

## Overlord 1131

### Chapter 1131: Qian Furen Greets the Young Sect Master

Xiang Shaoyun made the seven youngsters kneel one after another, further escalating the incident. He had even killed a few people earlier. The puddles of blood were still clear for all to see, presenting a revolting and shocking scene. The bystanders distanced themselves and went far away, their eyes filled with admiration.

"Those foreigners are truly brazen. They dare to kill even those from the city hall? Let's see how the city hall will deal with them."

"That Young Master Qian has always been overbearing. Seems like he has provoked someone he shouldn't have today."

"The enforcers will be here soon. I wonder how this will end."

"Are those the legendary angels? I thought this race was already extinct. Why are they appearing out of nowhere?"

"That strong young man looks quite familiar. Why can't I remember where I saw him before?"

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When Pudi saw the big crowd pointing and talking about them, he couldn't help but say, "Child of Light, maybe we should let it be?"

"Pudi, listen to me. In the future, when anyone insults you like this, remember to strike back mercilessly. Otherwise, they will only grow more and more arrogant. I know you are kind, but against evil, you should hold your kindness, or you will only end up being looked down upon," advised Xiang Shaoyun.

"The young master is right. You should teach them a harsh lesson," the taurus agreed.

Pudi and the other angels sank into silence. Ever since they had left seclusion, they had encountered numerous cases of discrimination. They had never done anything about it, but Xiang Shaoyun was right. The more they held back, the more others looked down upon them.

However, they would still need some time to change and adapt. At this time, a group of enforcers rushed over.

"Impudent! Who dares to create trouble in Ziling City?" roared the leader.

The leader was mounted on a demonic wolf, looking incredibly valiant and heroic. Behind him were about a dozen riders, each of them a Skysoar Realm cultivator. As for the leader, he was an Emperor.

"Help me, or I'll have my uncle remove you from your post," Young Master Qian shouted when he saw the leader.

"Don't worry, Young Master Qian. I will get you out of this," replied the leader. He then pointed at Xiang Shaoyun and said, "Release them or die!"

Xiang Shaoyun didn't even spare him a glance and said, "Get Qian Furen here. This is above your paygrade."

"Audacious! You dare address the governor by his name?" berated the leader as he stabbed his spear at Xiang Shaoyun.

Xiang Shaoyun narrowed his eyes. He remained motionless, allowing the taurus to act on his behalf.

"Small fries like you people dare to make a move against my young master? Are you tired of living?" the taurus roared as he grabbed the spear and slammed the leader into the ground. He then stomped on the leader, killing the leader before he could even make a sound.

Panic broke out among the remaining enforcers. Young Master Qian and the group of youngsters pissed their pants in fear. A terrible stench spread around them. An Emperor was killed with a single move. That was too vicious.

"Th-this has nothing to do with me! Please spare me!" pleaded a woman in the group, scared out of her wits.

"Yes, yes, we are only bystanders. Please spare us," begged someone else.

Under the threat of death, these youngsters forgot all notion of loyalty. Even Young Master Qian was crying and begging for forgiveness. He was afraid that he would be killed before help arrived. The enforcers also lost the courage to do anything. They hurriedly released a signal for reinforcement. This was not something they could deal with.

With the signal, more enforcers rushed over from multiple directions. More and more people gathered nearby, curious to see just who was creating trouble. During the past few years, Ziling City had been rather unpeaceful. Thus, the people of the city were already numb to conflicts.

About 100 enforcers encircled them. None of them recognized Xiang Shaoyun. After all, these were new recruits while Xiang Shaoyun was the young sect master, someone they weren't even qualified to meet. Thus, they all assumed the group was a bunch of troublemakers.

They joined hands and attacked. However, the taurus alone beat them all to the ground. If Xiang Shaoyun hadn't made the taurus control his strength, the enforcers would have all been killed. Naturally, such a massive commotion alerted the city hall.

Qian Furen—a Sovereign—and more than 10 Emperors flew over, determined to apprehend the troublemakers. But when Qian Furen saw Xiang Shaoyun, he shivered. An ominous feeling rose in him as he broke out in cold sweat.

"Uncle, save me! Save me! This birdman is trying to kill me!" shouted Young Master Qian, who felt like his savior had finally arrived.

The bystanders all watched on, curious as to how Qian Furen was going to deal with the foreigners. After all, the way he handled this would affect his prestige in the city. But what they saw next stunned all of them.

"Qian Furen greets the young sect master," saluted Qian Furen respectfully as he got on his knees.

The people behind Qian Furen also hurriedly knelt down, not daring to remain on their feet. Qian Furen might have addressed this man as the young sect master, but everyone knew that the man was the current master of the Ziling Sect. Even Saint Realm experts had to obey his commands, to say nothing of people like them.

When Young Master Qian saw that, he fainted from fear. He had thought that his uncle would be his savior, but now, he felt complete despair. He found it incredibly hard to believe that this young man was actually the revered young sect master. Meanwhile, he was nothing but a regular silkpants. He was dead for sure now.

Xiang Shaoyun snorted coldly and said, "You have quite the overbearing family member."

"Young sect master, th-this must be a m-misunderstanding..." explained Qian Furen. His entire body was drenched in sweat.

"Those who dare to insult my friends shall be punished. Tell me, will every foreigner receive the same type of humiliation each time they come here to do business? If the sect made an enemy because of some stupid issues, are you going to be the one to bear the responsibility for it?" said Xiang Shaoyun sternly. "Deal with this and make a report to me at the sect. If you can't even handle your job as the governor properly, I'll just get a new governor."

He then ignored Qian Furen and sat on the taurus before leaving with the angels. Qian Furen's entire body turned limp. If the person beside him hadn't supported him, he would have collapsed onto the ground.

"You damn bastard!" roared Qian Furen as he looked at the unconscious Young Master Qian.

#### Chapter 1132: Origin of the Grotto Entrance

Young Master Qian woke up. He was awakened by pain. The first person he saw after waking up was none other than the uncle he had always admired, Qian Furen.

"Hang them all from the city walls. If they're still alive after eight days, we can spare their worthless lives. This is the punishment for offending the young sect master. Remember this, everyone," said Qian Furen coldly.

Young Master Qian and his friends all had their legs chopped off before being hung from the city walls to serve as a warning for everyone else in the city. One could say that their future was completely ruined after this.

"U-Uncle, please don't. Please spare me! I wouldn't dare do something like this again!" Young Master Qian struggled and cried.

The others also used the final bit of energy they had left to plead for leniency.

Unfortunately, they only received Qian Furen's merciless gaze. He said, "Because of you guys, even my position as the governor is threatened. How am I supposed to spare you?"

He then ignored them all and left. With great difficulty, he finally had the chance to enjoy the life of a governor. He had also been trying hard to work with the Ziling Sect to consolidate his position in the city. He could not allow a tiny mistake like this to ruin his and his clan's future.

At this time, Xiang Shaoyun had returned to the sect. His return created a massive commotion. He had vanished for no reason for about half a year. Nobody knew his whereabouts. The sect remained leaderless for a period of time. Fortunately, Pang Tongyuan could take charge in his absence. He announced that Xiang Shaoyun had gone into secluded cultivation, finally stabilizing the sect's morale.

Of course, the three Saints—Duo Ji, the turtle, and the toad—had also played a great role in maintaining peace within the sect. About half a year ago, the Dragon Society came for the two tier-6 organizations under the Ziling Sect, trying to recruit the two organizations for themselves. If it wasn't for the timely appearance of three Saints, the two tier-6 organizations would have thoroughly defected.

The Dragon Society was shocked when they learned of the three Saints. After suffering some losses, they finally realized that the Ziling Sect had actually grown stronger after the internal turmoil.

Zhuma City's Ma Clan and Qingxiu City's Qingxiu Manor were forcefully suppressed by Duo Ji, having their patriarch and manor master replaced. This served as a warning that further disloyalty would be punished by complete elimination.

After Xiang Shaoyun returned, the sect's higher-ups naturally gathered in the grand hall. When everyone arrived, Xiang Shaoyun officially introduced the angels. In the sect, he did not wish to hear any insults regarding the angels.

After the introduction, he received the reports about the sect. As a whole, the sect had been developing well. They had recruited a new batch of disciples, replenishing their dwindling numbers from their subordinate organizations. As of now, there were about 15,000 members in the sect.

However, they still lacked Emperors and Sovereigns. Experts of that level were not easy to replenish. Apart from that, the sect also lacked all sorts of resources. Without sufficient spirit crystals and materials to support the members' cultivation, they would probably start losing support.

The first issue the sect needed to solve was the cultivation resources. Only after solving the issue would they be able to increase the strength of their members and stabilize the sect's strength. It was easy to list out the two issues, but they weren't easy to solve. Furthermore, both issues required time to solve.

Xiang Shaoyun felt his head aching after hearing the reports. He couldn't help but sigh inwardly, It really isn't easy to be a sect master.

He had someone arrange the accommodations for Pudi's group while he impatiently rushed to the forbidden zone. The abyss at the forbidden zone was what led him to the grotto, allowing him to harvest the dao of time. But when he had left, he found himself in the Southern Wasteland, a place unimaginably far from the sect. He even felt like everything was a dream.

What he wanted to do now was to check if the underground river was still there and if anything else might happen in the abyss. When he reached the forbidden zone, he found that the mist surrounding the place had reduced in level.

The place was still as desolate as ever, and the abyss was still there. However, the abyss was no longer emanating a unique aura. No underground river was found either. The abyss had been reduced into a regular deep hole. He was baffled, not knowing what exactly had happened.

"Did this place vanish alongside the Spacetime River? But why did all the signs of the river once existing vanish as well? Was the silver-winged owl aware of what was underneath the abyss?" Xiang Shaoyun muttered to himself.

After searching around, he thought of something. He immediately circulated his yin and yang energies, displaying the little bit of comprehension he had of the two powers. Abruptly, some changes happened in the abyss. Through Xiang Shaoyun's observation, he saw some blurry memory fragments in the abyss.

During an unknown time period, this place was once an entrance to the grotto. That was also when this place came to be known as the Buried Monarch Mountain Range. The grotto's entrance had always appeared randomly all over the world. This particular entrance was the earliest entrance to have appeared, so this place was somewhat interlinked with the grotto through fate. By sheer coincidence, Xiang Shaoyun had come here and obtained the inheritance in the grotto.

It was as though everything that had happened was the arrangement of fate. After learning all this, Xiang Shaoyun stopped thinking about it. The grotto had disappeared. There was no point in further keeping the abyss a forbidden zone. Instead, he planned to turn it into his personal cultivation zone.

After all, the abyss could also be considered an ancient vestige. Cultivating the dao of time here would bring him great benefits. He returned to his residence with thoughts of meeting Tuoba Wan'er and Gong Qinyin. However, he found that both of them were in secluded cultivation. He felt slightly disappointed, but he also felt greatly gratified.

As for Ye Chaomu, she had returned to Wuxie Valley. There were no updates about her. Perhaps she was having some difficulties dealing with her master. Scarlet Flame Monarch and Little White had still not returned from the Buried Monarch Mountain Range. It was unknown how they were doing right now. Han Pojun had also not returned from his trip back to the Han Clan.

Not long ago, Devouring Ghost had brought away Du Xuanhao and went looking for the Saber Devil inheritance, which had gone missing for many years. Long ago, Devouring Ghost had promised Du Xuanhao to help him with the inheritance. It was now time to fulfill that promise.

There were still many things waiting to be done at the sect. Xiang Shaoyun urgently felt the need to improve his strength. While his thoughts were in a mess from thinking, Qian Furen requested an audience.

#### Chapter 1133: A Word and a Flash of Realization

When Xiang Shaoyun arrived at the grand hall, Qian Furen was there waiting deferentially on his knees. By now, Xiang Shaoyun had calmed significantly from his anger. When he saw Qian Furen's nervousness, the little bit of grievance he had left faded away. More importantly, Pang Tongyuan looked rather highly upon Qian Furen and had spoken a lot on his behalf, telling Xiang Shaoyun that Qian Furen was still a capable helper.

"Greetings, young sect master," said Qian Furen.

"You may stand," said Xiang Shaoyun nonchalantly.

"This sinner dares not," said Qian Furen nervously.

"Why not? I wonder if you were the one who had pampered your nephew into such a person," questioned Xiang Shaoyun.

"N-no. That nephew is only a son from a branch family. I had neglected to discipline them until they grew so arrogant. That is my fault. Young sect master, please punish me," Qian Furen hurriedly explained.

At the very least, he was responsible enough to not push the blame onto someone else.

Xiang Shaoyun's opinion of Qian Furen grew slightly. He said, "Stand and talk. Take what happened as a lesson. In the future, our Ziling City will be one of the biggest cities in the world. For that to happen, we need to be open-minded. You need to know that each race has no lack of experts. If we offend a powerful race for some stupid issues, it won't be worth it. Do you understand?"

After his trip to Getian City, Xiang Shaoyun's worldview had changed considerably. Each race had its own experts. Ordinarily, they all lived at their own places. However, they would also move around in human territories. He did not wish to see the Ziling Sect provoke them. He wished to befriend any race he could. After all, having a friend was better than having an enemy.

Qian Furen repeatedly promised, "The young sect master is right. In the future, I will be much stricter with the people around me. Nothing like this will ever happen again."

Xiang Shaoyun nodded and said, "It's good that you know what to do. I'll let this rest. Make sure it never happens again."

Finally, Qian Furen's nervous emotions calmed down.

Xiang Shaoyun said, "You have done well recently. I won't forget your contributions. Our Ziling Sect has always been clear with our gratitude and grudges. You will get what you deserve. Do better, and your Qian Clan won't be mistreated."

As a leader, he couldn't only criticize his subordinates. Rewards had to be given appropriately as well. Only then would he gain loyal and devoted followers.

Sure enough, the nervous expression on Qian Furen eased up after Qian Furen received acknowledgment. He replied in a modest fashion, promising that he would do better.



"There are still many things waiting to be done in the sect. Do you have any good ways of collecting a large number of spirit crystals in the shortest time possible?" Xiang Shaoyun asked.

Qian Furen gave it some thought before answering, "Young sect master, we had done and exploited all we could. It will be difficult to gather more spirit crystals in a short period unless we can dig out more mines. More mines will grant us definite advantages and supply us with an unending supply of spirit crystals."

Qian Furen paused, thought for a bit, and continued, "Back when the sect master was around, the sect had control over several mines. Subsequently, the old thief Di Batian exhausted all the mines without finding new ones. That is the main reason we lack wealth right now."

When Xiang Shaoyun heard, his eyes lit up, and he asked, "Mines, and not spirit crystal mines?"

"Of course, it will be better if we can find some spirit crystal mines, but how can a spirit crystal mine be found so easily? It is more realistic to look for mines containing weapon forging materials. They will allow us to spread our trade and gather spirit crystals at a speed comparable to owning a spirit crystal mine. Also, having the Buried Monarch Mountain Range is also an advantage because it's a place rich in resources. We can send people to harvest its riches for some short-term gains," said Qian Furen.

"Your words have actually reminded me of something I've never thought of. If we do find some mines, you will be the one taking the merit," said Xiang Shaoyun in excitement.

He had been thinking of ways to gather more spirit crystals, and his only idea was to find some spirit crystal mines. But spirit crystal mines were extremely rare. After listening to Qian Furen's words, he realized that he could instead find some other mines instead, which would be the best short-term solution.

Xiang Shaoyun then called Pang Tongyuan over for a discussion. He felt that a mine-seeking group needed to be immediately established. This matter could not be delayed. After nourishing his body with numerous medications, Pang Tongyuan was in much better condition. Thus, he wouldn't have an issue handling the matter.

After Pang Tongyuan arrived and listened to Xiang Shaoyun's idea, he voiced his agreement, "I have been thinking about this as well. The sect really needs new mines. As for the group in charge

of searching for new mines, we have to pick our candidates carefully. We need actual professionals."

"You're right. Let's start looking in the sect. Offer generous rewards for participants, and we might be able to find a few useful individuals for this," said Xiang Shaoyun.

He handed the task to Pang Tongyuan, but he once again clearly felt that he lacked capable helpers. If he had a few more people sharing his burden, he would have suffered fewer headaches.

As a result, Xiang Shaoyun started thinking of his brothers from the Dragon Phoenix Academy. If they were by his side, he could solve all these issues with the sect easily. Of course, they still needed some time to mature and grow. Also, the current him was probably walking a completely different path from them, a path that would hardly intersect with theirs.

After he was done with the discussion, he went to visit Yao Qian. However, she was also in secluded cultivation. In his boredom, he called over the taurus, the turtle, and the toad.

"Young master," the three beasts greeted him deferentially.

When the taurus sensed the aura of the two Demon Saints, he trembled. He finally felt that submitting to Xiang Shaoyun wasn't that bad a choice after all. If even Demon Saints were loyal to Xiang Shaoyun, a Demon Sovereign like him was nothing.

The turtle and the toad had cultivated for an extremely long time. Thus, after becoming Demon Saints, they had advanced rapidly. Right now, they were only a step away from becoming second-stage Demon Saints.

"In the future, this taurus will be your little brother. I want him to become a Saint as quickly as possible. We will be using the same method you two used. The two of you will be in charge of standing guard for him while he breaks through," said Xiang Shaoyun, pointing at the taurus.

As the turtle and the toad listened, their eyes brightened.

"Young master, this is what I'm good at. Let me instruct this little bull. I believe I can turn him into a devoted little brother," said the turtle eagerly.

The toad sneered, "Old turtle, you're too stupid. I should be the one taking charge. I will ensure he enters the Demon Saint realm in the shortest time possible."

"Stupid toad, who are you calling stupid? You are the brainless one," said the turtle unhappily.

"Arguing with you is a waste of time. Little taurus, come say hi to your big brother. In the future, your big brother will take care of you," said the toad as he looked at the taurus with a pair of bright eyes.

The taurus felt a chill creep up his spine.

#### Chapter 1134: Life Essence Energy

Xiang Shaoyun did not use any flux goldthorn energy to help the taurus with his breakthrough. The taurus was different from the turtle and the toad. The two had lived in the golden lake for countless years, and their bodies had gained some flux goldthorn energy without them realizing it.

As for the taurus, he had never gotten in contact with such power before. If they forced him to absorb the flux goldthorn energy, it would be the same as torturing him to death. Xiang Shaoyun first had the turtle and the toad take care of the taurus. It wouldn't be too late for the taurus to first train under them before breaking through into the Demon Saint realm.

Next, Xiang Shaoyun went to see the angels. They had been at the sect for several days. Although they were living comfortably, they had still decided that it was time for them to return to their race.

Xiang Shaoyun reminded Pudi to invite the high priest to the sect. He wanted to see if he could form a connection between the sect and the angels, creating a situation where the two parties could assist each other. Pudi agreed and promised to deliver the message to the high priest.

Xiang Shaoyun wanted to send someone to see them off, but he found that he had no one he could send. Thus, he had no choice but to have First Gold of the Four Guardians see them off. Although the six angels were strong, they lacked experience. Xiang Shaoyun was worried that they would encounter some mishaps. With First Gold escorting them, he would feel much more comfortable letting them travel.

After the angels left, Xiang Shaoyun returned to the abyss. He started disguising the abyss and used numerous formations to completely isolate the place from the outside world, turning the abyss into his personal cultivation zone.

When he was done with all his preparations, he started cultivating. Seated in the abyss, he adjusted his condition before sending the greenleaf juice to the little tree of life in his astral cosmos sea. The moment the greenleaf juice appeared, the little tree of life seemed to come alive, and it unleashed a powerful suction force toward the greenleaf juice.

The greenleaf juice was a natural spiritual dew formed of the essence of saint-grade trees, and it contained endless vitality. The little tree of life devoured the entire pot of greenleaf juice, not leaving a single drop for Xiang Shaoyun.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

After devouring the greenleaf juice, the little tree of life grew rapidly, its branches and leaves growing at a speed visible to the naked eye. The tree started emanating a vigorous life force.

Xiang Shaoyun could clearly feel the extraordinary life force. It was as though the most primordial life force was coming into existence and influencing everything in his astral cosmos sea. Just as the life force was about to fuse with the primal inception energy, Xiang Shaoyun had a flash of inspiration and hurriedly circulated the life force into his wood star.

When the energy entered the wood star, it was as though the star had devoured the most precious natural treasure. It filled up at an incredible speed surpassing all of Xiang Shaoyun's expectations. He had only channeled a portion of the little tree of life's life essence into the wood star. It was rather surprising that it actually contained so much power.

It was a pity that he only had a limited amount of greenleaf juice. Even after the little tree of life devoured the entire pot of greenleaf juice, it had only grown a little. Nothing else happened.

This was a tree that Xiang Shaoyun had discovered when he was searching for gleamstar water. He guessed that it was the tree of life depicted in the legends, and it had indeed displayed qualities greatly resembling the legendary tree of life.

However, Xiang Shaoyun had a feeling that nurturing the tree would be extremely hard regardless of whether it was actually the tree of life. For the tree to grow, it needed the irrigation of more spiritual spring water.

The pot of greenleaf juice was purchased after spending two million high-grade spirit crystals, and it was gone instantly. It was understandable why Xiang Shaoyun's heart was aching.

Fortunately, the life essence energy released by the tree was able to fully fill his wood star and greatly increase his own life force. In a way, he had been compensated for what he spent on the greenleaf juice.

Xiang Shaoyun's gaze landed on the gold tree sapling. It was growing healthily and was much taller than before. This was all thanks to the unique environment in his astral cosmos sea. If the tree was growing in the outside world, it wouldn't have grown so fast.

After the gold tree sapling matures, I will plant it outside the sect to make it a sect guardian, thought Xiang Shaoyun inwardly. As for the little tree of life, before he had absolute strength, he wouldn't reveal it. His gaze then landed on the goldblood stones. The stones had been with him for a while. The time had come for him to use them.

As something capable of increasing a gold cultivator's combat strength, each goldblood stone was high in value. After refining a piece of goldblood stone, Xiang Shaoyun found that he hadn't even grown much at all. He was disappointed.

"Since I already have the flux goldthorn energy, this goldblood stone is no longer useful for me," muttered Xiang Shaoyun with deep disappointment.

His next option was to accumulate more wind, light, and flame energies. As the yin wind stone was one of the materials used to forge his soul foundation, it wasn't difficult for him to increase his absorption speed of wind energy. As for flame energy, Yun Flame would help increase his energy absorption speed. Of the three, only the light energy was slightly slow for him to accumulate. Since he did not have any unique variant light energies on him, he could only rely on the profundity of light to increase his light cultivation.

Although Xiang Shaoyun absorbed energy 10 times faster than a regular cultivator, he still needed some time to push all nine of his stars to peak first-stage Sovereign Realm level.

In the blink of an eye, three months passed.

After cultivating tirelessly, Xiang Shaoyun pushed all nine of his stars to the peak, stepping through the first stage and entering the second-stage Sovereign Realm. His breakthrough had been

extremely smooth. After all, he had long gathered sufficient accumulation. Several of his stars were already overflowing with energy, forcing him to break through.

After reaching the second-stage Sovereign Realm, his soul foundation gained its second layer. Numerous new and complicated soul marks appeared on his soul foundation. His soul was seated cross-legged within the foundation, allowing all the soul marks to be carved onto it. This was a long process that would result in the creation of a saint soul once completed. At that time, everything would change for him.

Xiang Shaoyun's soul had already touched upon the powers of cultivation only available to those in the Saint Realm. His soul was so strong it left even him in disbelief. However, he also knew very well that his soul was still not a true saint soul yet. Perhaps it was now only a pseudo-saint soul, half a step away from becoming a true saint soul. He had the urge to swallow the saint soul pill to directly forge a saint soul, but he suppressed the urge.

Sure, the pill could allow him to quickly possess a saint soul, but he always believed it would be better for him to take that step after his body caught up with his soul in strength. Otherwise, an imbalance might occur between his body and soul. If that happened, things would get troublesome.

At this time, Xiang Shaoyun took out the Extreme Chill Curved Sword and started studying it again. He kept having a feeling that this Extreme Chill Curved Sword had an extraordinary origin. It was now time to unveil the secret behind this sword.

#### Chapter 1135: Yin Yang Mother and Child Sword, Yin Mother Sword

The Extreme Chill Curved Sword was a weapon of the dark attribute instead of frost. Its chilly aura came from its baleful yin energy, which contained a thick aura of death. This aura was a sinister power that would infect and kill anyone who touched the sword.

Back when Xiang Shaoyun had first obtained this sword, this had nearly happened to him. If it wasn't for his dark origin energy, which could devour and assimilate the sword's energy, he wouldn't have been able to subdue this sword.

And because his dark origin energy gave him an absolute advantage over the sword, he could freely wield the weapon. Cultivators of any other powers or whose dark power wasn't pure enough wouldn't be able to utilize the sword. Xiang Shaoyun was sure that this curved sword was an outstanding weapon with an extraordinary origin.

In fact, although Xiang Shaoyun could wield it, he could only display a tiny bit of the sword's strength. It was still hiding its full strength. Using his dark origin energy, he once again tried to activate the sword.

The sword's surface turned black and glossy, exuding a sharp aura that caused one's hair to rise. It was as though it could casually separate a head from a body.

"It is impossible that nobody realized the nature of an exceptional sword like this. Perhaps those foreigners couldn't understand a human weapon like this and couldn't fully unite with this sword. That was why they had decided to put this sword up for auction. Let me try feeding it some of my blood," muttered Xiang Shaoyun as he lightly sliced the sword across his arm.

Hiss!

He felt a deep chill penetrate into his bones, causing him to take a deep breath from discomfort. Several drops of blood landed on the sword. Sure enough, the sword reacted to the blood, causing him to grow excited.

An odd pattern appeared on the sword's surface as though a black dragonfish was swimming about the sword. Perhaps due to a lack of a playmate, the dragonfish seemed incredibly lonely, and it seemed to be on the verge of fading into nothingness from loneliness.

As he looked at the black dragonfish, Xiang Shaoyun's eyes flickered as a familiar sensation rose within him. He immediately activated the yin and yang dragonfish diagram on his soul foundation.

This was something he had obtained from the massive stele in the Spacetime Grotto. The yin and yang dragonfish were a simulation of the dao of time, while the black dragonfish on the Extreme Chill Curved Sword greatly resembled the black dragonfish in the yin yang dragonfish diagram.

The moment Xiang Shaoyun manifested the yin yang dragonfish diagram, the lonely black dragonfish leaped out of the sword and merged with the black dragonfish in the diagram. The diagram erupted with an even more dazzling radiance, and numerous ancient characters floated out of it. The ancient characters embedded themselves into Xiang Shaoyun's soul, allowing him to instantly know the origin of the Extreme Chill Curved Sword.

These ancient characters were profound and difficult to understand. However, with them imprinted onto his soul, it was as though he had been enlightened. This sword was not called the Extreme Chill Curved Sword at all. Rather, it was the Yin Mother Sword of the Yin Yang Mother and Child

Sword. There was also a Yang Child Sword; together with the Yin Mother Sword, they were known as the Yin Yang Mother and Child Sword. During the ancient times, these two swords were the most supreme and paramount of weapons.

It was rumored that when one gathered both swords, one would be able to master the Yin Yang Sword Technique, master the dao of time, and dominate all lands under the sky. Xiang Shaoyun was unclear if that was the truth, but he had indeed learned the Yin Sword Technique from this sword.

The Yin Sword Technique utilized the power of yin. It had nine stances in total, with each stance being incomparably powerful. It was a saint-grade battle technique. In fact, it might even be a battle technique of a higher grade. The dark origin energy was a chilly energy of the extreme yin attribute. Thus, it was suited for the cultivation of this sword technique.

However, Xiang Shaoyun's strength was still too weak. It would be somewhat hard for him to cultivate the Yin Sword Technique. Fortunately, he had a pseudo-saint soul that he could use to try cultivating the technique.

After receiving the information from the black dragonfish, joy covered Xiang Shaoyun's face, and he muttered, "This is actually the mother sword of the Yin Yang Mother and Child Sword? This sword has too amazing of a background, right?"

Like a buried pearl, an ancient godly sword like this had appeared yet went unnoticed. One could say that Xiang Shaoyun had profited greatly by obtaining it. If the background of this sword was known, the people in the auction would probably be willing to spend tens of millions of saint crystals for it.

Yes, saint crystals, not regular spirit crystals. The two were at entirely different levels in terms of worth. One ought to know that this was an ancient divine weapon, not a regular saint weapon.

Without the dark origin energy, Xiang Shaoyun wouldn't have been able to form a resonance with it. Without the yin and yang dragonfish diagram, he wouldn't have obtained the sword's inheritance. Anyone else other than him would not be able to unveil the sword's secret.

Xiang Shaoyun met all the required conditions to utilize this sword. It was as though he carried the mandate of heaven, granting him such a fortuitous encounter.

Xiang Shaoyun was in no rush to end his cultivation session. Using his soul clone, he started cultivating the Yin Sword Technique. He did not aim to master all nine stances, but he aimed to gain



an initial understanding of all of them. Only then would he be able to properly unleash the Yin Mother Sword's strength.

The Yin Sword Technique was boundlessly powerful, containing the dao of extreme yin. Without mastery over the corresponding energy, one would not be able to comprehend the technique's intricacies.

While comprehending the dao of extreme yin, Xiang Shaoyun found that it was similar to the profundity of darkness. He fused his comprehension of the two, quickly obtaining mastery over the dao of extreme yin.

He could now unleash an extremely terrifying sword strike by channeling only a tiny bit of his energy into the sword. Fortunately, he was cultivating down in the abyss. Nobody was able to sense the sharp and chilly sword energy. Anyone sensing the energy would have a hair-raising sensation because the sword was too powerful.

Xiang Shaoyun proceeded to compress more of his strength as he cultivated. Eventually, he stopped using any energy, purely practicing the form of the sword technique. Even so, the sword continued flashing about, unleashing a formidable might.

This was because the Yin Mother Sword had acknowledged Xiang Shaoyun as its master. He could now wield the sword as he wished, unleashing the sword's full strength. After seven days, he mastered the Yin Sword Technique's first three stances. As for the latter four stances, he could only master them after reaching the Heaven Battling Realm or higher.

This was because, for the four stances, comprehension of the world and space was required before one could make sense of the profundities within the sword technique. Xiang Shaoyun did not force himself to continue cultivating the latter four stances. Instead, he practiced the first three stances repeatedly.

At the same time, he also split the other half of his attention into comprehending the dao of time, doing his best to cultivate as fast as he could. Time would not wait for anyone. The dao of time was basically the dao of yin and yang. The power of time was essentially the fusion of two powers to unleash a power capable of shaking the heaven and earth, a power no other power combination could compare to. Perhaps only the primal chaos power could be a match for the power of time.

After spending a total of four months in cultivation, Xiang Shaoyun finally left seclusion. After he went out, he received a piece of good news from Little White. A draconic land had been found where a large amount of dragon liquid was available.

Xiang Shaoyun was overjoyed, and he said, "The heavens are blessing the Ziling Sect!"

#### Chapter 1136: Yellowvein Layered Stone

Little White had stayed deep in the Buried Monarch Mountain Range for about a year. Since he had left with an old Demon Saint and several Demon Sovereigns, Xiang Shaoyun wasn't worried about his safety. Right after leaving his seclusion, Xiang Shaoyun received such an update. It was understandable why he grew so excited.

The so-called draconic land was a unique land that could give rise to natural draconic aura and dragon liquid. It was also a place where draconic transformation was possible. Generally, the moment such a place was discovered, massive battles would erupt between numerous organizations over the land because it was an excellent place of cultivation where one could snatch the fortune of the world itself. Nobody would want to miss out on such a good piece of land.

After Little White's group entered the mountain range, they encountered numerous powerful demonic beasts. Using his unique white tiger's aura, he subdued many types of demonic beasts. Of course, they had also encountered the opposition of some powerful demonic beasts. Only after numerous intense battles did they manage to penetrate deep into the mountain range.

At the depths of the mountain range, a group of demonic beasts called heaven-burying canines could be found. They were an ancient demonic beast race that was supposed to have gone extinct long ago. Surprisingly, some of them were actually surviving and living within the Buried Monarch Mountain Range.

After an intense battle with the heaven-burying canines, Little White's group found the draconic land. However, there was a terrifying old demon among the heaven-burying canines. That old demon alone nearly obliterated Little White's group. The old demon had only spared Little White out of respect for his identity as a white tiger.

One could say that Little White's group had returned in defeat. They hadn't been able to occupy the draconic land. When Xiang Shaoyun heard the full story, the excitement in his heart was extinguished.

"Are the heaven-burying canines really that powerful?" Xiang Shaoyun asked curiously.

"They are really strong. There are not a lot of them, but each one is a freakishly strong combatant. They have preserved an extremely pure bloodline. I need to use all my strength even when facing

one with the same cultivation level as me. Ordinary demonic beasts won't be a match for them," said Little White.

"Looks like we can't lay hands on the draconic land," said Xiang Shaoyun with a sigh.

If not even the old demon beside Little White could do anything to the heaven-burying canine, there was no way he could take the draconic land for himself.

"Don't worry. Just wait until my clan establishes a foothold in the Buried Monarch Mountain Range. It will only be a matter of time before I snatch that place up and subdue the heaven-burying canines," said Little White.

Xiang Shaoyun said in astonishment, "Your clan is settling here?"

"Yeah. Since your organization is here, I am naturally moving over as well. Of course, I still need to return and tell them all about this. In any case, the Buried Monarch Mountain Range compares to our Hundred Beasts Mountain Range. In fact, it is even slightly better. I'm confident the patriarch will also agree with using this place to strengthen my race," said Little White in an optimistic manner.

Xiang Shaoyun clapped and said with a smile, "Good, very good. If you really do move here, I will naturally welcome you with open arms."

If Little White's clan moved here and formed a relationship of mutual assistance with the sect, he would no longer need to fear the Dragon Society.

"This is not something that will happen immediately. I still need to convince those old fellows, so it might take a while," said Little White as he scratched his head awkwardly.

"It doesn't matter. It will be good as long as it happens. We brothers will then be able to meet frequently," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"Sure. I'll return to the Hundred Beasts Mountain tomorrow," said Little White with a nod. "Also, in our travels, we have also discovered some other things."

As he said that, a yellow stone appeared in his hand. On the stone were numerous odd veins that exuded a heavy aura, giving off the feeling that it was no ordinary stone.

When Xiang Shaoyun saw the stone, his pupils contracted as he exclaimed, "This is a yellowvein layered stone?"

"That's right. We found it during our travels, and the place we found it is not too far from here. There are quite a lot of them in the mountain range. Perhaps they will be useful to you, boss," said Little White.

"Of course they will be useful. Your discovery is like delivering charcoal to someone while it's snowing," said Xiang Shaoyun as he patted Little White's shoulder in excitement.

"Boss, those are only some emperor-grade materials. Why are you so excited?" asked Little White in confusion.

"You will never understand how hard it is to run an organization. Your boss is going mad from poverty. I'm going to be a miner," said Xiang Shaoyun in an exaggerated manner.

"Are things really that bad? Do you want me to give you a sponsor? I'm not rich, but I still have some wealth to spare," offered Little White magnanimously.

"Little White, I am happy enough that you're willing to stay here with me. I'll solve other issues myself," said Xiang Shaoyun in a gratified manner. "Tell me the yellowvein layered stones' location. I will send someone to start gathering them."

"The yellowvein layered stones can be found in the yellowvein leopard territory. If you go, you will be attacked by them. Let me bring you there personally before I leave," said Little White after giving it some thought.

"Sure. I'll gather some men. We'll go immediately," said Xiang Shaoyun as he rushed away to gather people.

A group of Emperors and two Sovereigns were gathered. A group like this should be strong enough to hold their ground. He aimed to first scout the place and check if the yellowvein layered stone mine was big enough before deciding if he should send some miners over.

Then, Xiang Shaoyun followed Little White into the depths of the Buried Monarch Mountain Range. Traveling at full speed, they arrived in about three days. In truth, reaching their destination in three days could be considered fast. Without Little White leading the way, they might have taken more than seven days.

After all, they encountered many demonic beasts on their way. Since Little White had spread his reputation as a nobility of the white tigers during his early travels, none of the demonic beasts dared to impede their path.

Before long, they reached a mountain ridge where small trees grew. The earth was light yellow. From afar, the soil looked like sand, but when one got near, it looked like mud.

Numerous yellowvein leopards could be found in the area, their eyes gleaming with a vigilant light. The moment Xiang Shaoyun's group approached, they roared. This was their way of asking for reinforcement. Numerous yellowvein leopards charged out of caves, and a thick demonic aura surged into the sky.

"This prince has arrived. Are you trying to revolt?" berated Little White as he released his demonic aura.

A yellowvein leopard expert prostrated on the ground and said respectfully, "Greetings, prince. Please forgive our lack of manners. We were unaware of your arrival."

The other yellowvein leopards also didn't dare to be disrespectful. They all prostrated on the ground, presenting a rather spectacular scene.

"Um. You may all rise. I have something for you to do," commanded Little White haughtily.

#### Chapter 1137: Your Master Is Pleased

Because the yellowvein layered stones were located within the yellowvein leopard territory, the leopards naturally knew where the stones could be found. With Little White's suppression, the yellowvein leopards revealed all the spots where they could find the stones.

Xiang Shaoyun's group further inspected the area and found it was rich in yellowvein layered stones. In fact, numerous yellowvein layered stones could be found in the ground beneath the few

mountains in their vicinity. This place actually had a decently sized vein of yellowvein layered stones.

After confirming that fact, all the misgivings Xiang Shaoyun had vanished. If he could start mining the yellowvein layered stones, the sect's lack of wealth would be temporarily solved.

Yellowvein layered stones were materials required for not only weapon forging but also laying out formations. Additionally, they were greatly useful for earth cultivators. The mining operation would bring the sect great wealth.

However, the yellowvein leopards were not happy with the mining operation. This vein belonged to them. Although they didn't need much, this place still had a thick accumulation of earth energy. If the yellowvein layered stones were dug away, how could they continue living here?

"Prince, please leave us a path of survival. Do not dig out all of these yellowvein layered stones," pleaded the yellowvein leopard patriarch.

"What can you do with these stupid stones? You can't even eat them. Just wait until this prince settles here. You won't have to worry about your survival anymore," said Little White overbearingly.

Xiang Shaoyun sank into thought before saying, "We will only occupy half this place. They can keep the other half. Also, we will share some of our profits from the mine with them."

"Boss, what's the point of being so generous?" said Little White in a displeased manner.

Xiang Shaoyun waved his hand and said, "It's fine. Everyone is trying to survive. It will be better to coexist."

These days, Xiang Shaoyun's mental state had calmed significantly. Since Little White was going to settle down in the Buried Monarch Mountain Range, he did not want to do something that was the same as killing the chicken that laid eggs. If he fully harvested all the yellowvein layered stones, it would be hard for more stones to appear. Even the yellowvein leopards would probably stop being loyal to Little White.

When the yellowvein leopards heard his suggestion, their displeasure vanished. They voiced their agreement to Xiang Shaoyun's proposal. Little White also shut his mouth when he saw Xiang Shaoyun insisting.

However, Little White still decided to scare the yellowvein leopards and threaten them to take out any good stuff in their possession and offer them to his boss or he would make their life difficult. The yellowvein leopards were naturally frightened and hurriedly offered all the treasures in the area. It turned out that yellowvein mushrooms, emperor herbs of considerable value, were also growing in their territory.

When Xiang Shaoyun followed them to the place where the yellowvein mushrooms were growing, he discovered that the mushrooms were all growing in decent number halfway up the mountain. However, some were still sprouts, some were king herbs, and even fewer had grown to the emperor herb level.

When Xiang Shaoyun used the profundity of earth to spread his senses into the soil, he found that this location had much thicker earth energy than other places. It was obvious that there were not only yellowvein layered stones but also spirit crystals.

Of course, he didn't intend to dig out all the spirit crystals. Rather, he was considering the option of cultivating more yellowvein mushroom emperors. If he could, this would be another source of long-term profit for the sect.

Unfortunately, this was the yellowvein leopard territory. He wouldn't be able to easily implement his plan. However, he also thought of giving Old Yao some help to cultivate better herbs at his herb farm.

For one to establish a good herb farm, good soil was required. He decided to bring some of the soil here back to the sect. If one buried some yellowvein layered stones and spirit crystals underground and laid down a supporting formation, a great farm that could produce unending high-level herbs might come into existence.

But before doing all that, Xiang Shaoyun decided to first get some soil into his astral cosmos sea. He had learned that his astral cosmos sea was the best location for a herb to grow. The primal inception energy was too incredible, possessing the ability to stimulate life and accelerate the growth of plants. This was a great advantage over the outside world.

But since Xiang Shaoyun still wasn't clear on how his astral cosmos sea worked, he did not dare to stuff too many things into it in case he suffered some backlash.

Xiang Shaoyun did not spend too much time in the area. After stationing some people, he returned to the sect and sent over more people to start the operation.

When he returned to the sect with the news, the sect's higher-ups all erupted in excitement. Pang Tongyuan immediately sent more people over, aiming to start the operation as soon as possible and find more mines.

As for Xiang Shaoyun, after sending Little White and the others off, he found he had some free time. He still had a feeling that there was a lot to be done, but at the same time, he did not know what to focus on.

After spending some time in thought, he finally recalled that he had a precious disciple. He wondered if Guo Po had reached the Astral Realm. When he reached the training field, he saw that Guo Po had grown considerably. Guo Po still had the same lame leg, but he continued working hard in practicing the numerous body refining techniques to improve his physical strength.

Xiang Shaoyun was in no rush to approach, and he instead stayed at the side in observation. He found that Guo Po was now a second-stage Astral Realm cultivator. He also had much stronger arms than regular second-stage Astral Realm cultivators. It was clear that he had been cultivating really hard.

Xiang Shaoyun waited until Guo Po was done with his training session before taking him away.

When Guo Po saw Xiang Shaoyun, he greeted in joy, "Master!"

They stopped at a certain residence not far from the abyss Xiang Shaoyun used as his personal cultivation spot. This was the residence he had built for Guo Po.

"Looks like you have been cultivating hard during the past year. Your master is pleased," praised Xiang Shaoyun.

"Thank you, master," said Guo Po happily.

After working hard for so long, this was what he had been waiting to hear.



"Alright. Now that you have broken through into the Astral Realm, you should know the basics of energy circulation. I'll give you the lifebone pill and cure your leg. This will be a painful process. Remember to endure the pain, or curing your leg will be much harder," Xiang Shaoyun went straight to the point.

Guo Po nodded resolutely and said, "Don't worry, master. I will be able to endure it!"

He had suffered numerous pains growing up, and he was tired of his lame leg. He wanted a new life, and he was already prepared to embrace all the pain he needed to.

"Good. First, adjust yourself to your peak condition," said Xiang Shaoyun.

Guo Po then sat down and entered meditation. But since he knew that his leg would be cured, he was too excited and couldn't calm himself. Xiang Shaoyun recited some calming chants, helping him to slowly calm down.

"Alright. Now swallow this lifebone pill," said Xiang Shaoyun as he handed over a pill.

#### Chapter 1138: Guo Po Is No Longer Lame

The lifebone pill was something Old Yao refined using the lifebone flower and possessed a much gentler medicinal power. Even so, the medicinal power was still boundlessly powerful for Guo Po.

The lifebone pill was a pill greatly effective at treating muscles and bones. It would be useful to even Saints. Thus, it was understandable that an Astral Realm kid would have a hard time enduring the medicinal power.

As the lifebone pill erupted with its medicinal power, Guo Po's bones were reforged. The pain of having new bones growing in him caused him so much pain he nearly fainted.

"Guard your mind, circulate your energy through your meridians, gather them in your stars, and transform the energy into new bones," said Xiang Shaoyun as he grabbed Guo Po's shoulders and pulled out some of the medicinal power for him.

Guo Po was too weak to fully digest the medicinal power of an entire lifebone pill. Thus, Xiang Shaoyun's assistance was needed. After Xiang Shaoyun extracted some of the medicinal power, the pressure on Guo Po reduced. However, he still suffered the same anguish and pain.

Fortunately, he was stubborn enough to endure the pain. He maintained his consciousness, and even his pair of eyes turned scarlet. The moment his eyes changed color, it was as though he had entered a different state where all the pain was filtered out of his senses.

When Xiang Shaoyun noticed, he muttered in astonishment, "Can the innate unique eyes also help one enter a state of self-forgetfulness?"

The state of self-forgetfulness was an extremely high level of meditation, a state that allowed one to fully empty one's mind, forgetting oneself and the world. Generally, one could only enter this state after reaching the Dragon Ascension Realm.

Xiang Shaoyun had not imagined that Guo Po would be able to rely on his willpower and unique eyes to enter this state and reduce the suffering he had to endure.

The lifebone pill required some time to fully display its effect. After three days and nights, Guo Po was finally done reforging his bones. His condition returned to normal.

His entire body was drenched with sweat. Many impurities had also been expelled from his body. Not only had his body been cleansed, but his bones had also changed. He now had different bones from regular people. When Guo Po opened his eyes, an indescribable radiance swirled in his pupils. The radiance vanished instantly, allowing his consciousness to return.

"Try taking a few steps," said Xiang Shaoyun.

With an expectant look, Guo Po slowly stood up. When he looked at his lame leg, he saw that it was now the same as the other leg. His tears flowed out. Slowly, he walked. He found that his body now had much better balance. He had a hard time adapting to this change.

"Relax a bit. Picture how a normal person walks before imitating it," said Xiang Shaoyun.

Guo Po nodded and did as told. The idea worked. As he walked slowly, he soon found that walking really felt much better than before. Nothing felt improper, and even his cultivation had increased to ninth-stage Astral Realm. He was in disbelief.

"Circulate your energy and get used to it. That way, you will get more used to walking on your new leg. You will be able to live and cultivate like a normal person. You no longer need to care about how others look at you," said Xiang Shaoyun.

Guo Po continued doing as told. Slowly, he adapted to his body's new energy level. Only then did he truly feel that his leg had been fully cured. He couldn't help running.

He ran faster and faster. Eventually, he roared in laughter and said, "Haha, I, Guo Po, am no longer lame!"

His lame leg had given him many bad memories that he had repressed for many years. Finally, he was relieved from them. For him, this was a good thing because keeping and hiding a negative memory for a long time might bring about negative consequences.

Xiang Shaoyun did not stop Guo Po and allowed him to vent. Venting would help clear the dark clouds in his mind and greatly help his future cultivation.

When Guo Po was done venting, he ran back to Xiang Shaoyun and knelt down heavily. He kowtowed and said, "Thank you, master, for giving me a new lease of life."

He had waited too long for today, and his gratefulness for Xiang Shaoyun had reached an extremely high level.

Xiang Shaoyun helped him up and said, "From today onward, stay here and cultivate well. Your master will give you some guidance. Afterward, you will have to rely on yourself. Remember this: as a man, there are things you can and cannot do. Do not think senseless thoughts, or all your hard work would have been for nothing."

"Yes. This disciple obeys," answered Guo Po solemnly.

"Um. Since you're my first disciple, you can't embarrass me, or I'll teach you a lesson," said Xiang Shaoyun sternly.

Guo Po nodded. "Yes, master. This disciple will cultivate hard and not bring shame to your name."

Then, Xiang Shaoyun started instructing Guo Po, building him a solid foundation. He taught Guo Po the Heaven Conquering Overlord Manual, Limit Stimulation Technique, and some low-level cultivation tricks that would help reduce his mistakes during cultivation.

Although Guo Po didn't have the Light of Wisdom, he was still very intelligent. He only needed Xiang Shaoyun to repeat a technique twice or thrice, and he would be able to memorize everything.

Xiang Shaoyun spent seven days teaching Guo Po, giving him enough pointers that would probably take him two or three years to fully digest. Next, Xiang Shaoyun had the three birds accompany Guo Po. They would be in charge of both guarding and monitoring his cultivation.

The three birds were now Emperors, so they were more than capable of looking over Guo Po. Additionally, Xiang Shaoyun also had several crippled loyalists instruct Guo Po. That way, he could give them something to do and alleviate the bleakness they felt.

They would definitely be unwilling to just grow old and die like this. Their mood improved considerably after being given a task. This was especially true since they needed to guide Xiang Shaoyun's disciple. They vowed to teach him and make him into the best of his generation.

With that, Xiang Shaoyun left in a relieved fashion. He rushed to the Yao Peak, planning to help Old Yao lay down an energy gathering formation and open up a new farm. Old Yao already had several farms, but most of them were nothing special.

With his identity as a formation grandmaster, Xiang Shaoyun used the yellowvein layered stone and numerous spirit crystals to lay down a formation that could gather thick spiritual energy and help the farm produce better yields.

Old Yao had not imagined that Xiang Shaoyun would also be well-versed in formations. He was incredibly joyful to see how capable Xiang Shaoyun had become.

Just as Xiang Shaoyun was about to have a chat with Old Yao, he received bad news. The Dragon Society's army was coming. He had no choice but to convene a meeting at the main peak with the sect's higher-ups.

"Is the Dragon Society intending to start a war with us?" Xiang Shaoyun muttered with a grave expression.

This was probably the worst news he could receive at the moment.

### Chapter 1139: Dragon Society Causes Trouble

The Dragon Society and the Ziling Sect could be considered neighbors. Although they were based in two different provinces, they weren't too far from each other. The two organizations would frequently get into conflict over some resources. Their conflicts back when Xiang Yangzhan founded the sect were even more intense. At the time, Xiang Yangzhan was unrivaled, killing many Dragon Society members and establishing a grudge that couldn't be erased between the two organizations.

After Di Batian became the sect master, the Dragon Society had not done anything against them. But the moment Xiang Shaoyun drove Di Batian away, the Dragon Society started stirring again.

Di Batian was the reason for that. He had released information that the Ziling Sect was suffering grave internal issues. Because of that, the Dragon Society was trying to take this opportunity to advance against the sect, giving rise to further conflicts between the two organizations.

The Dragon Society had wanted to snatch the Ma Clan and the Qingxiu Manor from them, but the attempt had been suppressed by the three Saints Xiang Shaoyun had sent. Now that the Dragon Society was returning and heading straight for the sect, the Ziling Sect had to take them seriously.

In the grand hall, Xiang Shaoyun sat on the main seat and coldly looked at the people before him. He asked, "Where did the news come from? Is it reliable?"

An Emperor said, "Young master, this subordinate is the one who brought the news. I personally saw the 108 generals of Dragon Society coming our way. They were advancing in their carriages, traveling day and night in our direction. In fact, they were advancing with great fanfare as though they were afraid that nobody would know they were from the Dragon Society."

"Since they were traveling with such speed, how were you able to reach the sect before them?" asked Xiang Shaoyun.

The Emperor replied, "They seem to have some misgivings and had established a camp in the wilderness. They seem to be waiting for an opportunity. Or maybe they are only doing this to provoke us. I'm not really sure."

Xiang Shaoyun gave it some thought and asked, "Anyone know what they intend to do?"

"Young sect master, whatever their intention is, it is clear they are hostile toward us. We need to respond immediately, or they will think that we have no capable individuals in the sect," said Pang Tongyuan.

The others also voiced their agreement, "That's right. Please give the order, young sect master. We are willing to battle the Dragon Society to the death."

While everyone was offering to fight, someone said, "Reporting, the Dragon Society emissary is waiting outside."

A look of astonishment covered their faces. They had not imagined that the Dragon Society would be so bold, sending their emissary straight to their doorstep.

"They are too unbridled. Let me behead this emissary," shouted someone.

Another person shouted, "That's right. First, we kill him. Next, we kill their 108 generals."

A different person opposed, "Emissaries are never killed during war. We need to maintain the grace our sect should have."

"That's right. We should see what he has to say. Maybe he's here to apologize," said someone, somewhat innocently.

Xiang Shaoyun said, "Let the emissary in."

"Yes, young sect master," answered the subordinate before leaving to bring in the emissary.

Shortly after, a middle-aged man with a goatee strolled into the hall nonchalantly with his hands clasped behind him. His head was raised haughtily, and he looked at everyone in the hall with contempt.

Of course, the middle-aged man had the strength to back his pride. Although his aura was withdrawn, Xiang Shaoyun could still sense that he was a peak Sovereign. The Ziling Sect people were infuriated when they saw his attitude.

"Who is this? Bow to the young sect master!" berated a Ziling Sect elder.

"Is this the way your Ziling Sect treats your guests? Where is your master? Why are you getting a little boy to meet this emissary?" said the middle-aged man, his voice laced with scorn.

His name was Liang Cairen, and he occupied an important position in the Dragon Society.

"Audacious! This is our young sect master! He is already showing you a lot of respect by meeting you personally, yet you're still acting in such an unbridled manner?" berated Pang Tongyuan.

Unfortunately, due to his crippled cultivation, his voice was rather weak. As a result, he didn't sound particularly imposing. In fact, he looked like a sickly old man, and as an extension, the entire sect looked weak.

Liang Cairen gave Pang Tongyuan a glance and said with disdain, "Looks like your Ziling Sect really doesn't have any talents left. Even trash like this can enter the grand hall—"

"Enough. If you're only here to run your mouth, you can get lost. If you stay even a moment longer, I'm afraid I won't be able to stop myself from killing you," said Xiang Shaoyun with a sharp glint in his eyes.

The moment Liang Cairen met Xiang Shaoyun's eyes, he felt a great sense of oppression descend upon him. He was forced to circulate his energy to resist the pressure.

He already has such a bearing at second-stage Sovereign Realm. When he matures in the future, he will become a second Xiang Yangzhan! thought Liang Cairen inwardly.

He calmed himself and said, "This emissary is here to talk about something important. We might be able to end the hostility between our two organizations once and for all."

All the Ziling Sect people were stunned. They muttered, "Is the Dragon Society here to sue for peace?"

Not even they could believe that. After all, the Ziling Sect was the weaker party.

"Go ahead," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"Our Dragon Society is going to become a tier-8 organization soon. Thus, your Ziling Sect can instead choose to submit to us and become an ally. As long as you offer us yearly tributes, we won't mistreat you," said Liang Cairen.

All the Ziling Sect people had overcast expressions, and they started cursing.

"Dream on! How can our Ziling Sect submit to your Dragon Society? Are you stupid?"

"How ambitious. Your Dragon Society isn't much better than us, yet you're trying to annex us? You guys should be the ones submitting."

"That's right. The Dragon Society is too ambitious. Things won't end well for you."

"We should just drag him out and behead him. He's becoming more and more of an eyesore."

...

Liang Cairen stood silently and ignored everyone else. His gaze was focused on Xiang Shaoyun, awaiting a reply.

Xiang Shaoyun gestured at everyone to stop talking and said, "This is not possible. Leave before I lose my temper, or you'll really die."

Such an audacious suggestion ignited a raging flame in Liang Cairen's heart.

"Hehe, there is no rush. Let me finish my words. After that, I'll leave even if you want me to stay," said Liang Cairen. "It's fine if you disagree. We will have a fight outside. If you win, we will let this end. If you lose, submit. What do you think?"

"So you're here to start a war. Why don't I just kill you here before going out to kill all 108 of your generals?" said Xiang Shaoyun as he stood up.



Liang Cairen's expression changed as he hurriedly said, "Do not misunderstand. This is an honorable challenge, not an all-out war."

#### Chapter 1140: Honorable Challenge

"Honorable challenge?" Xiang Shaoyun blanked out.

The other Ziling Sect members also blanked out. They were confused as to what the Dragon Society was trying to do.

"That's right. With the honorable challenge, there is no need for an all-out war and excessive casualties on both sides. We will have five matches. The side to accumulate three wins first will be the victor. If we win, your Ziling Sect will submit to us. If you win, we will consider us even and promise to not invade for 10 years," said Liang Cairen.

At that explanation, everyone finally understood the Dragon Society's intentions.

"Doesn't this feel like an unfair challenge?" said Old Yao.

"That's right. Why aren't you submitting in the event of your defeat?" asked someone else, dissatisfied.

"Haha, that is a good question. Because our Dragon Society is stronger than your Ziling City. You have undergone quite a few tribulations in the past 10 years. In fact, there was a period of time where you were known as the Di Sect. We all know that. About a year ago, even Ziling City's Ma Clan and Qingxiu City's Qingxiu Manor tried to rebel against your rule. It is clear your foundations are becoming unstable. You can't even contend against us anymore," said Liang Cairen, roaring with laughter.

His words were blunt, but he was speaking the truth. Since the Dragon Society dared to march against them, it was clear they looked down on the Ziling Sect. Apart from the Ziling Sect's lack of personnel, the other reason for their confidence was their ability to become a tier-8 organization soon. The Ziling Sect didn't even know what to say. After all, Liang Cairen was speaking the truth.

"The Ma Clan and the Qingxiu Manor only rebelled because they were misled. I really want to see if they still have the guts to stand against us now. Sure, we have experienced some hard times, but if

the Dragon Society wants to swallow us, you will have to pay a high price," said Xiang Shaoyun with a sinister look on his face.

"I'm just an emissary. You can decide if you agree or not. I'm only here to pass on the message," said Liang Cairen calmly.

Xiang Shaoyun lightly knocked on the armrest of his chair and said, "I can agree to your challenge, but I need to add an additional condition. If you lose, you need to pay us 10 million high-grade spirit crystals as compensation."

"Have you gone mad?" Liang Cairen said.

"Audacious!"

"Courting death!"

When the Ziling Sect people heard Liang Cairen cursing at Xiang Shaoyun, they berated him. They even wanted to attack, but Xiang Shaoyun stopped them. He said, "I have not gone mad. But the conditions favor your side too much. These 10 million spirit crystals are nothing. piss off and make your report. If you agree, we fight. If not, don't even dream of returning to the Dragon Society alive."

As Xiang Shaoyun spoke, images of dragon and tiger manifested around him as an overbearing aura unfurled from his body and pressed down at Liang Cairen.

Liang Cairen had the sensation that a dragon and a tiger were roaring and pouncing on him. He hurriedly released his peak Sovereign aura, trying to stop the suppression. The two auras collided. Liang Cairen's aura was unable to withstand even a single blow, instantly collapsing due to the aura of dragon and tiger. He was sent rolling out of the hall, coughing blood.

"This is your lesson. Remember, this is the Ziling Sect, not your Dragon Society. There is no place for you to act unbridled here," said Xiang Shaoyun.

Liang Cairen crawled back onto his feet and looked at Xiang Shaoyun with horror before leaving at his top speed. The members of the Ziling Sect felt greatly satisfied seeing Xiang Shaoyun pushing out Liang Cairen so brutally.

Liang Cairen had been too arrogant. He indeed deserved a lesson. But apart from Xiang Shaoyun, who among them could so easily teach that lesson?

After rushing away from Ziling City, Liang Cairen a place in the wilderness. A group of people was stationed there, and everyone in the army was in high spirits. Near them, beasts like jiao, luan, and so on were waiting. Their army was quite terrifying.

These people were none other than the Dragon Society's 108 generals, the society's top experts. Three among them were more prominent than the others.

One of them was a white-haired old woman wielding a dragon staff and wearing a luxurious outfit that clearly displayed her extraordinary status.

The other was a handsome middle-aged man with a dragon crown on his head and a golden dragon robe on his body. His eyes exuded boundless haughtiness.

The third person was a youth about 27 or 28 years old. He had a heroic face and an imposing temperament, as though he was the son of a dragon. He was so good-looking that all women would be infatuated with him.

The three were respectively the Dragon Society's old lady, deputy society master Jin Junyi, and young society master Long Yufang. Each was an individual of extraordinary status in the society. One could see that the Dragon Society had prepared well for this campaign.

When Liang Cairen arrived, he saluted them respectfully before saying, "Old lady, deputy society master, young society master, the Ziling Sect young sect master has accepted the challenge. But he proposed that we pay 10 million high-grade spirit crystals if we lose. If we disagree, they will fight us to the death."

"Young sect master? Looks like Xiang Yangzhan is still missing," said Jin Junyi with a sigh. From the sharp look in his eyes, it was clear he held a thick enmity toward Xiang Yangzhan.

"Yes, he's still missing. Based on what I see, the young sect master is his son. Back then, he was chased off by Di Batian. Subsequently, he moved to our Soaring Dragon Province, but we were oblivious to it. He eventually ended up in the Dragon Phoenix Academy. Otherwise, he wouldn't

have been able to rise up in only 10 years. His strength is deep and unmeasurable," said Liang Cairen.

"Oh? Is Elder Liang scared of this young sect master?" asked Long Yugang.

"It's embarrassing, but I was overwhelmed by his aura," said Liang Cairen with a self-mocking tone.

The old lady opened her eyes and said, "You have been at ninth-stage Sovereign Realm for so many years and are even qualified to attempt a breakthrough into the Heaven Battling Realm. A boy like that managed to overwhelm you?"

Liang Cairen wore a bitter smile. "Old lady, he gives off an entirely different feeling. Facing him is like facing a Heaven Battling Realm expert. That sense of pressure can be felt clearly."

"Looks like Xiang Yangzhan has quite a capable son," said Jin Yijun coldly.

"So do we agree or do we rush them?" asked Long Yugang.

"We're here to annex the Ziling Sect. If we destroy them, all this would be for nothing. We will agree. Ten million high-grade spirit crystals isn't that high a price. In any case, they have no chance of getting it anyway," decided the old lady.

"Let's do it," Jin Yijun agreed.