

## Overlord 521

Chapter 521: This Nephew Greets Uncle Tang

In the main hall of the Skeleton Gang, Xiang Shaoyun and Du Xuanhao were having a private conversation.

"Big Brother Du, now that both the territories of the Skeleton Gang and the Noxious Blood Gang are under my control, I plan to properly develop the gang. What ideas do you have?" Xiang Shaoyun asked.

Du Xuanhao sank into thought before he said, "I trust you already have your plans, young master. I will do as you ask."

Xiang Shaoyun sighed, "You know I'm about to enter the Dragon Phoenix Academy soon. I won't be able to personally manage the Skeleton Gang, but I don't want to just abandon it like this. I feel like I can make use of them to do something so as to expand the faction under my control."

"That's the right line of thinking, young master. I think we should ask for Lord Devouring Ghost's opinion on this. He is experienced and knowledgeable. Perhaps he will have a better idea," said Du Xuanhao.

Xiang Shaoyun nodded. "You're right."

At that, he reached a decision to talk with Devouring Ghost before deciding on what to do next. However, he noticed that Du Xuanhao seemed to have something to say yet was hesitating. He asked, "Tell me if you have anything on your mind, Big Brother Du."

Du Xuanhao took a deep breath and said, "Young master, in truth, this relates to Old Han. He knows that you have been recruited as a special-recruit disciple of the Dragon Phoenix Academy and can enter with two followers. He wanted to request for one of the spots from you, but he was also aware of how excessive that request is. Thus, he said that the Han Clan will agree to whatever request you have so long as it is something they can complete."

"I see. Don't worry. Let me have a talk with him after I do some thinking," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"Um," Du Xuanhao replied. He continued seriously, "The follower spots are limited, and entering the Dragon Phoenix Academy is an extremely rare opportunity for anyone. I hope you can consider

it carefully, young master. You have to select those who are the most talented and also absolutely loyal to enter with you."

Du Xuanhao was saying that so that Xiang Shaoyun would not agree to Han Pojun's request just for his sake. Although he considered Han Pojun a brother, this was an important matter. The Han Clan probably only had the two sisters for offer, but the sisters did not seem good enough for the two follower spots.

Xiang Shaoyun nodded. He did not continue the topic and instead prepared to return to Devouring Ghost with Jin Wo, who had been staying with the Skeleton Gang all this while. Suddenly, someone came looking for him. "Young master, a young master from the city hall, Tang Longfei, is requesting to meet you."

Xiang Shaoyun was overjoyed to hear that. "Where is he? Bring him in. Never mind that, I'll welcome him myself."

He then left the hall, his strides wide as he headed to the exit. Outside the building, he found that there was a heroic middle-aged man beside Tang Longfei. The middle-aged man had a sculptured face exuding firmness and resoluteness. His eyes contained a splendor that made him imposing without trying. Just by standing there he could give one a pressure as if a mountain was crashing down.

With one look, Xiang Shaoyun knew who the middle-aged man was. He bowed deferentially. "This nephew greets Uncle Tang."

The middle-aged man was none other than Tang Longfei's father—the sworn brother of Xiang Shaoyun's father, Xiang Yangzhan—and the current governor of Bloodsin City, Tang Zhan. Xiang Shaoyun had once met Tang Zhan during childhood, and Tang Zhan had been quite kind to him back then. Thus, his respect toward this uncle was sincere.

"Haha, excellent! I never expected that you would still remember your Uncle Tang, kid. I thought you had completely forgotten about me!" said Tang Zhan with a chortle.

After Xiang Shaoyun's appearance on the Bloodsin Arenas, the governor's butler, Zhang Sheng, had shown Tang Zhan the recordings of Xiang Shaoyun's battle. Since then, Tang Zhan had been having Zheng Sheng watch over Xiang Shaoyun in secret. He immediately rushed back from the Devil Domain, determined to personally meet and protect his sworn brother's sole son.

Subsequently, Tang Longfei had also entered the Devil Domain with Xiang Shaoyun. He had personally witnessed Xiang Shaoyun's strength, and when Tang Zhan had learned of that, the only thought he had was that Xiang Shaoyun was truly worthy of being his sworn brother's son and that the boy lived up to his father's strength!

The moment Xiang Shaoyun arrived at the fort above the Devil Domain, Tang Zhan received news of his return. After all, this Bloodsin City was his territory. Nothing in the city could be hidden from him. After returning from the fort, Xiang Shaoyun had not gone to the city hall immediately. Rather, he had returned to the Skeleton Gang and got into a fight with the Noxious Blood Gang.

When Tang Zhan heard words of that, he quickly arrived with Tang Longfei. He was the governor of this Bloodsin City, a person of great power. For someone like him to directly come looking for Xiang Shaoyun made it clear how much importance he attached to this son of his sworn brother.

"You must be kidding, Uncle Tang. If I had known you were the governor here, I would have come seeking refuge long ago! Why would I have drifted about hiding everywhere?" Xiang Shaoyun said in a self-mocking manner.

Tang Zhan heavily patted Xiang Shaoyun's shoulder. "Sigh, I know about everything that has happened. It has been hard on you."

"No, it's all my fault for being so useless. If I had been less useless, how could that old scoundrel, Di Batian, have prevailed?" Xiang Shaoyun said, his voice laced with hatred.

"Di Batian is a traitorous bastard who had long been plotting to rebel. Your father's departure for his battle had given him the opportunity to do just what he had planned. You were still young. There was nothing you could have done," Tang Zhan comforted.

"You're right, Uncle Tang. But I will personally take back everything that once belonged to my father," said Xiang Shaoyun seriously.

"Um, it's good that you have such ambition. I will support you with everything I have when the time comes," said Tang Zhan in a gratified manner. "So, are you going to invite your Uncle Tang inside or are you going to let me stand out here as we talk?"

With Tang Zhan's reminder, Xiang Shaoyun quickly apologized, "Your nephew was too excited to see you, Uncle Tang. I completely forgot to invite both of you in. It's my bad. Come on in!"

He personally led Tang Zhan and Tang Longfei in and ordered for tea to be served. Tang Zhan studied his surroundings, and his gaze eventually landed on Du Xuanhao. A praising look surfaced in his eyes.

Du Xuanhao knew who Tang Zhan was. His heart was overwhelmed with shock, The young master is indeed someone with an extraordinary status. Even this Bloodsin City's governor is his uncle! Looks like this will be a safe harbor for the young master, then!

Du Xuanhao was not some ignorant person. He had a rough understanding of the internal affairs of this Bloodsin City, and he also knew that the governor held absolute power within the city. The governor standing before him was definitely someone with an unfathomable strength. With such a backer, this city would indeed be a safe harbor for Xiang Shaoyun. The group entered the hall, and Tang Longfei took the chance to speak.

"Shaoyun, I heard you're a special-recruit disciple of the Dragon Phoenix Academy? Is that true?" Tang Longfei asked with a burning gaze.

"You are well informed, Big Brother Tang. That had happened not long ago," said Xiang Shaoyun with a smile.

"So it is true that the Four Great Ancient Academies fought to recruit you?" Tang Longfei asked.

"They were merely being kind," said Xiang Shaoyun humbly.

"Haha, I knew you would amaze the world with a single brilliant feat! Looks like if I fail to pass the entrance test, I will have to rely on you to bring me in!" said Tang Longfei with a hearty laugh.

## Chapter 522: Birth Mystery

"You must be kidding, Big Brother Tang. If you can't even enter with your capabilities, nobody will be able to!" said Xiang Shaoyun.

"Shaoyun, I am being serious. Everyone knows how strict the entrance tests of the Four Great Ancient Academies are. Anyone can fail. I don't have full confidence that I won't fail either," said Tang Longfei seriously.

"If the worst case scenario really happens, I will definitely bring you in," Xiang Shaoyun promised. He might not care about others, but he had to treat Tang Longfei like his own brother. Thus, he agreed without any hesitation.

"Haha, with that promise, I am at ease," said Tang Longfei cheerfully.

Tang Zhan interjected, "Is that all you're good for? Yes, the Dragon Phoenix Academy is prestigious and has a strict recruitment process. But if you don't even have the confidence to pass their test, you shouldn't even bother going."

"Come on, Father. That will only be a preventive measure. Of course I am confident I can get through the test," said Tang Longfei.

Tang Zhan ignored his son and asked Xiang Shaoyun, "Shaoyun, tell me. What is going on between you, the Skeleton Gang, and the Noxious Blood Gang?"

It was obvious Xiang Shaoyun had gotten the Skeleton Gang under his control, but it was unknown how he had accomplished that. Xiang Shaoyun gave a simplified version of everything that had happened after he had arrived at this Bloodsin City. Of course, he was still careful to leave out the things that he shouldn't say.

He attributed most of his success to the nether prison devil puppet and Du Xuanhao. He did not mention anything about Devouring Ghost. After all, Devouring Ghost's very identity was a taboo that could not be known by those super organizations. Otherwise, things would get very troublesome.

Tang Zhan did not doubt his words. He praised, "Kid, you are similar to your father when he was young. When I met you at the Ziling Sect in the past, you were still a naughty child. But now, you're all grown up. At least we have one good thing that has come out of the Ziling Sect incident."

"Uncle Tang, do you think my father will return?" Xiang Shaoyun couldn't help asking.

"Shangguan Wusheng the Death Magistrate is the most outstanding genius of the ancient Shangguan Clan in the last thousand years. He is equally matched with your father, and the two had fought a battle at the forbidden area Wumo Pass. I have people searching for them at the pass across all these years, but nothing has been found. I'm afraid..." Tang Zhan wasn't too optimistic. He paused for a bit and continued, "However, your father is a remarkable genius with excellent trump

cards in protecting his life. I believe he will be able to return safely. You have to know that he is a freak that once survived the seventh layer of the Devil Domain."

"What? My father once went to the seventh layer?" Xiang Shaoyun cried out in alarm.

The seventh layer and beyond of the Devil Domain was where the strongest devils resided, including the Four Paramount Devil Clans. Even those above the Sovereign Realm would fear to go that deep. Xiang Shaoyun knew his father was strong, but he had not known that his father had even survived the Devil Domain's seventh layer.

"Hehe, looks like you know little about your father. I can tell you something. You were born in the Devil Domain. Back then, your father had left the Devil Domain with two babies after nearly losing his life. One was you, the other was your sister. But your father said that you're his only biological child. The other child was someone he had picked up somewhere," said Tang Zhan with a smile.

Xiang Shaoyun was stunned. Not even in his dreams had he imagined that his place of birth was actually the Devil Domain. Was that the origin of the noble devil bloodline he had? So was his mother located at the seventh layer? Xiang Shaoyun sank into confusion.

Tang Zhan stopped before going too far and shifted the topic, "Now that the territories of both the Skeleton Gang and the Noxious Blood Gang are under your control, what are your plans with them?"

"I am going to join the Dragon Phoenix Academy soon. Maybe I can hand them over to you? In any case, you are the governor. Everything in the city is under your jurisdiction anyway," said Xiang Shaoyun.

If Tang Zhan had not shown himself, Xiang Shaoyun might have used the territories of the two gangs to accumulate some wealth for him. But since Tang Zhan was here, he might as well do this as a favor to Tang Zhan.

To his surprise, Tang Zhan waved his hand and said, "If I had wanted to take their territories, I would have done so long ago. Since you have lost your father's estate, you might as well use this place as your foundation and build an organization that belongs to you. That way, this organization can even help you retake the Ziling Sect in the future!"

"I'm afraid I won't be able to do so even if I wanted to," said Xiang Shaoyun with a bitter smile.

"Don't worry about that. If you trust me, I will get someone to manage the gang for you. You will receive a brand new Skeleton Gang as a gift when you return from the Dragon Phoenix Academy!" declared Tang Zhan boldly.

"That is excellent! Manpower is what I currently lack most!" Xiang Shaoyun agreed without any hesitation.

"Ok, I will send someone to tidy up the gang for you. But of course, the people occupying the main positions should still be your own people. Otherwise, it doesn't matter what we do, as you won't have the gang's loyalty in the future. Things might even get troublesome for you," said Tang Zhan, proving that he was treating Xiang Shaoyun selflessly.

Xiang Shaoyun heaved a breath of relief when he saw that Tang Zhan already had everything planned out. He wanted to throw a feast, but Tang Zhan and Tang Longfei rejected him, as they found that troublesome. After some idle chatter, the two prepared to leave.

"You still have a lot of things to do, so I'm leaving for now. I'll send someone over later. When you are done with the affairs here, come to the city hall and have a drink with me!" said Tang Zhan.

"Sure. Thank you, Uncle Tang," said Xiang Shaoyun gratefully. Tang Zhan and Tang Longfei then left for the city hall. After the two left, a commotion erupted in the Skeleton Gang.

"Was that Lord Governor Tang Zhan and his son Tang Longfei?"

"If you're not blind, you won't ask that stupid question. Of course they are! I did not expect that the young master would be so close with them! Looks like the young master's background runs deep!"

"Now that we are the young master's subordinates, doesn't that mean that we will be able to do as we wish in the city from now on?"

"It's too early to dream. Let's see what the young master does after this. I feel like our life won't be as free in the future."

"Regardless, with a strong backer, we can at least live a stable life."

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As Xiang Shaoyun had forcefully taken the leadership of the Skeleton Gang, a number of the members were still indignant. But with Tang Zhan and Tang Longfei's visit, all the indignations vanished.

They knew that the gap between their previous leader and the governor was akin to the sky and the earth. There was no comparison. Since Xiang Shaoyun was friendly with the governor, that only meant that he had a background no weaker than the city hall. Meanwhile, Xiang Shaoyun was heading toward Devouring Ghost's restricted space.

#### Chapter 523: Devouring Ghost's Blood Demon Clone

Xiang Shaoyun arrived at Devouring Ghost's restricted space and entered using the corresponding secret technique. The restricted space was expertly constructed, and not even a Sovereign could find it. Thus, Xiang Shaoyun did not fear that someone would discover this place.

That was something that Devouring Ghost had taken into consideration as well. Otherwise, he wouldn't have opted to seclude himself here. The moment Xiang Shaoyun and Jin Wo entered, they sensed someone's focus lock onto them.

Overjoyed, Xiang Shaoyun asked, "Devouring Ghost, have you left seclusion?"

"Haha, this subordinate greets the young master," a hearty laugh rang out as a bowing Devouring Ghost appeared before Xiang Shaoyun.

Devouring Ghost was using the body of Linggu Haonan, someone in his robust years. Not only had the body's original cultivation level been restored, it seemed to have even grown. He looked to be in high spirits.

"Devouring Ghost, have you restored your strength?" asked Xiang Shaoyun in excitement.

Devouring Ghost had been his most devoted subordinate after being freed, and Xiang Shaoyun trusted him unconditionally. Devouring Ghost would be a great helper if he was able to restore his original strength.



Devouring Ghost shook his head. "No, I have only restored the strength of this body. But I'm not far away from reforming my soul foundation."

"That's good to hear," said Xiang Shaoyun, still happy.

Although Devouring Ghost hadn't been able to enter the Soul Foundation Realm, he would still be of great help as a peak Emperor. Furthermore, he would be able to reform a soul foundation soon. That could only mean that Xiang Shaoyun would soon have another Sovereign helper and be one step closer to revenge.

"Young master, your growth has been phenomenal. Looks like you have benefited greatly from your trip to the Devil Domain," said Devouring Ghost.

"You know about my trip to the Devil Domain?" Xiang Shaoyun asked in confusion.

"In truth, I was already out of seclusion a month ago. I made a round trip around the city and heard a lot of news. So it turns out you have even become the son-in-law of the Yu Clan? Hahaha, this is fate!" said Devouring Ghost with a laughter that seemed to contain an additional meaning behind it.

"What do you mean by fate?" Xiang Shaoyun asked.

"Since you have been to the Devil Domain, you should have seen the name of my master on the Contribution Stele, right?" asked Devouring Ghost.

"Yes. That name is listed among the top 10," said Xiang Shaoyun with a nod.

"My master is the hero of a generation, an unrivaled overlord. Few women are worthy of him, and the woman he loved most in his life also had the surname Yu. Unfortunately, they had both died," said Devouring Ghost, pain in his voice.

"Surnamed Yu as well?" Xiang Shaoyun muttered with a complicated look in his eyes. He had never dreamed that there would be such a coincidence. Was this really the works of fate?

"It's better if you don't know too much about all that for now, young master. A day will come when you will understand everything. Let's go. It's pointless to continue staying here. Time for me to do something for you, young master."

"Wait, what is your relationship with the Ghostface Sect?" Xiang Shaoyun asked.

"Oh? So the people from the Ghostface Sect have gotten in contact with you?" Devouring Ghost asked.

"That's right. I have even met Green Ghost's clone once. He claimed that you're his master," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"Hehe, looks like he still hasn't forgotten his master," said Devouring Ghost with a sneer. "I had founded the Ghostface Sect. Back then, the master had just arrived at this Bloodsin City. As I had needed to follow the master around, I had left the Ghostface Sect in the hands of Green Ghost. Back then, he had the worst prospects among all my disciples. He did well to preserve the sect until today. I even thought he was long dead."

"I see. He wishes to see you," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"I had expected this to happen the moment I gave you the command medallion. Young master, to reclaim your family estate, the Ghostface Sect will be a decent helper. I will ensure they obey your every command," said Devouring Ghost.

"We can talk about that later. Go and meet Green Ghost. I wonder if he can still recognize you," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"He dares to forget me?" said Devouring Ghost imposingly.

"With your current strength, it's better to control your temper. Your disciple is very different from the past. He is now a monster who has lived for 10,000 years. I reckon he has even surpassed the Sovereign Realm," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"Yes, you're right, young master. I will act accordingly," said Devouring Ghost with a nod.

"Let's continue the talk after leaving this place," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"Wait a moment, young master. I need to bring a treasure with me," said Devouring Ghost with a proud smile.

After saying that, he dashed away and quickly returned with someone who looked exactly the same as him following behind him. This person's entire body was red, and his eyes were filled with bloodthirst, giving off a sinister feeling.

Xiang Shaoyun asked with shock, "I-is this a blood demon?"

"Yes, he's my blood demon clone!" introduced Devouring Ghost with excitement.

"Your blood demon clone? What do you mean?" Xiang Shaoyun asked.

He had obtained a blood egg from the Dong Clan that was subsequently given to Devouring Ghost. The blood demons were an extremely sinister species that could only grow through devouring a great amount of blood. The numerous races viewed them as vermin that everyone should kill. However, a mature blood demon possessed extremely terrifying combat prowess and wasn't easy to destroy.

"A blood demon has always been capable of countless transformations. While in the egg, he has been fed with my blood and soul power. Gradually, he became my blood demon clone, and he will only obey me. More importantly, he is alive and can continue growing, unlike a puppet," said Devouring Ghost.

"I see. Are you going to bring him out just like this?" Xiang Shaoyun asked.

"Why not? I only need to dress him up for a bit, and people won't recognize him for what he is. After I restore half my original strength, I won't even need to worry that others will discover him anymore," said Devouring Ghost confidently.

"Well, it's good that you know to exercise caution. But I'm quite curious. What abilities does this blood demon have?" asked Xiang Shaoyun.

"The greatest ability of a blood demon is the ability to stay alive so long as a single drop of blood remains," said Devouring Ghost. As he said that, he turned and ripped an arm off the blood demon. The blood demon did not make a single sound. Noiselessly, a new arm grew out.

"Transform," Devouring Ghost commanded.

The blood demon instantly transformed into a puddle of blood that rippled everywhere, looking like an ordinary puddle of blood that was flowing around randomly instead of a living being. Soon, the blood reassembled and reformed into a blood demon. Xiang Shaoyun watched on with eyes wide open. He finally realized how terrifying the blood demons were.

#### Chapter 524: Hunting Rat Assassins

The Ghostface Sect was an organization that had existed for over 10,000 years, their influence reaching every nook and corner of this Bloodsin City. They would be the first to find out about anything happening in the city. Although they were not included among the city's five strongest organizations, not one organization wanted to be their enemy. After all, there was more to the Ghostface Sect than meets the eyes. They had a terrifying accumulation of strength.

Presently, in the Ghostface Sect's main hall, Lady Shura was kneeling respectfully before a man with a green ghostface mask. She was reporting to him everything that had happened in the city recently. A majority of her report pertained to a young man called Xiang Shaoyun.

After listening to the entire report, the eyes of Green Ghost lit up as he muttered, "Fighting Emperors with the cultivation level of seventh-stage Skysoar Realm, causing even the Four Great Ancient Academies to fight over him. Ultimately, he chose the Dragon Phoenix Academy, becoming a recruit-disciple. Yesterday, right after returning from the Devil Domain, he took over the Skeleton Gang and destroyed the Noxious Blood Gang. The governor, Tang Zhan, and his son Tang Longfei had personally met him as well. Now, he has vanished after entering the slum." He sighed and continued, "This kid definitely has an extraordinary background. There is no doubt that he is Lord Xiang Dingtian's descendant. But where is my master? Could it be that this kid has the guts to lie to me?"

"Sect master, this subordinate still has something else to report," said Lady Shura.

"Go on," said Green Ghost.

"Recently, many Rat Assassins members have appeared in the city, all of them here for Young Master Xiang," said Lady Shura.

"Rat Assassins? Exterminate them like the pests that they are, then," said Green Ghost indifferently.

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At a certain chaotic slum in the city, over 10 people in crude attire gathered. All of them had reserved auras, not leaking even a tiny bit out of their bodies. At a glance, they looked the same as the commoners in the slum. One would generally not pay much attention to them.

In truth, these were all members of the renowned Rat Assassins. Most of the time, they operated independently. Today, they had all gathered here upon receiving an emergency notice. None of them were weaker than the Emperor Realm, and there were even Sovereigns in their ranks.

From the members gathered here, the prowess of the Rat Assassins was evident. They specialized in killing for wealth and rarely failed. This time, a seemingly simple mission to kill a King had actually caused them repeated losses. It was an insult to their reputation.

After waiting for a bit, one person noiselessly appeared among the group. The newcomer had a bald head and did not seem older than 30. Not only was he young, he also had an incredibly handsome face. One could say that he was a pretty monk.

If Xiang Shaoyun was here, he would be able to recognize that this person was Huo Xudong. The group of assassins revealed a look of respect when they saw Huo Xudong, but they remained silent.

"The client has increased the bounty for us to finish off Xiang Shaoyun as quickly as possible. He had vanished near this area today. Therefore, look for him and kill him at all costs. Otherwise, the reputation of our Rat Assassins will suffer, and we will be punished by the sect master as a result. Understand?" said Huo Xudong solemnly. Everyone nodded, but not one of them spoke. It was as if they were a group of mutes.

"Alright, I won't bother saying anything unnecessary. Find him as quickly as possible but don't rashly make a move on him. He is someone with a nether prison devil puppet that has a Sovereign Realm's combat prowess. After you find him, notify everyone immediately. Work together to kill him instead," said Huo Xudong.

He then waved his hand, sending the people away to start the search. Before long, someone discovered Xiang Shaoyun. That person launched their signal noiselessly, notifying all the assassins to gather near Xiang Shaoyun.

At this time, Xiang Shaoyun had just left the restricted space with Devouring Ghost. He had not expected that someone would notice him so soon after exiting. When they were walking through an alley, he sensed that someone was tailing him. He immediately told Devouring Ghost, "Looks like trouble is coming."

"Come, then. My blood demon clone is in need of blood anyway," said Devouring Ghost as he licked his lips.

Soon, Rat Assassins members arrived from different directions and slowly surrounded Xiang Shaoyun's group. They did not attack immediately. Rather, they sealed all the possible escape routes, hoping to finish the job once and for all.

Xiang Shaoyun finally said, "Where did these suicidal rats come from?"

Right after he said that, a massive net dropped down from the sky. Two Emperors were personally dragging the net from two sides as if they were trying to catch some fish, attempting to capture and kill both Xiang Shaoyun and Devouring Ghost on the spot.

The net shone with a sharp glint, and it was obvious the net was made of unique and rare materials. The people around them also attacked at the same time, sending attacks of all colors toward Xiang Shaoyun and Devouring Ghost as the net dropped.

All the attackers were powerful Emperors. It was not possible for Xiang Shaoyun to withstand their attacks. Naturally, Devouring Ghost would protect Xiang Shaoyun from any harm. Jin Wo quickly transformed back to his original form, intending to fight in his strongest form.

At this time, the nether prison devil puppet appeared and charged the assassins right ahead of them. The puppet punched repeatedly, scattering most of the incoming attacks, reducing the pressure on Xiang Shaoyun. The net wrapped around the nether prison devil puppet, and it couldn't throw the net off despite repeated struggles.

The two Emperors controlling the net quickly dragged it, trying to subdue the puppet. However, the puppet was too strong. It waved its arms without stop, making it hard for the two Emperors to maintain their grips on the net.

Suddenly, a Sovereign dove down from the sky like a hawk toward Xiang Shaoyun, moving at an astonishing speed. Devouring Ghost was instantly on guard, and he pushed his strength to the limits. Numerous ghostly shadows floated out of him, followed by numerous floating clumps of

light. Darkness and light combined, erupting with a much stronger attack that flew toward the Sovereign.

The Sovereign had not expected that Xiang Shaoyun would have such an expert by his side. However, he could sense that this person was only a peak Emperor. Thus, he showed no fear. Only when his attack collided with the incoming attack did he realize that he had underestimated his opponent.

"Trying to kill my young master? Have you asked for my permission?" Devouring Ghost sneered as he transformed into a specter that arrived beside the Sovereign before unleashing the power of darkness and light to form a massive palm. With it, he clawed at the Sovereign.

Greatly shocked, the first-stage Sovereign quickly blocked the incoming attack. He had never expected that a peak Emperor would be capable of unleashing such a terrifying attack. Right now, he did not have the time to do anything else. He had to first subdue him. He was confident someone else could deal with Xiang Shaoyun.

But when the other Emperors charged forth to deal with Xiang Shaoyun, they found that he had vanished. It was also at this time that experts suddenly appeared from all directions, attacking the Rat Assassins.

#### Chapter 525: Meeting Green Ghost Again

Xiang Shaoyun's greatest trump card was the nether prison devil puppet. However, the puppet was trapped in the net and couldn't break free temporarily. Devouring Ghost was also kept busy by a Sovereign while Jin Wo and the blood demon were barely hanging on against the other Emperors.

Thus, Xiang Shaoyun only had himself to rely on at this moment. As the Emperors swarmed him, he used the Nether Shadow Evanescence and blended into the natural world around him, turning completely invisible.

The assassins were stupefied to find that their target had vanished. It was at this moment that a group of experts had suddenly appeared and attacked them. These experts were extremely powerful, with a Sovereign among them as well.

The Sovereign battling Devouring Ghost noticed that things were not looking good for them and was the first to flee. Assassins always operated like that: if things weren't working out, they wouldn't force it.

Devouring Ghost was unable to prevent the Sovereign's escape. As for the newcomer Sovereign, he chased after the Sovereign assassin. At this moment, the nether prison devil puppet had been freed as well. The net had suddenly vanished, and nobody knew where it had gone.

Xiang Shaoyun noiselessly appeared beside the nether prison devil puppet. He looked at the newcomers and was able to see that they were Ghostface Sect members with a single glance.

After killing the assassins, the Ghostface Sect members ignored Xiang Shaoyun and quickly vanished, as if they had never appeared. Among the corpses littering the ground, Huo Xudong was nowhere to be found. It seemed that after saying all those words to the assassins, he himself had vanished. Not even the Ghostface Sect members had managed to find him. One ought to admit that Huo Xudong was really skilled at hiding.

Devouring Ghost scanned the corpses and said, "These rat emblems are probably the symbol of a certain organization. Do you know them, young master?"

"I heard it belongs to an organization called the Rat Assassins. Have you never heard of them?" Xiang Shaoyun asked.

Devouring Ghost said with disdain, "Probably a new organization that appeared in the last 10,000 years. But their assassination skills do not seem anything special."

"Um. By the way, our helpers are from the Ghostface Sect," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"Since that is the case, let's head straight to the Ghostface Sect. I am kind of looking forward to seeing my disciple's reaction when he sees me," said Devouring Ghost with an amused tone.

Naturally, Xiang Shaoyun would not disagree. In the first place, he was here to get Devouring Ghost to deal with Green Ghost anyway. Although he no longer feared Green Ghost after his meeting with Tang Zhan, it would still be great if Devouring Ghost and Green Ghost could really reestablish their relationship.

After all, he had personally met Green Ghost and could see that Green Ghost had a decent respect for his master. Otherwise, he wouldn't have requested to meet his master in such an anxious manner.



They shortly arrived before the Ghostface Sect. Gazing at the massive ghostface emblem on the gate, Devouring Ghost had a complicated look in his eyes. He couldn't help but to sigh, "I've never expected that a day would come when I'm back here again."

The guard at the gate was about to step forth and chase the two visitors away when Lady Shura leisurely stepped through the gate.

"Young Master Xiang, please come inside. My sect master has been waiting for quite a while," invited Lady Shura.

"Ok." Xiang Shaoyun nodded and stepped through the gate.

Devouring Ghost followed closely behind, but Lady Shura stopped him and said, "Irrelevant people are to stay outside."

"Little girl, you sure you want me to stay outside?" Devouring Ghost asked with a faint smile.

Lady Shura did not say anything, but the way she behaved made her answer clear. She felt that Devouring Ghost was merely an attendant of Xiang Shaoyun. Someone like that was not qualified to meet her sect master.

"Lady Shura, he must come with me. I will let your sect master know about this. If he is unhappy with the visitor, I will bear the consequences," said Xiang Shaoyun.

Lady Shura hesitated slightly before saying, "Fine. But remember to not say anything unnecessary while inside."

That warning was obviously directed toward Devouring Ghost.

Devouring Ghost smiled. "An interesting girl."

He then headed toward the main hall with Xiang Shaoyun.

Xiang Shaoyun arrived before the main hall once again. The two devilish beasts lying on the ground suddenly stood up and walked toward him. Their gazes landed on him, and one of them said, "The purest high-tier bloodline of my race. You! Which clan are you from?"

"I remember this kid. He was here a year ago. Back then, his bloodline had yet to fully awaken. But now, it has completely awakened," said the other devil.

The two devils were extremely large, and their appearances were ferocious. They exuded a thick devilish aura, and their voice rumbled like thunderclaps. Everything about them emanated dreadfulness.

Since Xiang Shaoyun had been to the Devil Domain and had seen various types of devilish beasts, he was not frightened by the two before him. In any case, this was not his first time meeting them.

Looking at them, he smiled. "So what if I have the bloodline of the devils? Would you be able to leave and follow me instead? Just focus on your task of guarding this door."

He then ignored the two and stepped right into the main hall. The two devils were unhappy, yet there was nothing they could do. They had long been put under Green Ghost's control. It was almost impossible for them to escape it, and this young man was too weak to be of help to them. Thus, they wallowed in helplessness.

When Xiang Shaoyun and Devouring Ghost entered the hall, Lady Shura reported deferentially, "Sect master, Xiang Shaoyun is here."

Green Ghost was seated on the throne, wearing the same ferocious green ghostface mask as before.

"Um. Who is he? How can you allow him to enter as well?" Green Ghost said in a displeased manner when his gaze landed on Devouring Ghost.

Xiang Shaoyun answered before Lady Shura could say anything, "That has nothing to do with Lady Shura. I was the one who requested for him to come with me."

"Hmph. Don't even get me started about you. The person I want to meet is not here, and you brought someone irrelevant instead? Are you looking to die?" questioned Green Ghost murderously.

Before Xiang Shaoyun could say anything, Devouring Ghost howled with laughter, "Hahaha, what boastful words! What? Are you going to kill us, Little Green Thorn?"

Pa!

Green Ghost slammed his hand on the jade table beside him and smashed it apart. With fury in his eyes, he said, "What did you just say?"

Next, a terrifying power appeared and enveloped the entire hall, the pressure making it hard for Xiang Shaoyun and Devouring Ghost to breathe. It was as if Green Ghost only needed a single thought to kill them both.

"Little Green Thorn, are you going to murder your own master?" said Devouring Ghost, his voice imposing. At the same time, his soul hovered out of his head and furiously glared at Green Ghost.

#### Chapter 526: Master and Disciple

Green Ghost shivered when he saw the soul, his imposing aura instantly vanishing. He then waved at Lady Shura, sending her out of the hall with an incorporeal hand; and a certain power descended and isolated the hall from the outside world.

"Y-you're Master Devouring Ghost?" Green Ghost stood up and asked with disbelief.

"Apart from me, is there anyone else in the world who knows your pet name?" answered Devouring Ghost nonchalantly. "Do you mean to tell me you don't even recognize your own master anymore?"

Green Ghost stepped forth and knelt down emotionally. "This disciple greets the master!"

He couldn't recognize Linggu Haonan's body, but he could recognize his master's soul very well. His master was the only one who knew his pet name, Green Thorn. As for his current name, Green Ghost, it was a name he had adapted after becoming Devouring Ghost's disciple.

Green Ghost's strength was most certainly among the top in this Bloodsin City. He had a strength surpassing the Sovereign Realm, yet a person like this was kneeling before a peak Emperor. This was a scene that would shock all the old freaks residing in the city.

"Hehe, looks like you haven't forgotten your master after all," said Devouring Ghost's soul with a faint smile.

"This disciple dares not. I have been awaiting your return all this while, master. After that incident happened to Lord Xiang back then, I went to the Xiang Clan, looking for you. However, they were in a crisis back then, and with my weak strength, I wasn't even allowed to get through the front gate. Subsequently, I heard that the Xiang Clan had collectively entered seclusion, announcing that they would not reappear in 10,000 years. Since then, I haven't been able to find out anything about you, master. Therefore, I returned here and focused on developing the Ghostface Sect. The heavens must've blessed me for allowing me to see you again, master!" said Ghostface Sect earnestly while kneeling on the ground.

Green Ghost wasn't showing that much respect to Devouring Ghost because of how kind he had been treated in the past. On the contrary, Devouring Ghost had always been extremely strict with his disciples. When he tempered his disciples, he often did it without regard to their lives.

Even so, that did not stop Green Ghost from remembering what Devouring Ghost once did for him. He still remembered that when he was young, his parents were killed by bandits. He became a vagabond—drifting everywhere, fighting with dogs for food—and lived a harsh life of constantly being bullied. For a while, he lived the life of a beggar.

One day, he was fighting over food with a dog as usual. He was covered in injuries and dog bites, and the dog's owner nearly beat him to death. He was even forced to eat feces. It was a memory that filled him with grief each time he remembered it. It was at that time that Devouring Ghost was passing by and saved him.

Devouring Ghost, after swatting the dog's owner to pulp, said, "Stay by my side from now on. I shall teach you how to properly beat up a dog."

And that was how the young and weak Green Ghost came to become Devouring Ghost's youngest disciple. Back then, he was called Green Thorn.

The words spoken to him by Devouring Ghost back then were words he wouldn't forget. Even though he had subsequently undergone extremely harsh training under Devouring Ghost, he had zero complaints. He knew that everything his master did was for his own good: to teach him how to properly beat up a dog, to allow him to live with dignity. Unfortunately, before he could repay his master, something had happened to his beloved master.

All this while, he had assumed that there wasn't much chance of his master surviving. After all, the incident with the Xiang Clan back then had created massive implications across the entire dominion. They nearly subdued the entire dominion, forcing the numerous top organizations to join hands, and finally, Xiang Dingtian was defeated.

As one of the Five Skyslaying Generals under Xiang Dingtian's command, it was understandable that Devouring Ghost would suffer the implications of the defeat as well. Fortunately, he was still alive. Although there seemed to be some issues with his current form, that did not stop Green Ghost from showing the respect his master deserved.

He was very clear that just to stay alive, his master had to have gone through a major change to continue surviving in his new form. After all, upon reaching a certain threshold in strength, it wouldn't be hard for one to take over a body and undergo rebirth.

As Devouring Ghost looked at the deferential Green Ghost, a rare softness appeared on Devouring Ghost's face, and he said, "Alright, stand up. I am happy enough that you still remember me."

Green Ghost stood up, as if a great burden had been lifted from him. He then invited Devouring Ghost to the throne and said, "Master, please take a seat."

Instead of taking the seat, Devouring Ghost looked at Xiang Shaoyun and said, "Young master, please take a seat."

Green Ghost's eyes rippled with emotions, but he did not retort. Instead, he looked at Xiang Shaoyun with a mixed look. He could see that Xiang Shaoyun was basically a twin of his master's previous master, with Xiang Shaoyun being a younger version.

Is this young man really Lord Xiang who has undergone rebirth after stealing a body? thought Green Ghost inwardly.

Xiang Shaoyun rejected the invitation. "No. This is Sect Master Green Ghost's place. Either of you can be seated there. As for me, forget it."

"Young master, you're my young master while he's my disciple. If you don't take a seat there, none of us will dare to sit there. Don't worry. Green Ghost won't have any objections," said Devouring Ghost seriously.

After a slight hesitation, Green Ghost agreed, "Yes, young master, please take a seat."

He had absolute trust in his master. Although this youth was only a King, he definitely had a terrifying background. Otherwise, the Four Great Ancient Academies wouldn't have tried to recruit him at the same time.

Xiang Shaoyun ignored Devouring Ghost. Rather, he looked at Green Ghost and said, "I will only sit there when I have enough strength to obtain the recognition of Sect Master Green Ghost. As for now, both of you probably have a lot of catching up to do. Have a chat. I'll wait outside."

Although Xiang Shaoyun had Devouring Ghost's recognition, he still knew himself well. Green Ghost would definitely have a problem with him sitting on the throne just like that. Devouring Ghost wanted to say something, but when he saw Xiang Shaoyun's firm look, he agreed, "Alright. You can take a stroll in the area while I catch up with Green Ghost."

Green Ghost immediately commanded, "Lady Shura, come in. Attend to Young Master Xiang politely. If anything causes him to be dissatisfied, you will be punished."

The power surrounding the hall vanished as Lady Shura stepped in deferentially, "Yes, sect master."

She then looked at Xiang Shaoyun and said, "This way, please."

Xiang Shaoyun nodded and followed her out of the hall. After they left, Green Ghost sealed the hall again. Devouring Ghost did not stop him. Instead, he walked toward the throne and sat down.

Looking at Green Ghost, he said, "I know you have a lot of questions. I will tell you everything. Just listen."

Green Ghost thus focused on listening as Devouring Ghost told the story of everything that had happened after the war, including how he was imprisoned at the space beneath the soul spring, how he was saved by Xiang Shaoyun, and how he turned into his current form.

After listening to all that, Green Ghost said guiltily, "Your disciple is useless for being unable to help when you were suffering all these years, master."

"No, all that does not matter. So long as I get a chance to start anew, I will slowly take my revenge," said Devouring Ghost with a sharp glint in his eyes.

#### Chapter 527: Conclude Our Deal First

"Master, during all these years you were away, I have been properly developing the Ghostface Sect. We will be of great help to you!" said Green Ghost seriously.

Devouring Ghost said softly, "I had never imagined that you would reach this level relying on yourself. But with your strength, it will still be very hard for you to face the actual top organizations."

The Heaven Battling Realm, also known as the Saint Realm, was the realm beyond the Soul Foundation Realm. At the Heaven Battling Realm, one would shed one's mortal body and exchange one's bones, forming the body of a Saint, possessing the strength to fight the heavens. With a wave of one's hands, one could upturn heaven and earth. With a stomp of one's foot, one could collapse mountains. This was the type of strength a regular person couldn't even begin to imagine.

Those at this realm would have a lifespan of over 10,000 years. With how long Green Ghost had lived, it was obvious how high a realm he had reached. With his strength, wherever he went, he would be a formidable individual. Someone like him could easily found a tier-7 organization. In fact, the Ghostface Sect was as powerful as a tier-7 organization. However, they had maintained their influence within this Bloodsin City and had kept a low-profile. Because of that, not many people knew their actual strength.

"I'm nothing compared to master," said Green Ghost humbly.

"Since you've managed to reach this stage, I will naturally impart on you some of my experiences and the complete battle techniques I hadn't taught you back then. Hopefully, that will help you reach an even higher height," promised Devouring Ghost. "However, you must remain loyal to the young master, or you won't be my disciple anymore."

"Master, is the young master Lord Xiang?" Green Ghost probed cautiously.

"Yes and no," answered Devouring Ghost with an uncertain tone. "He is the one who has obtained the master's inheritance. He is also a descendant of the Xiang Clan's main branch family. Therefore, I have selected him as my young master. He will be the one to finish the master's unfinished job."

"Since you are not sure if he is Lord Xiang, why are you so strongly attached to him? Why don't you stay here? I'll pass you the sect master's position. With the Ghostface Sect, we can also do something big!" Green Ghost persuaded.

"Is that really what you think?" Devouring Ghost asked coldly.

When Green Ghost met his master's eyes, fear surfaced in his heart. However, he was no longer an ordinary person, so he braced himself and said, "With your talent, you should proclaim yourself a hegemon! Why do you need to be someone's underling?"

"Hmph! You are the one who doesn't want to be someone's underling, right?" said Devouring Ghost, displeased. "Green Ghost, remember my words. If you don't want to follow the young master, that's fine. But from now onward, our relationship shall be severed. We will no longer have anything to do with each other."

After saying that, Devouring Ghost stood up and started leaving. It was clear Green Ghost's proposal had angered him. Green Ghost quickly stopped him: "Don't be angry, master. It was just a proposal. If you disagree, I will forget about it! From now on, the Ghostface Sect will be doing the biddings of Young Master Xiang."

"Hmph. I'm afraid you aren't even being sincere," said Devouring Ghost, his face ashen. He then sighed, "Everyone has their own ambition. You have been a sect master for 10,000 years and have been free to do whatever you wish. It is understandable why you would have such a thought. But let me tell you something. Only by following the young master will you reach higher heights. In fact, even leaving the dominion is possible."

When Green Ghost heard the firmness within Devouring Ghost's tone, he accepted the explanation even though he still wasn't very convinced. Regardless, he still respected Devouring Ghost and wished that Devouring Ghost would be able to impart upon him more of what hadn't been taught to him in the past, allowing him to further his cultivation.

As for Xiang Shaoyun, Green Ghost decided to continue assuming the role of a bystander. If that young man really demonstrated excellent talent and could be a Sovereign within 100 years, he wouldn't mind taking the young man as his master.

Devouring Ghost could see the reluctance in Green Ghost's eyes, but he couldn't be bothered to say anything else. He believed that it wouldn't be long before Green Ghost had a change of mind.



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Outside the hall, Xiang Shaoyun and Lady Shura were strolling around randomly. Unlike other organizations, the Ghostface Sect was much less bustling. Not many pedestrians could be seen walking around, and most of the time, only the occasional patrolling members in a group of three to five could be seen.

Most members were either in cultivation or out of the sect on missions. Thus, the Ghostface Sect's headquarters was rather quiet. One could say that the Ghostface Sect was a sect that focused on growth and wasted no time doing unnecessary things. The two walked a serene stone path without saying anything. It was as if both were waiting for the other to say something, or perhaps both had no idea what to say.

Eventually, Lady Shura was the first to break the silence, "I heard you have become a special-recruit disciple of the Dragon Phoenix Academy?"

Xiang Shaoyun nodded. "Yes, looks like you are quite well informed. Take your mask off and fight me. Let's conclude our deal before I leave for the Dragon Phoenix Academy."

Back then, after seeing Lady Shura's real face, he was greatly attracted to her. He did not wish to see her fall into the embrace of another man. She could only be his. They had then made a promise that so long as Xiang Shaoyun could surpass her in three years, she would become his woman, with Green Ghost's approval.

"Ok. I want to see for myself your actual strength as well," said Lady Shura. She knew he was a War Emperor, but she was two stages above him in cultivation level. As one of the city's top-10 young experts, she was no pushover either. She did not believe that she wouldn't be a match for him.

Thus, she brought him straight to the Ghostface Sect's training field. The training field was located indoor instead of outdoor. It was a stone room of about 2,000 square meters in size. The room was further reinforced by a formation. Any attacks below the strength of the formation would not be able to deal any damage to the room.

Both Xiang Shaoyun and Lady Shura entered the stone room.

"Bring it on!" said Lady Shura with a thick battle intent in her eyes.

As the representative of the new generation of Ghostface Sect experts, she had the favor of the sect master. Therefore, she did not wish to be defeated by Xiang Shaoyun, who had a lower cultivation level than her.

But she also knew that Xiang Shaoyun had impressive combat prowess. Thus, she longed to have a battle with him so as to verify her own strength and to see if he was really as strong as rumored.

"Take your mask off first," Xiang Shaoyun requested.

"You can freely take the mask off if you win," said Lady Shura.

"Hehe, I can take off that mask freely even without defeating you," said Xiang Shaoyun with a smile. He had barely finished his words when only an afterimage was left where he stood. He then reappeared before Lady Shura and grabbed at her mask.

Lady Shura had not expected that he was that fast. Fortunately, she reacted in time and quickly blocked his hand with her own hand, stopping him from taking off her mask.

#### Chapter 528: Shura's Avatar

After failing to take off her mask, Xiang Shaoyun retreated back to where he stood originally, and smiled. "You're quite fast, but that was only half my top speed."

"Is that so? Too bad you no longer have a chance to display your full speed," said Lady Shura. With her eyes narrowed, she attacked. Her cultivation level of ninth-stage Skysoar Realm erupted as she sent a barrage of palm attacks toward Xiang Shaoyun.

#### Formless Palm!

The palm attacks dotted the sky and flooded the area with a thick vicious gold energy that surrounded Xiang Shaoyun from all directions. Each palm was comparable to the attack of a peak King. It was not an attack one could easily stop.

A faint smile formed on Xiang Shaoyun's face as he sent numerous golden fists forward, trying to blast the palms into smithereens. Numerous palms and fists collided, filling the room with a

rumbling sound, causing the room to shake. As the battle raged on, the two moved faster and faster, their attacks becoming stronger and stronger, painting a scene of total chaos.

Lady Shura's palm attacks were extraordinary, combining feints and real attacks, making it hard for one to guard against her. The vicious gold energy was exceedingly destructive, seemingly capable of penetrating everything. The combat prowess she displayed was no weaker than those of the young geniuses who had followed Yu Caidie into the Devil Domain.

Of course, she was only comparable to the average strength of the group—the likes of Su Jun. Compared to someone like Tang Longfei, she was still somewhat lacking. Even so, she displayed a talent in cultivation that was comparable to any one of them.

Xiang Shaoyun had already used about 70 percent of the strength in his gold star, yet he still hadn't managed to defeat Lady Shura. He also found that Lady Shura's palm attacks were ever changing and extremely hard to guard against. If it wasn't for his sharp senses, he would have already been injured.

"Why are you still hiding your strength? Do you really think I can't do anything to you?" True anger appeared on Lady Shura's face. She was nearly using her full strength, but Xiang Shaoyun was able to completely block all her attacks. It made it hard for her to remain calm. She did not think that Xiang Shaoyun was even using his full strength.

"Sure. Be careful now," said Xiang Shaoyun, believing he had almost fully grasped Lady Shura's strength. He shifted his stance.

Hurricane Kick!

Instead of using his hands, he used his legs and sent numerous hurricanes toward Lady Shura, causing her to lose balance. His kicks were powered by the yin devil wind and were filled with a boundless wind energy that gave Lady Shura a hard time.

Xiang Shaoyun was fighting with 80 percent of his strength. In his current form, ordinary peak Kings would not be his match. Lady Shura was forced to use all her strength. Her palms shone with a gold radiance, and a large amount of vicious gold energy converged around them.

However, Xiang Shaoyun's kicks were too fast, and she couldn't block them in time. As a result, several kicks struck her in succession, sending her flying. If Lady Shura was an enemy, she would have been killed by those kicks. But since she was a woman Xiang Shaoyun liked, he held back.

"Now it's your turn to use all your strength. Otherwise, I will take your mask off," said Xiang Shaoyun calmly.

"Watch out, then," said Lady Shura as she erupted with even more strength. She waved her palms around, and instantly, numerous arms formed around her as strands of vicious gold energy swirled around her body, giving her an eerie look.

Thousand Vicious Ghost Hands.

In the blink of an eye, countless golden hands swarmed Xiang Shaoyun. Carrying a thick vicious energy with them, the palms completely surrounded Xiang Shaoyun, making escape almost impossible.

Additionally, the palms seemed to possess life, as they could freely move around in accordance to Xiang Shaoyun's movement. It did not seem like they would stop before they completely subdued him. When he saw that there was no way of escaping the palms, he decided to not even bother with escaping.

Six Goldplate Manual!

Perfect defensive walls of the Iron Wall and Copper Wall stages appeared around him. Evidently, he had mastered the second stage of the Six Goldplate Manual. He only needed the final two walls before he could complete the Goldplate stage. These four walls were more than enough to block the attack of an Emperor. When Lady Shura's palm attacks landed, he stood firm. The attacks failed to even make him move. Xiang Shaoyun had initially thought that this would be enough to make Lady Shura give up, but she actually rushed him. With a sharp glint in her eyes, she erupted with even more power.

Shura's Avatar!

A golden apparition appeared behind Lady Shura, exuding a boundless aura comparable to a War Emperor's. Once again, she slammed a golden palm at Xiang Shaoyun. The palm had more than doubled in strength and moved at an astonishing speed that was much faster than before. That was Lady Shura's real strength. Instantly, she sent nine palm attacks forward, and they loudly crashed into the walls around Xiang Shaoyun.

The new strength she revealed greatly pressured Xiang Shaoyun, but he could still withstand it. Right after she sent out the nine palm attacks, Lady Shura's energy seemed to have dried up. And before she could replenish her energy, Xiang Shaoyun made his move. He dashed forth, his hand shooting forward like a bolt of lightning. Lady Shura felt a breeze hit her face as he removed her mask. By instinct, she heavily slammed her palm into his chest.

Xiang Shaoyun had thought that the battle would be over after taking the mask off. Thus, the attack had caught him by surprise. Since he had already removed his defensive walls, he was sent flying while coughing blood.

Lady Shura blanked out slightly before she quickly dashed over. "Xiang Shaoyun, a-are you fine?"

She had sent out the palm attack without holding anything back. If she had carelessly killed Xiang Shaoyun, she wouldn't know what to do.

Lying on the ground, Xiang Shaoyun coughed blood as he said weakly, "I'm a-afraid...I w-won't make it!"

"N-no way! I still have some millennium king spring here! Take it! You can't die!" Lady Shura said anxiously.

As she said that, she took her millennium king spring out and tried to feed it to Xiang Shaoyun. To her surprise, he grabbed her hand with one hand and placed his other hand on her neck and dragged her head down. At the same time, he lifted his head. Two pairs of lips met.

Lady Shura was completely stunned. She had never expected that Xiang Shaoyun would be so audacious. Just as she was about to push him away, she found that his tongue had found its way into her mouth! The tongue explored her mouth, and at that moment, her mind seemed to turn blank, and her body went limp.

#### Chapter 529: This Fellow Sure Has a Good Timing

Xiang Shaoyun had been injured. But it wasn't as bad as it seemed. He had merely pretended that it was bad. His body had a toughness comparable to demonic and devilish beasts. Even without the protection of his Six Goldplate Manual, he would still be able to withstand considerably powerful attacks.

He had only pretended to be heavily injured so as to lure Lady Shura over to his side. After taking her mask off and looking at the face that caused his heart to speed up, he couldn't help teasing her a bit.

Lady Shura had indeed fallen for his ploy. The kiss seemed to have caused her to lose both her breath and mind. Only when Xiang Shaoyun's hand reached a certain supple part of her body did she recover with a shiver. In her shock, she tried pushing him away.

However, Xiang Shaoyun was unwilling to let go of her. He smiled. "You were the one who said that if I can become stronger than you in three years, you will be mine. Are you going back on your words?"

When Lady Shura heard that, she blinked her eyes and sank into thought. Then, she stopped struggling.

"Yes, I did make that promise, but the sect master has yet to agree to this," said Lady Shura with a rare gentleness.

In truth, as someone who had grown up in the Ghostface Sect, she had little freedom. Without the approval of the sect master, she would not easily have any feelings for a man. But inwardly, she had a decent opinion of Xiang Shaoyun. The first time she met him, he was only a third-stage Skysoar Realm cultivator. Only a year had passed, and he had reached the seventh-stage. That was an insane growth. He seemed to have undergone some transformation as well. He now exuded a sort of charm that not even she could resist.

"Don't worry, he will agree," said Xiang Shaoyun confidently.

A look of astonishment flickered in Lady Shura's eyes. She nodded and said, "Um. If the sect master agrees, I will be your woman from now on."

Lady Shura was a decisive woman who agreed without much hesitation. Xiang Shaoyun smiled and assaulted her mouth once again. This time, Lady Shura was no longer taking the passive role. Instead, she hugged Xiang Shaoyun tightly and responded passionately.

Lady Shura had always been a woman that could cause men to lose their mind with lust and desire. With her taking such an initiative, Xiang Shaoyun instantly felt his blood boiling. His hands started roaming about again, with a focus on her bountiful peaks. Their supple and tender touch drove him mad with lust.

He was already 19 years old, a 19-year-old virgin. He might look like a playboy, but he had never tasted a woman before. Facing such a wild beauty, he lost control over himself.

As Xiang Shaoyun's hands roamed Lady Shura's body without stop, she finally let out a moan uncontrollably. At the same time, her lower body felt warmer and warmer, and finally, she felt a certain part of her lower body moistening. For the first time in her life, she felt shy.

Just as the two were about to fully lose control, a voice rang out, "Lady Shura, bring Young Master Xiang to the feasting hall.

It was Green Ghost's voice. He wasn't physically present, but every inch of space in the Ghostface Sect was under the monitoring of his senses. He could easily find and transmit his message to anyone in the sect. Lady Shura immediately pushed Xiang Shaoyun away when she heard her sect master's voice.

Xiang Shaoyun smiled helplessly. "That fellow sure has a good timing."

Lady Shura put her mask back on and said, "Come on. Don't make the sect master wait."

"Um." Xiang Shaoyun nodded and walked alongside her, his hand holding hers.

Lady Shura wanted to pull her hand away, but Xiang Shaoyun refused to let go, so she couldn't do anything. Although she claimed that she did not want anyone to see them holding hands, inwardly, a sweet feeling permeated her entire person.

Soon, Lady Shura brought Xiang Shaoyun to the feasting hall. Both Devouring Ghost and Green Ghost were already seated in the hall, with numerous delicacies and liquors served on the table. When Green Ghost saw Xiang Shaoyun holding Lady Shura's hand, disdain flickered in his eyes as he thought, This kid doesn't even have strong willpower.

Initially, he still had a decent impression on Xiang Shaoyun, but now, all that had been ruined.

Xiang Shaoyun spoke forthrightly, "Sect Master Green Ghost, I like Lady Shura. She will be my woman from now on. I hope your generous self can agree to that."

Xiang Shaoyun did not like to beat around the bush when facing someone like Green Ghost. In any case, he was confident Green Ghost would not make things hard for him for the sake of a woman. Lady Shura looked at Green Ghost nervously with a vague trace of expectation in her eyes.

Instead of agreeing, Green Ghost looked at Lady Shura and asked, "Lady Shura, are you willing?"

Lady Shura took a deep breath and said, "I will obey the sect master's command."

Inwardly, she liked Xiang Shaoyun. But she was a person who had been raised by Green Ghost. She viewed him as her father, and she did not want to ruin the affection between them that had been built over many years.

A gratified look appeared on Green Ghost's face as he said, "I am gratified that you can reach such a decision. Fine, you can follow him in the future."

"Thank you, sect master," Lady Shura knelt down and thanked earnestly.

Xiang Shaoyun promised, "She won't suffer losses staying by my side. I will bring her into the Dragon Phoenix Academy."

He still had two follower spots he could use, and now, he was using one of them for Lady Shura.

But right after he said that, Green Ghost replied, "I know you have two spots, but many organizations in the city are going to the Skeleton Gang to inquire about the two spots. Many excellent offers have been proposed. There is no need to waste one spot for Lady Shura."

"She is my woman. If I don't give her one of the spots, who am I supposed to give the spots to?" said Xiang Shaoyun with a frown.

"You misunderstand me. What I mean is Lady Shura can enter relying on her own strength. I believe she can get through the test smoothly," said Green Ghost.

Xiang Shaoyun raised his brow and smiled. "True. I believe she can get through the test as well. But she needs to first purchase a test quota."



"You don't have to worry about something like that. Lady Shura can deal with that herself," said Green Ghost. He then raised his glass and said, "I am very happy to be able to meet my master again. Let me give my master a toast. Next, let us drink to our hearts' content!"

Xiang Shaoyun did not have any other issues, so he started drinking as well.

After a while, Devouring Ghost said, "Young master, I might not be able to stay by your side anymore after you enter the Dragon Phoenix Academy. The rules of the academy do not allow for the entry of servants. You need to take care of yourself while in there."

"Um. I'm aware. You can just focus on restoring your strength. In any case, you have a promise with Big Brother Du, right? Just work on that for now," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"Don't worry, when you return from the Dragon Phoenix Academy, you will see an even stronger Du Xuanhao!" said Devouring Ghost confidently.

Chapter 530: This Is a Divine Site

"I trust you," said Xiang Shaoyun. He had unconditional trust on Devouring Ghost.

Devouring Ghost said, "I heard from Green Ghost that you have taken over the territories of two small gangs?"

Xiang Shaoyun nodded. "Yes, I am still in the process of considering how I should develop the gang."

"Young master, if you trust me, let me handle it. You don't have to waste any effort on this," said Devouring Ghost.

"Sure. But I'm curious as to how you're going to handle it?" Xiang Shaoyun asked.

"When it comes to subordinates, quality is better than quantity. Most of the members in those small gangs are useless. But it is still possible to find some acceptable talents among them," said Devouring Ghost with disdain.

Xiang Shaoyun smiled helplessly. "Even trash can be useful. Just make use of them however you can."

"Don't worry, young master. I know what to do," said Devouring Ghost with a nod.

The feast ended shortly after. Xiang Shaoyun had Devouring Ghost remain in the Ghostface Sect while he himself returned to the Skeleton Gang alone. Green Ghost wanted to send Lady Shura with him, as he believed that Xiang Shaoyun would want her by his side tonight.

But Xiang Shaoyun rejected and told Lady Shura to remain in the Ghostface Sect. They could depart together when it was time to head to the Dragon Phoenix Academy. He believed that since Lady Shura had been staying at the Ghostface Sect for so many years, she would have deep sentiment for it.

In any case, he was going to leave for the Dragon Phoenix Academy with her soon. They had plenty of time together. This little additional time they could spend together did not matter to him. He was giving her the time to wrap things up at the sect before leaving.

Green Ghost had not expected that Xiang Shaoyun would make such a choice. A complicated look appeared in his eyes. He felt that he could no longer see clearly just what kind of person the youngster was. As for Lady Shura, she was moved by Xiang Shaoyun's gesture. Women were creatures of emotion, and the consideration Xiang Shaoyun showed made it even harder for her to reject him.

Green Ghost thus sent someone to escort Xiang Shaoyun back, and that was not rejected. Soon, Xiang Shaoyun arrived back at the Skeleton Gang, then went straight to the main hall. As he walked, he thought, I will spend a day or two wrapping up the affairs here before paying Uncle Tang a visit. Then, I will start heading toward the Dragon Phoenix Academy with Big Brother Tang.

While thinking, he arrived at the main hall.

"You're finally getting your ass back here?" a lazy voice rang out.

Pulled from his thoughts, Xiang Shaoyun shivered. He lifted his head and found Ugly Gambler sitting at the throne in the main hall and gazing at him with a look of mockery.

Xiang Shaoyun's face fell as he quickly said, "Greetings, Lord Gambler."

Ever since he had returned from the Devil Domain, he hadn't cared much for Ugly Gambler. It was not that he had forgotten about Ugly Gambler, but he was no longer worried about the control Ugly Gambler had over him, as he had been cured of the poison.

Furthermore, he now had the nether prison devil puppet, and he believed that he no longer needed to fear Ugly Gambler. But he had never imagined that Ugly Gambler would instead come to him.

"From the look on your face, you don't seem too happy seeing me?" Ugly Gambler asked.

"How is that possible? My life is still under your control. By the way, the period of one year has passed. Can I get my antidote now, lord?" Xiang Shaoyun asked.

"There is no rush. Let's have a nice chat first," said Ugly Gambler with a smile that was uglier than the face of someone crying.

"Sure. I have some nice liquor here. Let's drink to our hearts' content!" said Xiang Shaoyun as two bottles of liquor appeared in his hand. He tossed one of them over.

Ugly Gambler accepted the bottle without hesitation and said, "You're a smart kid. I had thought that you would summon the nether prison devil puppet against me."

Xiang Shaoyun's face went stiff for a bit before he smiled. "How is that possible? My respect toward you, the great Lord Gambler, is akin to an unending torrent of river, as boundless as a great flood!"

"That better be the case. Otherwise, before the poison kills you, I will personally slap you to death," said Ugly Gambler, pleased. Xiang Shaoyun could feel the sinister murderous intent contained in Ugly Gambler's voice, and it seemed like he had no fear whatsoever toward the nether prison devil puppet.

Xiang Shaoyun rejoiced that he had not summoned the nether prison devil puppet. Otherwise, things would have turned troublesome. After the two took a swig of liquor, he asked, "Lord, I have completed your mission. What should I do next?"

Ugly Gambler had poisoned him and forced him to complete the mission of getting the yin devil wind and becoming the Yu Clan's son-in-law. He believed that there was more that Ugly Gambler wanted.

Ugly Gambler sighed, "In truth, your mission can't be considered to have been completed."

"How is that possible? I did as you told and became the son-in-law of the Yu Clan!" Xiang Shaoyun said.

"But you failed to stay beside Yu Caidie, right?" Ugly Gambler said.

"Huh? Lord, you meant to have me stay by her side?" Xiang Shaoyun asked in confusion.

"That was the initial plan. You were supposed to become her follower and enter the Dragon Phoenix Academy with her. But that is no longer required. I had never imagined that you yourself would become a special-recruit disciple of the Dragon Phoenix Academy as well. Not bad, not bad at all," said Ugly Gambler with a praising tone.

"Lord, so your main goal was for me to enter the Dragon Phoenix Academy?" Xiang Shaoyun asked, still confused.

"Yes. So long as you can promise to do something for me when you're in the Dragon Phoenix Academy, I will give you the antidote," said Ugly Gambler.

"What do I need to do? But I'm too weak. I'm afraid I won't be able to do it even if I want to," said Xiang Shaoyun gloomily.

Something even an expert like Ugly Gambler would pay attention to would definitely not be so easily accomplished. Xiang Shaoyun did not dare to agree rashly.

"Hehe, that involves a gargantuan opportunity. Are you sure you don't want to do it?" said Ugly Gambler with a smile.

"But I'm afraid I will really be too weak to do it," said Xiang Shaoyun with a look of fear. There was no free lunch in the world.

"Hmph. Even if you're unwilling to do it, you still need to do it," said Ugly Gambler coldly. He then tossed an item toward Xiang Shaoyun. Forced to catch the item, Xiang Shaoyun soon found that it was a badly damaged map with some markings on it.

"A treasure map?" Xiang Shaoyun asked doubtfully.

"I guess you can call it that. But this map is much more valuable than a treasure map. It details a divine site!" said Ugly Gambler solemnly.

"What? Divine site?" Xiang Shaoyun exclaimed in alarm.

"Yes. Of course, the map is incomplete. But we are sure that the site is located within the Dragon Phoenix Academy. It is rumored that this is the reason the Dragon Phoenix Academy had been built there in the first place. I hope you can find the entrance of this place after entering the Dragon Phoenix Academy. You only need to tell me the location, and your mission will be considered complete," said Ugly Gambler seriously.

"You only want to know the location of the entrance?" Xiang Shaoyun reconfirmed.

"Yes. It shouldn't be a hard mission. I believe you can complete it," said Ugly Gambler. He then gave Xiang Shaoyun a bottle and said, "This is three years worth of antidote. If you can complete the mission within three years, I will give you the full antidote."