

## Overlord 1261

### Chapter 1261: Devil Realm

Within the cave, a cocoon of devilish energy had wrapped around Xiang Shaoyun. He seemed to be undergoing some sort of transformation. He had been in this cave for about a year. He had remained in the same state. It was unknown just what had happened to him.

One day, the black cocoon suddenly cracked. A powerful aura rippled out of it. Numerous leeches were crushed to death, and the survivors scattered in all directions. A black storm of devilish energy swept through the cave as though a natural calamity had descended.

Eventually, the black storm stopped, revealing a person. That person was none other than Xiang Shaoyun. A clear devil rune was visible on his forehead, and his long hair was drifting about in the air as his eyes glowed with an enchanting radiance. A sinister aura rippled out of his body.

Standing there, he looked both divine and fiendish, giving off an incredibly contradictory impression. However, the same divine and fiendish bearing he had about him also made him look much more charming. Any woman would be instantly smitten the moment they looked at him.

He first rubbed his forehead before looking at his body. A smirk formed on his lips as he said, "My blood might have been completely changed, but I still have the body of a human. Unless my body is changed as well, I am still part human. This blood infusion is merely to teach me how to utilize devilish energy. I still don't look much like a devil. As for this rune, it really doesn't matter. Hahaha!"

His laughter was carefree. Not only had he escaped from death, but he had also transformed greatly. His strength had grown, and the devilish transformation had transformed his body like the Limit Stimulation Technique, further strengthening his physical body. His body was now comparable to a pseudo-Saint's. Upon further increasing his cultivation, he would be able to easily form a saint body.

During his blood transformation, he had also utilized the Limit Stimulation Technique to further temper his blood and reach the ocean of life force stage. This was the second-to-last stage of his Limit Stimulation Technique, one stage away from full mastery.

The ocean of life force stage not only increased one's lifespan but also replenished one's blood in situations of excessive blood loss. In short, even without any outside supply, he could still rapidly generate and replenish his own blood supply internally.

Of course, the benefits of this stage would only show when he was badly injured. It essentially served to help accelerate his recovery. Additionally, the stronger one's life force, the stronger one's physical strength would be.

As for the crystallized devilish energy in his forehead, it had formed something different from all other devils. Instead of a devil core, he had formed a devil pearl that was connected to his Imperial Nether Domain. The two complemented each other, and his Imperial Nether Domain had grown much stronger than before.

Based on the memories in his bloodline, he learned that he had reached the ninth-stage Devil Sovereign Realm. In other words, if he utilized only devilish energy, he was as powerful as a late-stage Devil Sovereign. He had even more devilish energy than astral energy.

The reason for his excessive growth was his powerful Imperial Nether Domain, his saint soul, and the purity of his bloodline. There was no lack of devilish energy in his surroundings. If it wasn't for the fact that he still needed to further temper his body and his lack of understanding of devilish energy, he could have probably entered the Devil Saint by now.

After waking up, Xiang Shaoyun did not leave the cave immediately. He started studying his surroundings as he had a feeling that the Imperial Nether Clan had some treasures hidden in the cave. After undergoing such a torture and having even his blood changed, he wouldn't be able to forgive himself if he didn't get some benefits from this place.

The cave was filled with devilish energy. Visibility was low, and all the leeches seemed to have vanished. Xiang Shaoyun spread out the senses of his Imperial Nether Domain only to find that his senses were greatly obstructed. He could not get a clear look at the cave.

Nevertheless, he had still discovered that there were many devil bones and skins in the cave. There were so many that even he was shocked. This place was more like a burial place. Any regular person would be unnerved by it.

Xiang Shaoyun wasn't a coward. He had experienced a lot as well. Thus, he quickly regained his composure. The bones and skins in the cave all belonged to imperial nether devils.

He did not know if they were those who had perished in battles or those who were punished with death. He didn't care either. He only wanted to know if there were any treasures to be found.

Unfortunately, only the dead could be found here. No treasure was in sight. Just as Xiang Shaoyun was about to leave in disappointment, he found a certain item not far away. He dashed over and reached for the item unhesitatingly.

"What is this?" Xiang Shaoyun muttered as he looked at the soft black lump in his hand.

This thing didn't look like a stone. It felt like a black heart containing some dark red blood, and a thin layer of fur grew around it. As a whole, it looked like an item formed of devil blood.

After observing it for a while, some memories awakened from his bloodline. His pupils shrank as he muttered, "Is this a devilblood heart?"

A devilblood heart was essentially a fusion of a devil heart and some devil blood. It was a saint-grade object that required an exceptionally long time to form. This was a treasure fatally attractive to any Imperial Nether Clan member.

With a devilblood heart, one could quickly reach the Devil Saint Realm. That was because this devilblood heart was extremely powerful and capable of strengthening one's body and bloodline.

Even for a Devil Saint, a devilblood heart would still be extremely helpful since it was the crystallized blood of numerous imperial nether devils. It could also allow a Devil Saint to reach greater heights.

Unfortunately, Xiang Shaoyun had just completed his blood swap and completed his devil cultivation. He wouldn't be able to absorb this devilblood heart for now. However, it would be helpful when he tried to enter the Devil Saint Realm in the future.

Of course, he still didn't fully accept devilish cultivation. He did not even intend to use this devilblood heart. He only kept it away because he wasn't sure if he would need it in the future. Little did he know, this devilblood heart he had accidentally found would play a crucial role in helping someone close to him in the future.

"Time to leave. I really hope I can leave this place alive," muttered Xiang Shaoyun as he flew away.

Chapter 1262: Might of a Mother

After leaving the cave, Xiang Shaoyun saw the piles of devil bones all around him. The place gave him an incredibly bleak impression.

"Is this where the Imperial Nether Clan buries the dead?" muttered Xiang Shaoyun.

When he looked around, he saw countless imposing and spectacular mountains. They were definitely the tallest mountains he had ever seen in his life. Countless high-grade devilish plants dotted the landscape. Just a quick glance was enough to let him see several saint-grade plants. He even saw some god-grade plants!

Before he could recover from his shock, a certain power descended from the sky and dragged him away. The world spun around him. After a short while, he appeared at the Imperial Nether Palace.

He knew that the Nether Monarch was about to reach a verdict about him. Sure enough, the Nether Monarch appeared. His oppressive gaze landed on Xiang Shaoyun, seeing through him completely.

After a while, the Nether Monarch said, "You no longer have human blood. You have also awakened our clan's abilities. You may now become the nineteenth prince."

Xiang Shaoyun sank into silence before he said, "I don't mind. But I hope you can promise to let me meet my mother."

Xiang Shaoyun wasn't cold-blooded. He greatly longed to see the mother he had never met before. He wanted to know what she looked like. Never seeing his mother was one of his regrets in this life.

"Both you and your mother have our clan's rare primordial bloodline. Unfortunately, your mother is being imprisoned in the deserted palace because of a mistake she had committed. So long as you swear an oath to serve as a prince of our clan, you will be able to release her," said the Nether Monarch.

Xiang Shaoyun vowed without hesitation, "I am willing to be the Imperial Nether Clan's prince. If I dare go against the clan, may I die by heavenly retribution."

Right after he made the vow, thunder rumbled in the sky, causing him to jump. He exclaimed inwardly, That was just a casual vow. Please don't take it so seriously!

"Excellent. A vow made in this palace will bound the fortune of our clan to you. If you go against your vow and harm your own, you will suffer the retribution you mentioned in your vow," said the Nether Monarch.

He then tossed an object to Xiang Shaoyun. When Xiang Shaoyun saw that the object was the Nether Soul Dragon Headband, he accepted it without a second thought.

"This is a treasure from our clan. Since it has acknowledged you as its master, it's yours. Use it well. May you spread our clan's might far and wide," said the Nether Monarch before waving his hand, sending Xiang Shaoyun off.

After leaving the palace, Xiang Shaoyun called out, "You haven't told me how to meet my mother!"

"Everything has been arranged for you. Someone will tell you soon," the Nether Monarch's voice rang out.

Sure enough, Ming Cigeng appeared beside Xiang Shaoyun and respectfully said, "I greet the nineteenth prince!"

Xiang Shaoyun still remembered Ming Cigeng. He asked, "Are you going to bring me to my mother?"

"Yes, please come with me, nineteenth prince," said Ming Cigeng.

Each prince required the royal family's recognition to be formally appointed a prince. However, none had ever been formally appointed by the Nether Monarch like Xiang Shaoyun. He was even allowed to skip the ceremonial rites.

The Nether Monarch wielded absolute power in the clan. Nobody dared to go against his words. Thus, even without performing the required rites, Xiang Shaoyun was already formally considered a prince of the clan.

As someone in the God Realm, Ming Cigeng naturally had a high status. But even someone like him was delighted to serve as the nineteenth prince's subordinate. After all, this nineteenth prince was someone with the primordial bloodline. As a mere Devil Sovereign, he had awakened three abilities. His future was immeasurable.

One ought to know that even the legendary little princess from the past had only awakened her third ability after becoming a Devil Saint. The difference in the timing in which one awakened one's ability should never be underestimated. Often, it was an indication of how high one would reach in the future.

Traveling with Ming Cigeng, Xiang Shaoyun became nervous. From his blood, he could sense that he was approaching his kin. That was the reason he started to feel anxious.

Will she recognize me? thought Xiang Shaoyun to himself.

In a certain deserted palace, a mad woman seemed to have sensed something. She crawled up to her feet and started shouting, "My child! My child is coming! Yes, he is definitely coming! Release me! Release me!"

She cried repeatedly and charged the palace door again and again. Unfortunately, she had no way of breaking out. At this time, a figure appeared from the corner of the room. Nobody could detect its arrival. The figure behaved oddly. It was constantly wriggling as it slowly approached the woman. As the woman wasn't in the right state of mind, she was completely unaware of the figure.

Whoosh!

When the figure neared the woman, it abruptly sent a clump of darkness over and engulfed the woman. The woman finally reacted, but it was too late. She was trapped in the darkness, and all her strength left her as the darkness started devouring her energy. If this was in the past, she wouldn't even struggle and would even gladly welcome death. But now that her child had returned, she did not want to die. She still wanted to see her child.

"I don't want to die! I want to see my child!" she roared and erupted with her bloodline power. Her rune shone brightly, breaking the seal on her body. Her Imperial Nether Domain burst out and enveloped the figure in it.

However, the figure was decisive. It immediately decided to kill both itself and the woman. The woman had just recovered her strength and was thus completely unprepared. The figure's self-detonation destroyed her domain, injuring her with it. Surprisingly, the dark power converged together before engulfing the woman yet again.

With her final bit of strength, the woman summoned the Nether Yin Gate in her attempt to shift the dark power away. Unfortunately, she was far too weak compared to the past. She couldn't even keep the gate active. The dark power successfully trapped her. Just as the woman was about to be completely devoured, Ming Cigeng and Xiang Shaoyun reached the deserted palace.

"My mother is in danger!" A bad premonition abruptly rose within Xiang Shaoyun. Ming Cigeng also sensed something. He hurriedly rushed to the palace with Xiang Shaoyun in tow.

#### Chapter 1263: Saving Mother

Ming Cigeng was a God Realm powerhouse. With his incredible speed, he was able to instantly appear in the deserted palace with Xiang Shaoyun. The figure in the palace noiselessly vanished, leaving only a dying woman lying on the ground.

With his sharp senses, Ming Cigeng was able to sense the figure. He roared, "Survivor of the Dark Devourer Clan, show yourself!"

Ming Cigeng was incomparably valiant, instantly sealing off the entire area before grabbing at a certain spot. Before the figure could escape, Ming Cigeng captured it. Just as Ming Cigeng was about to drag the figure back, it suddenly self-detonated again.

"You think you can hide from me with this trick? Naive!" Ming Cigeng sneered and waved both his hands, sending the explosion away. Every bit of force generated from the explosion heavily crashed against each other.

A wail rang out in the air as blood bloomed, and then every single drop of blood evaporated.

Ming Cigeng heaved a breath of relief and said, "There is actually a Dark Devourer Clan survivor in our clan. Have they returned? If they have, this will be a much bigger matter."

While Ming Cigeng was deep in thought, Xiang Shaoyun arrived before the woman on the ground. When he sensed that the woman's life force was practically nonexistent, tears dripped out of his eyes uncontrollably. A voice rushed out from the depths of his heart, Mother!

He was able to sense that the woman was his mother. However, he couldn't sense any life in her. An overwhelming sadness rose within him, so much that he couldn't even speak.

Ming Cigeng came before the woman and said regretfully, "The little princess was ambushed by the Dark Devourer Clan!"

"Can she be saved?" asked Xiang Shaoyun as he clenched his teeth.

Ming Cigeng shook his head. "The Dark Devourer Clan can devour all powers of darkness. Everything in the little princess has been devoured, including her heart blood. Not even the Nether Monarch can save her now. My condolences, nineteenth prince."

The confirmation slammed into Xiang Shaoyun's heart like thunder, almost causing him to faint from grief. He could sense that his mother no longer had any life force, but he still harbored some hope. The hope was shattered when a Devil God confirmed that she couldn't be saved.

"No, this can't happen. She hasn't even seen me yet! How can she die? She doesn't have her heart blood anymore, but I have an additional devil heart. I can definitely save her!" said Xiang Shaoyun. He couldn't accept reality and took out the devilblood heart before feeding it to his mother.

"Devilblood heart!" Even Ming Cigeng exclaimed in alarm upon seeing the object in Xiang Shaoyun's hand.

He could sense that this heart was formed of imperial nether blood. He had no idea where Xiang Shaoyun had obtained it. Was it a gift from the Nether Monarch? He did not ask. He believed that even with the devilblood heart, there was still no hope for the little princess.

She was already dead. How could the dead absorb the energy within the devilblood heart? A miracle then unfolded before his eyes. As Xiang Shaoyun's rune pulsed, a certain power rippled out and connected with his mother's rune. Her rune activated, granting her a sliver of life. And with that sliver of life, she started absorbing the devilblood heart's energy.

That sliver of life was only able to take form because the woman was Xiang Shaoyun's kin. Perhaps fate did not intend for his mother's life to end here, which was why he had arrived at such a coincidental timing. If he had come any later, there wouldn't have been any hope for his mother.

"Everything is fine now, prince. Allow the little princess to absorb the heart herself. She will be able to recover with time," said Ming Cigeng.



Xiang Shaoyun could sense his mother's recovery. Thus, he let go of her. However, she was still holding onto him tightly, not willing to let him leave. Xiang Shaoyun did not dare to move for fear of affecting her absorption of the heart. He could also sense an odd sensation coming from the hand holding him.

It was a warm sensation, the same sensation he would feel when his father gently stroked his face during childhood. This was the sensation only one's kin could give. Nobody could replicate the same sensation.

When Ming Cigeng saw that, he had no choice but to stand guard for them. He did not say anything else. His clone had been sent to report to the clan about the Dark Devourer Clan's intrusion. The Dark Devourer Clan's appearance was a major affair, as their return could be disastrous. The Imperial Nether Clan had to handle this with caution.

As one of the four paramount devil clans, the Dark Devourer Clan should also be ruling the Devil Domain alongside the other three clans. Why was the Imperial Nether Clan so hostile to them? In truth, the Dark Devourer Clan was too ambitious. One of their abilities was incredibly powerful, allowing them to devour all powers of darkness and enslave all races.

In the past, the Dark Devourer Clan had only enslaved some lesser devils. However, they were not satisfied with that and had started enslaving the other three paramount devil clans, aiming to become the Devil Domain's sole ruler.

Ultimately, the other three paramount clans joined hands and eliminated the Dark Devourer Clan. From then on, the Dark Devourer Clan vanished from the seven layers of the Devil Domain. However, the three paramount clans had also suffered disastrous losses during the purge.

That was why the surface world had enjoyed peace for so long up until the recent movements of the Diabolic Dragon Clan. The Dark Devourer Clan was feared by even the three other paramount clans. Was the appearance of this one Dark Devourer Clan member a sign that the entire clan was going to reappear as well? Ming Cigeng had a headache just entertaining that possibility.

As for Xiang Shaoyun, he was completely focused on his mother. Beneath the messy hair was a wan and sallow face. From her distinct facial features, he could see that she used to be an incredibly beautiful woman. The rune on her forehead made her look even more enchanting.

If it wasn't for the rune on her forehead, one would think that she really was a human. Xiang Shaoyun rejoiced that his mother looked like this instead of the other ugly devils. Sure, a son

shouldn't really care about his mother's appearance, but he couldn't help but worry that they would look too different from each other since his mother was of a completely different species.

#### Chapter 1264: Mother and Son Reunited

Ming Fu. This was the name of Xiang Shaoyun's mother, the Imperial Nether Clan's previous little princess. She bore the hope of the clan during her generation. With an astonishingly powerful bloodline, even the Nether Monarch was confident she would become the next Nether Monarch.

Unfortunately, she took the wrong path and started a forbidden relationship with a human. She had even given birth to a child with that human. Her future was thus ruined. Ming Fu had not expected that she would be attacked by the Dark Devourer Clan when her son had finally arrived. Her strength had been sealed, rendering her helpless. Even though she had subsequently broken free of her seal, she still couldn't avoid dying.

Fortunately, Xiang Shaoyun had arrived in time. He even knew to make use of his rune and had a devilblood heart in his possession. Thus, she was able to recover a sliver of life. In a way, this was proof that fate did not intend for her life to end yet.

Ming Fu had a strong will to live. She could sense that her child was now beside her. The sensation coming from her very blood wouldn't be wrong. She had to recover as quickly as possible. Doing all she could, she absorbed the devilblood heart. Her body recovered rapidly, and eventually, she opened her eyes.

The first person she saw was Xiang Shaoyun. For a moment, she thought that she was looking at Xiang Yangzhan. She called out, "Brother Zhan?"

"No, I'm his son, Xiang Shaoyun," replied Xiang Shaoyun in an emotional manner.

Finally, Ming Fu's head cleared up. She grabbed Xiang Shaoyun's hand and shouted, "Y-you're my son! You're my son!"

She then pulled Xiang Shaoyun into her arms and cried bitterly.

"My son, my dearest son, I finally see you, finally..."

Her sadness, her longing, all her feelings burst out like a flood, presenting a touching reunion.

Xiang Shaoyun also couldn't constrain himself anymore. Choking with emotion, he called out, "Mother!"

Since he was a boy, he had wanted to call out to his mother. He had never gotten the chance. And finally, his wish was fulfilled.

Ming Cigeng tactfully left. They were devils, but they weren't without emotions. On the contrary, the feelings they had for fellow clan members were as strong as the feelings humans could have for each other.

After crying for a while, Ming Fu finally released Xiang Shaoyun. She sized him up before lightly stroking his cheeks. "My son, I finally get to see you. Even if I am to die after this, I have no regrets."

Xiang Shaoyun held her hand tightly and said, "Mother, you won't die. We still need to reunite with Father. We will no longer be separated!"

This wasn't only his hope but also his goal.

"Yes, yes, our family will be together again," said Ming Fu in an emotional manner.

Xiang Shaoyun wiped her tears and said, "Mother, it has been hard for you. Let's leave this cursed place."

"I-I'm a sinner. I can't leave this place," Ming Fu said painfully. "Son, leave. I am happy enough to see you this one time. Don't stay. Leave."

"Mother, do you think I can easily leave after coming here?" asked Xiang Shaoyun.

His words seemed to remind Ming Fu of something. After giving it some thought, she panicked and asked, "Son, were you captured by the clan? No, I'm going to beg them to release you! You can't stay here and suffer with me!"

After suffering years of torture, her mental state had become extremely unstable.

Xiang Shaoyun stopped her and said, "Mother, listen to me."

His words managed to calm her.

With a solemn expression, Xiang Shaoyun said, "I am now the nineteenth prince of the Imperial Nether Clan. I was personally appointed by the Nether Monarch himself. He had also agreed to let me bring you out of this place."

Ming Fu was so shocked she couldn't say anything. Who was the Nether Monarch? He was the clan's supreme ruler. A regular person wouldn't even get a chance to meet him. Even a prince or an imperial uncle would not be qualified to meet him frequently.

Her son had been personally appointed a prince by such a person? What a glory that was!

"You're the nineteenth prince? Have you fully awakened your bloodline?" asked Ming Fu.

Xiang Shaoyun nodded. "Yes. I might have a human body, but I have your blood flowing in me. I have awakened all three abilities. It is only natural that I become the nineteenth prince."

Xiang Shaoyun was already accepting his fate. Since he couldn't disobey the Nether Monarch, he might as well make the best out of his current predicament. In any case, he would gain the Imperial Nether Clan's support with his identity as a prince. He could even free his mother. As for how he would face the humans, it was a problem to solve in the future. Even if he had to turn the entire world into his enemy, he would still reunite with his mother.

"Son, it has been hard on you," said Ming Fu as she grabbed Xiang Shaoyun's hands tightly.

"Mother, focus on absorbing the devilblood heart and recover. We have plenty of time together in the future," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"Um," agreed Ming Fu gently. She then focused and continued absorbing the devilblood heart.

The devilblood heart had gathered the blood of countless Imperial Nether Clan members. It suited Ming Fu well. With the power hidden within the heart, Ming Fu regained her strength with its help.

Her rune pulsed repeatedly, emitting an enchanting radiance as her blood stirred. A powerful aura burst out of her, and her appearance gradually turned younger. The life force in her body also grew abundant.

Xiang Shaoyun stood silently beside her and waited as she recovered, constantly thinking of his next course of action. He had successfully found his mother, but leaving the Imperial Nether Clan was still a tricky problem to solve.

If a day comes when my strength is beyond the Nether Monarch's, my life will finally be fully in my control, thought Xiang Shaoyun with a sigh.

His thirst for strength grew. Only by becoming the strongest person in existence would he have full control over his fate. Regardless of whether it was in the Devil Domain, on the surface world, or in the universe, strength would always be the greatest guarantee of one's free will.

Xiang Shaoyun did not want to remain in a reactive position. He could only continue growing. Not only did he have to regain his previous life's strength, but he also had to surpass his previous strength. He had to reach the apex of cultivation.

Everything he had experienced recently had further strengthened his resolve in cultivation. For now, he would remain as the prince. However, he might not stay one forever. He vowed to become an existence beyond the Nether Monarch. He wanted to bring his mother out of this place and search for his father. He wanted his family to be together again.

As long as I remain alive, there will always be hope, thought Xiang Shaoyun as he clenched his fists tightly.

## Chapter 1265: Tragedy

Finally, Ming Fu was fully recovered. Not only had she regained her strength, but she was also showing signs of breakthrough. If it wasn't for the fact that she had just escaped death, the devilblood heart might have immediately pushed her to the next realm. As she had given up on herself for years, just regaining all her strength was already proof of how miraculous the devilblood heart was.

Her long hair gently drifted about, revealing an absolutely gorgeous face. Her previously frail body had also recovered, with curves in all the right places. No matter how one looked at her, she was a stunningly beautiful young married woman. It was no wonder why, even as a human, Xiang Yangzhan was smitten by her in the past.

So why had Xiang Yangzhan and Ming Fu gotten together in the past? In truth, Ming Fu's unruly disposition played a crucial role in that. As the little princess of the Imperial Nether Clan, she had the most outstanding talent among her peers. The entire clan doted upon her, causing her to grow into a mischievous and unruly woman.

One day, she decided to go to the upper layers of the Devil Domain to witness for herself how humans looked. She also wanted to pit herself against some humans and see just how strong humans were. She eventually met Xiang Yangzhan at the fifth layer.

At the time, Xiang Yangzhan was a high-spirited young man. He was valiant and strong, killing numerous powerful devils as he traversed the Devil Domain. Even at a place as dangerous as the fifth layer, he was able to travel unobstructed, as though he was a fish back in water.

Ming Fu thus challenged him. The two were evenly matched, but she eventually defeated him with her three abilities. Instead of killing him, she tried subduing him. In her opinion, that made things much more interesting. In any case, she also found him pleasing to the eyes. Thus, she wasn't willing to kill him.

Who would have known that her sparing him was the start of a relationship laden with tragedy? After capturing him, she constantly ordered him around and mistreated him in all sorts of manner. He could only endure the humiliation as he awaited a chance to escape. Or, to be precise, he was awaiting an opportunity to make a counterattack. After all, that was the very first time he had suffered such mistreatment after he had started cultivating.

One day, Ming Fu was attacked by some human experts, including a Rebirth Realm expert. Ming Fu's guardian was thus distracted.

As the battle raged on, Ming Fu brought Xiang Yangzhan to a certain place filled with poisonous mist to hide. Unknown to them, the poisonous mist had an aphrodisiacal effect. They accidentally inhaled the poison and had intercourse. One could say that the act was involuntary for both of them.

After recovering her clarity, Ming Fu wanted to kill Xiang Yangzhan to alleviate her hatred. However, he found a chance to break free of her control and captured her instead. Their roles were reversed, and she became his prisoner.

Xiang Yangzhan also wanted to kill her. After all, she was a devil. However, he couldn't bring himself to do so. After spending some time together, he found that this devil wasn't that evil after

all. She was beautiful, adorable, and someone whom he had slept with. She was essentially his woman already.

And thus, the fearless Xiang Yangzhan decided to take Ming Fu back to the surface world. Ming Fu's disappearance caused the Imperial Nether Clan to mobilize the entire fifth layer to search for her whereabouts. Because of that, Xiang Yangzhan faced countless pursuers when he was trying to leave with Ming Fu. If it wasn't for his impressive combat strength, he would have been killed.

It was also during that period that Ming Fu slowly fell for Xiang Yangzhan. Ultimately, when Xiang Yangzhan was about to be killed, she stopped the devils and ordered them to retreat. The two thus started spending time as a couple. They even forgot their respective identities. During that time, Ming Fu became pregnant.

Xiang Yangzhan was overjoyed. He wanted to bring her back to the surface world, but he was also afraid that all the humans would target her. Thus, they could only wait until she gave birth to the child within the Devil Domain.

However, the birth of the child had created a massive phenomenon. Phantoms of mystical beings such as gods, fiends, dragons, tigers, phoenixes, turtles, and qilins appeared. The phenomenon was proof of the child's terrifying talent, and it attracted the Nether Monarch's attention. The Imperial Nether Clan's experts were sent to take Ming Fu back to the clan. He wanted to find out just what had happened.

With that, Ming Fu's relationship with Xiang Yangzhan was exposed. She personally stopped her clan members while telling Xiang Yangzhan to escape with their child. Only with that was Xiang Yangzhan able to barely escape.

Xiang Yangzhan was naturally unwilling to leave Ming Fu. But for the sake of their child, he had to leave. After braving numerous dangers, he finally left the Devil Domain with Xiang Shaoyun.

Ming Fu told Xiang Shaoyun all of this after she recovered from her injuries. Xiang Shaoyun sighed for the sufferings his parents had undergone over the years.

"Son, is your father well?" asked Ming Fu.

Xiang Shaoyun did not dare to tell her the truth. He smiled and replied, "Father is fine. He is still alone. I have been telling him to get me a stepmother, but he refuses. He still misses you dearly."

Ming Fu had a longing look as she said, "Your father is a stubborn person. After leaving this place, look for a stepmother for him."

Ming Fu was clear that she wouldn't be able to leave. She couldn't allow Xiang Yangzhan to spend his remaining days alone.

"Mother, don't say that. Like I said, our family will reunite," said Xiang Shaoyun. "Let's leave this place. This is not the kind of place where we should be staying."

Ming Fu nodded and left with Xiang Shaoyun. A joyful smile hung on her face at all times. This was the happiest day for her in the past 30 years. Only now did she recall the Dark Devourer Clan member that had attacked her. Xiang Shaoyun naturally told her what he knew.

"There are actually survivors from that clan? Son, you must be careful if you encounter them in the future. Their abilities are extremely terrifying. A single mistake will cost you everything when facing them," reminded Ming Fu.

Xiang Shaoyun nodded, "I will. The Dark Devourer Clan seems to be hated. Do you know the reason, Mother?"

"They are too ambitious, wanting to become the sole ruler of the devils. Us, the Diabolic Dragon Clan, and the Undying Devil Clan had thus worked together to expel them from the Devil Domain," replied Ming Fu.

"Expelled?" Xiang Shaoyun was astonished. "Are there other paths out of the Devil Domain?"

Since the Dark Devourer Clan wasn't in the dominion, it was clear they hadn't been exiled to it. This meant that there were other paths out of the Devil Domain.

"Of course, but that path is also a taboo. People rarely survive traveling that path," said Ming Fu.

Chapter 1266: Further Growth

As the nineteenth prince, Xiang Shaoyun had a personal palace assigned to him. Under Ming Cigeng's guide, Xiang Shaoyun and Ming Fu arrived at their assigned palace.



There, Ming Fu sighed and said, "I never expected this palace to still be empty."

This was the same palace she used to stay in, the best palace available to the princes and princesses. It had a unique architectural design and was shrouded in rich devilish energy.

"Princess, you are familiar with the clan rules. I'll have to trouble you to tell the nineteenth prince them. I'll be taking my leave," said Ming Cigeng before leaving.

As a God Realm expert, he was already showing them plenty of respect by doing this much for them. There were trained servants and guards in the palace waiting to serve Xiang Shaoyun and Ming Fu. When the two entered the palace, the servants greeted them respectfully.

Among the servants, Xiang Shaoyun saw a familiar face. That person bowed and said, "Ming Helian greets the prince and princess. Helian will be serving all your needs from now on."

Xiang Shaoyun had never expected the person who had captured him to turn into his butler. The change was truly too dramatic. In fact, not even Ming Helian himself had seen that coming. He wasn't supposed to be qualified to serve a prince. Upon receiving the assignment, he was both joyful and worried. He could finally step foot into the clan's important areas, which would help his future prospects. However, he was also worried that Xiang Shaoyun would dislike him and make things difficult for him.

Xiang Shaoyun couldn't be bothered about their previous conflict. He went along with Ming Fu and picked their rooms. One ought to admit that the Imperial Nether Clan's living space was quite similar to that of the humans. Although the construction style was different, there were still individual spaces for each resident. Xiang Shaoyun would probably be able to adapt to life here.

Xiang Shaoyun and Ming Fu spent a lot of time together, seemingly trying to make up for their lost years. Ming Fu gave Xiang Shaoyun an explanation of the simplified version of the clan rules.

Xiang Shaoyun memorized everything. So long as he did not touch upon the clan's few, he was basically free to do as he wished. If he committed grave crimes that couldn't be forgiven, he would be executed.

Xiang Shaoyun did not intend to stay here forever. He looked at his mother and asked, "Mother, do you have any idea how we can leave this place?"

Ming Fu shook her head and said, "I'm a sinner. It is impossible for me to leave. As someone captured and brought back here, it's also impossible for you to leave unless the Nether Monarch allows it."

"Is there really no other way?" Xiang Shaoyun frowned.

Ming Fu held his hand and said, "Just be calm and stay here for a bit with your mother. Just wait and see. Perhaps an opportunity will come up in the future."

Xiang Shaoyun also knew that this wasn't an easy issue to solve. He could only nod in agreement. In the coming days, Xiang Shaoyun stayed in the palace obediently. Apart from spending time with his mother, he spent his remaining time cultivating. He wanted to grow stronger and leave. His women, his son, his brothers, and his subordinates were waiting for him outside. He did not want to be trapped here forever.

His astral energy cultivation had reached peak third-stage Soul Foundation Realm. He wasn't that far from another breakthrough. Even in the Devil Domain, with his nine-star physique, he could still absorb astral energy from his surroundings. The pressure to escape caused Xiang Shaoyun to use up his spirit crystals and some sovereign-grade items to push his cultivation to fourth-stage Soul Foundation Realm.

With his breakthrough, he could no longer keep his saint soul suppressed. It broke through into second-stage Saint Realm. After all, his saint soul had also benefited greatly when he gained his devil cultivation. He had only been suppressing its growth. Now that his astral energy cultivation had also broken through, it was only natural that his soul grew further.

On the sparkling four-layered soul foundation, more profound soul marks appeared. An even deeper connection formed between his soul foundation and the Imperial Nether Domain. The connection was so strong that he had a feeling he could control the soul marks and use them to attack through his Imperial Nether Domain. If he could do that, the chains in his domain would reach an entirely new level.

The moment he thought of that, he decided to put it to the test. He released the Imperial Nether Domain and activated his soul foundation within it. However, the soul foundation was still concealed and wasn't easily detectable.

He spread his will to the soul marks. The soul marks were essentially a representation of the many powers and techniques he had cultivated. In the form of soul marks, they fused and merged with the soul foundation.

The soul marks flickered and appeared in the domain. They appeared in many forms, such as a bolt of lightning, a blazing inferno, and a sharp golden needle. As Xiang Shaoyun hadn't perfected his control, the manifestations seemed chaotic.

However, he was still the master of his domain. It wouldn't be that hard for him to control all that was happening within. After several attempts, he could finally make use of different soul marks to launch different attacks. These attacks weren't any weaker than the chains.

One could say that the domain had transformed into an independent world. Xiang Shaoyun could freely attack any intruder with the nine different powers he cultivated. If this was to be exposed, it would be an extremely shocking discovery for the Imperial Nether Clan.

Xiang Shaoyun had basically pioneered an entirely different path, granting his Imperial Nether Domain an even greater strength. As he practiced, he manifested numerous different soul marks, creating fists, palms, sabers, swords, and the like.

Under his control, the soul marks engulfed a boulder and blasted it into fine powder. This attack was equivalent to his full-powered attack. The moment someone entered his Imperial Nether Domain, he would be able to do more than attack with the chains. He could also utilize his soul marks and pulverize his opponents.

In fact, these soul marks were even more destructive than the chains. Not even opponents good at countering soul attacks could easily escape his domain now.

Xiang Shaoyun ended the cultivation session. A smile formed on his face as he muttered, "With the strength of my Imperial Nether Domain, I won't fear anyone below the Great Saint Realm."

Before he had the chance to wash up, he found that there were some visitors in the palace. He would naturally welcome visitors, but these particular visitors seemed to be scolding his mother. It angered him.

Chapter 1267: You Need to Have Confidence in Your Son

Several Imperial Nether Clan members had come to Xiang Shaoyun's palace. One of them was tall and sturdy. He was clad in the Imperial Nether Clan's unique armor and was wearing a golden crown and a golden belt, showcasing his extraordinary status in the clan.

This person was none other than the previous seventh prince. Due to his age, he was now an imperial uncle. His name was Ming Abi, a late-stage Devil Saint. He wasn't weak even when compared with the many royal family members. His strength gave him a rather high prestige. Ming Fu had once defeated him, and since then, he had harbored hard feelings for her.

Back during Ming Fu's fall, this Ming Abi was the one who had tried his best to add oil to the fire and had caused her punishment to be more severe. With Ming Fu free and her son being appointed a new prince, Ming Abi couldn't stay calm.

He would not allow Ming Fu and her son to gain a foothold in the clan, or trouble would come looking for him. Therefore, he had come to create trouble for Ming Fu and her son, trying to drive them out of the clan.

"My imperial sister, are you not ashamed of returning to this palace? Also, your mongrel son dares to sneak into the clan? You really are gutsy," berated Ming Abi.

He would never have dared to speak like this to Ming Fu in the past. But after years of not cultivating, Ming Fu was now much weaker than him, which was why he had the courage to speak such words to her.

Ming Fu knew that Ming Abi harbored deep hostility for her, but she was no longer the same willful princess. She replied, "We're only here by the Nether Monarch's decree. Are you questioning his decision?"

Ming Fu was no idiot. She no longer had the clan's favor, but she still knew how to borrow someone else's influence to suppress Ming Abi. With the Nether Monarch personally making the decree, who would dare make things difficult for her and her son?

Sure enough, Ming Abi was momentarily speechless. He felt incredibly uncomfortable, but despite his rage, he couldn't find a retort.

At this time, Xiang Shaoyun entered the room and said, "Mother, which dog is barking non-stop here?"

He had heard everything Ming Abi had said and could sense Ming Abi's clear hostility toward his mother. He naturally wouldn't let it slide.

"Impudent, you dare talk to me like this?" The first person Ming Abi saw after turning around was Xiang Shaoyun. Without a doubt, this was the mongrel kid he was speaking of earlier.

Xiang Shaoyun ignored him and swept his gaze at everyone present. He said, "You're at this prince's palace. Leave immediately, or don't blame me for being impolite."

In the Imperial Nether Clan, one's personal palace was akin to one's personal territory. Nobody could lightly intrude upon one. Thus, Xiang Shaoyun did not bother showing courtesy and did not fear that they would go overboard in his palace.

"You're only the nineteenth prince. Don't get too cocky, or you'll find it hard to survive in the royal family," said the person standing beside Ming Abi.

He was the fifteenth prince, Ming Pan. He was Ming Abi's nephew and had been stronger than Xiang Shaoyun when Xiang Shaoyun had first arrived.

"If you're done talking, piss off," said Xiang Shaoyun with no trace of politeness.

"Looks like he really thinks he's a big shot. Ming Pan, issue him a challenge. Spars between princes are not against the rules. Not even the Nether Monarch will blame you for it," said Ming Abi.

"Heh, I was thinking of the same. Nineteenth prince, I, Ming Pan, hereby challenge you to a spar. Do you dare to accept?" said Ming Pan with a sneer.

In the Imperial Nether Clan, those of the same generation were allowed to freely challenge each other. Shrinking from a challenge would reduce one into a laughing stock. This was a world for the strong. Only the strong would be respected.

Both Ming Pan and Xiang Shaoyun were princes, but Ming Pan had a higher cultivation level. Someone like him challenging Xiang Shaoyun could essentially be viewed as bullying one's junior. However, Xiang Shaoyun was someone who had defeated even Ming He, so in a way, this challenge was acceptable.

"You're shameless!" Ming Fu could sense that Xiang Shaoyun was only a ninth-stage Devil Sovereign. How would he be a match for Ming Pan, a third-stage Devil Saint?

"Looks like you have gone stupid from being locked up all these years. If your son doesn't have the courage to accept a challenge, you may get out of this palace," said Ming Abi.

He wanted to first kick them out of the royal family before thinking of a way to kick them out of the clan entirely.

"You sure you want to challenge me?" asked Xiang Shaoyun indifferently.

"Of course. Do you dare accept my challenge?" asked Ming Pan provocatively.

"Haha, what is there to fear? We might as well have a fight to the death. Do you dare?" challenged Xiang Shaoyun as he roared with laughter.

"Son, have you gone mad? Do not accept the challenge!" said Ming Fu worriedly.

She grabbed Xiang Shaoyun's hand and tried to hide him behind her. This was the instinctive reaction of a mother. She wanted to protect her son.

However, she couldn't move Xiang Shaoyun. He signaled to her with his eyes and said, "Mother, you need to have confidence in your son."

Ming Fu disagreed, "No, absolutely no! The gap between the two of you is too big!"

"Concede if you won't accept the challenge. Don't worry. You'll only suffer some humiliation. It's not like you're a stranger to being humiliated," said Ming Pan.

"That's right. Concede and move out. You're no longer qualified to stay in an imperial palace," said Ming Abi.

"You're too arrogant. Let's fight to the death," said Xiang Shaoyun as he pointed at Ming Pan.

"No!" Ming Fu stopped the fight again.

"Mother, this concerns my honor. Just believe in me," said Xiang Shaoyun solemnly as he gripped Ming Fu's hands.

Ming Fu's heart softened when she saw the confidence in Xiang Shaoyun's eyes. She said, "Be careful. Concede if you're not a match. Your cultivation is lower, anyway, so it doesn't matter if you lose."

"Rest assured. I won't lose," said Xiang Shaoyun.

It was time he established his dominance among the royal family, making it known to others that he was not one to be trifled with.

"Excellent. Let's go to the colosseum," said Ming Pan.

He knew what abilities Xiang Shaoyun had, but because Ming Pan was stronger than Ming He, he was still confident he could defeat and easily kill Xiang Shaoyun. Therefore, Ming Pan had dared to challenge Xiang Shaoyun.

Ming Abi wore a smug smile as he said, "Let's go. I believe everyone in the clan will remember your name after this fight, nineteenth prince."

"Hehe, yes, that's my hope as well," said Xiang Shaoyun with a laugh. "If I'm lucky enough to win, would you dare to accept my challenge next?"

Everyone found his question so stupid it almost sounded cute. They howled with laughter.

"Haha, if you can defeat Ming Pan, you will indeed be qualified to challenge me," said Ming Abi, roaring with laughter.

Chapter 1268: Colosseum Again

Colosseum.

This was where the Imperial Nether Clan members sparred with each other, similar to the fighting rings commonly used by humans. Xiang Shaoyun, Ming Pan, and the others arrived. There weren't many people in the colosseum, as only insiders of the royal family were allowed to witness this spar. Under Ming Abi's meticulous promotion, quite a number of insiders had come.

"The new nineteenth prince is battling Ming Pan? Interesting," said a prince with a ruminating smile.

"Ming Pan isn't weak. He's different from a new Devil Saint like Ming He. Although the nineteenth prince can summon the Nether Yin Gate, he probably won't be Ming Pan's match," said a different person.

"The nineteenth prince was appointed by the Nether Monarch himself. As someone who had awakened three abilities, he didn't even have to go through the ceremonial rites. It's a pity he's not a pureblood. Otherwise, Ming Pan wouldn't have dared to challenge him."

"I heard he's the son of the previous little princess. It's understandable why his bloodline is so powerful. If he is willing to serve the clan with his life, it's not a bad thing to have him in the clan."

...

Most of them were only here to watch a good show. All of them were sure that Xiang Shaoyun wouldn't be Ming Pan's match. The gap between the two was simply too big. Among the people who had arrived were two imperial uncles. Both were exceedingly powerful and were even stronger than Ming Abi. They sat high above all others, looking majestic and glorious.

The two remained silent, and their gazes were focused on Xiang Shaoyun and Ming Fu with complicated emotions in their eyes. When Ming Fu saw them, her expression turned unnatural.

"Mother, what's going on? Are you not confident in me?" asked Xiang Shaoyun.

Ming Fu shook her head and said, "Of course not. Be careful. If you can't win, just concede. The Nether Monarch himself had appointed you. Ming Pan wouldn't dare to do anything to you."

"Don't worry, mother. Your son's strength is beyond their wildest imagination," said Xiang Shaoyun with a smirk.



Not only had he obtained a devil cultivation base, but he had also reached fourth-stage Soul Foundation Realm. As for his soul, it had reached second-stage Saint Realm. He wouldn't even fear a Saint in a battle.

"Nineteenth prince, you may start," said Ming Pan with a sneer after jumping into the ring.

Xiang Shaoyun also nimbly landed inside. Finally, everyone was able to get a clear look at the mysterious nineteenth prince. Back when he had fought at the previous colosseum, only a small number of people had seen his actual appearance. Now, the royal family members finally had the chance to see him.

The devils had always stood opposed to the humans. Thus, Xiang Shaoyun's human appearance invoked loathing in some of them. But when Xiang Shaoyun's rune rippled with a power similar to theirs, their loathing transformed into friendliness.

"Before we fight, shall we sign a waiver?" asked Xiang Shaoyun.

"Haha, do you think this is the human world? Every single warrior who steps foot in the colosseum is ready to die. We don't waste our time with waivers. If you can really kill me, you won't have to bear any consequences," said Ming Pan as he roared with laughter.

"I see. Let's get started then," said Xiang Shaoyun as his lips curled into a smile.

Imperial Nether Domain!

He held nothing back and used the Imperial Nether Domain directly. He wouldn't give his opponent a chance to defeat him. Only in the Imperial Nether Domain would he be the absolute master. In there, he would dare to face even a Devil Saint.

There was a limit to the Imperial Nether Domain's range. Xiang Shaoyun wouldn't be able to trap anyone not within its range. His domain was big enough to encase the entire colosseum, so Ming Pan couldn't escape unless he escaped the colosseum.

Xiang Shaoyun had considered his domain's range when agreeing to this challenge. Of course, if Ming Pan flew high into the sky in time, he could still escape the domain. However, Ming Pan didn't, and he released his own Imperial Nether Domain.

"Ming He's domain is not your match. Let's try my domain instead," said Ming Pan with a smile.

Instantly, the two domains collided. As a third-stage Devil Saint, Ming Pan's Imperial Nether Domain was wide and powerful. Ming He's domain was nothing compared to his. At this time, Ming He was also observing the battle. He exclaimed inwardly, It has only been a year, yet that kid's domain has become even scarier!

A regular person couldn't sense the domain's existence, but as fellow Imperial Nether Clan members, they were sensitive to it. They could even clearly sense the domain's strength. The domain that had shocked Ming He wasn't Ming Pan's but Xiang Shaoyun's.

Before this, Xiang Shaoyun hadn't properly solidified his devil cultivation. Even at that time, his Imperial Nether Domain was already extremely powerful. With his devil cultivation solidified and the breakthrough of his astral energy cultivation, his Imperial Nether Domain had risen to a brand new level. It became much bigger and more powerful.

Ming He could clearly sense the difference between this domain and the previous domain. He worried on Ming Pan's behalf as he sneered inwardly, Looks like Ming Pan is going to suffer from his own provocations.

The princes were also competing with each other. Each of them had a chance to become the next Nether Monarch. Thus, Ming He didn't really like either Xiang Shaoyun or Ming Pan. He was happy to see either of them lose.

Ming Pan could also feel the strength of Xiang Shaoyun's domain. He felt pressured, but he was akin to an arrow nocked on a bow. He could no longer back out of this fight.

"Die!" Ming Pan used his rune and readied himself to devour Xiang Shaoyun's domain with his own.

He used his Saint Realm cultivation to suppress Xiang Shaoyun's very soul in the hopes of stopping Xiang Shaoyun's domain. Unfortunately, his soul suppression wasn't strong enough to threaten Xiang Shaoyun's soul. The two domains collided and started devouring each other.

While the domains clashed, Ming Pan charged Xiang Shaoyun and roared, "Your domain will collapse by itself after I capture your main body!"

Xiang Shaoyun sneered and said, "Since you're courting death, you have no one to blame but yourself."

As he said that, his Imperial Nether Domain suddenly erupted like a storm. Numerous soul marks transformed into different attacks and bombarded Ming Pan's domain. The soul marks even reached out of the domain to attack Ming Pan himself, giving him a fright.

#### Chapter 1269: Behead

Xiang Shaoyun's Imperial Nether Domain had fused with his soul foundation. This was something no other Imperial Nether Clan member could replicate. Ming Pan had never expected there to be other attacks coming from the domain, and the barrage caught him by complete surprise. He reacted nimbly and quickly entered a defensive mode while retreating. However, his domain had started to shrink from the bombardment.

Xiang Shaoyun took the chance to press on. His domain revolved and sent out numerous attacks formed of his soul marks, bombarding both Ming Pan and his domain. Fists, palms, swords, sabers...all sorts of attacks flew out of the domain, each with a might to threaten a Saint.

Ming Pan cut a sorry figure as he tried his best to defend. He couldn't protect both himself and his domain at the same time. The stream of attacks forced him to retreat again and again.

"I thought you were really strong. Why are you running?" said Xiang Shaoyun with a smile.

Within the range of his domain, he was the supreme master. He could transform all his soul marks into attacks with a mere thought. Unless one was much stronger than him, one wouldn't be a match for him in this situation.

Ming Pan was no weakling, but his Imperial Nether Domain was far inferior to Xiang Shaoyun's. He helplessly withdrew his domain. Just as he was about to be enveloped by Xiang Shaoyun's domain, he flew into the air, no longer daring to face Xiang Shaoyun head on.

Xiang Shaoyun naturally wouldn't spare him so easily. He chased into the air and spread out his domain, attempting to trap Ming Pan within it. Ming Pan couldn't leave the colosseum, as that

would be considered his defeat. Left with no choice, he drew his weapon and charged toward Xiang Shaoyun with all his strength.

As a third-stage Devil Saint, his strength was not to be underestimated. His attack caused space itself to collapse. Not even Xiang Shaoyun's domain could fully envelop him. If this continued, Xiang Shaoyun would really be helpless against him.

However, Xiang Shaoyun was determined to use Ming Pan to establish his dominance. He naturally wouldn't give Ming Pan any chances. His soul clone flew out and turned invisible. Because everyone was focused on his domain, nobody noticed the soul clone. Not even Ming Pan noticed anything.

Although Xiang Shaoyun's soul had a slightly lower cultivation level than Ming Pan, his soul was powerful enough to not fear an opponent of this level. It moved swiftly and instantly arrived behind Ming Pan. With his sharp senses, Ming Pan immediately sensed something. Unfortunately, it was too late.

A heavy kick struck his buttocks. Along with a sharp pain on his rear, Ming Pan was sent crashing into the ground. It was at this time that Xiang Shaoyun fully enveloped Ming Pan in his domain. Numerous chains and soul marks blasted Ming Pan from all directions.

Ming Pan reacted in a way that befitted his status as a Devil Saint. An odd weapon and a shield appeared in his hands. He swung his weapon in all directions while protecting himself with the shield.

"The Imperial Nether Domain is the unique ability of our clan, yet you had changed it into something like this? You're truly a mongrel! Die!" roared Ming Pan, infuriated. Numerous attacks flew out of his weapon as his boundless devilish energy surged everywhere, attempting to break the domain around him.

As a member of the Imperial Nether Clan, Ming Pan wasn't suppressed too badly by the domain. Thus, he was still able to unleash powerful attacks even when trapped inside it.

Xiang Shaoyun's domain transformed into a battlefield as an intense fight raged on within.

Unfortunately for Ming Pan, Xiang Shaoyun was nevertheless still the master of this domain. With the addition of his soul clone, it wasn't too much of a challenge for him to take Ming Pan's life.

While suppressing Ming Pan with his soul marks, Xiang Shaoyun sent his soul clone out. Instantly, a destructive attack arrived from an unexpected angle. In the domain, Xiang Shaoyun's soul could freely move around. Ming Pan had no way of stopping the clone. And thus, the clone gave him a beating and broke his defense, letting the numerous soul mark attacks strike him.

"No!" Ming Pan roared in disbelief. He couldn't accept his defeat, and he struggled to use his second ability. Unfortunately, he wasn't given a chance; the chains shackled his entire body, rendering him completely helpless as the rain of attacks continued landing on him.

"Since you intend to step on me and my mother, you can die," said Xiang Shaoyun. He raised his saber and brought it down toward Ming Pan's neck.

At the same time, he withdrew his domain, allowing everyone to witness the execution.

"Stop!" Ming Abi shouted.

Shouting was all he dared to do. This was a fair battle. He wouldn't dare to enter the colosseum, as the clan would punish anyone who dared to interrupt a fight in the colosseum.

With pure devil blood flowing in his veins, Xiang Shaoyun was no longer the same person. He showed no hesitation as he decisively sliced off Ming Pan's head. The pupils of all the observers shrank.

"This kid..." Ming He felt a chill creep up his spine. He had a feeling that if it wasn't for Ming Cigeng's protection, he would have suffered the same fate.

"This is the price for challenging this prince," declared Xiang Shaoyun coldly as he stared at Ming Abi. He then pointed at Ming Abi and said loudly, "Like I said, you're next after him. Come and die as well."

His challenge alarmed everyone.

"I-is this nineteenth prince mad? He dares to challenge Lord Abi?"

"Even the fifteenth prince was killed so easily. It's not surprising that he dares to challenge Lord Abi. Looks like a good show is about to unfold."

"This nineteenth prince seems really murderous. Even the fifteenth prince was killed. But that suits the temperament of our clan. No wonder the Nether Monarch looks so favorably upon him. He has a bright future in the clan."

"Too bad he's half human. It would be perfect if he was a pureblood."

"How ignorant. Lord Abi is much stronger than the fifteenth prince. This nineteenth prince is seeking death."

#### Chapter 1270: Battling Ming Abi

Xiang Shaoyun stood in the middle of the colosseum, his rune flickering while his body was shrouded with devilish energy, looking like a mighty devil prince. For some reason, Xiang Shaoyun seemed blinding to Ming Abi. Like a thorn that would forever be stuck in his eyes, Xiang Shaoyun gave him an incredibly uncomfortable sensation.

"Since you insist on dying, nobody will be able to save you," Ming Abi roared and stepped into the colosseum.

Ming Fu wanted to say something, but when she sensed Xiang Shaoyun's boundless confidence and battle intent, she decided against it.

"Brother Zhan, our son is strong," muttered Ming Fu with a gratified smile.

Ming Fu was once also a high-spirited youth. She might be a woman, but she was as unyielding as a man. Her stubbornness rivaled even Xiang Yangzhan's. However, she wouldn't have been Xiang Yangzhan's match if it wasn't for her innate abilities back then.

Xiang Shaoyun had inherited the talents of both his parents, becoming even more outstanding than them. The two imperial uncles seated above all others had a complicated look in their eyes. They seemed to have an even higher expectation for the battle between Xiang Shaoyun and Ming Abi.

"It's still not too late for you to kowtow and apologize to me. Otherwise, I'll have to fight for my honor even if you're a prince appointed by the Nether Monarch," said Ming Abi, preventing anyone from claiming that he was disrespecting the Nether Monarch.

If Xiang Shaoyun refused to relent after his offer, there was nothing the Nether Monarch could say even if Ming Abi killed Xiang Shaoyun.

"Hehe, you talk like you're someone with honor. Let me send you off as well," said Xiang Shaoyun with a sneer before attacking.

Xiang Shaoyun knew very well that his opponent was a late-stage Devil Saint much stronger than Ming Pan. He wouldn't stand a chance if he didn't snatch the initiative. Against Ming Pan, Xiang Shaoyun didn't use his Imperial Nether Domain. He knew that not even his domain could harm him. Instead, he used the Nether Yin Gate, one of his trump cards.

Xiang Shaoyun had to do his best from the very beginning if he wanted to keep his initiative. After he grew stronger, the Nether Yin Gate took a much shorter time to take form. Two nether yin devils stepped out of the gate.

Ming Abi watched on calmly as he sneered and said, "You really think you're a big deal because you can summon two nether yin devils? You're too naive."

Ming Abi then vanished. He utilized his talent of invisibility and hid himself the moment the nether yin devils appeared. He charged toward Xiang Shaoyun. With no target in sight, the nether yin devils couldn't do anything. They stood there blankly, awaiting Xiang Shaoyun's new command.

Xiang Shaoyun had not expected this to happen. Before he could recover from his astonishment, Ming Abi's attack arrived. The ranged attack slammed into Xiang Shaoyun, blasting him away. The Nether Yin Gate became unstable, and the two nether yin devils were pulled back inside the gate.

Ming Abi pressed on and sent down an overbearing devil foot, stomping Xiang Shaoyun. Xiang Shaoyun learned his lesson after the previous strike. His soul clone flew out and slashed the chakram at Ming Abi.

At Saint Realm, one would be able to make use of all weapons with great proficiency. The chakram was a saint weapon with incredible destructive power. With the chakram in hand, the saint soul was able to catch Ming Abi by surprise.

As a late-stage Devil Saint, Ming Abi was naturally no pushover. His body flickered several times as he avoided the attack. At the same time, a bulky chain appeared in his hand. It was as though he had pulled the chain out of hell itself. He flung the chain at Xiang Shaoyun.

Abi's Shackles!

In a flash, the colosseum transformed into hell. Countless chains shot out of nowhere and surrounded Xiang Shaoyun's clone. Ming Abi showed no mercy and displayed the shocking strength of a Saint, shattering space itself.

Of course, as someone capable of punching above his class, Xiang Shaoyun's strength was not to be underestimated either. He used all his strength and repeatedly slashed the incoming chains.

Clank!

A series of crisp sounds rang out as the chakram clashed against the chain, creating a series of blinding sparks. With his gift of instincts, Xiang Shaoyun searched for the attack's weak point, and his body started flickering as he moved amid the chains. He could see that all the chains were moving in accordance with a certain battle technique. Moving alongside the technique's rhythm, he avoided all the attacks.

"Pull back!" Ming Abi roared as his chains joined together into a net and closed in on Xiang Shaoyun.

Even the chakram was knocked aside, and Xiang Shaoyun's clone was captured in the net.

"Die!" Ming Abi was overjoyed. A strong killing intent erupted from his eyes as he moved in to finish off Xiang Shaoyun.

"You're the one who will die," Xiang Shaoyun's voice rang out as his main body charged forth with the Yin Mother Sword in hand.

His main body might be weaker than his clone, but he had been moving in accordance with the rhythm of Ming Abi's battle technique. He accurately grasped an opening in the technique and



unleashed a terrifying attack with the Yin Mother Sword. The slash seemed to split the colosseum into two.

Ming Abi had been fully focused on the clone and had neglected the main body. The slash frightened him, forcing him to shift the trajectory of his chains toward the incoming sword. Xiang Shaoyun's clone regained its freedom and took this chance to make another attack.

Nether Yin Gate!

Ming Abi tried blocking the slash with his chains, but the sword actually sliced through his chains. He dodged to the side in panic and broke out in cold sweat. If he was even a tad bit slower, he would have been sliced into two.

At this time, two nether yin devils arrived behind him. These nether yin devils seemed much stronger than before. Perhaps this was related to Xiang Shaoyun's recent growth in strength.

Ming Abi was able to hold his ground despite facing two nether yin devils, but at this time, Xiang Shaoyun's clone took the Yin Mother Sword from his main body. Things would only get worse for Ming Abi from this point on.

"Time for you to die," said Xiang Shaoyun coldly as he moved at his top speed and swung the sword at Ming Abi.

Ming Abi was already having a hard time against two nether yin devils. How could he hope to face the sword as well?