

Nine-Dragon 971

Chapter 971: Seeing Her Again

Swish!

All of a sudden, a powerful stream of air separated the heavy layers of mist. It rapidly moved through the air, its speed so fast that remnants of shadows were left behind. It was impossible to make out their forms.

Tang Ling seemed to have met his worst enemy. He began operating all of his Vital Energy, conjuring up revolving Tai Chi patterns between his palms.

The Yin-Yang Fish Eye revolved rapidly, producing a high-speed revolving force which scattered the clouds and mist nearby. Anything the Tai Chi patterns touched were under threat. The weaker objects would be broken into pieces, while the sturdy ones would be catapulted off immediately.

Su Yu was stunned. Tang Ling still has a trump card to play?

Based on Su Yu's estimation, such defensive power should be able to hold off the impact of Bing Wuxin's first sword strike. The assault of a martial artist that had just embarked on the early stage of ninth-grade Almighty probably couldn't resist such a defense.

Pop!

A soft noise was heard, closely followed by an agonized whimper and a muffled noise.

The Tai Chi pattern was torn into two halves with ease by the remnant shadow. It was as if the pattern were a thin piece of paper. The remnant shadow penetrated Tang Ling's body from the front of his chest right through to his back, and a long string of blood spluttered out from the wound.

Under the tremendous impact, Tang Ling's body was blown several hundred meters backward. He landed a hundred meters in front of Su Yu.

Su Yu could feel the ground quivering as his body thudded down. He was surprised by Tang Ling's powerful body strength.

Su Yu was even more shocked when the flying remnant shadow slowed down and revealed its true self. It wasn't some kind of special weapon, but a stretch of wilted branch!!

The wilted branch wasn't showing any signs of a reduction in its charging impact; in fact, it was heading straight for Su Yu. It seemed to be attempting to kill two birds with one stone.

Su Yu had just a moment to react and he immediately ducked down. The wilted branch flew past, nearly brushing Su Yu's chest.

Praa!

With a soft sound, the wilted branch roused a strong air current, which scraped past the skin of Su Yu's face giving him a searing pain. It brutally tore the fabric of his clothing to shreds, leaving a bloody scar on his chest.

Su Yu's face fell as he stared at the black silhouette gradually taking shape amidst the blurry mist. He retreated quickly. This person was dangerous, and he couldn't fight him with force.

When Su Yu moved, the injured Tang Ling finally noticed Su Yu from a hundred meters away.

Making a great effort to ignore his pain, Tang Ling scrambled up immediately. As he looked at the retreating Su Yu, his eyes shone with a sense of hope.

“Junior Brother Su, save me! You and I can join hands and fight the enemy!” Tang Ling yelled, but he was running in the opposite direction to Su Yu.

Su Yu’s face darkened. Da*n it!

Tang Ling was trying to send the trouble elsewhere, luring the enemy into Su Yu’s direction so he could seize the chance to escape!

Swish!

Right at that moment, the shrill sound of the air being pierced resonated across the sky.

The remnant shadow was everywhere, traveling at an astounding speed. It was moving inevitably toward the two figures on the ground that were subject to the laws of gravity.

Luckily for Su Yu, the wilted branch headed for Tang Ling first.

Tang Ling turned back to look, and his face changed drastically. He screamed in a hoarse, terrorized voice, “Stop it!”

As he spoke, he changed direction, sprinting towards Su Yu.

Pow!

The wilted branch flew past him brushing against his shoulder. The immense impact bombarded the whole length of his arm into pieces, leaving it a mangled mess of blood and flesh.

However, Tang Ling suppressed the excruciating pain and ran in Su Yu’s direction, heading for him in a straight line.

Once the enemy unleashed the wilted branch again, Tang Ling would dodge it, and Su Yu wouldn’t necessarily be able to respond as quickly as he could.

If Tang Ling was lucky, Su Yu would be killed by the wilted branch, and the enemy would stop and collect Su Yu’s Purple Cloud Vital Energy. Tang Ling would take the opportunity to run away. He was trying to redirect the calamity to Su Yu for the second time in just a short while.

Su Yu’s eyes turned icy cold. “Tang Ling! I have never offended you in any way. Do you really think I am a good victim to be bullied?”

Tang Ling had nothing more to hide now. Sneering cunningly, he said, “Junior Brother Su, I’m sorry for you. I’ll advise you to come again in another century!”

At the same time, Tang Ling flipped his hand and tossed out a misty, glimmering talisman which he hurled towards Su Yu.

“Body Freezing Talisman! Explode!” With a soft yell, the talisman exploded, and a vast mass of green radiance shot out from within, shrouding Su Yu. Su Yu suddenly felt the pressure in his surroundings multiply. The effect was like that of submerging a mortal deep underwater, slowing them down significantly and rendering them nearly immobile.

Just then, the mysterious figure in the mist happened to toss out the third wilted branch.

The straight branch was like an arrow fired from a bow, charging with a force that could kill both of them at the same time.

“Farewell, Junior Brother Su,” Tang Ling scoffed, as he adhered a piece of yellow-colored talisman on himself. His speed picked up by three times. Despite the shocking speed of the branch, Tang Ling would now be able to avoid it.

Faced with imminent danger, Su Yu’s eyes turned very cold. “Senior brother, in my opinion, you’ll be the one who comes again a hundred years.”

Why would Su Yu show Tang Ling any mercy when he was being so callous?

“Time Seal!” Su Yu yelled in a low voice. Violet light brimmed in his left eye as a purple dragon hovered around Tang Ling and entangled him.

In an instant, Tang Ling’s body stopped moving. It was as if he had lost control of his body. His mind was the only thing that remained active, as panic, terror, and rage filled it. Unfortunately for Tang Ling, the wilted branch gave him no chance to react.

Pow!

Like a watermelon being smashed, Tang Ling’s head was blown off there and then. Space vibration appeared in his surroundings and transported him away, leaving behind the Purple Cloud Vital Energy above where his head had been.

The wilted branch did not slow down but headed for Su Yu, who was still frozen to the spot, instead.

Su Yu’s right eye was radiating a red brilliance. “Space Vortex!”

A mass of vortex materialized, taking in the charging wilted branch and transporting it to some unknown space.

Su Yu marched out of the area of green light with great difficulty, and his body recovered its mobility. Fortunately, the effect of the talisman had a time limit, otherwise, he would have been killed by Tang Ling.

After liberating himself from the talisman, Su Yu didn’t even bother to take another look at the Purple Cloud Vital Energy before disappearing into the haze.

Just as he left, two figures broke through the mist. They were a man and a woman.

The man was handsome and gallant, with a high nose bridge and a slender body. He gave off an imposing, regal aura. He had an air of powerful confidence about him, like a monarch standing before the commoners and giving others a sense of inferiority. His cultivation had even reached the Peak of ninth-grade Almighty! The man was even a step ahead of the ninth-grade Almighty, seeming vaguely as though he had stepped into the All Creations level. The immensity of being between the Almighty and the All Creations was awe-inspiring and intimidating. Regardless of appearance or cultivation, he was a rarity in the world.

Beside him was a woman clad in an emerald green dress. Her manner was naturally elegant and otherworldly, emitting a boundless air of gentle beauty. She followed closely behind the handsome man, her gorgeous eyes gazing at him, intimate, complicated and bewildered all at the same time.

“Brother Taixu, it seems as though a person has been eliminated,” the woman in green said gently. With a light wave of her slender, fair hand, she grasped the Purple Cloud Vital Energy and handed it to the handsome man.

Her thoughtful, loving act could make countless men fall head over heels.

The woman was the best female Heaven Ruler of the Blessed and Heavenly Lands, Lü Chuyi. With her peerless cultivation that no other female martial artist could match, her exceptional beauty, and her gentle personality, she met every standard of the dream lover for the martial artists of the continent.

If they knew whom Lü Chuyi had fallen for, they wouldn’t be merely jealous of him, but wildly envious. The handsome man was none other than the King of Heaven Rulers of the Blessed and Heavenly Lands, Gu Taixu!

He hadn’t been defeated even once since he gained fame and had attained triumphant progress in his path of training, achieving the Peak of Almighty before the age of 25. In fact, he had accomplished such a level before he reached the age of 20.

Everyone knew that all he needed was an opportunity to pass through the All Creations threshold.

Rumor even had it that Gu Taixu had encountered a great many chances to break through the All Creations but had been delayed due to his efforts in breaking through using the Nine Fairy Elixir.

Gu Taixu was a man of absolute strength and even his peers who admired Lü Chuyi did not dare to show their jealousy of him. There was no one else besides Gu Taixu in all of the Blessed and Heavenly Lands who could so perfect for Lü Chuyi.

Gu Taixu accepted the Purple Cloud Vital Energy without any facial expression, his eyes fixed in the direction in which Su Yu had escaped. With a small frown, he said, “One has escaped, and he seems to be an expert in some kind of special tactics.”

From afar, they had no way to find out that Su Yu had applied the magical powers of time and space.

Lü Chuyi said, “Only one has escaped. I believe that he’ll be eliminated even without Brother Taixu getting involved. The direction in which he has run seems to be where the female martial artist whom Meili has been chasing after went.”

Gu Taixu nodded nonchalantly. “Yes, let’s go. We’ll follow the instructions of the person in charge and try to eliminate the students of the Red Blood Palace.”

The two of them disappeared into the hazy mist like a celestial couple.

In the outside world, the people in charge of the factions surrounded the Purple Cloud Secret Realm.

Students of various factions were transported out from time to time, causing many sighs.

Swish!

Right at that moment, Tang Ling was transported out by a wave of space power, whimpering in pain. His skull had been repaired and was seemingly unscathed, but the remnants of misery and pain stuck with him.

Mo Tianxuan made him stand still and questioned him with dissatisfaction. "Why did you come out so fast?"

Tang Ling was ranked among the top thirty in the Red Blood Palace. With his eighth-grade Almighty cultivation, he should be guaranteed a position among the top hundred if he wasn't too unlucky or overly reckless.

Furthermore, he had succeeded in eliminating an eighth-grade Almighty female student of the Purple Cloud Palace not long ago. Mo Tianxuan hadn't even had the chance to celebrate before Tang Ling got eliminated.

Tang Ling gritted his teeth. He was eliminated by Gu Taixu. Reasonably, he should be blamed for his failure. However, it was a fair competition. Wouldn't he be criticizing himself for his own weakness and uselessness if he put the blame on the opponent's excellence?

"It's Su Yuxian!!" Tang Ling proclaimed, frustrated and ashamed. He certainly wouldn't put the blame on himself.

Mo Tianxuan scowled. "Him? What happened?"

Tang Ling said through gritted teeth. "He allied with foreign enemies and tricked me with bizarre techniques, thus I got eliminated."

"Is this true?" Mo Tianxuan asked coldly.

If it were somebody else, Mo Tianxuan wouldn't really believe it. There was no need to collude with outsiders against fellow faction mates, was there? But with Su Yuxian, everything was possible.

In her opinion, Su Yuxian was a very strange person whose origins were unknown, and whose past was a blank.

She couldn't help but cast a thoughtful glance at the True Man of the Purple Cloud. Could Su Yuxian be a spy from the Purple Cloud Palace? The True Man only smiled without saying a word. He didn't try to argue.

An elite of the Red Blood Palace being eliminated by his own faction mate. The Purple Cloud Palace would merrily relish the incident like it was a joke. True Man had no intention of explaining anything. His attitude only increased Mo Tianxuan's doubt.

"Humph! This Su Yuxian, he'll get it once he comes out!" Mo Tianxuan was fuming with rage.

Inside the secret realm, Su Yu continued heading for the central region.

Counting the time, almost half a day had passed. If he didn't seize a whiff of the Purple Cloud Vital Energy, circumstances would turn even more dire and rigorous.

Clang!

All of a sudden, the sound of metal colliding reverberated in his ears.

There was another fight!

Su Yu's eyes shone as he immediately headed over to the battle. When he was a thousand meters away, he secretly observed the motion ahead using the Transparent Eye.

The look on his face changed slightly as he watched.

A thousand meters ahead, two masses of illusionary shadows were scuffling. The speed and body techniques didn't seem to be restrained by the gravity in the least bit.

"How could that be?" Su Yu was shocked.

The speed was at least comparable to a ninth-grade fairy in the outside world.

Nonetheless, in the Purple Cloud Secret Realm where everyone was suppressed, there should be a high level of restraint, making the scene in front of his eyes impossible!.

Chapter 972: Fooled and Deceived

Not even a ninth-grade Almighty would necessarily be able to defend itself against such swift and rapid martial art practitioners.

Bang! Bang!

They both exchanged intense blows, and the fight temporarily stopped. The ceasefire allowed their figures to become clear. One of them was Gongsun Wuxie, who was clad in a black-and-white dress and was holding the Heavens Made Divine Crossbow. The other was a petite, intrepid teenage girl clad in a skin-tight shirt made of leopard skin. Both of them were petite and dainty. The only difference was that Gongsun Wuxie was quick-witted and mischievous, whereas the young girl was as agile as a demonic beast.

Due to Gongsun Wuxie's nimble body technique, she was stepping on a pair of Wind Fire Wheels, which revolved at an extremely fast speed. She was under the suppression of the secret realm and hence only possessed the speed of a ninth-grade fairy. In the outside world, her speed would definitely surpass the ninth-grade Almighty.

Upon careful scrutiny, the pair of Wind Fire Wheels could be identified as a treasure of a very high grade, which far exceeded a top-grade spiritual artifact. Presumably, it was of the level of semi-manufactured fairy artifact. There couldn't possibly be more than a few individuals in the whole wide world who owned a handful of semi-manufactured fairy artifacts like that.

Moreover, based on that little girl's character, she might have more semi-manufactured fairy artifacts in possession, which she prepared to utilize in times of crisis. On the contrary, the girl clad in leopard skin solely depended upon her speed.

Su Yu was greatly surprised. The semi-manufactured fairy artifacts might be able to perform outbursts of speed due to relatively weaker influence from the suppression. But how did a teenage girl's mortal body manage it?

"Little savage, how dare you keep chasing after me? Humph, today I'll finish you off right here," Gongsun Wuxie said with a smile. Her eyes shone, and the Wind Fire

Wheels underneath her feet carried her along, forming a broken line aiming straight for the girl in leopard skin.

Dread and annoyance appeared on the girl's dark face. "Shameless! Fight me fair and square if you really are capable. Why use your treasure?"

Initially, she thought that she was only chasing after an ordinary ninth-grade fairy. Who would have thought that she kept displaying various kinds of talismans, which gave rise to endless trouble? In the end, she had even used two semi-manufactured fairy artifacts consecutively. This had greatly distressed the girl. Up until now, her bodily strength had been decreasing intensely, but her opponent, who relied upon semi-manufactured fairy artifacts wasn't experiencing any drainage. If this continued, she would be ruined by the Heavens Made Divine Crossbow.

"Fair and square? Isn't one-on-one fair enough?" Gongsun Wuxie flashed a vicious smile and used the Heavens Made Divine Crossbow with a raise of her hand. A fire-based talisman shot out, transforming into enormous flames that could destroy a ninth-grade Almighty.

The girl bit her lip and gritted her teeth and then gave up on hunting down Gongsun Wuxie. She turned and ran away. Her nose was throbbing lightly as if she was trying to identify a certain direction by the scents.

"Follow me if you dare!" The girl turned her head and challenged Gongsun Wuxie.

Gongsun Wuxie chuckled. "Trying to lure me to someplace? Dream on, I'll finish you off right here!"

Splash!

Gongsun Wuxie took out a mass of white-colored objects from her sleeve. It looked like several white bones, each of which was as wide as a little finger. She shoved them into the ground. Shortly after, numerous colossal bones that were thirty-feet thick pierced the ground all around the girl.

The upper parts of the colossal bones were bent, forming a closure at the top. A cage made of white bones with a thousand-feet circumference was formed.

The girl snorted coldly, as she slammed her fist onto the white bone. With a sharp intake of breath, the girl watched as her fist sprang backward, marked with bloody scars. In frustration, she asked, "A semi-manufactured crafted with the white bones of an All Creations Stage Four Old Monster?" It was another semi-manufactured fairy artifact!!

"Hehe, accept your fate, little savage." Once again, Gongsun Wuxie raised the Heavens Made Divine Crossbow with a smile and aimed it at the girl inside the cage. Once the flames engulfed the cage, the girl would have no way to escape.

The girl's face changed. She ducked her body suddenly, and her hands were like the claws of a pangolin as she rapidly dug through the soil on the ground, forming a big pit. She dived into it and continued digging.

Gongsun Wuxie remarked, "Humph! If I let you escape just like that, is this still a semi-manufactured fairy artifact?" She grasped her fingers together and the white bone cage rose up from

the ground. The girl who had drilled her way into the soil was extricated along with it. The bottom part of the cage was closed as well, and the girl was carried up into the air by the cage. She was suspended in midair and had no way of hiding anymore.

The girl was panicked and frightened as her attempts to escape proved to be hopeless. She kept spinning inside the cage.

Su Yu was speechless as he witnessed the scene. This wasn't hunting and killing: this was a one-sided cruel slaughter.

"Little savage, do you prefer to hand over your Purple Cloud Vital Energy obediently, or have me see you off on your way to death?" Gongsun Wuxie flashed an evil smile.

The girl clung onto the white bone cage, now looking fearless and untameable. Despite the aggrieved tears in her eyes, she had no desire to give in. "I will never beg you! Just kill me if you want. At worst, I'll come back in a hundred years."

The simple words had revealed her ignorance. Who knew what the future held a hundred years from now? By then, perhaps the Glittering Jewel Wonderland wouldn't even exist anymore.

Gongsun Wuxie lifted the Heavens Made Divine Crossbow and put it down slowly, as her lips split into a devilish smile.

Seeing that smile, Su Yu couldn't help but feel sorry for the girl. Her life was over.

"Little savage, if you can promise me one thing, I will let you go." Gongsun Wuxie flashed a sweet lovely smile, which was completely different from her previous smile.

The girl thought for a moment, and said, "Don't even think of luring me into agreeing to unfair conditions!"

"No no no! There's always fairness in the things I do," Gongsun Wuxie said with a smile, "You want to enter the Glittering Jewel Wonderland, and so do I, is that correct?"

The girl nodded. "Yes."

"You want the Purple Cloud Vital Energy, and I want it too, is that correct?"

The girl thought for a while and agreed. "Yes!"

"We have the same goals, am I right?"

The girl wrapped her arms around her chest and started thinking. "Yes, we both want to enter the Glittering Jewel Wonderland, and we both want the Purple Cloud Vital Energy."

"In that case, we have the same interests, am I right?"

The girl was a little stunned. She felt as if something wasn't right, but she couldn't tell what, so she nodded in a silly manner. "Yes, I think you're right."

"If so, people with the same interest should join forces, in order to achieve their goals more easily, am I right?"

Join forces? The girl had a stronger feeling that something was wrong, but she had been led into a blind alley by Gongsun Wuxie. She nodded and said, "Sounds right too."

"We should join forces, but now you're being held captive by me, am I right?"
Gongsun Wuxie went on.

Despite her reluctance to admit it, the girl couldn't dispute it due to her current predicament. "Yes."

"Now if I go easy on you, turning you from a captive into my battle companion, then you owe me a debt of kindness, am I right?"

A debt of kindness? The girl felt that something was very wrong, but she couldn't find a way to argue with it, so again she answered in a silly way. "Correct."

"Yes, if you owe me a debt of kindness, then you should repay me for it, right?"
Gongsun Wuxie took out a white jade pendant which contained a light whiff of the Mortal Fairy's Strength.

"How about this? I haven't figured out how you should repay my kindness. I hope you agree to do me a favor in the future. Before I figure it out, you inject a drop of essence blood into the jade pendant, as a promise to me," she said.

The girl looked warily at the jade pendant. She knew that it was a kind of treasure that could be used to control the essence blood's owner through the essence blood injected. It could only be removed on its own, once the intention contained in the essence blood was fulfilled.

After a period of contemplation, the girl nodded and contributed a drop of her essence blood mixed with a bit of her consciousness. It was a request from Gongsun Wuxie, and a request which was within her limits.

Swish!

The essence blood vanished into the white jade pendant, and white gleam flickered.

A cunning smile flashed in the depths of Gongsun Wuxie's eyes. She stored away the jade pendant with a smile and released the girl from the cage. She stepped forward casually and put her arm around the girl's shoulder. In a forthright and generous way, she said, "From now on, we'll be friends with the same interests. Let us go fight for some Purple Cloud Vital Energy together."

The girl nodded vigorously, her face determined and serious. "Right, fight for the Purple Cloud Vital Energy together."

Su Yu was stupefied as he saw the two of them go off together. He had seen with his own eyes how Gongsun Wuxie fooled and deceived her opponent, who was the one with greater strength. She requested something that was out of bounds and even cheated her opponent to make her obtain the Purple Cloud Vital Energy for her. Su Yu was full of pity and sympathy for the girl, but it was Gongsun Wuxie, so Su Yu wouldn't put his hands on her. He could only search for the next target.

Just as Su Yu was about to leave, he squatted down suddenly and looked again at the area where Gongsun Wuxie and the girl had fought.

A dark human figure flew out from the fuzzy haze. He landed where the great battle had happened, and glanced at the surroundings discreetly. Finally, he looked in the direction in which Gongsun Wuxie had left and mumbled to himself under his breath. "Humph, Gongsun Wuxie? Senior Sister Tianyu said that this woman belongs to the Demon Mountain. It's best if she is eliminated. "If so, even if that Su happens to enter the Glittering Jewel Wonderland by luck, he'll have no way of seeking assistance," he said. Once he had finished talking, he pursued them with the agility of a cheetah.

He hadn't discovered Su Yu, who was a thousand meters away, yet Su Yu recognized him clearly. His eyes shone. "Senior Brother Liu?" This person had threatened Su Yu previously and had tried to prevent Su Yu from participating in the Glittering Jewel Wonderland. He was still thinking of eliminating Su Yu and now even Gongsun Wuxie had become his target.

He had viciously projected his hostility onto Su Yu many times. Even men made out of mud had their own temper, let alone Su Yu. If it was in the faction, Su Yu could have let it go because it wasn't convenient to fight him brazenly. But right here, right now, what was there to worry about? Su Yu's eyes turned cold, as he followed surreptitiously.

Gongsun Wuxie and the girl made up a strong team, as both of them were great with speed. Even in the central region, they hardly met any rivals.

Su Yu could barely keep pace with them, yet they had successfully despoiled the Purple Cloud Vital Energy of four people in half an hour's time. Every fight was a piece of cake for them, and their enemies could hardly even escape.

"With two whiffs of the Purple Cloud Vital Energy, there's a great chance of entering the top hundred. Good enough," the girl said with satisfaction.

Gongsun Wuxie pouted. "No way! There's still half a day left, and we need to get as much as we can. If we come across powerful, invulnerable opponents, we can abandon a part of the Purple Cloud Vital Energy to divert their attention. We can then use the opportunity to escape. One more whiff of the Purple Cloud Vital Energy means one more life-saving amulet," she said.

The girl found her words reasonable. "You're really clever."

Gongsun Wuxie giggled. What she had in mind was obvious.

The four people whom they had killed belonged to some of the eight great factions under the jurisdiction of the Purple Cloud Palace. But the girl was too innocent to understand Gongsun Wuxie's motive of weakening the Purple Cloud Palace's power.

"Haha, Junior Sister Gongsun, how about I lend you girls a helping hand?" A soft voice sounded from the fuzzy haze a hundred meters away.

Gongsun Wuxie squinted her eyes. "Senior Brother Liu?"

Chapter 973: Ruolan Swamp

The newcomer was Senior Brother Liu. He came forward and stood a hundred feet away to ensure that he had enough distance to respond, now that he was faced with two people with extremely swift body techniques.

“We are all from the Red Blood Palace; we should join hands to face our common enemy. Of course, I’m willing to assist you.” Senior Brother Liu grinned. “I think we will be safer by collaborating.”

Gongsun Wuxie had always been plotting against others. Would she believe him so easily?

“It seems like we don’t need your help.” Gongsun Wuxie pointed at the two whiffs of Purple Cloud Vital Energy on top of her head and cast a cautious glance at the whiffs of Purple Cloud Vital Energy above Senior Brother Liu’s head. Three whiffs meant that he had killed three people. Senior Brother Liu certainly wasn’t kind.

Now that Gongsun Wuxie had achieved her goal, what was the point of collaborating with a stranger and taking the possible risk?

“More than half of the time has passed. I believe those who get to stay are all capable individuals like us,” Senior Brother Liu said as he looked at them. “The two of you have impressive body techniques, but it doesn’t mean that you’ll be able to safeguard your wellbeing in the next half of the day.”

His words were reasonable. Nearly all the weak ones had already been eliminated. Those who were still preparing in the secret realm were only the tip-top strong individuals. It wouldn’t be as easy and effortless as before if they ever crossed paths with them.

Gongsun Wuxie was thoughtful, her small face serious. She thought for a moment before replying. “Alright, Senior Brother Liu can come with us. Hopefully, we’ll meet up with more senior brothers and sisters as we move forward.”

Senior Brother Liu smiled.

“I don’t like him,” the young girl said, pouting as she stared at Senior Brother Liu with animosity. She only recognized Gongsun Wuxie as her battle companion who shared the same interests as her.

Gongsun Wuxie laughed and said, “Don’t be like that! He’s also a friend of ours with the same interests.”

“Is he?” The girl stared at Senior Brother Liu like a vigilant little beast.

Senior Brother Liu narrowed his eyes and flashed an amiable smile, but was greeted with a cold, ruthless snort from the girl. The three of them had come to terms for the time being.

“What do you have in mind now, junior sister?” Senior Brother Liu stepped forward.

Gongsun Wuxie answered nonchalantly, “Haven’t you heard? We’re going to travel further into the central region and fight for more Purple Cloud Vital Energy.”

Liu said, “What I mean is, perhaps I could provide some useful information.”

“Oh? What does that mean?” Gongsun Wuxie rolled her eyes.

Liu smiled mysteriously. "It means just the way it sounds. Before running into you, I was in the central region, and I discovered a gang of three in a swamp area."

Gongsun Wuxie's eyes shone. "What faction do they belong to? How strong were they?"

"They don't belong to any faction. They are some wandering martial artists who have gathered here. The strongest one has the capacity of an eighth-grade fairy, and the weakest one is a seventh-grade fairy. The three have obtained the Purple Cloud Vital Energy and are now hiding in the swamp," Liu said.

Gongsun Wuxie was excited. "Why didn't you get rid of them when you discovered them? Why have you come all the way to find helpers?" she asked.

Liu replied, "Of course it was because I couldn't do it alone! The swamp is a little peculiar. It is constantly changing. Once you step into it, you'll be easily trapped without agile body techniques. I saw with my own eyes how a fifth-grade Almighty entered the swamp to hunt down those three, and how he was engulfed then and there and got eliminated. The two of you have impressive body techniques. I think that it'll be a breeze for you to get through the swamp, so I've come here to tell you about it."

Swamp area? Gongsun Wuxie looked at the girl.

She nodded gravely. "Yes, there really is a swamp area in the central region. It is called the Ruolan Swamp. One who has practiced unique cultivation techniques could adapt to the dangerous marsh in the swamp. It is indeed a suitable hiding spot. I estimate there must be more than three people hiding there now," she said.

If many people were hiding there, it meant that many predators were there too.

After some contemplation, Gongsun Wuxie was full of anticipation. "Alright, let's head for the Ruolan Swamp." The three of them set off right away.

Not long after they left, Su Yu arrived from a thousand meters away. He stared in the direction in which they were headed, and murmured to himself, "Ruolan Swamp. What scheme does Senior Brother Liu have up his sleeve?"

Solely speaking of capabilities, Senior Brother Liu would be no match to Gongsun Wuxie and that young girl combined. If he tried to attack by force, he would more likely get killed in return. Therefore, he must have devised some kind of entrapment at the Ruolan Swamp.

Su Yu wouldn't be able to expose Liu even if he showed himself now. It was better to follow him and act according to the circumstances.

Half an hour later, the fuzzy haze ahead became denser, and the vapor in the air was more concentrated. It wasn't sturdy soil under his feet anymore, but a narrow muddy path. They seemed to be gradually approaching somewhere with opulent sources of water.

"We've reached the Ruolan Swamp. Based on the marks that I have left along the way, we are less than 300 meters away from the three of them. Please be prepared, Junior Sisters," Senior Brother Liu said, lowering his voice and sounding alert.

Gongsun Wuxie gazed at the surroundings, the tips of her feet tapping lightly non-stop, like a dragonfly on water. Hers and the young girl's feet remained clean and bright. They were totally free of filth in the soft, marshy mud and were not soiled at all. Their high-speed movement meant that their journey had been smooth sailing all the way.

In contrast, Senior Brother Liu found half of his body sunk in the mud already, making it very tough for him to move forward. If he forced himself to continue, he could very possibly meet the swirls hidden deep in the mud, which could engulf him completely. It was extremely perilous.

"Junior Sisters, this is as far as I can go. It depends on you now," Senior Brother Liu said helplessly, coming to a halt.

Gongsun Wuxie took a look at his condition and nodded. "Alright, take care." She led the girl into the blurry haze, and they sprinted off. After covering two hundred meters, neither of them could feel each other's presence anymore. Gongsun Wuxie held the girl back and rapidly changed their direction. They took a detour and walked back, instead of going three hundred meters on.

"What's going on? Why don't we kill those three fellows?" The girl was nonplussed.

Gongsun Wuxie looked contemptuous. "He really thought he could fool people with such trifling tricks? Senior Brother Liu isn't reliable at all, I think what awaits us three hundred meters ahead isn't three weak men at all, but a trap. Now, we go back and see what he's doing. That will make everything clear." Gongsun Wuxie's eyes shone with cunning wisdom.

They rushed back to where they had left Senior Brother Liu, but he was nowhere to be seen. The spot where Liu had been stuck in the mud showed no signs of forceful struggle, but there was a hole which seemed like someone had escaped from it with ease and a line of footprints that stretched for three hundred meters ahead. Obviously, Senior Brother Liu had freed himself from the marsh as soon as they had left and had been secretly following them since.

Judging from the depth of the footprints on the mud, Senior Brother Liu seemed to have used some kind of method to resist gravity, enabling him to easily walk on the mud.

"Humph, something is really going on. Let us follow him and give him a surprise!" Gongsun Wuxie laughed coldly. Along with the young girl, she was about to stalk their stalker instead.

Meanwhile, Liu was crouched three hundred meters away, amidst a mass of reeds which were floating on the marsh. He was scanning the fuzzy haze ahead as he frowned. "Strange! Could they have been finished off so easily that they didn't even make a sound?" His eyes were full of dread as he stared at the thick, dense haze ahead. He had concealed his scent in a very subtle way. He waited for some time, making sure that no sound or motion was being made.

"It seems that they will be unlikely to return," he thought to himself. "Gongsun Wuxie is known as the Evil in the East in the outside sanctum, quick-witted and lithe. Now that she's been finished off so easily, she doesn't seem all that great to me."

Liu stood up slowly, stepping on a green leaf as tall of a human and slowly gliding backward in the swamp. He had relied upon this method to steady himself on the mud and avoid sinking downwards.

After retreating thirty to forty meters, Liu seemed to have sensed something. He turned to look abruptly. "Who is there? Come out!"

Chapter 974: Bloodred Light of Arrow

His soft shout reverberated in the blurry haze. The clouds and mist dissipated, and two petite figures appeared before him.

"How did you..." Senior Brother Liu was stunned. How had the two of them been able to sneak up behind him?

Gongsun Wuxie wrapped her arms around her chest and cast a look at the treasure beneath his feet. Half-smiling, she said, "Senior Brother Liu, so you can actually walk! I've been worried about you."

The young girl, whose name was Meili, wore a cold expression. "Humph! Right from the start, I could tell you weren't a good guy. Sister Wuxin is right about you intending to harm us. There must be some kind of danger ahead, right?"

Senior Brother Liu was shocked, and his expression kept changing. He flashed a pretentious apologetic smile. "You have misunderstood, junior sisters. I felt uneasy about letting you girls travel on your own, so I was going to take the risk and come and check on you."

Gongsun Wuxie brandished the Heavens Made Divine Crossbow in her hand, and asked with a smile, "Oh, you were coming to check on us? Senior brother, you must have been disappointed then?"

Meili touched her teeth, her right leg gliding in just above the mud. She looked furious and was clearly prepared for a fight. Now that they had made it clear, any attempt to resolve the conflict using flowery speech would be futile.

Senior Brother Liu's heart sank. Things had gone beyond his expectations. He could be said to have made the wrong move. Gongsun Wuxie was way more cunning than he had thought. Not only had his scheme failed, but he had also landed himself in a vulnerable position.

"Junior sister, you had better learn to give and take. None of us will benefit if we fight here. To be frank, ahead of us is a faction that isn't on good terms with the Red Blood Palace, and they have a few extremely powerful students to hold the fort. If we startle them, we'll all be in trouble," Liu said in a low voice.

Gongsun Wuxie positioned the Heavens Made Divine Crossbow and sneered at him. "You'll be the one in trouble, not us." She believed that with her and Meili's speed, no one in the entire secret realm could catch up with them. No matter how strong their opponents were, without body techniques and speed, who could do anything to them? On the other hand, even if Senior Brother Liu wasn't eliminated by them, he still couldn't escape his fate if he met the other group of people.

Liu's face darkened. "Gongsun Wuxie! You'd better think carefully about whom you will be offending if you eliminate me!" His heart was thumping wildly and he was extremely nervous. He had made it this close to the Glittering Jewel Wonderland. If he got eliminated here, wouldn't he miss out on a massive, extremely important opportunity? No matter what he had to do, he could not

be eliminated. He was a little remorseful. Why had he ever thought of getting rid of Gongsun Wuxie along the way? He had been careless!

“Haha, it doesn’t matter if I forgive you. Your arrogant Senior Sister Tianyu won’t necessarily accept my kindness. Instead, she’ll find it reasonable, thinking that I’m afraid of her. If that’s the case, do I have a reason to let you go?”

Swish!

Gongsun Wuxie launched a blow with the Heavens Made Divine Crossbow, showing no mercy. The immensely strong fire-based talisman erupted with boundless intense flames which moved forward quickly.

In the face of a strong blow that could destroy a peak ninth-grade Almighty, how would the seventh-grade Almighty Senior Brother Liu dare to retaliate by force?

“Ahh! Gongsun Wuxie, you’ll regret this!” Liu activated the green leaf beneath his feet, spun on the spot and took off rapidly sideways.

Bang!

The waves caused by the strong flames sent soil and dirt flying in all directions, causing Senior Brother Liu, along with his leaf treasure, to be overturned. Seeing that he was about to be consumed and destroyed by the flames, Liu bellowed. The leaf treasure radiated mellow shine and encased him like a dumpling.

When the flames surged onto it, the green leaf withered gradually and was slowly burnt away, but Liu had escaped his tragic fate by hiding in it.

“I’ll see how many treasures you have!” Gongsun Wuxie launched another attack.

Liu was shocked and furious at the same time. He hadn’t recovered from the last blow and was about to face another terrifying attack. He gritted his teeth and hurled out three green leaves continuously. Two of them grew with the wind, turning into gigantic, thousand-feet leaves. They merged with each other, forming an enormous wall that blocked Liu from the explosive flames.

The last green leaf enveloped Liu. Like a stone mill, it began rolling rapidly above the swamp at a very fast speed, moving no slower than Gongsun Wuxie and Meili. It only took a couple of breaths for him to escape to a hundred meters away. Once he was out of the girls’ visual fields, he concealed his scent. He thought that he had successfully escaped.

“Meili, I’ll leave it to you.” Gongsun Wuxie snorted coldly and activated the Heavens Made Divine Crossbow again. She destroyed the two green leaves that had formed the wall.

Meili gritted her canine teeth, and exclaimed ruthlessly, “How dare he plot against me! I’ll punch him to death!” With a howl, she broke through the wall of fire and sprinted straight after Senior Brother Liu. Gongsun Wuxie followed closely behind her. One after another, the girls chased after Liu with intense ferocity.

Liu’s face changed dramatically as he activated the green leaf with greater urgency. He ran quickly while shrouded in it, shock and frenzy clear on his face. He had no more leaves to stop the two

girls. Once this leaf was consumed, he would have no more means of escape. Not long ago, he was a hunter. Now, he was the prey.

“Where are you going?” Gongsun Wuxie laughed coldly as she followed a hundred feet behind Meili, targeting Liu’s scent. However, right at that moment, Gongsun Wuxie seemed to have sensed something. The jade pendant on her chest pulsed rapidly as if warning her about something. “Be careful Meili, there’s danger!” Gongsun Wuxie said. Quickly, she fished out the several bones the size of a thumb and tossed them all around her. Immediately, a white bony frame grew from the depths of the ground, enclosing her within. If she could sense it, how could Meili not, given that she was as sensitive as a wild beast?

“Who’s there?” Meili exposed her arms, neck, and legs. All of a sudden, numerous fascinating talisman symbols surged all over her body, from the inside out. Her skin turned from dark to the color of wheat, which was rich with luster. From afar, she looked a wheat-colored human made out of metal.

Soft air-breaking sounds made the air quiver. However, the screeching of cicadas sounded from all directions, making it unable to for one to identify the exact direction.

Swish!

All of a sudden, a blood-red ray of arrow light seemed to have materialized out of thin air. It landed fifty feet in front of Gongsun Wuxie. It was so close that, despite Gongsun Wuxie’s swift body techniques, there was no way she could turn her body around. Luckily, she had prepared early on to use the white bone cage to keep herself locked within. With a soft clank of the white bones, the blood-red light of the arrow was blocked on the outside. Much to her shock, the arrow light was nailed into the extremely sturdy bone. She fixed her gaze on it and found that a blood-red feathered arrow had been propelled straight into the white bone. If she had been shot, Gongsun Wuxie’s body would surely have been penetrated by the strong force and been thoroughly ruptured.

Meanwhile, Meili was also taking a blow from the arrow.

Ding!

The sound of metal clanking reverberated. With a dull thud, Meili’s dainty body was crushed upon by the red light, flying backward and crashing into the white bone cage. Her body did not manage to block the arrow, and her shoulder blades were pierced from the front right through the back. With all her might, she managed to ensure the arrow avoided her vital organs at the critical moment.

Gongsun Wuxie immediately opened up the cage and pulled the injured Meili inside. Her eyes were radiating cold hatred as she stared into the depths of the blurry haze. An immense sense of danger overwhelmed her.

Senior Brother Liu had left stealthily, long before the blood-red arrow light appeared. After advancing for three hundred meters, he turned to look back with his heart still palpitating rapidly. He wiped away his cold sweat. “Luckily I wasn’t discovered!” As he recalled his own unlucky circumstances, he could not help but laugh slyly. “But then, those two little s*uts have finally been gotten rid of, right? Humph, wanna eliminate me? Dream on!”

He stored the leaf away and was about to get up to leave the region as soon as possible. However, right at that moment, a bright and clear voice rang out suddenly. "I see that the way you were rolling on the floor was very skilled. Why get up now? Won't it be great if you keep rolling on?"

Out of the blue, Su Yu stepped out from the blurry haze a hundred feet ahead from him. He was staring at Senior Brother Liu with a cold gleam in his eyes.

Chapter 975: The Purple Cloud Crown

Senior Brother Liu was startled at first. When he saw that it was Su Yu, he was even more stunned "It's you?"

Once he had regained his composure, Senior Brother Liu scanned his surroundings. When he was sure that Su Yu was alone, he was overwhelmed with surprise and delight. "You're on your own?" It seemed unbelievable that Su Yu would appear here alone. He was frustrated that he had not been able to locate Su Yu and complete the task that Senior Sister Tianyu assigned to him.

Su Yu had his hands wrapped around his chest as he asked detachedly, "Oh? Does Senior Brother Liu wish to see me on my own, or with others?"

Senior Brother Liu removed the green leaf that was on him, and the leaf withered and turned yellow instantly, losing its vigor.

As he straightened his body, Liu did nothing to hide his hostility at all. Letting out a peal of cold laughter, he said, "I can't tell if you really are stupid or just pretending. Senior Sister Tianyu has clearly warned you, yet you still dare to show up in front of me. That on its own would be fine, but you're even daring enough to speak rudely to me! If I don't get you eliminated today, it'll be unacceptable!"

Su Yu was rather bored and uninterested. "Is that so? Aren't you afraid of being questioned by Palace Master Mo once I get transported out?"

Senior Brother Liu snickered. "You can complain all you like! Based on my observations, there are most probably fewer than a hundred strong ones who will remain in the Purple Cloud Secret Realm this time."

"The Red Blood Palace can count itself lucky for each of its students who gets shortlisted. Do you think Palace Master Mo will make things difficult for the supporting pillar of the faction that's about to pursue greater opportunities at the Glittering Jewel Wonderland, for an eliminated student?" Liu asked.

There were quite a number of capable individuals who consecutively eliminated their acquaintances. Therefore, it was possible that more than a hundred participants would be eliminated in total. Perhaps, among the 60 individuals from the Red Blood Palace, the number of students who could be ranked among the top hundred would be fewer than expected. Under such conditions, each and every qualified quota was valuable, so why would Mo Tianxuan speak up for an eliminated student?

Su Yu rubbed his chin, and said with an enlightened expression, "I see, Senior Brother Liu. Thank you so much for resolving my worries."

Liu was contemptuous. “What a weirdo you are, talking nonsense at the brink of death! I’ll eliminate you right now!”

Liu stepped onto the swamp and leaped into the air like an enormous bird. His right palm was roiling with turbulent Vital Energy, and the intrepid Vital Energy of the seventh-grade Almighty condensed into a long spear, which penetrated Su Yu from top to bottom.

Su Yu remained unruffled. With a flick of his sleeves, a black, shriveled claw was revealed. It was covered in eerie, horrifying ghostly energy and gave off a spine-chilling vibe. Puffs of remnant All Creations Mighty Force was faintly visible.

All of a sudden Liu, whose murderous desire was written all over his face, sensed a gust of the All Creations Mighty Force, and his face fell dramatically. The long spear which was descending was withdrawn, and he bellowed, “Stop it! What is that?” He felt a great sense of danger from the ghostly claw.

Slowly, Su Yu raised the hand which was clutching the ghostly claw, and said, “Why, this is something that will eliminate you, Senior Brother.” He finished speaking and brutally hurled the ghostly claw in Liu’s direction.

“How dare you!” Liu was in shock and was enraged. In his eyes, Su Yu had always been a student of the outside sanctum, perhaps slightly proficient in Mu words which gave him slight leverage. But in terms of cultivation and capacity, he was mediocre and ordinary. Like an ant, Liu could simply step on him and end his life. Who knew that this fellow actually had a ghostly claw of unknown origins in his possession and that the thing had terrifying power.

Liu’s threat landed unheard in Su Yu’s ears, and the ghostly claw slammed down from the air. With a blood-curdling scream, the ghostly claw surged with turbulent ghostly energy, forming a gaseous mass of ghostly mist that was thirty feet wide. A twenty-foot wide virtual shadow of the ghostly claw snuck emerged from the mist and ferociously grasped towards Liu through the air.

Liu was vexed as he screamed, “Go to hell!” He immediately threw the long spear.

Whizz!

An ear-piercing explosion made the earth tremble as the two objects collided with each other. The long spear was shattered by the ghostly claw, while the virtual shadow of the ghostly claw was perforated by the long spear, forming an aperture with the diameter of a human arm.

Cracks and seams appeared all around the aperture and stretched out in all directions of the ghostly claw until the ghostly claw was crushed into smithereens.

When the virtual shadow of the ghostly claw found its way to Senior Brother Liu’s side, all that was left was a mass of remnant ghostly energy, which Liu easily destroyed by slapping both his palms on it.

The clash of the two objects proved that they were equally powerful.

Liu’s face darkened as he stared at the ghostly claw on Su Yu’s palm, wisps of smoke shimmering in his eyes.

Su Yu only felt a little regretful. After all, there were merely a few faint wisps of the All Creations Mighty Force inside the ghostly claw. During the killing of Shao's Family Master, a lot of its energy had been used up. After the huge decline in power, it would be difficult for it to destroy a seventh-grade Almighty like Senior Brother Liu now.

At this point, the All Creations Mighty Force contained in the ghostly claw was almost entirely consumed. Except for its sturdy material, most of its powers could hardly be put into great use right now.

"I'm curious to know how many treasures like that you actually own." Liu was annoyed and enraged. He was forming fascinating curves in front of his chest with both his hands, and a mass of mellow radiant glow appeared above his head.

The Divine Imprint!

He wished to manifest his own power of Divine Imprint.

Under normal circumstances, the Divine Imprint was the strongest power that powerful Almighty individuals could possess. Once manifested, it entailed their strongest possible strike.

When he first crossed paths with the Almighty strong individuals, Su Yu feared the Divine Imprint the most. However, after pulling through numerous battles, Su Yu was far more composed now than he was before. As he gazed at the Divine Imprint that his opponent was about to perform, he said, "Fine, I shall try the refined power of the treasure talisman."

A piece of old, battered light-yellow talisman fluttered onto his palm gracefully, giving off glimmering brilliance. A pattern of the Sun was imprinted in the center of the talisman, emitting a cold, sharp aura.

Right at that moment, Senior Brother Liu manifested the Divine Imprint. It was a huge, pitch-black imprint, with a black colossal bird carved on it. It had a long, sharp beak full of hideous teeth that stretched backward. It was extremely horrifying.

After the Divine Imprint appeared, the sculpted ferocious bird moved its eyeballs, and then flew out from the Divine Imprint with a shrill shriek. All of a sudden, clouds and mist were roiling, and spiritual energy was vibrating.

Su Yu was affected by sound since he was only a few steps away. Instantly, he began to fret with anxiety and vexation, and he couldn't calm himself. A wave of ferocity that he couldn't suppress began growing wildly in the depths of his heart like a weed, making Su Yu gradually lose his rationality.

"Soul attack?" Su Yu queried. This unknown ferocious bird was in fact, adept at a soul attack which greatly affected one's rationality. If one had no means of defending themselves, they would be quickly manipulated by the ferocious bird and lose their mind.

In a duel between experts, even a minor error could become the determining factor of victory and defeat. Losing one's rationality would have a huge impact.

As soon as Su Yu lost his rational ability, Senior Brother Liu's eyes shone with a cold gleam. Like a sly hare, he dashed forth with his fingers forming a claw, slamming towards Su Yu's cranial vault.

Killing Su Yu wasn't necessary. He only needed to make him sense a life-threatening crisis, and then he would get himself eliminated.

"You'd better surrender to your fate! Not even an eighth-grade Almighty is able to defend themselves against my Divine Imprint, let alone you!" Senior Brother Liu's voice was creepy and he had a triumphant smile on his face. "Farewell, Junior Brother!"

However, just as Liu was about to strike Su Yu, a clear brilliance shone in Su Yu's eyes. His timing was perfect as he hurled the treasure talisman out of his hand.

"It really is time for farewell, Senior Brother." The corners of Su Yu's lips twitched upwards into a smile as he softly muttered the word explode.

Boom!

All of a sudden, the treasure talisman erupted, and a colossal bright sun appeared out of nowhere. The emitted rays of sunshine pierced through the fuzzy haze, and in an instant, illuminated the entire summit to a point that it seemed like daytime.

Senior Brother Liu was enclosed in the sunshine, his eyes unable to open because of the glaring light. He couldn't even recognize Su Yu who was standing before him. A loud shocked scream escaped his mouth. "The treasure talisman of Heavens Extinguishing Divine Palm? Impossible!!"

It was the rare skill of the Central Prefecture's Guards, the second technique that hardly anyone could successfully master, the treasure talisman sealed with the Great Moon Palm. Why would it appear in the Blessed and Heavenly Lands? Before he could figure it out, Senior Brother Liu detected an immense imminent crisis, a crisis which made him think of death. Once such a crisis emerged, he would lose the qualification for the Glittering Jewel Wonderland.

"No!" With a loud scream, Senior Brother Liu operated all of the Vital Energy in his body, and condensed an armor on the surface of his body, in a futile attempt to hold off the attack. However, the armor condensed out of Vital Energy dissipated like a tender wind amidst the sunshine.

Senior Brother Liu bellowed with reluctance and shame and was enveloped by a space that befell upon him. Very quickly, he disappeared into the blurry mist, leaving behind three whiffs of the Purple Cloud Vital Energy.

When the rays of sunlight had dissipated and the surroundings were once again covered by the mist, the scene had shaken half of the secret realm. The fleeting moment of illumination exposed many of those who were hiding in the mist, revealing their trails and locations.

The source of the light experienced an even greater exposure.

Gu Taixu and Lü Chuyi were standing on top a summit and staring in that direction.

"Ruolan Swamp, the Heavens Extinguishing Divine Palm." Lü Chuyi's delicate brows were slightly creased. "Could the Blessed and Heavenly Lands have been infiltrated by someone from the Central Prefecture?"

Gu Taixu's eyes were filled with profoundness, as though he was pondering on something. He said, "Probably not, the Central Prefecture has their own quotas of recommendation, and there's no need to arrange spies in the Blessed and Heavenly Lands."

"But the Heavens Extinguishing Divine Palm is the unique skill of the Central Prefecture's Guards and has never been exposed to outsiders. Besides them, no one has ever mastered it," Lü Chuyi said.

Gu Taixun shook his head lightly. "Never exposed to outsiders indeed, but I know someone, and he is a master of the Heavens Extinguishing Divine Palm!"

"Who is that?" Lü Chuyi noticed something unusual in Gu Taixu's eyes, something she had never seen before. It seemed like agitation and excitement, but murderous desire and resentment at the same time, as if he had come across an enemy whom he hadn't seen in a long while.

As far as she could remember, Gu Taixun had never regarded any of his peers with importance. He had never been defeated either, so why would he have an enemy?

All of a sudden, a figure appeared Lü Chuyi's mind. If there truly was someone who could outshine Gu Taixu, there could only be one possibility.

At the Heavenly Mysterious Divine Pavilion, Gu Taixu had been defeated by someone before, and that person... Lü Chuyi could not help but shudder and grit her teeth, her gorgeous eyes filled with something that resembled either anticipation or dread.

"I'm not sure, but once we go and check it out, we'll know." Coldness formed on Gu Taixu's lips as he mumbled under his breath, "I've been waiting for you for so long."

A fair distance away, Tianyu and Bing Wuqing stood shoulder to shoulder, also staring in the direction of the source of light.

"Heavens Extinguishing Divine Palm? Humph, the Central Prefecture's people are really dauntless!" Tianyu remarked coldly.

Bing Wuqing flashed an elegant, tender smile. She was the only one who knew from whom that Heavens Extinguishing Divine Palm came.

Her beautiful eyes shone, and Bing Wuqing asked with a thoughtful look, "Do you want to take a look at this person's aura?"

Somewhere, Bai Shanliang was giggling as he counted the Purple Cloud Vital Energy above his head. All of a sudden, his gaze was attracted to the source of light, and his eyes grew solemn.

"Heavens Extinguishing Divine Palm? That's strange! The Central Prefecture has no reason to arrange spies here, let alone expose their identity so brazenly. Aren't they worried about the geniuses of the Blessed and Heavenly Lands?" Bai Shanliang said.

"Hehe, anyways, my Purple Cloud Vital Energy is sufficient now, I might as well go and take a look."

Outside the realm, the True Man of the Purple Cloud and Mo Tianxuan had also noticed the anomaly in the secret realm.

The True Man raised his eyelids for a moment and closed them again. He wasn't too surprised about it. "Oh? The treasure talisman of the Heavens Extinguishing Divine Palm? It's rather rare. I don't know which student has found it."

Mo Tianxuan said, "Must be from your Purple Cloud Palace, my Red Blood Palace doesn't have such filthy rich students."

Swish!

Right at that moment, Senior Brother Liu was transported out.

Mo Tianxuan's scowled. "You're the one thrown out here by the Heavens Extinguishing Divine Palm?"

Liu was unable to accept that he had been eliminated. The Glittering Jewel Wonderland was a golden opportunity that only happened once in a hundred years, and he had let it slip right through his fingers! He was stunned for a good while before he could recollect his thoughts. His face was full of rage. "Su Yuxian!! I will hate you till the end of time!!"

"Why is it Su Yuxian again?" Mo Tianxuan thought...

The True Man grew curious too. First, it had been Tang Ling, now Senior Brother Liu. This person had eliminated two absolute powerful individuals of the Red Blood Palace. If he was lucky the first time, had he been lucky this time as well?

"Haha, Palace Master Mo, it seems like this filthy rich student is from your faction," the True Man laughed as he said.

Mo Tianxuan was irritated. "Su Yuxian!" When he came out, she would definitely punish him. Most importantly, she wanted to know where the treasure talisman of the Heavens Extinguishing Divine Palm came from!

In the secret realm, Su Yu had gained three whiffs of the Purple Cloud Vital Energy by eliminating Liu. He now had four whiffs altogether, all of which belonged to him alone. Along with Su Yu's own, he had five whiffs of the Purple Cloud Vital Energy in his hands. The five whiffs coalesced and formed a very faint purple crown.

"I'd like to find out what use will the solid crown will serve once I gather enough Purple Cloud Vital Energy," Su Yu said. The format of seizing the Purple Cloud Vital Energy must be the method commonly used by the Purple Cloud Palace students.

According to the custom, the amount seized could determine one's results, and there would most probably be corresponding rewards and punishments.

He just wasn't certain whether there would also be rewards and punishments for the competition this time.

At the moment, he had no time to think it through. Su Yu immediately stepped into the swamp ahead, because he could see that Gongsun Wuxie and Meili had landed themselves in great trouble.

Gongsun Wuxie and Meili had the bone cage as defense, so they were unscathed for the time being. But the blood-red light of arrows seemed to be never-ending as they came one after another. The two of them were confined within the cage, unable to escape easily.

Furthermore, the blood-red rays kept crashing into the cage. Every arrow happened to pierce through the previous one, making the light arrows that had been nailed into the bone cage penetrate it.

Gongsun Wuxie's heart ached as she watched. With flailing hands and bared teeth, she exclaimed in rage, "Which jerk is that? Show up if you have guts!"

But their opponent was hiding amidst the blurry mist. For some unknown reasons, the enemy refused to show himself, only persisted in restraining both of them within the cage.

What could be predicted was that the opponent definitely possessed more powerful tactics than just restraining them, and he was preparing to use them. His purpose was to destroy both of them at once.

Just as expected, an intense vibration arose in the depths of the blurry haze, as if a mighty technique that had been prepared for a long period of time was about to be unleashed.

Gongsun Wuxie felt the ominous feeling gradually become more and more intense.

She lifted the Heavens Made Divine Crossbow and aimed it at the place where the vibration was originated and launched a piece of fire-based talisman.

Intense, brutal flames swept across the heavens and the earth. Any ninth-grade Almighty could have been killed in an instant. But, deep in the mist, a layer of blood-red light screen blocked the sea of flames on the outside with total ease.

Vaguely, Gongsun Wuxie seemed to have beheld an enormous figure with the height of a hundred feet and a robust build. Both its eyes brimmed with a remarkably brilliant yellow splendor. The splendor was the presence that had made Gongsun Wuxie feel endangered.

"What is that?" Gongsun Wuxie and Meili exclaimed in stupefaction at the same time. They had always thought that they were dealing with a competitor, but judging from the situation now, it did not seem to be the case!

Chapter 976: Enemies Met Up

Judging from the size of the figure, it certainly wasn't a human being!

Boom! Boom!

The booming noises broke out from the giant's eyes. The sound was like the dull rumbling of thunder and made the blurry haze ebb and flow.

Two yellow halos extended from those eyes, just like two venomous snakes that were sneaking out of their cave. The halos contained certain absolute power that was very similar to the All Creations Mighty Force.

Once they appeared, the entire space of the secret realm began quivering lightly, and the people within it felt a sense of insecurity as if they would be transported out of the secret realm at any moment.

The faces of Gu Taixu, Lü Chuyi, Bing Wuqing, Tianyu, and Bai Shanliang, who were heading toward the source of light they had seen earlier, changed dramatically.

“All Creations Force?” Lü Chuyi’s pretty eyes were filled with shock. “There’s a special restriction in the secret realm. Those with All Creations cultivation or those who launch an All Creations attack will be transported out. What’s happening right now?”

Such circumstances had never occurred during the previous expedition in the secret realm. The only possibility was that someone among the participants had brought along a treasure with a power that surpassed the All Creations.

The Purple Cloud Secret Realm restricted the allowed level of power to below the All Creations level, in order to protect the secret realm from the damage of All Creations and to ensure the safety of the participants. Even though the secret realm was capable of transporting endangered individuals out of it in time, the precondition was that the power of Space Transportation wasn’t influenced.

The All Creations Mighty Force was an energy that could affect Space Transportation. Under the attack of the All Creations Mighty Force, the secret realm would be rendered unable to transport the afflicted victims out. Even if the participants did not know about that, they should have understood the severity involved. The person who performed the All Creations Mighty Force had the intention of murdering others in mind.

Who was daring enough to kill blatantly, and who was the one being attacked? Without any significant hatred or feud, no one would actually commit such an act. After all, the people in charge of the factions were all outside, monitoring the situation. If any of them was provoked by the loss of students, the attacker wouldn’t necessarily be able to escape unharmed.

Gu Taixu flashed a small smile. “We’re finally going to meet someone interesting, and it’s in the same direction as the source of light.”

Bing Wuqing, Tianyu, Bai Shanliang and the rest picked up their speed and headed there.

The remaining strong ones in the secret realm sensed the gust of intense energy as well. After some contemplation, they all headed in this direction.

In the outside world, Mo Tianxuan and the True Man of the Purple Cloud raised their brows at the same time, and wisps of anger rippled in their eyes.

“All Creations Mighty Force, but suppressed to an extent that is permitted within the secret realm. Someone is plotting to make use of the opportunity to kill.” The True Man’s voice was resonating with coldness as he slightly narrowed his eyes.

Undoubtedly, his suspicion fell upon the Red Blood Palace. They were the only two factions that housed presentable All Creations experts in the Blessed and Heavenly Lands.

Mo Tianxuan's eyes turned cold instantly. "Humph, if I wish to get rid of your geniuses, would I do it sneakily like this?"

The True Man of the Purple Cloud thought carefully. Although Mo Tianxua preferred to go against the norm, she was daring enough to own up her deeds. Since she denied all knowledge, it most probably wasn't her.

With narrowed eyes, the True Man glanced at the people in charge of the 16 great factions and remarked coldly, "If anyone is killed as a result of this, no matter who they are, I will certainly ferret out the culprit, and sentence them to death, both their body and soul!"

All of the people-in-charge of the 16 great factions looked worried. They were also curious about which faction had actually brought the All Creations Mighty Force into the secret realm.

Inside the secret realm, the yellow halos that came out of the giant's eyes resembled two gigantic pythons and were heading straight for Gongsun Wuxie and Meili.

An immense sense of crisis afflicted both of them at the same time. Subconsciously, Gongsun Wuxie touched the necklace around her neck, which had a projection of her father sealed in it. If she broke it into pieces, the projection could be summoned forth. But, if she did that, it meant that Gongsun Wuxie had encountered undeniable danger. And based on her promise to father, all of her adventures had to come to an end. She would return to the Severed Fairy Cliff and lose the right to venture out again. Hence, Gongsun Wuxie would never use the projection unless there was truly no hope left.

"Meili, let's strike together!" Gongsun Wuxie yelled as she set up the Heavens Made Divine Crossbow, and fired it at the two dim yellow giant pythons.

Meili clenched her canine teeth and bit her pinkie, resulting in a drop of remarkably bright essence blood which she hurled it into the air. All of a sudden, the turbulent energy of bleakness erupted with magnificence from the essence blood. The virtual shadow of a cheetah stood in the Void, towering and imposingly majestic. The figure seemed like the king of all ferocious beasts, emitting an absolutely formidable aura.

With a loud growl, the cheetah quickly pounced forward like a shooting stream of light. Its paws were extremely sharp, forming numerous pitch-black thin lines as it clawed at the space of the secret realm as if trying to divide it into halves.

Apparently, this was also a power that was closing in on the limit which could be withstood by the secret realm!

Meili's small face quickly turned pale. It was clear that the drop of essence blood had cost her dearly.

Gongsun Wuxie's eyes shone as she shot out several talismans in a row. The talismans overlapped, giving rise to an explosive boost of power.

Their respective attacks had far exceeded the ninth-grade Almighty and were fast approaching the All Creations Mighty Force.

The tremendous commotion stunned the people who had just arrived.

“Meili’s Blood Soul Summoning technique! She has run into danger.” Watching the flight, Lü Chuyi’s face fell.

Gu Taixu, who had remained calm up until now, creased his brows. “Why is Li-er involved?”

They had never expected Meili to be the one being attacked by the extreme power. She was the third-ranking genius expert of the Purple Cloud Palace and carried the great hopes of the faction, yet someone had actually dared to lay hands on her!

“Go to hell!” Gu Taixu snorted coldly. A seam cracked open between his brows, and skyrocketing violet light covered a large half of the secret realm. The endless white mist was penetrated, and the intangible, oppressive gravitational pull was reduced by half. A seemingly large distance of a few dozen miles was like the blink of an eye to a peak Almighty like Gu Taixu. His power of bloodstream was strong enough to remove the restraint of the secret realm!

Emitting wisps of coldness and murderous desires, Gu Taixu strode out.

Meanwhile, the fight was continuing deep in the swamp. The joint attack by Gongsun Wuxie and Meili could be considered to have the extreme power of the Almighty: hardly any of the ninth-grade Almighty could withstand it.

Each of the attacks struck one of the yellow giant pythons respectively.

The cheetah that had been created by Meili’s blood drop charged forward with a ferocity that could engulf the mountains and the rivers. The virtual shadow of the cheetah got entangled with the yellow giant pythons, both freezing momentarily in the Void.

However, very quickly, yellow splendor erupted from the cheetah, which was shattered into pieces by the giant pythons.

All of Gongsun Wuxie’s talismans, combined with the sea of fire that exploded, was nothing to the giant yellow pythons. They shot through the sea of fire and headed straight for the bony cage.

Both girls were overwhelmed with shock.

“What kind of secret technique is that?” Meili queried in utter shock. Even Gu Taixu had to be cautious when facing her Blood Soul Summoning technique, but it was embarrassingly weak and tenuous in contrast to the yellow halos.

Gongsun Wuxie was equally stupefied. She had fired so many talismans at once, yet the power they had unleashed couldn’t even rival a single attack from the yellow halos.

What on earth was that gargantuan figure? Why was its attack so massively powerful? They couldn’t afford to spend more time thinking about it. Gongsun Wuxie and Meili both felt immensely threatened.

The space started to vibrate all around them. The secret realm had detected their crisis and was about to transport them out. However, just then, a disorder occurred. Not only were they not eliminated, but numerous fine, subtle space turmoils filled their surroundings.

“Da*n it!” Gongsun Wuxie retrieved a handful of silver-white talismans from the pocket at her waist. They emitted surges of space power.

“Space talismans?” Meili’s mouth was wide open with disbelief. Space talismans were the rarest kind among all talismans because only ten people were capable of crafting them. They were the Nine Great Prefecture’s Kings and the Severed Fairy Cliff Master. Only those ten individuals with paramount strength of the Mortal Fairy Level had the ability to craft space talismans.

Unless one was directly descended from them, it was hard to imagine that a person would purposely craft the space talismans for one’s own defense. Moreover, Gongsun Wuxie wasn’t just holding one piece of a talisman: she was holding a handful of them!

These talismans were used by Gongsun Wuxie to save her own life. Every piece was transported to a certain distance with high accuracy, avoiding great danger. However, right now, the space in the proximity was in turmoil, causing Space Transportation to be disabled.

“I can only fight hard now!” Gongsun Wuxie withdrew her talismans and raised a hand to toss out a piece of talisman carved with mountains. The mountains were vivid and realistic, and extremely picturesque.

“Eight Folds Cliff!” The talisman exploded, transfiguring into eight thousand-feet tall cliffs. The cliffs were steep and straight, shrouded in white clouds and filled with enigmatic hues.

At the top of the cliff, broken swords could be indistinctly seen. They were arranged in a densely packed pattern, which made it seem like a graveyard made of swords. It gave off a harsh, cruel ambiance.

“Severed Fairy Cliff!” Meili’s bright eyes opened wide in shock.

The cliff in front of her looked so much like the legendary Severed Fairy Cliff, an underground monarch that controlled the dark influences of the continent. Rumor had it that the Severed Fairy Cliff was artificially constructed from the celestial rocks, so it was sturdy beyond measure. It was said to be so impregnable that no weapons could ever crumble it.

The eight virtual shadows of Severed Fairy Cliff before them overlapped, forming eight protective shields. Each of them was equivalent to the full-force defense of a peak ninth-grade Almighty strong man.

Boom!

The two yellow halos penetrated the first cliff like a piece of paper. The same happened to the second cliff and those after it. The speed of the yellow halos only slowed down when it reached the seventh cliff, but it was only slowed by one-tenth. The eighth cliff was penetrated amidst an earth-shattering rumbling. The virtual shadows of the Eight Folds Cliff added up to the combined defense of eight peak ninth-grade Almighty. Nonetheless, it was easily torn down by the yellow halos.

Shortly after, the white bone cage suffered the same fate. With a creaking sound, three white bones were callously destroyed by the yellow halos, which then aimed straight for the two people inside the cage.

Gongsun Wuxie inhaled a deep sharp breath. The power of the yellow halos far exceeded her expectations! Worry filled her eyes. Now she couldn't perform any techniques to defend herself in time, so she could only squeeze the projection jade pendant around her neck into fragments and summoned her father's projection. But it would mean that she had given up on her freedom.

"Watch me!" At the critical moment, Meili bellowed and bit her finger again, and a drop of essence blood flowed out. The essence blood transformed into an enormous virtual shadow of Mystical Tortoise, which gave off an old, weathered ambiance.

"Follow me!" Meili grabbed Gongsun Wuxie, and they ducked into the virtual shadow of the Mystical Tortoise at the final moment.

Boom!

Just then, the two yellow halos fell towards them. The Mystical Tortoise's virtual shadow trembled intensely, but it managed to successfully hold off the yellow halos.

Gongsun Wuxie was relieved and delighted. "You're amazing..." she began, but then she felt a burden falling into her arms. Meili had closed her eyes and had fallen asleep in her arms because of extreme exhaustion. Meili collapsed right after performing her essence blood power twice.

Gongsun Wuxie wasn't in much better shape. Her Vital Energy and physical strength had been greatly depleted from continuously firing the Heavens Made Divine Crossbow. Even the brief fight had worn her out.

She was overwhelmed with despair when she realized that the Mystical Tortoise couldn't hold off the attack completely. The two yellow halos managed to penetrate the Mystical Tortoise after a short-lived stagnation. The virtual shadow of the Mystical Tortoise broke apart and scattered, revealing both of them. The yellow halos struck at the two of them like thunderbolts.

Gongsun Wuxie gritted her teeth, holding Meili with one hand and made her final struggle with the other. "Cosmos Imprint!" In the instant in which the Mystical Tortoise was able to hold off the attack, she got an opportunity to strike. A blue-white imprint was tossed forward. The imprint revolved in the air, and a shocking space-engulfing power erupted from it, drawing everything in the surroundings into it.

Inside the imprint was a man-made space. Once drawn in, it was like being stranded in an independent dimension which it was nearly impossible to get out of. Likewise, such space treasures with independent dimensions could only be crafted by the Mortal Fairy's Strength. The two yellow halos were sucked into the imprint with a whooping noise.

But before Gongsun Wuxie could enjoy her victory, the imprint began to suddenly quiver, and its surface shimmered with a flickering bright light. "How is that possible?" Gongsun Wuxie was utterly shocked. A foreboding premonition crept in, and she gripped Meili and retreated quickly. However, it was now too late to retreat.

The imprint began to expand drastically, growing from the size of a fist to a skull, its light rapidly flickering.

Bang!

A thunderous, ear-shattering sound shook the entire secret realm, resonating in all directions. The space treasure Cosmos Imprint was shattered, and the space fluctuation that erupted from it roused terrifying waves of turbulent airflow.

Gongsun Wuxie and Meili bore the brunt of the impact. They were swept from their feet and sent flying like specks of dust. Meili was forcefully shaken out of Gongsun Wuxie's arms and sent flying backward amidst the dust and debris that filled the air.

Gongsun Wuxie spat out an arrow of blood from her mouth, and her petite body ricocheted around like a stone.

Worse still, the two yellow halos were intact and undamaged. A halo shot toward each of them. The one targeting Gongsun Wuxie was extremely fast and brutal, and it arrived right in front when she was already injured. She had sustained a great blow and didn't even have time to squeeze the jade pendant around her neck before she was compelled to a blind end of her plight.

Her life flashed before her eyes and the dark silhouette of death shrouded her heart.

"It's going to end here just like that..." Gongsun Wuxie muttered under her breath as the yellow halos filled her visual field. She knew that this was going to be the final color she saw in this lifetime. Just as she was about to close her eyes and accept her imminent destiny, a beam of violet light suddenly covered the yellow halos.

Gongsun Wuxie felt as if time and space had been paused. When she managed to react, her waist was being gripped by a big hand which emitted scalding heat. Gongsun Wuxie lifted her head to look at her rescuer, and her pupils constricted intensely. She saw snowy white hair, a silver mask, and a pair of eyes so profound it was as if there was a whole other universe hidden in them.

The surprise of escaping death by a hair's breadth moved her heart, and her joy transformed into hot tears, which trickled down from the corners of her eyes.

"Brother Su Yu, you've come to save me." Gongsun Wuxie was choking on her tears. They were tears of joy.

She had thought that her life was going to end right there, but at the final juncture, Su Yu had pulled her back from the brink of death. The feeling of revival could not be simply described with words.

As she stared at Su Yu, her heart beat wildly in her chest. She couldn't suppress the feelings in her heart any longer. She clung onto Su Yu's neck, burying her head in his arms and bawling her eyes out, like a little child who was being bullied.

Su Yu tapped on her back gently, his solemn eyes pinned on the yellow halos. They gave him an enormous sense of danger, and he could sense an even more precarious scent was lurking somewhere in his vicinity!

He turned to look. A well-built, handsome youth was carrying Meili. Beside the youth was a gorgeous, elegant figure.

As he stared at the youth, Su Yu's pupils shrank. "Gu Taixu!" A name that had been encrypted deep in his heart leaped out!

Chapter 977: Body of a Puppet

Gu Taixu was the powerful opponent that had appeared at the Heavenly Mysterious Divine Pavilion and the Zhenlong continent. In the past, even his virtual self was an existence of great strength and power whom Su Yu had looked up to.

Su Yu had dealt with him twice. The first time did not result in a satisfactory conclusion due to the Hong Luan disturbance. The second time they fought, Su Yu's Pure Divine Decree got sealed, causing him to become totally blind. He only managed to succeed in retaliating and recovering his vision at the very last moment.

It had been so many years since they had met, and now they were seeing each other again.

Compared to his two doppelgangers, the real Gu Taixu wasn't as dazzling. He stood as motionless as a gigantic mountain, but no one would ever doubt the terrifying power contained within him. This was a man that made people step back at first sight.

Su Yu was scrutinizing him. Gu Taixu's eyes looked towards him as well, as if trying to penetrate Su Yu's silver mask. When their eyes met, intangible sparks erupted in the air.

"We meet again!" Gu Taixu said, his eyes resonating with coldness and murderous desire.

He hadn't managed to penetrate the silver mask, but his intuition told him that the person before him was undoubtedly Su Yu. That was the young man, born in an uncivilized territory and a visitor from the Zhenlong continent, who had destroyed his doppelgangers.

Su Yu inhaled a light breath. Slowly, he said, "Yes, we meet again."

Their eyes met. Watching them, outsiders would assume that they were old friends who hadn't seen each other for a long time. In truth, they were enemies in life and would remain so in death.

However, neither Su Yu nor Gu Taixu exposed each other.

Gu Taixu knew that Su Yu was the ruthless demonic man wanted by the Central Prefecture's King, and Su Yu knew that Gu Taixu had complicated, inexplicable relations with the Central Prefecture's King.

It was their fear of each other which restrained them and made them placid and composed at the moment.

Lü Chuyi came toward them. "Brother Taixu, do you know Su Yuxian?" she asked in surprise. Even without seeing the face underneath the silver mask, Lü Chuyi could tell it was Su Yuxian because she remembered his voice.

"Su Yuxian?" Gu Taixu's lips twitched into a smile of interest and taunting. "I remember now. You have two women, and their names include the words 'Yu' and 'Xian' respectively." Gu Taixu's doppelganger used to incarnate in the Heavenly Law

and rule over the lives of the Zhenlong continent. How would he not know about the two women most important to Su Yu?

Lü Chuyi scowled as she stared at Su Yuxian. Her tranquil emotions began rippling as the figure gradually overlapped with the youthful figure in her memory, without her even realizing. What made it the hardest for her to suppress her emotions were the eyes beneath the silver mask, which held such a great resemblance to those of Su Yu. Her intuition told that there must be some kind of relationship between Su Yu and Su Yuxian, but, since her fiancé Gu Taixu was present, it wasn't convenient for her to query.

As she sensed the vague hostility between the two of them, Lü Chuyi changed the subject. Gently, she said, "Brother Taixu, let us check Li-er's injuries first."

Only then did Gu Taixu tear his dispassionate eyes away from Su Yu. "She just has some superficial wounds; she won't die," he said.

After handing over the Meili to Lü Chuyi, Gu Taixu cast his solemn gaze on the giant who was amidst the blurry mist. "Laying hands on my people without my permission. I don't care who you are, or what you are, your fate is decided!" he said icily. His words were filled with a natural touch of dominance.

"Hehe, Gu Taixu, the first expert of Fengyun among the youths of the Blessed and Heavenly Lands. I've wanted to have a match with you for a long time." The giant was spitting out human words, its voice as loud as the rumbling of thunder.

The clouds and the mist roiled, and the undercurrents of the All Creations Mighty Force surged. The two yellow halos avoided by Gu Taixu circled around and were aiming at him once again.

"You haven't understood my meaning," Gu Taixu remarked detachedly. He took a stride forward and stretched out both of his hands, easily taking hold of the yellow halos that were heading straight for him.

Those who witnessed the scene were deeply shocked. Gu Taixu had actually caught hold of the two yellow halos in his hands! The halos contained boundless power and the All Creations Mighty Force. Gongsun Wuxie's numerous Almighty peak defenses were just like pieces of paper compared to the yellow halos. But right now, the two yellow halos were being gripped by Gu Taixu's bare hands.

"What?" A low exclamation of shock escaped the giant's mouth.

Gu Taixu had a look of nonchalance on his face as he brought his palms together.

Pop!

With the sound of an eggshell being crushed into pieces, the yellow halos were smashed into nothingness.

Gongsun Wuxie's eyes flickered as she witnessed the scene. Stupefied, she sent a message through telepathy, "Brother Yuxian, I'm afraid that Gu Taixu's real cultivation has surpassed the Almighty level. Even though he hasn't broken through the All Creations level, those who have just stepped into the All Creations are probably no match for him," she said.

Su Yu did not doubt her speculation in the slightest. Gu Taixu had an unreasonably strong combat power that couldn't be explained. Su Yu had certainly had the right to look up to him back when he was in the Zhenlong continent, but now...

Gu Taixu smashed the yellow halos into pieces with indifference. He took a step forward, and the muddy swamp underneath his feet began boiling restlessly under the great pressure, like a pot of cooked oil.

The giant fell silent for a second as it felt the immense power of its opponent. But then it laughed without a hint of urgency. "Hahaha, Gu Taixu, your reputation is well deserved! My Boundless Law Celestial Light is derived from the All Creations strong men, and every strike is infinitely close to the level of the All Creations Old Monsters. Even that couldn't beat you! You truly are a rare, top-notch genius. The number of individuals who could rival you in this entire continent could be counted on one hand."

The giant continued to talk. "Confining such a talent in a nook of the continent really is a reckless waste of resources. If you are willing, I can recommend a place, a great domain where you can fully utilize your talents. How about that?"

Su Yu's eyes shone. The true identity of the giant was unknown, and it did not seem like it came from one of the 16 great factions.

In the whole wide world, influences that could accommodate absolute geniuses like Gu Taixu were few and far between. If the giant was daring to utter such conceited words of arrogance, then it must have come from a powerful place.

"No way!" Gu Taixu replied. "I am Gu Taixu, I don't need any help to defeat the Heaven Rulers of the generation!" His eyes turned icy cold. Unrestrained by the control of the gravitational pull, he flew forward like a remnant shadow with his right arm raised and slammed down with his palm.

Knowing that its persuasion was futile, the giant said coldly, "Good birds make their own choice of trees to dwell in. I thought that you were smart, but it turns out that you are, in fact, just another foolish person." With a soft snort, the giant lifted its right palm and smashed it into the air. All of a sudden, the exploding sound of thunder erupted with full force.

The fuzzy mist within an area of ten thousand feet was dispersed by the strong tremor of the airflow, and a bright light was finally once again revealed. It turned out that the impact created by the duel between the two parties had shattered a barrier at the top of the secret realm, causing the mist to drain out.

"Damage to the secret realm!" Lü Chuyi exclaimed in utter shock.

The withholding limit of the secret realm was the Almighty peak, and it could only be damaged by the All Creations.

Gu Taixu's eyes were endlessly cold, and he retreated a few dozen feet. The enormous bulk of the giant was repelled a few dozen feet back as well. This giant was in fact, equally strong as Gu Taixu!

The most shocking part was the real appearance of the giant, which was unveiled after the fuzzy mist dissipated. It was a silver puppet with the height of a hundred feet. Its entire body was

glimmering with a silver-white metallic luster, and it had obscure facial features. Two mysterious formations were hidden inside its eyes. The shockingly powerful yellow halos had been released through the activation of the formations.

Su Yu touched his space ring subliminally, as he looked at the silver puppet.

“Body of a puppet? Great!” Gu Taixu seemed to be enraged. He mustered his energy with two palms, and brutally directed his power towards the silver puppet.

“You’ve overestimated your capabilities!” The silver puppet sneered. Silver light dazzled on its palms, forming a layer of waves that couldn’t be seen clearly by the naked eye. The waves struck at Gu Taixu.

Boom! Bang! Bang!

The incessant, dull rumbling of thunder reverberated endlessly.

The entire secret realm trembled at the sounds of the duel, and numerous damages arose all across it, causing the blurry haze to completely dissipate.

“Heaven’s Web of Ten Directions!” Gu Taixu pressed down with five fingers. Like the hand of the heavens, it encompassed the mighty forces of the heavens and the earth and suppressed the disobedient creatures.

The silver puppet was relaxed and fearless. “Unmoving Mountains!”

The battle was unusually intense. It was not in the least inferior to the battle between All Creations strong men.

Chapter 978: The Puppet’s Explosion

Lü Chuyi was overwhelmed with shock. “Where did the silver puppet come from? It can actually rival Brother Taixu!”

Gu Taixu, also known as the first amongst the younger generation, had unrivaled combat power, yet the puppet before them could go eight rounds with him without being subdued to a position of disadvantage. That was amazing; there had never been a person who could take more than ten blows from Gu Taixu.

Su Yu watched the battle in silence. His appreciation of Gu Taixu’s combat power again increased, this time by a large margin. Judging from the current situation, it was equivalent to All Creations Stage Two, however, Su Yu could tell that this wasn’t Gu Taixu’s true combat capacity.

“It’s time for this to end.” Gu Taixu slowly withdrew his hands and spoke with indifference as they finished the ninth round. His hands were making unfathomable patterns in front of his chest as if he was preparing for an unbelievably powerful strike. A tinge of violet light slowly radiated from his chest, as if there was a purple-colored precious jade embedded there.

The violet brilliance grew more and more dazzling and glorious, gradually shrouding the skies. Very quickly, the heavens and the earth were both covered. When viewed from the outside world, the Purple Cloud Secret Realm had become a region conquered by the purple light.

Mo Tianxuan's eyes flickered with shock and puzzlement, and a hidden terror could be faintly seen in the depths of her pupils. She couldn't help but stare deeply at the True Man of the Purple Cloud. "What a genius of the Divine Decree. He's about to transcend the Pure level and enter the state of Void Transformation! Since time immemorial, only a few ancient Mortal Fairies have managed to achieve the state of Void Transformation. Gu Taixu is indeed an earth-shaking genius." She was both rueful and deeply moved, lamenting what was happening. The look on Mo Tianxuan's face was complicated.

Rumor had it that the Void Transformation Divine Decree was the lowest threshold for Mortal Fairies to enter the gates of godliness. Since time immemorial, there were very few who could take the Divine Decree to such a level. Among them was the Glittering Jewel Mortal Fairy, the oldest and the most powerful of them all. She was enlightened about the Void Transformation Divine Decree, but still failed to make her way onto the Divine Path, and had her tranquil demise in the mortal world. If she had gone through that, those who hadn't even achieved the level of Mortal Fairy were certainly not immune.

Gu Taixu had nearly reached the threshold of Void Transformation at such a young age. It wouldn't be difficult for him to step into the state of Void Transformation in the future. He was clearly gifted with the talents to become a God! As one from the older generation, Mo Tianxuan could not help but feel upset?

The True Man of the Purple Cloud was smiling. "It's an over-compliment. It can't be considered a success before he has entered the state of Void Transformation." Envy and slight helplessness were hidden in his smile.

After collecting her thoughts, Mo Tianxuan said, "The secret realm has shattered, and the Fengyun Great Assembly can almost end here."

The True Man shook his head lightly. "We might as well wait until this battle is over. I don't know if you find that silver puppet familiar?"

Mo Tianxuan narrowed her eyes. "Yes, it seems familiar! If I remember correctly, it appeared during the great war between humans and ghosts that took place a hundred years ago. After that, it was set to explode by Tian Jizi's fairy artifact and taken into the Heavenly Mysterious Divine Pavilion. It has not been seen since.

The True Man nodded. "Exactly! Even though the two aren't completely the same, the materials they were made of certainly have some kind of relations."

"We might as well wait. Taixu could ferret out the manipulator of the puppet, and we might get a great deal of information," the True Man said.

Mo Tianxuan nodded lightly as she observed the events in the secret realm closely.

The secret realm shrouded in the purple world made everyone feel as if they had stepped into another dimension. Gu Taixu, who was at the source of the purple light, seemed to have become the owner of the purple world. He represented the mighty heaven above that ruled over the world.

Everyone experienced the same emotional stirring at the same time.

The giant's face changed dramatically, and its voice shook with shock and fear. "The Void Transformation Divine Decree? Impossible! You're still so young. How could you have comprehended such Divine Decree?"

Void Transformation Divine Decree? Su Yu's heart thumped and he scanned his surroundings. This is Divine Decree?

Gu Taixu's Divine Decree was to represent the mighty heavens above. He had truly become the ruler of a region of the world, which was the purple world. That really suited his Divine Decree.

What level of Divine Decree was the Void Transformation?

The look on Gu Taixu's face was cold and dispassionate, and his figure was like a divine god. "Freeze!" He only uttered a word softly, and the giant puppet suddenly seemed to experience oppression by a subtle, mystical power. It didn't seem like the All Creations Mighty Force, but more like a command, a kind of regulation.

The giant puppet really froze from top to bottom. It was completely motionless, losing even the strength for speech.

Gu Taixu uttered another word. "Fire!" Intense flames began breaking out all over the giant puppet's body. The flames were so aggressive and ferocious that the giant puppet's robust body softened immediately. Drops of silver liquid trickled down from its body. It seemed as though the giant puppet was about to perish in the flames.

Everyone watching the scene was terrified. The purple world was a world reigned over by Gu Taixu, and he was equivalent to a god here. A single thought of his could freeze an enemy. A single thought could summon intense flames out of thin air to destroy the enemy. His unprecedented tactics to eradicate his opponents were brand-new and fascinating.

Su Yu felt burdened with unprecedented pressure. I turned out that when the Pure Divine Decree evolved to the highest level, it could exhibit such extremely terrifying power. No wonder the novices of the Divine Decree were often feared by many. Su Yu's Pure Divine Decree was yet to be comprehended to the most profound level.

As the silver puppet was on the brink of perishing at the hands of Gu Taixu, a whiff of space turbulence suddenly broke out from the inside of the puppet, as if someone had activated the space treasure.

Swish!

The space power flashed past in a split second, and the giant puppet's eyes turned dull as if the fight had gone out of it.

Gu Taixu scowled. In a fleeting moment, the flames on the body surface of the giant disappeared without a trace, as if they had never existed.

"It ran away?" Gu Taixu questioned coldly. The circumstances just now clearly showed that someone was manipulating the puppet from the inside. This person, whoever it was, had used certain techniques and applied the power of space to escape the

puppet. Now, the interior part of the puppet was vacant. Since no one was manipulating it, the puppet naturally stopped responding.

At that very moment, the motionless silver puppet suddenly surged with a dark blue brilliance, turning from silver to dark blue very rapidly. It was bizarre.

Creak!

Creak!

Meanwhile, the shrill, ear-piercing sound of gear-wheels clicking together resonated from the internal part of the puppet. The silver puppet stood up on its own. It wasn't being manipulated by anyone. It started pounding on its chest incessantly, and fierce howling sounds escaped from its mouth. The blue brilliance all over its body kept intensifying. Inside its body, an extremely precarious power rapidly expanded. It was the All Creations Mighty Force. Endless All Creations Mighty Force was expanding at a shockingly alarming rate!

"It's going to explode on its own!" Lü Chuyi exclaimed in a low voice. She was proficient in equipment crafting and had a certain degree of understanding about puppets, so she came to the realization immediately.

Gu Taixu's face changed drastically, and he bellowed hurriedly, "Freeze!"

The puppet's body froze, but the rapidly expanding All Creations Mighty Force showed no signs of stagnation. After all, his Divine Decree wasn't adequate for controlling exceedingly enormous forces.

On the outside, the True Man of the Purple Clouds and Mo Tianxuan were both stupefied by the unusual scene.

"The self-explosion of an All Creations Stage Three Old Monster! Oh no, even Gu Taixu is helpless against it. We'll have to go and rescue them!" The True Man's face fell dramatically.

The power produced by the explosion of the All Creations Mighty Force of an All Creations Stage Three Old Monster was enough to bring the whole Purple Cloud Palace to the ground. Even Gu Taixu was helpless in the face of such absolute power. However, the members of the Purple Cloud Palace were scattered. How could they possibly rescue them all at once?

Mo Tianxuan was indignant. "What malicious intentions!" From the beginning of the puppet's appearance, it had intended to exterminate the prodigies of the Blessed and Heavenly Lands. Regardless of whether it was defeated, the outcome wouldn't change.

Inside the secret realm, Gu Taixu could sense that the extremely perilous All Creations Mighty Force was on the verge of eruption. "How dare you!" he screamed. He flew forward and applied various elements of his magical powers, bombarding the puppet. However, in the state of self-explosion, the puppet was even harder to defeat and more rigid than it had been in the silver-colored state. Despite Gu Taixu's immense strength, it wouldn't budge at the slightest bit.

After several attempts, Gu Taixu gave up on his futile efforts. Immediately, he leaped up into the air, aiming to escape from the secret realm that was on the brink of destruction. "Yi-er, Li-er, let's go!"

A line appeared between Gu Taixu's eyebrows, and a large patch of purple light was emitted. The oppression was removed where the purple light had passed. Without the oppression, he could move a thousand miles in a single step, and he managed to leave the secret realm in the blink of an eye.

The others tried to follow him. However, they did not possess the level of magical powers that Gu Taixu did. He was able to ignore the oppression completely, yet they couldn't even fly. How were they supposed to escape the secret realm?

"Senior Brother Gu, bring me along!" The students of the Purple Cloud Palace screamed out of shock and terror. Was there time for Gu Taixu to rescue them one by one?

The self-explosion of the puppet had progressed to the final stage, and it would explode in just ten breaths' time. The entire Purple Cloud Palace could possibly be razed to the ground.

Gu Taixu wasn't even certain he could get Lü Chuyi out of the blast radius unharmed, let alone return to save others. Time was running out!

Sympathy and reluctance were written all over Lü Chuyi's face. She caught a glimpse of the silver-masked figure in the secret realm out of the corner of her eye and felt a sudden surge of pain in her chest. He bore such a striking resemblance to that young man.

"Brother Yuxian, what should we do?" Drops of cold sweat broke out all over Gongsun Wuxie's forehead, as she subconsciously touched the jade pendant near her chest. If she smashed the jade pendant into pieces now, she might stand a chance of summoning her father's virtual shadow. With his ability, contending with the puppet's self-explosion would be no big deal. However, once the jade pendant was crushed, all of her adventures had to end right here.

Swish!

Right at that moment, Bai Shanliang, Bing Wuqing and the rest finally arrived. They wore appalled expressions as they stared at the giant puppet that was about to self-explode. Even Bing Wuqing was no exception.

"Self-explosion of All Creations Stage Three Old Monster?" Bing Wuqing looked solemn.

Tianyu was shocked and devastated. Her eyes couldn't stop flickering.

Bai Shanliang whimpered, "I am not done with being alive yet!"

Bing Wuqing lifted her head to look outside the secret realm, and she remarked in a low deep voice, "Palace Master Mo is likely to come to our aid, but she will only be able to come once. Besides, there's no guarantee that she can find us before the explosion!"

Upon hearing that, everyone's heart sank. They couldn't afford to wait any longer! They were still subject to the suppression of the secret realm, which deprived them of the ability to escape death.

"The only way is to destroy the puppet. Perhaps that will stop it from exploding." Bing Wuqing's gorgeous eyes flashed as she stared at the shining giant puppet.

Gongsun Wuxie's dainty face was deathly pale. "It's useless. Even Gu Taixu has given up on destroying the puppet and has chosen to run away."

Him? Even Tianyu, who was usually full of pride and arrogance, felt something lodged deep inside her throat.

Even Gu Taixu, who was known as the regal Heaven Ruler of the Blessed and Heavenly Lands was helpless. What could they do to mend the situation?

But right at that moment, Su Yu, who had been silent up until now, spoke with furrowed brows, "If there's no other way, I could, perhaps, give it a try."

He had several methods in mind which could destroy the puppet, but he was reluctant to expose any of them.

Chapter 979: Destruction of the Secret Realm

Su Yu decided to resort to another method. He would temporarily divert the puppet.

His right eye shone with red light, and a wine-red flying dragon could be faintly seen hovering in it. "Space Vortex!" Accompanied by a soft yell, a humongous Space Vortex appeared behind the giant puppet. The force of the vortex quickly began to suck the hundred-feet-tall giant in.

The giant seemed to have sensed the approaching crisis, as it shoved its hands thirty feet into the ground in an attempt to secure its entire body and resist the pulling force of the Space Vortex.

The giant was now alarmingly close to detonating. Seeing that they were hopeless in escaping the catastrophe, Su Yu flicked his sleeves and several silver-colored round balls shot out like ammo. They bombarded the body of the giant puppet, carrying strings of silver remnant shadows.

The body surface of the puppet hadn't been affected by Gu Taixu's assault, yet now it was being indented by eight round pearls. When the last yellow-blue pearl struck the puppet's body, the giant could not resist it any longer. Its body was sent flying backward, and it fell into the Space Vortex.

Boom!

Right at that moment, the giant exploded. Horrendous shock waves caused by the blast shook the region. The entire secret realm shuddered insanely as shock waves appeared everywhere. It was as if the space of the secret realm was about to collapse.

Buzz...buzz...buzz...

Boundless space power shrouded the people present at the scene. The secret realm must have detected that everyone had encountered a problem, and it triggered the space power in order to transport them out.

Su Yu used his mind to extract the round pearls. Just as he was about to leave, he realized that as the Space Vortex closed, a residual shock wave had gushed out with lots of the puppet's fragments bundled in it. Su Yu's eyes shone as he extracted the fragments. They belonged to the part of the puppet's head and were made of a very unique material.

After touching them, Su Yu ascertained that they were made of the same material as the silver puppet which Su Yu had captured back in the Heavenly Mysterious Divine Pavilion.

“Who on earth was manipulating the puppet in secret?” Su Yu thought to himself.

He didn’t need to be too concerned with this matter, because Mo Tianxuan and the True Man of the Purple Cloud would place even more importance on it, and he would gladly leave the headache to them.

Just as he was about to store the fragments, all of a sudden, Su Yu sensed several whiffs of Vital Energy hidden within the puppet. He brushed aside the fragments to have a look. Much to his surprise, there were eight whiffs of the Purple Cloud Vital Energy in it!

With the giant puppet’s capacity, seizing only eight whiffs of Vital Energy in half a day’s time was most likely because it had withheld part of its strength. Otherwise, no one could hold it off besides Gu Taixu.

Su Yu’s eyes turned hot with desire. He took the Purple Cloud Vital Energy without any second thoughts and placed them on top of his head. The purple virtual shadow of the crown above his head became solid. There were 12 whiffs of the Purple Cloud Vital Energy in total, which were sufficient for attaining a crown.

Just then, they were all transported out. The instant they were back in the outside world, deafening rumbling noises resonated from beneath their feet. Wherever the naked eye could see, pitch-black, terrifying space seams were rupturing the space, engulfing the Purple Cloud Secret Realm.

It lasted for quite a while. When the tremor in the secret realm had dissipated, the entire Purple Cloud Secret Realm had been burnt to the ground, and all of the formations devised were gone without a trace.

The True Man of the Purple Cloud’s face was somber and glum. The elders of the Purple Cloud Palace didn’t look well either. Setting up in the Purple Cloud Secret Realm had cost the faction a great deal of their fortune, resources, and manpower. Now that it had sustained intentional devastation, how could they not be infuriated?

Nonetheless, they all also felt a little pleased and relieved. Based on their estimation, the number of casualties would have skyrocketed if the entire secret realm, or even just the Purple Cloud Palace, had been razed to the ground during the explosion. The secret realm was the only thing that was damaged, and that seemed to be the best possible outcome.

The problem was uncovering what had actually happened towards the end. Even Gu Taixu decided to give up on destroying the puppet, so why had the explosion diminished to such a mild degree? The people in charge of the factions were secretly asking their faction students about it.

After the great battle ended and the fuzzy mist dissipated, the students’ visions weren’t restricted anymore, enabling them to take in everything within the area of the nearest miles. They must have seen what had happened.

When they learned about the mysterious person with a silver mask from the Red Blood Palace who used the space power and the incredibly powerful pearls, the faction leaders were utterly stunned.

The True Man of the Purple Cloud raised his eyebrows and stared at Su Yu from afar. This was the first time he had truly scrutinized the person.

In fact, there were more than a few participants who wore masks during the selection, but Su Yu was the only one whose true appearance the True Man wanted to take a look at right now. The True Man stared at him as if trying to penetrate the silver mask with his vision. Much to True Man's surprise and fascination, the mask wasn't an ordinary object. What he saw was an expanse of emptiness.

"A space-based mask?" The True Man moved closer and fixed his gaze on Su Yu. Space-based masks were rare. They were not an item that a ninth-grade fairy student could afford.

Swish!

But right at that moment, a gorgeous figure clad in a black dress teleported into the space between them. "True Man, if you keep staring at my student like that, he's going to get shy." Mo Tianxuan was half-smiling. Su Yu's tactics just now weren't a surprise to her. She had known about him being the Ancient Space Spiritual Body early on and was aware that it wouldn't be a problem for him to perform mystical tactics like the Space Vortex.

The only problem was the nine round pearls he had used towards the end, which were of unknown origins. Those were Su Yu's private treasure, so it was reasonable that she had never heard about them. Seeing the True Man's attitude, Mo Tianxuan certainly had to get involved.

The True Man didn't panic even when she stopped him. Instead, he smiled and said, "Palace Master Mo has misunderstood. I am just curious about whether he's Master Su whose name is worldly renowned."

Su Yu was mostly recognized by the world through his proficiency in Mu words. He had fought all the experts of the Heavenly Knife Region during the sacrifice offering of the Desolate Evil Jungle and had managed to defeat all of his opponents and seize back the territory that they had lost ten years ago. This phenomenal deed of his was known by the whole wide world.

After that, although the news about Su Yu revealing his hidden Ancient Space Spiritual Body during the battle at the Situ family was deliberately withheld, he still couldn't escape the attention and notice of people.

"Exactly. Do you have any opinions on that, True Man?" Mo Tianxuan replied, feeling unusually proud.

Gu Taixu had always proclaimed himself the best expert of the younger generation of the Blessed and Heavenly Lands. But when the crisis concerning the life and death of the Purple Cloud Palace arose, the savior who came to their rescue was one from the Red Blood Palace, not the famous Gu Taixu.

Gu Taixu was incapable of stopping the puppet, but the Red Blood Palace managed to resolve the danger with ease. Was there anything more deserving of pride?

The True Man of the Purple Cloud was rather speechless. He said, "Congratulations on having a student like him, who is an Ancient Space Spiritual Body and proficient in Mu words. It's hard to not be envious of you." He was quite frank and honest about it.

“Master Su, thank you so much for your kind efforts in helping my faction to pull through the calamity.” the True Man greeted Su Yu with cupped fists, which was rather sincere considering that he was a True Man. “Here are some gifts to express my gratitude. I hope you can accept them, Master Su.”

The True Man retrieved a condensed gel wrapped in crystal from his sleeve. The gel came from ancient times and did not seem like an object from the last hundred years. Instead, it seemed to have been sealed within the crystal many years ago. The gel contained a mysterious energy, which instilled an extraordinary sense of comfort in people, even with the crystal as a barrier. Su Yu even had the vague feeling of experiencing the signs of a breakthrough into the Almighty level.

Before Su Yu could accept it, Mo Tianxuan said with a grave look on her face, “What do you mean, True Man? Are you trying to embarrass me by giving away such a thing as a gift?”

Su Yu was full of astonishment when he heard that... What is actually happening?

Chapter 980: Reward for the Champion

Gongsun Wuxie delivered her words through telepathy. “Brother Yuxian, that’s a great item, accept it quickly! It’s a gel from ancient times, produced by some strong demonic beasts that had become deceased. When their bodies perished, the essence contained in them was enclosed by the spiritual energy of the heavens and the earth, which prevented it from draining away. As time passed and they sedimented, the spiritual energy became denser, eventually forming crystalline bodies, leaving behind all of the essences of the demonic beasts.”

“Such gel is the purest form of energy and can be directly absorbed by not just humans, but any living creatures. It has a great effect on breaking through the bottleneck!” she said. “Depending on the size of the gel, at the very least it contains the energy of All Creations Stage One demonic beast. After ingesting it, you could surely make it into the Almighty level.”

There were two requirements for breaking through to the Almighty. The first was Soul Energy. Most people were restricted by this threshold, hence they failed to pass up to the Almighty level. The second was the power of one’s Vital Energy. Once the Dantian expanded to a point where it reached its limit, and was at a state at which it couldn’t accommodate anything more, the Dantian would undergo drastic changes and evolve into a fetal crystal. Su Yu had accomplished the former. Now all that was left was the latter.

However, Su Yu owned one-tenth of the Mortal Fairy’s Strength of the Central Prefecture’s King, which was even purified by the Tree God’s leaf with a power that was no weaker than the gel’s. Although the gel was precious, it wasn’t exactly important to Su Yu.

Su Yu could understand the reason behind Mo Tianxuan’s anger. An outstanding student of the Red Blood Palace, stuck at the bottleneck of ninth-grade fairy wasn’t rewarded, yet was receiving special help from the Purple Cloud Palace. Wouldn’t an outsider think that the excellent students of the Red Blood Palace ended up needing help from other factions? Su Yu was amused as he came to the realization.

The True Man of the Purple Cloud still had a smile on his face. “It’s not right to say that, Palace Master Mo. The Purple Cloud Palace owes Master Su a debt of gratitude. What he needs the most

right now must be the great remedy to break through to the Almighty. This is also the biggest reward the Purple Cloud Palace can give. We hope Palace Master Mo won't stop us."

Once he had finished talking, he passed the gel over to Su Yu with an outstretched hand. Su Yu smiled, completely ignoring the warning look in Mo Tianxuan's eyes. He accepted it graciously. "Thanks a lot, True Man," he said.

Mo Tianxuan was annoyed. Does this fellow want to embarrass me in front of outsiders? Her pride had vanished into nothingness in an instant.

Mo Tianxuan gritted her teeth and flashed a smile. "Su Yuxian, you have made a great contribution this time. Not only did you save the Red Blood Palace, but also all of the students from different factions right here. You even saved the Purple Cloud Palace. You deserve a hefty reward!"

"I'll especially reward you with a million merit points, besides..." Mo Tianxuan fetched a fiery red hairpin from her hair and handed it to Su Yu. "This is the hairpin that I always carry with me. It's been with me all year, and it contains an amount of magical power. You take it as a life-saving item."

The True Man of the Purple Cloud was slightly stunned by her act. How could the hairpin be that simple? It had traces of being instilled with All Creations Mighty Force over a long period of time.

He could sense that the hairpin could at least unleash the destructive power of All Creations Stage Three once it erupted, which was similar to the self-explosion of the puppet just now. Yet Mo Tianxuan had given such a dangerous item to a student to simply manipulate him. This made the True Man of the Purple Cloud marvel inwardly. Mo Tianxuan truly went to great lengths to keep her pride.

Some had astonished looks on their faces. Hairpins had a special meaning to a woman. As a single woman, Mo Tianxuan presented her hairpin, which she carried all the time, to a man. It was rather inappropriate. Nonetheless, was anyone daring enough to voice their doubts?

"This student is truly fortunate to receive such good care from Palace Master Mo," the True Man of the Purple Cloud Palace said. He looked at the disheveled secret realm and glanced at the students. He said, "The Fengyun Great Assembly can't continue anymore. Now we can announce the closing in advance."

Mo Tianxuan had no objection to that. She nodded and said, "Of course, more than a hundred individuals have been eliminated. It can end here."

Long before the puppet exploded on its own, more than a hundred had been eliminated already. In other words, there were less than a hundred people remaining in the secret realm now, so the competition could be considered finished.

"Hold on!" Suddenly, a soft bellow sounded.

People turned to look in the direction of the voice, and strange looks appeared on their faces. The one who spoke was none other than Gu Taixu! It was a humiliation to him that the crisis he failed to solve had been settled by an outsider.

"What do you mean?" The True Man of the Purple Cloud asked.

Gu Taixu stared right at Su Yu, and said, "I just think that before the Fengyun Great Competition ends, it's necessary to thoroughly investigate who started the trouble!"

Upon hearing that, many people came to understand his meaning.

Mo Tianxuan's eyes turned cold. "Oh? You suspect that our Red Blood Palace's student, Su Yuxian, has caused trouble on purpose and stepped forth to resolve it, in order to gain fame?"

Indeed, Su Yuxian was a nobody in terms of cultivation, but he happened to achieve something that Gu Taixu could not, which put him under suspicion.

However, Gu Taixu replied indifferently, "No, I do not believe he is capable of that!" Apparently, they had misunderstood what Gu Taixu meant.

Mo Tianxuan was surprised. "What did you mean then?"

"I just want to expose the person behind the scene!" Gu Taixu scanned the remaining prodigies with cold eyes, and said gravely, "This person is most probably one of us who showed up later." After the crisis, none of the students had been transported out until the very end when everyone was transported at once. Undoubtedly, the puppet's manipulator was among them.

Even though Su Yuxian ruined Gu Taixu's reputation, the person behind the scene was the root of all troubles.

The True Man of the Purple Cloud and Mo Tianxuan exchanged glances, and then the True Man stepped forward. Slowly, he said, "The person-in-charge of our faction will surely investigate. You may step down first."

Such a drastic twist had occurred to the Fengyun Great Assembly of the Blessed and Heavenly Lands. How could the two of them let it go just like that? However, so far, there wasn't any evidence to target the person who did it, so they were at a loss at what to do, and could only call upon the people in charge of the factions to investigate one another.

Gu Taixu nodded and gazed intensely at Su Yu before slowly stepping back.

"In that case, the Fengyun Great Assembly has come to an end. Now, all students who still have their Purple Cloud Vital Energy, please step forward," the True Man of the Purple Cloud shouted.

One by one, the students stepped forward. But the number of individuals was far less than 100: there was only around 60 of them. Most of them possessed two whiffs of the Purple Cloud Vital Energy, and quite a number of them even had more than three whiffs, especially the students of the Purple Cloud Palace. Almost no one had only obtained one, which roused the jealousy of the eliminated students.

The rule stated that just one whiff was enough to make it past the qualifying round. Why had they needed extra?

The first ones to be inspected were students from small factions, who mostly only had one or two whiffs. Occasionally some could be seen with three, which was remarkable.

Wei Bufan, the first genius of the Soul Seizing Palace, was worth mentioning. To outsiders, he was only an eighth-grade Almighty, but under the Transparent Eye, Su Yu detected the traces of ninth-grade Almighty. He had acquired the most Purple Cloud Vital Energy out of 18 students, which was four whiffs!

“Not bad!” The True Man of the Purple Cloud gave him a praising smile.

“You compliment me too much, True Man,” Wei Bufan said, calm and composed.

The True Man of the Purple Cloud nodded, and looked at Mo Tianxuan. “Your faction and mine are the only two left now. Shall we check yours first, or mine?”

Mo Tianxuan snorted. “Whichever. The final rewards of the secret realm have all been occupied by the Purple Cloud Palace. It doesn’t matter who’s checked first.”

Su Yu’s eyes shone when he heard that...There really are rewards at the end of the secret realm. No wonder all the Purple Cloud Palace students put in their best efforts to obtain more Purple Cloud Vital Energy. He wasn’t certain if he could make it into the ranking with the 12 whiffs of the Purple Cloud Vital Energy that he had.