

Nine-Dragon 31

Chapter 31: The Undefeated Legend

The bloodied Qin Feng, the smitten Jiang Xueqing, the curious celestial being, the appreciative Xia Lin Xuan. Everyone, though silent, wanted to know who this powerful purple-robed youth was. In the muted hall, everyone's gaze fell onto Su Yu.

Su Yu felt a little pressured. He took out his token and tossed it towards Jiang Zhishi. It was a pure silver token, laced with traces of gold.

Jiang Zhishi felt as though he was struck by lightning as he saw the words inscribed on it. He could not believe what he was seeing.

"You are... the Silver King, Su Yu!" Jiang Zhishi remarked in disbelief.

The image of the weak pauper in his mind was gradually overlapping with the elegant, mysterious purple-robed figure he saw before him. He had always found the purple-robed youth familiar. It was only now, when the images overlapped, when he had his eureka moment.

The purple-robed youth was the Silver King, Su Yu! The expressions of the gold students changed.

"Impossible! He could a mere Silver King have defeated the newly crowned Gold King?"

"That is the current Silver King, Su Yu? How is that possible?"

It was as though a heavy hammer hit the silver students. Chen Tiannan and Xuan Lefei were dumbfounded. This mysterious, elegant and powerful purple-robed youth was the Silver King Su Yu?

However, upon associating the two, they were convinced that he indeed was Su Yu.

In the seats of the esteemed guests...

Ye Xuan exhaled, "What? It's him? Impossible. A month ago he was merely at the peak of Level Two. But now he can already defeat the Gold King!"

A spark shone across the eyes of Xia Linxuan. He slipped into a momentary daze, before letting out a large laugh, "Great! Great! What a Silver King, hiding his abilities. He used his status as Silver King to overcome the Gold King. This is indeed the first in the history of the institute!"

At the gathering point of the 10 great demon students...

The celestial being abruptly stood up, astonishment written on her face. Her lips formed an exaggerated O, then shockingly mumbled, "How can it be him?"

In her experience, Su Yu's arrow technique was top-notch, and his talent for cultivation was decent, but how could he surprise her that much?

The thick browed youth let out a laugh and slapped his head, "Haha... Turns out it was Su Yu, the silver student, in the Depository of Buddhist Scriptures the other day. His transformation was a little too big wouldn't you say?"

The silver haired youth creased his brows, then arrogantly spat, "So it's that silver trash! He wouldn't last a hit!"

But the celestial being and the thick browed youth could tell that the silver haired youth was more shocked than angry. It seemed that the performance Su Yu displayed just now was enough to put him into disarray.

Qin Feng was dumbfounded. He stripped his bloodied robe, finding the situation funny and laughable. The trash that could not withstand a blow from him, in his eyes, had fairly bested him in battle and judged him "too weak."

Qin Feng was dumbfounded. He could not accept this harsh reality.

Jiang Xueqing was lost. She could not comprehend the situation. She had maintained her smile and was still visibly excited. Only now, her features were frozen as though she was a flower in winter. In the moment, her thumping maiden heart was cold as an ice spring.

Finally, she shook her head, vehemently rejecting what she saw in front of her. "No... He is not... How could he be Su Yu... The person I abandoned..."

Jiang Xueqing felt as though she was dreaming. She had heartlessly abandoned the person that loved her in search of a man of higher status.

Today, she had finally found the person she loved, the person suited for her. However she had just found out that this person was the man she had so coldly abandoned. The contrast between then and now. The laughable karma. Jiang Xueqing felt as though she was dreaming.

What was even more laughable was the fact that he, in the past, had been deeply in love with her. The silence turned into a wave of fanfare.

"He's lying! How could he be Su Yu? They are completely different!"

"Impossible! The gap in abilities between the Silver King and the Gold King should be immense!"

Jiang Zhishi exhaled. The brat the junior duke had wanted to deal with had already risen to the level of the Gold King. He knew that he could no longer lay a finger on Su Yu. Such glaring talent would be cultivated by the school as a reserve for the demon students. He would no longer be under Jiang Zhishi's sphere of influence.

When the students had finally accepted the fact that this elegant, mysterious purple-robed youth was indeed the Silver King, countless calls of respect and admiration were heard.

They knew that from this day onward, Su Yu would shoot to the top. There was no longer anyone who could put him down. He would be a legend within the institute! He was a Silver King, but had overcome the Gold King; a legend unsurpassable by any another.

Xia Linxuan let out a large laugh, "Great! Great! Great! We have another genius in our institute!"

Level Four Lower Tier defeating a Level Four Upper Tier. His innate talent was close to that of the 10 great demon students.

Rumble ———

At that moment, the doors of the hall were forcefully opened.

20 Black Armor guards stormed into the hall with bloodlust, forming two lines along the sides of the entrance, respectfully awaiting the entrance of a prominent figure.

"Black Armor guards from the duke's abode!" The expression on Xia Linxuan's face changed.

Ye Xuan also felt that something bad was about to happen. The Duke of Xianyu was one of the three dukes that held actual power within the Fenglin empire, and had considerable influence within the court.

His cultivation base was Level Six of the Martial Path, and had cultivated people of Level Five of the Martial Path under him. The Black Armor guards were those that he cultivated!

In the Xianyu prefecture, the Black Armor guards were an imposing presence. 100 strong, even people who were Level Seven of the martial Path had to show some form of respect.

The duke had incredible influence in the empire. No one dared offend him.

Fang Yun wrinkled his brows. Even he had to be cautious around a member of the royal family. The royal family was descendants of the Holy King. In other words, the Holy King was once a backseat ruler! How could Fang Yun afford to offend a descendant of the Holy King?

Xia Linxuan, wearing a grave expression, made his way down hastily. He expectantly looked towards the handsome middle-aged man, as if an emperor had descended into the realm of the masses.

"Duke of Xianyu, what prompts your sudden arrival?" Xia Linxuan was curious. He was on good terms with the Duke of Xianyu. Barging into his institute, not saving him face, seemed out of character for the Duke of Xianyu.

The Duke of Xianyu looked as he usually did, but his eyes nursed a raging fire. He suppressed his anger, cupped his hands, and with a stern, deep voice, said, "My apologies for bothering you Lord Xia. I am here for someone. A month ago, I had issued a warrant for him, and I have been informed that he was a student from this institute. In order to prevent the information from leaking out and giving him a chance to escape, I had to make the first move."

Xia Linxuan heaved a small sigh of relief. He had heard that the duke had issued a manhunt for a genius of arrow techniques for the past month. To think that this fugitive had been hiding in his institute for the past month...

"My duke, do you know the identity of the person? I would gladly assist in the capture of this person!" Xia Linxuan's gaze turned cold. The Duke of Xianyu was a righteous man. Any person who he had issued a warrant for must have committed an unpardonable crime.

From behind the duke squeezed in a petite beauty. She had a sharp chin, babydoll eyes and skin as white as snow, similar to a porcelain doll. The young princess, dressed in a yellow dress, angrily wrinkled her nose, "His name is Su Yu! This perverted... baddie! We have come to arrest him. Where is he?"

It turned out that the duke had been searching the entire town after he received the clue of the Fiery Lion.

Coincidentally, Li Minghao had been questioned.

What was even more of a coincidence was that he was in the shop that day, and after a round of questioning, immediately revealed that that man selling the Fiery Lion was indeed the Silver King Su Yu. Just like that, the identity of the person that violated the young princess was made known to the world.

The gaze of the hall shifted to the purple-robed youth standing on the stage. The genius who bested the Gold King as a Silver King! The crowd was lost and unable to comprehend the situation. Some were even gloating.

Qin Feng let out an evil laugh, "You cannot live with the sins you have committed! You, in the end, still lost utterly!"

Jiang Xueqing was dumbfounded for the longest time, still unable to associate the pauper Su Yu with the purple-robed youth. Unexplainably, her heart relaxed a great deal after hearing that the Duke of Xianyu had issued a warrant for Su Yu.

Su Yu, this is the best fate for you. A person of such little power and influence, no matter how flashy, would ultimately meet the same end. Jiang Xueqing thought to herself as she looked away from the purple-robed figure.

The celestial being could not believe it. The person who violated the young princess was Su Yu! Her steps were dainty as flowers, her body weightless. She flew to the door and pleaded, "Uncle, is there a mistake?"

The duke did not answer. The young princess however pulled on the celestial being, nagging into her ears, "Hmph! There's no mistake! The Fire Dragon skin armor you're wearing belongs to that person..."

The young princess hit her fair forehead, apparently enlightened, "Oh! This is also the person who saved you? Sister Jingyu, he definitely took advantage of you while you were in a coma. This perverted man!"

The young princess covered her little mouth, her large eyes staring wildly, then flailed her dainty fists and exclaimed, "I will never forgive him."

Rumble —

The celestial being had a eureka moment. It's him! It's really him! The starlike eyes. The familiar eyes she saw before she slipped into a coma were really Su Yu's! Feelings of relief and gratitude welled up within her.

"Uncle, I plead for your wise judgement, he did indeed save the young princess!" The celestial being pleaded at the Duke of Xianyu. The Duke of Xianyu faced a dilemma.

He was an impartial man. Su Yu had saved his daughter, and naturally should be rewarded. But he had also violated her. The duke could not arrive at a decision. His only thought was to be accountable for his daughter, to at least give his daughter closure, so as to prevent a trauma which would disrupt her Martial Path.

Xia Linxuan was surprised. His daughter, though calm, was immensely proud. He had never seen her ask for a favor.

"My duke, is there a misunderstanding?" Xia Linxuan felt pity for such a genius.

The Duke of Xianyu slowly shook his head, and with a cold stare said, "Guards, arrest Su Yu!"

The duke was stubborn and no one could stop him.

The celestial being grew anxious, lightly biting her lips. She made her way beside Fang Qingzhou, putting up with the humiliation in her heart, and pleaded, "Fang Qingzhou, could you ask your father to protect him?"

In the hall, only Fang Yun could stop the Duke of Xianyu.

As proud as she was, she had to ask for a favor from a beast that had tried to take advantage of herself in the past. She was utterly humiliated. To her surprise, Fang Qingzhou's gaze was already ice cold.

It was the first time he saw that Xia Jingyu had fallen for somebody else.

In the entire hall, the only person pleading for mercy for Su Yu was the celestial being!

Chapter 32: An Era of Suppression

"Fine!" he coldly answered. Fang Qingzhou leapt on stage and whispered into his father's ear.

Fang Yun's expression remained solemn, glancing over to Su Yu. He took a moment for deliberation.

After considering, he coldly uttered, "It is the duty of martial arts training institutes to gather talents from all over the land. Individuals of questionable character naturally have no place here!

"I, with my powers as an inspector, announce that Su Yu is hereby expelled! From now on, he is no longer a student of the Xianyu prefecture martial arts training institute!"

Expelled?

The crowd exhaled. The most severe punishment a martial arts training institute can give out is expulsion. This was equal to destroying Su Yu's future. It would be impossible for him to make a comeback.

The martial arts training institutes established by the empire are the cradle for cultivating talents. There was no other comparable path.

Xia Linxuan protested, "Please reconsider, Inspector Fang. To be able to overcome the Gold King! This man's potential is limitless!"

Fang Yun calmly said, "A person's talent might be important, but so are their morals. There is no place in the Xianyu martial arts training institute for a person who has committed such an unpardonable crime!"

The Duke of Xianyu was startled. He glanced over at Su Yu and thought to himself, Beating the Gold King at the age of fourteen?

He had a stroke of inspiration, but his expression did not change.

Fang Yun saw that Xia Linxuan was still indignant, and wanted to protest further, thus silencing him. "Hmph! You dare defy my orders?"

Xia Linxuan was furious, but he could not do anything about the situation. He could only follow the orders of the sanctuary. He let out a sigh, feeling pity in his for the loss of a genius.

The crowd was silent.

The celestial being, her eyes full of hatred, glared intently at Fang Qingzhou, who was wearing a sly smile. She knew that her pleas had achieved the opposite effect. She opened her mouth, wishing to continue pleading with the Duke of Xianyu.

At that moment, Su Yu's expression was that of gratitude. He laughed, "Fairy, my life is not worth much. You do not need to plead for me anymore."

The celestial being's nubile body shuddered. She was feeling deeply indignant for Su Yu. He was kind hearted enough to save the young princess. Why has this fate befallen him?

He had had a hard time establishing his reputation, only to have his prospects cut off, potentially facing a lifetime in jail.

"But you..."

Su Yu lightly waved his hands, his gaze locked on the horizon. He let out a sigh. A helpless sigh. An indignant sigh. A somewhat satisfied sigh. "Forget it. My life was not worth anything. Now that I've had my moment of glory, I feel content. I was fated to die three months ago. To be able to live till today was already a miracle."

With a laugh, Su Yu said, "I was lonely, weak and poor all my life, truly worthy of being abandoned by my lover. But at the lowest point of my life, you gifted me a bow. I shall forever remember this act of charity. Fortunately, I have returned this favor during my time at the Twilight Mountains. My only regret is that I have yet to know your name."

The celestial being shuddered. Her gift of pity on that day was returned with such immense gratitude. Why must someone like Su Yu meet his end this early into his life?

The celestial being teared up, lips wavering, announced, "Jingyu... Xia Jingyu."

"Xia Jingyu. Still rain of the summertime..." Su Yu rambled with a smile on his face, "A radiant face with beautiful eyes, a beautiful name for a beautiful person... There is nothing holding me back anymore. I no longer have any regrets."

The celestial being, Xia Jingyu, slumped her shoulders as grief overcame her. The celestial being hated her powerlessness. She hated the unjust world. Why had fate dealt Su Yu such a cruel blow?

Unexplainably, the hearts of many people resonated with her as they watched on. Was Su Yu saying goodbye to this world?

Jiang Xueqing put her hands together, pain welling up her chest. Su Yu, in his moment of demise, only had Xia Jingyu in his heart. There wasn't a single trace of her.

They had been together for 10 years, but in his heart, she was incomparable to a bow.

He had really gotten over me... A deep disappointment and a profound loneliness gripped her.

A bout of grief was born. The deepest form of loneliness was not physical separation, it was being forgotten.

The Su Yu she had abandoned did not move far away from her, but instead chose to forget her. A silent grief blanketed her heart.

"Duke of Xianyu!" Su Yu turned to face the duke. His face was calm, without hatred. "You can choose to be ungrateful and spare a thought for your daughter. But it will not be that easy to capture me!"

The Duke of Xianyu's face remained solemn and did not speak.

The young princess of Xianyu gently bit her lips. She had a deep crease on her nose, pulling on the duke's sleeve, whining, "Forget it father... They make me look like the bad guy instead..."

The Duke of Xianyu remained impassive. He looked over to Xia Linxuan and callously said, "You should be responsible since he was a student in your institute. Capture him and I shall issue his punishment."

"You with the surname Su! It turns out it was you that day in the Twilight Mountains!" Fang Qingzhou's eyes were filled with hatred.

From Su Yu's words, he realized that the person who had foiled his plans and saved Xia Jingyu was Su Yu!

Qin Feng leapt to the stage. Together with Fang Qingzhou, they unleashed a pinsir attack on Su Yu.

Two generations of Gold Kings working together to suppress the Silver King! Su Yu was not mad, instead laughed, "Haha! Come at me!"

"Kneel!" Both Fang Qingzhou and Qin Feng lashed out.

Rumble —

"Continuous Eight Trigram Finger!" Fang Qingzhou's fingers weaved as quick as lightning.

Rumble —

"Monumental Buddha's Palm!" Qin Feng's palm was forceful and unpredictable.

Su Yu's starlike eyes shone brilliantly.

"Diabolic Piercing Stare!" From Su Yu's eyes shot out a formless ripple, penetrating the brain of Fang Qingzhou.

Ah —

Fang Qingzhou wrapped his hands around his head and let out a pathetic howl. A broad fist connected with Fang Qingzhou's face, knocking multiple teeth out of his mouth. He flew back, face bloodied.

The power behind the fist was immense. Fang Qingzhou tumbled down the stage, fainting from his heavy wounds. Qin Feng seized the opportunity and struck with his palm.

He was confident in trapping Su Yu, for he had lasted 100 rounds against him previously.

"Tempest!" Su Yu utilised his vital energy. This was the first time he was incorporating his vital energy into his techniques!

Qin Feng's palm broke in that split second, the immense power impacting his organs. He vomited blood and flew backwards, immediately entering a coma. In the time it took to take a breath, both the Gold Kings had been defeated.

Ah—

The crowd exhaled. Xia Linxuan, Ye Xuan, Fang Yun and even the Duke of Xianyu all had a look of shock on their face.

"A Silver King making such quick work of two generations of Gold Kings... Just how powerful is Su Yu?"

"So this is Su Yu's true ability! He did not show everything he had in the previous match with Qin Feng."

Such power!

Fang Yun's expression turned grave, "What are you waiting for, Jiang Zhishi? Capture that rebel!"

Jiang Zhishi was dumbfounded for a moment. After he managed a reaction, his eyes filled with caution and fear. This man's potential was too great. He should not be allowed to remain.

"Challenging the authorities! Your punishment would be more severe should you dare to continue resisting!" Jiang Zhishi let out an angry howl, his aura at the peak of Level Four of the Martial Path blanketed the arena.

This scene was strikingly similar to that during the Silver Assessment. It was the same abuse of power. The same heartlessness. The only difference was that this was no longer the Su Yu of the past.

"Get lost, old fogey!"

A dark glimmer shone across Su Yu's cold eyes.

"Ray of Diabolic Light!" A black light materialized and shot out.

Ah —

Jiang Zhishi could not react in time and was hit at close distance.

The Ray of Diabolic Light was a dangerous technique, for it impacts the soul of its enemies. In the best case, it injures the soul of the enemy. In the worst case, the enemy dies.

In an ordinary fight, Su Yu would hesitate to use the technique.

A tormented howl broke forth from the lips of Jiang Zhishi

Thud —

"Tempest!" Su Yu landed a kick on the old man's face.

As if in a boat collision, Jiang Zhishi bled from his forehead, falling to the ground with his fate unknown.

The crowd was in uproar!

Jiang Zhishi, a judge who was at the peak of Level Four of the Martial Path, had been defeated in one strike. After overcoming the two Gold Kings, he had managed to defeat the powerful Jiang Zhishi!

Everyone thought that they were dreaming. The Silver King was literally defying fate.

Chen Tiannan's face was pale, his expression surprised, "Ray of Diabolic Light? How could it be? I trained for three years. How long did he train for? Furthermore, the power behind his technique was at least triple mine!"

Fang Yun, Xia Linxuan and the duke of Xianyu were in a state of disbelief.

To think that he would manage to attain Stage Two of the Demonic Eyes!

If this is the case, wouldn't he be a rare Prodigy of Souls? A Prodigy of Souls was the most mysterious and terrifying kind of martial artist. They could kill without a trace and had unfathomable abilities. They were geniuses that many would fight to cultivate.

However, these people had to be born with such abilities. They cannot be nurtured through practice, making them extremely rare.

For example, Chen Tiannan, a Prodigy of Souls with decent talent, was the only one of his kind in the Xianyu prefecture martial arts training institute. To think that Su Yu was also a prized Prodigy of Souls!

Xia Linxuan shot a look of surprise at Fang Yun. A student of such caliber had to be expelled from his institute! The institute would definitely become a laughing stock in the future!

The sparkle in the Duke of Xianyu's eyes brightened. Xia Jingyu shared her surprise with the young princess of Xianyu. Jiang Xueqing also had her mouth open. Su Yu was too powerful! Fang Yun had an awful look on his face, for it was him who announced the expulsion of Su Yu!

In the end, the display of Su Yu's talent and ability had lost him face. He had to capture Su Yu fast.

However as he opened his mouth to speak...

"A silver trash dares to be so insolent?" A silver haired youth leapt to the stage, his body ice cold.

Xia Jingyu was as surprised as the thick browed youth. "What are you doing, Shao Li?"

The silver haired youth rose with his hands behind his back, frost gathering under his eyes. "I can't stand a silver trash being so arrogant in front of my eyes, polluting my sights."

The crowd caused a commotion.

"The silver haired Shao Li. Ranked fourth of the institute's 10 great demon students. His talent is terrifying!"

"This man is far too arrogant. How detestable."

Even the demon student made a move. This proved Su Yu's abilities to be powerful indeed.

Xia Jingyu stood up at the thought of flying over, but was blocked by the thick browed youth. He smiled and said, "He had once declared Su Yu as trash. But now Su Yu had become unexpectedly strong. Only by going up and defeating Su Yu can he regain his face. There is no need to stop him. Su Yu might not lose too horribly."

Chapter 33: Slaying the Enemy with the Holy Decree

Su Yu stood with his hands behind his back, observing his opponent. The silver haired youth was about 17.

He had a recollection of the day in the depository. The silver haired youth thought that the presence of a silver student was polluting the environment, then turned to leave. Even now, he thought that the presence of Su Yu was polluting his line of sight.

His level of arrogance was the same as his. However, he had the right to be this arrogant! His abilities were at Level Five Lower Tier of the Martial Path, and he was ranked fourth in the 10 great demon students, slightly lower than that of Xia Jingyu.

"If you think that I am polluting your line of sight, you are free to close your eyes or blind yourself, no one is stopping you." Su Yu calmly said.

The youth's expression was cold, "Make your move! Do not waste my time with your blabber, silver trash!"

Su Yu smiled, but did not say a word.

Level Five of the Martial Path was powerful indeed! Since he had dared to step onto the stage, he must be confident in dealing with the likes of the Ray of Diabolic Light.

His ability Tempest had not reached Stage Three. While it was effective in dealing with Level Fours, it would stand no chance against a Level Five. It looks like his only choice was to use that move.

"You dirty trash! I let you have the first move, and yet you hesitate. You no longer have the chance to strike!" The silver haired youth felt as though standing on the same stage as Su Yu was sullyng himself. He lashed out.

"Star Destroying Finger!" An advanced level technique was displayed. His fingers circled, as if tracing the orbits of planets. It was radiant and unfathomable. An untameable gale, coated with terrifying vital energy, trembled its very surroundings.

Rumble —

The attack of his finger brought forth a heavy pressure to its surroundings. Su Yu did not move, his starlike eyes captivated. A unique rhythm enveloped his body.

He was the same person, but it was as though he had become one with nature. It was as if he had become one with his surroundings. Like a painting, Su Yu's presence faded. He became like a character in a painting. Fang Yun's cool smirk turned into a grave expression.

Xia Linxuan squinted. Ye Xuan could not believe what he was seeing and broke into bouts of heavy breathing. The Duke of Xianyu's eyes displayed a show of excitement.

Xia Jingyu covered her mouth, "This is..."

The thick browed youth exhaled. "Out of the 10 great demon students, only the top could use this. The Holy Decree!"

The Holy Decree was one of the prerequisites to entering the realm of the Holy King. There were many who cultivated themselves to Level Six, Seven, Eight and even Nine but were unable to attain the Holy Decree, never fated to enter the realm of the Holy King.

For example, of those who are present, Fang Yun, Xia Linxuan, and even the duke of Xianyu were unable to gain insight into the Holy Decree. It is only with incredible perception, such as those found in demon students, who could gain insight into the technique.

Out of the 10 great demon students, only the top had gained insight to the basics of the technique. The rest of them had not been able to. The Holy Decree, sought after by tens of thousands of top notch martial artists, had been displayed by a 14 year old, a junior of only Level Four of the Martial Path!

Everyone was shocked! To be able to attain the Holy Decree was to hold a key to the doors to the Holy King. As long as Su Yu continued to grow, he had the potential to be the next generation's Holy King.

Atop the stage...

Shao Li attacked with his finger, suddenly realizing the change in the temperament of his opponent. A bout of uneasiness enveloped him.

"The Heavenly Finger!" Su Yu immersed himself in the state the elder in the wall painting was in, striving to achieve the same state of mind as him. He involuntarily moved his finger.

This finger was ordinary, without gimmicks or magnificence. The air in the surroundings however danced wildly, gathering towards the finger. Nature's rhythm and its unparalleled awe were clearly displayed at the tip of his finger. Everyone in the audience was captivated, faintly feeling more in tune with the flow of nature.

Su Yu moved his finger through the air. Shao Li was still three meters away.

But his advanced technique, the Star Destroying Finger, was countered!

Woosh—

Shao Li violently threw up blood, a new bloody gash forming on his chest. He flew backwards, heavily landing below the stage. His arrogant eyes were etched with shock.

Su Yu kept his finger, his gaze gradually becoming clear.

He had a small enlightenment, gaining further insight into the technique.

At the same time, the Purple Star Thunderbolt that he had had so much trouble understanding became much clearer. Perhaps with a little more cultivation he could start using it at the beginner level. Unfortunately, he did not have the time to start cultivating the technique.

With his hands behind his back he made his way to the edge of the stage. From the higher vantage point, he looked down at the bloodied Shao Li, calmly shaking his head. "You really are part of the 10 great demon students? You hang the words 'silver trash' in your mouth, and I thought you were really powerful. But you are not even at the level of silver, such weakness...."

Shao Li angrily threw up another round of blood before slipping into a coma. He was immensely proud, but he had lost to a silver trash. The audience was dead silent.

Shao Li, who was ranked fourth in the 10 great demon students, could not take a single stroke of Su Yu's technique.

Countless people held their breath as they looked at Su Yu's purple silhouette. It was as if they saw an unbeatable battle figure.

Jiang Xueqing was in a daze, her mind blank as a sheet. She actually abandoned a student of the caliber of a demon student.

Xia Jingyu and the thick browed youth were equally dumbfounded.

Ye Xuan's breathing was hurried. He clenched his fists and anxiously reminded, "Lord! We cannot tolerate this any longer! Fang Yun, in order to save face, would definitely get rid of this genius who has the potential to be the Holy King! How could we condone this mistake?"

Xia Linxuan had the same intentions. "Inspector Fang! Please reconsider his expulsion! If he did not commit any major mistakes, there is no need for the expulsion!"

How could he give up on a genius that had gained insight into the Holy Decree?

Fang Yun's expression changed, his face turned fiery hot. He stared at his son with a hint of criticism. If not for his son, how would he have the heart to expel such a genius? As an inspector, the performance of the Xianyu prefecture martial arts training institute was of grave significance to him.

He would definitely become a laughing stock if he got rid of a genius who had gained insight into the Holy Decree. But he had already announced the Su Yu's expulsion to everyone. To retract his orders would invite mockery by everyone.

After much contemplation, he decided that only by killing Su Yu could he save his reputation. The Duke of Xianyu had come all guns blazing anyway. The Duke of Xianyu would not object to killing Su Yu here.

Finalizing his plan, Fang Yun rose from his seat. He put on a show of impartiality and howled, "Insolence! Instead of surrendering, you heavily injure the students of the institute. I, as an inspector, cannot forgive you!"

Rumble —

Vital energy of terrifying proportions broke through the atmosphere from meters away, shooting towards Su Yu. Only a Level Seven of the Martial Path could release his vital energy outwardly. There was no escape for Su Yu.

Su Yu let out a groan. He could no longer continue the battle.

"No!" Xia Jingyu had tears in her eyes. She escaped her binds and flew over to the stage.

The young princess of Xianyu's face turned red with worry, "No! I did not have the intention to kill him. Please stop..."

Countless onlookers sighed in their hearts. A genius who had just displayed his powers was going to be struck down like that.

In the moment of crisis, a gust of energy shot forward. While it was incomparable to the vital energy of Fang Yun, it did manage to alter the path of the bloodthirsty vital energy Fang Yun had released.

Rumble —

The vital energy grazed past Su Yu and hit an unoccupied seat in the spectating area, turning it into dust.

If that had hit Su Yu, he definitely would have been obliterated.

Woosh—

At that moment, a person flew to the stage, and stood in front of Su Yu. This person was not Xia Linxuan, nor was he Ye Xuan.

It was... the Duke of Xianyu! The person who wanted Su Yu dead was the Duke of Xianyu! But now, the person saving Su Yu was also the Duke of Xianyu!

The crowd was perplexed. Even Xia Linxuan and Ye Xuan could not comprehend the situation.

Fang Yun froze for a moment, then politely asked, "Duke of Xianyu, what is the purpose of this? I am helping you capture this rebel."

"Haha..." The Duke of Xianyu let out a large laugh towards the heavens.

He turned with a sparkle in his eyes, then cordially put his hands on Su Yu's shoulder, his face full of vitality. "It is I who lacked consideration, causing this misunderstanding. Su Yu is my prospective son-in-law. To put out a warrant for him was a bad idea indeed."

Son-in-law? The son-in-law of the Duke of Xianyu?

The entire hall was flabbergasted. They could not react to this wild turn of events.

Just previously, the duke of Xianyu had been issuing a manhunt, threatening to kill. And now, he announces that Su Yu is his son-in-law?

The Duke of Xianyu maintained a calm expression and said, "My daughter and Su Yu were brought together by fate. My daughter has not been able to forget your help in saving her life. I, as her father, could only come up with the idea of a manhunt to search for Su Yu amongst the thousands of people in the city. Luckily, we have finally found you!"

The Duke of Xianyu was incredibly joyful, patting Su Yu's shoulders and harboring a smile, "Su Yu! My daughter is smitten over you, do not disappoint her."

Su Yu felt as though he was struck by lightning. He had thought that he wouldn't be able to escape death. To think that there was such a turn of events!

Soon, Su Yu understood.

In the beginning, the Duke of Xianyu had really wanted to capture him. However, after he had discovered his talent, he took advantage of the situation and changed his stance, using the excuse of finding a son-in-law to keep Su Yu for himself.

Fortune follows after surviving an adversity.

Su Yu thought quickly. His performance today had been stunning. Qin Feng and Fang Qingzhou would definitely think of ways to get rid of him. The martial arts training institute had no way of protecting him.

With Fang Yun's influence, even Xia Linxuan and Ye Xuan, as much as they wanted to, could not do anything. This was evident in that series of events.

Only the Duke of Xianyu, a member of the royal family, could provide a backing. This way, even Fang Yun or the Duke of Qin could not touch him. Su Yu did not have a choice.

"Who am I to receive such grace from the duke and the young princess?" Su Yu put on a show of humility.

The Duke of Xianyu put his hands together and laughed, "Haha... You've attained the Holy Decree and have the possibility of becoming the Holy King. Such a dragon among man is naturally worthy of my daughter.

"Great! Since this is the case, I shall take it that you accept. In half a month, we shall hold a wedding for you and my daughter!" The Duke of Xianyu was joyful. He looked around and said, "When the time comes, I hope that all of you will attend!"

The young princess of Xianyu was dumbfounded, pointing at her own nose in her daze. What? I cannot get over Su Yu? What? They are going to hold a wedding for me? This perverted man is going to be my fiancé?

The young princess of Xianyu angrily pouted her lips, loudly shouting, "I... I..."

Her servant, Xiaozi, shot her a look, hurriedly covering the young princess's mouth, softly whispering in her ear, "Young princess, don't cause a ruckus, or the duke will be embarrassed."

Xiaozi turned her gaze to Su Yu on the stage. He was suave and had incredible ability. She was envious. The young princess was really lucky. In a strange twist of fate, she had managed to get herself such a capable husband. The future Holy King. How many girls could only dream of marrying someone like that. The young princess did not know a blessing when she saw one... If only she was the young princess.

Chapter 34: The Engagement Ceremony

The young princess was livid, but she was weak, easily suppressed by Xiaozi.

Fang Yun's expression was dreadful. He could no longer lay a finger on Su Yu.

Xia Linxuan reacted slowly. He cursed him in his heart. The Duke of Xianyu had obviously changed his mind after discovering the talent Su Yu possessed.

"Duke of Xianyu! So it was all a misunderstanding. Since Su Yu did not make any mistakes, we at the martial arts training institute cannot press any charges and should retract the punishment. Su Yu is still a student of our institute." Xia Linxuan was not stupid. He wanted Su Yu back in the institute.

How could the Duke of Xianyu accept such an arrangement?

"No worries. Su Yu will receive much better care and resources in my abode. I will cultivate Su Yu's talent with all my heart. Lord Xia, you do not need to work." What the Duke of Xianyu meant was

that the martial arts training institute was not a large enough vessel to cultivate the world-class talent Su Yu possessed. The Duke of Xianyu would not allow such talent to be buried within the training institute.

Xia Linxuan opened his mouth, wishing to protest.

After observing the situation, Su Yu came just in time to cut in. He took a deep bow towards Xia Linxuan and Ye Xuan, then gratefully said, "Thank you, Lords, for your care and concern. I will forever remember this act of benevolence in my heart. However I wish to climb further, towards higher peaks. I hope that the two of you would allow me to do so."

Many in the crowd glanced towards Fang Qingzhou and Qin Feng from time to time.

Su Yu would not be able to find protection in the martial arts training institute. Qin Feng might not be able to exert much influence in the institute, but Fang Qingzhou's father was directly in charge of it!

The audience sighed.

Such a genius, who would be able to claim glory for the institute, was suppressed, and inevitably had to leave. There was no animosity toward his "betrayal", only compassion. Without power and influence, even a genius would find it hard to grow in the institute.

A genius might not be able to make it big in the future. But a genius without power or influence is doomed to be suppressed.

Both Xia Linxuan and Ye Xuan sighed, etching their hatred towards Fang Yun in their bones. A genius with the potential to become the Holy King had been chased away by him!

Feeling the stares of criticism, Fang Yun could not carry himself in the hall any longer. He shot an evil eye at Su Yu, then turned to leave.

Su Yu was surrounded by Black Armor guards, and escorted out of the hall. From that day on, Su Yu was no longer a student, but the consort of the Xianyu prefecture.

Jiang Xueqing stared at the back of Su Yu, her gaze complicated.

Influence. Su Yu had obtained it.

Xia Jingyu was relieved, barely being able to conceal her smile. "The fate between the young princess and Su Yu runs deep. To think that they would become husband and wife. Haha..."

Recalling the event between Su Yu and the young princess, Xia Jingyu had to admit that they were fated for each other. Who would have thought that what had transpired in the Twilight Mountains the other day would eventually lead to such a marriage?

The incident in the institute quickly spread throughout the city. The genius that was expelled by the martial arts training institute was to be the son-in-law of the Duke of Xianyu. This became the topic of conversation for many.

Su Yu, as a Silver King, overcame two generations of Gold Kings. He severely wounded Jiang Zhishi with a single blow. He defeated Shao Li, one of the 10 great demon students, in a matter of seconds. These events were unimaginable by the people.

The training institute's loss of a genius to the Duke of Xianyu became a joke to the community for the distant future.

Su Yu lived into the manor of the Duke of Xianyu. The manor was opulent, with an air of royalty lingering in the surroundings. Everyone in the manor, from the duke to the servants, were extremely polite towards Su Yu. Even Li Minghai and Li Jinshan did not dare breathe in the presence of Su Yu.

Su Yu felt that he had made it in life. But Su Yu was not immersed in the feeling; he knew that the influence belonged to the Duke of Xianyu.

One day, in the study of the duke...

"Su Yu, do you have parents at home? We should invite them into the city to discuss the marriage." The Duke of Xianyu was feeling joyful the more he looked at Su Yu.

An incredible talent who had attained the Holy Decree. He had incredible grace and was prim and proper in his appearance. He had a high moral compass. He once saved both his daughter and Xia Jingyu. He was really a dragon among men. One could not have too much of such a talent.

Su Yu shook his head, "I do not have parents. I was brought up by the streets."

Su Yu's parents had died from an epidemic, and he had no family left. Su Yu survived until this day with the help of temples, monasteries and the neighborhood.

The Duke of Xianyu let out a quiet sigh. To think that Su Yu had such a tragic story.

"How about this, I will notify the village of your marriage with Xianer, and exempt them from taxes for the next 10 years, as a sign of gratitude for bringing you up."

Xianer was the given name of the young princess. The young princess's surname was Qin, her full name being Qin Xianer.

"Thank you, my duke!" Su Yu expressed his gratitude.

While Su Yu did not hold special feelings toward the town of Qingshan, it was after all the place he was born. Su Yu was still grateful that the Duke of Xianyu was willing to take care of the townspeople.

"What are your plans for the future?" the Duke of Xianyu asked Su Yu.

Su Yu did not hesitate. He hardened his gaze, "I will devote my life to taking the spot as the Holy King."

In this cruel world, power was the only way to maintain order. Without power, Su Yu could not enjoy his life in peace.

The Duke of Xianyu was pleased with his answer. He was worried that the once poor Su Yu would be satisfied with the luxuries that came with being part of the royal family and lose his way of the Martial Path. From what he had observed, this seemed far from the case.

"Great!" The Duke of Xianyu bared his heart, "In this era, power and influence are fleeting. Only your personal strength is important. For example, if the Holy King was weak, how would he be able to rule over the world?"

Su Yu resonated with the duke's words, accepting his teaching with a bow.

After a pause, the Duke of Xianyu asked, "How big do you think the Xianyu prefecture is?"

Xu Yu was a little shaken. "Large without boundaries, an area of countless square miles. There were as many cities as there are hair on a cow's back, with a population of tens of thousands. I, since birth, had never stepped out of the Xianyu prefecture."

The area of the Xianyu prefecture was larger than that of Ancient China.

The Duke of Xianyu gently shook his head. "In your eyes the Xianyu prefecture is huge. But do you know that the Xianyu prefecture is but one of 13 prefectures in the Fenglin Empire, and the smallest one at that?"

Su Yu was overwhelmed. The area of the Xianyu prefecture was larger than that of Ancient China, with enough area to include 34 districts. Yet it is the smallest prefecture in the Fenglin Empire? If we add up the area of the 13 prefectures, wouldn't it be larger than the entire planet?

"The world is a big place. If you wish to become a man above men, you cannot just be satisfied with conquering the Xianyu prefecture. You should set your sights on the entire empire! That is your true stage!" the Duke of Xianyu said.

Su Yu toned down his shock, a sense of heroism welling within him. The world is large and vast. How could I, Su Yu, be satisfied with what I have now?

Su Yu thanked the duke, "Thank you, my duke, for your teachings! I, Su Yu, will work even harder, and make my name heard throughout the empire!"

"Great! I admire your spirit!" The Duke of Xianyu was unbelievably comforted, praising Su Yu deep in his heart. The duke had not judged Su Yu wrongly. Su Yu was not just a fish in the sea.

"Well then, I shall give you an opportunity to propel you to a greater stage!" The Duke of Xianyu had made up his mind to gift Su Yu an opportunity.

Su Yu abruptly lifted his head, "A greater stage?"

The Duke of Xianyu laughed, "That's right! A month from now is the Fenglin Empire's Holy Meet. Demon students from all 13 martial arts training institutes and the royal family will enter a contest and compete to claim the title of the Holy Talent. I, as a duke of a prefecture, have the right to nominate a person to represent my family. Do you wish to accept this offer?"

All 13 prefectures, which meant talent from all over the world, in a sparring contest?

Su Yu was shocked. "I, Su Yu, will never forget your gracious offer!"

A person who had originally should have been suppressed by Fang Yun and the Duke of Qin. A person whose future should have been totally destroyed. In his darkest hour, he had gained the admiration and protection of the Duke of Xianyu. Now he was given the precious opportunity to advance to a greater stage.

This was undoubtedly the turning point of his life.

Even though the Duke of Xianyu had a part to play in his expulsion from the institute, he understood that without power and influence, he would be buried within the institute. Fang Qingzhou and Qin Feng would do their all to keep him down.

The Duke of Xianyu was relieved. He propped Su Yu up, casually laughing, "I have no sons. Xianer is playful by nature, and has little interest in the Martial Paths, which is the only regret of mine. The heavens saw this and gifted you to me. This life had been worth living!"

However, there was something stuck in Su Yu's heart. "I will never forget the benevolence you have shown me. However, I would feel uncomfortable until I speak my mind."

"Haha, there is no harm in sharing!" the Duke of Xianyu said.

Su Yu slowly shared, "I have only met the young princess once, and I can tell that she has no feelings for me. Wouldn't this engagement be unfair for her?" Su Yu did not want to force the young princess into something she wanted no part of.

"So, this is it? I thought that you were insecure about your past status." The Duke of Xianyu stopped laughing. To think that Su Yu was worried about this matter.

He regained his smile. "You do not have to worry. She naturally has to follow her parents' say in her marriage. Furthermore, Xianer is not pining for anyone. Even if she does not marry you today, she would have to marry someone else some other day. That is the way the royal family works. Xianer, being part of the royal family, is clear of this. You worry too much."

An offspring of the royal family cannot decide on their own marriage. This has been instilled in them since they were young. Su Yu's concern was unwarranted.

She was not pining for anyone? Su Yu heaved a sigh of relief. If there was someone in the young princess's heart, Su Yu would have stolen the love of another person. Su Yu could not bring himself to do that.

If that was the case, then it was of little concern. Similar to how the young princess did not having any feelings for Su Yu, he did not have many feelings for her either. This way, no one was at a disadvantage.

"If that is the case, then I am relieved!" Su Yu laughed wholeheartedly. He then cupped his hands, "If there is nothing else, I am going to practice. The battles today were enlightening and I want to take the opportunity to practice. I think that my abilities will improve soon after."

The Duke of Xianyu smiled kindly. "Then child, haha, go and practice."

Watching Su Yu hurriedly rush to practice, the Duke of Xianyu was satisfied. He even felt a tinge of regret, for Su Yu wasn't his biological son. But thinking that Su Yu would soon to be his son-in law, he put it behind him.

He leaned back on his chair and rested for a moment. The Duke of Xianyu ordered his servant, "Prepare the invitations. I want the engagement ceremony between Su Yu and Xianer to be done well and respectable."

The servant rushed to prepare, and according to instructions, put together a large list of attendees. The Duke of Xianyu dropped his gaze to the words "First Prince, Second Prince, Third Prince" and let a crease form across his brows.

"The Second Prince and Xianer grew up together, and he had feelings for Xianer outside of brotherly love. I do not wish for him to do anything funny during the ceremony." The Duke of Xianyu rubbed his brows, frustration rising in his heart.

In the past, marriage within the royal family had been common. For a royal prince to take a young princess as his wife is common within the Fenglin Empire.

The Second Prince had multiple times come to ask for Xianer's hand in marriage, but was always rejected by the Duke of Xianyu. For one, Xianer was still not of age then. Also, the second prince was of questionable character.

Today, he had betrothed Xianer to someone else, and he hoped that the Second Prince would behave himself.

Chapter 35: The Arrival of the Princes

After muttering to himself for a good while, the Duke of Xianyu was more annoyed. "With the court in chaos, many dukes secretly support their own favored princes, and I am the only duke staying out of it, but I'm afraid that won't last for long," the Duke of Xianyu said, his heart heavy with worry.

Since ancient times, in the struggle for imperial power, it was difficult for those in the middle ground to meet a good end. The Duke of Xianyu was not keen on power, but the Xianyu prefecture was adjacent to the Imperial City in the Imperial Capital; soldiers could storm the Imperial City in 10 days.

Such a trusted and close strategic location, how could the princes not view him as a thorn in their sides? It would be hard for him to stay out of it.

In recent years, with His Majesty's health increasingly weakening, the three princes' overt competition and struggle for power was becoming more intense. A few months ago, the Duke of Jiuchuan, who threw in his lot with the Third Prince, was charged with the crime of inciting conspiracy, and he beheaded after all his possessions were seized and confiscated.

In fact, the First Prince and Second Prince joined forces to suppress the Third Prince. Among the three princes, the Third Prince, humble and respectful of talent, was very popular, resourceful and strategic, surpassing his two brothers. But, he was born of a concubine without any foundation in the Court, so it was well within reason that his two brothers would join forces against him.

The Duke of Xianyu already smelled the blood and chaos in the air that came with the succession of a dynasty. As a duke, it was difficult to evade, his only hope was not to implicate Xianer and Su Yu.

At that moment, an old man entered through the door. Wearing a woven straw raincoat, his face had a dull expression and behaved furtively. He was Senior Qin, the one who secretly protected the young princess that day.

"You're back, Senior Qin?" The Duke of Xianyu suddenly got up, and somewhat courteously asked, "How is the investigation of the situation?"

Senior Qin rasped, "The Duke's deduction was quite right, the servants and guards are moving about all over the Xianyu prefecture, the young princess's past may have already been divulged, I hope the Duke can make some early arrangements."

The Duke of Xianyu looked somber and was silent for quite a while, "I know!"

Senior Qin nodded without expression, and retreated back into the shadows like a ghost.

Su Yu was in seclusion in the arena, where he was putting the old man's one-finger point to use. He comprehended it somewhat. Opening up Purple Star Thunderbolt again, he suddenly felt much more enlightened. What was once extremely indecipherable and cryptic script had become simple and easy to understand.

"Can it be that since I can comprehend the Holy Decree, some cryptic and mystifying object is now simple and clear?" Su Yu delighted, secretly grateful for the one-finger point of the old man in the mural.

10 days passed by...

Su Yu suddenly opened his eyes and threw a punch without any warning.

Something amazing happened. An unexpected weak spark of violet thunder appeared within the fist. Faint wisps of a burning smell wafted through the air, caused by the thunder! Su Yu beamed!

After 10 days and nights of cultivation, he finally reached the entry level! Although it was not even at the Lower Class level, after combining with it The Holy Decree, he could actually condense a spark of thunder! Thunder, what a formidable power of nature? Merely possessing a spark of thunder was terrifying.

Purple Star Thunderbolt, exactly which level of cultivation technique does it belong to? It's already so scary, even at entry level! Su Yu was utterly puzzled.

What also made Su Yu happy was the huge progress in Tempest. With Tempest cultivated to Stage Three Lower Class, one leg could produce snow and wind at the same time. An astonishingly formidable power, greatly surpassing before!

Furthermore, with the duke's rare medicinal plants, first class cultivation room, and personal guidance, his cultivation base had unconsciously advanced to Level Four Upper Tier! A full 10 days, and a massive breakthrough!

Now, even without using the ray of diabolic light, he could easily defeat the Level Four Peak Jiang Zhishi. He was also assured that he could beat Shao Li of the 10 great demon students.

"Yu-er, come over, there are guests arriving from the imperial capital. You and Xianer will make an appearance together for the welcome." The Duke of Xianyu arrived with a smile just as he came out of his seclusion, assessed Su Yu with a quick look, and found that his vital spirit essence was different from earlier. He was immeasurably gratified to know that his strength had progressed.

Su Yu's heart warmed hearing the name Yu-er. The Duke of Xianyu had already regarded him as a real son. During those 10 days, whether it was resources for the cultivation, personal guidance, or life experience, all were offered as if Su Yu was his own son. The Duke of Xianyu had been without a son in his entire life, and somewhat saw Su Yu as a son to make up for his regret in life.

Su Yu of the past had been in business his whole life, accustomed to the vicious world. When he encountered an elder such as the Duke of Xianyu, he was touched. Arriving at this strange other world, alone and impoverished, no family or friends, the Duke of Xianyu gave him a close familial feeling.

"Very well, my father-in-law." Su Yu answered energetically.

Being addressed as 'father-in-law' filled the Duke of Xianyu with happiness and satisfaction. Looking at Su Yu from a distance, he thought to himself, "Yu-er, you and Xianer must live well..."

When he came to the assembly hall, the young princess was dressed in a pink skirt, with her exquisite and lovely small face, all made up, adorable and lovable.

"Hey! Degenerate!" The young princess wrinkled her exquisite nose, "My wretched father, marrying me off to you! I want to run away, escape this marriage!"

Brandishing an elegant fist, the young princess protested. She was very petite, her head only up to Su Yu's chest. Su Yu crouched down with a light smile, so that his line of sight was level with the young princess's, as a show of respect.

Conversing with her face-to-face for the first time, Su Yu sincerely said, with a light smile, "Young princess, many thanks for your kindness in pleading for leniency on that day." The young princess's big, bright eyes blinked. What plea of leniency?

Su Yu said with a smile, "The princess's body is protected by 1,000 member army, how can a stranger be allowed to sully you? If it were any other princess, I think, once they caught me, they would have quickly gotten rid of me to preserve their reputation. Instead, you twice pleaded for leniency from the duke. I, Su Yu, will remember that with gratitude in my heart."

Su Yu came close to death at the arena that day. The young princess had twice asked the duke to stop and spare his life. Although she was unruly, her nature was pure and good. The majority of the princesses in high positions had long been influenced by power, and would be indifferent about the life of a stranger.

Su Yu knew, without a doubt, if he had saved another princess on that day, they would kill him without mercy, to protect their reputation! Only the young princess of Xianyu did not do so.

After hearing what was said, the young princess was secretly pleased with herself. "At least he has a conscience! I am Qin Xianer. How can other princesses compare to me?"

With Xianer's slim jade-white hands clasped behind her back and her chin raised, like a proud little peacock, she muttered, "Count your lucky stars! As a generous princess, I'll forgive you! Let's go, we have guests to welcome and the three princes have arrived." Su Yu secretly felt tender affection for her. Her temperament was child-like; any praise would cause her happiness.

All three princes came? Su Yu was in awe. Such a big empire like Fenglin, the three princes, with their tremendous power and influence, could determine the fate of millions of people! Ordinary people might revere before royalty, but Su Yu came from another world. He remained calm and collected.

He stood with his hands behind back, his clothes fluttering in the air, his ink black hair swaying, and his eyes gleaming with wisdom.

Xianer skipped and hopped while leading the way. Her small mouth hummed a pleasant tune, and she occasionally turned her head around to look back at Su Yu, her pointed little chin nodding a little from time to time.

"Don't embarrass me." Xianer fiercely warned, brandishing her elegant fist. Su Yu smiled without a word, and stepped forward to walk beside her.

Su Yu's heart was filled with warmth when he felt Xianer's vivacity and recalled the duke's devotion and generosity. Perhaps, this was his home in this other world.

After a short while, Su Yu and Xianer stood outside the assembly hall. One was dainty and lovely. The other was in high spirits with a graceful bearing beyond compare.

"The First Prince! The Second Prince! The Third Prince!" The servant outside the door loudly announced the arrival of the guests. The intermittent sound of footsteps traveled across the courtyard to the assembly hall.

The three powerful and influential princes in the courtyard resembled each other in appearance, their imperial dignity emanating in all directions.

With a face that betrayed no feelings, The First Prince, the most imperial-looking, had sharp penetrating eyes, making it difficult for anyone to look at him face to face.

The Second Prince, with his long and narrow eyes, thin lips, curled the corners of his mouth as if to smile, and had a somewhat sinister feel to him.

Although his appearance was ordinary, the Third Prince's manner was the most refined. The smile on his face was like the spring breeze and his eyes flashed with glimpses of wisdom.

"My imperial elder brothers, you came! Xianer missed you so much!" Xianer's silky black eyes looked mischievous. She giggled as she ran towards them, sweetly yelling to them.

The First Prince's eyes managed to produce a rare hint of smile. He tilted his head to look at the bodyguard following close behind.

"Young princess, this is the cloud dress that I, the First Prince, prepared for you. Impervious to water and fire, protected from the elements, guaranteed to be bright forever, it's priceless." The bodyguard offered it with both hands. Xianer smiled as she took it.

The Second Prince's pair of long and narrow eyes, covertly assessed Xianer with a look. He took a hairpin from his chest pocket and beamed from ear to ear, "This hairpin is an imperial tribute. I, imperial elder brother, specially prepared it for you. Wearing it on top of your head can nourish your inner strength and increase your cultivation base." Xianer extended a jade-like hand and took it with satisfaction.

Su Yu raised his eyebrows. He was accustomed to seeing all sorts of people and could see through all kinds, he could read the other person's mind with just an expression in the person's eyes. There was something fishy about this Second Prince's expression! He seemed to have improper thoughts about the young princess! I could not tolerate you taking advantage of my betrothed! Su Yu secretly kept the Second Prince in mind.

The Third Prince smiled wryly, "Xianer, as you know, I, your imperial elder brother, am without resources. I have no treasure that you can take, so I can only bring you this."

Xianer pouted her small mouth until she discovered, in the Third Prince's hands, a novel and an odd nine-beaded chain lock. Instantly beaming with joy, she seized the trinket on the spot and fiddled with it. As it turned out, Xianer's clever act of obedient behavior was to extract greeting gifts from the three imperial elder brothers.

Su Yu's eyes gleamed. He could roughly gauge the three princes' characters judging by their treasures. Among the three princes, the First Prince was domineering, extravagant, and presented the most expensive gift. The Second Prince was crafty. He knew that the young princess just wanted to have fun and did not like to cultivate, so he presented the gift of a hairpin which could voluntarily refine her inner strength when worn. The Third Prince was the one Su Yu admired the most, but also most guarded against! Compared to the other princes, he was the most shrewd and sophisticated!

Of the three gifts that the young princess received, the first two pieces of considerable worth elicited average reactions from the young princess. But the last piece of mediocre worth was the one the young princess favored the most. Clearly, the Third Prince's ability to capture the hearts of people was far superior to his two elder brothers.

The Second Prince's eyes flashed and fell upon Su Yu. Clad in purple, with a breezy manner, supple black hair, a fine face adorned with jade cap, he was like a handsome celestial immortal. Elegance and calm radiated from deep inside him. He could easily hold his own in front of the three princes!

"You are the duke's son-in-law, Xianer's betrothed?" The Second Prince's tone was flat, but there was a sense of aloof scrutiny, vaguely hostile.

Chapter 36: Fighting Back the Prince with His Fists

The first and third princes silently sized up Su Yu. They wanted to see for themselves how exceptional the son-in-law chosen by the Duke of Xianyu was.

Su Yu let out a laugh and smiled. "Turns out it is the arrival of the three princes. I am Su Yu, the fiancé of Xianer. Pardon me for not being a proper host."

He was not intimidated by the eagerness of the second prince; he maintained his dignified demeanor.

The three princes glanced at each other for a moment, all wanted to inquire further. Where did the Duke of Xianyu find such a desirable person, with no traces of being a commoner?

The second prince squinted his already narrow eyes, sighing, "Xianer grew up with me and is used to being pampered. I worry that she'll be bullied after she gets married."

Su Yu understood what the second prince meant. He was not tempted by the treasures the three princes had gifted him.

With a laugh, Su Yu made his way to Xianer. She was meddling with the Nine-Beaded Chain Lock. She was concentrating hard and got great joy from it.

"Xianer, open your mouth." Su Yu tapped her forehead.

"For what? Don't disturb me." Xianer was in deep concentration. She pouted her lips, obviously displeased, but subconsciously opened her petite mouth anyway.

Su Yu flicked his fingers, pushing a ball of fiery red liquid into her mouth.

Xianer tasted it; it was warm and sweet. When it slid down her throat and was ingested, her entire body felt comfortable beyond words.

Her eyebrows twitched. She put down the Nine-Beaded Chain Lock and abruptly lifted her head, her face full of surprise.

"What was that? It was delicious! I want more." Xianer threw the Nine-Beaded Chain Lock to a servant, then turned to pull on Su Yu's sleeves. Her jet black eyes darted towards Su Yu, visibly impatient.

She was like a hungry cat, anxiously searching for traces of food from her master.

"Open up," Su Yu smiled.

Xianer immediately opened her mouth wide, forming a large circle, her eyes expectantly waiting for the food. With a flick of his finger, another drop flew into Xianer's mouth. Xianer tasted it, the comfortable feeling seizing her once again.

"I want more! I want more!" Xianer was addicted. She was tugging on Su Yu's arms, shaking, and acting like a spoiled child.

Su Yu had no choice, he flicked three droplets out of his hands.

After Xianer consumed the droplets, she closed her eyes, satisfied, and thoroughly immersed herself in the moment.

Suddenly, a small current of air started to spiral, enveloping Xianer's body.

"This is a sign of someone breaking into Level Three of the Martial Path!" the second prince was shocked.

The first prince and the third prince shared a look of surprise. Their eyes showed a shred of disbelief. They both turned to look at Su Yu, their gaze more respectful.

"To think that Mister Su, you have obtained the fabled Jade Fire Marrow!" The third prince smiled.

The first prince nodded slightly. The Jade Fire Marrow was something even the royal family did not have, for it had never appeared once in the past century.

The young princess regained her composure, realizing that she had broken through to Level Three of the Martial Path. Surprised, she started shouting, "Haha, I have broken through! Su Yu, do you have more? I want more. I want to break through to Level Nine and go father! Hmph, that'll teach him to belittle me."

Su Yu rubbed her forehead, then shook his head, "Do not be hasty. Training requires a steady progression. You have to learn how to walk before you can run. Consolidate your current progress before striving for the next level."

The young princess was not repulsed by Su Yu's physical intimacy, but instead felt comfortable having her forehead rubbed. She involuntarily closed her eyes, hugging Su Yu. She let him have his way, similar to a small cat that was being pet by her master.

Su Yu's body was also feeling the effects of the Jade Fire Marrow. When he touched the young princess, it would trigger the effect of the Jade Fire Marrow in the princess's body, making her feel comfortable.

Looking at the intimacy shared by the two, the second prince burned with jealousy.

"Haha, The Duke of Xianyu is of respectable status in the empire. I would think that the son-in-law he favors is of exceptional cultivation. Mister Su, would you like to have a sparring session with me?" The second prince had a smile on his face.

The second prince was at Level Four Peak of the Martial Path. He, at a glance, figured that Su Yu was at Level Four Upper Tier of the Martial Path, and was not his match.

The first and third princes were curious. In the Shenyue continent, influence and status were not of big importance. What was most important was the individual's power.

The Duke of Xianyu held a high position and had impeccable judgement. The son-in-law he favored should have considerable power.

Su Yu looked up and shook his head. "You are okay, but not a match for me."

The second prince laughed angrily. He was being underestimated by a Level Four Upper Tier.

He was part of the royal family. He had been trained by famous teachers, and in turn had trained some of the best. He was far superior compared to normal people.

Su Yu was brazen. "I am now even more curious due to your confidence. I wonder what kind of son-in-law the Duke of Xianyu had chosen!"

"Palm of the Falling Leaves!"

The second prince was struck with animosity, both hands likened to falling leaves, confusing the eye. A warm heat enveloped his hands, making them painful to touch.

It was similar to Tempest since they were both medium level cultivation techniques. Once it was cultivated to a certain level, the user could influence their surroundings.

Su Yu let go of Xianer, calmly taking a stride forward.

"Tempest!"

Cold wind gathered around his leg, bringing forth a flurry of ice and snow. It was as though Su Yu's legs had opened the gates to a world of ice and snow. The unbearable cold and dazzling snow had an immense power.

Palm and leg collided. The second prince could not match Su Yu's power and was kicked in the face. His face instantly gathered a sheet of frost, causing unbearable pain.

"Ah! You dare to injure me! Capture him!" The second prince was livid. He was a noble prince. To be kicked in the face was humiliating indeed. Furthermore, he was losing face in front of Xianer.

The guard serving the second prince was a green robed youth, and was at Level Five Lower Tier of the Martial Path. He followed his orders and attacked.

"Current Breaking Kick!" The shadows of his leg overlapped, a great pressure was released with every stroke of the technique. A pale yellow glow enveloped his leg.

Su Yu felt the pressure come over him. This person's ability was quite a bit stronger than Shao Li.

Su Yu retaliated, "Tempest!"

Rumble —

Both of them took three steps back. The first and third princes narrowed their eyes. A Level Four Upper Tier was holding his own against a Level Five Lower Tier! It was rightful that the second prince had lost!

The second prince, with frost still on his face, shouted, "There is no need to hold back!"

The green robed guard shot a cold glare towards Su Yu. "I only used half my power just now. Admit defeat, or you will suffer."

The vital energy in his body continued to rise, filling up his entire body. Incorporating vital energy into his techniques would double their power. In terms of the amount of vital energy, Su Yu could not compare to him, but Su Yu had a trick up his sleeve.

The green robed guard's power had reached its peak. He unleashed his most powerful strike. "Current Breaking Kick!"

The air crackled under the enormous pressure of the technique. How was this only double the power of the previous kick?

Su Yu was calm. He did not back down. "Purple Star Thunderbolt!"

Su Yu let out a breath, his hands erupting into streaks of purple lightning. A scorched smell spread into the surroundings. He punched with both fists, as if they were two purple dragons, spiralling with energy, howling into the winds.

The air was trembling. The air currents were spiralling around Su Yu. His powerful aura sent debris flying, creating a vortex of dirt and debris.

The hearts of the three princes, as well as the young princess, were thumping wildly. The scene before them gave them goosebumps.

"What level technique is this? Advanced?" The second prince's expression was grave and cautious.

The first prince's eyes sparkled, deadly intent rising within him. The third prince, however, was startled, "What... what level is that technique?"

They were the princes of the empire, and had seen many strong people. They were knowledgeable about the various techniques out there, but they could not distinguish the level of that technique.

In terms of power, it was far above medium level techniques. In fact, it was even more powerful than some of the rarest advanced level techniques there was.

Was this a legendary saint level technique? The rumours said that saint level techniques required ungodly levels of insight! The royal family kept a manual for the saint level technique, but the three princes were unable to cultivate it. They could not even understand what was written in the book!

They had trouble even with advanced level techniques, even more so with the mysterious saint level techniques! To think that the son-in-law of the Duke of Xianyu was a demon level genius that could gain insight into saint-level techniques!

The three princes were in awe. They guessed that the son-in-law of the duke would be exceptional in terms of the Martial Paths, but they never would have guessed that he could understand saint level techniques!

On the battlefield, there was a collision between leg and fist. The green robed guard, a Level Five of the Martial Path, was sent flying by a full power strike from Su Yu.

His legs broke and the cloth surrounding the area of impact was turned to ash by the purple lightning, causing deep burns. He howled in pain as he flew backwards, smashing into a water vat in the yard, slipping into a coma after throwing up blood.

All the princes' servants gasped. The saint level technique was scary indeed. A Level Four Upper Tier severely injured a powerful Level Five with one stroke. The son-in-law that the Duke of Xianyu found had terrifying potential.

"Haha, my Su Yu is the most powerful." The young princess clapped, laughing at the misfortunes of the princes. She could not stop laughing, making a face at the second prince.

The second prince was as surprised as he was angry, deadly intent growing in his heart. A genius who could understand saint level techniques! They could not let him grow more!

"Brother, lend me your guard. Capture this man!"

Behind the first prince stood an unassuming green robed guard. He looked ordinary and indiscernible in the crowd, but his level of cultivation was terrifying. He was a Level Six of the Martial Path.

The young princess wrinkled her nose, flailing her fists, "Hmph! Do you want to bully him, second prince?"

The first prince creased his brows slightly, stealing a glance at the second prince. Stupid!

The contest just now could be excused as a spar. But how would the duke react if they sent a Level Six to fight him?

A majestic figure strode in from the yard. His suave face inspired awe and his gaze was cold. It was the Duke of Xianyu!

He calmly glanced at the three princes and said, "You three princes are guests from afar. But to attempt to capture my daughter's fiance, what is the meaning of this?"

Chapter 37: Saint Level Technique

The Second Prince felt an involuntary fear. The Duke of Xianyu was the most powerful of all the dukes in the empire. He was at Level Six of the Martial Path, and according to his reputation, he could kill any enemy without breaking a sweat.

The First Prince hurriedly stepped forward, harboring a smile as he cupped his hands, "Duke, you misunderstand. We were just sparring. We did not expect Mister Su's abilities to be so exceptional. We saw a shadow of your former self in him. Congratulations duke, for finding such an exceptional son-in-law."

He glanced over to the Second Prince with a stern look, "Second brother, you should thank Mister Su for holding back."

If Su Yu had not held back, the Second Prince, with cultivation at Level Four Peak of the Martial Path, would have been gravely wounded by Su Yu.

In front of the duke, the Second Prince could only swallow his grievances and thank Su Yu. Su Yu returned the gesture, but his gaze swept towards the green robed guard of Level Six of the Martial Path behind the First Prince. His eyes momentarily narrowed.

While Su Yu recovered fast, he was still caught by the First Prince.

"Mister Su, have you met my guard before?" The First Prince's eyes were sparkling.

Su Yu was a little dazed, "I seem to have encountered him before, but I cannot recall where exactly."

"Haha, you could have met someone who looks similar." The First Prince let out a small laugh.

The young princess was impatient, "Okay, please go back and rest. Come for my engagement ceremony in five days."

Quickly, the three princes were escorted to their respective rooms.

"Look Father, I have broken through to Level Three of the Martial Path. Aren't I great?" The young princess hugged the duke and lifted her chin, proudly boasting her achievements.

The Duke of Xianyu was shocked. He had observed the events that had happened earlier from the shadows. How could he have missed the moment when Su Yu took out the fabled Jade Fire Marrow? He also knew that Su Yu had cultivated a saint level technique!

Even the royal family had only one saint level technique manual, and no one had cultivated it in the past century. Where did Su Yu obtain his saint level technique?

Could he have gotten it from the Depository of Buddhist Scriptures in the martial arts training institute? The duke knew that even the best techniques in the Depository of the training institute were advanced level.

The duke did not know that the Purple Star Thunderbolt was from the remnants of a manual and could not be classified under a level. Even the martial arts training institute was not sure how to classify it, as no one had cultivated it until now.

For one, the process of understanding the manual was extremely difficult. The user also had to possess Su Yu's Holy Decree. Thus, there was no one that knew that the Purple Star Thunderbolt; it was a fabled saint level technique.

The Duke of Xianyu felt immense joy mixed with his surprise. Su Yu had once again exceeded his expectations. To think he would have the ungodly insight needed to understand saint level techniques!

"Yu-er, after your marriage with Xianer, I will help you search for the treasured saint level technique of the royal family for you to gain insight on!" The Duke of Xianyu was feeling generous and relieved. He was proud of himself for choosing such an exceptional son-in-law.

The saint level technique of the royal family? Su Yu could feel his heart thumping wildly. Su Yu, after experiencing the horrifying power of the Purple Star Thunderbolt, was also convinced that it was a saint level technique.

Su Yu had gratitude in his heart. He could imagine that even the duke would have trouble borrowing the saint level technique of the royal family. But he promised Su Yu anyway. The Duke of Xianyu was dependable. Su Yu's heart was full.

After the duke left with Xianer, Su Yu returned to his room.

Passing by the yard that the three princes were at, Su Yu recalled the green robed guard at the side of the First Prince, with his terrifying Level Six of the Martial Path.

"To think it's him!" Su Yu's expression turned grave.

That guard, if he was not mistaken, was the person of Level Six of the Martial Path who was tempting students the other day at the Twilight Mountains.

Ceng Bier, ranked fourth of the gold students, had died in his hands, his corpse still rotting in the valleys. Su Yu, Lu Xuan and Lu Xing nearly fell into his trap. It was Su Yu's early detection that saved their lives.

But how could he be the First Prince's guard? A feeling of uneasiness came over him.

In the room, the First Prince wore a downcast expression. "Bai Qixiong, you have exposed yourself in front of Su Yu before?" The terrifying guard at the Twilight Mountains the other day was indeed him.

Upon hearing the First Prince, Bai Qixiong fell to his knees, fearfully saying, "First Prince! I have never seen him. In these months, I have always been stationed at the Twilight Mountains, and had little contact with other people. If I had seen him before, I would definitely remember."

That day, Su Yu had spotted him from 500 meters away. Su Yu could clearly see Bai Qixiong, but that was not necessarily the case for Bai Qixiong. Furthermore, this Su Yu sported a different demeanor, skin color and clothes. Bai Qixiong might not have recognized him even if he were standing in front of him.

The First Prince let out a groan, nodding his head, "Get up. I hope that Su Yu has merely gotten the wrong person. You should go make preparations immediately and carry on with the plan."

For the next five days, Su Yu was busy entertaining guests, and had no time to practice, especially since the young princess was fond of playing and would disappear from time to time. He had no free time.

The engagement of the daughter of the strongest duke in the empire was a big matter indeed. All the guests were of important status, or were famous and wealthy merchants. An action from any one of the guests would have a significant impact on the empire.

As for guests from within the prefecture, no one was worthy of attending besides Xia Linxuan of the martial arts training institute. On the fifth, and last, day entertaining guests, Xia Linxuan brought along his daughter, Xia Jingyu, to attend the event.

"Congratulations, lad." Xia Linxuan was a little awkward. He had been a student of the martial arts training institute, despite being overshadowed by others. Now his brilliance was showing and he was becoming part of the royal family.

Su Yu clasped his hands in respect, "Thank you, Lord Xia."

Xia Jingyu, her beauty rivalling a celestial being, had a smile on her face. Her voice was gentle, "Congratulations to you. You must take good care of Xianer in the future. Xianer's heart is kind and pure, do not do her any wrong."

Su Yu laughed in response, "I will remember this lesson by Senior Xia. Please take a seat inside."

Su Yu had deep respect and gratitude towards Xia Jingyu. He could never forget the favor of the bow.

Xia Linxuan, who was walking in front, suddenly paused, then awkwardly said, "Su Yu, I heard that you have a friendly relationship with Jingyu. Jingyu had several problems with her cultivation, and I hope that you can give her a pointer or two."

"Father!" Xia Jingyu's white skin became flushed, and she stamped her feet in embarrassment.

Su Yu was smooth in his answer, "Senior Xia is a genius of demon student caliber, with abilities above mine. How can I give her any pointers? We can discuss this in the evening, when I'm done with the work here."

Xia Linxuan had a look of respect. Su Yu's answer was polite, and he could see that Su Yu's etiquette was much better than that of his peers.

He was envious of the duke. "The Duke of Xianyu has indeed picked an exceptional son-in-law."

Su Yu sent the two in, then stayed outside to continue entertaining the guests.

"The Duke of Qin has arrived!" a servant reported.

Su Yu raised his eyebrows, a cold look flickered in his eyes. The presence of the Duke of Qin the other day had forced him to give up Jiang Xueqing. He had not forgotten that.

In a flash, Su Yu regained his calm expression.

The engagement party of the Duke of Xianyu had caused a commotion in the royal court, and many people of high status were invited to attend. The Duke of Qin was neither a friend nor enemy of Su Yu. The fact that he had come to extend his congratulations did not affect Su Yu.

"Welcome, Duke of Qin" Su Yu respectfully greeted.

His manner was gracious, not belittling himself. He maintained a calm expression, as if the past unhappiness had not happened. It had been two months since the Duke of Qin had seen Su Yu. He had gained a newfound respect for Su Yu.

The other day, when Su Yu was still a commoner, he had sensed his exceptional demeanor, and had deduced that he was a genius. Today, he was proven right! The Duke of Xianyu had taken a liking to Su Yu and had taken him as his son-in-law.

Furthermore, with the Holy Decree Su Yu displayed in the martial arts training institute, he had demonstrated the right to contest the Holy King.

The Duke of Qin was hit with a wave of regret. Had he known, he would not have tried his best that day to end Su Yu's life. His decision that day gave Su Yu a chance to grow, and now it would be even more difficult to get rid of him.

"Haha, Su Yu, your future is bright. Should you have the chance to come into the capital in the future, you can come to my abode for a chat." The Duke of Qin's smile was friendly, as in the past.

The Duke of Qin had the intention of reconciling the relationship between them. Behind the Duke of Qin, a male and female approached to pay their respects.

"Congratulations, Mister Su." It was Qin Feng and Jiang Xueqing, their expressions complicated.

Qin Feng was humiliated. In the past, he had not regarded Su Yu as anything worth mentioning. To think that today he had become the fiancé of the young princess of Xianyu! The young princess of Xianyu, Qin Xianer, was one of the top three beauties in the institute, her status equal to Jiang Xueqing's. Today, he was getting married to a beautiful lady, and had the backing of the Duke of Xianyu. Su Yu's status and influence was now equal to his own.

Jiang Xueqing had a bitter look on her face. It was she who abandoned Su Yu. Now he was a demon level genius that had the potential to become the Holy King. He had become the fiancé of Qin Xianer, the son-in-law of a duke, and had exceptional influence. What made her even more bitter was the fact that she had loved this purple robed youth.

Su Yu nodded his head slightly, calmly saying, "Your journey here must have been tiring, I'll get the servants to settle you into your rooms."

At that moment, Xianer ran out from a corner of the yard, excitedly shouting at a distance, "Brother Su Yu, Brother Su Yu, come quickly! Sister Jingyu is also here. Let's have a discussion together."

After breaking through to Level Three, she had been excited for a few days. Her excitement towards cultivation had been exceptionally strong. Even though the excitement might only last for a short period of time, it was enough to make the Duke of Xianyu feel relieved.

Xianer tugged Su Yu's arm, intimately lugging him along. After half a month of interaction, she had become used to Su Yu. Of course, she had multiple times used Su Yu to brag about herself.

Xianer had only now noticed the presence of the Duke of Qin and the rest of the people, her babydoll eyes glancing past Jiang Xueqing.

She had heard of what had happened to Su Yu. Upon seeing Jiang Xueqing, she put her hands on her waist and stared angrily, expressing the unfairness that befell Su Yu, "Hmph! You're the bad woman who abandoned Brother Su Yu? Your looks are decent at best. You're not as beautiful as me!"

"Let's go, Brother Su Yu!" Xianer tugged on Su Yu, making her way towards the inner yard.

Su Yu turned back, his hands clasped apologetically, and ordered the servants to escort them to their rooms.

Jiang Xueqing's lips quivered. She bit her lip as a bitter feeling rose in her chest. That's right. Who am I, Jiang Xueqing, compared to the young princess?

In terms of looks, the young princess did not lose to her. In terms of status, the young princess was at the top. She was part of the royal family. How could Jiang Xueqing compare to her?

Qin Feng felt a deep sense of humiliation, but suppressed his rage and consoled, "Qing-er, we do not need to bother with them. I do not believe that Su Yu will be this arrogant forever."

He and Jiang Xueqing had not wanted to attend the ceremony. He was once defeated by Su Yu. She had once abandoned Su Yu. But their father had wanted them to come. Their father had instructed them sternly, and they had no choice but to follow, resulting in such a humiliating moment.

Xianer led Su Yu to a pavilion in the inner yard. It was evening and the lights were just coming on. They were dazzling like stars, lighting up the pavilion that bore pear flowers.

Xia Jingyu was silently sitting on a stone bench. Under the lights and flowers, her slender figure was like that of a fairy's. Standing outside the pavilion, Su Yu was delighted by what he saw. No matter the occasion, Xia Jingyu looked like a celestial being.

Chapter 38: Teaching the Holy Decree

There were a few small dishes on the stone table in the yard. Xianer pounced forward and gobbled them, without a care for her image. Her active nature made her very adorable.

Xia Jingyu took small bites, her actions proper and graceful. After the meal, Xia Jingyu glanced towards Su Yu, gently saying, "Let's discuss our ideas about cultivation."

"Okay! Okay!" Xianer was excited. "Haha, Sister Jingyu, you do not know how hard I trained to achieve this much. The three princes were so shocked that their eyes were falling out of their sockets."

Xianer was praising herself, proud as a peacock. Xu Yu laughed, but remained silent. Xia Jingyu also gave the occasional smile. The atmosphere was jovial and warm.

They were immersed in their discussion, and when it was over, the moon was already high in the sky, illuminating the surroundings.

At the thought of everyone going back to their respective rooms, Xia Jingyu lightly bit her lip. A blush formed on her snow white skin, completely visible under the moonlight. In that lighting, Xia Jingyu looked even more pristine and beautiful.

"Su Yu, can you let me see your Holy Decree? I will repay you as best as I can." Xia Jingyu felt her face turn hot; her heart was all over the place.

She knew that her request was absurd. To ask to observe the Holy Decree was the same as attempting to steal the technique. Unless they had blood ties, it was improbable that Su Yu would agree.

"Of course, no problem. There is no need to repay me." Su Yu readily agreed, much to Xia Jingyu's surprise.

Su Yu had Xia Jingyu to thank for his successful insight into the Holy Decree. Without her help in trying to understand the wall paintings, Su Yu would never have known that they were not made from ordinary material. He would never have thought to use space time manipulation to fully gain insight into them.

Whoosh —

Su Yu entered the zone quickly, his brain recalling the Heavenly Finger of the elder. An ordinary finger, filled with unexplainable mysteries. Once someone was immersed he would find it hard to free himself. It was as though the finger hid the mysteries of nature's rhythm.

Su Yu shot out a finger. It was as though he was no longer man, but a component of nature.

Xia Jingyu's eyes sparkled. Observing the technique up close made it even more mysterious. A bright light shone in her heart. Xia Jingyu felt that she had understood something. She dragged her thin finger across the air.

Bu thereafter, Xia Jingyu laughed bitterly. While she had understood a small part of the technique, it was not enough to replicate it.

The air was dancing. Su Yu moved towards Xia Jingyu. "Senior Xia, please look at it again." Su Yu, in close distance, displayed the Heavenly Finger again.

Xia Jingyu's eyes were sparkling, completely absorbed in the technique. This time, she had gained an even deeper understanding.

But, what was frustrating was she could not fully gain insight into the technique. That feeling of awe flashed past too quickly for her to etch anything into her memory.

"Forget it. Maybe I'm still not fated to learn the technique," Xia Jingyu gave up.

Su Yu gave it some thought, then muttered, "If Senior Xia doesn't mind, I can guide you by the hand. Maybe then you'll have a more complete understanding of the technique."

By the hand?

Xia Jingyu's heart was beating wildly, subconsciously declining the offer.

Xianer, who was observing at the side, widened her eyes, then shook her head with glee, "Sister Jingyu, do not do that with Brother Su Yu."

I am not being polite, but there has to be a degree of separation between genders, Xia Jingyu thought. She did not know what to feel.

Thinking about it further, she realized Su Yu was being a gentleman. Her indecisiveness made her feel inferior to him.

She bit her lip slightly, then turned beet red and begrudgingly agreed, "Okay..."

Su Yu made his way behind Xia Jingyu, his strong hands enveloping hers.

"Senior Xia, let's begin," Su Yu whispered in her ear. Su Yu's eyes were clear, and he had no stray thoughts in his mind.

Xia Jingyu shuddered. She felt her body turn rigid, not responding to her commands. Su Yu lifted her right hand, then gracefully brought it down.

"Senior Xia, consolidate your heart and spirit, and free yourself of any stray thoughts," Su Yu had sensed Xia Jingyu's fluctuating feelings and gently reminded her.

Xia Jingyu bit her lips, trying her hardest to calm herself down, placing her attention onto her finger. As she gradually relaxed, Su Yu once again led her hands through the motion. Xia Jingyu felt her understanding grow.

It was as though she had found the key to becoming one with nature. She was able to place herself amongst the moonlight, the pear flowers and the yard. Under Su Yu's guidance, her fingertip started to display traces of the mysterious energy. A feeling of unbelievable comfort welled up within her.

Unknowingly, Xia Jingyu was in a complete state of relaxation, totally immersed in the feeling of wonder, to the point that her entire body was leaning against Su Yu's without her realizing. Her right hand followed Su Yu's, slicing the air together. With every stroke, she felt herself getting closer to nature. Xia Jingyu felt that she was laying down on something warm, safe and dependable. She imagined herself flying across the starlit sky, over miles of grassy plains. She had no

distractions, no sorrow, no worries. All she had was unlimited warmth and comfort. At that moment, she really wanted to be with the warmth forever.

Outside the yard, both the Duke of Xianyu and Xia Linxuan were walking in together. In their eyes, Xia Jingyu had laid herself in the embrace of Su Yu, and was dancing under the moonlight. They were obviously just sliding fingers across the air, but it was full of grace and beauty.

The two figures seemed to have merged into one, as if they were intimate lovers.

The Duke of Xianyu wore an awful expression. Su Yu was his son-in-law, but to think he would be this intimate with another man's daughter prior to his engagement!

He was even more angry at the fact that his own daughter was okay with observing from the side, even admiring the scene with delight. But quickly, the Duke of Xianyu realized something was wrong.

It seemed like Su Yu was helping Xia Jingyu gain insight into the Holy Decree, and Xia Jingyu was already very close to understanding the technique!

While the Duke of Xianyu was secretly shocked by the level of insight Xia Jingyu possessed, he also blamed Su Yu for passing on the Holy Decree, even if it was for repaying a debt. This was making light of the Holy Decree.

Xia Linxuan was immensely happy. His daughter had managed to understand traces of the Holy Decree. Even though her technique was not as refined as Su Yu's, once she broke in the realm of the Holy Decree, she could only improve with more practice. If not for the fear of interrupting his daughter, he would have rushed forward with incredible joy. There was hope for the Xia family!

With deep agitation, he looked at the two figures as if they were a match made in heaven. Xia Linxuan involuntarily let out a sigh, "How great would it be if Su Yu was my son-in-law?"

Hearing this, the Duke of Xianyu regained his composure, then with a laugh said, "Haha, I'm afraid, Lord Xia, that you have missed your chance. Tomorrow, Su Yu will become my son-in-law."

The more exceptional his son-in-law was, the more proud the Duke of Xianyu felt.

At that moment, the young princess was not content with merely watching anymore. She happily skipped towards them and pulled on Su Yu's sleeves, then sweetly cajoled, "Brother Su Yu, Xianer wants to try too."

An external disturbance broke Su Yu out of the technique. Xia Jingyu also suddenly returned to reality from that incredibly comfortable state. A deep disappointment filled her heart as Su Yu freed himself from her body. She could not feel any trace of the enveloping warmth left.

Su Yu was naturally more willing to help his future wife! Squatting, Su Yu rubbed Xianer's forehead, "Of course, but you have to take this seriously and not be naughty."

Xianer let Su Yu rub her forehead, visibly enjoying the process, then laughed, "Yes, yes, Xianer is the most obedient person out there."

Su Yu brought Xianer into the wondrous zone. Xianer did not have any reservations. She laid her body directly into the embrace of Su Yu, freely letting Su Yu control her movements, slicing the air with her finger. Feeling the interesting movements, Xianer let out a huge smile.

Xia Jingyu silently observed from the side, looking at the intimacy of the pair. Her feelings of comfort and joy in understanding the Holy Decree subsided greatly, and a shred of dejectedness welled within her.

Time passed by quickly, but Xianer could not integrate herself into the realm of the Holy Decree. She began to lose her interest, pouting her lips, saying, "I'm not playing anymore. This is not fun at all!"

Su Yu rubbed her forehead, wishing to criticize her, but noticed a mark on the back of her neck. The mark was fiery red, taking the shaped of a nine-tailed phoenix. It was very mysterious indeed. Su Yu curiously attempted to touch the mark.

"Xianer is being mischievous again." The Duke of Xianyu walked over, halting Su Yu's attempt.

Su Yu had to stop, then said, "Xianer is smart by nature, but she doesn't seem to be too interested in the Martial Path."

Xianer angrily stared at Su Yu, hitting his chest with her small fists, "That is not true. I am smart, I don't have to practice to achieve a breakthrough."

"Alright. It is getting late, go and rest with Xianer. You have an engagement ceremony to conduct tomorrow. It will be even more tiring." The Duke of Xianyu patted Su Yu's shoulders in relief. He observed that the both of them had been getting along well, and his heart relaxed a great deal.

Watching the backs of the pair, the Duke of Xianyu was relieved. "Su Yu is a sentimental man, he will not let Xianer down in the future."

"Yu-er, come with father!" Xia Linxuan could not wait, calling for his daughter.

To understand the Holy Decree came as a great surprise.

"Okay," Xia Jingyu smiled a little.

In the house, Su Yu finally found some free time. He rushed to practice. While helping Xia Jingyu and Xianer understand the Holy Decree, he had gained further insight into the technique.

Previously he had only caught a glimpse of the elder's Heavenly Finger, but now he may have entered the beginner level.

He did not have the opportunity to try out the technique for there was too many people around. He slowly closed his eyes, once again immersing himself into the elder's Heavenly Finger.

A dark cloud stretched on for miles, with a mountain piercing the highest point. The elder emanated a holy aura, looking up at the sky. An extended finger sliced the air. The mountains and valleys, and every living being bowed with respect. The finger had split the sky, traces of wonder enveloping his fingertips. It was as though it harbored the endless mysteries of the universe.

Su Yu followed the feeling in his heart, subconsciously moving his finger.

Rumble —

A mere movement of his finger had caused a stone door, which was one zhang thick, develop a deep crack.

Su Yu regained his senses, looking at the crack on the stone door. He was deeply awed.

"Who is that elder? I had merely copied him to the beginner level and have already achieved such terrifying power. A Level Five Lower Tier of the Martial Path would be defeated with just this stroke!" Su Yu thought deeply.

An unbelievable idea sprung up in his mind. "Could that elder be a Holy King?"

Chapter 39: An Unexpected Turn of Events

That was the only explanation for the terrifying Heavenly Finger. Also, Su Yu noticed that the elder's Holy Decree that he had gained insight to was a little different.

The saint level technique Purple Star Thunderbolt had only become clearer after he gained insight into the elder's Holy Decree.

But there were other demon students that have gained insight into the Holy Decree. Zheng Yilin, ranked first of the Xianyu prefecture's demon students, was one of them.

But he had not mastered the Purple Star Thunderbolt. From this, Su Yu could deduce that the Holy Decree he had gained insight to was not ordinary.

Su Yu clenched his fists. He felt very confident about the future of his Martial Path. As long as he was given enough opportunities, he would definitely shine.

Buzz —

The Nine-Dragon Cauldron entrenched in his mind suddenly started vibrating. A drop of spirit serum dripped out from the cauldron. Some of the purple dragon etched on the cauldron transformed into a crystalline state after a cleansing.

Su Yu unexpectedly found out that his space time manipulation had reached a higher level. Previously, when he was silent, he could speed up the time around him to be 20 times faster. Now he could do it up to 30 times. When he was in a state of frenzy, he could only speed up time by 40 percent, but now he could do it up to 50 percent.

His eyesight had also become superb. He could now see the feathers of a bird on a tree two miles away.

Su Yu was elated. The understanding of the Holy Decree had resulting in the accelerated development of the Divine Nine-Dragon Cauldron.

Suddenly, Su Yu felt that there was a cleansing deep within his soul. His soul became clear and ethereal, more natural and smooth compared to the past.

The souls of both Su Yus fusing together would often lead to repulsion. But after the cleansing, the two souls showed signs of merging. A refreshing feeling welled up within him. Su Yu reopened the page for the Demonic Eyes technique.

In the past, he could only see seven of the words clearly. Now, he could see eight! This was the effect of the preliminary merging of the two souls. His power as a Prodigy of Souls had increased.

Su Yu calmed himself and started cultivating the Demonic Eyes technique. He had been stuck at Stage Two Top Class of the technique for a period of time, always unable to progress.

Now, he had taken the opportunity to try again. Time passed quickly. Su Yu had spent the entire night cultivating the technique.

Soon, it was dawn. The sunlight was warm, and the birds sang. Su Yu slowly opened his eyes, which flashed with a look of surprise. With the increased powers of his Prodigy of Souls, he had cultivated the Demonic Eyes to Stage Three Lower Class.

At this point, his eyes could manifest a diabolic sword, capable of splitting the very souls of his enemies. The technique could kill without a physical form was very dangerous indeed.

As long as the enemy's cultivation level was not more than two levels above Su Yu, he could kill them with a mere strike. He was a terrifying and powerful killer indeed.

"Consort, please try on your bridal attire," a servant shouted from outside the door.

Su Yu let out a small smile. Was it really his engagement ceremony?

When he was in his purple robe, Su Yu was handsome as a deity. In his current celebrative red robe, he felt booming and successful.

Under the guidance of the servant, Su Yu met up with Xianer in the yard. Xianer's petite body was dressed in red, bearing a resemblance to a fiery hot chili. Her babydoll like eyes was excitedly taking in the dress she was wearing.

"Haha, Brother Su Yu!" Xianer ran over to Su Yu, visibly elated. "Is Xianer beautiful?"

Su Yu became dazed for a moment. Her little face was exquisite, her eyes pure and innocent. She was petite and adorable. Was this really his fiancé? Am I, Su Yu, worthy of this?

Squatting down, Su Yu began intimately rubbing her forehead, lovingly saying, "Xianer will forever be the prettiest."

Xianer lifted her chin, proud as a peacock. "Hehe, to be able to take me as your wife is your blessing."

Su Yu did not know whether to laugh or to cry, "Yes, my princess."

"Hehe." Xianer joyfully hugged Su Yu, and in high spirits said, "Let's go. Let's go get engaged." Her eyes were filled with excitement.

Su Yu had no choice but to laugh. Xianer was like a child, perhaps not knowing what engagement means to a lady. Instead, she treating it like a fun game.

Shaking his head, he made his way to the hall with Xianer. The hall was decorated in red, and the sound of fireworks was never ending. It had a very joyous atmosphere.

In the hall, many of the empire's most influential people were in audience, with smiles on their faces. The guests looked over as the pair walked in.

The man was suave, handsome as a portrait of a deity. He had a noble air and incredible grace. The lady was cute and petite, as if a fabled genie. She was innocent and pure, much to the liking of others.

"Haha, they are a couple made by heaven!"

"The Duke of Xianyu's choice of a son-in-law is impeccable indeed. I really have to hand it to him."

Amongst the joy and laughter in the hall, Su Yu and Xianer completed their engagement ceremony.

"Father-in-law, please enjoy this tea." Su Yu and Xianer presented the tea on their knees.

Seeing his most beloved daughter get married to such an incredible Su Yu, the duke felt an unexplainable jubilation. A tear fell from the corner of his eye. His voice shuddered, "Great! Great! My daughter has finally found a husband!"

The Duke of Xianyu accepted the tea and finished it in one gulp.

The audience was smiling, silently giving their blessings.

The Duke of Xianyu teared in happiness. This was one of the rare moments in his life where he was extremely elated.

As a parent, who wouldn't want the best for their child? The Duke of Xianyu was no exception.

Wiping away his tears, the Duke of Xianyu stood, bringing Su Yu and Xianer to their feet. Grabbing onto Su Yu's hand, the Duke of Xianyu choked as he laughed, "Su Yu, help me take good care of Xianer."

Su Yu's heart was touched. He would never forget the favors the duke had done for him. Su Yu bowed in respect. He lovingly held Xianer's hands, speaking from his heart, "If the entire world is the enemy of Xianer, then my enemy will be the entire world."

These words struck a chord in everyone's hearts.

Xia Jingyu had a blissful smile. She gazed at Xianer with envy in her heart.

Jiang Xueqing felt as though she had been hit by a hammer, but forced a bitter smile. In the past, they had been a couple. Su Yu had also promised that his feelings would never change even if the world was ending.

Xianer angrily flailed her tiny fists, "The entire world is your enemy. I don't have any enemies. Hmph!"

The Duke of Xianyu let out a laugh, "Great! Great! Great! I have not judged you wrongly.

"In my life, there are three things I am most proud of," the Duke of Xianyu was laughing heartily, "First, It was marrying Xianer's mother. Then, it was giving birth to Xianer. And now, it is gaining you, Su Yu, as a son-in-law!"

Su Yu was humbled. The Duke of Xianyu held him in such high regard? The duke's kindness was even heavier now.

The audience happily gave their blessings.

"I now officially announce, that from this point on, Su Yu, you are the fiancé of Xianer!" the Duke of Xianyu announced to the audience.

The guests got to their feet, clasping their hands in congratulations. An air of joy lingered in the surroundings.

However, there were three people that did not stand up. They instead remained seated, their expressions grave. They were seated at the very front, and were the center of attention. Their status was very high, causing the joyful audience to gradually quiet down.

The joyous atmosphere quickly became cold. In a blink of an eye, the entire hall was silent and a strange atmosphere enveloped the surroundings.

A feeling of uneasiness crept up to the present nobles. They, who frequently dabbled in politics, could smell something amiss.

Su Yu's heart began beating wildly. He had felt uneasy ever since he saw the green robed guard. Today, the weird situation presented by the three royal princes had confirmed his suspicions.

The smile on the Duke of Xianyu's face gradually subsided. He sternly spoke, "Three royal princes, what is the meaning of this?"

The three royal princes slowly stood up. The first royal prince was unfeeling. He withdrew an edict from his sleeve, holding it in both hands. He spoke with a deep voice, "Duke of Xianyu, receive the edict!"

The guests' expressions changed. They all knelt to hear the edict.

What is happening? The three princes had brought an edict from the king. What was the purpose of this?

The Duke of Xianyu, Xianer and Su Yu all knelt to receive the edict.

"As per the Holy King, the Duke of Xianyu deceived the Holy King and is betraying the empire by colluding with the Fenghuang Empire. His crime is unpardonable. He shall be escorted to the capital and shall await further news. Receive the edict!"

The Duke of Xianyu was appalled. He became furious, "I am betraying the empire? I want to see the Holy King. I want to ask him personally."

The First and Second Princes were unfeeling, "Hmph! This is an edict given directly by the Holy King. Follow us to the capital and you'll definitely get a fair trial."

The Third Prince's face was calm, quietly watching the events unfold.

The Duke of Xianyu laughed in anger, "The moment I get thrown into jail, my innocence entirely depends on your decisions. Where is the fair trial in that?"

In truth, the Duke of Xianyu was doubting the legitimacy of the edict. The Holy King had a grave illness. There were rumours that he had already been locked away by the First and Second Princes.

Even though he had wished to save the king, he had no concrete evidence to do so. The two princes are trying to get rid of him by passing on a fake edict.

This was similar to the case of the Duke of Jiuchuan. His entire family was executed under the name of treason. Everybody above the age of 10 was executed.

The Duke of Xianyu did not care if he died. But Xianer was only 14. How could he drag her down with him?

The First Prince sternly shouted, "Insolent, Duke of Xianyu! You did not receive the edict and are planning a rebellion. Guards, surround the Duke of Xianyu. Kill anyone who dares to stop you."

The heartless command echoed across the hall. Outside the duke's manor came a flurry of heavy footsteps.

A large group of green robed guards, camouflaged as ordinary citizens, dropped their disguises. They quickly surrounded the manor, searching for the family members of the duke.

The Black Armor guards from the manor engaged in battle with the enemy.

The group of green robed guard was exceptionally strong. They fought off the Black Armor guards with ease and made their way into the hall.

The leader of the group was Bai Qixiong, a powerful Level Six. Five days ago, he was ordered to gather the green robed guards from outside the city and camouflage them as ordinary citizens. They were to infiltrate the Xianyu prefecture and when the opportunity arose, capture everyone from the Duke of Xianyu's manor.

Currently, 10 Level Five green robed guards stood behind Bai Qixiong, sealing the exit of the hall.

"Do not move, or it will be seen as a rebellion against the empire, and you will be executed." Bai Qixiong's aura as a Level Six blanketed the surroundings.

The frantic guests immediately stopped moving.

"Capture them!" the Second Prince ordered, "The Duke of Xianyu, the princess and the son-in-law."

As he glanced past Su Yu, a cold smile broke out from his lips, his eyes were visibly elated.

The edict had suddenly changed everything.

It was supposed to be a joyful engagement ceremony, but now it had become a scene of bloodlust.

Xia Jingyu sensed something was wrong. She wanted to step forward, but was stopped by Xia Linxuan.

"Yu-er! Calm down!" Xia Linxuan's expression was grave. "Let us observe for a little while longer. We cannot directly defy the edict, for everything in these lands belong to the ruler. We cannot be rash."

Xia Jingyu was anxious, but she could only bear with it and observe further. Xia Linxuan was strong, but not strong enough to be enemies with the empire. The two princes held the edict in their hands. Xia Linxuan's rebuttal would mean defying the edict.

Qin Feng, who was always downcast, let out an expression of immense joy. He could not stop laughing. "Haha! Su Yu, you thought that you learned how to fly. You thought that you had become a phoenix. But to think that you would be brought down by the Duke of Xianyu and would die even faster."

Outside, the howls of the dying reverberated. They all came from the Black Armor guards, Level Five of the Martial Paths cultivated by the duke himself. Without their resistance, the party that barged into the hall would merely be 10 people.

Thankfully, the duke had cultivated a batch of experts. Otherwise, the situation would have been even more dire.

The duke felt that a crisis was awaiting him from the royal family, but he did not think that the day would come so quickly. He had yet to see his daughter get married. He had yet to see his grandchild be born. He knew that the moment he submitted, he would never see the light of day ever again. He would share the fate of the Duke of Jiuchuan.

His expression showed grief and fury. The Duke of Xianyu developed the intent to kill. He would never submit! "You two royal princes. You issued a fake edict! I will not spare the both of you!"

The Duke of Xianyu struck, going for the first royal prince.

A cold smile surfaced on the lips of the first royal prince. He retreated.

Chapter 40: An Ungodly Deadly Intent

Bai Qixiong, the guard at the first royal prince's side, taunted, "I heard that the Duke of Xianyu was the strongest duke in the empire, with great abilities. I looked up to you for a long time. Today, I shall see for myself how powerful you truly are! Song of the Breeze Sword!"

With a swipe to his waist, he drew a graceful, flexible sword. An quiet aura enveloped the sword; it was immensely cold.

With a flick of his wrist, the sword moved like the breeze. It's path formed an impenetrable wall. The sound of the sword slicing the air was like the songs of the deceased. It was dazzling.

The Duke of Xianyu's expression turned grave, "Song of the Breeze Sword? And your surname is Bai? Could you be the one who placed 11th at the Holy Meet 15 years ago? The genius of swordplay, Bai Qixiong?"

15 years ago, a genius of swordplay, at a mere 16 years of age had reached a cultivation level of Level Six Lower Tier. He had advanced quickly at the Holy Meet, defeating his enemies until he reached the rank of 11, shocking the empire.

After that, he disappeared without a trace. To think that he had pledged allegiance to the First Prince and became his personal bodyguard. His cultivation level had broken through to the peak of Level Six of the Martial Paths, even higher than the Duke of Xianyu.

Bai Qixiong thrust forward with his sword, letting out a slight laugh, "A genius of swordplay? Haha, compared to those placed in the top 10, I'm just trash!"

Just how terrifying was the Holy Meet? A Level Six Lower Tier of the Martial Paths was placed outside of the top 10!

The entire Xianyu prefecture had only a few people who had achieved Level Six Lower Tier of the Martial Paths.

Clash —

The two came into contact, and the Duke of Xianyu was immediately at a disadvantage. The past Holy Talent had terrifying abilities indeed.

Bai Qixiong taunted, "The strongest of the dukes has but average abilities!"

Whoosh —

He lifted his sword, once again engaging in combat with the Duke of Xianyu. Both of them were Level Six of the Martial Path, with considerable vital energy. Their every stroke and stance harbored a terrifying power.

A guest who could not dodge in time was injured by a ripple of power, immediately spitting blood and falling into a coma.

Su Yu observed that the situation was dire, then immediately held Xianer in his arms, bringing her to safety.

Xianer was dazed, not recovering from the shock of the sudden disaster. She hit Su Yu's chest, "Brother Su Yu, someone is bullying my father. Let us go and help him."

"It's no use. They are two powerful individuals locked in combat. We are too insignificant to help." Su Yu's fingernails dug into his palm.

Once again he was feeling insignificant. He could not do anything to stop Jiang Xueqing from being taken away from the Duke of Qin. He could not do anything to help the duke who had shown him kindness during his perils against the empire.

A deep feeling of guilt welled up within him. It was to the point where he did not realize that his palm had been lacerated, fresh blood oozing out of the wound.

The air shimmered. The second royal prince brought along three green robed guards of Level Five Lower Tier of the Martial Path, blocking Su Yu's path.

"Hmph! Rebellious vermin, surrender now!" The second royal prince's tone was cold. Deep in his eyes flashed signs of a smirk.

He gave a lustful look towards Xianer.

Qin Xianer had the title of the most beautiful lady in the royal family. He had wanted her for the longest time. He had asked the Duke of Xianyu for her hand in marriage multiple times, but had always been rejected.

Today, the Duke of Xianyu was in peril. After he captured Qin Xianer alive, he would toy with her. As long as the Duke of Xianyu was captured, Qin Xianer, in an attempt to save her father, would do anything. She would strip, crawl on his bed and follow everything he said, much to his enjoyment.

"Go! Kill anybody who resists!" The second royal prince licked his lips, while keeping a stern face and issuing the order.

The three green robed guards were his pride and joy. They knew his every intention and thus would only deal killing blows to Su Yu, leaving Qin Xianer relatively unharmed. Qin Xianer had to be tossed onto their master's bed tonight.

"Father..." Xianer's face was covered with tears. She was angry but helpless as she looked towards her father, who slipped into a bitter battle with Bai Qixiong.

That adorable, happy-go-lucky face of hers was no more. Now, there were only tears. Su Yu felt heartbroken. He wanted to slap himself. How could he let his fiancé, his woman, cry?

The three green robed guards mercilessly advanced. "Surrender, you vermin!"

"Coiling Dragon Finger!"

"Water Splitting Palm!"

The two Level Five green robed guards at the side made the first moves.

Su Yu's gaze was cold, his killing intent apparent. Why must they come to destroy a perfectly good duke's manor?

The duke should have been enjoying his later years. The princess should have been bubbly and adorable. The manor should have been peaceful and harmonious. This was supposed to be Su Yu's warm and loving home.

Why, to fulfil their selfish desires, to contest for power and influence, must they be so lawless?

A thick deadly intent burned in Su Yu's chest. The attack of the two guards was approaching.

"Die!" Su Yu howled. A furious howl.

"Purple Star Thunderbolt!" Su Yu unleashed his limitless killing intent, attacking with all his might.

The purple shadow of his fists were like legendary thunder dragons, flipping the seas. It came into contact with the Coiling Dragon Finger.

The arm of the first guard was split open by the purple thunder. He vomited fresh blood, flying back six meters and going through the thick wall. His heart exploded on impact and died. With a fist, Su Yu had killed a Level Five of the Martial Paths.

The guests gasped.

The second royal prince's gaze turned even colder, "Advance together! No matter how strong someone is, they can't deal with so many people at once."

After giving the order, he went somewhere further away to hide, observing the fight with a cold smile as he straightened his robe, as if watching wild animals battle each other.

His occasionally gave lustful gazes to the petite Xianer, and said with a perverted laugh, "Xianer, you shall be mine tonight!"

"Water Splitting Palm!!" From Su Yu's side came a green robed guard, taking advantage of the fact that Su Yu had not retracted his fist and could not counter. He struck at Su Yu's back.

Su Yu could not block it in time, and as if struck by a heavy ship, spewed blood on the spot. The blood splattered onto the face of the young princess in his arms. The warm liquid caused Xianer to subconsciously raised her head, witnessing the bloodied Su Yu.

"No... Brother Su Yu..." Qin Xianer let out a shriek of fear.

Her father was being surrounded and her fiancé had been severely wounded.

The princess, who had been innocent and pure all her life, felt utterly helpless for the first time.

Su Yu hugged Xianer even tighter, heavily slamming into a stone pillar. His organs had been damaged. He swallowed a mouthful of blood, forcefully squeezing out a hint of a smile, "Be good, Xianer. I will not die. Your father will not die either..." Su Yu coughed.

Xianer's cries made Su Yu sad and furious. His eyes were like those of a wild animal, a deadly intent seeping out.

"I want all of you dead!" Su Yu howled in fury, as if he was a wild animal who had been cornered, and yet he was unwilling to accept his fate.

A strong wind blew on his black hair, causing his red robe to sway. His jet black eyes showed an unbelievable killing intent.

"Diabolic Sword! Die!" Su Yu's eyes rapidly turned pitch black. A sword of black light materialized before shooting out as a beam.

The green robed guard using the Water Splitting Palm let out a pathetic howl before dying of severe internal injuries.

At the verge of dying, the guard looked as though he was in deep pain, his body contorted.

Xia Linxuan gasped.

"Stage Three of the Demonic Eyes! Diabolic Sword! How could that be? Could... Could he also be a terrifying Prodigy of Souls?" A shiver spread across Xia Linxuan's body.

A Prodigy of Souls was the most special of the martial artists. They possess mysteriously attacks the target's soul, and can kill without a physical form, which is very terrifying indeed.

They were virtually undefeatable!

To think that Su Yu had hidden the fact that he was a Prodigy of Souls, with terrifying potential, so well...

From afar, the second royal prince, who thought he was safe, had a change of expression. He hurriedly tried to find a place to hide.

A shred of panic gripped his heart. He shrieked, "Quick! Quickly kill him! He is a Prodigy of Souls!"

A Prodigy of Souls could kill without a physical form. Distance did not matter to them. The last of the green robed guards was charging towards Su Yu. But, after witnessing the situation, he quickly halted, wishing to escape.

"Diabolic Sword! Die!"

The green robed guard died of internal injuries, pathetic as a worm. The Diabolic Sword was unfathomably dangerous. It kills without form, and was an evil move.

Under normal circumstances, Su Yu would never use it against his enemies. But the two royal princes had forced him to an ultimatum, sparking his insatiable killing intent.

The last of the guards had died.

The second royal prince grew cold feet, manically escaping towards the direction of the first royal prince. A ladylike shriek escaped his mouth, "Save me brother! Quick, save me!"

At this moment, his mind no longer contained the charms of Qin Xianer, but was instead filled with hysteria and the instincts of survival. Even though the first royal prince was locked in combat, he was also observing the situation from the side of the second royal prince.

"Stop! Killing a member of a royal family is a crime unpardonable by the heavens." the first royal prince sternly warned.

Su Yu had lost all sense of reason.

Outside the hall, a cold wind blew, causing his red robe to billow. His robes danced wildly in the wind. His flowing black hair made him look like a god of death. His starlike eyes burned with fury. The words of the first royal prince fell on deaf ears.

"Diabolic Sword! Die!" This was his killing intent speaking.

A small black sword shot out from his eyes, piercing through time and space, and with unstoppable force, pierced into the body of the second royal prince!

The second royal prince let out a pathetic howl, his body contorting. He foamed at the mouth and died.

No matter how much influence he held when he was alive, no matter how much power he held as a member of the royal family, after his death, he still returned to the dirt.

"Brother!" The eyes of the first royal prince opened wide.

The second royal prince was his twin brother. They had grown up together and he had always helped him secure the throne in the court. Who would have thought that he would be killed by Su Yu?

"You killed a member of the royal family, an unpardonable crime! Go! Exterminate him where he stands!" The first royal prince's eyes were red, fury igniting in his heart.

He had thought that the Xianyu prefecture would definitely fall under him. He did not expect that Su Yu would have the guts to kill a member of the royal family.

"Haha... Yu-er, that was a good kill! I have indeed not judged you wrongly!" The Duke of Xianyu let out a long laugh, his heart relieved.

Should they have willingly surrendered, they would have definitely been killed. They would rather resist, killing them as they came.

Su Yu's rebellious battle, killing the second royal prince, pulling down a pillar of support, had immensely relieved the duke.

"Kill them!" The first royal prince was furious, charging in first.

The terrifying aura of a peak of Level Five of the Martial Path spread throughout the hall. The first royal prince had been hiding his abilities. If not for the fact that he was completely enraged, no one would have known that he was actually a powerful man of the peak of Level Five of the Martial Paths.

Seven green robed guards, full of bloodlust, charged forward without any fear of death.

Amongst them, six were Level Five Lower Tier, and one was Level Five Upper Tier of the Martial Path! Under their combined attack, even a Level Six of the Martial Path would have to fear, much less Su Yu?

Su Yu, in the face of this, did not fear, but instead manically laughed. "An upright man should never fear death." Holding the trembling Xianer in his arms, Su Yu displayed an incredible will.

"Diabolic Sword!"

Ah ——

He killed with every gaze. He slayed an enemy with every step. Su Yu had completely lost all sense of reason.