

The Prodigies War

Chapter 1351: Kill Saints

Yu Xiu was as shocked as he was angry!

Ever since he became a saint, he had fought countless bloody battles and had encountered more perilous situations than the one now.

But he had never been this angry.

A youngster at the seventh longevity tribulation stage seemed to have become invincible after gaining some sort of mysterious and bizarre power, wounding him with a lift of his hand.

The feeling was akin to an ant biting his heart. But what was worse than the wound was the feeling of humiliation!

In the past, he could destroy any opponent below the saint stage with one sword strike.

But today, it was different.

Clang!

Yu Xiu had no time to think about it too much because the opponent was charging towards him with terrifying killing intent. He unhesitatingly brought out his saint weapon.

A crimson sword emitted an ice-cold metallic sheen.

A sword cry surged like a tide, bringing with it traces from countless years of battles. It had fought alongside Yu Xiu for years and had taken down countless formidable enemies!

He roared, “Slash!”

His tall figure seemed to have grown infinitely taller, his sleeves and robe whipped audibly, and his beard and hair billowed. He raised the sword into the air and charged forward.

Chi—

The sword glowed brightly, murderous qi roaming around it. The surroundings seemed to be covered with blood and skeletons piled high like mountains. A tragic and disastrous atmosphere filled the sky and the earth.

Too terrifying!

In the grand city far away, countless cultivators were petrified by the sudden change.

The originally bustling streets were suddenly enveloped in an oppressive atmosphere, and the sky went dim and gloomy.

Screams, uproar, and cries of panic rang out in succession.

Some self-proclaimed skilled cultivators soared into the air and looked into the distance. But very quickly, they were soaked in cold sweat. Their minds were shaking, and their faces became deathly pale.

Saints are fighting!

An unimaginably terrifying battle of the saint level is happening there!

In the end, they dropped from midair like dumplings.

Meanwhile, Lin Xun folded his hands in a hand seal and charged fiercely forward like an ancient emperor embarking on a journey.

Boom!

Earth-shattering sounds resounded endlessly as the sky exploded and endless saint light poured down and engulfed the area. The scene was like the coming of doomsday.

Then, following a loud crash and a downpour of light, Yu Xiu was violently coughing up blood and staggering back. His clothes were torn, and he was covered with bloodstains!

Boom!

But before he could steady himself, Lin Xun was closing in on him with unparalleled power.

“Complete Void Guide!”

Ku Ya came speeding over from the other direction, a blue sword flying out from him like the blue canopy of the sky drawing upon the power of the complete void.

“What are you waiting for? Kill that bastard!”

On the bronze chariot, Xia Houxue bellowed. Dense black mist rolled over him as the Blood Weeping Halberd slashed out from his grip, blooming with monstrous blood-colored light.

Everyone could tell that Lin Xun’s power was strange and terrifying. First, with a swish of his sleeve, he knocked back Xia Houxue and Ku Ya.

Then he chased down Yu Xiu and injured him to the point he was coughing up blood!

How could he still be considered an ant at the seventh longevity tribulation stage? He was nothing but a terrifying figure who could take down saint level cultivators.

Thus, all the saints present launched into action!

“Now!”

Shang Ye of the Sea Soul Clan roared, her purple palace dress billowed around her and a perfectly round and clear orb floated above her head, swirling with wisps of saint dao law power.

The moment it appeared, the void, all things in the world, the sky, dust, and even light seemed to have frozen.

Even Lin Xun came to a standstill.

“Stabilizing Saint Orb! The group of shameless old bastards are going to jointly attack!”

Xiao Bugui narrowed her eyes. She was about to lend Lin Xun a hand when Ye Jiuxiao obstructed her.

“The boy asked us to just watch the battle, so let’s just enjoy the show and see what he is capable of and what gave him the confidence to say he could kill saints.” Ye Jiuxiao’s expression altered strangely. “If he really is in danger, we shall interfere then.”

“Yes, we just need to closely watch those guys who are still hiding in the shadows.”

Wei Zangyun’s gaze swept the area far away like a pair of swords.

Boom!

While they were conversing, Lin Xun sprang up and a terrifying murderous aura erupted from him.

It seemed as solid as a rock!

As vast as the stars in the universe!

Faintly, the murderous aura even gave a feeling of perfection, greatness, and boundlessness.

The force of the murderous aura shattered and dispersed the Stabilizing Saint Orb.

“It’s better if you attack together anyway. Saves me a lot of trouble.”

Lin Xun's face was devoid of expression, and his voice was indifferent, exuding a sense of ultimate calmness. Murderous aura continued to rage around him, but instead of appearing menacing, he gave people a solemn feeling.

“Die!”

An azure sword flashed across the sky like it was about to envelop the world. The dazzling sword qi was as beautiful and magnificent as a painting.

The sword was like the canopy of heaven, and the canopy of heaven was like a painting!

It was Ku Ya's sword art.

Boom!

Almost at the same time, a blood-colored torrent surged into the air, illuminating the world. Xia Houxue from the Moon Worshiper Sect came speeding towards Lin Xun, armed with the giant halberd.

Then, the other saints, Shang Ye from the Sea Soul Clan, Mo Kong from the Thousand Beast Spirit Mountain and Fa Zheng from the Earth Treasury Temple all took action.

At that moment, murderous aura flooded the world like never before!

The joint attack of several saints was akin to a deadly calamity descending upon earth. The sun and moon trembled, the sky and the earth quaked, and everything in the universe was crushed like paper!

Fortunately, this happened in the sky in a deserted place. If it happened in a densely populated city, it would have resulted in horrific casualties.

After all, a Life Death Stage King had the power to wipe out a city, let alone a saint.

Instantly, the world was plunged into chaos. The sky and the sun shook wildly, and the stars seemed to be collapsing.

In the distance, a saint flicked his sleeve and rapidly set up a forbidden array to block off the shock waves of the battle. Otherwise, not only this area, but the cities further away would also be devastated.

Facing the encirclement of saints, Lin Xun's offensive slowed. He was restrained and no longer as impressive as before.

This also created the chance for Yu Xiu to escape without any mishap.

Wu Xiutong from the Golden Crow Clan sneered, “Little bastard, you can’t forever use power that doesn’t belong to you. Just accept your death!”

“That boy’s power is very unusual. I reckon it is connected to Buddhist teachings. I am going to capture him and study him carefully later,” Fa Zheng stated nonchalantly, scanning Lin Xun like he was extremely enticing prey.

“We are also curious as to who left the power that can make a little ant unleash heaven-defying strength.”

“Let’s kill him first and then divide everything on him. I heard that he has obtained many amazing treasures in the Supreme Realm.”

“Okay!”

The saints wore indifferent expressions as they attacked Lin Xun without restraint. From their words and tone, they regarded Lin Xun as prey that must be killed.

“Everyone, I’m here to give you all a hand!”

Suddenly, a black divine moon emerged, producing dark flames. It was huge, dark, and exuded a soul-stirring power.

In the black moon, an old man with scarlet eyes and a gray beard appeared and quickly joined the battle.

Clearly, he was also tempted and wanted to get a share of Lin Xun’s treasures.

“Gou Zhenshan from the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan. I didn’t expect him to be still alive!”

Xiao Bugui scrunched her brows. “Guys, the boy is in a bad situation. Do we really just watch and do nothing?”

“Hahaha, how can you leave me out of this?”

“Everyone, can I also join in?”

Voices rang out one after another. Figures sped onto the battlefield from the distance, all with terrifying auras.

Wei Zangyun and Ye Jiuxiao assumed solemn expressions.

They could not wait any longer. Whether it was the old guys already on the battlefield or those hiding in the dark, they could no longer hold back anymore and wanted to strike a deadly blow at Lin Xun!

However, just when they were about to take action, Lin Xun's cold and indifferent voice resounded, "Nice, another old guy has jumped out to die!"

Boom!

Before his voice faded, Lin Xun, who was encircled on the battlefield and seemingly in a precarious situation, erupted with unprecedented power.

Multiple golden beams of light burst forth from him, shooting into the sky and obscuring the sun with its incomparable brilliance.

The heavens and earth were dyed a sacred golden hue.

Faintly, mysterious sanskrit noises sounded from and floated around Lin Xun, turning his body even more holy and magnificent.

From afar, he looked like the supreme ruler!

"He—?"

The saints' eyelids twitched; they had a bad feeling. Their hearts palpitated, feeling a rare oppressive and terrifying power.

Wu Xiutong from the Golden Crow Clan roared, "Quickly stop him!"

With a stretch of his body, a pair of golden wings grew from his back like a sky-cutter sword, slashing towards Lin Xun with astonishing speed.

"Old crow, I'll start with you!"

However, Lin Xun reached out and firmly clutched the huge golden wings. He exerted force with his hand and tore them apart. Blood gushed everywhere.

Wu Xiutong let out a blood-curdling scream!

This true saint of the Golden Crow Clan was known to possess frightening strength, but in the blink of an eye he had his wings ripped off, horrifying everyone.

The bloody scene chilled all the saints.

During this process, other saints' also struck Lin Xun with different attacks, but at most they only shook him a little and were unable to break through the layer of brilliant golden light around him.

"Is this...the power of a Big Saint?"

The expressions on the saints' faces changed. When they decided to encircle Lin Xun, they were full of confidence, but now the situation had taken a turn for the worse.

It seemed Lin Xun had been holding back his true strength.

He obviously deliberately did so to pretend to be weak and successfully lured out several saints, including Gou Zhenshan!

“That boy...has guts! He dared to bait the saints...”

In the distance, Xiao Bugui and the others who were about to take action were flabbergasted and quite shaken. They decided to not act just yet.

They wanted to see what other surprises the youngster had for them.

As though he had heard their wishes, another surprise came.

After ripping Wu Xiutong's golden wings, Lin Xun ignored the attacks coming for him and launched another palm strike.

This is bad!

Wu Xiutong's expression dramatically changed, and he frantically activated the art of teleportation to flee, but to his horror, the space was blocked off by a frightening force!

Bang!

His head exploded under the palm strike!

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Chapter 1352: Mourning Sounds From Above

That palm crushed the head of a true saint like a divine Buddha crashing down upon the world!

Everyone was aghast.

A true saint, who could condense saint dao laws, could live as long as the sky and earth, shine with the sun and moon, and was no doubt the pinnacle of existence in the world.

But a true saint like Wu Xiutong not only had his wings torn off, but his head also split open!

However, saints would not die so easily.

Almost instantly, saint light flowed around Wu Xiutong, and his head and wings were restored. But his face was much paler than before, and his strength and vitality was clearly impaired.

He was a saint!

Almost all saints cultivated the three paths of physical training, qi training, and spirit training. Their lives were tenacious, almost close to immortality.

Otherwise, why else could the strength and spirit power of countless sages in this world survive thousands of years to this day despite the erosion of time?

The power they controlled had long reached an astonishing level!

“Little bastard!”

Wu Xiutong roared like a berserk beast. His image had been ruined after being beaten to such a miserable state in front of everyone.

“Die!” Lin Xun’s cold eyes flashed like lightning, and he charged over once again.

Other saints swiftly activated all sorts of terrifying saint arts to block and stop Lin Xun.

The power emanating from Lin Xun wiped out the attacks one after another. Even saint treasures were blasted back.

He was ridiculously powerful!

As for Wu Xiutong, who was in a violent rage, his expression dramatically changed again and his heart jolted. A feeling of doom enveloped him.

At that moment, Lin Xun raised his fist.

Boom!

Vast murderous intent gathered around the dazzling fist power like a starry sky. The fist had become unbelievably powerful like a sacred mountain launched by a divine being.

Wu Xiutong frantically beat his wings, generating frightening wind blasts. He dodged like a flash of light, but he seemed to have lost control of body. He struggled to teleport and soon became drowned in the terrifying power of the fist.

“No...” he shrieked, his face twisted with panic and despair. He had completely lost his composure.

Bang!

His head exploded once again with one punch.

But the most frightening and chilling sight had to be his body exploding inch by inch after his head under the force of the fist.

Blood pooled on the ground.

Even if Wu Xiutong’s true saint body was close to being immortal, he failed to withstand Lin Xun’s punch!

Boom!

Lin Xun’s fist power wiped out everything it touched like a tremendous millstone, while Wu Xiutong’s flesh, blood, spirit, and aura were reduced to nothing under the terrifying obliterating force.

Not even a trace of him remained. He died a quick and clean death.

Everyone was petrified.

Their faces were pale with horror and disbelief.

Did he die?

In the eyes of the world, saints were akin to immortal beings. In the past thousands of years, very few true saint cultivators had fallen.

This was because it was incredibly difficult to kill saints!

They could reconstruct themselves and be reborn even if only a ray of consciousness or a drop of essence and blood remained. Their powers were strong beyond belief.

But today, Wu Xiutong’s body, spirit, and mind were completely destroyed!

In the distance, Ye Jiuxiao, Xiao Bugui and Wei Zangyun were all struck dumb... Everything was too unbelievable.

Boom!

At this moment, bright-red light spread across the sky. Faintly, the aura of death filled the area amid howling weeping and mourning.

“When a saint falls, mourning sounds come from the sky!”

In the city far away, countless cultivators and living beings were trembling as they stared unblinkingly at the blood-red stained sky.

How many years had it been since the death of a true saint?

On the battlefield, the saints immediately noticed the phenomenon coming from the sky.

Their expressions morphed indefinitely. They stared at Lin Xun with surprise, bewilderment and fear, perturbed by the death of a true saint!

Who left behind such terrifying power that could allow a little ant at the seventh longevity tribulation stage kill a true saint?

The deep voice of Fa Zheng from the Earth Treasury Temple echoed throughout the world, “Everyone, don’t panic. No one in this world has ever leapt from the seventh longevity tribulation stage to the saint stage. I believe that boy can’t hold on for long!”

Ku Ya, Shang Ye, Mo Kong and the others also had the same thought. Their eyes flashed. No one was deterred by Wu Xiutong’s death.

“Baldy, I’ll start with you then!”

Lin Xun’s expression was ice-cold. He sprang up and charged forward at terrifying speed.

“Allow me!”

Xia Houxue of the Moon Worshiper Sect sneered. His bronze chariot roared across the air, auspicious qi and blood-colored light surging around it.

Clang!

Lin Xun stretched out a hand and slammed the bronze chariot from a distance away, sending it flying away.

How embarrassing.

This was the third time that Xia Houxue was blasted back ever since the battle began.

At the same time, Lin Xun summoned the Broken Blade to his hand with a wave, then gave it a slight flick.

With a deafening boom, the string of prayer beads that Fa Zheng launched was scattered everywhere.

His expression altered slightly. *What a powerful force!*

“Bastard, how dare you kill?!” Mo Kong bellowed, and suddenly grew thousands of hands like a giant centipede. Each arm was a shimmery silver, emitting dazzling saint light. When they all folded together, thousands of palms were sent forth.

Pu! Pu! Pu!

The Broken Blade swept across the air, and thousands of Mo Kong’s arms were slashed off and spewed blood everywhere.

This scene horrified the saints once again.

“Everyone, if you all hold back your strength, then...someone will soon suffer the same fate as Wu Xiutong!” said Gou Zhenshan of the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan coldly.

“Kill!”

The battle intensified. All saints unanimously attacked without reservation, activating their trump cards. Instantly, the space was plunged into chaos, even the sky and earth seemed to be splitting open.

“They are so shameless...”

In the distance, Ye Jiuxiao was seething and could not stand watching any longer.

“Should we go help out?” Xiao Bugui asked again.

“Look again.”

Wei Zangyun had a strange look in his eyes.

Ye Jiuxiao and Xiao Bugui followed his gaze and immediately noticed something unusual.

Although Lin Xun was encircled in the sky and faced all sorts of attacks, he was still standing strong.

He seemed to have transformed into a divine being. Golden rays of light swirled around him, adding a sense of perfection and immeasurableness and supremacy.

Every movement of his was filled with unraveled supreme power, countering all attacks!

The power he unleashed swept the group of saints like a stormy sea.

“What...what kind of terrifying power is that?” Xiao Bugui uttered absentmindedly.

Ye Jiuxiao speculated, “I reckon the boy has been blessed by the power left by a Saint-King. Otherwise, it is impossible that he would have the ability to kill a saint.”

“Saint-King? That’s very possible...”

Wei Zangyun’s eyes wandered.

The saint stage was also divided into different levels.

False Saints were at the bottom because they had no hope of ascending to a higher stage in their lives, and their combat power was also at the bottom among saints.

True Saints possessed the foundation to seek the saint dao and could condense saint dao law powers.

Above the True Saint Stage was the Big Saint Stage, where one could forge a grand dao of their own. This grand dao, like all grand daos in the world, could be passed down throughout the ages.

In short, this was spreading dao to the world!

Only the Saint King stood above the Big Saint like a pinnacle of all saints. They could sense the destiny of heaven and earth and manipulate the power of heaven with a lift of their hand, creating gold from rocks and reshaping the universe!

They were like an almighty being!

Each level of the Saint Stage—False Saint, True Saint, Big Saint and Saint-King was full of mysteries and wonders that anyone could spend a lifetime exploring!

In the view of Xiao Bugui, Ye Jiuxiao, and Wei Zangyun, if Lin Xun had borrowed the power left by a Saint-King, then it made a lot of sense that he could kill True Saints despite only being at the seventh longevity tribulation stage.

Boom!

Suddenly, Shang Ye made a flourish with her hand on the battlefield and hurled twelve Stabilizing Saint Orbs, which turned into a forbidden array to suppress Lin Xun.

This was clearly her trump card and killing move.

The others followed up with terrifying attacks, activating their strongest means without any reservation.

However, the twelve Stabilizing Saint Orbs were blasted away by a pagoda that Lin Xun brought out with a turn of his hand.

The eight corners of the pagoda, which seemed to be constructed from pure divine gold, had the connotation of suppressing the four poles and looking up to heaven. Magnificent golden dao light beamed out from the pagoda and pierced the sky.

The Nameless Pagoda!

However, it was evidently different from before, radiating a supreme and immeasurable aura.

According to Senior Brother Xuan Kong of Fangchun Mountain, the pagoda contained endless mysteries and existed for an eternity, so it was named the Dao Endless Pagoda.

Rumble!

The Dao Endless Pagoda was shining brightly as waves of energy engulfed the area like a tide.

With a *pu*, Shang Ye coughed up blood and retreated, her face deathly pale and her eyes wide with terror. The twelve Stabilizing Saint Orbs were the ancestral saint treasures of the Sea Soul Clan!

But they were countered with one blow!

“Slash!” Ku Ya roared. The azure sword slashed through the air, and the force was enough to take down the sun, moon, and stars. The sky split open as the sword intent swept past.

Chi!

Almost at the same time, a divine sword that was two feet and three inches long flew out of Lin Xun’s hand. It was ancient, dull and heavy and had no visible sharpness.

It was the Omega Sword, the Omega Sword Sect’s most precious treasure, which Lin Xun had obtained from Yun Qingbai!

Clang! Clang!

The two sword intents clashed with a shrill metallic ring.

Soon, the Omega Sword pierced through all obstacles and knocked away Ku Ya’s azure sword.

Pu!

Then, the Omega Sword aimed straight for Ku Ya’s chest with unstoppable force and nailed him to the void. It was too fast, too powerful!

Even a true sword saint like Ku Ya could not stop it. His protective saint light was destroyed before his eyes.

“Omega Sword...” Ku Ya was stupefied. He did not imagine that he would be stabbed by the precious weapon of his sect.

“Senior Brother!”

Yu Xiu’s eyes were bloodshot, almost cracking in the corner.

Pu!

Suddenly, the Omega Sword shook and Ku Ya exploded into a shower of blood. His flesh and blood were obliterated upon contact with the terrifying sword qi.

Everyone was utterly horrified. It was too sudden!

Meanwhile, Lin Xun once again charged towards Fa Zheng of the Earth Treasury Temple. The people he despised the most had to be cultivators of the Earth Treasury Temple.

At the same time, blood-colored lights again filled the sky amid mourning and howling weeping.

The death of Ku Ya, a True Saint, once again set off mourning sounds from above!

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Chapter 1353: Buddha Kingdom in the Palm of Hand

The second True Saint had fallen!

This heavy blow struck every saint’s heart hard. Their faces blanched.

It happened to Wu Xiutong first and then Ku Ya. Would this trend continue?

Many people were shaken.

Shua!

Lin Xun sped through the air and swung his fist down at Fa Zheng.

Fa Zheng took a deep breath, summoned a string of prayer beads to his palm, and soared into the air, each bead engraved with a Buddha symbol.

Some were holding up flowers and some were smiling.

Some had their backs facing the sentient beings.

Some were chanting sutras.

Some were subduing demons and eliminating monsters.

A string of prayer beads shone brightly, then spread out in mid-air. The beads scattered across the earth, turning into various Buddha figures standing tall...

“You forced me!”

Fa Zheng’s monk robe billowed majestically around him as he chanted sutra in a solemn manner.

This was his trump card called the Ten Directions Buddhas. Each Buddha, formed from the remnants of the Buddha in ancient times, possessed power of the saint stage.

There were a total of eighteen of them, representing the eighteen levels of the brahma world.

Boom!

Suddenly, the world seemed to be transformed into the Pure Land in the west. The eighteen buddhas set off together, triggering various phenomena across the sky. Sky dragons danced about, celestial birds glided in the air, flowers sprinkled from the sky, golden lotuses emerged from the ground, and waves of chanting sutras sounded...

“That baldy is fighting with his all!”

In the distance, Ye Jiuxiao and the others gasped.

“Descend!”

Almost at the same time, Lin Xun’s figure turned majestic with endless Buddha light beaming from him and illuminating the world.

A bright, full lotus flower bloomed at his feet.

And behind him, a vast boundless Buddha kingdom was being projected.

Rumble—

In the sky, Lin Xun was akin to a Buddha watching over all sentient beings. He completely subdued the imposing bearing of the eighteen Buddhas.

The sky dragon wailed, the celestial bird fled, the flowers dissipated and the golden lotus collapsed. Even the Sanskrit sounds waned!

“Purified kingdom gives birth to the great lotus flower!”

Fa Zheng’s eyes bulged wide as if he had been struck by lightning, staring unblinkingly at the phenomenon.

“That...that doesn’t belong...”

Boom!

The voice ceased before it finished, interrupted by an earthshaking palm strike.

As Lin Xun made a palm thrust, a giant golden hand appeared as if it could obscure the entire sky and hold the universe.

Upon a closer look, a Buddha kingdom was sitting in the palm of the hand.

Then, overwhelming power flooded the world. The group of saints who encircled Lin Xun breathed heavily from the oppressive power bearing down. They could not imagine the terror of this blow.

Buddha kingdom in the palm!

Rumor had it that in ancient times there was a saint Buddha subduing demons. A thrust of their palm brought forth a Buddha kingdom that was watched over by all kinds of Bodhisattvas, arhats, and novice Buddhist monks. The power of a kingdom was integrated into that palm.

The palm could sink thirty thousand miles of demonic land and obliterate one hundred thousand demons into smithereens.

This divine ability was unimaginable. It was the supreme secret art of Buddhism. Even saints struggled to cast this incredible art.

This was the reason why Fa Zheng was shaken.

He understood the terror of Lin Xun’s power!

However, before he could snap out of the state of shock, Lin Xun made a palm thrust. As the first to bear the punch, he immediately felt an unprecedented sense of oppression.

In the depths of his heart, a more insuppressible feeling of terror rushed up, driving his mind to the verge of breaking down. He started trembling uncontrollably.

Boom!

In everyone's eyes, Fa Zheng was like an ant. Regardless of how he struggled, raged, and unleashed divine powers to counter back, it was to no avail.

The palm covered him completely like an unmoving mountain crashing down.

Even the blasts of wind generated from the palm blew huge abyss-like ravines into the world.

“Everyone, be careful. He's...”

Fa Zheng's voice abruptly ceased, because his indestructible body shattered like broken glass. Even his blood and flesh were wiped out by the power of the palm.

Everyone was terror-stricken.

The scene overwhelmed even the power of heavens. Fa Zheng was a True Saint, but he died under the giant palm of the Buddhist sect!

He had no chance to flee or dodge!

So terrifying!

Other saints were utterly stricken. Their already wavering minds became more and more unsteady. The scene chilled them all to the bone.

Even Xiao Bugui and the others were stupefied.

Before this, everyone, including Ye Jiuxiao and the others, thought it was absurd when they heard that Lin Xun wanted to take on the group of saints by himself.

But now, he had proven himself with the bloody scene.

After the death of Wu Xiutong and Ku Ya, Fa Zheng of the Earth Treasury Temple had also fallen!

Another blood-colored light phenomenon filled the sky once again amid mournful weeping. The atmosphere turned oppressive and terrifying, almost suffocating.

“It's your turn!”

Lin Xun did not rest for a minute. With a swoosh, he vanished from the spot with a flash of light, charging straight for Gou Zhenshan of the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan.

His feud with the Black Nightmare Sky Dog had been going on for a long time, and there was no need to say any more about it.

When the mysterious woman emerged and herded the saints like animals, she had also intruded the territory of the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan like it was no man's land.

However, the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan seemed to have forgotten about the tragic loss they had suffered back then and still dispatched a True Saint to kill Lin Xun.

How could Lin Xun tolerate this?

Swoosh!

The most ridiculous thing was that Gou Zhenshan, a high and mighty saint, unhesitatingly chose to bolt for his life, vanishing from the battlefield in the blink of an eye.

He could tell that the situation had turned worse than bad. Who would dare to face Lin Xun's killing?

Even if the saints attacked together, they still failed to stop Lin Xun from killing Ku Ya, Fa Zheng and the others!

Gou Zhenshan would not be so stupid to throw away his life.

"You want to escape? No one can run away today!" Lin Xun's cold voice rang out.

He extended one finger.

In the distance, bright and splendid power burst forth like a pillar, splitting open the void.

Gou Zhenshan wildly staggered back. Roaring in fury, he tried to fight back with all his strength, but the unexpected power of the finger knocked him from the sky, plunging to the ground.

Boom!

The ground was smashed with a bottomless hole, cracking everywhere with a spiderweb pattern.

Gou Zhenshan never appeared again.

The power of that finger instantly ended his life, and his body and primordial spirit were destroyed in the deepest part of the underground hole.

Another saint had fallen!

The atmosphere suddenly turned frighteningly cold, and all gazes changed from apprehension to fear.

Their state of mind had also changed from disdain, contempt, and indifference to a mix of terror, horror, and disbelief.

The youngster's white robe had remained untainted ever since the battle began. He was still standing tall like a celestial being.

But his aura had grown so strong that it could easily eliminate a saint cultivator!

Who would believe this?

In just a short period of time, four true saints had been killed one after another—this was impossible and unheard of!

But the most incredible thing had to be the fact that Lin Xun was only at the seventh longevity tribulation stage and far from the saint stage!

Ye Jiuxiao and the others felt a wave of dizziness.

When they learned that Lin Xun could run into mishap, they rushed here without any hesitation. Fortunately, they arrived in time, but they were instead greeted by a terrifying scene.

A group of terrifying saints had gathered. They did not even dare to think that they could take Lin Xun away alive!

But the situation had been turned around!

They also could not believe it.

What other secrets and trump cards did the youngster have?

“It's your turn now.”

Lin Xun's gaze shifted to Mo Keng of the Thousand Beast Spirit Mountain, who had been calling him ‘little bastard’ the moment he appeared.

Lin Xun did not express his anger then, and only told him that he would remember what he said.

But now, it was time for revenge.

Mo Kong's face darkened, and he wanted to curse out loud. *Didn't they say that the boy's borrowed power will fade soon? Why hasn't it done so?*

Boom!

Lin Xun charged forward, aiming straight for Mo Kong.

He had no intention of letting anyone go!

He had only just returned after ten years in the Supreme Realm, but as soon as he came back, he was being targeted by a group of saints. He could not take this anymore?

If he had no tricks up his sleeve, then would he have survived?

"Bastard, do you really think that you can do whatever you want because you have gained some external power?" Mo Kong roared.

The golden ring hanging on his left ear suddenly fluttered out, and with a buzz, transformed into a giant golden hoop.

"Old man, you guys are the ones doing whatever you want!"

Lin Xun retorted indifferently and suddenly lifted up the No-Nonsense Bow. Then he drew the blood-red bow string in midair.

Bang!

A magnificent dark blue arrow shot across the air.

The arrow was different from the Biluo Arrow. The body was smooth like polished gemstones, the tail feathers of the arrow produced wisps of ocean blue light, and the tip was as sharp as the edge of the crescent moon.

Its fierce and powerful aura stirred up the wind and lightning.

It was Moli, one of the nine divine arrows of the Great Yi Tribe!

Lin Xun obtained this arrow from a young man called Xing Yitian when he was crossing the boundary river to get to East Victory World.

Boom!

A shower of blue light rained down from the sky, and a thunder-like roar stirred the wind and clouds.

Buzz!

Mo Kong's expression changed. The golden hoop he threw out was his strongest saint treasure—the Heaven Blocking Divine Hoop, which contained terrifying defensive powers.

But under the tremendous force of Moli Arrow, the hoop only buzzed before it was hurtled across the air. It could not obstruct the arrow for a second let alone block it.

However, it shifted the arrow off track and allowed Mo Kong to narrowly escape. He broke out in cold sweat, and the color had been drained from his face.

“Again!”

Inhaling deeply, Lin Xun drew the bow once again.

In that moment, a gravelly voice resounded through the world, “Little friend, please stop.”

The voice was extremely sonorous and clear, like the sound of the great dao. Accompanied by it was bright, auspicious qi spreading across heaven and earth, dispelling the murderous spirit and destructive air.

At the same time, wisps of saint light sprinkled like rain, illuminating the universe.

An old man in a scholarly robe appeared, carrying a basket of books on his back. His hair was completely white, and he had the bearing of a transcendent being, exuding a majestic aura that rushed up to the sky.

“The battle of the nine domains is about to come. The Ancient Wasteland Domain will soon face a great change in this great age. Infighting will only lead to internal friction and damage. Why doesn't everyone take a step back?”

The old man's voice was calm but authoritative. The area was suddenly brimming with his sacred and peaceful bearing.

Lin Xun scrunched his brows.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1354: Record the Death of Saints

The old man in a scholarly robe had a beard and hair that was snowy-white and radiated a majestic aura. His appearance immediately drew the attention of everyone.

Clearly, all the saints recognized him as they all raised their brows and widened their eyes.

It seemed that they did not expect a living fossil like him to appear here.

“Paying respect to Mister Miaoxuan.”

But what was more surprising was that many saints bowed their heads to express their respect.

Only Lin Xun still had a frown on his face

When I was being surrounded, the old man did not show up, but when I gained the upper hand, he stepped in and tried to intervene under the pretense of resolving the conflict. How could such a good thing happen in the world?

Xiao Bugui’s voice rang in his ears. “Kid, that’s Mister Miaoxuan from the Divine Apparatus Pavilion of the Hidden Holy Lands. He is an old living fossil who has been around for an unknown number of years. His background and foundation are terrifying, and we all can only consider ourselves juniors before him.”

Divine Apparatus Pavilion!

Lin Xun had heard of this Hidden Holy Land. It was said to be the most mysterious sacred place in the Ancient Wasteland Domain and its cultivators rarely appeared in the world. The Divine Apparatus Pavilion was known for reading the fortune of the world.

For example, the conflict before the great age, the appearance of the Supreme Realm, and the end of the Supreme Realm were all predicted in advance and announced to the outside world by the Divine Apparatus Pavilion.

Similarly, the successors of the Divine Apparatus Pavilion were regarded as scribes of the cultivation world. They held two supreme sacred items: the Spring Autumn Brush and the Annals of History. They were a written account of the important and historical events and changes of the world throughout time.

Anyone who made it onto the chronicle was a remarkable figure whose name would never die and their legacy would live on forever.

Rumor had it that the Star Records in the Divine Apparatus Pavilion consisted of records of legendary figures from ancient times to the present day.

Even if the Ancient Wasteland Domain became annihilated, the Star Records would exist for eternity and would never be erased, Thus, the name of the remarkable figure would live forever.

The old man who everyone called Mister Miaoxuan came from the Divine Apparatus Pavilion. It was no surprise that all the saints present were particularly respectful towards him.

But even after learning about all this, Lin Xun's attitude remained unchanged. "Elder, if you are here to stop my killing spree, then please understand that it's of no use. No one can stop me today no matter who you are."

The other saints snorted coldly, their faces dark and unpleasant. *This boy is really arrogant!*

Mister Miaoxuan let out an audible sigh, "My little friend, I know you are upset, but...four True Saints have already died today, which is a disastrous loss to the Ancient Wasteland Domain. I hope you can step back and compromise and let this matter go."

Lin Xun's expression did not change. "Their deaths are a loss to the Ancient Wasteland, but what if I die today? Elder, you have a compassionate heart, but I have the intention to kill them all. You don't need to persuade me anymore."

His extremely rude words made Xiao Bugui and the others tense up and tremble inwardly. In the Ancient Wasteland Domain, not many people dared to talk to Mister Miaoxuan in such a way!

"Little friend, you have entered the Supreme Realm before so you must also know that in the ancient era, countless sages had fought against enemies from the eight domains. Now, although the Ancient Wasteland Domain is in the splendor of the great age, it is also accompanied by a looming huge crisis. It is very likely that the attack of the eight domains will repeat itself."

Mister Miaoxuan did not show a hint of anger and spoke in a gentle voice.

"When that happens, the only ones who can stand up and support the citizens of Ancient Wasteland Domain are cultivators like us. Saints are the pinnacle of existence in this world and have the power to change the overall situation.

"Every time we lose a single one of them, it means that the Ancient Wasteland Domain's power to fight against foreign enemies in the future is weakened. Little friend, I hope you can think carefully about your decision."

His words contained not a shred of threat, but was spoken with understanding and reasoning. He did not attempt to oppress Lin Xun with his identity and status.

However, Lin Xun's frown deepened. "A group of selfish, arrogant, and shameless old bastards can't even tolerate a young junior. How can we rely on them to stand up for all living beings in the world in the future?"

That one sentence felt like a torrent of abuse to Shang Ye, Xia Houxue, and the other saints!

They seethed with rage, and their faces turned darker and more hostile.

“Boy, out of respect for Mister Miaoxuan, we won’t bother to deal with a junior like you. Do you think we are afraid of you?”

Xia Houxue’s expression was menacing.

“You are just at the seventh longevity tribulation. The power you borrowed will eventually fade. Let’s see who can save you then!”

Mo Kong’s words were filled with killing intent and cut like a knife.

The others also felt murderous rage. They were much more at ease because Mister Miaoxuan’s appearance gave them an opportunity.

The longer this dragged on, the more the power that Lin Xun borrowed would dissipate. This benefited them hugely.

Similarly, now that Mister Miaoxuan had come, how would he allow Lin Xun to behave wildly again?

With one glance, Lin Xun seemed to read the minds of the saints. He smiled coldly. “Elder, you have also seen what those old bastards are like. If you obstruct me again, then you are also my enemy!”

His voice was resounding and powerful!

His voice only just faded when he bent the bow and pulled back the bowstring, aiming it directly at Mo Kong in the distance.

“You dare!”

All the saints raged. *The boy dares to kill in front of Mister Miaoxuan; he has no respect at all.*

Ye Jiuxiao and Xiao Bugui could not help exchanging a glance with each other. Lin Xun’s bravery and courage was completely beyond their imagination.

With an expression like ice, Lin Xun drew the fierce and sinister No-Nonsense Bow that was made out of bones and skeletons.

He set the Moli Arrow on the string, stirring up wind and lightning.

A chilling and murderous air replaced the peaceful atmosphere between heaven and earth.

Everything indicated that Lin Xun had no intention of leaving this matter at that and refused to listen to Mister Miaoxuan’s suggestion!

“Little friend, I just want to ask you one thing, when the war of nine domains comes and the living beings are engulfed in catastrophe, despair, and misery, what would you do?”

Suddenly, Mister Miaoxuan asked one question, his voice reaching the depths of the mind like a resounding bell.

Lin Xun did not hesitate to answer, “Under a toppled nest, can there be unbroken eggs? If that happens, with everything that I have learned in my life, I will fight across the nine heavens and kill the invading enemies from the eight domains.”

Back then, when he witnessed the feat of Sword Emperor Taixuan, Ghost King Xuan Kong, Battle Emperor Mo Yang, Saint Buddha Xingjia and other great sages, he was greatly touched and affected and had this noble aspiration.

If a catastrophe truly came, then he would not just stand idly by!

“Absurd! How can a little ant of the seventh longevity tribulation talk so big?”

The other saints snickered. It was too ridiculous. If enemies from the eight domains came to invade, then there would definitely be enemies at the saint level.

The boy was lacking in strength, but he claimed that he would fight across the nine heavens and kill the invading enemies!

Unexpectedly, Mister Miaoxuan nodded. “Okay, little friend, please remember what you said today. I believe you.”

His scholarly fluttered, and his figure faded from the battlefield. He sat down in the air in the far distance and removed the book basket on his back. Holding a brush and book, he sat solemnly without a word.

This is bad!

The saints felt their hearts sink. How could they not understand that Mister Miaoxuan had decided to not interfere after hearing what Lin Xun had to say?

Could it be that, in his heart, Lin Xun weighed more than all the saints present?

“Thank you, Elder!”

At this moment, Lin Xun truly believed that Mister Miaoxuan truly cared about the world and did not favor those saints!

An elder like him truly deserved the respect of the world!

His elegance and grace made Lin Xun firmly believe that there were still people in the world like the great sages in the ancient era!

Bang!

Without any hesitation, the arrow, which had gathered power and ready to strike, suddenly fired across the air.

The suspended battle resumed.

The sky and the earth dimmed, and the sun and the moon dulled. Killing intent roamed the universe like the Milky Way.

“Kill!”

How would those saints sit still and wait for death to come?

Unfortunately for them, Lin Xun’s strength still had not weakened. Or perhaps, ever since the battle began, they had underestimated Lin Xun’s borrowed power.

Even Xiao Bugui and the others guessed wrong. They reckoned that Lin Xun’s borrowed power was at the level of Saint-King.

The destruction of lives is the heart of the stupa, why should we return to the same old dust of a thousand years!

The power of the life-killing Stupa heart was left behind by a saint Buddha with the strength of the great emperor stage! How would its power be ordinary?

Saint-Kings stood above all saints.

And an emperor was superior to all saints!

The Emperor Stage was a mountain that countless Saint-Kings longed to scale in all ages—it was a majestic, mysterious, and almost legendary existence.

If it could not kill a few true saints, then how could it be called emperor stage power?

Only Fa Zheng saw through the power that Lin Xun used after being struck by the palm strike of the Buddha kingdom. But by the time he wanted to let the others know, he was already dead.

Pu!

On the battlefield, within seconds, an arrow pierced Mo Kong's throat and took his life. His body exploded, and his spirit was destroyed. An indignant and bitter roar echoed throughout the area before he died.

In the distance, Mister Miaoxuan, who was sitting cross-legged in midair, sighed to himself. Without raising his head, he put the Spring Autumn Brush to the Annals of History and started to document:

"In the tenth year of the great age, eight thousand miles away from Snow Mulberry City, a group of saints set off to kill Lin Xun, starting an earthshaking bloody battle.

"In this battle, True Saints Wu Xiutong of the Golden Crow Clan, Ku Ya of the Omega Sword Sect, Fa Zheng of the Earth Treasury Temple and Gou Zhenshan of the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan fell one after another under the emperor dao power that Lin Xun borrowed. Visions of mourning filled the sky.

"I tried to resolve the conflict, but unexpectedly, nothing could waver Lin Xun's murderous intent. With this in mind, I had to make a decision.

"I only hope that if a catastrophe happens in the future, the boy would display the brilliance of the ancient sages and fight for the future of the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

Mister Miaoxuan sighed again and then continued, "Mo Kong of the Thousand Beast Spirit Mountain also fell..."

He looked at the battlefield and saw Lin Xun holding up the Nameless Pagoda, descending from the sky with unparalleled bravery. Xia Houxue of the Moon Worshiper Sect was smashed to death, his body exploding in a shower of blood.

He lowered his head, his expression neither sad nor happy. He was sitting perfectly straight as the brush in his hand glided swiftly along the Annals of History. "Xia Houxue of the Moon Worshiper Sect also perished."

The terrifying battle continued; the world was in chaos.

Meanwhile, the Spring Autumn Brush and Annals of History recorded everything that happened.

A thought came to Mister Miaoxuan's mind. *If the future generations learn about this battle that will stay in history forever, what would they think?*

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1355: The Aura of an Emperor?

Blood rained heavily.

Looking up from the ground, the vast sky had long been covered by thick, dazzling blood-colored lights.

It was a gruesome red!

Waves of weeping and sobbing that sounded like the wailing of demons and lamentations of sages echoed endlessly. It was like a song of mourning.

The fighting continued unabated. The Dao Endless Pagoda rotated above Lin Xun's head while he was enveloped in magnificent golden light. He was akin to a divine being who did not belong to this world.

He fought fiercely under the dome of heaven, clothes billowing around him. His bravery was unparalleled! He was facing off against a group of saints!

His invincible stance stunned Ye Jiuxiao, Xiao Bugui, and Wei Zangyun, their hearts churning like the turbulent sea.

No one expected that even Mister Miaoquan from the Divine Apparatus Pavilion could not stop him.

Or perhaps, they never imagined that Lin Xun could single-handedly slaughter so many saints!

Unbelievable!

Boom!

On the battlefield, Yu Xiu from the Omega Sword Sect roared like a startled beast and bolted frantically.

At this point in the battle, he truly felt terrified and helpless.

To his despair, he had attempted to escape several times, but this side of the world had long been enveloped by a terrifying power and prevented him from activating the teleportation art!

This time, it was no exception.

Before long, he stumbled backwards from the force of Lin Xun's fist, violently coughing up blood.

"Who the hell are you!?"

His eyes were bursting with anger.

The other saints also had the same question.

When the battle started, they thought that Lin Xun only borrowed the power of a saint and that it would not last long. Thus, they were confident and sure of victory.

But now, they realized there was a problem. In terms of cultivation level, Lin Xun was no different from an ant in their eyes.

But the power he borrowed could not possibly belong to the Saint Stage, nor the Big Saint or Saint-King Stage!

Boom!

Lin Xun did not answer him. He did not bother to talk. His expression was frighteningly cold. He controlled the Nameless Pagoda and launched it from the air.

Like a Buddha throwing an elephant!

Rumor had it that in ancient times there was a saint Buddha called Kassapa. He wandered the starry sky when an elephant as huge as a sacred mountain blocked his path. He lifted the elephant with perfect ease and tossed it like a stone!

This was regarded as a supreme majestic power in Buddhism.

Lin Xun's blow clearly had the same splendor. It was terrifyingly domineering, and even the sky seemed to have cracked in parts.

"No—! Save—me!" Yu Xiu screamed at the top of his voice, struggling wildly.

Even a Saint who shone as bright as the sun and the moon and lived as long as the sky and earth was no different from ordinary people in the face of death!

Boom!

The Nameless Pagoda descended, and Yu Xiu was obliterated into smithereens. His cry for help also abruptly ceased.

"Mister Miaoxuan, as an elder of the Divine Apparatus Pavilion, are you just going to watch the boy kill us all with some evil demonic power?"

One of the saints cried out, eyes reddening.

It was undoubtedly a request for help!

In the distance, Mister Miaoxuan was sitting silently in the air and writing on the Annals of History with the Spring Autumn Brush: “Subsequently, Yu Xiu of the Omega Sword Sect was executed. So far, six saints have perished today.”

Seeing this, everyone’s heart sank. They realized that Mister Miaoxuan had decided to stay out of the matter!

“Kill!”

“Together!”

The risk of death ignited the Saints’ fighting spirit. They were like a group of trapped beasts.

They knew that fleeing was futile. This side of the world was already under Lin Xun’s control!

Yu Xiu had attempted to escape several times, but he still failed repeatedly and was killed in the end.

“I already told you all that no one can escape today!” Lin Xun’s voice was ice-cold.

He wanted to kill every single one of the old bastards that called themselves saints and deter anyone else from touching him again!

Ever since he came to the Ancient Wasteland Domain, whether it was in the West Infinity World or the East Victory World, he had been looked down on, suppressed, and hunted down by the ancient orthodoxies...

At that time, he knew he was too weak so he tolerated them!

But now, he could no longer tolerate everything!

After ten years in the Supreme Realm, not only had his state of mind changed, but he had also set his sights much higher. In addition, he possessed more terrifying grand dao power and all sorts of trump cards.

If he continued to be as tolerant and forgiving as before, what was the difference between him and a coward being ridiculed by the world?

Kill!

Lin Xun's long hair fluttered in the air. His bearing turned superior and lofty, and his aura grew increasingly intimidating and menacing.

If he wanted the enemy to change their attitude, then the only way was to slaughter them until their liver ruptured and the mere mention of his name made them tremble with fear!

Kacha!

Before long, a saint had his chest smashed open. He unleashed a shrill roar before he was obliterated in midair by the Nameless Pagoda.

Saints who were hiding in the dark in the distance scampered like frightened rabbits. They panicked and did not dare to stay any longer.

Even if they were only spectating, they were all chilled to the core, terrified by the overwhelming destructive power that Lin Xun displayed.

“Run!”

“The situation can't be reversed...”

“Ah!”

Voices of frustration, reluctance, and helplessness sounded in the dark. Saints who never showed up on the battlefield fled without hesitation.

If they did not leave now, then they likely could never leave.

This was because only two saints were still standing on the battlefield. Once Lin Xun got rid of them, it would be their turn!

However, they felt an indescribable feeling of shame and suffocation at the thought of themselves fleeing for their lives because they were scared of a junior.

But given the situation, they knew they could not wait any longer!

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

The space rippled, and silently, the saints fled far away.

Noticing this, Ye Jiuxiao and the others, who were on guard against them, could not help but sneer. *Have they been scared off? How embarrassing!*

Meanwhile, Mister Miaoxuan once again put his brush to the Annals of History. “The Saints hiding in the dark are frightened and unnerved; their fighting spirits have

collapsed, and they fled in panic. This is an unprecedented spectacle and a comical sight that is going to be laughed over by future generations.”

After writing this, Mister Miaoxuan heaved an inward sigh of relief.

In truth, he was still a little apprehensive, not because he was afraid of Lin Xun’s strength, but because he was frightened by his murderous nature.

If he was allowed to continue the killing spree, then an unknown number of saints would have fallen today!

Fortunately, although it was shameful and embarrassing for the saints to flee, they still escaped death and would not put themselves in danger.

Mister Miaoxuan was even certain that the escaped saints would never dare to take action against Lin Xun for the rest of their lives.

This was his deterrent power!

Today’s matter had made them forget their reputations and flee for their lives. This indicated that they were truly afraid, and that fear would forever haunt them like a shadow in their hearts, constantly reminding them that if they wanted to kill Lin Xun, they first had to consider the risk of being killed.

“Can you let me go?”

On the battlefield, a Saint’s face was twisted with despair.

Pu!

Lin Xun’s expression did not change in the slightest. He drew upon all his strength and thrust his palm to eliminate his opponent.

“You are just making yourself an enemy of the entire Ancient Wasteland Domain! No one will tolerate a bloodthirsty murderer like you living in this world!” The last standing Saint, Shang Ye from the Sea Soul Clan, screamed her lungs out like she had gone crazy.

“So what if the whole world is my enemy? Anyone who stands in my way will be killed!” As his indifferent voice sounded, Lin Xun summoned the Nameless Pagoda.

He was as cold and apathetic as if he was devoid of emotions. His strong and resolute stance sent a chill down Xiao Bugui and the others.

They all realized that it was a nightmare for anyone to become Lin Xun’s enemy!

In the end, Shang Ye was also killed on the spot.

Before she died, she cursed Lin Xun manically as though he was a demon bringing disaster to the world.

Unfortunately, the curse was very weak and did not affect Lin Xun at all.

A thick stench of blood pervaded the air, and the scarlet blood of the Saint sprinkled endlessly across the world

No more Saints were left!

Everyone who had encircled Lin Xun had been slaughtered. Not a single person managed to escape the fate.

Xiao Bugui and the others stared at the battlefield in a daze like they were dreaming. As Saints, they had seen much of life.

But this scene still made their minds wander. It felt too unreal!

Who would have imagined that a youngster at the seventh longevity stage could break out of the encirclement of a group of Saints and even slaughter every single one of them?

So terrifying!

In the sky, Lin Xun had no time to compose his emotions because an extremely terrifying aura was sweeping towards him from a very far away place.

That aura was so unbelievably strong that Lin Xun felt a sense of panic!

“Run!”

Before he recovered from the shock, everything before him seemed to blur. With a swish of his sleeve, Mister Miaoquan took him away from the area.

Rumble!

The next second, boundless dao light suddenly appeared in the air, condensing into an imposing, stern-looking face. His eyes were as vast as the starry sky, and there seemed to be visions of a changing universe flickering in the depths.

He scanned the area and uttered coldly, “The aura of an Emperor, no wonder...”

The voice contained a hint of bitterness.

Eventually, his eyes landed on Xiao Bugui, Ye Jiuxiao and Wei Zangyun. “If you have the chance tell Lin Xun that when the war of the nine domains begins, if I don’t see him fighting in the frontline of the battlefield to atone for his sins then I will come kill him!”

The voice was like a decree of a ruler—cold and ruthless.

Boom!

Immediately, the majestic face dissipated into billowing light and disappeared between heaven and earth.

Xiao Bugui and the others broke out in cold sweat.

Even if they were Saints, the appearance of that majestic face still brought a suffocating oppressive feeling to them.

After a long while, Xiao Bugui took a deep breath and asked, “An Emperor?”

“If he’s not an Emperor, then he has to be a Saint-King. His true form did not show up, but the aura is already unthinkably terrifying.”

Ye Jiuxiao’s voice was low.

“I know him.”

Wei Zangyun mumbled absentmindedly as if he couldn’t believe it. Only after a while did he say aloud, “Do you know Bai Yujing?”

Ye Jiuxiao and Xiao Bugui both furrowed their brows. How would they not know about Baiyujing—the name of a province in the Ancient Wasteland Domain?

The Omega Sword Sect occupied that province.

“I’m talking about the name of a person...” Wei Zangyun said with a complex expression.

Ye Jiuxiao and Xiao Bugui froze and gasped audibly.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1356: Can Be Called Saint Death Day

In a lush green valley.

Buzz—

The space rippled, revealing the figures of Lin Xun and Mister Miaoxuan.

Seconds before, they were still standing on the saint slaughter battlefield that was filled with the nauseating smell of blood. But in the blink of an eye, they had come to a valley that seemed to be isolated from the world. Lin Xun glanced around, a little bewildered.

“Fortunately, Bai Yujing is not an unreasonable person and did not take the matter further.”

Mister Miaoxuan’s eyes were unfathomable as he gazed into the distant sky. His face relaxed with a relieved smile.

Bai Yujing?

Lin Xun couldn’t help gasping and thought of a poem.

‘Heavenly Baiyujing, Twelve Towers and Five Cities. The immortal caresses my top, my hair receives longevity.’

Years ago, he traveled to Baiyujing and took the test of the Twelve Towers.

He noticed the name Bai Yujing engraved in the first spot of the stone tablet in the Spirit Tempering Tower of the Twelve Towers.

The second place was Omega Sword Ancestor, the founder of the Omega Sword Sect.

Third place was Yun Qingbai.

But at that time, Lin Xun had already broken the record of the Spirit Tempering Tower and made it to the top spot of the stone tablet!

Lin Xun still remembered that, when he passed the test and became the number one of the Spirit Tempering Tower, a heroic and unconstrained laughter rang from the name inscription of Bai Yujing—

“I am not alone. Little friend, the day you become a Saint and leap out of the cage of the great dao is the day you and I will meet...”

Then, the voice faded.

After Lin Xun came out of the Spirit Tempering Tower, he discussed Bai Yujing with Xiao Qinghe. Xiao Qinghe did not know much about him, but he did tell him a legendary rumor.

Rumor had it that before the Omega Sword Ancestor founded the Omega Sword Sect in Baiyujing, the Twelve Towers and Five Cities already existed.

And the Twelve Towers and Five Cities might be the creation of a legendary immortal.

It was widely known that the Omega Sword Ancestor had also trained in the Twelve Towers of the Five Cities when he was at the Cyclic Derivation Stage!

Xiao Qinghe suspected that the legendary immortal was Bai Yujing.

But Lin Xun disputed this speculation. In his opinion, if Bai Yujing was the legendary immortal, then why would he train in the Spirit Tempering Tower?

It was then that Lin Xun made a bold speculation that Bai Yujing was most likely the descendant of the legendary immortal!

In that poem, there was a sentence that caught his attention. ‘The immortal caresses my top, my hair receives longevity.’

“Do you know Bai Yujing?”

Mister Miaoxuan glanced at Lin Xun.

“I have seen the name Bai Yujing inscribed in the Spirit Tempering Tower,” Lin Xun answered honestly.

“Yes, that was left by Bai Yujing.” Mister Miaoxuan nodded. “On the battlefield just now, you must have sensed an extremely terrifying power rushing in. That power belonged to Bai Yujing.”

“Him?” Lin Xun raised his brows.

“Don’t misunderstand. Even if he takes action, he won’t kill a junior.”

Miaoxuan explained, “Bai Yujing is a powerful person at the Quasi-Emperor level. A long time ago, he fought on the front line of the Ancient Wasteland Domain and defended against enemies from the Eight Domains along with other almighty sages.

“To put it simply, he is an unparalleled hero, a mighty authority. His mind and courage are both far beyond those of ordinary people.

“I reckon that he showed up because he didn’t want to watch you kill so many Saints because that would leave the Ancient Wasteland Domain with a disastrous loss of Saint Stage power.”

Lin Xun nodded and did not say anything else.

He would not judge a person’s character based on just this.

Bai Yujing perhaps might be, in the eyes of Mister Miaoquan, an elder worthy of admiration and respect.

But Lin Xun would not make presumptions judgments.

“Elder, dare I ask what is his relationship with the Omega Sword Sect?” Lin Xun suddenly asked.

Today, the name Baiyujing was the name of a province and also where the Twelve Towers and Five Cities controlled by the Omega Sword Sect was located.

“They are deeply connected.”

Mister Miaoquan explained, “Strictly speaking, the founder of the Omega Sword Sect was Bai Yujing’s junior brother. The Omega Sword Ancestor established a sect and became the founder, while Bai Yujing traveled the world alone with no one but his sword.”

Lin Xun’s heart thumped. *He’s the senior brother of Omega Sword Ancestor? Does that not mean Bai Yujing is a living ancient figure?*

“You can rest assured that even if Bai Yujing knows about the bad blood between you and the Omega Sword Sect, he would not personally take action against you.”

Mister Miaoquan reassured him very confidently, “In the future, if you have the opportunity to go to the Frontline Battlefield of the Ancient Wasteland Domain, you will understand what kind of person Bai Yujing is. If it weren’t for him and a group of powerful sages defending the frontline...enemies from the eight domains likely would have broken into the Ancient Wasteland Domain.”

Lin Xun frowned. “Is the Frontline Battlefield of the Ancient Wasteland Domain different from the Nine Domains Battlefield?”

Mister Miaoquan smiled. “It’s the same, but it’s also different. Strictly speaking, only cultivators at the Saint Stage and above are qualified to stand on the Frontline Battlefield of the Ancient Wasteland Domain. The others will just be throwing away their lives if they go there.

“To put it simply, the Frontline Battlefield is a place where only Saints and above fight.

“As for the Nine Domains Battlefield, it is located in some other boundary between the Ancient Wasteland Domain and the other eight domains.

“Due to the constraints of the laws of heaven and earth, the Nine Domains Battlefield can at most only allow the entry of experts at the True Saint level. Only those below the True Saint Stage would not face many restrictions.

“You have been to the Immortal Sacred Mountain before to participate in the Little Giant List Competition. You should also know that on the Immortal Sacred Mountain is a passage that leads to the Nine Domains Battlefield.

“But generally speaking, it is incredibly difficult for cultivators below the King Stage to survive on the Nine Domains Battlefield.

“Therefore, the Nine Domains Battlefield is probably where cultivators at the King Stage and below the True Saint Stage compete for supremacy.

“But unlike the Frontline Battlefield, the Nine Domains Battlefield rarely opens up, unless there is a great change in the world.”

Mister Miaoxuan explained things very patiently. In particular, when he talked about the Frontline Battlefield and the Nine Domains Battlefield, he did not attempt to conceal anything.

Naturally, Lin Xun knew what was on his mind, so he immediately gave a cupped fist salute and reassured him, “Elder, don’t worry, I never go back on my promises. If, one day, the war of the nine domains really breaks out, I will not shirk from my duty.”

Mister Miaoxuan smiled pleasantly. “I’m glad.”

Lin Xun keenly sensed that Mister Miaoxuan from the Divine Apparatus Pavilion seemed to value him highly. From the moment they met, he had always shown a side of kindness and friendliness towards him.

This surprised but also moved Lin Xun. Being appreciated and valued by other people was always a good feeling, especially since Mister Miaoxuan was not an ordinary person.

Suddenly, Mister Miaoxuan asked, “Little friend, the fight has come to an end. What are your plans next?”

“I plan to settle some grudges before I return to the lower domain.”

As Lin Xun said this, a thought struck him. “Elder, do you know how to return to the lower domain now?”

Mister Miaoxuan wrinkled his brows and pondered for a long time before he shook his head. “Before the great age came, the Divine Apparatus Pavilion had already predicted that the law power of heaven and earth would change. All the passages to the lower domains have collapsed following these changes in the law power.

“If you want to return to the lower domain now, there are only two ways.”

Lin Xun perked up. “Elder, please guide me.”

“The first is to follow the old path. Although the passages to the lower domain have all collapsed due to changes in the law power, some sects and clans still hold the coordinates of crossing the boundary of nothingness. You can teleport across space if you have it.”

Lin Xun quickly rejected the first option. Given his current situation, it was simply impossible for him to follow this method.

“The second option is to go to the Cloud Weaver Clan and ask their Path Guide to find a passage for you in the boundary of nothingness.”

When Mister Miaoxuan said this, Lin Xun suddenly thought of Caicai. He couldn’t help but sigh to himself. *Do I really have no choice but to ask for help from the Cloud Weaver Clan?*

As though noticed that Lin Xun was in a dilemma, Mister Miaoxuan suddenly smiled and took out a bronze box covered with dense dao runes. “Little friend, I suggest you go to the Cloud Weaver Clan and request their help. With this box, they will definitely agree to your request.”

Lin Xun looked taken aback.

Mr. Miaoxuan smiled warmly. “Take it, think of it as me building good karma for the sentient beings of the Ancient Wasteland Domain. Little friend, I hope you won’t forget what you have promised in the future.”

Lin Xun smiled wryly. “Elder, even if you didn’t take this out, I will still follow my promise.”

Mister Miaoxuan laughed heartily.

In the end, Lin Xun accepted the kind gesture.

“Little friend, farewell.”

Not long after that, Mister Miaoxuan drifted away carrying a basket of books on his back.

“Elder, take care.”

As Lin Xun watched him depart, he couldn’t help but sigh emotionally. There might be many wicked people in the world, but equally, there was no lack of true sages like Mister Miaoxuan!

Hu—

Lin Xun exhaled a breath of turbid air, surveyed the area, and quickly discovered a nearby cave for him to meditate quietly.

In his body, the power of the life-killing Stupa heart was on the verge of being depleted. He also felt extremely drained after the battle against the group of Saints.

His energy, spirit, and qi were exhausted so he needed to rest and recuperate.

.....

Meanwhile, Mister Miaoxuan returned to the battlefield. Staring at the blood colored sky and hearing the ceaseless sounds of mourning, he couldn't help but sigh.

"I hope...I hope I am right about him..."

Then, he sat down cross-legged under the sky and took out the Spring Autumn Brush and the Annals of History from the basket. He wrote:

"In the tenth year of the great age, many Saints perished, which was accompanied by endless mournful cries. The color of blood filled the sky and the earth. A battle like this has never happened before throughout the ages. We should remember this so that the future generations can learn from it.

"From what I can see, Lin Xun has unyielding determination and an unshakable mind. His foundation is so deep that even I can't see through it. As they say, the great age will be led by the outstanding and unparalleled talents in the world. I just hope that, in the future, the kid will think for the people of the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

"In addition, today can be renamed Saint Death Day. After all, nine Saints had been killed.

After writing this, Mister Miaoxuan rose to his feet, his scholarly robe fluttering in the breeze, and he vanished from the spot.

In Snow Mulberry City, eight thousand miles away, blood-red rain lashed down for nine days straight, turning the world a glaring red shade.

On this day, a group of Saints were slaughtered, shocking the entire world.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1357: Present Day Legend

This day was the end of the ten years of the Supreme Realm.

This day was also the death day of a group of saints!

The news about saints being slaughtered could not be kept secret at all. First, it set off storms across the major ancient orthodoxies in the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

Omega Sword Sect.

An imposing voice reverberated in the Omega Sword Sect's meeting hall, "Are Yu Xiu and Ku Ya not back yet?"

In the hall, all the higher-ups of Omega Sword Sect looked at each other in dismay. This was the third time that the Supreme Elder had asked this question.

Logically speaking, if a group of saints set off to kill a youngster who had yet to reach the Saint stage, it should be no different from a group of dragons crushing an ant.

Instead, everyone should be most concerned about finding out which saint from which sect had landed the killing blow on Lin Xun in the end!

But even now, they had yet to hear back anything, which they found incredibly strange.

Suddenly, a panicked voice rang from the door of the meeting hall, "Reporting back, it's bad, a saint sent a message...Elders Yu Xiu and Ku Ya have met with disaster!"

Then, furious roars burst out all over the entire Omega Sword Sect, quaking the sky and splitting the clouds apart.

Countless disciples of the Omega Sword Sect learned that two True Saints of the sect had been killed, and the murderer was Lin Xun!

.....

Earth Treasury Temple.

In an ancient temple hall, the string of rosary beads in an old monk's hand snapped, and crystal-clear rosary beads dribbled to the ground.

"Senior Brother Fa Zheng...was he no match for that heretic?"

The old monk mumbled in a daze, his expression changing indefinitely.

.....

Sea Soul Clan.

"Died...Old Ancestor Shang Ye died!"

Endless voices of indignation and anger rang out, mingled with voices of mourning and weeping.

.....

Moon Worshipper Sect.

“Impossible! How can an ant kill a guardian saint of our sect? Quick! Quickly confirm the reliability of the news!”

On this day, the sect master of the Moon Worshipping Sect flew into a rage like he had gone crazy, which frightened many disciples of the Moon Worshipping Sect and made them feel uneasy.

.....

Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan.

“It’s over...the mysterious female saint did not appear, but Elder Gou Zhenshan still met with disaster...we...we have completely offended Lin Xun...”

All the important figures of the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan were as petrified as if they had been struck by lightning.

Similar scenes were happening in all major ancient orthodoxies.

“Nine Saints have actually fallen...”

At the same time, when the other ancient sects and clans in the Ancient Wasteland Domain heard the news, they almost did not believe it.

To Saints, all living beings were like ants.

Saints were the pinnacle existence of the world, possessing divine mighty power shining as bright as the sun and the moon.

But nine saints had perished in battle!

When had something so unbelievable ever happened before in the Ancient Wasteland Domain?

“Whose power did Lin Xun borrow? How can it be so frightening?”

“I heard that some saints who were hiding in the dark were frightened by his power and fled in panic. They did not even show their faces!”

“That boy...is indeed fierce!”

“Even Saints can’t do anything to him!”

On this day, countless old monsters were out of sorts, shocked by the ruthlessness of a junior in the younger generation.

It was unknown how many major forces were in an uproar.

Nothing could stop the news from spreading like wildfire. Soon, not only the ancient sects and clans in the Ancient Wasteland Domain were aware of this, but also the hundreds of millions of citizens in every area heard about it.

The entire world was dumbstruck by the news.

“Despicable, high and mighty saints actually set up an operation together to attack a young talent like Demon God Lin. They are beyond shameless!” someone fumed.

“So satisfying! Demon God Lin did well! Those saints have always acted superior and regarded all other living beings as ants beneath them. Now, they have finally experienced what despair is!”

Someone laughed and cheered for Lin Xun.

“But wouldn’t Lin Xun completely anger those ancient orthodoxies after this?” Someone frowned with worry.

Someone jeered, “Nonsense! He can take down even Saints. Which ancient orthodoxy would be so blind to mess with Lin Xun in the future? Do they think not enough saints have been killed?”

This was the common people. They were just bystanders and so would make different evaluations based on their own preferences.

But no matter what no one dared to ridicule or mock Lin Xun again.

He was no longer someone who they could slander and insult!

He could even kill Saints! How many people in the past and present had been able to achieve what he had?

“From now on, Demon God Lin has proved himself and will become number one out of all of his peers. He is unstoppable and no major force would dare to bully him!”

Many people sighed.

On this day, the Supreme Realm came to an end, and it should have been the focus of attention for everyone in the world.

But everyone was astounded by the fact that Lin Xun was first place on the Genius Gold Rankings in these ten years of the Supreme Realm, surpassing all other heroes. He was regarded as the strongest among everyone in the Supreme Realm!

Additionally, today, he killed nine powerful saints despite being only at the seventh longevity tribulation stage. No one knew how to describe their emotions anymore!

It was like an unbelievable, impossible miracle.

It could even be regarded as a present day legend!

Some extraordinary characters who came out of the Supreme Realm, such as Imperial Son Shaohao, Fairy Ruowu, Little Golden-Winged Dapeng King, Yuan Fatian and others were also flabbergasted by the news.

Meanwhile, friends of Lin Xun, such as Ji Xingyao, Ye Chen, Xiao Cangtian, Xiao Qinghe, Mi Hengzhen and Yue Jianming could not help but lament at the fact that he was abnormal, but in truth, they felt extremely proud of him!

Even a saint could not do anything to him. Was that not amazing? Who in his generation could compare to him?

On the same day, news came out that Quasi-Emperor Bai Yujing, who had not appeared for a long time, issued an order that when the war of the nine domains broke out, if Lin Xun did not atone for his sins by fighting off the enemies, he will be the first to kill Lin Xun!

A tossed stone raised a thousand ripples!

Bai Yujing, a living fossil who had lived for an unknown number of years, an almighty figure who was suspected to have stepped into the Emperor Stage, was also alarmed!

He might have demanded Lin Xun to atone for his sins, but he did not personally take action to deal with him. Even if he was unhappy with Lin Xun's act of killing so many Saints, he only ordered him to participate in the upcoming war of the nine domains.

Could it be that even a Quasi-Emperor acknowledges Lin Xun's strength? Bai Yujing's attitude chilled some ancient orthodoxies.

This was especially true for the Omega Sword Sect. All the higher-ups of the sect and the disciples were dumbstruck by the news.

They were the only ones who knew that Bai Yujing was the senior brother of the founder of their sect, so they were shocked to hear that he did not pursue the matter further. After all, Lin Xun had murdered two True Saints, Yu Xiu and Ku Ya, of their sect!

His action could even be understood as sparing Lin Xun!

“How could this be?”

The Omega Sword Sect was filled with the sounds of wailing.

“Mister Miaoxuan of the Divine Apparatus Pavilion also appeared, but he stood aside and did not stop Lin Xun from killing the Saints!”

This piece of news triggered another storm in the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

The Divine Apparatus Pavilion was one of the most mysterious and respected Hidden Holy Lands in the world, but they also...acknowledged Lin Xun?

In short, in the tenth year of the great age, on the day when the Supreme Realm came to an end, Lin Xun’s name illuminated the Ancient Wasteland Domain like the great sun, attracting worldwide attention and sparking discussion and uproars!

He was like a legend of the younger generation. He erupted with unprecedented power and scared the ancient orthodoxies witless!

The world continued in this state for more than a month before gradually calming down.

No one could deny that Lin Xun had established his power!

.....

Snow Mulberry City was named after the snow mulberry trees planted all over the city.

The snow mulberry trees had roots like horned dragons and were blossoming with crystal white flowers in the cold air. However, after the death of the saints, the snow-white flowers were dyed a glaring bright-red shade.

The color of blood evoked poignant emotions.

The city was filled with flowers, but also covered with blood!

Since then, every year the snow mulberry flowers bloomed as red as blood, and it became a widely discussed spectacle of the world.

It was said that many cultivators heard the faint sobbing of Saints when the snow mulberry flowers were blooming...

As a result, Snow Mulberry City also made it onto the Annals of History and would be remembered by future generations as a legendary city in the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

In the endless years to come, it attracted countless cultivator visitors.

Thinking back to the bloody battle when Saints fell like the rain, many influential figures could not help but exclaim in admiration at the mention of the name Demon God Lin.

.....

Several days later.

In a cave in the lush valley, Lin Xun woke up from meditation and felt that his body had been recharged and his mind refreshed.

“It’s worth exchanging one life-killing Stupa heart for the lives of nine Saints...” Lin Xun exhaled.

The life-killing Stupa heart, left by Saint Buddha Xingjia, was unimaginably terrifying because it was a power of the Emperor Stage!

Unfortunately, it could only be used once.

And now it had vanished.

However, this battle allowed Lin Xun to experience the brilliance of an Emperor cultivator and thus strengthened his determination to seek the dao.

In the Omega Secret Realm in his mind-sea, the cold and ethereal voice of the mysterious woman suddenly sounded, “Why did you not ask for my help?”

This was the first time she asked a question on her own initiative!

A smile curved Lin Xun’s lips as he responded through his spirit sense. “They are just a bunch of old animals, Elder, there was no need to bother you.”

“It seems like you are trying to get rid of your psychological dependence on me. Yes, ten years of being in the Supreme Realm have indeed brought about great changes in you. It is very good that you understand this...” The woman’s cold voice contained a rare hint of emotion.

She was emotionally moved.

She had watched Lin Xun grow up and observed him rise from a nobody to who he was today. How would she not be touched now that Lin Xun had made such achievements and no longer needed to rely on her?

The young eagle would one day spread his wings and fly.

A true cultivator should also be independent and self-reliant!

On the path of the great dao, if one only relied on their background, power, possessions and other people's protection...

Their success would be limited!

"Elder, you flatter me. If I encounter an irresolvable predicament in the future, I will definitely still seek your help," Lin Xun quickly explained with a wry smile.

Who was he kidding? He would not give up on the opportunity of asking the mysterious woman to lend a hand.

Of course, he had a sort of drive and determination in his heart. When the time came that he would never need to turn to the mysterious woman for help in the future....

...that would be even better!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1358: Head to Baiyujing Again

"Dependence is a thief in the heart. And you have killed it. Even if you seek help, it has nothing to do with dependence. This is the difference between resigning to the inevitable and not resigning to the inevitable," said the mysterious woman casually.

"It is not enough to simply cut off dependence and become self-reliant. For you, in the future, you should also have the ambition to surpass the sages of all times and to ascend the pinnacle of the great dao."

After that, there was silence.

Lin Xun responded with a smile, knowing that the mysterious woman's attitude towards him had changed from before.

The pinnacle of the great dao!

Those words brought a surge of emotions welling up inside Lin Xun.

It could mean ascending the highest point of the great dao or it could mean reaching the farthest point of the great dao, or it could mean becoming the strongest above the great dao!

“Take it step by step. It’s not good to bite off more than one can chew...”

After a while, Lin Xun calmed his emotions and rose to his feet.

The crisis he faced right after returning from the Supreme Realm had been resolved, and now it was time to deal with some personal affairs.

“A’lu, will we meet again?”

Lin Xun moved A’lu, Toady and Caicai out of the Dao Endless Pagoda.

After learning that the crisis had been averted, A’lu decided to leave. He wanted to return to his master and find out about the mystery of his life.

He grinned, “Hey, of course we will meet again. Brother, you are so famous now, don’t tell me you are worried that I can’t find you?”

“Why don’t we make a promise? The war of the nine domains will inevitably break out one day. When that happens, how about we brothers reunite on the battlefield?” Toady suggested.

“Alright!” A’lu readily agreed.

Not long after that, he bid farewell and left.

As Lin Xun and Toady watched his mighty figure disappear, a feeling of pensive sadness filled their hearts. They did not know when they would see each other again after this separation.

They could only hope that each other would take care of themselves.

“Young Master Lin, I...I also should head back too,” Caicai murmured, the reluctance on her pretty and innocent face was obvious.

Lin Xun smiled. “Caicai, perhaps I might come to see you soon.”

“Huh?”

Caicai’s dark almond-shaped eyes widened, then she exclaimed happily, “Young Master Lin, if you come, you will be treated as an esteemed guest. I have to prepare well on how to welcome you.”

Lin Xun said, “But how should I find you?”

Although the Cloud Weaver Clan was not one of the most powerful ancient clans in the world, it was known to be extremely mysterious and their clansmen rarely appeared in the world.

“Here, this is a pouch I made. Young Master, if you are looking for me, just head to the Cloud Dream Reservoir and open the pouch. It will guide you.”

Caicai handed a light pink pouch to Lin Xun.

“Okay, thank you.”

Lin Xun held it in his hand. The pouch, embroidered with cloud patterns, was soft and warm and had the delicate fragrance of a young girl.

“Would you like me to see you off?” asked Lin Xun

“No need, I’m not a child anymore, I can go home by myself.” Caicai grinned, waving her little soft hand before she turned around and left.

The girl’s slender figure gradually faded under the beautiful glow of the sunset.

“Take care, Caicai. I’ll be waiting for you to weave the most beautiful wedding dress in the world and drink the wedding liquor you brewed,” Toady cried out.

“Ah!”

From the distance, a maiden’s shy cry rang out before she vanished in a flash like a startled rabbit.

Toady couldn’t help smiling. “She’s such a nice girl.”

“Do you like her?” asked Lin Xun.

“Who wouldn’t?”

Toady rolled his eyes.

“I thought you were planning to be Caicai’s groom,” teased Lin Xun.

Toady said irritably, “I am devoted to the dao and have never thought about any romantic relationships. What’s more, no woman in this world is worthy of me.”

He had started bragging again.

Lin Xun lashed out with a kick. “Toady, make a trip to Spirit Treasure Holy Land and meet up with Miss Zhao. When I return, we shall find a way back to the lower world together.”

“Where are you going?” Toady looked puzzled.

“To take care of some personal matters.”

In the end, Lin Xun still did not tell Toady what he planned to do.

Revenge was indeed a private matter, and he did not want Toady to get involved in it.

Toady took a deep breath. “Then you must come.”

Lin Xun nodded.

On the same day, Toady left for Spirit Treasure Holy Land in the Ink White Province.

This was what Lin Xun had agreed with Zhao Jingxuan and Toady before leaving the Supreme Realm.

“I’m all alone now...”

Standing alone in the vast world, Lin Xun felt extremely quiet.

“Master, I am still here,” Little Silver reminded him in his mind-sea.

Lin Xun was taken aback at first, then he burst into laughter. “Yes, I have you, how about we make a trip to Baiyujing?”

“How would I disobey Master’s order?” Little Silver gave a rare smile. His usual serious and handsome face had become brighter than the sun.

“Let’s go!”

Lin Xun did not hesitate at all.

Yun Qingbai had died, but the accomplices in the massacre of the Lin Clan were still alive. It was time to put an end to everything.

.....

The Ancient Wasteland Domain was huge. After the four worlds were unified, the entire world had become very different from before.

Lin Xun left the valley and flew around in the air for several hours before he discovered a city.

Only after he entered the city did he realize he had come to a city that originally belonged to the border of the South Wonder World.

In the busy streets, there was an endless flow of people and the shouts of street vendors. From time to time, creatures of various races would pass through the crowd.

Standing in the middle of the bustling and chaotic street, Lin Xun could not help but fall into a trance. He had not experienced the secular world and its liveliness for a long time.

“It is said that Demon God Lin, after arriving in the West Infinity World, already demonstrated his unique brilliance. Although he was a nobody at the time, he had the guts to compete with disciples of the ancient orthodoxies and killed without mercy...”

In a teahouse, a storyteller was sputtering incessantly.

Many customers had gathered around to listen in, bursting into exclamations from time to time.

Lin Xun stared at them blankly.

He never thought that his deeds would be retold by storytellers and spread around the streets.

And it seemed to be rather popular.

“My cousin really knows Demon God Lin. They had searched for treasures together when he was still in the West Infinity World, and they have an extremely good relationship.”

“Wu Dazui, stop lying. What kind of person is your cousin? Is he worthy of being associated with the Demon God Lin?”

Lin Xun had only walked a few steps when another squabble caught his attention. The corners of his lips twitched.

At the same time, he was wondering what was going on. Why were there remarks and discussions about him no matter where he went?

Soon, Lin Xun came to the center of the city, where a News Tree was glowing brightly.

Many figures were gathered around the tree.

Lin Xun took a closer look and understanding dawned on him right away. The majority of the news on the News Tree was related to him!

The number one person in the Supreme Realm, the first on the Genius Gold Rankings, the present day legend, the unparalleled talent of the younger generation...

Lin Xun had been crowned with all sorts of peculiar titles.

But every piece of news mentioned the bloody battle that resulted in the deaths of several saints a few days ago.

When Lin Xun saw this, he finally understood the situation. He had become famous in the world!

This left him speechless for a while. Fortunately, he had disguised his appearance prior to entering the city.

Given his current strength and cultivation level, it was impossible for others to see through his disguise unless they were Saints.

“What are they writing?!”

Not long after that, his face darkened. One of the news reports was about the affairs between him and different women including Ji Xingyao, Bai Lingxi, Luo Jia, Le Caiwei and Zhao Jingxuan.

This was clearly based on baseless rumors, but the writer of the news report made it sound like a love story.

Worst of all, the news sparked the most reaction and interest.

Men who read it looked envious and impressed.

Women who read it were heartbroken and disappointed. Some even directly scolded Lin Xun for his womanizing behavior and bad character.

Lin Xun’s face was darker than ever. This was all fabricated and untrue!

But he could not explain himself.

“No wonder the world has a love-hate relationship with the Wind Speaker Clan...” Lin Xun gnashed his teeth.

After several minutes, he had a general idea of what was happening in the present world, and then he continued onwards to Baiyujing.

He pushed on with his journey on the Grand Universe Ark. Along the way, he began to comprehend and practice the Taixuan Sword Scripture.

Half a month later.

He reached the territory of Baiyujing.

At this moment, in his heart, a Taixuan quintessence had been cultivated. Shaped like a sword, it was transparent and crystal clear, floating among the power of Star Annihilation Heaven Devourer.

Within the sword body contained Lin Xun's cultivation, essence, qi, and spirit.

This sword was also called the Taixuan Heart Sword. Only the power of the Taixuan Heart Sword could control the Taixuan Sword Qi in other acupoints of the body!

Lin Xun has only had his first glimpse into the sword scripture and begun to cultivate the Taixuan Heart Sword, but it was already a very good start.

From now on, he only needed to follow the secrets of the sword scripture to cultivate sword qi in the acupoints all over his body.

However, it was not easy. It tested a cultivator's mentality and understanding of the sword dao.

If one did not know how to do it, one would never be able to cultivate eight hundred and forty million sword qi in their life.

Omega Sword Sect, Cloud Light Hall.

This was the training hall of inner sect elder Meng Qiuqing.

"What should we do? He has killed Yun Qingbai, so he won't let us off. Even Saints are no match for him. We...how can we deal with him?"

Zhao Jingzhen paced anxiously up and down the hall.

After learning that Lin Xun had single-handedly killed nine Saints, he had been having trouble sleeping and eating. As time went by, his temper grew more and more irritable.

"Jingzhen, in the Omega Sword Sect, no one can touch us."

Opposite him, Meng Rong furrowed her brows, exposing her dissatisfaction with Zhao Jingzhen. *How could he lose his composure over this? Lin Xun is just a kid. It is a little surprising that he killed a few Saints.*

But would he have the guts to force his way into the Omega Sword Sect?

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1359: The Truth Back Then

Meng Rong had to admit that she was indeed shocked and terrified when she learned that Lin Xun had killed several Saints.

As a former imperial concubine of the Ziyao Empire, she knew well how the fact that a newborn of the Lin Clan possessed the Origin Aeth Artery was leaked out.

Yun Qingbai might be the main culprit in the bloody massacre of the Lin Clan back then, but she was closely linked to playing the role of accomplice.

But she was not afraid.

They were in the Omega Sword Sect. Would Lin Xun have the guts to come here and kill?

It was said that the kid was only at the seventh longevity tribulation stage, and the reason he succeeded in killing so many Saints by himself was because of the help of an external power.

“Mother, we can’t possibly stay in the Omega Sword Sect all our lives and never go outside, right?”

Zhao Jingzhen was extremely agitated.

He knew that, given Lin Xun’s personality, he would definitely not let them off!

“The situation doesn’t look good. The entire sect is investigating the cause of Yun Qingbai’s death. If the sect master knows that the feud between Yun Qingbai and Lin Xun’s family was caused by us, he will never forgive us.”

Suddenly, Meng Qiuqing’s tall and built figure appeared in Cloud Light Hall, his face overcast with a frown.

He was Meng Rong’s father and Zhao Jingzhen’s grandfather.

“This...” Meng Rong panicked.

Zhao Jingzhen also stiffened, and his expression changed drastically.

Only a few people in the entire Omega Sword Sect knew about Yun Qingbai stealing Lin Xun’s Origin Aeth Artery. If this matter was exposed, the sect would be enraged and they would not be able to conceal their involvement in it.

“Meng Rong, take Zhao Jingzhen away from here.”

Meng Qiujing took a deep breath and said in a deep voice, “Go back to the lower world and seek help from Zhao Yuanji. Jingzhen is his biological son, and there is no way he would just let him die and not save him.”

“Him?”

Meng Rong trembled all over, expression changing indefinitely. That man was in charge of the Ziyao Empire and wielded powers as vast as the sea.

Even though Meng Rong was his concubine, she had never understood him. He was like a mystery—unfathomable and cold-blooded!

Unless absolutely necessary, she would rather never see him again in her life.

“Grandfather, my father will only send me to guard the imperial mausoleum. I would rather stay in the Omega Sword Sect than do that.” Zhao Jingzhen also panicked.

To him, his father was a terrifying existence who only had the world and the great dao in his eyes.

Among all the children of the imperial family, he only ever attached importance to Zhao Jingxuan!

“Go!”

Meng Qiujing did not change his stance. “I will open up the boundary node to the lower world for you. Once you get there, don’t come back again!”

The passages to the lower world had long been destroyed. Meng Qiujing believed that, unless Lin Xun could control similar boundary nodes, he would never be able to return to the lower world ever in this lifetime.

Meng Rong’s expression was still overcast. After a long while, she inhaled deeply and nodded in agreement.

On the other hand, Zhao Jingzhen was in a dazed state as if all his strength had been drained from him.

He knew that even if he returned to the lower world, what awaited him would be nothing but a life of darkness and being a tomb keeper for the rest of his life!

.....

There were thirty-six mountain peaks in the rear mountain of Omega Sword Sect.

Not long after that, Meng Qiujing appeared in front of one of the peaks. After informing them of his arrival, he walked down a mountain path at the bottom of the mountain peak.

At the end of the mountain path he was greeted by a huge pool of molten lava. The fiery red lava bubbled and produced a scorching and frightening aura.

A dark divine sword bobbed about in the pool of lava, seeming extremely mysterious.

“Lord, the matter is very likely going to be exposed.”

Meng Qiujing bowed and spoke respectfully, his expression showing a hint of unconcealable fear.

“I heard.”

Suddenly, a figure of nothingness emerged from the dark divine sword.

Only upon a careful look would one see an old man with the most indifferent expression on his face. His hair and beard were combed neatly, and his eyes were as bright as the sun.

“Back then, I was the one who brought Yun Qingbai into the sect from a poor little village, and I was also the one who raised and trained him. I wanted him to become a leading figure of the supreme generation, but unfortunately...he turned out to be not good enough.” The old man sighed but his voice was devoid of emotions.

“Yun Qingbai was a very important chess piece. I placed all my efforts on him, and I even thought of letting him take charge of our plan after the Supreme Realm came to an end.”

The old man floated above the dark divine sword like an illusion.

“It’s too late to train up another successor. In less than ten years, the war of nine domains will break out, which means...the plan we have been working hard towards for decades...has completely failed...”

As the old man reached the end of his sentence, his voice quivered with deep bitterness and hatred. “Yun Qingbai is useless! He ruined my great plan!

“According to the plan, if he became the number one figure of the supreme generation in the Ancient Wasteland Domain, then given his influence, he can play a crucial role in the war of the nine domains. If the plan had gone smoothly, then we could have wiped out all the supreme figures of the younger generation in the Ancient Wasteland Domain in one go!

“But...”

A menacing expression twisted the old man's features. "He was killed!"

Boom!

Frightening murderous intent spread outwards from the old man. Meng Qiujing froze up like he had fallen into an ice cave.

"Argh!"

The old man uttered a dismal groan.

No one knew how much effort and sacrifice he had made for Yun Qingbai. And now, everything had been in vain.

How would he not be filled with hatred?

Meng Qiujing could not help asking after hesitating for a long time, "Lord, why did you not kill Lin Xun when you went to the lower world?"

"Hmph!"

The old man's face darkened, his expression ice-cold. "At this point, there is no need to hide it from you. That kid's background is not ordinary at all.

"At that time, I wanted to wipe out the entire Lin Clan and leave no one alive, but a mysterious man came to rescue the kid and mother. That man not only rescued Lin Xun, but also destroyed the boundary power I set up and that alarmed the influential figures in the lower world."

The old man's eyes flashed strangely, which seemed to be filled with fear and also puzzlement. "I did not expect there to be a true Emperor Stage expert lurking in the lower world!"

"What?"

Meng Qiujing looked like he was struck by lightning. The lower world was so bleak that it was regarded as an abandoned place by the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

How could an Emperor expert exist there?

"Hmph! If that did not happen, then why would I fail to kill that measly ant?"

The old man snorted coldly, "Unfortunately, I didn't dare to stay around for too long, so I just took Yun Qingbai and left in a hurry. Otherwise, I would have found out which Emperor is watching over the lower world!"

Meng Qiujing's expression changed again.

He knew how terrifyingly powerful the old man was. If it wasn't to conceal his identity and not be noticed by the old antiques in the Ancient Wasteland Domain, then he would not be afraid of any existence at the Saint or King Stage!

"Lord, what should we do now?" asked Meng Qiujing.

"The plan has failed. I no longer have a role in Ancient Wasteland Domain. I can only...leave."

The old man's voice was low, as if he was reluctant to do so.

"Lord, are you going back to your homeland? Then what about...me?" Meng Qiujing asked again.

The old man decided, "Stay here for now. If I need you in the future, I will contact you."

As he spoke, he flicked his sleeve and tossed a jade bottle to Meng Qiujing's feet. "This is the antidote to the Mind Locking Curse. There are one hundred pills inside, which should be enough to prevent you from suffering an adverse reaction for one hundred years."

Meng Qiujing's face paled and he cried out in panic, "Lord, what will happen after one hundred years then?"

"One hundred years from now...Haha, maybe the Ancient Wasteland Domain will have already been breached by then. At that time, I will come and completely remove the Mind Locking Curse on you."

The old man smiled faintly.

Not long after that, Meng Qiujing left the cave in despair. The bright sky felt particularly blinding to him.

"He only gave me another one hundred years to live, he's...too cruel!"

He smoldered with resentment and anger, and several times he had the urge to reveal the old man's identity and expose him completely.

But in the end, he still held back.

On this day, earthshaking sad news came from the Omega Sword Sect. An ancestor called Fan Qi who had been in closed-door cultivation in the sacred lava pool in the rear mountain for years died as a result of being possessed by demons during training.

The sudden news filled everyone in the Omega Sword Sect with deep sorrow. Ancestor Fan Qi was a true Saint, yet he died in such a way.

Following the death of Yu Xiu and Ku Ya, today, Ancestor Fan Qi also died. This was a huge blow to the Omega Sword Sect.

Only Meng Qiuqing sneered to himself. *Ancestor Fan Qi died hundreds of years ago. It's just that his body had been occupied by someone else all these years.*

Now that he was gone, the body naturally would be possessed by demons.

.....

The moment Lin Xun entered Baiyujing, he heard the news about the death of Ancestor Fan Qi from the Omega Sword Sect.

But he was baffled by it. *How can a saint die during training? Is the saint path that dangerous?*

But very quickly, he paid no more attention to it.

He had come to Baiyujing to eliminate the accomplices to the massacre of the Lin Clan!

Two days later.

He finally acquired all sorts of information he needed and locked on a target—a man called Song Qingyun.

Dao Seeking Inn.

On the second floor, a group of young talents had gathered together. Sitting in the main seat was a haughty young man in a feathered outfit.

His name was Song Qingyun, an inner disciple of the Omega Sword Sect and a young genius with a cultivation base of the Cyclic Derivation Stage.

Although he was only at the Cyclic Derivation Stage, he seemed to be the center of attention, with everyone sitting around him like stars surrounding the moon.

“Brother Song, do you know the truth about the death of Ancestor Fan Qi? He was a Saint, how would he just pass away like that?” someone asked.

Song Qingyun's face darkened. “How can we pry into such a confidential matter?”

At that moment, a white clad youngster walked up to the second floor and marched straight towards Song Qingyun and the others.

His gaze ran across the room before quickly landing on Song Qingyun, who was sitting in the main seat.

“Song Qingyun?” asked the youngster.

Suddenly, everyone frowned.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1360: Luring the Enemy

“What gall!” A person smacked the table and sprung up before Song Qingyun could speak. It was a luxuriously dressed man who was clearly a descendant of a noble clan. He pointed at Lin Xun and scolded, “Are you blind? Can’t you see that we’re having a gathering?!”

The others also displayed their displeasure.

The young man who had suddenly walked up to the second floor was indeed Lin Xun. He cast a glance at the luxuriously dressed man.

The latter instantly froze on the spot and started shivering as a great terror swept through his heart. He felt as if he had just been eyed by a god.

Thud!

His knees went weak and fell back on his seat with a dull expression.

Seeing this, the entire room was startled.

Song Qingyun’s eyes flickered. He said, “Do you need me for something, friend?”

Lin Xun only said, “Follow me.”

With that, he turned around and left.

From start to end, he had only said two short sentences. The first one was ‘Song Qingyun?’ so as to confirm the target’s identity. The second one was ‘Follow me,’ and he had said it without any emotion.

But to the shock of the others, Song Qingyun instantly got up and followed Lin Xun.

After they disappeared from view, everyone in the room looked at each other in bewilderment. *Is that man an acquaintance of Song Qingyun?*

They didn't understand what had happened because they had no idea that when Lin Xun's seventh longevity cultivation was applied on a Cyclic Derivation cultivator like Song Qingyun, it was enough to take over the latter's spirit and mind!

.....

In the shadow of a hill outside the city, Lin Xun appeared out of thin air. With a wave of his sleeve, Song Qingyun tumbled on the ground.

It was only then did Song Qingyun come to his senses. His expression drastically changed, and he said in a trembling voice, "Senior, my master is Meng Qiuqing, an inner elder of the Omega Sword Sect. If I have somehow offended you, please take account of this and forgive me."

As an inner disciple of the Omega Sword Sect, how could he not realize that the young man in front of him was highly likely a King stage monster?

"Meng Qiuqing's last disciple, right? I was looking for you." Lin Xun casually said, "I need you to help me with something. If you cooperate, then you won't have to worry about your life..."

Without waiting for Lin Xun to finish, Song Qingyun hurriedly nodded. "I'll cooperate, I'll definitely cooperate!"

Lin Xun was stunned. *This fellow is too spineless. He's from the same Omega Sword Sect as Yun Qingbai, but the difference is like heaven and earth.*

"Alright. First, I need to get something from your memory. You'd better not resist because it's useless and will instead cause you unimaginable pain." Lin Xun didn't want to waste his time on a coward. He ordered, "Little Silver, your turn."

Whoosh!

Little Silver swept out in a silver streak and entered Song Qingyun's mind sea.

"What...do you..." Song Qingyun was frightened, but before he could even attempt to resist, his face became lifeless like his soul had wandered off.

Lin Xun quietly waited.

Little Silver was a descendant of the God Devourer Insects. The abilities it had at the Supreme King longevity stage was more than enough to extract all the memories from Song Qingyun's spirit!

Moreover, the memories were guaranteed to be authentic and not forged.

“Master, all done.” Little Silver appeared a little while later, looking relaxed.

Lin Xun nodded. He planned to kill Meng Qiuqing, Meng Rong, and Ninth Prince Zhao Jingzhen. Since it was impossible to just go and break into the Omega Sword Sect, he could only find another way.

After two days of investigating, he finally selected Song Qingyun.

This person was Meng Qiuqing’s final and treasured core disciple. Meng Qiuqing obviously considered him the first in line to inherit his complete legacy.

Lin Xun’s idea was that as long as he had Song Qingyun in control, he could plot and lure Meng Qiuqing out from the Omega Sword Sect.

Then, he would proceed to control Meng Qiuqing. By that point, Meng Rong and Zhao Jingzhen, who could only survive under the protection of the Omega Sword Sect, would also have no way to escape.

“Master, I found something interesting from this man’s memories,” said Little Silver with an odd expression.

“What is it?” asked Lin Xun.

“This guy is actually Meng Qiuqing’s illegitimate son! It’s just that Meng Qiuqing has been keeping this a secret, so no one else in the Omega Sword Sect knows about it,” replied Little Silver.

Lin Xun’s expression also became strange. *So that’s why such a coward is still so highly valued and cultivated by Meng Qiuqing...*

He looked at Song Qingyun, seemingly pondering something.

“Looks like our plan will need to change.”

.....

In the afternoon, a huge piece of news spread in the city—

“Song Qingyun, an inner disciple of the Omega Sword Sect, was caught red-handed by a passing expert when he was forcing himself on a young girl! The expert, in a fit of rage, captured him and tied him above the city gates as a public punishment!”

The whole city was abuzz.

Baiyujing was the territory of the Omega Sword Sect, yet someone had the audacity to capture one of its disciples and hang him above the city gates in public display!

That afternoon, many people in the city saw with their own eyes Song Qingyun indeed being bound on the city wall. He looked all disheveled and was obviously unconscious.

“Who did this?”

Everyone had the same question. Such an action was simply a slap in the face of the Omega Sword Sect.

Many people lamented, “Alas, what a troubled time we’re in. The Omega Sword Sect has just lost three Saints in a row and is still in turmoil. Now, even Song Qingyun is tied up and humiliated in public. Does this mean many people think that the Omega Sword Sect’s might is no longer as great as it once was?”

Meanwhile, many were entertained since the trouble had nothing to do with them. “Humph, I’ve long heard that Song Qingyun is very pompous and lecherous. This isn’t his first time assaulting innocent girls. It’s just that...heh...he met someone formidable this time!”

That evening, the news spread to the Omega Sword Sect and caused an uproar.

Cloud Light Hall.

When Meng Qiujing heard about what happened, he was furious. *Our sect is going through a stormy time, and that prodigal son still has the heart to do this kind of nasty thing?!*

“Intolerable! How dare they make light of our Omega Sword Sect like that?! No matter who did it, we must execute them as a warning to others!”

“Master, let’s hurry and do something about this! Senior Brother Song is still being hung on public display! This...this is a humiliation.”

One disciple arrived at Cloud Light Hall after another, filled with ‘righteous’ indignation as they clamored to rescue Song Qingyun and kill the culprit.

“Shut up! You don’t think this isn’t already embarrassing enough?!” roared Meng Qiujing.

The entire hall instantly grew silent.

At this moment, a majestic voice suddenly resounded outside, “Junior Brother Meng, Song Qingyun is your last disciple, isn’t he? You will need to settle this scandalous matter yourself. He must be punished for doing such a despicable deed in broad daylight. I need a satisfactory answer!”

Meng Qiujiing's expression abruptly changed. He hurriedly bowed and cupped his hands. "Yes, Sect Leader!"

The majestic voice rang out, "Junior Brother Meng, recently our sect has been plagued by a series of misfortunes and is going through a turbulent time. I hope that something like this won't happen again in the future."

With that, the voice disappeared.

Meng Qiujiing's face was gloomy as he just couldn't wait to slap his prodigal son to death. *He really knows to bring nothing but more trouble to me!*

Meng Qiujiing took a deep breath to calm down and dismissed the disciples. "You can all leave. I'll personally go and take a look at this."

He then stood still and pondered for a while. In the end, he left, flying up toward the horizon.

"I'd like to see who has such guts to humiliate my son like that!" In the night clouds, Meng Qiujiing's face was ice-cold, his heart steaming with killing intent.

There had really been one disaster after another recently, and Meng Qiujiing had also accumulated a stomach full of anger. Now that the bullying concerned himself, he could no longer endure it.

"Wait... No, how could this happen for no reason at all? Qingyun would never do such a stupid thing in broad daylight and even get caught at that!"

Halfway there, Meng Qiujiing suddenly frowned as he felt that something was wrong.

"Moreover, who in the world doesn't know that Baiyujing is the territory of the Omega Sword Sect? Only an idiot would dare to humiliate an inner disciple in full view of the public, or they're simply tired of living..."

The more Meng Qiujiing thought about it, the clearer it was that something was off.

As an old monster of the King stage, he had experienced countless plots and schemes.

He had just been blindsided and taken over by fury earlier. Now that he had calmed down, he instantly noticed the fishy aspects.

"Could it be that...it's to deal with me?"

Meng Qiujiing abruptly stopped in the air. Under the night was as black as ink, a wisp of starlight pierced through the clouds and reflected his flickering expressions.

Less than a thousand miles ahead was the city where Song Qingyun was bound.

But at this moment, in Meng Qiuji's eyes, it was a huge net that had been carefully laid out, just waiting for him to run headlong into it.

He hesitated in an internal struggle.

No one knew that Song Qingyun was actually his own son. As a father, how could he sit still and watch his son suffer?

But what if it was a trap that targeted him? Should he still go?

Meng Qiuji could not make up his mind. "If it's really to deal with me, then who on earth would do so? They didn't even dare to reveal their identity and could only use Qingyun to force me to come out... Don't tell me...it's that loathsome boy?!"

A name suddenly surfaced in his head – Lin Xun!

Meng Qiuji gasped as a chill ran down his spine.

He had a strong premonition that it was definitely Lin Xun. Only Lin Xun would have the motive to lay out a plan to deal with him!

He had already predicted after hearing of Yun Qingbai's death that Lin Xun would definitely find time to deal with him, Meng Rong, and Zhao Jingzhen.

Therefore, he had taken one step ahead and sent Meng Rong and Zhao Jingzhen away.

This had been just in case, but Meng Qiuji did not expect that Lin Xun would come so quickly!

"No. I must go back!"

Meng Qiuji gritted his teeth and decided to turn back around, knowing he was no match for Lin Xun who was capable of killing even Saints.

For the sake of preserving his own life, he could only give up his own son. As long as he hid in the Omega Sword Sect and didn't come out, there would be nothing Lin Xun could do to him no matter how capable he was!

"It's a pity for Qingyun..."

Meng Qiuji's heart ached like it was being cut through by a knife. He felt an indescribable grief and fury, but also indescribably fortunate.

Perhaps it was because he was lucky enough to recognize and avoid a fatal disaster.

At this moment, Meng Qiujiing's state of mind was very complex.

But all of a sudden, his expression abruptly changed, and he stopped in his tracks. At some point, a tall figure had unknowingly appeared on his path.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1361: The Identity of the Real Culprit

Meng Qiujiing had never met Lin Xun before, but when he saw the tall figure blocking his path, he instantly knew that it was him.

He was in disbelief. How did the other party discover him?

"Even a tiger will not devour its own cubs. Yet, you wouldn't even save your own son. You are truly cruel," said Lin Xun.

His voice was indifferent, but it struck Meng Qiujiing like lightning and caused his hair to stand up.

Even the Omega Sword Sect didn't know that Song Qingyun was his son. How did Lin Xun find out about this?!

"Abomination, this is the territory of the Omega Sword Sect, not where you can act wildly!" Meng Qiujiing suddenly bellowed, his voice rumbling like thunder.

Hearing this, Lin Xun's lips curled up in ridicule. "You're still trying to notify your sect so they can come and save you?"

"You..." Meng Qiujiing's expression dramatically sank when he realized that his voice had been blocked by an invisible layer of restrictive force.

Boom!

Lin Xun swung his hand. His dao aura immediately formed a splendid starry river and swept out.

Meng Qiujiing had the cultivation of the second longevity stage. Without that, he wouldn't have been able to serve as an inner elder of the Omega Sword Sect. However, when faced with this strike, he felt indescribably helpless.

The gap between them was too big!

In an ear-piercing explosion laced with unwilling roars, Meng Qiuqing was wrapped up by the dazzling light and lost consciousness.

The next moment, Lin Xun picked him up and swiftly flew into the darkness.

Recalling what had just happened, even he had to admit that this Meng Qiuqing was extremely vigilant and shrewd, immediately retreating when he sensed something bad.

It was astonishing how quickly he reacted and how ruthless his heart was.

Fortunately, Lin Xun had never intended to sit and wait for Meng Qiuqing to fall into his trap.

A fight with an old King stage monster inside the city would inevitably expose his power and identity and cause an unnecessary uproar.

Taking this into consideration, Lin Xun had arranged for Little Silver to remain in the city while he had left to guard the road.

Thanks to this, he was able to catch the big fish that was Meng Qiuqing.

.....

In the city under the ink-dark night.

A building had been covered in invisible restrictive runes.

“Can you not let Qingyun know about these things? He is innocent and has never gotten involved in any persecution of the Lin Family. I beg you, please let him off the hook.” Meng Qiuqing looked defeated as he half lay on the ground. He seemed to have suddenly aged a great deal.

Song Qingyun was still unconscious like an abandoned dog on the cold ground, which made his heart ache.

“Wasn’t my family innocent? Have you ever thought of letting them go just once?” Lin Xun’s face was expressionless, and there wasn’t a shred of emotion in his eyes.

“We...we were forced!” shouted Meng Qiuqing in distress. “We are not the real culprit!”

“Of course, I know it was Yun Qingbai,” said Lin Xun.

Meng Qiuqing clenched his jaw and spilled the secret, “No, Yun Qingbai was just a poor puppet with his entire life in someone else’s grasp. He was only at the early Cyclic

Derivation stage back then; how could he possibly have the ability to sneak into the lower world and do such a thing without being noticed?”

He had obviously decided to throw all care out the window in order to protect himself.

Lin Xun narrowed his eyes. “Then, was it the man who raised Yun Qingbai?”

Meng Qiujiing was incredulous. “You...you already knew? It seems Yun Qingbai told you. Was he also very unwilling when he was nearing his death? A supreme talent born with a sword bone, but was manipulated from the very beginning...”

His face dimmed as he seemed to relate to this. *Aren't I the same as him?*

Lin Xun was silent for a while, then said, “Tell me about that man.”

Hearing this, Meng Qiujiing saw a glimmer of hope. “If I tell you about him, will you spare my life?”

Lin Xun said flatly, “Even if you don't, I can still extract the information from your spirit. I just don't want to go through the trouble.”

Little Silver stood on Lin Xun's shoulder with an icy face. It was ready.

Meng Qiujiing's expression flickered. In the end, he accepted his fate and bitterly pointed at Song Qingyun not far away, “Can you leave a strand of bloodline for me?”

Lin Xun said, “I will consider this after learning the truth.”

“Alright!” Meng Qiujiing nodded repeatedly. Taking several deep breaths, he said, “That person is not from the Omega Sword Sect. You should have heard that our Ancestor Fan Qi died today in a disaster. But in fact, Ancestor Fan Qi was killed a hundred years ago. His shell was then occupied by someone else...”

Lin Xun's eyes narrowed. He hadn't known about this before.

The one who had killed Ancestor Fan Qi was undoubtedly the mysterious man behind Yun Qingbai.

“That person is extreme, a demon that does not belong to the Ancient Wasteland Domain. He comes from the Absolute Yin Ancient Domain and has gotten one foot into the Emperor stage. A century ago, he used some unknown method to cross through the front line of our battlefield and infiltrate our domain...”

Meng Qiujiing was cooperative as he narrated the past in a low voice.

“He had a plan to bring up someone strong enough to lead the younger generation of supreme geniuses before the opening of the nine-domain war.

“Yun Qingbai was the pawn he chose. He had been betting everything he had on him.

“But Yun Qingbai died at your hands, and this has completely disrupted his grand plan.”

Speaking of this, Meng Qiujing glanced at Lin Xun with a complicated expression. He wondered how the Ancient Wasteland Domain would feel when they knew that Lin Xun had helped the younger generation of heaven prides dissolve a monstrous calamity by killing Yun Qingbai.

“So, he wanted to use Yun Qingbai to do something unfavorable to the Ancient Wasteland Domain during the domain war?” Lin Xun was a little shaken.

A Quasi-Emperor from an outer domain had actually been lurking within the Omega Sword Sect for the past hundred years, and even raised Yun Qingbai into the younger generation’s greatest sword cultivator!

If it hadn’t been for Lin Xun, then it would have been possible for Yun Qingbai to become the leader of the whole domain’s supreme characters!

Meng Qiujing gritted his teeth and said, “It’s more than just ‘do something unfavorable.’ That demon planned to use Yun Qingbai’s influence during the opening of the domain war to gather and wipe out all the supreme characters of the Ancient Wasteland Domain, thus completely cutting off its path to the supreme!”

Hearing this, Lin Xun felt a chill run through his heart.

What a cruel plan!

The current great era had been extremely splendid, and after the closing of the Supreme Realm, it would only be difficult for it to descend the Ancient Wasteland Domain again in the future.

It could be said that the Supreme Kings right now were the only batch of supreme cultivators left in the Ancient Wasteland Domain. If they were all wiped out, then the Ancient Wasteland Domain would indeed be forever devoid of the supreme!

Lin Xun also understood why Yun Qingbai had been able to enter the lower world and easily carry out the massacre of the Lin Family.

He had been accompanied by a Quasi-Emperor, and that had been more than enough!

“Where is he? Don’t tell me he’s still in the Omega Sword Sect?” asked Lin Xun.

“No.” Meng Qiujing shook his head. “Since his plan failed, he left just today. Otherwise, there wouldn’t have been the news of ‘Ancestor Fan Qi’s death.’”

Lin Xun nodded.

“Right, there is one more thing.” Meng Qiujing suddenly remembered something. “That demon once said something about your identity being not simple, and that he wasn’t able to kill you back then because he was thwarted by a mysterious person who had originally intended to save your mother. In the end, that person ultimately seized the opportunity to save only you.”

Lin Xun stiffened as his mind buzzed in realization.

After all, it had been the plan of a Quasi-Emperor. It would have been impossible for Lin Xun to survive unless someone had rescued him.

The first person Lin Xun thought of was Mister Lu Boya who had raised him!

“What about my parents?” Lin Xun’s mood was a little off.

“No idea.” Meng Qiujing shook his head. “Unless something unexpected happened, they should have been killed, or else they definitely wouldn’t have watched your Origin Aeth Artery being dug out.”

Lin Xun had previously awakened his memory at birth, and watched from the perspective of an infant the bloody massacre on Mind Cleansing Peak.

Unfortunately, it had been just the tip of the iceberg. He had only seen his parents anxiously yelling in the sea of fire, and also Yun Qingbai indifferently and coldly marching through the fire like a killing god...

Other than that, there had been nothing else.

Meng Qiujing said, “I only remember that demon saying there is a true Emperor expert presiding over the lower world, otherwise he could have exterminated the entire Lin Clan.”

A true Emperor?!

Lin Xun’s heart was in turmoil again. *There is an Emperor in the lower world?!*

Could it be Mister Lu?

No, that’s not right! If Mister Lu was an Emperor, then he wouldn’t tolerate a Quasi-Emperor escaping...

Then who could it be?

Doubts filled Lin Xun's mind. He only realized now that there were too many secrets unbeknownst to him behind the massacre of the Lin Family!

"I've told you everything I know. I was also forced. Ancestor Fan Qi was my master. How could I not loath the demon that killed him?"

Meng Qiujing's expression flickered, and his voice was bitter.

"But I can't do anything about it. That demon used a mysterious mind spell on me. If I don't listen to his orders, then I would be suffering a pain that's worse than death. It's simply not up to me. Yun Qingbai was very pathetic, but I'm no different. We are just pawns under that demon's control."

At this moment, Meng Qiujing was like a wretch as he sat on the ground, paralyzed. Not a trace of the bearing that a King expert should possess could be seen on him.

However, Lin Xun's expression was unperturbed. He asked, "Last question, what is his name?"

"I only vaguely remember he said that he came from a place called Yin Star Sea in the Absolute Yin Ancient Domain. He called it his homeland..." Meng Qiujing frowned in thought. Then, he suddenly remembered something and excitedly said, "Right! He once mumbled something during cultivation: 'Once I, Baqi, return to my homeland, this great feat will put me on the throne...'"

Pfff!

Meng Qiujing's eyes violently widened, and then he coughed out a huge mouthful of blood before collapsing on the ground. In just the blink of an eye, he was deprived of all vitality.

The skin all over his body had taken on a bizarre violet-blue color!

The sudden event made Lin Xun appalled.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1362: Cloud Dream Reservoir

Whoosh!

Lin Xun shot up into the sky and spread his spirit sense to cover every corner of the city.

Countless sounds rang out: the sound of wine cups clinking, of people chatting and eating, of vehicle wheels rolling on the ground...

All the liveliness and ways of life in this huge city were reflected back to him through his spirit sense, but he didn't find anything that he was looking for.

He returned to the yard and carefully scrutinized the surroundings. He found that there wasn't any trace of intrusion on the restrictive rune array that he had laid out.

In the end, he looked at the tragic corpse of Meng Qiujing and speculated that the man had died to some sort of backlash.

"Master, it's because he said that name. It triggered a forbidden spell in his body and resulted in a backlash that wiped out his soul." Little Silver swept out from Meng Qiujing's mind sea with a conclusion.

Baqi!

Lin Xun certainly would not forget this name.

It was a Quasi-Emperor who came from a place called Yin Star Sea in the Absolute Yin Ancient Domain. He had raised and trained Yun Qingbai and also personally led the massacre of the Lin Family!

Meng Qiujing and Yun Qingbai were just pawns after all.

After a moment of silence, Lin Xun waved his sleeve. Meng Qiujing's corpse swiftly turned into ashes and scattered with the wind.

Little Silver asked, "Master, what should we do with this other person?"

"Spare his life," said Lin Xun casually. "He is Meng Qiujing's son. He'll definitely be useful in the future."

Little Silver nodded, then grabbed the unconscious Song Qingyun and flew off.

Sitting alone in the courtyard, Lin Xun took out a wine gourd and started drinking.

Tonight, he had roughly learned of the truth about the massacre back then and also the identity of the true mastermind behind it.

When he thought of Yun Qingbai and Meng Qiujing, it was hard for him not to feel annoyed... In the end, the two he had killed were merely pawns?

Lin Xun was unreconciled.

“Baqi...Baqi... I will find you!”

Lin Xun took a deep breath, and his eyes flashed with determination.

The enemy was a Quasi-Emperor, and he was from a place beyond the Ancient Wasteland Domain. No one knew how far away that place was, but so what?

As long as he kept becoming stronger, sooner or later there would be a day he would capture this culprit, even if it meant he had to travel every inch of the Absolute Yin Ancient Domain!

A few days later, Lin Xun left Baiyujing.

He had originally planned to continue taking his revenge on Meng Rong and Ninth Prince Zhao Jingzhen, but after thorough investigation, he had found that they had vanished without a trace.

Lin Xun guessed that the other party had prepared for this and had already hidden away out of fear after learning about him killing the Saints.

There was nothing that he could do about this.

However, now that Yun Qingbai and Meng Qiuqing were dead, those two small fries could no longer stir any troubles at all.

As long as they dared to come out from hiding, then it would be their time to die!

.....

Half a month later, Lin Xun met up with Toady and Zhao Jingxuan at the Ink White Province in Spirit Treasure Holy Land, where they set out together and traveled to the North Dipper World.

Cloud Dream Reservoir was located in the extreme north of the North Dipper World.

It was a vast and infinite mountainous region that retained the primitive look of the ancient era, filled with lakes, mountains, forests, and wastelands...

In the air, enormous rainbow-colored butterfly birds soared, their screeches piercing the sky. On the barren plains, ferocious beasts galloped about, their roars like torrents that shook the earth.

From time to time, travelers would see gigantic snow-white apes leap up to the sky and grab a giant bird before tearing it apart and eating it raw.

There were also thumb-sized golden ants that came out in swarms. Wherever they passed, the rocks were chewed into powder that spilled all over the place.

It took Lin Xun's group ten days to finally reach Cloud Dream Reservoir.

Cloud Dream Reservoir, also regarded as the land loathed by even gods and demons, may look primitive, but the qi in its atmosphere is extremely thin. It's not an ideal place for cultivation," said Zhao Jingxuan casually.

Before coming here, she had already gathered information on the region.

"If the Cloud Weaver Clan really inhabits this place, then it's indeed very hard to find them. This place is full of life; it's just that the qi is too sparse," commented Toady.

Meanwhile, Lin Xun took out the scented pouch that Caicai had given him and gently opened it. Instantly, strands of crystal-clear silk streamed out and gradually sketched out a figure. The sight was amazing as the figure reflected the light and glowed brightly.

It resembled Caicai's appearance.

Toady clicked his tongue in awe. "Little Miss Caicai is really dexterous. This should be the Puppet Weaving Technique that weaves the essence of starlight into puppets that are capable of many wonderful things. This little puppet should be specialized in guiding."

As soon as Toady finished his comment, the figure shot up and flew off.

The group hurriedly followed it.

After flying for the time it took to burn an incense stick, crossing several mountain ranges, rivers, and finally a foggy swamp, they arrived at a place that made their eyes light up.

It was as if they had entered a secret realm all of a sudden. Before their eyes was a verdant mountain range with towering mountains in a disorderly charming arrangement.

At the top of each mountain, auspicious clouds quietly floated. They came in various colors such as crimson, violet, indigo, and azure, painting a beautiful scene.

The most stunning thing was that on each cloud was an actual building, floating between the mountains and rivers like a kingdom on the clouds.

"So beautiful." Zhao Jingxuan's eyes shone brightly as it was the first time she had seen such a miraculous place.

Lin Xun and Toady were also amazed.

“Who are you?!” a cold shout suddenly rang out.

The group then saw a black cloud swiftly approaching them before transforming into a blue-robed, stalwart man with a bow and arrows on his back.

“We are friends of Miss Caicai. Please inform her of our arrival.” Lin Xun politely cupped his fist, his expression calm.

“Caicai?” The young man furrowed his brows. “Do you have a token?”

Lin Xun took out the scented pouch earlier and sent it over to him.

After a slight inspection, the man’s expression immediately became much more relaxed. He said, “There’s no mistake, this definitely belongs to Lil’ Sister Caicai. Come with me.”

With that, he turned around and flew into the distance.

Along the way, Lin Xun’s group would see members of the Cloud Weaver Clan poking their heads out of the clouds and sizing them up. It seemed as if they hadn’t had outsiders visiting in a long time.

Eventually, the blue-robed man brought them to a mountain that looked like a fairyland.

At the top of the mountain floated a huge, glowing palace built on violet clouds. It looked solemn and holy.

“This is an important area of our clan. Please wait here while I go and report,” said the blue-robed man before hurriedly entering the palace.

“Oh boy! Don’t tell me this palace was refined from Violet Origin Starlight?!” Toady appraised the palace with gaping eyes.

The Violet Origin Starlight, a wisp of light extracted from the Origin Starry Dawn, was an extremely rare material. By adding a small amount into the mix when refining a Saint treasure, the quality of the product could increase a level!

Therefore, it was normal that Toady was shocked to see a huge palace made entirely of Violet Origin Starlight.

Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan were also stunned when they learned about this. It was clear that the Cloud Weaver Clan had extraordinary heritage.

“Outsiders, it’s best that you leave. Caicai is in seclusion now. She is unable to receive guests,” a pleasant voice suddenly rang out.

Along with the voice, a slender figure appeared in front of the palace.

It was a woman with long, white hair and a jasper bamboo staff in her hand. However, she looked young and extremely beautiful. Wearing a long, purple dress, her every move exuded a majestic aura.

The blue-robed young man also appeared and reminded Lin Xun's group in a low voice, "This is the matriarch of our clan. You really should leave."

The trio was stunned. They had just arrived just to be turned away?

Lin Xun cupped his fist. "Senior, I'm here with a favor to ask of you."

The woman indifferently said, "You, the mighty Demon God Lin who can kill even Saints, have something you need to ask of my Cloud Weaver Clan?"

She obviously knew who Lin Xun was!

Caicai had likely told this violet-clad woman about her experience after returning to the clan. Since Lin Xun had come with Caicai's scented pouch, she naturally guessed his identity right away.

Toady stepped in. "Senior, since you know who my brother is, naturally you also know that we are friends with Miss Caicai, but why are you driving us out? Is this how your Cloud Weaver Clan treats their guests?"

Hearing this, the woman frowned, then sighed softly, "Never mind. I might as well tell you the truth first, but after that you should really leave."

Right at this moment, a whooshing sound echoed.

Everyone looked over and saw a robust man flying toward them. Before he even approached, his panicked voice already rang out, "It's bad, Matriarch! The Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan has sent another emissary!"

The woman's face sank and flashed with anger. "They're truly going too far. Didn't I tell them that I needed some more time to think about it?!"

The robust man also looked indignant. "I don't think they're here to propose marriage at all, but to force it on us!"

The woman's expression was uncertain. In the end, she sighed, "Forget it. Invite them in."

The robust man was anxious. "Matriarch, are we really going to accept their proposal? Caicai is your own daughter! How can someone like that Golden Spectral Sparrow's Young Master be worthy to be her husband?"

At this point, Lin Xun's group frowned as well, knowing that the situation wasn't quite right.

It was also a surprise to them that Caicai's mother was this beautiful violet-robed woman who was the matriarch of the Cloud Weaver Clan!

"Go. I have my own plan." Her voice allowed no refusal.

The robust man was helpless. He left with a sigh.

The matriarch then turned to Lin Xun's group. "As you can see, I have urgent matters to deal with, so I hope that you can give me this space."

Toady opened his mouth, wanting to say something when Lin Xun stopped him and said, "Then we will wait until you're done."

The matriarch ordered, "Lan Yan, take our guests somewhere they can have a rest."

Immediately, the blue-robed young man stepped out and led Lin Xun's group away.

"Ai..." The matriarch let out a soft sigh when she was finally alone in front of the palace, her expression flickering.

How could she not know that the Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan was not actually interested in a marriage, but wanted to use this as an opportunity to annex their Cloud Weaver Clan?

They were nothing more than a rapacious predator.

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The Prodigies War - Chapter 1363: Rejected

In a temple built of azure clouds.

"To be honest, your timing was unfortunate. Our clan has recently encountered a big problem that concerns our survival. The matriarch doesn't want to get you involved, so that's why her attitude has been slightly indifferent. Please don't take it to heart," explained the blue-robed youth called Lan Yan apologetically.

The Cloud Weaver Clan had always been known for their kind temperament and lack of aggressiveness, which could already be seen in Caicai.

Lin Xun naturally didn't take offense. With a smile, he exchanged pleasantries with Lan Yan.

Toady couldn't help but ask, "Just what exactly is the problem your clan has encountered?"

Lan Yan sighed, "As you all heard just now, the young master of the Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan has been asking for Lil' Sis Caicai's hand in marriage..."

The Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan was also an ancient clan that resided in the Cloud Dream Reservoir, with a similarly strong heritage and depth as the Cloud Weaver Clan.

The two clans had left each other alone until recently when the Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan had suddenly changed its attitude. It had become aggressive, setting its eyes on the territory of the Cloud Weaver Clan.

Lan Yan was indignant as he said through gritted teeth, "The marriage proposal would have actually been a good thing if they were sincere. Lil' Sis Caicai also agreed to it because we saw nothing wrong with the marriage. But then we got intel that the Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan wants to use it to invade us!"

Lin Xun's group finally understood.

“But what’s the reason?” Zhao Jingxuan pondered. “Battles between clans, most of the time, are battles of interest. Does the Golden Sparrow Spectral Clan have eyes on something in your possession?”

Lan Yan was stunned. “Your guess is correct, Miss. They’re after an ancient treasure of our clan.”

An ancient treasure!

The trio was shaken, knowing that this treasure was bound to be extraordinary. Otherwise, the Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan wouldn’t be so pushy now.

Toady seemed to remember something and joked, “Let me guess, they’re after your ancestral treasure, the Galaxy Guide Needle?”

A clang rang out as Lan Yan’s teacup fell out of his hand. He asked in a high-pitched voice, “How do you know about this?”

This instantly told Toady that he had hit the nail on the head! He replied casually, “This treasure had an astonishing reputation in the ancient era, rumored to be able to weave stars into clothes. How could I not know?”

Lan Yan laughed bitterly, “You are truly knowledgeable, Fellow Daoist. However, what the Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan covets isn’t the needle itself, but an outfit called Heavenly Star Feather that an ancestor of ours wove using it.”

Toady laughed coldly, “Heh, this little sparrow lineage has a big appetite! The Heavenly Star Feather is a sacred treasure that was extremely well-known in the ancient era, capable of traveling through the void and breaking through spatial barriers. It will only tarnish its name if such a treasure falls into their hands.”

Lin Xun suddenly asked, “They had plenty of time before, so why did they choose this time to cause trouble now?”

Lan Yan was dumbfounded. He shook his head. “I don’t know.”

Right at this moment, a cold laughter rang out from a great distance outside the great hall—

“Remember, you only have three days to consider. If your Cloud Weaver Clan is still unable to make a decision after that, then my Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan will make the decision for you! Well then, I’ll take my leave.”

With that, the voice disappeared.

The brazen declaration made Lan Yan so furious that his face completely darkened. He cursed, “Those damn bastards! How dare they come to our clan and behave like it’s their house! They don’t take us seriously at all!”

Lin Xun’s group also frowned. The voice just now hadn’t been filled with just arrogance; it had been overbearing.

“Lan Yan, bring our guests here,” a voice rang out.

It was the matriarch of the Cloud Weaver Clan.

.....

The group returned to that same violet palace. The only difference now was that there was some undisguised fatigue on the face of its owner.

In addition to the matriarch, a group of the Cloud Weaver Clan’s dignitaries were also present, their faces all gloomy.

After exchanging greetings with them, Lin Xun’s group took their seats and were presented with tea and snacks by the maids.

“That has been embarrassing,” said the matriarch on the leader's seat.

“That sparrow clan harbors sinister intent. I suggest that you don’t accept their proposal, Senior,” Toady said out of the blue.

The matriarch was stunned. She glanced at Lan Yan who was sitting next to her before letting out a soft sigh. “You are Caicai’s friends. I guess it would be inconsiderate of me if I insisted on keeping this from you.”

After a short pause, she continued, “We naturally wouldn't be so apprehensive if it was just the Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan. But not long ago, they gained the support of the Ye Clan in the North Dipper World through a marriage. If we were to oppose the Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan, then we would have to consider the risk of offending Crape Myrtle Mountain.”

Toady and Zhao Jingxuan’s expressions immediately became strange. They couldn’t help but turn to Lin Xun.

Crape Myrtle Mountain’s Ye Clan? Isn’t that the clan Sword Demon Ye Chen comes from?

Lin Xun said, “Senior, can you tell me more about it? Perhaps I would be able to help.”

“Young man, it’s impressive that you killed multiple Saints the other day, but everyone knows you achieved that through borrowed external power. You should know that Crape Myrtle Mountain’s Ye Clan is a Saint clan that has existed since the ancient era. Rumor

has it that they still have a Big Saint watching over them!” lamented an old man, very unimpressed with Lin Xun’s declaration.

The rest of the Cloud Weaver dignitaries also sighed.

Obviously, they didn’t believe that Lin Xun could do anything about their situation.

Seeing this, Toady was a little annoyed.

Who in the Ancient Wasteland Domain still dared to look down on his big brother? Lin Xun had killed them left and right and was feared by all those major powers, only to be belittled here. It was truly upsetting.

“Please don’t misunderstand, Lin Xun. They mean no harm,” said the matriarch in a gentle tone. “It’s just that you don’t quite understand the situation yet, so there really isn’t much you can help with.”

Lin Xun only smiled. He didn’t take offense.

The matriarch suddenly remembered something. “Right, you said you needed a favor. What is the matter?”

“We need a path to the lower world, so we would like to ask for the help of your clan’s Path Guide,” said Lin Xun solemnly.

Hearing this, the Cloud Weaver personnel all narrowed their eyes.

“In the past, this was only a trivial matter to our clan, but the great age has descended and caused drastic changes. All the spatial tunnels connecting the Ancient Wasteland Domain and the outside world have all almost collapsed...” pondered the matriarch. “This is really a bit difficult.”

“More than just ‘a bit,’ it’s extremely difficult!” one of the dignitaries suddenly said. “Young man, I’m afraid I’ll have to disappoint you. Our Cloud Weaver Clan cannot help you with this.”

The others also nodded.

Lin Xun, Zhao Jingxuan, and Toady frowned. This was what it was like to ask for help; they had no choice but to helplessly accept the result even if they were rejected.

The matriarch felt bad. She said, “In fact, it can still be possible, but the price that I’ll have to pay is too great. Now that my clan is facing an existential crisis, I really have no energy to spare. I hope you can understand.”

“As long as it’s still possible.” Toady slapped his thigh, “But a mere Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan, just leave this matter to us.”

Lin Xun also nodded.

However, their response earned a burst of laughter from dignitaries of the Cloud Weaver Clan. They all shook their heads, obviously treating it as a joke.

Lin Xun didn't bother to explain further. He got up from his seat and asked the matriarch, "Senior, can we see Miss Caicai?"

The matriarch contemplated a little before nodding. She told Lan Yan to bring Lin Xun's group to Caicai.

"Alas, the rumor says Demon God Lin is brave and bold, but he doesn't seem so sharp," a dignitary sighed softly.

"Didn't you hear him say that he would help us deal with this crisis? Although his attitude is slightly ostentatious, that's still quite decisive of him. If it were anyone else, how could they be willing to get involved in this kind of muddy water? I'm afraid that they would have already slipped away," another expressed their opinion.

"That's right, he's a decent youngster. It is just a pity... he doesn't understand how terrifying Grape Myrtle Mountain's Ye Clan is at all."

There was a wave of lamentations in the hall as everyone had a gloomy expression on their face.

The Ye Clan of Crape Myrtle Mountain had always been the overlord of the North Dipper World, with a terrifyingly deep foundation that let them dominate the other major powers!

With such a behemoth backing the Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan, how could this crisis be resolved by just anyone?

“I heard that not long ago, on the day of the Saints' fall, Saint Ye Jiuxiao of the Ye Clan made an appearance to support Lin Xun,” one person suddenly said.

The hall suddenly quieted down as many people's eyes flickered. *Does he have some sort of connection with the Ye Clan of Crape Myrtle Mountain?*

Someone refuted, “It's just a rumor, so we can't take it seriously. There is also a rumor that Quasi-Emperor Bai Yujing also came in person to stop it, which is just ridiculous. Who doesn't know that Senior Bai Yujing has been fighting on the frontline of the Ancient Desolate Domain battlefield all these countless years?”

The matriarch took a deep breath and said, “This stops here. Leave it to me to consider this matter.”

She then stood up and left the hall.

.....

“Young Master Lin, you really came to see me!”

They had arrived at a snow-white cloud house that floated next to a verdant mountain range. Caicai instantly called out in surprise when she saw Lin Xun.

The young girl was wearing a snow-white dress with a golden ribbon around her waist, and her hair was tied up. She looked simple but beautiful and ethereal.

“Did you forget me, Caicai?” Toady greeted her with a big smile.

“Big brother Jin,” said Caicai, her voice crystal-clear. She then turned to Zhao Jingxuan. “And this is?”

“Zhao Jingxuan.” Zhao Jingxuan smiled. “What a cute young girl. She radiates an aura of nature.”

“Thank you, big sister.” Caicai blushed a little. She hurriedly invited them to take their seats and started pouring them tea.

She seemed to be in a good mood as her every move was overflowing with joy. After finishing pouring tea, she sat down and cheerfully chatted with them.

Everyone was infected by her liveliness, laughing as they talked.

“Caicai, we heard that the young master of the Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan wants to marry you. What do you think about this?” said Toady suddenly.

The atmosphere in the room immediately died down. The joy on Caicai’s pretty face gradually dimmed.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1364: No Need to Endure

“So you all already know,” said Caicai in a low voice. The young girl was as pure as paper, so everyone could tell how she was feeling even when she tried her best to suppress her emotions.

“Don’t be sad, Caicai. You still have us,” said Toady hurriedly as he inwardly scolded his blabbering mouth for saying the wrong thing.

Caicai took a deep breath, and there was a determined look on her face as she said, “If I can help our clan to resolve this great crisis, then what’s the deal in getting married off?”

Hearing this, Lin Xun was moved.

He still remembered that time in the Burning Immortal Realm, when this beautiful young girl had said with a longing face how she wanted to pick the essence of all auspicious clouds in all worlds to weave her own wedding dress.

She had also wished to harvest ten thousand kinds of haze spirit dew and personally brew the best wine ever existed, so that she could invite her friends to savor it at her wedding banquet.

This was the path she had sought, the vision she had dreamed of.

But now, for her to accept such a thing was no different from cutting off her own path and abandoning herself!

“Don’t worry, things haven’t come to this yet. Toady is right, now that we’re here, we definitely won’t let you do what you don’t want to do,” Zhao Jingxuan softly consoled Caicai. Whoever met this young girl would feel compassion for her as she had a beauty that was untouched by the world, pure and innocent.

Speaking of this, Zhao Jingxuan glanced at Lin Xun.

Lin Xun immediately straightened up and nodded. “That’s right, just leave this to me.”

Zhao Jingxuan revealed a sweet smile and whispered to Caicai, “See, lil’ sis, someone is backing you up.”

Caicai worriedly said, “But...but my mother said that the Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan is terrifying...”

Toady laughed, “What Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan? They’re just a bunch of little yellow birds. Don’t you trust us?”

Caicai hurriedly shook her head. She was so touched that she didn’t know what to say.

.....

Early the next morning.

Lin Xun woke up from his meditation. In the five acupoints near his heart chakra, he had managed to produce five sword qi.

Each acupoint was like a sword-nurturing furnace that would refine and nurture the sword qi with the Taixuan quintessence. From then on, the sword qi would only take time to be slowly hammered into sword lights, sword intents, sword souls, and finally sword spirits!

Lin Xun silently calculated, “It will take almost half a year to open up three thousand sword furnaces and produce three thousand sword qi...”

Suddenly, there was a distant clamor outside.

Lin Xun frowned and leapt up.

Toady, Zhao Jingxuan, and Caicai were also alerted and left the room.

Whoosh!

Almost at the same time, Lan Yan hurriedly arrived with a shocked and angry expression. “It’s bad! That young master of the Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan, Xiang Shaoting, has come in person. He even brought along an old King monster of the Ye Clan called Ye Feiheng, saying that he wants Ye Feiheng to be the matchmaker!”

“What?!” Caicai trembled, her face turning pale.

“They’re waving the Ye Clan’s flag to force a marriage!” Toady instantly understood.

Lin Xun frowned and said, “Jingxuan, you look after Caicai. Toady and I will go take a look.”

Zhao Jingxuan nodded.

Lin Xun, Toady, and Lan Yan then flew out.

“Damn it! Just yesterday, their messenger agreed to give us three days to think about it, but here they are now! Intolerable!” said Lan Yan on the way, so furious his teeth were clacking.

“Don’t worry, they came just in time. We can use this opportunity to settle this matter once and for all,” said Toady confidently.

Lan Yan smiled helplessly. He didn’t even know where Toady got his confidence from when the other party was a powerful character from the Ye Clan!

Lin Xun didn’t say anything. At this point, even he was disgusted by the arrogance of the Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan.

However, he was also puzzled as to why they were in such a hurry such that they couldn’t even wait three days.

Because of the Heavenly Star Feather Outfit?

When Lin Xun’s group arrived, there was already a crowd in front of the violet palace, most of them from the Cloud Weaver Clan.

Whether they were men or women, old or young, they all looked angry.

Not far away, there was a group of people standing in the air. Their leaders were a golden-robed young man with narrow cheeks and sharp eyes and a white-haired, dignified-looking old man with his hands crossed behind his back.

Behind the two was a group of escorts that looked all high and mighty. Despite facing the resentful and furious gazes of the Cloud Weaver clansmen, they appeared calm and fearless, with their noses in the air.

Without even having to guess, Lin Xun could tell that the golden-robed man was the young master of the Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan, Xiang Shaoting. The black-robed old man next to him was undoubtedly the King stage monster Ye Feiheng from the Ye Clan of Crape Myrtle Mountain.

The Cloud Weaver Clan's matriarch and a group of dignitaries all stood in front of the violet palace, their expressions unsightly.

Xiang Shaoting didn't take this seriously at all and looked quite confident. He said to Ye Feiheng, "Thank you for coming here with me, Senior."

"Hahahaha, how could this old man refuse such a good deed?" Ye Feiheng laughed loudly. "What's more, your younger sister is already engaged to our young master. We're not outsiders, so there's no need to be so polite."

Xiang Shaoting also laughed and looked smugly at the Cloud Weaver clansmen.

With the great Ye Clan backing me up, let's see if you still dare to refuse!

"You must be the matriarch of the Cloud Weaver Clan, Fellow Daoist Lan Qinghen?" Ye Feiheng's expression was solemn as he looked at the violet-robed woman.

"It is this humble one." Lan Qinghen bowed slightly as she suppressed the rage in her heart.

There was no other choice as the situation was not up to her!

"This time, I would like to act as a matchmaker for once and set up a marriage. I hope that you will fulfill this wish of mine."

Ye Feiheng didn't bother with pleasantries and cut right to the chase in an overbearing manner. It was easy to see that he didn't take the Cloud Weaver Clan's matriarch seriously at all...because he came from the Ye Clan!

In his impression, even though the Cloud Weaver Clan was mysterious, its combined prowess was a world below the Ye Clan.

As soon as Ye Feiheng's words echoed, the area fell silent and their atmosphere seemed to freeze.

The face of every Cloud Weaver clansman was filled with rage. To go to such an extent to force a marriage, the other party was utterly looking down on them!

Even Matriarch Lan Qinghen couldn't hide her rage and humiliation at this point. She took a deep breath and said, "This is an important matter; I think we should consider it more seriously."

Ye Feiheng's face sank. He coldly grunted, "You think this old man isn't qualified enough to be your matchmaker?"

The threat was obvious.

Xiang Shaoting couldn't help but laugh smugly. He crossed his arms and said, "It's just a marriage, so what's there to even consider? Just let Caicai bring the dowry we've agreed on and marry her to us."

"You...!" shouted a Cloud Weaver dignitary in rage. He wanted to disregard everything and rushed out, but was stopped by his clansmen.

"What dowry?" Lin Xun asked through voice transmission.

"The Heavenly Star Feather Outfit!" Lan Yan gritted his teeth, every word seething with hatred.

"Requiring a magical Saint Treasure as a dowry, this Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan is truly delusional..." Lin Xun's eyes turned cold.

Meanwhile, Xiang Shaoting laughed like the Cloud Weaver Clan was already in his hands. "Since you know that you can't refuse, why are you so angry? Don't tell me your clan doesn't want to give Senior Ye Feiheng face?"

Lan Qinghen softly sighed, "This really cannot be discussed any further?"

Ye Feiheng pretended to be puzzled, "A marriage between two young people is a most joyous event for both clans. Why are you making this so difficult?"

Lan Qinghen's heart sank to the bottom, knowing that if she refused again, it would be the same as making a complete enemy of the Ye Clan.

"Matriarch, you must not agree!" All of the Cloud Weaver clansmen present had expressions of grief and indignation.

“Hmph, what do you know? Marrying into my clan is a blessing you couldn’t even ask for in eight lifetimes!” Xiang Shaoting snorted. *This Cloud Weaver Clan still doesn’t know what’s good for them, so they need to be taught a good lesson!*

“A blessing? More like a blight!” Toady could no longer hold back. He coldly laughed, “Look at your dog face. So disgusting that I just want to vomit. I advise you to hurry up and cut your own neck.”

The whole scene instantly went silent.

All eyes turned toward Lin Xun and Toady in unison. Everyone was in utter shock, unable to believe what they had just heard.

“Insolent!”

“You’re seeking death!”

“How dare you humiliate our young master?!”

Xiang Shaoting’s escorts all clamored as their faces darkened in anger.

“Boss, I can’t take this anymore,” said Toady expressionlessly as the rage in his heart was becoming uncontrollable.

“What do you plan on doing then?” asked Lin Xun.

“So I believe there’s no need to endure!” Toady’s handsome face instantly revealed a ferocious smile.

“Don’t!” shouted Lan Qinghen as she seemed to realize something.

Swish!

Unfortunately, she was a step too late. Everyone only saw a blur as Toady had already vanished.

Xiang Shaoting had over ten escorts, but they were all useless as the strongest among them was only a half-step King.

In front of a Supreme King like Toady, they were no different than a group of ants.

Poof poof poof!

Blood splashed in the air as Toady slapped the escorts in succession. They instantly exploded and turned into fine ash.

“What a bunch of trash. Don’t you know that a King cannot be insulted? This King has never seen someone so eager to seek death,” mumbled Toady.

Meanwhile, the bloody scene had the crowd gasping nonstop.

Too ferocious!

Striking out at the drop of a hat, killing people as easily as patting the dust off his clothes!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1365: Surreal Turnaround

Xiang Shaoting’s and Ye Feiheng’s faces instantly became somber. It was undoubtedly a slap to their faces that their escorts were killed right before their eyes!

Lan Qinghen sighed softly, knowing that the situation was grave.

When such a bloody thing happened in the territory of the Cloud Weaver Clan, they had to shoulder the responsibility even if it wasn’t their members’ doing.

“It’s over for us...”

The expressions of the dignitaries flickered as they didn’t know who to resent.

Toady was a guest, and he had done it to help them, so how could they criticize him?

But his action had also turned them into an enemy of both the Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan and the Ye Clan. The consequences made them tremble in fear just thinking about it.

The other Cloud Weaver clansmen were first shocked, and a refreshing feeling washed all over them. All they knew was that Toady had helped them vent a huge mouthful of anger!

“Looks like my matchmaking wish can’t be fulfilled. Heh, astounding. This is very astounding of you Cloud Weavers.” Ye Feiheng’s face was gloomy and his voice chilling.

“Fellow Daoist, please let me explain...” said Lan Qinghen.

“No need to explain. My people are all dead, what’s there to explain?” Ye Feiheng cut her off, then flung his hand and turned to leave.

“Hmph! Just you wait!” said Xiang Shaoting resentfully as he viciously swept a glance at the Cloud Weaver clansmen before hurriedly following Ye Feiheng.

“Who told you you could leave?” Lin Xun’s voice suddenly rang out.

“And who are you?” Xiang Shaoting was furious. The fact that a bunch of his entire escort team were killed had already made him lose face, and it only added fire to the fuel now that someone dared to retain him and Ye Feiheng.

“How dare you bastard talk to my big bro like that?! Kneel!” bellowed Toady as a terrifying pressure erupted from him and spread out, causing the area to change color.

Thud!

Xiang Shaoting fell to his knees without even reacting. It felt as if a mountain was pressing down on him. His tendons and bones were close to exploding.

Xiang Shaoting wasn’t stupid. He immediately asked for help upon feeling the threat of death, “Elder, save me!”

Ye Feiheng’s face changed. “Supreme King stage?”

Inwardly, he was appalled. The might that Toady released was subjecting him to a suffocating oppression.

Not only Ye Feiheng, everyone else present was also trembling. Who would have thought that this cynical green-robed youngster possessed such a terrifying might?

“What, weren’t you so high and mighty just now, but now you’re wimpy?” Toady snorted. At the seventh longevity tribulation King stage, he was in an overlooking position when the other party was only an old, normal King monster.

The gap between them was simply enormous!

If he wished to, then he would only need one single strike to erase Ye Feiheng’s existence!

“Hmph!” Ye Feiheng forced himself to calm down and coldly swept a glance at Toady before settling his gaze on Lan Qinghen. “Very formidable of you to invite a Supreme King to humiliate my Ye Clan. You Cloud Weavers just wait to be wiped out!”

Hearing this, the expressions of all the Cloud Weaver Clan members drastically changed, and chills seeped into their hearts.

“It seems that you still haven’t recognized your situation,” Lin Xun sighed and waved his hand.

Bang!

Ye Feiheng fell to his knees.

The audience was stupefied, unable to believe their eyes.

“How dare—!” roared the disheveled Ye Feiheng.

He was being suppressed on his knees in front of a big crowd, so the unspeakable feeling of shame triggered him so badly that he could no longer maintain his aloof demeanor and completely spun out of control.

Never once had he thought that a small Cloud Weaver Clan would have the guts to treat him like this. *Are they not scared they’d be exterminated?*

In fact, Lan Qinghen and the Cloud Weaver dignitaries were also dumbfounded. Despite having heard of Lin Xun’s notoriety before, it was only now when seeing it with their own eyes that they truly felt how befitting his ‘Demon God’ title was.

“I dare to kill even Saints. You think I’d be afraid of you old thing?” said Lin Xun indifferently.

Everyone’s heart trembled as they were finally reminded that nine whole Saints had died at Lin Xun’s hands not long ago, and each of them had come from a renowned major power!

The Ye Clan was indeed very powerful, but it was only one ancient lineage. How would Lin Xun be threatened by it when he wasn’t afraid of offending multiple of them at once?

“Kill Saints...” Xiang Shaoting was stupefied.

Ye Feiheng, on the other hand, realized something and screamed, “You...are...Lin Xun!?”

His eyes went so wide that they almost fell out of their sockets. The sight was somewhat comical, but no one laughed as everyone was still in shock.

“You only recognized him now? Well, at least you aren’t blind.” Toady sneered.

“I...” Ye Feiheng suddenly looked like his strength was all drained. His old face crumpled, looking like he wanted to cry but had no tears.

Outsiders might not know, but how could he not be aware of the relationship between Lin Xun and the Ye Clan?

Not to mention the storms that Lin Xun and their young master Ye Chen had weathered together, just not long ago when the fall of Saints had happened, even a Saint ancestor of extremely high status in the Ye Clan had personally set out to help Lin Xun!

Such a character was not someone that Ye Feiheng could afford to offend!

The most frightening thing was that the young man in front of him was a true demonic god who had slaughtered a number of Saints of various ancient lineages!

Ye Feiheng was certain that even if Lin Xun killed him today, his clan wouldn't even blame Lin Xun if they knew.

Ye Feiheng just wanted to slap his own face. *What the hell was I thinking, getting involved in a random business, playing matchmaker?!*

Seeing Ye Feiheng's fearful manner, the matriarch and the Cloud Weaver clansmen were dumbfounded. To think that the Ye Clan's expert who they had been so apprehensive of was reduced to this state out of fear for Lin Xun...

It felt like a dream...

Ye Feiheng couldn't care less about the eyes of others right now. He inhaled deeply and squeezed out a smile. "Master Lin, I...I didn't expect to see you here. If I had known earlier, I absolutely wouldn't have dared to do this. I hope that you can be magnanimous..."

Lin Xun cut him off, "You are a King stage expert of the Ye Clan. How can you be this spineless?"

Ye Feiheng nodded repeatedly. "You are right, Master Lin. This old man will definitely change, definitely!"

This time, not only Xiang Shaoting, but everyone else in the area also watched with their jaws agape, unable to believe what they were seeing.

No one had expected that they would see a powerful old King monster of the Ye Clan to act so obsequiously.

Lin Xun frowned. In the end, he waved his hand dismissively. "Get up. Go back to your clan and report this to Ye Chen. Tell him that I'll take responsibility, and he can come find me to settle it. Also, I will not agree to this forced marriage."

Ye Feiheng kept nodding as he crawled up. Only then did he feel like he was alive again. "Master Lin, I can settle this matter myself. I swear the Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan will not cause trouble for the Cloud Weaver Clan ever again."

Toady sneered, "Didn't you say Ye Chen is marrying someone from the Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan? You're not afraid that you'll offend your young master's wife?"

Ye Feiheng hurriedly waved his hands. "What wife? She's but a concubine, and not an officially recognized one at that. I don't know if our young master will even take a look at her."

Lin Xun and Toady finally understood.

Xiang Shaoting broke down and howled, “Senior, you...you can’t do this!”

The situation had changed so fast that his mind was a mess. Never in his wildest dreams had he expected to see a godly figure like a King monster of the Ye Clan be so miserable in front of Lin Xun.

Bang!

Ye Feiheng kicked Xiang Shaoting. “You damn idiot, we’re in trouble because of you! How dare you even cry to me?! I will slowly settle the score with you!”

This frightened Xiang Shaoting out of his mind, and his blood instantly ran cold. *It’s over...*

“Take him away,” Lin Xun cued them to leave.

“Thank you for showing mercy, Master Lin. This little old man will definitely deliver your message.” Ye Feiheng performed a deep bow before hurriedly dragging Xiang Shaoting away like a dead dog.

Watching them leave, the Cloud Weaver clansmen were dead quiet, seemingly in a trance. What had just happened was so surreal that it felt like a dream.

“It was settled just like that?” asked an old man dreamily.

Because of the forced marriage, their entire clan had been anxious and restless, thinking that a great disaster was befalling them.

But it was solved with just a few sentences from Lin Xun!

The impact of this was just too heavy.

“Of course. You think it’s fake?” Toady smiled.

“Truly unexpected...” Lan Qinghen heaved a long sigh, her expression complicated.

Her clansmen also revealed the same expression.

Lin Xun had said that he would help them resolve this, but it had gone in one ear and out the other. In fact, they had even been a bit perfunctory towards him.

But now, it turned out that they had all been wrong, outrageously wrong!

The calamity in their eyes was but a trivial matter to him that he could handle with just a few words!

As they recalled how they had treated Lin Xun before, they were ashamed, but grateful at the same time.

“Thank you so much, Master Lin.” Lan Qinghen bowed.

“Thank you, Master Lin!” The Cloud Weaver Clan’s members followed suit and bowed in unison.

Lin Xun’s timely appearance had helped them resolve a great disaster, so how could they not be grateful?

Their attitude toward him had all taken a complete turnaround.

Watching from far away, Zhao Jingxuan smiled. “Wasn’t it simple, lil’ sis? As long as Lin Xun wants to, it’s nothing troublesome at all.”

Caicai fiercely nodded, her eyes shining brightly as she said, “Young Master Lin is very powerful. I already knew this back in the Supreme Realm.”

Her innocent little face was filled with joy, excitement, and gratitude.

Seeing this, Zhao Jingxuan couldn’t help but feel a little worried. *Don’t tell me this little girl is bewitched by him...*

But she immediately spat at this thought, and her pretty face burned a little. *What am I thinking? Caicai probably doesn’t even know what love is...*

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1366: Battle Behind the Scene

After leaving the Cloud Weaver Clan, Ye Feiheng kept thinking back to what had just happened and felt increasingly lucky that the cold-blooded Demon God Lin had let him off!

Ye Feiheng felt as if he had died and then came back to life again.

Of course he had resentment, but it wasn’t toward Lin Xun.

“Xiang Shaoting, whatever your aim was, your clan nearly sent me to my grave early. This will not end here!” Ye Feiheng’s voice was icy. He then drifted away without sparing Xiang Shaoting another glance.

Ye Feiheng had even decided to find an opportunity to teach the Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan a lesson, through which he would conveniently do the Cloud Weaver Clan a favor. He expected that Demon God Lin would appreciate it as well when he learned of it.

Meanwhile, Xiang Shaoting looked like his soul had wandered off.

Today, he had set out to the Cloud Weaver Clan to push for the marriage, thinking it would be a walk in the park with Ye Feiheng backing him up.

Who would have thought that it would come to this point?!

After returning to his clan, Xiang Shaoting didn’t dare to hide the matter. When the Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan learned about this, there was instantly a clamor.

“What?! Demon God Lin?!”

“Impossible! The Cloud Weaver Clan has been in decline for many years! How were they able to latch onto a ruthless character like Demon God Lin?”

“It’s over... We offended not only Demon God Lin, but also the Ye Clan...”

Cries of alarm encased the Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan in a bleak atmosphere.

Among them, only Patriarch Xiang Huazhen hadn’t said a word.

He hurriedly went to the clan’s forbidden area, where a guest was waiting.

“Senior, we’ve got bad news. Our plan...has failed,” reported Xiang Huazhen, his voice filled with bitterness and loss.

His guest, quietly sitting cross-legged, was an old man with a neat beard and hair and eyes like blazing suns. The news put a frown on his face.

“According to my plan, getting the Heavenly Star Feather Outfit from the Cloud Weaver Clan requires very little effort. What happened?” The old man’s voice was calm, but the uncontrollable anger in it was clear.

Xiang Huazhen’s heart trembled, and he hurriedly told the old man what had happened in detail.

“Lin Xun... Him again... He killed Yun Qingbai and ruined my grand plan, and now he’s preventing me from returning to my homeland!” A horrifying fire raged in the old man’s eyes, and, deep inside him, there was a murderous intent about to spin out of control.

If Meng Qiujing was still alive and seeing this right now, then he would definitely recognize this old man to be Quasi-Emperor Baqi, a terrifying existence from the Yin Star Sea in the Absolute Yin Ancient Domain.

“Damn the heavenly rules of this Ancient Wasteland Domain. I cannot make a move, or else I will draw the attention of those powerful characters once I expose my power.” Baqi sighed, his heart filled with unwillingness and hatred.

Last time, the grand plan that he had spent a hundred years of effort on was thwarted due to Yun Qingbai’s death. He had been so furious that he almost went berserk.

He loathed the culprit, Lin Xun, to the bone.

Now, he had been lying low in the Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan and plotting for the Cloud Weaver Clan’s Heavenly Star Feather Outfit, which was a treasure that could help him leave the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

Who could have thought that his plan would be sabotaged by Lin Xun again?!

Even someone as calm and patient as Baqi was almost unable to control his emotions. It was simply intolerable to be thwarted twice in a row by a junior whose strength was no different from that of an ant’s to him.

“Senior, my clan has completely offended Demon God Lin and the Ye Clan to aid you... Can you intervene and help us resolve the situation?” asked Xiang Huazhen in a trembling voice.

This old man had suddenly appeared a month ago, saying that as long as he helped him do one thing, he would give their Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan an opportunity to change their destiny.

But to his horror, the plan had failed, and it even put their clan in a crisis.

“Stupid idiot, you ruined it and still dare to ask me to help? Who the hell do you think you are?!” said Baqi ruthlessly in a lofty, contemptuous manner.

Xiang Huazhen’s face instantly changed out of humiliation and rage.

“It’s you who did it, so it has nothing to do with me. It’s entirely your fault that your clan has fallen into such a situation.” Baqi dropped that parting remark and flew away.

“Senior, you can’t just leave like that!” yelled Xiang Huazhen anxiously. He wanted to chase after Baqi, but the latter had already vanished.

Xiang Huazhen completely broke down as the same thought that had come to his son’s mind also surfaced in his as well.

It’s over.

.....

“Lin Xun... Lin Xun...” Baqi’s figure flickered as he traveled through the air. Before long, he saw the territory of the Cloud Weaver Clan in the distance. “Spoiling my plan twice... How can I just let you live? Perhaps only after killing you and slaughtering this Cloud Weaver Clan will I be able to obtain the Heavenly Star Feather Outfit.”

Baqi’s heart was burning with an unquenchable rage.

As someone who had one foot in the Emperor stage, not even Saints were worthy of his attention. And yet, he had suffered two consecutive defeats at the hands of Lin Xun, who was only a young man of the longevity tribulation stage. He found this intolerable.

“If I can finish it before those people notice me, then I’ll have enough time to use the Heavenly Star Feather Outfit to leave...”

Baqi then silently calculated and envisioned his plan for a long time. Finally, a cold gleam flashed through his eyes as he made his decision.

Boom!

A terrifying force of spirit sense spread from him and flowed toward the Cloud Weaver Clan’s territory.

In an instant, he locked onto Lin Xun!

The latter was inside a palace, being warmly entertained by a group of Cloud Weaver experts. The atmosphere was lively, and everyone looked at him with respect.

This scene completely ignited the fury and hatred within Baqi.

“DIE!”

Although Baqi remained at the same spot extremely far away, his spirit sense carried a supreme power that belonged to a Quasi-Emperor as it formed a blade that soundlessly slashed at Lin Xun’s mind sea.

He was certain that Lin Xun wouldn’t even be able to react at all.

The difference between a seventh longevity cultivator and a Quasi-Emperor was more than that between earth and heaven!

The moment Baqi's spirit sense came in contact with Lin Xun's mind sea, however, a terrifying breath gently swept out.

Bang!

Baqi's spirit sense blade exploded as if it had been struck by lightning.

Almost immediately after, that terrifying breath traced along Baqi's spirit sense and surged toward him.

"Damn it! What's going on?!" Baqi's expression drastically changed. He forcefully withdrew his spirit sense and resisted with all his might.

Boom!

He managed to block that terrifying breath, but felt a biting pain piercing his soul that caused him to tremble and grunt.

"A Quasi-Emperor, trying a despicable sneak attack on a junior. Have you no shame?" resounded a clear, cold, and misty voice in Baqi's head.

Along with the voice was a thunderous noise as the terrifying breath once again attacked.

"Humph!" Baqi instantly sensed the threat and decided to break away.

In a flash, he was already tens of thousands of miles away. Sensing that the terrifying breath did not give chase, he couldn't help but feel a burst of relief.

Immediately, his face became overcast again. *What's going on? How could there be such a terrifying character accompanying that ant?*

"Damn it!" cursed Baqi, who had no other way to vent his anger.

He suddenly realized that whenever he came across anything that involved Lin Xun, he became extremely unlucky. Lin Xun was like his fated enemy who was born to restrain him.

The feeling was suffocating!

Suddenly, the sky above Baqi rumbled with waves of Law Power, as if the heavenly order had been triggered.

Baqi's blood ran cold, knowing that his power had leaked out during the attack just now and alerted the heavenly order of the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

"I can't stay here!" Without hesitation, he flew off.

"Fellow Daoist, why are you in such a hurry to leave?"

"What fellow? He obviously doesn't belong to our Ancient Wasteland Domain. After him!"

"Damn it, when did such a big fish sneak into the Ancient Wasteland Domain? Is there a traitor in the frontline battlefield?"

"Cut the nonsense and give chase!"

A series of grand and majestic voices rang out as if the gods in heaven were talking to each other.

Then, it abruptly returned to silence.

It was as if nothing had ever happened.

In the violet palace of the Cloud Weaver Clan, Lin Xun was drinking and chatting with a Cloud Weaver dignitary who had come to toast.

Earlier, for just a split moment, he had felt a palpitating feeling, but it had disappeared before he could carefully sense it.

Only after making sure that nothing unusual had happened did he calm down.

However, the mysterious woman in the Omega Secret-Realm in his mind sea knew that if it hadn't been for her timely intervention, Lin Xun would have suffered.

"A Quasi-Emperor from the outer domains... Interesting... Let's see if he can escape from those characters..." the mysterious woman pondered briefly before closing her eyes again.

After the banquet, Lin Xun took out a bronze box that was sealed with dense, complicated runes and presented it to Lan Qinghen. "Senior, this is given to me by Mister Miaoquan of the Divine Apparatus Pavilion. He said that I'd only need to present this item to get your help."

Immediately, all the eyes in the great hall were attracted to the box.

"Can it be..." Some high-ranking dignitaries were emotional as they seemed to have guessed what it was.

Even Lan Qinghen was in a daze, as if she hadn't expected that there would be a day this object would return to her clan.

Only after a long time did she take a deep breath and accept it.

"Many thanks," she said and carefully put the box away.

"Matriarch, is it really..." someone asked.

Lan Qinghen nodded. Immediately, all the Cloud Weaver Clan's dignitaries became so excited that their breathing quickened.

The object inside the bronze box seemed to be of great significance to them.

"If you had taken it out at the beginning, then our clan would have been obligated to help no matter how difficult your request was." Lan Qinghen gazed at Lin Xun with a complicated expression.

She didn't expect that this item would return to the clan through Lin Xun. Recalling how she had initially treated him, she felt a pang of shame.

"Caicai and I are friends, so unless necessary, I wouldn't bring external objects into our exchange." Lin Xun smiled.

Hearing this, everyone was moved. They inwardly sighed and looked at Lin Xun with cordiality and indescribable respect.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1367: Embarking on the Journey Home

Lan Qinghen made a decision right away, looking solemn as she asked, "Everyone, I've made up my mind to help out Young Master Lin. What are your thoughts?"

The dignitaries all nodded without hesitation!

Their attitude had taken a complete turnaround as Lin Xun had not only helped them resolve a great crisis but also returned a long-lost treasure to their clan!

Whether it was out of repayment or any other reasons, it was impossible for them to refuse him.

A satisfied smile bloomed on Lan Qinghen's lips. "Since that is the case, I'll go and report this to the High Priest. With his help, I'm sure Young Master Lin will find a safe path to the lower world."

Lin Xun got up and cupped his fist. "Thank you for your help, Seniors."

His current cultivation was enough to put him on an equal footing with anyone here, but as a friend of Caicai's, he naturally wouldn't act all high and mighty at a time like this.

"There's no need to be polite, Young Master Lin. It is our honor to be able to aid you." Lan Qinghen laughed.

The atmosphere in the great hall became cordial and pleasant again.

That night, Lan Qinghen came with the good news that the High Priest of the Cloud Weaver Clan had agreed to help.

However, calculating the coordinates from the rules of the void required extreme caution and a lot of preparation time, so the High Priest had set the date to seven days later.

Lin Xun had no objections to this.

.....

Three days later.

An indigo-colored treasure ship cut through the heavens and descended on the Cloud Weaver Clan's territory.

In a violet robe with a white-jade belt and a feathered crown on his head, a handsome Ye Chen unboarded.

Next to him, Ye Feiheng said respectfully, "Young Master, this is the Cloud Weaver Clan."

With his hands crossed behind his back, Ye Chen casually surveyed the surroundings. "You made a mistake this time, Sixth Uncle, but since Lin Xun chose to forgive you, I'll let this slide. However..."

Ye Feiheng's heart tightened.

Ye Chen continued, "You know what to do about the Golden Spectral Sparrow Clan, don't you?"

Ye Feiheng nodded repeatedly. "I understand!"

According to seniority, Ye Chen still needed to call Ye Feiheng his uncle, but as the only heir of the Ye Clan, his status was naturally much higher than the latter's.

On top of that, Ye Chen was a Supreme King at the seventh longevity stage and was highly regarded by the Ye Clan's Saint as its future pillar.

Under these circumstances, Ye Feiheng did not dare assume the identity of a senior in front of him at all!

"Let's go and meet Lin Xun!" Without sparing Ye Feiheng another glance, Ye Chen marched toward the Cloud Weaver Clan.

.....

"Even the young master of the Ye Clan has come in person!"

"Master Lin is truly capable!"

"Keep your voices down."

Today, the Cloud Weaver Clan welcomed a special VIP, which caused an uproar among their clansmen and got them discussing excitedly.

The Ye Clan of Crape Myrtle Mountain was a topclass behemoth in the North Dipper World. As the next in line to its throne, Ye Chen's status was naturally extraordinary.

However, they all knew that Ye Chen was here not because of them, but to see Lin Xun.

At the moment, Ye Chen was wearing a displeased expression. "Lin Xun, why didn't you notify me that you've come to the North Dipper World?"

Lin Xun was stunned. "You really came to criticize me?"

Ye Chen was speechless. "How dare I criticize the hallowed Demon God Lin? My Third Granduncle, well, he's that old man called Ye Jiuxiao, asked me to personally deliver you a message: The battle of the nine domains will probably arrive in less than ten years, so make sure that you will attend."

Lin Xun assented. Of course he would attend. However, he found it strange that Ye Chen was sent here for such a trivial task as delivering a message.

Ye Chen explained, "Quasi-Emperor Bai Yujing sent word that if you don't attend, he'll be the first to butcher you. This is not a joke, you must take it seriously."

Lin Xun had heard about Bai Yujing from Mister Miaoxuan and knew some of this person's deeds. He certainly wouldn't take Bai Yujing's words as a joke, but he wasn't scared or apprehensive of him either.

The conversation that followed was much more relaxed and pleasant.

Ye Chen had come here purely because he wanted to see Lin Xun again. There was no other purpose.

Upon learning that Lin Xun was about to return to the lower world, he rubbed his palms eagerly and wanted to follow along.

However, Lin Xun flatly rejected him, "If those old monsters of your clan knew I abducted their little treasure, they'd be mad at me."

Ye Chen lamented, "What young master of the Ye Clan? I couldn't care less. But at the end of the day, my surname is still Ye, so I can't run amok as I please."

"A toast to you." Lin Xun raised his cup.

"Come, come! Nothing beats the happiness of getting drunk!" clamored Ye Chen.

Early the next morning, Ye Chen departed with Ye Feiheng.

Before leaving, he had said that he hoped to meet up with Lin Xun again in the battle of the nine domains.

.....

A few days later.

Lin Xun, Zhao Jingxuan, and Toady followed Lan Qinghen to the most important area of the Cloud Weaver Clan.

It was an ancient altar that exuded the scent of time. Built of red, golden, black, blue, and yellow clouds, the altar was holy and solemn.

Above the altar suspended a black hole, boundless and bottomless as if it led to another mysterious world.

"Get ready. I will find a void passage. You need only memorize the spatial nodes, and then you will be able to transfer yourselves between interfaces," said an old man with thinning hair and beard in a hoarse voice.

He was the High Priest of the Cloud Weaver Clan, who also had an extremely special identity as the Path Guide with the ability to search for spatial coordinates.

With that said, the High Priest walked onto the altar and raised his hand.

Buzz~

Instantly, a mysterious starry sky image emerged from his palm. Billions of stars flowed within, their lights cascading down like a rain, giving off a mysterious feeling of vastness and boundlessness.

“Master Lin, please put this on.” Lan Qinghen presented a battle suit that looked like it was made of silver silk. The suit glowed with a misty, holy light, and holding it felt like one was holding a magnificent star river.

“The Heavenly Star Feather Outfit!” Toady was shocked to see this Saint Treasure that possessed the magical ability to travel through the void and ignore spatial barriers.

Even a Saint would have to salivate at the sight of such a treasure.

Lin Xun was also stunned, then hurriedly declined it. How could he take away the ancestral treasure of the Cloud Weaver Clan?

“Put it on. With your current cultivation, a great spatial shift will instantly mince you all into ash and wipe out all of your existences if you don’t have this treasure.” Lan Qinghen had obviously made a decision long ago, not allowing refusal as she handed it to Lin Xun. “Don’t feel like you owe us anything. You’ve helped our clan a great deal, so you are our benefactor.”

“Thank you so much, Senior!” Lin Xun accepted the outfit, knowing that he couldn’t refuse. “When I return to the Ancient Wasteland Domain, I will definitely return this treasure to you.”

Lan Qinghen smiled and didn’t say anything more.

“It’s ready,” announced the High Priest.

Lin Xun’s group looked up in unison. There they saw above the five-colored altar, the static black hole started to slowly rotate.

Rumble~

In the depths of the black hole, one could vaguely see countless spatial Law Powers tumbling and flowing like water torrents, emitting a palpitating luster.

“That is the spatial storm. In front of it, even Saints are as powerless as ants and will be instantly ripped apart if they are caught in one,” explained Toady with an apprehensive expression.

The power of space was one of the most terrifying and supreme forces in existence. The only spatial ability Saints could grasp was teleportation.

“Little friend, take this totem compass that records the spatial nodes leading to the lower world. Be very, very careful not to make a single mistake.” The High Priest handed Lin Xun a strange compass that looked like it was polished from a beast bone and solemnly emphasized, “A miss is as good as a mile, especially in spatial transportation. One slight mistake, and you may well be lost and trapped in the endless void forever.”

Lin Xun accepted the compass with a serious expression.

Next, the High Priest explained to Lin Xun in great detail how to use the compass to move through the void.

Lin Xun carefully memorized everything, not daring to miss a single detail.

A long time later after everything was said, Lin Xun put Toady and Zhao Jingxuan into the Dao Endless Pagoda, then put on the Heavenly Star Feather Outfit. Finally, he held the totem compass and walked up to the altar under the watchful eyes of the High Priest and Lan Qinghen.

“Farewell, Seniors!” Lin Xun turned around and cupped his fist before resolutely stepping into the black hole. He silently said in his heart, “Ancient Wasteland Domain, I’ll be back...”

Boom!

The swirling black hole boiled as endless spatial Law Power flickered and engulfed Lin Xun’s figure.

Pfff!

The moment Lin Xun disappeared, the High Priest staggered and coughed out a mouthful of blood. He seemed to be greatly weakened, looking as if he had aged many years.

“High Priest, are you alright?” Lan Qinghen was worried.

“You know it’s natural for the Path Guide to suffer a decrease of cultivation and longevity after searching for spatial coordinates, Qinghen, so no need to be concerned,” said the High Priest hoarsely. “We did him a favor, so if our clan ever comes across a disaster in the future, he will not stand by and watch. For this piece of good karma, the price I paid is nothing.”

Lan Qinghen softly sighed.

Meanwhile, Caicai was looking at the sky high above from the top of her verdant mountain. She murmured, "Please take care, Young Master Lin..."

On this day, Lin Xun left the Ancient Wasteland Domain and crossed the void, embarking on the path back to the lower world.

It was also on this day that a piece of news spread through the Ancient Wasteland Domain: within ten years, the battle of the domains would kick off, and that would be when the Nine-Domain Battlefield would finally reappear after countless years!

In an instant, the atmosphere of the Ancient Wasteland Domain changed, leading to an unknown number of ripples.

All of this had nothing to do with Lin Xun, whose mind had long since flown back to the lower world, to the Ziyao Empire, to Mind Cleansing Peak...

After so many years, would old acquaintances still remain the same?

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1368: Northern Battlefield

In the infinite void, there were flashing rains of meteors, dazzling, bucket-sized stars flowing, and chaotic black clouds vaporizing...

A small path ran through the void, surrounded by colorful and magnificent drifting lights. Walking on this path made a person feel like they were wandering through the river of years.

Whoosh!

The compass in Lin Xun's hand shot out a golden streak of light that extended into the void. Right away, he saw a spatial node appear and shine brightly in the extreme distance.

He instantly focused and flew toward it.

Around him, ethereal, silvery stars orbited, allowing him to move through the void unhindered like a fish swimming in water.

This was the power of the Heavenly Star Feather Outfit.

Without the treasure, he would have been instantly obliterated by the terrifying Law Power of space the moment he tried to travel through the void!

“Only seven spatial nodes left before I reach the destination...” Lin Xun quietly calculated.

He didn’t dare to be careless.

According to the High Priest of the Cloud Weaver Clan, the arrival of the great age had completely changed the rules of heaven and earth. This was especially true when it came to large-scaled spatial shifts as one had to be absolutely careful.

Unless one possessed the power of the Emperor stage, a single mistake in spatial shifting would cause them to be forever lost in the universe, Saints included!

After the time it took for an incense stick to burn, Lin Xun trembled in anticipation as he was only one spatial node away from the lower world.

But right at this moment, he spotted a gigantic and strange beast in the extreme distance. Enveloped in countless stars, it was gliding through the infinite void toward him.

The eyes of the beast were as big as suns, scarlet and intimidating as they emitted a cold and ruthless glow!

Next to its colossal size, the stars around it were like tiny marble beads...

Lin Xun’s heart shook. *It’s this bizarre and ferocious creature again!*

He still remembered seeing it when he had left the lower world for the Ancient Wasteland Domain. At that time, the other party had rampaged all the way straight toward him, subjecting Lin Xun, who was crossing the void, to a terrifying impact!

Back then, Lin Xun had been about to reach the East Victory World, but the impact had shifted him to the West Infinity World of the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

Now, the beast had once again appeared. Lin Xun could swear that it was the very same one.

Deep in the beast’s two eyes was a pair of mysterious silver symbols. They were obscure and chilling, seemingly capable of devouring one’s soul. It was exactly the same as when Lin Xun had seen it back then!

“What the hell is this creature? How can it rampage through the boundless void freely?” Lin Xun narrowed his eyes, his expression grave.

The ferocious beast was fast approaching. He could even feel that the aura emanating from it, which was even more terrifying than that of a Saint’s!

Not daring to hesitate, Lin Xun shot toward the final spatial node with all his might.

But to his surprise, the strange beast did not encroach on his path. It seemed to recognize him. The two symbols in its scarlet eyes drifted and tumbled as it quietly looked at him with an indescribable emotion.

In that gaze, there seemed to be shock, surprise, and disbelief... Lin Xun did not notice any of this. Reaching the last spatial node, he didn't hesitate to leap into it. With a whoosh, he disappeared.

The bizarre beast watched everything happen without making a move. It just remained in the void like a huge, floating continent.

“Grand Abyss Heaven Devourer... I have finally seen you again...”

An icy voice echoed in the world of nothingness, and the scarlet eyes flashed with a glint of satisfaction.

“As long as you live...sooner or later we will meet again...”

After murmuring, the beast turned around and started moving again. Crushing the void, it disappeared into the vast emptiness.

.....

The lower world. In the border fortress at the extreme north of Ziyao Empire.

The sun was setting.

Blood and the smoke of war filled the battlefield. The ground was littered with tens of thousands of corpses and rivers of blood.

“Kill!”

“Kill!”

“Kill!”

The two armies in the field were still colliding like torrents, blotting the sky with cold flashes of weapons and seething murderous auras.

One army belonged to the Ziyao Empire's grand borderland army, numbering around three thousand soldiers riding on thirty-six medium-sized imperial rune battleships.

A series of thunderous noises echoed as the rune cannons on the battleship were on full fire, spewing flames that were tens of thousands of feet long. Like the whip of the Thunder God, they danced and lashed wildly, crushing the enemy's repeated advances with terrifying lethality.

Their enemy was the Water Tribe, who had a thousand soldiers who possessed amazing combat strength and fearlessness and wielded all kinds of barbaric weapons and magical treasures.

Although greatly inferior in numbers, the Water Tribe clearly had the advantage as they charged forward like mad and forced the imperial army to retreat repeatedly.

Boom!

All of a sudden, a misty figure shot up from the Water Tribe army with a bone sledgehammer and smashed it down hard on an imperial ship. With a loud cracking noise, a huge pit appeared in the middle of the ship.

The ship lost balance and started falling.

“Run!”

“Get off!”

Cries of alarm rang out all over the imperial ship. The Ziyao Empire’s soldiers hurriedly rushed out, but greeting them outside were waves upon waves of Water Tribe experts quickly closing up on the ship.

And then, blood splattered and corpses flew.

In the imperial barracks at the frontline battlefield, a scout covered in smoke and dust anxiously reported, “My lord, we can’t hold out any longer! There are only thirty-five usable battleships left!”

This bloody battle had been going on for over a month, costing the Ziyao Empire nearly a hundred thousand elite soldiers.

The Water Tribe had also suffered serious casualties, but they had a steady supply of reinforcements on top of their warriors’ utter fearlessness and madness in battle.

At the moment, they were closing up on the Ziyao Empire’s northern border!

“I understand. You are dismissed,” rang an old voice.

It came from an old man wearing the imperial army uniform. His hair was gray, but his back was straight. On his wrinkled face was a pair of eyes as sharp as that of a falcon’s, and they seemed to flash with electric arcs as he looked around.

He was Changsun Xiong, the leader of Ziyao Empire northern military camp and a King stage expert with countless military achievements.

“So they’re launching a full-scale war... The Brute Warriors are trying to fish in our troubled water...” Changsun Xiong frowned as he felt the gravity of the situation.

The world had witnessed shocking changes in the last several years, not just within the empire, but even in the borderlands.

In the past, the northern border had been a chilling barren snowy plain, beyond which was a lofty mountain range that separated the Ziyao Empire and the Water Tribe. It was a natural moat that had prevented the latter from invading.

However, this region had undergone a drastic change recently. The ice had melted, and the mountain range had collapsed, turning it into a green grass prairie blessed with rich aeth qi!

With the natural barrier gone, the Water Tribe had never been more ready and eager to attack. Last month, they had finally started to launch a full-scale war on the northern border of the Ziyao Empire.

From what Changsun Xiong knew, battles of unprecedented scale were also breaking out in other regions of the empire, such as the southwestern borderlands and the entire eastern coastline.

The nine tribes of Brute Warriors were clearly encircling the empire, planning to eat up its territory. The situation was not optimistic.

What worried Changsun Xiong the most was that the empire was also going through an internal turmoil, all because of the drastic changes between heaven and earth!

During these years, a large number of aeth mountains and blessed lands had appeared in the empire, and aeth qi in the atmosphere had become unprecedentedly dense.

This was originally a joyous event worthy of celebration since the richer the aeth qi was, the more cultivators benefited. It was something that no one in the Ziyao Empire had even dared to dream of.

However, joy was not the only thing resulting from the changes as numerous demonic birds, ferocious beasts, spirits, and monsters had also appeared out of nowhere...

They had come in groups to occupy spiritual mountains, overrun blessed lands, and wantonly invade cities and towns. Burning, killing, pillaging...they had committed every evil deed possible.

Even though the empire had mobilized all kinds of troops, it was still unable to put a stop to this demonic rampage. On the contrary, it had lost many elite forces and several cities to the monsters!

Moreover, as time passed, the dramatic changes between heaven and earth continued to unfold, bringing more and more demons and monsters into the empire. The situation was extremely bleak.

“Internal and external troubles at the same time...” sighed Changsun Xiong.

The great age was also the age of chaos!

That was what the Great Emperor had said over a decade ago and had now proven to be true.

“My lord, four more battleships have been damaged!” The anxious voice of the scout once again resounded outside the barracks.

Changsun Xiong’s heart jumped. A cold gleam flashed in his eyes as he realized that he couldn’t wait any longer.

Boom!

He rocketed into the sky and gazed at the distant battlefield. He saw the Ziyao Empire’s army collapsing little by little despite its best efforts to resist and stop the enemy.

Meanwhile, the Water Tribe army was charging forward without fear. It was clear that they had the upper hand in terms of overall power.

“Imperial soldiers, heed order! No matter what, do not let those brute scums set half a foot into our territory!”

Changsun Xiong’s beard and hair fluttered as his voice spread and shook the bloody battlefield like a thunderclap.

Boom!

The old man then stormed into the battlefield himself, lifting his palm and chopping out a force that tore through the sky and paved a bloody path through the enemy army!

Changsun Xiong’s unparalleled might ignited the spirits of the imperial soldiers in the field. Their blood was once again set on fire.

“Hmph, the cowardly turtle has finally come out of his shell. You shall die today, Changsun Xiong!”

Three figures suddenly swept out from the Water Tribe army and surrounded Changsun Xiong.

From the terrifying auras emanating from them, it was obvious that they were all at the Brute King stage.

The faces of the imperial soldiers instantly lost color. No one had expected the Water Tribe to be hiding three Kings in their army.

This had never been mentioned in any previous intelligence!

Even Changsun Xiong narrowed his eyes. His heart sank as he realized the enemy had long been planning to kill him.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1369: He Came from the Sky

Kings were the spirit and pillar of a grand army!

In large-scale wars, they rarely made a move and would stand aside as a restraint measure against the Kings of the opposing army.

When King stage experts decided to show themselves on the battlefield, it also meant that the war had reached a critical moment.

Changsun Xiong's original plan was to fight with his life on the line to force open a retreat route for the imperial army and break the dangerous situation they were facing.

Only now did he realize that the Water Tribe had soon prepared for this. They had concealed their intention extremely well, waiting for him to come out to kill him!

Changsun Xiong inhaled deeply and said, "Kill me? With just you three? What a joke!"

He then burst out laughing. The blood in him burned with a fearless spirit that disregarded even death.

Seeing this, the expressions of the imperial soldiers were filled with grief.

They knew that Changsun Xiong was going to risk his life!

The Water Tribe army, on the other hand, was exhilarated. Three Brute Kings together would be enough to sweep through the entire Ziyao army! And then, they would be able to drive straight through the empire's northern borders and start eating up their prosperous cities!

“The world has changed greatly, but only within your empire has the aeth qi suddenly increased and the blessed lands appeared, while all the territories of the nine tribes of us Brute Warriors have turned into barren lands. It has become difficult for us to even survive,” said a Brute King with a string of bones hanging from his neck, his voice depressed. “Heaven is unfair, so we have no choice but to wage war!”

“Waste no words with them. Kill that old human first!” said the thin Brute King with bizarre pale blue skin in a morose tone.

“I agree.” The last Brute King smiled faintly. He wore a golden robe and had azure hair, appearing young and graceful.

“Hmph! Then come! Let’s see who will die!” snorted Changsun Xiong coldly, his expression resolute.

“Attack!” shouted the Brute King with the bone necklace.

They all knew that this large-scale conflict that had dragged on for over a month would come to an end as long as they eradicated Changsun Xiong.

At this moment, the soldiers on both sides all stopped to watch the battle in the sky unfold.

Boom!

Right in the middle of this tense atmosphere, there was suddenly an explosive noise. It came not from the Kings, but a huge vortex tunnel that appeared in the sky above.

And then, under countless gazes of shock, a handsome figure floated out.

He was clad in moon white clothes. His long, black hair fluttered, his eyes deep as an abyss, and his aura out of this world. It was none other than Lin Xun.

“The empire’s reinforcements?” The three Brute Kings narrowed their eyes and frowned.

Even Changsun Xiong was stunned, inwardly wondering if the young man was really support sent by the empire.

But he looks a bit too young...

Meanwhile, Lin Xun was also caught by surprise to be greeted by such a bloody battlefield the moment he exited the void tunnel.

However, he still recognized the Ziyao Empire’s battleships and the violet glory flower flag. He inwardly heaved a sigh of relief and was a little excited.

After so many years, he had finally returned!

Right then, Lin Xun noticed that he had become the center of attention, so he cleared his mind and began to survey the surroundings.

Eventually, his gaze landed on the three Brute Kings.

How could he, who had been honed in the Blood Kill Camp and fought against the Brute Warriors in the Blood Kill Battlefield, not recognize their identity?

He could even tell that this bloodshed had reached an extremely critical moment, and the empire was clearly at a disadvantage with only one King expert present. The imbalance in power was huge.

Had he not appeared at this time, then the Ziyao Empire would have been doomed to lose.

The atmosphere was somewhat strange and silent as Lin Xun's entrance had been too astonishing. Coming out of a spatial tunnel, he really caused many jaws to drop.

The silence was broken when the Brute King with the bone necklace spoke with an icy face, "Changsun Xiong, is this your reinforcement? Only one person, and such a young man at that? Did your empire run out of talents?"

His remark instantly earned a round of laughter.

"It was quite a peculiar entrance, though," commented the blue-skinned Brute King.

"Don't let your guard down. I can't see through this young man's depths," warned the Brute King in the golden robe through voice transmission with a frown, somewhat alarmed.

Meanwhile, Changsun Xiong asked Lin Xun, "Little friend, who sent you here?"

Lin Xun didn't answer and instead asked, "Is this the border of the Ziyao Empire?"

Hearing this, many people were baffled as the question sounded like nonsense. *Is this fellow lost or what?*

Changsun Xiong's lips also twitched a bit, but he still pointed at the majestic city in the distance and said, "See that city? The whole area to the south of it is the borderlands of my empire!"

One of the Brute Kings instantly sneered, "What a joke. From now on, that city and southward will be under the control of our Water Tribe!"

Meanwhile, Lin Xun was relieved to know that there was no mistake in his spatial travel this time as he had landed not far from the Ziyao Empire!

He turned around and looked at the Brute King who had just spoken. “What did you just say?”

The expression of the Brute King with the bone necklace instantly darkened. He said coldly, “Are you deaf? I said from now on...”

“Sorry, I’m too lazy to listen.”

Following Lin Xun’s remark was a palm strike. A blue, sky-blotting palm qi instantly manifested with a rumbling noise.

“Seeking death!” roared the Brute King angrily as he also attacked without holding back.

Unfortunately, the huge palm crushed through all of his attacks with destructive momentum and loomed over the Brute King as he couldn’t escape in time.

And then, it fiercely grabbed at him!

In the horrified eyes of all, the Brute King, who was a powerful existence that could decide the final outcome of a large-scale war, was crushed like a small insect by the huge hand. The man ended up turning into a rain of pieces of flesh and blood.

“This...”

As both parties struggled to believe their eyes, the entire field was dead silent.

Even Changsun Xiong looked dumbfounded. *This is just too...too powerful! Who is this young man? How does he possess such a terrifying power?*

“Who are you? Why have I never heard that the Ziyao Empire has someone like you?”

The expressions of the other two Brute Kings drastically changed, and chills ran through their hearts. They hadn’t been able to see through Lin Xun’s depths, so they had just treated him as an usual formidable enemy without feeling much pressure.

But now, they realized that something was very wrong!

Both of them were instantly on full alert like they were facing their biggest enemy.

“You think people like you deserve to know my name?” Lin Xun scoffed.

He recalled back to the training days in the Blood Kill Camp, and the killings in the Blood Kill Battlefield. One scene after another, they replayed so clearly like they had happened just yesterday.

Back then, he had been a young man who knew not how to hide his edges. His cultivation hadn't been high, but he was spirited, fearless, and hot-blooded.

Back then, he had hungered for the Brute Warriors' meat and thirsted for their blood!

All the memories eventually turned into a sentimental feeling that surged into his heart, and Lin Xun couldn't help but murmur, "Violet Glory Flower is undefeated because of blood kill, and the empire exists forever because of continued expeditions..."

"Hmm?" Changsun Xiong's heart stirred. *Does this young man come from the Blood Kill Camp? But there has been no word about such a terrifying existence...*

"Kill!"

Seeing that Lin Xun seemed to be in a trance, the two Brute Kings didn't hesitate to strike.

This was their opportunity!

Boom!

The blue Brute King threw his bone spear. The weapon shot out and tore apart the air in its wake.

On another side, the golden-robed Brute King took out a piece of strange, silver-colored beast skin and violently shook it.

Rustle~

In an instant, the air tumbled and rolled toward Lin Xun like a tide.

"Careful!" Changsun Xiong's pupils constricted. He was just about to help when he saw a contemptuous arc on Lin Xun's lips.

Reaching out his hand, Lin Xun casually grabbed the white spear, and then flung it back.

Whoosh!

At an even more terrifying speed than earlier, the spear pierced through its owner's forehead. The force then shattered his head into a slurry of blood and brain matter.

At the same time, Lin Xun waved his left hand and deployed a clear-colored light. The light swept out and swiftly nullified the tide of air current.

The momentum of the clear light was unabated as it kicked up a sky-blotting storm that surged toward the golden-robed Brute King.

The latter was nearly scared witless. He fled without hesitation.

Unfortunately for him, he underestimated the dreadfulness of Lin Xun's strike and failed to outrun it. In just a blink of an eye, the clear light enveloped and wiped him out, not even leaving any dregs behind!

With just one palm strike, one throw, and a wave of the sleeve, three Brute Kings were killed in succession!

From beginning to end, Lin Xun had not moved a single point. His relaxed and easy way of killing people like slaughtering defenseless chickens shocked the entire field.

The imperial soldiers gawked at him in utter speechlessness like he was a supreme god that didn't belong to this world.

The Water Tribe warriors seemed to be frightened out of their mind as they screamed like they had seen ghosts.

In a matter of moments, three Brute Kings had been executed!

The impact was just too overwhelming.

Even Changsun Xiong was shaken to the core. He couldn't control his emotions nor his eyes from widening as he stared at Lin Xun like he was a monster.

He had prepared to fight with his life on the line and never even thought of leaving this battlefield alive, but who could have expected such a complete turnaround?!

This young man had fallen from the sky and only taken seconds to sweep away three Brute Kings as casually as swatting flies!

Who is he?

Why have I never heard of such a supreme expert in the empire?

Changsun Xiong was in a daze.

Meanwhile, Lin Xun didn't think much of it. The most powerful one of the three Brute Kings had only stepped into the first longevity stage, while the other two had only been ordinary Kings.

This was simply inadequate in front of Lin Xun, who possessed the power of a seventh longevity Supreme King.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1370: All the Way Southward

“Run!”

After a short period of dead silence, the Water Tribe army broke into a hubbub and fled in utter fright. Each and every one of them wished that their parents had given them two more legs.

Seeing three Brute Kings so lightly obliterated was simply a nightmare!

Anyone with a normal brain knew that it was pointless to continue this war as it was already concluded by the presence of the young man from the sky.

This was the power of a King expert as one King expert could replace a million soldiers!

And Lin Xun wasn’t just a normal King expert.

“What are you waiting for? Attack!” bellowed Changsun Xiong at his soldiers with a trembling heart.

The war had been going on for over a month, and today, the imperial army’s defense had been on the verge of being breached.

At the critical moment, a young man had descended from the sky like a god, and saved the day with his strength alone in just a few breaths!

How could Changsun Xiong not feel emotional?

“Kill!”

“Kill those brute bastards!”

The spirits of the imperial soldiers burned with renewed vitality as they charged forth and pursued victory. The sound of battle horns echoed between the heavens and earth.

“Young Master, may I have a word with you?” Changsun Xiong looked at Lin Xun with heartfelt respect.

With his experience, he could tell at a glance that Lin Xun was by no means an old King monster who had lived for a long time.

It was precisely this that made the situation even more shocking as he wondered if this little monster had been a graduate of the empire's Qinglu Academy.

Thanks to the drastic changes over the years, a large number of amazingly talented young people had emerged in the empire, leaping into the King stage and earning themselves world-shaking fame.

Over half of them came from Qinglu Academy, hence Changsun Xiong's speculation.

Lin Xun nodded and left the battlefield with Changsun Xiong.

He had just returned, so there were many things that he needed to catch up with. After all, over a decade had gone by since he had left the lower world, and he needed to know what had become of it.

.....

A banquet was set up in a camp, and Lin Xun was invited to take a seat at the upper table, being accompanied by Changsun Xiong himself.

Sitting on the two sides were the important military personnel of the empire's north defense line.

Changsun Xiong proposed a toast to Lin Xun before asking, "May I know your name, Young Master?"

"You can just call me Lin Twelve," replied Lin Xun casually. This was his identity number in Blood Kill Camp, and he had been known by this name in the Blood Kill Battlefield.

"Lin Twelve..." Changsun Xiong quietly repeated this name as he instantly thought of Blood Kill Camp, but no matter how hard he rummaged through his memories, he couldn't find when the camp had produced such a heaven-defying young man.

Lin Xun didn't think much of it. He got right to business. "General, I had been traveling in the Ancient Wasteland Domain and have only returned today. I would like to understand the empire's current situation, so I hope that you can enlighten me."

Traveling in the Ancient Wasteland Domain!

Everyone's heart jerked as their guesses had turned out to be wrong. This young man in front of them had actually returned from the Ancient Wasteland Domain!

"So you went to cultivate in the upper world, Young Master Lin. It's no wonder you are so formidable," said Changsun Xiong in realization.

The high-ranking personnel of the empire naturally knew a thing or two about the Ancient Wasteland Domain, which was regarded as the holy land of cultivation that every cultivator dreamed of traveling to.

And the fact that Lin Xun had returned from that place made them look at him in a new light once again.

They were well aware that every cultivator who had been able to leave the lower world for the Ancient Wasteland Domain was anything but simple!

In the ensuing conversation, Lin Xun was able to gain a rough understanding of the situation.

For example, the impact of the dramatic changes within heaven and earth, the riots and turmoil caused by the demonic beasts running rampant, and the full-scale war started by the nine tribes of the Brute Warriors that had been spreading like wildfire across the major borderlands of the Ziyao Empire...

Lin Xun sighed in his heart. After being away for more than a decade, the lower world had also become different from what he had known.

The empire had still been peaceful and secure when he had departed, but now, it was facing endless internal and external problems!

Everything, in the end, was due to the drastic changes of heaven and earth.

Lin Xun had heard about this as early as when he had left the Ancient Wasteland Domain, and he even knew that these changes were actually variables that arose from the advent of the great age.

Unlike the Ancient Wasteland Domain, the Ziyao Empire didn't end up in an optimistic position in this great age. With demonic beasts rampaging its territory and all of the Brute Warrior tribes invading the borderlands, it could be described as stormy and turbulent.

"Farewell, General." Lin Xun took his leave after the banquet ended.

Too many changes had occurred in the lower world over the years. He intended to return to the Forbidden City and check out Mind Cleansing Peak at the first opportunity to see how the Lin Clan was doing. While he was at it, he planned on investigating the massacre of the Lin Family back then.

Changsun Xiong and the high-ranking officers personally saw Lin Xun off.

Watching as he disappeared into the horizon, a fierce-looking middle-aged man suddenly said, "I remember, about sixteen years ago, the leader of the Lin Family in the Forbidden

City, that young man who was hailed as 'his brilliance fills the capital,' left the lower world for the Ancient Wasteland Domain to advance in his cultivation path."

Everyone's eyes narrowed as they were reminded of the heaven-defying genius from the Lin Family back then. Relying on his own strength, he had risen in the Forbidden City that was packed with big clans and countless powerful cultivators.

The younger generations might have forgotten about his deeds, but those like Changsun Xiong would never forget how that young man had called the shots in the Forbidden City and made a name for himself!

"You mean he's very likely to be Lin Xun?" Changsun Xiong's eyes flickered.

The fierce-looking middle-aged man nodded. "I served in the Blood Kill Battlefield more than ten years ago and had heard of the name Lin Twelve. However, that person was only at the Heaven Ascension stage, so I just couldn't believe that it was him. After all, the difference in the cultivation is just too big..."

Everyone else nodded.

The difference was more than just big. To be able to leap from the Heaven Ascension stage to a peerless Supreme King in just over a decade was undoubtedly unbelievable!

"If this Lin Twelve is really the master of Mind Cleansing Peak from back then, then I'm afraid that his return...will throw the Forbidden City into an uproar..." commented a person, their eyes flashing with a strange gleam.

"Care to elaborate?" Changsun Xiong frowned.

"A few years ago, a rumor was prevalent in the Forbidden City that the drastic changes in heaven and earth had completely severed the connection between the lower world and the Ancient Wasteland Domain, and those who had traveled there would never be able to return," said the person a deep voice. "The news put the Lin Clan in a delicate situation as Lin Xun was their backbone. If he couldn't return...then what do you think his clansmen would think?"

Hearing this, everyone's eyes flickered. A big power without its pillar and leader was destined to welcome storms from all directions!

"The enemies of the Lin Clan had been deterred by the threat of Lin Xun even though he had left. After knowing that there's no way for him to return anymore, how could they pass by this opportunity to take revenge on the Lin Clan?" the person sighed. "As far as I know, their situation has become increasingly difficult since the rumor started spreading."

"The Lin Clan has many enemies?" asked someone in bewilderment.

“Have you forgotten? Who among the seven high clans that Lin Xun hasn’t offended?”

This reminder caused everyone to sigh.

Lin Xun had had many rivals during his rise to prominence in the Forbidden City, and just among the seven high clans alone, he had made an enemy out of six, namely the Zuo, Qin, Chi, Hua, Song, and Xie Clans!

“If that’s really the case, then I’m afraid that the Forbidden City would really be in chaos...” muttered Changsun Xiong. A chill inexplicably ran down his spine as recalled the scene where Lin Xun had killed the three Brute Kings.

When such a character of such caliber learned of the Lin Clan’s situation, he would definitely set off a monstrous storm of blood!

.....

In the vast sky, the Grand Universe Ark transformed into a streak of light heading southward.

On the treasure ship, Lin Xun, Toady, and Zhao Jingxuan were chatting.

“The power in the air is indeed different. The aeth qi is dozens of times denser than when I was in the empire back then.” Lin Xun clicked his tongue.

“The presence of the great dao has also thickened. This makes it much easier for cultivators to perceive it...” Zhao Jingxuan nodded.

“But in the end, it’s still far inferior to the Supreme Realm,” commented Toady, who then suddenly frowned. “Have you guys noticed? There’s an indescribable oppressive force in the Law Power of this world that’s making me really uncomfortable.”

Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan glanced at each other and both nodded.

“If I’m not wrong, this is the heavenly will power of the lower world. The stronger a cultivator is, the more clearly they will feel it. Once our cultivation reaches a certain level, we will definitely be subjected to its suppression and even obliteration!” Toady mused, “I suspect that this threshold is the Saint stage. Saints can cause unimaginable consequences with their destructive power, so they would be spurned by this world.”

This was actually quite understandable. If the lower world was like a pond, then a Saint would be equal to a true dragon. How could a small pond possibly withstand the tossing and turning of a huge dragon?

That was why the heavenly will of this world would not allow a behemoth to appear in it!

“Not necessarily.” Lin Xun shook his head, recalling what Meng Qiuqing had told him about Quasi-Emperor Baqi bringing Yun Qingbai down to the lower world.

Moreover, Baqi had said that there was a true Emperor hibernating in this world!

An Emperor was above the Saint stage. If this world didn’t allow them, then how could they even enter or exist here?

There had to be some sort of mystery behind this.

“Boss, I can’t accompany you to the Forbidden City,” Toady suddenly said, “I need to make a trip to the Dao Burial Sea Mound in the Spirit Burial Sea. As you know, I had awakened there, so I want to find some...truth.”

Lin Xun was stunned. Speaking of the Dao Burial Sea Mound, he was instantly reminded of the bizarre blind monk and the blurry mysterious maiden.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1371: Monster Problem

Lin Xun pondered and said, “Alright. You have half a year. If you don’t come to the Forbidden City and find me within this period, then I’ll go to the Dao Burial Sea Mound to look for you.”

Even though Lin Xun was now a seventh longevity Supreme King, a bizarre place like the Dao Burial Sea Mound still made him uneasy as he was unable to see through it.

That place was home to mysteries and uncertainties.

“Don’t worry, I grew up in that hellhole. Well then, I’m off!” Toady waved his hand with a grin and leaped up into the sky. His green robe fluttered in the wind, looking unrestrained as he disappeared into the horizon.

“Show off!” Zhao Jingxuan laughed.

Lin Xun couldn’t help but smile as well. Toady had always been like this.

Now that only she and Lin Xun were left on the treasure ship, Zhao Jingxuan seemed to hesitate about something.

“When we return to the Forbidden City, do you want to see my parents?” she still asked in the end, her eyes fidgety.

She was like a beautiful goddess from a painting, her face was fair and delicate, and her long black hair was fluttering in the wind.

Stunned, Lin Xun said, “Of course. I still need to ask for Uncle Zhao’s advice about some things.”

“Mhm,” muttered Zhao Jingxuan. She didn’t say anything more.

Lin Xun suddenly grabbed her jade-like hands and said seriously, “Jingxuan, I want to wait for Xia Zhi to return first before considering the matter of us. Well, you also know that her character has always been quite special. If...”

Zhao Jingxuan cut him off, “No need to explain. I understand.”

Her fair, pretty face burned as she slightly lowered her head, not daring to meet Lin Xun’s gaze. His sudden action had caught her off guard, and she stiffened a little as her hands were still grabbed in his.

As far as she knew, this was the first time that he had been so proactive...

Lin Xun keenly noticed that her ears had been dyed with a lovely rosy hue. Her eyelashes slightly fluttered, clearly showing that their owner was a little nervous right now.

Lin Xun suddenly felt an impulse, and he decided to follow it. He leaned forward and dropped a kiss on Zhao Jingxuan’s forehead.

Zhao Jingxuan instantly froze, and her eyes widened. It felt as if her heart had been zapped by an electric current. She just stood there in a daze like a lost gosling.

Lin Xun couldn’t help but laugh. He didn’t expect that someone as carefree as Zhao Jingxuan would have such a cute side to her.

Bang!

Suddenly freeing her hands, Zhao Jingxuan slapped Lin Xun on the chest and shyly said, “Why are you laughing? Is it that funny?”

Lin Xun hastily straightened his lips and said in a serious manner, “Not funny, not funny at all.”

Throwing him a glare, Zhao Jingxuan couldn’t help but laugh as well and scolded him, “So it turns out that you are just as...shameless!”

With that, she rushed into the cabin with a bright red face.

Lin Xun burst out laughing again. *Shameless? Would I still be a man if I didn't start taking the initiative at times like these?*

.....

After the time it took for an incense stick to burn, Lin Xun finally saw for himself the turmoil within the Ziyao Empire.

There was a village scarred with devastation. There were corpses all over the place with old and young people, women and children...

Their deaths were tragic as they were either disemboweled or dismembered. Some had their hearts dug out from their chests, and some were left with a broken skull...

Under the glow of sunset, the vultures descended from the sky and gnawed on the carrion. On the branches of the trees, a few crows hissed.

The Grand Universe Ark stopped over this village. Standing at the bow, Lin Xun looked down below and could instantly tell the villagers had been killed by demonic beasts.

Even though he was accustomed to seeing death, he still couldn't help but frown to see innocent commoners suffer such a bloody massacre. A cold glint flashed in his eyes.

Boom!

With a wave of Lin Xun's sleeve, a raging fire flared out of nowhere and turned all the corpses on the ground into ashes that scattered with the wind.

Not long after the two left the village, the outline of a city appeared in their vision.

But even from afar, Lin Xun could see the sky-piercing aura of blood mixed with monstrous demonic qi.

He recalled what Changsun Xiong had told him: "Over the past several years, due to the drastic changes in heaven and earth, many demonic beasts have appeared in the empire. Rampaging, killing and pillaging, there is no evil deed that they haven't done. This has become the empire's biggest internal problem as many cities have been invaded by monsters!"

"It seems that the problem is more serious than I thought..." Lin Xun frowned.

"Let's go take a look." Zhao Jingxuan had left the cabin at some point and stood next to Lin Xun, her expression icy.

"Good," agreed Lin Xun.

With a whoosh, the ark sped toward the city and arrived just a few moments later.

The city walls had long crumbled and were stained with scarlet blood.

Thousands of corpses were piled up near the walls, vaguely recognizable to be from human cultivators.

Lin Xun couldn't help but picture the scene of countless demonic beasts rampaging toward the city like a tidal wave, and the cultivators in the city fighting hard, but it was all futile and they were mercilessly killed.

And then, the city was invaded.

People fled, and people were killed.

"Those damned beasts!" Zhao Jingxuan clenched her fists, and her eyes flared with murderous intent.

As the first princess of the Ziyao Empire, her fury could be imagined when she saw such a scene.

"Let's check inside the city." Lin Xun patted her shoulder comfortingly.

Putting away the Grand Universe Ark, the two entered the city and were greeted with cold and quiet streets.

The buildings tightly lined up in a row had collapsed and were devoid of life.

In the streets and alleys, corpses lying in pools of blood could be seen everywhere. The entire city seemed to have become a scarlet hell.

Zhao Jingxuan couldn't take it anymore and said murderously, "Are those cultivator armies of the empire dead? How could they let this happen?!"

"Or maybe the scourge created by the monsters is more serious than we imagined," Lin Xun analyzed. "Not to mention that the borderlands are still suffering from the aggression of the Brute Warriors. Having to deal with both internal and external troubles at the same time, I'm afraid that the imperial army will need a long time to smooth out the situation."

Zhao Jingxuan admitted that what Lin Xun said was reasonable, but she was still unable to control her fury.

The Ziyao Empire was like a home to her. How could she not be angry to witness its tragedy?

“Let’s go and vent it out.” Lin Xun noticed her bad mood. He grabbed her hand and rushed into the inner circle of the city.

.....

At a mansion covering an area of twenty thousand acres in the southwest area of the city.

Filled with pavilions, ponds, and buildings, as well as an herb garden, an aeth field, and a bubbling aeth spring that watered the surrounding plants and trees, this picturesque mansion had been the residence of a large family.

But at the moment, it had long been in ruin, with burnt marks and traces that resulted from ransacking being everywhere.

Crack! Crack!

A group of golden-furred giant rats were gnawing on bones, looking hideously ferocious with their sharp fangs covered in blood.

On another side, a group of monsters in human form were moving goods, from pill-refining cauldrons to amazingly valuable furnishing decorations.

“Hurry! We must return to the mountain before sunset! Take all you can!” shouted an ugly and shifty thin youth in a gorgeous robe.

“Hehe, teenage girls are still the most savory with the most tender skin and flesh.” A hedgehog-like monster was lying on one side, holding a white and tender arm as white as a lotus root. Blood dripped from its mouth as it savored the arm.

“Wrong, infants are the most delicious. Their meat is pure and clean, simply a supreme delicacy,” commented seriously a small monster with a leopard’s head next to the hedgehog.

This was what Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan saw as they arrived.

Even though Lin Xun was used to cruelty and tragedies, he still felt a killing intent rising in his heart.

As for Zhao Jingxuan, she seemed to be in disbelief. Her face instantly darkened, and her eyes were icy cold.

“Huh, we have guests!” shouted the leopard-headed monster.

Many gazes immediately gathered on Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan.

“Cultivators!”

The eyes of the thin youth in the gorgeous robe narrowed in surprise. They had slaughtered this city many days ago and occupied it, so he hadn't expected that some humans would dare to appear here!

"What a pretty chick. I wonder how her flesh tastes..." The hedgehog-like monster stared at Zhao Jingxuan, almost drooling,

Before it could finish, Zhao Jingxuan had already made her move!

The rage within her completely erupted in this instant, and she emitted a terrifying aura that spread and covered the entire mansion.

"You animals deserve death!" Her face was covered in frost as she stressed every word.

With a rumble, a sky full of lightning struck down at the monsters without fail under her control.

The result was without suspense.

Just the overwhelming might of the second longevity stage emanating from her already pressured the minds of the monsters into collapsing. They could only shiver in fear, unable to use an ounce of power to resist, let alone escape.

In the end, except for the gorgeously dressed youth, the rest of the monsters were blown to nothingness.

However, Zhao Jingxuan's face was still cold as if her hatred had yet to be alleviated.

"Who is your leader?" Lin Xun interrogated, but the youth had fallen to his knees with an ashen face, so frightened that he couldn't even speak.

"Master, let me." Little Silver appeared and entered the youth's mind.

A moment later, Little Silver swept out and said, "These animals are underlings of a self-proclaimed 'Flame Vine King' who has occupied a large mountain three thousand miles away from this city, with thirty thousand monsters under his command..."

Little Silver quickly said everything it got on the 'Flame Vine King.'

Poof!

Having gotten what he needed, Lin Xun didn't hesitate to kill the youth, who then revealed his true form to be a stripe-faced gray fox.

"Shall we go and meet this Flame Vine King?" Lin Xun looked at Zhao Jingxuan.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1372: Treason?

Unexpectedly, Zhao Jingxuan shook her head. “No. Killing this Flame Vine King won’t change the situation the empire is facing, and it may even alert the enemies instead.”

She then took a deep breath, her eyes radiating resolution as she said, “After we return to the Forbidden City, I will quickly gather all information on the demonic plague in the empire so that once I strike, I can sweep them out in one fell swoop and destroy their hideouts!”

Lin Xun’s eyes flashed with praise and approval. “I support you.”

At a time like this, it was indeed hard and therefore laudable of Zhao Jingxuan to be able to keep calm and consider the big picture.

“Let’s go.” Zhao Jingxuan urgently wanted to return to the Forbidden City.

“Alright.”

The two instantly hit the road.

On the way, they kept encountering more areas infested with monsters. Some of the cities had been destroyed completely, leaving nothing but fields of ruins.

Abject misery was nothing more than this.

However, the closer they got to the central area of the empire, the fewer traces of monsters they saw along the way.

This was because there was an elite army of imperial cultivators stationed in every city. On top of that, major clans and organizations had also joined hands to resist and counterattack.

Seeing that the situation was not entirely bad for the empire, Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan heaved a sigh of relief.

However, what they had seen still let them feel the surging tensions and murderous currents under the prosperous and bustling appearance of the safe areas.

So long as the demonic beasts remained roaming about, the empire would not be able to rest in peace!

.....

A day later.

In the distance was a lofty and ancient city with layers upon layers of violet clouds floating above it. In the sunlight, it was dyed with a magnificent and sacred violet-gold glow, making the vast city look like something that had existed since the beginning of time.

It was the Forbidden City!

Having finally returned and seeing this majestic city again after more than ten years, Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan were in a trance.

“I only realized now that this city is open to the heavenly auspicious aura above and guarded by the fortune of the fengshui at its four corners from below. It encompasses a vast land and overlooks all directions, which can be said to capture the luck of heaven and earth. What a work of art,” commented Lin Xun.

He stood with his hands crossed behind his back, his eyes shining. Now that his cultivation was vastly different from what it was in the past, he could tell at a glance that the Forbidden City was a huge blessed land with many mysteries under its orderly layout that gave it the extraordinary power to gather the luck of heaven and earth.

“That is natural. It’s the imperial capital, the heart of a country, of course it’s not simple.” Zhao Jingxuan smiled.

“Let’s go.” Lin Xun took a deep breath, feeling a sense of relief and joy like that of a tired bird returning to its nest.

Zhao Jingxuan flew with him toward the distance.

Along the way, Lin Xun’s thoughts wandered to his old friends Lin Zhong, Xiaoke, Spirit Vulture, Third Old Zhu...

He also thought of Ning Meng, Shi Yu, Ye Xiaoqi and many other close friends from his youth.

Are they well?

And how has Mind Cleansing Peak changed after all these years?

Upon entering the ancient city gates that were a thousand feet tall, they were greeted by the crowded and noisy streets.

The Forbidden City was bustling and lively, just like in the past.

Lin Xun and Zhao Jingxuan concealed their aura and walked side by side on the streets, their thoughts flying as they looked at the familiar scene.

Before long, Zhao Jingxuan stopped walking.

“I’m going home,” she said as her clear eyes gazed at the distance, where there were rows of ancient buildings with vermilion walls and golden roofs, emitting a brilliant aura.

It was the imperial palace.

“Go. Time for me to go back to mine as well. If there’s anything, you can always find me at Mind Cleansing Peak.” Lin Xun smiled.

“Okay.” Zhao Jingxuan nodded. After waving good-bye with a big smile, she turned and walked toward the palace.

Watching her disappear from his vision, Lin Xun took a deep breath and walked alone through the bustling streets toward the location in his memory.

The Lin Clan’s Mind Cleansing Peak was one of the seventy-two peaks in the Aristocratic Mountain Range, which was one of the Forbidden City’s finest blessed lands.

It was impossible for Lin Xun to forget its location.

When he was halfway there, a burst of noisy conversation from a restaurant caught his attention.

“The Lin Clan is finished! Once the treason charge is confirmed, their entire clan will be executed!”

“It can’t be that bad, right? Didn’t they say that it was just a monster-beast cultivator that they kept that defected? How did this turn into the entire clan committing treason?”

“Heh, you don’t understand... They can always trump up a charge against somebody.”

“What do you mean?”

“I’ve heard that a very powerful character has their eyes on Mind Cleansing Peak. Since the recent changes have turned the seventy-two aristocrat peaks into veritable heavenly blessed lands, who wouldn’t covet it?”

“There are also rumors that it’s because that young leader of the Lin Family has offended too many great powers.”

“But isn’t the Lin Clan under the protection of the imperial family?”

“You don’t understand. Third Prince Zhao Jingwen has been taking over the supervision of the country and handling the political affairs. From what I know, he is quite close to the Zuo and Qin clans. If those two clans were to deal with the Lin Clan, how could the royal family possibly keep sheltering the Lin Clan?”

“Hmph, you’re all wrong. If their young master whose ‘brilliance fills the capital’ was still around, who would dare to lay a finger on the Lin Clan?”

“But he went to the Ancient Wasteland Domain to cultivate. After the drastic changes in the heavens and earth, he can no longer return!”

.....

Amidst the noisy discussions, Lin Xun’s eyes gradually became cold, and the joy of returning home in his heart was gone.

Treason?

What a big crime they’ve come up with!

“It seems that the Lin Clan has had a hard time during my absence...” Lin Xun frowned.

Unfortunately, he didn’t get anything else from those conversations.

Taking a deep breath, he calmed his expression and continued on the road.

No matter what had happened to the Lin Clan, now that he had returned, he would deal with it!

Suddenly, a treasure carriage sped past Lin Xun on the road. It then came to a screeching halt, and a surprise voice rang out, “Clan Leader?”

Lin Xun stopped in his tracks and turned around to see a young man in a pearly-white outfit jump out from the carriage. The young man then looked at him with an expression of disbelief.

Lin Xun instantly recognized him: Lin Xuefeng!

He was the first son of Lin Huaiyuan, the head of the North Light Lin Clan. After Lin Xun had unified the four branches of the Lin Clan, Lin Xuefeng had been serving on Mind Cleansing Peak.

Moreover, Lin Xuefeng was also one of the first clansmen to submit to Lin Xun back then.

“Long time no see, Xuefeng.” Lin Xun smiled.

Those destined for great things needed to be able to maintain composure at all times, especially in big events. While Lin Xun very much wanted to verify the current situation and safety of his clan, he also knew he must not get anxious before that.

“It’s really you, Clan Leader!” shouted Lin Xuefeng in excitement, his emotions spiraling out of control.

It had been over ten years since they had parted. He had thought that he would never see the clan leader whom he respected and worshiped ever again in his lifetime, but here they were!

He felt like he was dreaming.

Lin Xun patted his shoulder. “First calm down, then tell me what exactly happened to our clan during these years.”

Lin Xuefeng nodded. He took several deep breaths to calm his emotions, then scanned the surroundings and said, “Clan Leader, this is not the place to talk.”

He invited Lin Xun into the treasure carriage.

After taking a seat and noticing the unmistakable worry on Lin Xuefeng’s face, Lin Xun had a bad premonition in his heart.

“Just tell it to me straight. I’ve already heard some chatter about the Lin Clan on the way.”

Lin Xun’s calm demeanor reassured Lin Xuefeng. He started talking with an indescribable bitterness in his voice, “Ever since the drastic changes, our situation has become unpleasant...”

Lin Xun narrowed his eyes, puzzled. “There are still people in the empire who dare to make things difficult for our clan?”

After all, he had only departed from the empire after clearing all the obstacles for the Lin Clan, suppressing the seven high clans to the point that they had thrown in the towel and endured.

Among those high clans, the Hua, Song, and Qi had even resolved their misunderstanding with Lin Xun in front of the principal of Qinglu Academy to show that they had no longer held any grudges.

Moreover, Blood Kill King Zhao Tailai had promised Lin Xun that he would protect the Lin Clan.

Under these circumstances, Lin Xun really couldn’t imagine who in this Forbidden City could still touch his clan.

“When you were still around, naturally no one in the Forbidden City dared to, but during the last several years, there have been rumors spreading that you will never be able to return from the Ancient Wasteland Domain, so...” lamented Lin Xuefeng.

Lin Xun instantly understood the situation.

He had already left the lower world for more than a decade. When there was news that he would no longer be able to return, how could those forces who had been hostile to the Lin Clan remain indifferent?

Lin Xun had known very early that when he was present in the Forbidden City, no one would dare to touch Mind Cleansing Peak. Even those high clans had no choice but to accept it.

Moreover, the Lin Clan had been under the protection of the royal Blood Kill King Zhao Tailai, so those who wanted to offend it would really need to reconsider their decision.

But if Lin Xun could never return to the lower world, then the entire situation would change.

Such was the superficiality of human relationships.

Lin Xun frowned. “That old fox Zhao Tailai has been turning a blind eye to this?”

Lin Xuefeng smiled bitterly and shook his head. “When the drastic changes occurred, Blood Kill King Zhao Tailai left the empire in a hurry. Before he left, he had specifically instructed that if the Lin Clan ran into trouble, they could go to Third Prince Zhao Jingwen for help.”

Lin Xun frowned again. “Zhao Jingwen?”

He vaguely remembered this person. When he had been an instructor at Qinglu Academy, Zhao Jingwen had been an outstanding student in the Hidden Dragon Department.

“Yes. The emperor and the empress haven’t been showing their faces these past years. It’s the third prince who has been supervising the country and handling the government,” said Lin Xuefeng as helplessness welled up in his eyes. “But when we asked him for help, we were repeatedly rejected. He does not care about the Lin Clan at all.”

“Mhm.” Lin Xun didn’t feel too angry about this. External forces were ultimately unreliable, and it was very possible to ask for help and be rejected.

Then, he asked, “What’s with the rumor circulating about the Lin Clan’s treason?”

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1373: Everything is Going to Turn Upside Down

“It’s a plot orchestrated by the Zuo and Qin clans!” Lin Xuefeng was so furious upon hearing the word ‘treason’ that he trembled and his eyes went wide. “They are trying to eradicate our clan and take Mind Cleansing Peak for themselves!”

Then, he told Lin Xun everything in detail.

Ten years ago, the changes in heaven and earth had completely erupted, causing the situation of the Ziyao Empire to change as well.

Since then, the emperor and empress had never shown their faces again, leaving it to Third Prince Zhao Jingwen to oversee the empire. The third prince had then taken complete control and handled the government.

Immediately thereafter had been the outbreak of demonic beasts in the empire. They had invaded cities and spared no evil deeds like burning, killing, and pillaging, thus becoming a major internal problem.

Later, the Brute Warrior tribes had taken the opportunity to mobilize armies and besiege the major borderlands, becoming a huge external threat.

From then on, the empire had been in turmoil and very unstable.

That had been when Zuo and Qin clans had received orders to assemble all the forces in the Forbidden City to suppress the monster plague and fight back the Brute Warriors.

As a medium clan in the Forbidden City, the Lin Clan of Mind Cleansing Peak was also on the list.

Naturally, no one had had any objections about serving the empire.

However, under the control of the Zuo and Qin clans, almost all of the Lin clansmen were sent to the most tragic and dangerous areas.

In just a few years, the Lin Clan had suffered a big loss of half of its power!

Hearing this, Lin Xun’s eyes flashed coldly.

They had been using the power in their hands to consume the Lin Clan's strength under the guise of serving the empire and killing the enemy. If this was really a conspiracy, then their intentions were too sinister!

"However, that's not enough to bring down our clan," Lin Xuefeng continued. "These years of killing have cost us many brave souls, but there are also many who have risen through battles and grown powerful through the bloodshed.

"And with Master Spirit Vulture watching over us, the core strength of our clan has not suffered from attrition.

"But recently, when Scarlet Eagle King went to the battlefield to kill a demonic beast, he was framed to be a traitor to the empire by an old King monster of the Zuo Clan. They then started hunting him down. Even to this day, we still don't know if he's alive or dead!"

Speaking of this, a touch of rage surfaced between Lin Xuefeng's brows. "Scarlet Eagle King has been a loyal friend of our clan and helped us kill countless demonic beasts. How could he possibly betray us?!"

Lin Xun still remembered that year during his return from the Spirit Burial Sea, Scarlet Eagle King had appeared on his path and provoked him, only to be subdued.

It was also then that he had given Scarlet Eagle King the role of Mind Cleansing Peak's guardian, and the latter had been serving the Lin Clan ever since.

Before Lin Xun had departed for the Ancient Wasteland Domain, Scarlet Eagle King had even made an oath that he would never regret serving Lin Xun as his master, and that he would spend his entire life being Lin Xun's follower to realize his dao.

How could such a loyal monster-beast cultivator become a traitor?

"The Zuo Clan then used this incident to put our clan under suspicion of treason, and now they and the Qin Clan are doing their utmost to elaborate on it and brand the crime of treason on us, so as to destroy our clan!" Lin Xuefeng gritted teeth with seething hatred, and his eyes were bloodshot.

"I see..." Lin Xun's expression remained calm, but his eyes grew colder and colder.

First, they aimed to deplete the Lin Clan's strength and vitality under the guise of serving the empire.

Then, they used Scarlet Eagle King to spin the crime of treason on the Lin Clan. Such tactics were not only malicious, but also extremely shameless.

Why did the Zuo and Qin clans dare to do such a thing?

The reason was simple. It was because they thought that it was impossible for Lin Xun to return to the lower world!

Moreover, the absence of Blood Kill King Zhao Tailai and the refusal of the Third Prince Zhao Jingwen to provide protection to the Lin Clan had allowed them to be so brazen!

Thinking of this, a chill ran down Lin Xun's spine.

It was indeed not easy to return from the Ancient Wasteland Domain this time around, as the void tunnels to the lower world had all collapsed due to the coming of the great age.

If he hadn't sought help from the Cloud Weaver Clan, then he probably wouldn't have been able to return at all.

He could only imagine the calamity that would befall the Lin Clan would that have been the case!

"I was planning to head to the palace just now to seek an audience with Third Prince Zhao Jingwen, hoping to get intervention from the royal power and clear our clan of the treason crime. However, now that you've returned, Clan Leader, we will follow your lead," said Lin Xuefeng.

"Seek an audience with the third prince? No need," Lin Xun firmly dismissed the idea.

He had just heard from the street discussions that Zhao Jingwen was friendly with the Zuo and Qin clans, so how could he possibly stand up for the Lin Clan?

This was not a big deal. However, Lin Xuefeng had just said that Zhao Tailai had specifically instructed the Lin Clan to find Zhao Jingwen for help should they encounter any difficulties. And what was the result? Help had been repeatedly denied!

Lin Xun had to wonder if Zhao Jingwen was also secretly playing a part in fueling this conspiracy against the Lin Clan.

"Apart from the Zuo and Qin clans, are there any other forces involved?" asked Lin Xun expressionlessly, not letting any emotions show.

Lin Xuefeng shook his head. "That's still unclear, but what's certain is that even if the other major powers aren't involved, they're only waiting to laugh at our downfall."

"Mhm." Lin Xun then asked, "What is the current situation of our clan? Are there any signs of unrest within?"

Lin Xuefeng hurriedly clarified, "Nothing at all. With Master Spirit Vulture and Uncle Zhong at the helm, our clan has long since clung together and is determined to live and die by Mind Cleansing Peak."

Lin Xun inwardly heaved a sigh of relief. “Very good.”

He had been worried that in the face of such a menacing situation, there would be unrest within the Lin Clan and the clansmen would become disorganized to the point that there would be another rebellion like back then.

After a moment of silence, Lin Xun’s eyes flashed with a cold gleam of determination. “Time to settle this grudge.”

His voice was calm, but an invisible killing intent permeated the air, causing Lin Xuefeng to hold his breath and his mind to nearly collapse.

He was horrified. After over a decade, just how powerful had his clan leader become?

“How about accompanying me for a walk and admiring the night view of the Forbidden City?” said Lin Xun out of the blue.

“Of course.” Lin Xuefeng nodded despite finding this request very strange.

The two then unboarded the carriage and started walking the lively streets.

Lin Xun’s expression was unperturbed. His hands were on his back. His eyes were like two deep abysses as he gazed into the distance.

Nighttime.

The seventy-two aristocrat peaks were like a dream city in the sky, surrounded by colorful clouds and light rains.

Living on those peaks were the most powerful forces of the Forbidden City, consisting of the seven high clans and a series of medium clans.

When Lin Xun had just arrived in the Forbidden City for the first time, the Lin Clan had already long been in decline and facing internal and external problems, with only Lin Zhong left on the huge Mind Cleansing Peak.

In the later years, Lin Xun had forcefully risen through ordeals and predicaments and unified the Lin Clan. His deeds had shocked the Forbidden City, forcing the seven high clans to accept reality and retreat. From then on, they had no longer dared to mess with the Lin Clan.

Only now did Lin Xun realize that one who was once an enemy, would forever be an enemy!

They might be scared and forced to lay low, but they would never hesitate to take a bite out of you at the slightest mishap!

Just like now, once the Zuo and Qin clans deemed that Lin Xun could never return from the Ancient Wasteland Domain, they immediately had the guts to deal with the Lin Clan.

This realization strengthened Lin Xun's resolve to settle this grudge once and for all!

Back then, the only reason why he hadn't exterminated the enemies was because his strength had been insufficient to flatten those high and mighty clans.

But that was no longer the case!

"Xuefeng, let's return to Mind Cleansing Peak." Lin Xun stopped the walk as he had seen enough of the Forbidden City's night.

When Lin Xun and Lin Xuefeng were getting on the treasure carriage, an old man on the street happened to notice Lin Xun at a glance. His expression instantly changed and his gaze froze.

After a long daze, the old man muttered, "It must be him, it must be Lin Xun! The leader of Mind Cleansing Peak, whose brilliance filled the capital back then, has returned?!"

Watching the carriage disappear into the busy night streets, the old man felt a storm crashing in his heart.

He was a rune master of the Rune Master Association named He Yanqiu. He had seen Lin Xun several times in the past, and was naturally familiar with his appearance.

This was why he was so startled to see Lin Xun here.

Everyone in the Forbidden City knew that the Lin Clan had started to face difficulties only after it was determined that Lin Xun would no longer be able to return from the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

Back then, the Lin Clan had risen in a single leap from a declining state and had oppressed the seven high clans into having no choice but to endure, offending many people in the process!

Had Lin Xun still been around, the Lin Clan naturally would have no worries, but once he had been confirmed to be gone forever, the situation had changed completely.

First, the Zuo and Qin clans had joined forces to suppress and weaken the Lin Clan.

Then when it was learned that the Lin Clan wasn't favored by Third Prince Zhao Jingwen who was now in sole control of the empire, several friendly forces had also chosen to draw a line with them!

After this series of events, it was clear to everyone in the Forbidden City that the Lin Clan had lost their status. They were isolated and about to fall apart.

At that time, He Yanqiu had sighed at how the monkeys all left after the trees' fall and how quickly things could change. He felt sorry for the Lin Clan.

There had even been news that the Lin Clan had been labeled with the crime of 'treason.' Once this crime was charged, the entire clan, men and women, young and old, would be involved and might even face eradication!

This matter had made a lot of noise in the Forbidden City and was the current focus of attention.

But to He Yanqiu's shock, the master of Mind Cleansing Peak who everyone deemed unable to return ever again, had returned!

"After tonight, this Forbidden City is going to turn upside down..."

He Yanqiu gazed at the sky as a strong premonition arose in his heart.

Meanwhile, Lin Xun and Lin Xuefeng had arrived at the entrance of Mind Cleansing Peak.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1374: He Has Returned

Step by step, as Lin Xun walked along the familiar path up Mind Cleansing Peak, he couldn't help but fall into a trance.

After over ten years, many changes had taken place. The sight was somewhat unfamiliar with many new buildings and pavilions.

He still clearly remembered that the first time he had set foot on Mind Cleansing Peak, it had been desolate as far as the eye could see!

"It has taken so much effort to have this kind of scenery... How can I just let it be destroyed?" Lin Xun murmured in his heart.

He had poured his heart and soul into this place, and it was also the place that his clan had cultivated and guarded for generations.

Even though it had witnessed many changes, had been dimmed and on the decline, as long as the Lin Clan still remained here, there would be a time when they restored the glory of the past!

Lin Xun took a deep breath, forcibly suppressing the killing intent that was seething in him.

At the top of the mountain, Mind Cleansing Hall was brightly lit. Outside the hall stood many figures, seemingly waiting for something. The atmosphere seemed heavy as their faces were filled with worry.

No one even noticed when Lin Xun and Lin Xuefeng approached.

“Huh?” Stunned by the sight, Lin Xuefeng grabbed a person and asked, “What’s going on?”

It was an attendant of the Lin Clan. Upon recognizing Lin Xuefeng, he hurriedly said, “Reporting to Young Master Xuefeng, an emissary who claims to be from the Zuo family has just arrived, saying that he wanted to offer our clan a deal. He’s currently inside the Mind Cleansing Hall.”

An emissary from the Zuo Clan!

Lin Xuefeng’s face sank. A deal? It definitely wasn’t anything good.

He turned to Lin Xun and saw the latter wave his hand and say, “Remain calm.”

At the same time, Lin Xun spread his spirit sense and let it envelop the entire Mind Cleansing Hall.

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“As long as the Lin Clan cedes Mind Cleansing Peak from tomorrow onwards and sends all of your forces to the border battlefields to atone for your sins, the Zuo Clan and the Qin Clan will ask His Highness the Third Prince to show you leniency, and your clan won’t be charged with treason.”

Zuo Wenkun stood with his arms crossed in the Mind Cleansing Hall, speaking leisurely with an arrogant expression.

He was neatly dressed in refined clothes. On his wrinkled, long, and narrow face was a pair of triangular eyes.

He was an elder of the Zuo Clan, and he was here to deliver an ultimatum to the Lin Clan.

Even though he was alone, he was fearless.

The Lin Clan was isolated while facing threats from all directions. They were only one charge of treason away from complete demise!

The atmosphere was utterly heavy in the brightly lit hall. Only Zuo Wenkun's lofty and overbearing voice was echoing.

A number of high-ranking seniors of the Lin Clan were sitting there. Among them were the important people of the four side branches such as Lin Huaiyuan, Lin Beiguang, Lin Xixi, and Lin Yunheng, as well as Lin Zhong, Spirit Vulture, Xiaoke, and Third Old Zhu...

However, their expressions were all gloomy. Some were even so furious that their eyes were bloodshot and they looked to be on the verge of exploding.

"You people are really trying to push our Lin Clan to death," Spirit Vulture sighed softly.

Surrendering Mind Cleansing Peak was tantamount to forsaking the foundation that the Lin Clan had been building for generations.

Sending all their forces to fight at the borderlands to 'atone for their sins' was no different from becoming exiled prisoners, which would most likely result in a scenario where they could never return!

The Lin Clan could not afford to accept either of these conditions.

Everyone present understood this clearly, so when they learned of the purpose of Zuo Wenkun's visit, their expressions were all unsightly, while their hearts were filled with indescribable grief.

Over ten years ago, their Lin Clan had risen from the decline and jumped to the top among the top of the medium clans in one fell swoop. Without accidents, they could sooner or later enter the rank of high clans and recreate their past glory.

But unexpectedly, the accidents had occurred after the drastic changes in heaven and earth that had been going on for over a decade!

By this point, the strength of the Lin Clan had been cut by half in the battlefield, causing their vitality to have greatly suffered. If they were charged with treason, then their extermination wouldn't be very far off.

"But it still is much better than being charged with treason, isn't it?" Zuo Wenkun smiled slightly. He enjoyed this feeling of being able to dictate the life and death of a clan.

"Bullshit! When has our clan ever committed treason?!" cursed the short-tempered Lin Beiguang, his face turning purple in rage. "Are you not afraid to lose the trust of the people by doing this?!"

Zuo Wenkun's expression grew cold. "You're overestimating your importance. The fall of a single Lin Clan won't affect the big picture of the empire. Everything in this world is in the hands of those who hold true power, such as our Zuo Clan, the Qin family, and the...imperial family."

Spirit Vulture frowned. "The crime of treason must be ruled by the great emperor. You don't have this power."

"Childish. It's His Highness the Third Prince who is in charge of the government these days. With just a word from him, your clan can't escape the treason label," Zuo Wenkun snorted and paused for a second before adding, "Don't forget that we have evidence. That monster-beast guard of your Lin Clan betrayed the empire!"

"Slander! You venomous snake!"

The crowd in the great hall erupted in rage. *That was planted evidence!*

"A crime can always be quickly found if one is determined to frame someone," sighed Spirit Vulture.

He had completely understood that today, the Zuo Clan had sent an emissary not to make a deal at all, but to push the Lin Clan to their demise!

Zuo Wenkun snorted coldly. "Obstinate. I'll ask one last time, do you really not intend to accept the goodwill from the Zuo and Qin clans?"

The atmosphere of the great hall instantly fell silent.

Spirit Vulture sat there like a statue without saying a word, while the other clansmen were filled with rage and grief.

They all felt an indescribable despair and helplessness.

The huge Lin Clan is done for, just like this?

Right at this moment, the doors to the main hall were pushed open.

Hmm?

Everyone was stunned, then displeased.

Today's matter was of extreme importance as it concerned the survival of the Lin Clan. No one would dare to even come close without reporting.

But now, the doors were directly pushed open without a notification.

“Xuefeng, why are you back so quickly?”

Upon seeing that it was Lin Xuefeng at the doors, Lin Huaiyuan couldn't help but frown as a bad feeling rose in his heart. Could it be that the third prince had...denied them help again?

The expressions of the other clansmen also became bleak.

Zuo Wenkun gave Lin Xuefeng a brief glance before saying expressionlessly, “My time is precious, so please make your decision quickly.”

“This decision is best made by me,” a calm voice suddenly resounded outside the great hall.

“Huh?”

Everyone in the hall immediately looked outside with their eyes wide open, looking as if they had been struck by lightning.

There, they saw a tall figure walking out from behind Lin Xuefeng. He was clad in moon-white clothes. His face was handsome and refined, and his eyes were dark and profound. He exuded an air that was out of this world.

They were all too familiar with this figure!

Xiaohe covered her mouth with her hand. Her almond eyes opened wide as she shivered with excitement, unable to speak.

“And you are? This is no place for a youngster like you to talk! Does the Lin Clan have no manners anymore?” Zuo Wenkun turned around with a frown and saw Lin Xun.

However, he didn't recognize him and thought that the latter was a junior of the Lin Clan, hence his unceremonious rebuke.

The hall was dead silent as everyone seemed to be deaf to Zuo Wenkun's words.

The silence was broken when Lin Zhong's teacup slipped from his hand with a clang and splashed hot tea all over the ground.

But Lin Zhong didn't notice at all. He just stared at the figure at the door and started to tremble violently.

The reactions of the other clansmen were almost the same as his. Their jaws dropped, and they seemed unable to believe their eyes.

Only then did Zuo Wenkun realize that something wasn't right. His face darkened. "It seems that none of you have registered my words. Since that is the case, you'll be responsible for whatever will happen next. I'll take my leave here!"

He flung his hand and turned toward the door.

Right at this moment, the members of the Lin Clan abruptly stood up in unison and started speaking one after another.

"Clan Leader!"

"Clan Leader, is it really you!?"

"Is this real?!"

Their voices were noisy and mixed with a variety of emotions like excitement, surprise, absentmindedness, and disbelief as they felt as if they were in a dream.

"Clan Leader?" Zuo Wenkun was stunned.

Then, something flashed across his mind. *Could that young man be...*

"Lin Xun!?" he blurted out.

Zuo Wenkun started trembling all over as he finally understood why these Lin Clan's bigwigs were out of control at the sight of the young man.

He was the legend that had raised up the Lin Clan.

He had single-handedly pressured all the major forces in the Forbidden City into retreating!

Because he was Lin Xun!

He was the head of the Lin Clan of Mind Cleansing Peak, the young rune founder that had garnered the attention of the whole world, the supreme genius who had been regarded as 'the peerless young master whose brilliance fills the capital!'

Who in the Forbidden City and even the entire empire hadn't known of Lin Xun's name ten years ago?

"How can this be?" Zuo Wenkun froze on the spot, and his mind was in chaos.

Shouldn't it be impossible for this person to return from the Ancient Wasteland Domain? All these years have passed without a trace of him, and he just suddenly appears tonight?

“Sorry, I came back a little late.” Lin Xun walked into the hall. His heart thumped with emotions as he swept his gaze over Lin Zhong, Xiaoke, Spirit Vulture, Third Old Zhu, Lin Huaiyuan, and the others.

“Good...good.... It’s good that you’re back, Young Master...” Lin Zhong was so thrilled that he burst into tears. His speech grew incoherent as his lips couldn’t stop trembling.

In these past several years, the Lin Clan had been caught in a whirlpool of turmoil. Lin Zhong couldn’t remember how many times he had feared that Mind Cleansing Peak would be buried in his own hands.

If such a thing ever happened, then he would never be able to rest in peace even if he died!

Seeing Lin Zhong like this, Lin Xun was apologetic. His hatred and resentment for the Zuo and Qin clans also reached the peak and were about to become uncontrollable.

Zuo Wenkun took a deep breath and asked in a heavy tone, “How could you still return?”

Inside, he was trying to comfort and calm himself down.

It’s just a young man who has only cultivated in the Ancient Wasteland Domain for a dozen years. What can he do even if he’s back? The situation has been finalized. He alone cannot overturn the tide!

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The Prodigies War - Chapter 1375: Are There Any Saints?

Many things could change in a period of more than ten years.

When Lin Xun had left, he had only been at the Heaven Ascension Stage. Thus, Zuo Wenkun found it hard to believe that he’d be able to become that much more powerful after a period of slightly more than ten years.

Furthermore, what did it matter if he was strong? After all, Lin Xun was only one person!

In the past, he was under the protection of Blood Kill King Zhao Tailai and had the support of the principal of Qinglu Academy. Because of that, neither the Qin nor Zuo clans dared to be too unscrupulous towards him and had to endure.

But now, everything had changed. Even if Lin Xun had come back, there was no way he could stop the annihilation of the Lin Clan!

Once those thoughts crossed his mind, Zuo Wenkun felt his heart relax and even started to gaze at Lin Xun with a hint of pity in his eyes.

By coming back now, Lin Xun was truly walking straight into a trap! Too stupid!

“Young Master, this...”

Lin Zhong suddenly calmed down and was about to explain the situation. Before he could, he was interrupted by Lin Xun, “Uncle Zhong, I already have an idea of what’s going on. Just let me handle it from now on.”

The previously ecstatic, emotional, and shocked members of the Lin Clan also calmed down at this moment. Following that, a thread of worry surfaced within them.

The fact that Lin Xun had come back was truly a joyous occasion for them. However, the Lin Clan's current situation was truly full of dangers as they were on the edge of complete destruction. Under these circumstances, what could Lin Xun possibly do?

“Heh heh, you're planning on resolving this all by yourself?”

Zuo Wenkun's expression became even more filled with pity. He was certain that this youth had no idea just how bad the current Lin Clan's situation was.

Lin Xun looked over and briefly glanced at Zuo Wenkun. This was also the first time he had even looked at Zuo Wenkun since entering the great hall.

Following that, Zuo Wenkun suddenly knelt down and hit his head on the ground with a loud bang!

Everyone was startled. No one had sensed a thing, but Zuo Wenkun had instantly knelt down in a shocking manner.

Of note, this guy was the envoy from the Zuo Clan and was a great cultivator at the Cyclic Derivation Stage. Earlier in the hall, he had acted high and lofty, ordering people around in an arrogant manner. He had totally regarded everyone else as completely beneath him.

Despite all that, Lin Xun had merely glanced at him, and he immediately kneeled down!

Following that, Zuo Wenkun trembled as he struggled to howl loudly but was unable to make a peep despite all his efforts. He wanted to raise his head and get up, yet he didn't even have the strength to struggle.

His mind and spirit had been completely overtaken and were now blank. He was no longer able to decide his own life and death at this point!

When everyone saw this, they were shocked beyond measure. Even the way they looked at Lin Xun had changed. After a period of more than a decade, just how powerful did their clan head become?

After a bit of hesitation, Lin Huaiyuan reminded Lin Xun, "Clan Leader, this man is the Zuo Clan's envoy, how can we..."

Everyone else silently agreed with this. By acting this way, they were afraid that they were truly burning their bridges with the Zuo and Qin Clans, leaving no room to repair them.

Lin Xun asked, "Does the Zuo Clan have any Saints?"

Everyone shook their heads. Saints? Those were legendary figures. Let alone the Zuo Clan, a single Saint could not be found in any of the seven high clans in the empire!

Eh, something is off. Why is the clan leader asking about Saints?

Suddenly, everyone felt their heart tremble as they had realized something. Surprised expressions surfaced on their faces.

But before a single question could pass their lips, Lin Xun, along with Spirit Vulture and Lin Zhong, had already gone to the second level and disappeared.

A significant amount of time passed before Lin Huaiyuan finally swallowed down the saliva pooling in his mouth and weakly said, “Does the clan leader mean to imply that...anyone below a Saint is of no threat to him?”

That one question made the entire hall turn silent. No one could help from going into a flight of fancy.

Lin Xun hadn’t asked about the number of King-level experts nor did he inquire about the powers of the Zuo and Qin Clans. Instead, all he had asked was whether there were any Saints present.

If word of this came out, it would shock everyone who heard of it!

Lin Beiguang sighed, “I’m sure that the clan leader has encountered many fortuitous opportunities in all of these years and has transformed into someone completely new...”

Everyone else also sighed emotionally. Lin Xun was still Lin Xun, but the aura he gave off was entirely different from before. Although he had been extremely calm earlier, he resembled someone who was idly overlooking things from way high above, as if he was untouchable by the mundane world.

This wasn't an in-your-face feeling, but instead only something that could be sensed after carefully experiencing it.

“Regardless of what happens, our clan head has returned. Even if the Lin Clan faces unspeakable horrors and storms tomorrow, we at least have our support now. There is no need to be fearful!” announced Lin Xuefeng decisively.

Everyone agreed with this. With Lin Xun back, the Lin Clan now had their strong backer!

On the ground, Zuo Wenkun continued to kneel with a dazed look in his eyes.

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On the second level of the great hall.

“It must have been hard on you both, Uncle Zhong and Mister Spirit Vulture.”

Lin Xun inhaled deeply and sincerely bowed towards them.

Tears blurred Lin Zhong's eyes as he quickly helped Lin Xun up as he said, "Young Master, as long as you're alive, the Lin Clan has hope!"

Spirit Vulture was also feeling quite emotional at this time. He could still remember the first time he met Lin Xun all those years ago. At that time, Lin Xun had been a weak and fragile thin youth, with an air of immaturity.

But now, he had completely transformed himself. He now felt like a sturdy mountain with a calm and unruffled exterior. Spirit Vulture was convinced of his prowess now.

"Uncle Zhong, I'm pretty sure I have a good idea of what has happened all these years. However, I'm a bit puzzled about one thing. Just what sort of role has Third Prince Zhao Jingwen played in all of this?" asked Lin Xun after the three of them sat down.

"Without the third prince's approval, the Zuo and Qin Clans would not have dared to be so obvious and blatant. Only the third prince, who holds all of the power in the current Ziyao Empire, could possibly accuse the Lin Clan of betraying the empire."

Lin Zhong fell silent for a moment and frowned. "Furthermore, it's because the other families and powers have realized that the third prince looks upon us disfavorably that they have all distanced themselves from us. This holds true even for the ones that used to have close relationships with us."

Spirit Vulture added, “Even if the third prince isn’t the primary instigator, he’s still definitely played a big role in all of this.”

Lin Xun nodded with a neutral expression. “I understand.”

As he spoke, he turned to look at Spirit Vulture. “Mister Spirit Vulture, I’m going to need a list of names. Other than the Zuo and Qin Clans, I have no intentions of letting off anyone who were fair weather friends with our Lin Clan throughout all these years.”

Lin Zhong felt a shock to his heart. Was the Young Master intent on collecting receipts in one fell swoop now?

Spirit Vulture smiled slightly and took out a jade talisman. He handed it over to Lin Xun as he said, “I’ve already prepared it for you.”

Lin Xun swept his consciousness through it and quickly memorized its contents.

“Young Master, you’ve just gotten back today, so you don’t know all of the details of the situation...” Lin Zhong was afraid that the anger had gone to Lin Xun’s head and that he was going to act recklessly before he could understand the full picture.

However, before he could try to persuade him otherwise, Lin Xun gently said, “Uncle Zhong, in the past, the high and mighty clans might have made me cower before. But now, they are nothing more than a bunch of insects to me.”

Although Lin Xun’s voice was calm, both Lin Zhong and Spirit Vulture could sense a bit of disdain from him.

In his eyes, Lin Xun viewed the seven high clans of the Ziyao Empire as no different from a bunch of insects. This truly made their hearts tremble.

However, anyone who knew of the experiences that Lin Xun had gone through in the Ancient Wasteland Domain would not find this surprising at all, nor would they claim that Lin Xun was speaking too highly of himself.

He had even slaughtered Saints. As for those overlords in the longevity king stages, who knew how many Lin Xun had killed with his own two hands? No matter how strong these powers were in the lower land, could they possibly be stronger than the ancient orthodoxies in the Ancient Wasteland Domain?

Could they exceed a Saint?

Lin Zhong was unable to calm himself down, so he couldn't help but ask, “Young Master, just what have you experienced in all of those years in the Ancient Wasteland Domain?”

Spirit Vulture also pricked his ears up. He had discovered that he was unable to see through this youth today. In fact, while he was sitting with him, he felt a sense of dread and terror in his bones.

This wasn't because his mind was being rattled. Instead, this was something that came from being suppressed by someone at a higher cultivation level!

Lin Xun casually summarized the big events that occurred without going into great detail.

Even after hearing that, Lin Zhong and Spirit Vulture were stupefied and had their worldviews shaken.

“The number one person in the Supreme Realm, the number one on the Genius Gold Rankings...even slaughtering nine saints outside of Snow Mulberry City...”

All of these events felt like stories straight out of legends to Lin Zhong and Spirit Vulture. They felt unimaginable and surreal!

What made the two of them most shocked was that there were some parts that they couldn't even understand!

This was because the things that Lin Xun had experienced and the enemies he had slaughtered were too powerful and intimidating. They had never even encountered anything close to that, so how could they truly understand them?

But there was one thing they were both certain of. Lin Xun had killed Saints before!

Lin Zhong felt his heart beating quickly as he sighed emotionally, “It’s only been sixteen years yet our Young Master has already shaken the Ancient Wasteland Domain. He has slaughtered his way to fame. Compared to those ancient orthodoxies in the Ancient Wasteland Domain, the Zuo and Qin Clans really are nothing more than tiny ants.”

“On your own, you slaughtered your way to fame and were so fierce that even those ancient orthodoxies had to cower in front of you... Ah, I really have no understanding of the world anymore...”

After calming himself a bit, Spirit Vulture smiled bitterly and shook his head.

“Oh right, do either of you know where the emperor, empress, and Blood Kill King have gone all of these years?” asked Lin Xun.

Lin Zhong shook his head, “We’re not sure. Rumor has it that after the world underwent a ginormous change, a few old freaks of the empire have all left to go somewhere. As for where, no one is certain.”

Lin Xun made a noise in assent as a cold look appeared in his eyes. “It’s even better that they’re not here. Once I start killing, that means no one can stop me.”

Spirit Vulture narrowed his eyes. “Just how do you plan on dealing with the Zuo and Qin Clans?”

“Don’t they want to seize Mind Cleansing Peak and banish all of the members to the border battlefields? I’ll give them a taste of their own medicine.” Lin Xun chuckled coldly.

Although Lin Xun didn’t know all of the details of the grievances that the Lin Clan had suffered until now, he clearly could tell that they had had it rough over the past decade! In fact, it wasn’t easy for them to endure until now.

Spirit Vulture continued to ask, “Then the third prince...”

“No matter who it is, as long as they’ve done something wrong, they will need to pay the price!” declared Lin Xun.

“I’ll leave the Lin Clan under your watch, Uncle Zhong and Mister Spirit Vulture. I’m going to have a taste of the might of the Zuo Clan.” After he finished, he got up and left.

On the first floor of Mind Cleansing Hall.

Lin Xun lifted Zuo Wenkun, who had still been kneeling on the floor, like a helpless chick and said, “Didn’t you want to see how I would handle this situation? I’ll let you personally be a witness.”

With a whoosh, Lin Xun flashed and turned into a divine rainbow that rushed out of the hall, flying high up in the air above the Forbidden City's night sky.

The rest of the clan looked at each other with dismay as thoughts tumbled restlessly in their heads.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1376: On my own

The Forbidden City was picturesque under the curtain of night.

Jade Well Peak.

This was the territory of one of the seven high clans of the Ziyao Empire, the Zuo Clan. Under the darkness of night the entire peak resembled white snow as it glittered under the lit lights.

On the summit was a great hall, where many higher ups of the Zuo Clan were seated together. They were chatting happily and enjoying wine and snacks in a carefree manner.

"After tonight, the Lin Clan will have to choose only one route to follow. They can either be exterminated as traitors to the entire empire, or they could follow our suggestion by vacating Mind Cleansing Peak, leaving the Forbidden City, and exiling their forces to the border battlefields to atone for their sins."

The great elder of the Zuo Clan, Zuo Bugu, raised his wine cup in a toast in a proud and conceited manner.

"Heh, do you recall how the Lin Clan's young brat caused a ruckus in the Forbidden City all those years ago? Even a high clan like us was tossed and turned, forced into humiliating circumstances. We could only endure then. Now, I'm afraid that the brat has long died in the Ancient Wasteland Domain!"

"That's the price of going against us!"

For a moment, the sound of happy voices echoed throughout the hall. Everyone present had a conceited and proud smile on their face.

However some people muttered, “If the Lin Clan agrees to leave Mind Cleansing Peak and send their forces to be exiled to the border battlefields, then there may be some unseen variable. After all, there are still some remaining roots that will cause endless trouble in the future.”

“Heh heh, there’s no need to worry.”

The clan head, Zuo Weihai, smiled slightly. “On the borders of the battlefield are the great troops of our Zuo Clan. As long as the orders come down making them become cannon fodder, the entire Lin Clan will be massacred sooner or later.”

Immediately after that, loud bursts of joyous laughter echoed in the hall.

At the same time, at the foot of White Jade Peak, Lin Xun floated gracefully in the air. He glanced around quickly and noticed that the entire mountain had been protected by a king level forbidden array.

Zuo Wenkun’s eyes bugged out. “You can’t seriously be thinking about slaughtering your way on your own into the Zuo Clan’s territory.”

“Why not?” Lin Xun replied calmly.

“You overestimate yourself! Sending yourself to an early death!”

Zuo Wenkun barked out a laugh as he found this entire situation to be absurd. Just when had anyone had the guts to do something like this?

“Just watch and see. After tonight, the Zuo Clan...will be struck off the registers of the Forbidden City.”

After lightly stating that, Lin Xun began to leisurely climb the mountain.

As for Zuo Wenkun, he was thoroughly oppressed and unable to move. He could only helplessly watch and was unable to sound the alarm.

“Rushing to his own death!”

Zuo Wenkun laughed coldly as his eyes filled with hatred. He wasn’t convinced that a youth, who had simply been gone for slightly more than a decade, would be able to do much to the Zuo Clan.

However, in the next moment, he was startled senseless.

There was a terrifying king-level forbidden array protecting the entirety of Jade Well Peak, and it was more than powerful enough to slaughter King-level monsters. However, Lin Xun wasn't deterred by it at all. Instead, he simply walked through as if nothing was there!

“This...”

A bad premonition hit Zuo Wenkun as chills ran through him. Unfortunately, he was no longer able to see what was happening on Jade Well Peak.

Once Lin Xun started ascending the mountain, there were people who sensed him. A group of guards charged over like a pack of angry wolves. “Who has the guts to trespass into the Zuo Clan without permission?”

Before they could get close, every single one of them exploded with a bang. A gruesome shower of blood splattered everywhere.

Lin Xun didn't even glance at the bloody scene as he continued to go up.

He was dressed in flowing white robes and had a tranquil expression on his face. It was as if he was a tourist strolling up a scenic mountain, with his hands casually behind his back.

The only thing that was out of place was his pair of black eyes. A faint sense of killing intent surged violently within them.

Under the warm glow of the lamps, he could see that there were rows upon rows of magnificent, ancient pavilions that were constructed all over the vast Jade Well Peak.

“Who is the reckless person seeking death by trespassing into the Zuo Clan's territory?”

“Come quickly, an enemy has invaded!”

Waves of loud shouts echoed on the mountain. All of the Zuo Clan's guards that were stationed in the area began to move, resembling a tidal wave of people. All of them were ferocious and full of incomparable fury.

Lin Xun didn't bother trying to conceal himself. After all, there was no point in doing so.

However, when those experts saw that it was only a single youth traversing up White Jade Peak, they were all stunned for a moment. They almost couldn't believe their eyes.

Just who in the Forbidden City had enough guts to trespass into the Zuo Clan's territory?

Some guards hollered, “Stop right there!”

Lin Xun acted as if he couldn't hear them. Instead, the people who had yelled exploded into smithereens, their remains looking like a horrifying kind of porridge as blood rained down.

This odd and gruesome scene made all of the remaining guards blanch with horror.

“Quickly, stop him!”

“Together!”

As they shouted, the guards of the Zuo Clan rushed forward like a living tide from all directions. Every single one of them had taken out and activated a treasure.

Despite that, from start to finish, Lin Xun didn't slow his steps at all and continued to stroll forward. While his pace looked slow, he was actually moving quite quickly.

Throughout this entire time, every single attack that came over was dissolved, every single killing technique that came over was destroyed, and every single guard that came over was erased!

As for Lin Xun, nothing seemed to be able to touch him, as if he was not of the mundane world. He walked through the bloody massacre as if he was leisurely traveling through a level, straight path.

Pop pop pop!

The groups of guards rushed over aggressively, yet they were cut down like a bunch of weeds and fell to the ground.

As their bodies exploded, they resembled bloody fireworks blooming. Behind Lin Xun was a path filled with scarlet blood.

He didn't even lift a single finger throughout this. At his current strength, all he needed to do was reveal a bit of killing intent and that was all that was necessary to kill anyone within the five great cultivation stages.

Even king-level experts would experience a bitter shock and have their fighting spirits pummeled by it!

Furthermore, these pieces of trash didn't deserve having Lin Xun take any notice of them. Gradually, the Zuo Clan's guards realized that there was something off and began to screech before running away and begging for help.

Although there was only one youth present, he resembled a fearsome demon god. Countless souls were harvested wherever he walked. No one could stop him, so it was extremely frightening!

If someone had seen this from the sky, they would discover that behind Lin Xun was a perfectly straight path of blood being formed as it slowly extended towards the summit of the mountain...

It resembled a bloody stroke that had been formed by a death god, shocking and horrifying!

Bang!

On the summit was the official great hall. The tightly closed entrance burst open and an expert from the Zuo Clan screamed, "Clan Leader, the situation is bad! An enemy is slaughtering their way in!"

Within the hall, Zuo Weihai, Zuo Bugu, and a group of high level elders of the clan frowned. The previously joyous atmosphere had completely frozen over.

With a bang, the guard that had notified them suddenly died as he exploded instantly.

Originally, everyone had been drinking wine and chatting, creating a warm and happy atmosphere. But with that sudden surprise, a few maids present immediately began to scream.

Furthermore, the expressions of many higher ups changed abruptly and the mood felt terrifying.

They raised their heads and saw that just outside the hall was a youth dressed entirely in bright white robes. He was the only one there, with unfathomable dark eyes.

Some people asked gravely, "Who are you?"

This was a strange youth, yet he had appeared grandly in their midst. That alone was startling. After all, the Zuo Clan's defenses were more than enough to stop old monsters at the king level from coming in.

Lin Xun calmly responded, "Who I am is not important. Instead, you all should know that after tonight, the Zuo Clan will be struck off the registers of the Forbidden City."

It was said in a light tone, yet Zuo Weihai and the others immediately became gloomy. Just when had anyone ever threatened the Zuo Clan in such a way? Who in the empire could even dare to make such a threat?

"Audacious!"

Suddenly, someone started laughing out of anger. It was an important higher up of the clan.

Lin Xun glanced at him and a burst of killing intent shot over. It resembled a divine spear as it neatly beheaded that person.

With a loud plop, the higher up's severed head had wide eyes as it and the body toppled to the ground. He had died instantaneously.

This horrifying scene caused a deathly silence to fall upon the hall. Every single person present had ashen complexions and chills ran through them. They were thoroughly scared.

No one had ever expected that such a powerful youth would appear in such a way. It was so dreadful!

Suddenly, someone shouted, "He's...he's Lin Xun!"

"Lin Xun?"

Everyone was startled and then looked again at Lin Xun. A thought rose in their minds.
Mind Cleansing Peak's Clan Leader Lin Xun?

Immediately, all of the elders of the Zuo Clan in the hall revealed shocked expressions as they stared at Lin Xun out of disbelief.

How could they possibly forget the overbearing and earthshaking master of Mind Cleansing Peak from more than ten years ago?

"How are you possibly back?"

Zuo Weihai's expression distorted and changed rapidly.

Everyone else looked as if they were staring at a grisly ghost.

Naturally, their hearts began to tremble. Lin Xun had not only come back but also had slaughtered his way by himself into the heart of the Zuo Clan's territory.

Everyone found this hard to believe. In their memories, the Lin Xun who had left the lower world all those years ago was merely at the Heaven Ascension stage.

How could he possibly become so strong after a period of slightly more than a decade?

For a moment, the lights on the candles flickered in the great hall as the space stayed deathly silent. Everyone was incredibly bewildered.

Lin Xun entered the great hall and pulled out a chair before leisurely sitting on it. He swept his eyes over everyone present and smiled slightly. "How would I possibly find out what sort of tricks the Qin and Zuo Clans have been up to if I hadn't come back?"

Although he was calm and acted as if he was in his own home, no one present dared to meddle in this situation now!

They couldn't see through him.

“What are you trying to accomplish?”

Zuo Weihai inhaled deeply and made himself calm down.

They were in the territory of the Zuo Clan, yet someone of the younger generation had barged in and was acting in a tyrannical manner. This made it hard for him to accept.

But the strength that Lin xun had shown was too strong and bizarre. Thus, he didn't dare to act recklessly.

“When I was born, the Lin Family faced a horrifying bloodbath. Since then, certain groups have eyed the Lin Clan as a tasty morsel to devour, something to be divided amongst others, causing its decline. Among the culprits include the Zuo Clan.”

Lin Xun's eyes were cold and dark. “Later on, I gained a foothold in the Forbidden City with great difficulty yet I was faced with suppression and plots at all turns. Among the culprits also include the Zuo Clan.”

He continued, “And now, these past few years, the Lin Clan has been pushed and shoved, tossed about in terrible storms. In fact, the clan is on the brink of extinction. Among the culprits also include the Zuo Clan!”

Zuo Weihai snorted coldly. “The weak are prey to the strong. Even if the Zuo Clan did not move, others would still meddle with the Lin Clan!”

Lin Xun nodded. “You're right. The weak are prey to the strong. This is why I have come today to settle this feud with the Zuo Clan.”

“On your own?” Zuo Weihai's complexion was ashen.

“On my own.”

His response was a mere three words that were said in a simple and calm manner, but they were thrown out in a provocative way.

Following that, Lin Xun stood up. Within an instant, a frightening might flowed and spread out of him. It was like a flood of water that covered the entirety of the sky and earth, submerging everything within it.

Every great personage in the Zuo Clan felt their throats choke as their faces turned pale. It felt as if they had fallen into an icy, cold cave.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1377: Beginning to Settle Accounts

Bam, bam, bam!

An oppressive sound of people falling to their knees resounded in the great hall. Out of all of the people present from the Zuo Clan, the ones with the highest cultivation level were at the half-step king stage, while the weakest were still at the great Cyclic Derivation stage.

But at this moment, all had knelt down at the same time, causing a foreboding sound of knees knocking against the ground!

Rumble~

At the same time, all of the documents, dishes, decorations within this grand and glorious hall exploded and disappeared into fine dust. As for the servants and maids present, they had long fallen into a dead faint with blood oozing out of their seven orifices. This was all caused by the aura of power that Lin Xun was projecting from himself. It was the might of a supreme king at the seventh longevity stage who had slaughtered a road of blood in his journey.

Now Lin Xun stood independently in the great hall, resembling a grand god overlooking lowly mortals. At this moment, Zuo Weihai, Zuo Bugu and the others looked at each other with ashen expressions. They had been thoroughly cowed by this display of might, and fear consumed their minds.

They now understood why Lin Xun had ascended their mountain on his own. It was just...

They still found it all hard to believe.

Back then, this youth was only at the Heaven Ascension stage. So how could he possibly become so intimidatingly powerful in such a short period of time?

Just what cultivation level had he reached?

The king stage?

Or could it be even higher?

They couldn't understand what was going on. All of them shivered with glum faces.

Earlier, this grand and glorious hall was filled with sounds of laughter and celebration. As notable figures of the Zuo Clan, they had been smugly discussing on how best to split up the Lin Clan's assets after they had been pushed to the brink of death. But now...

Lin Xun was only one person, but his appearance had caused everything to change!

"Don't you think I am more than enough to deal with this?"

Lin Xun's eyes were calm and still without a single hint of emotion in them.

That one rhetorical question from him caused the atmosphere in the hall to become even more restrained and stifled. People felt as if they were being choked to death. Just his imposing aura alone was more than enough to force them to their knees. They had no power to resist. If he actually started acting against them, who could stop him?

Suddenly, a raucous shout echoed, "Who is being so daring now? This old one would like to meet just who in this empire dares to cause trouble with the Zuo Clan!"

A group of figures immediately appeared after the voice resounded. There were eight of them in total. Among them included white-haired old men, tottering old women, and handsome and young-looking men...

What was important was that all of them radiated the imposing aura of king-level experts!

Furthermore, the man in the front was clearly the strongest of them all as the pressure coming off of him was the strongest.

His hair was as black as ink, and his body was sturdy and strong, resembling an imposing mountain. As his eyes opened and closed, divine light flew out of them.

He was the secret weapon of the Zuo Clan and was an old monster at the king-stage. He was named Zuo Cen and had long since stepped into the longevity path. He was clearly the backbone of the Zuo Clan. In fact, because of him, the Zuo Clan was able to become one of the seven high clans of the empire, and no one could shake them!

As for the seven people behind Zuo Cen, they were all stellar figures who were rarely seen. They were usually holed up cultivating and wouldn't show up unless a life or death situation appeared.

But now, they had all come with Zuo Cen.

It was evident that the loud ruckus in the great hall had caught their attention.

"Ancestor!"

On the ground, Zuo Weihai and the others cried out in grievance as if they had seen their saviors. Many of them actually cried tears of joy.

“Just who has the guts to act like this?!”

As soon as Zuo Cen arrived, he could see the mess that had occurred. His face darkened as killing intent flashed in his eyes. He eyed Lin Xun murderously, who was standing in the middle of the great hall.

“Ancestors, this person is...”

Zuo Weihai quickly immediately transmitted his voice to Zuo Cen and the others, explaining Lin Xun’s identity to them.

Once they understood who Lin Xun was, all of them were surprised. The way they looked at Lin Xun had changed, as if they couldn’t believe their eyes.

This youth had only been at the Heaven Ascension Stage ten or so years ago, yet now he had already stepped foot into the king stage? This was too unbelievable!

“Everyone’s here now? That’s good, it’s about time to discuss important matters.”

At this moment, Lin Xun finally spoke. He hadn’t made a single move earlier as he had been waiting for this.

If he didn’t take down the Zuo Clan’s true power, then he would not be able to reach his goal of wiping the Zuo Clan out of the Forbidden City!

“Lin Xun, do you know what you’re doing right now?”

Although Zuo Cen’s expression was gloomy, he felt a bit bewildered and uncertain inside. This was because, despite his efforts, he hadn’t been able to tell just what exactly Lin Xun’s current cultivation level was.

There were only two explanations for this.

The first was that Lin Xun was now vastly more powerful than he was.

The second was that Lin Xun was practicing a secret art that was able to cover up his entire aura and cultivation level from his senses.

No matter what the truth was, Zuo Cen felt uneasy about something. If it hadn’t been for that subtle feeling, then he would have acted immediately as soon as he witnessed what had occurred in the great hall!

“I’m getting revenge. What’s wrong with that?” Lin Xun smiled slightly.

Even though he was facing a group of king-level experts, Lin Xun remained calm and composed. This made the warning feeling within Zuo Cen become even more intense.

Suddenly, a king-level expert who could no longer sit still coldly shouted, “Getting revenge? I think it’s more like you’re tired of living!”

It was an old woman who had acted. There was a green snake staff in her hands. When she saw that Lin Xun, an outsider, was being so rampant in her own clan’s territory, fury had ignited within her and she desired to kill him.

Lin Xun lightly spat out two words, “So noisy.”

Then, it turned into the howl of a Pulao and spread forth. Following that, the words became truth.

Bang!

Everyone watched as the old woman trembled from head to toe, and she couldn’t even control herself as she stepped back involuntarily. Her eyes were wide open, and her mouth opened as if she wanted to say something.

However, in the end, she clattered to the ground loudly. Her spirit had been wiped completely from her body!

The mind and spirit were like lamps. As long as they didn’t become extinguished, a person could live very long. But once they were gone, that person was dead!

The aura within the hall abruptly shifted again. The expressions on Zuo Cen’s and the other old monsters’ faces distorted immediately. An involuntary chill settled within their hearts.

Two simple words had wiped out a king at the first longevity stage?

This was too frightening!

As for Zuo Weihai, Zuo Bugu and the others still kneeling on the floor, they were all shocked silly. The joy inside them quickly became replaced by an icy, cold chill.

“How come no one is talking now?” asked Lin Xun calmly. “Are you telling me that within the Zuo Clan, which is one of the seven high clans of the empire, there isn’t a single person who has any courage right now?”

His voice was filled with an indescribable kind of coldness and ridicule.

Zuo Cen’s expression revealed his uncertainty about the situation.

Next to him, a youthful and handsome looking man took a deep breath and said, “Lin Xun, right now the empire is beset with both internal and external problems, so it still needs the Zuo Clan for help. I hope that you can give us some face and leave us some room to survive. How about that?”

“Give your Zuo Clan some face? I’m sorry, but all of that is worthless to me,” replied Lin Xun as he waved his sleeve.

Before the handsome man could even react, his body exploded with a bang and dissolved into a pile of ash that blew everywhere.

Lin Xun had slaughtered a king with a wave of his sleeve! This terrifying scene had shaken every single person present.

Even Zuo Cen couldn’t help from getting affected by this. His expression morphed constantly as he gasped out, “Just...just what cultivation level have you reached?”

He couldn’t see through him! Lin Xun’s full power was incredibly frightening and had already exceeded his imagination.

How were they supposed to fight back?

If his hunch was correct, then the Zuo Clan was about to meet its destruction tonight!

When he came to that conclusion, Zuo Cen’s heart felt as if it had fallen into an abyss. Even in his dreams he couldn’t have imagined that a young man who had only been gone for slightly more than ten years would reach such a terrifying cultivation level.

“The Zuo Clan admits defeat!” Zuo Cen instantly made a decision and pleaded, “Lin Xun, as long as you give the Zuo Clan a path to live, no matter what sort of stipulations you set, we will complete them.”

Contrary to his expectations, Lin Xun readily nodded and said, “I have no desire to kill everyone today. I just want you all to make a choice.”

“Please go ahead.” A sliver of hope blossomed in Zuo Cen.

“The Zuo Clan will need to leave Jade Well Peak, exile themselves from the Forbidden City, and send the entire clan to the border battlefields of the empire in order to atone for their sins. No members of the Zuo Clan will ever be allowed back at the capital.”

“That’s impossible!” howled the still kneeling Zuo Weihai. This was truly sending their entire Zuo Clan to the brink of extinction, so how could they possibly agree?

“I haven’t finished yet.” Lin Xun calmly continued, “Other than those conditions, tonight, all of the higher ups of the Zuo Clan will need to sacrifice themselves. Only then can this debt be repaid.”

When they all heard this, everyone in the hall wanted to explode with fury. How could they not understand that Lin Xun was planning on fighting to the death?!

“Are there any other methods available besides this?” asked Zuo Cen after he inhaled deeply in an effort to stifle the bubbling anger inside him.

However, Lin Xun was merciless in his response, “No.”

“Forget it. Then let this old man go teach you a lesson. We’ll see whether you can truly back up your outlandish conditions or not!”

Zuo Cen’s eyes flashed with a divine light, and an imposing aura exploded from him.

“Only at the third longevity stage?” Lin Xun sneered. “I’ve already lost count of how many pieces of trash like you I’ve killed already. I can only say that you’re too clueless and naive.”

Bam!

Zuo Cen didn’t bother replying and instead began to act, using his strongest method right from the get go.

A palm print that was as bright as the sun pressed out from him, causing a loud roaring sound. It was extremely resplendent.

Many people were quite nervous at this point.

It had been so many years, and this was the first time many of them had seen Zuo Cen take action. They couldn’t help but hope that he’d be able to capture Lin Xun in one fell swoop and snatch them from the jaws of defeat.

But Lin Xun merely waved his sleeve when faced with such an astonishing attack. Following that, under the horrified gazes of all, the pillar of the Zuo Clan, Zuo Cen, turned into a pile of ash. He had died in the exact same way that the handsome man had!

The entire hall went lifelessly silent.

Even though there were still other king-level experts from the Zuo Clan remaining, they too had realized that the youth in front of them had long reached a level that they could only despair at!

Discouragement spread throughout the hall like a massive tidal wave.

Zuo Weihai was almost out of his mind as he muttered, “This can’t be possible...this can’t be possible...”

“Is there really anything that is impossible in this world? It’s time to end this now.”

As soon as Lin Xun finished, resplendent sword qi burst out from him.

Swish!

With a light wave, all of the heads in the great hall fell down!

No matter whether it was the people kneeling on the ground like Zuo Weihai or the old monsters at the king-level, one sweep of the sword qi was enough to behead them all!

This was the effect of the Taixuan sword qi that Lin Xun had been nurturing all this time. The edge of the sword qi was magnificent and like none other!

When Lin Xun walked out of this towering hall that represented the greatest power within the Zuo Clan a sea of fire suddenly erupted and engulfed it.

With his hands behind his back, he stood in front of the inferno as his robes fluttered. He gazed at the distant night sky with an expression that was as calm and tranquil as it was when he first arrived.

This was because the reckoning had just begun!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1378: Three Sword Strikes to Demolish the Qin Clan

The higher ups of the Zuo Clan had been swept clean, so the destruction of the clan was not far away!

After all, once an upper clan had lost all of its most powerful members, its power was bound to drop into the abyss. At that time, numerous ravenous wolves would be waiting in the periphery to bite off a piece of fatty meat.

But for Lin Xun, this was not enough.

Tonight, he was planning on crushing the Zuo Clan's entire political and military power and eradicating its information base. That way they would have no way of coming back ever again!

Lin Xun looked away and began to float into the air before transforming into a rainbow and flying away.

If the current emperor or Blood Kill King Zhao Tailai were still around, then they would have definitely stopped him from going on his rampage.

But perhaps the heavens were smiling upon him tonight. There was no one in the Forbidden City who could stop Lin Xun right now!

.....

Emerald Cloud Peak

On the territory of the Qin Clan, one of the seven high clans of the empire.

Within the opulent and magnificent hall, surrounded by the distinguished higher ups and guests of the clan, the clan head of the Qin Clan, Qin Baoji, stood up and raised his cup as he said, "From tonight onwards, the Lin Clan is destined to fall. This couldn't have happened without the help of everyone here. Come, let me toast you all."

"Let us toast!"

On the dias were some honored guests seated there. They all raised their cups together and emptied them.

"After the Lin Clan's demise, the Qin and Zuo clans will each occupy thirty percent of their old property. Twenty percent will be given to the imperial family, and the remaining twenty percent will be divided amongst all your factions." Qin Baoji continued calmly, "I believe this is a result that everyone is happy to see."

"Naturally, naturally."

The guests present all nodded and smiled happily. In the past few years, their forces had all participated in operations against the Lin Clan. In fact, some forces that were originally on good terms with the Lin Clan had also drawn a clear line separating themselves from them.

And now, the Lin Clan was about to be destroyed, so it was time to start dividing the spoils. How could the representatives here not be happy about this?

Suddenly, someone suddenly asked, "Brother Qin, may I ask who will take charge of Mind Cleansing Peak once it becomes vacant?"

The atmosphere in the main hall immediately fell silent. Everyone knew that the most juicy piece of meat of the Lin Clan was their Mind Cleansing Peak.

As one of the seventy-two aristocrat peaks in the Forbidden City, Mind Cleansing Peak had also become a rare paradise with dense spiritual energy after the drastic changes in the world. It was so rich that it would be coveted by any major force.

Furthermore, any clan that occupied Mind Cleansing Peak would have it become a symbol of their identity and power!

Qin Baoji smiled and said, "It is up to the third prince to make the decision on such a major matter. The Qin and the Zuo Clans can only follow orders."

After hearing this, everyone began to speculate and scheme. They now knew that if they could cut a deal with Third Prince Zhao Jingwen, they might be able to take Mind Cleansing Peak in the end.

High in the night sky, Lin Xun floated silently.

His consciousness had already covered the entire Qin Clan, and all the scenes that were happening in the hall were under his purview.

There was a hint of coldness on the corner of his lips as he announced, "You're all so anxious to start holding a celebration party?"

That one sentence exploded like thunder in the sky above Emerald Cloud Peak. For a moment, the echoes rumbled and stirred up the surrounding areas.

In the bustling hall, all other noises were suppressed, and the exquisite wine service on the banquet table exploded into pieces with a burst of banging sounds.

"Who is it?"

In the main hall, everyone's expression became distorted, and they stood up. Qin Baoji's face darkened as he got up. At this moment, someone had dared to come and disturb them. This was obviously not giving the Qin Clan any face!

"Just a single person?"

Everyone couldn't help from being stunned.

Within the Forbidden City, was there anyone left who dared to come to the Qin Clan and provoke them in such an arrogant and condescending manner?

Were they that eager to seek their own deaths?

Someone recognized the intruder and hastily shouted, "It's him, Lin Xun!"

For a moment, the whole place was in a state of agitation and uproar, as if they had just confronted a gruesome ghost.

No one had expected that the person that they considered to be stuck in the Ancient Wasteland Domain would actually appear here tonight!

"Lin Xun?" Qin Baoji's pupils constricted and then he sneered, "He's come at the right time. Now that the Lin Clan is on the brink of destruction, we can kill the leader while we're at it to avoid future trouble!"

Immediately, the eyes of everyone present flickered. From their understanding, Lin Xun was still the same young man who had been the most famous youth in the Forbidden City more than ten years ago.

Although they were caught off guard by his sudden appearance, they all agreed with Qin Baoji's opinion after calming down for a moment. Indeed, Lin Xun had arrived on his own. Thus, he would definitely be unable to save himself!

Furthermore, they were in the Qin Clan's inner territory. Consequently, him appearing here was no different from throwing himself into a trap.

"There is a road to heaven, but you don't take it. Yet, even if there is no door to hell, you still come knocking. Lin Xun, if you've come to plead for the Lin Clan, then I can only tell you that it's impossible for the Lin Family to survive!" said Qin Baoji in a very calm and conceited manner.

Other guests also chimed in, "Lin Xun, the Lin Clan is over, so you should just obediently surrender. This is the Qin Clan's territory, and you alone are destined to be unable to make any changes in this situation."

When Lin Xun saw this, he couldn't help but laugh. His laughter was like thunder, resounding through the night. *These bastards are so ignorant. Do they really think that I lost my wits due to anger and rushed here to die alone?*

"You've all over-thought this. Tonight, the Qin Clan will be destroyed, and you all..."

Lin Xun suppressed his smile. His dark eyes were cold as he scanned everyone in the hall one by one. "I won't let anyone go!"

As he finished, he drew a stroke with his fingers. Sword qi that swept out into the sky appeared, shining like a divine rainbow, tearing the night sky apart and creating a dazzling sight.

"Slash!"

When the sword qi fell, it was like a river of stars stretching across the sky, striking hard at the formation that protected Emerald Cloud Peak with an irresistible force.

When Lin Xun spoke, everyone thought that he was crazy. A single youth wanted to destroy the Qin Clan. Wasn't that a sign of insanity?

And when Lin Xun took action, many people sneered. This was the Qin Clan. Did he think he could shake this place with his measly power?

But when Lin Xun's sword qi fell, no one could laugh anymore. They were all dumbfounded and filled with terror!

What kind of sword qi is this?

It was so blazing, vast, and concise. In addition, it was filled with a power that could oppress all living beings! The strength contained in this sword qi was so mighty that it completely exceeded all their imaginations. It made them almost suffocate just by looking at it.

With a loud boom, the earth trembled and the mountains shook, and the color of the heavens and earth changed.

With a single sword qi, he cut through the Qin Clan's mountain-protecting formation. Thousands of feet of sword energy cut a deep crack into Emerald Cloud Peak. The sword qi surged, causing rocks and vegetation to explode.

Any cultivator who was close to the place where the sword qi struck was instantly wiped out! That was the power of Lin Xun's sword strike.

It was also at this time that he used his true power. Of course, if it weren't for the fear of destroying this peak, the power of that one sword qi would be far more than that!

Boom!

The grand hall where Qin Baoji and the others were located was also split open by the sword energy and collapsed.

For a moment, there were endless screams and shouts. The guests all fled in panic, with fear and horror imprinted on their faces. Only then did they realize that their previous speculation was incredibly wrong!

"How bold!"

"How many years has it been? I can't believe someone has still dared to come to my Qin Clan to cause trouble."

Such a big commotion had instantly alarmed the old monsters of the Qin Clan who were living in seclusion on Emerald Cloud Peak. Thus, they all jumped into the air and showed themselves

At a glance, there were actually more than ten people who appeared!

However, when they saw that Lin Xun was the only one who had come to cause trouble, these old monsters at the king stage were obviously stunned and surprised. They all had the exact same expression that Zuo Cen and others from the Zuo family had before.

"Ancestor, we must kill this beast!" snarled Qin Baoji as he gritted his teeth. He was almost going crazy with hatred.

“Slash!”

At this time, Lin Xun remained calm and struck out with his sword qi again. There was only one way to describe it: quick and incredibly fast!

It looked like it was breaking the constraints and boundaries of space. It simply flashed and disappeared from everyone's sight, and its trajectory could not be followed at all.

But in the next moment, everyone in the Qin Clan saw the power of this sword.

Puff!

A line of blood suddenly appeared at the throat of an old monster at the king stage. Then, their entire head flew up, and blood splattered into the night sky.

Puff, puff, puff!

Immediately afterwards, the heads of the old king stage monsters who were standing on the sides were also blown away.

From a distance, the bloody heads falling in the night sky looked particularly gruesome and shocking. With one sword qi, all the king-level cultivators of the Qin Clan who had shown up were decapitated!

This shocking scene made Qin Baoji, who was furious and furious, suddenly freeze up and cry out, "This..."

As for the guests who had come to attend the Qin Clan's banquet, they were all stunned silly and it felt as if their souls had left their bodies. One sword qi had killed a group of kings! When had they ever seen something so horrific within their lifetimes?

“Run!”

Without hesitation, these people all chose to escape. The Qin Clan was no longer as impregnable as they had imagined. Instead, a desperate situation had appeared in which they could lose their lives at any moment!

As for the Qin Clan, all the clansmen and powerful people living on Emerald Cloud Peak had already been frightened. They were panicking, crying for their parents.

No one had thought that on a night where they were celebrating their imminent victory that such a catastrophic disaster would occur!

Standing under the night sky, Lin Xun was like a cold and unfeeling god that casted a shadow over Emerald Cloud Peak and brought death to the Qin Clan...!

"Slash!"

Lin Xun's expression was as indifferent as before, and the scenes that were happening to the Qin Clan were reflected in his dark eyes. Without hesitation, he launched the third blow.

This time, one hundred and eight rays of Taixuan sword qi swept out. They resembled the rain of a divine rainbow as they rose into the sky, traced out paths, and fell into the Qin Clan. Bloody heads were easily chopped off.

In the end, none of the guests survived! While they were dying, they couldn't believe that such a thing would happen to them. After all, just moments ago, they were thinking about how to carve up the properties of the Lin Clan like a piece of fatty meat...

Poof!

Qin Baoji lost his head.

His face was full of unwillingness, fear, despair and bewilderment. Just earlier, he was entertaining guests and friends, arrogantly arranging matters to divide up the Lin Clan's property, but now...

Everything had been in vain!

That night, after the Zuo Clan, the Qin Clan also suffered a great disaster.

Lin Xun's three sword strikes destroyed the Qin Clan's mountain-protecting formation, slaughtered their kings, and slew Qin Baoji and other important figures.

Emerald Cloud Peak was now stained with blood.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1379: The World is Unpredictable

Fierce flames raged.

The nauseating stench of blood saturated the air. On Emerald Cloud Peak there were only scenes of misery and devastation as if it was a purgatory. Shrill screams, furious roars, sobs, and wails rang out one after another.

It was a scene of carnage.

The Qin Clan, one of the seven high clans of the empire, met with calamity tonight!

Lin Xun stood in midair, his expression neither sad nor happy.

This enmity had been dragged on for far too long. This time, he wanted to put an end to it all.

Shua!

With a flash, he vanished into the darkness of the vast night.

“The Zuo Clan and the Qin Clan can’t possibly turn things around now, but those accomplices...even if they are exemptible from the death penalty, they can’t escape punishment. Tonight, I will teach you a lesson that you will never forget!”

Lin Xun strolled in the void, his dark eyes unfathomably cold.

His spirit sense was released like a tide, spreading in every direction, presenting the great Forbidden City to his mind.

Before Lin Xun came here, Spirit Vulture had provided Lin Xun with a list of accomplices who had played a role in attacking the Lin Clan over the years.

At this moment, the list appeared in Lin Xun’s mind.

“The Xue Clan of the Forbidden City, Xue Tianren, the head of the Xue Clan and a vassal of the Qin Clan. Three years ago, on the frontier battlefield, he abused his power and commanded the burial of three hundred members of the Lin Clan under a military order.

“Hou Taizhen, the head of the Hou Clan of the Forbidden City and a vassal of the Zuo Clan. Eight years ago, in a battle against an army of monster-beasts, he caused the death of one hundred and fifty-four elites of the Lin Clan.

“Hong Xing, the head of the Hong Clan of the Forbidden City. One year ago, he seized nine mines from the Lin Clan.

“Forbidden City...”

Information about the enemies, including their background and status, flashed through Lin Xun’s mind.

They were all accomplices!

But Lin Xun didn’t care about exactly what they had done to the Lin Clan.

For him, anyone who dared to touch the Lin Clan had to pay the price.

That night was full of killings!

The lion built its prestige from catching prey, but who would pity the poor elk?

In the world, the weak were always prey to the strong. This was the law of the jungle.

Lin Xun’s heart was filled with hatred. He had to avenge his clan and so he had to kill. Kill every single one of them. Kill until the world was turned upside down!

He had to kill until all the powerful, influential forces were scared witless and would never dare to be an enemy of the Lin Clan!

In short, it was better to be hated by everyone than for no one to know their name!

.....

Each one of the seventy-two peaks of the Mountains of Aristocratic Clans was occupied by an influential force, and the weakest still wielded power of a mid-level aristocratic clan.

They represented the strongest powers of the Forbidden City in the Ziyao Empire, and their people could be found all over the empire’s territory. Many citizens of the empire could only obey and look up to them.

The Xue Clan of the Forbidden City was one of the mid-level aristocratic clans.

Cloud Shadow Peak.

The main hall of the Xue Clan.

Xue Tianren’s eyebrows knitted together in a worried frown. “I just received a message that Lin Xun was spotted in the Forbidden City.”

All the senior members of the Xue Clan had gathered in the hall. They looked perplexed, wondering why they would be summoned so late at night.

But when they heard the name Lin Xun, they immediately narrowed their eyes. The head of the Mind Cleansing Peak Lin Clan, whose name had shaken the Forbidden City, had returned!

“How is that possible? Everything has pointed to the fact that the boy can never return again! If he’s really back, then why hasn’t there been any news about it?” argued someone, refusing to believe the news.

“Head of the clan, where did you hear it from?” someone questioned.

“He Yanqiu, rune master of the Rune Master Association,” stated Xue Tianren.

“Hmph, that old man He Yanqiu is known to bluff. Can we believe him?”

Many people spoke out.

Xue Tianren’s frown slowly relaxed. Thinking about it carefully, he seemed to have overreacted.

So what if Lin Xun returned?

Even if the sky collapsed, the Zuo and Qin Clans would hold it up!

Xue Tianren couldn’t help but smile.

Pu!

A beam of sword qi rushed into the hall like a waterfall and instantly slashed his throat and took off his head.

The smile was still hung on his face, which made him look even more disturbing and terrifying.

The sword qi vanished right away.

In the hall, the atmosphere turned heavy and silent. The senior members of the Xue Clan all watched wide-eyed as Xue Tianren’s head tumbled to the ground. A feeling of fear flooded them.

What...what is happening?

.....

Forbidden City, Hou Clan.

Hou Taizhen, the head of the Hou Clan, was anxiously waiting for news. He had sent someone to the Qin Clan to discuss the benefits that the Hou Clan would receive after the destruction of the Lin Clan.

But what came for him in the end was a beam of sword qi.

A sword descended from the sky and beheaded him without any effort!

.....

Forbidden City, Hong Clan...

Following that, the clan leaders of different clans in the Forbidden City suffered the same fate. Every clan leader who wielded the power of the clan was beheaded.

A total of nineteen clans in the Forbidden City were affected, of which six were mid-level aristocratic clans and thirteen were lower aristocratic clans.

As long as they had targeted the Lin Clan over the years, Lin Xun would not let any of them off.

All this was completed in a quarter of an hour!

“There’s still nine clans...”

Under the cover of darkness, Lin Xun put his hands behind his back, his clothes fluttering, and strode across the void like a celestial, leaving no trace.

Tonight.

He was ready to go all in to kill!

.....

Meanwhile, the news about the catastrophe that had befallen the Zuo and Qin Clans spread in the night of the Forbidden City at a terrifying speed like a landslide.

As some of the most high-profile high clans in the Forbidden City, the Zuo and Qin Clans had met with catastrophe one after another. How would this news not spread like wildfire?

For ordinary people in the Forbidden City, this night was no different than usual.

But to the major forces at the top, this night was beyond terrifying.

The Chi Clan.

As one of the high clans in the city, they almost immediately received news about what happened to the Zuo and Qin Clans.

Bang!

A cup slipped out of Chi Lingxiao's hand and shattered on the ground.

His face was ashen as he sat there petrified. After a long while, he still did not snap out of the shock.

As the head of the Chi Clan, he had always been cautious about revealing his emotions on his face, but this time, he lost control of himself.

Next to him, Chi Cangmei's pretty face was also pale and her eyes lifeless.

The moment she heard the news, she was so shocked that her blood seemed to freeze, and she thought it was a dream.

"He single-handedly launched a bloodbath in two high clans and beheaded old monsters of the King Stage one by one..."

After a long while, Chi Lingxiao muttered, "Is he...really the same boy from back then?" His voice trembled uncontrollably.

"Father, the news is true," Chi Cangmei said in a low voice.

"I never saw it coming. I haven't seen him in more than ten years, but the ant has transformed into a dragon and stirred up chaos across the Forbidden City tonight..."

Chi Lingxiao's emotions churned uncontrollably like the sea.

He crushed even the Zuo and Qin Clans with ease. Who could stop him if he turned up at the Chi Clan?

This thought sent a shudder down Chi Lingxiao. He shouted, "Hurry, gather all the elders and ancestors in the clan!" Only then did Chi Cangmei realize that her father, who would never bat an eyelid even if a mountain collapsed before him, could also lose his head out of fear...

Before long, a group of king stage old monsters and influential figures of the Chi Clan gathered.

When they learned what happened to the Zuo and Qin Clans, everyone was terror stricken, unable to compose themselves.

In the hall, panic broke out.

All of it felt very unreal to Chi Cangmei. *There are times when these big shots would also be scared, worried, and panic.*

The shock and panic did not end there.

News came one after another.

“What? The head of the Xue Clan was beheaded?”

“Even the head of the Hou Clan was also killed?”

“The Hong Clan, Chu Clan, Xu Clan, Xing Clan...The leaders of a total of nineteen aristocratic clans have been beheaded?”

At first, everyone in the Chi Clan was aghast. In the end, they all looked numb and lifeless.

The atmosphere in the hall was no longer noisy or chaotic, but instead bizarrely silent, stifling and depressing.

The king stage old monsters all froze, their souls leaving their bodies.

The high and mighty influential figures were all pale-faced and terrified out of their wits.

The struggle for power in the Forbidden City had its own rules.

No matter how they competed and fought, it was rare for someone to start a bloody conflict.

For example, it was unheard of that someone, in one swoop, could storm and slaughter two high clans and then behead dozens of clan leaders of various other clans!

It was too crazy!

One person went on a killing spree alone. Did he want to destroy the world?

“We...what should we do?”

After a long while, Chi Lingxiao asked in a hoarse voice, breaking the silence of the hall.

Everyone looked at each other in dismay.

Everyone knew that, in recent years, the Zuo and Qin Clans had joined hands to oppress the Lin Clan and even tried to annex the Lin Clan. Recently, the Lin Clan had even been charged with ‘treason.’

If everything went as they planned, then soon, the Lin Clan would have been utterly destroyed.

But now, this had been reversed!

Lin Xun suddenly appeared and solved the predicament by himself. In one swoop, he crushed two high clans, the Zuo and Qin Clans, slaughtered several king stage experts and influential figures, and caused a bloodbath!

Undoubtedly, even if the Zuo and Qin Clans survived this, their names would be removed from the Forbidden City!

“In recent years, our Chi Clan has not participated in the operation against the Lin Clan, so we should not need to worry,” uttered someone in a low voice.

“Don’t forget that when that kid first came to the Forbidden City, our Chi Clan sent forces to assassinate him under the orders of the ninth prince Zhao Jingzhen. Although we failed in the end, that created bad blood between us.”

Some people were still worried. “If the kid held a grudge because of that, our Chi Clan will also be targeted!”

Everyone was chilled to the core again.

In the end, Chi Lingxiao took a deep breath and made a decision. “No matter what his stance is, our Chi Clan must show enough sincerity to resolve this grudge from back then.”

His voice was resolute and resounding. “Tomorrow, I will personally go to the Lin Clan in person, no matter what demands Lin Xun makes or what compensation he wants...we will meet them!”

Everyone sighed in their hearts. The Chi Clan was going to suffer a huge loss this time...

But it could not be helped. The world was unpredictable!

Who would have thought that a youngster could turn so terrifyingly strong after disappearing for more than ten years?

In this world, power was always king!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1380: The Enraged Third Prince

“But...”

Chi Lingxiao’s tone changed, and his eyes flashed, “Before we decide to compensate the Lin Clan, we have to check one thing first.”

“What is it?”

Everyone was taken aback.

“The Third Prince’s response.”

Chi Lingxiao’s voice was low. “In these years, would the Zuo and Qin Clans have dared to target the Lin Clan so unscrupulously without the silent approval of the third prince?”

“Don’t forget that before the kid Lin Xun traveled to the Ancient Wasteland Domain, he received a promise from Zhao Tailai, the Blood Kill King, that the imperial family will protect the Lin Clan. But clearly, the third prince did not do so!”

A thought struck everyone.

Chi Lingxiao smiled coldly. “Now that the Zuo and Qin Clans have met with disaster, the third prince also likely can’t sit still. I’m curious to know what the third prince will do in response to everything that happened tonight.”

An old monster of the king stage nodded. “That’s right, Lin Xun is very strong, and he has proved that he can kill king stage cultivators with ease. But if the third prince mobilizes the power of the entire empire to deal with him, there’s a high chance he won’t be able to survive.”

Chi Lingxiao added, “Even if Lin Xun can survive, what about his clan and clansmen? Where can they run to?”

“The third prince is only supervising the empire. He might have the power to take charge of the imperial court, but he is not the true ruler of the empire. Given his identity, it will be difficult for him to do that, right?”

Someone frowned.

Lin Xun was too strong. His terrifying presence and power were enough to make an empire cower!

Anyone going against him would have to weigh whether they could bear the consequences first.

“So, we just need to wait to see the reaction of the third prince, and then look at the imperial family’s view on this matter.”

Chi Lingxiao had completely regained his composure. “Of course, we should still do what must be done. Issue the order: From today on, everyone of the Chi Clan must not be hostile to anyone in the Lin Clan. I would rather suffer losses and tolerate them than to offend them!”

Everyone nodded.

Tonight, Lin Xun had proven his strength. From today on, no matter who they were, they had to change their treatment towards the Lin Clan again!

.....

That night, not only the Chi Clan had an emergency meeting.

All patriarchs of the aristocratic clans and major clans in the Forbidden City were alarmed and had to stop everything in their hands to deal with the sudden event.

As more and more news spread, the entire Forbidden City was shaken.

The young man whose brilliance swept the capital back then had returned!

Tonight, he single-handedly broke into two high clans, the Zuo Clan and the Qin Clan, and slaughtered the patriarchs of nineteen different aristocratic clans!

What did this mean?

Anyone with a brain would know!

The power and foundation of a high clan was absolutely unquestionable given that they could stand in the Forbidden City without being shaken.

But that night, one man destroyed and trampled two high clans.

This only proved that, in the eyes of Lin Xun, the power of the superior high clans was nothing special!

As for the nineteen patriarchs killed, they were not worth mentioning. Even two high clans could not hinder Lin Xun at all, so how could they stop him?

“We haven’t seen him for more than ten years but now he has become so powerful and capable. Even old monsters at the king stage were slaughtered like chickens at his hands. Who can believe it?”

Countless people were shocked, trembling, and in disbelief.

It was absurd that a man could behead powerful and influential figures one after another and cause a bloodbath in the high clans. How terrifying was his strength?

“How lucky is the Lin Clan to have such a fierce man in their clan?” someone sighed.

Lin Xun might have made quite a name for himself in the imperial city back then, but he was ultimately just a talented youth of the young generation. He might have been remarkable, but he was of no threat to the major clans.

But now, who would still think the same?

It was no exaggeration to say that after learning about tonight’s series of events, the old monsters of the king stage flinched at the mere mention of Lin Xun’s name!

The other high clans, the Hua, Song, Xie and Qi Clans, were also distressed by tonight’s events and struggled to sleep.

A long time ago, the younger generation of their clan were also caught in a conflict with Lin Xun.

But those were all minor disputes, which, under the mediation of the principal of Qinglu Academy, had been resolved.

When they learned about the tragic state of the Zuo and Qin clans, they felt an indescribable feeling of gratitude and luck.

Yes, it was luck!

They were lucky that they were not involved in any operations in oppressing the Lin Clan over the years.

“Let’s see how the third prince will view tonight’s matter.”

Many clans shifted their gazes to the imperial palace.

As Chi Lingxiao analyzed earlier, the Zuo Clan and the Qin Clan would have never dared to oppress the Lin Clan so unscrupulously without the approval of the third prince Zhao Jingwen.

And tonight, after Lin Xun caused such chaos and carnage, what sort of decision would the third prince make in response?

Would he stand up for the Zuo and Qin Clans?

His decision might not represent the will of the entire empire.

But everyone knew that in the face of such an important matter, his decision would very likely determine the fate of the Lin Clan!

.....

It was deep into the night, not far from dawn.

In the depths of the imperial palace.

An ear-piercing, frantic voice sounded—

“Master, an urgent matter!”

On the gorgeous dragon couch, Zhao Jingwen sprang up with a frown, “What’s the matter?”

“Master, it’s a long story. Please come to Qianyuan Hall. Many core ministers are waiting for you there.”

The sharp voice rang again.

Zhao Jingwen’s heart thumped. *I need to head to Qianyuan Hall for a meeting. Could it be that the monster-beasts within the borders of the empire are causing trouble again?*

Or perhaps, the imperial army in the frontier region is struggling against the attack of the brute army?

Zhao Jingwen felt a headache coming on.

Over the years, although he had been supervising the empire on behalf of the emperor and took over the control of the power of the imperial court, he lived with anxiety and worry.

This was because the empire had been faced with internal troubles and external threats, which had made Zhao Jingwen exhausted and miserable.

“I understand.” Zhao Jingwen inhaled deeply and changed his clothes.

“What’s going on?”

On the bed, a stunning beauty woke up, her eyelids heavy. As she yawned and stretched, her creamy soft and fair skin peeked out from the blanket. Her lazy and charming posture was particularly alluring.

She was Princess Qin Ruyue, the young daughter of the patriarch of the Qin Clan.

“You don’t need to know. Go back to sleep!” Zhao Jingwen said coldly, dusted his clothes, and stormed out of the room.

Qin Ruyue’s expression froze for a moment, but she then scoffed coldly. “Hmph! Without the help of my Qin Clan, would you, the third prince, have what you do today?”

Qianyuan Hall.

The resplendent and magnificent hall was brightly lit in the middle of the night.

Zhao Jingwen was surprised as he stepped into the hall. He glanced around and saw many figures had assembled there.

Each one was an influential figure of the imperial court.

Some were princes of the imperial family, marquises and lords. Old geezers who had not been seen on the court for a long time had also appeared tonight.

Something huge must have happened!

Zhao Jingwen’s chest tensed up, but he maintained a calm outward appearance. He sat down on the throne that represented the emperor of an empire and asked with a frown, “In the dead of the night, what could have happened that brought you all here?”

A minister stepped forward and answered in a trembling voice, “Your Highness, just now, the Zuo Clan and the Qin Clan met with disasters...”

The minister’s voice echoed in the hall.

Meanwhile, Zhao Jingwen was frozen on the throne, his head almost exploding. *Lin Xun? That guy actually came back?*

Especially after learning about Lin Xun’s doings tonight, the third prince went stiff and his expression morphed indefinitely. He squeezed the arms of the dragon throne tight and gritted his teeth to not lose his composure too much.

But in the end, he still lost control. He slammed the desk and roared, “Lin Xun is simply...a crazy maniac!”

His voice echoed in the hall, and all the ministers fell silent.

Zhao Jingwen panted, his chest heaving up and down and his face terribly dark.

He had a very close relationship with the Zuo and Qin Clans, sharing wealth and woe together.

But they both met with disaster on the same night!

And the culprit was someone unimaginable!

That impact of the tragic news felt like a giant hammer pounding the third prince's heart. He had never acted so out of sorts even when he encountered something difficult in the past.

But this time, he could not control his anger.

"The empire is constantly worrying about internal troubles and external threats yet Lin Xun not only did not serve the empire but also willfully slaughtered the clansmen of two important clans of the empire! This is lawless and unforgivable!" Zhao Jingwen fumed through gritted teeth.

He swept a cold look around the hall. "Why are you all not saying anything? Don't tell me you are all scared witless."

Everyone became more and more silent, and no one uttered a sound.

Tonight's events were so unusual that no one dared to show their stance.

They only came to check the stance and decision of the third prince. They had no intention of being swept into the unpredictable storm.

The continued silence in the hall infuriated Zhao Jingwen more and more. He gnashed his teeth and commanded, "Issue a decree!"

The words were like a boulder shattering before them!

The ministers shuffled restlessly. They did not expect Zhao Jingwen to make a decision so quickly. *Has he considered it carefully?*

Or perhaps, in his rage, he hadn't truly considered the seriousness of the matter.

At this moment, Zhao Jingwen took a deep breath and said each word with a noticeable pause, "Lin Xun is rebellious, vicious, and murderous. The crime of murdering loyal ministers of the empire is unforgivable..."

The hall was deathly silent.

The ministers all trembled. They knew that once the decree was issued, both Lin Xun and the Lin Clan would become criminals of the empire.

They would be arrested and suppressed!

Would Lin Xun allow this to happen?

Absolutely not!

But how could he fight against the whole empire by himself?

Some people were happy and excited with the third prince's decision.

Some people frowned and thought that Zhao Jingwen was acting out of anger and had completely disregarded the overall situation of the empire. His decision was completely irrational.

Immediately, many people came forward to stop him, but—

Bang!

The door of Qianyuan Hall was slammed open by a tremendous force, and a blast of cold air along with the night breeze swept into the hall, sending a chill down everyone.

Zhao Jingwen's furious voice ceased abruptly.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1381: The Day Breaks

The night was as dark as ink; it was the darkness before dawn.

Shua!

All eyes turned to the outside of Qianyuan Hall at the same time.

This was the imperial palace, the supreme place of power in the empire, and Qianyuan Hall was the most important core area.

Similarly, many hidden masters were gathered there; it was an unfathomable place.

Generally speaking, even Longevity Stage experts of the Magi Brute Race could not step close to the imperial palace, let alone into Qianyuan Hall.

It was late in the night, so who would dare to blast open the door of Qianyuan Hall so aggressively and rudely?

Immediately, a look of shock followed by understanding came to the faces of the officials.

A beautiful figure was standing outside the hall, dressed in dark purple palace attire. Her long black hair was rolled up in a bun on the back of her head, accentuating her elegant and beautiful fair face.

She had a graceful figure. Although she was alone, her presence was as powerful and intimidating as that of a high and mighty emperor.

Zhao Jingxuan!

She was the daughter of the great emperor and the empress, and the true pride of the empire!

Among the imperial family, she was without a doubt the person who was most favored and valued by the great emperor.

But her appearance surprised many people!

Even Zhao Jingwen, who was sitting on the throne, sprang up in shock and stuttered, “Elder Sister, when did you return?”

Everyone in the hall had the same question.

If they remembered correctly, the princess had left the empire more than ten years ago to train in the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

Logically speaking, she should not be able to return to the lower world!

“If I hadn’t come back, then Zhao Jingwen would have ruined the entire empire, isn’t that right?”

Zhao Jingxuan’s calm face exuded an air of authority and majesty.

As she strode into the hall, the officials immediately moved out of the way and opened up a path for her. No one dared to raise their head to look at her.

The reason was very simple. Although the aura emanating from Zhao Jingxuan was invisible, it had the power to oppress all living beings. The officials in the hall were forced to bow their heads before her!

This was called true submission.

“Elder Sister, what are you talking about?”

Watching Zhao Jingxuan step closer and closer, Zhao Jingwen breathed more and more rapidly, feeling an invisible oppressive power. Even his mind and spirit were trembling uncontrollably like a leaf.

He was overwhelmed with horror. He had not seen his elder sister for more than ten years, but she seemed to have become a completely different person.

Her bearing, imposing manner, and expressions were almost like their father’s!

Zhao Jingxuan halted her footsteps as she neared the throne that represented the supreme power. Her beautiful, clear eyes were calm but contained a kind of frightening majesty.

“A monkey wearing a crown, get off.”

Zhao Jingwen’s face reddened. He was called ‘a monkey wearing a crown’ in front of all the officials!

This was undoubtedly a great insult!

He took a deep breath and said through gritted teeth, “Elder Sister, before Father left, he ordered me to supervise the empire and take charge of the imperial court. You are not qualified to lecture me!”

Bang!

As soon as he finished speaking, he staggered and collapsed to the ground on his buttocks. At the same time, a terrifying force pressed down on him, making him unable to get up no matter how he struggled.

Meanwhile, Zhao Jingxuan sat down on the throne and tapped her fair, slender fingers on the table in front. “From now on, I will supervise the empire.”

Her indifferent words caused everyone’s expression to dramatically change. *Her Highness wants to take over power!*

“What? Do you have any objections?” Zhao Jingxuan narrowed her eyes.

A frightening power had enveloped the hall, bearing down on the officials to the point they struggled to breathe and their blood ran cold.

"We don't dare to!"

Immediately, someone bowed respectfully.

Then, others followed suit.

Who did not know that Princess Zhao Jingxuan was the one that the great emperor doted on and trusted the most?

Compared with her, the third prince Zhao Jingwen was nothing. After all, the power of the Ziyao Empire still belonged to the emperor.

In the absence of the emperor, it made no difference to them whether they took orders from Zhao Jingxuan or the third prince.

Of course, in terms of status and identity, Zhao Jingxuan weighed much more than Third Prince Zhao Jingwen in the hearts of the officials.

Seeing the officials bow their heads to Zhao Jingxuan, Zhao Jingwen almost broke down and yelled hysterically, “Elder Sister, you can’t do this, this position belongs to me! It’s mine!”

Bang!

Zhao Jingxuan was unfazed. With a flick of her sleeve, Zhao Jingwen fainted on the ground.

“Come, carry the third prince out. When he wakes up, send him to guard the imperial mausoleum. He is not allowed to step out of there without my permission!”

Zhao Jingxuan issued a decree, which was akin to completely trampling Third Prince Zhao Jingwen and seizing his powers.

Immediately, a group of guards appeared and took Third Prince Zhao Jingwen away.

This scene made the officials realize that Zhao Jingxuan had already taken control of the power within the imperial palace.

Otherwise, why would the guards obey her?

Everyone’s faces were filled with realization as they looked at the beautiful and majestic maiden sitting straight on the throne in the center of the hall.

From tonight onwards, Princess Zhao Jingxuan would have the power to make decisions on all matters in the empire!

“Your highness, tonight the Zuo Clan and Qin Clan...” someone stepped forward to report, breaking the silence.

But before he could finish, Zhao Jingxuan interrupted, “I’ve already looked into that. The Lin Clan can’t be fully blamed for this matter. The Zuo and Qin Clans brought it on themselves.”

Her words represented the stance of the empire!

In other words, even if Lin Xun had caused a bloodbath in the Forbidden City tonight, the imperial family would not pursue the matter. Likewise, it would not stand up for the Zuo or the Qin Clans!

“Additionally, the Zuo and Qin Clans have a lot of properties and power under their control. The two clans likely won’t be able to use them in the future, so I plan to take their possessions and award them to those who are loyal to the empire,” Zhao Jingxuan said indifferently.

The officials gasped audibly. *The division of the territories and power controlled by the two high clans have already started!*

No one expected Zhao Jingxuan to turn so decisive and ruthless as soon as she took charge of the empire.

Once the decree was issued, despite the fact that the Zuo and Qin Clans once possessed overwhelming power and endless glory, they would eventually fade with the wind and rain!

“Your Highness, may I ask about how we win the rewards?” Someone stepped forward, eyes blazing.

Everyone else also pricked up their ears, hearts pounding with excitement.

The Zuo and Qin Clans had extremely strong foundations. The properties and power they controlled spanned across the entire empire. A small bite of it was enough to satisfy many people!

“Recently, monster-beasts are creating trouble within the empire and the Brute Race are trying to invade the border areas. It is very simple to get a reward—it will be based on military credit. Anyone who performs outstandingly in killing the enemies will be rewarded accordingly.”

Zhao Jingxuan stated calmly, “I’ll leave it at that. Your own capabilities will determine how great your reward would be!”

The officials happily agreed.

Everyone began to think about their plan of action. The collapse of the Zuo and Qin Clans was akin to two behemoths falling down.

Whoever acted first would be able to snatch the greatest benefits from the two behemoths!

Every official in the hall represented the power of a major clan in the empire.

Suddenly, someone spoke aloud, “Your Highness, many members of the Zuo and Qin Clans hold important positions in various parts of the empire. How should we deal with those people?”

“Remove them from their posts,” Zhao Jingxuan answered without any wavering.

“What if they refuse to obey orders?” someone asked.

“Kill.” Zhao Jingxuan said calmly, “The vacant positions from their removal will also be used as rewards. Anyone who has the ability can come forward and compete for it.”

All of a sudden, all the officials’ faces lit up with excitement. This was great news to them. They could not only share the possessions of the Zuo and Qin Clans, but also seize the power that originally belonged to them!

Looking at them calmly, Zhao Jingxuan thought to herself, *Lin Xun, Lin Xun, you gave me such a difficult problem on the first day you came back. Fortunately, I came in time.*

“I will leave it to you all to draft a plan for the specific details. After I review and approve it, it can be enacted.”

Zhao Jingxuan rose to her feet and walked towards the door of the hall.

“Escort Her Highness!”

All the officials bowed their heads. It wasn’t until Zhao Jingxuan gradually disappeared outside Qianyuan Hall that they took a deep breath and glanced at each other with different expressions.

“I never imagined...” someone sighed, expression complicated.

Tonight, too many unexpected things happened. Even now, they still felt like they were dreaming.

First, Lin Xun returned and single-handedly slaughtered the Zuo and Qin Clans with unstoppable power, shaking the entire Forbidden City.

Then, Third Prince Zhao Jingwen was stripped of his power and position, while Princess Zhao Jingxuan rose and began to supervise the empire.

This chain of extremely sensational events all happened on the same night. It was too much for anyone in the world.

“From now on, only five high clans exist in the Forbidden City, isn’t that right?” someone murmured.

“The world can change overnight...” someone sighed.

“I heard that Her Highness was very good friends with Lin Xun back then, isn’t that right?”

Someone said something unexpected, and it struck all the officials.

Lin Xun returned to the empire today, and the princess also seemed to have returned today. Did they come back together?

If so, their relationship had to be more than ordinary!

Moreover, Her Highness’s stance was clearly supporting the Lin Clan and Lin Xun!

“It seems that we have to reconsider our relationship with the Lin Clan in the future...”

Many people thought to themselves.

.....

Meanwhile, Lin Xun’s robe fluttered, and he turned into a streak of light and landed on Mind Cleansing Peak.

This night, he had killed enemies to his heart’s content!

The pent up anger and hatred in his heart was completely released.

Standing alone atop the mountain, Lin Xun raised his head slightly and saw a ray of dawn cutting through the night like a sharp blade.

The day was breaking.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1382: Times Have Changed

The first ray of dawn beamed down from the sky, illuminating the sleeping Forbidden City.

For many ordinary people, this new day was no different than usual.

But for the upper society in the Forbidden City...

This new day was the beginning of the storm!

At first, only the top major forces were aware of the events that occurred last night, but soon, the clans and sects of varying sizes also became aware of them.

The Zuo and the Qin Clans, two high clans, met with catastrophe last night, and the patriarchs of nineteen aristocratic clans were killed. It was impossible to cover up this series of earthshaking news. Like the build up of volcanic magma, it completely erupted on the new day.

Even the slowest of people would know that the situation in the Forbidden City was about to change!

All this was because of Lin Xun's return!

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At this moment, everyone of the Lin Clan was anxiously waiting for news.

Dawn broke.

In the main hall of Mind Cleansing Peak, the senior members of the Lin Clan had been waiting all night.

This was because Spirit Vulture and Lin Zhong had ordered the clansmen of the Lin Clan to sit inside. They seemed to be isolated from the rest of the world that night and heard nothing.

However, Lin Xun's return dispelled the cloud of gloom in everyone's heart like a light of hope.

Over the past years, the Lin Clan had been on the brink of collapse.

Lin Xun's return gave all Lin Clan members hope again!

Someone couldn't help asking, "Would the clan leader be okay by himself?"

Someone calmly analyzed the situation, “The clan leader must have gone to the imperial palace to find the third prince. Only the third prince has the power to curb the arrogance of the Zuo and Qin Clans.”

“No matter what, the clan leader’s return is a joyous event worth celebrating. Even if our situation is bad, we can all face it together.”

Spirit Vulture and Lin Zhong kept quiet as they listened to everyone’s discussion. Only they knew about Lin Xun’s plan.

“Clan Leader!” Someone cried out

Lin Xun was standing outside the hall.

Everyone sprang up, a gleam of hope flashing across their faces. Their gazes all shifted onto Lin Xun who was bathed in the glow of the morning sun.

“Everyone, no need to worry anymore. Everything is settled,” Lin Xun reassured them with a smile.

Everything is settled?

Everyone was taken aback for a moment, and then the Mind Cleansing Hall erupted with all sorts of sounds.

Some people danced with excitement.

Some people clapped their knees and cried with joy.

Some people laughed and some were in tears.

In the past few years, the Lin Clan had been in a precarious situation that grew worse day by day. They were at risk of being annihilated every moment. The members of the Lin Clan always felt as if a heavy boulder was pressing its weight down at their chest, almost suffocating them.

But one sentence from Lin Xun fully released all those emotions accumulated in everyone’s hearts!

Soon, everyone calmed down a little.

“Clan Leader, don’t laugh.”

Lin Huaiyuan and the others reddened with embarrassment.

Lin Xun reassured, “I understand how everyone is feeling.”

Lin Huaiyuan couldn't help asking, "Clan Leader, are the Zuo and Qin Clans really not going to target us again?"

Everyone else pricked up their ears.

Lin Xun smiled and shook his head. He did not conceal anything and concisely told them about what happened last night in an indifferent manner.

But when he finished, there was a long silence in the hall.

Everyone's face was a mix of shock, confusion, and disbelief.

Even the faces of Lin Zhong and Spirit Vulture went stiff and the emotions in their hearts were like the waves of an ocean!

"Can I ask you all to take care of the rest of the matters? I want to go to the ancestral temple to have a look." Lin Xun got up and drifted away in the air.

"If what the clan leader said is true then doesn't it mean that...the Zuo Clan and the Qin Clans will disappear from the Forbidden City from now on?" Once Lin Xun was gone, Lin Beiguang spoke aloud, breaking the silent atmosphere in the hall.

"But why does it...not feel real?"

Everyone else felt the same. They were so shocked that they couldn't use their brains.

It wasn't until several hours later, when the outside world learned about what happened last night, that the Lin Clan finally believed it.

Everything was true!

The Lin Clan of Mind Cleansing Peak was buzzing like never before.

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More than ten years ago, a youngster called Lin Xun came to the Forbidden City and embarked upon the path of a rising star.

In just three years, he became a renowned rune founder.

He taught at the imperial Qinglu Academy.

He became the head of the Lin Clan of Mind Cleansing Peak.

At that time, he was already one the leading figures among the younger generation of the empire. His brilliance swept the capital, and he was regarded as unparalleled in the world!

Who could forget such a legendary young man?

Today, more than ten years later, the young man returned and reappeared in the most shocking and spectacular way.

Overnight, he launched a bloodbath, beheaded multiple prominent figures, and turned the Forbidden City upside down!

Everyone was aghast.

It also made everyone clear that, after so many years, the young man who only dominated the younger generation back then, had completely changed!

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“What? Lin Xun is really back?”

At the headquarters of the Rune Master Association, Chief Rune Grandmaster Yu Beidou raised his eyebrows and exclaimed excitedly, “Does that mean the Lin Clan can be saved?”

Chu Feng laughed, “Haha, the crisis in the Lin Clan was already resolved last night!”

Yu Beidou looked bewildered. “What’s going on?”

Chu Feng tossed him a bamboo slip. “Everything that happened last night has been written on that. Take a look.”

Yu Beidou took the bamboo slip and looked at it. His eyes went wide with astonishment and he was stunned. After a good while, he suddenly burst into laughter, “The Zuo Clan and the Qin Clan finally got what they deserved! I have said it before, as long as Lin Xun is in the Lin Clan, those who touch the Lin Clan will suffer a disaster!”

Both Yu Beidou and Chu Feng had a deep friendship with Lin Xun back then. Over the years, the two had secretly assisted the Lin Clan whenever it was in trouble.

Unfortunately, although the two were rune masters, they still lacked the power to go against the mighty Zuo Clan and Qin Clan.

When they learned that Lin Xun had returned to the Forbidden City and caused carnage in the Zuo and Qin Clans in one night, they felt so satisfied and happy in a way they had never felt before.

“Let’s go! Let’s go for a drink!” Yu Beidou shouted.

“Did you not need to craft a batch of treasures today?” asked Chu Feng.

“Who says! Let’s go drink!” Yu Beidou shouted again, skipping out of the Rune Master Association.

Chu Feng couldn’t help chuckling and quickly caught up with him.

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Qinglu Academy, Rune Department.

A girl as beautiful as a painting and had an icy demeanor was attending class. From time to time, people darted glances at her, expressing admiration, jealousy, and amazement.

In everyone’s eyes, the girl was the pride of heaven.

Her appearance, intelligence and knowledge were all top-tier, and she was currently the youngest advanced rune master in the Rune Department!

But while the girl was listening to the lecture, she would occasionally wrinkle her brows as if something was weighing on her mind.

“Yang Jingyao, pay attention.”

On the podium, rune master Shen Tuo reminded her in a gentle tone.

“Yes.” Yang Jingyao nodded and inhaled deeply.

Suddenly, a clamor outside the classroom interrupted the lecture. “Yang Jingyao, Fan Zhiqiu...” Dozens of names were shouted in succession.

At the end, the voice shouted almost like a roar, “Little Instructor Lin is back!”

Thud!

Desks were flipped over, and under astonished gazes, Yang Jingyao, Fan Zhiqiu and other top advanced rune masters of the rune department rushed out of the school!

“Those guys have no manners! This is a school and class hasn’t ended yet...” someone muttered in dissatisfaction.

Many gazes turned to Shen Tuo who was standing on the podium.

However, to their disbelief, Shen Tuo, the well-respected rune master, looked incredibly excited and emotional, muttering to himself, “Lin Xun is back? Fantastic...fantastic...”

As he muttered, he dropped the book in his hand and darted out of the classroom. “Class is over, class is over, there is no class today.”

He vanished before his voice faded, leaving a group of dumbfounded students in the classroom.

“Little Instructor Lin? Who’s that?” someone muttered.

“It’s him! The young rune founder who crafted a rune armament back then. Fan Zhiqu and Yang Jingyao were his students!” someone suddenly exclaimed.

The whole class seemed to explode, remembering a legendary figure who emerged from the rune department more than ten years ago.

That man’s name was Lin Xun, and he was a rune founder well known throughout the empire.

In the earliest days, he was the teacher of Class 9C!

The news of Lin Xun’s return caused a sensation in Qinglu Academy.

Similar scenes were happening in various areas across the Forbidden City.

As the news spread, more and more people, clans, and sects came to know that the young master who was known all over the Forbidden City was finally back!

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On the same day.

Observant people would notice that almost all clans and sects in the Forbidden City sent envoys to Mind Cleansing Peak, bearing valuable gifts.

People were heading to Mind Cleansing Peak from every direction. It was quite a spectacle.

Someone spotted the carriage of Chi Lingxiao, the head of the Chi Clan, appearing in front of Mind Cleansing Peak.

Some also saw princes, marquises and nobles from the imperial family visiting Mind Cleansing Peak in person.

Suddenly, the Lin Clan of Mind Cleansing Peak had become the center of attention in the Forbidden City, with influential figures arriving in droves.

However, the Lin Clan refused all visitors!

This seemed very rude. Many powerful forces who were secretly paying attention to all the developments were also shocked and in disbelief about their actions.

But it was also because of this that many forces realized that the Lin Clan was indeed different from before because of Lin Xun's return.

Otherwise, they would never be so unyielding and refuse the visit of even Chi Lingxiao, the clan head of a high clan!

However, no one dared to express their grievances and instead became more and more humble.

The Zuo and Qin Clans were terribly powerful, but they were still trampled by Lin Xun overnight!

If anyone acted wrongly, they might follow in the footsteps of the Zuo and Qin Clans.

"From now on, we must change our attitude towards the Lin Clan!"

This was the consensus reached by all major forces.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1383: Fate

"Today, you treat my love with a cold shoulder, but tomorrow I will make myself out of your league!"

Although this sentence was slightly unrefined, it was an apt description for the Lin Clan's present status and situation.

The patriarchs of many powerful clans in the Forbidden City were all well-informed, thus they quickly knew about what happened in Qianyuan Hall of the imperial palace last night.

From the moment Her Highness seized power and took charge of the imperial court, the Zuo and Qin Clans were destined to walk towards destruction.

Everyone knew that Her Highness was on the Lin Clan's side!

Anyone with a brain would know that the Lin Clan would become unstoppable and that no one would dare to provoke them again.

On this day, the entire Forbidden City was stirred up, shocked by the influence Lin Xun created overnight. The eyes of countless clans and sects hovered around the Lin Clan of the Mind Cleansing Peak, watching the legendary figure.

Years ago, that young man also amazed the capital with his brilliance.

However, at the time, he was only regarded as a leading figure among the younger generation.

Now, with the elimination of two high clans, the Zuo Clan and the Qin Clan, and the beheading of nineteen clan heads, he had proven to the world that:

He, Lin Xun, could trample the high and mighty aristocratic clans as he wished!

.....

The rear mountain of Mind Cleansing Peak.

The mist-shrouded ancestral land of the Lin Clan was particularly tranquil and quiet.

Lin Xun silently stood before the memorial tablets of the Lin Clan's ancestors.

Under the soft, dappled light of the altar lantern, his singular figure looked particularly lonely.

The memorial tablets were engraved with the names of his great-grandfather Duke Daochen, parents, grandfather, and other direct relatives.

Staring at the tablets, he felt a sense of familiarity yet also something unfamiliar.

This was because he had never met them in his life.

But he still knew that, as a member of the Lin Clan and the son of Lin Wenjing and Luo Qingxun, he had to shoulder responsibilities.

For example, revenge.

"Yun Qingbai is dead. But he was just a chess piece. The real mastermind is a quasi-Emperor from the Absolute Yin Ancient Domain. His name is Baqi. I will look for him one day..."

“I will also thoroughly investigate the truth about the bloody incident back then!”

Lin Xun murmured.

He stood there for a long while like a clay statue.

When dusk came and the glow of the sunset was fading, Lin Xun took a deep breath, turned around and left.

However, the moment he walked out of the ancestral temple, he mumbled to himself, “In truth...I never thought that you all would just pass away like that...I will find the truth.”

Under the setting sun, Lin Xun’s dark eyes were incredibly calm, neither happy nor sad.

In the distance, voices sounded. It was the cheering of the Lin Clan members.

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In short, two massive incidents happened that night.

First, Lin Xun returned and single-handedly crushed the Zuo and Qin Clans, killed the leaders of nineteen clans, and set off storms across the Forbidden City.

The second, Princess Zhao Jingxuan ousted Zhao Jingwen from power and assumed the position of supreme authority of the empire.

But the impact of these two incidents was only just beginning to show.

in the next period.

In the Forbidden City, all forces related to the two high clans, the Zuo and the Qin Clans, suffered devastating blows.

Those that had attacked or targeted the Lin Clan in the past also faced retaliation and were either destroyed or banished from the city.

The person behind all this was Zhao Jingxuan, and the specific actions were taken by different forces in the Forbidden City.

For example, the other five high clans, and the other mid and lower clans in the Forbidden City.

Who would not take advantage of the collapse of two behemoths?

The Lin Clan had not moved a finger, but they became the biggest winner. At least, regardless of who took a split of the Zuo and Qin Clans, they would all prepare a generous gift for the Lin Clan.

As a result, in less than half a month, the properties owned by the Lin Clan increased at an unimaginable speed.

Many mines, manors, aeth veins, treasures, wealth...were constantly flowing into the accounts of the Lin Clan like running water.

“The power of the Lin Family is unstoppable!”

All clans, sects and everyone else sighed.

The series of events that happened in the Forbidden City that night soon spread throughout the entire empire, causing commotions and uproars.

Even the monster-beast armies that were stirring up trouble all over the empire heard about the incidents. They kept the name Lin Xun in mind.

The Purple Snake King, a monster-beast leader with strength of the longevity stage even joked, “I wish similar incidents would happen in the empire!”

Internal strife among the human cultivators weakened the power of the empire.

The fall of the Zuo Clan and Qin Clan implied that the power of the uppermost level of the empire was significantly lessened. As enemies of the empire, the monster-beasts could not be happier to see that sort of thing happen.

Similarly, in various frontier regions of the empire.

After hearing the news, the Magi Brute Race Army that was currently invading the empire on a large scale, also gloated over their calamity. They felt heaven was on their side.

If the empire was in turmoil, then it would only benefit the enemy.

Everyone understood this logic.

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One month later.

The impact of the incidents that night gradually calmed down.

But the Forbidden City was by no means peaceful.

During this period, the monster-beasts were running rampant within the empire's territory, and many provinces and cities had been plunged into the flames of war.

The monster-beast army was like a swarm of locusts. They committed every kind of crime—burning, killing, and looting, and invaded one city after another. Countless citizens of the empire had been slaughtered as a result.

At the same time, the main borders of the empire were also in a state of emergency!

The Magi Brute Race were aggressively attacking the borders, steadily pressing forward and could break the defense at any time. If that happened, they could march straight ahead and invade the empire!

Under internal troubles and external threats, the empire seemed to be increasingly unstable.

Every day, the latest news would be brought back to the Forbidden City from different battlefields and presented to Princess Zhao Jingxuan.

But, almost none of it was good news!

“Father and Mother left, and left behind such a mess...”

Zhao Jingxuan looked at the thick pile of reviewed documents and reports on the side, and a look of helplessness crossed her face.

Since taking over the power of the empire, she had never rested properly. Every day, all sorts of miscellaneous affairs were waiting for her to deal with.

In contrast, she much preferred cultivation.

“Your Highness, unfavorable rumors about the head of the Lin Clan have been circulating in the Forbidden City recently.” An old man attendant suddenly spoke aloud.

“Go on.” Zhao Jingxuan was taken aback.

“Those rumors are not true, so don't take them seriously.”

The old man was a steward in the imperial palace and also an extremely powerful cultivation master. He was considered one of the imperial experts in the palace.

The old man reported some of the rumors.

It turned out that recently, there had been discussions everywhere in the Forbidden City that Lin Xun was the cause of the great turmoil in the city. This was because he overthrew two high clans and caused great instability and unrest.

This gave the monster-beast armies and Magi Brute army an opportunity to attack!

“Hmph!”

A cold light flashed in Zhao Jingxuan’s clear eyes. “Ridiculous. When the Zuo and Qin Clans were still around, were there no internal troubles and external threats in the empire? As soon as those two clans were destroyed, someone tagged Lin Xun with such a huge crime!”

The old man quickly explained, “Your Highness, please calm down. Those are just rumors. There is no need to take it seriously.”

Zhao Jingxuan sighed faintly, “Gossip is a fearful thing. As more and more rumors spread, even something false can become true. At that time, how will the entire empire view Lin Xun and the Lin Clan?”

“Your Highness, do you want me to investigate who is spreading those rumors?” The old man’s cloudy eyes glinted.

“No need.”

Zhao Jingxuan contemplated for a moment before she stood up from the desk and marched out of the hall, “I’ll go find Lin Xun myself.”

She muttered to herself, “I have been trying to put out fire here, but you have been chilling on Mind Cleansing Peak all this time. No, I can’t let you be too idle...”

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Mind Cleansing Peak.

The tall green pines were shaped like umbrellas, the mists were delicate and graceful, and the sea of clouds hovered down the cliffs like waterfalls.

Lin Xun was leisurely leaning back on a rattan chair with a green gourd in hand that was filled to the brim with fine wine.

Over the past month, the Lin Clan of Mind Cleansing Peak had undergone earth-shaking changes. It was incredibly busy, lively, and becoming more and more prosperous with each passing day.

Lin Xun only watched and did not intervene.

All trivial matters were taken care of by Lin Zhong, Spirit Vulture, and Lin Huaiyuan, while he himself was left very idle.

In truth, he was not good at handling those trivial matters.

However, he was not lazing around all day. He was constantly working on the Three Ways to the Absolute Apex—spirit cultivation, qi refinement, physical refinement.

At the same time, he was still diligently practicing the Taixuan Sword Scripture, and so far he had cultivated one thousand three hundred Taixuan Sword Qi in the acupoints of his body.

Every single sword qi had remarkable power. They were nurtured in the acupoints and constantly being tempered and elevated as if they were in a sword-growing furnace.

“Fate...fate...”

Gazing at the drifting clouds in the sky, Lin Xun fell into deep thought on the rattan chair.

Now, his qi refinement had reached the perfect seventh longevity tribulation stage, and he was about to face the eighth longevity tribulation, Fate Tribulation.

But even until now, he still had not sensed any signs of breakthrough or tribulation coming.

Back when Lin Xun was at the Supreme Realm, he had already realized if he wanted to overcome the fate tribulation, he had to search for his beginnings. Thus, he decided to return to the Mind Cleansing Peak.

This was his birthplace, and thus his fate also originated here. If he wanted to overcome this tribulation, he had to trace it back to the origin.

“Mind Cleansing Peak was where I was born, but I grew up in the mine prison. It wasn’t until I came across the Omega Secret-Realm that I had the opportunity to defy the heavens and change my destiny, thereby embarking on the true path of cultivation...”

Lin Xun suddenly realized that the so-called power of fate might have existed when he was born, but a reversal happened while he was growing up!

This reversal came about because of the Omega Secret-Realm!

Lin Xun’s gaze wandered, and the silhouette of an old figure appeared in his mind, “Mister Lu, who actually are you...”

“The Omega Secret-Realm...where did you find it?”

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1384: Only Bully Own Kind?

Pines and cypresses were lush and green while clouds cascaded like waterfalls.

When Zhao Jingxuan arrived on Mind Cleansing Peak, she already spotted Lin Xun lying lazily on a rattan chair from a distance, as though he had not a care in the world

He was leisurely watching the sky go by with a green gourd in his hand.

Her eyes widened at the sight, and she gnashed her teeth. While she was swamped with work that guy had been enjoying life!

“Hmph!”

Zhao Jingxuan pulled a face and grumbled.

In the rattan chair, Lin Xun, whose mind seemed to be in another world, brought the wine gourd up to his mouth and took a sip. Startled by the voice, he jolted up and choked, coughing out the fine wine and wiping his mouth repeatedly.

“Jingxuan, why did you suddenly show up?” Lin Xun was flabbergasted.

Zhao Jingxuan stifled a laugh and snorted, “If I hadn’t come, how would I know that you have been so carefree and leisurely?”

She wore a plain white dress, and her silky black hair tied back up with a simple red string that accentuated her fair and beautiful face, which was both displeased and happy.

As she stood amongst the swirling mist in the distance, her graceful and beautiful figure resembled a fairy descending upon the mortal world.

It was also at this moment that Lin Xun realized that—

A woman was most beautiful when she cracked a smile while trying to keep a straight face.

Just like Zhao Jingxuan now.

“So beautiful,” Lin Xun gasped, speaking from the heart.

Originally, Zhao Jingxuan was annoyed and aggrieved that she had been so busy with the Lin Clan’s affairs, but Lin Xun was lazing around by himself all this time.

But the compliment inexplicably dispelled all the anger and grievances in her.

“Don’t try and butter me up!” She shot a glare at Lin Xun, but her clear eyes had a captivating charm.

Lin Xun stood up with a smile, quickly gave up the chair, and invited Zhao Jingxuan to take a seat.

He stood to one side and gave a cupped fist salute and respectful bow. “Your Highness, I hope you will forgive me for not coming out to welcome your arrival.”

Zhao Jingxuan nodded and said indifferently, “You can escape the death penalty, but not from punishment. Little Lin, you are in big trouble this time!”

Lin Xun was amused in his heart, but he cried out in a panic, “Your Highness, I have always abided by the law and have never done anything harmful to the world. The sun and the moon can prove my innocence. You can’t wrongly accuse a good person.” His expression was one of sincerity and fear.

Zhao Jingxuan couldn’t refrain from laughing anymore. She spat out, “Okay, stop pretending in front of me. You are the high and mighty Demon God Lin, yet you still claim to be a good person who abides by the law? If the Ancient Wasteland Domain hears this, the major forces will want to drown you in spit.”

Lin Xun also laughed and sat down on an ancient boulder. “I saw that you seemed to have something on your mind, so I just wanted to make you laugh.”

Zhao Jingxuan said, “Since you know that I have something on my mind, then can you, an idle person, help me take care of it?”

Lin Xun smiled. “Have I ever refused anything you asked?”

It was unknown what Zhao Jingxuan was thinking, but her eyebrows eased and there was a gentle look on her face. “This matter is related to you, so it might be better if you come forward to deal with it.”

Lin Xun’s expression turned serious. “What is it?”

“Recently, many rumors about you have been circulating in the Forbidden City. It is said that after you eliminated the Zuo and Qin clans, the internal troubles and external threats of the empire have become worse...”

Zhao Jingxuan told him everything without hiding anything.

Lin Xun did not take it seriously at first, but later he realized something was wrong. “Do they want to treat me as the culprit of the turmoil in the world?”

Zhao Jingxuan said, "It's not that serious, but you also know that as rumors build up and as time goes by, even something false will become true."

After a pause, she continued, "Furthermore, I suspect that the rumors are started by the remnants of the Zuo and Qin Clans. There might even be some people with ulterior motives fanning the flames behind the scenes."

"What is their purpose for doing so?"

Zhao Jingxuan smiled. "You still don't understand. The tallest trees catch the most wind. Now that your Lin Clan is in the limelight, attracting the attention of the world, it is inevitable that some people are jealous."

Lin Xun also knew that sort of thing was inevitable. He could not silence all living beings in the world through killing and intimidation!

"Now, the monster-beast armies and the Magi Brute Race army are also giving you high praises," said Zhao Jingxuan.

Lin Xun was taken aback, "What's that about?"

Zhao Jingxuan teased, "You destroyed the Zuo and Qin Clans, which indirectly helped the enemies weaken the empire's power. Of course they are happy and hope for you to continue."

Only then did understanding dawned on Lin Xun. He was speechless for a while before his lips twitched with a cold smile, "Do they think I only bully my own kind?"

Zhao Jingxuan nodded. "That's what I thought. If it were me, I wouldn't tolerate it at all!"

Lin Xun chuckled and pointed at Zhao Jingxuan. "I can tell that you want me to help you kill the enemies."

Zhao Jingxuan smiled faintly, revealing her pearly white teeth. "No, you are helping yourself crush those rumors and set things straight so that no one in the world will dare to slander and criticize you anymore."

Lin Xun got up from the boulder and stretched. "Fine, I have some free time these days. It's also time to make a trip outside."

Swoosh!

Zhao Jingxuan tossed him a bamboo slip. "This contains some information about the monster-beast armies distributed throughout the empire."

Clearly, she had prepared this for Lin Xun in advance.

“But you must be careful. The lower world is not as simple as we imagine. After the drastic changes in the world, many bizarre incidents have been happening, such as a monster-beast invasion appearing out of nowhere. Nothing like it has ever happened before in the empire.”

Zhao Jingxuan assumed a serious expression.

Lin Xun nodded, then he said aloud, “By the way, I also need your help with something.”

Zhao Jingxuan said happily, “Just tell me.”

“Help me find out everything about Lu Boya.”

Lin Xun’s eyes were unfathomable.

“Lu Boya?”

Zhao Jingxuan narrowed her pretty eyes. She knew that Lin Xun was raised by Mister Lu since he was a child.

“Yes.” Lin Xun nodded.

He had always thought that Mister Lu was just a rune master with a bad temper.

But now that he had become a supreme king of the seventh longevity tribulation stage, when he recalled his various experiences as a child, he felt more and more strongly that Mister Lu was not an ordinary person!

Could an ordinary person rescue a newborn from the hands of a quasi-Emperor?

Moreover, as far as Lin Xun knew, Mister Lu left many traces in the empire.

Influential figures such as the Queen of the Dark Night, the principal of Qinglu Academy, Heavenly Seer of the stargazing platform, the present emperor, the empress...they all knew Mister Lu!

But who exactly was Mister Lu? Everything about him was still a mystery to Lin Xun. He had a strong feeling that once he uncovered the truth about Mister Lu’s identity, he would be about to learn more about his mother Luo Qingxun.

“Okay, leave this to me.” Zhao Jingxuan nodded in agreement.

She now wielded the supreme power of the empire; it was not difficult to investigate some old matters.

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“Uncle Zhong, select ten young people from the clan. I have only one requirement for them. They must have a tenacious mind and be loyal to the Lin Clan. Early tomorrow morning, they will follow me to fight monster-beasts on the front line.”

When Zhao Jingxuan left, Lin Xun issued an order for Lin Zhong.

“Yes.”

Lin Zhong took the order and left.

Lin Xun never expected that a casual arrangement like that would cause such a stir in the Mind Cleansing Peak.

All the young people in the Lin Clan were summoned for a special selection process.

“Xuefeng, although you’re older than many of the candidates, you are still the older cousin of the clan head. I want you to fight for this rare opportunity. If you can accompany the clan head onto the battlefield and kill monster-beasts, it won’t be long before you break through to the king stage,” Lin Huaiyuan persuaded kindly.

Lin Xuefeng hesitated. “But I...still have a lot of things to do.”

Lin Huaiyuan yelled in exasperation. “Stupid! Can you not tell? The clan head is planning to cultivate a group of elites. What else is more important than this?”

Lin Xuefeng said helplessly, “Then I’ll give it a try.”

Lin Huaiyuan suddenly laughed out loud. “Do your best!”

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“Xing’er, you are the youngster with the greatest potential and talent in our lineage, and according to seniority, the clan head is your older cousin. You must seize this opportunity no matter what, do you understand?”

“Yunyan, your cousin is a legendary figure in the Forbidden City now. His cultivation is as amazing as that of a divine dragon. The entire world looks up to him! It is a blessed opportunity to follow him onto the battlefield to kill monster-beasts!”

Similar conversations happened throughout Mind Cleansing Peak, and every young member of the Lin Clan received serious reminders by their elders.

The younger generation also knew that this was an extremely precious opportunity, so they couldn’t help feeling both excited and anxious.

Lin Xun!

Who in the Forbidden City had not heard of his name?

He was a legendary figure!

“Must seize this opportunity!”

Many young people in the Lin Clan were determined.

At the same time, Lin Zhong also became very popular among the big shots of the Lin Clan. They tried every means to get their sons onto the list.

On the other hand, Lin Zhong felt a headache and almost hid from everyone.

.....

Meanwhile, Lin Xun was talking to Spirit Vulture.

“Does that mean Scarlet Eagle King is most likely not dead?”

When Lin Xun came back, he heard from the frontline battlefield that a king-level expert from the Zuo Clan regarded Scarlet Eagle King as a traitor.

Before Lin Xun headed to the frontline, he wanted to check if Scarlet Eagle King was still alive.

“According to intel, Scarlet Eagle King was seriously injured and escaped in the end, but he has never returned, so no one knows if he is alive.” Spirit Vulture frowned.

“Okay, I’ll go check for myself when the time comes.” Lin Xun decided.

Scarlet Eagle King had sacrificed a lot for the Lin Clan over the years, but he was now being treated as a traitor and lived a life of misery. How could Lin Xun ignore this?

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1385: Monster-Beast Slaying Operation

Early the next morning.

In front of the Mind Cleansing Hall, dozens of figures of both men and women had already assembled, all of whom were the younger generation of the Lin Clan.

The oldest among them was Lin Xuefeng, Lin Xun's older cousin.

The younger ones were only eleven years old, and they addressed Lin Xunyi as older cousin or uncle.

Everyone waited quietly, the muscles of their faces quivering with nervousness, anxiousness, anticipation, and hopefulness.

Lin Xun was greeted by this scene as soon as he walked out of the Mind Cleansing Hall.

"Didn't I say that I only need ten people?" Lin Xun looked taken aback.

"Young Master, it's better if you select the candidates yourself." Lin Zhong gave a wry smile.

Lin Xun swept a glance over at the distance, where many important figures of the Lin Clan were staring at him with hopeful expressions on their faces.

He understood the situation right away and couldn't help chuckling to himself. *I am choosing warriors to accompany me onto the battlefield not touring the world with a bunch of kids.*

Finally, he scanned the group and selected ten youngsters of the Lin Clan.

They all possessed a cultivation base of the Spirit Sea Stage and had great potential. Although they were not rare geniuses of the world, their aptitudes were relatively good.

Of course, in Lin Xun's mind, talent and potential were secondary. The most important was their character and nature.

Cultivation cultivated the mind and nurtured the character.

Those with little talents could also make great progress on the path of cultivation as long as they were willing to work hard and persevere.

Those with extraordinary talents but an unsteady mind were unlikely to progress far.

The ten people he selected had demonstrated a calm, steady and determined look that was different from the others.

Many people were disappointed and frustrated with the result, while some were happy and pleased.

Lin Xuefeng was a little embarrassed because he was the oldest person among them and also Lin Xun's older cousin, but he was not selected.

Although he was already not confident of being selected, he was still a little disappointed when he learned the result.

“Xuefeng, you will also come.” Lin Xun’s voice rang in his ears.

He stared at him blankly for a good second before he beamed and nodded enthusiastically.

Lin Xun turned to Lin Zhong. “Uncle Zhong, we must handle the matters of the library and treasure building well. Any descendants of the Lin Clan who perform well must be rewarded properly.”

Lin Zhong nodded, “Don’t worry, Young Master!”

Lin Xun nodded.

During all his years of wandering the Ancient Wasteland Domain, he had collected an impressive amount of aeth materials, sacred treasures, elixirs and manuals, and other treasures.

Now, he was already a supreme king of the seventh longevity tribulation stage. He no longer had use for many of the items and treasures so he left them in the Lin Clan’s library and treasure building.

The purpose of this was to allow the Lin Clan to build up a foundation as soon as possible and rise in the drastically changing world.

For example, Lin Xun was leading ten descendants of the Lin Clan to the frontline battlefield with the intention that it would help them mature and grow.

After all, within ten years, the Nine Domains War would kick off, and he would definitely have to leave them then.

Therefore, he aimed to do as much as possible for the Lin Clan before then, so that at least he would not be worrying constantly while he was gone.

Swoosh!

Before long, the Grand Universe Ark roared into the sky, carrying Lin Xun, Lin Xuefeng and ten Lin Clan descendants.

On the ark, Lin Xun opened up a bamboo slip that contained detailed information about the monster-beast armies distributed throughout the empire.

“In the southwest province of the empire, outside of Falling Star City, deep in the Yin Soul Mountain Range, there is an army of monster-beasts led by Golden Armor Monster-Beast

King. The army consists of one hundred thousand monster-beasts and seventy two monster-beast generals...”

“In the Cloud Bright Province of the Empire, in the Python Mountain Swamp, there are nine great monster-beast kings and a group of monster-beast subordinates running rampant. Their leader is called Dark Gloom King...”

“In the province of...”

Snippets of information flashed in Lin Xun’s mind like running water and brought a frown to his face.

Recently, nearly half of the provinces in the empire had been plagued by monster-beasts. The problem was very serious.

Once Lin Xun finished reading the bamboo slip, he had a rough image in his mind.

Monster-beast kings were monster-beast cultivators with king-level cultivation and above. They were all creatures such as fowls, beasts, and plant spirits that cultivated the dao.

In the empire, there were a total of thirty-six known monster-beast kings.

Among them, the greatest threat to the empire had to be Black Robe King in the southern province of the empire. His strength was unfathomable, and he was said to possess a cultivation of the ninth longevity tribulation. He might even possibly have reached the Saint Stage!

Black Robe King rarely showed up in the world. Thus little was known about him and there was hardly any news about him, making him extremely mysterious.

“The ninth longevity tribulation stage...or the Saint Stage? I wonder what sort of creature Black Robe King is...” Lin Xun thought to himself.

It was very unusual!

As Zhao Jingxuan said, in the past, very few monster-beast cultivators were spotted in the empire, but following the great changes in the world ten years ago, more and more were suddenly showing up in the empire...

They seemed to have appeared out of nowhere.

Lin Xun did not believe that, in just over ten years, a large swarm of king-level experts could be born and created in the world.

In other words, the origin of the monster-beasts was very suspicious!

At the same time, Lin Xun was also aware that, with the drastic changes in the world, the empire's territory had noticeably grown—more than three times larger than before!

In some territories, many famous mountains, blessed lands, rivers and lakes had emerged...all of which were never seen before.

According to Zhao Jingxuan, the empire was like a sealed area in the past, with only a corner of the world visible.

But now, following the great changes in the world, the seal had been lifted, allowing more and more territories to appear in the world!

Furthermore, as the world continued to change, the situation would only happen more and more frequently.

“It's indeed bizarre...”

Lin Xun already knew that the lower world was not ordinary, but he never expected that such peculiar things would happen within the territory of the empire.

“Clan Leader, where are we going to kill monster-beasts?”

Lin Xuefeng came over and interrupted Lin Xun's thoughts.

“Southwest Province,” stated Lin Xun.

Scarlet Eagle King suffered an accident in the depths of Yin Soul Mountain Range just outside of Falling Star City.

The Southwest Province had an important significance to Lin Xun.

When he first came to the empire at a young age, he settled in Donglin City, a border city in the Southwest Province of the empire.

.....

On the day that Lin Xun left, news broke out in the Forbidden City—

Lin Xun, the master of Mind Cleansing Peak, had left the Forbidden City and headed to the frontline to slay monsters!

A tossed stone raised a thousand ripples. Recently, there was a lot of news in the Forbidden City that it was because Lin Xun overthrew the Zuo and Qin Clans that the monster-beast armies and the Magi Brute Race took advantage of the opportunity to further invade the empire. Lin Xun was being criticized as the cause of the invasion.

But now, Lin Xun was going to fight back.

He gave no explanation at all and just headed off to eradicate troubles of the empire.

This news quickly spread, shaking the Forbidden City.

Recently, the situation in the empire had only become more and more unstable and chaotic. Whether it was the monster-beasts problem or the Magi Brute Race invasion, it threw all the citizens of the empire into a state of anxiety.

But now, Lin Xun was going to fight back, so who wouldn't pay attention to the matter?

Could the peerless fierce man who could single-handedly trample two high clans be able to reverse the tide? Resolve the troubles of the empire? Ease the situation in the empire by himself?

"Fantastic! With Lord Lin Xun attacking, we will definitely be able to slaughter all enemies! The monster-beasts are going to wet their pants in terror!"

"Who said that Senior Lin Xun only bullied his own kind? Come forward, I will scold them to death!"

"I'm looking forward to Senior Lin Xun's victorious return!"

In the Forbidden City, even ordinary citizens were stirred up and excited upon hearing the news. Their opinion of Lin Xun massively improved after this.

During this period, the monster-beasts frequently invaded the empire's territory—burning houses, killing, looting, and committing every kind of crime. There had long been public outrage.

Seeing Lin Xun fight back, it was hard not to be excited.

If it were anyone else, they would not have attracted so much attention. However, Lin Xun was different. To everyone in the empire, he was a legend, an undefeatable myth!

He alone stirred up storms across the empire!

Now, he was about to eradicate evil for the empire, who would not be excited?

Furthermore, the recent rumors, slanders and criticism about Lin Xun had been completely erased as the sensational news spread!

"That guy is finally doing something beneficial to the empire." Some aristocratic clans sighed.

Lin Xun was very strong and feared by many clans and sects. Of course, many people were happy to see him step forward and eradicate troubles for the empire.

A few days later, even some monster-beasts were frightened by the news and became uneasy.

Some raised their vigilance

But a monster-beast king threateningly said, "Lin Xun? If he dares to come here then I will tell him what is worse than death!"

Such an arrogant and contemptuous attitude infuriated countless experts of the empire.

It did not take long for them to find out that the monster-beast king who left those arrogant words was Blood Mastiff King in the Northwest Province of the empire.

"I admire Lin Xun very much. I am currently short of a capable human slave. Lin Xun is undoubtedly a good candidate for this role."

In the Southwest Province of the empire, Golden Armor King of Yin Soul Mountain Range announced that he wanted to capture Lin Xun as a slave!

Many people gasped upon hearing it. Golden Armor King was a well-known monster-beast cultivator.

"Just wait, Lin Xun will definitely go to the Southwest Province. Golden Armor King, you better be ready!"

Many experts of the empire choked with rage.

Only Zhao Jingxuan donned a strange expression because she knew that Lin Xun's first target was Golden Armor King!

How would Golden Armor King react when he saw Lin Xun?

Swoosh!

Meanwhile, Grand Universe Ark was whizzing through the clouds. As the main character of all the news, Lin Xun was currently advising the ten Lin Clan descendants on their cultivation and clearing up any questions or problems they had, completely unaware that his trip had stirred up the entire empire and received countless attention.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1386: Monster-Beasts Across the City

In the Grand Universe Ark, Lin Xun was sitting cross-legged on the ground, passing on his knowledge.

Around him, ten descendants of the Lin Clan were sitting quietly and listening intently.

Given Lin Xun's current level of cultivation, he was more than qualified to advise King Stage cultivators, let alone teach Spirit Sea Stage descendants of the Lin Clan.

However, Lin Xun would not be hasty and rush their cultivation training. After years of cultivation, there was one thing he always remembered: A master can only lead a disciple to the cultivation door, the individual must practice themselves to excel.

Ultimately, when it came to cultivating the dao, one had to explore it themselves to achieve any success.

After several days of observation, he had a rough idea of the temperament, talent, aptitude and foundation of every Lin Clan descendant.

Hence, he would teach and guide them accordingly.

"Lin Xing," Lin Xun called out a name.

A white robed man quickly stood up. "Clan Leader."

Lin Xun took out a Thundering Violet Bamboo and handed it to him. "You have a resilient personality and are full of energy, but you must know how to hide your clumsiness. Inside of this bamboo is a legacy left by an ancient sage. I think it suits you quite well, so take it and study it."

Lin Xing quivered and he quickly received it. "Thank you, Clan Leader."

He could not wait to start reading it. Suddenly, a rush of inheritance power appeared in his mind—

Thousand Collection Sword Scripture!

Lin Xing's mind was quickly immersed in the scripture.

"Lin Yunxia."

Lin Xun called out another name, and a girl in a blue dress stood up.

“You are too reserved and not fierce enough. Remember, cultivation is like sailing against the current. You should pursue the path of bravery and boldness. Fight for what you should fight for. The inheritance inside here should be suitable for you.”

Lin Xun handed her a Thundering Violet Bamboo.

Then, he took out more Thundering Violet Bamboos and gave them to other Lin Clan members.

Those Thundering Violet Bamboos were all left by Battle Emperor Mo Yang in the Underworld River Forbidden Zone of the Supreme Realm.

At that time, he had to fight three thousand consecutive battles and defeat the experts left in the three thousand bamboos. Before he left, he also conveniently took one hundred odd Thundering Violet Bamboos with him.

Those bamboos were all imbued with ancient inheritances, which was a remarkable secret of the world. If they were leaked to the outside world, it would ignite the jealousy and covetous desire of countless cultivators.

However, to Lin Xun, they were nothing special. After all, he could defeat the expert in each bamboo, which proved his abilities and powers.

“Xuefeng, you have already reached the perfect Cyclic Derivation Stage. What you lack is an opportunity to advance to the king stage. Here are some of my experiences and insights when I broke through to the king stage, as well as ten king-grade herbs. Take them.”

Lin Xun took out a bamboo slip and a sealed box and handed them to Lin Xuefeng.

Lin Xuefeng stiffened, and he was almost moved to tears. It was only after a good while that he took a deep breath and said, “Thank you, Clan Leader!”

Lin Xun stood up and said with a smile, “I have taught you all everything I can teach you. The rest depends on your own efforts. The road of the great dao is arduous; only those with great perseverance and determination can progress far.”

Everyone nodded solemnly, keeping his words in mind.

“Alright, get ready. We are about to arrive in the Southwest Province, where we will fight for real!”

Lin Xun reminded them and walked out of the cabin.

For Lin Xun, guiding and teaching the Lin Clan descendants on their cultivation was just a trivial matter.

But he did not expect that his little decision today would help bring about a powerful authority figure in the Lin Clan who would help lead the clan and shine brightly in the years to come!

.....

Several hours later.

The Grand Universe Ark came to an abrupt halt in the air. On the bow of the ship, Lin Xun narrowed his dark eyes, his robe whipping around him.

On the ground in the far distance, countless figures were fleeing for their lives, most of which were ordinary people; their faces were all contorted with panic and fear.

There was no end to the mass of fleeing figures.

“Mother, where are you? Wait for me!”

“Quickly run!”

“They are catching up!”

Distraught voices rang one after another. The ordinary people were all fleeing haphazardly with their families. There were men, women, elderly and young children. It was a scene of utter chaos.

Lin Xun wrinkled his brows. Haze City, the capital of the Southwest Province, was only less than a few thousand miles away. Why would there be such a large scale fleeing?

Could the entire Southwest Province be under threat?

Swoosh!

Lin Xun steered the Grand Universe Ark forward.

Before long, they encountered a group of fleeing cultivators. Their faces were all pale and distorted with fear and distress.

“Friend, what happened in Haze City?” asked Lin Xun.

“Hurry and run. The monster-beast army has fully surrounded Haze City! The city is going to fall into the enemy’s hands in less than a day.”

“That’s right, it’s so terrifying. Eighteen monster-beast generals have led an army of three hundred thousand monster-beasts to attack the city. Wherever they have passed, not a single blade of grass remains!”

“Friend, hurry up and turn around! You can’t go into Haze City anymore!”

The cultivators spoke in hurried and terrified manners.

They did not pause at all to talk and just sped past Lin Xun. They were clearly frightened out of their wits.

“Has the monster-beast problem become so serious already?” Lin Xun raised his eyebrows.

Lin Xuefeng stepped forward and said in a worried voice, “Clan Head, in my opinion, we can’t go to the Southwest Province anymore.”

“We can’t go?” Lin Xun repeated calmly. “Xuefeng, what are we here for?”

Lin Xuefeng answered without hesitation, “Kill monster-beasts.”

“In that case, why don’t we head to kill the monster-beasts ahead when we know they are bringing about disasters? Or do you think that I am no match for them?”

Lin Xuefeng frantically shook his head, breaking out in a cold sweat. He was just worried and had never questioned Lin Xun’s ability and power.

“Then let’s go. Only the most dangerous battlefield can hone your true abilities.”

Lin Xun drove the Grand Universe Ark through the sky.

Before long, the tremendous outline of Haze City loomed in front.

After arriving there, they only saw more and more fleeing figures rushing past like a tide. There were not only ordinary people with their families, but also many cultivators.

Lin Xun’s expression was calm as water, and he uttered not a word. The Grand Universe Ark soared into the sky and entered Haze City in the blink of an eye.

He surveyed the vast city and saw nothing but deserted streets and alleys.

Haze City was a grand and prosperous city in the Southwest Province. Lin Xun had also lived there for a period when he was young. From what he remembered, it was a bustling, lively city that was always full of life. It had a population of millions, but now it gave the feeling of a deserted city!

“Why did you all come back? Hurry and go! The Governor has already issued the order. He will do everything he can to buy time for you all to escape. Don’t waste the Governor’s efforts!”

In the distance, an imperial army appeared. Their faces darkened when they saw Lin Xun and the others, and they started to reprimand them, urging them to get out of here.

Although it was a scolding, it touched Lin Xun’s heart.

The governor of a province had a noble and superior status, but in the face of disaster, he chose to stay behind and muster all his strength to fight to death against the monster-beast army just to buy time for those who were fleeing!

How could Lin Xun not be moved by such a heroic person who was willing to throw away his life for the common people in the world?

Rumble—

Bursts of booming noise came from the far distance. It was the sound of fierce fighting and the sky rumbling.

“Can’t wait any longer.”

Lin Xun drew a deep breath and the Grand Universe Ark soared into the sky and disappeared.

“Stop! Are you crazy?!”

“Maybe he also wants to do his part for the empire?”

“Ah, but it’s over. If he stays around...he is going to die...”

The imperial soldiers were flabbergasted, and immediately their expressions were overcast with indescribable sadness.

“Brothers, it’s time for us to take action!”

Suddenly, someone roared with a determined voice.

“Let’s go, even if we die, we have to take a few more monster-beasts down with us!”

“Hahaha, as long as I can fight side by side with you all, so what if I die?”

The imperial soldiers were all cultivators. Laughing heartily, they charged towards the battlefield like a group of heroes unafraid of death.

Even knowing that they would die, they still had to fight!

.....

In the south of Haze City, the tall city tower was already stained with blood and piled with mutilated corpses. The bright scarlet bloodstains dyed the city wall a gruesome red.

In the high altitude, only eight medium-sized imperial battleships were barely holding on.

And on the periphery of the city, a never-ending army of monster-beasts swept the mountains and plains like a tide!

The army of monster beasts consisted of ferocious birds with fine iron-like wings, fierce beasts with huge mountain-like bodies, and plant and tree spirits that took the form of humans. There were at least hundreds of thousands of them.

Rumble!

The imperial army had been repeatedly forced back to the city wall and could only defend passively. They struggled to even protect themselves, let alone counterattack.

The situation was perilous!

“Lord, please leave, the monster-beast army is unstoppable!”

In the city tower, a group of influential figures of the Southwest Province scrunched their faces with worry as they tried to persuade Governor Song Jungui to leave the city.

“Where there is life, there is hope! There will be a time when we can turn things around!”

“Lord, please leave!”

Everyone was burning with worry.

Only Song Jungui was quiet with a livid face.

He was reluctant to leave!

How could he leave when monster-beasts were stirring up chaos, putting people in extreme suffering and misery, causing bloodbaths left and right, and leaving heroes of the empire dead everywhere?

In the distance, the roaring of monster-beasts were like taunts and nearly drove Song Jungui mad. Fury twisted inside of him and he almost crushed his own teeth.

Those bastards!

His anger flared and he roared, “Everyone, no need to persuade me anymore. If this city is breached, then I would rather be buried with it!”

Everyone’s heart sank.

Boom!

Another medium-sized imperial battleship plunged from the sky, destroyed by a giant bird.

The situation was only becoming worse and worse.

“Everyone, just go. From this point on, I will defend the city alone!” Song Jungui commanded.

“Lord, if you won’t leave, neither will we!” Everyone clamored.

Their faces bore a look of determination.

“This is an order!” Song Jungui bellowed, exuding an intimidating aura.

“Hmph, none of you can leave here!”

A ferocious bird bathed in green lightning sneered overhead.

Suddenly, it turned into a bolt of green lightning and flashed downwards in the direction of the city tower.

The speed was terrifying!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1387: The World Within a Radius of Three Thousand Feet Painted With Blood

Green Lightning Hawk King!

On the city tower, important figures turned ashen-faced and a bad feeling enveloped them.

Even Song Jungui narrowed his eyes.

Green Lightning Hawk King had never shown himself in the previous battles, so no one expected him to come charging at them at this time!

As the governor of a province, Song Jungui, of course, knew that Green Lightning Hawk King was the sworn brother of Golden Armor King. He also had a cultivation base of the fourth longevity tribulation stage and possessed frightening powers.

Song Jungui, a king stage expert, was definitely no match for him.

Shua!

The green lightning shot towards them at an incredible speed, as if teleporting.

By the time Song Jungui came out of the shock, a pair of sharp, lightning-shrouded talons were already hair's breadth away, reaching for his head!

It's over...

Song Jungui felt an indescribable feeling of frustration.

He originally planned to die with the enemies, defending the city to the death, but he never thought that Green Lightning Hawk King alone could overpower him!

He could not accept dying like that!

The entire city tower fell deathly silent.

“Lord!”

Everyone nearby turned pale, and their hearts felt like they were falling into a bottomless abyss.

Song Jungui was the governor of the Southwest Province. His death would signify a disastrous defeat for the empire in this battle.

“Die!”

Green Lightning Hawk King's lips twisted into an evil grin, then he suddenly heard a ice-cold roar—

“Get lost!”

Those two words were like a clap of thunder from a clear sky.

Like the command of a divine being, it was brimming with terrifying power.

Boom!

Green Lightning Hawk King had no time to counter back. All he felt was his head exploding and his body being struck hard by an unstoppable force.

Song Jungui and the others who had already lost all hope shuddered all over, their eyes bulging wide.

Green Lightning Hawk King, who was inches away from them, was blasted backwards, and his tens of feet wide body was smashed hard into the distant battlefield as if it was a kite with its string snapped.

The army of monster-beast erupted with screams of shock and was flung into confusion and disorder.

“He...”

On the city tower, Song Jungui and the others thought they were dreaming. They could not believe they had escaped from death.

Green Lightning Hawk King was a terrifying existence, but a voice had propelled him back three thousand feet!

The fierce fighting on the battlefield stilled for a brief moment.

Everyone who witnessed the scene, whether it was warriors of the empire or a monster-beast, were all stricken with terror.

At that very moment, a treasure ship landed in front of the city tower.

Lin Xun and his party walked out of it in a line.

Shua!

Song Jungui and everyone else looked puzzled when they saw the people coming out.

The team of twelve people was very strange. Except for the two standing in front, the others were all youths at only the Spirit Sea Stage.

“It’s not reinforcements...”

Many people sighed with disappointment.

There were only twelve youngsters in the group, but they were about to face an army of hundreds of thousands of monster-beasts!

The difference in strength was too tremendous.

“Dare I ask, was it this friend who rescued me just now?” Song Jungui looked at Lin Xun.

“After I deal with those evil beasts, I will have a chat with everyone later.”

Lin Xun turned around and scanned the battlefield in the distance.

During this, he keenly sensed that all the Lin Clan descendants, including Lin Xuefeng, assumed solemn expressions mixed with a tinge of fear.

This was normal. Beyond the city wall was a mighty army of monster-beasts sweeping the world. Their bloodthirsty and murderous aura turned the sky and the world dim.

How could the Lin Clan’s descendants remain calm and composed?

The fact that they could stand here and not break down was already considered impressive.

Song Jungui and the others exchanged glances, almost not believing what they heard. *He is going to deal with the mighty army in front all by himself?*

That’s impossible!

“Hmph! Someone is trying to act tough here!” Green Lightning Hawk King coldly snorted in the distance.

With a beat of his wings, he rose into the sky, enveloped in magnificent green lightning, and flooded the space with his ferocious power.

“Roar!”

On the battlefield, the monster-beast army roared in a terrifying and impressive manner.

The army was pushing closer and closer into the city, and the situation was becoming more and more dangerous!

Lin Xuefeng and other Lin Clan descendants felt their hearts sink. There were far too many enemies, stretching the mountains and plains. How could they fight against them?

It was at that moment when Lin Xun spoke calmly, “Listen, Lin Clan descendants, one day, when you possess absolute power, even if you are faced with thousands of enemies, they will not survive before you, just like...this!”

His voice faded.

Boom!

A dragon roar resounded across heaven and earth.

The same scene appeared in everyone's minds. In the depths of a boundless starry sky, an unimaginably tremendous true dragon raised its head and whipped its tail. As it roared across the starry sky, its giant body obscured the clusters of stars and the endless sky.

Even the vast space seemed unable to withstand the force.

A true dragon!

Everyone was stunned.

In truth, it was a Longevity Phenomenon projected from Lin Xun, but the power was so supreme and frightening that it affected everyone's spirit.

"That's...that's...?"

In the distance, the army of monster beasts that was launching an all-out offensive froze to the spot. Even Green Lightning Hawk King was petrified.

"Roar—!"

The true dragon threw its head back and roared skywards.

Terrifying waves of great dao power spread outwards from Lin Xun's lips, instantly transforming into a stormy sea and engulfed the area.

Rumble!

It was like an indestructible storm. Monster-beasts instantly exploded wherever the terrifying sound waves passed, and blood rained like waterfalls.

Ten feet.

One hundred feet.

One thousand feet.

In the end....within a radius of three thousand feet, the army of monster-beasts was utterly crushed. No matter whether they were birds, beasts, plants, or monsters, no matter how strong or weak they were, all were engulfed by the power and exploded to pieces!

The three thousand foot area was instantly transformed into a canvas of blood, smeared with the blood, bones, and flesh of monster-beasts!

Beyond three thousand feet, the army of monster-beasts let out shrill, horrified screams. Some were terribly wounded, some had blood streaming down their mouths and nostrils, and some became disoriented.

Some had their wings snapped and fell from the sky.

It was a scene of utter chaos.

Even Green Lightning Hawk King suffered a horrible impact despite moving into defense mode as soon as he sensed danger. He was tottering side to side, his ears and nose were bleeding, and he was seeing stars.

It had to be mentioned that he was a monster-beast king at the fourth longevity tribulation stage.

On the other hand, on the empire's side of the battlefield, whether it was Song Jungui and others on the city tower, or the imperial soldiers fighting beyond the city wall, all were unscathed!

Thus, they very clearly witnessed the terrifying, violent, doomsday-like scene.

The world within a radius of three thousand feet was painted with blood and strewn with thousands of beast corpses!

This was caused by just the power of Lin Xun's dragon roar!

Lin Xuefeng and other Lin Clan descendants were all dumbfounded.

They knew that their clan leader was a legendary figure and had single-handedly destroyed two high-clans.

The Forbidden City was in great turmoil due to his killings that night!

However, they had not witnessed it with their own eyes so they had no idea how strong their clan leader truly was.

But now, they completely understood.

His one blow was akin to a divine being unleashing his wrath upon the world!

Song Jungui and the others all stood transfixed in stupefaction.

Before this, when they heard that Lin Xun wanted to solve the monster-beast problem by himself, they thought they had heard wrong.

But now, there was only one thought in their minds—

Is he human?!

The imperial soldiers fighting desperately in the distance were all mentally prepared to die, but the scene struck them dumb as though they had saw a miracle happen!

That was the power generated by Lin Xun's attack.

.....

In the distance, the army of monster-beasts was panicking and screaming in terror.

Green Lightning Hawk King's face was grave, and he shouted without any hesitation, "Formation!"

Boom!

Eighteen figures rushed out from the rear of the monster-beast army, including vultures with black feathers and white claws, blood pythons as huge as mountains, and giant vines with countless tentacle-like hands...

They all possessed formidable strength of the king stage.

As they appeared, they all immediately raised a small blood-colored flag, forming a bizarre, sinister and bloodthirsty formation in the midair.

Within the formation, foul wind howled as a thousand-foot blood-colored figure took shape, standing tall and fierce, like the Demon God of Blood Hell descending upon the world. The heaven and earth trembled under its aura.

"Die!" Green Lightning Hawk King bellowed.

This was their trump card—the Blood Shadow Divine Prison Array. Manipulated by eighteen monster-beast kings, it was able to unleash frightening powers!

Even an eighth longevity tribulation stage expert would struggle against it!

The array was not an ordinary array. It was created from the souls of hundreds of thousands of young boys and girls. Additionally, the great dao power instilled into the array could communicate with the evil spirits of the blood hell and generate evil spirit power that could destroy the world.

If looked closer, one would notice that every stroke of blood-red on the thousand foot tall blood-colored figure was the face of a young child. But the faces were particularly menacing and sinister.

The second that the array appeared, the world turned an eerie red color, and even the empire soldiers in the distance were chilled to the bone.

The power was too evil!

“Damn it, that’s...”

Song Jungui and the others also turned ashen-faced. They could tell that the array formed by the several monster-beast kings was merciless and reeked of blood.

“Evils and wicked ways should all be destroyed!”

Lin Xun’s black eyes turned ice-cold, and anger rose within him. How could he not see through the mystery behind the sinister array?

Boom!

The thousand-foot-tall blood-colored figure came marching through the air, like an evil god. Blood-red billowing waves swept outwards from it, seeming about to submerge the entire world.

The hundred foot tall city tower looked extremely small, as if it would be wiped out at any minute.

“So aggressive!”

Lin Xun’s aura suddenly changed, turning dignified and solemn. Indestructible Buddha light beamed from him.

Then he stretched out a hand.

Giant lotus flowers bloomed across heaven and earth and then flared up in magnificent golden flames.

The thousands of lotus flowers and endless flames seemed as if they were about to incinerate the world!

This was a secret inheritance art in the Great Treasury Silent Scripture: The Buddha’s Wrath Karmic Fire!

Rumble—

Amidst melodious chanting, bright Buddha light illuminated the mountains and valleys and consumed all the blood-red that filled the sky.

The thousand-foot blood-colored figure was incinerated before it rushed into midair and demonstrated its fierce power, and was reduced into billowing embers...

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1388: Turn Things Around

The lotus flower fire incinerated the thousand-foot-tall blood-colored figure!

In the distance, the eighteen blood-colored flags exploded in the hands of the eighteen monster-beast kings at the same time!

Boom!

Buddha light swept the world, wiping out the evil and murderous atmosphere.

“That’s impossible!”

Green Lightning Hawk King was so aghast by the scene that his eyes almost rolled out of their sockets.

The Blood Shadow Divine Prison Array was a great formation able to take down cultivators of the eighth longevity tribulation stage. It had a terrifying origin.

But it was destroyed in one blow!

“Who is that youngster?”

Not only Green Lightning Hawk King was terror-stricken, but the eighteen monster-beast kings and the monster-beast army in the distance were also all trembling with fear.

Once they captured Haze City, the entire Southwest Province would have been conquered and occupied by their army.

They were one step away from succeeding!

But the appearance of a youngster ruined everything and reversed the situation.

His first blow turned the area within a radius of three thousand feet into a painting of blood. Thousands of monster-beast corpses were left strewn all over the place.

His second blow, the Buddha's Wrath Karmic Fire, destroyed the mighty formation at once and illuminated the world with magnificent bright light!

The situation had been reversed!

At this moment, on that vast battlefield, Buddha light continued to shine like it would never fade!

On the city tower, Song Jungui and the others were stupefied, their emotions churning like crazy.

What was a divine being?

They had never seen one before, but in their eyes, the youngster standing before the city was a divine being!

The imperial soldiers near the city wall were just as astonished.

"This monster-beast problem...it's time for it to end."

Lin Xun's dark eyes were cold. Every scene he saw on the way here flashed across his mind.

The empire citizens fleeing in panic, the imperial soldiers sacrificing their lives, the devastated mountains and rivers, and the deserted city.

Lin Xun was indeed enraged.

His voice had only just faded when he soared into the sky. Behind him, a true dragon seemed to be roaming above the starry sky. It raised its head and roared, its terrifying aura bearing down on all living beings.

To creatures like monster-beasts, a true dragon was like a predator standing at the pinnacle of the great dao. It was born with an aura that ruled all beasts and monster spirits.

As Lin Xun moved, the tens of thousands of monster-beasts on the battlefield felt a suffocating pressure.

In their view, Lin Xun was not a person, but a mighty true dragon descending upon the world from the complete void of the starry sky.

Rumble!

The unique aura of the true dragon enveloped the world, the sun and moon dimmed, and sand and stones flew about.

Many monster-beasts felt their spirits on the verge of breakdown. They collapsed on the ground, screaming in agony and trembling incessantly, unable to even think about fighting back.

Even someone as powerful and tyrannical as Green Lightning Hawk King could not help but inhale sharply. He had received much information about the empire, but he had never known about such a peerless fierce man.

“Quick! Stop him!” Green Lightning Hawk King roared wildly.

In the distance, the eighteen monster-beasts kings realized the perilous situation and launched an attack without hesitation. They each exuded an aura of formidable strength.

They all knew that if they allowed Lin Xun to continue like that, the monster-beast army would definitely be defeated!

Green Lightning Hawk King began to counterattack with all his strength. He transformed into a bolt of blinding green lightning, ripped through the air, and swiped his giant talons in the direction of Lin Xun.

Chi!

Lin Xun did not attempt to block or dodge the incoming attack. He merely stretched his arm, and an enormous palm appeared in the air, blotting out the sky and the sun.

With that light and effortless motion, the giant hand grasped Green Lightning Hawk King’s huge body like it was catching a falling leaf.

“This is bad!”

Green Lightning Hawk King’s soul almost left his body. Only then did he realize that he had been wrong from the beginning. There was no way he could compete with the youngster’s frightening strength!

“Ignorant.” Lin Xun’s face was cold and expressionless.

He gathered strength to his hand.

Bang!

Green Lightning Hawk King, a powerful being at the fourth longevity tribulation stage, was crushed to death in the giant hand. Blood shot everywhere like a waterfall.

Even at death, he couldn’t believe how he would struggle to even resist!

“What?”

On the city tower, all the soldiers of the empire were dumbfounded.

To them, Green Lightning Hawk King was a terrifying existence with unimaginable strength.

Yet, Lin Xun eliminated him in a matter of seconds!

However, they were unaware that, if Lin Xun had not been worried about destroying the nearby cities and landscape, he would have attacked with full strength and that would have saved him a lot of hassle.

“Quickly escape!”

In the distance, the eighteen monster-beasts kings felt their blood freeze upon seeing the tragic end of Green Lightning Hawk King. How would they not know that even if the battle continued, no surprising reversal would happen?

“Run!”

“Flee!”

The army of monster-beasts had completely collapsed.

A man overpowered an entire battlefield by himself like a true mighty dragon. His invincible power would make any monster-beast break down.

How would they not see that the man killed even Green Lightning Hawk King with a turn of his hand?

“Suppress!”

Lin Xun suddenly uttered a dao sound and folded his hands together. Eighteen Bi’an Stamps emerged out of nowhere, crashing down upon the world like sacred mountains.

Bang!

A monster-beast king was smashed to pieces, only his shrill screaming voice continued to echo through the air.

The Bi’an Stamps, imbued with the law power of the true dragon, were descending from every direction. How could ordinary monster-beast kings block them?

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Then, repeated explosions rang out in the world. In the blink of an eye, all eighteen monster-beast kings had been killed.

In the eyes of all beings in the empire, the King Stage was an existence that one had to look up to.

At this moment, following the death of the eighteen monster-beast kings, all experts of the empire stood stupefied.

Kings were slaughtered like chickens!

The man's supreme killing means was like an unerasable and unforgettable mark in the memory of all spectators.

On the distant battlefield, Lin Xun was like a wolf charging into a flock of sheep, taking down all enemies in an invincible manner.

"Hmph!"

Lin Xun did not bother to physically attack the ant-like monster beasts. He merely grunted and the tremendous force of the sound wave was enough to blast away enemies in all directions, destroying their spirits and shredding their bodies.

The stench of blood, anguished wailing, and tragic screams filled the world.

On the city tower, Governor Song Jungui suddenly asked, "Friends, are you from the Lin Clan?"

Lin Xuefeng nodded.

"That young master, is he...the head of the Lin Clan?" Song Jungui asked again.

Lin Xuefeng nodded again.

Song Jungui stopped asking, his eyes went into a trance-like state. "It's him..."

He knew who the young man was.

One man had crushed two high clans overnight and beheaded nineteen clan leaders.

He was a legendary figure!

How would Song Jungui not know about him?

Everyone nearby trembled inwardly. *Lin Xun! That youngster is Lin Xun! No wonder...no wonder!*

Not only them, but Lin Xuefeng and the other Lin Clan descendants were also pumped up. They felt blood racing through their veins and their heart rates increased.

The legendary figure was the head of their clan!

.....

Everything happened unbelievably quickly. Green Lightning Hawk King and the other eighteen monster-beast kings were killed in less than ten blinks of the eye and the great battle came to an end.

Lin Xun single-handedly suppressed an army of thousands of monster-beasts. His brilliance overshadowed both the sun and the moon!

When Lin Xun returned from the distant battlefield, he was met with utter silence.

Everyone wore expressions of respect, admiration, and astonishment. There were no words that could describe their emotions at that moment.

Between heaven and earth, there was only a deafening silence.

On this day, according to historical records, Lin Xun, the head of the Lin Clan, single-handedly slaughtered a group of monster-beast kings outside Haze City, destroyed an army of hundreds of thousands of monster-beasts, and helped recover a province from a disaster! His divine powers awed the world!

.....

The Forbidden City, Qianyuan Hall of the imperial palace.

“Your Highness, the Southwest Province of the empire needs emergency assistance!”

A report was urgently presented. Zhao Jingxuan, who was supervising the entire empire, and the officials in the hall became restless and worried when they heard about it. The atmosphere quickly turned tense.

A province was about to fall into the hands of a monster-beast army!

“Your Highness, please immediately mobilize reinforcements!”

Immediately, many officials advised, their voices filled with worry.

Behind the desk, Zhao Jingxuan was silent for a moment before she said, “Reinforcements are a must, but, from what I know, the head of the Lin Clan has gone to the Southwest Province to slaughter monster-beasts. If he’s there, then the crisis in the Southwest Province may be averted.”

The officials were speechless for a moment. *How can Lin Xun take on hundreds of thousands of monster-beasts and monster-beast kings by himself?*

What puzzled them the most was that Zhao Jingxuan, an extraordinary woman, had pinned all her hopes on Lin Xun alone.

Zhao Jingxuan did not explain further and just issued a decree. She dispatched reinforcements immediately to the Southwest Province of the empire.

That night, news arrived in the palace: The crisis in the Southwest Province of the empire had been averted; the monster-beast army suffered a crushing defeat!

The officials who had been waiting for news in the Qianyuan Hall were completely dumbstruck. *He...Lin Xun...actually did it!*

Behind the desk, Zhao Jingxuan breathed a sigh of relief, but she still did not explain anything.

She knew that even if she tried to explain the situation, it would be hard for the officials to understand how terrifyingly strong a seventh longevity tribulation stage supreme king was!

In the lower world, no one could compete with Lin Xun except for Saints!

Although the monster-beast army had an advantage in number, that number was meaningless in the face of the absolute supreme power.

That day, the news caused another sensation in Forbidden City.

Over the years, monster-beasts had been attacking cities, looting villages, setting fire to buildings, killing the innocent, and committing all kinds of evil. They were a serious problem to the empire.

In particular, recently, monster-beasts had become more and more rampant, pushing closer and closer into the territories of the empire, which caused great turmoil to the empire.

Their presence was like a huge rock weighing on the hearts of all living beings in the empire. Many were so deeply worried that they struggled to sleep and eat.

The news of their defeat was like a refreshing rain after a long drought. The entire empire buzzed like never, and countless people cheered and celebrated.

Simply speaking, the victory dispelled the cloud of gloom that hung over the empire!

“Lin Xun is truly a fiend sent from above.”

The aristocratic clans sighed emotionally.

“Hmm, I remembered that Golden Armor King, who is entrenched in the Southwest Province of the empire, once threatened to capture Lin Xun as a slave. I wonder if he has encountered Lin Xun yet...”

In the imperial palace, Zhao Jingxuan, who had just finished reading the documents at hand, leaned against the desk and rested her head on her soft arms. Her clear eyes glimmered and a strange smile curved her plump lips.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1389: Destroy Divine Restriction Barrier with One Slash

After the battle ended, Lin Xun and his party received a grand welcome from Song Jungui.

However, Lin Xun did not want to delay his plan. He was worried that Golden Armor King would go into hiding after learning about the defeat. If that happened, it would be extremely troublesome to find him.

In the end, Lin Xun told Lin Xuefeng and the other ten Lin Clan descendants to stay behind and join the imperial soldiers in their monster-beast slaying operation.

Monster-beasts were rampant throughout the Southwest Province. Although the empire had just scored a big victory now, there were still many battles to be fought.

However, these matters could be left to the imperial army.

“I want to know more about the Golden Armor King,” Lin Xun told Song Jungui.

“He has always been entrenched in the depths of Yin Soul Mountain Range on the outskirts of Falling Star City...” Song Jungui told Lin Xun everything he knew, but they were all not of great use.

Even Song Jungui knew very little about the identity, origin, background and strength of Golden Armor King.

This was because Golden Armor King had rarely shown his face in the past years and had only been secretly controlling the monster-beast army.

“That reminds me, not too long ago, Golden Armor King spread the words that if Young Master Lin dares to come to the Southwest Province, he will definitely...” Song Jungui uttered hesitantly.

“Definitely what?” asked Lin Xun.

Song Jungui gritted his teeth and answered honestly, “Capture you to be his slave.”

Lin Xun was taken aback at first, and then he burst out laughing. He nodded. “I understand, then let’s see what gave that guy the confidence to speak so arrogantly!” His dark eyes flashed with a cold light.

Two hours later.

Lin Xun appeared outside Falling Star City.

It was noon, but there was not a soul in sight. The huge Falling Star City had long been reduced to rubble. Everywhere was a horrific sight of mutilated bodies and blood-splattered roads.

Hundreds of miles outside the city, mountains stretched endlessly, veiled in mist and clouds.

According to Song Jungui, the Yin Soul Mountain Range only appeared in the world after the great changes in the world, and Golden Armor King was one of the powerful monster-beasts who emerged from it.

Over the years, as monster-beasts multiplied and disasters spread, Yin Soul Mountain Range became the base camp for the monster-beasts army.

The imperial army had tried to attack the place several times, but it always ended in failure; they were unable to take a step into the Yin Soul Mountain Range at all!

Moreover, several king stage cultivators had also lost their lives there.

This showed how dangerous and terrifying the Yin Soul Mountain Range was.

“If we eliminate all the monster-beasts in this area, it should solve the monster-beast problem in the Southwest Province...”

Lin Xun got up and headed in the direction of the Yin Soul Mountain Range.

“Huh?”

“There are actually people approaching this way!”

“Kill!”

However, before Lin Xun neared the mountain range, a group of monster-beasts rushed out from the nearby area, brandishing their claws and weapons at Lin Xun.

This was the territory of the empire, but the monster-beasts acted as if they ruled the land!

In the empire, monster-beasts with strength comparable to Heaven Ascension Stage cultivators were extremely difficult to deal with, but for Lin Xun, they were not worth mentioning at all.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Before their attacks reached halfway, they were obliterated by the aura emanating from Lin Xun.

“This is bad!”

The monster-beasts panicked, realizing that a formidable enemy had come. Before they could react, an invisible terrifying force swept over them.

The next second, they were crushed to smithereens!

Lin Xun continued to stride forward without any cover, quickly approaching the Yin Soul Mountain Range.

“Hurry! Enemy attack!”

“Brave! Who dares to come to our territory? Do they have a death wish?!” Monster-beasts lying low in the nearby area were alerted right away and rushed out one after another.

As far as the eye could see were billowing demonic qi and looming monster-beasts figures.

The scene surprised even Lin Xun, but that only strengthened his determination to eradicate them!

Rumble!

Lin Xun flicked his sleeve and a wave of power spread like a strong gust of wind sweeping over the world. Rocks crumbled and vegetation was turned to dust wherever it passed.

Along the way, any monster-beasts that charged out were shredded like paper and disappeared from the world in a rain of blood.

“That’s...too terrifying.”

The monster-beasts shrieked and trembled all over.

“Hurry, together, we must stop him!”

Voices boomed out like thunderclaps from all over the Yin Soul Mountain Range.

Suddenly, a strange sight caught Lin Xun's attention. Ferocious birds and vicious beasts were roaring out from the Yin Soul Mountain Range like masses of black clouds.

There were over thousands of them, seemingly endless.

So many!

Lin Xun never imagined there to be so many monster-beasts occupying the Yin Soul Mountain Range.

His cold eyes flashed like lightning. He did not want to waste time on those ant-like creatures.

He simply took a deep breath, but it was as though a divine Kunpeng was inhaling the sea. Lin Xun seemed to have swallowed a tornado into his mouth.

The space distorted, twisted, and collapsed.

The monster-beasts stared, bewildered. *What is that guy doing?*

Lin Xun suddenly raised his head and roared to the sky.

Pulao Roar!

The sound waves of the roar turned into a monstrous, ocean-like golden wave, spreading outwards from Lin Xun in all directions and rumbling like thunder.

Moreover, as the roar grew louder and louder, the world seemed to be tearing apart, crumbling and collapsing inch by inch, unable to bear the impact.

Meanwhile, the tide of monster-beasts that rushed out was pulverized into smithereens!

They were obliterated like fallen leaves swept away by the autumn gale!

When the roar faded, not a single monster-beast remained anywhere. All that was left was a scene of devastation.

This side of the world was like a torn and crumpled ball of paper!

A roar had quaked the universe!

Swoosh!

At this moment, Lin Xun had already entered the depths of Yin Soul Mountain Range.

Here, it was a forest of mountain peaks, stretching on endlessly. Even Lin Xun could not pry into the depths of the mountain range with his spirit sense power.

Every mountain peak was guarded by countless monster-beasts.

Skeletons and bones were littered throughout the area, which were clearly the remains of humans that monster-beasts had feasted on.

Corpses of both men and women, and young and old, were hung in front of the caves. Their faces were all twisted with despair and fear.

If one didn't know, they would have thought this place was a demon realm!

"How many people have died tragically here over the years?"

Lin Xun's black eyes flashed coldly.

He launched a killing spree without any wavering.

Rumble! Rumble!

Wherever he passed, mountains collapsed one after another and groups of monster-beasts died violent deaths. Not one survived.

If one looked down at the scene from the above, the Yin Soul Mountain Range seemed like it was being knocked down by a divine being! Mountain peaks were being destroyed and exploded to pieces in quick succession!

The monster-beasts that resided in them were obliterated even before they had a chance to escape.

After just a moment.

Lin Xun came to a stop.

Behind him was a scene of chaos and bloodshed.

In front of him was an enormous and majestic thousand-foot-mountain that looked like it was constructed from golden rocks. Its entire body was veiled in billowing golden light, making it look sacred and holy like a blessed paradise.

But Lin Xun saw souls floating up and down the mountain. Evil spirits lingered about, exuding an extremely strong bloodthirsty and sinister aura.

Yin Soul Mountain!

This was the lair of the Golden Armor King.

“Golden Armor King, didn’t you say you want to capture me as your slave? Do you dare to show your face then?”

Lin Xun’s indifferent voice boomed across the world like a rumble of thunder. The force of it quaked the sky and tore the clouds in all directions.

On Yin Soul Mountain, bursts of shrill screams erupted. They were from the monster-beasts entrenched on the mountain.

At the same time, Lin Xun’s spirit sense spread and enveloped the mountain.

“A restriction barrier array?”

Lin Xun scrunched his brows. He detected an extremely unusual restriction power covering the entire Yin Soul Mountain and isolating it from heaven and earth.

It felt as if the mountain did not belong to this world, but another entirely different world.

“No wonder he dared to openly claim this mountain as his. It turns out he has something up his sleeve,” Lin Xun murmured.

Then, he drew his finger across the air, and a thousand-foot beam of sword light shot up like a divine rainbow stretching between heaven and earth.

“Slash!”

The sword contained the Taixuan quintessence and combined all great dao power. Its unrivaled sharpness made the world seem dim.

But unexpectedly, when it slashed downwards, the mountain only shook violently. The restriction array power surged up and neutralized power of the sword.

“Hahaha, a stupid human wants to break the mountain’s divine barrier. He must have a death wish!”

“Hmph, when I come out of closed door cultivation, he is the first I will kill!”

“Human, prepare for your death!”

Waves of mocking laughter rang out from Yin Soul Mountain. The monster-beasts all believed that Lin Xun could not enter the mountain.

Lin Xun ignored them.

As his black eyes surged with a cold light, his mighty spirit sense shrouded the entire mountain, and he began to investigate the power.

“The barrier around this mountain is not particularly powerful, but there is a strange power within it that blocked my attack...”

Very quickly, a flash of realization struck Lin Xun, but what made him frown was that the strange power was very difficult to detect.

“Fine, I will first destroy the barrier and break in, and then, I will know the source of that strange power!”

Lin Xun inhaled deeply. He did not want to waste any more time.

Clang!

The snow-white Broken Blade flashed out like an illusion.

At the same time, the supreme power of the seventh longevity tribulation stage within Lin Xun poured into the body of the Broken Blade like a current.

The Broken Blade erupted with dazzling rays of light, illuminating the heaven and the earth, and blinding the monster-beasts on the mountain.

Too bright!

“Slash!”

With one thought, Lin Xun summoned the Broken Blade into the air and sent it slashing downwards like a waterfall of divine light.

Boom!

With an earth-shattering roar, the restriction power that enveloped Yin Soul Mountain was destroyed in the terrifying slash.

“This is bad!”

“That...how is that possible?”

“The lord says that this is a divine barrier that does not belong to this world and it can only be destroyed by a Saint!”

Panicked screams rang out across the mountains.

However, the majority of monster-beasts were killed under the sword slash before they could even react.

They vaporized right after they exploded.

That slash destroyed the divine restriction barrier!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1390: Kneel

Boom!

The tens-of-thousands-foot-tall Yin Soul Mountain rocked violently. The divine restriction barrier had been destroyed, and a horrifying straight crack had been left on the mountain surface.

Lin Xun wrinkled his brows.

Given his present strength, he could excavate mountains and boil the sea down with a snap of his fingers, but to his surprise, his power was not enough to completely obliterate Yin Soul Mountain.

What puzzled him the most was that, despite all the disturbances and killings he had caused after entering the mountainous area, the so-called Golden Armor King had never shown his face once.

It was very unusual.

Yin Soul Mountain was filled with sharp screams and cries. Panic stricken monster-beasts ran around frantically.

The mountain protection divine barrier that they depended on had been split open by Lin Xun. This was the last straw that broke the camel's back. Now, they were completely scared witless.

Shua!

Without any wavering, Lin Xun flew into the sky and headed towards Yin Soul Mountain.

Magnificent light flowed around him, shining as bright as a galaxy sweeping across the sky. Wherever he passed, the air turned turbulent and rocks exploded to pieces.

All monster-beasts that came into contact with Lin Xun's spirit sense along the way, regardless of their strength, were killed on the spot, exploding into smithereens.

In just a few breaths, Yin Soul Mountain was soaked in thick blood and filled with sharp screams of terror.

Some ferocious birds beat their wings and tried to fly away, but it was of no avail, as they exploded in mid-air.

Some monster-beast cultivators knelt down and begged for mercy, but they still met with disaster!

Over the years, countless innocent citizens of the empire had been slaughtered and tortured by the monster-beasts, and numerous cities had been wiped out by them.

Those wicked monster-beasts never showed any mercy!

Lin Xun was not a bloodthirsty person, but he had an unshakable determination to kill and would not have any mercy.

Within minutes...

All over Yin Soul Mountain, all monster-beasts were slain.

The nauseating smell of blood and corpses saturated the air around the huge mountain!

"He still won't show up...Could the Golden Armor King have sensed something wrong and fled already?"

Lin Xun frowned. His spirit sense had already enveloped the entire Yin Soul Mountain and he had been checking it all along, but he had never once detected the aura of Golden Armor King.

"It doesn't matter if you've ran away or not, first I'm going to destroy your lair!"

Lin Xun suddenly leaped into the air, and with a resounding clang, the Broken Blade flashed brightly once again, like a ray of light across the universe, and slashed down with forcefulness.

Boom!

The tens-of-thousand-foot-tall Yin Soul Mountain was cleanly split into two halves before tilting and collapsing to the ground with a rumble that stung all ears. The ground quaked like crazy as a burst of dust and smoke billowed into the air.

Lin Xun stood tall, his clothes fluttering. He thought quietly. He had fought across nine thousand miles and had been killing since he left Falling Star City. Countless monster-beasts had been slayed and the world was soaked with blood.

From the beginning to the end, it had only taken him a quarter of an hour.

The monster-beasts army's stronghold in the Southwest Province of the empire had been completely destroyed!

His only regret was that he never got to meet Golden Armor King.

Clang!

Lin Xun withdrew the Broken Blade and was about to leave when he suddenly sensed something. His eyes darted to the ground in the distance like lightning.

Yin Soul Mountain had been devastated, the earth was still shaking, and the air was thick with smoke and dust.

But Lin Xun noticed an altar appearing at the bottom of Yin Soul Mountain!

The altar was very inconspicuous. Standing at around seven feet tall, it was constructed entirely out of old black stones and had no special features other than that.

But through his spirit sense, Lin Xun detected a strange force surrounding the altar that was able to block spirit sense power.

"No wonder I couldn't sense it just now. It turns out to be a forbidden force that blocks out spirit sense power...."

A divine light surged in Lin Xun's eyes.

He floated down to the altar, and after a brief examination, he was sure of one thing: The forbidden array power that enveloped Yin Soul Mountain came from the altar. It was also precisely because of this strange power that made the barrier array appear much more powerful.

"Huh? It actually involves the profound secret of space..." Lin Xun narrowed his eyes and his expression changed.

He sensed a supreme spatial power coming from the altar.

"A teleportation array? If so, where will it teleport to?" Lin Xun looked surprised.

Only Saints could set up teleportation arrays.

As far as Lin Xun knew, in the vast empire, such teleportation arrays only existed in a few places, such as the imperial palace and Qinglu Academy.

It was unbelievable that a teleportation array was found in the lair of Golden Armor King at the bottom of Yin Soul Mountain.

After all, Golden Armor King was no Saint and couldn't possibly be capable of setting up a teleportation array!

"The great changes in the world have caused many strange changes in the empire's territory over the past ten years. For example, these monster-beasts appearing out of nowhere..."

"Now, an ancient teleportation array appeared. Could it be that Golden Armor King and other monster-beasts are being teleported here from another side of the world through that teleportation array?"

Thinking of this, Lin Xun couldn't help looking bewildered.

"Let's see what sort of secrets it is hiding."

After contemplating for a while, Lin Xun gritted his teeth and stepped onto the ancient altar. With a wave of his sleeves, a gush of dao light poured down.

Buzz!

The ancient altar seemed to be coming alive, waking up from silence and producing a strange wave of energy.

The next second, Lin Xun vanished from the spot.

.....

An underground space.

It was dark, gloomy and suffocating.

In the center lay a huge pool of blood.

Gurgle—

The blood pool churned and bubbled as thick blood surged up. Faintly, shrill, bitter, sorrowful, and angry roars sounded from the pool, inducing chills in anyone that heard them.

A golden-robed man knelt on the ground, wearing a devoted and solemn expression. “Lord Monster-Beast Ancestor, this is the third batch of offerings. It consists of the blood of one hundred thousand young boys and the souls of one hundred thousand young girls. Additionally, there are eighty pure yang souls and thirty pure yin souls...”

Opposite the golden-robed man, a huge whirlpool was suspended in midair. It looked deep and unfathomable, and it was unknown where it led to.

As the man reached the end of the sentence, he took a deep breath and said aloud, “Lord Monster-Beast Ancestor, if you are satisfied with the offerings, I just hope you will reward me with an Eternal Life-Defying Pill!”

Rumble!

Then, he waved his sleeve, and thick blood splashed up from the pool of blood like a spring and rushed into the whirlpool in midair.

Suddenly, the whirlpool started to rotate, producing ripples of strange and terrifying spatial power that turned the atmosphere oppressive and suffocating.

Once the pool of blood was emptied to the last drop, the rotating whirlpool glowed with an eerie light like a ferocious mouth of a beast that had been fed.

“Hmph! The offering gets worse and worse every time, yet you still dare to ask for an Eternal Life-Defying Pill? What wishful thinking!” An ice-cold majestic voice rang from the depths of the whirlpool.

The golden robed man trembled all over, and then cried out. “Lord, it won’t be long before I will face the eighth longevity tribulation. Without that pill, there is no way I can overcome the Fate Tribulation. Lord, please have mercy on me, please fulfill my request. From now on, I vow to dedicate all my time to collect more offerings for you!”

After a brief silence, the cold, majestic voice rang again. “In this world, Saints no longer exist. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. I can give you an Eternal Life-Defying Pill, but next time, I must see ten times the offerings!”

Ten times?

The golden-robed man silently calculated in his mind, feeling his head throbbing, but in the end he still gritted his teeth and promised, “Please rest assured, Lord Monster-Beast Ancestor!”

Swoosh!

A bright streak of light shot out from the blood-colored whirlpool, flashed in the air, and suddenly transformed into a pill that was around the size of a baby’s fist.

The pill was extremely unusual. The body was entirely crystal clear, and it emitted wisps of law power. Adding to that, the faint voice of a saint chanting sutras echoed in the air.

The golden-robed man's eyes blazed fanatically.

Eternal Life-Defying Pill!

It was a rare priceless treasure imbued with the power to defy fate.

"Thank you, Lord Monster-Beast Ancestor!" The golden-robed man kowtowed.

He then drew a deep breath, stood up, and reached for the Eternal Life-Defying Pill floating in the air!

Shua!

A slender hand stretched out and snatched the Eternal Life-Defying Pill.

At the same time, Lin Xun appeared in the air.

After he stepped onto the ancient altar, he was teleported to this space and saw the golden-robed man, the pool of blood, and the blood-colored whirlpool.

Without any hesitation, Lin Xun activated Suanni Qi to conceal his aura and silently covered all traces of him.

Huh?

The golden-robed man's expression dramatically changed, as if he could not believe what happened. "Who are you? How dare you steal what's mine?! You have a death wish!"

With a boom, his aura turned wild and violent around him, and his golden body erupted with terrifying fiendish qi.

"Die!"

A fist flew out and golden light swept the area like a tide. The surrounding space was instantly shattered.

Lin Xun flicked his sleeve and a beam of azure dao light effortlessly dispelled the power of the punch.

The golden robed man narrowed his eyes, realizing the unfavorable situation. Forcibly suppressing his anger, he said with an overcasted face, "Friend, you suddenly came to my territory and stole my item. Isn't that despicable?"

“Are you Golden Armor King?” asked Lin Xun while he played around with the Eternal Life-Defying Pill in his hand.

“That’s right.” Golden Armor King nodded, a menacing look twisting his features. “Since you know who I am, you must also know about the consequences of angering me. I advise you to quickly hand back the pill in your hand, otherwise...”

“Kneel,” Lin Xun interrupted before he finished.

At the same time, the aura around him spread outwards. The supreme power of the perfect seventh longevity tribulation stage transformed him into a god-like being with infinite power.

Golden Armor King struggled to breathe as if a sacred mountain was pressing down on his chest. Regardless of how hard he resisted, he could not bear the force of such terrifying power.

He began to bend under the pressure.

“Ah—!”

He roared in agony, his eyes were about to burst, and his veins popped on his forehead. He fought back with all his strength.

But in the end, following some crackling and snapping sounds, his knee bones shattered and he fell to his knees with a thud. The earth shook violently.

Lin Xun put his hands behind him and glanced down at Golden Armor king with an ice-cold gaze. “An evil beast like you has no right to stand and speak to me, do you understand?”

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1391: Enraged Monster-Beast Ancestor

Golden Armor King’s face looked fierce and malevolent from the severe pain contorting his features. He attempted to fight back, but his body would not budge under Lin Xun’s frightening aura.

It finally struck him that he had encountered a tough one this time!

“Who are you and how did you come here?” He bellowed a hoarse voice, his face filled with hatred and confusion.

“Did you not make a huge fuss about capturing me to be your slave? How come you don’t recognize me when I’m standing right in front of you?” Lin Xun’s expression was calm and indifferent.

“It’s you! Lin Xun!” Golden Armored King froze, his eyes bulging from their sockets.

When he learned that a youngster called Lin Xun had caused turmoil in the Forbidden City of the empire, trampling two high clans himself, he was also surprised, but he gloated and laughed more than anything.

Infighting among the human race was advantageous to the monster-beast forces.

However, he did not expect the youngster to show up on his territory or that his strength would be as frightening as rumored.

It should be mentioned that he was a monster-beast king at the seventh longevity tribulation stage!

But he could not even bear the pressure of Lin Xun’s aura and was forced to his knees. How could he not panic?

When did such a fierce character appear in the empire? And he was so young too!

“Answer some questions for me, and I can make your death quick and painless.” Lin Xun’s eyes were like ice.

“Ridiculous! If we were in the outside world then I might hesitate, but here...” Golden Armor King suddenly screamed. “Lord Monster-Beast Ancestor, please help kill that bastard!”

Boom!

A giant hand of blood-colored light stretched out from the whirlpool, coming straight at Lin Xun.

The giant hand glowed a blood-red hue and exuded a terrifyingly evil and sinister aura like the hand of a demon from hell.

Lin Xun narrowed his eyes and frantically drew back.

The giant blood-red hand was shrouded in a peculiar aura that brought him a strong feeling of danger. Only someone at the Saint Stage and above could achieve that.

Bang!

To Lin Xun's surprise, the giant hand suddenly changed direction halfway and forcefully slapped Golden Armor King who was kneeling on the ground.

Instantly, his body was flattened into a pool of flesh and blood.

"Lord Monster-Beast Ancestor..." His strained voice was tinged with confusion and disbelief, and before he finished, both his body and spirit had been obliterated.

The scene chilled even Lin Xun.

Buzz!

Without hesitation, he summoned the No-Nonsense Bow and Biluo Arrow to his hands. Qi rumbled around him, and his aura suddenly soared to an extreme level.

He had also once relied on the No-Nonsense Bow and Biluo Arrow to kill two False Saints from the Golden Crow Clan. Now, could they also help him take down the strange Monster-Beast Ancestor?

"Interesting, in this world I can actually meet a king who has embarked on the Supreme Path." The ice-cold and imposing voice sounded from the depths of the whirlpool.

"Who are you?" Lin Xun scrunched his brows.

"You are not yet qualified to know my identity. Originally, I planned to eliminate you from this world, but I have changed my mind." The ice-cold voice resounded, "I will give you a chance, kowtow and vow to serve me. When I come out of closed-door cultivation, I will find you the power to reach the Supreme Saint Stage!"

Lin Xun scoffed out loud. "I will also give you a chance. Get out here and beg for mercy on your knees. Then, perhaps I can let you die with dignity."

As he was speaking, the blood-red bowstring of the No-Nonsense Bow was drawn to its full length, unleashing a roar that shook the void.

The noise abruptly ceased, and the atmosphere turned heavy and tense.

Ready to strike!

Lin Xun could distinctly feel that, in the depths of the whirlpool, a frightening peculiar power was accumulating, making his heart beat rapidly.

"As expected of someone who has embarked on the Supreme Path, I can't help but admire your courage. If you work for me, then I perhaps might make an exception and accept you

as an official disciple and impart you with the supreme secrets of becoming a Saint and ancestor!”

The imposing voice sounded again, with just a hint of admiration.

Lin Xun gave a faint smile. “If you are so capable, then why don’t you dare to show up? Could it be that you are trapped in a certain place?”

Unexpectedly, the voice answered calmly, “You are rather smart. I also won’t bother to hide it from you then. Even if I can’t get out now, within ten years, I will be able to break the Divine Forbidden Dao Lock and return to the world!”

After a pause, he continued, “Do you want to know why great changes happened in this world? And do you know why no Saints have appeared all these years to stop evil from engulfing the world?”

The voice carried a power that befogged the mind. “It’s very simple. They can’t even protect themselves; they must go to a mysterious place to defuse disasters. The king stage cultivators in this world alone are not enough to stop this catastrophe from spreading!”

Lin Xun’s eyelids twitched. He thought of the emperor, empress, Blood Kill King Zhao Tailai, the principal of Qinglu Academy and others who had disappeared...

More than ten years have passed since the outbreak of monster-beasts in the empire, but those influential figures had never appeared. Could they have really gone to a mysterious place as Monster-Beast Ancestor said?

What kind of disasters would make them unable to protect themselves?

“Even if I didn’t tell you about that, I believe you will be able to find out by yourself given your ability. Let me tell you one more thing, under these great changes in the world, the intrinsic structure of the world will soon be broken. The day I break out is the day that all living beings in the world will kneel and bow at my feet!”

The ice-cold, majestic voice sounded again, “Young man, if you surrender and serve me from now on, I can offer you the Eternal Life-Defying Pill in your hand as a gift. In addition to that, I can guarantee that you will receive endless benefits in the future.”

Immediately after that, the voice turned deep and chilling, “But if you refuse, I guarantee...”

Lin Xun interrupted before he finished, “Don’t you think you talk too much?”

“You...what did you say?” The voice sounded with a tone of disbelief. Or rather he did not expect Lin Xun to refuse his offer after he told him so much.

Moreover, his attitude was more than rude!

It should be noted that, given his identity and status, even Saints back then were no different from a group of slaves to him.

But now, a youngster interrupted him and spoke to him disrespectfully. It indeed made him a little...stunned, but also infuriated!

“I said you talk too much nonsense!” Lin Xun repeated. “If you had the ability, you would not have uttered a single word and immediately subdued me. Unfortunately you didn’t do that, which proves one thing.”

His dark eyes shone coldly, staring into the depths of the whirlpool. “You don’t have the power to kill me now!”

The voice suddenly turned serious and stern. “You’re right, but when I get out of here, do you think it will still be the same?”

Lin Xun snorted, “Get out? No, given your own ability, you can’t possibly escape even after ten years. You need ‘offerings’ to recover your strength, and you need someone to help you collect those ‘offerings.’ I believe Golden Armor King is one of the subordinates who serves you.

“If my guess is correct, the many monster-beast kings that appeared all over the empire must also be your subordinates. It is also precisely because they serve you and collect ‘offerings’ for you that it made you think that you have a chance to escape within ten years, is that right?”

The voice fell silent for a long moment.

But Lin Xun continued, “Say, if I kill all your subordinates, then will you...still be able to escape in the next ten years?”

“Ridiculous!” The voice boomed out, but it seemed more terrifying and colder than usual. “Do you think an ant like you can do that?”

“You don’t believe it? Then try me.” Lin Xun’s expression was extremely calm.

“Young man...”

The voice sounded again, but before he could finish speaking, Lin Xun had already launched into action.

Bang!

The fully drawn No-Nonsense Bow was fired in an instant. The wind raged and thunder rumbled, and an invisible arrow swiftly shot out.

Boom!

The pool of blood exploded.

At the same time, the whirlpool suspended above the blood pool swayed violently and collapsed inch after inch.

“You...how dare you destroy my altar—!”

The voice quavered with worry, fury, resentment, and hostility. “When I get out, I will make you suffer a fate worse than death!”

Rumble!

When the voice died away, the whirlpool suspended in midair had already collapsed and vanished.

“Even the almighty Monster-Beast Ancestor is still a trapped Monster-Beast Ancestor. But he talks so much nonsense as though he doesn’t want others to find out that he can’t escape... It seems like he has been trapped for too long. He still thinks he is as powerful and mighty as he was back then.” Lin Xun’s lips were touched with a mocking smile.

If it were anyone else, then they would definitely be affected by Monster-Beast Ancestor’s words.

But Lin Xun wasn’t.

From the very beginning, he could tell that the so-called Monster-Beast Ancestor was trapped, and their following conversation also confirmed this.

A trapped Monster-Beast Ancestor might still be terrifying to some, but it was ridiculous to think that Lin Xun would surrender to him.

“It turns out to be a pangolin...”

Lin Xun glanced at the body of the Golden Armor King on the ground. It had resumed its original form—a golden pangolin of a dozen feet long and with a mountain-like body.

With a wave of his sleeve, he put away the opponent’s body and turned around to leave.

Buzz—

At the bottom of Yin Soul Mountain, Lin Xun walked out of the ancient altar.

He turned around to look at the altar, frowning slightly. Currently, many monster-beast kings were lurking in the empire and Golden Armor King was just one of them.

If Lin Xun wanted to prevent the Monster-Beast Ancestor from getting out, he must eradicate all the monster-beast kings in the empire one by one in the quickest time possible!

Otherwise, the remaining monster-beast kings would gather offerings for the Monster-Beast Ancestor to recover his strength and speed up his escape...

“Who would have thought that the purpose of those monster-beasts burning, killing, and pillaging across the world was to rescue the trapped Monster-Beast Ancestor?”

Lin Xun’s killing intent was ignited at the thought of those ‘offerings.’

The lives and blood of young boys and girls of the human race were treated as offerings for Monster-Beast Ancestor to recover his strength. His wicked and bloody cultivation methods made Lin Xun feel extremely uncomfortable and disgusted.

That day, Lin Xun destroyed the monster-beasts’ lair in Yin Soul Mountain, learned about the secrets of Monster-Beast Ancestor, and returned with the body of Golden Armor King.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1392: Statue of Him

Haze City.

A medium-sized imperial battleship roared as it landed from the air. The hatch swung open its door, and imperial soldiers walked out in a line.

Thirty similar battleships had arrived throughout the day, bringing an army of one hundred thousand elite cultivators to Haze City.

In the city, the originally deserted streets and alleys were filled with citizens of the empire, and everyone’s face was alight with delight and hope.

A little girl raised her head and asked, “Mother, can we not leave from now on?”

“Silly girl, this is our home. If the monster-beasts did not come to invade, who would want to leave home?” said a woman softly.

“What does it mean to be forced to leave your native place?”

“You don’t know? Well, I hope you will never know. It is too painful to know...”

While the mother and daughter were chatting, countless figures were returning to Haze City from all directions.

Everyone had to leave their home and fled in panic when monster-beasts invaded the city.

Now, once they learned that all the monster-beasts had been defeated and that peace had returned to Haze City, they all chose to return without hesitation.

After all, this was their home!

Above the city tower, the sunset clouds glowed like fire. Song Jungui gazed into the distance, watching the tide of imperial soldiers patrolling the streets and alleys, and maintaining order in the city.

Watching more and more people return to the city with their families, seeing the looks of joy, excitement, and hope on their faces...

Inexplicably, Song Jungui felt a lump in his throat.

The city had been protected!

Of course, the citizens would feel optimism and hope!

Emotions surged within Song Jungui when he thought about what had happened one day ago. An army of monster-beasts had almost invaded Haze City and the city had been about to fall into the enemies’ hands.

“Young Master Lin...is truly god-like!” Song Jungui marveled.

Everyone nearby looked at each other and smiled.

If they were not wrong, this was the nineteenth time that Governor Song Jungui looked so emotionally moved.

Suddenly, Song Jungui drew a deep breath and pointed to the center of the city. “I want to construct a statue of Young Master Lin in this city so that everyone in the future will know that Haze City only exists because of Young Master Lin!”

Everyone trembled inwardly.

Erecting a statue was a significant event.

“Do any of you have any objections?”

Song Jungui swept a glance over everyone, and they shook their heads.

“Then it’s decided.”

.....

Meanwhile, Lin Xuefeng and the ten Lin Clan descendants just returned to the city. The glow of the setting sun accentuated their blood-stained bodies and miserable state.

“Lin Xing, when you fight for real, remember not to act on impulse!”

“Lin Yanyun, you need to hone your combat skills more. You won’t have time to hesitate in a real fight of blood.”

“Lin Du, your performance was not bad in the battle just now. I will reward you once we get back.”

Along the way, Lin Xuefeng commented on everyone’s performance.

Lin Xing and the others listened seriously.

“Tonight, all of you will need to write a report of your battle experience and insight,” Lin Xuefeng commanded.

“Yes.” Everyone nodded.

Lin Xuefeng could not help but smile when he saw that no one looked dispirited, frustrated, or disappointed.

Today, he led a team to the outskirts to kill the remaining fleeing monster-beasts. At first, he was a little worried that Lin Xing and the others would not perform well in battle.

Who would have thought that, after a day of fighting, they displayed remarkable tenacity and fighting spirit that amazed him?

However, due to their lack of exposure to real-life fighting, they also revealed many flaws in the battles.

However, Lin Xuefeng knew that as long as Lin Xing and the others continued to hone their combat skills, those many flaws would significantly lessen and their strength would improve again and again!

“Each of you has obtained an ancient inheritance power from the head of the family. If you do not rise to become a true influential figure then you will disappoint him and waste all his efforts...” Lin Xuefeng murmured.

Lin Xuefeng and the others were completely unaware that a shadow was following them.

It was Little Silver.

He was entrusted by Lin Xun to secretly protect Lin Xuefeng and others.

“Protecting a bunch of little guys is so boring.” Little Silver yawned as he reminisced about the days in the Supreme Realm.

Huh?

Little Silver suddenly raised his head and peered at the distant sky.

A huge shadow was sweeping towards Haze City from far away like a moving mountain.

“That—?”

Song Jungui and the others narrowed their eyes on the city tower.

“It’s the body of a monster-beast...”

Everyone looked confused.

Many imperial soldiers in Haze City were also alarmed and raised their vigilance.

“It’s Young Master Lin!” Song Jungui cried out in surprise.

It was only when the shadow drew closer that he saw the tall and elegant figure standing atop the colossal monster-beast body. He was dressed in all white like a celestial being from heaven.

It was precisely Lin Xun.

“Young Master Lin?”

Countless excited gazes were cast towards the shadow.

“Is he the Young Master Lin who helped us eliminate an army of monster-beasts and saved the city by himself?”

“That’s him!”

“Mother, is that big brother in the sky a divine being?”

In the city, there was nonstop clamor. Whether it was the imperial soldiers or ordinary people, all faces were filled with excitement, surprise, and awe.

On that day, they learned about the details of the great battle and also heard about all the amazing feats accomplished by Lin Xun himself.

Now, his victorious return while standing atop the corpse of a tremendous beast caused a sensation in the city.

Boom!

The giant beast's corpse thudded to the ground, while Lin Xun elegantly drifted onto the city tower and was enthusiastically greeted and welcomed by Song Jungui and the others.

"What? Is that Golden Armor King?"

Everyone was dumbstruck by the fact that the mountain-like body turned out to be the monster-beast leader entrenched in the Southwest Province.

One day hadn't even passed, but Golden Armor King was already slaughtered?!

"Take off his head and hang it on the city tower for all the monster-beast kings in the world to see what the consequences are for violating the empire." Lin Xun said casually, "As for its flesh and blood, prepare it for dinner tonight and reward the upper, middle, and lower army."

Song Jungui and others loudly agreed.

That night, the aroma of meat filled the air of Haze City, and laughter and conversations continued endlessly.

In particular, when they learned that Lin Xun had single-handedly crushed Yin Soul Mountain, wiped out the monster-beast army, and resolved the serious problem of the Southwest Province in one swoop, Song Jungui and the others were wild with joy, and even went a little crazy with excitement!

As the news spread throughout Haze City, the huge city was also stirred up and countless soldiers and ordinary people started to discuss Lin Xun under the night sky.

The night was as beautiful as a painting, with clusters of stars shining brightly overhead.

Lin Xun found a quiet part of the city wall to sit down and view the distant mountains and valleys alone.

He played about with a pill in his hand. It was the Eternal Life-Defying Pill—a rare priceless treasure with immeasurable benefits in overcoming the fate tribulation.

However, the pill that could ignite the envy and covetousness of any Longevity King was gradually being consumed in Lin Xun's palm, becoming wisps of light rain and vanishing.

Eventually, only a streak of blood was left in Lin Xun's palm, as tiny as a strand of hair.

Only when examined with the spirit sense would one find that the inconspicuous streak of blood was imbued with a peculiar and complex forbidden magic power.

"I knew that the Monster-Beast Ancestor would not be so generous to gift such a precious pill to his subordinates. It turns out that he is up to something..."

Lin Xun's dark eyes shone with a cold light as he gathered power to his palm, and the streak of blood was suddenly erased.

If he had been tempted to use the pill to challenge the fate tribulation, then he would have suffered disastrous consequences.

Lin Xun speculated that the Monster-Beast Ancestor did not do so to target him, but instead he was trying to get at the monster-beasts kings who served and worked for him. His purpose was to fully control them and force them to collect 'offerings' for him, which would help him escape one day.

"But who is this Monster-Beast Ancestor? And where is he trapped?"

Lin Xun's mind raced with thoughts. Over the past ten years, the world had undergone drastic great changes, and monster-beasts had become rampant in the empire's territory. The culprit behind that turned out to be a terrifying existence called the Monster-Beast Ancestor.

Did the powerful, influential figures in the empire know about this?

Little Silver appeared and asked in a concerned voice, "Master, is something on your mind?"

"I may have to leave for a while to visit the place where I lived when I was young, and then after that I will go to other places to kill monster-beasts." Lin Xun said in a low voice, "During this period, you shall stay with the Lin Clan descendants. Don't let anything happen to them."

Little Silver sighed helplessly. "That's so boring."

Lin Xun was speechless for a moment. "Boring? When the Nine Domains War comes, you will wish it was boring."

Little Silver thought about it for a moment and agreed.

Late that night, Lin Xun quietly left by himself. He steered the Grand Universe Ark into the direction of Donglin City in the Southwest Province.

On the outskirts of Donglin City was the Great Three Thousand Mountains, also called heaven's border.

When Lin Xun was young, he trekked to Feiyun Village from the Great Three Thousand Mountains and then to Donglin City from Feiyun Village.

Now, he was no longer the same frail kid as back then, but a supreme king who had reached the perfect seventh longevity tribulation stage and who was about to challenge the fate tribulation.

Therefore, he needed to look back at his past, understand, and explore the traces of his own fate from the tracks he made in his youth!

.....

At the same time, a piece of news spread in the night, sweeping the Forbidden City and other territories of the empire like a storm...

“What? The Golden Armor King has been killed? Heavens, unbelievable! Did Lin Xun really do that himself?”

“He single-handedly destroyed the lair of Golden Armor King and trampled Yin Soul Mountain?”

In the darkness of the night, countless major forces in the Forbidden City were alarmed and horror stricken. Even the old monsters of the King Stage were all dumbfounded and in disbelief.

It had to be mentioned that it was not long ago when news came out that Lin Xun killed Green Lightning Hawk King and eighteen other monster-beast kings by himself, crushing the monster-beast army and rescuing Haze City from misery.

But in less than a day, news then came out that both Golden Armor King and his lair had been destroyed. Who would believe the news without questioning it?

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1393: Down Memory Lane

Remarkable!

Who would have thought that Golden Armor King, who once threatened to capture Lin Xun as a slave, would be beheaded on the day that Lin Xun arrived in the Southwest Province.

Even his territory of Yin Soul Mountain was trampled by Lin Xun in one swoop, which resulted in the miserable deaths of hundreds of thousands of monster-beasts across the mountains.

The news struck the world like a thunderbolt shooting down from the sky, shaking the heavens and earth, and causing uproar everywhere.

“Young Master Lin...is too fierce!”

Not to mention ordinary people, even the major clans and sects in the empire, as well as the powerful generals and leaders who wielded great power in the army, were all shaken by the news.

Around one month ago, when Lin Xun single-handedly defeated the Zuo and Qin Clans and beheaded the leaders of nineteen aristocratic clans. It had a blood-chilling and deterring impact.

On the other hand, this battle was thrilling and exciting!

This was because Lin Xun was helping the empire eradicate problems and troubles by destroying the stronghold that the monster-beast army had in the Southwest Province of the empire.

It was so satisfying!

In the past ten years, the empire had been unstable and in turmoil, almost oppressed to the point of being suffocated by the monster-beast forces.

But now, the brilliance and strength that Lin Xun demonstrated in battle uplifted everyone in the empire and made them feel extremely proud and elated.

“The empire is so lucky to have a god-like person like Young Master Lin!”

Many people were smiling ear to ear, feeling much at ease. In the past years, countless lives of the empire were lost under the violence of the monster beast army.

Now, Lin Xun countered back in the strongest manner and defeated the monster-beast army, killed Golden Armor King, devastated Yin Soul Mountain, and eradicated the serious problem in the Southwest Province of the empire!

Some of the scenes that happened on Yin Soul Mountain were recorded onto bamboo slips by cultivators and very quickly spread throughout the empire.

Everyone was astonished when they saw that the Yin Soul Mountain Range had been turned to rubble with corpses strewn everywhere and the earth soaked with blood.

The most shocking had to be the head of Golden Armor King hanging outside Haze City!

“Didn’t those monster-beasts kings make a huge fuss that Young Master Lin was just seeking death? Would they dare to show up now?”

“It’s so satisfying! We cultivators should take Young Master Lin as our role model—act and kill decisively and fight for peace for all citizens in the empire!”

As the news of this earthshaking battle continued to circulate throughout the empire, countless cultivators felt feelings of awe and reverence for Lin Xun.

The matter had a huge influential impact. It not only dispelled the haze that hung around the empire for more than ten years, boosting the morale of the entire empire, but also significantly eased the turmoil in the empire.

In the imperial palace, when Zhao Jingxuan learned about this matter, she immediately rewarded the Lin Clan of Mind Cleansing Peak in the name of the empire!

It was said that the rewards sent to the Lin Clan from the imperial palace treasury that day were so generous that it drew envious looks from even the high clans.

But no one dared to say anything!

And Zhao Jingxuan was not stingy at all, and she even took the opportunity to issue another decree: “Anyone who has the ambition of killing enemies for the empire will receive similar rewards!”

Suddenly, the entire empire was stirred up, and countless cultivators were burning with enthusiasm. They threw themselves onto the battlefield, following the footsteps of Lin Xun, and slaughtered monster-beasts.

In the Chi Clan residence.

“I have to accept that I am old...” Chi Lingxiao sighed and then he cast a glance at Chi Cangmei who was standing next to him. “Why don’t you personally pay the Lin Clan a visit and try to propose marriage with the Lin Clan?”

“Marriage?” Chi Cangmei looked flabbergasted. “I will never marry Lin Xun!”

For a while, Chi Lingxiao didn’t know whether to laugh or cry. “Who else do you think, except for Her Highness Princess Jingxuan, is worthy of Lin Xun in the empire?”

He continued after a pause, “Your younger sister is almost sixteen years old this year. Go visit the Lin Clan and see if any sons of the Lin Clan catch your eye. As a father, I will marry off your sister even if I have to embarrass myself. This will ensure a good relationship between the Lin Clan and the Chi Clan.”

Chi Cangmei sighed to herself. Although she did not agree to this, she also knew that she could not change her father’s decision. *He is doing this for the future of the Chi Clan, even if it means sacrificing my sister’s happiness...*

“You should think on the bright side. If your sister marries into the Lin Clan, then perhaps...her destiny will also change,” Chi Lingxiao comforted in a gentle voice.

At the same time, the other high clans in the Forbidden City, including the Hua, Song, Qi and Xie clans were also planning and discussing how to build friendly relationships with the Lin Clan.

Undoubtedly, marriage was the most direct and effective way.

But the problem was that, given the current power of the Lin Clan, would they agree?

.....

This incident also caused uproars among the monster-beast forces.

As the saying went, the fox is sad at the death of the hare. The death of a monster-beast king shocked many other monster-beast kings and induced fear into them.

“Golden Armor King is a fierce character at the seventh longevity tribulation. He is always careful and cautious. I can’t imagine that a boy with the surname Lin could kill him...this is simply...too terrifying.”

“He is a dangerous character and must be treated as a formidable enemy!”

“Go find out what Lin Xun’s background is. Why have we never heard about such a powerful figure in the empire before?”

Very quickly, reports about Lin Xun were presented to the monster-beast kings. They carefully studied and analyzed his origin, personality, temperament, cultivation, and experience.

A king stage cultivator of the human race deserved the attention of all major forces after he overpowered Golden Armor King.

In particular, Lin Xun was not an ordinary person. He single-handedly killed Golden Armor King with ease. He was an iron-blooded character with terrifying skills and abilities!

“How could there be such a ruthless person in the empire?”

“Damn it! The empire was going to fall apart and collapse within a few years, but something unexpected happened. Lin Xun...must die!”

Even the Magi Brute Race was alarmed by the incident and began to pay close attention to everything about Lin Xun and investigate his background, treating him as a huge threat.

In the Great Wind Thunder Wetlands in the southern part of the empire, there was a towering, rugged mountain ridge that was entirely ink-black and not a blade of grass grew.

The mountain was called Black Wind and was born only after the drastic changes in the world. In the past years, it had been taken over by the most mysterious Black Robe King among the monster-beast forces!

“Black Robe, you are the third disciple I took into my sect over the eternal years. I know that you are only one step away from reaching the Saint Stage. If you manage to kill Lin Xun, then I promise that the day you get out, I will assist you in ascending Sainthood.”

A space vortex emerged in the hinterland of Black Wind Mountain and the ice-cold and majestic voice of the Monster-Beast Ancestor resounded from its depths, echoing endlessly.

Black Robe King put his hands behind his back and quietly listened.

Clad in a black robe and shrouded in black fog that blurred even his face, he exuded a terrifyingly mysterious aura.

“I have already ordered the other monster-beast kings to listen to your command and work with you to get rid of Lin Xun. If you have other concerns then just let me know.”

Black Robe King was silent for a long while before he said aloud, “Master, I am about to face the great tribulation of becoming a saint. I don’t want to start any trouble during this period.”

Monster-Beast Ancestor asked in surprise, “Are you going to ascend to the Saint Stage by yourself?”

“Yes, in recent years, the world has been undergoing drastic changes, which has given rise to many incredible blessings and fortunes. I have been observing the overall situation of heaven and earth and I am very confident of ascending to the Saint Stage this time.” Black Robe King spoke calmly, neither sad nor glad.

“So you don’t need my help?” asked Monster-Beast Ancestor.

“Master, what I seek is the path to true sainthood. No one else can help me but myself. But I really appreciate your good intentions,” Black Robe King stated.

“Haha, ambitious!” Monster-Beast Ancestor cackled, but his voice was tinged with coldness. “Don’t forget that you would be nothing now without me.”

“I owe Master a great debt of gratitude and I will never forget it in my life.” Black Robe King gave a cupped fist salute.

“Hmph! Let me ask you again...Lin Xun...will you kill him?” Monster-Beast Ancestor’s voice had turned extremely menacing and chilling.

Black Robe King was silent for a long while before he answered, “Master, when I become a Saint, then I will bring you that boy’s head. How about that?”

“How long will it take?” asked Monster-Beast Ancestor.

“Soon...” Black Robe King inhaled deeply and murmured, “I already feel a gleam of breakthrough. It won’t be long...”

“Okay! I won’t force you. I’ll be waiting for your good news.”

Monster-Beast Ancestor’s aura vanished.

“You won’t force me? If you hadn’t placed a curse on my soul from the very beginning, then would I need to tolerate you to this day...”

Black Robe King stood silently for a long moment and couldn’t help but let out a long sigh. Then, he turned around and walked out of the secret realm.

He stood atop Black Wind Mountain with his hands behind him, surveying the mountains and rivers in the distance. The name Lin Xun surfaced in his mind.

.....

While the outside world was full of noise and commotion, Lin Xun had arrived outside Donglin City.

In the distance, the mountain ranges were vast and impressive, and the hills were huddled together to form an array of towering peaks. Under the brightening sky, it looked like a giant dragon winding through the landscape.

Many years had passed, and things had long changed.

The huge Donglin City had long been reduced to ruins, without a trace of life. The hustle and bustle of the great city could no longer be seen.

Lin Xun still remembered when he brought Xia Zhi into the city, and it was also then that Xia Zhi was taken away by the queen from the Dark Night Sacred Hall.

While he was arranged to train in the Blood Kill Camp.

Now, Xia Zhi had yet to return.

Lin Xun could not help but sigh, *So many things have changed over the years.*

Immediately, he furrowed his brows. *If Scarlet Eagle King is alive, he should have heard about the death of Golden Armor King, but why has he still not appeared?*

Could Scarlet Eagle King be in trouble?

After a while, Lin Xun shook his head to clear his head from all the distracting thoughts and headed towards the Great Three Thousand Mountains.

Feiyun Village.

The walls were reduced to rubble and the plants and grass had long wilted. The village had long been deserted.

That day, Lin Xun came. Looking at the aeth fields that had become overgrown with weeds, he thought about his first day in Feiyun Village. He thought of the honest and kind villagers, and he couldn't help but smile from the heart.

At that time, he was just a frail young rune apprentice.

Now, not only had his destiny been transformed completely, but even the villagers of Feiyun Village had also moved to the Mind Cleansing Peak and been living a good life.

Some of the villagers' children had embarked on the path of cultivation and become part of the core force of the Mind Cleansing Peak's Lin Clan.

Flowers bloomed the same every year, but people were not the same with each.

Lin Xun strolled leisurely through the deserted village, reminiscing about the past. Eventually, he came to a stop in front of the small courtyard where he once lived.

Back then, he had an extremely weak body, and he had lost his Origin Aeth Artery. It was in that small courtyard where he discovered the Omega Secret-Realm and when his destiny took a new turn!

He was about to push open the door when his brows came together in a frown.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1394: The Storms of Back Then

The courtyard was dilapidated, and it had been that way for a long time. The stone steps in front of the gate were covered with moss, and the low walls were covered with weeds.

But at this moment, Lin Xun's eyes suddenly narrowed. He stared intently at the closed simple wooden gate with a hint of surprise in his heart.

He had discovered that the courtyard was surrounded by a strange forbidden array!

This kind of power was very inconspicuous, yet it was completely consistent with the surrounding world. The moss on the stone steps, the weeds on the wall, and even everything around it had already become a part of this forbidden array.

In other words, in Lin Xun's opinion, the moss, weeds, wooden gate, walls...could all be considered the runes that made up this array!

Just...who had set this up?

Lin Xun's spirit sense spread, covering the entire Feiyun Village within an instant.

After a while, he finally concluded that in the entire village, only the dilapidated courtyard where he had once lived was covered with such a strange forbidden array.

This made him even more confused.

For a moment, he stood in front of the courtyard, unable to move for a long time.

"Someone must have been here before, but who could it be? What were they looking for here?"

Lin Xun's expression was uncertain. Finally, he took a deep breath, reached out a hand, and pushed towards the closed gate.

Creak—

The already old and mottled gate easily opened.

But at the same time, a series of strange ripple-like fluctuations instantly appeared around the courtyard with a loud buzz, starting from the traces of moss in front of the stone steps and going all the way to the weeds on the walls.

Suddenly, Lin Xun's eyes blurred and some bizarre scenes appeared. It looked as if he had gone back in time to many years ago.

It was an afternoon, and the setting sun was giving off a beautiful glow among the green-covered mountains in the distance.

From a distance, a skinny old man walked toward the area and appeared in front of the courtyard. He clasped his hands behind his back, stood there, and stared for a moment. Then he smiled and pushed the gate open.

As if he was looking for something, he walked into the room where Lin Xun had once lived, sat in front of the desk that Lin Xun had used, and was silent for a long time.

Then, he got up, came back out to the courtyard, sat casually under the green weeping willow tree, faced the sunset, and stared at the courtyard in a daze.

At this moment, Lin Xun was also shocked into stillness. His state of mind was usually as tough as a rock, but it had been affected at this moment.

The old man's hair was disheveled, his face was wrinkled, and his figure was as skinny as a piece of bamboo. Although his expression was peaceful, his eyes were still full of spirit and energy.

Lin Xun knew this face all too well.

Because this was the Mister Lu who raised him, Lu Boya!

"Mister Lu, you truly are still alive..."

Lin Xun couldn't help from clenching his fists as his emotions became turbulent.

Back then, when he had left the mine prison, he had seen with his own two eyes that a big purple hand had covered the sky and slapped down hard.

He also remembered seeing Mister Lu's anxious, irritable and angry expression. At that time, Lin Xun thought this was the last time he would see Mister Lu in this lifetime. But now it was clear that Mister Lu had not died!

Lin Xun took a deep breath, tried to calm himself, and "looked" carefully.

He knew that the scene he saw in front of him was a sealed "brand" that had opened to take him back in time and recreate a past scene.

At this time, Mister Lu stood up and took out a pitch-black jade tablet from his sleeve. With a clear cry, the jade tablet exuded a strange luster and scattered wisps of magnificent and dreamlike light that resembled gentle rain.

Then, a shocking scene appeared.

On the jade tablet, pictures began to appear, which were the images of Lin Xun's daily life in this courtyard when he was young.

He saw himself writing runes, practicing martial arts, tempering his body... There were also scenes of him lighting a fire, cooking, washing and cleaning, etc...

Mister Lu stood there, quietly watching the scenes that appeared on the black jade tablet. On his skinny face, Lin Xun could see that various emotions came and went: happiness, sadness, despondency, and cheerfulness...

At this time, Lin Xun also felt complicated feelings. He did not expect that a black jade tablet would reveal all the traces he had left in the courtyard when he was young.

There was no doubt that this jet black jade tablet was an extremely magical treasure.

After a long time, the luster on the black jade tablet dimmed, and the images disappeared.

“Good, good, good...”

Mister Lu seemed to be unable to suppress his inner emotions as he murmured, "If the lady could see that this boy has grown up, she will definitely be very happy..."

There was indescribable sadness and relief in his voice.

Lin Xun suddenly felt emotional, and he inexplicably remembered the scenes of living with Mister Lu when he was young.

"He discovered the secret of the Omega Secret-Realm, and finally changed his fate against the will of heaven, hahaha... This is the power of the Grand Abyss Heaven Devourer bloodline! Even if it is taken away, there is still a chance for nirvana and rebirth!"

Lin Xun couldn't tell what Mister Lu had suddenly thought of in the courtyard, but the older man then burst out laughing, "And as long as the blood of the young lady continues, I, Lu Boya, will have no regrets even if I die!"

Lin Xun was incredibly shocked in his heart. He stared blankly at Mister Lu who was looking up to the sky and laughing wildly. For the first time, he discovered that Mister Lu, who had always been surly and grumpy, could actually be so cheerful, happy, and excited.

And he was quite certain that the lady Mister Lu was talking about was his mother Luo Qingxun!

This confirmed his speculation that Mister Lu had to be a guardian of hers!

Boom!

Lin Xun continued to watch, and the scene in front of him abruptly changed to his surprise.

It was still the same courtyard, but Lu Boya was now covered in blood. His skinny face was pale and transparent, his left shoulder was shattered, and there was a long and narrow wound on his chest. Furthermore, his skin was torn and the bones were visible. His appearance was so miserable that it was hard to even look at him.

In front of him was a purple figure. It was clearly a woman, with a slender and graceful body. A golden ribbon was wrapped around her waist, and her long purple hair hung down like a waterfall.

She carried a silver war spear on her back, was wearing purple robes, and had purple hair. A scornful aura that soared into the sky exuded from her making her resemble a god that overlooked all living beings.

No matter how hard Lin Xun tried, he couldn't see her appearance, only her back. But even the silhouette of her back was like a chasm that stretched across the sky, giving Lin Xun a feeling that he could only look up at her, as if she was tall and boundless.

Facing the figure made one feel like they were an ant looking up at the sky!

"Lu Boya, do you know your crime?"

The purple-haired woman's voice was pleasant, but there was no emotion in it at all.

Lu Boya took a deep breath with a calm expression and said, "Infinite years have passed, but you still haven't given up and want to kill all of the young lady's lineage. Unfortunately...you have arrived a step too late after all, and the young lady is no longer here."

"As long as Luo Qingxun lives, she will be captured sooner or later, and her brother won't be able to do anything even if he has reached the Emperor stage. A traitor is a traitor after all, and sooner or later the crimes will need to be repaid."

The purple-haired woman's voice remained emotionless throughout all of this.

"Traitor?" Lu Boya's face suddenly turned cold, "How much do you know about what happened back then, yet you still dare to proclaim the young lady guilty?"

"I'm not here to argue with you. All you need to know is that you are a criminal that I must capture." The purple-haired woman then continued, "Before that, tell me, where is the Omega Secret-Realm now?"

Lu Boya immediately sneered, "No wonder you still haven't given up even though endless years have passed. Your master is still thinking about that treasure. I can only tell you that he will never get this treasure again in this lifetime!"

The purple-haired woman was silent for a moment before she said, "You mean...there already is someone who is qualified to open the Omega Secret-Realm?"

Lu Boya remarked coldly, "Didn't your master tell you that the only people in this world who are qualified to open that door are the direct descendants of the young lady's lineage?"

"Impossible. When Luo Qingxun defected and left, her bloodline power was destroyed. Even after endless years of cultivation, it would be impossible to recover it. Therefore, she is destined never to be able to open the Omega Secret-Realm.

"And her brother had already entered the realm of the Saint-King when he defected, so he has missed the opportunity to open the door to the Omega Secret-Realm in this lifetime."

When the purple-haired woman said this, she also seemed to realize something, and she instantly exuded a terrifying power. Her purple hair flew up, and she said icily, "Could it be that... Luo Qingxun already has an heir?"

Lu Boya became calmer and he said, "You are not too stupid. Back then, the young lady was injured and escaped to this world. She fell into hibernation for many years. It was not until decades later that she woke up from it. Unfortunately...she had lost some memories at the time..."

Speaking of this, a trace of sadness appeared on his face.

After a while, he suddenly became energetic and smiled excitedly, "But clearly the heavens had plans. Although the young lady has lost some memories, in this world, she has a child who has inherited her bloodline talent!"

The more he talked, the more excited he became. He even looked a little crazy, laughing loudly.

"You and your master would never have thought in this lifetime that such a miracle would happen! Just wait, when that child sets foot in the starry sky in the future to find his destiny, you will...all have to pay the price for your crimes!"

Every word he enunciated was filled with great joy.

"I will find that scoundrel!" proclaimed the purple-haired woman coldly.

Lu Boya smiled sardonically, "No, you have no chance. When you destroyed that mine prison, it was already destined that you would never find him again in this lifetime."

A dazed look crossed his face as he murmured, "Speaking of which, many years have passed now. With that child's talent, if nothing unexpected happens, he should have already reached the peak King realm, right? Time flies by so quickly..."

"People are mere ants before becoming Saints. Even if you become a Saint, trying to cross the ancient road across the starry sky is no different from seeking death. I really can't see how the son of a sinner can make a difference even if he has obtained the Omega Secret-Realm."

The purple-haired woman's voice had no emotion from beginning to end, "I can only say that you are counting your chickens before they hatch."

Lu Boya responded calmly, "Having hope is better than having none at all. Do you know what the lady named the child?"

Without waiting for an answer from her, he said, "In one word, search[1]! Both the young lady and I believe that one day, he will discover the truth of what happened that year!"

1. The Xun in Lin Xun means search 尋

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1395: The Past is Like a Mystery

"The truth?" The purple-haired woman said indifferently, "The truth is that Luo Qingxun stole the Omega Secret-Realm, and you, Lu Boya, were an accomplice to the crime."

Lu Boya chuckled, his expression full of ridicule as he mocked, "Your master may be able to cover the sky with one hand, but without the Omega Secret-Realm, it is impossible to be truly immortal and invincible. This means that the truth may be covered up now, but it will eventually come out someday!"

Behind the purple-haired woman, the silver war spear suddenly flew out with a raucous clang, resembling silver lightning as it shattered the void and emitted a terrifying, murderous aura.

"If you, Luo Qingxun, and that son of a sinner all die, do you think...there will still be a time when the truth comes out?"

Her graceful figure was filled with an intent killing aura.

"Are you still trying to act against me?" Lu Boya continued, "Since I dared to show up here, do you truly believe I have no tricks up my sleeve?"

After saying that, a strange golden leaf suddenly appeared at his fingertips. It was as thin as a cicada's wing, as if it were polished with divine gold. The dense veins of the leaf were like the trajectory of the great road!

"A Leaf of Origin from the Immortal Tree of Ten Thousand Paths!?" screamed the purple-haired woman out of surprise. Previously, she was always emotionless, but now she was unusually nervous, even frightened and angry.

Boom!

Without hesitation, she immediately acted and the silver war spear flew out, with a sharp edge like a divine rainbow. With a few blows, it seemed as if it was going to pierce the universe and destroy the avenue!

But Lu Boya sneered, and the golden leaf at his fingertips instantly flew up.

With a buzz, the leaf suddenly seemed to turn into an infinite universe, flowing with immortal breath.

Then——

Boom!

Lin Xun saw that the scene in front of him had exploded instantaneously. All he could see was white and then nothing could be seen.

Gloom settled into his expression, and his mood was turbulent.

The previous images had made Lin Xun realize that both Lu Boya and his mother Luo Qingxun had many hidden secrets!

He took a deep breath and began to think silently.

An unknown time ago, Luo Qingxun was injured and her original bloodline was destroyed. She had fled with the Omega Secret-Realm, crossed the Ancient Nebula Road, and come to this lower world...

Then, Luo Qingxun fell into hibernation for many years because of her serious injuries. She didn't wake up until decades later, but unfortunately had lost many memories...

This is what Lu Boya had said!

According to Lin Xun's speculation, after losing her memory, his mother Luo Qingxun began her life in the empire, took the imperial examination, entered Qinglu Academy after taking first place in the imperial national examination, and then met his father Lin Wenjing...

It was not until the bloody massacre of the Lin Clan that year that his mother Luo Qingxun had disappeared again!

And Mister Lu had likely fled with his mother Luo Qingxun, crossed the Ancient Nebula Road, and come to this lower world as well.

Furthermore, he had likely been protecting Luo Qingxun secretly as a guardian.

When the bloody massacre of the Lin Clan occurred, Mister Lu rescued him as an infant and hid in that mine prison for more than ten years.

But wait!

Thinking of this, Lin Xun also remembered that in the conversation between Lu Boya and the purple-haired woman, his mother's 'elder brother' was mentioned.

And they had clearly stated that when he fled that year, her 'brother' already had the strength of the Saint-King Realm. Furthermore, he may have already become an Emperor Realm existence during the endless years after they had arrived in this world!

"The purple-haired woman said that my mother's bloodline was destroyed so she could no longer open the Omega Secret-Realm. At the same time, her elder brother was not qualified to open the Omega Secret-Realm due to his cultivation...

"From this I can infer that my mother's brother should also have the same Origin Aeth Artery as me. Could it be...that he?"

Thinking of this, Lin Xun felt like a bolt of lightning had flashed through his mind. He instantly recalled a certain someone.

The man's figure was majestic. However, as if he was crazy, he ran wildly in the depths of the starry sky. Wherever he passed, stars were annihilated and exploded...

In the end, that figure stayed in the void because there was no road ahead. It was empty, and there was no way forward.

The man became disappointed, melancholy, and lonely. He then let out a sigh, "I regard the universe as a chess game, the past and present as a chess grid, the great road as a chess record, my life as a chess piece, and I want to play chess with the sky... But in the end, we lost after all..."

There was endless unwillingness and anger in his voice.

"This road is closed, where should we go?"

Suddenly, the man straightened his back, and a terrifying divine light burst out from his eyes. His entire stalwart figure seemed to be on fire, bursting out with immeasurable light.

"Then... I will use my body to build a road of annihilation, and I will use my soul to guide through the maze ahead!"

Then, the man turned into infinite light and rushed into the vast empty void, never to be seen again.

Lin Xun had seen this when he was comprehending the Star Annihilation Heaven Devourer in the Stele Forest on Cangwu Mountain during the Dao Lantern Festival.

Later, in front of the Star Chess Sea by the Immortal Sacred Mountain, Lin Xun realized that the crazy-looking figure was the Star Annihilation Battle Emperor!

He was a true emperor!

But at this time...

Lin Xun had an uncontrollable thought pop up in his mind. The Star Annihilation Battle Emperor...was most likely the elder brother of his mother, Luo Qingxun.

And he was also his uncle!

"That must be the case. He practices the Star Annihilation Heaven Devourer and must also have the talent of the Grand Abyss Heaven Devourer. According to Mister Lu, this kind of bloodline talent can only be possessed by my mother's lineage..."

Lin Xun's mood was turbulent, and his expression was uncertain.

What he saw today made him unable to calm down at all!

"Just who is hunting down my mother and the others?"

He was stunned by these revelations.

Now, he was sure that his mother Luo Qingxun and Mister Lu did not belong to this world, but instead had come from somewhere on the other side of the Ancient Nebula Road.

He was also certain that the existence of the Omega Secret-Realm was the reason why his mother and the others were being chased down!

And this pursuit has lasted for decades upon decades, yet the other party still hadn't given up. This showed just how important the Omega Secret-Realm was to those enemies!

"If I continue along this line of thinking, then the sky-covering hand that destroyed the mine prison back then probably came from one of those enemies..."

Although Lin Xun had deduced many truths, he found that more and more questions had emerged after learning about them.

For example, where did his mother Luo Qingxun and the others come from?

And also, who were those enemies?

What kind of shocking secret was hidden in the Omega Secret-Realm such that the enemy still refused to give up after all this time?

As for his mother, after that bloody massacre of the Lin Clan, if she and his father Lin Wenjing had not passed away, then where had they gone?

And why...hadn't Mister Lu ever told him of those secrets?

Was he worried that Lin Xun wouldn't be able to bear it after learning the truth?

These thoughts made Lin Xun stunned for a bit, and he could not regain his senses for a long time.

"Lin Xun... I didn't expect that this was a name given to me by my mother. Is what Mister Lu said true? Do you want me to find out the truth and answers in the future?" muttered Lin Xun

In the courtyard, the grass swayed lightly, and there were spider webs everywhere. The strange forbidden power that had originally covered the courtyard had long since disappeared.

Dusk deepened.

Lin Xun, who had been silent for a long time, finally stepped into the courtyard where he had once lived.

He knew that Mister Lu was here a few years ago and had left some knowledge regarding himself. This made him feel very relieved and happy.

He also knew that it was in this courtyard that the purple-haired woman had appeared and staged a shocking showdown with Mister Lu.

But what Lin Xun didn't know was what the final result was.

He stood under the green weeping willow tree where Mister Lu once stood, thinking silently.

Night fell quickly, and the stars were bright and dazzling, casting clear light and shrouding Feiyun Village in a quiet atmosphere.

"No! Mister Lu must still be alive!"

Suddenly, Lin Xun's eyes lit up as he remembered something.

When he had arrived earlier, the courtyard was surrounded by a layer of strange forbidden power.

It was precisely because of the power of this forbidden array that he was able to look back in time to several years ago. That was how he had witnessed the confrontation between Mister Lu and the purple-haired woman.

What he was certain of was that this restriction was deliberately placed by Mister Lu so that he could see it one day!

The people of this world would never have imagined that such a restriction could exist in such a small, abandoned village!

If Mister Lu had died in the duel against the purple-haired woman, then how could such an array be left behind?

"Mister Lu is still alive...then Mother and the others...must be waiting for me to find out the truth..."

Lin Xun had been depressed earlier, but now became excited. His black eyes glowed with extreme determination.

Ancient Nebula Road!

He had to go there one day!

That night, Lin Xun stood alone under the green willow tree and stayed there silently all night.

It was only when dawn broke and the sky was bright that he turned around and left.

Behind him, Feiyun Village, which had been deserted for many years, was destroyed with a boom and turned into smoke and dust.

However, when he walked near an ancient forest, Lin Xun stopped abruptly. He had suddenly remembered something.

Back then, it was in the depths of this forest that he had spotted Xia Zhi, who was being chased by a Brute Warrior!

Whoosh~

Lin Xun thought for a while, then walked into the depths of the forest. However, there were no traces or clues in the forest after so many years, which disappointed him.

"Xia Zhi...just how did she appear? Who are her parents? And why was she hunted down by a Brute Warrior back then?"

Lin Xun couldn't help but smile bitterly when he thought of this.

Over the years, there had been enough twists and turns to discover the secrets that were pertinent to him, but in comparison, Xia Zhi's origins were even more mysterious.

Back then, she seemed to appear out of thin air, without a father or a mother, and she was alone. The strangest thing was that she was only willing to follow him...

Inexplicably, Lin Xun remembered something Xia Zhi had said a long time ago.

"Lin Xun, remember, my world is very small, and it can only accommodate you alone."

Thinking of this, he couldn't help but sigh. He didn't know where that little girl was now...

Time passed.

Lin Xun stood outside the city in the east, looked back, and took another glance at the three thousand mountains. Then he resolutely flew away through the sky.

The past had faded away like smoke in the air.

The journey was now ahead!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1396: Beast Kings' Provocation

Chapter 1396 Beast Kings' Provocation

Haze City.

Lin Xuefeng looked at Lin Xun in surprise. "You're back already, Clan Leader?"

Lin Xun had only left for two days.

“Mhm,” replied Lin Xun before asking, “Still no news about Scarlet Eagle King?”

Lin Xuefeng shook his head. “Master Song has been on the lookout, but so far he hasn’t found anything.”

Lin Xun frowned and didn’t say anything.

“By the way, Master Song sent some intel this morning.” Lin Xuefeng took out a jade slip and handed it to Lin Xun. “Please take a look. The death of Golden Armor King has raised a huge uproar in the empire. Some monster-beast Kings are clamoring that sooner or later they will make you...”

Lin Xun smiled. “Make me what?”

The question troubled Lin Xuefeng. “It’s better you see it for yourself.”

Lin Xun opened the jade slip and skimmed through it. Raising his eyebrows, he laughed coldly, “I was planning to kill those sinful animals soon, but who’d have thought that they would start barking at me first?”

An invisible murderous aura spread from him, causing Lin Xuefeng to hold his breath. He shivered in excitement, realizing that his clan leader was about to go on a killing spree again!

.....

“This Lin Xun’s not far from death. Let’s see how many days left he can still bounce around!”

This was the sneer of a great monster-beast who occupied an eastern province of the empire and was worshiped as the Earth Dragon King.

Such words immediately stirred the empire.

Lin Xun’s might and momentum was at their peak since he had just killed the Golden Armor King and annihilated the forces at Yin Soul Mountain not long ago. Therefore, it was surprising to hear a monster-beast King dare to be so provocative at a time like this.

“Isn’t the Earth Dragon King just a mud-eating earthworm who’s lucky on the path of cultivation? That’s some big talk. He’s simply tired of living!”

“Mud-eating beasts have the stinkiest mouths. Only idiots will believe the things coming out of his mouth.”

Many cultivators raised their voices, believing that Earth Dragon King was seeking death.

From their conversations, it was easy to see the Ziyao Empire's extreme confidence in Lin Xun and scornful attitude toward the Earth Dragon King's words.

Not long after, however, White Wasp King also had something to say, "Heh. Death may come late, but it's never absent. I hope you stupid humans can still laugh when Lin Xun dies!"

The atmosphere in the empire instantly changed, and countless cultivators began to feel alarmed as the White Wasp King was one of the ten most powerful monster-beast Kings in the empire, having killed a dozen of King experts over the last ten years!

The White Wasp King's original form was rumored to be an ancient creature that possessed extremely terrifying abilities and was listed as one of the most dangerous enemies in the empire's intelligence.

Now that even White Wasp King had taken a strong stance against Lin Xun, everyone was alarmed.

Afterward, several other notorious demon-beast Kings also spoke out with scorn and threat toward Lin Xun, causing the air in the entire empire to become heavy and depressing.

For example, the Fire Molten King, who occupied the northwestern desert of the empire, threw out a curt sentence: "This Lin Xun must die!"

The Ink Sheep King, who occupied the Flowing River Province, said murderously, "Once Lin Xun is eliminated, this empire shall be washed with the blood of its humans!"

A series of aggressive declarations from the monster-beast Kings threw the whole empire into turmoil and unrest.

Countless people were worried as they realized that a great calamity was about to befall Lin Xun!

"This is troublesome. No matter how powerful Master Lin is, he is all alone. It's a very worrying situation that he's being targeted by so many King stage monster-beasts," some cultivators sighed.

"Apparently, they sensed a threat after Master Lin killed Golden Armor King, so they are all targeting him first."

"Master Lin is in full power nowadays. Those monster-beast Kings definitely can't fall asleep as long as he lives. But if he dies, it would be a heavy blow to our empire!"

The news was being discussed in every corner of the empire.

Even Zhao Jingxuan in the imperial palace was alarmed and had to summon the ministers to discuss a solution to this storm.

In the Qingyuan Hall.

“Those rampant beasts! How dare they bare their fangs like that in the boundaries of our empire?! Do they think we have no one left?” A minister was indignant and suggested mobilizing all of the empire’s forces to fight the monster-beast Kings to the death.

“Your Highness, we mustn’t be reckless. The empire is facing more than just the scourge of demonic beasts. The Brute Warriors are still lurking around our borders, waiting for an opportunity to strike. The consequences would be unimaginable if we go on a full-scale war because of Lin Xun.”

Many refuted the idea and advised Zhao Jingxuan to think twice before acting.

“Your Highness, I don’t think things have gotten that serious yet. Why don’t we...just wait and see?”

“Wait and see? It’s all f*cking on fire! Wait and see my ass!”

“If you think my suggestion is not good, then why don’t you tell me your brilliant idea to resolve this immediate threat?”

The hall was in chaos as the ministers argued to the point that their faces and necks turned red. They glared angrily at each other, and no one was convinced by anyone.

Bang!

Zhao Jingxuan smacked the desk.

The ministers instantly shut up. The hall became dead quiet and solemn.

“A bunch of animals threw some threats around, and you all lost your senses and have gone haywire? If this gets out, you’ll be the laughingstock of the empire.”

Zhao Jingxuan’s voice echoed in the hall clearly and coldly, causing all the ministers to bow their heads in shame.

“I have my plans. You are dismissed.”

With that, she flung her sleeve and left.

On this day, Lin Xun received a letter from the imperial palace, written by Zhao Jingxuan herself, with only one sentence: “Lord Demon God, do you need this humble girl to lend you a hand?”

The corners of Lin Xun's lips twitched imperceptibly. He didn't expect that just the clamor of some monster-beast Kings would make Zhao Jingxuan worry for him.

"Just sit back and enjoy the show, humble lady."

Lin Xun quickly returned with a letter that also had just one sentence.

Then, he stood up and gazed into the distance with a cold sneer. "Very bold of you, Monster-Beast Ancestor, to mobilize a bunch of beast Kings to deal with me. Unfortunately, I'll have to disappoint you!"

On the same day, the Grand Universe Ark left the southwest province.

To get out of the trap, the Monster-Beast Ancestor would have to use those monster-beast Kings to collect a steady stream of 'sacrifices' and replenish his strength.

Lin Xun had already planned to cut down his minions one by one and destroy his hope of breaking free within ten years.

Now that those monster-beast Kings had taken the initiative to jump out and even cause chaos, Lin Xun was actually pleased.

Swish!

A jade slip suddenly appeared in Lin Xun's palm out of nowhere and transformed into a detailed map of the empire.

After reading it for a moment, he locked onto a target that was closest to him.

"North Swallow Province, Sorrow Mountain Range, occupied by eight monster-beast Kings and their subordinates, whose leader is the 'Black Bat King...' Looks like this Black Bat King won't be weaker than that Golden Armor King, if not even better, but that's for the best."

Lin Xun remembered that the news in the past two days had mentioned how this Black Bat King had also threatened to teach him a lesson.

"Hope you won't disappoint me..."

A cold glint flashed in Lin Xun's eyes as he put away the jade slip. The Grand Universe Ark turned into a streak of light that disappeared into the vast horizon.

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North Swallow Province.

Just like in the Southwest Province, monster-beasts frequented the area, and everywhere was fire and smoke of war.

Many cities had turned into ruins, and the imperial army stationed in the province had to fight the monster-beasts that ravaged the area almost every day.

Bloodtooth City.

Just a few days ago, a massive battle had erupted in this city, resulting in the army's collapse and the city being captured. At the moment, it had become ruins.

However, a team of about eight cultivators appeared today in the city.

The one leading the group was a slender, black-robed man with a resolute face.

"According to the information I've gathered, a canyon not far from this city is currently occupied by a monster-beast King called Blood Pheasant King, one of the ten big monster-beast Kings under the Black Bat King. Its strength is not to be underestimated," said the black-robed man in a heavy voice.

Those cultivators following him were young men and women, but from their auras, they all seemed to be fierce and seasoned veterans who had a long experience in the battlefield.

When they looked at the black-robed man, their gazes carried a kind of heartfelt awe and respect.

"For safety's sake, you all stay here. I alone am enough to deal with that Blood Pheasant King," ordered the black-robed man.

"Instructor!" The cultivators were all anxious. "It's too risky! The Blood Pheasant King is powerful and commands tens of thousands of troops. You can't go alone. Please bring us along!"

As far as they were concerned, this was too risky and hasty of a decision, and the black-robed man was obviously putting his life on the line.

The black-robed man waved his hand and stopped them from talking. He gazed at the ruins that were Bloodtooth City with indescribable grief and hatred.

"You don't understand. I grew up in this city. My parents, my brothers, and my clansmen...were all killed in the disaster several days ago. I must have my revenge!" His eyes were bloodshot, and his resentment was so overwhelming that his jaws were tightly clenched.

The others froze when they finally understood his reason.

“You all are still young, and you still have a long way to go in the future. Listen to me and stay here. This is my battle, and mine alone!”

The black-robed man took a deep breath, his expression becoming resolute.

“Do you still remember? Violet Glory Flower is undefeated because of blood kill, and the empire exists forever because of continued expeditions! This beast scourge shall not defeat our empire. And you all, in the future, are destined to grow and rise in battle and become the empire’s pillars!”

Finishing his words, the black-robed man was about to launch into action, when he suddenly noticed something and looked up.

He saw a treasure ship that had appeared in the sky at some point. At the bow of the ship stood a tall figure, and that person was looking right at him.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1397: Qi Can’s Resentment

The black-robed man stiffened and found it hard to breathe. He was appalled.

He was a true King, but just a glance from the other party put him under a pressure so great that he didn’t dare to take a second look.

“Qi Can?” a voice rang in his ears.

The black-robed man was stunned. *He knows me?*

Whoosh!

The other party put away the treasure ship and descended from the sky, stopping right in front of him.

“It’s you!” The black-robed man’s pupils shrunk as he recognized the other party. For a moment, he was in a daze as flashbacks from his youth in Blood Kill Camp played in his mind.

“Sure enough, I wasn’t mistaken. Long time no see.”

The figure was none other than Lin Xun. He didn’t expect to see the black-robed man in this fallen city.

Back then, when Lin Xun had first entered Blood Kill Camp, he was assigned to the 39th Campground under Instructor Xiaoke.

It was also then that he had befriended Ning Meng, Shi Yu, Li Duxing, Ye Xiaoqi, Gong Ming, and Bai Lingxi.

Qi Can had also been a trainee at the 39th Campground at that time. However, they hadn't had a good relationship as there had been constant competition and friction in the shadows.

After so many years, those small fights had long since become a memory.

"It's really you..." Qi Can looked delighted. He too was no longer the teenager that he was back then. To be able to see Lin Xun again was something he found to be a happy occurrence.

"Why are you here?" asked Lin Xun as he swept his gaze over the group behind Qi Can. He immediately noticed from the unique aura about them that they all came from Blood Kill Camp.

"To kill monsters, of course," replied Qi Can. Then, he introduced his group to Lin Xun. "These are the cadets who entered Blood Kill Camp three years ago. Compared to us back then, their aptitude and power are much stronger."

Lin Xun was surprised. "You are serving in Blood Kill Camp nowadays?"

Qi Can nodded and turned to the students behind him with a smile. "Come, let me introduce you all. This is the renowned master of Mind Cleansing Peak, Lin Xun! But you all probably don't know that back then, he was the one with the best test scores in Blood Kill Camp."

Lin Xun!

The students were all shocked. Their eyes immediately lit up with reverence and fervor.

How could they not know of Lin Xun, the legendary figure who had been raising storms in the empire these days?

They just didn't expect that their instructor was a friend of his!

It came as an absolute surprise as Qi Can had never once mentioned his relationship with Lin Xun, who was a celebrity in the whole empire, at all.

"Greetings, Senior." They saluted in unison.

“Since we’ve just met, consider these small things as a gift from your senior.” Lin Xun smiled and waved his hand. A bottle of pills and a sealed jade box appeared in front of each student.

“This...” They all hesitantly looked at Qi Can.

Qi Can laughed, “What are you being so polite about? Accept them while they’re still available.”

The students immediately accepted Lin Xun’s gifts.

After a brief look, they all let out a gasp. Their hearts thumped violently, and their expressions were filled with excitement and surprise.

Be it the pills or the treasure in the box, they were all of immense value to the students!

“Thank you so much, Senior!” They all expressed their joy and gratitude toward Lin Xun.

Lin Xun smiled wryly. “Don’t call me senior, I’m not that old.”

Qi Can burst out laughing. “It has nothing to do with age, but status and strength. After all, you are now an old King monster that many cultivators can only look up to.”

The others also laughed. They suddenly all had this thought that the legendary Senior Lin was not as intimidating as rumored...

If one hadn’t seen it with their own eyes, then they wouldn’t have believed that he alone had flattened two high clans of Zuo and Qin.

“Come, let’s find a place to chat over wine,” suggested Lin Xun.

Qi Can hesitated, then shook his head. “Some other time.”

Lin Xun was stunned. He keenly noticed that Qi Can’s mood seemed a bit off and couldn’t help but ask, “Did you encounter any trouble?”

Qi Can was shocked by Lin Xun’s sharp sense. He hurriedly laughed, “Just a small matter.”

A student behind him couldn’t help but retort, “How is it a small matter? Instructor, now that Senior Lin is here with us, you really shouldn’t go alone. It’s too risky.”

The others also chimed in, “That’s right. The Blood Pheasant King has too many powerful beasts under his command. It’s too dangerous for you to go and fight them alone.”

A stout youth in black clothes even knelt to Lin Xun with an anxious expression. “Senior Lin, please help our instructor!”

Qi Can's face instantly darkened. "When do I need you to intervene in my matters?! Get up!"

His shout silenced the students, but they still could hardly hide the worry in their expressions.

Seeing this, Lin Xun had a rough idea of what was going on. He frowned. "Qi Can, we are friends and comrades from Blood Kill Camp. But from the way you're acting, I feel like you don't consider me a friend anymore, do you?"

Many expressions fled across Qi Can's face. In the end, he sighed, "It's precisely because we are friends that I don't want you to get involved in my trouble!"

Lin Xun raised his brows. "How big is it? The sky-piercing kind?"

Qi Can smiled bitterly. "Not that big."

"Senior Lin, his parents, relatives, friends, and clansmen were all killed by those beasts! He's going to exact revenge on the Blood Pheasant King!" The stout, black-robed youth couldn't help but speak up, "As you can see, this city was breached. His clan lived here."

Lin Xun instantly understood. He patted Qi Can's shoulder. "This revenge must certainly be taken, but it must not be done in the heat of the moment."

Taking a deep breath, Qi Can said, "The Blood Pheasant King is one of the ten big monster-beast Kings under the Black Bat King. If you go with me, the Black Bat King will definitely target you. From what I know, a bunch of monster-beast Kings are eyeing you for an opportunity to strike. How can I get you involved in this and make it worse?"

Hearing this, the students' faces drastically changed.

They had also heard that one monster-beast King after another had taken a strong stance to kill Lin Xun. This had thrown the empire in chaos, and there hadn't been a day of peace lately.

Qi Can's worries moved Lin Xun, and it only made him even more determined to help this old friend.

"Do you know why I'm here?" asked Lin Xun with a smile, his eyes profound.

Qi Can was stunned. Then, he looked startled as if he had realized something. "Could it be that you are...?"

Lin Xun nodded.

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Outside of Bloodtooth City was a long range of mountains. In the depths of the mountains, there was a divine and secluded canyon that was like a paradise on earth, a blessed land of the immortal.

At the moment, however, the canyon was filled with foul air as it had been occupied by countless ferocious monster-beasts.

“My king, we little ones are close to starving. When can we go out and find some prey?” asked a hideous monster-beast covered in brown scales with an expectant tone.

Its king, who was the Blood Pheasant King, was lying on a luxurious, soft couch.

“No more killing. The Black Bat King just ordered that we must be more restrained. From what I’ve heard, it’s to prepare all the forces to deal with a human named Lin Xun,” said the Blood Pheasant King lazily.

He was dressed luxuriously. His skin was pale while his lips were as red as blood and his eyes were a bizarre turquoise color, making him look demonic.

To his sides, two scantily clad, young human girls were kneeling as they massaged his legs and feet.

The two girls were both captured here. They were beautiful, but their expressions were numb and their eyes hollow.

“Emergency! My king! There are cultivators coming!” a piercing scream of fright suddenly echoed outside the canyon.

The Blood Pheasant King was dumbfounded, then couldn’t help but laugh, “There are still cultivators trying to seek death? How very strange. Go, go. Didn’t you say you were starving? Bring your subordinates to kill those idiots.”

“Yes!” The hideous monster-beast immediately received his order and left in exhilaration.

But before long, another scream echoed, “No! All dead, they’re all dead...”

Boom!

An earth-shattering explosion resounded over the cacophonous yelling. The huge canyon shook.

The Blood Pheasant King abruptly sat up from his couch with a cold snort, his face grim. “A bunch of trash!”

“A bunch of trash indeed,” a nonchalant voice suddenly rang out from above.

The Blood Pheasant King instantly looked up and saw a group of people floating in the distant sky. At the very front of the group was a handsome and ethereal young man.

“Die!” The Blood Pheasant King kicked out with a gloomy expression.

Bang!

The two beautiful human girls directly burst and died on the spot.

Seeing this, Lin Xun’s eyes flashed with an icy gleam. “You are the Blood Pheasant King?”

The Blood Pheasant King laughed savagely. “You know it’s me and yet you still ran straight here to your death. Some big guts you have, young man.”

“Let me kill him!” Qi Can suddenly stepped forward, his eyes bloodshot and his killing intent surging.

It was the Blood Pheasant King who had led his beast troops to attack Bloodtooth City, causing the tragic death of his clansmen and friends!

Boom!

Qi Can charged forward like a sharp killing bolt with a green spear in his hand.

“A small King who has not even crossed one longevity tribulation, running to his death.... Hahahaha.” The Blood Pheasant King threw his head back and laughed. However, his expression was cold and full of disdain.

He thrust out his palm.

A blood-colored palm print coalesced, exuding a seething murderous aura and horrifying power as it splintered even the air.

The Blood Pheasant King was confident that with his third longevity stage power, a casual palm strike was enough to slap the stupid human to death!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1398: Demon Devourer Blood Prison

The moment the palm coalesced, however, the Blood Pheasant King froze as a terrifying force pressed down on him.

The power of the palm also dropped.

At this moment, Qi Can had stabbed out his spear and easily shattered the palm. The spear kept zapping like a lightning bolt and pierced the Blood Pheasant King's left shoulder.

"You...!"

The Blood Pheasant King was enraged, but even more so horrified as the mountain-like pressure kept him in place, preventing him from resisting.

This completely sealed away his fighting power. Otherwise, how could he have been stabbed?

Swish!

The spear nimbly moved like a green bolt as it tore through the air like a canvas. Its owner, a berserk Qi Can, seemed to have lost his sanity as he exuded a hair-raising aura.

Poof poof poof!

In just a blink of an eye, a series of cup-sized holes appeared on the Blood Pheasant King. From them, blood splattered and flowed. He let out a miserable scream while trying desperately to dodge to no avail.

"Damn it, his aura alone can restrain me and my battle power. Just how terrifying is that guy's strength?" A chill spread all over the Blood Pheasant King as he realized the dire situation he was in.

He wasn't afraid of Qi Can, but rather Lin Xun who was standing in the air.

"Run! I must run!"

As the Blood Pheasant King mobilized his power like crazy, bestial lights erupted from him and his aura exploded.

However, it was all futile.

No matter how hard he tried, the terrifying pressure on him remained a godly, immovable mountain. It pressed down on him so hard that he was close to suffocating.

Meanwhile, behind Lin Xun, the students of Blood Kill Camp had all been rendered speechless by shock.

Since they were standing in the air, they could see everything that had happened in the canyon. It was simply unimaginable to them that the Blood Pheasant King, who was rumored to possess extremely horrifying strength, could appear so weak and powerless in front of their instructor!

At the same time, they also noticed that the other monster-beasts all over the canyon were all prostrate and trembling. Not to mention aiding the Blood Pheasant King, they didn't even have the strength to crawl up.

"It must be Senior Lin!"

The students all arrived at the same guess and were convinced of it.

They believed that such unimaginable means could only be done by the legendary peerless Young Master Lin.

Pfff!

In the end, the Blood Pheasant King fell flat on the ground with an expression of unwillingness, rage, and confusion.

From beginning to end, he was like a worm stuck in a spider's web, unable to struggle, resist, or escape.

It was a suffocating and humiliating death!

"Hoo~hoo~" Qi Can gasped for breath. On his face, there was no glee of having carried out his revenge.

The enemy had indeed died, but it couldn't bring his friends and family back to life. What joy was there to speak of?

"Thank you!" Qi Can looked toward Lin Xun with a grateful expression.

He knew that without Lin Xun's suppression, he would have been no match for the Blood Pheasant King.

"Let's go." Lin Xun smiled.

The group left the canyon.

After they left, the monster-beasts who were all prostrate died without a sound. The place became a graveyard of cold corpses, painting a chilling scene.

Meanwhile, as the group flew away, Lin Xun asked, "If you're still feeling down, then why don't you accompany me to the Sorrow Mountain Range?"

Qi Can was startled. “You’re going to kill the Black Bat King?”

Lin Xun smiled. “Why not?”

His reply was casual, but it revealed absolute dominance in the ears of Qi Can and his students!

Who else in this huge empire dared to look down on those beast kings like Lin Xun?

Qi Can felt his blood boil as he agreed without hesitation, “It’s my pleasure. As long as you don’t feel like I’m dragging your feet.”

To this, Lin Xun only said, “Let’s go.”

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Sorrow Mountain Range.

“Move, quick!”

On a mountain, the Black Bat King was standing with his hands behind his back as he gave out orders.

In the vicinity, waves upon waves of monster-beasts were running around, each carrying a long, blood-red flag on their shoulder.

Densely packed blood-red flags were inserted into different areas. There were as many as hundreds of thousands of them, covering a radius of a thousand miles of mountains and rivers.

“See this? Once this array is set up, these thousand miles of land will be transformed into an isolated, blood-red prison that has the power to exterminate everything. Anyone below the Saint stage will be killed without fail!” The Black Bat King revealed a smug expression.

He was thin, with a sharp chin and jug ears. His long and narrow eyes were the color of blood. As he stood there like a mountain, a monstrous and ferocious aura spread.

Standing behind the Black Bat King was a group of monster-beast Kings who were his most capable subordinates.

One of them, who was a young man in a blood-red robe with a pretty face, asked with a smile, “My king, what exactly is the use of this array?”

The Black Bat King laughed, “I knew you wouldn’t comprehend it. See those red flags? Each of them cost the essence blood of a dozen human cultivators to make.”

The red-robed young man was astonished. “Heavens! There are at least ten thousand flags here. Does this mean a hundred thousand human cultivators were killed?”

The Black Bat King nonchalantly said, “How else could this Demon Devourer Blood Prison Array be set up? This array was taught to us by Lord Monster-Beast Ancestor. According to Lord Monster-Beast Ancestor, if the flags are refined from the essence blood of Saints, then this array will be able to kill even Saint-Kings!”

The monster-beast Kings all gasped in shock.

“But why set up an array now? Is that Lin Xun really so terrifying?” One of them was puzzled, feeling that it was a waste of time for the Black Bat King to go to such lengths to set up this array.

“The Golden Armor King is dead, killed by that Lin brat. Lord Monster-Beast Ancestor said that he has the power of at least the seventh longevity stage. He is extremely terrifying,” said the Black Bat King in a serious voice. “As you all know, the Southwest Province is the closest to us. If that brat wants to retaliate, then he will most likely start with the Sorrow Mountain Range.”

Hearing this, the other monster-beast Kings started to take this seriously.

The Black Bat King gazed into the distance, his scarlet eyes swirling with cold killing intent. “I’m setting this array for a rainy day. We stand to lose nothing leaving it here if Lin Xun doesn’t come anyway. And if he does come, then this is where he will die wretchedly!”

“Hahaha! Since Boss said so, I actually can’t wait for that brat to come. Rumor has it that he is now the most famous person in the empire who’s highly respected by those humans. His death will be a fatal blow to them.”

“That’s right! I’m also looking forward to him coming!”

The other monster-beast Kings all laughed.

Right then, a beast came and reported, “My great king, the array is ready!”

The Black Bat King’s spirit was jolted up. He ordered, “Relay my words and have everyone retreat from the Sorrow Mountain Range.”

Immediately, thousands of monster-beasts in the nearby area withdrew like a wave.

When all of them had retreated, the Black Bat King fished out a round, blood-red jade disk from his bosom and threw it.

Buzz~

The jade disk suddenly grew countless times larger and became a full moon hanging in the sky, spilling down blood-red rays of light.

All of a sudden, the region was filled with a blood aura so thick that it was almost sticky. The light wholly enveloped the ten thousand scarlet flags within the one-thousand-mile radius.

Rumble~

Hissing roars like that of ancient demons began to echo in the rolling blood light, and a boundless bloody breath dyed the air in a blinding red color.

Seeing this, the monster-beast Kings felt a horror fill their minds and chills run down their spines. The evil breath emanating from the grand array made their hearts tremble.

Boom!

The phenomenon vanished not long after.

The only thing that was left was the eerie blood-red moon quietly hanging in the sky.

“It’s completed!” The Black Bat King looked frenzied as he muttered, “Unless a Saint appears, no one in this empire can do anything to me with this array here!”

The other monster-beast Kings all voiced their congratulations.

The Black Bat King laughed joyously. Then, he noticed something. “Where is Blood Pheasant? How come he has not returned?”

Someone smiled. “That guy just slaughtered a city the other day. He’s probably still enjoying the spoils of war.”

Right at this moment, a wild beast bird suddenly swept down from the sky and urgently shouted, “Bad news, my king! The Blood Pheasant King and his underlings are all dead!”

The smiles on the monster-beasts’ faces instantly froze.

“Who did it?” asked a monster-beast King with an icy gaze.

“Isn’t it obvious?” snorted the Black Bat King coldly. “Right now in the empire, who else beside that brazen Lin Xun would dare to come to my territory and blatantly kill my subordinates?”

“What, he actually dares?!” The other monster-beast Kings were appalled.

“What are you afraid of? With the Demon Devourer Blood Prison Array in place, this king will turn him into a puddle of pus and blood as long as he dares to come!” The Black Bat King coldly swept a glance at them, somewhat dissatisfied with their reaction.

The other monster-beast Kings instantly regained their composure and smiled awkwardly.

“That’s right! As long as that brat dares to come here, he’ll die an ugly death!” They gritted their teeth, their eyes ferocious.

RUMBLE!

An earth-shattering explosion suddenly resounded in the distance, causing the entire area to tremble.

All the monster-beasts instantly looked over and saw that in that direction, a treasure ship had somehow appeared.

On the ship stood a group of people headed by a young man with black eyes and black hair. He looked ethereal as his clothes fluttered in the wind.

It was Lin Xun.

The earth-shattering explosion had been produced by a casual strike of his hitting the Demon Devourer Blood Prison Array.

From just a glance at the Sorrow Mountain Range, he could immediately see that the area of a thousand mile radius was completely covered in a grand, forbidden formation that oozed a ferocious and bloody aura.

“What a thick resentful air. Just how many people were killed to set up such a vile array?” Lin Xun frowned. An icy light flashed in his eyes as he looked at the Black Bat King in the distance. “You are the Black Bat King?”

“Indeed. And you are Lin Xun, aren’t you? Nothing special.” The Black Bat King crossed his hands behind his back with an air of arrogance, “Since you’ve come, don’t even think of leaving!”

“Of course I won’t leave until you sinful beasts are all dead,” said Lin Xun calmly. Then, he transmitted his voice to Qi Can’s group, “You guys stay here. Watch me break this array and raze these mountains!”

With that, he left the ship. His clothes fluttered wildly as he flew toward the Sorrow Mountain Range.

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Chapter 1399: Out in Force

“Humph! Seeking death!” snorted the Black Bat King disdainfully.

He would have been apprehensive of Lin Xun before the completion of the Demon Devourer Blood Prison Array, but now, he just couldn’t wait for him to come and die.

“Come, Lin Xun. Come and give us a show.”

“He could have lived, but he chose to rush right into his doom. We may as well fulfill your wish then.”

The other monster-beast Kings all happily chimed in.

The beasts all over the Sorrow Mountain Range instantly laughed with them. Since the array boosted their confidence, they all looked at Lin Xun like he was a dead man.

A monster-beast King was even worried. “What if he’s so scared that he’ll flee?”

The Black Bat King shouted, “Everyone, keep your voices down! Don’t scare the brat’s guts out of him!”

This earned another burst of fearless and arrogant laughter.

Seeing this, Qi Can’s group couldn’t help but frown, sensing that something was wrong.

Those beasts are too calm. They clearly have prepared for this and were waiting for Lin Xun to run into their trap!

“Instructor, should we remind Senior Lin?” A student was worried.

The others also agreed. This was obviously a well-prepared trap. They didn’t want to watch Lin Xun die.

“Even you can see this. You think he can’t?”

Qi Can’s reply was simple, but it eased the anxiety in the students’ hearts.

That’s right. How can Senior Lin not see that with his strength and experience? Since he still dares to go, he definitely knows what he’s doing!

“Do you really think that this big array can protect you?” Lin Xun stopped at a distance. His eyes flashed like lightning, and his lips curled into a sneer.

“Ignorant fool! Let’s see if you can still say such stupid words after you have a taste of this array!” laughed the Black Bat King coldly as he swung his hand.

Buzz!

The blood moon in the sky suddenly emitted a piercing scarlet glow. And then, in the land within a thousand mile radius, blood-red mist steamed up.

In that instant, an intense murderous air surged along with roars that seemed to come from the depths of hell. The flowing, blood-red moonlight reflected horrifying phenomena of a sea of corpses and blood and a mountain of white bones, over which echoed the wailing of demons.

It was as if a hell of blood had emerged in the mortal world!

In just a second, Lin Xun was engulfed by the rolling scarlet mist and could no longer be seen.

Despite their confidence in Lin Xun, Qi Can’s group still tensed up and revealed anxious expressions when they saw this.

Meanwhile, the Black Bat King sneered. “Looks like you greatly overestimate yourself because you were able to kill the Golden Armor King. Still, it’s not a disgrace to die in this array.”

The other monster-beast Kings all laughed. Inwardly, they were greatly reassured.

It would be a lie to say that they hadn’t been apprehensive when facing Lin Xun. After all, even Golden Armor King had died at his hands.

But now, they realized that the rumors were exaggerated, for the arrogant and cocky brat had been easily and swiftly trapped in their grand array!

“Is he just too weak?” asked a monster-beast dubiously.

“No, it only proves that the array bestowed by Lord Monster-Beast Ancestor is too powerful. No one under the Saint stage can survive it, so how can it be ordinary?” Black Bat King was smug and satisfied.

He had even thought out what news to release once he killed Lin Xun in order to let the human cultivators in the whole world see how weak the person they had pinned great hopes on was!

RUMBLE~

The thousand miles of land was drenched in a bloody light and violent explosions. The sky was dim. The cries of ghosts and demons echoed. Countless complex and bizarre blood-red symbols flowed, exuding a horrifying aura that caused even the hearts of the monster-beast Kings on the Sorrow Mountain Range to skip in fright.

Qi Can's group also felt suffocated as their hearts were filled with terror, and their spirits were suppressed to the point that they couldn't see clearly what was going on inside the array.

This heightened their worries, and their hearts leaped to their throats.

The Black Bat King looked fervent. "Refine him. Once he's dead, Lord Monster-Beast Ancestor will definitely reward me generously. Becoming a Saint and an ancestor will be just around the corner!"

The other monster-beast Kings also watched expectantly.

Boom!

A violent explosion suddenly erupted from within the array.

And then a shocking scene happened right in front of all the beasts on the Sorrow Mountain Range.

A blue-clad figure emerged, unharmed and emanating a boundless halo as he walked out from the churning blood mist like a demonic god descending the world.

"How..."

The Black Bat King and his subordinates nearly popped their eyes as they gawked in disbelief.

Lin Xun didn't die?!

.....

Lin Xun raised his head, revealing a glint of horrifying killing intent in his dark eyes.

It was only upon entering the grand array had he realized the mystery behind its arrangement. The array was actually refined with the essence blood of at least a hundred thousand human cultivators!

A hundred thousand!

Simply an unforgivable sin!

“You must all die.”

Looking at the mountains densely packed with monster-beasts, Lin Xun’s heart blazed with killing intent. His aura skyrocketed and cut across the heavens like a divine light.

.....

“He really...didn’t die...”

“He’s not even injured!”

“How is this possible?”

The Black Bat King and a host of monster-beast Kings were frozen on the Sorrow Mountain Range, unable to believe nor accept this outcome. Their entire army began to stir.

This was the Demon Devourer Blood Prison Array!

It was a gift from their Lord Monster-Beast Ancestor, possessing an extremely terrifying power that was supposed to exterminate anyone under the Saint stage. But now, it seemed to be ineffective...

This was unbelievable.

Unfortunately for them, they were clueless about Lin Xun’s attainments in runes. For him, who was powerful enough to set up a true forbidden formation, a mere Demon Devourer Blood Prison Array was nothing at all!

“Damn it! Could it be that Lord Monster-Beast Ancestor lied to us?!” A monster-beast King was furious.

“It’s useless to talk about this now. Prepare to fight. With our abilities combined, do you believe that we still can’t deal with Lin Xun?” The Black Bat King gritted his teeth, his face gloomy.

His greatest reliance had failed to work its miracle, which was like a blunt knock on his head, and he felt extremely stifled.

“Die!”

Lin Xun’s hair danced as he reached the Sorrow Mountain Range in a single step like a rainbow shooting down from the sky.

Bang!

A monster-beast King couldn't dodge in time and was directly crushed under Lin Xun's feet. Blood splattered up high.

"Together!" roared the Black Bat King.

Hearing this, the other monster-beast Kings dared not delay and all launched into action.

"Kill!"

A fierce battle erupted.

Looking from afar, one could only see a dazzling figure moving sharply like a divine blade and setting off a bloody storm on the Sorrow Mountain Range.

He kept charging forth, his momentum unstoppable.

The beasts on his path couldn't even move under his terrifying might and were cut down in large patches like grass.

The mountains were quickly dyed red.

Even the strongest of monster-beast Kings couldn't hinder Lin Xun one bit. With just a raise of his hand, he punched them to pieces one by one.

The monsters' tragic screams shook the heavens.

As Lin Xun was engrossed in the killing, the Taixuan sword qi in his acupoints whizzed out and formed a rain of swords. With unmatched sharpness, they tore through the air like cutting paper and spared not a single life on their wake!

The countless monster-beasts had started fleeing, but none could escape death, their Kings included.

Watching from the distance, Qi Can's group had nearly screamed out in excitement upon seeing Lin Xun breaking free from the array.

And when they saw him charging up the Sorrow Mountain Range and crushing the enemies like an invincible demonic god, they were all dumbfounded.

Fierce!

He's too fierce!

Before this, they had only heard about some of his legendary deeds and had never seen them with their own eyes. Only now did they finally know how powerful Lin Xun was.

His domineering power that allowed him to peer down upon the world and suppress everything amazed them and shook them to the core!

Poof!

Sword qi flashed through and sliced a giant bat, which was the original form of the Black Bat King, in half.

By this point, all of the monster-beast Kings occupying the Sorrow Mountain Range had been executed!

And it had all happened in just nineteen breaths.

On this day, there were rivers of blood and countless corpses all over the Sorrow Mountain Range as the Black Bat King and many monster-beast Kings under him were mercilessly slaughtered!

When the news spread, it shook the empire.

The other day, a bunch of monster-beast Kings had stood out and declared their desire to execute Lin Xun and give the Ziyao Empire one of the heaviest blows it would have ever suffered.

At that time, many monster-beast Kings like the Earth Dragon King in the eastern province, the notoriously monstrous White Wasp King, the Fire Molten King occupying the desert, and the Ink Sheep King in Flowing River Province had directed their murderous intent at Lin Xun alone.

Upon realizing the gravity of the situation, the empire had been shaken and countless cultivators had been in an uproar, worrying for Lin Xun's safety.

Even the imperial palace hadn't been able to rest easy.

The bewildering news of the Sorrow Mountain Range spread when everyone was still worried about how Lin Xun would solve his impending calamity, so how could it not shock them?

"Just like the Golden Armor King, that Black Bat King and his entire army were wiped out in one go!"

"Young Master Lin is too fierce. He replied to the threats of those monster-beast Kings with a grand-scale massacre. Overbearing is not enough to describe this."

Every cultivator in the empire was cheering fervently.

Anyone who learned of this news was ecstatic and instantly got up on their feet to spread it.

It felt like their life-long hatred had been vented! It felt extremely refreshing!

.....

“This damned Lin Xun! Is he really that tired of living?!”

“The Black Bat King is the most intelligent and resourceful of us, but he was killed too? Is this Lin Xun really so terrifying?”

“Looks that our threats didn’t work, and instead we even enraged that brat.”

The news was like a thunderbolt out of the blue for the monster-beast force, shocking every single one of them.

First the Golden Armor King, then the Black Bat King. Does this Lin Xun want to make an enemy out of all the monster-beast Kings in the world?

“Everyone, it’s time to retaliate! Lin Xun must be gotten rid of!”

“Slaughter the cities! He alone can’t stop us from attacking the entire empire!”

Some monster-beast Kings declared in fury, once again stirring the world. The atmosphere in the Ziyao Empire became increasingly tense.

Immediately, the monster-beast occupying various regions began to deploy in force!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1400: Who Can Stop His Killing Spree?

Qingyuan Hall.

When Zhao Jingxuan learned of the movement of the monster-beasts, she immediately issued a decree.

There was only one sentence: “Mobilize every force in the empire and kill!”

She knew that there was no turning back after the arrow was fired.

She was even more aware that Lin Xun would not let her down since he had been so assertive in fighting back.

As soon as the decree was announced, the atmosphere of the entire empire became even more austere.

When the sky birthed killing intent, the stars moved.

When the earth birthed killing intent, ferocious creatures rose from the land.

When humans wanted to kill, both the sky and earth shook!

All over the vast Ziyao Empire, imperial armies started to be seen everywhere, traveling on all sorts of battleships as they patrolled the territory.

Seeing the change in the situation, countless cultivators spontaneously participated in the hunting of monster-beasts.

Even the clans and organizations in the Forbidden City started to mobilize their troops.

If the empire were to be destroyed, then be it the nobles or the ordinary people, no one would be able to escape the disaster.

Therefore, when the beasts started invading and the empire responded with a full-scale counterattack, no one could stay out of it.

.....

When Lin Xun learned of this news, he had long parted with Qi Can's group and left the North Swallow Province for the Cloud Bright Province.

"Those sinful animals are retaliating by invading the empire in large forces..." A cold gleam flashed in Lin Xun's eyes. "It seems that I still haven't killed enough monster-beast Kings!"

Whoosh!

He vanished.

A few hours later, in the Python Mountain Swamp in Cloud Bright Province.

This area was occupied by the Dark Gloom King.

"Deploy everyone we have and slaughter those city people! Lin Xun thinks he alone can save the whole empire? Delusional!" shouted the Dark Gloom King, his voice booming like thunder.

His original form was a gray-backed bull, a creature of the wildest and most overbearing temper.

“Kill!”

“Kill!”

“Kill!”

Countless monster-beasts gathered in groups as they chanted in unison. The sound waves were like rolling thunder shook the land and struck fear into anyone who heard them.

As far as the eye could see, the Python Mountain Swamp that resembled a huge lake was packed with ferocious birds and beasts. It was a scene that would make one’s scalp numb.

“Let’s go and slaughter those lowly humans! Only bloodshed and death can scare them and make them realize how weak and powerless they are!” roared the Dark Gloom King.

As soon as his voice dropped, sword qi swept out from the horizon. There was a flash of light and an echoing poof before a fountain of blood gushed up.

Along with the blood, the head of the Dark Gloom King was thrown into the sky, his hideous face still wearing an astonished expression.

Bang!

The headless corpse fell back into the swamp, kicking up a splash of water.

The sudden occurrence shut up the army of clamoring monster-beasts. They looked utterly confused, wondering how the Dark Gloom King, who had just been ferociously shouting orders a second ago, had dropped dead like that.

The atmosphere was so quiet one could hear a pin drop.

From a far distance away, Lin Xun indifferently waved his hand.

Whoosh whoosh whoosh!

Seven hundred and twenty Taixuan sword qi shot out like a tidal wave and started forming a large formation in the sky.

Each sword qi glinted with a palpitating sharpness.

The moment the sword array took shape, the sword qi seemed to vanish.

At the longevity tribulation King stage, the cultivator could learn three sword arrays from the Taixuan Sword Scripture, namely the Great Void Killer, the Great Confinement Killer, and the Great Unrestrained Killer arrays.

The one Lin Xun was currently using was the Great Void Killer Sword Array, which consisted of seven hundred and twenty sword qi. Once the array was set up, it could kill invisibly!

“Go!” Lin Xun ordered with a thought.

The countless monster-beasts in the Python Mountain Swamp couldn’t even react when they were sliced apart like harvested grass and fell one after another.

Their blood rolled like tumbling tides and quickly dyed the entire swamp red.

Two days later, news came out from Cloud Bright Province about the decapitation of the Dark Gloom King and the decimation of his army that turned the Python Mountain Swamp into a blood swamp!

The world was once again shaken.

.....

However, this was only the beginning.

From the moment Lin Xun had left the Southwest Province and embarked on this journey, he could not stop so easily.

And with how the situation in the empire had developed, it was impossible for him to stop.

Five days later.

In the Eastern Province of the Ziyao Empire.

The Earth Dragon King, who was leading an army of monster-beasts to attack a huge city, was killed by Lin Xun. The latter had descended from the sky and slashed out his Broken Blade, destroying the monster-beast King’s body and crushing his soul.

The monster-beast army instantly collapsed. The imperial army arrived just in time to pursue them, creating a stream of blood along the way.

Nine days later.

Flowing River Province.

The Ink Sheep King chose to flee the moment he received the report that Lin Xun had arrived. However, during his escape, he was blocked by Lin Xun, who then removed his tendons and skinned him alive.

On the same day, Lin Xun treated the imperial army in the region to the meat of the Ink Sheep King.

It was said that there were a variety of dishes like roasted mutton, stewed mutton soup, grilled mutton ribs... Any soldier who had been treated to this meal said that it was the most delicious and satisfying meal they had ever had in their lives, and that they would never forget it.

Eighteen days later.

After searching for seven days in the northwestern desert region of the empire, Lin Xun executed the Fire Molten King at the center of the desert.

In that moment, flames shot up into the sky and screams shook the heavens.

The streak went on as time passed. And as the news spread, the empire was plunged into a protracted shock.

The cultivators, the army, and the citizens were first ecstatic, uplifted, excited, clamoring, and boiling... But gradually, they all became somewhat numb from the relentlessness of it.

It would even feel abnormal if they didn't hear any news about Lin Xun killing another monster-beast King every once in a while.

The Forbidden City, Qingyuan Hall.

"Reporting: Silver Turtle King was executed in Black Water Province!"

The news echoed in the great hall.

Zhao Jingxuan, sitting behind her desk, didn't even raise her head as she said, "Got it."

It had been two months.

During this time period, thirteen monster-beast Kings occupying different regions of the Ziyao Empire had been slaughtered by Lin Xun, and the forces under their command had fallen apart as a result.

Among them, there were supreme monster-beasts like the Fire Molten King as well as several beast Kings notorious for their cruelty and ferocity.

At first, even Zhao Jingxuan had been taken aback by Lin Xun's accomplishments.

But now, she was used to it.

What made her really happy was that the current situation of the empire had settled into a good state, with news of victories flying in almost every day.

Some of the fallen cities and territories had been reclaimed!

On the contrary, the major monster-beast forces occupying the empire's lands were being pushed into a great crisis. Their power plummeted as they got defeated and were forced back one by one.

And all of this happened in just these past two months!

"Your Highness, one strike from Young Master Lin is as strong as an army of a million soldiers. His achievements are simply unheard of. I really don't know how we should reward him." An old minister smiled wryly.

The others also sighed emotionally.

The sudden turn of the empire's situation during the last two months was completely spearheaded by Lin Xun. If calculated according to military merits, then what he had accumulated alone could reach the exosphere!

"Reward? We'll discuss this later." Zhao Jingxuan couldn't help but smile. With Lin Xun's current cultivation level, what could even be considered a reward in his eyes?

Unless one could give him a chance to become a Supreme Saint!

Thinking of this, Zhao Jingxuan suddenly remembered something. "What have you got on Lu Boya?"

A minister immediately replied, "We've made good progress. However, due to the messy nature of the intel, further sieving and organizing is needed."

"There's no rush. The more perfect the better." Zhao Jingxuan nodded and ordered, "Also, find out what happened around the departure of my parents."

.....

Southern part of the empire, Black Wind Mountain.

"Black Robe King, you already know what's happened in the past two months. If you don't get out here and deal with Lin Xun, then our monster-beast lineage will be razed to the ground!"

“Lord Monster-Beast Ancestor is furious. He’s given us an absolute order to join forces and kill Lin Xun. Are you going to disobey?”

“Black Robe King, it’s time to make a decision!”

A group of monster-beast Kings had gathered on this mountain with frowning faces as they stared at a tightly closed cave not far away.

These monster-beast Kings, in the last a dozen years, had become big shots for their notorious power and ferocity. Some of them were even ranked among the top ten monster-beast Kings in the empire.

There was the White Wasp King and the Flame Vine King for instance.

But at this moment, they all looked very anxious!

Lin Xun had killed too many monster-beast Kings over this period of time, to the point that they all trembled in fear and had to come to Black Wind Mountain and ask for the Black Robe King’s help.

Outsiders did not know that the Black Robe King was the final disciple of the Monster-Beast Ancestor, and also the most mysterious and low-profile among them.

He had rarely shown his face in the past several years, but no one dared to question his strength!

“Why did you...mess with Lin Xun?” A sigh came out from the tightly closed cave.

The monster-beast Kings outside were stunned, and then their faces sank. They hadn’t expected that such a question was the result of their long wait!

What does he mean?

He’s blaming us for provoking Lin Xun?!

“Black Robe King, don’t tell me you’re scared?” said a furious monster-beast King in an icy voice.

“No. I’m just saying that you were stupid to provoke a character that you can’t afford to mess with. In the end, you could only run to me for help. Don’t you think it’s embarrassing?” The Black Robe King’s voice was unruffled.

“We are not here to listen to your mockery!” said the White Wasp King, his expression cold and stern. “Just tell us straight if you’ll make a move or not.”

The Black Robe King fell silent.

After a long time, his voice finally rang out from the cave, "In less than three months, I will be crossing my Saint Tribulation. I'll make my move after I'm done with that."

The Saint stage!

The hearts of the demon-beast Kings trembled, and their expressions changed into that of envy and jealousy. They probably couldn't imagine that the Black Robe King had gone so far ahead of them and was so close to touching the Saint stage!

"Three months?" One of them frowned, wanting to say something.

"As long as he becomes a Saint, killing Lin Xun will be as easy as swatting a fly." The White Wasp King cut him off, then took a deep breath and looked with determination at the tightly sealed cave and shouted, "Alright, we'll wait for another three months!"

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