

Primordial 491

Chapter 491: Victory! A Decisive Surrender

"You talk too much!"

Lin Chen raised his head, looking at the opponent in front of him, and spoke in an icy tone.

"Kid, you're asking for death."

Zhang Meng's eyes were icy cold as he looked at Lin Chen. Lin Chen's attitude immediately infuriated him. With a movement, he swung his fist, aiming for Lin Chen's head.

"Too slow!"

Although Lin Chen's opponent had much higher cultivation than him, he didn't feel any pressure facing Zhang Meng.

To Lin Chen, Zhang Meng's speed seemed to slow down. It wasn't that Zhang Meng was moving slowly, but rather that Lin Chen's movement techniques were exceptionally fast.

With a sway to the left and right, Lin Chen easily dodged Zhang Meng's attack.

After a series of exchanges, Zhang Meng found himself completely unable to get the better of Lin Chen.

Suddenly, Zhang Meng found the right moment to close in on Lin Chen, ready to attack him with his immense strength.

"Great, this is a perfect chance to attack! Hit him, Zhang Meng."

"Yes, just like that, take him down with one punch."

The crowd betting on Zhang Meng at the duel platform started shouting as soon as they saw Lin Chen reveal an opening.

Boom—

However, just as Zhang Meng got close and was about to attack, Lin Chen threw a punch first.

"So you deliberately showed a flaw to draw me in."

"But even so, what can you do to me? My cultivation is several levels higher than yours."

"You, with your Heaven-reaching Realm Eight Layers Cultivation, still dare to clash with me directly? Truly courting death."

Then, their fists collided with each other.

Boom—

Zhang Meng's figure was sent flying nearly a hundred meters by Lin Chen's punch. Fortunately, the martial arts arena was nearly ten miles wide, otherwise, with that punch from Lin Chen, Zhang Meng might have been directly knocked off the platform.

"How is this possible!?"

A numb sensation came from Zhang Meng's arm, and with a look of disbelief, he turned his gaze towards Lin Chen, who hadn't moved from his spot in the distance.

Their clash of strength resulted in his loss to Lin Chen.

After nearly a hundred exchanges, he hadn't gained the slightest advantage; now he had even been sent flying by Lin Chen.

"Kid, I admit that I underestimated your strength, but this is where it ends. You've succeeded in arousing my killing intent. Now go to hell."

Zhang Meng's tone was icy cold as he looked at Lin Chen before suddenly, a flash of spiritual light appeared in his hand, and a massive hammer materialized.

"Zhang Meng, aren't you lacking in martial virtue? To deal with a newcomer, you even brought out a Top-tier Earth-grade Magical Treasure."

Qin Kaifeng, seeing the giant hammer in Zhang Meng's hand, immediately became somewhat worried.

He had experienced Lin Chen's physical strength.

However, Zhang Meng was different from Sun Fengyu and Zhao Zhongchuan. His cultivation was formidable, and the giant hammer in his hand was a Top-tier Earth-grade Magical Treasure, its full power comparable to a Heaven-grade Treasure.

Could Lin Chen withstand it?

"This is a duel; what's dishonorable about using magic treasures? If Lin Chen has a magical treasure, then by all means, he should use it."

"Exactly, exactly, there's no rule against using magic treasures. This isn't an admission test where the use of high-level treasures is prohibited."

"Well done, Zhang Meng, quickly defeat this kid."

Under the duel platform, the cheers were all urging Zhang Meng to quickly deal with Lin Chen so their bets would win.

Humming—

However, as the crowd was cheering for Zhang Meng, a glimmer of spiritual light flickered in Lin Chen's hand, and the Fiery Flame Sword appeared.

"What?! Heaven-grade! How could this guy possibly have a Heaven-grade treasure in his hand."

The onlookers stared at the Fiery Flame Sword in Lin Chen's hands, immediately shocked, greed apparent in their eyes.

Although they were all Inner Sect Disciples of the Formation Sect, not everyone could have a Heaven-grade Treasure.

In the hands of most people present, there were only Top-tier Earth-grade Magical Treasures.

Whoosh—

Following this, Lin Chen displayed the Summoning Thunder Sword Technique he had learned from the Formation Sect's Spiritual Treasure Pavilion. The Fiery Flame Sword, already possessing the power of flame, now carried the force of thunder, enhancing its might even further.

After a round of fighting, Zhang Meng's Cold Iron Hammer actually cracked.

Then, Lin Chen used the High Mountain Flowing Water Swordsmanship, and the sword light landed on Zhang Meng, immediately slicing him with countless wounds.

Zhang Meng was gasping for breath, fresh blood gushing unceasingly. Without prompt treatment, his life might be in danger.

"I'm defeated!"

Although Zhang Meng was reluctant to admit this fact, he truly had no strength left to fight.

Hearing this, Lin Chen went to collect his Contribution Value.

After collecting his Contribution Value, he sought out Qin Kaifeng for the six thousand Contribution Value they had bet.

However, as Lin Chen was about to leave, a call came from behind him.

"Hold on, I want to continue to challenge you."

The figure behind him spoke in an icy tone.

Turning around, Lin Chen saw that it was none other than Chang Bai standing in the distance, looking at him with eyes filled with hatred.

Chang Bai's cultivation had broken through to the Second Layer of the Reverting Void Realm, which Lin Chen certainly couldn't defeat.

"I concede!"

Lin Chen spoke in an indifferent tone.

At these words, a wave of shock erupted from the surroundings.

Lin Chen had just defeated Zhang Meng, his formidable physical strength and his unpredictable swordsmanship witnessed by all. With a cultivation of Heaven-reaching Realm Eighth Layer, he had managed to defeat someone of the Third Layer of the Reverting Void Realm.

Yet the person now challenging Lin Chen was only at the Second Layer of the Reverting Void Realm, a cultivation not even as high as Zhang Meng's; Lin Chen should have been able to defeat him.

So why did Lin Chen quickly concede?

Could it be that this challenger also possessed the strength to fight above his level?

Chapter 492: Luo Xiangzhou

"This guy, he turned out to be a coward."

Qin Yushuang watched as Lin Chen faced Chang Bai's challenge but resolutely refused, and immediately lost faith in Lin Chen.

Just a moment ago, Qin Yushuang had thought Lin Chen was a spirited and promising youth after he defeated Zhang Meng. Now, it seemed, he was nothing but a coward.

Facing Lin Chen's concession, Chang Bai also had no solutions. If he insisted on taking action against Lin Chen, it would inevitably lead to a lot of trouble.

"How about it, did you exchange the deposit?"

Lin Chen approached Qin Kaifeng and asked.

"I've exchanged it. Give me your Jade Token, and I'll transfer the Contribution Value to you."

Qin Kaifeng was all smiles, because following Lin Chen this time had brought him a big windfall, with odds of twelve to one.

"Brother Dongfang also bet on Lin Chen?"

Seeing that Dongfang Yun had also exchanged a large amount of Contribution Value, Qin Kaifeng asked.

"Yes, I have to thank Brother Lin for this windfall."

Dongfang Yun said with a face full of smiles.

In past bets, he had never won.

All three had earned a substantial profit and laughed heartily, which caused Qin Yushuang to roll her eyes and mutter a curse under her breath.

Hearing this, Dongfang Yun and Qin Kaifeng, accustomed to her attitude, didn't take it to heart. However, Lin Chen was inwardly speechless; he really didn't know what he had done to upset her.

Lin Chen then repaid all the Contribution Value he had borrowed before.

...

At this moment, Xu Lianyu and her two companions were traveling to the Frost Chill Kingdom on a merchant ship pulled by spiritual horses.

When the three of them sneaked out of the Jade Cauldron Sect, they didn't bring a Flying Boat, and even if they had, they wouldn't dare to ride it recklessly.

After all, they were in the Frost Chill Kingdom, not the Jade Cauldron Kingdom.

If their Flying Boat attracted some unnecessary trouble, the three of them would have trouble dealing with it.

Still, Xu Lianyu had followed Lin Chen on several missions before, so her actions were completely in line with Lin Chen's usual way of doing things.

Perhaps even Xu Lianyu herself didn't realize how much she had been influenced by Lin Chen.

Currently with Xu Lianyu's group was a caravan.

This wasn't a caravan from the Lingxi Commerce Guild but one they encountered on their journey from the Frost Chill Kingdom. After getting to know them, seeing how young Xu Lianyu and her friends were yet running between the two countries, they offered to take them in their Spiritual Vehicle.

Wang Yilin and Hua Lianxin agreed without hesitation, while Xu Lianyu had the foresight to exchange a few courteous words with the leader of the caravan.

After some conversation, the three learned that these people belonged to a group called Haiyue Commerce, and the person leading the caravan was Su Jinghan, the youngest daughter of the president of Haiyue Commerce.

Having learned this, Xu Lianyu and the others thought highly of Su Jinghan because, although she was only a few years older, she was already conducting business outside, unlike themselves, who had always been under the protection of their elders, staying within the Sect to cultivate.

And Su Jinghan, after talking with Xu Lianyu and her companions, was extremely shocked to learn that the three young women were from the Jade Cauldron Kingdom.

Recently, the Lingxi Commerce Guild had set up shop in the Frost Chill Kingdom and was now doing business on a scale that was no smaller than that of Haiyue Commerce.

Moreover, after observing, Su Jinghan realized that despite their young age, Xu Lianyu and her friends had high Cultivation, with both Xu Lianyu and Wang Yilin reaching the First Level of the Reverting Void Realm, and Hua Lianxin was at the Third Layer of the Reverting Void Realm.

Confident that the three young women in front of her must be descendants of some major family in the Jade Cauldron Kingdom, Su Jinghan knew Haiyue Commerce must not offend them, so she took great care of them along the way.

Whoosh whoosh whoosh—

Suddenly, a massive current of air came flying in, and a huge Flying Boat appeared in the sky, decked out magnificently and beautifully.

"Such a grand and beautiful Flying Boat. Later, I'll have Lin Chen get me one too; we can play on it for days and nights."

Wang Yilin looked at the Flying Boat passing overhead and said longingly.

After hearing this, Xu Lianyu and Hua Lianxin also nodded in agreement. The Flying Boat before their eyes was very beautiful, and there probably wasn't a single woman who wouldn't like it.

However, upon hearing the conversation between the three, Su Jinghan's face showed surprise, but moments later, she frowned.

"Sister Su, what's wrong? You changed your expression after seeing the Flying Boat."

Xu Lianyu, ever observant, noticed the change in Su Jinghan's expression and immediately asked.

"Ladies, the people aboard that Flying Boat are not good, you had better hide inside the carriage for now."

Su Jinghan looked at them seriously and said.

Upon hearing this, Xu Lianyu and the others nodded and went inside the carriage.

Just then, an elder approached, looking at Su Jinghan with a worried expression.

"Young Master, whenever the Luo Xiangzhou Flying Boat passes by, many young women suffer from the Demon Claw's hands. Please take refuge in the carriage as well."

The elder spoke respectfully.

The people of the Frost Chill Kingdom knew the reputation of the Luo Xiangzhou Flying Boat, and the unsavory deeds that took place on it, mostly involving acts of romantic and indulgent nature.

"No, they recognize our caravan. If they see that there isn't a single woman among us, they'll know we're deliberately hiding, and if we draw their attention, it won't be good."

Su Jinghan shook her head and refused.

Whoosh—

And at that moment, a man in white fluttered down from the Luo Xiangzhou Flying Boat and flew towards their caravan.

Chapter 493: Xuan Yin Sect? Never Heard of It

"It's Shi Shangli from the Xuan Yin Sect!"

Upon seeing the man in white flying towards them on the Flying Boat, Su Jinghan's expression changed instantly and her brows furrowed deeply, knowing they were likely in big trouble now.

Shi Shangli's conduct was notoriously ruthless and brutal, and the man had a particular penchant for lasciviousness; no one knew how many women had been toyed to death by him.

And behind Shi Shangli was another group of men in green.

Xu Lianyu and the other two were inside the Spiritual Horse Carriage, sneaking peeks at everything on the Luo Xiangzhou through the window.

Countless women, wearing gauze dresses, were singing and dancing on the Flying Boat. The three had thought it was a typical entertainment, but then they saw a man forcing a woman on the edge of the Flying Boat and doing utterly inhumane things to her, then he actually threw her off the Flying Boat.

The woman was completely naked and her Spiritual Power had been sealed; she died on impact.

Witnessing this scene, the three girls were terrified into silence; they now understood why Su Jinghan had wanted them to hide inside the carriage.

"It's Miss Su from Haiyue Commerce, would you grant the honor of sharing a drink on the Luo Xiangzhou?"

Ever since Shi Shangli had landed, his gaze hadn't moved from Su Jinghan for a moment.

At this moment, he stepped forward and extended the invitation.

However, knowing what happened on the Luo Xiangzhou, how could Su Jinghan possibly agree?

If she really went, even if nothing happened, people would inevitably look at her with strange eyes, and she wouldn't be able to clear her name.

In the past, there had been similar incidents, and many women couldn't withstand the gossip and ended up taking their own lives.

"Miss Su, it's your honor that Mr. Shi has taken a liking to you; don't throw your face away."

Seeing that his gentlemanly invitation was not being taken seriously by Su Jinghan, Shi Shangli immediately became angry and was about to use force.

However, Su Jinghan was not going to comply with his wishes. Without further ado, she drew her sword and slashed at Shi Shangli.

"You dare to lay hands on me, you're seeking death."

Shi Shangli said and managed to catch Su Jinghan's sword with his bare hand. He then sealed her Meridians, locking her Spiritual Power, and pulled her into his arms, inhaling the fragrance emanating from her body.

"Miss!"

The butler from Haiyue Commerce, seeing their Miss captured, immediately joined the convoy's Martial Artists in drawing their swords and stabbing at Shi Shangli.

"A bunch of trash, get lost!"

Shi Shangli didn't even take a proper look at the Martial Artists from Haiyue Commerce, with a wave of his sleeves, a surge of Spiritual Power knocked back the butler and many of the convoy's warriors; the old butler also spat out fresh blood.

With Shi Shangli's Cultivation at the Reverting Void Realm Fourth Layer, no one in the vicinity was his match.

"Elder Li!"

Seeing the butler injured, Su Jinghan immediately became worried.

"Little beauty, you should worry about yourself instead."

Shi Shangli's face showed an extremely lewd smile, then reached out for Su Jinghan.

However, it was at that moment that a Sword Light suddenly slashed towards him from the carriage.

Shi Shangli, thinking it was just a typical Martial Artist, waved his sleeve to defend again, but the Sword Light collided with his released Spiritual Power, knocking him flying and shattering his sleeve.

"Sister Su, are you alright?"

Wang Yilin, Hua Lianxin, and Xu Lianyu rushed forward, caught Su Jinghan, and then removed the restrictions on her.

"This man is from the Xuan Yin Sect and not to be messed with. I'll hold him off while you escape from here quickly. You must not fall into his hands, or else you'll be wishing for death."

Su Jinghan warned Hua Lianxin and the others earnestly.

"Escape? The word 'escape' does not exist in my vocabulary. This guy is so horrible, I'll rid the people of this menace today."

Wang Yilin's eyes, filled with murderous intent, rested on Shi Shangli.

Such a beast like Shi Shangli didn't deserve to live in this world, and the same went for every man on the Luo Xiangzhou.

"Senior Sister Wang, let me do it, he's not your typical Martial Artist."

Hua Lianxin stepped forward slowly, her eyes cold as they landed on Shi Shangli, naturally agreeing with Wang Yilin.

At her words, Wang Yilin and Xu Lianyu nodded. Although the sect hadn't made Hua Lianxin's matters public, the two could guess something about it.

"Not bad at all, three more beauties. My charms seem to be particularly strong today."

Shi Shangli clearly didn't take Wang Yilin, Hua Lianxin, and Xu Lianyu seriously.

"Heh, soon you'll find out what true charm is."

Hua Lianxin's eyes flickered coldly, and her figure instantly disappeared, attacking Shi Shangli head-on.

"Such speed!"

Shi Shangli and his men in green were shocked>.

"Ahh..."

After exchanging merely ten moves with Hua Lianxin, Shi Shangli was already in a sorry state, completely overwhelmed by her power.

In Hua Lianxin's hands was a transparent sword, formed by the Power of Cold Ice, which left countless wounds on Shi Shangli's body, severing his Meridians.

More crucially, Hua Lianxin's Power of Cold Ice was even able to freeze the Spiritual Power inside Shi Shangli's body.

"I... I am the Young Sect Master of the Xuan Yin Sect, if you dare touch me, the Xuan Yin Sect won't let you off."

Shi Shangli was terrified, staring at Hua Lianxin with wide eyes while his body kept retreating on the ground backwards.

As for the men in green behind him who had tried to join Shi Shangli earlier in attacking Hua Lianxin, they had been turned into ice sculptures by her sword.

"Xuan Yin Sect? Never heard of it, so you can die now."

Hua Lianxin spoke indifferently, not giving Shi Shangli a chance to react, and with a flash of Sword Light from her hand, his head rolled away from his body. The fresh blood that should have spurted out was instantly frozen by the chill.

Chapter 494: Xuan Yin Sect's Fury

"You..."

Watching Hua Lianxin actually kill Shi Shangli, Su Jinghan was incredibly shocked, but at the same time, she also grew worried.

Since Shi Shangli was now dead and it was related to their Haiyue Commerce, the Xuan Yin Sect would inevitably seek revenge against Haiyue Commerce in the future.

However, in the situation that just passed, Hua Lianxin had taken action to save her, which was why she killed Shi Shangli. It seemed that Su Jinghan should actually be thankful to Hua Lianxin.

At this moment, above in the sky, the Luo Xiangzhou, upon seeing their Young Master killed by Hua Lianxin below, immediately descended into chaos. Fearful, they activated the Flying Boat and returned to the Xuan Yin Sect.

"Miss Hua, thank you for stepping in to save us. If it weren't for you, I really wouldn't know what to do."

"But the Xuan Yin Sect is not easy to provoke. You should hurry and leave this place. If you encounter someone from the Xuan Yin Sect, you must detour and avoid them at all costs, lest they recognize you."

Su Jinghan cautioned Hua Lianxin, Wang Yilin, and Xu Lianyu earnestly.

"Sister Su, we won't leave. We killed the person, and it has nothing to do with Haiyue Commerce. If the Xuan Yin Sect seeks revenge, we will face them,"

Hua Lianxin was actually quite temperamental. Although they had only known each other for a few days, Su Jinghan had been quite good to them. Moreover, Shi Shangli's behavior was indeed hateful, and Hua Lianxin couldn't stand it, prompting her to take action and kill him.

"No, you don't understand how terrifying the Xuan Yin Sect is. You are strong, but compared to the Xuan Yin Sect, there is still a big gap. If you fall into their hands, it will be worse than death."

"Even if you hadn't taken action just now, we would inevitably have fought Shi Shangli to the death. Your killing him has only helped us. Miss Hua, please, you must leave quickly. Haiyue Commerce will handle the ensuing matters. This is a major disaster for Haiyue Commerce, one that cannot be avoided. Please, escape while you can."

Su Jinghan persisted in urging Hua Lianxin and the others to leave.

Seeing Su Jinghan's determined look, Hua Lianxin and her companions knew that she had made her decision, and they no longer tried to persuade her.

Then, Xu Lianyu took out a Talisman Inscription from her belongings and handed it to Su Jinghan.

"Sister Su, this Talisman Inscription is called a Qiankun Escape Talisman, and it can save your life at a crucial moment. Keep it on you; otherwise, we really can't leave with peace of mind."

Xu Lianyu handed the Talisman Inscription to Su Jinghan, who at first didn't want to take it. But after Xu Lianyu's persuasion, she finally accepted it reluctantly.

Afterward, Xu Lianyu and her companions took their leave.

However, Xu Lianyu considered Su Jinghan's words from before, realizing Haiyue Commerce's strength was not comparable to the Xuan Yin Sect.

If the Xuan Yin Sect decided to trouble Haiyue Commerce, it would be hard for Haiyue Commerce to cope. Xu Lianyu, looking in the direction the Luo Xiangzhou left, couldn't help but show a worried expression.

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Over a certain city, an extremely yin energy lingered in the air, so dense that the sunlight couldn't penetrate it.

The Sect beneath was the Xuan Yin Sect.

At this moment, after the Luo Xiangzhou returned to the Xuan Yin Sect, a disciple dressed in grey, with a face full of sorrow, rushed into the grand hall of the Xuan Yin Sect without stopping.

"What is the matter, running around in such a panic?"

Just as the grey-clad male disciple was rushing towards the Xuan Yin Sect's grand hall in a panic, the Great Elder of the Xuan Yin Sect noticed him, blocked his path, and asked sternly.

The Great Elder naturally recognized the grey-clad disciple as an attendant to Shi Shangli. If he hadn't known this, he would have killed the man for his panicked intrusion with a single slap.

Hearing the Great Elder's question, the grey-clad disciple nodded nervously, not daring to speak.

The grey-clad disciple knew that if he revealed the death of Shi Shangli, the Great Elder might kill him in a rage with a slap.

But not telling might lead to an equally dire outcome.

The grey-clad disciple knelt on the ground, shaking all over, about to reveal the news of Shi Shangli's death when a Law Enforcement Disciple suddenly flew in quickly from the Inner Sect of the Xuan Yin Sect.

"Great Elder, something terrible has happened,"

The Law Enforcement Disciple immediately knelt on one knee upon arriving and spoke to the Great Elder.

Upon hearing this, the Great Elder's brow furrowed, because the Law Enforcement Disciple before him was assigned to guard the Life Token Pavilion, watching over the Life Tokens of the major figures within the Xuan Yin Sect.

If a Life Token were damaged, it meant that a core member of the Xuan Yin Sect had perished. Unless such a situation arose, the Law Enforcement Disciple wouldn't have come to report.

"What happened?"

The Great Elder looked at the Law Enforcement Disciple and asked, though he already had an idea of what it could be, yet he didn't dare to believe and wanted to hear it directly.

"Just now, the Young Sect Master's Life Token... shattered!"

The Law Enforcement Disciple spoke faintly.

"What?!"

The Great Elder was instantly furious, a powerful aura erupting from him. He had anticipated the potential disappointment of losing some core members, but he never expected the deceased to be the Young Sect Master.

Whoosh, whoosh—

Suddenly, several figures flew in, landing next to the Great Elder. These people were also elders of the Xuan Yin Sect who had sensed the outburst of Spiritual Power from the Great Elder and thought something had occurred within the Sect.

"Useless trash, standing guard beside the Young Sect Master, how could you let this happen? Who is responsible for this?!"

The Great Elder, looking at the grey-clad male kneeling on the ground, furiously demanded.

The Great Elder was enduring the rage in his heart; otherwise, he would have already slapped the grey-clad disciple to death. But without capturing or killing the principal culprit behind the Young Sect Master's death, he couldn't do that yet.

After hearing this, the grey-clad male related the whole incident.

"Haiyue Commerce, I will have you erased from Frost Chill Kingdom,"

The Great Elder roared with rage and eyes filled with murderous intent.

"Great Elder, should we report this matter to the Sect Master?"

The Second Elder and others asked, looking at the Great Elder.

Upon hearing this, the Great Elder waved his hand dismissively.

If they reported the incident to the Sect Master now, they would likely be punished themselves. They needed to capture or kill the main villain responsible for the Young Sect Master's murder first.

Chapter 495: Don't worry, Uncle Master Li is very fierce

"I hope Father can make it in time."

After sending Xu Lianyu and the others away, Su Jinghan had intended to disperse the current merchant caravan and let them flee separately with their goods.

However, no one was willing to leave; they all wanted to stand or fall together with Su Jinghan.

Su Jinghan had no choice but to accept their decision. She was well aware that even if these people stayed, they would definitely not be able to resist the Xuan Yin Sect; it would only be a senseless sacrifice of life. If they fled now, there might still be a sliver of a chance for survival.

Just before, Su Jinghan had already sent a message to her father, who was on his way to her.

But before that, her father had already disbanded Haiyue Commerce, urging everyone to flee for their lives.

Regarding the conflict between Haiyue Commerce and the Xuan Yin Sect, Su Jinghan's father, Su Yingzhou, saw no solution; without even a Heavenly Human Realm expert, Haiyue Commerce truly had no capacity to confront the Xuan Yin Sect.

Yet, knowing their enemy was the Xuan Yin Sect, many martial artists within Haiyue Commerce still refused to leave, choosing to stand or fall with Su Yingzhou, to share life and death together.

Su Yingzhou was helpless. Unsure what to say to these brothers who had fought side by side with him, he rushed towards Su Jinghan with them.

Hissss—

By the time Su Yingzhou arrived, Su Jinghan and the martial artists from Haiyue Caravan were already battling the disciples of the Xuan Yin Sect.

The fighting was extremely fierce, with countless casualties among the warriors of Haiyue Commerce, and Su Jinghan herself was injured as well.

"Kill them all, save the girl and her father for the Sect Master to deal with. Leave no one else alive."

The martial artists from Xuan Yin Sect, with over a thousand in pursuit, were led by several individuals at the Fifth Layer of Reverting Void Realm, specifically four of them.

Although the rest of the martial artists were somewhat weaker, their strength was still far above that of everyone from Haiyue Commerce.

Immediately, Su Yingzhou and the others joined the fight. After a fierce skirmish, they too were defeated, with countless martial artists from Haiyue Commerce slaughtered or gravely wounded.

"All of you can now serve as a funeral offering for our Young Sect Master."

Just as the Xuan Yin Sect martial artists were about to exterminate everyone—

Swoosh, swoosh—

Sword Light from afar launched an attack at the Xuan Yin Sect martial artists.

Three figures emerged from the distance, the very same Xu Lianyu and her companions who had returned.

After leaving, Xu Lianyu and the others had been restless, unable to stop worrying about Su Jinghan, thus they had unanimously decided to return and find her.

"Why have you come back?"

Seeing Xu Lianyu and the others return, Su Jinghan's face changed dramatically. This calamity was originally Haiyue Commerce's own to face, and Xu Lianyu and the others really shouldn't have come back, drawing fire onto themselves.

"Sister Su, now is not the time to discuss this. Fighting the enemy together is what matters."

Hua Lianxin said indifferently as she looked at the Xuan Yin Sect martial artists.

"Kill them!"

The disciples of Xuan Yin Sect, upon seeing Hua Lianxin and the others, heard from Shi Shangli's followers that he was killed by a young woman and, observing the three women together, concluded that the culprits were the very trio before them.

Blades and swords clashed, Spiritual Light collided in the air, causing loud booms.

After a bout of combat, Hua Lianxin and her companions were also defeated.

Although many Xuan Yin Sect disciples fell by their hands, the sheer number of disciples present was overwhelming, and some of the Xuan Yin Sect Executive Elders had a strength that surpassed theirs by far.

Hua Lianxin was strong, but she couldn't withstand the siege of martial artists at the Fifth Level of Reverting Void Realm.

"We will first cripple your Cultivation and then sever your hands and feet before taking you back to the Sect to face the Sect Master's judgment."

An Executive Elder of Xuan Yin Sect declared, following which the group lunged at Xu Lianyu and her allies.

The faces of Xu Lianyu and the others paled, contemplating whether to use the Qiankun Escape Talisman to flee.

But if they escaped, Su Jinghan and Su Yingzhou would be at risk, and it was uncertain whether, even if they escaped a hundred li away, the surrounding hundred li would be free of Xuan Yin Sect martial artists.

If they fled separately, their strength would be dispersed, and they would be even less of a match for the Xuan Yin Sect.

Hum—

Just as Xu Lianyu and the others were uncertain of what to do, a burst of Sword Qi suddenly came flying in, repelling the Xuan Yin Sect disciples.

"Who is it? Come out!"

Seeing their efforts thwarted by an outsider, the Executive Elder of Xuan Yin Sect bellowed towards the direction of the Sword Qi.

Then, a weary figure, holding a Light Sword, emerged from the void.

The person was none other than Li Hanyi. After finding out that Hua Lianxin and her companions had secretly left Divine Sun City, Lin Chen was worried and had specifically asked Li Hanyi to protect them covertly.

Lin Chen had stated that Hua Lianxin and her companions needed experience, so unless absolutely necessary, Li Hanyi would not take action.

"A Sixth Layer Reverting Void Realm expert!"

The Executive Elder of Xuan Yin Sect felt shock upon sensing the aura emitted by Li Hanyi.

Among those dispatched, the highest Cultivation was only at the Fifth Layer of Reverting Void Realm.

"Friend, Xuan Yin Sect is conducting affairs here. Better leave promptly if you don't wish for trouble," the Executive Elder of Xuan Yin Sect addressed Li Hanyi, his tone lightly threatening.

"If you want to fight, let's fight. Why waste words?"

Upon saying this, Li Hanyi engaged in battle with the people from Xuan Yin Sect.

"Lianyu, take them and leave first,"

Li Hanyi said to Xu Lianyu.

Hearing Li Hanyi's words, Xu Lianyu and the others led Su Jinghan, Su Yingzhou, and the few remaining Haiyue Commerce martial artists away from the scene.

"Miss Xu, who exactly are you people? The powerful figure just now, is he an elder of yours? With his strength alone, can he really handle so many Xuan Yin Sect disciples?"

While fleeing, Su Jinghan asked Xu Lianyu curiously.

Hearing this, Xu Lianyu furrowed her brows, also uncertain in her heart.

However, at that moment, Wang Yilin came closer.

"Don't worry, Uncle Master Li's combat prowess is very formidable."

Chapter 496:

Shortly after the group fled, a figure with incredible speed quickly caught up to them.

"Uncle Master Li, did you kill them all?"

Upon seeing Li Hanyi's arrival, Wang Yilin asked excitedly.

Li Hanyi shook his head secretly and couldn't help but give a wry smile at the question.

"How can it be so easy? Those guys are tough to deal with. I used all my might and only managed to kill seven or eight hundred of them, letting the others escape."

"Perhaps only the Sect Leader Senior Brother and Lin Chen could completely annihilate them."

Li Hanyi glanced at the sword in his hand and spoke indifferently in response.

Su Jinghan, Su Yingzhou, and the members of the Haiyue Commerce were dumbfounded upon hearing this.

It never occurred to them that Li Hanyi, with the strength of one person, not only withstood the Xuan Yin Sect disciples' attacks but also killed seven or eight hundred people, driving the rest to flee. Such strength was incomprehensible.

And according to Li Hanyi, he wasn't even the strongest combatant in their Sect—could this be a Sect with a Heavenly Human Realm expert?

Whirr—

Suddenly, a powerful Sword Qi and Spiritual Power fluctuation burst forth from Li Hanyi's body. A vortex appeared in the sky, forming a peach blossom shape, embodying robust Sword Intent.

"Uncle Master, you've made a breakthrough in Cultivation."

Xu Lianyu observed the fluctuation of aura on Li Hanyi and noticed he had broken through from the Sixth Layer of the Reverting Void Realm to the Seventh Level in an instant, finally reaching the same level as Xu Ma'an.

"Haha, I really did break through. Now I suppose I can have a proper fight with the Sect Leader Senior Brother."

Li Hanyi was overjoyed. He hadn't expected that in the midst of battling with the Xuan Yin Sect's Martial Artists, he would break through his bottleneck. At this moment, he was eager to return to Divine Sun City for a grand battle with Xu Ma'an.

With his current Cultivation strength, he might even defeat Xu Ma'an.

...

Meanwhile, in the Xuan Yin Sect.

The Martial Artists that fled returned to their Sect, but out of the five Executive Elders, only one managed to return, and he was missing an arm.

Seeing the dreadful state of his people, the Great Elder's face darkened.

"What on earth happened? Did the Haiyue Commerce recruit a Heavenly Human Realm expert as a reinforcement?"

The Great Elder asked, frowning.

"It's not the Haiyue Commerce. It had already disbanded by the time we arrived. The person who inflicted damage on us was the elder who killed the Young Sect Master."

The Executive Elder with the severed arm, still wearing a look of terror, spoke with remnants of fear.

"How many of them are there?"

After hearing the words of the Executive Elder and realizing they had hit a snag, the Great Elder immediately asked.

"O...one person!"

The Executive Elder stammered out the answer.

"What!? Just one person managed to route you all. Surely, the opponent must be a Heavenly Human Realm expert!?"

The Great Elder was furious and continued to press for answers.

However, this made the Executive Elder's face change dramatically.

He stuttered and took a long time before he could say the opponent's Cultivation level.

"It's not the Heavenly Human Realm, but... but the Sixth Layer of the Reverting Void Realm!"

The Executive Elder said subserviently, causing the Great Elder's face to become even more livid.

"Investigate! I want you to find out who he is, regardless of his Sect. Daring to kill hundreds of my Xuan Yin Sect disciples single-handedly, this will not end well."

The Great Elder said angrily.

The informants of the Xuan Yin Sect were widespread in Frost Chill Kingdom, and in less than half an hour, they discovered Li Hanyi and the rest's whereabouts.

After all, it wasn't hard to investigate with the help of a few disabled warriors from the Haiyue Commerce.

Having learned of Li Hanyi and the others' information, the Xuan Yin Sect also found out that Xu Lianyu and her group were from the Jade Cauldron Kingdom.

"The Jade Cauldron Kingdom? That country recently sent a trading caravan to do business in the Frost Chill Kingdom."

"I have long wanted to take action against them; I didn't go looking for trouble, yet they brought it upon themselves with my Xuan Yin Sect."

"Mobilize our core forces. I want them pursued and eliminated before they can flee back to the Jade Cauldron Kingdom."

The Great Elder ordered, and soon the Xuan Yin Sect dispatched an Elder at the seventh level of the Reverting Void Realm to hunt down Li Hanyi and Xu Lianyu's group. Even the Second Elder and Third Elder were deployed.

Because Xuan Yin Sect had suffered so many casualties this time, if they did not capture their enemies, it would be hard for them to maintain their foothold in the Frost Chill Kingdom.

The Great Elder also knew that this matter had to be reported to Shi Xinghai, the Sect Leader of the Xuan Yin Sect, as it was beyond his authority to handle alone.

...

At this moment, Li Hanyi and the others were fleeing towards the Jade Cauldron Kingdom, counterattacking along the way and defeating the four waves of Xuan Yin Sect disciples that came after them.

However, Li Hanyi and his group also sustained injuries in the process.

Fortunately, it wasn't long before they met Yang Yuemin.

Yang Yuemin informed Xu Lianyu and the others that Lin Chen had already learned of their plight in the Frost Chill Kingdom and was currently making his way to them. It shouldn't take much longer.

About the Xuan Yin Sect, Lin Chen had some understanding through the Lingxi Commerce Guild. The Sect was ranked among the top ten in the Frost Chill Kingdom, possessing Heavenly Human Realm experts, with both the strength and number of disciples far surpassing the Jade Cauldron Sect.

This issue had to be resolved from the source by Lin Chen; otherwise, once a battle ensued between the two Major Sects, it would be highly disadvantageous for the Jade Cauldron Sect.

When Lin Chen set off for the Frost Chill Kingdom, he also sent a message to Xu Ma'an, ordering him to lead a part of the Jade Cauldron Kingdom's army into action.

Although Xu Ma'an did not understand why Lin Chen would make such a move, Lin Chen's recent actions had completely convinced Xu Ma'an, who immediately mobilized the troops without hesitation.

Chapter 497: Ancestor of the Xuan Yin Sect

"Everyone, you have killed the Young Sect Master of the Xuan Yin Sect and hundreds of its disciples. Do you really think you can escape from the Frost Chill Kingdom?"

"Now slit your throats to apologize for your crimes."

The Great Elder of the Xuan Yin Sect, leading the disciples, blocked Li Hanyi and the others, looking down from above, leaning forward to scrutinize Li Hanyi, frowning as he spoke loudly.

From Li Hanyi's presence, however, the Xuan Yin Sect's Great Elder sensed a dangerous aura.

You must know, the Great Elder of the Xuan Yin Sect was a practitioner of the Ninth Layer of the Reverting Void Realm, one step away from reaching the Heavenly Human Realm. With such power, he actually felt apprehension toward Li Hanyi of the Seventh Layer of the Reverting Void Realm.

"To keep us here, you'll have to see if you have the ability."

Right after the words of the Xuan Yin Sect's Great Elder, Yang Yuemin spoke indifferently, a sharp sword appearing in her hand, facing the Great Elder without fear, ready to fight.

"Heh, having not left seclusion in a hundred years, have the youngsters of today all become so arrogant?"

"Who killed my son? Stand forward, or I shall have all of you buried with my son."

As Yang Yuemin and the others were about to resist, a deep voice resounded above the heavens, and immediately a white figure appeared, descending slowly to stand beside the people of the Xuan Yin Sect.

"We greet the Ancestor!"

Upon seeing the appearance of the elder in white, the hearts of the Great Elder of the Xuan Yin Sect and others were filled with both shock and joy, and they promptly paid respects, with all the disciples kneeling on the ground.

"Ancestor?!"

Yang Yuemin's gaze fell upon Shi Xinghai, and she was instantly shocked, for the aura emanating from Shi Xinghai was that of a Heavenly Human Realm powerhouse.

Li Hanyi also frowned slightly, fearing he was powerless against Shi Xinghai in front of him.

"I am the one who killed him. One should bear their own sins. You may kill or flay me as you please. But I alone killed your son. It has nothing to do with them. After you kill me, let them go."

Hua Lianxin immediately stepped forward from the group and spoke to Shi Xinghai.

Even in the face of such a Heavenly Human Realm powerhouse like Shi Xinghai, Hua Lianxin showed no fear, without a trace of apprehension in her heart.

"Your physique seems quite extraordinary, and you possess some mettle, a material worth cultivating. Would you consider acknowledging me as your godfather? Not only would I spare your life, but I would also let everyone else go."

Shi Xinghai's gaze settled on Hua Lianxin as he spoke indifferently.

After hearing Shi Xinghai's words, Hua Lianxin's face showed hesitation, as if she refused, Xu Lianyu and the others might not be able to escape from this place.

"Who do you think you are to deserve to be his godfather?"

As Hua Lianxin hesitated, a Sword Qi suddenly streaked down from above, and immediately a black figure descended from the heavens, with a pair of purple wings on his back.

"Hmph, a mere Sixth Level of the Reverting Void Realm, daring to strike at me, is truly seeking death."

Shi Xinghai saw the sharp Sword Light falling from the sky and with a wave of his hand, an invisible force collided with the Sword Qi.

Hum—

A wave of Spiritual Power fluctuations exploded in the heavens.

The brief confrontation between the two turned out to be a draw.

"The Ancestor is mighty."

The people of the Xuan Yin Sect immediately began to flatter, but only Shi Xinghai knew that his strike had used seventy percent of his strength, yet it only resulted in a draw with the Sword Qi released by Lin Chen.

"Young man, if you leave now, I can pretend you were never here."

Shi Xinghai's gaze rested on Lin Chen, realizing that the latter, having a Flawless Physique, possessed a cultivating talent even greater than Hua Lianxin's.

"Old man, there's no need for tests. They are my family. If you want to harm them, you'll have to see if my sword allows it."

Lin Chen spoke indifferently as he drew the sharp sword in his hand, which turned out to be the Gentle Breeze Sword he had obtained from the Descension Ruins.

"A Lower Heaven-level Treasure."

Shi Xinghai was somewhat surprised to see the Gentle Breeze Sword in Lin Chen's hand.

It should be known that a Heaven-grade Treasure, even among Heavenly Human Realm powerhouses, is not necessarily common, and yet Lin Chen, with only Sixth Layer Cultivation of the Reverting Void Realm, had a Heaven-grade Treasure in his possession.

"Youngster, since you are so stubborn, then don't think about leaving. Stay here forever."

Shi Xinghai looked coldly at Lin Chen and immediately extended his hand, releasing Spiritual Power that turned into a gigantic palm in the air, slapping down towards Lin Chen.

"You alone are not enough to keep me."

"And I will not flee. Today, all members of the Xuan Yin Sect will be buried here."

Lin Chen spoke and then made his move.

On his Gentle Breeze Sword, a burst of Spirit Wind erupted, revealing the power of the Wind Attribute, as he sliced his sword towards the descending giant hand in the sky.

Chapter 498:

Screech screech screech—

Countless Sword Qi Wind Blades bombarded the spiritual hand that was descending from the sky above.

In a short moment, the winds ceased and the swords fell, and the large hand in the sky above dispersed as well.

At this moment, on the palm of Shi Xinghai, there were traces of fresh blood falling, and the sleeves of his robe were also slashed with several cuts by the Sword Qi.

Lin Chen's eyes were fixated on Shi Xinghai. The previous move, the Roaring Gale, had forced him to use ninety percent of his strength, whereas Shi Xinghai had merely used a casual move.

In Shi Xinghai's eyes, he didn't seem to take Lin Chen's attack seriously at all.

However, after this second exchange of blows, Shi Xinghai would probably not probe any further.

But Lin Chen was thinking about another matter; judging from Shi Xinghai's attitude, he didn't seem to be grieving over the death of his son. In that case, why was Shi Xinghai going to such great lengths to mobilize the entire force of the Xuan Yin Sect to deal with him?

Lin Chen's Divine Sense swept around and discovered that within a hundred miles nearby, there were at least thirty to forty thousand Xuan Yin Sect experts hidden, truly a case of leaving the nest in full force.

Such a great mobilization, just to avenge his son?

The key issue was that Shi Xinghai's face didn't show a trace of sorrow.

Moreover, Lin Chen had previously received news from Black Crow of the Dark Division in the far off Da Yun Kingdom that although the Xuan Yin Sect belonged to the Frost Chill Kingdom and was apparently affiliated with the Divine Flame Alliance, the Xuan Yin Sect seemed to be colluding with the Red Soul Hall in private.

If that was really the case, the actions of the Xuan Yin Sect at this moment could be manipulated by the Red Soul Hall from behind the scenes, and that would explain everything.

And indeed, the reality was just as Lin Chen had speculated.

Shi Xinghai had less than ten years left to live, and he urgently needed high-grade Heavenly and Earthly Treasures for a breakthrough in his cultivation to extend his life.

Yet his Cultivation had already reached the Heavenly Human Realm, and he would need at least sixth-grade Treasures or elixirs to significantly affect him, which he could not possibly obtain with his contributions within the Divine Flame Alliance.

But it was different for the Red Soul Hall.

At the time of Shi Shangli's death, Martial Artists from the Red Soul Hall had approached Shi Xinghai, informing him that there was a profit to be made if only he followed their plan.

Shi Xinghai did not hesitate for a moment and agreed on the spot.

The first step of the Red Soul Hall's plan was for them to lure Lin Chen and kill him.

The more Martial Artists related to Lin Chen that they killed, the better.

"Kid, if your strength is only at this level, you can go to your death,"

Shi Xinghai said indifferently, with a smile on his lips, for he had already probed Lin Cheng's strength and it was far from as formidable as the Red Soul Hall had claimed.

Thereupon, Shi Xinghai no longer held back and attacked Lin Chen with full force.

As a warrior of the Heavenly Human Realm, Shi Xinghai's strength was incomparable to Lin Chen's.

Lin Chen also knew that he couldn't kill Shi Xinghai with just his swordsmanship.

However, the strongest attack his Second Soul Division now had was not swordsmanship.

Hum—

A silver bow and arrow appeared in Lin Chen's hands.

This bow and arrow were also of Earth-Level Mid-Grade quality, forged by Lin Chen using countless Treasures, and it was not much inferior to the Blazing Flame Divine Bow in Lin Chen's original body's hands.

Immediately, Lin Chen loaded ten Thunder Chasing Arrow Feathers onto the bow.

He then released his Spiritual Power, channeling all his body's strength into the Thunder Chasing Arrow Feathers in his hands.

The powers of the True Meaning of the Wind, the True Intent of Thunder, and the Blue Lotus Divine Flame quickly merged.

This put an enormous strain on Lin Chen's body. He struggled to pull the bow fully, and as he did, countless cracks appeared across his body, resulting in serious injuries.

Although the physique of Lin Chen's Second Soul Division was a Supreme God Body, it wasn't as formidable as the original body's Ancient Divine Body, nor did it have the same terrifying healing capabilities.

Whoosh whoosh—

Boom—

The moment the Arrow Feathers left the bow, they were already in front of Shi Xinghai and the elders of the Xuan Yin Sect, who had no time to react.

The explosion from the merging of various powers immediately produced a thunderous sound, and countless Xuan Yin Sect disciples died under this one arrow, and even some of the Sect elders were slain.

Shi Xinghai, too, was covered in fresh blood from the blast of this one arrow, with an arm severed.

Looking intently at Lin Chen, Shi Xinghai finally realized the warning of the Red Soul Hall and understood that this young man was indeed not easily dealt with.

"Kill him. Whoever takes this boy's life, no matter who it is, will become the Young Sect Master of the Xuan Yin Sect,"

With severe injuries, Shi Xinghai worried that Lin Chen might have other powers and didn't dare to advance himself. He immediately ordered the disciples behind him to engage in close combat.

Under the 'enticement' of the position of Young Sect Master, the disciples of the Xuan Yin Sect plunged into madness, all rushing to slay Lin Chen and his companions.

After firing those ten arrows, Lin Chen temporarily had no power left to fight, and he glanced at Yang Yuemin and the others.

"Master, let's first escape to the nearby mountain. Once I set up a defensive formation and tend to our injuries, we can talk further,"

Lin Chen said, turning towards Yang Yuemin.

Yang Yuemin and Li Hanyi, seeing Lin Chen's injuries, did not hesitate for a moment; they turned to flee, supporting Lin Chen, their speed unrivaled by the disciples of the Xuan Yin Sect.

Meanwhile, Xu Lianyu and Wang Yilin took out high-grade Swiftess Talismans to enhance their speed tremendously.

Hua Lianxin was naturally swift and did not need assistance, while Su Yingzhou led Su Jinghan and the others from Haiyue Commerce.

In no time at all, the group found refuge on a peninsula in the sea, with no other Martial Artists around. Lin Chen immediately asked Yang Yuemin and Li Hanyi to lead everyone to that island.

Afterward, Lin Chen took out several Array Plates and began setting up a Triple-Layer Defensive Array on the island.

While setting up the formation, Lin Chen also took out elixirs to consume, recovering from his injuries.

"Disciple, you should focus on healing for now. I've already set up a defensive array, and our pursuers haven't caught up yet, there's no need to rush, your wellbeing is what's most important,"

Yang Yuemin looked at the numerous cracks on Lin Chen's body with concern.

Chapter 499: Repel the Enemy

"I'm fine. Once the formation is set up, let these guys slowly attack. Once the Sect Leader arrives with the army, I want them all to stay right here."

Lin Chen's eyes flashed with a hint of murderous intent. Since the Xuan Yin Sect dared to ally themselves with the Red Soul Hall, Lin Chen would not hold back either.

Without considering his own injuries, Lin Chen continued with the formation setup.

However, just as Lin Chen had started setting up the second defensive formation, Shi Xinghai arrived at the island with his men.

"Haha, boy, you can't escape. Today, you will all die here to accompany my son."

Seeing that Lin Chen and the rest had fled to the island, Shi Xinghai immediately ordered an attack on their defensive formation.

Under the fierce assault of the Xuan Yin Sect disciples, the first formation Lin Chen had set up soon cracked and gradually began to break.

However, luckily, just as the first formation was breaking, Lin Chen had already completed setting up the second formation.

"Continue breaking it for me! I don't believe that his single-handed formation setup can be faster than the speed of so many of us breaking it. Besides, setting up a formation requires the consumption of Spiritual Power and Heavenly and Earthly Treasures, I don't believe he can keep setting up formations endlessly."

Shi Xinghai spoke coldly, and the disciples of the Xuan Yin Sect immediately obeyed, continuing their attack on the formation.

As the second formation was also about to be breached, although Lin Chen was already in the process of setting up the third formation, it was already too late.

Xu Lianyu and the others had a look of worry on their faces, feeling somewhat guilty in their hearts. If they hadn't sneaked away from the Jade Cauldron Sect, perhaps they wouldn't have caused these troubles.

Soon, the second formation that Lin Chen had set up was also shattered by the crowd.

However, just as the Xuan Yin Sect disciples broke through the formation and were about to kill Lin Chen and the others, from behind the Xuan Yin Sect, an army struck with lightning speed, slashing a bloody path and rushing directly to the front of Lin Chen and his group.

It was none other than Xu Ma'an leading the army of the Jade Cauldron Sect, and the squad he led was the most powerful War Department from Divine Sun City, the Battle Eagle Squad.

At this moment, each member of the Battle Eagle Squad was holding a silver bow and arrow, aiming at the disciples of the Xuan Yin Sect and shooting. Countless disciples of the Xuan Yin Sect immediately suffered severe injuries, with heavy casualties.

"Are you all right?"

After Xu Ma'an arrived, his gaze fell on Xu Lianyu, and seeing that Xu Lianyu was unharmed, he secretly heaved a sigh of relief.

However, when his gaze fell on Lin Chen, he also took a deep breath, for Lin Chen's injuries were far too severe at that moment.

"Damn it, is this the strength of the Jade Cauldron Sect."

Shi Xinghai clenched his fists tightly, his eyes full of hatred as he looked at Lin Chen. Despite his immense unwillingness, the situation had slipped out of their hands, and his Xuan Yin Sect disciples had been slaughtered to the point of disarray. With no other choice, he could only order a retreat.

Watching Shi Xinghai lead his troops away, Xu Ma'an also raised his hand to stop the army from pursuing further. After all, they were in Frost Chill Kingdom, and to avoid unnecessary trouble, it was enough for the army to repel the enemy; there was no need to kill in pursuit.

After the Xuan Yin Sect's army had retreated, Lin Chen and his group also began their retreat.

But instead of rushing back to the Jade Cauldron Sect, they used the influence of the Lingxi Commerce Guild within Frost Chill Kingdom to find a temporary resting place—Cloud Sky City.

In Cloud Sky City, it took Lin Chen half a month to fully recover from his injuries.

Meanwhile, Xu Lianyu, Hua Lianxin, and Wang Yilin obediently entered seclusion to cultivate, not daring to go anywhere else.

After causing such a big disaster this time, all three women admitted to themselves it was their playfulness that had led to the trouble.

Seeing the three women admit their fault, Xu Ma'an and the others chose not to pursue the matter further.

After Lin Chen's injuries had recovered, he began to contemplate how to deal with the Xuan Yin Sect.

The two sects already harbored irreconcilable enmity, and since Lin Chen had also guessed the collusion and ambitions of the Xuan Yin Sect and Red Soul Hall, he naturally would not pretend to be blind to it.

Lin Chen settled down in Cloud Sky City and had Xu Ma'an take Xu Lianyu and the others back to the Jade Cauldron Kingdom.

However, he did leave behind two squads from the Battle Eagle Squad.

...

At this moment, inside the Formation Sect.

While Lin Chen's Second Soul Division was severely injured, Lin Chen's main body discovered a brilliant way to make a fortune within the Formation Sect.

It was from the time Lin Chen, Qin Kaifeng, and Dongfang Yun had won an enormous bet in the previous arena contest, where the odds were twelve to one, a fact that quickly spread throughout the Formation Sect.

Later on, when there were no bets involved, people started to follow Lin Chen's bets.

At first, they won every bet, but soon, they were losing more than winning.

After some reflection, people realized they had fallen into Lin Chen's trap.

Lin Chen, Qin Kaifeng, and Dongfang Yun intentionally used Lin Chen's bets to attract others to place their bets, colluding with the bookkeeper.

Although Lin Chen seemed to lose money on the surface, the bookkeeper was secretly sharing profits with him.

When the others learned of this, they grudgingly sought out Lin Chen for trouble, demanding that he give them an explanation.

However, when faced with their questions, Lin Chen feigned ignorance, insisting that he knew nothing regardless of what they said.

The people had to present evidence; otherwise, they were slandering him.

Lin Chen's defiant retort left them speechless, for indeed, they had only heard rumors without any solid proof.

But later on, the people started to place bets against Lin Chen, betting on the opposite of whatever he wagered, believing this way the bookkeeper and Lin Chen couldn't possibly continue to conspire.

Little did they know, both the bookkeeper and Lin Chen had already anticipated their thoughts and had planted informants who would bet against Lin Chen. Sometimes, they allowed Lin Chen to win a few rounds, creating confusion and leading people to trust the other decoys, ultimately taking down everyone in one fell swoop.

In this way, within half a month, Lin Chen had earned nearly five thousand Contribution Value. Added to the more than five thousand he had received before, he finally accumulated the ten thousand required to exchange for a Heavenly Skill Technique.

Afterward, Lin Chen entered the Spirit Treasure Pavilion of the Formation Sect to select a Heavenly Skill Technique.

Lin Chen chose a Heavenly Level Mid Grade Cultivation Technique with an ice-cold attribute.

After exchanging the Cultivation Technique, Lin Chen still had over a thousand Contribution Value left and used it to exchange for some materials needed to create High-Grade Talisman Inscriptions.

After completing the exchanges, Lin Chen headed back to his residence,

However, upon returning to his living quarters, he found an Inner Sect Disciple who often bet with him waiting outside his place, looking anxious.

Chapter 500: Do you dare to refuse my request?

"Brother Du, are you looking for me for something?"

Lin Chen looked at the Inner Sect Disciple and asked indifferently.

"Brother Lin, you're finally back. You might not know yet, but your woman is in big trouble," Du Ziteng said earnestly and anxiously.

Lin Chen was completely baffled by this. Since when did he have a wife, and why was he not aware of it?

"What happened? You need to make it clear—who is in trouble?"

Lin Chen pressed for answers with a puzzled look on his face.

"It's Xia Wanxin. She's been abducted by the people from Heavenly Dragon Hall. Tang Tianlong, that brute, wants Xia Wanxin to become his Dao Companion," Du Ziteng explained.

As someone who followed Lin Chen in placing bets and had earned a significant amount of Contribution Value, Du Ziteng certainly showed respect to Lin Chen.

Now, having received the news from within the Inner Sect, he rushed over without delay.

"Let's go and see."

Although Lin Chen didn't understand when Xia Wanxin had become his daughter, he indeed had some connection with her; and since she was in trouble, Lin Chen certainly had no reason not to help her.

After all, he was relying on Xia Wanxin for the Five Elements Treasure.

"Little girl, just follow me. I guarantee I'll give you the good life, with fine foods and drinks," said a fat man in Heavenly Dragon Hall, eyeing Xia Wanxin's curvaceous figure with a lecherous grin.

Xia Wanxin immediately gave the man a disdainful glare in response.

With his appearance, if Xia Wanxin followed him, it wouldn't be any different from associating with a fat pig.

As a Martial Artist who trained every day and cultivated her Martial Arts Skills, Xia Wanxin simply could not comprehend how there could be such a corpulent martial artist—did this guy never train?

"With you? In your dreams. Do you know that I'm Lin Chen's woman?"

Ever since entering the Inner Sect, Xia Wanxin used Lin Chen's name whenever someone pursued her.

Surprisingly, it worked quite well; many in the Inner Sect were scared off by the mention of Lin Chen's name.

However, the fatty paid no heed to Xia Wanxin or someone named Lin Chen, for that matter—he didn't even take Lin Chen seriously.

But why did the name Lin Chen sound so familiar?

"Boss, Lin Chen, the one known for betting—Lin the Rascal," a follower gently reminded Tang Tianlong about Lin Chen's reputation, seeing that his boss was unconcerned.

After the explanation, Tang Tianlong immediately felt a chill run down his spine and broke out in a cold sweat.

"My lady, I was wrong. Please, just let bygones be bygones," Tang Tianlong pleaded, kneeling in front of Xia Wanxin once he recognized that the man she mentioned was Lin Chen.

Are you kidding? Lin Chen's reputation in the Inner Sect was well-known to everyone.

Lin Chen had been continuously challenging others and had now become one of the top 600 fighters in the Inner Sect.

Tang Tianlong's ranking was just over 800, definitely not a match for Lin Chen.

"Letting you off is easy; it just depends on how generous you are," Xia Wanxin said coldly. Upon hearing this, Tang Tianlong immediately handed over some Heavenly and Earthly Treasures to Xia Wanxin, thinking that it was a lesser evil than getting beaten up by Lin Chen.

Boom!

At that moment, Lin Chen entered Heavenly Dragon Hall with Du Ziteng, looking at Tang Tianlong with an unfriendly gaze.

"Senior Brother Lin, you've arrived. Are you here to take Miss Xia home?" Tang Tianlong said nervously upon seeing Lin Chen.

Lin Chen surveyed the Treasures Tang Tianlong was offering Xia Wanxin, and it wasn't hard to guess that his reputation had scared Tang Tianlong into gifting them to Xia Wanxin.

Lucky him—his name, Lin the Rascal, could be so useful.

Immediately, Lin Chen took the Treasures from Tang Tianlong's hand, and Xia Wanxin started to argue with him about it.

"These are the Treasures I've earned with my abilities; what right do you have to take them?" Xia Wanxin challenged Lin Chen aggressively.

"On what grounds? On grounds that you've been parading around claiming to be my woman."

"Can't I take something from my own woman?" Lin Chen retorted with laughter before he turned and walked away.

Xia Wanxin stomped her feet in frustration. She turned to Tang Tianlong, demanding another set of Treasures from him, and only after receiving them did she leave satisfactorily...

Lin Chen did not further dispute with Xia Wanxin and went back to his room, where he started to cultivate again.

The encounter with Shi Xinghai from his Second Soul Division made Lin Chen realize once more that his strength was far from enough.

Although he had made it into the top 600 in the Pride List of the Formation Sect's Inner Sect,

Lin Chen knew well that he was not a match for Chang Bai.

At this time, Lin Chen had finally broken through to the Ninth Layer of the Heaven-reaching Realm and only needed the right opportunity to advance to the Reverting Void Realm.

Lin Chen went to the Medium Grade Cultivation Room once again.

Having achieved Great Success with the Summoning Thunder Sword Technique, Lin Chen began to cultivate the Seven Killings Sword Array.

Just after Lin Chen completed the registration for a cultivation room, a loud voice called out from behind him.

"Steward Mu, I need a cultivation room for about a month," a woman in black with a fiery figure said.

Out of curiosity, Lin Chen turned to look and then continued toward his cultivation room.

"I'm sorry, Miss Fang, but the last cultivation room has just been taken. We have no vacancies left," Steward Mu obsequiously tried to appease the woman in black, deliberately pointing at Lin Chen.

"Hey, you, stop right there," she called after Lin Chen.

"You, I'm talking to you!" As Lin Chen walked on, the woman in black suddenly stopped him.

Lin Chen was not inclined to respond, but the woman sent a surge of Soul Power directly at him.

He stopped, frowning slightly before turning around.

"What do you want?"

"Give me your cultivation room. I need to use it," Fang Xiaoya demanded, her voice commanding as her eyes fixed on Lin Chen.

"I need the cultivation room as well. Find someone else to exchange with," Lin Chen replied, showing no inclination to indulge such behavior and turning to leave.

"Kid, don't be shameless when I'm giving you face. Do you know who I am? You dare to refuse my request. Do you still want to remain in the Inner Sect?" Fang Xiaoya shouted.