be returned!"

The Liuxian Faction master's palm shuddered. Was Su Yu's request that simple? The events that happened in the past had been confessed by Han Zhi, back when the Great Elder was seizing power. All that was left was for the Liuxian Faction to announce it to the world and clear Li Guang's name.

"Yes! Master Yin Yu!" he said.

This was Su Yu's only reason for coming to the Liuxian Faction.

A moment later, Li Guang's name was erased from the Liuxian Faction's Pillar of Shame. At the same time, the Li family was called upon, and the world was told what had truly happened 100 years ago.

Li Guang's name was finally cleared. Su Yu's wish had been fulfilled. It was time for him to resolve his final wish. He glanced at Li Tianqiang, who was waiting outside the Liuxian Faction. Su Yu retracted his gaze, expressionless. Li Tianqiang hesitated for a moment before grunting and flying to join the rest of the red-robed guards.

"Senior Chan, take care of yourself," said Su Yu. He stood in the air, cupping his hands in respect.

Chan Yunfei smiled in gratitude. "Thank you for the favor, Junior Su!"

Su Yu nodded, finally looking at the Liuxian Faction master. He calmly stroked his chin. "Know what is best for you."

The Liuxian Faction master's heart was bitter, but he said, "Thank you for saving us today." He hesitated a moment, then added, "Be careful if you wish to cross the ocean. The ocean has not been peaceful recently."

Su Yu's eyebrows rose. "Explain yourself."

The Liuxian Faction master surveyed the faction. The Liuxian Faction had declined due to Su Yu, but had also been saved by Su Yu. The Liuxian Faction master had mixed emotions.

"We do not know the exact situation," he said, "but we know that there have been many extremely strong ocean demons appearing over the past month. Many powerful fighters did not return once they entered the ocean. Groups that were sent to search for clues did not return, either!"

Su Yu was surprised. Of the powers bordering the ocean, the Liuxian Faction was the weakest. In other words, the groups sent to gather information were all stronger than the Liuxian Faction. But even they could not return. Just what had happened to the ocean in these few months?

"Thank you for the reminder." Su Yu cupped his fists, then left with the red-clothed guards under the respectful gazes of the members of the Liuxian Faction.

Chan Yunfei stared at Su Yu's figure, which was getting farther and farther away, her eyes filled with regret and sadness. In the past, their abilities had been about equal, but from today onward, Su Yu would only fly increasingly higher, so far that she could never hope to catch up.

Two days later, some invading powers retreated from the Liuxian Faction's territory. No one dared to set their sights on the Liuxian Faction. The Hehuan Faction was practically destroyed. The strategy of killing one to warn the others worked better than imagined.

Meanwhile, Su Yu was leading the ten red-clothed guards over the ocean, heading toward Shenyue Island. Su Yu had already sensed the change in the ocean the moment he entered.

Silence! Dead silence!

Other than the sound of waves crashing, nothing else could be heard. Using his crystalline pupils to observe the surroundings, Su Yu's expression turned serious. There were no living creatures in a 50-mile radius!

Demonic beasts notwithstanding, there were not even signs of fish or insects. The ocean had become a dead sea.

Li Tianqiang creased his brows. "Master Yin Yu, I would advise you to give up crossing the ocean. There is something strange going on here."

Su Yu disregarded him. "Continue on. Forward!"

"I said that the ocean is strange. It is best to give up!" Li Tianqiang said, a bit angry.

Su Yu shot him a cold look. "Who is the palace master?"

Hearing this, Li Tianqiang clenched his teeth, saying with a low voice, "It's you."

"Who is listening to whose orders?" Su Yu calmly said.

Li Tianqiang clenched his fists, biting down as he said, "It's you!"

"Since you understand, what was the meaning of your words just now?" Su Yu's gaze turned cold.

Under the scrutiny of the nine other red-clothed guards, Li Tianqiang did not dare rebut, reasoning as he said, "I was only considering the safety of Master Yin Yu."

Su Yu grunted. "Are you considering for me, or considering your own pride? If you are not satisfied with me, voice it. Covering up like this, are you still a man?"

Li Tianqiang was furious, but he had to respect Su Yu's status. He did not dare offend him. He remained silent.

"Li Tianqiang, this will not happen again!" Su Yu glanced at him, then took a step into the ocean.

Chapter 269: A Great Change in the Ocean

Shenyue island was 100,000 miles away from the ocean. However, throughout Su Yu's journey, he did not find any signs indicating the existence of living things. It was as if all living things disappeared overnight.

Su Yu's expression gradually got serious. "What happened? Why did such a vast ocean undergo such a great change?"

However, although the atmosphere was strange, throughout Su Yu's journey, he did not come across the danger that he imagined.

Su Yu suppressed his uncertainty and he stepped onto Shenyue island again. Feelings of nostalgia surged within his heart. When Su Yu gazed at the indistinct and distant Fenghuang valley, his heart was moved. The view was still the same. However, the people were long gone.

In Su Yu's life, Xianer, Jingyu, and Li Guang had either vanished or went somewhere far away. They would never return together with him again.

Wishing to return to his hometown, Su Yu flew past the Fenghuang valley. However, he discovered that the Fenghuang valley had been reduced to poverty long ago. The valley was filled with withered grass. The former imperial palace which was splendid was replaced by ruins. It had dilapidated walls and seemed locked in perpetual twilight like a broken dream. The scene looked desolate and miserable.

Within the dead, silent ghost town, figures of twos and threes hid deep inside the ruins. In just half a year, how had the Fenghuang valley gone from its once-glorious state to this? Could it have been that leaving the Fenghuang valley Master had resulted in internal conflicts?

Thinking about that, Su Yu could not help but think about the Sanctuary. The Sanctuary had been established by Li Guang with his own hands. Since Li Guang left, how was the situation in the Sanctuary? Would it be the same as the Fenghuang valley, which had crumbled overnight?

Su Yu's gaze flashed slightly toward the northern direction of Shenyue island.

After three days, within the territory of the Fenglin empire, Su Yu stood in front of the Sanctuary.

"All of you will wait here," said Su Yu. "I will take a quick look and come back."

Su Yu pushed aside the protective barrier and stepped onto the Sanctuary.

A floating island drifted across the sky. The houses far away set each other off, and smoke curled upward from kitchen chimneys. It was a gentle scene. However, there was not a single soul in sight!

As for the island itself, it was in an uproar. Sounds of people screaming reverberated across the horizon.

What happened? Su Yu wondered, his eyes turned serious.

When he revolved his crystalline eyes and looked over, his pupils could not help but shrink. At the island, not only were there people from the Sanctuary, but they were also strong martial artists from the Fenghuang Pavilion! Moreover, there was another mysterious force present, and the Sanctuary disciples and people of the Fenghuang Pavilion had formed an alliance to deal with this mysterious force!

The mysterious force all wore loose beast clothing. Their faces had barbarous and bloodthirsty expressions. They totaled just ten people. Each of them had the abilities of a Holy King. In particular, the strongest young man had the abilities of Third Level Holy King!

Half a year ago, on Shenyue island, Li Guang and Xu Rong were the only Holy Kings. After just half a year, there was a new group of unfamiliar Holy Kings. This was unthinkable! What was even

more unthinkable to Su Yu was that among the ten people, there was actually one person with whom he was familiar!

Within the alliance of the Sanctuary and the Fenghuang Pavilion, a 30-year-old man held a long sword, and his face was filled with deep anger as he said, "Fiery old bastard! That year, I crippled your cultivation base and spared your life. However, you did not repent and mend your way. Instead, you colluded with outsiders, opened the space to the Sanctuary, and invited the enemy in!"

The Fiery Minister was once one of the Nine Great Ministers of the Sanctuary. During the Fenglin empire's Holy Meet, the Fiery Minister who was in charge of the event took the side of Du Yuntian, a disciple, and placed Su Yu at death's door. It was Qiu Changjian who showed himself. He then killed Fang Yun, crippled the Fiery Minister, and drove him away.

However, at the moment, the Fiery Minister had come to the Sanctuary again—with a cultivation base of First Level Holy King!

The Fiery Minister looked around the familiar place. His old face contained hatred, and he laughed loudly. "Little Changjian! You did not expect this, did you? That year, you crippled my cultivation base and drove me out of the Sanctuary. You did not expect me to fight back here as a Holy King right?"

Qiu Changjian's eyes were filled with despair. Holy King! That was the ultimate achievement of a martial artist in Heaven and Earth! On the whole continent, only Li Guang had achieved that level. Undoubtedly, the Fiery Minister's cultivation base was crippled. However, he still became a Holy King.

"Old bastard!" Qiu Changjian said with grief and indignation. "You were born in the Sanctuary. However, you invited enemies over. You are a sinner of the Sanctuary! If the Holy King returns, your bones will be turned to dust!"

Since Li Guang's departure, many Sanctuary disciples had left the Sanctuary. Only Qiu Changjian and a few Holy Disciples supported the Sanctuary persistently. They strongly believed that Li Guang would return one day.

However, instead of Li Guang returning, a disaster had come in his place! Ten Holy Kings had descended and the whole continent was destroyed by them except for the Sanctuary.

The Fiery Minister sneered. "Who does the insignificant Li Guang think he is? If he did not go missing, I would kill him, as well!"

Qiu Changjian had a sorrowful expression. When he turned his head and looked, his heart felt painful and anxious. Behind him were faces filled with fear and despair. They were the old Holy Disciples who had stayed behind in the past, plus some new young men who had joined. There were young men who were supposed to look forward to the Sanctuary and stay carefree. There were young men who were supposed to put in effort, train, and look forward to their future lives. There were young men who were supposed to make an effort to become strong, dream of becoming famous, and stand at the top of the continent. But now, their eyes were replaced with fear and tears.

Qiu Changjian's heart was filled with deep sorrow. He hung his head low and paid his courtesy. "I'm sorry. Senior is powerless..."

Hoot, hoot—

Weeping sounds which were filled with extreme sadness reverberated across the world. Qiu Changjian's eyes were moist. It was fine for him to die. However, they were still children—children who had believed in the Sanctuary. They deserved to see another tomorrow!

Qiu Changjian turned his head back and looked toward the Fiery Minister. He then pulled himself together and said, "Fiery Minister, the person you hate is me. The person who you are seeking is also me! You can kill me. However, please let them go!"

The Fiery Minister had a joking expression. "That year, when you crippled my cultivation base, you did not have this kind of sentiment!"

Qiu Changjian felt humiliated. He bowed down and gave a courtesy call. "Fiery Minister, on the account that you stem from the Sanctuary, please give them a way out!"

"Sure! Kneel down and kowtow!" the Fiery Minister said, laughing coldly.

Qiu Changjian's body shook. Kneel down...

How could he give in to a traitor of the past? Such a humiliation would be carved in him forever! However, after remaining silent for some time, the knees of Qiu Changjian turned soft.

Thump—

With that kneel, all his honor and glory turned into nothingness!

Thud, thud, thud—

The three consecutive, loud kowtows which followed thereafter reverberated within the silent island. As people looked at Qiu Changjian, who had been forced to kneel down, the faces of the people from the Sanctuary and Fenghuang Pavilion were filled with grief.

Qiu Changjian raised his head and his forehead had a patch of redness. "Minister, please abide by the agreement and let them go!"

The Fiery Minister nodded his head with a sarcastic smile. He laughed cruelly. "You can count on my promise. I will naturally let them go." He turned to his followers. "Men, chop off their hands and legs! Do not let a single one of them escape!"

What?

Qiu Changjian stood up openly and said furiously, "Fiery Minister, what is the meaning of this?"

"What is the meaning of this?" The Fiery Minister laughed coldly and continuously. "I am abiding by the agreement, of course! I have only agreed to let them go. However, I did not guarantee they would be in one piece!"

Qiu Changjian's eyes turned black. He was extremely furious. "Old bastard! You are a bastard who takes advantage of his master and kills his ancestors! The Sanctuary has crumbled because of you!"

The Fiery Minister laughed heartily. He had a ferocious smile. "You are right. I do want to destroy the Sanctuary! I have been at the Sanctuary's service. However, because of Su Yu, my cultivation base was crippled, and I was driven away from the Sanctuary. All of you deserve everything that happens today!" The Fiery Minister revealed the full extent of his hatred, which stemmed from his very soul. His face was twisted with extreme fury. "Kill! Do not leave a single one of them alive! Today, I want the name of the Sanctuary to be erased from Shenyue continent!"

The fierce wind whistled crazily, and despair filled the air. A one-sided massacre was about to begin!

However, at that moment, a silver-haired figure appeared in the blink of an eye from the horizon.

"Fiery Minister," said the figure, "even after not seeing you for a year, you still exhibit the same shameful behavior as in the past. You have not changed in the slightest bit."

Even though it was an unfamiliar voice and figure, it was a familiar face which caused Qiu Changjian's eyes to shrink!

"Su... Yu!" Qiu Changjian was shocked and speechless.

The Fiery Minister turned his head and looked over. He was slightly stunned. When he recognized that face, his hatred only grew thicker. "Su Yu!"

Su Yu had already removed his mask and revealed his real face. When he drifted over, his body did not release even the slightest bit of aura, and it was difficult for people to see through him. At the very least, the Fiery Minister could not see through Su Yu's cultivation base. He only felt that Su Yu was normal.

Qiu Changjian was surprised and then delighted. "Junior Su! You have returned! What about Master? Where is he?" As Qiu Changjian questioned, he looked into the distance. However, his eyes took in only the vast sky, which was quiet.

"Senior Qiu, Master did not return," said Su Yu. He did not reveal more.

Qiu Changjian's heart sank abruptly. A bitter expression filled his face again. "Junior Su... You shouldn't have returned!"

"What happened to Shenyue island... continent?" Su Yu glanced at the people from the Fenghuang Pavilion.

Qiu Changjian said mournfully, "A few months ago, a great change occurred on the Shenyue continent! A frightening martial who called himself the Nine Saint Master appeared from the ocean. He was riding a giant, demonic beast which had a size that was incomparable to the other demonic beasts. I have seen with my own eyes that he used one finger to destroy an empire! With a flick of his finger, hundreds of millions of living things were in misery, and all of them were killed!"

Su Yu's pupils shrank slightly.

A finger that can destroy an empire? What kind of frightening martial artist is that?

Even Ling Xiaotian could not destroy an empire with a flick of his finger! Moreover, there were nine such martial artists?

Are there so many apocalyptic and matchless martial artists in the Zhenlong continent?

"The Fiery Minister's cultivation base was forcefully restored by that Nine Saint Master," Qiu Changjian continued. "Moreover, he also helped him to train to become a Holy King in a short amount of time! Moreover, that strong martial artist also conveniently gave the Fiery Minister nine Holy King attendants, and their task is to rule Shenyue island! Hence, the continent underwent an earth-shaking change overnight! The Fenghuang Pavilion was destroyed in a day's time. Only these people escaped, and they are taking refuge in my Sanctuary. All the forces in the world had

surrendered. Only my Sanctuary is hidden mysteriously, and it is difficult for outsiders to find out about it. However, it has now been found by the Fiery Minister!"

Within half a year, Shenyue island had actually undergone such a great change?

Who is that Nine Saint Master, the mysterious strong martial artist? wondered Su Yu.

With a just a flick of his finger, he destroyed the empire and slaughtered hundreds of millions of living things! Could it be that this mysterious martial artist had some connection to why the ocean had become dead silent?

Su Yu suppressed the waves in his heart forcefully and looked at the Fiery Minister with cold eyes. "What is their motive in ordering you to rule Shenyue island?" Su Yu asked.

The Fiery Minister had nothing to fear because of his strong backup. Hence, he became filled with murderous intents. "Junior! Shouldn't you be worried about your own life first? That year, you killed my favorite disciple and caused me to have my cultivation base crippled. At the very moment, you still dare to return—"

Su Yu repeated his words indifferently. "I will ask you again. What is their motive?"

Having been questioned closely twice, the Fiery Minister grinned hideously. "Have you gone insane? You can't even discern the situation you are in—"

Su Yu frowned slightly. "Looks like I must do this for you to answer me."

Pop—

Su Yu's actions were barely noticed. He merely flicked his wrist; his sleeve fluttered, and there were multiple muffled sounds.

Thump—

A strange scene transpired! All the nine Holy Kings standing alongside the Fiery Minister immediately fell onto the floor, looking up to the sky! Looking closely, the Fiery Minister saw that the spaces between their eyebrows were penetrated!

With just a gesture, nine Holy Kings had been killed!

The Fiery Minister maintained his hideous grin. His body was like an ice sculpture and he did not move in the slightest bit! His heart pounded in his throat, and his throat felt as if it had been blocked. When he finally managed to make his lips move, he mumbled a few words. "Who... are... you?"

Su Yu walked over with his hands clasped behind his back. His gaze was calm. He felt no satisfaction from killing nine Holy Kings. He then said indifferently, "Answer my question. If not, die."

Chapter 270: Mysterious powerhouse

The bloody scene completely destroyed the line of defense of the Fiery Minister.

"The reason they wanted to unify the Shenyue Island was to consolidate all of its power in order to search for a key."

Su Yu's gaze wavered, "What key?"

Whoosh ———

But at this moment, the eyes of the Fiery Minister had a crafty glow. A crimson glow flickered around him, as he turned into a ball of red light, charging into the horizon!

"Blood Shield?" Su Yu's gaze turned serious.

It sacrifices the user's life force, in exchange for a quick escape.

Su Yu turned to look at Qiu Changjiang, cupping his hands as he took his leave, "Senior Qiu, I do not have time to stop here, we will meet again someday!"

Whoosh ———

Su Yu's figure also disappeared into the horizon.

All that was left were a few Holy Disciples.

The crowd was still immersed in the shock of Su Yu casually killing nine Holy Kings.

It took a long time for them to return to their senses.

"Senior Qiu, that is Su Yu of the Sanctuary?" Several newly inducted juniors had fear and admiration in their eyes.

Su Yu's name had become legendary in the Sanctuary.

His unparalleled talents shone brighter than anything.

Qiu Changjian muttered in disbelief, "Perhaps."

"That Senior Su, what is his cultivation level? He can kill so many Holy Kings alone, with one technique? Could he already have surpassed us and become a Holy King?"

Qiu Changjian's face was full of shock, "Perhaps he has cultivated to the level of Holy King!"

Outside the Sanctuary.

The Fiery Minister's movement technique was extremely fast, charging straight to the Twilight Mountains.

Su Yu was in hot pursuit.

The red clothed guards noticed the commotion and were following close behind.

Half a day later.

Deep in the Twilight Mountains, the Fiery Minister entered a valley, his face pale.

The Fiery Minister anxiously pleaded in front of a cave, "Master, save me!"

Within the cave, a middle aged man wearing a bamboo hat silently stood in an underground tunnel.

Hearing the noise, he lifted his head slightly, revealing white eyes underneath the bamboo hat!

His eyes were pale white, as if they were the eyes of a dead person.

"Your death is insignificant! You are half dead, but still revealed my position!" The man wearing the bamboo hat let out a cold grunt. He did not move, merely shooting out two rays of white light from his white eyes.

Ah ——

The Fiery Minister let out a pathetic scream, dying as he bled from all of his orifices!

Stepping on the corpse of the Fiery Minister, the man wearing the bamboo hat emerged out of the cave with his hands behind him. He shot his white eyes in the direction that Su Yu was coming from, his lips forming a cold arc, "You do not know death!"

In the valley, the expressions of Su Yu and the red clothed guards were grave.

Li Tianqiang's expression was serious, "Immortal Realm Level Two Peak! Let's leave quickly!"

The strongest of the ten red clothed guards was Li Tianqiang at Immortal Realm Level Two Upper Tier. The rest of the nine were Immortal Realm Level Two Lower Tier.

The ten of them, striking in unison, might not even be enough to defeat the man in the bamboo hat!

Su Yu squinted. He was no stranger to the area!

The remnants of the Twilight Mountains!

His Divine Decree had been born from the underground relics. The passageway in the cave led straight to them!

What was he doing here?

"Didn't you hear me? Leave quickly!" Li Tianqiang looked at the white eyed man faraway. His eyelids were twitching, and his heart was thumping wildly as he urged impatiently.

Su Yu shook his head, "In front of a powerful enemy, escaping would only give him a chance to chase and attack us. Only by banding together, can we stand a chance against him!"

Su Yu did not expect that it was such a powerful person who was backing the Fiery Minister!

Li Tianqiang was frustrated, "I have protected the palace master for many years and have much experience. If you wish to stay alive, it's best you listen to my suggestion! Only by doing so, can we escape the fate of extermination!"

"Even if we were to sacrifice some of our brethren?" Su Yu looked at him coldly.

Li Tianqiang let out a low grunt, "Of course! We are loyal servants of the Empire of Darkness. Sacrificing ourselves for the Empire of Darkness is our honor!"

"Master Yin Yu, give us the order! We have already prepared ourselves for the worst!" Li Tianqiang cupped his hands, standing at the very front, the first to prepare to leave.

Su Yu nodded slightly.

"Alright! Since that is the case, you will go last, the rest of you red clothed guards, follow me in retreat!" Su Yu said without expression.

Li Tianqiang's expression changed drastically, becoming furious, "I'll go last? Are you trying to kill me?"

"Hmph! You were going on about honor and pride just now. Wasn't sacrificing yourself for the Empire of Darkness your honor? Why, don't you want to satisfy your honor in the face of death?" Su Yu shook his head.

Li Tianqiang's facial muscles twitched, as he attempted to explain, "I am the leader of the red clothed guards. As the leader, I am in charge of directing the operations. If I die, the other brothers will die even faster!"

"So they are the people who should die? And not you?" Su Yu let out a low grunt.

Li Tianqiang had no shame, forcefully explaining, "Hmph! I have said that I am more useful alive. After this is over, I will naturally find a way to sacrifice myself for the Empire of Darkness!"

Su Yu looked down on this person, letting out a mocking laugh, "In the end, a person like you is merely using the lives of your brethren to preserve your own, letting them stall for time and distract the opponent, while you seize the chance to escape!"

"You are fearful of death, yet you talk people into sacrificing themselves. What right do you have to be a red clothed guard?" Su Yu scolded.

Li Tianqiang grunted in his heart, his face full of indignance.

"If you do not want to go last, listen to my orders!" Su Yu warned him for the last time.

"Red clothed guards, listen to my orders. Take up your positions and await orders here! Without my orders, no one is to retreat of their own accord! Those who do not comply, die!" Su Yu ordered quickly.

After saying this, Su Yu split away from the red clothed guards, flying alone toward the man in the bamboo hat.

The nine red clothed guards looked at Li Tianqiang, "Leader Li, we..."

Get into your positions first! Don't move from your positions!" Li Tianqiang glared at the back view of Su Yu with hatred.

The nine red clothed guards said, "But, Master Yin Yu alone..."

A ferocious look flashed past Li Tianqiang's eyes, but his expression was still stern, "You talk too much! Since these are the orders of the master, as guards, we should follow them!"

Following which, the ten of them got into position, where they could attack and defend as one, with Li Tianqiang leading the pack.

This way, they could largely prevent any death or injuries.

The man wearing the bamboo hat had a mocking smile, "You can't even control your subordinates, you are useless."

Su Yu did not answer. Instead, he was silently observing this terrifyingly powerful fighter!

His white eyes were filled with a strange ripple.

The man wearing the bamboo hat calmly said, "Your abilities are decent, pledge loyalty to me and I'll spare your lives."

"What if I decline?" Su Yu calmly said.

The man wearing the bamboo hat raised his brows, "Was I speaking to you? What I want are your guards. As for a burden like you, I'll naturally send you on your way!"

Su Yu wore a cold smile.

The man wearing the bamboo hat was not looking at Su Yu. His eyes were locked onto the red clothed guards, calmly saying, "You cannot beat me with the likes of the few of you. Trying to escape in one piece, with a mere formation, is but an idiotic dream!"

"Abandon your thoughts of getting lucky. I, Hai Kuangren, never give second chances. Answer, are you going to pledge loyalty to me, or die?" The man wearing the bamboo hat threatened.

The red clothed guards had cold expressions. Li Tianqiang showed a little struggle, but quickly regained his composure, "It's not so easy to kill us!"

Hai Kuangren shook his head, "I have heard your decision. Now, I shall send you all on your way."

"Do not blame me, this is your choice."

Hai Kuangren enveloped himself with the aura of an Immortal Realm Level Two Peak fighter, an extreme pressure emanating from his body. The pressure caused Li Tianqiang and the rest of the guards to contract, feeling unprecedentedly heavy.

A great battle was about to begin!