

The Prodigies War

Chapter 1291: Through Thick and Thin

"That's a Thunder Spirit born from the destructive aura of the Thunder Dao!"

Toady gasped as his golden pupils glowed. "It's one of the main ingredients for creating Saint treasures and will raise the quality of the end product by a significant amount!"

The big black bird warned, "Don't even think about it. That Thunder Spirit can only be subdued by a Saint expert. Don't drag us along if you want to die."

Lin Xun inwardly shivered as well.

A Thunder Spirit born from Thunder Dao was not only extremely rare but also an extremely terrifying existence that was unmatched under the Saint stage!

At closer inspection, the Thunder Spirits resembled gods roaming the world of thunder and exuded boundlessly terrifying auras.

Fortunately, there was no need to worry about being targeted by the Thunder Spirits as long as they continued to walk on the white rainbow-like path.

Lin Xun cautioned, "Careful, this is the only path that leads to the Ancient Land of All. Things might get hairy if someone tries to set up an ambush."

The moment he said this, Lin Xun raised his eyebrows and suddenly thrust his finger.

Omm!

A blast of pure and condensed finger-force shot out and disappeared.

At a seemingly empty corner several thousand feet away, a black-clothed youth was lying in wait while concealed under a mysterious aura.

He had already detected someone gradually approaching, causing a cruel smile to rise from the corners of his mouth.

Over the past few days, he had ambushed and killed several experts, earning him quite a hefty fortune.

"Eh?"

The black-clothed young man frowned as an unexplainable sensation of unease suddenly arose in his heart.

Before he could react, a blast of unrivaled finger-force suddenly appeared out of thin air.

Plop!

A string of blood splattered behind him as the black-clothed youth's eyes widened in disbelief before he crumpled to the ground.

A bloody hole had appeared between his brows.

Lin Xun's group arrived soon after. Toady quickly searched the black-clothed youth's corpse and gleefully retrieved a heavy storage bag.

Toady commented with a grin, "From the fortune he has accumulated, he must have killed quite a number of experts."

"What was that technique you used earlier?"

The big black bird, on the other hand, looked at Lin Xun in astonishment. It was frightening to think that he had killed a supreme heaven pride at the fourth longevity tribulation stage from a distance of several thousand feet away. Moreover, the target didn't even manage to react!

"You wouldn't understand even if I told you."

It was the Omni-Finger technique!

As its name implied, the third move of the Great Diffusion Void Breaker Finger could kill the enemy no matter where they were hiding or how far away they were!

It was a technique that had already begun to touch upon the profoundness of spatial usage.

Of course, Lin Xun still wasn't a Saint expert and wasn't able to master spatial power. Hence, he was at most able to utilize very limited applications of spatial power through the Omni-Finger technique.

Even so, such power wasn't something that ordinary experts could withstand.

The big black bird was astonished because it had detected a tiny hint of spatial power hidden in the technique.

The three of them continued onward. Along the way, they would occasionally come across experts who were similarly lying in ambush.

These experts were adept in the art of concealment. Some of them were even able to transform themselves into dust, light, or shadow, making it impossible to guard against them.

Unfortunately, none of them could hide from Lin Xun's terrifying spirit sense and were killed one after another.

As a result, Lin Xun and his group gradually picked up quite a fortune. The number of King-grade herbs retrieved from these experts alone added up to over a hundred.

Other notable finds included some aeth resources and divine materials with considerable value.

Soon after, the scenery before Lin Xun's eyes changed, and he found that they had arrived in a mountainous region.

Majestic mountain after mountain towered over the land, each exuding a distinct presence.

There were red mountains that seemed to burn with a hazy glow as if they were giant furnaces.

There were mountains that looked as if they were made of divine gold. Every rock, tree, and even the grass on these mountains were sharp as swords. The golden mountains also emitted harsh golden rays and exuded a grim killing qi that swept across the land.

There were mountains that resembled giant piles of ice and snow. They were covered in a bone-chilling cold that froze the nearby air.

.....

Mountains were spread out as far as the eye could see. Together, they seemed to hint at the cycle of the four seasons, the harmony of the five elements, the alternation of yin and yang, and the rhythm of all things to the most magnificent and gorgeous extreme!

This was the Ancient Land of All!

Toady was in complete awe. "My god, I can't believe it's possible to make all of this harmonize so naturally. Even Saint experts probably can't achieve such a heaven-defying feat, right?"

"If one were to cultivate here, they would be able to experience various grand daos which will greatly benefit their cultivation."

The big black bird's eyes shone as it clicked its tongue in admiration.

Lin Xun took out a jade token and shattered it, causing a flash of light to shoot out and disappear into the horizon.

It was the token from Holy Maiden Lin Xue.

After a few seconds, a beautiful silhouette shrouded in a holy icy mist appeared in the distant sky. With flowing black hair, a beautiful face that could cause the downfall of cities, and jade-white skin, it was Holy Maiden Lin Xue.

When she saw Lin Xun, however, a bitter smile spread from the corners of her mouth, "Brother Lin, there's been a change in the situation. The emperor's mound is currently surrounded by many powerful experts, so I'm afraid that it will be very difficult to obtain the blessing."

Lin Xun had already anticipated this and nodded, "I only came here to find someone."

Toady couldn't help but ask, "Has an emperor's mound really been uncovered here?"

He still had a hard time believing it.

Lin Xue nodded. "It should be true. Unfortunately, the blessing in the emperor's mound has already been taken by someone."

"Taken?"

Lin Xun and the others were surprised.

"Yes. However, that person has been trapped in front of the emperor's mound and is unable to escape."

According to Lin Xue, the seal covering the Ancient Land of All had completely disappeared not long ago. Subsequently, the mysterious emperor's mound emerged and triggered a commotion in the Upper Nine Realms.

Over the past few days, countless experts had rushed here after hearing the news to fight for a chance to enter the emperor's mound.

For a time, the vicinity of the emperor's mound was plagued by constant bloodshed and scuffles.

After all, everyone knew that the emperor's mound was bound to be accompanied by great opportunities!

However, everyone was soon flabbergasted because no one could approach the emperor's mound no matter what methods they employed!

The most surprising thing, however, was that while everyone was trying to figure out how to enter the emperor's mound, a man walked out from inside!

No one knew when he had entered the emperor's mound, but everyone realized that the heaven-defying blessing of the mound was very likely in his possession.

Lin Xun couldn't help but ask, "What does he look like?"

Lin Xue pondered a little and said, "He's a mountain of a man, gives off a barbaric and savage air, and is a powerful body cultivator at the fifth longevity tribulation stage. It's honestly pretty amazing that he can remain fearless despite being surrounded by so many experts and even manage to kill a few of them.

"However, he also suffered heavy injuries in the process and will probably be killed soon."

At this juncture, Lin Xue suddenly realized that there was something off about Lin Xun's and Toady's expressions.

Lin Xun asked, "Where is he?"

His expression was still composed, but there was a hint of anxiety in his voice.

"Could it be..."

Lin Xue's pupils shrank as if she had guessed something and she immediately said, "Follow me."

She quickly moved to lead the way.

Lin Xun and the others closely followed.

Could it be A'lu?

Both Lin Xun's and Toady's hearts tensed a little.

The emperor's mound was surrounded by countless experts. If it was A'lu, how would he be able to face them alone?

Soon after, a terrifying thunderclap suddenly rang out in the distance, causing Lin Xun and the others to inwardly shiver as they felt a frightening heavenly pressure.

Rumble!

Far away, dazzling lightning bolts fell from the sky with almighty destructive force.

It was the sixth longevity tribulation, the karmic obstacles!

Lin Xun had overcome the tribulation recently and naturally recognized it at a glance. He was surprised that someone would choose such a dangerous location to face the tribulation. Wouldn't they be afraid of being disturbed?

Suddenly, Toady shouted, "Damnit, it's A'lu!"

His golden pupils gleamed as he peered into the distance where a figure was desperately struggling against the heavenly tribulation. It was A'lu!

"This idiot, why would he choose to face the tribulation at such a time? Could he have been pushed to the end of the rope and have no choice but to trigger the tribulation in order to survive?"

Toady's expression fluctuated in worry and uncertainty.

"Go!"

Lin Xun took a deep breath as black eyes turned ice-cold.

"To think that he would turn out to be their friend. This is going to be a big problem..."

Holy Maiden Lin Xue's heart shuddered. She knew that the man named A'lu was being targeted by many experts, who were waiting to seize the blessing in his possession!

Even if Lin Xun and the others rushed over at this juncture, they would likely be incapable of saving him and instead end up being attacked by everyone. This was no different from rushing to their deaths.

Lin Xue transmitted, "Please calm down. The situation there is extremely complicated and dangerous..."

"I understand. However, there are some things that must be done even when you know they are impossible!"

Lin Xun's reply was firm and uncompromising.

"Miss, you'd better keep your distance from us to avoid being mistaken as our companion. Otherwise, we won't be able to forgive ourselves."

Toady grinned in a slightly crazed manner.

"You idiots. Why are you in such a hurry to get killed without even figuring out the situation first? Hey hey hey, wait for me!"

The big black bird yelled only to realize that Lin Xun and Toady were ignoring him and instead sprinting forward with all their might. It felt helpless as it muttered, "They've all gone crazy!"

Despite this, it also charged forward with them.

Lin Xue dazedly watched the trio dash away as if even plunging into a mountain of swords, a sea of fire, or even purgatory wouldn't draw a single frown from them!

The sight inexplicably touched her. Wouldn't it be lucky to have such friends who stuck together through thick and thin on the path of cultivation?

With a deep breath, Lin Xue also followed.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1292: Whoever Blocks My Way Shall Be Killed!

Boom!

Tribulation lightning poured from the sky like a waterfall, illuminating the land with its brilliant yet terrifying light.

At the center of it all, A'lu's blood-soaked figure could be seen desperately struggling against the onslaught.

Numerous experts were gathered in the distance, creating a tight perimeter that even water would fail to penetrate. While none of them tried to approach, they didn't take a single step back either.

Every one of their faces was filled with a mix of anticipation, excitement, cruelty, and desire.

After all, they knew that the barbarian-like individual in the middle likely had the blessing of the emperor's mound in his possession.

Emperor's mound!

These two words could make even Saint experts go crazy!

"The barbarian suffered serious injuries earlier and triggered the tribulation out of desperation. How laughable. From what I can see, he is destined to die!"

On a peak surrounded by swirling black mist, a smiling white-robed man with a feather-fan in his hand appeared dashing and elegant, creating a deep contrast with his chillingly cold words.

Wariness and fear were visible in the eyes of several experts nearby when they looked at the white-robed man.

He was Bai Longting, an ancient-era genius from the White Flood-Dragon Clan!

He had risen to fame over the past two years by reaching the sixth longevity tribulation stage and becoming one of the top ten rankers on the Genius Gold Rankings.

"Prepare to capture him the moment he fails the tribulation!"

At another corner, the blurry figure of a young man in battle armor could be seen. Although he was surrounded by numerous followers like stars to the moon, no one dared to encroach into the area within ten feet of him.

It was because he exuded a strong baleful aura that could only be forged from the blood and corpses of countless enemies.

His gaze alone could frighten others and make them feel incredibly pressured.

It was Underworld Son!

Two years ago, he had barely managed to escape from Lin Xun with a wisp of his spirit. From his current appearance, he had clearly made a full recovery and was now even stronger than before.

Several other formidable individuals on par with Bai Longting and Underworld Son were also present in the vicinity, watching A'lu with chilling gazes that resembled predators looking at prey.

It was a scene that would make anyone's heart tremble. Even if one were to disregard the more famous powerhouses, there would still be more than a thousand experts present!

Under these circumstances, no one doubted that the barbarian wouldn't survive.

In other words, only death awaited him!

A pretty, red-haired girl softly remarked, "It can be a crime to harbor treasures beyond one's means. Although the barbarian's background doesn't seem ordinary, I can only say that he's...pretty unlucky."

A green-robed man beside her asked, "Does Miss Chi Yao know him?"

He sported a dashing figure with thick, sword-shaped eyebrows and bright eyes that seemed to contain wisps of electricity.

"I've seen him once and know that he's Demon God Lin's friend."

Chi Yao softly chuckled, causing her pure-looking face to turn exceedingly enchanting. The captivating sight made the green-robed man's eyes widen slightly.

However, the words Demon God Lin quickly snapped him out of it and made him shiver as he asked, "Lin Xun's friend?"

Chi Yao blinked and said, "Oh? Is Dao Friend Gu afraid of Demon God Lin?"

The green-robed man snorted out a laugh and proudly declared, "He might have been someone two years ago, but I doubt that he'll even be in the top thirty in the Genius Gold Rankings nowadays. Why should I be afraid of him?"

Chi Yao merely smiled and didn't comment.

The green-robed man's name was Gu Tianyi. He was also a talented ancient-era genius who had recently attained the rank of twenty-sixth on the Genius Gold Rankings and was very arrogant and proud. If it wasn't for the fact that he had some ties to the first-place ranker on the Genius Gold Rankings, Shaohao, Chi Yao would never have bothered with such a person.

Upon seeing that Chi Yao was no longer paying attention to him, Gu Tianyi felt that he had lost face and said, "Miss Chi Yao, do you believe that even Demon God Lin will die if he comes?"

Chi Yao nodded, "I do. Given the circumstances, anyone who tries to save that barbarian will die. No one will ever be able to change that."

It was implied that Lin Xun would die because of the impossible circumstance, and it would have nothing to do with Gu Tianyi!

Gu Tianyi couldn't help but frown. He said, "Does Miss Chi Yao think that I'm no match for Lin Xun?"

Chi Yao smiled and replied, "That's difficult for me to say."

A cloudy expression emerged between Gu Tianyi's brows.

Chi Yao suddenly said, "Get ready, we might be able to steal a slice of the pie if we work together."

She focused on the heavenly tribulation below where A'lu's sorry figure was staggering. He was evidently about to reach his limit.

Meanwhile, the other experts' eyes also gleamed as they prepared to move.

Suddenly, a furious shout rang out from the back of the crowd, "Who are you? Hurry up and scram. Can't you see this area has been cordoned off?"

The voice, however, abruptly cut off a split second later.

A bloody head flew into the air. Due to the bright light from the tribulation lightning, everyone could clearly see the head's alarmed and astonished expression.

A flurry of agitation swept across the area as many people looked over.

Several experts even let out grunts of dissatisfaction.

They had taken control of the area and expected to divide the spoils among them after A'lu failed his heavenly tribulation.

Hence, none of them were happy to see any unexpected incidents occur at this juncture.

"Whoever blocks my way shall be killed!"

An extremely indifferent and ice-cold voice rang out across heaven and earth. Each word boomed like thunder, shaking everyone to the core.

A strange silence enveloped the area. Everyone was stunned and almost unable to believe what they had heard. Who would dare to be so arrogant?

It must be emphasized that there was a substantial number of famous formidable experts present. Hence, making such a provocation was no different from seeking death!

Many people didn't believe the claim and refused to step aside. They were interested to see who this ballsy fellow was. Who dared to make such a din?

Plop plop plop!

In the next moment, a string of blood splatters suddenly blossomed at the back of the crowd like firecrackers.

Every expert blocking the way was smashed to pieces and swept aside, creating an astonishing path of blood!

It was impossible to stop!

The sight of expert after expert being crushed like paper without being able to even scream caused the rest of them to feel alarmed as their expressions changed slightly.

For a time, the only sound that could be heard was the rumbling of thunderbolts in the distance as every gaze in the area swiveled over in unison.

A slim figure shrouded in dao light walked across the freshly paved bloody road while radiating monstrous killing intent.

Rumble!

At that exact moment, a bolt of lightning ripped through the sky, illuminating the unknown figure's appearance.

His black eyes were colder than the night, his long hair fluttered around him, and his thin body resembled a steep and lonely mountain peak. Every movement he made seemed to swallow everything around him as he exuded a natural aura of disdain.

The path paved with blood and corpses seemed to bathe him in an eerie glow that made him resemble a demon god!

Someone cried out, "It's him, Demon God Lin!"

Everyone was shocked and several people's expressions changed. No wonder he dared to speak such arrogant words. It was him!

Although he hadn't shown himself for two years, who would dare to forget this demon god-like individual?

It was impossible to track how many supreme heaven prides had died at his hands!

"Lin Xun!"

In the distance, Underworld Son abruptly raised his head as a ferocious light blossomed in his red eyes. He was barely able to restrain the flaring hatred within him.

For two whole years, he had not once forgotten the shame of being chased by Lin Xun!

"Lin Xun? Yet another competitor has come. How troublesome."

Bai Longting's eyes narrowed as his smile receded. He frowned as he observed Lin Xun from afar.

"He actually came, does...he intend to make an enemy out of everyone to save that barbarian?"

Chi Yao was slightly disoriented.

Gu Tianyi icily grunted, "Hmph! He will die an ugly death if he dares to do so!"

Meanwhile, numerous ruthless individuals frowned slightly as they secretly sized up Lin Xun.

Demon God Lin!

They had heard far too many legends about him, and there was no falsehood to his reputation. How could they possibly ignore such a formidable powerhouse?

Lin Xun ignored these gazes. From the beginning, his footsteps never once paused or faltered as he advanced toward the area where A'lu was undergoing his heavenly tribulation.

Even his expression was completely devoid of emotion.

Reluctant to give way, a gray-robed man with a cloudy expression blocked Lin Xun's path and said, "Lin Xun, what are you doing? Even if we are competing, you should at least show a little courtesy to those who came first, right?"

Swish!

A finger jab from Lin Xun was the response he got.

A Moment of Spring and Autumn!

The Prodigies War

Chapter 1293: Facing the Enemies From All Directions Alone

The hostility in the area rapidly climbed as everyone's gazes turned unfriendly and murderous.

A triumphant smile formed on Gu Tianyi's face as he transmitted to Chi Yao, "See, Lin Xun is destined to die!"

He was very pleased with how a single sentence from him had changed the entire situation.

"What you've done will greatly offend Lin Xun."

Chi Yao frowned, feeling somewhat angered. She was the one who had told Gu Tianyi about A'lu's relationship with Lin Xun. Once he got to the bottom of the matter, she would inevitably also be implicated.

Deep down, she very much didn't wish to make an enemy out of someone like Lin Xun.

She had already learned how terrifying Lin Xun was as early as in the Burning Immortal World and understood that someone like him would never foolishly walk to his death.

Gu Tianyi smiled disbelievingly. "I merely offended a dead man. What's there to be concerned about?"

Chi Yao didn't say anything else. She had already decided to draw a clear line with Gu Tianyi.

Bai Longting asked, "Lin Xun, is that true?"

His voice echoed across the area like the morning bell or evening drum as everyone looked at Lin Xun.

The atmosphere suddenly turned hostile and tense.

It was akin to a pack of wolves that were already eyeing their prey suddenly finding that another wolf had appeared and was intending to save the prey, incurring the wrath of the pack!

Lin Xun ignored everything and instead raised his head to look at the figure undergoing the heavenly tribulation in the sky. With a deep breath, he said, "A'lu, relax and focus on your tribulation. No one will be able to touch you with me around!"

His calm voice was filled with unwavering determination.

He stood alone amidst the crowd of powerful experts while ignoring all of them, giving off the sensation of a man resolved to block ten thousand enemies alone!

Everyone's expression darkened as they revealed their killing intent. This was enough to tell them that Lin Xun was indeed here to save the barbarian!

The crowd felt incredulous. Did Demon God Lin actually believe that he could singlehandedly change the situation?

It must be noted that there were more than a thousand powerful experts present, not to mention several famous powerhouses of the Upper Nine Realms!

Yet he still intended to save the barbarian alone?

It was so ridiculous that it felt like a joke!

"Big brother! I..."

Amidst the heavenly tribulation, A'lu's eyes had turned red and teary. Despite the terrible condition of his battered body, a hot, indescribable emotion surged through him at this moment.

He had already been prepared for death and would rather be destroyed by the heavenly tribulation than allow others to steal his blessing!

Lin Xun's appearance was an unpredictable surprise to him!

"Don't say anymore and concentrate on the tribulation! At worst, we'll all die today, although I do want to see first if anyone will be able to stop us brothers!"

Lin Xun's black hair fluttered wildly as he looked around with eerily gleaming eyes. A terrifying pressure spread from him, causing the weather to change.

Several people's breaths were caught in their throats as their expressions changed slightly.

Over the past two years, many unrivaled overlord-like individuals had rapidly risen in the Upper Nine Realms such as Shaohao, Fairy Ruowu, and Yuan Fatian.

However, who could ever forget Demon God Lin?

Although there was almost no news of him for two years, his eventual appearance was certain to cause a storm!

Now, Lin Xun sought to face an enormous group of strong enemies alone. While it seemed absurd, would anyone present dare to guarantee that they wouldn't be taken down by him as well even if they ultimately managed to kill him?

"It's only been two years, but he's already reached the sixth longevity tribulation stage!"

Someone's heart trembled as he felt the dreadfulness of Lin Xun's presence.

Two years ago, Lin Xun, who had been at the third longevity stage, had crushed Underworld Son, who was at the fourth longevity stage and forced him to flee. It was difficult to imagine how much more terrifying Lin Xun's combat power would be now.

"Lin Xun, you can't be naive enough to believe that you can stop us alone, right?"

Bai Longting's face was now tinged with iciness. He was a proud individual with strong foundations. He didn't fear Lin Xun, but he would not underestimate the latter either.

"Go ahead and try me."

Lin Xun glanced at him with a cold expression. He didn't know Bai Longting's background, but wouldn't care even if he did.

After all, he was going to save A'lu today no matter what!

Anyone who tried to stop him will be killed!

Underworld Son frostily said, "Hmph! I never thought that you would be someone to value relations so deeply and would even dare to gamble away your life for someone whose death is already set in stone. Unfortunately, all the colleagues present will not agree to this!"

His hazy armor-clad figure exuded a monstrous murderous intent.

"How dare a loser speak out so boldly? Do you dare to come here and fight me?!"

Killing intent shot from Lin Xun's eyes as his voice boomed like thunder, shaking the spirits of several experts until they nearly saw stars.

Underworld Son's expression immediately turned ugly. He regarded his loss to Lin Xun as the greatest shame in his life. Hence, having it brought up in such a public setting made him nearly go crazy with hatred.

A youth said in a low voice, "Lord Underworld Son, don't fall for his provocations. He's clearly stalling for time. We only need to strike together later to crush him!"

"Die!"

In the distance, Lin Xun lifted his hand and pointed at the youth from afar.

Omni-Finger!

"AHH!"

A stream of finger-force appeared out of nowhere and drilled a bloody hole through the youth's throat.

Next, his body and primordial spirit swiftly disintegrated, erasing him from existence.

An expert was instantly killed with a single finger!

The crowd's expressions simultaneously changed upon witnessing the scene.

Even the eyelids of Bai Longting, Underworld Son, and Chi Yao involuntarily twitched. Their expressions turned a little graver as they thought about how they would neutralize this move.

"If you're unafraid of death, feel free to come over and see if I can take you on!"

Lin Xun's voice was ice-cold as his aura grew increasingly oppressive. He felt like a giant abyss that sought to devour the eight barrens and even swallow humans whole.

Many people stirred restlessly as they looked at each other.

"That's the power of his reputation. Even two years of silence cannot erase the impression he has left in people's hearts."

Chi Yao inwardly sighed.

He was but a single individual surrounded by enemies on all sides. It was genuinely astonishing that he was still able to remain calm and display an aura of unstoppable inevitability.

This was the power of Demon God Lin's reputation!

From the Burning Immortal World to the Upper Nine Realms, could anyone keep track of how many famous supreme heaven prides had fallen to Demon God Lin?

"What shameless boasting!"

Finally, someone in the shadows could no longer hold back. He summoned a divine sword and slashed at Lin Xun.

The sword's aura pierced through heaven and earth, illuminating everything with its radiance!

It was no probing attack but a serious and committed blow that overflowed with domineering viciousness.

Shiing!

Almost simultaneously, the Broken Blade flew out like a blur of illusory light to stop the sword.

Clang!

An ear-piercing collision echoed in the air as the sword was brutally knocked back and sent flying.

Meanwhile, its owner staggered due to the backlash.

It was a hemp-clothed youth from the White Dragon-Deer lineage. He was an extremely terrifying ancient-era genius who was ranked in the top thirty in the Genius Gold Rankings.

Despite this, he had clearly lost the upper hand after a single exchange. Several people were astonished and horrified once again. One must know that many of the veteran experts on the Genius Gold Rankings have been replaced by new blood over the past two years.

This hemp-clothed youth was one of these new rising stars. Yet, he had been defeated in a single exchange... How could anyone not be shocked by this?

"Demon God Lin has become even more terrifying over the past two years!"

Numerous people inwardly shivered.

"Everyone, we can't let him continue any longer. Let's attack together!" yelled an expert as he turned into a streak of light and rushed at Lin Xun.

It was a thin man covered in brilliant silver light. A crystal horn surrounded by mysterious flowing symbols grew from his head.

He was undoubtedly a formidable expert.

Lin Xun transmitted, "Toady, Blacky, you guys secretly protect A'lu while I kill the enemies!"

He then rushed forward as if he was on fire, transforming into a furnace of chaos and mayhem.

He immediately went on the offensive and threw a punch.

Boom!

The sky and land collapsed and even space distorted.

It was an unimaginably powerful punch that felt like a god throwing a mountain at the sky, manifesting grand dao power that blazed to the extremes.

Chla!

When Lin Xun and the one-horned man's figures exchanged places, fist-force shattered the man's treasure along with his entire arm. The horrifying fist-force continued to spread, wrecking half of the man's body into a bloody pulp.

Too fast!

The domineering punch had seriously injured a sixth longevity tribulation expert and nearly crippled him.

"Attack!"

More figures charged out from different directions and attacked Lin Xun together.

Omm~

A giant abyss emerged around Lin Xun and began to revolve, emitting an endlessly terrifying devouring power.

The abyss devoured all the attacks before they could approach Lin Xun!

"This..."

Someone cried out in surprise. It was as if no technique or attack could even touch Lin Xun at this moment.

Plop!

A blast of fist-force erupted and blew apart the head of the expert who had cried out, causing his headless corpse to crash to the ground.

Meanwhile, Lin Xun unleashed his devastating arsenal of the Tribulation Dragon Nine Transformations, the Nine Heavenshaking Destructions Art, and the Great Diffusion Void Breaker Finger.

Plop! Plop! Plop!

The attacking experts were slaughtered one after another with overwhelming power as if they were made of paper, causing stream after stream of blood to spurt into the air before raining back onto the ground.

Even the world seemed to tremble at the unrivaled demon god-like power that Lin Xun was displaying.

Too strong!

He seemed unbeatable as he rampaged across the area while bathing in the blood of his enemies.

Someone roared, "Quick! Attack him together!"

Anyone could see that Lin Xun was setting an example. He intended to intimidate the rest through his brutality and crush their fighting spirits. Hence, it was necessary to stop him as soon as possible.

"I'm honestly unwilling to make an enemy of you. Unfortunately, you're blocking my path to the blessing so you must die!"

A soft sigh rang out across heaven and earth. Bai Longting had finally decided to move.

His eyes seemed charged with electricity while his posture was as straight as a spear. As he stepped forward, a monstrous killing intent spread and surged across the area, causing space to distort and wail incessantly as if heralding the arrival of a king.

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Chapter 1294: Experts Rise Up; Killing Like a Madman

Bai Longting was joining the fray!

The experts present were reinvigorated. After all, Bai Longting was one of the most highly regarded hegemon-class experts in the Upper Nine Realms for the past two years.

In fact, his present prestige was comparable to Lin Xun's from two years ago.

Bai Longting was naturally exceptionally talented and boasted superb battle prowess. It was even rumored that he would soon be able to trigger the seventh longevity tribulation!

As such, everyone was naturally excited to have such a hegemon-class expert on their side.

"Must die? Who the hell do you think are to make such a bold claim?"

With an ice-cold expression, Lin Xun smashed a nearby expert to a pulp with a single punch before he rose into the air and charged at Bai Longting.

"You're too arrogant."

Bai Longting's expression remained indifferent as he lightly waved his feather fan. A five-colored stream of light emerged and transformed into a five-element wheel that rumbled through the air like a giant millstone.

Five Elements Divine Wheel!

It was a terrifying longevity-grade dao art that possessed the Law Power of the five elements. When the five elements converged, it produced power that could grind away at the universe itself and crush all things.

Moreover, when the Five Elements Divine Wheel rotated, the five grand dao powers would harmonize to circulate endlessly into infinity.

Rumble!

Space shattered and collapsed. The power Bai Longting displayed shocked everyone and elicited several gasps.

Lin Xun was unfazed and advanced instead of retreating. The Star Annihilation Heaven Devourer Dao circulated around him, causing him to resemble a giant abyss that could span across the void and was boundless without limit!

"He's rushing in?!"

Several people were taken aback.

"That's no different from courting death!"

Meanwhile, Bai Longting inwardly sneered. His Five Elements Divine Wheel could infinitely produce power and was one of his killing moves that even fellow supreme heaven prides would struggle to defend against. In his eyes, Lin Xun's decision to charge straight in was foolhardy at best.

When the two parties finally collided, however, Bai Longting felt as if his Five Elements Divine Wheel had plunged into a quagmire.

Layers and layers of terrifying abrasive power revolved around it like crazy, trapping the Five Elements Divine Wheel in place. It was unable to break free from the dreadful power no matter how wildly it thrashed about.

"This..."

Bai Longting's expression changed slightly.

Meanwhile, Lin Xun suddenly spread out his arms. With a loud rumble, the giant abyss abruptly expanded and crushed the Five Elements Divine Wheel inch by inch while devouring every speck of its power and remains.

From a distance, it looked as if the wheel had been swallowed whole!

The crowd's jaws dropped. Had they just witnessed the force of Lin Xun's charge destroy Bai Longting's terrifying attack?

Bai Longting let out a muffled grunt and staggered as his qi and blood churned erratically. It was the recoil of having his killing move destroyed.

Before he could recover, Lin Xun had already closed in and threw a punch.

Rumble!

The air exploded like boiling water as a blast of simple yet resplendent fist-force emerged.

The fist-force contained dao light and throbbed with such devastating power that space uncontrollably collapsed around it.

Several experts held their breaths, not daring to imagine how terrifying the blow was.

It was a punch that had attained Divine Connection!

"Five Elements Seal, shatter it!"

A rare look of graveness flashed across Bai Longting's face. The grand dao power of the five elements gathered around him and transformed into a giant seal that resembled a divine mountain floating in the air!

Rumble~

An earth-shaking collision sound boomed as a horrifying torrent of dao light unfurled from the epicenter. Several experts failed to evade, causing them to stagger backward as they repeatedly coughed blood. This showed how terrifying the clash was.

In the next moment, Bai Longting was seen stumbling several dozen steps backward in the air, creating a cavity in the fabric of space with every step.

By the time he managed to stabilize himself, his complexion had become rather pale and he couldn't help but cough a mouthful of blood.

On the other hand, Lin Xun's figure was immaculate and completely untouched like an unrivaled demon god.

Everyone was shocked by this scene.

They had been filled with expectation when Bai Longting first joined the fray, believing that he could go toe to toe with Lin Xun.

Who could have imagined that Lin Xun would crush Bai Longting in their initial exchange?!

He was even coughing blood!

The drastic contrast made them wonder just how powerful Demon God Lin had grown.

Numerous people's hearts began to tremble.

"You can only say I'm arrogant because you don't even know what it means to be truly strong!"

Lin Xun wasn't the least bit interested in stopping and advanced toward Bai Longting again.

Rumble!

At this moment, however, a Black Mystic Battle Spear suddenly shot through the air like a laser beam and ruthlessly thrust toward Lin Xun at an inconceivable speed.

The wielder was none other than Underworld Son!

Clad in battle armor and exuding a monstrous killing intent, he struck with a swift ferocity akin to a thunderbolt.

Fast! Too fast!

No one could have expected that such a prestigious figure would launch a sneak attack that would catch anyone off guard.

Clang!

A shower of sparks erupted from an old blood-stained shield that had appeared behind Lin Xun and narrowly blocked the attack.

"Damnit! My Void Cycling Six Powers Shield!"

Underworld Son's face turned incomparably ugly as he trembled with rage.

Previously, he had been slaughtered so badly by Lin Xun that he barely managed to escape with a wisp of his spirit. In the process, he lost two of his greatest treasures, one of which was the sealed Alpha Saint Weapon, the Yuantu Sword.

The other was this old bloodstained shield named the Void Cycling Six Powers Shield, which was also a remarkable ancient treasure.

Underworld Son never imagined that he would be thwarted by his treasure after finding the perfect opening to ambush Lin Xun...

It made him so angry that he nearly coughed blood.

From start to end, Lin Xun didn't even turn his head nor pay any attention to Underworld Son. Instead, his spirit sense locked onto Bai Longting as he lunged at the latter.

Boom!

Despite Bai Longting's best efforts to resist, he was repeatedly beaten back as he dodged time and time again. He trembled, feeling so unbearable that he nearly coughed blood. It felt as if he was fighting a mountain that was suppressing all of his strength.

It finally dawned upon him that he had severely underestimated his opponent this time!

It was exactly as the rumors had described. Only after personally facing Demon God Lin would one understand just how tiny and weak they were.

Bai Longting had not believed this in the past.

Now, however, he had no choice but to believe it!

Thud!

Bai Longting was sent flying by a heavy punch. Blood sprayed from his nose and mouth, drawing gasps from the watching crowd.

"Attack!"

Underworld Son rushed at Lin Xun again. With a jerk of the Black Mystic Battle Spear, several tempests swept forth, shredding even the fabric of space.

At the same time, several other formidable individuals also attacked from different directions.

They could tell that Bai Longting alone couldn't suppress Demon God Lin's momentum. Hence, they needed to work together.

Rumble!

Unrivaled sword-will shot forth. Gu Tianyi had attacked. His killing aura rushed into the sky as the image of a mountain of corpses and a sea of blood surfaced behind him.

A long, red dragon-like whip rose into the air as it produced a shower of beautiful glowing petals. Its wielder was a slender woman bathed in golden light.

Omm!

A snow-bright battle blade crossed the sky, splashing murky blood-colored blade qi that resembled smoke from a fire.

Its wielder was a black-robed man with a halberd-shaped beard who gave off maniacal blade-will.

The battlefield descended into chaos as all kinds of dao arts, dao lights, and treasures wove together into a maelstrom of destruction, producing brilliant light that illuminated the surroundings.

All of these attacks were targeted at Lin Xun!

It was an earth-shaking sight that would make anyone feel powerlessness and despair.

Lin Xun's originally unstoppable momentum finally began to falter. He was surrounded, with enemies on all sides, forcing him to fall back to a passive approach instead.

"Bai Longting isn't a match for you, but will you be able to stop multiple experts on his level?"

In the distance, Chi Yao's eyes flickered in thought. Various emotions flitted through her heart as she watched Lin Xun.

If it was one-on-one, she was certain that no one present would be his match.

However, no one was stupid enough to fight Lin Xun alone at this juncture!

"It's too difficult for a single person to turn this situation around!"

Chi Yao struggled internally, unable to decide whether she should join in as well.

Compared to the blessing in A'lu's possession, she cared more about the piece of Bodhi wood Lin Xun owned!

For Chi Yao, obtaining the Bodhi wood was unquestionably better than obtaining a huge blessing.

"Lin Xun, it's difficult for a single person to face many people alone. So what if you're stronger? Aren't you still going to die this time?"

Bai Longting had regained his composure. The expression in his eyes was chillingly cold. He would make sure that Lin Xun died this time.

Lin Xun's strength made Bai Longting feel gravely threatened in a way he couldn't properly describe. He would never be at peace in the future if Lin Xun was allowed to live.

"Attack!"

Underworld Son's expression was chillingly eerie as he attacked like a madman. He appeared to be in a state of unparalleled exhilaration.

Presently, Lin Xun was alone and surrounded by at least eight formidable hegemon-tier individuals. There was already no meaning to this battle because he was destined to be killed!

"Dao Friend Lin, don't blame us for being merciless. This is the struggle for the dao where there is no room for pity or mercy."

"Since you obstructed us from obtaining the blessing, there can only be death for you!"

"Hehe, dying at our hands will at least preserve your reputation."

The others spoke out one after another amidst the fierce battle. Their expressions were indifferent, and no one held back because none of them wished to give Lin Xun any chance of escaping.

Lin Xun's strength not only made Bai Longting feel deeply threatened but also frightened them, giving rise to a strong desire to eliminate him.

Lin Xun's expression remained calm from start to end. His cold black eyes seemed infinitely deep and not even the slightest hint of emotion could be seen on his face.

He was surrounded and appeared to be outmatched. Although he inevitably sustained some wounds, he had yet to suffer any major injuries!

While hearing their indifferent voices that seemed to have already sentenced him to death, Lin Xun couldn't help but inwardly sneer.

He didn't say anything, nor did he wish to!

He was waiting, waiting for all the formidable experts who were still hiding in the shadows to jump out.

When the time finally arrived, he would give everyone a special surprise. The only question was whether they would be able to properly receive it!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1295: Demon God Lin Explodes

Demon God Lin is finished!

The distant crowd was shocked, their hearts drumming.

Lin Xun had started out with a powerful momentum and utterly suppressed Bai Longting, but now, the situation had taken a complete turn!

Being attacked by not only Bai Longting but also a group of similarly ruthless characters put him in a tight spot, just like a trapped beast!

“The flow of the fight has been set. By himself, Lin Xun is no different from a mantis trying to stop a chariot!”

“Don’t you think it’s a great fortune to have a friend like Lin Xun? If it wasn’t for the fact that he needed to rescue his friends, how could he have possibly fallen into such a predicament?” Some felt touched by Lin Xun’s actions and sighed emotionally.

Chi Yao stood at one side, listening to the conversations of the crowd while struggling internally as she watched the besieged, bloody figure going hard at it.

Should I... attack?

This is a one-in-a-lifetime chance to kill Lin Xun !

“Boss!!!”

Under the heavenly tribulation, A’lu’s eyes were wide and bloodshot in fury. He was at the critical juncture, but how could he remain indifferent upon seeing Lin Xun’s situation?

For a brief moment, he just wanted to abandon everything and charge over with all his might to fight those enemies to the death!

Hearing his roar, Lin Xun’s heart trembled, knowing that he couldn’t wait any longer, or else A’lu would be disturbed and would most likely fail the tribulation.

Lin Xun took a deep breath and shouted in a serious tone, “A’lu, focus on passing the tribulation! They’re just a bunch of incompetent thugs; they can’t do nothing to me!”

These words immediately earned a round of mocking laughter. *Lin Xun is out of his mind. He’s soon a dead man, yet he’s taking his time to console someone who’s about to fail his tribulation.*

“I believe in you, boss!” shouted A’lu in the sky as he calmed down surprisingly quickly. No longer paying the battle any attention, he wholly focused on dealing with the tribulation.

Deep inside him, an unprecedented desire and determination arose. No matter what, he must succeed!

And if anything were to happen to Lin Xun this time, he swore that he would slaughter all of the culprits and use their lives as burial goods!

This desire was so strong and unswerving that A’lu completely fell into a state of mind that was both extremely insane and extremely calm.

“Hmph, still putting on a show of brotherly love. How sickening!” snorted Underworld Son amidst attacks, not hiding his mockery at all.

The others looked just as indifferent and ruthless.

They were determined to kill Lin Xun, and this would not change no matter who intervened!

“You may as well stop with your futile struggling, Lin Xun. No one can save you anymore. Since I respect you as a truly powerful person, I will give you a dignified death,” said Bai Longting coldly.

“If I, Lin Xun, wish to live, then why would I need anyone else to save me?” Lin Xun suddenly raised his head, his deep eyes flashing with a chilling murderous intent. “As I’ve said, you lot are just a bunch of incompetent thugs!”

Each word boomed like thunder, even writing over the sound of the heavenly tribulation and shaking the entire area!

At the same time, an unprecedentedly terrifying aura erupted from Lin Xun like a volcano that had been building up for a long time!

“Huh?”

“Not good!”

“This...”

The expressions of everyone besieging Lin Xun changed drastically when they sensed that his aura had increased by a large chunk!

“Die!” Lin Xun punched out, attacking for the first time after having passively defending himself earlier.

Boom!

The sky turned upside down, and everything collapsed.

The blazing force that came out from Lin Xun's fist seemed to have broken the shackles of space and time, and the mere aura it emitted caused heaven and earth to tremble.

“AAAHHH!”

A miserable scream rang out as the black-clothed man with the shiny blade was caught and drowned in the fist force.

Every inch starting from his head down to his neck, upper body, and legs burst into pieces, splattering in a rain of blood and flesh.

That fist force obviously had been unleashed at maximum force, and it was so fierce that it shattered the air around it and created a huge crack in the void.

The entire area went dead silent.

Everyone gawked, stupefied.

They had all seen Lin Xun being surrounded and suppressed to the point that he could have collapsed at any moment, but the situation seemed to have been reversed again.

His punch not only killed an opponent, but also tore a hole in the siege!

Even Bai Longting and Underworld Son were frightened and nearly couldn't believe their eyes, wondering if Lin Xun had been holding back all along.

“Die!” Everything had happened extremely quickly. After killing the black-clad man, Lin Xun completely let go like a dragon coming out from hibernation.

Boom!

Another fist qi swept out, pressing toward the slender woman wielding the long red whip.

“Break!” screamed the woman as she erupted with a golden glow and fought back with all her might.

But the fist energy ripped apart her whip like it was paper before smashing through her battle suit. Her entire chest collapsed into a bloody hole chiseled out by the blazing fist force!

On her last breath, the woman's eyes were wide open in confusion and disbelief.

And then, she exploded to her death.

The sight was so horrifying that everyone trembled in utter silence.

Lin Xun had launched merely two punches since his counterattack, and each had directly killed a supreme figure at the sixth longevity stage. This kind of devastating battle prowess could shock even gods!

It was simply unimaginable.

They had all thought that no matter who came, they wouldn't be able to help Lin Xun.

No one had come. Instead, Lin Xun simply smashed through the dead end himself with his fist!

"We've been fooled!" Bai Longting was furious as he felt chills creep all over him.

Lin Xun had been holding back his strength and had still been able to completely suppress him. Now that Lin Xun fought back with his full strength, who could be his opponent?

"Damn it!" shrieked Underworld Son.

However, this was no longer a situation where they could retreat as they pleased.

"Attack together!" someone shouted, calling on the other cultivators present to join and beat Lin Xun with numbers.

Unfortunately for them, Lin Xun was not afraid of this as he had decided to kill all enemies without holding back.

"Kill!"

His black hair danced as he glided across the field like a devouring abyss. The killing intent in his heart seeped out and spread like an earthquake.

Yazi's Rage, Sacred Combat Art, Extreme Absolute... He unleashed all sorts of arts at full power.

Poof! Poof! Poof!

Under the downpour of attacks, powerful opponents died on the spot one after another. They were either blown apart by a blazing punch, crushed by the Great Diffusion Void Breaker Finger, or wiped out by the power of the Tribulation Dragon Nine Transformations...

For a while, the sky was filled with waterfalls of blood and corpses flying about, accompanied by never-ending mournful screams and angry roars.

This was a bloody picture, and Lin Xun who was charging with all his might was the artist. Every casual stroke of his hand drew a tragic soul in their final moment.

Watching from the distance, Chi Yao's blood ran cold, and her face became deathly pale.

Her internal struggle within had long been wiped away by this bloody scene and replaced with an unspeakable chill.

Her vision blurred into the color of blood, blinding as one cultivator after another was crumpled like a piece of paper. They bloomed for a split second in scarlet splendor before returning to utter silence.

Only a single figure remained standing like an eternal demonic god. His momentum was unstoppable, and his killing intent shook the heavens!

Rolling tribulation lightning flashed in the horizon, and his bloodsoaked figure under the dazzling electricity was frustratingly overbearing and ruthless!

"Wrong, we were all wrong. From the beginning, they were already not anywhere near his level..." Chi Yao stared in a daze, not knowing whether she should feel happy or disappointed.

"Retreat!" shouted Bai Longting.

Lin Xun's battle prowess utterly terrified him, and he started fleeing without hesitation.

Unfortunately, it was too late!

Chi Yao looked up just to see a glistening snowy blade slashing down at an incredible speed.

The next moment, Bai Longting, the ancient genius among the top ten of the Genius Gold Rankings who was known in the entire Upper Nine Realms, was cut in half from his body to his spirit!

Chi Yao shivered, feeling as if she had fallen into an ice cave.

A desperate shriek suddenly echoed, "Miss Chi Yao! Help...me!"

It was Gu Tianyi, the unrestrained man clad in green who had always disdained Lin Xun. At the moment, he was panicking like a lost dog. His hair was a mess, and his face was pale with fear.

“I...”

Chi Yao was about to say something when she felt a chillingly indifferent gaze on her. Those eyes were like a bottomless abyss that could swallow one’s soul.

Chi Yao froze on the spot, and her mind went blank.

And then, as she watched, Gu Tianyi exploded. Fragments of bones, blood, and flesh flew in all directions as he perished in the air!

“Still think you can escape?” Lin Xun’s ice-cold voice suddenly resounded.

His target was a disheveled-looking Underworld Son. He had transformed into an illusory streak that bolted into the horizon, just the same way he had done to flee last time.

Poof!

The Broken Blade swept out and chopped at his arm.

Right at this moment, the Spirit Refining Kettle once again appeared, hovering above him and spilling out a magnificent rain of light that enveloped his mangled figure.

Duang!

Under the Broken Blade’s attack, the kettle merely shook a little.

However, the terrifying power released from the chop completely shattered Underworld Son’s already tattered body!

“I don’t want to, I don’t want to—!!”

With a final mournful scream, Underworld Son’s voice fizzled out.

This ancient-era eccentric genius, who was born in the Upper Nine Realms with great luck and all sorts of fortunes, was killed before he could have the chance to leave the supreme realm!

Buzz~

The Spirit Refining Kettle emitted a strange noise as it wrapped up the broken corpse of Underworld Son, then vanished without a trace.

Lin Xun watched with ice-cold eyes. He was certain that Underworld Son’s spirit had been exterminated, but he couldn’t guarantee whether that kettle could bring him back to life again.

But this was no longer important.

His top priority was to kill all of the enemies!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1296: A Sudden Turn of Events

It hadn't been long since Lin Xun had counterattacked, but the situation had changed drastically.

Bai Longting was chopped to death, and Underworld Son was destroyed from body to spirit... One by one, the apex characters were killed in battle.

Those bloody scenes scared the audience witless!

The sound of water drizzling still echoed as blood rained down. The tribulation lightning shone down, reflecting Lin Xun's tall figure in a dazzling light effect.

His hair danced in the air as he dominated the field. He was alone, but he was like the invincible overlord of this world as his every punch stirred the wind and clouds.

Just watching him from afar made one feel small and hopeless.

Among those who had fallen, many were leaders of the major forces in the Supreme Realm and high-rankers on the Genius Gold Rankings.

But facing Lin Xun, they truly were no different from a bunch of incompetent thugs!

Just how powerful did he have to be to be able to display such a gap from the rest?

At some point, his opponents had become disorganized, choosing to hold back and retreat. No one dared to jump into the battle like before.

It was as if the space occupied by Lin Xun was a hell pit capable of burying anyone!

The fight had reached the point where everyone could see that the tide had turned completely and Demon God Lin's ferocious might could no longer be suppressed!

Previously, despite everyone's comprehension of Lin Xun, they had still expected that he would be powerless against their numbers like an egg trying to end its life prematurely by throwing itself at a stone.

However, it turned out to be the opposite.

With the fall of Bai Longting, Underworld Son, and an array of other apex characters, Lin Xun had paved his way out of death!

He had overturned fate with his own hands!

This was something that no one could have predicted.

Boom!

Another powerful cultivator in the battlefield exploded to death.

With this, Lin Xun had finished cleaning out all of his opponents.

The field was dead silent. Everyone felt an unprecedented fear as they looked at the steely figure bathed in radiant dao light.

Such a monster. Is he still human?

Who in the entire Upper Nine Realms can suppress him anymore?

“Anyone else who is not convinced, feel free to come at me!”

The choking stench of blood filled the region as the ground was riddled with scars and broken corpses. Lin Xun stood in the sky above it all. His voice was not loud, but it caused everyone to stiffen up.

His eyes were as piercing as lightning and as profound as an abyss as they swept the area.

Everyone subconsciously lowered their heads, not daring to meet his gaze.

This was the might built on his killing spree!

The threat from bones and blood would forever be much more convincing from that of verbal threats!

The atmosphere kept thickening with silence, with only the echoing of Lin Xun’s calm and cold voice. Many people felt the urge to flee.

Right then, the tribulation clouds receded from the sky along with the sound of thunder, marking the end of A’lu’s sixth longevity tribulation.

Lin Xun turned around to see a mangled A’lu being wrapped in a heavy blanket of lightning arcs.

“Boss, I made it!” announced A’lu with tears swelling in his eyes.

The barbarian had a crude personality, but at this moment, his voice was choked and emotional.

Lin Xun’s heart also rose and fell with emotions.

If he hadn’t arrived in time, then the consequences would have been unimaginable.

“Recuperate well!” Lin Xun advised him.

But all of a sudden, a metallic sound resounded as a platinum halberd appeared out of nowhere and streaked toward A’lu.

The wielder was a domineering and ferocious young man. His hair was white, and his pupils glowed with a demonic, golden light. One would see a bloody image of hell after being stared at by those eyes.

The halberd in his hand was no less astonishing, looking as if it was cast in white gold. Its blade, branded with mysterious runes, flashed with a sharp glint and emitted a murderous aura so vast that it caused the sky and earth to dim.

This was an extremely powerful expert, even stronger than the likes of Bai Longting and Underworld Son!

Cries of shock rang out from the crowd.

After Lin Xun had defeated all of his opponents and A’lu had successfully passed his tribulation, they had all thought that the battle had come to an end.

Who could have imagined that such a classic turn of events would occur at this moment?

And the timing was extremely precise, seizing the period when A’lu was still weakened after the lightning strike. The other party had obviously planned this!

“Seeking death!” Lin Xun snorted, his eyes flaring with killing intent. However, he wasn’t worried.

He had expected this from the very beginning of the battle. The reason why he had held back when being surrounded by Bai Longting and the others had been in order to reserve his strength, so that when those hiding in the dark jumped out, he could catch them in one fell swoop.

Unfortunately, because he didn’t want to distract A’lu, he had launched his counterattack early.

But that was no longer important. The important thing was that Lin Xun was not caught off guard by this sudden attack.

Clang!

An ear-piercing sound resounded as a golden coin flew into the scene and blocked the white-haired man's strike!

"Trash. Are ambushes the only thing you're capable of?" A green-clad Toady appeared with a look of disdain on his handsome, youthful face.

Above his head floated a round coin with a square at the center, a pair of wings, and obscure dao patterns on its surfaces. It was spinning and glowing like a mini sun.

It was the Treasure Suppressing Coin!

"Hmph!"

The white-haired youth frowned, obviously a little surprised. However, he wasn't discouraged and once again charged over with his halberd.

As the halberd glided through the air, a rumble echoed, and the sky seemed to collapse.

Vaguely, everyone could see a white tiger proudly roaming the galaxy. Roaring and pouncing, it shattered every star on its path.

"Who is he?"

The crowd's expressions changed in shock. The white-haired man was too powerful. His monstrous, murderous might was as boundless as the sea, making them feel extremely oppressed.

And their hearts palpitated at the fact that no one recognized who he was!

"I'm certain that he is not anyone in the top one hundred of the Genius Gold Rankings," a person declared.

Boom!

A fight erupted as the white-haired man and Toady clashed.

The fight was intense as one was sweeping across the field with his platinum halberd and sky-blotting murderous aura, while the other sought to suppress him with his Treasure Suppressing Coin and a might that was just as boundless.

Lin Xun couldn't help but look serious. Toady had obtained the Burning Immortal inheritance on top of being an extremely powerful ancient-era genius himself, so he had progressed quickly over the past several years.

In terms of cultivation speed alone, Toady had stepped into the sixth longevity stage half a year earlier than Lin Xun!

And when it came to real fighting power, Toady was not at all inferior to those apex figures like Bai Longting and Underworld Son.

Yet at the moment, he couldn't gain a single advantage in the fight against the white-haired man!

"I didn't think it'd be a descendant of the White Tiger Lineage!" Toady suddenly let out an icy laugh. However, his expression had never been quite so serious.

The White Tiger Lineage were killers. In the ancient era, they were notorious for having a history of slaying gods and slaughtering Saints. The terror they had brought knew no bounds.

Like the legendary True Dragon, Celestial Phoenix, Vermillion Bird and similar mythical lineages, they had only been seen in the early ancient era.

There was a clamor in the area as the onlookers were shocked to learn that the white-haired young man actually came from such a horrifying clan.

But why had someone this powerful remained silent all these years?

Whoosh!

The big black bird made a ghostly appearance in the middle of the fight and swung its wok at the white-haired man from behind!

The extreme speed and decisiveness of the bird's action made the onlookers gawk in speechlessness. Its skillful execution of knocking out people simply had reached the pinnacle.

"What's the hurry? Your opponent is me!" a soft and gloomy voice suddenly rang out.

Looking over, a black shadow was writhing in the sky before abruptly transforming into a thin youth.

He had violet hair, blood-red eyes, and wore a silver outfit. His figure was like an illusory lightning bolt, giving off an uncertain and hollow feeling.

The most frightening thing about him was his speed. The instant he took a step, he appeared on the big black bird's path in a flash and struck out his palm.

Boom!

Caught off guard, the big black bird faltered and was pushed back in the clash. Annoyed and embarrassed, it flapped its wings and pounced at the newly appeared youth.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

The bird was very fast, but astonishingly, the violet-haired young man was just as fast!

Moving at such an imaginable speed, his figure flickered and flashed, accompanied by the crackling and popping sounds of lightning.

The fight between the two was one of speed. They were like a small sun and a lightning bolt racing and clashing in the sky.

Many powerful cultivators were appalled as they couldn't keep up with the fight using their eyes, and their spirit sense also failed to lock on the two.

They had heard about the big black bird, but the violet-haired youth was extremely unfamiliar!

Who is this guy?

Just like the white-haired youth, he had neither had any reputation nor been on the Genius Gold Rankings.

However, there was no doubt that his fighting prowess was extremely terrifying!

The appearance of the violet-haired, scarlet-eyed youth was a sudden turn that caused Lin Xun to frown. Even he hadn't expected that a character of this caliber would jump out from the shadows.

And there were more than one of them at that!

If so, then apart from these two, can there be more similar characters hiding around?

Lin Xun's eyes were cold as he scanned the entire area.

Whooch!

Suddenly, a void near A'lu shattered, and a figure staggered back. A surprised yelp slipped out from her lips, "God Devourer Insect! How...how can such a thing still exist?!"

It was a lovely and healthy-looking little girl wearing a red dress. Her appearance was innocent and childish, but her eyes were charming and gave a sense of maturity.

However, she currently looked like she was in a bit of a mess, clearly having suffered some sort of injury as her face was pale and full of shock.

“Humph! Despicable thing! It’s a good thing we’ve always kept an eye out for you rats!” Little Silver appeared in the vicinity of A’lu, his little face cold and his eyes sharp.

Everyone in the field finally understood the situation. This powerful expert with the appearance of a little girl had approached A’lu unknowingly and delivered a surprise attack.

However, she failed and even suffered at Little Silver’s hands!

“So from the very beginning of the battle, Demon God Lin had already kept his guard up for this. Otherwise, it wouldn’t have been possible to block so many sneak attacks like that...” someone murmured.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1297: Extraordinary Sword Qi

When the youth suspected to be a descendant of the White Tiger Lineage had suddenly appeared out of nowhere with an attack, no one had expected it.

After all, those who would do so at such a time were certainly trying to seek death unless they were not afraid of Lin Xun.

Only when the violet-haired young man had appeared in the ambush had the crowd known that it was all a coordinated plan.

The entrance of the red-clad little girl had confirmed this, and everyone’s blood ran cold when they realized that the first two newcomers weren’t the ones to execute the killing move!

This was clearly a well-planned operation. No one dared to imagine what would have happened if Lin Xun hadn’t prepared his defense in advance, because then A’lu would have been doomed!

“Time to harvest!” Lin Xun, who had been watching indifferently, finally moved!

Boom!

His fist blasted out a blazing wave of energy that penetrated the clouds and forced back the white-haired youth who was fighting Toady.

Clang!

The Broken Blade had flown out almost at the same time. It appeared in front of the violet-haired young man at an incredible speed and slashed out with the power of great dao variables.

Impermanence Slash!

The violet-haired youth let out a piercing scream and swiftly retreated a long distance away.

The whole field was shocked. *Scaring back two powerful characters in just an instant! Demon God Lin is even more intimidating than before!*

But this wasn't the end of it.

A Pulao Roar came out from Lin Xun's lips and transformed into golden dao ripples that quickly spread. Startled, the little girl screamed and ran to dodge them.

"Everyone, protect A'lu. Leave these ugly rats to me," said Lin Xun with an icy expression.

Toady immediately reminded him, "You have to be careful; none of those three are simple."

The big black bird also transmitted, "I suspect that they have more helpers hiding around. You must not be careless."

Lin Xun made a noise in assent, and his eyes swept the area before settling on the three opponents.

The atmosphere instantly became deadly and oppressive.

"Fellow Daoist Lin truly deserves the title of Demon God. Such godly martial prowess." The girl in red regained her composure. She floated in the air, her eyes enchanting and her voice soft and tantalizing.

"Very impressive indeed. If you join us, then our lordship Imperial Son will gain a powerful acolyte." The white-haired man had also retracted his killing intent. His face was tranquil, not showing a shred of emotion. Only his eyes revealed a sharp hint of superiority belonging to someone who overlooked the world from above.

The purple-haired youth was silent, his figure flickering like he could disappear at any moment.

“So you didn’t intend to continue after your ambush failed? I don’t have time for chit-chat.” Lin Xun’s expression was indifferent while his eyes grew colder and colder.

“Are you not curious about us, Fellow Daoist Lin?” The girl in red was stunned.

“It does not matter who you are...because you’ll soon be dead!” said Lin Xun very calmly.

“Yu Xi, can’t you see that this guy already holds a grudge against us? Even if we spare him, it’s impossible that he’ll join us,” stated the white-haired man impassively.

The little girl called Yu Xi frowned and sighed, “This does seem to be the case. Yao Li, what do you say?” She looked at the violet-haired youth.

“Lin Xun, we only came here for the emperor’s mound fortune. Just tell your friend to hand it to us, and we’ll leave immediately. Otherwise...” The youth called Yao Li looked at Lin Xun, his eyes gleaming as he declared with a murderous aura, “I’m afraid that today’s matter won’t end lightly.”

“Heh.” Lin Xun didn’t hide his contempt.

These three either still hadn’t recognized the situation they were in, or were emboldened by a very strong backer which made them think they could treat him like this.

However, it was all useless in front of Lin Xun!

“If you three stop here and take your leave, I’ll let you off. If you refuse to do so, no matter who you are, I’ll kill you all and leave no loose ends!” he folded his arms and said indifferently.

“You just signed your own death warrant!” The white-haired man’s voice was chilling to the bone as he swung his halberd.

An earth-shattering qi violently swept out, tearing the air as it headed straight toward Lin Xun. Rolling with a murderous aura, it was like the spear of destruction wielded by a killing god of the nine heavens.

The crowd audibly gasped, and their faces drastically changed as they felt a visible weight from the halberd attack.

“Not good enough,” commented Lin Xun with a chilling gaze. He tapped his finger in the air, and his qi poured out in a surge as boundless as the springs and autumns of countless ages.

Bang!

The murderous halberd qi was crushed inch by inch. The remainder of the finger energy kept its momentum and squashed the area to the point that the air crumbled.

Standing within it, the white-haired man's eyes flashed in shock as he involuntarily trembled under the force.

"Break!" he shouted. His murderous aura rose to the sky, and a tiger's roar faintly echoed.

Rumble~

A terrifying collision spread out as the attacks collided. Amidst the surprised voices of the crowd, the white-haired man's sleeves exploded bit by bit like firecrackers.

He staggered back several steps before barely managing to stabilize himself. His face had turned blue and displayed shock and astonishment.

Yu Xi and Yao Li also felt their pupils constrict, and their expressions turned grave.

No one knew better than them how powerful their companion was. And yet, he had fallen into a disadvantage right at the first exchange.

Meanwhile, Lin Xun was inwardly startled.

His finger strike had been catalyzed by all sorts of secret arts, making it strong enough to easily crush any powerful cultivator of the same stage, but it had only injured the white-haired man lightly.

The opponent was undoubtedly extremely powerful!

"My turn!" Lin Xun suddenly punched out.

Boom!

The sky and earth rumbled, and the sun and moon flipped over.

This fist strike could already be called divine, carrying a unique momentum that would affect one both physically and mentally. When facing it, they would feel that there was no way to stop it and would have to retreat from the oppressive suffocation.

"Humph!"

The white-haired man's eyes glowed ferociously. His fighting intent and murderous aura merged and flowed into the platinum halberd that was fully activated.

Swish!

A murderous energy wave even more terrifying than the previous one swept out. Vaguely, a roaring white tiger could be seen in it, shattering the stars with its terrifying voice.

But the moment it clashed with the fist power, the mighty energy burst like a bubble. From the collision, a holy radiance spread rapidly and created shocking void cracks in the air around.

“Damn it!”

The white-haired man’s furious scream echoed as he was smashed by the fist force and slammed into the ground like a meteorite. A heavy thud resounded, and the earth trembled a little.

The whole audience went silent as they gawked with violently drumming hearts. The white-haired man was already terrifying enough, but in a head-to-head battle with Demon God Lin, he was still powerless!

Even Yu Xi’s and Yao Li’s faces changed slightly upon realizing that they had underestimated Lin Xun. The strength he had just displayed was clearly even more frightening than when he had slaughtered Bai Longting’s group.

They found it hard to believe, but reality forced them to!

“Damn it!”

With another furious roar, the white-haired man sprang up from the ground. His face was seething with murderous intent, and he looked like a god of killing!

“Stubborn mule. Well then, don’t blame me for being cruel!” Lin Xun’s eyes zapped like electricity.

But right at this moment, a distant, ethereal voice echoed, “Bai Qian, Yu Xi, Yao Li, let’s stop here. We need to go.”

Accompanying this voice was a rain of light in the shape of flower petals. It emitted a tranquil and peaceful atmosphere that calmed one’s mind and soul.

In that instant, all cultivators in the area thought they heard the sound of heaven, feeling intoxicated both physically and mentally.

Lin Xun, on the other hand, revealed a look of ‘I thought so.’ Previously, he had sensed that something was amiss because these three opponents had been too calm.

That was why he had suppressed his own killing intent and secretly observed the area with utmost seriousness.

When the ethereal voice had rang out, he instead could finally relax.

He was not scared of anyone. Instead, he was afraid that they would keep hiding in the dark and not coming out!

Meanwhile, the expressions of the white-haired man's group immediately changed upon hearing the voice. They said in unison, "Yes!"

"Wanna run? Did I approve?" Lin Xun said as he completely erupted. A piercing, illusory white blade swept out from him and speedily flew toward the three opponents.

Impermanence Slash!

"There is no point in this, Fellow Daoist Lin."

The ethereal voice once again echoed. At the same time, a light-green flying sword no wider than two fingers and no longer than seven inches suddenly appeared on the path of the Broken Blade.

The light-green sword swiftly drew a circle of sword shadows in the air, slowly rotating like an illusory abyss.

And just like that, the powerful Impermanence Slash was dissolved by the rotating momentum. Deafening metallic noises resounded as the two weapons clashed.

Some cultivators felt their eardrums about to burst and their qi and blood churn. The clash was simply horrifying!

"Humph!" Bai Qian, Yu Xi, and Yao Li all snorted with a look of disdain for Lin Xun as they were well aware what kind of a legendary existence the owner of that green flying sword was!

But to their surprise, Lin Xun suddenly let out a cold laugh. "Found you!"

The two words boomed like thunder!

It was then that a matchless sword intent surged out from Lin Xun. The world instantly darkened under its brilliance.

This sword was called No Escape!

At this moment, everyone in the area felt as if a sharp sword was being pressed against their throat. Their scalps turned numb, and their souls tried to escape them.

The sword qi was truly a horror!

Swish!

Almost immediately, the sword qi flickered away!

On a verdant mountain peak a hundred miles away, a delicate figure was sitting cross-legged under an old tree, enjoying her tea. However, in that instant, her slender fingers froze, and the tea spilled out from the cup.

The next moment, she flew up.

Boom!

Beneath her feet, the verdant mountain peak had been sliced in half with a ruler-straight slit that was still extending into the distance.

“This sword qi... Extraordinary...” she murmured as a bright red cut surfaced on the tip of her right index finger.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1298: Raising Storms

Hm?

Lin Xun narrowed his eyes.

His sword qi had been secretly accumulating momentum for a long time. While he hadn't put all of his power in it, it had still been strong enough to intimidate a peak seventh longevity Supreme King.

But his spirit sense had told him that the delicate figure had only suffered a slight wound.

Bang!

The green flying sword completely nullified the Broken Blade's attack, then emitted a clear sword hum and sped off.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, Yu Xi, Bai Qian, and Yao Li fled without dragging their feet at all.

Lin Xun was going to chase after them, but after glancing at the recuperating A'lu, he sighed in his heart and gave up on this idea.

In fact, he had no regrets because he knew that the right time frame had slipped away. Even if he went after them, he still wouldn't be able to catch up.

"Let's clean up the battlefield before we leave," said Lin Xun to Toady's group as his eyes swept around. The crowd was as quiet as a mouse, not daring to meet his gaze.

They still hadn't returned to their senses after witnessing the shockingly bloody battle. When facing Lin Xun, there was nothing but horror in their hearts. They didn't feel the slightest bit of courage to stand up to him.

"Let's go!"

It didn't take long for Toady, A'lu, and the big black bird to loot the spoils of war. They gathered with Lin Xun, and the four left the blood-soaked land together.

They didn't dally because who knew what else could happen? Lin Xun didn't want to gamble as he had already accomplished his goal of safely protecting A'lu.

With Lin Xun's departure, the oppressive atmosphere also dissipated. The crowd felt like a weight had been taken off their shoulders and heaved a long sigh of relief.

However, the shock in their hearts and minds lingered for a long time to come.

"Just exactly how strong is Demon God Lin now?" someone murmured.

Many cultivators had gathered in a big army, treating A'lu as a caged beast that they could rob and slaughter at will. There had even been powerful, famous figures in the entire Upper Nine Realms such as Underworld Son and Bai Longting in attendance.

But who would have thought that Lin Xun would be able to tear apart such an army all by himself? With a crushing momentum, he had cut them down one after another and stained the entire region with blood!

"Including Bai Longting, a total of nineteen apex characters on the Genius Gold Rankings were killed. In addition to this, thirty-two Supreme Kings were killed in the battle..."

Someone conducted the statistics, and the numbers they came up with were frightening!

There were countless powerful cultivators in the Upper Nine Realms, but only a hundred could put their names on the Genius Gold Rankings.

Yet, in just a single battle, nineteen of them had died at Lin Xun's hands!

There was no doubt that once this got out, the entire Upper Nine Realms would be washed over with a sensational storm.

“Luckily I never got involved.”

Many people secretly appreciated their own fortune, and sweated uncontrollably when they recalled the scenes of the battle. If they had jumped on the bandwagon and attacked Demon God Lin, then they would now be one of those bloody remains on the ground.

Several people analyzed Yu Xi, Bai Qian, and Yao Li in alarm, “The three people who appeared later were quite something, don’t you think? They most likely belonged to the same group that serves someone called Imperial Son!”

“Indeed. They each revealed that they were as strong as Bai Longting. It’s hard to believe that they had all remained silent before this!”

“The scariest one is probably ‘Imperial Son.’ I can’t imagine how strong that person must be to be able to gather such powerful people as subordinates. Definitely not someone simple!”

The crowd discussed with tumbling hearts.

One person lamented, “But no matter who they are, they still couldn’t do a thing to Demon God Lin. And that’s what makes him so terrifying!”

Chi Yao was the only one who hadn’t spoken at all.

Her heart was filled with bitterness and frustration.

That year when she had left the Burning Immortal Realm, she had secretly sworn that she would find Lin Xun and take the Bodhi wood after she stepped into the Supreme King stage.

Who could have imagined that now, even though she had become a Supreme King, it was already impossible for her to be his match...

“And the Bodhi wood...just had to fall into his hands...” Chi Yao’s mood turned gray.

She was like a walking corpse as she left the field. In the past, she had been proud and conceited, believing that she could rise to prominence in the great age, stand above the masses, and set off storms.

Now, she realized that her ideas were naïve and childish.

In the presence of a vicious character like Demon God Lin, most ancient-era eccentric geniuses wouldn’t even dare to raise their heads!

.....

In an area densely covered with thunder and lightning, Yu Xi, Bai Qian, and Yao Li appeared.

“Miss Wanyin, are you injured?”

The three were taken aback when they saw the delicate figure that had been waiting for them.

It was a fairy-like woman with an ethereal bearing. Her figure was indistinct as she was shrouded in a hazy mist

Looking closely, she appeared to be seventeen or eighteen years old, but as she stood there casually, she exuded an otherworldly demeanor beyond ages.

What shocked the three was her slightly pale face and the few bright blood stains on her lapel.

And on her right index finger, a bead of blood was about to drop.

How could the three not be shocked?

The woman called Wanyin in front of them was their lord Imperial Son’s personal maid who had been by his side during his hibernation in the ancient era.

Even though she was a maid, no one dared to treat her like a servant.

It was because Wanyin’s aptitude, intelligence, and origin were all top-class and not inferior to any ancient-era eccentric genius!

On top of that, she had an inherent, unique talent that allowed her cultivation to advance without hindrance, which alone was enough to make countless cultivators concede defeat!

Even Imperial Son had once lamented that letting Wanyin follow him around and serve him would be a dishonor to her talent! This showed how highly he regarded her.

For such a godly existence to be injured...

Instantly, Yu Xi, Bai Qian, and Yao Li recalled the sword qi that Lin Xun had deployed!

Their blood ran cold.

It was so powerful that it could injure Miss Wanyin?

“What do you think of Lin Xun’s combat power?” said Wanyin suddenly. Her voice was ethereal like celestial music that blew a breath of fresh air into the world and enlivened it.

“Very strong!”

This was the three’s unanimous conclusion.

Even though they didn’t want to, they had to admit that they wouldn’t have dared to offend Lin Xun if it hadn’t been for Wanyin watching over them in the shadows.

That person was an unfathomable abyss that could not be measured by common sense!

Wanyin nodded and fell silent, seeming to ponder something.

“By the way, Lin Xun is accompanied by a God Devourer Insect King. We must report this to His Lordship!” said Yu Xi suddenly with a hint of frustration.

If it hadn’t been for that God Devourer Insect, she would have been able to kill A’lu with her spirit attack and seize the emperor’s mound fortune on him!

“God Devourer Insect...” Wanyin’s eyes lost focus as she seemed to recall many things from the past. Only after a long time did she say, “This indeed must be reported to the lord immediately!”

.....

In just a few days, the entire Upper Nine Realms had been swept over by an uproar.

After two years in Stupa Brahma Land, Demon God Lin had come out and proceeded to the Ancient Land of All where he dominated an army of enemies, killed a path out of their siege, and slaughtered an array of apex characters!

This news instantly rocketed Lin Xun's reputation to an unprecedented height, sparking endless discussion and clamor.

“Killing nineteen supreme characters on the Genius Gold Rankings all by himself... He’s bloodthirsty!” Some people could feel their hearts tremble.

“With his current strength, he should be in the top three of the Genius Gold Rankings.” Many started to analyze Lin Xun’s battle prowess.

“Where is Yun Qingbai? Why hasn’t he appeared? Is he just going to watch Lin Xun develop an invincible momentum?” Those who hated Lin Xun were indignant, hoping that someone would step forward and curb him.

Regardless of the credibility of the rumored blood feud between Lin Xun and Yun Qingbai, the fact that Lin Xun had killed a bunch of disciples from Omega Sword Sect was true, and that was why these people placed their hopes on Yun Qingbai.

Unfortunately, the man in question seemed to have evaporated in the past several years. There had been no news of him, and he hadn't even shown up when his position had dropped down from the top of the Genius Gold Rankings.

Apart from all this, the identity Yu Xi, Bai Qian, and Yao Li had also attracted the attention of many major powers.

These three had been silent, and their names had never appeared on the Genius Gold Rankings despite having fighting power that rivaled those of Bai Longting's caliber.

It was impossible to not pay attention to this!

Who were they?

And who was the person they had referred to as Imperial Son?

It was only now did many people suddenly realize that they couldn't focus solely on the Genius Gold Rankings, nor should they judge people based on it alone.

Because there were still many extremely powerful characters who hadn't made a move to compete for a place on the Genius Gold Rankings.

For example, there was Lin Xun.

For example, there were also Yu Xi, Bai Qian, and Yao Li who had only recently become known.

This kept people guessing: Just how many unknown characters like them were there in the Upper Nine Realms?

.....

Mythic Fire Realm, Flying Star Mountain.

When the passageway to the Upper Nine Realms had first opened, this blessed mountain had been occupied by the Golden Crow Lineage.

But after just a few years, the Golden Crow Lineage had been decimated.

Ravaged by the wars, Flying Star Mountain had long since become deserted and no longer possessed the vitality of a blessed land.

On this day, Lin Xun and his friends appeared before Flying Star Mountain.

"I remember there was an ancestral aeth vein underneath this mountain. If we find it and enhance it with a large array, it can be used as a decent blessed land for cultivation."

Lin Xun looked up at the ruined, deserted mountain and recalled the first time that he had set foot on it. Back then, the Golden Crow Clan had been a dominant force, lofty like a sun in the sky with strong and numerous troops.

But now, after only a few years, their prosperity had gone with the wind, and all of their grand ambitions had burst like bubbles!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1299: Between Grasping or Forsaking; the Path of Cultivating the Heart

“Rise!” uttered Lin Xun while standing in the air.

The light word echoed, and with a buzz, waves of densely packed runes surfaced all over the originally barren Flying Star Mountain. Then, the runes converged into a grand array that connected with the energy of heaven and earth.

A surge of aeth energy so vast and thick that it could be seen with the naked eye suddenly rose like a great dragon awakening from underneath the mountain!

The aeth qi flowed like a river and transformed into the shape of a dragon and tiger, shaking the region with their roars.

On Flying Star Mountain, grass and trees started growing exponentially, and herbs and flowers matured in an instant. They swayed in the wind with brilliant lushness, looking gorgeous and eye-catching.

The abundant aeth qi continued to transform into waterfalls that cascaded down the dried and broken cliffs like white dragons.

Even the withered tree roots buried deep in the ruins were revitalized and began to grow into towering trees.

Within a few moments, Flying Star Mountain had undergone a complete makeover. Auspicious clouds started gathering above, and the misty aeth qi bathed the whole mountain in a dream-like haze.

The land bloomed with vitality with vibrant greenery dotted with exotic flowers and herbs. Coupled with the waterfalls, springs, and gurgling streams, they painted a picture of a thriving, heavenly paradise.

Compared to the previous scene of deserted ruins, the current Flying Star Mountain finally deserved the title of a famous blessed land!

In the distance, Toady, A'lu, and the big black bird gawked in astonishment. *So this is the power of a rune master?*

When they had observed Lin Xun spend an entire day running all over the mountain to set up the array, saying that he would restore it to its former glory, they had still been a bit skeptical.

They had thought that it would have been better just to find any blessed land and take it by force instead of going through so much trouble.

But now, they had to admit that at this moment, they were amazed by Lin Xun's heaven-defying means of transforming the decayed into something glorious after watching the ruinous mountain come back to life!

"From today on, we will live and cultivate here!" said Lin Xun as he descended from the sky.

In fact, he wasn't as heaven-defying as his three friends thought. It was the ancestral spirit vein under Flying Star Mountain that had worked miracles. All he had done was use the art of runes to trigger its power.

Otherwise, it would have been impossible to create such a heavenly paradise out of thin air no matter how powerful he was.

Of course, it was undeniable that his ability as a rune master played an important part.

Why had Flying Star Mountain been so barren and unattended before?

Because so far in the Upper Nine Realms, Lin Xun was the only rune master with the ability to make such an array that could revive the mountain!

Toady couldn't help but ask, "Boss, you've really decided to just stay here and cultivate for the next period of time?"

After rescuing A'lu in the Ancient Land of All, they had left the Thunder Jolt Realm without stopping and returned to the Mythic Fire Realm.

According to Lin Xun, he wanted to enter secluded cultivation for a while, sitting back and relaxing while watching everything that went on in the outside world.

"There's only about a year left before the closing of the Supreme Realm. At this final juncture, the Upper Nine Realms are, predictably, going to become more and more

turbulent. While I'm not scared of this, I don't want to get caught up in the waves. It's better to be a spectator," replied Lin Xun casually.

"But as far as I know, there are still quite a few huge fortune grounds about to emerge such as the True Dragon's Lair, the Waterway Devil Abyss... You're really just passing them by?" said Toady.

"My cultivation of the dao no longer requires fortunes. What it needs is solidification." Lin Xun's gaze was profound.

Solidification!

In the last several years, whether it was in the Blood River Forbidden Land or Stupa Brahma Land, he had obtained many fortunes. His cultivation had skyrocketed with earth-shattering changes every once in a while.

While his progress speed couldn't be called heaven-defying, it was shocking enough.

He had never lacked opportunistic fortunes, nor did he need any. The only thing he lacked was a period of time where he could calm down and firmly grasp what he had obtained!

Fortunes were like external objects. Getting too obsessed with them was tantamount to putting the cart before the horse!

The longer Lin Xun cultivated, the more he understood that cultivation was a process of cultivating one's heart and mind.

If the heart and mind were occupied by external objects, then even a one-in-a-million heavenly genius would be lost in the crowd!

In the end, Lin Xun was well aware of what his dao path required and what should be given up.

Whether it was taking or forsaking, it was a part in the process of mastering one's own heart!

Seeing Lin Xun was firm about his decision, Toady turned to the big black bird. "What about you, Big Ol' Black?"

The big black bird sighed melancholically with its wings crossed behind its back, "I'm tired and burned out. Constant exploration in this prosperous world feels like a surreal dream, so why not relax and live unrestrainedly? Stepping back while your fame is still peaking and retreating into nature, enjoying the scenery when you're awake and discussing martial dao when you're drunk... Wouldn't that be a pleasure?"

Hearing all this, Toady and A'lu rolled their eyes and spat in disdain.

Toady once again switched targets. “What about you, A’lu?”

A’lu grinned. “I’ve just gotten out of the emperor’s mound that everyone drools over! What other fortunes do I need?”

Toady suffered critical damage and nearly vomited blood. Indeed, how did he forget that the crude man had just obtained an extraordinary fortune?

The big black’s bird eyes suddenly lit up. “Speaking of which, what fortune do we need when we have a big one right before us?”

Its gaze was thievish as it stared at A’lu like a half-unraveled, coquettish world-class beauty. One could see the word ‘pervert’ on the bird’s face if they looked close enough.

Toady was dumbfounded, and then it dawned on him. He excitedly hugged A’lu tightly and shouted, “Third Bro, did you get all of the fortunes inside the emperor’s mound?”

Alu’s smile stiffened as a bad premonition rose in his heart, but as he was about to draw back and flee, the big black bird and Toady each tightly held one of his arms with an intimacy that didn’t take no for an answer, bringing him up Flying Star Mountain.

“Tsk, tsk, tsk. That’s why you’re my beloved Third Bro. So tell me, what great mystery did that place hide?”

“Right, A’lu. We threw our lives on the line to save you. Although I ask for nothing in return, I know you might feel bad about it. So...I won’t mind that you repay me with some small fortunes...”

“Peh! You cunning bird! Didn’t you just say you no longer wanted anything from this surreal world?”

“You don’t understand. I’m just discussing it with Brother A’lu!”

“Discuss my ass!”

From afar, only the sound of Toady and the big black bird cursing at each other could be heard. A’lu was being hauled between them but looked stupefied like the matter had nothing to do with him.

Lin Xun was speechless. Then, he hurriedly caught up with the group.

Right now, nothing in the Upper Nine Realms was desirable to him anymore. The only thing he was waiting for was an opportunity to cut down Yun Qingbai!

.....

When the brothers met, they had to drink!

Since Lin Xun, Toady, and A'lu had finally reunited after several years, the only way to live up to this good time was to drink to their hearts' content.

Upon getting drunk, A'lu finally yielded to the 'hospitality' of Toady and the big black bird, and recounted what he had gone through to them.

It turned out that after he had left the Burning Immortal World, he had bounced around many worlds before finally obtaining information pertaining to the Ancient Land of All.

When the Upper Nine Realms had opened up, he had planned to return and gather with Lin Xun and Toady. Unfortunately, time had been tight, so he could only set off on his own.

After he had arrived at the Upper Nine Realms, he had traveled to the Thunder Jolt Realm right away. At that time, the Ancient Land of All had still been sealed, so no one had been able to enter. However, A'lu was an exception.

This was because the emperor's mound lying dormant within had been left by the Divine Elephant Martial Emperor, and the Emperor Extreme World-Subduing Art that A'lu cultivated was the emperor's inheritance!

"Damn, your luck is simply heaven-defying!" Toady was green with envy.

"Save it. Didn't you get the Burning Immortal inheritance all to yourself also?" A'lu snorted, and then his expression turned into that of indescribable grief. "None of you have any idea what I had to endure all these years!"

Speaking of this, he had the urge to cry.

There had indeed been a fortune within the emperor's mound, but it had also been an extremely terrifying test.

Every single day, A'lu had been tortured to the point of nearly dying, all just to just pass the trials so that he could leave that hellish place as soon as possible.

His cultivation had continuously broken through during those horrifying tribulations, and his fighting power had kept increasing as well. But to his despair, every time he had thought that he had been close to getting out, a new test would come...

Just like that, he had been trapped almost the entire time since he had entered the Upper Nine Realms to the moment Lin Xun's group had rescued him.

At this point, Lin Xun and the others finally understood what A'lu had gone through. They couldn't help but marvel, not knowing whether he could be considered lucky or unlucky.

He could be considered fortunate because he had encountered a grand fortune and benefited greatly from all that suffering.

On the other hand, he could be considered unfortunate because he had been trapped in a dark place without a shred of light, and every day had been torturous...

Toady's expression flickered. "So, that mound is really the place where the Divine Elephant Martial Emperor drew his last breath? But he was the most powerful Emperor in the ancient era! How...how could he fall...?"

The big black bird, on the other hand, was impatient. "Now that you've vented about your miserable experience, which I have to say was quite hilarious, hurry up and tell us about the fortunes you got. That's what we actually care about."

A'lu, who was still drowning in his emotions and wanted to cry in self-pity, stared wide in rage after hearing the big black bird's words. "Can you two have some sympathy? I was already so miserable, and all you can think about is the fortunes?!"

This earned derisive boos from Toady and the big black bird before they scooted closer to A'lu and began a new round of coercion.

In the end, A'lu wore a sad expression as he raised his hand. With a heavy thud, a huge stone slab appeared out of nowhere and smashed onto the ground.

"This is the emperor's mound fortune that you can't get your mind off of!" he said angrily but feebly.

The stone slab was about a hundred feet long and engraved with dense runes. The ancient aura it gave off was vast and profound, seeming to have been accumulated through countless ages.

However, no matter how Lin Xun, Toady, and the big black bird looked at it, all they saw was a huge-sized coffin...

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1300: Taboo Dao Tribulation

Toady was startled, "A'lu, you were so crazy that you even stole the Divine Elephant Martial Emperor's coffin?"

A'lu instantly felt an urge to strangle Toady. He angrily said, "Coffin?! Stop with your toad fart! This is the Ancient Tablet of All that he left behind! It contains the Body Refinement Battle Diagrams of All that records his insights on how to temper the physical body!"

Hearing this, Toady was delighted. His eyes lit up, and he said with a smile, "Why didn't you say so earlier? Come, come tell me about it and enlighten me!"

His words still echoed as he pounced at the stone slab with a fervent look.

The big black bird also circled around the slab as it marveled, "Goodness, the insights of an Emperor! It's the first time I've encountered one!"

A'lu laughed coldly. "You two have no chances with it. To those who don't strive to become a Saint by purely following the path of refining the physical body, the Ancient Tablet of All is no different from a coffin."

Toady and the big black bird refused to accept this. They kept on researching the stone slab with infatuated expressions.

After all, any Emperor was a horrifying, legendary existence that had been closer to immortality than anyone else. They stood above the world, and could tear open the sky with a thought and dominate all Saints and Kings!

In the ancient era, the Divine Elephant Martial Emperor had been an elite Emperor among Emperors. It was rumored that his cultivation had been capable of splitting up the horizon, traveling among the stars, and suppressing all the Saints to the point they had not dared to lift their heads!

Now that a stone slab recording his painstakingly developed inheritance was in front of them, who wouldn't be tempted?

The expressions of the big black bird and Toady could be described as fanatical.

Meanwhile, Lin Xun finally understood why so many powerful cultivators had come to the Ancient Land of All to compete for the emperor's mound fortune. Even Saints wouldn't be able to sit still in the face of such a treasure.

"Only body refiners can study this tablet?" asked Lin Xun.

His heart stirred when he suddenly remembered that he had an art called the Nine Pure Sacred Light Art in his possession. This meant he would have to refine his body sooner or later.

A'lu nodded. "Boss, I won't hide it from you. Any cultivator who takes the path of becoming a Saint with their flesh won't have to worry about not stepping onto the supreme path at all if they have this tablet!"

He continued to explain that the Ancient Tablet of All contained sixty-four diagrams. Each diagram contained its own profound mystery that made it a precious treasure for body refiners. As the whole collection, the tablet allowed one to comprehend the Divine Elephant Martial Emperor's lifelong insights and experience!

In the years being trapped in the emperor's mound, A'lu had relied on this inheritance to step on the supreme path of body refinement and acquired the battle prowess he had today.

But for other cultivators, this tablet was simply useless.

Learning about all this, Lin Xun was helpless.

The three paths to the absolute apex were spirit cultivation, qi refinement, and physical refinement.

From the start of his cultivation until now, Lin Xun had been balancing his spirit cultivation and qi refinement, and had achieved extraordinary results on these two paths.

In cultivating the spirit, he had divided his primordial spirit into three that studied the laws of the past, the present, and the future respectively. This allowed his spirit to surpass anyone among his generation.

In refining the qi, he had stepped into the sixth longevity stage. His fighting prowess was enough for him to kill any supreme figure of the same stage like slaughtering chickens!

Only physical refinement was the path that he had never touched upon.

One reason was due to having limited energy and time. Secondly, he had not come across any texts on body refinement, and the fortunes that he had acquired almost had nothing to do with it.

The only thing he got on this was the Nine Pure Sacred Light Art, which was a supreme inheritance of the Saint path. He hadn't been able to cultivate it because he didn't understand the theory.

Therefore, Lin Xun felt a kind of indescribable helplessness when facing the Ancient Tablet of All.

He did want to temper his body, but he simply had never had the chance to!

Of course, if he had truly desired to, he could probably find some body refining arts here and there, but they would all be ordinary techniques that couldn't catch his eye.

"But Boss, I still suggest that you try it," A'lu suddenly said.

“The physical body is the carrier of the great dao and can bear the weight of heaven and earth. It’s both a precious house for nurturing the spirit and refining the qi. As they say: a healthy body results in a healthy spirit. The body is like a boat that sails through the sea of cultivation full of ordeals. If you become a Saint through your flesh, then you can never be killed easily!

“Spirit cultivators can only be immortal as long as their spirit doesn't perish, and this is also the case for qi refiners. Only body refiners can be reborn from a drop of their blood!

“Moreover, I discovered a secret from the emperor’s mound.” A’lu suddenly became extremely serious. “Back then, the Divine Elephant Martial Emperor was not just a body refiner, his spirit and qi techniques were also terrifyingly superb. I speculate that if one wishes to achieve the stage of Emperor on the Saint path, then they must be a body refiner, qi refiner, and spirit cultivator at the same time!”

Lin Xun’s gaze flickered. He had never previously researched deep into these untold knowledges.

Balancing the three dao paths was actually essential to reaching the Emperor stage!

“It’s shown to be challenging to become a Saint, let alone an Emperor. But we are lucky to be born into a time that witnesses an unprecedented great age and are able to step onto the supreme path. As long as we don’t get killed, we will sooner or later reach high levels.” A’lu revealed a yearning expression and declared emotionally, “My goal is to surpass the Divine Elephant Martial Emperor, reaching a stage that he had never stepped into!”

“Hmph, stop tempting Boss. Since the ancient era, countless powerful figures have tried developing all three paths, but what was the result? Most of them have become half-baked and could only dream of the Saint stage!” Toady suddenly turned around and intervened. “And we all know why. One path is enough for anyone to spend their entire life researching, let alone three.”

The big black bird also sighed. “A’lu has a point though. Reaching the Emperor stage indeed requires balancing all three paths, but one should only start doing so after becoming a Saint.

“If they were to to juggle all three paths before reaching the Saint stage, no matter how heaven-defying their talent and aptitude are, they would encounter something horrifying during their Saint tribulation.” The big black bird wore a grave expression.

Toady’s expression also changed as he seemed to remember something.

“Which is?” Lin Xun frowned.

“The Taboo Dao Tribulation!” uttered the big black bird.

The short four words carried a palpitating power that the big black bird and Toady seemed very apprehensive of.

“Over the years, numerous heaven prides and outstanding geniuses have refused to accept reality and tried to progress on all three paths, wanting to pave out a never-before-achieved Saint path. But in the end, they all died tragically under the Taboo Dao Tribulation, which destroyed their primordial spirits and left no chance to ever be reborn again.

“That path is like a taboo that cuts off all possibilities, like a supreme iron law that no one in the Ancient Wasteland Domain has been able to break.”

As the big black bird elaborated on the matter, it seemed to fall into a trance.

“I still remember what Saint Monk Duji once said: ‘The Taboo Dao Tribulation is a type of the Dao Slashing Power that originates from the heavenly laws. It was a chain that tied down anyone who tried to seek it, and it’s still present to this day. Touching it means death!’

“Otherwise, why do you think that no one has ever succeeded? Before one becomes a Saint, it’s simply a road to death!”

Learning all this, Lin Xun’s tempted heart also calmed down. He hadn’t expected that taking into account the cultivation of all three paths would actually be so fatal. Not only would one lose all hopes of becoming a Saint, but they would also have to face a bizarre Taboo Dao Tribulation.

Right at this moment, A’lu retorted, “There are no absolutes. In the body refining tips left by the Divine Elephant Martial Emperor, it says he traveled the Ancient Nebula Road and met a horrifying character who had become Saint by combining the cultivation of the three paths!”

Both the big black bird and Toady were stunned, almost thinking that they had misheard. Then, they blurted out in unison, “There’s such a thing?”

A’lu replied solemnly, “Since this concerns the path of dao, I wouldn’t dare to speak presumptuously. That’s right, and the Divine Elephant Martial Emperor even emphasized in his records that it’s not impossible to pass the Taboo Dao Tribulation, and one will become a Saint if they have a way to survive it!”

The Divine Elephant Martial Emperor had been a legendary giant in the ancient era. His insights and wisdom were naturally extraordinary. If the records were true, then it was indeed very shocking.

After all, the Ancient Wasteland Domain had never seen a powerful cultivator enough to survive the Taboo Dao Tribulation.

The big black bird frowned. “The Ancient Nebula road is beyond the Ancient Wasteland Domain. That character he mentioned is definitely not from the Ancient Wasteland Domain.”

Toady also nodded. “Indeed. Anyone in the Ancient Wasteland Domain is restrained by the shackle of its heavenly law. Unless we can transcend the Ancient Wasteland Domain, we’ll be subjected to it!”

The two reached the same conclusion.

While the Divine Elephant Martial Emperor’s records might be true, such a thing was simply unsuitable for cultivators of the Ancient Wasteland Domain, as the heaven and earth they lived under were totally different!

Not to mention that the Ancient Nebula Road was a mysterious place that even Saints could hardly touch. Its situation was bound to be different from the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

“I think you forgot that we are not in the Ancient Wasteland Domain!” A’lu hit the nail on the head. “Most importantly, after the descent of the great age, the Ancient Wasteland Domain is no longer what it was before. In this extremely splendid great age, everything is possible!”

The big black bird and Toady were speechless as they could not refute this.

A’lu was right!

This great age had changed not only the power structure of the Ancient Wasteland Domain but also the very nature of the domain itself! That was why it had been labeled an ‘unprecedented great age!’

In the past, the supreme path had been a taboo that no one had been able to step into, and that was why many heavenly prides since the ancient era had stopped advancing and died with regrets.

But now, in the Upper Nine Realms, Supreme Kings were simply commonplace and could be seen everywhere.

In that case, why couldn’t the forbidden Taboo Dao Tribulation be conquered as well?

Just think about it, if one could reach the supreme peak of all three dao paths then pass the Taboo Dao Tribulation and become a Saint, then how horrifying would their cultivation be?

Entering the Saint stage with a complete supreme spirit, qi, and physical body... It was definitely a path that had never been seen before, and it was destined to be spectacular!

Even the big black bird and Toady felt their hearts tremble. Their eyes lost focus as they envisioned the wonderful possibility of this.

Eventually, all gazes settled on Lin Xun.

“What do you think, Boss?” asked A’lu.

Lin Xun rubbed his brows and pondered for a long time.

Finally, he uttered, “I need some alone time.”

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