

The Prodigies War

Chapter 1851: Forty-Nine States of Primordial Chaos World

After Whirlwind Ship steered into the chaos qi of the Great Primordial Chaos World, it sailed for another two days before finally landing.

Lin'an City.

This was a bustling, thriving city in the Great Primordial Chaos World.

Every day, numerous boundary ships from all over the starry sky descended upon the city, and countless more would set sail.

Similar port cities were found all over the Great Primordial Chaos World and were extremely common.

With a loud roar, Whirlwind Ship landed on the ground.

Immediately, Lin Xun felt a rush of heavy law power coming at him. Its boundless primordial aura made him tremble all over.

The feeling was similar to coming to a paradise from a dry desert, breathing in breaths of pure chaos qi.

At the same time, his mind and spirit were refreshed and invigorated as if bathed in the aura of the great dao.

Lin Xun looked moved.

What an amazing world!

With his current cultivation level of the Supreme Saint-King Stage, he immediately determined that practicing here was comparable to practicing in a top blessed cultivation land in the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

Of note, this was only the outskirts of a port city in the Great Primordial Chaos World, and it was not a blessed cultivation land at all!

"No wonder the cultivators in the Ancient Nebula Road all regard the Great Primordial Chaos World as a sacred place of cultivation. This place...is indeed extraordinary." Lin Xun marveled.

Ever since he had started cultivating, he had been to countless places, but almost none of them could hold a candle to the Great Primordial Chaos World!

Here, the law power of heaven and earth exuded a primordial aura that perfectly aligned with the dao and was perfect for cultivation.

Passengers raced down Whirlwind Ship like a tide. Most of the cultivators revealed expressions of excitement, anticipation, and curiosity.

It was also their first time in the Great Primordial Chaos World. After traveling across the starry sky for half a year, they finally reached this legendary place of cultivation. It was understandable for them to feel emotional and excited.

“Senior Yu Xuan, my master and I plan to head to the Pure Land of Grand Sound right away.” Liu Qingyan’s voice was sweet and gentle. She came to say goodbye to Lin Xun.

Lin Xun nodded with a smile. “Go ahead, we will definitely have a chance to meet again in the future.”

He had given the ‘Xuan’ token to Liu Qingyan when they were on the ship. If nothing unexpected happened, she would definitely be accepted into the Pure Land of Grand Sound.

Liu Qingyan drew a deep breath and fixed her limpid eyes on Lin Xun. “Senior Yu Xuan, can I ask you something?”

Lin Xun smiled wryly in his heart. He didn’t need to guess to know what Liu Qingyan wanted to ask.

He lowered his head and looked at the peerless beauty in front of him who looked like she had walked out of a painting. His voice turned serious as he reassured, “Miss Qingyan, when we meet again, no matter what you ask, I promise I will tell you the truth.”

Liu Qingyan was taken aback, then a hint of bitterness came to the depths of her eyes. “Fine, then...we’ll meet again?” She sighed.

She was a heavenly beauty—elegant and graceful like an orchid. However, at this moment, when she spoke, an expression of melancholy and disappointment clouded her face. Her pitiful look made Lin Xun feel the urge to tell her the truth about his identity.

In the end, he held back and nodded with a smile. “We will meet again.”

Liu Qingyan nodded and walked down the ship with her master Zhuang Yunzhi.

Watching her leave, Lin Xun couldn’t help but sigh. *After this fortunate encounter, I don’t know when I will see her again.*

What Lin Xun did not notice was that as Liu Qingyan walked away from Whirlwind Ship, a knowing grin tugged at the corner of her mouth.

“Brother Lin, Brother Lin, from the moment you picked up the Ancient Law Ocarina, I have already guessed your identity...” she murmured in her heart.

Six years ago, the world was rocked by news that came from the Kunlun Dominion and a man named Lin Xun also rose to fame in the Ancient Nebula Road.

From that moment, Lin Xun became a target of many powerful forces, and countless people hunted him like a prey, coveting his treasures and fortune.

Of course, Liu Qingyan knew about this.

Therefore, she also understood why Lin Xun concealed his identity and did not reunite with her.

“If it were anyone else, they would not protect me like you did...”

Thinking of this, she turned around. From afar, she could still see the tall figure standing in the same spot, following her with his eyes.

She couldn’t help but wave her hand, and a pure and beautiful smile spread across her face.

“Thank you for protecting me throughout this journey, Young Master Lin.” She murmured in her heart.

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“We should go too.” As Lin Xun spoke, he headed out of Whirlwind Ship.

Dressed in clothes whiter than snow, the graceful Jintian Xuanyue followed after him.

Watching them leave, Liang Chuan and other influential figures of Heavenly Sound Pavilion felt a sense of relief as if a heavy weight had been lifted off them.

We finally sent that man away!

Thinking about everything that happened on the ship over the past six months, the gazes of Liang Chuan and the others turned complicated.

“When I return, I will seclude myself and never set foot in the world again until I have ascended the dao and become an emperor!” Liang Chuan inhaled deeply and vowed.

Throughout this journey, he was tortured and tormented mentally, but at the same time, it also allowed him to break through and overcome some of the fetters and barriers in his mind.

Perhaps it was a blessing in disguise.

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In the Great Primordial Chaos World, leaving aside the uncharted lands, the area inhabited by cultivators was divided into forty-nine states.

This was to symbolize that only forty-nine of the fifty daos could be derived in the world.

Each state was extremely vast, consisting of countless cities, mountains, valleys and rivers.

The smallest Precious Gem State was around the size of the entire territory of the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

The largest Central Plain State spanned an area thousands of times larger than the Precious Gem State.

Moreover, as the uncharted lands around Central Plain State were discovered, its territory also expanded, and at present, it was several times greater than it was in the ancient times.

It was worth mentioning that Central Plain State was the heart of the Great Primordial Chaos World, and all Great Six Courts were entrenched there!

The Central Plain State was also regarded as the land where all Emperors gathered and where Ancestors lived in seclusion!

In other words, among the entire Ancient Nebula Road, the Central Plain State was no doubt the place with the highest number of Emperors!

Lin'an City.

This city was located in Qing State, one of the forty-nine states of the Great Primordial Chaos World. It was not particularly well known among the tens of thousands of cities in Qing State.

For Lin Xun, who had never been in the Great Primordial Chaos World, Lin'an City was an enormous city. The undulating thousand-foot-high city walls seemed to stretch endlessly into the horizon. It was a magnificent sight.

It was noon and the sun was shining brightly.

In front of the city gate, an endless stream of cultivators came and went, some riding on magical cranes, some carried by swords and other precious weapons, and some sitting on auspicious clouds...

There were men, women, young and old, and also many creatures with unusual appearances. Lin Xun couldn't help looking amazed.

However, most of the cultivators came from other places in the Ancient Nebula Road, just like Lin Xun, and were considered as 'foreigners.'

Lin Xun's first impression of the city was that it was bustling and vibrant!

"Listen, foreigners. The entry fee into the city is three hundred dao crystals for those below the Saint Stage or ten dao crystals for those at the Saint Stage or above!"

A thunderous roar boomed from the city gate.

A group of armor-clad cultivators with powerful auras was guarding the city gate, maintaining order and managing entry in and out of the city.

Some were just guards of the city gates, but some possessed a cultivation of the True Saint level!

"Quickly hand over the dao crystals. Those are experts from the Xing Clan, the most powerful force in Lin'an City. The head of the clan, Xing Liushui, is an elder of the Purple Cloud Sword Clan, the third strongest sect in Qing State. He has mighty power and authority in the city and he is considered a top figure in Qing State."

Someone in the crowd whispered, explaining the situation to Lin Xun and other foreigners.

The territory of Qing State was greater than any other great world. Any one of the top three forces there would be overlords if they were in other worlds.

For example, Heavenly Sound Pavilion was regarded as the number one sect in the Ziheng Star Field, but in Qing State, it was at most equivalent to Purple Cloud Sword Sect, which was ranked third!

"You have to pay to enter the city? What rule is this?"

Someone grumbled, not because they could not afford the fee, but because they felt looked down upon.

An elder patiently explained, "The rules of the Xing Clan are the rules of Lin'an City. In the past, there had been people who refused to pay and they suffered terrible consequences."

Watching from afar, Lin Xun couldn't help looking surprised. *They dared to demand dao crystals from cultivators who enter the city. Are they not afraid of angering the wrong people?*

"Young Master, as the saying goes, a strong dragon can't suppress a local snake. In a port city like Lin'an, the majority of people are 'foreigners' who are unfamiliar with the Great Primordial Chaos World. Therefore, in normal circumstances, no one would rashly offend a local snake like the Xing Clan."

Jintian Xuanyue explained in a soft voice beside him.

Lin Xun nodded with understanding. "In other words, this situation only happens in port cities?"

Jintian Xuanyue answered, "Yes, after all, the Great Primordial Chaos World is too big, with an excessive number of hidden dragons and tigers. If one is not careful, one may provoke descendants of powerful sects and ancient clans."

Lin Xun nodded.

It made a lot of sense. Upon first arrival, when everything was unfamiliar, no matter who you were, you would not act rashly.

Lin Xun noticed that some Big Saints and Saint-Kings in the crowd also paid the fee without question before entering the city.

In other places, Big Saints and Saint-Kings were powerful enough to call the shots, but on their first visit to the Great Primordial Chaos World...

They had no choice but to cooperate.

Lin Xun also noticed that some youngsters who were clearly from prominent clans were reluctant to pay the fee. Their eyes flashed with anger, but they, under the advice of the elders around them, finally held back their anger.

They might be dazzling characters in other places, but in the Great Primordial Chaos World, they were just 'foreigners.'

Just as Lin Xun and Jintian Xuanyue were about to follow the crowd into the city, a voice caught Lin Xun's attention.

"Look, most of the bounty flyers in front of the city gate are related to Lin Xun! It has been nearly seven years since the battle in Kunlun, but Lin Xun is still listed as wanted!"

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Chapter 1852: The Most Wanted Criminal in the Starry Sky

Lin Xun looked up and saw a number of bounty flyers hanging above the city wall. They were glowing with mysterious dao light and projecting columns of writing.

Most of the bounty flyers were marked with Lin Xun's name and appearance, which was very realistic.

Those who issued the bounty included the Primordial Dao Court, Heaven and Earth Dao Court, Panwu Dao Court, Blood Qilin Battle Clan, Taowu Battle Clan, and Heavenly Ghost Battle Clan...

The mention of the names of those clans and sects was enough to send one's heart leaping with fear.

The bounty rewards would also drive any cultivator crazy. The lowest bounty was still one million dao crystals as well as all sorts of rare treasures.

Some offered even greater rewards!

"Lin Xun...this person is indeed an outlier. In the vast Ancient Nebula Road, even the disciples of the Great Six Courts are probably not as famous as him."

"Years have passed, and it is unknown whether he is dead or alive. If he was alive, where would he be now?"

"If I were him, I would never set foot into the Ancient Nebula Road in my life. Otherwise, he would die a terrible death."

The crowd discussed this enthusiastically.

Lin Xun!

He was a fierce man who went on a killing spree in the Kunlun Dominion and also an extraordinary character who held the secret to becoming an Emperor and Ancestor.

Who in the world would not know about him?

At the same time, everyone knew that he had another identity—He was the most wanted criminal in the Ancient Nebula Road!

As Lin Xun listened in to the discussions around him and ran his eyes over those eye-catching bounty posters, a cold intent flashed across his dark eyes.

Lin'an City was just a small city in Qing State, but there were so many wanted posters of him. It could be imagined that in other places of the Great Primordial Chaos World there were definitely even more of such wanted posters!

“That guy Lin Xun...”

Jintian Xuanyue's voice seemed to be full of emotions, but she was hesitant to speak.

“What about him?” asked Lin Xun.

“The innocent man gets into trouble because of his wealth. Even if he killed everyone in the Kunlun Dominion and provoked many powerful forces, he could never cause such a huge storm through that alone.”

Jintian Xuanyue thought for a long moment before she continued calmly, “Ultimately, it's because the fortune and treasures he had gained are too great, and that made the sects and clans unable to sit still.”

Lin Xun nodded without saying anything.

One day, he would make the forces that issued the bounty pay the price!

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Once they got inside Lin'an City, they were greeted by another bustling and prosperous scene. Whether it was the inns, teahouses, pharmacies, or merchant shops, they were all very impressive.

As a port city, it had all sorts of cultivation materials and supplies imported from other worlds of the Ancient Nebula Road.

Even cultivators local to the Great Primordial Chaos World enjoyed strolling around the port city to browse and pick up some rare items.

Lin Xun stayed in an inn and asked Jintian Xuanyue to buy some texts on the Great Primordial Chaos World.

As someone who had just arrived, he needed to familiarize himself with everything in the world as quickly as possible.

That evening, Jintian Xuanyue brought back several jade slips, such as the Primordial Chaos Landscape Illustration, Primordial Chaos Power Distribution, The Changes in Primordial Chaos Over The Years, Geography of Qing State...

There were all kinds of texts.

When Lin Xun skimmed them, the tremendous amount of information contained in them dazzled and overwhelmed him.

After all, the Great Primordial Chaos World was too vast and boundless. There was no text that could detail everything about the Great Primordial Chaos World.

“Young Master, most of the texts available on the market are incomplete. I heard that in the Library of Texts of the Mythical Huang Dao Court is a text written by a great Emperor figure in ancient times. It is called the Everything of Primordial Chaos Scripture and it is a record of all the worldly matters that happened in the Great Primordial Chaos World since ancient times.”

Jintian Xuanyue’s eyes were full of longing. “I heard that perusing this text can allow one to pry into and understand the changes of the world over time. Not only can one deeply learn the wonders of the Great Primordial Chaos World, but it also has an incredible effect on tempering one’s state of mind.”

Everything of Primordial Chaos Scripture!

This text was a scripture that could be considered a top-tier inheritance!

“We are likely not qualified to read this precious scripture.”

Lin Xun shook his head.

Of course he was tempted, but he knew that unless he was a disciple of the Mythical Huang Dao Court, he would never be able to lay eyes on this precious scripture.

It took Lin Xun a whole night to finish reading all the texts he had bought. He began to have a rough understanding of the Great Primordial Chaos World.

In the early morning, Jintian Xuanyue suddenly said aloud, “Young Master, in three days, a large-scale auction will be held in Lin’an City. It is said that a piece of divine material from an uncharted land will be auctioned. This matter has caused a sensation in the city.”

Lin Xun raised his eyebrows. “Divine material?”

“Yes, this divine material is extremely mysterious. No one can identify its origin and use. After appraisal by treasure appraisers, they can only conclude that the divine material is of immeasurable value.”

“Are you interested in it?” asked Lin Xun.

Jintian Xuanyue took out a jade slip and handed it to him. “These are the treasures that will also be presented in the auction. I’m not particularly interested in that unknown divine material, but I do want to bid for a treasure called Star Scales Black Iron.

Lin Xun hummed in acknowledgment and took the jade slip to have a look.

A dazzling list of tempting treasures were written on the jade slip, some of which were rarely seen on the market.

When Lin Xun glimpsed at the name of one of the treasures, his heart fluttered.

Spatial Boundary Crystal!

This was a type of precious crystal that was condensed when the universe first formed; it was endowed with origin power of the Law of Space.

If refined, it would further improve a cultivator’s control of the Law of Space!

For ordinary cultivators, such treasures were of course rare and invaluable, but they had little use for them.

However, for a supreme Saint-King like Lin Xun, Spatial Boundary Crystals were treasures that would make his heart flutter.

After all, Saint-Kings wielded the power of their Great Dao Field, and their control of it was inseparable from the comprehension of the Laws of Space!

So far, Lin Xun had only created the initial form of his Great Dao Field.

On the one hand, it was because he had high standards for himself and hoped to form a perfect Great Dao Field that was one of a kind in the world.

On the other hand, it was because his grasp over the secrets of the Laws of Space had not yet reached the levels of perfection!

If he refined a piece of Spatial Boundary Crystal, it would definitely be beneficial to him in forming a Great Dao Field.

However, to his disappointment, the Spatial Boundary Crystal auctioned was only the size of a thumb.

Never mind, there’s no harm in going to take a look. He made a decision after some thought.

In all his years of cultivation, he had never attended any auction, so he was also curious to experience the charm of an auction.

Jintian Xuanyue's eyes lit up upon hearing Lin Xun agree. She was very excited about the Star Scales Mythic Iron that was offered for auction.

"Young Master, then I will purchase the admission ticket then."

Jintian Xuanyue's voice was bright and cheerful, and on her face was a smile that would take anyone's breath away.

"We are just attending an auction, so why do we need to buy an admission ticket?" Lin Xun was puzzled, but when he was about to ask Jintian Xuanyue about it, she was already gone.

Shaking his head, Lin Xun began to think about his next move.

"Once the auction is over, we will head to Cloud State."

Cloud State, one of the forty-nine states of the Great Primordial Chaos World, was separated from the Qing Stage by seven states. It would be an extremely long journey, no different from traveling through seven worlds.

Despite that, Lin Xun had to go.

Xuanji Dao Sect was in Cloud State.

Lin Xun was in a very calm state of mind. His current identity was Yu Xuan and he had just arrived in the Great Primordial Chaos World and needed some time to adapt.

He could treat the journey through the seven states as a travel experience to gain a deeper understanding of the charm and beauty of the Great Primordial Chaos World.

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Meanwhile, outside Lin'an City.

Buzz—

Following the muffled roar of cryptic dao runes, a group of people walked out of a large ancient teleportation array that spanned across the state borders.

Leading the group was Kong Yu, a descendant of the Imperial Kong Clan and a disciple of the Primordial Dao Court!

"Lin'an City."

Kong Yu narrowed his eyes at the majestic city in the distance as hatred flashed in them.

If everything had gone as he had planned, he would be waiting in front of the city, waiting for Whirlwind Ship to land and for Heavenly Sound Pavilion to hand Liu Qingyan over to him.

But because of his impatience, he instead waited at Brahma Land Great World in the Luminous King Star Field and that led to the devastating calamity where he was almost killed by Sword Emperor Brave Gale.

Thinking of this, he felt an uncontrollable rush of anger and resentment beating at his heart.

“Go investigate where Liu Qingyan and this person are.” He handed a jade slip to the person standing beside him.

The jade slip was imprinted with an illustration of Liu Qingyan and Yu Xuan, who was Lin Xun’s disguise.

“Yes.”

The old man beside Kong Yu took the order and left in a hurry.

An hour later the old man returned and quickly reported, “Young Master, I went to the Xing Clan to inquire and heard that Heavenly Sound Pavilion’s Whirlwind Ship from the Ziheng Star Field had already left the Great Primordial Chaos World last night.”

“Liu Qingyan did not enter the city, but the man called Yu Xuan came to the city yesterday.”

Kong Yu’s face instantly darkened. “Is the source trustworthy?”

The old man said, “Young Master, Lin’an City is ruled by the Xing Clan. When I took out the portrait of Yu Xuan, a Saint of the Xing Clan who was guarding the city gate yesterday recognized him right away.”

Kong Yu’s eyes flashed. “Is he alone? Is there an old man with him?”

The old man shook his head. “The Xing Clan Saint only said that Yu Xuan entered the city with a woman who was not Liu Qingyan.”

Kong Yu was taken by surprise, then he heaved a long sigh of relief. “It seems like I guessed right. A powerful character like Sword Emperor Brave Gale would not set foot into the Great Primordial Chaos World without a good reason...”

The movements of an Emperor would cause huge commotions. Even if they tried to hide their auras, they would still be noticed by mighty figures in the Great Primordial Chaos World.

“Let’s go, head to the Xing Clan. We must investigate this matter thoroughly. Once we are certain that Yu Xuan is by himself...”

Kong Yu’s eyes glinted with murderous intent, “I guarantee that he won’t be able to leave Lin’an City again!”

He did not dare to hold a grudge against Sword Emperor Brave Gale, and now that Liu Qingyan was not around, he could only direct all his anger on Yu Xuan.

At once, the group walked straight into Lin’an City.

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Chapter 1853: Underground Black Market

On the same evening, Jintian Xuanyue brought back two admission tickets for the auction.

“Young Master, this auction is a grand event. I heard that many experts from the major forces and clans in Qing State will also attend,” Jintian Xuanyue informed Lin Xun. “I reckon they are all there for that piece of unknown divine material.”

Lin Xun hummed in acknowledgment and asked, “Miss Xuanyue, how many dao crystals do you reckon I would need to win the bid for the Spatial Boundary Crystal?”

Jintian Xuanyue thought about it for a moment before she commented, “A piece of Spatial Boundary Crystal had showed up in White Emperor City a while ago. It was only the size of a copper coin, but it was sold for half a million dao crystals.

“The Spatial Boundary Crystal on offer in this auction is the size of a thumb. According to my estimation, it is worth about one million dao crystals.

“But the price sold at an auction is often different from the market price. If someone is determined to get a treasure, they will offer a higher bid than normal.”

Lin Xun couldn’t help but gasp.

A thumb-sized Spatial Boundary Crystal was worth one million dao crystals! If it was auctioned, the price would definitely be even higher!

What a sky-high price!

Not to mention ordinary cultivators, even Saint-Kings likely would not be able to shell out that amount.

Although Lin Xun was not short of money, it hit him hard that without sufficient dao crystals, it would be extremely difficult to rise in the Great Primordial Chaos World.

The higher his cultivation, the more that ordinary treasures could no longer satisfy his cultivation needs.

To a cultivator like Lin Xun, what were considered treasures by ordinary cultivators were of no use to him at all.

In simple terms, he needed resources that could satisfy his needs for cultivating at the Supreme Saint-King Stage!

However, those resources were extremely precious and rare. Such rare treasures that could only be acquired with sheer luck were no doubt extremely expensive, or even impossible to be bought with money.

“Miss Xuanyue, I plan to go for a walk in the city alone.” After a period of silence, Lin Xun made a decision.

A hint of imperceptible disappointment flashed across Jintian Xuanyue’s beautiful eyes, but she nodded and said, “Then I will wait for you at the inn.”

Only after Lin Xun left did she sigh to herself. *Yu Xun...clearly doesn't trust me completely...*

Lin'an City was huge. Both the streets and buildings were clearly built for cultivators and there was not a trace of ordinary people in the city.

As a port city, Lin'an was undoubtedly affluent and bustling, with merchants selling goods from all over the world everywhere.

There were also cultivators coming from all over the world to select and exchange items.

Lin Xun put his hands behind his back and wandered around the city for a quarter of an hour before coming to a stop in front of a quaint building.

Listening Wind Pavilion!

A strange glint flashed across Lin Xun's eyes.

When he first arrived at the Great Yu World from the Tianqu World, he had visited the Listening Wind Pavilion to ask for information. He thought that Listening Wind Pavilion was just a force in the Great Yu World, but it turned out that it also had a presence in Lin'an City of the Great Primordial Chaos World!

“It seems like this force that specializes in collecting and selling information is much larger than I imagined...” Lin Xun thought as he entered the building.

“I want to find out some information.”

After stating the purpose of his visit, he was led into a secret room isolated from the outside world and welcomed by a middle-aged man in a gray robe.

“If I want to find out the way to the True Dragon World, how many dao crystals would it cost?” Lin Xun probed.

The gray-robed middle-aged man’s expression tensed for a moment before a ruminative smile curled his lips. “Fellow Daoist, in the past, many people like you have tried to find the way to the True Dragon World, and someone even offered a sky-high price of eight million dao crystals!”

Immediately, he sighed, “Unfortunately, Listening Wind Pavilion can’t provide this information.”

Lin Xun then asked, “Is there something in this world that Listening Wind Pavilion doesn’t know?”

Being questioned like this, the middle-aged man did not seem to mind and said with a smile, “The Great Primordial Chaos World is so big, and the Ancient Nebula Road is so vast. It’s naturally impossible for Listening Wind Pavilion to know everything in the world.”

Lin Xun nodded and stopped testing him. “Where is the black market in Lin’an City? And how do I get in?” He finally asked what he had come for.

The gray-robed middle-aged man’s eyes flashed, and he put up five fingers. “This information costs fifty thousand dao crystals.”

The black market was a place for underground transactions that could not be seen in the light!

“Alright.” Lin Xun paid fifty thousand dao crystals.

He walked out of Listening Wind Pavilion after finding out the name of a black market—Fog Obscured Alms!

This was an underground force with a mysterious origin and an astonishing foundation. It was said that they had a presence in many black markets in the cities across the Great Primordial Chaos World.

In the depths of a quiet alley, there was an inconspicuous and simple, unadorned courtyard.

Lin Xun looked up and walked straight into the courtyard.

Swoosh—

The courtyard rippled like it was just a curtain of light as Lin Xun disappeared into it.

Once inside, it was a different world.

It was like a small world of its own with streets criss crossing one another and lined with tall buildings. Mist shrouded the world, making everything indiscernible.

Many cultivators were scurrying down the streets, some in bamboo hats, some wearing masks, and some covered in black robes...

Some cultivators had set up stalls on the streets and offered items for sale.

Unlike the hustle and bustle of the outside world, this foggy, dim world was eerily quiet.

Even during transactions, buyers and sellers communicated via voice transmission.

This was the black market in Lin'an City!

It was a territory under the control of the mysterious force, Fog Obscured Alms.

Lin Xun scanned the area and immediately concluded that almost all the cultivators who entered the black market were in disguise to conceal their identities.

"I am called Xie San, Fellow Daoist, is there anything I can help you with?"

A slender man came over. He was in all black, with a totem surrounded by misty clouds embroidered on his left shoulder.

This meant that the other party was from Fog Obscured Alms.

"I have some treasures to sell," Lin Xun stated.

"Fellow Daoist, there are two ways of trading here. The first is that you sell the treasure to our Fog Obscured Alms, but the price offered will be lower than the market price." Xie San swiftly explained, "For example, a treasure that can be sold for one hundred dao crystals in the outside world will only be offered at most seventy dao crystals."

"Thirty percent reduction?"

“Correct.”

“What if I have a large quantity of treasures to sell?” asked Lin Xun.

Xie San’s eyes lit up. “It depends on how many you have. We will definitely give you an offer that you are satisfied with when the time comes.”

“I’m worried it will be too much for you,” Lin Xun said indifferently.

Xie San was taken aback for a moment, then he smiled. “Fellow Daoist, I am not bragging, but nothing in Lin’an City is too much for our Fog Obscured Alms.”

Lin Xun did not take it seriously and asked another question, “What is the other way of trading?”

Xie San pointed to the stalls on both sides of the street. “You can put up your own stall and sell the items yourself, but I will charge you a stall setup fee.”

Lin Xun immediately gave up the idea of setting up a stall. He had too many treasures on him and it could be a while before he could sell them on.

“Let’s go, take me to your Fog Obscured Alms to have a look,” Lin Xun ordered.

Xie San’s spirits were immediately lifted. “Fellow Daoist, please come this way.”

At first glance, the customer looked quite ordinary and mediocre, yet it was impossible for him to see the depths of his strength. However, his mannerisms and actions exuded an imposing bearing.

Customers like him often had items that were very welcomed at Fog Obscured Alms

Xie San guided Lin Xun along the street.

Along the way, Lin Xun saw all kinds of cultivators and also many stalls set up, but none of the items for sale caught Lin Xun’s eye.

Unfortunately, halfway there, a quarrel suddenly broke out.

At the stall ahead, a woman in black snarled, “You still won’t admit to it? The items sold here are all treasures of my late father!”

“Miss, I bought them all from someone. I don’t know your father.”

The stall owner was a wrinkly old man in a gray robe. “If you continue to disrupt my business, then I will have to resort to violence,” he warned in a cold voice.

The woman in black was so angry her body was shaking all over and her eyes almost spitted fire. “Half a month ago, my father died suddenly, and all the treasures on him disappeared. But those treasures happened to be here. If it wasn’t you who did it, then who?”

Many cultivators nearby looked entertained like they were watching a show.

This was a black market. The majority of the treasures sold at each stall had complicated origins and could not be seen in public.

Otherwise, it would not be sold on the black market.

Evidently, the girl in black came to seek revenge. She recognized her father’s belongings and suspected the stall owner to be the murderer of her father.

The gray-robed old man said in a deep voice, “Miss, this is a black market. Believe it or not, even if I kill you now, no one will care.”

Boom!

Suddenly, he stretched out his hand and grabbed the woman by her neck, lifting her into the air. Her fair skin turned red as she wheezed. She could not even struggle at all in his clutches.

The spectators couldn’t help but shake their heads.

That woman is rather stupid. She came to the black market to get revenge, but she’s so weak. Is she not just seeking death?

“There’s a dispute over there, is Fog-Obscured Alms not going to interfere?” asked Lin Xun.

Xie San stated, “We are only responsible for providing a trading venue and maintaining normal trading order. Incidents like that happen almost every day. There’s nothing we can do about it.”

“What if I want to interfere?”

Xie San looked stumped, then he said with a smile, “Fellow Daoist, please don’t joke around. This matter has nothing to do with you. You can just ignore it.”

Lin Xun said, “What about standing up to injustice?”

Only then did Xie San realize that Lin Xun might be serious, and he could not help but stutter, “Fellow Daoist, what if you interfere in this matter and get yourself into trouble?”

“That depends if they have the ability.” Lin Xun’s expression was unfathomable.

Did he want to be a hero rescuing a beautiful woman?

Not quite.

He was not someone who liked to try to be a good person. He just felt that if he didn’t do anything after what he saw, he would feel very uncomfortable.

Ever since he started cultivating, he had been ruthless and merciless to his enemies and had killed countless people. Therefore, he could not be considered a good person in the strictest sense.

But no matter what or when, he would never let himself become a selfish and cold-blooded person!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1854: Blatant Lie

The woman in black saw everything dimming before her and was about to suffocate.

The murderer of her father was standing right in front of her, but not only was she too weak to take revenge, she might also even throw away her own life. This filled her with despair.

She could only blame herself for being too impulsive and letting anger take over. It never crossed her mind whether she was a match for the enemy.

But...

She had to avenge her father!

How could she remain calm after she finally managed to find the enemy?

She failed to fight back the tears building in her eyes. She sighed in her heart as she remembered the words that her father often said to her when she was a child:

“The world of cultivation is where the strong prey on the weak and it is so brutal that there is no room for even a trace of mercy. I will protect you forever, but if one day I am gone, you must take good care of yourself...”

At that time, she did not understand those words and thought her father was nagging too much, controlling her and did not treat her as an adult.

But now...

What she missed the most was her father, and what she regretted the most was not realizing her father's good intentions sooner!

Feelings of regret, frustration, anger, and helplessness drowned her heart like a tsunami, turning it into a bottomless pit of despair.

"Fellow Daoist, that girl is not bad looking, how about giving her to me?" Suddenly, someone let out a lecherous laugh.

The gray-robed old man agreed. "Sure, how about I sell her to you for one dao crystal?"

"One dao crystal?"

Everyone was taken aback.

"In my eyes, this idiotic woman is only worth one dao crystal," said the gray-robed old man indifferently.

His remark was met with a burst of laughter.

Most of the cultivators who came to the black market of the underground world were not good people, and many were atrocious criminals. They would not care about the life and death of a woman.

"Release her."

At this moment, Lin Xun appeared on the scene, looking coldly at the gray-robed old man.

"Oh, do you want to be a hero?"

"Tsk, tsk, he's standing up to injustice, are there still people like him in this world?"

Before the gray-robed old man responded, the other cultivators nearby laughed and made jokes.

"Friend, did you see that? They are all laughing at you. Do you still want to save her?" asked the gray-robed old man disdainfully.

"Someone doing evil can do it so boldly and righteously, but someone doing good is laughed at and mocked. This world...is indeed becoming more and more disappointing." Lin Xun sighed.

“Doing good?”

The spectator burst into laughter again.

The gray-robed old man said coldly, “In this world, the line between good and evil, black and white, kind and bad...has never been important. What is important is that whoever is strongest can decide life and death.”

“Is that right?” Lin Xun did not make any move.

Boom!

However, the old man felt a tremendous force bearing down on him like the weight of one thousand mountains. He was forced to the ground with a thud.

At the same time, the woman in black was rescued.

The laughter around ceased abruptly, and many cultivators donned solemn expressions.

Only then did they realize that the young man they ridiculed was actually a powerful character!

Suddenly, the woman in black screamed out in disbelief, “It’s you, Lu Bai!”

Pinned to the ground, the old man in gray lost his disguise and resumed the appearance of a dignified looking young man!

“How could it be you? We were engaged, and my father was so nice to you. How could you...how could you do such a thing...” The woman’s pretty face blanched and her body trembled uncontrollably as if she could not believe her eyes.

The cultivators watching nearby gasped audibly. *That guy actually killed his future father-in-law?*

So ruthless!

The young man panicked and lost his previous calm.

The woman in black’s eyes were blurred with tears. She was devastated. Her father was killed by her fiancé...

She was on the verge of breakdown.

Seeing this, Lin Xun snapped his fingers, and with a boom, the young man convulsed with an agonizing scream. His cultivation was utterly destroyed.

“Miss, an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth.”

After Lin Xun said this, he turned around and left. From beginning to end, no one dared to stop him.

No one dared to laugh at him again. Many even felt a hint of respect for him. In this world...not many people would do good like him anymore...

As Lin Xun walked away, he heard a blood-curdling cry from behind.

Without looking back, Lin Xun knew that the young man had been killed.

As for how grief-stricken and broken-hearted the woman in black must be, he could only sympathize with her. After all, he was just a passerby.

On the way, Xie San was silent for some moments, then he said aloud, “Fellow Daoist, although I don’t agree with your actions, you have my heartfelt respect. However, in this black market, I want to remind you that it is best not to have a good heart.”

Lin Xun did not care.

Before long, under the lead of Xie San, Lin Xun entered an ancient hall.

The moment he stepped inside, he noticed that the hall, enveloped in numerous restriction arrays, was heavily guarded.

When Xie San was about to leave, he seemed to want to say something, but in the end, he just sighed and shook his head.

Three people were sitting in the hall. In the middle was a middle-aged man in a black robe. His hair and beard were jet-black like ink, and his eyes were as cold as lightning. The aura around him was dark and unfathomable.

Sitting on his left and right were a white-haired old man and an alluring lady.

The white-haired old man was stroking a golden abacus with a kind look in his eyes.

The alluring lady was scantily clad, exposing the soft and fair skin of her chest. One slender and long leg was crossed over the other. Her eyes had a moist, glistening appearance like water, and the lower half of her body emanated a mature and alluring charm. She was as sultry as fire.

With a quick glance over them, Lin Xun determined that the black-robed middle-aged man was a Big Saint while the white-haired old man and the beautiful lady were at the True Saint Stage.

Their combined power was already considered astonishing in Lin'an City.

After all, Lin'an City was just one of the tens of thousands of cities in Qing State. It was rare to see three Saints appear together in the black market of the underground world of Lin'an City.

Of course, it did not matter how extraordinary the other party was; Lin Xun did not care.

With his current strength, he dared to go up against a quasi-Emperor. How would he attach any importance to a Big Saint and two True Saints?

"Fellow Daoist, what do you want to sell?"

The black-robed man in the middle asked in a deep voice as his eyes scanned Lin Xun like a blade, but he didn't seem to notice anything unusual.

Lin Xun's aura was simple and ordinary. He had full intention of hiding his identity so how would he let the other party see through him?

"How much is this medicinal herb worth?" With a turn of his hand, Lin Xun brought out a plant.

"Three thousand six hundred dao crystals." The black-robed middle-aged man briefly inspected it, seemed a little disappointed, and threw out an offer.

"Is it not too low?"

The medicinal herb was worth at least five thousand dao crystals in the outside world.

The alluring lady pursed her lips. "Fellow Daoist, this is the black market, so the prices are naturally much lower than the outside world. If you have a lot of treasures to sell, then the price is negotiable."

Lin Xun nodded in acknowledgment and with a flick of his sleeve, a pile of precious medicinal herbs appeared. There were over hundreds of varieties, all glowing splendidly and emitting a medicinal fragrance.

"Then what about these?"

Only then did the middle-aged man don a serious expression and examine them carefully for a moment. "They are in pretty good condition, I will give you seventy five percent of the market price."

"What about these?"

Lin Xun waved his sleeve once again, and bottles and jars of pills and elixirs flew out.

The beautiful woman stood up and went forward to check them one by one. After a moment, her eyes lit up with surprise. “Fellow Daoist, you have a lot of good stuff on you. Some of these herbs and pills are precious treasures of ancient orthodoxies that are never passed to outsiders.”

The middle-aged man’s eyes gleamed and he asked, “Madam Yan, how much are they worth?”

“Eighty percent of the outside market price.” The alluring lady threw out a number.

“There’s no rush. I have more.”

As Lin Xun spoke, took out more rare treasures, ores, aeth essence and herbs, piling them together like a small hill.

At this moment, the black-robed middle-aged man and the alluring lady were both breathing rapidly.

The white-haired old man who had been stroking the golden abacus all this time rose to his feet and went over to verify the items.

In his hands, the golden abacus clattered.

The white-haired old man stated in a deep voice, “They are all high quality goods, we can purchase them at ninety percent of the market price.”

When he raised his eyes to look at Lin Xun, there was a strange look in his eyes, as if he had noticed something in those treasures.

Meanwhile, the black-robed middle-aged and the alluring lady were stupefied with an odd look twisting their faces.

It was very unusual for a person to sell so many treasures, and each one was of top quality.

“Ninety percent? Still not enough.” Lin Xun shook his head.

The treasures were spoils he had collected over the years.

To people like the black-robed middle-aged man, each one was an extremely valuable and rare treasure.

But to Lin Xun, the treasures were of no use so he planned to sell them.

“Fellow Daoist, this is our highest offer. After all, this is an underground transaction, and the treasures you want to sell are all stolen goods that can’t be seen in public.” The

middle-aged man's eyes flashed and he spoke in a leisurely manner. "Since it's stolen goods, we obviously can't match the market price."

"Ninety-five percent. If your Fog Obscured Alms can take them, then they are all yours. If you can't, then I'll find another place," Lin Xun negotiated indifferently.

The black-robed middle-aged wrinkled his brows and his face darkened a little.

Anyone who came to the black market wanted to keep their identity hidden from the public because once their identity was exposed, they would definitely be targeted by their enemies.

Moreover, transactions in the black market were all about strength, not rules!

Therefore, when selling stolen goods, no one had ever dared to negotiate with their Fog Obscured Alms!

"Fine. Rarely do we meet such a big seller. Let's just make less money this time. Old Tong, add up the price of all the treasures," Madam Yan said with a smile.

The white-haired old man nodded, and the beads of the golden abacus clattered in his hands.

After a while, he raised his head and reported a number expressionlessly, "A total of nine million three hundred fifty thousand dao crystals."

The black-robed middle-aged man and Madam Yan both looked surprised, as if shocked by the amount.

Lin Xun sneered to himself. *That old fellow actually lied so blatantly in front of me!*

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1855: Blood-Red Umbrella, Green Dress and Enchanting Scene

Before coming to the black market of the underground world, Lin Xun, while seemingly wandering the streets of Lin'an City, had already inquired about the value of the various treasures he planned to sell.

The price offered by the white-haired old man, which was almost ten million dao crystals, seemed to be an astonishing amount, but according to Lin Xun's own calculation, even at

ninety percent of the market price, the treasures combined were worth at least eighteen million dao crystals!

Their value was twice as much as the nine million dao crystals offered by the white-haired old man!

This showed how sinister the old man was!

At this moment, Madam Yan looked flabbergasted. “More than nine million dao crystals! It is definitely one of the largest transactions in the past thousand years in our Lin’an City black market!”

The black-robed middle-aged man also sighed emotionally, then he said with an embarrassed look on his face, “Fellow Daoist, if you are happy with this price, our Fog Obscured Alms can accept your batch of goods, but it will take some time for us to gather the dao crystals. How about we give you three million dao crystals first as a deposit, and then we will pay you one million every month until the remaining is paid off? What do you say?”

Lin Xun felt amused. *Do these bastards really think they can rip me off?*

They want to pay the dao crystals in installments, if I agreed, I bet they would refuse to pay!

“Everyone, stop pretending. Since you are not sincere, I don’t want to do business with you.” As Lin Xun said that, he put away the treasures.

“Wait!” The black-robed middle-aged man’s face went dark with a sinister expression. “Fellow Daoist, your stolen items are related to many ancient orthodoxies. If the public knows about them, it will be very bad for you.”

His voice was filled with threat.

Lin Xun raised his brows. “Is this how Fog Obscured Alms does business? If so, wouldn’t the world be bitterly disappointed?”

Madam Yan couldn’t help letting out a stifled laugh. “Fellow Daoist, everything that happens in this black market underground world already can’t see the light of day. The world might be disappointed, but it has nothing to do with us. On the contrary, those stolen goods of yours...if we disclose it to the public, I’m not sure you could defend yourself!”

The white-haired old man added expressionlessly, “I would like to take this opportunity to tell you something. This underground black market just has one very simple rule: whatever our Fog Obscured Alms say is the law.”

Lin Xun laughed. What an interesting situation! A Big Saint and two True Saints were fearlessly threatening him, a Supreme Saint-King.

“Aren’t you worried that you might choke to death from taking so much?” Lin Xun said indifferently.

The three exchanged a glance with one another and burst out laughing.

“Fellow Daoist, I can tell that you’re extremely confident in your own strength, but this is Fog Obscured Alms’ territory. You have to agree to this transaction even if you don’t want to.”

The black-robed middle-aged man snapped his fingers.

Clang!

A plate buzzed and hummed on the table in front of him.

Instantly, the numerous restriction arrays that enveloped the hall were activated. Wind rushed past, sharp cracks of thunder pierced the air and water and fire erupted.

Lin Xun, who was standing in the center of the hall, was completely drowned by the numerous dao rune arrays.

“What a shame. Rarely do we encounter such a big seller.” Madam Yan giggled.

“I care more about the treasures.” The white-haired old man’s eyes glinted with greed. With these treasures, I won’t need to worry about not being able to break through into the Big Saint Stage?”

The black-robed middle-aged man also chuckled. “I also did not expect to catch such a big fish. It was a very rare opportunity. If it were an ordinary person, I would be too lazy to do anything.”

His smile then froze on his face; his eyes had almost popped out of their sockets and his face was distorted with disbelief.

“Boss, how should we divide these treasures? Do we need to inform Old Crane? After all, he now manages the underground black market in Lin’an City,” Madam Yan asked in a charming voice.

The white-haired old man suggested, “Regarding the matter of dividing the loot, just split it among the three of us. If Old Crane finds out, he would definitely scold us for breaking the rules.”

“Boss?” Madam Yan was about to say something when she noticed the strange look on the black-robed middle-aged man’s face. She turned her head and a look of shock washed over her face.

“Huh?” Almost at the same time, the white-haired old man’s pupils shrank.

A figure was lightly stepping out from the numerous restriction arrays, like he was walking on flat ground, completely unscathed.

How is that possible?!

The three stood together. The restriction arrays around the hall were set up by a dao rune founder over a period of several years. The destructive power they contained could easily eradicate a Supreme Big Saint!

Could it be...

Their opponent was beyond the levels of the Supreme Big Saint Stage?

This thought made the color drain from the black-robed middle-aged man’s face and his hands and feet go ice-cold.

“I came here to do business with you, but you guys tried to kill me and steal my treasures. Fog Obscured Alms...is too barbaric and uncivilized.”

Lin Xun’s eyes were deep and unfathomable.

From the moment he stepped into the hall, he already sensed the power of the restriction arrays. However, given his skills and achievements in the art of runes, would he take them seriously?

The most funny thing was that those idiots planned to use the rune arrays as their trump card.

“Fellow Daoist, what we did before was just a test. Now you have received our Fog Obscured Alms’ recognition and are qualified to do business with us.” The black-robed middle-aged man drew a deep breath and put on a stiff smile.

“That’s correct.” Madam Yan hurriedly nodded.

“Why are you afraid of him? Old Crane watches over this place. If he’s really so strong, why won’t he dare to do anything?” The white-haired old man snorted coldly.

Pu!

Lin Xun raised his hand and made a swatting motion in the air.

The white-haired old man instantly lost all life force in his body and withered into ashes, scattering everywhere.

Green Wood Dao Body, the power of wither and thrive!

The black-robed middle-aged man and Madam Yan were so terror-stricken that their souls almost escaped their bodies. Simultaneously, they dropped to their knees.

“Fellow Daoist, please listen. We were unaware of who you are just now. I hope you can show some mercy!” Madam Yan pleaded in a trembling voice.

The black-robed middle-aged man trembled as he said, “Fellow Daoist, didn’t you want to do business? To make up for our mistake, we will buy those treasures at the market price!”

Lin Xun responded indifferently, “Apologies but I am now not in the mood to do business with your Fog Obscured Alms.”

He waved his sleeve.

Boom!

The black-robed middle-aged man, a Big Saint, was also reduced to ashes in an instant, just like the white-haired old man!

Madam Yan was so terrified that a scream escaped her lips, and she collapsed to the ground. Her soft, fair thighs were exposed to the cold ground and her mature and alluring face was warped with fear.

“Fellow Daoist, harmony is most important in business. They have offended you before and have already paid a heavy price. Is that not enough?” A hoarse voice suddenly rang out.

Following the voice, a short old man with scarlet red hair and beard, who looked like a dwarf, suddenly appeared in the hall.

“Old Crane, help! Save us!” Madam Yan cried out, like a drowning person grabbing hold of a straw.

The old dwarf man ignored her and just looked at Lin Xun.

Lin Xun said calmly, “Did you see everything that happened before?”

The old dwarf man sighed, “I just got here.”

“What a coincidence.”

The old dwarf man smiled wryly. “Fellow Daoist, do you remember Xie San? He was the one who informed me.”

Lin Xun uttered ruminatively, “I see.”

He still remembered that on the way here, Xie San specifically reminded him that it was best to not have a good heart.

And when they arrived here, he seemed to be hesitant to speak. He clearly knew that Lin Xun would encounter trouble, but he just did not say it out loud.

To Lin Xun’s surprise, Xie San went to find the old dwarf man. Could it be that he couldn’t bear to see him killed?

If so, he still had a conscience.

Thinking of this, Lin Xun’s expression eased a lot, and he said aloud, “In that case, I will drop the matter here.”

The old dwarf man secretly breathed a sigh of relief and said, “Fellow Daoist, before I came here, a higher-up of our Fog Obscured Alms specifically told me to pass on the message that she hope to have a chance to meet with you and express her apologies in person.”

Lin Xun forced a smile. “Could it be another murder plot against me?”

The old dwarf man smiled wryly. “Fellow Daoist, your strength is incredible and unfathomable. How would our Fog Obscured Alms dare to offend an honorable guest like you?”

“What about her?”

Lin Xun pointed at Madam Yan who was lying limp on the ground.

A cold light flashed in the old dwarf’s eyes. “Rest assured, Fellow Daoist, I will give you an answer before you leave.”

Madam Yan was petrified, trembling all over. Although Old Crane looked like a dwarf, he was actually a ruthless character. Anyone who received his punishment would be skinned alive if not killed!

Madam Yan was utterly distraught, shaking uncontrollably.

“Fellow Daoist, this way please.” The old dwarf man smiled as he gestured.

Lin Xun nodded.

This black market of Lin'an City was like a world of its own. In the center was a dark ancient hall.

A slender figure was already standing in front of the hall.

She was wearing a green dress and had long black hair that shone like an eternal night sky. Her slender and fair hand was holding up a blood-colored umbrella.

The umbrella and the pole were both a striking red as if they had been soaked in blood.

Her green dress, black hair, and blood-red umbrella silhouetted against the black hall behind her was an enchanting and eerie scene.

From a distance, when Lin Xun set eyes on this image, his pupils slightly shrank, and he felt his heart strangely beating faster.

The old dwarf man donned a look of respect and said in an almost pious tone of voice, "Miss, the distinguished guest is here."

The green-clothed woman holding up a blood-red umbrella said, "Leave for now." Her voice was soft, but uniquely magnetic, like a god in the darkness talking in her sleep.

The old dwarf bowed respectfully and then quietly left.

"Greetings Young Master, I am Qing Ying. I feel ashamed about what happened earlier and would like to compensate you." The woman in the green dress spoke softly.

The blood-red umbrella between her fair fingers released a mysterious and obscure power that blurred her face. Only her clear and deep eyes that were like obsidian were visible on her face.

"Compensation is not necessary."

Lin Xun shook his head, feeling somewhat uneasy. With his current vision and cultivation, he was unable to see through the cultivation level of the woman.

However, from the respectful manners of the old dwarf man just now, he knew that the woman who exuded a mysterious and enchanting aura had to have an extraordinary identity!

Did she really call me here just to apologize?

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1856: Eyes Watching in the Shadows

In front of the black hall, the blood-red umbrella was like a canopy and beneath it, the woman's green dress and black hair swayed in the wind.

"Compensation must be made. My Fog Obscured Alms will take all the treasures that you offered to us at the market price."

The woman who called herself Qing Ying had a soft and magnetic voice. As she spoke, she flipped over her hand that was snow-white to the point of being transparent, and resting on the palm was a purple jade badge.

"And from now on, as long as you hold this item, when you trade with Fog Obscured Alms, all treasures will be bought at 90% of the market price."

Swoosh!

The purple jade badge turned into a streak of light and appeared in front of Lin Xun.

The palm-sized jade badge had a beautiful sheen with purple mist swirling around it to form the words 'Fog Obscured'.

After a brief thought, Lin Xun accepted the item and said, "Thank you very much."

Then, he bid farewell and left.

Qing Ying did not stop him and just watched his figure gradually disappear.

Under the blood-red umbrella, a thoughtful smile came onto her barely visible face.

Silently, the old dwarf man appeared and bowed respectfully, "Miss."

"Has the Young Master left?"

"Yes."

"Where's Madam Yan?"

"Miss, please give your orders."

"She did not follow the rules, do you not know what her consequences are?"

The old dwarf man immediately broke out in a cold sweat. “I know.”

Qing Ying turned around with a flutter of her green dress and entered the black hall while holding the blood-red umbrella.

“I want all the information about that young man within a quarter of an hour.”

A soft voice drifted around the void, but she was already nowhere in sight.

Only then did the old dwarf man relax and wipe the cold sweat from his forehead.

As the person in charge of Fog Obscured Alms in Lin'an City, the old man was like the ruler of the black market of the underground world, wielding terrifying authority and the power of life and death.

He attached no importance to even Big Saints!

Despite that, in front of Qing Ying, he acted so humble and submissive, not daring to show the slightest bit of disrespect.

He was the only one who knew well what sort of majestic and transcendent status Miss Qing Ying held in Fog Obscured Alms.

“Madam Yan, don't blame me for being ruthless. I'm just following orders...” The old dwarf sighed and turned away.

In less than a quarter of an hour.

The old dwarf man appeared in front of the black hall again.

“Miss, I have acquired the information,” he said respectfully.

The door of the hall silently opened, and inside the fog-filled hall, a graceful green figure was sitting alone with a blood-red umbrella quietly suspended above her.

“The young man is called Yu Xuan. He arrived in Lin'an City yesterday on Whirlwind Ship of Heavenly Sound Pavilion from the Ziheng Star Field. I captured a passenger who was on the ship and interrogated him briefly. I discovered something strange.”

As the old dwarf man spoke, he brought out a jade slip and presented it with a bow.

The jade slip recorded in detail everything Lin Xun had done since he boarded Whirlwind Ship.

For example, he served as Liu Qingyan's bodyguard, killed many Primordial Dao Court experts, was targeted by Netherworld Zen Master Wuming and others from Earth Treasury Realm, and suppressed disciples from the Jingtian Clan.

Qing Ying's eyes gleamed as she read the notes, as if she guessed something.

As she continued to read it, her gaze drifted off in thought.

That night, Wuming and others from Earth Treasury Realm, as well as Jintian Xuanyue attacked together. After Yu Xuan defeated them all, Sword Emperor Brave Gale personally took action...

However, Yu Xuan did not die. Instead, Wuming and his group disappeared while Sword Emperor Brave Gale declared his stance that he would protect Yu Xuan and even told Jintian Xuanyue to stay by Yu Xuan's side as a cultivator attendant!

This all was very unusual.

"What actually happened that night?"

Qing Ying fell into deep thought.

After a long while, she asked, "Is there any more information?"

The old dwarf man hurriedly reported, "I heard that Kong Yu from the Primordial Dao Court led people onto Whirlwind Ship to launch an attack, but Sword Emperor Brave Gale himself suppressed them all..."

"Kong Yu is stupid. How would a sword emperor who had made a name for himself thirty thousand years ago fear him because of his background?" Qing Ying remarked disdainfully.

Immediately, she asked, "Old Crane, who do you think in Ancient Nebula Road would dare to kill disciples of the Primordial Dao Court?"

The old dwarf man was stumped.

Without waiting for an answer, Qing Ying answered, "Maybe there would have been someone a long time ago, but in the past hundred thousand years, almost no one would dare to do it except for the ruthless characters of the Ancient Nebula Underworld who are unafraid of death."

The old dwarf man agreed.

The mere mention of Primordial Dao Court was enough to deter anyone. How would its disciples not be treated with respect wherever they go?

Qing Ying's soft, feminine voice was uniquely magnetic. "However, six years ago, in the Kunlun Dominion, someone killed not only successors from Primordial Dao Court, but who knows how many disciples from the Great Six Courts and Great Ten Battle Clans."

"Lin Xun!" The old dwarf man blurted out.

"Correct, it is precisely him." Qing Ying said, "Old Crane, don't you find that the behavior of Yu Xuan and Lin Xun is very similar?"

The old dwarf man gasped, "Miss, do you suspect the young man to be Lin Xun?"

"The sudden appearance of the fearless Lin Xun already rocked the entire Ancient Nebula Road. Could there be someone else like him in this world?" Qing Ying said mysteriously, "There might be, but...he definitely won't be an expert from the Imperial Yu Clan."

A strange look came into her eyes of the old dwarf man. "Miss, rumor has it that Lin Xun holds the secret of becoming an Emperor and Ancestor. How about we..."

"No." Qing Ying interrupted, "This is just my guess. I have used a secret art to observe Yu Xuan before and I indeed found that he was in disguise, but his true appearance was not Lin Xun. There must be more to this."

The old dwarf man was taken aback for a moment before he asked, "Miss, what are your plans next?"

"Just wait and see." Qing Ying stated calmly, "Remember, without my order, do not disclose what happened today."

Old Crane hurriedly promised, trembling inside.

"Yu Xuan..." Qing Ying murmured. "I didn't expect to encounter a mysterious person like you during my trip to Lin'an City. As long as you continue to trade with Fog Obscured Alms, we will definitely meet again..."

.....

After leaving the black market, Lin Xun headed straight to the inn where he stayed.

He now carried an additional twenty four million dao crystals, which was six million more than he expected.

Lin Xun knew that this might be the 'compensation' that Qing Ying spoke of.

At the thought of that mysterious, enchanting and stunning woman, Lin Xun couldn't help but think of the blood-red umbrella and green dress.

Immediately, he shook his head.

Once the auction was over, he would immediately leave Lin'an City, and they likely wouldn't see each other again in the future.

"Huh?" When he reached the inn entrance, he suddenly halted.

In his spirit sense, he captured two pairs of eyes secretly spying on him.

One was a man in brocade garments standing in front of a stall, looking carefully and choosing some items. A few hundred feet away, there was a woman in plain clothes and with a simple hairpin was sipping tea in a teahouse.

He calmly continued into the inn.

In the room, Jintian Xuanyue was brewing a pot of tea. Her slender and fair hands moving skilfully and smoothly like flowing water captivated the eyes.

"Xuanyue, it seems like I am being watched."

Lin Xun walked into the room, sat down on one side of the table, picked up a teacup and took a sip.

"Ah?"

A blush spread across Jintian Xuanyue's beautiful fair face, and her long and dense eyelashes fluttered like a little fan.

"What's wrong?" Lin Xun was taken aback by her response.

Jintian Xuanyue pointed at the teacup in Lin Xun's hand. "Young Master, I just drank from this cup."

Lin Xun went stiff and flushed with embarrassment, saying awkwardly, "That...I didn't know. I hope you don't mind."

Jintian Xuanyue nodded and changed the topic, "Young Master, you were saying that you are being watched, is that right?"

Lin Xun nodded and scrunched his brows. "That's right. We just arrived in Lin'an City and haven't provoked anyone, yet I was secretly being followed as I returned here. This is strange."

"Do you want me to investigate?" Jintian Xuanyue's expression turned serious.

“Don’t alert the enemy just yet.” Lin Xun whispered, “We will leave here once the auction is over. Let’s see if they will take the next step then.”

Jintian Xuanyue nodded.

.....

Meanwhile, in the Xing Clan’s residence.

As the most powerful force in Lin’an City, the Xing Clan occupied a huge area of land. It was like a blessed ground, with rockery, beautiful streams, pavilions, and gazebos. Every corner was like the home of immortals.

“If this operation is successful, I, Kong Yu, will not treat you badly in the future.”

In a large hall, Kong Yu was sitting arrogantly at the main seat with a haughty look on his face.

Sitting around the hall were all important figures of the Xing Clan, some men and some women but all were at least at the True Saint Stage.

A dignified man in a purple robe said respectfully, “Please rest assured, Young Master. There is nothing that our Xing Clan can’t deal with in Lin’an City.”

He was Xing Liushui, the head of the Xing Clan and an elder of the Purple Cloud Sword Sect, the third strongest force in Cloud Stage. He was a supreme perfect Saint-King who wielded mighty authority and power.

He was regarded as a top figure in the entire Qing State.

However, in front of Kong Yu, he acted extremely humble and respectful.

“If we rely on just the power of your Xing Clan, I’m afraid it won’t be enough to take down Yu Xuan.” Kong Yu remarked expressionlessly, “But don’t worry, when the time comes, my people will lend a hand.”

Xing Liushui gave a cupped fist salute and bowed. “Young Master, we await your orders.”

Kong Yu nodded, satisfied with Xing Liushui’s attitude.

“Yu Xuan definitely won’t stay long in Lin’an City. The moment he leaves is the time we will take action,” Kong Yu decided. “But before that, your Xing Clan must keep a close eye on him. If my plan is ruined...haha, then don’t blame me for turning hostile!”

With that, he got up and swaggered off.

From the beginning to the end, Xing Liushui and other important figures all obediently obeyed his orders and dared not show any discontent even when threatened.

The reason for that was very simple: Standing behind Kong Yu was Primordial Dao Court, a colossus that could flatten the entire Xing Clan with a snap of their fingers!

Three days later, in Donglai Treasure Pavilion of Lin'an City, the much-anticipated auction kicked off as scheduled.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1857: Sky Blue Mythic Spirit Stone

It was barely dawn but many cultivators were already heading in the direction of Donglai Treasure Pavilion.

Donglai Treasure Pavilion was a property under Donglai Dao Sect, the strongest force in Qing State, and had a presence in every city in Qing State.

The treasures that were to be auctioned at Donglai Treasure Pavilion in Lin'an City were all incredibly rare. In particular, there was a godly material from an uncharted land and this naturally captured the attention of many cultivators.

Many even came here in a hurry from all over the world.

When Lin Xun and Jintian Xuanyue set out, they saw many Saints along the way, including True Saints, Big Saints and Saint-Kings...

Some of whom were powerful figures who had set foot on the Supreme Path!

Lin Xun couldn't help but marvel at the spectacle. The Great Primordial Chaos World indeed lived up to its name of being the largest world in the Ancient Nebula Road.

Lin'an City was just one of the tens of thousands of cities in Qing State, yet it had gathered so many Saint cultivators. He had never seen such a spectacle in other worlds.

"Young Master, I've also noticed that, from the moment we left the inn, there have been quite a few people secretly watching us," whispered Jintian Xuanyue.

She was dressed in plain clothes with her long, lustrous black hair rolled up in a bun, revealing her beautiful and fair neck. She had a tall and slender figure with perfect proportions, but her breathtakingly stunning face had been masked with disguise. Now, she still looked graceful but not breathtaking.

Even so, the noble aura that emanated from her every movement still drew countless attention along the way.

This was the grace of an unparalleled beauty. Her beauty was more than her physical appearance; she radiated beauty from her actions, words, temperament, and aura.

Lin Xun grunted in acknowledgment. “Just ignore it.”

By the time they arrived in Donglai Treasure Pavilion, it was already packed with people and incredibly busy.

Fortunately, as soon as Jintian Xuanyue took out two admission tickets, the two were quickly led inside.

The inside of the auction hall was huge, covered with many restriction arrays, like a giant upside-down bowl.

“Distinguished guests, please come with me.”

A beautiful attendant led the way.

Only then did Lin Xun realize that the two admission tickets that Jintian Xuanyue bought were VIP seats in a special private room that blocked spirit senses from investigating them.

Those two admission tickets alone were worth twenty thousand dao crystals!

Such an amount was enough to purchase a high-grade Saint treasure.

Before long, the entire auction hall was filled with cultivators. According to Lin Xun’s rough estimate, the sale of admission tickets amounted to three million dao crystals for Donglai Treasure Pavilion.

About a minute later, Lin Xun and Jintian Xuanyue sat down in the VIP room.

A beautiful, sophisticatedly-dressed woman walked nimbly up the auction stage. Her red lips were slightly opened and she had a smiling expression in her eyes.

“Everyone, welcome to Donglai Treasure Pavilion. My name is Pu Lanzhi, and I am the auctioneer for this auction.”

Before her voice faded, mutters of exclamations rippled through the venue.

“It’s her! Elder Pu Lanzhi, an elder of Donglai Dao Sect and a renowned supreme Saint-King in Qing State.”

Who would have thought that a mere auction event would invite a supreme Saint-King to act as the auctioneer?! This arrangement was already astonishing.

However, it only made everyone more excited about the upcoming auction.

“At this auction, there will be thirty-seven treasures being auctioned. The number might be a little less than you might have expected, but I guarantee that each one of these treasures will not disappoint you.

“Okay, without further ado, let’s present the first treasure.”

As Pu Lanzhi finished speaking, a female attendant walked up the auction stage with a bronze box in her hands.

The hall instantly quieted down, and all eyes were shifted onto the item.

As expected, Donglai Treasure Pavilion did not disappoint. Right from the beginning, it ignited enthusiasm and excitement in the cultivators present and created a stir.

“The Sun-Moon Dragon-Phoenix Blades, a rare treasure of ancient times, is far superior to any ordinary Saint treasures. But what’s most remarkable about the pair of treasures that perfectly matched each other is that they can break through spatial barriers with their unpredictable powers.”

An uproar broke out the moment that Pu Lanzhi finished speaking and everyone’s eyes were blazing brightly.

It should be mentioned that for an item to be called an ancient treasure it had to have been created more than one hundred thousand years ago. Now, they were presented with a pair of ancient treasures that complemented each other!

The most marvelous feature of them had to be their power, which could break through spatial barriers. This meant that anyone armed with this pair of treasures could forge a way out no matter what remote place they were trapped in. How would it not arouse everyone’s interest?

When Pu Lanzhi opened the bronze box, a pair of sharp blades glowed with a magnificent light, forming visions of the sun and the moon amidst the faint roar of dragons and phoenixes.

What an astonishing scene!

Many people looked infatuated as gasps rang out in rapid succession.

Even some big shots’ interest was piqued.

Unquestionably, it was a pair of magnificent treasures!

Pu Lanzhi smiled slightly, satisfied with the reaction. “The starting price is three hundred thousand dao crystals, and the minimum bidding increment is ten thousand dao crystals.”

“Four hundred thousand!”

As soon as she said that, someone couldn’t wait to bid and raised the price by one hundred thousand, causing a commotion.

“The pair of treasures is not bad. It is just what I need right now, five hundred thousand!”

“Sorry but I must have that pair of treasures. Six hundred thousand!”

.....

In the auction hall, bidders called out their bids, and in just a short moment, the bidding of the Sun-Moon Dragon-Phoenix Blades was driven to a sky-high price. It was an extremely exciting and enjoyable atmosphere.

Finally, the pair of treasures was won by an important figure sitting in a private room, who paid one million three hundred thousand dao crystals for the prize.

It was Lin Xun’s first time attending an auction, so the entire process of the first treasure being bought was quite novel to him.

However, although the Sun-Moon Dragon-Phoenix Blades were wonderful, it was not his cup of tea, so he never made a bid.

Jintian Xuanyue also remained calm and composed. She was very knowledgeable and occasionally would explain some auction tips to Lin Xun.

“The second item to be auctioned is an intact relic of an ancient Sage.”

Not long after, Pu Lanzhi took out the second treasure.

“Relic of an ancient Sage! Wouldn’t it contain the secret of becoming a Sage?”

“This is really worth the trip here! Only after becoming a Sage would one be able to set foot into the Supreme Saint-King Stage. If I have that relic, I will only need to put in half the effort to get twice the result in working towards the Saint Path Ritual.”

The buzz in the auction hall rose to an excited clamor. Many people were stirred up. If the first two auctioned items were already so rare, one could imagine what would follow.

However, some people lamented. Given their financial abilities, they had no chance at all in the auction.

Lin Xun was very excited at first, but gradually his interest had noticeably waned.

This was because the treasures auctioned all had little use to him.

As time went by, the treasures presented were more and more amazing.

“Huh?”

Just when Lin Xun was feeling a little bored, he suddenly sensed that Broken Blade was buzzing in his body, eager to come out.

At this moment, on the auction stage, Pu Lanzhi took out a fist-sized ore aglow with a dreamy sky-blue color. Its surface was covered with natural silver dao runes and it emitted a beautiful, wondrous star-like luster.

“A Sky Blue Mythic Spirit Stone with seventy-two mythic spirit dao runes. It is a godly material for tempering a life-bound Saint weapon. The starting price is four hundred thousand dao crystals and the minimum bidding increment is fifty thousand dao crystals,” Pu Lanzhi stated.

“The price is too high.” Someone shook their head, and many people echoed their words.

Unlike ordinary Saint treasures, life-bound Saint weapons were extremely rare. Only a few ancient orthodoxies had secret inheritance techniques to craft life-bound Saint weapons.

Moreover, even if one had grasped one of those secret crafting techniques, the process would be extremely difficult because it required lucky opportunities for the life-bound Saint weapon to transform again and again.

Although the Sky Blue Mythic Spirit Stone was precious, it was still just a godly material. Hence, ordinary cultivators were hesitant to spend a huge amount of money to purchase one.

However, there was no shortage of wealthy individuals at the auction, and someone quickly announced their bid.

“Four hundred and fifty thousand dao crystals.”

“Five hundred thousand.”

However, the bidding was rather slow compared to before, and when the price reached eight hundred thousand dao crystals, no one was bidding anymore.

Seeing that the treasure was about to be auctioned, Lin Xun finally made a bid, “Eight hundred and fifty thousand.”

“Hmph!”

The previous bidder was also a cultivator in a VIP room. Seeing Lin Xun bid higher than him, he grunted in a rough and powerful voice, showing his dissatisfaction.

“Nine hundred thousand.” He bid again.

“One million.” Lin Xun showed no hesitation in raising the price by one hundred thousand dao crystal!

The auction hall was filled with gasps. No one expected the bidding of a Sky Blue Mythic Spirit Stone would reach the figure of one million dao crystals. They spent money like water!

It should be mentioned that one million dao crystals was enough to purchase a top-quality Saint treasure!

“Friend, do you really want to fight with me?” The rough and powerful voice trembled with anger.

“We are just bidding. If you can’t afford it, then give up. If you can afford it, then continue. I’ll play with you to the end,” Lin Xun said indifferently.

In the auction hall, cultivators clicked their tongues. *Is it worth getting angry over a Sky Blue Mythic Spirit Stone?*

“Haha, did you say I can’t afford it? Ever since I started cultivating, no one has ever dared to talk to me like this. If you want to play, then I’ll play with you!” The rough voice laughed angrily, “One million and two hundred thousand!”

A commotion broke out.

Pu Lanzhi who was standing on the auction stage had a slight smile on her lips. This type of customer was her favorite at the auction. Whether it was their ego or they were acting out of emotions, they would definitely announce an extremely high bid.

“Young Master, the price is already outrageous. It’s not worth it at all.”

In the VIP room, Jintian Xuanyue reminded Lin Xun. She was very surprised and could not understand why Lin Xun would spend so much on one godly material.

Lin Xun smiled. “Just watch.”

Then, he continued to bid, “One and a half million.”

The entire auction hall fell silent for a moment. All cultivators looked dazed and almost thought they had heard it wrong.

Is he crazy?

One and a half million dao crystals was an astronomical number to ordinary people at the Saint Stage. Even a Saint-King probably would not be able to come up with so many dao crystals at once.

But someone actually spent one and a half million just for one godly material. Everyone freaked out and felt a fit of dizziness.

Are we too ignorant or is this world too crazy?

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1858: Broken Blade’s Earthshaking Change

In another VIP room, a crimson-robed dignified old man’s face was so overcast that it was frightening.

Bang!

He smashed the table in front of him with a slap. Violent raging flames spread outwards from him while his spirit sense swept the area.

Unfortunately for him, the private room where Lin Xun was in was blocked off by restriction power, preventing the detection of spirit sense.

“Which bastard dares to snatch my treasure?” raged the crimson-robed old man as his face darkened.

Around him, the group of men and women were all as silent and still as cicadas in the winter.

The crimson-robed old man was called Shang Song, and he enjoyed resounding fame in Qing State—Ancestor Burning Flame!

He was a dao rune founder who had made a name for himself long ago and was respected wherever he went.

The men and women around him were all his disciples.

“Ancestor, it's just a piece of Sky Blue Mythic Spirit Stone. No matter how precious it is, it can't be worth such a high price. Please don't get so angry that it affects your health.” A woman comforted him in a soft voice.

“What do you know?!”

Ancestor Burning Flame gnashed his teeth, eyes menacing and terrifying, “Based on my many years of experience in crafting treasures, that item is definitely not as ordinary as it looks.”

The men and women now understood why their ancestor would fight so hard.

“One million and eight hundred thousand!” Suddenly, Ancestor Burning Flame made another bid, a price that almost made his heart bleed.

The atmosphere in the auction hall became increasingly quiet.

Countless cultivators were already dumbfounded. The bid of one million and a half was already mental, but now the bid had suddenly soared to one million and eight hundred thousand!

Who would have thought that this extremely rare but relatively unpopular godly material would be bid at such a sky-high price?!

It was also the highest bid for any item sold at the auction so far.

“Could it be that the godly material is extraordinary?”

“Go and check.”

In some private rooms, the important figures of Qing State were taken aback and realized that there might be more that they did not know.

They also began to pay closer attention to the godly material again.

On the auction stage, Pu Lanzhi was also bewildered. She knew very well about the origin of the Sky Blue Mythic Spirit Stone and she had also had it appraised by several treasure appraisers, but no one found anything noteworthy about it.

She reckoned that she would have struck it lucky if the godly material fetched eight hundred thousand dao crystals, but she never imagined such a situation.

Suddenly, the atmosphere in the auction hall turned strangely silent.

Regardless of how hard those important figures investigated, they found nothing unusual, which made them even more confused.

Could the intense bidding war be because there was more to the godly material or was it just a fight of egos?

Lin Xun was oblivious to everyone's reaction and announced another bid, "Two million."

Those two words were like a thunderclap striking the entire audience.

"Who the hell is in that room?"

"Two million dao crystals...how many extraordinary Saint treasures can one buy with that?"

"This is simply inhumane!" Ancestor Burning Flame was so enraged that veins popped on his forehead and smoke rose from his seven orifices.

Two million dao crystals!

He could afford it, but if he spent so much now, he would be short of money in the upcoming auctions.

Finally, he gritted his teeth and gave up the bidding.

He issued an order, "You all go and find out the identity of the person in that room. Since they dare to go against me, I will make them pay for it once the auction is over!"

There was a hint of murderous intent in his voice.

.....

In the end, the Sky Blue Mythic Spirit Stone was won at a sky-high price of two million dao crystals and soon delivered to Lin Xun's room.

After paying the dao crystals, Lin Xun received the treasure, and holding it in his hand, his eyes glittered strangely. *This treasure is indeed extraordinary!*

The fist-sized ore was a dreamy sky-blue color with seventy-two natural silver dao runes on its surface, and emitted a wondrous star-like luster.

Jintian Xuanyue looked at it from the side, but she saw nothing special.

But at this moment, the Broken Blade was moving restlessly inside Lin Xun's body, showing signs of desire, agitation, and urgency.

All this was because of the Sky Blue Mythic Spirit Stone!

“Miss Xuanyue, I have to do something now. Can you protect me in the meantime?”

As Lin Xun spoke, he folded his hands into a hand seal.

Buzz!

Obscure and complex restriction dao rune arrays intertwined in midair and enveloped Lin Xun.

What wonderful dao rune skills!

Jintian Xuanyue's beautiful eyes sparkled with amazement, but then it was replaced by a look of disappointment.

He set up restriction arrays around him because he does not want me to see what he's going to do next.

“When will you actually trust me...” A hint of sadness flickered across her limpid eyes.

Unfortunately, Lin Xun did not notice this.

He did this not because he was guarded against Jintian Xuanyue, but because once he exposed the Broken Blade, she would know his real identity.

After all, he had killed countless opponents in the Kunlun Dominion, and his weapons and treasures were well known to everyone!

Shua!

The Broken Blade slashed out like a wolf starved for countless years. It instantly erupted a blaze of light that shrouded the Sky Blue Mythic Spirit Stone in Lin Xun's hand.

Crack...

With a series of cracking sounds, the fist-sized Sky Blue Mythic Spirit Stone shattered and shards went all over the ground. If Ancestor Burning Flame saw this scene, his heart would ache terribly.

Those shards were all essence, the key to tempering a life-bound Saint weapon!

However, the Broken Blade seemed to have no interest in them at all.

Before long, as shards fell, it revealed a bead around the size of a pigeon egg. It was a pure sky blue color without any impurities.

Endless sky blue light spread outwards from the bead.

Vaguely, Lin Xun seemed to see a sky blue ocean roaring with rich and pure great dao vitality!

The vitality was so strong that Lin Xun had to take a deep breath. A divine object that was recorded in the All-Inclusive Plant Index popped up in his mind.

“Blue Spirit Dao Source, born in the land of the beginning of primal chaos, is like the embryo of the world. The vitality contained inside is the essence of all living things and the beginning of all!”

In short, Blue Spirit Dao Source was the innate vitality of a world when it was first born, just like the yolk of an egg; it was the source of life.

According to the All-Inclusive Plant Index, there were many kinds of such natural dao sources, which could be roughly divided into the five elements, yin and yang, wind, lightning and other primitive attributes.

Blue Spirit Dao Source was one of them.

Thinking of this, Lin Xun couldn't help but gasp. *What a harvest!*

He had not imagined that a Sky Blue Mythic Spirit Stone would actually contain a Blue Spirit Dao Source. Its value was beyond dao crystals!

This was because it was incredibly rare and one could only come across one serendipitously. Any cultivator who obtained it would not sell it no matter what.

The Broken Blade glowed brightly as it madly absorbed the power of Blue Spirit Dao Source.

Visibly, streaks of Natal Treasure Runes that looked like golden dragons rushed across the surface of the Broken Blade.

Back in the Kunlun Dominion, the Broken Blade had absorbed huge amounts of Treasure Refining Dao Qi and formed fifty-four Natal Treasure Runes.

Now, the number of Natal Treasure Rune was constantly increasing!

Every increase strengthened the aura of the Broken Blade and amplified its snow-white glow.

Soon, Lin Xun felt a stinging sensation in his eyes and mind.

The nearby space, as if unable to bear the force, exploded and split with countless cracks.

If Lin Xun had not covered up everything with restriction arrays, this strange phenomenon would have destroyed all the furniture and ornaments in the room!

“Eighty-nine, ninety, ninety one...”

As Lin Xun watched the changes in Broken Blade, his heart began to burn.

The Saint treasures in the world were roughly divided into two categories: Ordinary Saint treasures and life-bound Saint weapons.

Ordinary Saint treasures were rather common with the majority of Saints owning one. Their power was based on their grade and quality.

However, life-bound Saint weapons were different. Not only were they extremely rare, but they also were extremely difficult to craft and temper, requiring specific timing and opportunity.

In general, the power of life-bound Saint weapons was far stronger than that of ordinary Saint treasures of the same grade. Additionally, a life-bound Saint weapon could perfectly coordinate with its master to unleash its full potential.

This fact alone made them superior to other Saint treasures.

The key lay in the fact that life-bound Saint weapons possessed Natal Treasure Runes!

Once they formed their own Natal Treasure Rune, their power would undergo a transformative change!

Once one hundred Natal Treasure Runes were condensed, the power of a life-bound Saint weapon would be raised to a whole new level and give birth to a weapon spirit, which had the potential to double the combat power of their wielder!

This process was actually very similar to a cultivator making breakthroughs and ascending to the next cultivation level, except that the growth of a life-bound Saint weapon was based on the grade of their Natal Treasure Runes, and the ultimate goal was to form a weapon spirit!

Weapon spirits possessed intelligence, mind, cultivation base, and combat power; they were almost no different from a real cultivator.

However, weapon spirits were rarely seen. Among thousands of life-bound Saint weapons, there might not even be one with a weapon spirit.

Of note, those that did could unleash power beyond imagination in battle!

The weapon spirit of No-Nonsense Bow was Wuque. Back then in Sunset Current Valley, it had killed Saint-Kings with such ease that it was like slaughtering chickens.

According to Wuque, Fei Lan, who took the form of a blood-colored moth, was originally the weapon spirit of the Dao Primal Chaos Bell.

And Fei Lan was searching for an opportunity to become an Emperor!

Right now, as Broken Blade rapidly transformed, its number of Natal Treasure Rune was almost approaching one hundred!

Unfortunately, to Lin Xun's surprise, when the number of Natal Treasure Rune reached ninety-nine, the transformation suddenly slowed.

The power of the Blue Spirit Dao Source was close to being completely drained, which made Lin Xun a little anxious.

PA!

Not long after that, the bead transformed from the Blue Spirit Dao Source shattered and scattered like ashes.

At this moment, a blurry Natal Treasure Rune slowly condensed on the top of Broken Blade, but it was extremely illusory and faint.

Even so, Lin Xun trembled inwardly, and a shocking scene emerged in his mind—In a vast expanse of darkness, a pair of eyes snapped open!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1859: The Spirit of the Broken Blade

The darkness seemed boundless, able to drown, oppress, and suffocate people.

The opened eyes were the brightest light in the darkness, like a pair of blazing suns.

The gaze was incomparably sharp and fierce, as if it was a sword that could tear apart the void and pierce the nine heavens!

The moment the pair of eyes locked on Lin Xun, he felt a chill all over his body and all his hair stood on end as if he had fallen into an ice cave.

The next moment, the pair of eyes closed.

It was nothing but darkness once again.

It was also at this moment that Lin Xun vaguely saw a figure.

It was sitting silently and alone in the darkness, hair disheveled. The body, neck, and legs were bound by chains as thick as a thumb with ripples of obscure law power flowing around them.

The scene was so faint and blurry that Lin Xun could not make out whether the figure was a man or a woman, a human or a ghost.

However, the figure sitting alone in the darkness induced a feeling of unimaginable terror in Lin Xun, as if it was a divine god of darkness who could wipe out the world with just one thought!

This reminded Lin Xun of Demon-Beast Emperor Dutian who was now suppressed in the Dao Endless Pagoda.

When he first met Demon-Beast Emperor Dutian at God Binding Heavenly Peak, he was also subdued and bound by great dao chains, unable to break free despite years of vicissitudes.

However, unlike Demon-Beast Emperor Dutian, the lone figure in the darkness radiated a feeling of extreme calmness and indifference.

It did not feel like it was being suppressed, but instead rather trapped in their own web!

“With your current strength...you are far from being able to fully refine my power. Come back later.”

A voice resounded in Lin Xun’s mind, as sharp as a blade piercing into his heart, but with a slight tinge of disappointment.

Boom!

The next moment, all scenes in Lin Xun's mind faded and disappeared.

He was sweating profusely.

When he looked at the Broken Blade again, it had become dull and lifeless, no longer surrounded in the dazzling and illusory glow. Instead, it gave a sense of simplicity and antiquity.

On its surface, the one hundred Natal Treasure Runes that looked like huge golden dragons, as well as the three words, Yuan, Extreme and Zhu, had all vanished.

From a distance, it was no different from an ordinary broken blade.

However, Lin Xun's mind was linked with the Broken Blade, so he knew that the blade had completely changed. Its heaven-defying ferocity and domineering aura had been condensed to the limit and then restrained!

"That figure sitting in the darkness...must be the spirit of Broken Blade...A'hu was right, the Broken Blade is not incomplete, but instead its power has been sealed..."

Thinking back to the scenes that Lin Xun saw, he had an epiphany.

Normally, after a life-bound Saint weapon formed one hundred Natal Treasure Runes, the initial weapon spirit would be born.

By continuing to temper and refine it, one day, the true weapon spirit would be formed.

However, the Broken Blade did not undergo such a transformation. Instead, Lin Xun caught a glimpse of the mysterious figure sitting alone in the darkness!

When he was in the Kunlun Dominion, A'hu had once mentioned to him, *"That treasure is damaged and has only a part of the blade left. It is missing the most important tip of the blade, but even so, it has such an incredible and mysterious aura around it. You can imagine how extraordinary it must be in its complete form."*

"And the strangest thing is that the treasure is clearly damaged, yet it gives me a sense of 'completeness.'"

Finally, A'hu concluded: *"I suspect that this treasure has long formed a spirit weapon, but for some reason, its Natal Treasure Runes have been sealed to this day and only by absorbing the power of Treasure Refining Dao Qi could the sealed Natal Treasure Runes be unveiled one by one."*

Thinking about it now, Lin Xun was certain that A'hu was right: The Broken Blade was not incomplete at all, but instead its power was sealed!

"It turns out that I wasn't strong enough to uncover the true secret of the Broken Blade."

Lin Xun thought over the words of the figure in the darkness. He realized that if he wanted to unleash the complete form of the Broken Blade, he must have the strength to match it.

Only in this way could he break the seal of Broken Blade, refine its power, and use it as his own!

Even so, the Broken Blade's transformation still amazed Lin Xun.

He speculated that the power of the blade had become more than twice as strong as before. If he equipped it in battle, it would double his combat power!

This was simply a heaven-defying change.

It should be mentioned that Lin Xun could already defeat Jintian Xuanyue and Zen Master Wuming with ease. If his combat power was doubled, then how strong would he become?

However, the only drawback was that he would only have twice the strength if he activated the Broken Blade in combat.

"I didn't expect to gain so much from this auction..."

Thinking of this, a smile curled Lin Xun's lips.

Swoosh—

After putting away Broken Blade, Lin Xun removed the restriction arrays around him.

"Young Master, did you have a good harvest?" Jintian Xuanyue asked curiously.

In a good mood, Lin Xun answered with a smile, "A great harvest. The price was well worth it."

It was indeed great value for money. The price of two million dao crystals brought about a transformative change in Broken Blade, which was completely beyond Lin Xun's imagination.

"What about you? Did you get the Star Scales Mythic Iron?" asked Lin Xun.

"I won the bid."

Jintian Xuanyue's face shone with a hint of joy. "Although the price was a little higher than expected, with this item, the power of my life-bound Saint sword can be raised to a higher level."

Lin Xun nodded.

The auction was still ongoing, rare treasures were presented one after another, setting off rounds of intense bidding.

“The 33rd treasure is the Spatial Boundary Crystal. I will not explain the magical use of this treasure any further. The starting price is five hundred thousand dao crystals and every increase in bid must be no less than one hundred thousand.”

After waiting for a short while, as Pu Lanzhi spoke again. The Spatial Boundary Crystal that Lin Xun was determined to get his hands on had finally appeared on the auction platform.

At the same time, the whole audience was stirred up.

Especially the important figures sitting in the VIP room, many of whom were Saint-Kings. They were also determined to win the treasure.

As soon as the bidding began, a number of people announced their bids.

“Six hundred thousand.”

“Eight hundred thousand.”

“One million!”

The fiery and intense atmosphere made many cultivators click their tongues in amazement. Ordinary people like them lacked the confidence to even participate in this bidding.

In the end, the bidding became a competition among a group of bigwigs.

According to Jintian Xuanyue, a thumb-sized piece of Spatial Boundary Crystal was worth at most one million dao crystals.

However, given the fierce bidding battle, the treasure was very likely going to be sold at a sky-high price!

“Two million.” Lin Xun also joined in.

If he had the Spatial Boundary Crystal, he could further improve his grasp of the Law of Space, and it would be greatly beneficial in condensing his Great Dao Field.

How would he miss out on it?

Moreover, he now had a plentiful number of dao crystals!

“It’s that guy again.”

Some cultivators recognized Lin Xun from his voice. He was the one who had just won the Sky Blue Mythic Spirit Stone.

For a moment, everyone couldn't help but sigh. *This is what it means to be rich and powerful!*

"Damn it!"

At the same time, in another room, Ancestor Burning Flame was fuming with rage, smoke pouring out from his nostrils. He also participated in the bidding for the Spatial Boundary Crystal and was determined to win it.

He did not expect to face off against Lin Xun again.

"Three million."

Very quickly, the price reached an outrageous figure, and some bigwigs had no choice but to give up.

Although Spatial Boundary Crystals were precious and would make people green with envy, they were not treasures that could not be found. Three million dao crystals were far from being worth it.

And this bid was precisely made by Lin Xun.

"Who is that?"

"The people sitting in that room seem to be a man and a woman."

"They must be influential figures with extraordinary backgrounds. Ordinary people would not have the capital to participate in this kind of bidding."

Lin Xun's lavish spending attracted the attention of many cultivators.

No one believed that Lin Xun was an ordinary person because it was impossible for an ordinary person to possess so many dao crystals.

"Three million one hundred thousand!" Ancestor Burning Flames's voice seemed to be squeezed through his teeth, and his face was terrifyingly dark.

He began to suspect that Lin Xun was deliberately targeting him.

"Three and a half million!" Lin Xun was determined to get the treasure, and he was also a little irritated.

Although he knew nothing about Ancestor Burning Flame's identity, the other party had bid against him twice in a row, forcing him to bid for the treasures with a very high price. He had lost a considerable amount of money because of this.

"Damn it!" Ancestor Burning Flame cursed, completely infuriated. Murderous intent raged in his heart and he did not make another bid.

The others also made no further bids.

Three and a half million dao crystals were already three times of what the Spatial Boundary Crystal was worth.

After this aggressive bidding, all the cultivators in the auction took notice of Lin Xun's existence, but no one knew who he was.

Fortunately, he was sitting in a private room. Otherwise, he would have been targeted by countless people.

After all, one should not expose their wealth. Among the cultivators present, there was no lack of daring and ruthless people.

"Hopefully it's worth the money."

When the Spatial Boundary Crystal was delivered to Lin Xun, he took a brief look at it and put it away. He was in no rush to refine it.

Jintian Xuanyue couldn't help asking, "Young Master, don't you think you paid too much for it?"

Her heart had pounded with anxiety every time Lin Xun made a bid.

Even though she was a direct descendant of the Imperial Jintian Clan and her clan had a powerful foundation, she still would not spend three and a half million dao crystals on a treasure that was obviously not worth the money.

However, Lin Xun seemed not to care about dao crystals at all, and spent them like he was a wealthy billionaire.

"You can always earn more dao crystals, but very rarely do you come across treasures like Spatial Boundary Crystal." Lin Xun said indifferently, then stood up and urged, "Let's go."

"We're leaving?" Jintian Xuanyue was taken aback. "Young Master, the godly material from an uncharted land hasn't been auctioned yet. Do you want to leave now?"

“It’s just an unknown item. It’s not worth wasting our time,” Lin Xun explained.
“Moreover, if we leave then, don’t you think we would be targeted by many people once we step out of Donglai Treasure Pavilion?”

It dawned on Jintian Xuanyue.

At an auction, it was one thing to buy a treasure, but it was another to protect it.

In this world, no matter where an auction was held, once it came to an end, incidents of robbery and murders often followed.

Lin Xun was not afraid of trouble, but he did not want trouble to come to him. Leaving the auction was unquestionably a wise decision.

Without further delay, the two left the VIP room.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1860: The Killing Begins

"Ancestor, we have found out that the man and woman who had been in that elegant room have left now," reported a man hurriedly.

Ancestor Burning Flame frowned murderously, "That damned pair is smart, but how can they leave just because they want to?"

The man quickly added, "Ancestor, the others have been secretly watching them too."

"Okay, we will go too."

Ancestor Burning Flame took a deep breath, made a decision, and turned to leave the quiet room.

Almost at the same time, in some of the other elegant rooms of the auction house, some important figures received the news one after another.

"Elder, do you want to stop them?"

"Master, the man and woman look strange and their origins are unknown."

"Uncle, many people have set their sights on the man and woman this time. Should we follow them?"

...

In the end, the bigwigs in these elegant rooms came to a similar decision at the same time.

"Follow them, find out their backgrounds, and act according to the situation!"

In the auction hall, the atmosphere was still noisy and lively. Most of the cultivators did not notice that with the departure of Lin Xun and Jintian Xuanyue, a turbulent torrent in the dark was also set off!

On the auction table, Pu Lanzhi sighed in her heart when she heard the news. *This sort of thing is going to happen again. I just hope that the two of them can leave safely.*

After calming down, Pu Lanzhi stopped thinking about it and said, "Next, the 36th treasure is up for auction..."

Outside Donglai Treasure Pavilion.

As soon as he walked out, Lin Xun instantly realized that in the nearby area there were many people observing him in secret.

At the same time, not far behind him, there were also cultivators following his steps.

"Young Master, it seems that many people are eyeing us this time," Jintian Xuanyue whispered, and there was a subtle flash of murderous intent in her eyes.

Although she was a cultivator attendant now, she was still a peerless genius who was ranked 49th on the All Heavens Saint-King Rankings!

Even among her peers in the Great Primordial Chaos World, it could be said that she was at the top echelon.

"Well, let's go."

Lin Xun remained calm and walked towards the distant city gate with his hands behind his back.

Along the way, he and Jintian Xuanyue did not move at full speed, as if they were unaware of the people who were secretly following them.

"Report this to the head of the family, Yu Xuan and his female companion have walked out of the Donglai Treasure Pavilion and are walking towards the city gate, as if they are about to leave!"

As soon as the news was transmitted back by a member of the Xing Clan, it was sent immediately to the head of the Xing Family, Xing Liushui.

"Young Master, do you want to take action now?" Xing Liushui hurriedly asked Kong Yu.

"Don't be stupid! Let's go!" Kong Yu stood up and strode out. Behind him, a group of powerful experts from the Imperial Kong Clan and the Primordial Dao Court followed.

He had been waiting for several days and did not have the patience to wait any longer.

Xing Liushui did not dare to slack off and summoned the elders and powerful experts from the clan to act alongside them.

For a while, the undercurrents in Lin'an City were surging and it was obvious that a storm was coming!

Underground Black Market.

The figure of the old dwarf man appeared out of thin air in front of the black palace. He bowed his head and said respectfully, "Miss, I just received news that Yu Xuan and his female companion are about to leave Lin'an City."

"Oh?" A unique feminine voice came from the black palace.

"According to the news from Listening Wind Pavilion, Yu Xuan is going to leave now, and he may encounter great danger. The forces known on the surface include Kong Yu, the disciple of Primordial Dao Court, and a group of high-level figures including Xing Liushui, the head of the Xing Clan."

The old dwarf continued quickly, "In addition, some powerful experts from major forces in Qing State are also secretly eyeing Yu Xuan and his companion."

"I can understand why Xing Liushui is cooperating with Kong Yu, but why are those experts from Qing State taking interest?"

In the black palace, Qing Ying was holding a scarlet spear with one snow-white hand, while the other was wiping the strange and sharp spear tip.

"Yu Xuan's performance at the auction was a bit eye-catching. He has successively spent unimaginable amounts to bid for two treasures, which has elicited a lot of interest in him," answered the old dwarf truthfully.

Although he had not been at the scene, he knew everything that had happened at the auction.

"So that's how it is. In the end, it's nothing more than an example of people will die for money, while birds will die for food."

Qing Ying's voice was full of sarcasm and contempt.

Things in the world had always been like this. They had been happening since ancient times and were not uncommon.

The door of the black palace opened, and Qing Ying, wearing a green dress and holding a blood-colored umbrella, glided out like a misty puff of smoke.

She looked into the distance and said calmly, "I'm leaving. Before I go, I want to do one last piece of business with this Young Master Yu Xuan."

...

Outside the city, the sky was high and the clouds were vast. In the distance were the vast mountains that exuded a primitive atmosphere like the untamed wilderness.

Lin Xun and Jintian Xuanyue did not encounter any obstacles along the way so they walked out of the city gate smoothly.

Not far away, there was an ancient teleportation array.

Teleportation arrays like this were spread across every city in Qing State and were opened every hour.

Hundreds of cultivators could be transported each time, but the cost of using the teleportation array was extremely expensive. In fact, at least a hundred thousand dao crystals were required for a single trip.

Furthermore, if one wanted to go to some more distant cities, one may even need to transfer multiple times, so the number of dao crystals being spent was incalculable.

Therefore, under normal circumstances, no one would choose to travel by the ancient teleportation arrays unless there was an emergency.

However, today was different from the past.

Today, outside the city, there was no bustle and noise that was present before, so it felt calm and cold.

The ancient teleportation array was even sealed up. Although no one was guarding it, no one could activate it.

The reason was very simple. To activate the teleportation array, a special array plate was required. This array plate was often in the hands of the largest force in each city.

For example, in Lin'an City, the array plate was in the hands of the Xing Clan.

After witnessing this scene, Lin Xun's lips curled up slightly and he said, "It seems that the people of the Xing Clan are also participating in this. I am very curious about what they are planning and why they are targeting me."

Jintian Xuanyue was also confused.

Since they had entered the city, they had never provoked the Xing Clan.

"Please stay, Fellow Daoists."

Suddenly, a group of figures rushed over from the city gate, led by a handsome man in a gorgeous robe who exuded a terrifying aura.

"What's the matter?"

Lin Xun's eyes were deep, as if he was thinking about something.

"We are from the Demon-Subduing Temple in Qing State and would like to invite you two to be our guests."

The handsome man's eyes flickered.

"We have no association with you, so why should we become guests to your sect?"

Lin Xun couldn't help laughing. This man's excuse...was simply too shoddy.

The handsome man said in a deep voice, "Dao Friend, you should have noticed that many people have been eyeing you along the way. We don't want to see you suffer, so we came here specially to invite you to be our guests. In this way...maybe we can turn danger into safety."

Lin Xun's eyes became cold, "Listen to my advice, stuff away your greed and obediently disappear. Otherwise, I'm afraid you won't know how you died."

The handsome man and his group looked ugly.

Lin Xun ignored them and flew away with Jintian Xuanyue.

The handsome man shouted, "Dao Friend, are you going to drink a forfeit after refusing to accept my toast?"

Jintian Xuanyue turned around suddenly, and with a flick of her finger, a dazzling sword qi slashed out.

Boom!

The void exploded, and the unparalleled sword qi fell, opening an unfathomable huge gap in front of the handsome man and others as smoke and dust spread.

The handsome man and the others felt their hands and feet immediately turn cold, and their faces were pale.

They didn't have time to react just now!

If this sword qi had fallen upon them, then they would not have time to resist!

When they thought of this, they couldn't help trembling all over.

At this time, Jintian Xuanyue had already turned around and followed Lin Xun step by step. In the eyes of those people, that tall and graceful figure was full of a sharp and mysterious aura.

In the nearby area, countless people were secretly observing this, so they couldn't help but gasp as they had finally realized that this man and woman were not sheep to be taken!

"A bunch of idiots, how can you guys deal with Yu Xuan? You really overestimate your own abilities and are tired of living."

A sneer sounded, and Kong Yu and his group appeared in an imposing manner.

There were dozens of people, including more than ten supreme Saint-Kings and two quasi-Emperors.

This included Xing Liushui, the head of the Xing Clan. He was also at the perfect Saint-King Stage, but at this moment, he was completely following Kong Yu's lead.

Seeing this scene, some of the strong experts who had followed Lin Xun from Donglai Treasure Pavilion were so shocked that their eyes almost popped out.

What a terrifying array of people!

"Chase!"

Kong Yu was too lazy to pay attention to those hidden spectators. There was a cold and deep hatred in his eyes, and he was unable to continue to suppress the boiling murderous intent within him.

Boom!

The void shook, and a group of people moved in the void, causing divine clouds to flow and a shower of light to appear. The scene was extremely shocking.

"Oh my god, who is this Yu Xuan, and how could he cause such a crazy situation?"

Those cultivators who were tracking Lin Xun were dumbfounded and shocked.

Lin'an City was just a normal port city in Qing State. Under ordinary circumstances, not many terrifying figures would appear here.

In fact, there were two quasi-Emperors in charge!

"His name is Yu Xuan? How could this damned guy cause such a big ruckus?"

The Ancestor Burning Flame had also appeared, with a group of men and women. He had noticed the actions of Kong Yu and his group, so his expression had become uncertain.

"Ancestor, I'm afraid we don't have a chance." A man swallowed hard, frightened.

The others were also nervous.

"You stay here, I'll go and see."

The Ancestor Burning Flame took a deep breath and gritted his teeth, "Not to mention taking advantage of the situation, at least we have to see how this bastard was killed!"

As he said that, his figure flashed and broke through the air.

At the same time, near the city gate, there were also some experts who were proud of their skills and courage. Like Ancestor Burning Flame, they also chased after them quietly.

Yu Xuan!

It was an extremely unfamiliar name. At least in Qing State, no one had ever heard of it before.

However, such a shocking hunt was triggered when he had appeared, which made everyone realize that Yu Xuan's origins were probably not simple!

"They are coming."

At the same time, in the vast mountains far away from Lin'an City, on the top of a particular peak, Lin Xun and Jintian Xuanyue stood side by side. Their clothes fluttered

around them, and the misty sea of clouds nearby made the two of them look like exiled immortals.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1861: Great Thousand Sword Shadows

The vast expanse of land was filled with mountains.

As the void rolled violently, Kong Yu, Xing Liushui and the others appeared one after another. There were dozens of them, making their lineup huge.

How terrible was the aura emitted by a group of supreme Saint-Kings and two quasi-Emperors?

Boom!

The world was wailing and turbulent, and the nearby grass, trees and rocks turned into ashes.

"So it is you."

When he saw Kong Yu, Lin Xun revealed a knowing expression as he had understood what was going on, "Apparently, Sword Emperor Brave Gale made a mistake when he spared your life earlier."

When Sword Emperor Brave Gale was mentioned, Kong Yu's face darkened and his eyes filled with hatred. "Yu Xuan, without the protection of Sword Emperor Brave Gale, what are you?"

Xing Liushui and other prominent members of the Xing Family had uncomfortable looks on their faces.

Before this revelation, they had no idea that the target they were going to kill this time actually had an Emperor behind him!

"Later, all you have to do is hold the others back, and I will deal with the two quasi-Emperors," Lin Xun quickly transmitted.

Jintian Xuanyue felt nervous. There were quasi-Emperors, and there was more than one. The difference in strength made her feel extremely pressured.

"I also have some secret treasures on me which are enough to bring us out safely," Jintian Xuanyue transmitted back.

"Two excellent whetstones have just appeared, and it's not easy for me to come across suitable ones. How can I possibly miss this chance?"

Lin Xun's black eyes flashed with a cold light, and his fighting spirit surged.

When the word 'whetstone' was mentioned, Jintian Xuanyue felt a little strange. After all, when she first encountered Lin Xun, she also claimed that she regarded Lin Xun as a whetstone, but she was defeated in the end.

"Do it!" Kong Yu shouted.

He no longer had the patience to flap lips.

Whoosh!

Behind Kong Yu, two people took the lead in attacking.

A man with a gray beard and hair stood on an ancient sword with a cold and resolute look. His eyes were as sharp as a sword, and his whole body was like a longsword that cut through the sky.

The other was a woman who was holding a silver steel whip. She had a pretty appearance, voluptuous body, and was extremely sensual and attractive, but her aura was violent and murderous like a raging storm wind, which made people tremble.

The former was named Kong Yin, and the latter was named Qu Rao. Both of them were quasi-Emperors.

Clang!

The ancient sword swept out, sharp and keen, as it cut through the void and slashed towards Lin Xun.

As soon as Kong Yin made a move, he revealed a shocking power. The force of this sword attack covered the world, and the sword qi was vast with heavy snow and ice around it.

At the same time, Qu Rao flicked her wrist.

Snap!

The three-yard-long steel whip rose up like a silver snake about to strike. It shone brightly as a mysterious law power rotated around it and slashed down towards Jintian Xuanyue.

From afar, it looked like the whip was being wielded by a god in the sky with the power to blow up the world.

Kong Yu and his men quickly headed away from the fight. The main force of the attack was these two quasi-Emperors, so their job was just to roam the battlefield and keep their targets from escaping.

Although Kong Yu hated Lin Xun deeply, he was also well aware that the other party was able to kill the powerful experts from the Primordial Dao Court on Whirlwind Ship on his own. Therefore, it could be inferred that his combat power was extraordinary.

Xing Liushui and the others all breathed a sigh of relief. It was good that they didn't have to take action. At least they didn't have to offend a powerful person with an Emperor standing behind him.

Swish!

Almost at the same time, Lin Xun also acted.

The Broken Blade, which had returned to being completely dull and ordinary looking, suddenly swept out and blocked the sword strike that was coming towards him.

Then, he flashed out of thin air and punched the steel whip that was slashing towards Jintian Xuanyue.

DING!

The clash with the sword produced a deafening collision. Divine light exploded as a sharp and terrifying aura spread everywhere and nearby mountains collapsed.

Bang!

Immediately afterwards, Lin Xun's fist was like a giant mountain as it collided with the steel whip. Within an instant, Lin Xun was shaken violently, as if had been struck by lightning.

However, at the same time, his counterattack had blown the steel whip away.

"Huh?"

Kong Yin and Qu Rao both showed a trace of surprise.

A supreme Saint-King had actually blocked attacks from them!

Kong Yu, Xing Liushui, and the others were also stunned when they saw this scene. They took in a breath of cold air. *How is this guy so fierce?*

Clang!

Jintian Xuanyue revealed a snow-white sword and took this opportunity to attack Kong Yu and the others.

Her figure was like a dream, and her fighting methods were fierce and sharp. She was a female sword fairy, graceful and beautiful, and her sword intent rushed to the sky.

As soon as she made a move, she used her strongest means.

Suddenly, a huge city appeared in the sea of clouds between heaven and earth, standing tall. It was bathed in starlight, and the city tower was like a sword that pierced the sky, emitting vast white light.

Indistinctly, it looked as if there was an illusory and majestic figure sitting on the city tower, overlooking the heavens!

Sword Field, White Emperor City!

"Hmph!"

Quasi-Emperor Qu Rao revealed a trace of displeasure. It would be too embarrassing if two quasi-Emperors couldn't deal with two juniors.

However, before she could make a move, Lin Xun had already shuttled through the air to attack her. "Your opponent is me."

Boom!

A large cauldron emerged. Dao runes intertwined with each other as laws flowed around it. It revealed a suppressive pressure that seemed to affect the entire world.

At the same time, the Broken Blade was like lightning as it slashed towards Kong Yin on the other side.

This series of actions happened almost at the same time, which instantly ignited the battle.

Kong Yu and the others didn't try to watch the fight, and instead did not hesitate in their own attacks. After all, Jintian Xuanyue's sword domain, the vast White Emperor City, had appeared and was trying to trap them!

Boom!

The mountains and rivers collapsed, the towering ancient trees turned into ashes, the earth cracked, and the void was filled with blazing divine dao light.

From a distance, it was as if the gods were fighting fiercely, presenting a terrifying scene of destruction and turmoil.

Some experts who were watching from their hiding spots, such as the Ancestor Burning Flame, couldn't help but be shocked as they trembled. None of them dared to approach at this moment.

They were completely occupied by the battle between Lin Xun and the two quasi-Emperors.

They didn't expect that the prey they were targeting this time would actually be a hidden supreme Saint-King.

Moreover, he dared to fight against two quasi-Emperors at the same time

This was too amazing, completely subverting their understanding of the world!

Ding!

The Broken Blade and the sword continued to fight with each other, and the clanging sound shook heaven and earth. The nearby void collapsed and exploded, and the aura of destruction around them was amazing.

Meanwhile, Lin Xun's fist power and Qu Rao's silver steel whip confronted each other. A dull roar like raging thunder shook the area while divine silver light and the green fist power raged like a hurricane.

At this time, Lin Xun looked extremely serious and calm, and his pair of deep black eyes were full of fierce fighting intent.

He was using his Green Wood Dao Body, the World-Guarding Nine Cauldrons Scripture, and Heavenly Yuan Slash.

The power running through him integrated the profundities of the Sacred Combat Art, Extreme Absolute, and Yazi's Rage.

His combat power was at full peak.

As he had mentioned to Jintian Xuanyue, he was using the two quasi-Emperors as whetstones!

Fight!

He glowed like the eternal blue sky as he covered it, and his every move looked down upon the ten directions, as powerful as a god.

No one knew that as early as in the Great Yu Secret Realm, on the third day after becoming a supreme Saint-King, he was already able to kill Cui Fu, a quasi-Emperor from the Star Jade Sword Pavilion, the most powerful sect in the Great Yu World!

At that time, he had been completely suppressed, constantly pushed back and injured. He was finally able to kill the opponent with the magical power of Time Stopping.

The price he paid for this was that he had ended up seriously injured and close to death, and had almost exhausted his strength.

However, Lin Xun was no longer the same as before!

His cultivation was only one step away from stepping into the intermediate stage of the Supreme Saint-King Stage, and he had mastered the prototype of his Great Dao Field. Therefore, his power was terrifying and unpredictable.

At the same time, after half a year of hard work and cultivation on Whirlwind Ship, he also forged his Green Wood Dao Body and the Yellow Earth Dao Body.

Together, with his deeper understanding of the Saint-King Stage, he had reached a level far beyond the ordinary.

For example, during his duel with Jintian Xuanyue and Zen Master Wuming, he had defeated them one on one without even using his full strength!

Now Lin Xun was no longer afraid even though he was facing two quasi-Emperors at the same time.

Fight!

He released his full strength. Although he did not use his Great Dao Furnace Art and the Great Endless Devour Scripture, his might was still so strong that it made people tremble.

Ancestor Burning Flame and the others who were watching the battle from afar were shocked. How could this be a power that a supreme Saint-King could possess?

It was simply against the heavens!

At the same time, Kong Yin and Qu Rao could not calm down, and their expressions changed again and again.

Quasi-Emperors were above the Saint Stage. Their control of the Great Dao was infinitely close to the Emperor Stage. Thus, the combat powers they possessed were naturally horrifying and beyond imagination.

Under normal circumstances, beings like them would treat Saints like ants and slaughter them like chickens. Even if they were dealing with a supreme Saint-King, they could easily wipe them out.

But now, the two of them were working together, yet they were both being blocked by a single supreme Saint-King. Furthermore, he was not at a disadvantage this entire time!

"Where did this monster come from?"

Kong Yin was shocked.

The Great Primordial Chaos World was the largest world in the Ancient Nebula Road. Many peerless monsters and countless characters who were heaven-defying had been born here.

Despite that, Kong Yin had never seen a supreme Saint-King who could cross realms and fight two quasi-Emperors like Yu Xuan was doing right now!

"Is this boy one of the top ten rankers on the All Heavens Saint-King Rankings? Otherwise, how could his combat power be so heaven-defying?"

At the same time, Qu Rao also couldn't calm down.

In fact, the combat power displayed by Lin Xun was illogical and could break people's inherent understanding of the world, which seemed too incredible.

"Brother Kong, we can't hold back."

Qu Rao's heart was filled with murderous intent. Behind Yu Xuan stood Sword Emperor Brave Gale. If they didn't kill him this time, they would be in trouble in the future.

Moreover, with the heaven-defying combat power he had shown now, once he broke through to a peak Saint-King, which quasi-Emperor in the world could be his opponent?

By then, I'm afraid only true Emperors can suppress him!

"Get up!"

Kong Yin took a deep breath and used his own unique skills. A sword flashed in the void, transforming into thousands of sword shadows.

One had turned into a thousand!

The dense sword shadows were as dense as a forest, covering the sky and the earth. Each sword shadow flowed with the sharp, violent, and surging sword law.

From a distance, it was like an intertwining sword qi prison that was descending upon the world!

The world wailed as it was drowned by the terrifying sword qi, sword intent, and sword light.

Ancestor Burning Flame and the others could only feel a stinging pain in front of their eyes. Their minds were shocked, and their sea of consciousness turned white. They could no longer see the battle scene in the field.

The power of this sword strike was earth-shattering!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1862: Executing One Quasi-Emperor After Another

Almost instantly, Jintian Xuanyue, who was in the middle of a fierce battle with Kong Yu's group, felt her heart tighten as she sensed an extremely dangerous aura.

Her spirit sense then identified it to be Kong Yin's sword aura!

Her expression drastically changed.

Unfortunately, it was too late for her to go and help. Moreover, she was already at her limit, fighting a dozen supreme Saint-Kings with her sword field White Emperor City.

The attack had appeared so suddenly that any amount of anxiety and worry was useless.

In stark contrast to her was Kong Yu's group.

Originally, their expressions had been unsightly. Being restrained by a lone woman had made them feel shocked and humiliated at the same time.

However, upon sensing Kong Yin's sword aura, their eyes all lit up, and their hearts trembled.

What a terrifying sword strike!

This was the true might of a quasi-Emperor as someone who stood above all Saints and held a power that was second only to the Emperor Stage!

Qu Rao also secretly heaved a sigh of relief.

She recognized this sword strike to be Kong Yin's trump card called the Great Thousand Sword Shadows. Imbued with Kong Yin's entire sword cultivation and honed over the course of eight thousand years, it displayed in full the unbridled grace of the sword dao.

Even she would have no choice but to avoid its sharpness!

For him, it's not embarrassing to die under this sword...

As this thought popped into Qu Rao's mind, the sword aura slashed down.

Boom!

Over a thousand sword shadows rumbled like an army of peerless swordmasters that were charging down with the power that could suppress everything under heaven.

The whole world seemed to be illuminated by the boundless, eye-piercing sword light.

The area within a thousand mile radius soundlessly crumbled into dust, blotting out everything.

At this moment, Lin Xun was expressionless. Only his mind moved.

Clang!

The dull, lightless Broken Blade acted as though it was receiving its awakening call and emitted a dazzling light for a split second.

Heavenly Yuan Slash!

Its power, however, was double compared to that in the past!

A hundred percent increase in power seemed insignificant, but in this case, it was equivalent to twice the heaven-defying battle power of Lin Xun.

This was also the first time that he had unleashed the full power of the Broken Blade after its critical transformation after absorbing the Blue Spirit Dao Source.

The next moment, the Broken Blade swept out like a flash of light, as weightless as an illusion.

Wherever it passed, the sword shadows densely covering the area got crushed, pulverized, and dissolved without a sound.

The sword aura that was even more blazing than the sun seemed to have its light stolen away by this slash of the Broken Blade!

It took long to describe, but everything had happened in a fraction of a second and was so fast that no one had been able to see it clearly.

CLANG!

Amidst the sky-shattering collision, Kong Yin's sword wailed and was knocked flying away.

Its wielder quivered nonstop from the backlash, and his face quickly became gloomy.

The Great Thousand Sword Shadows was his proud killer move, a masterpiece that had taken him eight thousand years to perfect after he had stepped into the quasi-Emperor Stage.

Yet, it had been countered and destroyed by a puny Saint-King!

How can this be?!

Such an unexpected occurrence caught Kong Yin off guard and swayed his state of mind.

Right at this moment, the Broken Blade reached him.

It was unimaginably fast!

Like a streak that could leave its mark through history, the blade tore through eternal darkness with a light so sharp and menacing that all beings would tremble at the sight of it.

Poof!

There was a flash, and Kong Yin's full-body defensive power was smoothly sliced through like it was paper.

Shah!

The next instant, he was disemboweled!

A murderous force then poured out from the Broken Blade like a torrent and entered him with a destructive momentum. His body that could compare to an unbreakable diamond started to crack.

Blood and flesh splattered!

Shocked gasps filled the area. No one could have expected that the killer move of a quasi-Emperor would be destroyed in a direct clash.

On top of that, Kong Yin himself ended up in a life-threatening situation!

Boom!

Qu Rao was the first to react, teleporting to Lin Xun's back and fiercely swinging her steel whip.

The lash was as heavy as a mountain!

Lin Xun didn't dodge. Instead, he teleported in front of the heavily wounded Kong Yin and punched out.

While the Broken Blade continued to wreak havoc to Kong Yin's body, this punch held the combined power of the nine cauldrons, wanting to suppress and cleanse the entire world.

Kong Yin had no time to evade.

It had happened so fast that his countless years of battle experience were rendered useless. The only thing he could do was take the punch head-on.

Kaboom!

In the shocking sound of collision, Kong Yin's tattered shell exploded. The terrifying fist force and the Broken Blade with twice its usual power had worked together to execute this quasi-Emperor on the spot!

The scene was shockingly gory!

Meanwhile, the steel whip had smashed Lin Xun's back. His internal organs were violently shaken, and cracks appeared on his spinal bones.

Bang!

He staggered and flew out, coughing up blood and quickly becoming pale.

At this critical juncture, the Broken Blade shot out and blocked the raging pursuit from Qu Rao.

The series of events had played out in seconds before coming to an end just like that.

The result was the speedy death of a mighty quasi-Emperor, and the goriness of which drained the color from everyone's face.

“How...” Ancestor Burning Flame and the other onlookers were dumbstruck. Piercing chills ran down their spines and caused them to tremble uncontrollably.

Despite having faced the pincer attacks from two quasi-Emperors, Yu Xuan had ferociously executed one of them on the spot. The most inconceivable thing was that he was only a supreme Saint-King!

“One less...whetstone...” The anxiety in Jintian Xuanyue’s heart had been completely replaced by an utter shock.

Yu Xuan had ignored the gap of a full cultivation stage and killed a quasi-Emperor!

How many people in this entire world were capable of that?

Meanwhile, the minds of Kong Yu, Xing Liushui, and the rest of their group were in turmoil. Each of them looked like they were seeing ghosts.

Poof!

There was a flash of pure white sword qi, and the next thing everyone saw was several bloody heads falling to the ground.

The one who had attacked was naturally Jintian Xuanyue, who was taking advantage of this shocking event to strike with all she had. Like a stern and murderous immortal, her White Emperor City was filled with blinding, whistling sword qi.

“Attack!” roared Kong Yu, Xing Liushui, and the others. Realizing the gravity of their situation, they started fighting back with all their might.

In the distance, Lin Xun was battling Qu Rao.

One was like the striking, ever-blue sky, interpreting the nine cauldrons with a world-subduing momentum. Supporting him was the Broken Blade that shuttled around with a ferocious sharpness.

The other was lashing her steel whip, pointing at the sky and beating the ground. From the silver-colored weapon, heavy whip shadows were created alongside a tidal wave of various Law Powers.

Despite her fierce momentum, Qu Rao’s mind was in a state of astonishment and anger, and her expression was somber.

Kong Yin’s combat power was not at all inferior to hers, and yet, his trump card had been dismantled by the opponent in one vigorous effort.

That bloody scene had astounded and frightened her.

Ever since she had become a quasi-Emperor, this was the first time she had perceived this kind of bone-chilling threat from a supreme Saint-King.

Meanwhile, Lin Xun took a deep breath to prevent the pain from injuries from affecting him as he attacked with full force.

If it had been his main body fighting this battle, he wouldn't have been injured. However, Lin Xun could only accept this in order to conceal his true identity.

His mind was clear, firm, and flexible as he interpreted his dao and techniques. His body was blazing like a green sun, becoming more and more illusory by the minute.

Boom!

The sky and earth were turned upside down. The sun and moon lost their glow.

"Die!" Qu Rao suddenly rushed up, taking nine steps in the air. With each step, a waterfall of golden light cascaded down from the void.

Once the final step fell, the nine light waterfalls merged and condensed into a large, golden lotus flower with thirty-six petals with each petal representing a realm!

Thirty-Six Lotus Realms!

This was her unique skill that used her law power of her own Great Dao Field to build a mini world, which consisted of thirty-six realms, and each realm contained a different kind of fatal danger.

Qu Rao was the lord of this world, standing atop the big lotus. As the thirty-six realms had become one with her, she exuded infinite divinity!

As someone who was capable of guiding all living beings, an Emperor controlled a great dao law that was superior to that of any Saint. The Thirty-Six Lotus Realms, for example, was a high-level transformation of Qu Rao's Great Dao Field!

Upon realizing that Qu Rao had begun to fight with her life on the line, Lin Xun took a deep breath. A flash of determination flashed across his eyes.

With a buzz, the prototype of a Great Dao Field emerged around him. Deep as an abyss, boiling like a furnace, and green in color, it released the wondrous signal of life and death, wither and thrive.

This was the first time Lin Xun had used his Green Wood Dao Body to deploy his preliminary Great Dao Field. Although the form came out different from before, its power was no less unfathomable.

In an instant, a marvelous scene played out in the sky.

The Thirty-Six Lotus Realms manifested all kinds of wonders: an ever-flowing auspicious light, melodious sounds of the dao, roars of gods and devils, and the rotation of the sun and the moon...

However, when Lin Xun's Great Dao Field prototype appeared, it was like an overbearing storm that raged toward the lotus with an unstoppable momentum.

The auspicious light chaotically dispersed, the dao sounds came to an abrupt end, the roaring gods and devils fled in fear, and the sun and moon were overturned...

Lin Xun's Great Dao Field was like a source of destruction that plundered life and replaced thrive with wither!

Rumble!

It was impossible to describe what was happening at the moment. The whole world was shaking as a blinding white blanket spread and filled everyone's vision. It was as if even the void above was being shattered.

The fight sent tremors to even Lin'an City that was an extreme distance away. The various cultivators inside trembled, their expressions faltering as they felt like an earthquake was erupting.

The more powerful experts flew up and stood in the void. When they tried seeing this battle through their spirit senses, they were horrified.

Is this an unprecedented battle between quasi-Emperors?

Unfortunately, they were too far away to see it clearly. Therefore, it was impossible for them to know that the answer was a no, and that it was in fact a duel between two people who had a whole stage difference in cultivation!

Smoke and dust spread.

The mountains and rivers around had turned into cracks and ravines devoid of vitality. There was nothing in sight but the devastated aftermath of destruction.

"Pft!" Lin Xun coughed up blood, looking deathly pale. His clothes were tattered and his hair was disheveled, so he was in a bit of a sorry state.

However, before Kong Yu's group could breathe a sigh of relief, they saw something that sent shivers down their spines. Opposite Lin Xun was a seemingly unwounded Qu Rao, but there was no longer any trace of vitality in her.

Then, she turned into ashes!

As a gust of wind blew by, the ashes scattered...

Utter silence reigned over the area.

The horrifying death of a quasi-Emperor, who had been destroyed in both physical form and spirit, was something that no one could have imagined.

The way her final moment had unfolded was grisly, to say the least!

Life and death, wither and thrive had been decided in the snap of a finger!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1863: A Deal with Qing Ying

Kong Yin was a quasi-Emperor who had honed his Great Thousand Sword Shadows for eight thousand years. This was a Great Dao Field that he took great pride in. However, he had been quashed by Lin Xun with a broken blade, whose fist had then blasted Kong Yin to pieces, killing him on the spot.

Now, Qu Rao had followed in his footsteps!

How powerful was the Thirty-Six Lotus Realms?

Despite that, she had been killed while using this move that she was also most proud of, deprived of all vitality and becoming a rain of ashes!

She had also died at the hands of Kong Yin's killer, a mere supreme Saint-King.

In just a second, heaven and earth sank into heavy silence.

Jintian Xuanyue and Kong Yu's group stopped dead in the middle of their fierce battle out of pure shock.

The difference was that Jintian Xuanyue's shock contained unconcealable joy, while Kong Yu's group looked lightning-struck as if they had just become orphaned.

When two quasi-Emperors joined forces, they should be able to virtually dominate all supreme Saint-Kings in the world!

However, the reality here was that Kong Yin and Qu Rao had been killed by Lin Xun one after another, and in a head-on fight at that. Who would not be horrified by this?

Ancestor Burning Flame and the other big names who had been watching from the shadows all gawked with their mouths agape.

They could feel their livers rupturing as a great terror took over them! To think that the prey they had set their sights on in Donglai Treasure Pavilion was actually such a heaven-defying savage...

“Why did you guys stop?”

Lin Xun’s question echoed in the sky.

Although his clothes were tattered, his spine was straight as a sword. While the corners of his lips were stained with blood and his face was pale, he exuded an oppressive might just by standing there.

Clank!

With a smile, Jintian Xuanyue wielded her sword and resumed attacking.

Kong Yu’s group, however, was already too scared to fight any longer.

“Run!” They fled without hesitation.

The experts of the Xing Clan were even more terrified as they trembled from head to toe. They couldn’t care less about Kong Yu at the moment and also chose to escape with each one fleeing faster than the other.

“If I let you guys go, then you’ll become trouble in the future...” sighed Lin Xun, who then vanished with a flicker.

The next moment, he appeared in front of Kong Yu.

“Don’t kill me! I’ll pay you anything!” shrieked Kong Yu.

Poof!

His scream was still echoing when the Broken Blade cleaved him in half. In his final moment, Kong Yu had fear and disbelief written all over his face.

He, who had set foot on the path of cultivation as a pureblood descendent of the Imperial Kong Clan and then been accepted into Primordial Dao Court, had always been worshiped and respected wherever he went.

Who could have thought that there were people in this world who had no regard for his noble identities and would kill him without any hesitation at all?!

Operating at an extreme speed, Lin Xun couldn't bother with a dead man like Kong Yu as his priority was to kill all the enemies as fast as possible.

Poof poof poof...

In the time that followed, one expert after another was taken down while they fled, including Kong Yu's powerful escorts as well as the experts of the Xing Clan.

Lin Xun didn't care who it was as he chased and killed them!

His current strength allowed him to slaughter even quasi-Emperors in a direct confrontation, let alone these cultivators who were on the same stage.

He killed them as easily as tearing paper or slaughtering chickens!

Jintian Xuanyue wanted to assist, only to find out along the way that she wasn't needed anywhere...

Meanwhile, Ancestor Burning Flame and the others had been drenched in cold sweat. They had decided very early to run away from the scene, lest Lin Xun notice and include them in his hit list.

In actuality, Lin Xun currently had no energy to spare for the little fish.

A few moments passed.

Xing Liushui, the head of the Xing Clan, arrived in front of the majestic and prosperous Lin'an City after teleporting nonstop at his maximum speed. Just as he was about to enter the city...

Swish!

A broken blade appeared in front of him. If it wasn't for the fact that he had managed to stop in time, then he would have crashed into it and suffered something unimaginable.

"Fellow Daoist, our clan was merely following orders. We have no intention to be your enemies, so please be lenient just this once," pleaded Xing Liushui in a trembling voice, his face as white as a sheet.

"If it was me who had fallen into a disadvantaged situation this time, would you be lenient?" asked Lin Xun.

Xing Liushui stiffened. The answer was so obvious that he would look fake to even think of denying it.

Poof!

Lin Xun took almost no time to attack. With a flash of the Broken Blade, Xing Liushui was beheaded in front of Lin'an City

Lin Xun left right after.

“Heavens!”

“The leader of the Xing Clan was killed!”

As a port city, Lin'an City had a constant stream of people coming and going, so the bloody execution was naturally seen by many cultivators.

A tide of shocked exclamations filled the scene, and it didn't take long for the news to spread into the city, triggering an uproar.

“Xing Liushui and his clansmen were acting together with a group of experts from Primordial Dao Court, but he just got beheaded. Does this mean those Primordial Dao Court experts have already died as well?”

Many people gasped in astonishment. They had seen Kong Yu leading Xing Liushui and his group out of the city in a furious manner, so what had just happened outside the gates immediately reminded them of that.

“How terrifying! Who is that person?”

Many felt chills in their hearts. Xing Liushui was a peak supreme Saint-King. In the Qing State, he was regarded as a big shot who could make the wind and rain come and go as he pleased.

Yet, such a person had been killed in front of his own lair!

When Ancestor Burning Flame and those like him who had secretly followed them out to watch the bustle returned, they brought back even more explosive news.

“Yu Xuan executed two quasi-Emperors, Kong Yu's group, and a bunch of experts from the Xing Clan!”

“Yu Xuan, a young supreme Saint-King, has the power to kill opponents who were an entire stage above him!”

“Yu Xuan once appeared in Donglai Treasure Pavilion...”

“Yu Xuan...”

Breaking news swept through Lin'an City like a storm, setting off waves of shock

The divine material of unknown origin that had been anticipated by all and sundry was finally brought on stage as the grand finale.

However, as Pu Lanzhi carefully composed an introduction in her head, there was an unexpected raucous scene in the auction hall.

“What? The Xing Clan's leader is dead?”

“It even involved experts of Primordial Dao Court?”

“Yu Xuan is too ferocious...”

The hall was restless as countless shocked cries rang out, which washed away the anticipation for the final auction item.

Pu Lanzhi was stunned to learn that the pair of cultivators, whom she had originally deemed to be in big trouble, had actually done an earth-shattering deed!

This drew a wry smile from her.

The grand finale was supposed to be the focus of attention, but now...it was completely messed up.

.....

In the vast mountain range outside the city.

Upon meeting up with Jintian Xuanyue, Lin Xun said like nothing big had just happened, “Time to head to Cloud State.”

Then, he summoned the Grand Universe Ark with a wave of his hand. The ship carried the two and sailed away through the air.

“Young Master, this is the loot from earlier.”

On the ship, Jintian Xuanyue handed a storage ring to Lin Xun with an expression of heartfelt respect.

When she had been defeated by him on Whirlwind Ship, she had been unable to assess his true depths.

Now, she finally had a clear idea. Yu Xuan had already reached a height in the Supreme Saint-King Stage that she needed to look up to!

Lin Xun keenly sensed the change in Jintian Xuanyue's attitude, but he made no comment and started inspecting the storage ring.

The spoils of war for defeating Kong Yu's group were extremely generous. There were all sorts of divine materials, aeth herbs, ores, and divine treasures that would amount to over ten million dao crystals according to the exchange rate of the black market!

As they said, a horse could not get fat without extra rations, and a man could not get rich without a shady income!

"We'll split the money after selling all these," said Lin Xun casually.

A stunned look mixed with complicated emotions flashed in Jintian Xuanyue's clear eyes. She then declined, "How could I, your attendant, have a share in your loot?"

Lin Xun laughed, "What attendant? Since you fought alongside me, of course you must take half the earnings. This has always been a rule that I, Li...well, Yu Xuan, follow."

He almost had a slip of the tongue and said his real name.

Jintian Xuanyue's heart trembled as an indescribable joy arose. *Is this...how it feels when your effort is recognized?*

"Hm?" Lin Xun suddenly stood up and walked out of the cabin.

The next second, the Grand Universe Ark came to a stop.

In the far horizon in front of them, a green-clad woman stood with an umbrella in her hand. There was something glamorously demonic about her as the umbrella was the blinding red color of blood and her clothes fluttered among the misty clouds.

"I hope I have not offended you by coming uninvited," said Qing Ying, her voice soft and indistinct.

"What brings you here, Miss Qing Ying?" Lin Xun's eyes slightly narrowed.

Since he had just fought two quasi-Emperors, his strength was greatly depleted, not to mention his injuries.

Therefore, the unannounced visit of Qing Ying, who was shrouded in a mysterious aura, put him on guard.

In the presence of this woman, Lin Xun was even more serious than when he had faced Kong Yin and Qu Rao!

Seemingly noticing his wariness, Qing Ying directly stated her intentions, “I would like to make a deal with you, Young Master.”

Lin Xun’s interest was piqued. “I’m all ears.”

Qing Ying got straight to business, “I wonder if you’ve heard of a person called Lin Xun?”

In this instant, Lin Xun keenly perceived Qing Ying’s gaze on him, as though she was closely observing his reaction.

His expression didn’t shift one bit as he replied, “The most wanted criminal on the Ancient Nebula Road? Of course I’ve heard of him.”

“Mhm,” said Qing Ying, who fell into a long silence before continuing. “If you have the chance to meet him in the future, please tell him Qing Ying of Fog Obscured Alms wishes to see him, and that when I do, I will tell him something that will only prove beneficial to him.”

“I see.” Lin Xun then asked, “That man has disappeared for many years. What makes you think that I will be able to meet him one day?”

Qing Ying responded, “Intuition.”

Lin Xun’s lips twitched imperceptibly. In the end, he shook his head with a wry smile. “Alright then, I’ll do as you’ve requested.”

“You have my gratitude, Young Master,” said Qing Ying, who flipped her hand and took out an exquisite, clear copper mirror. “Inside this mirror is a map which you can use to find me. Once you fulfill my request, I will likewise reward you with something that you won’t be able to refuse.”

Lin Xun smiled musingly, “Something I’m unable to refuse?”

Qing Ying said, “Whether you believe it or not, what’s the harm in waiting for it, right?”

Lin Xun nodded straightforwardly. “Very well, then I’ll also trust my intuition with this one.”

Buzz!

Qing Ying snapped her fingers, and the thin copper mirror flew toward Lin Xun.

“I’m looking forward to meeting you next time, Young Master.”

After saying that, Qing Ying turned around. Her green dress fluttered in the sea of clouds. Her scarlet umbrella was like a canopy that blocked all the sunlight and concealed her face.

She was as mysterious as the fog!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1864: Yu Xuan's Prestige

Only after watching Qing Ying's stunning figure disappear into the clouds did Lin Xun withdraw his gaze.

He then looked at the copper mirror in his hand and was somewhat unable to calm down inside.

Does that woman...know something? Otherwise, why would she deliberately seek me out for something that involves 'Lin Xun'?

Whoosh~

His spirit sense probed into the copper mirror.

In an instant, a mysterious map appeared in his mind. An extremely complicated route was marked on it, and the ultimate destination was a place called Dark Lair!

Lin Xun put away the mirror and walked into the cabin, saying, "Xuanyue, have you ever heard of a place called Dark Lair?"

Jintian Xuanyue frowned and rummaged through her memory for a long time before shaking her head. "This is the first time I've heard of it."

"Mhm." Lin Xun let this matter go for now, deciding that he would just pay this 'lair' a visit if he had the chance in the future.

He was quite curious about the information that Qing Ying had said 'will only prove beneficial' to him.

As for the 'unrefusable' reward, he didn't care one bit.

He had only paid attention to Qing Ying's attitude, which had let him know that whatever was waiting for him in the so-called Dark Lair was not dangerous.

Lin Xun said, “Xuanyue, we need to have fake identities after what happened today, else I’m afraid that our journey will be very eventful.”

Jintian Xuanyue’s lips curled up as she took out a silver-colored mask as thin as a cicada wing. After she put it on her face, her entire temperament and appearance were abruptly transformed.

The otherworldly goddess turned into a girl who looked well-behaved and clever with a hint of naivety. One would think she was an average pretty daughter of a humble family.

Lin Xun was stunned to find that his spirit sense could not see through this disguise at all!

Jintian Xuanyue explained, “This is a gift to my clan from a good friend of our old ancestor, Spirit Emperor Thousand Illusion of All-Demon Dao Court. This marvelous treasure is called the Spiritual Form of All Beings.

“According to Senior Thousand Illusion, only two types of people can see through its disguise: one are Emperor experts, and the other are those who were born with an innate talent similar to the All-Seeing Eye.”

Lin Xun learned something new.

From the name alone, he could tell just how miraculous this treasure mask was.

Lin Xun pondered for a while before shifting forms in a flash, replacing his Green Wood Dao Body with the Yellow Earth Dao Body. His aura and look also changed with it.

He now looked as calm and immovable as a mountain.

Jintian Xuanyue’s eyes widened in shock as she could see that he had really become a completely different person in terms of aura, bearing, and appearance.

His method was even more powerful than her Spiritual Form of All Beings!

At the same time, a bold thought surfaced in her mind...

Is the person he was before also a disguise? If so, what is his true identity?

In fact, she had been skeptical about this as early as back on Whirlwind Ship.

As far as she knew, the Yu Clan was only an Ancient Imperial Clan. They had a good foundation, but had always kept to themselves and been content inside their territory.

If Yu Xun really came from the Imperial Yu Clan, then he should have become famous long ago with his heaven-defying battle prowess.

On the contrary, however, his name wasn't even on the All Heavens Saint-King Rankings. Furthermore, even Heavenly Sound Pavilion, which was located on the Ziheng Star Field, didn't know how formidable he really was.

Now that Jintian Xuanyue had seen for herself his skill in switching appearances, how could she not be suspicious?

However, she was sensible enough not to inquire about it.

In truth, she had no idea that Lin Xun had intentionally done that in front of her.

As long as Jintian Xuanyue kept accompanying him, she would definitely notice more and more clues, which he didn't mind at all.

However, Lin Xun didn't openly explain either. It was naturally better that his true identity could remain hidden.

After a brief thought, he said, "Call me Jin Duyi from now on."

Jintian Xuanyue marveled, "Jin Duyi? Great name! Jin is where all the sharpness of heaven and earth gather, and Duyi implies that all things in this world are born with their own uniqueness."

She was a descendant of Emperor Bai, and her surname, Jintian, was the reminder of the heavenly 'sharp gold' bloodline flowing in her. Therefore, she thought that Lin Xun chose Jin as his surname because he was inspired by her surname.

Lin Xun's lips twitched.

If that vainglorious toad knew a fairy like Jintian Xuanyue loved his name so much, he certainly would get carried away.

"I'm going to be in seclusion for a while," mused Lin Xun.

He planned to repair the injuries of the Green Wood Dao Body and also use this spare time to completely refine the Spatial Boundary Crystal.

At the same time, he had a goal to break through to the intermediate Supreme Saint-King Stage before arriving at Xuanji Dao Sect. It would be the most ideal outcome if he succeeded.

Jintian Xuanyue nodded, "Good, Young Master. I shall be your guard during this."

.....

While the Grand Universe Ark headed toward Cloud State, the sensation rocking Lin'an City also spread around Qing State like it had wings.

The deaths of Kong Yu and the other experts of Primordial Dao Court, as well as the execution of the Xing clansmen was like a storm that dealt heavy, widespread impacts.

Of note, the Qing State was one of the forty-nine provinces of the Great Primordial Chaos World. Hosting tens of thousands of cities in its vast territory, this province was like a big world on its own.

However, no residents there had ever heard of anyone who would dare to kill disciples from the Great Six Courts!

As such, what caught their attention was Yu Xuan's battle prowess. As inconceivable as it sounded, even in a one-on-two confrontation, he had been able to ignore the great gap in cultivation and kill two quasi-Emperors.

What confused everyone the most was that the All Heavens Saint-King Rankings, which covered the entire Ancient Nebula Road, recorded no such illogical menace called Yu Xuan!

Under this circumstance, the deaths of Xing Liushui and the others raised very little commotion.

After all, Lin'an City was only one of the tens of thousands of cities in Qing State. Although the Xing Clan was the strongest force here, it was still negligible when one took the whole province into consideration.

In just a few days' time, the news of the murder of the Primordial Dao Court's experts had reached every corner of Qing State.

The name 'Yu Xuan' was like a dark horse that had come out of nowhere, shaking Qing State and gathering countless gazes.

It didn't take long for his details to be dug out.

Such as: he was from the Yu Clan, an Ancient Imperial Clan in the Great Yu World, and he had traveled across the nebula to the Great Primordial Chaos World via Heavenly Sound Pavilion's Whirlwind Ship...

Even his deeds on Whirlwind Ship didn't slip past investigations.

There was no way to hide them anyway since every cultivator who had been on that ship at that time knew about it.

In the end, the compilation of all this information allowed the cultivators of Qing State to draw a similar conclusion.

“Yu Xuan is a well-concealed expert of heaven-defying strength who is under the protection of Sword Emperor Brave Gale of the Jintian Clan. Because of a woman named Liu Qingyan, he started a feud with Kong Yu and a group of Primordial Dao Court’s experts...”

Despite what had been found out, in the eyes of those who took great interest in this matter, there were still many mysteries surrounding Yu Xuan.

For example, Earth Treasury Realm’s Zen Master Wuming and his group had declared that he was a heretic and wanted to execute him.

Sword Emperor Brave Gale had also intended to suppress him, only to end up having a complete change in attitude for some unknown reason.

In short, Lin Xun’s fake identity had become famous through and through in Qing State.

Someone made an inference, “Since he is on the target list of Earth Treasury Realm, Yu Xuan will find it hard-pressed to escape their hunt.

“Moreover, he killed disciples of Primordial Dao Court. Even if Yu Xuan has Sword Emperor Brave Gale as his backer, I’m afraid that no one can help him stay alive in this Great Primordial Chaos World!”

Such a viewpoint was shared by more than many.

For a while, Qing State was restless.

When the matter spread beyond Qing State, what caught the most attention was instead the unreasonable power displayed by Yu Xuan!

Ignoring a whole gap of one big cultivation stage to kill two quasi-Emperors as a supreme Saint-King was rarely ever seen in the Great Primordial Chaos World.

Who could ignore such a freakish talent?

Rumor had it that when the news reached Mythical Huang Dao Court, one of the Great Six Courts, it had even caught the attention of some ancient monsters!

After all, the Starry Sky True Saint, Starry Sky Big Saint, and All Heavens Saint-King Rankings were all published by them.

The fact that an expert of Yu Xuan’s caliber had never appeared on the All Heavens Saint-King Rankings naturally became a noteworthy anomaly for Mythical Huang Dao Court.

However, the Great Primordial Chaos World was ultimately too big for the name Yu Xuan to familiarize itself with the vast majority of cultivators within it.

Strictly speaking, Yu Xuan's prestige was only limited to the region of and around Qing State.

.....

Lin Xun was blissfully unaware of the storms outside.

Moreover, since he and Jintian Xuanyue had both assumed new identities, it was impossible for those who came across him on the way to recognize him.

Ten days later.

The Grand Universe Ark, after carrying the duo through thousands of mountains, rivers, and cities, finally left the territory of the Qing State.

The journey had been peaceful.

It was also on this day that Lin Xun completely refined the Spatial Boundary Crystal, which boosted his control over the Law of Space by a large margin!

The thumb-sized Spatial Boundary Crystal was actually extremely complex as it contained the origin power of space produced at the birth of the universe.

Coupled with the fact Lin Xun had spent the whole six months on Whirlwind Ship to meditate on his Great Dao Field, refining the Spatial Boundary Crystal had acted as a catalyst that allowed his mastery of the Law of Space to undergo a substantial transformation.

Every world operated a different Spatial Law.

For example, the Spatial Laws of the Great Yu World and the Great Primordial Chaos World were completely different.

However, as long as one gained control over the mysteries of the Law of Space, no matter which world they went to, they could perform their own spatial skills like a fish in water.

In Lin Xun's case, the skills would be teleportation, 'my size is what I will,' Close Yet Far...

The most important thing, however, was in the fact that mastering the Law of Space played a crucial role in the cohesion of one's Great Dao Field!

An instance was Lin Xun's current situation, where the improvement in his comprehension of Law of Space had given him newfound understanding on his own Great Dao Field.

He had a strong premonition that the day when he could complete his Great Dao Field was not far away!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1865: A Quiet Breakthrough

In the following time, Lin Xun and Jintian Xuanyue didn't rush their journey.

They were traveling slowly either through the vast mountains and rivers or amongst the cities.

Their minds were relaxed like they were taking a vacation.

The Primordial Chaos World was beyond vast with each state having its own features. They existed in all styles and forms, even the ones that people might find quite odd.

An instance was Spirit State that the two visited on their way. It was several times larger than Qing State, and most of the cultivators here were 'spirit cultivators.'

They were famous for tempering their spirits and utilizing the power of their soul essence.

Spirit State was also known for being the closest to the definition of the underworld as all of its cities presented a ghostly vibe.

In the eyes of mortals, this place was indeed creepy. The treasures as well as the techniques used by its cultivators all came with phenomena that involved demons and ghosts.

It was only after arriving at Spirit State did Lin Xun learn there was a forbidden zone here called Yama's Underworld. There, even Emperor experts would have to face imminent death at any time.

Rumor had it that the core inheritance of Yellow Spring Sect, the number one sect of Spirit State, had been obtained from Yama's Underworld many eons ago.

Regardless of the credibility of this rumor, Yama's Underworld was indeed an extremely famous land shrouded in mysteries. It was considered one of the Eight Forbidden Zones of the Primordial Chaos World.

When Lin Xun and Jintian Xuanyue stopped by Star State, it was an entirely different scene.

This state had many ravines. Even some of its cities were built into them.

It was rumored that a long time ago, two heavenly experts had engaged in an intense battle here, cutting down the stars with every wave of their hand!

Those stars smashed into the earth and created those huge ravines.

Interestingly, the fallen meteorites contained all kinds of strange but miraculous materials and ores. This attracted many cultivators from outside to come and explore Star State over these countless years.

For this reason, it was also known as the 'Mining State' that was rich in various kinds of divine resources. As a result, it produced a large number of outstanding grandmaster blacksmiths.

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All in all, whether it was Qing State, Spirit State, Star State, or any other state, they all seemed to cover an infinite area and have their unique style and cultivation civilization.

The journey had been an eye-opening experience for both Lin Xun and Jintian Xuanyue as they continuously enriched their knowledge of the Great Primordial Chaos World.

On the way, they spent a great deal of money on all sorts of bizarre specialties.

One of those was the Ghost Consonance Puppets abundant in Spirit State that were created by refining the soul essence of Qingfu Insects. When two cultivators each carried one of these puppets and activated it with a secret method, they would be able to sense each other's presence no matter how far apart they were.

Another specialty was the Mirage Soul Bead. After burying this bead in any place of choice, one could leave and would still be able to see the record of everything happening in the area no matter where they went.

It was like a 'mirage' that could be accessed at any time.

There were also the Jade Spirits that were sold everywhere in Star State. They were actually snow-white spirits of only three inches in height, who had a pair of hammer-shaped arms. These tiny creatures could identify all types of jade around the world.

Aside from the ones listed above, there were many other unusual gadgets.

Such as Fire Spirits who could help blacksmiths control the temperature of their fire, or Nanliang Jade Pillows that could create a variety of beautiful dreams for cultivators to immerse themselves in...

There were just too many of those to count.

Cultivation was not only about fighting and meditating. It had also spun off an array of civilizations and products that took care of various aspects of the cultivation life.

This in turn added colors to the cultivation world, making it brilliant.

However, these little gadgets were extremely expensive. Buying them along the way had caused dao crystals to run out from Lin Xun's pocket like water.

For example, a pair of high-quality Ghost Resonance Puppets cost around a hundred thousand dao crystals. Meanwhile, the price of a Nanliang Jade Pillow was even more outrageous at around 1.9 million dao crystals, not to mention how difficult it was to find them on the market.

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Two months sped by as Lin Xun and Jintian Xuanyue proceeded with leisure.

Today, they arrived at Snow State and decided to stop at a city called Thousand Streams.

Snow State, as the name suggested, was a world covered in ice and snow all year round, and that included all the rivers and mountains.

Thousand Streams had been built with a single material, Mythic Ice, making the city crystalline and magnificent.

"Young Master, these are all the documents and records about Snow State available on the market," reported Jintian Xuanyue after she returned to the inn where they were staying with a big pile of jade slips.

Lin Xun picked the slips up and read them one by one.

Every time he arrived at a place, he would collect records on its history, civilization, geography, and other knowledge, and study them.

Every book read was a mile traveled.

Without the knowledge, one might visit famous monuments and still wouldn't know a thing about their history as well as the significance attached to them.

In that case, no matter how many places one walked, it would be no different from having a quick glance at the flowers while running past them on horseback. Such superficial trips wouldn't do anything to add to their experience at all.

The Primordial Chaos World was the number one great world on the Ancient Nebula Road that was also regarded as the birthplace of all daos. Acquiring as much knowledge on it as possible was bound to give inestimable benefits to Lin Xun's cultivation for a long time to come.

It was a similar case for the so-called cultivation.

Reflecting on the world and what it held allowed one to truly understand oneself!

Only by identifying everything and comprehending their wondrous great dao therein, and observing all living beings and fathoming the ups and downs of life, could one ascertain their role in this world and progress on the path of great dao!

Those like Lin Xun who had gotten so far on their cultivation needed more than just hard work to break through to the next stage. What was even more important to them was elevation in the mindset!

To cultivate, seclude oneself. To temper and train, go out to experience the world.

The only true purpose of all this was to advance on one's dao path.

While Lin Xun flipped through the records on Snow State, Jintian Xuanyue, who had gotten used to being around him, didn't idle around. She picked up the teapot and began to make tea using a handful of freshly collected Snow Dew.

A while later.

The refreshing and ethereal aroma of aeth tea permeated the air. Lin Xun stretched his limbs and accepted the cup she offered.

After taking a sip, he sighed, "I have to say, this period is the most quiet and relaxing time I've ever had."

Jintian Xuanyue smiled slightly. Despite still wearing the Spiritual Form of All Beings, her typically pretty face exuded a different kind of charm.

She was also feeling emotional. When she had boarded Whirlwind Ship, she had never imagined a future when she would be touring the Great Primordial Chaos World as a companion of Lin Xun.

During this time, she had almost forgotten about all worries and everything else to travel in peace. Like a mere passer-by, she had been calmly watching worldly affairs, enjoying the charms of various places, and observing the many ways of life.

After finishing the tea, Lin Xun leisurely got up and headed out. "Let's go."

Jintian Xuanyue nodded and caught up with him. As she did, her heart suddenly trembled.

For a split second, she saw a marvelous transformation in Lin Xun's figure. He was strolling, but she felt as though he was blending in with heaven and earth and harmonizing with nature!

He was right there in front of her but could not be captured by her spirit sense in any way. His presence was just like that of the great dao: invisible, impenetrable, but omnipresent!

The ground outside the inn was paved with Mythic Ice, so smooth and clear it could be used as a mirror. The streets were filled with pedestrians and drifting feather-like snowflakes.

Lin Xun walked along the street with his hands on his back like the most ordinary and inconspicuous man.

It was as if he had completely fitted into this place and its residents. Although ordinary, he was like the invisible great dao standing right there.

Jintian Xuanyue found herself asking, "You broke through, Young Master?"

"Mhm," Lin Xun casually confirmed her doubt. His black eyes were profound as he walked in the wind and snow, his heart idyllically quiet.

What he had seen, felt, and learned during the past two months of their voyage had all transformed into a kind of breakthrough power, allowing his cultivation to smoothly climb into the intermediate Supreme Saint-King Stage!

From start to end, he had never forced it. The breakthrough had come naturally.

It was like how water overflowed from a full cup.

He was walking with a casual posture, but in fact, the spirit, qi, and strength inside him were all undergoing astonishing changes.

It was just that neither Jintian Xuanyue nor the pedestrians around were able to peek into this magnificent spectacle of cultivation breakthrough.

Even so, it still shocked Jintian Xuanyue immensely.

She had witnessed numerous cultivation breakthroughs and read many descriptions on them since the start of her cultivation.

However, this was the only time she had ever seen one occurring so naturally and soundlessly!

For something so significant to happen so casually, it was just like an invisible elephant. Those who got to know of its existence, in turn, would feel an indescribable impact on their mental state.

In this moment, Jintian Xuanyue was so moved by it that she also came to some realizations. As she looked back on the recent journey, all sorts of thoughts surfaced in her mind.

In the end, she gazed at Lin Xun's distant back and laughed silently in the middle of this bustling, snow-filled street.

She had a vague epiphany, but she couldn't quite put a finger on it yet.

However, she knew that...she was close to breaking through as well...

Upon walking out of the city, Lin Xun suddenly paused and said, "Since I've broken through, there is no need to roam around anymore. Let's head to Cloud State right away."

Jintian Xuanyue naturally had no objection.

Not far outside the city, there was an ancient teleportation array that led right into Cloud State.

Quite a number of cultivators were paying to use it.

Lin Xun and Jintian Xuanyue, after paying a considerable amount of dao crystals, were about to enter the array.

Suddenly, Lin Xun had a feeling that propelled him to turn his head and look in the direction of the city gate.

In front of the gate, there stood an old man and a young man. The old man, who looked frail and had gray hair and beard, was waving a feather fan.

The young man was clad in black, had black hair and black eyes. He looked comely, but his lips were slightly pursed in a cold and unsociable arc.

Noticing Lin Xun's gaze, the old man seemed a little taken aback before nodding at him with a smile. With a voice warm and mellow like a spring breeze, he said, "Congratulations on your breakthrough, little friend."

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1866: Sacred Wind Dao Mountain

Lin Xun slightly narrowed his eyes. This old man was the first person to see through his breakthrough!

Looking around, everyone, including Jintian Xuanyue by his side, was blissfully unaware of the presences of the young and old duo.

Fortunately, the old man took the initiative to conclude it by waving his hand with a smile.

Lin Xun nodded back at him, then turned around and joined Jintian Xuanyue in the teleportation array.

Buzz!

With a loud noise, the ancient array glowed, and everyone in it vanished.

After Lin Xun was gone, the old man softly said, “Did you see that, Young Master? That was a supreme genius with superb dao attainments who cultivates even when walking, sitting, or lying down.

“It is impossible for one to break through in such a natural manner without a great deal of effort and accumulation. Stunning talents like him are precisely what this Great Primordial Chaos World lacks the most.”

The black-clad young man said coldly, “Isn’t this great news, since I came to this world to defeat these so-called heaven prides with my blade!”

Like a blade, his voice was intimidatingly sharp.

The old man laughed, “Shall we start from Cloud State, then?”

The young man nodded. “Good.”

He had ‘blade’ as his last name, and ‘cut the flow’ as his name.

His name was Dao Duanliu.

.....

Cloud State was one of the forty-nine states in the Primordial Chaos World, and it was packed with cities in a vast territory that was ten times the size of Qing State!

It was governed by seven major dao lineages. Like seven overlords who each had a share in the state's territory, they were the holy lands of cultivation in the hearts of countless cultivators.

Xuanji Dao Sect was one of these seven major lineages in Cloud State, and it was ranked in third.

Compared to Qing State, Cloud State's combined forces were undoubtedly much larger and more powerful. The reason was that it had quite a few ancient imperial clans rooted in its soil!

The Xing Clan of Lin'an City could not even be considered a second-rate power in Cloud State.

In this state, an organization had to have five or more Emperor experts to qualify as a first-rate power!

As for the seven major lineages in Cloud State, they had already developed beyond first-rate. They could be called hegemons, with each possessing a more unfathomable heritage than the other.

Northern Foothill City was a medium city in Cloud State in terms of scale. Several tens of thousands of miles away from this city was the territory of Sky Piercer Sword Sect, which was one of the seven major lineages.

Therefore, this city was extremely prosperous and affluent.

Outside Northern Foothill City, a group of cultivators walked out from an ancient teleportation array accompanied by a strange, loud buzz.

Lin Xun and Jintian Xuanyue were among them.

Having just traveled from Thousand Streams City in Snow State to Northern Foothill City in Cloud State in just snap of the fingers, Lin Xun was still in a bit of a trance.

This was the marvel of ancient teleportation arrays.

However, an array of this level cost a hundred thousand dao crystals per ride. Not everyone had the ability to afford it.

Having studied the route by heart along the way, Jintian Xuanyue quickly informed him, "This should be Northern Foothill City. At our speed, going to Xuanji Dao Sect from here will take at least half a month."

Lin Xun said as he headed toward the city, “Let’s enter the city and gather information on Cloud State first before we set off, it won’t take too long.”

He was still pondering over the duo of old and young he had seen earlier. Their origins probably were not simple, especially the old man as he was most likely an Emperor!

“It’s definitely a good idea to keep a low profile in this Primordial Chaos World because who knows when you’ll run into an old monster of the Emperor Stage during your walk...” lamented Lin Xun.

“Breaking news, breaking news! The seven major lineages have made a decision to kick off Cloud State’s Dao Debate Contest a month later!

“At that time, a screening process will select the top ten experts from each stage of True Saint, Big Saint, and Saint-King respectively. They then will be sent to Central Plain State to participate in the Dao Debate Assembly hosted by the Great Six Courts!”

“What about Longevity King experts?”

“Are you kidding me? How can Longevity King cultivators be qualified for such a contest?”

As soon as Lin Xun and Jintian Xuanyue entered the city, they heard an excited uproar from the streets.

“Cloud State’s Dao Debate Contest?” Lin Xun was confused.

It didn’t take him long to find out what was going on.

Three years ago, the Great Six Courts had announced that they would hold a Dao Debate Assembly five years later, inviting fellow daoists from all over the world to participate.

However, the conditions were extremely harsh.

Barring Central Plain State, the other forty-eight states of the Great Primordial Chaos World would each have thirty slots to be divided equally among the True Saint, Big Saint, and Saint-King categories.

For example, each state could only send at most ten Saint-Kings to the assembly.

Cloud State’s Dao Debate Contest was to prepare for this.

After all, Cloud State was too vast with seven major lineages competing over the limited number of slots for the Dao Debate Assembly.

Thus, they had decided to convene a Dao Debate Contest as the means of selection.

“The reason why I left White Emperor City for the Primordial Chaos World was to take part in this assembly organized by the Great Six Courts,” said Jintian Xuanyue with a glimpse of desire in her eyes.

Lin Xun was suddenly reminded of the hemp-clothed Xuan Jiuyin. After arriving in the Primordial Chaos World, that fellow had also clamored to see him again in the Dao Debate Assembly.

Apparently, Xuan Jiuyin had come to this world with the same purpose as Jintian Xuanyue.

Lin Xun was curious. “If cultivators from star fields outside of the Primordial Chaos World also want to take part in this event, what should they do?”

Jintian Xuanyue replied, “There are many ways, but the most direct one is to take part in the corresponding contest organized by each of the forty-eight states to compete for a slot through battles.

“Take Cloud State’s Dao Debate Contest for example, not only the disciples of the seven major lineages, but any cultivator who also meets the qualification can participate.”

Lin Xun understood. He concluded, “In that case, participants of this assembly organized by the Great Six Courts are going to face fierce competition.”

It was hard to even count the number of dao lineages and clans distributed throughout the forty-nine states of the immensely vast Primordial Chaos World.

The number of experts in the three Saint Stages they had was simply incalculable!

Meanwhile, there were only so many slots available. One could already imagine how intense the competition would be when it came down to it.

By adding some of the most powerful Saint cultivators from outside the Great Primordial Chaos World to the mix, the competition would only be even more brutal!

“After all, it’s a debate event jointly organized by the Great Six Courts, how could your average cultivator just jump in as they please?”

Saying that, the desire in Jintian Xuanyue’s eyes flared up. “Through these layers of screening and elimination, every single one of those who gets to take part in the Dao Debate Assembly is bound to be an unparalleled supreme expert!”

Lin Xun thought about it and agreed with her.

However, unlike Jintian Xuanyue, he wasn’t very interested in this assembly and even had to deliberately avoid it.

It couldn't be helped. If his true identity was discovered by experts of the Great Six Courts, then it would definitely be the start of endless trouble.

Lin Xun asked, "By the way, why does this only apply to the forty-eight states, what about the Central Plain State? Don't the cultivators there need to be screened?"

Jintian Xuanyue replied, "The Central Plain State is the gathering ground of Emperors and where Dao Ancestors are secluded. It's occupied by only the topmost forces of the nebula, such as the Great Six Courts and the Great Ten Battle Clans. That place has no need for a Dao Debate Contest at all.

"Because even if it were to be held, then the slots would ultimately be divided among the disciples of those topmost powers anyway."

After a pause, she continued, "What's more, the grand assembly was initiated by the Great Six Courts, so there's no quantity cap on their quota."

Lin Xun scoffed, "So that's how it is."

As unfair to the normal cultivators as this might seem, it was the reality of this world where the Great Six Courts held a great deal of power.

Jintian Xuanyue said, "In truth, no one cares whether this is fair or not. There have been many Dao Debate Assemblies since ancient times, but every time nearly all the top ten have ended up being disciples of the Great Six Courts, the Great Ten Battle Clans, and other major organizations.

"It's similar to the All Heavens Saint-King Rankings. Ninety percent of the top one hundred are from these great powers."

Lin Xun laughed, "But you are an exception."

He hadn't forgotten that Jintian Xuanyue was ranked forty-ninth on the All Heavens Saint-King Rankings.

Caught off guard, Jintian Xuanyue blushed as she felt a little embarrassed. "You're making fun of me, Young Master. The fact that someone of your strength isn't on that list makes it a complete joke."

Lin Xun was speechless.

A ranking was only a ranking, how could it net all the world's supreme geniuses so easily?

It was simply impossible!

At the very least, some of whom he had encountered such as Zen Master Wuming or Xuan Jiuyin weren't any weaker than Jintian Xuanyue in terms of battle power, but their names weren't on the All Heavens Saint-King Rankings either.

Strictly speaking, since the ranking was issued by Mythical Huang Dao Court, it was certainly authoritative. The experts listed on it were no doubt peerless characters.

However, the Ancient Nebula Road was infinitely large and therefore destined to have many more talents who weren't at all inferior to the ones on the rankings!

Lin Xun shook his head and no longer focused on this topic.

To his surprise, no matter where he went during his half-day stay in Northern Foothill City, all he heard was discussions on the upcoming state debate contest.

Some people were even nice enough to pick out the famous disciples of the seven major lineages of Cloud State and made a list out of it by analyzing and commenting on them one by one.

For example, Lu Dubu, the strongest disciple of Great Void Sect, was recognized as Cloud State's number one expert in the Saint-King Stage!

This person was also considered to be among the roster with the highest chances of winning first place in the state's Dao Debate Contest.

In short, there were an array of prominent figures that were the hot topic everywhere, making it difficult for Lin Xun not to know about them.

One could also tell from this how big the impact of this debate contest had on Cloud State.

Unfortunately, Lin Xun remained uninterested.

On that same day, he left the city with Jintian Xuanyue and headed straight to the location of Xuanji Dao Sect—Sacred Wind Dao Mountain!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1867: Challenge from Phantasm

Empyrean Island

Located in the extreme east of Cloud State, Sacred Wind Dao Mountain was a mountain range that towered among auspicious clouds and divine haze. It was no doubt a top-class blessed land.

In the Primordial Chaos World where the atmosphere was rich with chaos qi, any place that could be considered a blessed land was something that all cultivators yearned for.

Xuanji Dao Sect, one of the seven major lineages of Cloud State, dwelled in this mountain range.

After half a month on the road, Lin Xun and Jintian Xuanyue appeared before Sacred Wind Dao Mountain.

Looking at the expansive and majestic mountains from afar, even Lin Xun was astonished.

What a heavenly place!

Even the naked eye could see the chaos qi here, which had taken on the form of snake dragons as they hung from the sky above the peaks. On top of that, everything was submerged in auspicious sunlight that was condensed like a sea of steaming clouds.

Taking in the broad view of it, one could not help but suspect that it was paradise inhabited by immortals and not something this world could possess.

“Let’s go salute the mountain gate.” Lin Xun forged straight ahead.

When the two were several hundred thousand feet away from the ancient, lofty gate, they saw a group of feather-clad cultivators charging out from there.

“Who are you, and why are you here?” asked the tall and sturdy man leading the group with a calm demeanor.

“This humble cultivator, Jin Duyi, would like to see your sect master about something,” replied Lin Xun casually.

If he directly said that he wanted to see Bo Yazhi, the other party would definitely think he was crazy and blast him out.

After all, Bo Yazhi was the founding ancestor of Xuanji Dao Sect who had existed for countless ages. It was hard to say whether such an ancient figure was alive or not.

“Our sect master?” The tall man was startled. “Do you have an invitation?”

Lin Xun shook his head. “Please inform your sect master that I’m here to discuss something very important.”

After saying that, he cupped his fist.

Seeing Lin Xun's polite attitude, the tall man's expression relaxed quite a bit as he said, "I wouldn't mind helping you any other day, Fellow Daoist, but today is different."

Lin Xun raised his brow. "Why is that?"

The tall man looked stern as he replied, "It is not something I can disclose, and I hope you could understand. Perhaps you can come again after a while."

With that, the Xuanji Dao Sect disciples looked as if they were about to go back into the mountain gate.

"Wait." Jintian Xuanyue suddenly said, "My Young Master went on a long journey across the seven states just to come here, only for you to turn him away like that. Don't you think that's inconsiderate?"

The tall man frowned, his expression heavy. "You have neither an invitation nor a token. Our sect master is not someone anyone can just see because they want to. Please leave!"

A direct expulsion order was given.

Jintian Xuanyue suddenly tossed out a blinding white token and said, "This is the Imperial Jintian Clan's Emperor Bai Token. Are we qualified to meet your sect master now?"

Startled, the tall man caught the token and saw the front side was engraved with the ancient characters 'Jintian Clan,' while the back was branded with the emblem of White Emperor City.

Holding it in his hand, he could feel a domineering aura beating against his face.

The Imperial Jintian Clan!

While this clan wasn't located in his world, who did not know about this huge, nebula-shaking monster?

It ran neck and neck with the Primeval Imperial Clans in the Primordial Chaos World!

"Uh..." The tall man hesitated, while the other Xuanji Dao Sect disciples around him were also at a loss.

People like them had certainly heard about the Jintian Clan, but how could they have ever seen a unique status-representation treasure such as Emperor Bai Token?

“If you can’t determine its authenticity, then go and ask your master. If even the leader of Xuanji Dao Sect can’t do that, then we have nothing to say.” Jintian Xuanyue was nonchalant.

“Alright, please wait a moment,” said the tall man as he hurried away.

Jintian Xuanyue then whispered, “Will you blame me for acting like that, Young Master?”

Lin Xun shook his head with a smile.

At the same time, a pretty young girl clad in a feathered coat blurted out, “Don’t tell me...you guys are also here to challenge Senior Brother Ji Qian?”

Lin Xun was stunned. Of course he knew Ji Qian, who he had heard from Jiang Heng to be the strongest true disciple of Xuanji Dao Sect.

However, he wasn’t here to look for Ji Qian this time.

“No.” Lin Xun shook his head.

The feather-clothed girl was still suspicious and remarked with a frown, “I hope so.”

The other Xuanji Dao Sect disciples were also wearing worried, preoccupied looks on their faces.

Noticing this, Lin Xun wondered in his heart. *Did someone else also barge into their sect today to challenge Ji Qian?*

Before long, a majestic figure swept out from the mountain gate. He wore a violet robe, had black hair, and white brows. As his eyes shut and opened, one could see the sharp light surging in them.

His every movement exuded the might of a quasi-Emperor!

“Greetings, Senior Uncle Hong Yu!” saluted the disciples at the gate in unison.

The violet-robed man called Senior Uncle Hong Yu waved his hand before turning his gaze to Lin Xun and Jintian Xuanyue.

“The two of you must be fellow daoists from the Imperial Jintian Clan?” he asked. His voice was thick and neither haughty nor humble.

“Correct.” Jintian Xuanyue nodded.

“You can call this old man Hong Yu. Sect Master has especially ordered me to welcome the two of you.” Hong Yu cupped his fist.

“Many thanks.” Lin Xun cupped his fist back.

Hong Yu made a gesture indicating for them to follow him and started leading the way.

Lin Xun and Jintian Xuanyue followed closely behind.

“So they really are from the Imperial Jintian Clan... I’ve heard that their founding ancestor, Emperor Bai, was a heaven-shaking legend!”

“That’s not something we should be concerned about at the moment. Alas, those guys from Phantasm Empyrean Island said they just wanted to have a learning spar with us, but they obviously have ill intentions.”

“I wonder if Senior Brother Ji Qian and the others will agree to their challenge.”

After Lin Xun’s group disappeared into the mountain gate, the Xuanji Dao Sect disciples all started groaning and letting out sighs of worry.

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The view suddenly changed upon entrance.

The mountains were like a row of halberds that pointed at the sky, where birds soared and beasts roamed around. Each peak was shrouded in divine light and refreshing air.

In here, one’s every breath was filled with jelly-like aeth qi, and they would feel comfortable and happy as if they were bathing in spring water.

If it was any other day, Hong Yu would have had the patience to introduce the beautiful scenery of his sect to these esteemed guests.

Today, however, he was not in the mood at all.

Along the way, he couldn’t help but say, “If you two don’t mind me asking, what is it that you want to see our leader for?”

Lin Xun replied. “It’s just a very normal visit; there’s absolutely no ill will from us.”

He could also tell that something was off about the atmosphere of Xuanji Dao Sect.

“I see,” said Hong Yu, who decided to explain after some deliberation. “To be honest, our sect has encountered a tricky situation today, so please forgive me should you find anything in our treatment that is not to your satisfaction.”

Although he was a quasi-Emperor, he didn’t dare to neglect the esteemed guests from the Imperial Jintian Clan.

This was the power of the Emperor Bai Token.

Lin Xun nodded and asked, “If you don’t mind, can you tell us about the so-called tricky situation?”

Hong Yu thought about it and sighed, “Since you’ll see it sooner or later, I guess there’s no harm in telling you about it now.”

It turned out that this morning, a group of core disciples from Phantasm Empyrean Island, which was also one of the seven major lineages in Cloud State, had arrived at Xuanji Dao Sect to pay their respects.

In reality, however, their intention was to discuss and compete.

It was normal for disciples of different lineages to conduct sparring matches and discussions, but not in this situation where Phantasm Empyrean Island had obviously come with ill intentions!

Xuanji Dao Sect was ranked third among all the powers in Cloud State, while Phantasm Empyrean Island was ranked fourth.

In other words, the latter had always been suppressed by the former in terms of ranking.

This time, the Phantasm Empyrean Island disciples wanted to use sparring as an excuse to deal a severe blow to the youngsters of Xuanji Dao Sect, thus proving that their younger generation had firmly exceeded their rival’s.

This looked like a competition between the young cultivators on the surface, but what it really involved was the honor of the two lineages. How could Xuanji Dao Sect dare to be negligent?

Moreover, according to Hong Yu, Phantasm Empyrean Island had come prepared this time as each of the disciples they sent was more powerful than the last!

This was something that Xuanji Dao Sect had never expected.

“We are well informed on the more eminent disciples of Phantasm Empyrean Island, but among those who have come to challenge us today, there are many unfamiliar faces. We never caught any wind of them taking in those disciples at all despite each and every one of them being surprisingly strong in combat.”

Hong Yu frowned as his expression clouded over.

At this point, Lin Xun finally understood why he had been turned away at first. It turned out that Xuanji Dao Sect had run into this kind of trouble.

Along the way, he went on to learn that Xuanji Dao Sect's disciples were divided into four categories: outer, inner, true, and core disciples.

Among them, the outer disciples were highest in numbers, all of whom were at Longevity King Stage and below.

Inner disciples were all True Saint experts.

Only those who had stepped into the Supreme Big Saint Stage were qualified to be accepted as true disciples.

As for the core disciples, each of them was a supreme Saint-King!

However, the number of core disciples was also the smallest. A major power like Xuanji Dao Sect only had around thirty of them.

Even so, it still amazed Lin Xun.

There was no need to talk about how powerful supreme Saint-Kings were, and yet, they were only considered core disciples in Xuanji Dao Sect.

If that was the case, then just how powerful would a force like one among the Great Six Courts be in terms of depths and strength?

This maybe was a sight one could only see in the Primordial Chaos World. It was certainly worthy of its title as the number one great world on the Ancient Nebula Road!

Chatting as they walked, the group arrived at the peak of a divine mountain.

The whole surface had been built with a platform that sat among a sea of clouds. Currently, many people were distributed on the platform.

One party were cultivators of Xuanji Dao Sect. Leading them was a thin, middle-aged man dressed in Taoist clothes and a feathered crown. He looked dignified as he stood with hands on his back.

Like the moon being surrounded by stars, he was surrounded by a group of high-ranking personnel who were followed by many disciples.

"That's our sect master!"

Hong Yu gazed at the thin, middle-aged man from afar with heartfelt respect in his eyes.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1868: Volunteering for Battle

The name of Xuanji Dao Sect's leader was Heng Xiao, who was known for his unfathomable strength and great status in Cloud State.

Heng Xiao, who was wearing a Taoist outfit and a feathered crown, also noticed Lin Xun and Jintian Xuanyue right away. He gave them a slight nod.

"Go over," whispered Hong Yu, who then led the two forward.

At the same time, the high-ranking personnel as well as many disciples of Xuanji Dao Sect looked over with either doubt, indifference, or curiosity in their eyes.

Their expressions seemed to say, "*These two are the esteemed guests from the Imperial Jintian Clan?*"

Lin Xun was unperturbed as he stepped forward to greet Heng Xiao, "Pleased to meet you, Senior. I am Jin Duyi."

Heng Xiao was stunned. "Your surname is Jin?"

Jintian Xuanyue interrupted by simply introducing herself, "My surname is Jintian."

"I see," said Heng Xiao. "As our honored guests, the two of you should have been received and entertained accordingly, but due to the situation we are having, I can only trouble you to wait here for some time first."

Lin Xun nodded. "It's no trouble at all, Senior."

It was impossible for him not to see the fierce fight still unfolding on the huge ring at the center of the platform.

One side was a disciple of Xuanji Dao Sect, who was a handsome man dressed in a feathered coat. He was at the advanced Supreme Saint-King Stage, and his weapon was a dao sword that looked like a purple fish.

His opponent was a woman clad in black clothes and wrapped in gray fog. Her eyes were narrow as knives, cold and intimidating.

The most bizarre thing about her was that she was only at the initial Supreme Saint-King Stage, but in this fight, she firmly had the advantage!

The reason was that her body could morph at will, sometimes becoming as thin as paper, sometimes turning into a wisp of gray fog or a grain of rice, and then suddenly becoming larger...

She could take whatever shape and size she wanted!

She held a seven-inch dagger in her hand. The weapon was pitch black and lightless, but with every wave would make a shrill noise as it easily tore through the void.

In just seconds, the Xuanji disciple suffered one wound after another that were deep enough to expose his bone, and the blood from them dyed his clothes red.

“Even Senior Brother Yuan Mao is no match for her?” said someone bitterly.

Heng Xiao, Hong Yu, and the other big names of Xuanji Dao Sect all looked somber as well.

Meanwhile, a cheer erupted on the opposite side of the platform.

Lin Xun looked in that direction and saw a group of cultivators wearing the same blue uniform.

Their leader was a transcendent-looking old man who wore a big-sleeved robe. His skin was as smooth as that of a baby, and his eyes were quiet and unmoving.

They were experts of Phantasm Empyrean Island.

The old man leading them was an elder of extremely high status in their sect, and his dharma name was Bi Yuanzi.

At this moment, he was stroking his beard, commenting with a smile, “Brother Heng Xiao, I’m afraid your side is going to lose again in this second duel.”

His voice was so loud that it echoed through the mountaintop and shattered the sea of clouds.

The expressions of the Xuanji party instantly grew unsightly, and many of them clenched their fists in rage.

As if to verify Bi Yuanzi’s words, a heavy, deafening noise came from the arena as the black clad woman’s dagger knocked away the fish sword.

Then, the dagger’s tip gleamed sharply.

Poof!

It drew a long, bloody, vertical wound on the chest of the young man called Yuan Mao, nearly ripping open his stomach!

The black-clad woman wanted to take this advantage and push on with her onslaught when Heng Xiao suddenly shouted, “Stop! Xuanji Dao Sect admits defeat in this match.”

Swish!

The black-clad woman came to an abrupt stop and turned to the Xuanji crowd with a look of ridicule.

“Well timed. Otherwise, he would have been dead.” She dropped those words and left the ring.

The sheer condescension in her attitude infuriated the entire Xuanji group. The young disciples lost their composure and angrily shouted back.

“Arrogant!”

“Having your nose in the air after winning one game? Don’t overestimate yourself!”

Hearing that, the black-clad woman suddenly turned around with scorn in her narrow eyes. Hooking her finger, she said, “Can’t take it? Then come and fight me.”

This rendered the other party speechless.

On the contrary, the Phantasm Empyrean Island crowd burst into laughter, which heightened the feeling of humiliation in the Xuanji disciples’ hearts.

Meanwhile, Lin Xun’s eyes flashed with a strange light.

He had learned that this competition between Phantasm Empyrean Island and Xuanji Dao Sect would have at most five matches.

The winner would be decided as soon as one side won three matches.

As of this moment, Xuanji Dao Sect had already lost two matches.

The one they had sent for the first match was Lin Xun’s acquaintance, Ji Qian. The one deployed for the second match was Yuan Mao, who had almost been disemboweled just now.

Both of them had been defeated by the black-clad woman!

Her name was ‘She Zi,’ and Xuanji Dao Sect had never heard of such a powerful disciple from Phantasm Empyrean Island before.

As a result, they had zero information on her.

However, after the two matches, everyone could already tell that She Zi was no ordinary supreme Saint-King!

Whether it was against Ji Qian or Yuan Mao, both of whom were above her in terms of cultivation, she had won with ease.

It was worth noting that Yuan Mao was the third strongest core disciple of Xuanji Dao Sect, but despite that, he had lost!

The atmosphere was oppressive. Heng Xiao, Hong Yu, and the others all looked grave and gloomy.

Two of the five matches had already ended with their side being defeated miserably. This meant that the competition would be settled if they lost just one more match!

“Who is this She Zi? It’s like she jumped out of a rock. I suspect she’s not even a disciple of Phantasm Empyrean Island,” analyzed an expert with a frown. “In the previous match, the dao and tactics she used resembled nothing in their heritages.”

This remark caused many eyes to narrow.

In fact, the others also suspected it. They just didn’t dare to be certain.

Lin Xun suddenly commented, “She is, indeed, not a disciple of Phantasm Empyrean Island.”

The whole Xuanji party looked over at him.

Heng Xiao had a realization. “Did you figure something out, little friend?”

Lin Xun’s eyes were deep as he replied, “I do have some clues.”

The black-clad woman’s fighting style gave him a familiar feeling. After musing on it a little, he recalled some past events.

Heng Xiao’s eyes lit up. “Are they conclusive?”

Lin Xun pondered briefly and said, “No, but there’s a simple way to make sure; I just need to fight her.”

Heng Xiao was taken aback. “You?”

The other Xuanji Dao Sect elders were also astonished. No one had expected this honored guest from the Imperial Jintian Clan to make such a request.

Not to mention them, even Jintian Xuanyue was stunned for a moment.

She knew full well that Lin Xun would rather keep a low profile and avoid making a commotion unless it was absolutely necessary.

Therefore, him for once taking the initiative to do that shocked her, and she realized that he might have other plans!

Heng Xiao was cautious with his decision. “In the end, this is the matter of our sect. I’m afraid it’s not justified if I let you interfere.”

The sect master had his own considerations.

They had already lost two matches in a row. Since the next one could decide the final outcome, they had to take it very seriously.

Therefore, how could they place their hope in the hands of an outsider who they knew nothing about at this juncture? What if Lin Xun was defeated?

At that time, the Jintian Clan wouldn’t lose anything, but their sect would lose all face.

Heng Xiao’s thoughts were also what the other Xuanji elders present currently had in mind.

After all, Lin Xun had only just arrived here. His title as an esteemed guest from the Imperial Jintian Clan didn’t do much to make them feel at ease in this situation.

Right at this moment, Bi Yuanzi’s smug voice rang out on the opposite side of the platform, “Brother Heng Xiao, have you decided on the next disciple for the third match?

“But honestly though, I think it’s much wiser for you to admit defeat now instead. After all, it wouldn’t be a good look if your next contender also loses.”

The expressions of Heng Xiao and the others instantly darkened as their anger could no longer be contained.

Bi Yuanzi, this old bastard! Does he think our sect has no one left?

“Sect Master, I would like to fight next!” heavily said a Xuanji disciple who couldn’t take it anymore.

“No, let me!”

“No, this third match is bound to be dangerous. Do not argue over this, just leave it to me!”

Following the first one, the other Xuanji disciples also volunteered themselves.

They were all core disciples at the Supreme Saint-King Stage, making them the most central and elite force of Xuanji Dao Sect.

Lin Xun, however, secretly shook his head. As powerful as these core disciples were, he didn't think they were a match for that black-clad woman called She Zi!

Something he found to be a surprise was that Jiang Heng was among this group of core disciples, and she was also asking to fight next with a determined expression.

To think that she's also stepped into the Supreme Saint-King Stage. Lin Xun lamented in his heart.

He still remembered that whether it was himself, Jiang Heng, or Ji Qian, all of them had only been supreme Big Saints during their time in the Kunlun Dominion.

Only seven years had passed since then, but the other party had also made a breakthrough on their dao path.

At the moment, Heng Xiao also seemed to be having a hard time making a decision.

Seeing this, Lin Xun immediately collected his thoughts and said, "Your disciples don't have much chance of winning this match. It's better to leave it to me."

With that, his figure flashed and reappeared in the center of the ring.

"You..."

"Stop!"

"Little friend, come back!"

His sudden action caught the whole Xuanji crowd off guard. Some of the elders were inwardly annoyed and even a little angry at him.

Can't this young man tell the gravity of the situation at all, raising an upheaval at a time like this? He's simply fooling around!

Meanwhile, the core disciples of Xuanji Dao Sect like Jiang Heng were no less upset.

What does he mean by we don't have much chance of winning? How dare he downplay everyone with just a sentence like that?!

Only Jintian Xuanyue had full confidence in Lin Xun.

With a hint of pride in her voice, she calmly said, “Normally, people would have to beg for my Young Master to act and it would still depend on his mood. Now, since he has taken the initiative to help you, I suggest that you all relax and watch the fight.”

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1869: Defeating the Enemy From Behind

Jintian Xuanyue’s tone was flat but carried a unique kind of pride that made her seem very confident and even conceited.

However, in the ears of Heng Xiao’s group, she was being overly bumptious.

You’re telling us to sit back and watch? But what if he loses? It will be the face of our Xuanji Dao Sect that will be damaged!

“Hahaha, Brother Heng Xiao, since this little fellow has already entered the ring, let’s just commence.”

Bi Yuanzi’s loud laugh rang out from the opposite side.

“She Zi, go and meet our friend from the Imperial Jintian Clan, but remember to go easy on him. After all, he is not a disciple of Xuanji Dao Sect. We will be in a tight spot if he ends up getting crippled.”

Swish!

His voice was still echoing when the black-clad woman once appeared in the arena.

Her knife-like eyes gleamed coldly as she said, “Don’t worry, Elder, he will receive a different treatment.”

The faces of Heng Xiao’s groups instantly became unsightly.

Lin Xun’s sudden act of getting on stage had caught them off guard and messed with their minds. Before they could make a decision, Bi Yuanzi had pre-empted them.

The most infuriating thing was the mockery and sarcasm in his voice, which really made their teeth ache.

“Alas,” sighed Heng Xiao.

Since things had come to this point, he realized that it could no longer be changed. He could only hope that Jintian Xuanyue's declaration was true, and that this young man named Jin Duyi would not let them down.

The other Xuanji Dao Sect elders were also in the same complicated, defeated mood.

In the end, it was because of Lin Xun's and Jintian Xuanyue's extraordinary identities that caused them to hold back for the time being despite their disgruntlement.

"If this guy loses, then I don't care what his status is! I will definitely make him pay for this!"

"Right! Meddling in this kind of important affair without any scruples and even saying that us core disciples can't win, he's too arrogant."

"*Sigh*, I actually hope from the bottom of my heart that he wins, otherwise, our sect will have lost the whole competition..."

"No need to worry, him losing is not our sect losing, so there will still be room to maneuver."

The Xuanji core disciples discussed among themselves with flickering expressions.

Although they took a dim view of Lin Xun, deep down, they still didn't want to see him lose, so they were quite torn inside.

Jintian Xuanyue wasted no more breath explaining. *If Young Master, who can kill even quasi-Emperors, can't even deal with this opponent, then it'd be the biggest joke of the century.*

She took out a praying mat and sat cross-legged on it. With a flip of her hand, a treasure tea set appeared. She then began to leisurely wash the tea leaves and brew tea in a natural and relaxed demeanor.

The scene struck Heng Xiao and the other Xuanji Dao Sect elders dumb, and they felt a little dizzy. *This junior of the Jintian Clan really knows how to enjoy life, doesn't she?*

The reaction of their core disciples was even more over the top as they all gawked at her. *She even has the mood to brew tea? What does she take this duel for?*

Meanwhile, Bi Yuanzi was stunned and so was the rest of his group, but he quickly sneered and said, "She Zi, you can start!"

Clang!

The seven-inch, pitch-black, lightless dagger once again appeared in her snow-white hand. She Zi raised her head slightly. Her long, narrow eyes instantly took on an indifferent, frosty color.

The entire aura became misty like fog. She was like an illusory wisp of black light.

The atmosphere in the field also became somber and oppressive.

Whether it was the members of Xuanji Dao Sect or Phantasm Empyrean Island, all gazes fell on Lin Xun at this moment.

They had all seen first-hand the power of She Zi, but they knew nothing about this honored guest from the Jintian Clan.

Lin Xun suddenly opened his mouth and advised, “You’d better go all out or you’ll lose horribly.”

His lightly-spoken warning struck Bi Yuanzi dumb again. *My, isn’t this kid crazy?!*

The Xuanji crowd felt their cheeks twitch as the worry in their hearts heightened. *Can such a boastful young man really be trusted?*

Whoosh!

In the ring, She Zi abruptly evaporated on the spot. Like a wisp of gray fog, she pierced the spatial barrier at an incredible speed and appeared right before Lin Xun.

Even faster than her was the dagger in her hand. With a flick of her wrist, the black blade glinted eerily as it stabbed straight toward Lin Xun’s chest.

Fast!

Inconceivably fast!

It was difficult for ordinary cultivators to catch She Zi’s movements. Only those of Heng Xiao’s level could see it clearly.

What they saw caused them to gasp. Her movement art had simply reached the pinnacle, terrifying beyond imagination!

However, Lin Xun looked unperturbed. He lightly flicked his right index finger, and despite him making his move after She Zi, the finger accurately landed on the tip of the blade.

Clang!

A metallic sound resounded, stirring the surroundings and tearing the eardrums.

She Zi suddenly trembled and, as if being hit by a tsunami, flew out viciously.

She flew uncontrollably for over a hundred feet before barely stabilizing herself in the air. The void around her cracked and collapsed in exploding air waves.

Everyone could tell how overwhelmingly powerful that finger flick was!

“Hmm?” Bi Yuanzi’s eyes narrowed in surprise.

“How...” Heng Xiao’s group were also astonished.

While they had anticipated that the esteemed guest would not lose in the first exchange, they still couldn’t have thought of this outcome. He had not only blocked the opponent’s sudden strike, but also sent her flying over a hundred feet with just a flick of his finger!

As for the core disciples, all they could see was a blur. Before they could have made out the specific details, She Zi had already blasted out like a meteor.

Their eyes widened in unison, and they almost suspected that their vision had just malfunctioned.

Lin Xun again said indifferently, “I repeat, go all out or you will definitely lose.”

She Zi’s gaze had entirely changed, carrying a rare gravity as she looked at Lin Xun.

His attack had caused her qi and blood to tumble, and even now, they still hadn’t calmed. It had felt as if she had been rammed by a massive mountain.

“As you wish!” As she took a deep breath, her aura changed once more. The gray fog shrouding her started steaming. Her figure became blurry to the point she seemed to have vanished.

“She can’t even be captured by spirit senses?”

“This is what this woman is truly capable of?”

“So when she defeated Senior Brother Ji Qian and Yuan Mao, she didn’t use her full strength at all!”

As many in the audience exclaimed in shock, She Zi appeared behind Lin Xun like a shadow without creating the slightest fluctuation in the air.

Not good!

The expressions of the Xuanji seniors changed drastically when they saw this. *What kind of dao art is this? Simply unimaginable!*

Swish!

Fiercely, She Zi thrust her dagger at Lin Xun's back.

It was fast, precise, and ruthless!

On top of that, it emitted not a trace of force, as if all of her power had been fully incorporated into this strike.

The next moment, however, She Zi felt her weapon abruptly stop. It could no longer advance an inch.

Huh?

Her heart shook, and she saw that at some point, her dagger had been firmly clamped by two long, slender fingers.

This was all done while Lin Xun was still standing with his back facing her!

Time seemed to come to a standstill. As everyone processed what they saw, all they could feel was a struggle to believe the reality in front of them.

It was truly too impactful a scene. Lin Xun had his back to the crowd, but his fingers had tightly stopped the terrifying strike from behind!

She Zi's expression also faltered.

Before she could change her stance for the next attack, however, a torrent of force surged through her dagger with a devastating momentum.

Twang!

The dagger instantly snapped, followed by the skin and flesh on her arm exploding inch by inch. Even her tendons and bones burst into pieces.

In the end, the force sent her flying over a hundred feet before she heavily hit the ground.

"Pfft!" She Zi tremblingly coughed up blood and let out a muffled grunt of pain. She slumped to the ground, unable to get back up.

The whole area fell silent in utter shock!

Both members of the Xuanji Dao Sect and Phantasm Empyrean Island froze on the spot with looks of utter disbelief as their minds buzzed violently.

The whole exchange had happened in a flash. As powerful as She Zi was, she had been directly suppressed into a miserable state!

The most frightening thing was that Jintian Clan's honored guest in the ring still hadn't once turned around!

Who could even have dreamed of such a scene before?

The Xuanji crowd had all been caught off guard by Lin Xun's unauthorized interference, feeling angry thinking that he had been fooling around.

However, the development of the situation had completely overturned their view and struck them like a thunderbolt.

The boastful guy...turned out to be a real expert!

Witnessing all of this, Jintian Xuanyue smiled before putting all of her focus back into brewing tea.

In her heart, a sense of pride surged.

Now, you should all believe in the strength of Young Master!

"If that was your full strength, then it's a little disappointing." Lin Xun finally turned around and looked indifferently at She Zi, who was lying on the ground and unable to get up.

A burst of clamor from all over the field then broke the deathly silence.

"She Zi was defeated just like that?"

"Why...why do I feel like I'm dreaming? It's also too unreal..."

"What did this guy say his name was? Jin Dui? Why haven't I heard of such a supreme character before?"

The Xuanji core disciples all wore appalled expressions. As they thought back on how they had talked Lin Xun down earlier, their cheeks burned as though they had just slapped themselves on the face.

Heng Xiao, Hong Yu, and the other elders could see the bewilderment in each other's eyes as they exchanged glances among themselves.

As for the Phantasm Empyrean Island crowd on the other side of the platform, they still hadn't recovered from being caught off guard.

The match had only lasted for a few moments, and She Zi...had been defeated just like that?

"I've lost. I admit defeat."

She Zi was still on the ground with blood dripping down from the corners of her lips. Her injuries were far more serious than they appeared. Her qi had almost been blasted to nothingness, making her situation as close to fatal as it could be.

This third match, Lin Xun won!

The faces of Bi Yuanzi's group instantly clouded over. Their gazes on Lin Xun were filled to the brim with ill will.

On the other hand, Heng Xiao, Hong Yu, and the rest of the Xuanji elders sighed in relief. When they looked at Lin Xun, their eyes were full of amazement, as well as a hint of shame.

Their previous attitude toward him had indeed been a little too negative. Now that they thought about it, they couldn't help but feel mortified.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1870: Endless Road to Hell

Jintian Xuanyue looked up and laughed wryly, "Young Master, I'm afraid you'll have to wait a little while for your tea."

The match had ended too fast. She hadn't even finished washing the tea leaves, let alone boiling them.

Her act, however, gave the audience mixed feelings.

They also finally understood why Jintian Xuanyue was so confident in this 'Young Master' of hers.

Suddenly, a man stepped out from the Phantasm Empyrean Island crowd and said, "I'm fighting the fourth match."

He was dressed in blue and had a pale complexion. His green pupils gleamed with a chilling, obscure luster.

“Very well.” Bi Yuanzi was first stunned then ecstatic. “I’m greatly reassured to leave it to you, She Ling.”

He seemed to be very confident in this man.

The expressions of the other Phantasm Empyrean Island experts varied between surprise, apprehension, and exhilaration.

Seeing them like that, the Xuanji elders instantly knew that the man called She Ling was an even more powerful expert than She Zi!

“Senior, how about leaving the fourth match to me as well?” asked Lin Xun.

“Alright, then I’ll have to trouble you,” agreed Heng Xiao without any hesitation this time.

Hong Yu and the others also revealed smiles. Lin Xun could be said to have helped them solve a big problem!

They looked forward to what kind of surprises this young man from the Imperial Jintian Clan would bring next.

Meanwhile, Jiang Heng and the core disciples felt complicated.

It was supposed to be a competition between them and the disciples of Phantasm Empyrean Island, but now, none of them could even intervene.

It was difficult for them to be happy about the fact that an outsider was fighting in their stead.

Dum! Dum! Dum!

Every step She Ling took toward the ring shook the platform, producing a sound like the beating of a divine drum.

His aura also climbed. Gray fog rolled out from his slim figure and covered the sun.

His eyes were like two green ghost flames, making him all the more intimidating.

Many subconsciously held their breaths.

The Xuanji core disciples felt especially oppressed. They all tensed up, and their hair stood on end.

Just by standing and watching from outside the ring, they still had a strong feeling that they wouldn't be a match for She Ling at all!

They couldn't help but feel dejected. When had Phantasm Empyrean Island, who had always ranked below their sect, produced such a powerful disciple?

Heng Xiao and the Xuanji elders also put their guard up when they also realized that She Ling wasn't just stronger than She Zi, but instead a great deal more powerful than her!

"I wonder if our little friend can defeat this person..." A tinge of worry flashed across their faces.

On the contrary, Bi Yuanzi's group revealed anticipation.

The only calm one in the area was Jintian Xuanyue, who looked focused as her fair, jade hand gently brewed the tea.

"I don't care about your background. Make a move, and all that awaits you is death, unless you admit defeat now," said She Ling, his voice hoarse and low.

Boom!

As he took a step, a Great Dao Field abruptly emerged. It was like the gloomy underworld had descended on earth.

It was filled with churning gray fog that hid countless flickering green flames. From the fog echoed faint, ghastly howls that made people's scalp tingle.

"Great Dao Field, Endless Road to Hell..."

In the audience, a hint of shock slipped onto She Zi's face. She was the only one here who knew how powerful She Ling's Great Dao Field was.

Endless Road to Hell had even been praised by an Emperor expert, who had commented that it could reign supreme in the same stage with its quality!

Seeing that She Ling started the match with his trump card, he obviously didn't underestimate Lin Xun.

"Not good!" Heng Xiao's group paled in unison when they saw that Lin Xun made no attempt to resist at all and just let himself be swallowed by She Ling's Great Dao Field.

"No..." Jiang Heng and the other juniors also felt their hearts tighten. If Lin Xun lost, then it would also mean that their sect had lost the competition, which was an outcome that none of them wanted to see.

On the other hand, Bi Yuanzi's party couldn't hold back from laughing in joy.

As soon as She Ling had struck, it had manifested a completely different atmosphere that showed how extraordinary he was!

The only thing that upset Bi Yuanzi was the fact that Jintian Xuanyue was still brewing tea like she was oblivious to everything happening in the ring.

Is she not worried that the brat will die?

.....

The thick fog shrouding Endless Road to Hell was dotted with bizarre green flames that diffused a horrifying corrosive power.

Sizzle, sizzle!

The moment Lin Xun appeared in this Great Dao Field, his aura was attacked by the corrosion, emitting ear-piercing sounds.

Turning a blind eye to this, he looked around and perceived the Law Power of this space. Finally, he came to a conclusion.

Whether it was the She Zi or She Ling, they definitely came from Holy Illumination Ancient Sect, which was one of the Three Dark Giants!

They were also known as 'Holy Apostles' who drew the blood from people's faces upon being mentioned!

Lin Xun knew this because during his time in the Kunlun Dominion, he had killed a Holy Apostle named Sha Liuqing. That person had been a tricky enemy due to how mysterious and elusive he could be, and his aura had been bizarre and obscure just like She Zi and She Ling!

This newfound realization took Lin Xun aback.

Phantasm Empyrean Island is one of the seven major lineages of Cloud State. Why is it colluding with Holy Illumination Ancient Sect?

Do they not care about being loathed and antagonized by the world's cultivators?

There must be some hidden agenda behind this!

Quietly, a green flame approached, took the appearance of She Ling, and stabbed a pitch-black spike at Lin Xun's head.

Lin Xun raised his hand and slapped it.

Boom!

The ghost exploded into a shower of green light and dispersed.

Immediately afterward, one green flame after another shot out from the fog around, also transforming into She Ling as they attacked him from different directions.

Lin Xun raised his brows. With a thought, thick and heavy yellow-earth lights surged out from him and coalesced into palms, fists, fingers, and many more in the air. Then, they struck out all at once.

Rumble~

Deafening sounds of collision resounded ceaselessly.

The numerous She Lings were all crushed like paper, turning into green showers of light that fizzled away.

Lin Xun, on the other hand, was unhurt.

When the real She Ling sitting in the Great Dao Field saw this, he frowned out of shock.

In this realm, he was supposed to be an omnipotent god who could kill and destroy as he wished.

All the figures manifested with his appearance just now had possessed the power of a supreme Saint-King. When acting together, their combined power would make any one in the same cultivation stage despair.

Yet, their bombardment had failed to take down Jin Dui!

“Your dao field has yet to reach its full strength. I’ll give you one more chance. Hope you won’t let me down this time,” resounded Lin Xun’s emotionless voice in the gray fog.

“Hmph!” She Ling’s green eyes glowed with a savage light.

He took a deep breath and started reciting an obscure rhyme, while his hands formed an extremely complicated hand seal in the air.

This misty realm instantly gained a touch of demonic red. The naked eye could instantly see a blood-colored road unfolding from the depths of the churning fog.

In the blink of an eye, it reached Lin Xun.

His view also shifted. He found himself standing on this scarlet road that seemed to be connected to hell. Looking around, there was nothing but a complete void.

Only the bloody path under his feet led ahead.

Lin Xun was just about to make a move when a strange, sanguinary Law Power suddenly appeared and applied pressure on him from all sides like an invisible cage.

Concurrently, some kind of soul-reaping sounds rang out inside his head. As if summoning calls from the underworld, they pulled on him with an oppressing power.

In that second, he felt like an unpardonable sinner, who was covered in shackles and being hauled toward hell to receive his death sentence.

This bizarre power was unimaginably strong.

However, Lin Xun's mind took only a moment to return to clarity, upon which he revealed a thoughtful look. This eerie Great Dao Field was actually quite outstanding.

Unfortunately, it was still inadequate in his eyes.

He lightly took one step forward.

Boom!

The scarlet path that seemed to lead to hell shook violently before breaking in half right from the middle.

Red lights splattered and turned into wisps of Law Power chaotically floating about.

At the same time, She Ling grunted with an astonished expression. *How can he still be so strong when he's trapped inside my Great Dao Field?*

He bit the tip of his tongue and shouted, "Suppress!"

In that instant, the world seemed to turn upside down as crisscrossing, scarlet roads quickly took shape in the gray fog. Forming a big net, they covered Lin Xun entirely.

In all directions were roads of no return!

If any other supreme Saint-King was trapped here, they would have been rendered immobile and left with no choice but to wait to die.

Lin Xun, however, didn't even cast it a glance. He gently rubbed his fingers, and a grain of sand appeared. The single grain of sand then turned into an vast illusory world permeated with a majestic and immeasurable air.

As Lin Xun poured the wishpower of sentient beings into it...

Buzz!

The illusory world started to become alive as all the beings in the world inhabited it, thrived and withered with time, and experienced sadness and joy, love and hate...

At the end of it, that world transformed into a large yellow-earth seal that emitted an ancient, vigorous aura.

The Seal of All Beings!

This was the innate talent of the Yellow Earth Dao Body. The miracle of this seal shone in combat as it gathered the power of all beings in an entire world to attack the opponent. The horror of such power was beyond anything anyone could imagine.

Kaboom!

As the seal dropped down, the dense scarlet roads all exploded into a rain of blood-red light amidst nonstop rumbles.

“Pfff!” She Ling looked like he had been struck by lightning as he spurted out blood. The backlash caused him to stagger and caused his face to pale to the point of transparency.

“How...how can it be like this...”

He was utterly shaken. Even if he broke his head, he could never have thought that there was someone in existence who could display such horrifying battle power despite being trapped in another’s Great Dao Field!

Before She Ling could return to his senses and react, the Endless Road to Hell he took great pride in crumbled under the barrage of the Seal of All Beings.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1871: Holy Imperial Apostle

On the platform on the mountaintop.

Heng Xiao, Hong Yu, and the other Xuanji elders all wore grave expressions, while the hearts of Jiang Heng and the other core disciples sank to the bottom.

In the blink of an eye, their esteemed guest from the Imperial Jintian Clan had gotten trapped within She Ling's Great Dao Field and hadn't been able to get out until now.

It was, without a doubt, extremely dangerous there!

A Great Dao Field was like a small world. In his own world, She Ling was the creator and the overlord who held all the rights of life and death over all beings. It was no longer a fair fight.

On the opposite side, the Phantasm Empyrean Island crowd had cheered up.

She Zi explained to them, "In order to build the Endless Road to Hell, Senior Brother She Ling honed his dao in the Gods and Demons Ancient Battlefield. He finally succeeded after ten years of tribulations in there with death constantly looming over him.

"When he coalesced his Great Dao Field, it triggered a heavenly phenomenon of evil spirits dancing and ghosts parading. As far as I'm concerned, that man is losing for sure now that he's been trapped in there."

She sounded nothing but definite.

Bi Yuanzi was unable to hide his smugness and raised his voice, "Brother Heng Xiao, looks like your little friend can't help you any further. I'm afraid your sect is going to lose this fourth match."

As soon as he dropped that remark—*BOOM!*

An earth-shattering noise drowned out his complacent voice.

Under the appalled gazes of the crowd, the Endless Road to Hell shattered as though it was hit by a hammer of an immortal giant.

The churning fog enveloping the field also dispersed.

Bang!

She Ling fell on the ground, his body bathed in blood.

Bi Yuanzi's smile froze on his face, his eyes bulged out. *What...what is going on?!*

Beside him, the Phantasm Empyrean Island disciples also froze on the spot like a flock of bewildered geese.

The Endless Road to Hell that She Zi has held in such high regard was destroyed this easily?

The Xuanji elders were also astonished, but their surprise quickly turned into joy even though they were still finding it hard to believe it.

Their juniors all looked dumbfounded. *So it's possible to*

break out from within a Great Dao Field?

Boom!

Without waiting for the crowd to react, an ancient and yellow-earth seal wrapped in piercing divine radiance ruthlessly crushed down upon She Ling.

“I admit defeat!” screamed the horrified man almost on instinct.

His intuition told him it was impossible for him to escape this strike, let alone block it.

Buzz!

The Seal of All Beings stopped dead just a foot away from She Ling's head.

Even so, the terrifying power emanating from it weighed down on him. With a bang, he was ruthlessly pressed against the ground with broken bones while bleeding all over. The pain drew a muffled grunt out of his mouth.

At this moment, Lin Xun drifted out and raised his hand. The Seal of All Beings swiftly transformed into a small grain of sand and was put away by him.

She Ling was on the ground, so badly wounded that his breathing was feeble.

Lin Xun, on the other hand, looked immaculate and ethereal as his clothes fluttered radiating a calm. Not a strand of his hair was hurt, and his aura remained calm and mountain-like.

The contrast shook the whole audience!

Bi Yuanzi gawked with a livid expression. *How...how can this be possible?!*

The Phantasm Empyrean Island disciples were dispirited like eggplants in the cold. When they looked at Lin Xun, their eyes were filled with horror.

The powerful She Zi had been able to defeat Ji Qian and Yuan Mao one after another with ease, but this man Jin Duyi had suppressed her in a matter of moments.

When She Ling, who was even more powerful than She Zi, had entered the ring, everyone had held high hopes for him, thinking that it was impossible for him to lose.

Who would have thought that he would also be defeated!

Even his strongest move, his Great Dao Field, had been shattered completely, forcing him to willingly admit defeat!

This was simply too astonishing.

“Bi Yuanzi, were you getting ahead of yourself just now...?” Heng Xiao was beaming as a refreshing wave of satisfaction ran through him.

The other Xuanji experts burst into laughter. Having been awed by Lin Xun’s performance, their hearts were filled with amazement and relief.

Meanwhile, the juniors were feeling complicated. Although they were in the same stage as Jin Duyi, they could now determine that the gap between them and him was like a world of difference!

“The Imperial Jintian Clan can never have a descendant like you! Who exactly are you?” questioned She Ling, who lay on the ground with a gloomy expression and eyes full of resentment.

“My name is Jin Duyi. Even an idiot knows that I’m not a member of the Jintian Clan,” said Lin Xun nonchalantly.

“Jin Duyi...” mumbled She Ling.

At this instant, Lin Xun had a strong urge to kill the other party. He was now certain that She Ling came from Holy Illumination Ancient Sect and was not some Phantasm Empyrean Island disciple.

In the end, however, he still held back that urge.

This was Xuanji Dao Sect after all. It was already inappropriate for him, an outsider, to interfere in such a competition. If he killed an opponent, not only would he earn the enmity of Phantasm Empyrean Island, but he also might implicate Xuanji Dao Sect.

Thinking so, Lin Xun discreetly transmitted, “You don’t know who I am, but I know who you are. You’d best not appear before me ever again.”

She Ling stiffened, then sneered. He crawled back up on his feet with great difficulty and left the arena.

At that moment, Jintian Xuanyue got up and presented a cup of freshly brewed aeth tea with a smile. “Young Master, come have some tea.”

Lin Xun smiled and also left the ring. After accepting the teacup and draining it in one go, he felt both his mind and body relax.

He inwardly praised that Jintian Xuanyue's tea brewing skill had improved again.

Seeing them like this, everyone had mixed feelings. *These two obviously aren't taking this competition seriously at all...*

The fourth match came to an end just like that.

Since Xuanji Dao Sect and Phantasm Empyrean Island had each won two matches, they were currently at a tie.

The final winner was to be decided with the fifth match.

Suddenly, Bi Yuanzi said, "Heng Xiao, how about we stop the competition here? After all, even if our side loses the fifth match, it will be at the hands of this little friend who has nothing to do with your Xuanji Dao Sect."

From his somber voice, it was clear that he was unwilling to accept this outcome.

Heng Xiao frowned. He pondered for a moment and said, "Well, forget it then. The competition ends here."

A draw was a good enough result.

It wasn't that they didn't want to win, but in their eyes, Lin Xun was ultimately an outsider, so it wouldn't mean much even if he won.

Bi Yuanzi clearly heaved a long sigh of relief. Without hesitation, he bid his farewell.

Heng Xiao's group naturally wouldn't keep them.

However, as they were leaving, Bi Yuanzi suddenly turned to Lin Xun and transmitted, "Little friend, it's never a good idea to stick your nose into other people's business."

His tone was calm but laced with vaguely discernable frost.

Lin Xun was unfazed as he transmitted back, "Then let me remind you also, beware of getting into trouble for choosing to be an accomplice to a villain."

Bi Yuanzi was stunned, and his face faltered. *Does this young man know something?*

He breathed in deeply and said nothing more as he hurried away with his group.

Even after leaving Xuanji Dao Sect, Bi Yuanzi was still in a state of trance and uncertainty on the way back.

In the end, he couldn't help but tell She Ling through transmission, "Emissary She Ling, I suspect that Jin Duyi noticed something about us."

His attitude when facing She Ling was extremely humble, nothing like how a sect elder normally acted in front of a junior.

"So what if he did?" She Ling coldly responded with a dark expression, "Unless he wants to completely offend my Holy Illumination Ancient Sect, he would not dare to publicize this matter."

Bi Yuanzi reluctantly smiled. "That would be best."

She Ling cast him a scornful glance. "Rest assured. Since Phantasm Empyrean Island is cooperating with us, you will definitely shine in the upcoming Dao Debate of Cloud State."

Bi Yuanzi took a deep breath and asked, "If I may be bold, who is your sect sending to the debate?"

She Ling fell silent for a moment before saying a name, "Wu Huang!"

Wu Huang, the final disciple of an Emperor elder in Holy Illumination Ancient Sect, was an unparalleled genius whose exquisite aptitude and strong foundation triumphed over the rest of his generation!

In his sect, Wu Huang also had a special identity—Holy Imperial Apostle!

She Ling still remembered what had happened a few years ago when Wu Huang, who had only been at the initial Supreme Saint-King Stage, had managed to assassinate a quasi-Emperor on his own. That feat had instantly shot him to fame!

To She Ling, Wu Huang was like a great sun. Under the latter's light, he and the other Holy Apostles were nothing but dim stars.

Therefore, She Ling's heart had palpitated when he had heard that there was more than one Holy Imperial Apostle like Wu Huang in Holy Illumination Ancient Sect!

As for exactly how many of them there were, he had no idea.

"Wu Huang..." Bi Yuanzi was dazed.

Despite being a quasi-Emperor, he was merely an elder of Phantasm Empyrean Island. How could someone like him possibly know about the inner workings of Holy Illumination Ancient Sect?

She Ling didn't explain for him either, nor did he tell Bi Yuanzi that his sect had not only deployed their members to Cloud State but also to the other states of the Primordial Chaos World as well!

The reason was that the Dao Debate Assembly organized by the Great Six Courts this time had a significance far beyond that of those in the past. It was to the point that Holy Illumination Ancient Sect did not want to miss it.

As far as She Ling was informed, the other two dark giants, Earth Treasury Realm and Copper Sparrow House, would participate as well.

Moreover, like Holy Illumination Ancient Sect, they had already made their move.

Coming from the Ancient Nebula Underworld, their members had to change identities in order to take part in the Dao Debate Assembly.

For example, She Ling, She Zi, and the others in their group would participate as disciples of Phantasm Empyrean Island.

She Ling whispered, "The purpose of the competition with Xuanji Dao Sect is so you could see the strength of our people for yourself. Although Junior Sister She Zi and I were defeated by Jin Duyi, you should know that he's not a disciple of Xuanji Dao Sect.

"Make no mistake, however, he will never be a match for Senior Brother Wu Huang! Even if Jin Duyi takes part in the Dao Debate of Cloud State and encounters him, he will definitely lose!"

Bi Yuanzi gasped.

Only now did he realize that this so-called Wu Huang had to be an extraordinary expert in Holy Illumination Ancient Sect.

Meanwhile, in Xuanji Dao Sect, Lin Xun and Jintian Xuanyue had been graciously invited to an ancient palace where they would receive a grand welcome from Heng Xiao and a group of high-ranking personnel.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1872: Xuanji Dao Sect's Guardian

The atmosphere was amiable in the ancient palace, where both the guests and the host were having a pleasant time chatting with each other.

After an incense stick of time, the banquet came to an end. Everyone had excused themselves, and only Lin Xun and Heng Xiao were left in the hall.

Only then did Heng Xiao ask, “Little friend, perhaps you can inform me about the real identity of She Zi and She Ling?”

Lin Xun considered it briefly and said, “This matter is quite complicated, Senior. I hope that after I tell you about it, you will not bring it up again in the future, or else it may put Xuanji Dao Sect in trouble.”

Heng Xiao's expression instantly became serious as he nodded.

“If my guess is correct, then they actually are disciples of Holy Illumination Ancient Sect.”

Even though Heng Xiao had mentally prepared himself, the answer still made him stiff with shock, “How...how is that possible?”

Phantasm Empyrean Island was one of the seven major lineages in Cloud State. Although ranked fourth, it had an ancient and rich heritage.

As the leader of Xuanji Dao Sect that was based in the same state, Heng Xiao knew their situation like the back of his hand.

Yet, he could never have imagined that Phantasm Empyrean Island would be involved with Holy Illumination Ancient Sect.

Holy Illumination Ancient Sect was one of the Three Dark Giants of the Underworld. All its members were like assassins in the shadows who would resort to anything, even the most bizarre and vicious methods, to achieve their goals. Just its name alone was enough to scare people witless.

Not only the Primordial Chaos World, but the entire Ancient Nebula Road seethed with hatred and resentment upon the mention of the Underworld!

“Are you certain, little friend?” Heng Xiao's expression flickered dimly.

Lin Xun nodded as there was nothing to hide about this.

Heng Xiao fell silent for a while, then said in a heavy tone, “No wonder I never once heard about characters like She Zi and She Ling in Phantasm Empyrean Island. Turns out they both come from Holy Illumination Ancient Sect.

“Something big must have happened in Phantasm Empyrean Island that I don’t know about, that’s the only reason why they would cooperate with Holy Illumination Ancient Sect!”

Saying that, he cupped his fist. “Thank you for telling me about this. Our sect would have been kept in the dark about something so important otherwise.”

Lin Xun smiled. “It’s nothing at all, Senior, I just happen to be present at the right time. Still, it’s best that you don’t divulge this matter, lest you get targeted by those conniving assassins.”

Heng Xiao breathed in deeply and nodded.

He then asked, “By the way, since you’ve come to our sect, is there something that you need from us?”

Lin Xun said, “I would like to see your founding ancestor Senior Bo Yazhi.”

Heng Xiao was dumbfounded. Never in his dreams could he have expected this to be Lin Xun’s request.

He shook his head with a bitter smile. “It’s a huge challenge you’ve thrown at me. Ancestor Bo Yazhi, who certified his dao in the ancient era, left the sect long ago and hasn’t been seen again since. Not to mention me, even our old seniors of many previous generations have no idea whether he’s still alive or not.”

Stunned, Lin Xun pondered, “When Senior Bo Yazhi left in the first place, did he leave any item behind, such as a letter, a token, or anything that could be a message?”

If it were anyone else asking this, Heng Xiao would have been angry. How could anyone just ask to see something that their founding ancestor had left behind?

However, it was Lin Xun that he was facing, so it was impossible to get angry. Heng Xiao just asked, “Can you tell me why you’re asking about this?”

Lin Xun patiently explained, “A friend of mine is an old acquaintance of Senior Bo Yazhi, that’s why I took the liberty of coming to visit.”

Heng Xiao was astonished. *A friend of Jin Duyi knows Ancestor Bo Yazhi?*

A strange emotion flashed in his eyes as he contemplated for a moment. Finally, he said, “Please come with me.”

He then got up and marched out of the palace.

Sacred Wind Dao Mountain was expansive and undulating.

Return Trove Peak was one of the peaks there that had been the forbidden zone of Xuanji Dao Sect since ancient times. Only the very top dignitaries who held real power in the sect could gain entry to it.

Return Trove Peak was ten thousand feet tall, steep and dangerous without even a blade of grass on it. It was like a huge black sword that thrust into the sky.

After bringing Lin Xun through a series of restrictive and protective arrays, Heng Xiao arrived before Return Trove Peak.

“This is where Ancestor Bo Yazhi certified his dao, and it was also here that he single-handedly built the eternal foundation of Xuanji Dao Sect,” introduced Heng Xiao with a reverent expression.

Lin Xun tilted his head up to take in the full view of Return Trove Peak. Desolate and rugged with the top being covered in fog all year round, the mountain seemed quite mysterious. Other than that, there was nothing out of the ordinary.

Heng Xiao grew solemn as he bowed toward a cave at the foot of the mountain. “Greetings, Senior. This is Disciple Heng Xiao.”

“Why did you come?” rang an old and dry voice.

Lin Xun was startled to suddenly notice the old man in front of the cave. His hair and beard were unkempt, and his face was as withered as a tree bark.

He was sitting cross-legged on a rock, but his aura felt as though it had fused together with the entire mountain. He could be seen with the naked eye but was impossible to be detected by spirit senses!

Heng Xiao's voice was respectful as he stated Lin Xun's intention.

At the same time, he transmitted to Lin Xun, “This is the guardian of our sect. He was here when I first joined the sect as a teenager and he has always remained here since then, never taking a step out of this mountain.”

Lin Xun immediately cupped his fist, “Greetings, Senior, I am Jin Duyi.”

This withered old man was undoubtedly a well-concealed expert!

“Young man, you said that your friend knew Bo Yazhi?” The old man's eyes remained shut, his voice dry and his expression as calm as a rock.

The astonishing thing was that he directly referred to his sect's founding ancestor by the name Bo Yazhi!

“That's correct.” Lin Xun nodded. *Senior Brother Li Xuanwei...well...certainly counts as a friend.*

“Hmph!” The old man suddenly opened his eyes

In that instant, it was as if the beginning of chaos was unfolding in those eyes. They reflected the thrive and wither of life as well as astronomical changes in the universe.

Being stared at by those eyes, Lin Xun stiffened from head to toe and found it difficult to even breathe. He was greatly shaken, thinking that this old man was definitely an Emperor!

The old man said icily, "You are young, but you talk big. Bo Yazhi left 134,936 years ago. Lofty, withdrawn, and proud as he is, he has only a handful of friends his whole life. Now you're telling me that he has another friend that I've never heard about?"

"And let's not forget that Bo Yazhi's friends are all from the ancient era. How could they possibly be friends with a young man like you?"

His question went straight to the core of the problem.

Heng Xiao's expression faltered slightly, not expecting that the senior would be so discourteous to Lin Xun.

Lin Xun, however, calmly said, "I'm never one to brag. Since the start of my cultivation, I've seen many characters from the ancient era. Even before I became a Saint, I had a group of quasi-Emperor friends and had conversations with Emperor experts. If you judge things by their age, then I can only say that you are a little biased, Senior."

Heng Xiao's heart leaped to his throat. Who would have thought that this young man was even more boorish in his speech and attitude than the senior?!

What actually shocked him the most was the implication in Lin Xun's words.

He had been friends with quasi-Emperors and chatted with Emperors even before becoming a Saint?!

No matter how one thought of it, it just sounded unbelievable...

The withered old man was also caught off guard. "You said I'm biased?"

Lin Xun simply skipped the nonsense and flipped his hand. A variety of treasures appeared on his palm, glowing with different phenomena.

These were all gifts from those terrifyingly powerful creatures he had saved with the Blameless Lamp in the Blood Kill Battlefield.

The true feather from the celestial phoenix skeleton.

The seven-inch azure sword scabbard from the giant skeleton who carried a broken sword.

The string of sparkling sapphire bells from the fox skeleton.

The snow-white fang from the serpent skeleton.

The white shell from the old turtle skeleton.

And many other things.

Blade Emperor Qingyang, who had been trapped in the Mulberry Woodland, had upon his departure given Lin Xun a token[1]. Thanks to the token, he had been able to employ Yu Qingyang's help during his time in Great Yu World.

Now, Lin Xun was presenting these treasures to prove his point to the withered old man!

The latter's eyes bloomed with a brilliant light as they swept over the treasures one by one.

“The Celestial Phoenix Clan's True Origin Feather, Giant Que Clan's Azure Sword Scabbard, Nine Orifice Divine Fox Clan's Bells of Allure, Winged Sky Serpent Clan's Life True Tooth, Great Void Dragon Turtle Clan's Heavenly Luck True Armor... These are indeed the tokens of those clans. Their value is beyond measure, and they are not to be easily given to outsiders.”

When the old man said this, there was a strange look on his face, seemingly unexpected, seemingly surprised.

Meanwhile, Heng Xiao was gasping.

The Celestial Phoenix Clan was on the same level as the True Dragon Clan. They were extremely mysterious, rumored to reside in an unknown place called 'Celestial Phoenix Mountain.'

The Giant Que Clan was one of the Great Ten Battle Clans in the Ancient Nebula Road, which was rooted in Central Plain State of the Primordial Chaos World!

And then the Orifice Divine Fox Clan, Winged Sky Serpent Clan, etc.

Each of these clans had been a famous force in the ancient era. The tokens of their clans were simply unattainable for ordinary people!

Heng Xiao now viewed Lin Xun in a completely new light.

At first, he had thought that the other party was from the Imperial Jintian Clan, only to find out later that his surname was Jin and not Jintian.

He had been even more mystified to learn later on that Jin Duyi wished to see his sect's founding ancestor.

Now, looking at the precious tokens representing various powerful clans, he couldn't help but wonder, who exactly was this guy Jin Duyi...?

Whoosh~

Lin Xun put away the tokens and asked, "Perhaps you believe me now, Senior?"

After a moment of silence, the withered old man said, "They provide nothing to prove that your friend is an acquaintance of Bo Yazhi. Give me a good enough proof, and I will tell you where Bo Yazhi headed to after he had departed from the sect."

Lin Xun raised his eyebrows, somewhat hesitant.

If he honestly said that Bo Yazhi was only an apprentice that his senior brother had casually accepted, then this old man...might fly into a rage...

Meanwhile, Heng Xiao was also surprised.

So this senior actually knows the whereabouts of our founding ancestor?

But why has he never mentioned this before?

The old man looked indifferent as he said in his old, hoarse voice, "Let me just ask you then, young man, what is the reason for you coming here to find Bo Yazhi?"

Although his attitude was still very aloof, his question let Lin Xun know that there was room for discussion.

He chose his words carefully, "I am here to ask Senior Bo Yazhi about a matter."

The old man asked, "What is it?"

Lin Xun took a deep breath and looked at him earnestly, saying, "I want to know the whereabouts of Senior Bo Yazhi's teacher."

1. See chapters 1462-1463 

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1873: Junior Uncle!

Teacher!

The simple word struck like a bolt from the blue.

Heng Xiao immediately frowned, upset as he refuted, “Little Friend, Ancestor Bo Yazhi single-handedly built Xuanji Dao Sect as our one and only founder. How is it possible that he had studied under someone else?”

He found this absurd and even started to regret bringing Lin Xun here.

To his shock, however, the sect’s guardian who had stayed here for eons revealed a rare look of surprise and directly stood up!

His eyes lit up brightly like the sun in the sky. At the same time, he emanated a monstrous might that made it difficult for Heng Xiao to breathe.

Lin Xun was in an even more uncomfortable state as his mind was oppressed and his hair stood erect.

“How do you know this?” The old man’s voice was heavy. Each word rumbled in Lin Xun’s mind like a thunderclap, making him feel as if he would be doomed if he dared to lie.

However, Lin Xun was unexpectedly calm. “If you want to know, then just let me meet Senior Bo Yazhi and you’ll find out for yourself.”

When he said this, he was under immense pressure.

Meanwhile, Heng Xiao froze on the spot. *Ancestor Bo Yazhi...really studied under another teacher?*

The withered old man looked deeply at Lin Xun. Then, his aura was suddenly collected and returned to his previously mundane state.

He casually said, “I am Bo Yazhi.”

The calm sentence struck both Lin Xun and Heng Xiao dumb before a look of disbelief landed on their faces.

The guardian of Xuanji Dao Sect who had been here for countless years was actually its founding ancestor?

Lin Xun was stunned, while Heng Xiao was flabbergasted for a good while. He shouted in a cracked voice, “Impossible! The portrait of Founding Ancestor Bo Yazhi is still hanging in our heritage room. Senior, please don’t joke about something like this!”

The old guardian was nonchalant as he responded, “That portrait is fake.”

Heng Xiao retorted, “But all of our records say that in ancient times, Ancestor Bo Yazhi wanted to attempt to go on a higher path and thus decided to leave the sect, and has not been heard from since then...”

The old man cut him off, “Are records necessarily true?”

Heng Xiao froze and stood there in a daze.

The inconceivable thing he had learned today raged through his state of mind like a storm. He was still unable to digest and accept it.

Seeing this, the old man sighed softly, “Heng Xiao, you joined our sect in the winter of Year 4316, correct?”

Heng Xiao subconsciously nodded.

The old man continued, “Did your master, Yu Linzi, not tell you when you took over as Sect Master that only the founding ancestor Bo Yazhi could cultivate at this Return Trove Peak?”

Heng Xiao’s eyes glazed over as he sank into thought. After a while, he nodded once again.

The old man asked, “Do you think a mere dao guardian can break this rule?”

With that, he casually tossed out a lavender-colored jade talisman. “See for yourself.”

Heng Xiao hastily caught the talisman. After inspecting it, he looked like he had been struck by lightning and almost lost his voice exclaiming, “This...this is...the founding ancestor’s Xuanji Dao Talisman!”

The old guardian explained no more, but Heng Xiao dropped to his knees. “Your humble disciple Heng Xiao greets the Founding Ancestor!”

His voice was incomparably emotional.

The turn of events was simply too unexpected. He had only wanted to do Lin Xun a favor, but who could have ever thought that it would lead him to discovering an earth-shattering secret of Return Trove Peak?!

The founding ancestor of the sect was alive and well in front of him!

Heng Xiao dared to be sure of this because the Xuanji Dao Talisman absolutely could not be counterfeited!

Even Lin Xun couldn’t help but ask, “Are you...really Senior Bo Yazhi?”

“Get up.” With a wave of the old man’s sleeve, Heng Xiao was lifted up from his kneeling position.

Only then did the old guardian calmly reply to Lin Xun, “If I’m not him, how could I tell if you were telling the truth or not? But to think that a young man like you know I have another teacher. Who told you this? Don’t even think of leaving this place if you don’t tell me who.”

Heng Xiao couldn’t help but remind Lin Xun, “Little Friend, didn’t you want to see Ancestor Bo Yazhi? He’s right in front of you.”

Lin Xun took a deep breath, and with a flip of his palm, a three-inch tall, glossy white jade bottle appeared.

He said softly, “This treasure should be able to prove my identity.”

The old guardian, however, couldn’t hear those words at all. From the first moment he saw that jade bottle, his entire expression changed entirely. His eyes were full of disbelief, and a series of dust-covered memories surged back into his mind like a tidal wave.

On the snow-white sandy beach of a blue ocean sat the tanned son of a fisherman family. He asked earnestly, “Can you teach me to cultivate?”

Next to him lazily lay a young man. He was resting his head on his arms, crossing his legs, and holding a green grass stalk between his lips.

Upon hearing the preteen’s question, he spat out the stalk and laughed, “Hahaha, you said you want to cultivate, little fellow?”

“Yes!”

“Seriously?”

“Why would I lie to you?”

The fisherman’s son was only around eleven to twelve years old. Upon being doubted, his face immediately turned red.

“Okay, okay, don’t be angry, little fisherman, hahaha.”

The young man sat up and rubbed the preteen’s head with a smile. Then, with a flip of his hand, a three-inch tall, shiny, creamy jade bottle appeared.

“Here, this is a test for you. If you can fill this bottle with sand, then when I come back next time, I’ll teach you how to cultivate.”

After dropping that statement, the young man took off in stride.

The youth snorted, “How hard can it be?”

However, what happened next had the preteen dumbfounded. No matter how hard he tried, that small, ordinary-looking bottle was like a bottomless pit that could never be filled.

He refused to give up, gritting his teeth and persistently pouring sand into the bottle with his hands every day after dinner. As he did this, a month flashed by.

That day, the young man returned to see the youth sweating profusely under the sunset. After watching him in silence for a while, he let out a soft sigh.

Just at that moment, the preteen exclaimed, “I know!”

He picked up the jade bottle and planted it onto the sand upside down!

The young man was dumbfounded, then burst out laughing, “Resourceful kid. You put in the effort but also know how to adapt to the situation. When you hit a dead end, you change directions; when you change directions, you make progress. Such is cultivation!”

On that day, the youth finally learned that the young man was named Li Xuanwei and that he had come from a place called Fangchun Mountain.

The glossy white jade bottle was called the Dao Immeasurable Bottle!

The only thing the preteen found to be a pity was that the young man only agreed to accept him as a nominal disciple.

The scene in his memories then changed.

The youth from back then had grown into a reigning quasi-Emperor and was not far from certifying himself as an Emperor.

However, the young man from that year still addressed him as ‘little fisherman.’

“Little fisherman, you will have to pave your own path in the future. I’m going to a far, far away place, and I don’t know if I can return one day.”

That day, the young man found him, still smiling like he had back then.

However, he could see the melancholy in the young man’s expression.

“Where are you going, Master?” he couldn’t help but ask.

“I can’t tell you, or else it will definitely harm you,” said the young man with a smirk before drifting away in a flicker.

That was the last time he had seen his master.

That day, he, who had been conquering worlds for many years, cried like he never had before. Just like when he had been a preteen, full of reluctance to part as he bade farewell to his parents and followed his teacher on the path of cultivation.

As all the memories from bygone days came flooding back, the withered old man’s eyes reddened as he called out in a trembling voice, “Master...”

Even though he was an Emperor who had tread the path of the dao for countless years, at heart, he was still a small fisherman to his master!

“Master...” he kept muttering in a trance.

Heng Xiao’s eyes widened as he was alarmed. *Why would Ancestor Bo Yazi become so out of sorts after seeing this bottle?*

Lin Xun was also startled, but he quickly guessed that the old man was recalling Senior Brother Li Xuanwei!

It was only after a long time that Bo Yazi returned to his senses. Taking a few deep breaths, he barely managed to suppress the emotions in his heart.

His expression eased up quite a bit as he looked at Lin Xun and said, “Little Friend, where...did you get this treasure from?”

There was a hint of expectation in his voice.

Lin Xun answered truthfully, “My senior brother gave it to me.”

Bo Yazi was stunned, and then couldn’t help but ask, “Your senior brother is...?”

This time, Lin Xun replied through transmission, “Li Xuanwei.”

Bo Yazi’s pupils dilated. After a long, stunned silence, he also transmitted, “You are...a disciple of Fangchun Mountain?”

Lin Xun nodded. “Senior Brother Li Xuanwei is thirteenth in line, and I am fiftieth.”

Since he had confirmed Bo Yazi’s identity, there was no need to hide it anymore.

Hearing Lin Xun state his teacher’s seniority in the sect, the last trace of doubt in Bo Yazi’s heart was completely removed.

He inhaled deeply and fell to his knees, “Nominal Disciple Bo Yazhi greets Junior Uncle.”

Boom!

Something exploded in Heng Xiao’s mind and made him dizzy.

Why is...why is the founding ancestor...giving such a grand salute to a junior?

Also, nominal disciple?! Junior uncle?!

Heng Xiao found himself on the verge of losing his sanity. Ever since entering Return Trove Peak, everything he had learned was so unimaginable that he felt like he was in a dream...

Lin Xun was also frightened. Bo Yazhi was the founding ancestor of Xuanji Dao Sect, a terrifying existence who had been certified as an Emperor way back in the ancient era.

How could he remain calm when such a character knelt down to him using the etiquette of a junior?

“Senior, please get up! This junior can’t afford your salute.” Almost on instinct, Lin Xun went over to help up Bo Yazhi.

However, he couldn’t pull the old man up at all!

Bo Yazhi seriously said, “No matter your age or cultivation, you are the junior brother of my master, which makes you my junior uncle. It is only natural for me to salute you in this way.”

He paused shortly, then continued, “Also, please stop calling me ‘senior’ and referring to yourself as a junior to me. Although I am but a nominal disciple of your sect, rules of etiquette cannot be violated.”

His voice was earnest and solemn.

Lin Xun was rendered speechless. All he could do was smile bitterly.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1874: Seeing Li Xuanwei Again

Not only Lin Xun, but even Heng Xiao also felt like his mind had gone blank.

The founding ancestor of Xuanji Dao Sect was an Emperor who had made himself known throughout the starry skies in the ancient era. He was a legendary figure who would cause a stir in the entire Cloud State as soon as he made an appearance.

Despite that, he was currently kneeling to salute a young man like a junior would!

Anyone who saw this would probably go crazy.

The old man himself, however, didn't show the slightest hint of unwillingness. His demeanor and speech were so natural that people would think his action was perfectly normal, as if it was just right and proper for him to do so!

Heaven, earth, king, parents, and teachers were to be respected, so although Lin Xun was only his teacher's junior brother, Bo Yazhi still considered him his senior!

After a long silence, Lin Xun reluctantly accepted this reality and said, "Bo Yazhi, get up."

Only then did the latter stand up. Then, he glanced at Heng Xiao and said, "You stay put here."

This jolted Heng Xiao out of his trance. He hurriedly nodded.

"Junior Uncle, follow me." Bo Yazhi made a guiding gesture and led the way to the cave beneath Return Trove Peak.

Lin Xun followed closely behind.

Only after they disappeared from sight did Heng Xiao come back to his senses. He slapped his forehead and muttered, "Junior Uncle? Just who is Jin Duyi?"

.....

It was a whole other world inside the cave. It was a spacious room with bronze lamps hanging on all the four walls and a praying mattress at the center of the floor.

"My seclusion place is a bit crude. I hope you don't mind it, Junior Uncle," said Bo Yazhi.

"Senior...forget it, I'll just call you Bo Yazhi. Since you've recognized me as your...junior uncle, maybe you could listen to what I have to say?" Lin Xun was so helpless that he phrased his words awkwardly.

"Please feel free to speak your mind, Junior Uncle." Bo Yazhi's expression showed that he was all ears.

Lin Xun's lips twitched imperceptibly before he said, "While I'm indeed a bit higher than you in terms of seniority in our sect, I'm not using my true identity at the moment. So...how about you don't address me as Junior Uncle?"

Since Bo Yazhi was not the pedantic type, he nodded. "Take a seat, Fellow Daoist."

This made Lin Xun feel much more relaxed. He sat down on the ground.

Bo Yazhi waved his sleeve. A low table appeared, on which rested a teapot and two teacups.

He asked while pouring tea, "Junior...Fellow Daoist, can you tell me about Teacher?"

Lin Xun thought about it and decided to just tell the old man his situation.

Learning that Lin Xun had never met Li Xuanwei either, Bo Yazhi fell into a short silence before saying despondently, "That's understandable. Teacher once mentioned to me that Fangchun Mountain accepts disciples based entirely on fate, who scatter throughout different worlds, and that most of the time they are only known by their names. Now it seems that he was telling the truth."

Lin Xun agreed.

Over the recent years, he had only met Forty-Ninth Senior Brother Ghost King Xuan Kong, Ninth Senior Brother Ge Yupu, Eleventh Senior Brother Pu Zhen, and Thirteenth Senior Brother Li Xuanwei.

As for the others, he had only heard about the senior brother who mastered the Sacred Combat Art as well as Senior Brother Xue Ya, but he had never seen them in person.

Ge Yupu had also said that it was impossible to meet the other disciples who had fallen in the Dao War of Emperors again.

Lin Xun then talked about the occurrence when he had left the Kunlun Dominion.

Back then, he had entered a mysterious starry void and, while traveling through it, encountered one Emperor after another who had tried to block his path.

It had been Li Xuanwei's wisp of will power that then emerged from the Three Thousand Vicissitudes and helped him repel them all!

This was why he had been able to leave that place unharmed. After six whole years of torment in the dead starry sky, he had arrived at Tianqu World in the Ancient Nebula Road.

Bo Yazhi's eyes glowed with awe and reverence as he listened to this story. He exclaimed, "Teacher never disappoints! Even if it's just a wisp of his will power, it's still not something those Emperors can contend with!"

Lin Xun was also emotional as he recalled those scenes.

Thirteenth Senior Brother Li Xuanwei's dashing style was indeed without equal!

Bo Yazhi said earnestly, "Although I don't know his whereabouts, I believe that Teacher is still alive. That wisp of will power was definitely not the only thing left of him."

Lin Xun nodded. "That's what I thought as well, which is why I came to Xuanji Dao Sect to see you."

How could an unrivaled figure like Li Xuanwei have died?

Whether it was Li Xuanwei, Ghost King Xuan Kong, or Ge Yupu, they all appeared to have fallen from what one would gather from Lin Xun's meeting with them, but he always had this feeling that they would have gone out with a bang if that was really the case instead of leaving so quietly!

This feeling seemed quite childish, but Lin Xun would rather believe it.

He then realized something from earlier and asked, "You mean you don't know where Senior Brother Li Xuanwei might be either?"

Bo Yazhi shook his head. "Since our last parting, I've never seen nor heard of him again."

A wave of disappointment surged in Lin Xun's heart.

He had come to Xuanji Dao Sect to gain some clues for his search for Li Xuanwei, thus deducing the whereabouts of the other Fangchun Mountain disciples.

Now, it seemed that this plan wasn't feasible.

Lin Xun mused. *Senior Brother Pu Zhen left too hastily. Moreover, he didn't seem to want to tell me about matters concerning Fangchun Mountain...*

He remembered clearly Ge Yupu had said that Li Xuanwei had only accepted Bo Yazhi as a nominal disciple, and that he could try to pry some information from Bo Yazhi.

Unfortunately, Bo Yazhi couldn't give him an answer either.

"Fellow Daoist, have some tea." Bo Yazhi handed a cup of tea to Lin Xun.

Lin Xun thanked him as he accepted the cup with both hands, then casually asked, “By the way, why did you go incognito all these years and remain here as your sect’s guardian?”

Bo Yazi sighed, “This, in fact, has something to do with my background.”

He proceeded to explain in detail.

After the end of the Dao War of Emperors in the ancient era, Bo Yazi had been on the road from Xuanji Dao Sect to the battlefield to scout for news when he had been met with the ambush of two Emperor experts.

In the end, he had escaped with serious injuries.

Only later on had he learned that those two Emperors were respectively from Panwu Dao Court and Heaven and Earth Dao Court.

As for why they had attacked him, it was because they had somehow found out that he was a disciple of Fangchun Mountain!

“At that time, I had only heard that some of Teacher’s fellow disciples had fallen in the battlefield of the Dao War of Emperors, so I wanted to collect their remains and bury them properly. Who could have thought that something like that would happen?”

Upon bringing up this matter, his face clouded over with resentment.

“Fortunately, I was hiding my identity at the time, so they only suspected that I was a disciple of Fangchun Mountain and didn’t recognize that I’m the founding ancestor of Xuanji Dao Sect. That’s why my sect narrowly escaped their sight.

“But even so, I couldn’t just go out in the open anymore, so I wove a lie and said that I had gone out to roam worlds. Otherwise, those people would only destroy Xuanji Dao Sect if they found out who I really was.”

Knowing the full story, Lin Xun then frowned, “Panwu and Heaven and Earth Dao Courts both view Fangchun Mountain as an enemy?”

Bo Yazi nodded. “Correct. Although I wasn’t a part of the Dao War of Emperors, I’ve heard that almost all of the forces that participated in it regarded Fangchun Mountain as their enemy.

“I’m not sure exactly how many of those forces there were, but it’s confirmed that behemoths like Panwu, Heaven and Earth, and Primordial Dao Courts, as well as the Imperial Kong Clan are among them.”

Lin Xun couldn’t control his shock.

This was the first time he had learned the identities of Fangchun Mountain's enemies and that at least three of the Great Six Courts belonged to this category!

"What exactly happened during the Dao War of Emperors?" His heart drummed as the feeling that there was a hidden agenda behind this kept becoming stronger!

Come to think of it, Bo Yazi was an Emperor expert, yet he only had a smattering of understanding of the Dao War of Emperors. One could only imagine how deep the secrets behind this war were!

"Right!" Bo Yazi suddenly remembered something. He got up and walked to a stone wall, on which was painted a young man who stood in the sea of clouds, holding a three-inch jade bottle with a smile.

The young man was dashing and unrestrained like an idle crane. His eyes and lips were curved up into a reassuring smile.

This was a portrait of Li Xuanwei!

Lin Xun curiously came over and surveyed the painting.

"Look here, Fellow Daoist, it is the Dao Immeasurable Bottle that Teacher is holding," said Bo Yazi.

Lin Xun looked closely and instantly saw something out of place. The bottle in the painting, even though it was drawn, appeared illusory and ethereal.

"Senior Brother, please excuse me," he said to the man in the picture before reaching toward the painted Dao Immeasurable Bottle.

Bo Yazi wanted to stop him but ultimately decided against it. Since Lin Xun was his teacher's junior brother, it wasn't disrespectful of him to do so.

When Lin Xun's fingertips touched the bottle in the painting, it felt as if they were touching nothing, as if they were passing through a curtain of light.

He suddenly had an idea. Taking out his own Dao Immeasurable Bottle, he pressed it onto the illusory one in the painting, and immediately, the two bottles fused together.

Buzz!

A magnificent shower of light drifted out, knocking Lin Xun back a few steps.

Bo Yazi's pupils constricted at what he saw next.

Above the sea of clouds, the smiling Li Xuanwei seemed to come to life as a dreamlike dao light flowed out and streamed up and down him.

“Junior Brother.” The man in the painting casually stretched his limbs and said with a smile, “Last time we parted outside the Kunlun Dominion. Now, we finally meet again.”

His voice was bright and clear.

Lin Xun was utterly shaken, unable to believe his eyes.

“Oh, our little fisherman is here also.” Li Xuanwei blinked and laughed merrily.

Bo Yazi’s expression had changed completely, so excited that his voice cracked, “Teacher! Is it really you?”

Li Xuanwei’s eyes were flooded with emotion. “This portrait was created with my will power and left by me personally. Do you still think it’s fake now, little lad?”

Bo Yazi just froze there, his lips trembling. *It’s...it’s really my teacher Li Xuanwei!*

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1875: Ancient Immortal Forbidden Zone’s Chaos Treasure

Bo Yazi fired a series of questions in one breath, “Teacher, where have you been all these years? Why hasn’t there any news of you at all in the whole Ancient Nebula Road? Have you encountered a tricky situation?”

Li Xuanwei helplessly sighed, “Little fisherman, why do you lose control of your emotions so easily even now when you’re an Emperor? Calm down and allow me to have a chat with my junior brother first.”

Bo Yazi repeatedly nodded. He was indeed unable to contain himself at the moment.

Li Xuanwei turned to Lin Xun with a gentle look. “Junior Brother, did you come to Xuanji Dao Sect to learn about Fangchun Mountain?”

Lin Xun was surprised, “You anticipated this?”

Li Xuanwei smiled. “I don’t have the ability to foretell. What you’re seeing is something I prepared just in case. I never thought you’d find this place so quickly.”

He proceeded to explain that the stone-carved portrait had been created by a force of his will that he had left behind back then.

The power of the Dao Immeasurable Bottle could awaken this will force, thus creating a unique connection with his original self.

Lin Xun asked, “Senior Brother, since you are aware of my intentions, could you help clear up my confusion?”

Li Xuanwei sighed softly, “It’s not that I don’t want to tell you, Junior Brother, but with your current cultivation, knowing those old stories will only do more harm than good.”

The corners of Lin Xun’s lips twitched. He had been dismissed by similar excuses more than once.

Senior Brother Ge Yupu had said so, Senior Brother Xuan Kong had also said so, and even Senior Brother Pu Zhen had either consciously or unconsciously avoided this kind of topic.

Li Xuanwei said, “However, right now there is indeed a matter that requires your help, and only you can do it.”

Lin Xun was stunned and instantly became focused, “What is it?”

On his cultivation path, he had received too many favors from Fangchun Mountain, yet he still had little information on its current state, let alone help with anything.

“Attend the Dao Debate Assembly hosted by the Great Six Courts,” said Li Xuanwei, taking Lin Xun aback for a moment.

Immediately afterward, he explained why.

The ultimate reason why the Dao Debate Assembly was being organized was to capture a ‘chaos treasure’ born in an uncharted land.

Only participants who had made it to the top one hundred in this assembly would be sent to the Ancient Immortal Forbidden Zone!

The Ancient Immortal Forbidden Zone was one of the Eight Forbidden Zones of the Primordial Chaos World. It had existed since the ancient era as a mysterious land of perils.

Over a long course of time, countless powerful experts had gone to explore it, but, without exception, they had either fallen there or returned empty-handed.

According to Li Xuanwei, the Ancient Immortal Forbidden Zone had recently gone through a shocking change in its Law Power, and it was suspected to be related to the emergence of an ancient treasure.

Such a large-scale disruption in the heavenly laws had allowed the Great Six Courts to catch a glimpse into that forbidden world, and after a long string of calculations, they finally came to an astonishing conclusion.

The treasure born in the Ancient Immortal Forbidden Zone was most likely a chaos treasure!

What was a chaos treasure?

Lin Xun quickly learned about it in the following time.

The Mythical Huang Dao Stele, which was regarded as Mythical Huang Dao Court's greatest treasure, was a chaos treasure!

Lin Xun still remembered clearly what Sword Emperor Brave Gale had said on this topic. After a perilous trek, the founding ancestor of Mythical Huang Dao Court had arrived at an unknown land where he would discover a stele born from primal chaos origin.

The stele had allowed him to realize the dao in one fell swoop, and thus he had founded Mythical Huang Dao Court, an ancient dao lineage.

That stele was the Mythical Huang Dao Stele.

The unknown land that had given birth to it was now the stronghold of Mythical Huang Dao Court, which was known by the whole nebula as Qingmang Sacred Mountain.

In other words, a single stele had resulted in a star-shaking ancient lineage who had made it to the ranks of Great Six Courts and intimidated the world with its name!

This was the wonder of chaos treasures.

Therefore, how could it not drive people crazy that the Ancient Immortal Forbidden Zone had probably birthed a chaos treasure?

Even behemoths like the Great Six Courts and Great Ten Battle Clans were unable to sit still.

The benefits of obtaining that kind of treasure were far beyond imagination!

Today's Mythical Huang Dao Court was the best proof of this!

What threw everyone off guard was that despite the great disruption, the terrifying Law Power filling Ancient Immortal Forbidden Zone was still not something anyone could get close to.

Later, the Great Six Courts had deduced that in order to enter and seize the treasure in the forbidden zone, they needed to join forces and use their strongest means to blast an opening in the barrier enveloping it.

However, such an opening would be extremely unstable. It would collapse the moment an Emperor stepped into it.

This meant that even if they were able to create an entrance, it still wouldn't be able to withstand the power of an Emperor or stronger expert!

The Great Six Courts unanimously agreed to play it safe by organizing a dao competition, the Dao Debate Assembly, through which they would select the strongest Saint-Kings and send them into the Ancient Immortal Forbidden Zone.

By doing so, they could avoid conflicts that could lead to large-scale bloodshed that no dao lineages could otherwise withstand.

An open competition was most ideal since all the parties would be able to compete fairly with each other and then join hands to send their people into the Ancient Immortal Forbidden Zone.

After learning all this, Lin Xun sighed as he realized how one-sided his knowledge had been. He hadn't even known that the actual purpose behind the Dao Debate Assembly hosted by the Great Six Courts was a chaos treasure!

"Junior Brother, the Ancient Immortal Forbidden Zone has been regarded as one of the Eight Forbidden Zones of the Primordial Chaos World since time immemorial. Very few have ever truly understood the risks therein, but Junior Sister Jun Huan is an exception."

As Li Xuanwei said this, his lips curled up into a slight smile.

On the contrary, Lin Xun looked like he had been struck by lightning and asked, "Did you just say Junior Sister Jun Huan? It can't be...that ambiguously beautiful guy who loves to wear rose pink clothes and act coquettishly?"

Jun Huan had left too deep an impression on him.

During his journey from Tianqu World to the Great Yu World, he had come across Jun Huan after the latter had just single-handedly killed a group of Skeleton Bird Bandits.

He was clearly a man, but his clothes were covered in pink rose and cloud patterns. He had a hairpin inserted diagonally in his long black hair, and a face that could only be described as stunningly beautiful.

He had a pair of flirtatious phoenix eyes, skin as fair as fresh cream, and a slender physique. Even his voice carried a uniquely soft and magnetic charm.

Anyone who laid eyes on such an exquisite man was bound to be astounded.

Despite being so well adorned with pink robes and a hairpin, he did not give off a vulgar vibe but instead an unrestrained and elegant air.

Facing him back then, Lin Xun had felt incredibly uncomfortable and awkward, which was why he had a deep impression of Jun Huan.

Therefore, Li Xuanwei had merely mentioned the name, but the first person Lin Xun was reminded of was that fellow.

“Uhh, ambiguously beautiful?” Li Xuanwei had an odd look on his face. “Junior Brother, do you have some sort of misunderstanding about your Senior Sister Jun Huan?”

Lin Xun was stunned. “Senior Brother, you are really talking about him?”

Li Xuanwei nodded, “Yes, Junior Sister Jun Huan loves the color pink. That...guy you mentioned should be one of her disguises.”

Lin Xun revealed a wry smile upon hearing this.

To think she’s actually my senior sister... But the way I treated her at the time wasn’t anywhere near polite...

He couldn’t help but question, “Why didn’t she just tell me?”

Li Xuanwei pointed at the sky, “She has gotten into too much trouble recently and got targeted by some old fogeys. She probably didn’t want to implicate you by openly recognizing you as her junior brother. You can say she meant well.”

Lin Xun sighed, “So that’s how it is.”

Jun Huan was a masculine sounding name, but that person actually turned out to be his senior sister!

Li Xuanwei lamented, “The path becomes empty in an instant, the path of the sword is the most elegant. Jun Huan and I both certified our dao with the sword, but she has killed far more opponents than me...

“Right, if you ever come across her again in the future, be on your best behavior. Jun Huan’s character is like her sword dao, seemingly gentle as water but actually capable of killing without a sound. Annoy her and even I won’t be able to help you.”

Lin Xun felt a prick of guilt. At first, he had thought Jun Huan to be a weird pervert, so his attitude toward her had been distant and unfriendly.

He wondered if Senior Sister Jun Huan held a grudge because of this.

Li Xuanwei continued, “Jun Huan once traveled to the Ancient Immortal Forbidden Zone and experienced something unimaginable in there that almost prevented her from leaving alive.

“When she returned, the first thing she said was that that place was hiding a supreme fortune that had never been revealed to anyone.”

Saying that, he snapped his fingers. A mysterious map of a mountain emerged and turned into a mark that entered Lin Xun’s head.

Instantly, the image of a vast and massive mountain appeared in his mind, presenting an aura of destruction, devastation, and savage horror.

It was only the illusion of a mountain, but the pressure it posed on the mind made it difficult for Lin Xun to breathe.

Li Xuanwei’s voice resounded in his ears, “This is an origin aeth mountain in the Ancient Immortal Forbidden Zone. According to Jun Huan, it’s called Heedless and is filled with origin power of destruction. Countless dangers lurk in it, but probably does have a supreme fortune that no one else knows about.

“These were all Jun Huan’s inferences from back then. Now, we can already conclude that that supreme fortune was most likely the chaos treasure that the Great Six Courts have their eyes on.”

“Mount Heedless...” Lin Xun quietly recited, then said, “So you’re saying that as long as one finds Mount Heedless after entering the Ancient Immortal Forbidden Zone, they will have a great chance to seize that chaos treasure?”

Li Xuanwei nodded with a smile, “Exactly. If you seize it, Junior Brother, then you can start your own sect in the future, and maybe it’ll grow to rival Mythical Huang Dao Court.”

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1876: Third Senior Sister's Well-Wishing Dao Robe

From Li Xuanwei's voice, he appeared to be teasing Lin Xun, but there was truth to his words.

After all, the existence of Mythical Huang Dao Court was also a result of a chaos treasure from a then uncharted land – the Mythical Huang Dao Stele!

If Lin Xun had the chance to enter the Ancient Immortal Forbidden Zone and obtain the chaos treasure born in it, then who was to say that he wouldn't be able to create a dao lineage that could grow to rival Mythical Huang Dao Court?

"I'll do as you say, Senior Brother, but there is a problem that needs resolving first," mused Lin Xun.

"Are you worried about exposing your real identity?" asked Li Xuanwei.

The fact that his senior brother guessed what he was thinking right away took Lin Xun aback a little. He nodded. "Indeed."

Li Xuanwei smiled and waved his sleeve. A haze of light appeared in the air and transformed into an outfit.

"This is the Well-Wishing Dao Robe, an imperial treasure hand-sewn by our Third Senior Sister Ruo Su. When you wear it, no one will be able to see through and recognize whatever skills and arts you use. In short, this miraculous garment can conceal its wearer's details from cultivators at the Emperor Stage and below."

Emperor-grade Treasure, an imperial treasure!

Well-Wishing Dao Robe!

Lin Xun gasped, "Senior Brother, isn't this treasure...too precious?"

"Then you'll have to ask Third Senior Sister." Li Xuanwei revealed a smile that reached his eyes. "In Fangchun Mountain, she is known for her gentleness and virtuosity. All of our clothes were made by her personally. If she meets you in the future, she will surely make clothes for you as well."

Third Senior Sister Ruo Su!

Her ranking was extremely near the front. As the third to be accepted as a disciple by the founding master of Fangchun Mountain, her cultivation was destined to be unfathomable.

A clear evidence of this was the Well-Wishing Dao Robe. This mere piece of clothing was actually a true imperial treasure!

Lin Xun couldn't help but look forward to meeting her. According to Li Xuanwei, Ruo Su had made more than just this dao robe since every other Fangchun Mountain disciple had also been given clothes as well...

Li Xuanwei warned, "However, you still can't use treasures like the Dao Immeasurable Bottle, Three Thousand Vicissitudes, and Dao Endless Pagoda in front of others."

Lin Xun nodded while still in high spirits.

Even though he had been using the Yellow Earth Dao Body to conceal his identity, it was after all an inheritance from Senior Brother Ge Yupu. So as long as he appeared at the Dao Debate Assembly, it definitely would be seen through.

Moreover, some of his fighting techniques had been exposed during the Kunlun Dominion, so they could easily identify him as well.

However, now that Lin Xun had the Well-Wishing Dao Robe, he no longer needed to worry about this!

This was an imperial treasure capable of deceiving even the eyes of Emperor experts!

Even if he used his original body to fight, he still wouldn't have any worries.

However, to be cautious, he wouldn't resort to his original body unless it was a critical situation.

Li Xuanwei said, "There isn't much time left for this wisp of will power. Time for a chat with the little fisherman."

Lin Xun nodded.

He immediately put on the Well-Wishing Dao Robe after going to a corner to give them some privacy.

Whoosh~

A marvelous light infiltrated him from inside out. When Lin Xun looked at the robe again, it had taken on an unobtrusive color of apricot yellow.

Lin Xun smiled. *Great treasure!*

Before long, Li Xuanwei finished talking with Bo Yazi and waved at Lin Xun, “Junior Brother, we will meet again.”

After saying that, he turned into a wisp of smoke and vanished.

On that wall, only a glistening Dao Immeasurable Bottle remained.

“Teacher has instructed me to fully cooperate with you without revealing your identity, Junior Uncle,” said Bo Yazi with a gentle look.

He seemed like a different person after his talk with Li Xuanwei, now blooming with energy and enthusiasm.

“Bo Yazi, just call me Fellow Daoist,” said Lin Xun helplessly as he put away the Dao Immeasurable Bottle.

Bo Yazi was stunned for a second before nodding with a smile.

“There’s another matter that I’ve come here for this time.” Lin Xun then informed the old man of his intention to visit the Imperial Jiang Clan and hand Xuan Kong’s hairpin to Jiang Xingque.

Bo Yazi said, “I’m actually well informed on this matter. After all, that disaster befalling Senior Uncle Xuan Kong was quite a sensation back then.”

He proceeded to relate the story in detail.

During the ancient era, Xuan Kong, the forty-ninth disciple of Fangchun Mountain, had befriended Jiang Xingque by chance who was a pure-blooded descendant of the Imperial Jiang Clan.

The two had fallen in love and already had planned to become a dao couple, which had also gained the support of the Jiang Clan.

Who would have thought that the Dao War of Emperors would overturn everything?

In that war, several Fangchun disciples had been besieged and defeated by a group of terrifying experts.

It had also marked the crumbling of Fangchun Mountain and its ‘crescent moon three stars’ monument. From then on, the disciples who hadn’t fallen in the war became wandering souls in the nebula.

At that time, Xuan Kong had been the latest disciple of Fangchun Mountain. As he was only a supreme Saint-King then, he was unqualified to participate in the Dao War of Emperors.

However, he still couldn't escape the disaster, for he was rumored to have been trapped and killed in Tragic Death City by a mysterious Buddhist cultivator.

Bo Yazi didn't have the details of this, but he knew what had happened afterward. After the death of Xuan Kong, the Imperial Jiang Clan had also been implicated due to Jiang Xingque's intimate relationship with him...

Facing this undeserved catastrophe, the Jiang Clan hadn't hesitated to declare Jiang Xingque as a clan sinner and imprisoned her. To this day, it was still unclear whether she was alive or not.

Lin Xun felt incredibly stifled, like his lungs had been blocked by stones, after hearing the full story. His eyes were chilling as he said, "My senior brother had already fallen, yet those enemies still refused to stop and directed their enmity at Jiang Xingque!"

He paused to take a deep breath and continued, "The Imperial Jiang Clan is also too cold-blooded, deeming Jiang Xingque a sinner for such a reason. Ridiculous!"

Bo Yazi let out a long sigh, "The Imperial Clan Jiang Clan is descended from Primeval Emperor Yan. As far as I'm concerned, they really had no other choice.

"After the end of the Dao War of Emperors, the Panwu, Heaven and Earth, and Primordial Dao Courts were determined to completely eliminate the influence of Fangchun Mountain. In order to do so, they joined hands with several other major forces to search the whole starry sky and hunt down anyone with ties to Fangchun Mountain.

"Had the Jiang Clan not resolved the problem in such a way, it would have definitely suffered an unimaginable blow. And although Jiang Xingque was imprisoned as a sinner, her life was spared. This was the best outcome that could be had."

Lin Xun was dumbstruck and realized that he had misunderstood the Imperial Jiang Clan.

Bo Yazi continued, "Still, these are all old stories from ancient times. Now, only some of the old timers in the Jiang Clan know about this, and they insist on keeping it to themselves to avoid stirring up any more storms.

"But as a result, the rest of their clan only know that Jiang Xingque is a sinner condemned by history and not the reason behind it. Therefore, they all regard her as a disgrace and refuse to bring up anything that has to do with her."

Lin Xun sighed in his heart.

Makes sense. The ancient era was at least a hundred thousand years ago. Under the flow of such a long history, who would still care about why a woman was reduced to a clan sinner?

Even if they cared, I'm afraid that they still wouldn't pry a peep from those old fossils of the Jiang Clan.

After all, the Panwu, Primordial, and Heaven and Earth Dao Courts are still considered to be peak powers in the current starry sky!

He pondered, "In that case, if I were to visit the Imperial Jiang Clan now, it's highly likely that I won't be able to meet Jiang Xingque at all?"

Bo Yazi contemplated for a moment and said, "If it's just to meet her, it might still be possible, but trying to rescue her is another story though."

"Even though the Jiang Clan was greatly wounded by that incident, they still have the heritage of a Primeval Imperial Clan at the end of the day. Otherwise, it would have been impossible to keep Jiang Xingque alive under the pressure of so many big powers."

Lin Xun's gaze deepened. "It will be enough as long as I am able to see her."

Bo Yazi inhaled deeply and said, "Give me some time to arrange it for you, Junior Uncle."

This time, Lin Xun didn't quibble over the way he was being addressed. He gratefully saluted the old man. "Then I'll leave this matter to you."

.....

Outside the cave, Heng Xiao had completely composed himself.

Being able to see Bo Yazi again filled his heart with joy and satisfaction. He believed that with the founding ancestor at the helm, Xuanji Dao Sect would sooner or later become the number one lineage of Cloud State.

At the same time, he was flummoxed by Lin Xun's identity.

For a clan's founding ancestor to respectfully address him as Junior Uncle, Jin Duyi's background was destined to be frightening!

Just as Heng Xiao's mind was spinning with these thoughts, Lin Xun and Bo Yazi walked out from the cave.

"Ancestor! Senior Jin!" Heng Xiao hurriedly came up and greeted them respectfully.

Lin Xun's lips imperceptibly twitched.

Heng Xiao was the leader of the great sect, a figure who could call the wind and summon the rain in Cloud State. The fact that such a character was acting like a humble junior rendered Lin Xun speechless for a moment.

Bo Yazhi seemed to know what Lin Xun was thinking. He called Heng Xiao to the side and had a quiet talk with him, then turned to Lin Xun with a smile and said, “Rest assured that Heng Xiao will not disclose today’s matter, Fellow Daoist. You can keep using your identity as Jin Duyi without worry.”

Only then did Lin Xun nod with relief.

Bo Yazhi went on to notify him, “Regarding the Dao Debate Assembly, Heng Xiao will provide all the information you need. If there’s anything, you can just have him do it in your stead.”

Lin Xun naturally had no problem with this. Shortly afterward, he left the mountain with Heng Xiao.

From that day on, he was treated as the most esteemed guest of Xuanji Dao Sect and stayed in a cavernous paradise called Jade Rinse Peak.

This shocked many members of Xuanji Dao Sect, as the blessed cave in Jade Rinse Peak was the designated cultivation place of the sect master.

The fact that the cave was temporarily given to Jin Duyi, a guest from the Imperial Jintian Clan, meant that he was receiving a very rare and extraordinary treatment kind of from them

However, no one dared to raise an objection because it was personally arranged by Heng Xiao.

Jintian Xuanxue was also surprised by this, knowing very well that it was impossible to enjoy such a special treatment with just an Emperor Bai Token.

There had to be another reason behind this!

However, having been accustomed to all the unbelievable things that transpired around Lin Xun, she was sensible enough to not ask questions.

When Jintian Xuanyue learned that Lin Xun had also decided to participate in the Dao Debate Contest of Cloud State that would kick off in a month, she was thrilled and started looking forward to it.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1877: Black Water Dao Body, Three Thousand Streams

In the cave of Jade Rinse Peak, Lin Xun was sitting cross-legged, his spine as straight as a sword as rolling chaos qi enveloped him like a tidal wave.

His fleshly qi exploded as though there were mountains colliding within him, inciting his aura to demonstrate all sorts of visions around him.

There was a floating abyss and a burning furnace.

There was a coiling dragon, and the elements of water and fire interacting with one another.

There were visions upon visions, and all of them were astonishing as they represented the fact that Lin Xun's cultivation had been refined to a transcendent degree.

Jade Rinse Peak was the finest cultivation paradise in Sacred Wind Dao Mountain as it was the residence of Heng Xiao, the leader of Xuanji Dao Sect.

So naturally, the density of heavenly qi here was incredible.

It was worth noting that the Primordial Chaos World was recognized by all as a holy land of cultivation, meaning any random area one pointed at was comparable to a blessed land in the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

Even so, a place like Jade Rinse Peak was considered first-class in the Primordial Chaos World. The richness of great dao aura in its atmosphere shocked even Lin Xun.

He assessed that a day of cultivating here could be worth ten days of cultivating with dao crystals!

Most importantly, this was the territory of Xuanji Dao Sect, which meant Lin Xun didn't have to be discreet when he cultivated.

Such as now, he was tempering his cultivation with his original body, using not the World-Guarding Nine Cauldrons Scripture, but instead the Great Endless Devour Scripture!

This art of devouring everything for one's own use allowed Lin Xun to draw in an astonishing amount of qi when he operated it.

Any other cultivator of the same stage wouldn't be able to withstand so much power entering them!

However, it was different for Lin Xun who was like a bottomless pit. Since his foundation was extremely stable and exceptional, the amount of energy required for his cultivation was destined to be different.

A few days passed.

In Lin Xun's kidney, an overwhelming vitality erupted like a volcano.

In a split second, a figure coalesced in the air above him. It wore a black robe, had a handsome face, and was shrouded in rolling water mist. It resembled a deity who controlled the sea and commanded all waters under heavens!

Black Water Dao Body!

Water was one of the five elements. Regarded as the highest form of good as it benefited all things and did not compete with anything, it was as close to the dao as could be!

Birthered by divine black water, the Black Water Dao Body displayed the majestic characteristic of 'limitless and all-accommodating.'

This was the third dao body that Lin Xun had coalesced.

Boom!

The next moment, all of his essence surged out and merged into the new body. He began to fathom the mysteries of the Black Water Dao Body.

A long time later, the black-robed Lin Xun's mind moved, and then he turned into a stream of water that burst into countless droplets.

Each droplet was crystalline and gleamed with obscure dao light.

Very quickly, these three thousand droplets morphed into three thousand Lin Xuns, each clad in a black robe and looking as solid as a real person!

"Slash!"

Standing in different directions like an army, the three thousand Lin Xuns moved in unison.

They drew a stroke in the air with their right index fingers.

Three thousand Heavenly Yuan Slashes were swiftly executed, and at that instant, the entire cave was flooded with blinding lights of unrivaled sharpness.

If anyone else had been here to witness this scene, their jaw would drop.

It was simply horrifying!

The output of three thousand Heavenly Yuan Slashes all at once was earth-shattering, to say the least.

It was only after a long time that the three thousand figures abruptly turned back into water droplets and merged into the black-robed Lin Xun again.

His eyes flashed with surprise.

The transformation of the Black Water Dao Body just now was its innate talent called 'Three Thousand Streams.' Each of the three thousand clones was similar to a battle puppet controlled by the puppet masters.

However, the difference was that the water clones were all part of the Black Water Dao Body and had a cultivation!

It had only one drawback, which was that a clone only had a small portion of the Black Water Dao Body's cultivation. It could almost utilize the power of a supreme Big Saint.

In short, those three thousand clones were equivalent to three thousand supreme Big Saints!

This kind of innate talent would feel somewhat inadequate if used to deal with a supreme Saint-King expert.

After all, quantity no longer had any advantage when the gap in strength was one whole big stage.

However, if it was in a large-scale war, then Three Thousand Streams had an amazing potential and would reign the battlefield!

Think about it, if three thousand supreme Big Saints were to strike together, how terrifyingly destructive would their power be?

Moreover, as Lin Xun's cultivation progressed, he would one day step into the quasi-Emperor Stage. By then, the Three Thousand Streams would create three thousand supreme Saint-Kings...

What kind of spectacle would that be?

The innate talent of the Black Water Dao Body might not be of much use against opponents of the same stage, but in a massive battlefield, it would be an extremely terrifying combat skill.

Not to mention that the Black Water Dao Body had more than just its innate talent as it contained many other mysteries.

“The Green Wood Dao Body’s art of life and death and wither and thrive, the Yellow Earth Dao Body’s Seal of All Beings, and now the Black Water Dao Body’s Three Thousand Streams...”

After a long contemplation, Lin Xun couldn’t help but lament how close to being a god his Ninth Senior Brother Ge Yupu was as the creator of the Grand Dao Yellow Court Classic!

“To pave a dao path that isn’t inferior to my senior brothers and sisters of Fangchun Mountain is no easy thing, I’m afraid,” he sighed.

However, he wasn’t discouraged as he had immense confidence in his Great Dao Furnace Art.

“I’m now at the intermediate Supreme Saint-King Stage, and it’s not possible to break through before the Dao Debate Contest of Cloud State...”

Lin Xun had just broken through a few days ago upon arriving in Cloud State and become a great deal stronger than when he had executed quasi-Emperors Kong Yin and Qu Rao.

Since his current cultivation level was more than enough for a mere Dao Debate Contest, he decided to use the remaining time focusing on improving his Great Dao Field.

He had built a Great Dao Field prototype shortly after stepping into the Supreme Saint-King Stage, but up until now, it still was in the process of being slowly perfected and hadn’t reached its complete form.

When Lin Xun had departed from Qing State two months ago and refined that piece of Spatial Boundary Crystal, he had had a strong premonition.

That he was not far from completing his Great Dao Field!

“There are bound to be many, many of the world’s top supreme Saint-Kings in the Dao Debate Contest. At that time, maybe I can use them to hone my Great Dao Field...” pondered Lin Xun as he left the cave.

Outside the cave, green pines and cypresses grew, water streams gurgled, divine birds were circling in the air, apes were eating peaches, and white deers were holding flowers in their jaws...

It was picturesque.

Jintian Xuanyue was sitting cross-legged under a pine in meditation. When she noticed Lin Xun's presence as he walked out from the cave, she immediately got up.

"Xuanyue, you broke through again?" asked Lin Xun in surprise.

He was able to tell at glance that Jintian Xuanyue had reached the peak of the Supreme Saint-King Stage.

Clearly she had just broken through to the intermediate level half a year ago on Whirlwind Ship.

In other words, she had broken through twice in half a year. This was definitely the potential one could only expect from the renowned supreme heaven pride of White Emperor Star Field!

"It's nothing compared to your speed, Young Master." Jintian Xuanyue pursed her lips and smiled. With bright eyes and an ethereal demeanor, she exuded her own gentle and elegant charm.

Lin Xun chuckled and shook his head.

Then, he suddenly noticed that there was a group of Xuanji Dao Sect disciples at the foot of Jade Rinse Peak.

There were two familiar faces among them, Jiang Heng and Ji Qian!

"Why are they here?" asked Lin Xun.

"They said that they wanted to thank you and also discuss the dao with you," smiled Jintian Xuanyue.

"Discuss the dao?" He raised a brow.

"Yes, merely a verbal discussion, not one that requires sparring. As I see it, you've already convinced them by defeating those Phantasm Empyrean experts a few days ago," she explained.

"I see." Lin Xun understood.

At that moment, a person among the group at the mountain foot spotted Lin Xun and called out to him, "Fellow Daoist Jin, we have been waiting here for a long time. We only wish to express our gratitude to you in person."

Immediately, Jiang Heng, Ji Qian, and the rest of the group looked over as well.

Lin Xun thought for a second, then directly went down the mountain and met them with a smile. “There’s no need to thank me. I heard that you’ve come here also to discuss the dao with me?”

The group of core disciples exchanged glances before nodding with clear anticipation.

“Very well, I would love to have some pointers from you all as well,” agreed Lin Xun straightforwardly.

It was far better to discuss and exchange knowledge with a group of peers than study alone behind closed doors. This was how everyone could learn from each other’s mistakes and strengths.

Besides, Lin Xun currently had no information on Cloud State’s Dao Debate Contest and wanted to learn about it from the others.

Seeing him agree, the core disciples all revealed delighted expressions.

Having witnessed Lin Xun defeat She Zi and She Ling that day, they knew full well how extraordinary he was for a supreme Saint-King.

On another note, it really made one wonder how Jiang Heng and Ji Qian would feel if they knew the guy called Jin Duyi in front of them was Lin Xun.

“Come along, Xuanyue,” said Lin Xun.

Jintian Xuanyue was stunned. Then, with a bright smile, she nodded fiercely.

.....

Time quickly flew by.

On the platform on the mountainside of Jade Rinse Peak, Lin Xun and the group of Xuanji Dao Sect core disciples sat on the ground as they discussed the dao and exchanged cultivation tips.

The rustles of the pines in the breeze were like heavenly music in the calm and peaceful atmosphere.

Jiang Heng, Ji Qian, and the others had originally thought that Lin Xun would be the conceited kind, seeing how powerful he was and the fact that he came from the Imperial Jintian Clan.

After engaging with him, however, they realized that he was actually easy-going, polite, and as gentle as water. Even more rare were some of his insights on the great dao. They

were very unique and often opened their eyes to new possibilities. This completely convinced them of his ability.

While watching such a peaceful discourse from afar, Heng Xiao couldn't help but feel a little envious.

To be able to sit down and discuss Jin Duyi, who was actually the junior uncle of Founding Ancestor Bo Yazhi, was definitely a blessing that was hard to come by!

Shaking his head, Heng Xiao discarded all his distracting thoughts. He had come to Jade Rinse Peak this time because he had something to report to Lin Xun.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1878: Brewing Storm in Fierce Wind City

During these past days, Lin Xun had benefited quite a lot from discussing the dao with the core disciples of Xuanji Dao Sect.

Since the other party consisted of young cultivators who were able to shine and step into the Supreme Saint-King Stage so early, they were certainly no ordinary talents.

They sought different dao paths, so the Great Dao Fields they condensed varied vastly and were an eye-opening experience for Lin Xun.

Moreover, he had also learned some information on the Dao Debate of Cloud State during the more casual conversations.

This time, the debate would be open to experts at the True Saint, Big Saint, and Saint-King Stages.

As supreme Saint-Kings, what the core disciples were most concerned about was naturally the competition of their category.

When talking about this, each and every one of them would, without fail, mention the most dazzling figures in Cloud State today.

One of those was Lu Dubu, a disciple of Great Void Sect. His sect was the number one sect in the state while he was recognized as the number one Supreme Saint-King in Cloud State.

Another example was Xie Yuhua of Cloud Star Sect, the number two sect in Cloud State. She was a supreme genius who had only risen to prominence in recent years, and her current prestige was as brilliant as a comet.

There were many more of those, and the core disciples of Xuanji Dao Sect all talked about them with a variety of emotions ranging from apprehension, hostility, to a burning desire to fight.

Other than that, it was mentioned that everyone, regardless of their status, could participate as long as their cultivation level met the requirements.

Due to this, many characters of the older generations also rubbed their hands eagerly. Even some elders of the major forces who had lived for who-knew-how-long decided to take part as well.

As such, the Dao Debate of Cloud State would only become more and more heated.

Those of the older generations who were able to live through the turbulence of time to this day were definitely not to be underestimated.

Similarly, the younger generations' top heaven prides who were ranked on the All Heavens Saint-King Rankings also needed to be taken seriously.

During this topic, Lin Xun only listened without showing any emotions.

In a competition of the same stage, it didn't matter if one was a famous supreme genius or a ruthless old monster as what was compared was not the size of their fame or how long they had lived. The only thing that mattered was combat strength!

In this regard, Lin Xun feared no one.

"Young friend." Heng Xiao came up to Lin Xun and greeted him with a smile.

The group of core disciples as well as Jintian Xuanyue tactfully excused themselves.

Lin Xun got up. "Is there something you need from me, Fellow Daoist?"

Heng Xiao hurriedly said, "There are two things. Firstly, Ancestor Bo Yazhi said that he already got some clues on the matter you've entrusted to him."

Lin Xun immediately became focused, knowing that it concerned his wish to visit the Imperial Jiang Clan.

Heng Xiao said, "However, he also said that this matter is of great importance and requires the help of a friend. It will take him at least one month and at most three months to get a clear answer from that friend, so he hopes that you will be patient."

Lin Xun nodded and asked, “What about the other matter?”

“It has to do with the Dao Debate of Cloud State.” Heng Xiao handed him a jade slip. “It will start in half a month. All the related information is recorded in this.”

“Thank you, Fellow Daoist.” Lin Xun cupped his fist before accepting the jade slip.

“I will personally bring our sect’s disciples to the contest, and we’ll set off in ten days.” Speaking of this, Heng Xiao suggested, “Won’t you really consider taking part in it as a core disciple of ours?”

There was a hint of anticipation in his eyes.

Still, Lin Xun shook his head as he had already made up his mind about going alone.

If he took the identity of one of Xuanji Dao Sect’s disciples, he would surely be given all sorts of preferential treatment.

However, he knew that no matter how well he concealed himself, the cat was bound to get out of the bag one day. At that time, Xuanji Dao Sect would definitely be implicated seeing how much they had helped him.

He said, “Just have Xuanyue attend as a disciple of Xuanji Dao Sect.”

From Lin Xun’s firm attitude, Heng Xiao knew that he couldn’t force it, so he nodded. “Alright, but promise me that you will tell me if you ever encounter any trouble during the contest.”

Lin Xun gave him a smile and nodded.

After the two exchanged some more pleasantries, Heng Xiao left.

Lin Xun took the jade slip back to his cave and started reading through it.

.....

Ten days later.

Heng Xiao led a group of disciples who would participate in the Dao Debate Contest to Great Void Mountain.

This divine mountain was the stronghold of Great Void Sect, the number one sect of Cloud State.

Lin Xun also left quietly on the same day.

This time, the Dao Debate would have three rounds of selections.

The first round would be hosted in the affiliated cities of the seven major lineages. Everyone who met the conditions could sign up.

After a series of screening battles, the winners would be able to proceed to the second round of selections, which would be held at Great Void Mountain.

Participants who came from the seven major lineages would skip the first round and directly enter the second round.

This was why Heng Xiao would head straight to Great Void Mountain with his sect's disciples.

Ranked third among the seven major lineages, Xuanji Dao Sect was expected to receive the same preferential treatment.

Lin Xun, on the other hand, had to start from the first selection round.

In other words, he had to stand out in the Dao Debate Contest of Cloud State and make it to the top ten in order to participate in the Dao Debate Assembly organized by the Great Six Courts.

And the Dao Debate Contest of Cloud State had three rounds of screening...

It could be imagined that those who would be able to remain after so many layers of elimination were destined to be peak experts.

Fierce Wind City, as the closest city to Xuanji Dao Sect, was much bigger and more prosperous than Lin'an City, the first city in this world that Lin Xun had arrived in.

In five days, the first round of selections for the Dao Debate would kick off in different cities in Cloud State, and Fierce Wind City was one of them.

The conductors of these contests were seven quasi-Emperor experts from the seven major lineages respectively. In doing so, they could also prevent anyone from cheating.

Recently, Fierce Wind City had been incredibly lively with many experts flocking over from all directions.

Many of them were here to participate in the first selection round, but the majority had come to be in the audience.

After all, the scale of this Dao Debate could be described as unprecedented, resulting in it attracting the attention of countless cultivators.

After Lin Xun entered Fierce Wind City, the first thing he perceived was the hustle and bustle on the streets and in the alleys. Every corner was filled with talks about the first round of selections.

“Although the seven major lineages won’t be involved in the first round, the other participants can’t let their guard down. From what I know, some powerful experts from ancient organizations have already signed up.”

“I wonder how many dark horses we’ll have after the first round and who will be able to make it into the Dao Debate Assembly in the end.”

“Let’s just wait and see. The first selection round will last three days. We’ll get to see the list of the second round afterward.”

The streets were abuzz with discussions.

Cloud State was only one of the forty-nine states in the Primordial Chaos World, but it was so incomparably vast that it could qualify as a big world.

Distributed throughout this vast territory were not only the seven major lineages, but also many other ethnic groups, clans, and sects.

These various organizations had no shortage of stunning characters who would certainly appear in the first round as long as they decided to attend the Dao Debate!

Having known all of this already, Lin Xun didn’t need to spend any more time probing around and just went straight to his destination.

At Fierce Wind City’s central area.

The front side of a magnificent palace had long been packed by a sea of people.

This was the registration area for the first selection round, making it the most bustling and most watched place in the city today.

Lin Xun had only arrived here when he heard a cry of amazement.

“Chu Qiu of Heavenly Tip Sect! After five hundred years of cultivation, he is now a renowned supreme Saint-King whose physical body can withstand the bombardment of a Saint Treasure!”

Lin Xun instantly saw a man attired in a silver robe appear out of thin air. The latter had long silver-colored hair and a pair of eyes that zapped with electricity. When he walked, he strode like a dragon with majestic might.

Apparently, this man was Chu Qiu.

“I didn’t expect you to be here as well, Chu Qiu. I’m looking forward to playing with you in the first selection round,” rang a cold voice.

Accompanying the voice was a pure green streak that pierced the air as it arrived at the area. It turned into a green-robed man with sharp brows and bright eyes, who was riding a red flying sword. His aura was intimidatingly sharp.

“That’s Gu Jianxing, the Young Master of Dark World Clan! He’s also here?”

Many people clicked their tongues and clamored.

Gu Jianxing was a wayward sword dao genius. Rumor had it that very early in his life, his aptitude had been recognized by an expert of Great Void Sect, who then had wanted to take him in as their final disciple. However, Gu Jianxing had flatly rejected the offer!

That expert had lamented over this for a long time and said, “Top-quality sword geniuses are extremely rare, and Gu Jianxing is destined to be one of them. It’s a pity that my Great Void Sect is not fated to have him!”

This comment had quickly spread and spread Gu Jianxing’s name to the world.

“Hmph, then we shall see during the contest,” snorted Chu Qiu of Heavenly Tip Sect before he went straight toward the magnificent palace, not sparing Gu Jianxing another glance.

Gu Jianxing’s eyes gleamed with a sharp sword light, and it was only a good while later that he chuckled softly and shook his head. Then, he also walked toward the palace.

This was only the beginning.

In the following time, one dazzling, famous figure appeared after another. There were young masters of noble lineages, heaven prides of ancient clans, and geniuses of various sects...

Some were arrogant and unrestrained, while others were quiet and aloof. There were also absolute beauties with city-toppling splendor.

Whenever such a character arrived, the area would be restless with gasps and exclamations, which kept adding to the lively atmosphere.

Fierce Wind City had certainly never been as full of life as it was today.

From beginning to end, Lin Xun watched all of this as he stood among the crowd with his hands behind his back, the emotions in his gaze ever unperturbed.

Whether it was Chu Qiu, Gu Jianxing, or any of the other dazzling geniuses, they were indeed above the rest of their peers. Their auras differed but without exception were extraordinary.

Unfortunately, none of them had been able to catch Lin Xun's attention so far.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1879: First Selection Round

After quietly watching for a long time, Lin Xun also headed into the magnificent palace.

"Entry fee: one thousand dao crystals," said a man guarding the entrance in a deep voice.

Lin Xun tossed him a storage bag. The man briefly scanned it before putting it away and handing a white jade token to Lin Xun.

The man waved his hand. "Take this token into the hall to register and take your test. You can move along. Next."

Inside the hall was a whole other world as it was extremely spacious.

There were already many people standing inside, each of them appearing extraordinary. There were also some experts of the older generations among this crowd who exuded a different kind of might.

When Lin Xun entered, many gazes swept over.

Any ordinary person would have been scared out of their wits.

Lin Xun, on the other hand, acted as though he was completely oblivious as he calmly walked toward the center of the hall.

Here, there was a desk with seven figures sitting properly behind it. They all emitted a unique air of the quasi-Emperor Stage.

They were experts from each of the seven major lineages of Cloud State who were here to assess the participants.

Elder Hong Yu of Xuanji Dao Sect was among them.

Upon seeing Lin Xun, his pupils constricted slightly. He wanted to get up and greet him, but in the end, he held back and only nodded at Lin Xun imperceptibly.

“Place your hand on the Spirit Appraisal Pearl,” said a red-robed, white-haired old man in a deep voice.

On the desk was a fist-sized, crystalline spirit pearl that flowed with chaos light.

Lin Xun rested his palm on it.

In that second, he keenly sensed the eyes of many people in the hall falling on him.

Or rather, they were looking at the Spirit Appraisal Pearl.

Buzz!

The crystal-clear pearl surged with radiant light and gradually reflected golden runes in the air. Vaguely, one could hear the sound of a sage chanting sutras.

“Another supreme Saint-King!”

“It’s alright, he’s only at the intermediate level, not too strong.”

“You say that, but anyone who’s on the supreme path has extraordinary depths. If possible, it’s best that we can avoid a fight with them.”

In an instant, many experts in the hall revealed pondering looks, but there were also some who dismissed it and withdrew their gazes.

As for top-class famous geniuses like Chu Qiu and Gu Jianxing, they never even bothered paying Lin Xun any attention.

The most intuitive way to judge the strength of a cultivator was the level of their cultivation.

Obviously, an intermediate supreme Saint-King couldn't even be taken seriously by those like them who were at the top of the stage.

Noticing the changes in everyone’s gaze, Lin Xun realized why these people chose to stay here after they had registered.

The purpose was to observe the cultivation levels of other participants through the Spirit Appraisal Pearl, so that they could identify potential rivals and prepare in advance.

“Alright.” The red-robed, white-haired old man behind the desk nodded, then took Lin Xun’s white jade token and asked, “Name?”

“Jin Dui,” replied Lin Xun.

Many people in the hall revealed a puzzled look. *Jin Duyi...who is this guy?*

Only Hong Yu knew, but how could he possibly tell them?

A month ago, a powerful group from Phantasm Empyrean Island had visited Xuanji Dao Sect to challenge their core disciples. They had ended up leaving after a crushing defeat at Lin Xun's hands and hadn't publicized the matter after that.

After all, it was Phantasm Empyrean Island that had lost face. How could they let the world know of their scandal?

Even until the end, they didn't even know who Jin Duyi, the person that had defeated She Zi and She Ling, really was.

Meanwhile, Heng Xiao had soon issued an order that no one in Xuanji Dao Sect would divulge this matter, and no one dared to violate it.

This was why Lin Xun had the confidence to enroll as Jin Duyi.

The identity of Yu Xuan could not be used as it had already caused a huge commotion in Qing State. It was fortunate that 'Jin Duyi' remained to be a safe alternative.

After all, this name actually belonged to Toady and had nothing to do with the Imperial Jintian Clan.

"Origin?" the red-robed old man continued to ask while inscribing Lin Xun's information into the token, which would be his credential in the Dao Debate Contest of Cloud State.

"Unaffiliated."

When Lin Xun said this, many people were visibly surprised. *An unaffiliated cultivator was able to become a supreme Saint-King?*

This was truly rarely seen.

However, many of them also became relaxed. It was common thinking that there was nothing to worry about an unaffiliated cultivator even if they offended the other party.

Only Hong Yu sneered inside. *If these fellows really think they can dismiss Jin Duyi because he's a lone cultivator, then they cannot be more wrong!*

"Be present at the Fierce Wind Show Arena for the first selection round five days from now. If you fail to do so, you will be disqualified." The red-robed old man returned the white jade token to Lin Xun.

“Thank you.” Lin Xun accepted the token. Reading it with his spirit sense, he saw his image as well as an attached list of his information.

He carefully put it away as this token would also be a key item for his participation in the Dao Debate Assembly later.

“Wait, Little Friend,” the blue-clad woman sitting next to Hong Yu suddenly called out to Lin Xun.

Her voice was gentle, “You are so young, yet you possess such extraordinary attainments in the path of dao. Are you interested in joining our Cloud Star Sect?”

Many participants were surprised upon hearing this. Cloud Star Sect was ranked second among all lineages in Cloud State. Xie Yuhua, who was currently a supreme heaven pride known throughout the state, was a disciple of this ancient sect.

Apparently, the blue-clad woman was interested in the unaffiliated Jin Duyi!

“I’m sorry. I’m used to roaming freely by myself.” Lin Xun shook his head and humbly declined.

A good number of people felt his decision to be a pity and showed it on their faces.

Cloud Star Sect was a lineage that not just any cultivator could join. Also, becoming its disciple meant one could just skip the first round of selections and go straight into the second round!

“Alright, but if you have any intention of joining a sect in the future, you can always come to find me.”

The blue-clad woman wasn’t one bit angry after her offer was declined and instead issued another invitation.

This actually made many people rethink their evaluation of Lin Xun one more time.

Even Lin Xun himself was caught off guard a little and smiled wryly in his heart. *Didn’t think I’d still be treated differently as a small unaffiliated cultivator.*

“Alright.” He gave her a nod before leaving the hall.

After Lin Xun was out of sight, the blue-clad woman said, “Since this Dao Debate is also an opportunity to select potential talents for our sects, we are destined to find many, many of them. So I implore you, my fellows, please don’t compete with me over Jin Duyi.”

Hearing this, the other quasi-Emperors at the desk revealed different expressions.

Just as the blue-clad woman had said, this contest was not only to decide who would be sent to the Dao Debate Assembly, but also for the major sects to pick out outstanding cultivators through heavy screening.

It would naturally be best if they could absorb such talents into their own sects!

In order to stand tall with time, every ancient lineage constantly needed new blood.

Unfortunately, Hong Yu was the only one here who knew that the blue-clad woman was likely going to be disappointed.

.....

After signing up, Lin Xun found an inn and holed up in there. Time quietly passed as he remained uninterested in the hustle and bustle of the outside world.

Fierce Wind City kept getting more and more dynamic over the next few days. Word had it that the price for a ticket to the first round in Fierce Wind Show Arena had been inflated to one hundred thousand dao crystals.

On top of that, it was very difficult to buy one.

The market also began to circulate a list of the strongest participants, on which their names, origins, cultivation levels, etc. were displayed in a way that anyone could understand at a glance.

In particular, top outstanding names like Chu Qiu and Gu Jianxing were put at the most eye-catching positions.

Lists like that were sold for ten thousand dao crystals each!

At the same time, all big casinos in Fierce Wind City started getting busy. Anyone who was interested could bet on or against any participant of the first selection round.

This instantly attracted many cultivators. It was said that within just a day, the amount of cumulative dao crystals from the betting had reached eighty million!

Lin Xun had never paid any attention to all of this.

When he was alone, he was either cultivating or studying the All-Inclusive Plant Index. His state of mind was peaceful and transcendent.

On the fifth day after the registration, in Fierce Wind Show Arena.

This arena was like a mini world covered in ancient restrictive arrays.

Eighteen rings that looked like eighteen floating islands were suspended in the center

When Lin Xun arrived, the audience seats all around the arena had been filled. Everywhere one laid eyes on were silhouettes, and all the ear could hear was a sky-shaking hubbub.

This unprecedentedly bustling scene was a novelty for even Lin Xun.

Holding the 'Participant Token,' he was quickly brought to an open area by a valet designated for the task.

This was the selection area, where all of those who had signed up for the contest would wait.

At this point in time, many participants of all genders, races, and ages had gathered here as they sat or stood based on their personalities. There were outstanding talents of the younger generations, as well as ruthless menaces of the older generations who could call the wind and summon the rain.

There were at least over a thousand people here!

In other words, this area alone had gathered over a thousand Saint-King experts!

Among them, there was no lack of supreme Saint-Kings!

Even Lin Xun was shaken by this.

In the Ancient Wasteland Domain, a Saint-King was already the strongest pillar of a lineage and was hardly ever seen.

Now, in Fierce Wind City, which was merely one of the thousands of cities in Cloud State, which was only one of the forty-nine states of the Primordial Chaos World, over a thousand Saint-Kings were present. It was simply as grand as a spectacle could be!

As a matter of fact, not only Lin Xun, but every other person also felt their hearts racing.

An event of this scale was something that only happened once in ten thousand years for the whole Cloud State. It was the first time that the vast majority of people here had seen something like this as well.

There was only one reason for this: the Dao Debate Assembly hosted by the Great Six Courts together had made too much noise.

Not just in Cloud State, but similar unprecedented events were also unfolding one after another in all the other forty-eight states of the Primordial Chaos World.

Even numerous supreme overlords from other starry worlds outside had come in order to participate.

And by sheer chance, Lin Xun was able to be present at the right time to witness the curtains of such a grand event being drawn!

Ding dong~

Before long, the majestic sound of a bell echoed. It vibrated through the entire Fierce Wind Show Arena, suppressing all the other noises.

At that instant, everything fell into utter silence as a solemn atmosphere took over.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1880: Puppet Imaginarium

Everyone in the huge Fierce Wind Show Arena stopped what they were doing, sat upright, and directed their gaze at the center of the stadium.

There, a white-haired old man who was clad in red stood in the air.

Tao Songting!

He was a quasi-Emperor elder of Great Void Sect, the number one lineage in Cloud State. Today, he was also the main coordinator of the first selection round in this city.

After the bell sounded, Tao Songting began his speech, "Today, we will carry out the first round of selections for the Cloud State's Dao Debate Contest.

"The rules are simple. There are eighteen rings in the stadium, and they can concurrently host a one-on-one duel. Anyone can compete to be a ringmaster."

"Make a go of it and last ten matches in the ring without being defeated, and you will qualify for the second round of selections.

"Remember that in the rings, we only need to decide who wins and who loses. This is not a fight to the death. Those who break the rules will not only be disqualified but also severely punished!"

The old man's voice thundered through the whole venue.

One needed to last ten consecutive battles, and more than that, win them all to enter the second round of selections!

Such a harsh requirement drew gasps from many people.

These were fights between cultivators of the same stage. How could those who had dared to register themselves not fight tooth and nail in order to win?

While it was true that an ordinary Saint-King was nothing near a problem in the eyes of a supreme Saint-King, fighting ten matches in a row and winning them under this circumstance was still bound to be extremely difficult!

Not to mention that there were top experts who didn't see eye to eye, and therefore would challenge each other. Winning ten consecutive matches would even be harder in this case.

This was no exaggerated theory. Everyone had seen how hostile Heavenly Tip's Chu Qiu and Dark World Clan's Young Master Gu Jianxing had been toward each other when they had first arrived at Fierce Wind City.

It wasn't hard to imagine how likely it would be for these two to have a confrontation in the following selections!

Upon hearing the rules, the participants in the waiting area revealed different expressions.

Some were unimpressed, some looked grave, some sank into thought, while some seemed worried...

Meanwhile, Lin Xun didn't have much of a reaction.

From start to end, his attitude was that everyone else belonged to the hustle and bustle while he stayed out of it with a clear and calm mind.

After all, if it wasn't for the sake of hiding his identity, he could have chosen the course that would send him straight to the second round.

Also, this was not him underestimating others, but that he had long since cultivated the belief that he could conquer anything!

This is actually not bad at all. I should strive to see as many Great Dao Fields as possible to hone myself and complete my own field...

At this moment, Lin Xun's mindset had shifted as he began to treat this Dao Debate as another way of cultivating.

The goal was to improve his own Great Dao Field as much as possible!

“The selections commence now!” declared Tao Songting.

These words still echoed through the arena when suddenly, there was a whoosh.

A brilliant figure then flashed and swept up into a ring before speaking leisurely. “I, Chu Qiu, am standing right here. Does any fellow daoist want to be the first to challenge me?”

His loosely hung, silvery hair danced and his silver-colored robe fluttered. He stood straight like a spear with a domineering air, causing a stir the moment he appeared on stage.

Heavenly Tip’s Chu Qiu was a peak supreme Saint-King who had long since made a name for himself.

Many directed their gazes at Dark World Clan’s Gu Jianxing instead as it was still fresh in everyone’s mind how he had provoked Chu Qiu on the first day of registration!

To their surprise, however, the green-clad Gu Jianxing who emanated a peerlessly sharp aura did not start a challenge. Instead, he teleported to another ring.

“How about *you* challenge me after you’ve won ten consecutive matches, Chu Qiu? I will wait,” said Gu Jianxing.

“Oh, okay. Then you’d better not get knocked out before that.” Chu Qiu went tit-for-tat.

Upon this, many lamented how clever Gu Jianxing was. Since the first round of selections was very crucial, it wasn’t wise for the participants to be hot-headed.

The eighteen rings were occupied in just a few blinks.

Among the defenders, there were young supreme talents like Chu Qiu and Gu Jianxing, as well as ambitious and battle-hardened fighters of the older generations.

“Qian Kong’er, I shall be your first match!”

“Heh, interesting to see some meager characters jump out so bravely thinking they can steal the ring. Get lost!”

“My friend, being the first to occupy a ring doesn’t necessarily mean you have the power to hold it.”

.....

For a while, many experts swept into a ring to challenge the defenders of their choice, each of them burning with fighting spirit.

The atmosphere in the stadium was ignited. The audience's mood started boiling with shouts, cheers, and excited discussions echoing.

Even Chu Qiu and Gu Jianxing had met their opponents.

There were over a thousand Saint-King participants while there were only eighteen rings. Even if one lost, they could just start again and challenge a different defender.

This also made the competition extremely intense as this selection round would only last three days!

With over a thousand Saint-Kings competing in eighteen rings, one might not even have the chance to enter one at all if they couldn't seize the right time.

Lin Xun watched for a while before also launching into action, decisively choosing a ring that was occupied by a supreme Saint-King.

It was a youth who wore a golden robe and held a bronze spear in his hand. He looked valiant, and his eyes glowed with an ethereally blue luster.

"Jin Duyi, intermediate supreme Saint-King, unaffiliated," said the golden-robed youth after glancing at Lin Xun, his lips curling up into a cold arc. "Lil' brother, I advise you to forfeit. You're no match for me."

Obviously, this gold-robed youth had studied the list of the strongest participants to be able to recognize Lin Xun with a single glance.

"This guy named Jin Duyi is indeed too brash. I'm afraid he's going to lose."

Some of the spectators looked over and recognized the gold-robed youth as the top disciple of Golden Armor Battle Sect, Dong Liushi. Not only was he an intermediate supreme Saint-King with superb battle prowess, but he was also a grandmaster mechanic who was proficient in the dao of puppetry.

Mechanism was also one of the grand daos, and it used puppets as a medium to seek the heavenly path.

Some mechanics were even powerful enough to create battle puppets that had the same cultivation level as theirs, giving them incredible combat strength.

Dong Liushi was such a mechanic. Once, he had used eighteen battle puppets to kill an opponent whose cultivation was one level higher than his!

"Hahaha, I heard a lot of people have bet on Dong Liushi because they are confident that he will win ten consecutive matches. Jin Duyi must be blind to challenge him, he's definitely done for."

In the midst of all the discussion, Lin Xun also identified Dong Liushi. He said indifferently, “Time is precious, let’s get to it.”

Dong Liushi sighed, “I knew you wouldn’t be willing to forfeit. It’s fine, I’ll fulfill your request this one time and let you be convinced of your own defeat.”

His voice was drifting around the air when something rumbled.

Above the ring, eight battle puppets had appeared in the shapes of ferocious birds and divine beasts. They were life-like and emanated monstrous might.

The scene gave many spectators a jolt.

“This is the ability of a mechanic? Such skills are on par with mighty creation!”

“Eight battle puppets, and all of them have the cultivation of a supreme Saint-King. Isn’t he a little too strong?”

A series of astonished voices resounded in the arena.

At the judging area, Tao Songting commented, “Golden Armored Battle Sect is really playing big here with all the resources they’ve spent. From what I know, it’s extremely difficult to craft one of these battle puppets. The value of the divine materials consumed certainly exceeds ten million dao crystals.

“These eight battle puppets amount to at least eighty million dao crystals pouring into this contest. It’s hard to even think about losing.”

Xuanji Dao Sect’s Hong Yu smiled and didn’t say anything to this.

Trying to use money to smack Jin Duyi into a loss? Do they really think it’s possible?

“Go!” uttered Dong Liushi.

The eight battle puppets stormed out, surging with brilliant dao light like true savage beasts.

Boom!

Between the flaps of its wings, a fiery-red bird puppet poured out a fiery flaming light ray that engulfed the area. It had the might to burn the sky and boil the sea.

On another side, the brilliant ferocious beast that looked like it was made of pure gold roared ferociously. The air around shattered as the sonic waves spread.

Apart from them, there was a silvery Greedy Wolf, a blue Cloud Swallower Beast... Together, they charged forth with amazing momentum as they deployed their own unique battle skills.

This kind of formation made many hearts tremble from just its sight.

It was a rare spectacle that the dao of puppetry could be utilized to such an exceptional degree.

What would Jin Duyi do?

The answer was quickly revealed as an unruffled Lin Xun expressionlessly stepped forward and drew strokes in the void with his finger.

Every stroke was drawn casually and without an aura, making them look extremely inconspicuous.

Many people even revealed a look of disappointment.

The next second, however, something shocking played out.

Bang!

The flaming bird at the front of the pack suddenly trembled before it could reach Lin Xun. On its head was a hole pierced by the finger force.

The fire shrouding the huge bird started dispersing.

Dong Liushi's sneer froze on his face as his pupils constricted. It caught him off guard that a single finger was all it took to heavily injure one of his battle puppets.

Immediately after was a heartache. The puppet was as difficult to make as it was powerful. It would cost him at least a million dao crystals to repair this kind of damage.

Before Dong Liushi could recover, he heard a series of bangs.

Whether it was the golden beast, the silvery wolf, or the blue Cloud Swallower Beast, as if struck by lightning, they suddenly fell from the air like dumplings falling into a pot.

On their skulls, without exception, was a hole pierced by a finger force!

"How..."

"Don't tell me those battle puppets aren't actually as strong as they look?"

Spectators who noticed this scene all gawked.

Dong Liushi's heart ached so badly that he felt like it was bleeding. His face was as dark as the blackest pot as each damaged puppet suddenly looked like a mountain of dao crystals collapsing and flowing away...

Never in his wildest dreams could he ever have expected this to happen.

Normally, his eight battle puppets were enough to push an intermediate supreme Saint-King to a corner!

Apparently, though, his opponent this time was not the usual case!

At this moment, Lin Xun indifferently said, "Don't you want to let me lose convincingly? Perhaps you can use your Great Dao Field now?"

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1881: Your Grandpa

Lin Xun appeared calm this entire time, but words seemed too direct, as if he was pressed for time.

If he had said this before the battle, then people would definitely think he was overbearing and ignorant for being unaware of Dong Liushi's power.

However, who would still think so now?

To be able to have severely damaged eight supreme Saint-King battle puppets so effortlessly... Was this something that just anyone could do?

Instantly, spectators who originally hadn't taken him seriously began to pay attention to this young man named Jin Dui.

Meanwhile, Dong Liushi's face had become heavy and unsightly.

"No one has ever dared to underestimate me like this. You shall pay for your arrogance!" he said icily as he waved his sleeve, and a purple humanoid battle puppet appeared.

This humanoid puppet looked like it was made of polished purple jade. It was enveloped in a divine rain of light and had a shockingly ferocious aura.

Life-bound battle puppet!

Many people revealed strange expressions when they saw it.

Swish!

In the blink of an eye, Dong Liushi swept into the purple battle puppet and fused with it.

Everyone could see him beginning to glow a violet gold color as a layer of crystalline armor covered him up from head to toe, while in his hand, the purple light had condensed into a dazzling spear.

The only uncovered part was his icy cold eyes.

At this moment, Dong Liushi exuded a monstrous purple radiance like a burning purple sun. His aura was horrifying.

This was the first time Lin Xun had seen a life-bound battle puppet. He immediately noticed Dong Liushi's aura climbing a hefty chunk after the fusion. Although the other party's cultivation was still at the advanced level of the Supreme Saint-King Stage, it was vaguely showing signs of reaching the peak level!

"Die!" roared Dong Liushi.

Like a deity, he swung his spear and slashed it down domineeringly.

The tip of the purple battle spear was dazzlingly sharp as it set off a surge of Law Power.

Many eyes narrowed as the spectators became focused.

Lin Xun, however, made no attempt to evade. He remained still like a lofty mountain that connected the ground to the sky, giving off a kind of ancient, immovable, and unshakeable feeling.

This was the aura of the Yellow Earth Dao Body!

When Dong Liushi approached with his spear, Lin Xun merely raised his hand and tapped a finger in the air.

Clang!

The purple spear trembled violently like it had been struck by lightning.

Dong Liushi only felt an infinite force coming at him, so overwhelming it sent him flying. The arm holding the spear went numb from the pain, and his blood churned.

Everyone who saw this froze in astonishment.

Dong Liushi was truly strong and dazzling. His battle tactics were earth-shattering and meteorologically extraordinary.

However, they were like loud thunderstorms being reduced to drizzles as Jin Duyi easily nullified them, creating an extremely strong visual contrast every time.

Only some experienced experts realized that it wasn't that Dong Liushi was weak, but that Jin Duyi...was clearly more powerful!

"DIE!" Dong Liushi's eyes burned like fire as fury took over him. He charged over like a lightning bolt, bringing with him a sea of purple haze.

No matter how powerful his attack was, however, it was always stopped by a light movement from Lin Xun!

It gave the impression that Dong Liushi was a ferocious beast trying to shake an ancient divine mountain, but every collision shattered its skull and sent it staggering back.

Many people gasped.

In particular, those who had placed heavy bets on Dong Liushi visibly paled because they would only receive lucrative payouts if he won ten consecutive matches.

If they lost the bet...then they would have to pay back with everything they had, even the clothes they were wearing!

"Battle Puppet Imaginarium!" Dong Liushi decisively deployed his Great Dao Field when he finally realized his dangerous situation.

Boom!

Strips of blinding white light appeared and were interwoven to create a small world.

Lin Xun's eyes lit up. Instead of dodging, he rushed into it.

"Is Jin Duyi crazy?! He'll be finished once he's trapped inside the Great Dao Field!"

Many people's eyes almost fell out. The audience struggled to believe there was someone in this world who was so tired of living that he took the initiative to deliver himself into a Great Dao Field dreaded by every other cultivator...

Even Dong Liushi was taken aback. *Is it just me or is this guy really in a hurry to enter the reincarnation cycle?*

Then, his lips curved into a sardonic smile as he didn't bother thinking about it anymore. Seizing this opportunity, he operated his Great Dao Field to the max!

"Jin Duyi, ah, Jin Duyi, if I don't beat you until you call me grandpa today, count it as my loss!" bellowed Dong Liushi.

Boom!

Inside the Great Dao Field, thousands of battle puppets suddenly emerged in various shapes and colors.

There were ferocious birds and beasts, as well as humanoid battle puppets of unique auras such as sword cultivators, blade cultivators, Buddhist cultivators, demon cultivators, and more...

Each battle puppet looked alive, and together, they were like a grand army on the battlefield. At the front were the ferocious birds and beasts opening the way, while the different cultivators made up the rear.

The sight was so spectacular that it opened up Lin Xun's understanding.

Through his spirit sense, he assessed that the power of Dong Liushui's Battle Puppet Imaginarium was not even as powerful as She Ling's Endless Road to Hell.

However, it had its own kind of strange, all-encompassing miracle as it was incorporated with many profound mysteries of the great dao.

Lin Xun had no doubt that if he gave Dong Liushui more time, the mysteries contained in this Battle Puppet Imaginarium would only get stronger and stronger.

Building a Great Dao Field was like creating a sky-reaching building from the ground. Dong Liushi had already laid a strong foundation by having deep understanding in this aspect, so he was destined to have extraordinary achievements in the future.

However, when Lin Xun heard the guy say "...if I don't beat you until you call me grandpa today, count it as my loss!", he smiled wryly.

This fellow's asking for a beating!

Without further delay, Lin Xun jumped into action.

He unleashed a vast yellow-earth dao light, and with his hands making clawing gestures, he charged into the puppet army.

Bang bang bang...

The thousands of battle puppets looked as if they were stampeded by a colossal mountain. In just seconds, they were reduced to bits and pieces in large batches.

Just like smashing swarms after swarms of ants with a boulder, the crushing scene caused Dong Liushi to gawk in utter shock.

This was his own Great Dao Field!

In here, he was supposed to be an overlord, but how come it was like a foreign army had entered his kingdom and was destroying everything like they were plowing the field?

Dong Liushi almost went crazy.

Meanwhile, the impact suffered by his Great Dao Field also brought him backlashes. He coughed up blood repeatedly and shook like a leaf as his blood ran cold.

“Who the hell are you?!” he roared in rage.

He had already used his full strength, but it all seemed so powerless in front of Jin Dui, who could no longer be measured by common sense.

Boom!

At this point, Lin Xun had already crushed the last batch of the battle puppets. He lightly uttered two words in a relaxed manner, “Your grandpa.”

This answer was like the sharpest retaliation possible. Dong Liushui felt it to the core. “Argh...pffft!” He directly coughed up blood.

Lin Xun asked with a smile, “Do you still want to continue, dear grandson?”

Dong Liushi’s eyes were bloodshot as he hissed, “Jin Dui, you are too much!”

Then, he probably used some secret technique that stabilized his Great Dao Field that was on the verge of collapsing, and countless battle puppets emerged again.

However, just a moment later, these puppets were destroyed again.

“You... you...” Dong Liushi was no longer shocked and furious at this moment, but instead flustered and afraid.

He knew that he had run into a tough opponent this time!

“If you don’t admit defeat, then I’ll beat you up until you’ll call me grandpa,” said Lin Xun leisurely.

Dong Liushi’s expressions started flickering. A rage was burning in his heart, but at the same time he also felt inexplicably panicked. In the end, he took a deep breath and said, “I admit defeat.”

Immense shame surged in his heart.

The fact that he had actually said it startled even Lin Xun. “So straightforwardly? I thought you’d fight until the end.”

Dong Liushi’s face clouded over, and he gritted his teeth. “If I admit defeat, I still have a chance to continue the first round of selections. How can I do that if I keep fighting you and get seriously injured?”

Only then did Lin Xun understand that while Dong Liushi was not afraid to fight with his life on the line, he didn’t want to because being heavily injured would bar him from the contest!

“Smart man,” Lin Xun praised him with a sigh.

“Hmph!” Dong Liushi withdrew his Great Dao Field and hurriedly jumped down from the ring under the dismayed and surprised gazes of the crowd.

“What on earth?”

Many people were stunned. *Dong Liushi voluntarily admitted defeat?*

What method did Jin Duyi use to force Dong Liushi to voluntarily admit defeat even when he was inside the latter’s Great Dao Field?

Those who had placed good money betting on Dong Liushi had a tight feeling in their chests, so upset that they also wanted to cough up blood.

It felt as though their dao crystals were flying away...

They just wanted to cry.

Someone wailed, “Heaven cheated me!”

On the ring, Lin Xun was unperturbed. He was pondering and digesting some of his new understanding and ideals inspired by Dong Liushi’s Battle Puppet Imaginarium.

“Very interesting indeed.” At the judging area, the eyes of the blue-clad woman from Cloud Star Sect lit up.

When Jin Duyi had first signed up for the selections, despite his unassuming appearance and the fact that he was unaffiliated, she had keenly sensed his unique, tranquil aura.

Now that she had seen him in action with her own eyes, she knew that she hadn’t been wrong. Jin Duyi was indeed a character to be taken seriously.

She reminded the others, “Everyone, don’t forget what I said. On behalf of my Cloud Star Sect, I’m very interested in Jin Duyi.”

The other quasi-Emperor old monsters all scoffed.

Someone said, “Madam Yu, perhaps you should wait until the end of the first round before making a decision. Although Jin Dui is exceptional, it’s hard to say whether he’ll be able to achieve ten consecutive victories.”

Great Void Sect’s Tao Songting agreed with a smile, “Indeed. In comparison, supreme youngsters such as Chu Qiu, Gu Jianxing, and Zhuo Fengying are putting on the most eye-catching performances.”

The Fierce Wind Show Arena was so large that it was like a small world, currently hosting hundreds of thousands of cultivators in the audience seats alone.

There were always eighteen duels going on concurrently on the eighteen rings. The duel between Lin Xun and Dong Liushi had only been one of them and attracted just a small portion of the spectators.

The vast majority had their gazes on peak experts like Chu Qiu, Gu Jianxing, and Zhuo Fengying.

After all, these people had been world-shaking, dazzling figures even before the Dao Debate Contest. The attention they had received naturally far exceeded that of an unknown ‘Jin Dui.’

During Lin Xun’s battle with Dong Liushui, Chu Qiu had already defeated three opponents in an unstoppable fashion!

He had put on such a show that it grabbed the attention of the majority of the audience in the arena!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1882: God Killing Needle

The brilliance Chu Qiu showed was no less than Gu Jianxing’s. He defeated his opponents within ten moves!

When Lin Xun had defeated Dong Liushi, Chu Qiu had sent his third opponent blasting out of the ring with a single sword slash.

His opponent was seriously injured whereas he was unscathed.

Everyone watching was startled!

In other rings, there were also some other eye-catching characters.

In particular, there was an old man named Shi Long who had severely injured a younger generation supreme Saint-King within seconds. His strong arts and fierce combat power caused countless uproars.

According to public information, Shi Long had been stuck in the early stage of the Supreme Saint-King Stage for six hundred years. He was only a second-rate sect elder.

It was easy to overlook this kind of older generation character, so Shi Long's combat power was surprising to all!

Although the scene of Lin Xun defeating Dong Liushi had also attracted some attention, it did not cause as much of a sensation in comparison because of the other fights going on.

At least, Tao Songting of the Great Void Sect was of that thought.

This made the blue-clad woman called Madam Yu frown slightly, but before she could speak, Hong Yu of Xuanji Dao Sect said calmly, "Brother Tao, I am quite optimistic about Jin Duyi. I think he will definitely win ten consecutive games and pass the first round of selections."

"Oh?" Tao Songting sneered, "Brother Hong Yu, my question still remains. What if Jin Duyi fails to do it?"

There was an invisible competition between the seven major lineages of Cloud State.

Recently, the Great Void Sect had always been considered the number one power in Cloud State, so Tao Songting had his nose in the air when he faced Hong Yu and the others.

Madam Yu admiring Jin Duyi was one thing, but the fact that Hong Yu was actually voicing a dissident opinion against him made Tao Songting feel a little unhappy.

"Haha, how about this? Brother Tao, let's make a bet amongst ourselves. If Jin Duyi is eliminated in the first round of selections, then I will give this thing to you."

As he said this, Hong Yu turned his palm over, and a gray gem emerged. It had faint traces of blood on it, and the aura it emitted was obscure.

Emperor Blood Jade Pendant!

Quasi-Emperors, such as the woman in the blue dress, all revealed odd looks. This was a treasure that contained the blood of a great Emperor. It was priceless, enough to make any quasi-Emperor excited and jealous.

Tao Songting was also startled, and he became more and more unhappy. *Are you really going to go against me, Hong Yu?*

Hong Yu seemed not to notice Tao Songting's displeasure as he smiled, "If I win, how about you give me the ornament from your hair? How's that Brother Tao?"

"Sure!" Tao Songting snorted and agreed.

His red robe was like fire, his white hair was like snow, and he had an ink-colored wooden hairpin in his hair that was engraved with winding dao runes. It was elegant and timeless.

This wooden hairpin was a magical treasure named the Auspicious Wooden Hairpin. Wearing it could make a person's mind and six senses clear.

It could also play a wonderful role in resisting external demons during cultivation. It was a rare treasure for quasi-Emperors to hone their mindsets.

However, Tao Songting didn't expect that Hong Yu would not only go against him, but also eye his Auspicious Wooden Hairpin. This made him even more upset.

Because of this bet, other quasi-Emperors couldn't help but glance at Hong Yu a few times. *Does this old guy know something we don't about Jin Duyi?*

"Brother Hong Yu, even if you win in the end, you can't snatch Jin Duyi from me." Madam Yu, who was dressed in blue, smiled and teased, "Otherwise, I will fight you to the death."

Hong Yu simply smiled.

Tao Songting was becoming more and more irritated.

This episode also made the other quasi-Emperors present start to pay some attention to the battle on Lin Xun's side.

At this time, his second opponent had already stepped onto the stage and begun to fight.

He was an old man named Wang Zhenyang, a peak Saint-King. Although he had never set foot on the supreme path, his arts and fighting methods could be described as sophisticated, exquisite, and horrifying.

In the same realm, whether one had set foot on the supreme path was like the difference between the sky and the ground, so it was incredibly difficult for the lower to overturn the higher.

However, the strong combat power displayed by Wang Zhenyang was completely beyond many people's expectations and was enough to even change their perception of him.

The reason was because Wang Zhenyang's control of the power of the great dao was too precise, and it seemed to have reached the level of perfection.

This was especially true for his Great Dao Field, Seamless and Flawless. It was like a sky-reaching net that had no holes and presented a beautiful and consistent domain.

Although Lin Xun could have won immediately, he did not try to at this point because he benefited from sparring with Wang Zhenyang and gained many insights.

He even found it hard to imagine that an old man who had never stepped onto the Supreme Path could reach such a magical level in his control of the dao.

After the time it took to brew a cup of tea, Wang Zhenyang smiled bitterly and shook his head. He took the initiative to admit defeat, "My friend, you are clearly able to dissolve my skills and break my arts and laws in one swoop, but you've been humbly holding back. If I continue to fight now, then I could only call myself too ignorant for my own good."

"Senior, you have attained a remarkable peak in combat arts. If you were on the Supreme Path, then I am afraid that it will be difficult for the younger generation to get the upper hand on you."

Lin Xun bowed.

When the word 'supreme' was mentioned, a hint of gloom flashed across Wang Zhenyang's eyes. He sighed and turned away.

A long time ago, he was a peerless genius who was well-known in the world and had enough qualifications to step onto the Supreme Path. Unfortunately, he had been ambushed by the enemy during a break through, so he missed it!

It was not as if hatred still filled him, but every time he thought of that event, he couldn't help but feel a bit regretful.

This was one wrong step leading one down the wrong path!

The pursuit of the great dao had always been this ruthless and cruel.

Wang Zhenyang, who walked off the stage, suddenly turned around. "My friend, would you like to hear the words of a frustrated person?"

Lin Xun nodded.

"Remember, in the battle for the great dao, you must never give in!"

Wang Zhenyang emphasized every single word in a decisive manner. After that, he turned and left.

Lin Xun was touched and bowed to Wang Zhenyang's back from a distance.

Unfortunately, most people did not understand. They only saw Wang Zhenyang admit defeat so many of them burst into laughter.

They thought that he was an old man and did not know that he had lost grace by participating in such a selection. Now he had lost. Wasn't he just asking for trouble?

This was the view of the world.

The frustration, loneliness, and bitterness in one's heart were not something that people who watched the fun cared about.

However, Lin Xun had an indescribable feeling within him. Even if Wang Zhenyang had never set foot on the Supreme Path, his future journey would definitely not stop there!

In fact, eight thousand years later, when Wang Zhenyang, who was now revered as Zhenyang Emperor, talked about this past event, he also had an indescribable feeling.

Because it was also on that day that he had realized that the young man who appeared as Jin Duyi was destined to achieve more than he could imagine in the future.

Sure enough, in the years that followed, his prediction came true!

...

In the third duel, Lin Xun's opponent was a pretty woman with a pair of clear and innocent eyes, but her figure was sexy and attractive. Her curves were delectable and she had pale, snow-white skin. As soon as she appeared, she attracted heaps of attention.

"Sir, this is my first time to participate in such a grand event. I am very nervous. Please be merciful later."

She looked very charming and her voice sounded like the melodious song of a yellow oriole, which made some spectators' hearts melt.

Lin Xun said blandly, "Okay."

The woman's eyes were bright and her smile was intoxicating, "Sir, you are really a good person. Then I will start."

She flickered, like a dreamy haze, and slapped at Lin Xun with one palm.

Boom!

The void immediately exploded in large pieces that resembled frozen ice and snow as it was unable to withstand the domineering aura of such fighting power. Looking closely, this palm actually gave people a sense of frigid coldness that could freeze everything within a thousand miles!

She had clearly integrated the mysteries of her Great Dao Field into this palm strike.

Many people were dazzled and smacked their lips.

Seeing this, Lin Xun didn't even give it a second glance as he also struck out with his palm.

The two collided, and the palm power that seemed to bring down a world of ice and snow completely dissipated under Lin Xun's counter, just like snow melting into water.

Bang!

Following that, the pretty woman was like a kite on a broken string as she was slapped out of the ring fiercely. Blood spurted from her mouth and nose. Her hair was disheveled, and her snow-white and attractive body was twitching due to severe pain.

The whole audience was stunned.

There were sounds of gasps.

How could Jin Duyi treat such a charming and lithe little lady in such a brutish way?

Furthermore, he was so cruel and merciless!

Of course, the most shocking thing was that Lin Xun's palm not only seriously injured the woman, but also suppressed her with one blow making her completely lose the battle!

No one expected this.

"You are so cruel!"

Outside the ring, the woman's hair was disheveled, and her originally clear and innocent eyes were filled with resentment and hatred. Her teeth had almost been broken.

"You are too insidious."

On the ring, Lin Xun turned over his palm, revealing a magic needle as thin as a cow's hair. It was almost transparent with a hazy and illusory luster.

"If I'm not mistaken, this treasure should be called God Killing Needle. It is stained with the breath of disaster and destruction. Once stabbed, the victim may not die immediately,

but, within three months, their soul will be corroded and turn into ashes before dying suddenly."

Lin Xun's dark eyes were deep as he said coldly, "Earlier, you had hidden this thing in your hair before you silently took it out during your attack. If I hadn't been prepared, I would have been hit."

His explanation made many people's expressions change, and they realized why Jin Du had been so cruel earlier. It turned out that this seemingly pure and charming woman had actually used such a sinister and despicable method!

In the judging area, Tao Songting, Hong Yu and the others were also surprised, and the look in their eyes changed when they looked at the woman again.

God Killing Needle!

Such a vicious treasure could only be specially refined by someone in the Ancient Nebula Underworld!

"Just wait!"

The woman's face turned pale when she saw that her tricks had been exposed. She glanced at Lin Xun coldly and turned away in a hurry.

"This woman should be from the Underworld, but her means are probably not specifically aimed at me..."

As Lin Xun watched the woman leave he came to that conclusion.

This woman probably came from the Underworld, but she likely didn't expect that her well-hidden killing method would be discovered and expose her origins. Or, perhaps she had gotten the God Killing Needle from a different place.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1883: The Blade's Qi Is Boiling, the Blade's Light Is Like a Prison

However, the woman definitely couldn't have seen through his identity.

This was because the enemy wouldn't be so stupid as to take action in this performance arena where countless people were watching after figuring out who he really was.

So far, Lin Xun had won three fights in a row.

This performance still seemed a bit inferior in comparison though. On the other seventeen stages, people like Chu Qiu, Gu Jianxing and others had won five games in a row. In fact, there were some who had won as many as seven games in a row!

There were also some strong experts who had appeared for the first time and were defeated by a challenger.

In short, it was Chu Qiu, Gu Jianxing and some other peerless, dazzling figures who were shining at this moment. Compared to them, Lin Xun's current record was still not too eye-catching.

Lin Xun was too lazy to pay attention to this.

Winning really meant nothing to him. He just wanted to observe as much as possible and experience more of his opponents' Great Dao Fields.

That was all.

In the fourth match, Lin Xun's opponent was an extremely famous blade cultivator named Gao Lingtian. He came from a clan that was only considered a medium-sized force in Cloud State. He was an advanced stage supreme Saint-King and had a rough appearance with sharp edges.

Gao Lingtian's reputation was extremely well-known. He was known as the Demon Blade Saint-King among the younger generation. His Blade Chant Purgatory Dao Field was praised by some from the older generation.

Noticing this, Tao Songting couldn't help but speak up at the judging area, "This kid is in trouble."

"You can only know the true winner after the fight is over. I noticed that Jin Duyi was still holding back during his first three battles." interjected Madam Yu, who was wearing a blue dress, with interest.

Hong Yu opened his mouth to speak, but ultimately held back. He also knew that Tao Songting was very unhappy because of the bet just now.

At the moment, he didn't plan on provoking the other party anymore.

Because Gao Lingtian had appeared, this battle attracted a lot of attention in the audience, so Lin Xun was also noticed.

This was the influence of the Demon Blade Saint-King being present.

Naturally, the most discussed topic was whether Jin Duyi could hold out for a few moves against Gao Lingtian's blade.

Very few thought that Lin Xun would win.

When he heard these discussions, Tao Songting smiled but said nothing, probably thinking that the audience's eyes were sharp.

Hong Yu was inwardly quite amused. *I wonder if your face will hurt after you see the true result.*

Clang!

On the ring, a bright and dazzling weapon suddenly appeared. In Gao Lingtian's palm was a blade that was completely white and exuded a vast cold current.

The mysterious totem engraved on the blade vaguely revealed an amazing image of a fire dragon devouring the air.

With his blade in hand, Gao Lingtian's aura changed, resembling an infinitely sharp weapon that stood between heaven and earth with an unparalleled edge!

His fierce power made many strong experts in the audience feel shocked and astounded.

Despite that, Lin Xun was still the same as before with a calm expression without any emotional fluctuations.

"Extremely wild!"

Gao Lingtian didn't try to blabber and instead swung his blade in a fierce attack.

Swish!

With that one slash, it was as if he had turned insane and the blade qi that was released also showed a kind of crazy and wild aura that ignored the world and looked as if it could break all shackles.

The void split open like a canvas being torn, and the explosion spread.

That touch of blade energy amazed countless spectators at this moment.

On the other hand, Lin Xun did not move, but a wisp of sword energy swept out that was mysterious and unrestrained, like a natural phenomenon, without a trace of artificiality.

Bang!

The blade and sword energy collided and shattered into pieces in the void.

"Extremely wild!"

Without hesitation, Gao Lingtian's aura detonated crazily as he slashed out with his blade again. It was raging and violent, making it sound as if the wind and rain from the sky were whistling and sweeping across the universe.

All of his madness was being vented in the power behind the blade.

Lin Xun's eyes were filled with surprise. This kind of blade art was based on the seven emotions and six desires, and it unfolded different amazing visions.

Crazy, crazy to the extreme.

Wild, wild to the limit!

Lin Xun did not hesitate as he punched out ferociously. In fact, Gao Lingtian could not pose a threat to him. What he was interested in was the power of the blade art that was being interpreted by Gao Lingtian.

Boom~

The sky went dark and divine light roared.

Gao Lingtian and Lin Xun fought. One was full of sharp blade energy as he fought fiercely in a wantonly dominating manner, which dazzled all of the spectators. The other was like a cloud in the sky, calm and composed, with a sword energy that flowed while showing an extraordinary and utter complete aura.

For a moment, no one knew how many were captivated by this scene.

Even the participants in the other arenas looked over.

"That Jin Duyi is really amazing. It's really surprising that he can compete with Gao Lingtian."

"In terms of cultivation level, Jin Duyi is a little weaker. Strictly speaking, however, Gao Lingtian is slightly inferior in terms of combat power."

"That's not necessarily true. Gao Lingtian has just appeared and is obviously holding back a little."

There was constant discussion.

Lin Xun's performance was also being noticed by people. Many people realized that this unknown casual cultivator Jin Duyi was actually a hidden dragon.

This naturally aroused their interest.

However, Gao Lingtian's performance was still unanimously eye-catching. In fact, some young women excitedly screamed to cheer for the Demon Blade Saint-King.

"Extremely wild!"

In the arena, Gao Lingtian's momentum changed again as his aura skyrocketed to become stronger and stronger. In his madness, he was extremely crazy.

He was crazy about the blade and crazy about the dao!

Therefore, he had become crazy due to his obsession!

"Not bad, not bad, I didn't expect that there would be such a person in the first round of selections. I underestimated this place before..."

Lin Xun nodded inwardly.

Although Gao Lingtian's combat power still could not threaten him, he was seeing a unique blade power.

Just as Lin Xun was seeking the way of "I am the one and only under the heavens," Gao Lingtian's blade had a pure "crazy and wild" taste to it.

There was no question of superiority or inferiority, and only the depth of attainments achieved by the other mattered.

At this time, many audience members were affected.

Some were shocked by Gao Lingtian's blade power while others were surprised by Lin Xun's performance.

This was because Gao Lingtian's power had been rising and rising ever since the start of the battle. Despite the pressure, Lin Xun still took it all in stride, and there was no sign of him being suppressed throughout this entire time.

"Jin Duyi, Jin Duyi... Why have I never heard of this name in Cloud State before?"

"Is he from a star field outside the Great Primordial Chaos World?"

"It must be so. I heard that there are many peerless monsters on the Ancient Nebula Road. They crossed the starry sky and arrived in the Great Primordial Chaos World a while ago just to participate in the Dao Debate Assembly. This Jin Duyi must be one of them."

"Now that is something exciting to watch!"

A sensation arose in the spectators.

Chu Qiu, Gu Jianxing and the others had performed brilliantly, which was not surprising, because these peerless figures had long been famous in Cloud State.

However, the appearance of Jin Duyi gave people a sense of surprise and novelty. It was just like discovering a rising comet or a dark horse that came out of nowhere.

"Brother Tao, it seems that you are mistaken this time," Madam Yu said with a smile.

"That's not necessarily true. Madam Yu, do you think that Gao Lingtian, a peerless blade cultivator, will lose?" Tao Songting responded calmly.

Hong Yu resisted the urge to speak and instead thought to himself. *Although Gao Lingtian is strong, he is far inferior to She Ling from Phantasm Empyrean Island. After all, She Ling...was almost killed by Jin Duyi...*

Ding!

On the stage, weapons clashed and shook the sky.

This battle was so exciting that it even stole the limelight from other stages, and more and more cultivators began to pay attention to this battle.

Even Chu Qiu, Gu Jianxing, Zhuo Fengying and the others who were fighting with their opponents would glance over at this duel from time to time.

As supreme Saint-Kings and peerless figures with extraordinary attainments in this realm, they were not very interested in ordinary opponents.

Originally, Jin Duyi, Lin Xun's fake identity, was also ignored by them.

However, now they had discovered that Jin Duyi was actually a very powerful expert who had been hiding very deeply!

After all, if they had to face Gao Lingtian, they would need to be on their guard!

Of note, no one knew that Lin Xun had been restraining himself since the start of the battle.

He needed an opponent like Gao Lingtian as he required the other person to have a good grasp of the dao in order to make more observations. That way he could ponder more upon the dao and reach an elevated comprehension.

All of this was for the sake of finishing his own unique Great Dao Field.

All rivers would eventually run into the sea. The core of his dharma art, the Great Dao Furnace Art, was to integrate thousands of daos and derive thousands of arts in the world.

Thus, the Great Dao Field that he would complete in the future should also be an extremely unique one that perfectly matched with his own dao and laws.

It was undoubtedly very difficult to achieve this step.

From his six months on Whirlwind Ship to the many months after arriving in the Great Primordial Chaos World, he had been pondering and working on this matter.

He studied the All-Inclusive Plant Index, traveled across multiple states, and was now in the arena to discuss the dao with his opponents. All of this was for the sake of his goal of completing his Great Dao Field!

Reading thousands of books and traveling thousands of miles, retreating from the world to cultivate and reentering the world to hone his skills...all of that was for this!

...

In the ring, Gao Lingtian was becoming more and more crazy, wild, and insane!

His blade whistled passionately, splashing out raging, fierce, and pure streaks of energy, making it resemble a galaxy pouring down from the sky.

His entire consciousness was immersed in a boiling state of extreme fighting intent.

At this point in the battle, the only thought that came to his mind was: *This Jin Dui is an extremely rare opponent to come across!*

This made him happy instead of dismayed. Only such an opponent could allow him to fight without any scruples and obstacles in the battle.

However, if he knew what Lin Xun was thinking during the battle, he would be incredibly shocked...

After all, Lin Xun was not paying attention to the duel at all. Instead, the reason why he was restraining himself in this fight was because he wanted to understand as many mysteries as possible that would be useful to him.

Boom!

Suddenly, in the arena, Gao Lingtian's momentum changed again. He howled fiercely and swung the weapon in his hand fiercely.

The white blade energy surged, and a solemn Great Dao Field then covered it. Within, the blade energy was boiling, and the light it produced was like a prison!

Lin Xun had been waiting for this moment, and he flashed in without hesitation.

"This... Isn't this suicidal?"

Many people were stunned.

Following that, the cultivators who had witnessed Lin Xun's first three battles from the beginning felt a tingling sensation on their scalps.

It's happening again!

He was like this when fighting Dong Liushi.

He was also like this when fighting Wang Zhenyang!

Others tried to avoid their opponent's Great Dao Field, but Jin Dui was eager to rush in every time...

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1884: Like a Dark Horse

Hong Yu, who was sitting in the judging area, felt the corners of his lips twitch.

He saw all the spectators' astonishment and confusion, but he was the only one who knew that Jin Dui was not being daring.

He was not seeking his own death.

In fact, Jin Dui had always liked to defeat the enemy after they revealed their strongest fighting method!

She Ling, who controlled his Great Dao Field, Endless Road to Hell, was also defeated in this way...

Gao Lingtian was also stunned at first and found his opponent's decision hard to believe.

By now, he had acknowledged Lin Xun's combat power, and he even regarded him as a strong enemy worthy of his full effort.

However, he did not expect that his opponent, who had always been calm, tranquil, and composed before, would become so proactive at this moment.

This Blade Dao Field was the embodiment of his dao, and it was also the reason why he had become famous in the Cloud State and was titled the Demon Blade Saint-King!

No one has ever walked out of my Great Dao Field alive. Will you, Jin Duyi, be an exception...

Gao Lingtian's heart surged with an unparalleled fighting spirit, and his spirit and energy were completely on fire.

He didn't waste any words and used all his strength to execute his killing move.

He raised his hand.

In his Great Dao Field, white blade qi surged as thousands and thousands of them appeared. They were densely packed like a purgatory of sharp blades.

The sharp and domineering, unparalleled blade art was being reflected at this moment.

Lin Xun walked in it, as if he was strolling into a sea of fire and keen edges. Everywhere around him was filled with white blade qi.

The blade qi resembled purgatory, wanting to cut people into pieces and trap them in it.

If it were someone else in the same realm, they would have been unable to resist it long ago.

However, Lin Xun seemed incredibly calm. With every move he made, wisps of sword qi emerged, defeating all the multi-directional attacks one by one.

That sword qi came from the Taixuan Sword Scripture.

The power of the dao imprinted in the sword qi was the embodiment of Lin Xun's art!

Bang, bang, bang!

Collision sounds resounded, as if a peerless blade master and a peerless sword master were fighting, shocking all who saw it.

"Good!"

Gao Lingtian's eyes became more and more fiery like the scorching sun.

Only such a powerful opponent could allow him to fully stimulate the potential within him. Furthermore, he could release it completely and to his content.

He took a deep breath and suddenly howled loudly, "My blade is like the Dao!"

Then his Great Dao Field turned into an endless prison full of blades, and the unparalleled blade qi torrent showed an indestructible and unrivaled momentum, piercing the nine heavens and ten earths.

At this moment, Gao Lingtian had gone crazy and wild!

He was crazy about blades and wild about the fight. *How many people in the world are like me?*

Lin Xun was surprised by his demeanor. This guy's resolute pursuit of the dao of the blade was definitely the craziest he had ever seen since he had started cultivating.

Lin Xun was not careless at this moment.

In fact, he thought that he had to respect an opponent as rare as the guy in front of him, so...

He also used his true power.

Buzz!

A grain of sand transformed until it was like a world. It then condensed into the Seal of All Beings, and a vast ancient aura spread throughout Blade Chant Purgatory in an instant.

Then, the unrivaled white blade qi torrent became stained with a layer of turbid loess.

Indistinctly, the pious chanting of all living beings resounded.

Boom!

The Seal of All Beings fell, and the endless blade qi torrents that were everywhere immediately broke and exploded before scattering like rain!

Boom!

Blade Chant Purgatory was regarded by Gao Lingtian as the foundation of his blade dao, but it instantly trembled violently.

At the same time, Gao Lingtian was hit. His face turned pale, and a look of disbelief appeared on his face, "Is this your real power?"

It was at this moment that he suddenly realized that he had been wrong before because he had never seen the other party's true strength from the very beginning!

"I guess so," Lin Xun said casually.

Boom!

As soon as his response fell, under the pressure of the Seal of All Beings, the Great Dao Field that was praised by many of the older generation was broken.

At this moment, the blade qi in the sky turned into a violent and chaotic torrent and spread suddenly on the ring.

If there had not been an ancient and forbidden formation surrounding the arena, then once it spread out, it would definitely cause an unimaginable disaster.

"Oh heavens!"

"Broken? Gao Lingtian's Great Dao Field... How could it be broken?"

"Impossible!"

The experts who had been paying close attention to this duel were shocked at this moment, and many people stood up and screamed.

In fact, this scene was too incredible. No one had thought that someone could escape from the Great Dao Field, Blade Chant Purgatory.

"This..."

Tao Songting's expression froze, and he was a little restless. This result also surprised him.

"This Jin Duyi is really unexpected. People have to admire him..." Madam Yu sighed as her beautiful eyes twinkled.

Hong Yu was relieved.

This was Jin Duyi, a peerless figure who had once shocked all the higher ups in Xuanji Dao Sect. Since he was just fighting Gao Lingtian, how could he possibly lose?

At this moment, almost everyone in the audience was drawn in by this scene, and their hearts trembled.

Bang!

In the arena, Gao Lingtian staggered to the ground amidst the smoke and dust.

His clothes were tattered, his hair was disheveled, and on his pale and transparent face were blood stains at the corners of his lips. However, he seemed unaware of this as his eyes fixedly stared straight ahead.

Lin Xun stood there, spotless, as calm and peaceful as before.

"I lost... I am convinced..."

After a while, Gao Lingtian wiped the blood from the corner of his lips and sighed.

"Your dao is crazy and wild, but very good." Lin Xun knew that Gao Lingtian's blade dao had inspired him. In fact, it reminded him of the Sacred Combat Art that he had sometimes forgotten about.

This supreme fighting method had been inherited from one his senior brothers, and he had always used it to improve his combat power.

However, he had never thought about whether he could also integrate this art into his own Great Dao Field.

Clang!

Gao Lingtian put away his weapon and clasped his fists towards Lin Xun, "Jin Duyi, you are the first to defeat my Great Dao Field. In the future, I will try my best not to let this happen again."

After that, he jumped down the ring. His tall and thin figure looked simultaneously extremely cool and lonely.

In the arena, Lin Xun now became the only focus of the audience.

This was his fourth victory. Although he performed well before, he did not receive as much attention as other dazzling figures in the stadium.

However, since he had defeated Gao Lingtian, he suddenly caught the attention of all the spectators.

Jin Duyi!

He was a powerful figure who had come out like a dark horse!

Just a moment later, a cry of surprise rang out, "Gao Lingtian...broke through after the battle!?"

"Really?!"

All of a sudden, many old monsters were startled, and their eyes that were originally focused on Lin Xun all looked toward one place.

Gao Lingtian, who had originally been leaving, suddenly stopped and sat cross-legged on the ground as if he had instantly comprehended something. Layers of mysterious light rippled from him.

It could be seen with the naked eye that the aura around him was surging like a river after a downpour of rain!

"From an advanced stage supreme Saint-King, he has reached the perfect level in one leap!"

Tao Songting's eyes lit up, and he revealed his admiration, "This Gao Lingtian is indeed a genius in the way of the blade."

"It can only be said that Jin Duyi gave him the opportunity to break through," Hong Yu interjected calmly.

Tao Songting suddenly felt annoyed. *He keeps talking about Jin Duyi. Does Hong Yu really intend to go against me?*

Gao Lingtian's breakthrough shocked the whole audience.

He was also the only peerless figure who had miraculously achieved enlightenment and a breakthrough after being defeated during a selection round of the Dao Debate Contest.

Chu Qiu, Gu Jianxing, Zhuo Fengying and the other young experts all had different expressions on their faces.

At their level, it was almost impossible to make further progress in their cultivation through hard work alone.

A breakthrough required opportunities and insights!

Obviously, the duel with Jin Duyi was a chance for Gao Lingtian, and he had successfully seized it and broke through!

Therefore, at this moment, Chu Qiu and the others had already unconsciously attached some sort of importance to Lin Xun and regarded him as an opponent that could not be ignored.

"This battle was wonderful!"

Many people shouted excitedly.

An unexpectedly powerful Jin Duyi and a well-known Gao Lingtian had staged a dramatic battle. The unexpected result of the fight was definitely the biggest surprise today.

"Is it too late to bet on Jin Duyi now..."

Some crazy gamblers within the audience couldn't help but be tempted.

However, the focus of the spectators was soon occupied by the battles on other stages.

Because not long after Lin Xun defeated Gao Lingtian, Chu Qiu successfully defeated his tenth opponent and became the first peerless expert to win ten consecutive battles since the start of the first round of selections!

Undoubtedly, he had the qualifications to enter the second round!

As a result, the entire audience shifted their attention to Chu Qiu, and everyone was astonished.

"Seniors, can I continue to accept challenges?"

On the ring, Chu Qiu spoke in a loud and resounding voice that reached the entire audience.

"Yes."

Tao Songting and others looked at each other, and none of them refused his request because the rules did not stipulate that after winning ten consecutive victories, they could not continue to fight.

"Oh heavens, what is Chu Qiu going to do?"

"He must want to take this opportunity to challenge his own limits!"

"But in this way, the other cultivators will have fewer opportunities to seek ten consecutive victories. After all, there are only three days..."

The whole audience was in an uproar and talked endlessly.

"Is Chu Qiu unwilling to be overshadowed by Jin Duyi..."

Gu Jianxing's eyebrows showed a hint of coldness.

Not long after, he also defeated his tenth opponent and became the second expert to win ten consecutive victories. However, the attention he received was not as sensational as Chu Qiu's.

This made him feel a little displeased, and he immediately said, "Seniors, after ten consecutive victories, can one continue to challenge other stages?"

As soon as this was said, the whole audience looked at him strangely. Then they couldn't help from becoming excited as they had realized that Gu Jianxing was also not willing to stop after obtaining ten consecutive victories. He wanted to continue to show off!

Obviously, he was serious about competing with Chu Qiu!

Tao Songting, Madam Yu, Hong Yu and other seven judges in the assessment seats were also surprised. After a brief discussion, they finally agreed.

"Yes!"

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1885: A Sword Like a Rainbow That is Full of Vitality

Despite obtaining ten consecutive wins, Chu Qiu requested to stay in the ring and allow other strong cultivators to challenge him.

Gu Jianxing's request, on the other hand, was to allow him to go to other arenas to challenge other opponents.

However, no matter which way the challenge went, it can be seen that both Chu Qiu and Gu Jianxing were going tit-for-tat, secretly competing, and unwilling to stop at ten consecutive wins!

What shocked people the most was that seven judges including Tao Songting agreed to this!

"This is unfair!"

Some experts who were participating in the first round of selections protested.

These people had already reached ten consecutive wins, yet they still wanted to continue fighting. Furthermore, there were only eighteen rings. Naturally, other contestants were very unhappy.

After all, many of them had been waiting for Chu Qiu, Gu Jianxing, and other peerless figures to leave after obtaining ten consecutive wins before going into a ring.

Doing so would reduce the competitive pressure.

Who would have thought that such a thing would happen?

"A person's stamina is limited. They may be able to win ten or even twenty fights in a row, but if they continue like this, their physical strength is bound to be exhausted. Not to mention, who can guarantee that they will not be injured?"

Tao Songting stood up and his voice was like thunder, resounding throughout the venue, "Real experts are never afraid of challenges!"

After a pause, he continued, "After ten consecutive wins, you can continue to challenge, but if you lose, you can't participate in this round anymore!"

As soon as this declaration came out, the dissatisfied ones became speechless and were unable to complain.

According to the rules, even if you were defeated, you could wait to challenge on other stages.

For example, Gao Lingtian had been defeated by Lin Xun, but he could still continue to challenge other arenas.

Tao Songting's declaration was aimed at the experts who had already obtained their ten consecutive wins. They could continue to fight, but as soon as they lost, they would not be able to continue to challenge others.

Relatively speaking, it was fair.

None of these storms caused any impact on Lin Xun.

At this time, after beating Gao Lingtian, he defeated two more opponents and had won six consecutive victories.

All of them were done easily. The fifth and sixth opponents were also the best among their peers, but they were much inferior to Gao Lingtian.

Naturally, they could not pose a threat to Lin Xun.

His seventh challenger was a beastmaster who was an advanced stage supreme Saint-King with extremely rich combat experience.

His Great Dao Field was called Blood Realm of All Souls, and it was filled with the spirit power of various fierce birds and beasts. It was stronger than Dong Liushi's Puppet Imaginarium.

Unfortunately, for Lin Xun, this kind of Great Dao Field was too bloody and sinister. It felt as if thousands of souls had been sacrificed to make something like this, so there was not much insight he could gain from it.

In just a moment, the beastmaster ended up being defeated miserably.

His eighth opponent was a spiritual practitioner who practiced the dao through using plants and trees. He manipulated various vines and trees, and his combat methods were superb.

However, he was defeated in the end.

So far, Lin Xun had won eight consecutive victories, and his achievements had also attracted a lot of attention.

After all, in the eighteen arenas, Lin Xun was the only one who had emerged as a dark horse and had persisted until now without being defeated.

In the other arenas, the reigning champions had changed many times.

Some lost after three consecutive wins, and some lost after five consecutive wins...

With the others as a comparison, although Lin Xun's eight consecutive wins were not as stunning as Chu Qiu's and the others', it can still be regarded as an extremely good result.

Tao Songting had not expected to see something like this, so he couldn't help but mutter in his heart. *Is Madam Yu truly right about this Jin Duyi? Is he really a peerless genius?*

He honestly had nothing against Lin Xun, but he was very dissatisfied with Hong Yu's attitude of going against him because of this unknown cultivator.

When Lin Xun won nine consecutive victories, Madam Yu suddenly smiled and said, "Brother Tao, the bet between you and Brother Hong Yu will soon be decided."

Tao Songting's eyes flickered as he said, "Madam Yu, do you think my hunch was wrong?"

Madam Yu simply smiled and said nothing.

Hong Yu said, "Brother Tao, it's useless to speculate now. We'll see who wins later."

Tao Songting snorted coldly, and just as he was about to say something, his eyes suddenly lit up, "Interesting, Gu Jianxing actually made a move!"

Madam Yu and Hong Yu were both startled.

Almost at the same time, there was a commotion in the stands. Everyone could tell that Gu Jianxing, who was on a bright red flying sword, was floating towards the arena where Lin Xun was.

"Haha, there's something exciting to watch!"

"Gu Jianxing has already won ten consecutive victories. He doesn't take ordinary cultivators seriously. He isn't disgracing himself by choosing to challenge Jin Duyi."

"Jin Duyi has gone through nine fights, so his physical strength must be greatly depleted. However, Gu Jianxing has also fought many battles. Relatively speaking, challenging Jin Duyi at this moment is not taking advantage of the situation."

The discussions resounded through the arena loudly.

All the spectators' eyes had converged and fallen on the stage where Lin Xun was.

"This Gu Jianxing is using this method to compete with himself..."

Chu Qiu's lips curled up with a playful arc, "That's good, if you defeat Jin Duyi, then I don't mind having a duel with you."

"Jin Duyi has won nine consecutive victories, so he only needs one more game to stand out and have the qualification to participate in the second round of selections. By jumping out now, Gu Jianxing is being a bit unkind."

Madam Yu frowned.

"In terms of the selections, anything goes as long as it does not violate the rules," Tao Songting said calmly. Inside he was quite certain about one thing. After this duel, Hong Yu's Emperor Blood Jade Pendant would probably belong to him.

Hong Yu did not say anything, but he simply sneered in his heart. *This Gu Jianxing...doesn't know what's good for him. If he loses, let's see how he can raise his head in the future.*

In Hong Yu's view, Gu Jianxing was just asking for trouble. He had already won ten consecutive victories and consequently received a lot of praise and a reputation boost. It was the best time to stop.

Instead, he chose to challenge Jin Duyi!

Once he lost, even though he still had the qualification to enter the second round of selections, the praise and honor he received before would be wasted and he would become a mere stepping stone for Jin Dui.

By then, it will be too late for him to regret his decision!

However, with his identity and status, Hong Yu would naturally not say any of this out loud

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"It is indeed a bit mean of me to find you when you have won nine consecutive victories. However, if I don't take this opportunity to spar with you and you choose to leave after winning ten consecutive victories, I will have no chance at that time."

As soon as Gu Jianxing arrived at the ring, he announced his intentions leisurely with a calm expression.

After thinking for a while, he said, "Let me put it this way, your previous performance has been recognized by me and so I deem you worthy of my effort. If it were anyone else, I would not bother to pay attention to it at all."

His voice was flat, but it contained an undisguised arrogance.

Lin Xun simply responded with an "Oh." Even at this moment, he was still as calm as before. All of the experts who tried to find a hint of fear or trepidation in him could not help but feel surprised.

Was he really not afraid about facing a peerless figure like Gu Jianxing?

Lin Xun's response made Gu Jianxing raise his eyebrows.

Immediately, he said calmly, "Your state of mind is very good, but I don't know if you will hate me for not winning ten consecutive games when you lose later."

Gu Jianxing was not stupid, so he did not underestimate Lin Xun's dao heart.

At this moment, his overbearing arrogance, conceit and obvious hints were all attempts to oppress Lin Xun's state of mind!

To his disappointment, Lin Xun remained calm throughout their entire interaction. He was like a silent abyss, and no one could detect any fluctuating emotions from him.

At this time, Lin Xun said, "I really want to know if your swordsmanship is as pale and powerless as your attempts at provocation."

Gu Jianxing smiled coldly. "Won't you know if you try it?"

Lin Xun responded, "Then let's give it a try."

Swish!

From under Gu Jianxing's feet, a flaming red, ancient sword flew out like a dazzling and bright fire that was tearing through the void and bursting out.

This sword strike was simple, pure, and clean, without any fancy adornments, but it embodied the sharpness of his swordsmanship to the extreme.

In addition, there was also a spirit of destroying everything with one sword slash.

The battle had started off with a bang.

All the spectators were focused on this fight, and the originally noisy atmosphere became silent. Everyone held their breath and concentrated.

Even Tao Songting, Madam Yu, Hong Yu, and the others were no exception.

Lin Xun was still bare-handed, with a calm and tranquil aura. He resembled a towering mountain standing silently between heaven and earth.

His fighting style also presented a charm as plain as simple water.

In comparison, Gu Jianxing's combat methods were undoubtedly extremely brilliant. His fiery sword interpreted the destructive aura of burning mountains and boiling seas, as if it was hot enough to melt the universe.

The sword qi was so strong that it made people unable to open their eyes!

Anyone who saw this scene will be amazed. Undoubtedly, Gu Jianxing, a perfect and supreme Saint-King, was too dazzling.

He was a master of the sword and was also an extraordinary talent of the younger generation. In fact, his attainments in cultivation were enough to make many people of the older generation pale in comparison.

If nothing unexpected happened, he would also be one of the few overlords coming out of the first round of selections in Fierce Wind City.

There were very few people who could compare with him!

However, what surprised everyone was that under the immense pressure of Gu Jianxing's sword, Jin Duyi never looked as if he was being suppressed.

Just like during his duel with Gao Lingtian, Gao Lingtian at that time was also extremely dazzling and powerful, attracting countless attention.

Despite that, he had been unable to do anything to Jin Dui and was defeated by the latter in the end.

Now, was Gu Jianxing also destined to follow the same route?

All the spectators in the audience couldn't help but take in a sharp breath, as if they were becoming reacquainted with Lin Xun's fake identity, Jin Dui. Subsequently, they were becoming more and more confused.

"Embers burning like a flowing rainbow!"

In the arena, Gu Jianxing began to glow like a rosy cloud, and his black hair was fluttering with bright flames.

In his palm, his red sword flashed lightly, and the void, dust, and air seemed to be igniting. A shocking trace of ashes appeared.

Then, the sword qi that was slashed out unfolded like an immense rainbow from the sky, piercing the sky and descending into the world!

Although they were watching from afar, when they saw this sword strike, many people in the audience felt a sharp pain in their hearts and minds with an indescribable discomfort and horror.

In fact, the mystery contained in this sword slash was too obscure and terrifying, beyond their imagination!

A sword like a rainbow that is full of vitality!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1886: The Deeply Hidden Jin Dui

In fact, this sword attack was Gu Jianxing's killer move as it integrated the secret of his own Great Dao Field into one sword attack!

Lin Xun had once killed quasi-Emperor Kong Yin, whose Great Thousand Sword Shadows had been terrifying as he had honed that technique for eight thousand years.

Compared with that, while Gu Jianxing's sword strike was inferior in power, it was not worse than the Great Thousand Sword Shadows in terms of momentum.

Lin Xun had to admit that Gu Jianxing was indeed an excellent cultivator.

It was a pity as his opponent was still not good enough.

Then Lin Xun clawed out with his hand.

The fiery red sword qi that descended into the world like a divine rainbow was directly grasped by Lin Xun. When he retracted his five fingers, this unparalleled sharp sword qi was immediately crushed and turned into specks of fiery red light pouring from his fingers.

The whole audience was shocked and felt incredulous.

This was Gu Jianxing's ultimate move, but it was crushed like tissue paper?

Tao Songting's eyelids also twitched violently, and his expression fluctuated slightly.

"Embers disseminating death in the void!"

In the arena, Gu Jianxing's eyes were like sharp swords, and he attacked again without hesitation. His power was like a whirlwind sweeping fallen leaves, and his sword was like a raging flame thrower.

His power became stronger and stronger, making him resemble a sword master of fire.

Lin Xun's strength had made him sense a threat, so how could he dare to hesitate?

Swish! Swish! Swish!

In a moment, the stage looked like it was covered with a layer of flames, and the sky was full of crisscrossing and raging fiery sword energy.

Howling like a whirlwind, as domineering as thunder, as majestic as a torrent, as swift as light and shadow...

Gu Jianxing flashed, and his body and hair were surging with flame patterns. His power was so great that it dominated the whole arena.

Countless sounds of people sucking in cold air and swallowing their saliva rang out one after another in the stadium.

Many spectators were dazzled and their minds were shaken.

Earlier, when Gu Jianxing had won ten consecutive victories, he did not use any of these powerful arts.

From this, it could be seen that Jin Duyi had forced Gu Jianxing to use his real trump cards!

"Fire Embers Sword Curtain!" Gu Jianxing shouted.

Suddenly, in the arena, the criss-crossing flaming sword qi suddenly condensed and turned into a magnificent, vast, and fiery red Great Dao Field.

This time, Lin Xun did not actively choose to enter it.

This was because Lin Xun already understood the power of the Great Dao Field controlled by Gu Jianxing through his previous repeated attacks.

It made no difference whether or not he entered Fire Embers Sword Curtain.

However, for Gu Jianxing, activating his Great Dao Field could allow him to release all his power to its limit.

"What a Great Sword Field!"

"Such a technique is rare."

Many people exclaimed.

Some old monsters couldn't sit still.

When Lin Xun was about to be covered by the fiery and gorgeous sword curtain, he suddenly swung his fist and sent it forward.

The fist was as heavy as a mountain, with a yellow earth light, but it was surging with a charm of the dao that resembled a furnace but was not a furnace and was like an abyss but was also not an abyss.

Bang!

A dull sound echoed, and the descending Fire Embers Sword Curtain instantly stopped in mid-air.

As the astonished crowd gawped, dense spider-web-like cracks appeared within Fire Embers Sword Curtain.

Kaboom!

The sword field that had integrated all of its cultivator's arts did not have time to release its power before it exploded on the arena.

The sky was full of fiery red light mixed with earth-shaking explosions that filled the ring.

BANG!

Gu Jianxing swayed before he staggered and fell to the ground. He was bleeding from all seven orifices, and his face was terribly pale.

This punch destroyed not only his Great Dao Field, but also caused him serious internal injuries. His internal organs seemed to be displaced, and his qi and blood were disordered.

In the audience, there was a complete silence as everyone was shocked.

One punch had destroyed the stunning Great Dao Field!

Furthermore, Gu Jianxing, who was so powerful and dazzling, was seriously injured!

For a moment, everyone felt dazed.

Before, they had great confidence in Gu Jianxing, thinking that Jin Dui was destined to stop at nine consecutive victories.

But now, the cruel reality was like a slap in the face, hitting them hard!

No matter how dazzling Gu Jianxing was, no matter how famous he was...did any of that matter?

No! He still couldn't beat Jin Dui!

Some women who had previously screamed and cheered for Gu Jianxing crazily now looked as if they had eaten a dead fly or had lost their parents. They were unable to accept such a reality.

"So strong!"

Chu Qiu was moved, and his heart was shaken.

He knew best how strong Gu Jianxing was. While participating in this first round of selections, Gu Jianxing was one of the opponents he had his eye on.

However, Gu Jianxing was now seriously injured by Jin Dui, who had appeared out of nowhere, which was also beyond Chu Qiu's expectations.

"This boy...is really a hidden talent..."

Tao Songting revealed a complicated expression. He had to admit that he had misjudged Jin Duyi earlier and had greatly underestimated his strength.

"To be honest, even I didn't expect it." Madam Yu smiled wryly. Although she had always been optimistic about Lin Xun, she was also surprised and astounded when she saw this scene.

Only Hong Yu was calm and happy, as if he had personally slapped Tao Songting with Lin Xun's hand.

On the stage, Gu Jianxing's expression was also extremely complicated, flickering with shock, confusion, and bewilderment.

He had not been careless, nor did he underestimate the enemy.

He just didn't expect that the opponent he chose this time would be so unknown yet so powerful!

Even if he tried his best, he couldn't shake it!

He said bitterly, "It turns out that in front of you, my swordsmanship is really as pale and powerless as my previous provocation..."

He stood up and turned away.

There was no need to fight again as he was destined to lose if he tried again.

His figure was bleak as he walked off the stage. All the spectators who saw this scene couldn't help but sigh.

Gu Jianxing, a dazzling sword genius, had already won ten consecutive victories and qualified for the second round of selections. He had won countless compliments and his reputation had soared.

However, since he was now defeated by Jin Duyi, all that praise and fame had gone up in smoke.

At this moment, he was a stepping stone for Jin Duyi's success!

No matter how dazzling or powerful he was, Jin Duyi would be a mountain that could not be avoided whenever he was mentioned!

After this battle, Gu Jianxing no longer had the opportunity to continue with more challenges, so he was doomed to not be able to fight against Chu Qiu.

Despite this, he could enter the second round of selections, which was a blessing in disguise.

As Gu Jianxing left, the silent atmosphere in the field was broken, and there was a great uproar. All eyes were focused on Lin Xun.

Jin Duyi!

He was a mysterious, unknown cultivator, but in today's Dao Debate Contest he was a dark horse that had come out of nowhere.

Dong Liushi, Wang Zhenyang, Gao Lingtian... All the experts who were favored by the spectators had been defeated by him one by one.

In this battle where he had achieved ten consecutive victories, he defeated Gu Jianxing in one fell swoop!

No one would have expected this to happen.

Therefore, everyone looked at Lin Xun on the stage with wide, glazed eyes.

This also made people more and more certain that Jin Duyi was definitely not a cultivator from Cloud State but instead most likely a peerless figure from another world in the Ancient Nebula Road.

Otherwise, with the combat power he showed, he would have been famous all over the world long ago, and it would be impossible for people to not have heard of him now.

Someone calculated the time. From the time when he started off as a nobody until now, it only took a stick's worth of incense. Jin Duyi had already shocked everyone present!

The speed of his rise and the momentum were so strong that it was enough to make people dumbfounded.

On the examination seat, Hong Yu smiled slightly, "This Jin Duyi...is really an eye-opener."

Tao Songting's lips twitched as he raised his hand to take off his Auspicious Wood Hairpin. He threw it to Hong Yu and said, "You win."

Hong Yu hurriedly responded, "I was also in the dark, but I didn't expect my luck to be so good today. Brother Tao, please don't mind this."

Tao Songting said unhappily, "It's fine. A loss is a loss, so don't think I'm a sore loser."

Madam Yu suppressed the grin rising on her lips.

Other quasi-Emperors also secretly sighed that this Jin Duyi...was indeed a dark horse that surprised them all!

The more famous Gu Jianxing was, the more extraordinary Jin Duyi who defeated him was. This was the tragedy of becoming someone else's stepping stone.

"Hey, Jin Duyi did not leave the ring after obtaining ten consecutive victories. Is he going to continue to accept challenges?"

Some people were surprised to find that Lin Xun was still standing in the arena.

For a time, many other people also looked over.

"Even Gu Jianxing is not his opponent, so who dares to challenge him now?"

Many experts who were waiting in the sidelines felt bitter.

Chu Qiu, Zhuo Fengying and some other talented experts occupied other arenas, which made them feel pressured.

Now that Gu Jianxing had just left, another Jin Duyi who was stronger than Gu Jianxing had appeared, which made them feel stuffy inside.

"That's not necessarily true. As Senior Tao Songting mentioned, one's stamina is limited, so how could Jin Duyi not be physically tired after fighting ten battles in a row?"

Some people were dissatisfied, "If we can seize this opportunity, then we may be able to defeat him!"

Sure enough, not long after, a cultivator came forward to challenge.

Unfortunately, in just a moment, he was defeated by Lin Xun in the arena.

"Everyone!" Someone gritted his teeth and yelled, "If you fail, then you just have to fight again. If you don't even have the courage to fight, then why are you participating in the Dao Debate Contest? What's the point of seeking the dao?"

These words were like a raging fire, stirring the hearts of the waiting participants.

"Yes, if you lose, stand up and continue to fight. If you don't fight because of fear, then when will you ever be able to succeed?"

"Go!"

For a moment, many participants rushed out, excited and determined.

They weren't actually bewitched by that encouragement. Instead, the rules of the selection were very clear. Even if they were defeated, they still had the opportunity to challenge others.

This was equivalent to giving them many opportunities to fight for!

For a moment, whether it was the ring where Lin Xun was, or where Chu Qiu, Zhuo Fengying and others were, they were also targeted by many participants.

The audience became very excited and full of expectation when they saw this.

"This is what a truly powerful person would do."

Seeing this, Tao Songting, Madam Yu and others all nodded inwardly.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1887: No One Can Match Him

If a person did not even have the courage to challenge a strong expert, then they were destined to be a coward for the rest of their life.

Similarly, if a cultivator did not have the guts to fight, then it was simply wishful thinking to want to go further on the path to the Great Dao!

At the moment, the participants were in high spirits and their blood was boiling. This scene naturally made many people feel a lot of emotions.

A strong cultivator should be like this!

Lin Xun was also very satisfied with this. He did not care about winning or losing. What he cared about was how much of the Great Dao he could see and experience.

Following that, fierce duels were staged on all eighteen arenas.

Some were evenly matched and brilliant.

Some were crushing and shocking.

Some were full of dangers and excitement.

Some...

However, in Lin Xun's arena, there was only one outcome.

That was, no matter who the opponent was, no matter what identity, no matter what power of the Great Dao they possessed, in the end, they were always defeated.

They either admitted defeat voluntarily or were beaten until they did.

Throughout this entire period, Lin Xun was as calm and composed as a mountain.

The feeling he gave people could be summarized in just one phrase: incredibly stable!

Time passed, and before long two hours had gone by.

The only experts who had persisted in the arenas and had never been defeated were Lin Xun, Chu Qiu, Zhuo Fengying, and Shi Long.

In other words, since the start of the first round of selections, the four of them had stayed the champions since they stepped onto the ring, defeating one enemy after another and persisting until now!

Among them, Chu Qiu's performance was expected by everyone because everyone knew what a brilliant figure Chu Qiu of Heavenly Tip Sect was.

Zhuo Fengying was a woman with a cold temperament like snow and an outstanding appearance. She was dressed in purple, had short hair, cheeks as white as fresh lychees, and a well-shaped nose.

She came from an ancient tribe in Cloud State, the Ancient Golden Crane Clan.

The spear Dao she mastered was as sharp as the wind and as illusory as a dream. It was truly superb, and no one had ever been able to defeat her.

Like Chu Qiu, Zhuo Fengying's performance was not surprising.

Shi Long was an older generation top expert who had been stuck in the early Supreme Saint-King Stage for six hundred years, and he was an elder of a second-rate force in Cloud State.

However, his performance in the first round of selections was shocking.

Even an expert in the advanced Supreme Saint-King Stage was defeated by him!

It was also at that time that Shi Long's true cultivation was exposed. It turned out that this older generation figure was already an advanced supreme Saint-King!

Unfortunately, Lin Xun had come out as a dark horse, so he covered up Shi Long's brilliance.

In any case, Shi Long was also considered a big shot in Cloud State, but Lin Xun was different. Before this, no one had ever heard of a person called Jin Duyi in Cloud State before.

Furthermore, no one had expected that both Gao Lingtian and Gu Jianxing would be defeated by him one by one!

The selection had come to this point.

Chu Qiu had won twenty-seven consecutive victories. His temples were slightly wet, his face was pale, and there were some bloody wounds on him. Other than that, he had not suffered any serious injuries.

Zhuo Fengying won twenty-four consecutive victories. In comparison, her injuries were more serious. Her face was pale and transparent, she was panting slightly, and there was a trace of fatigue on her face.

Shi Long won twenty-one consecutive victories. His situation was even more grim. One of his left arms had been blown up, and his whole body was covered with blood and wounds.

Everyone could tell that Shi Long wouldn't be able to hold on for too long.

Lin Xun won twenty-three consecutive victories, but he was the only one who was still spotless and unscathed. His expression had not changed, and he was as calm as when he had started.

This surprised countless people. After all, Lin Xun had fought fiercely with Gu Jianxing and also battled Gao Lingtian. In comparison, his physical consumption should be greater than the others.

Despite all that, he was the only one who had never been injured!

"This Jin Duyi is so powerful that it is unreasonable..."

Tao Songting was completely shocked as he sighed. At this time, he couldn't help but accept the truth.

"Brother Tao, you can't compete with me. I set my eyes on Jin Duyi first. Sooner or later, he will become the disciple of my Cloud Star Sect," Madam Yu said vigilantly.

Some other quasi-Emperors nearby were also tempted and had the idea of winning over Jin Duyi. If they could bring such a cultivator into their own forces, it would naturally be better.

However, after hearing what Madam Yu said, they couldn't help but smile bitterly.

Of note, Hong Yu knew that even Madam Yu might not win in the end... *I'm afraid it would be difficult to achieve her wish!*

Time passed bit by bit.

During this period, some experts stood out and won ten consecutive victories in other arenas, but most of them chose to stop fighting and didn't continue.

Although these experts caused quite a stir after obtaining ten consecutive victories, they could not compare with Lin Xun, Chu Qiu and the others.

The time it took to brew another cup of tea passed.

While fighting with his twenty-fourth opponent, Shi Long took the initiative to admit defeat because his injuries were extremely serious and his physical strength was on the verge of drying up.

His voluntary admission of defeat made many spectators breathe a sigh of relief and admire him.

For an old man to be able to fight until now was already a great feat!

Not long after Shi Long admitted defeat, on another stage, Zhuo Fengying took the initiative to give up after defeating her twenty-ninth opponent.

She did not lose. However, her physical strength could not support her to fight any longer.

Before leaving, she looked at Chu Qiu who was still fighting, and then glanced at Lin Xun who had not been injured in the distance. A trace of unwillingness surged in her heart.

Finally, she shook her head, sighed lightly, and turned away.

At this point, after winning ten consecutive games, the only two experts who still insisted on fighting in their respective arenas were Chu Qiu and Lin Xun!

Chu Qiu had won thirty-three games.

Lin Xun had won twenty-seven games.

Until this moment, the shock in the hearts of all the spectators could not be described in words.

It was really unexpected that such an exciting and shocking scene would be staged in the first round of selections.

Chu Qiu was as powerful as his reputation.

Jin Duyi was unexpectedly unbelievable.

"In the end, who will be defeated first?"

Everyone was nervously watching.

Even Tao Songting, Madam Yu, Hong Yu and the others focused their attention on the rings that belonged to those two.

...

"Just where did this e from?"

At this point, Chu Qiu was exhausted, but what made him unwilling to step down was that Lin Xun on the other ring had never been injured!

In contrast, he was already wounded, which was undoubtedly too depressing.

"I don't believe it!"

Chu Qiu's eyes were red, and he gritted his teeth and persisted.

This was the invisible competition between them. With Chu Qiu's spirit, how could he be willing to be surpassed by others?

The thirty-fourth round.

The thirty-fifth round.

What shocked the audience was that Chu Qiu, who was already exhausted, had defeated another two opponents one after another.

His unyielding, tenacious, and tough fighting posture made countless experts tremble.

"Chu Qiu!"

"Chu Qiu!"

"Chu Qiu!"

No one knew who had begun to cheer for him, but it ignited the emotions of the audience, and they all shouted and cheered for him.

Gu Jianxing, who watched all this from afar, secretly clenched his fists.

Gao Lingtian, who had already won ten consecutive victories on another stage but did not continue to fight, could not help but feel annoyed. If he had known this would happen, should he have persisted?

Zhuo Fengying, who was sitting cross-legged on the ground and recovering from her injuries, felt complicated. Chu Qiu's performance made it difficult for her to be dissatisfied.

However, even with the thunderous cheers, Chu Qiu could not hold on.

A person's stamina was limited!

At this moment, Chu Qiu had exploded and exhausted all his potential and drained all his strength. Before the thirty-seventh battle began, he felt dizzy and realized that he really couldn't fight anymore...

He resisted the fatigue and turned to walk off the arena.

When he accidentally saw Lin Xun fighting in an arena in the distance, he felt frustrated, powerless, and depressed.

This guy... Where did he come from...

Seeing Chu Qiu's figure walking down step by step, the cheers in the audience stopped abruptly, and everyone revealed complicated expressions.

Chu Qiu, after all, had left earlier than Jin Dui...

This made people feel inexplicably disappointed.

Then, when people noticed Lin Xun, who was fighting on another stage, they were speechless and astonished again.

Because even now, he was still not injured!

Not even a piece of his clothes was torn!

Many people couldn't help but have the same thought in their minds. *Is there a bottomless pit in this guy's body? Otherwise, how could his physical stamina be so strong?*

Someone shouted, "Although Chu Qiu has voluntarily given up, it doesn't mean that he is not as good as Jin Dui!"

"Yes, Chu Qiu won thirty-six fights in a row while Jin Dui has only won thirty. The gap is still big. It depends on whether he can break Chu Qiu's record."

Many people nodded.

However, what made everyone feel incredulous was that in the following time, Jin Dui, who was closely watched by them, still defeated challengers one after another just as he did before...

There were still no injuries.

In fact, there wasn't even a sign that it was taking a lot of effort!

Later on, the voices of the whole audience disappeared, and all eyes were focused on Lin Xun, watching him conquer the arena like an unshakable mountain...

The thirty-fourth match, won.

The thirty-fifth match, won.

The thirty-sixth match, won!

When Lin Xun started to fight his thirty-seventh opponent, the emotions that had been suppressed for a long time in the hearts of all the spectators in the arena burst out at this moment, and it was a complete sensation.

Because this already meant that he had broken Chu Qiu's record in the stadium!

"I didn't expect that this dark horse could surpass Chu Qiu. Does this mean that in the first round of selections, he can be called the well-deserved first place?" Tao Songting sighed.

Madam Yu took a deep breath and corrected him seriously, "No, it can only be regarded as the first place in the selections here in Fierce Wind City."

The first round of selections of Cloud State were not only held in Fierce Wind City, but also in many other areas within the state.

Even so, Madam Yu's admission was equivalent to recognizing Lin Xun's achievements in Fierce Wind Show Arena.

At least for now, it could be said that no one can match him!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1888: It is Lonely at the Top

When Lin Xun won his thirty-seventh duel, the entire audience became strangely silent. Everyone looked shocked and speechless.

Even Tao Songting and Madam Yu could not calm down.

Before, Chu Qiu, who previously had the most outstanding and dazzling performance, had stopped before his thirty-seventh fight.

Undoubtedly, Lin Xun's victory in this match broke Chu Qiu's record. Now he was the only one who had won thirty-seven consecutive victories since entering the ring!

This was something no one had expected before.

Immediately afterwards, the whole arena was in an uproar.

Someone shouted excitedly, "This Jin Duyi...is too fierce!"

Before the start of the first round of selections, the most promising cultivators were Chu Qiu, Gu Jianxing, and Zhuo Fengying...

Only Lin Xun was not listed there.

However, Lin Xun, a person who they did not expect, defeated Gu Jianxing and broke the records created by Zhuo Fengying, Chu Qiu and the others!

Who would not be surprised and shocked?

"When this dark horse came out, it was already surprising enough. Now, he is a promising contender for first place. Who would dare to believe it?"

Some people looked dazed.

"I'm screwed. I had bet that Chu Qiu would be the first in the first round of selections, and I bet all my belongings on it. Now... it's all over..."

There were also many people with sad expressions as they lamented and wailed amongst themselves.

At this time, Gu Jianxing, Gao Lingtian, Zhuo Fengying, Chu Qiu and other dazzling figures all had complicated looks on their faces.

They had accounted for every opponent, but they had not expected that there would be a ruthless character like Jin Duyi who would come out of nowhere.

His ability to sweep through all of his opponents was like a horse racing far ahead of all others!

For them, he was beyond their reach!

"Madam Yu, I'm afraid that your Cloud Star Sect may not be able to recruit a young man like this," Tao Songting sighed.

Madam Yu's heart was also churning, and she said stubbornly, "Whether or not we can convince him, we will still have to go all out to fight for him!"

Others couldn't help shaking their heads.

At this time, how could they not see that while Jin Duyi may have seemed to be a rogue cultivator at first glance, it was in fact very likely that he was a genius from another world in the starry sky.

Although Cloud Star Sect was the second ranked sect in Cloud State, it would be very difficult for them to recruit such a heaven-defying genius as a disciple.

The atmosphere of the Dao Debate Contest was pushed to the extreme and almost all the audience was focused on Lin Xun.

Despite all this, he seemed to be unaware of it, standing on the stage, waiting quietly.

"No way, is he going to continue fighting?"

Some spectators were shocked.

There was also a commotion in the field.

"I'm curious; how long can he hold on?"

Many people were excited and looked forward to it.

In the battle area, the contestants felt bitter. If Jin Duyi didn't leave, how could they have a chance to shine?

However, there were some people who didn't believe their luck would be that bad and thought that challenging Lin Xun at this time was definitely a good opportunity to become famous.

Even if they lost, they would be noticed by people!

If they won...

They would definitely make their name resound through the sky!

Not long after, the thirty-eighth match for Lin Xun kicked off.

Without exception, Lin Xun won again this time.

He was so stable in the arena, resembling a sacred mountain that had never moved and no one had been able to shake so far!

Following that, those experts who believed in their own luck rushed to the stage to fight Lin Xun...

There were also some cultivators who had originally lost to Lin Xun. After recuperating, they rushed to the arena again...

Unfortunately, they all lost.

As the battles began and ended one after another, the uproar and shock in the arena were endless.

As time passed, people simply had a sense of shock and numbness.

Lin Xun was too stable, giving them the feeling that he would never be defeated.

During this process, who knew how many had speculated that he would lose in which duel, but in the end they were all slapped in the face by reality!

Time passed.

Five hours after the start of the first round of selections, Lin Xun won fifty consecutive victories in his arena.

Seven hours after the start, he obtained his sixty-eighth consecutive victory.

Nine hours after the start, he won his eighty-fourth consecutive victory.

...

In the Fierce Wind Show Arena, the spectators' eyes were dull and their minds were numb.

Shock, surprise, astonishment, excitement, and disbelief...all of those emotions had disappeared from them.

Only a feeling of confusion remained.

When Lin Xun won his ninety-ninth victory, the participants in the battle area were all in despair.

How can we fight someone like this?

Throughout this entire time, everyone had thought that Jin Dui would be exhausted and be unable to hold on in the next moment, but every time they were proved wrong.

Earlier, everyone thought that they would be the lucky one who had the opportunity to defeat Jin Dui, but in the end, they were all suppressed and defeated!

Now, these participants no longer dared to take chances, and no one dared to challenge Lin Xun in the ring.

The scene suddenly became strangely quiet.

In the arena, Lin Xun was alone, but looking around, no one dared to step forward to fight!

The people in the audience were all in a trance. In the Fierce Wind Show Arena, with Jin Dui here, who would dare to claim first place?

Time passed bit by bit.

On other rings, battles continued, but on the ring where Lin Xun was, it was quiet, and there was no challenger.

This was the power he established after obtaining ninety-nine consecutive victories!

Even Tao Songting and Madam Yu could not help but wonder, among the core descendants of the seven major lineages in Cloud State, how many could achieve this?

This was only the first round of selections. In the second round, what kind of amazing performance would Jin Dui, the dark horse, have?

Hong Yu was the calmest of them all.

Because he knew best that if Jin Dui had wanted to he could have skipped the first round of selections!

On the stage, Lin Xun waited for a long time, but no one came to challenge him, so he immediately looked at the other arenas.

According to the rules, he could continue to accept challenges or challenge others on the other stages!

If no one came, then would he take the initiative?

As soon as Lin Xun had this thought in his mind, he noticed that the faces of the experts who were fighting on other stages all changed slightly.

Someone was anxious, "Brother Jin, I will win ten consecutive games soon, please show mercy!"

Someone begged, "Brother Jin, in this first round of selections, everyone has recognized your fighting ability. Please leave us a way out."

For a moment, the experts who were fighting fiercely in their rings paused and looked bitter.

The whole audience was stunned, and the spectators were all struck with one thought. *Look at how scary Jin Duyi is.*

Lin Xun's lips twitched imperceptibly. Finally he shook his head and said, "Forget it, you all can continue."

As he said that, he left his arena directly.

The cultivators on the other rings were relieved and let out a long breath. They watched Lin Xun disappear and then they gathered their thoughts and continued to fight.

"Jin Duyi finally stopped!"

There were many uproars in the stadium.

Some people sighed, "It's lonely at the top. I can't find an opponent who can fight, so I can only leave..."

Some people showed hope, "This way of winning is the most terrifying. It is unshakable and unmatched. One can only choose to give up alone. I just don't know how far Jin Duyi can go when the second round begins."

The second round of selections was going to kick off at Great Void Mountain where the Great Void Sect was located.

By then, all the experts who stood out during the first round of selections in different areas of Cloud State would participate in it together.

Moreover, the disciples of the seven major lineages would also appear at that time!

At that time, it would be a real fight between dragons and tigers, and the Dao Debate Contest would become more exciting and desirable to watch.

Many people thought to themselves, *"No matter how much it costs, I have to go to Great Void Mountain to see who will defeat Jin Duyi."*

"Ninety-nine consecutive victories, such a record is probably rare in the first round of selections in the entire Cloud State."

Tao Songting, Madam Yu, Hongyu and others all had a strong premonition.

Based on Jin Duyi's performance today, he was destined to be outstanding when the second round of selections began!

The heated discussions and noise in the stadium had nothing to do with Lin Xun.

He had already left and returned to the inn alone.

During his ninety-nine battles today, he was able to experience the power of the great dao that was controlled by his opponents in the same cultivation stage, so he had accumulated a lot of insights.

Therefore, as soon as he returned, he began to cultivate in silence.

In his mind, Dong Liushi's Battle Puppet Imaginarium, Wang Zhenyang's Seamless and Flawless, Gao Lingtian's Blade Chant Purgatory, and Gu Jianxing's Fire Embers Sword Curtain all appeared.

The forms, aura, and charm of the Great Dao Fields he had experienced...they all surged into Lin Xun's heart like a tide.

Later on, Jintian Xuanyue's sword field White Emperor City, quasi-Emperor Kong Yin's Great Thousand Sword Shadows, quasi-emperor Qu Rao's Thirty-Six Lotus Realms, and Endless Road to Hell which was from She Ling, a member of the Holy Illumination Ancient Sect, also appeared...

All the experiences about the Great Dao Fields, just like rivers returning to the source, turned into various insights and merged together into Lin Xun's mind.

The Great Dao Field was based on the dao that one controlled. That dao power got condensed until one created a world that was full of their own dao!

The higher the quality of a person's Great Dao Field, the stronger the cultivator's control over the dao. Therefore, they could exert more power during battles.

As soon as Lin Xun stepped into the Supreme Saint-King Stage, he relied on his control of the dao to condense his Great Dao Field, but it was just a vague prototype.

It was also from that time until now that he had been trying to figure out and study the mysteries of the Great Dao Field in order to complete his perfect and unique Great Dao Field!

And now, under the impact of all the insights accumulated in his heart, Lin Xun seemed to have an epiphany, and naturally began to interpret and refine his own Great Dao Field.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1889: Number One in Fierce Wind City

Buzz~

His Great Dao Field, which was a chaotic prototype, appeared in front of Lin Xun, sometimes turning into a deep and boundless abyss, and sometimes turning into an eternal and immortal divine furnace...

The unparalleled laws of the great dao were like a divine chain of order, flickering and surging within it.

Magnificent and unique images of stars swallowing the sky, true dragons, water and fire, immortality, and Tai Chi appeared, and the aura it exuded was so strong that it was enough to make any of his peers despair!

Lin Xun had already set up formations in the room, so there was no worry of being disturbed or noticed by the outside world.

At this time, as he activated his cultivation, his Great Dao Field, which was like a ball of chaos, began to produce a rumbling sound.

It was like a prototype being tempered and polished!

All the insights in Lin Xun's heart were being integrated into his Great Dao Field one by one during this process.

Then...

His Great Dao Field suddenly transformed into a sacred and immortal city that stood under the sky as it was bathed in divine light with towering towers and celestial splendor.

Not long after, it transformed into millions of sword shadows, overlapping and dense as if they were endless.

Immediately afterwards, it condensed into thirty-six lotus realms, and each lotus petal revealed the atmosphere of a sacred pure land...

These various forms were from the following Great Dao Fields: White Emperor City, Great Thousand Sword Shadows, and Thirty-Six Lotus Realms!

Following that, Lin Xun's Great Dao Field gradually revealed other different forms, such as the Fire Embers Sword Curtain, Endless Road to Hell, etc.

In the end, these scenes of strange phenomena all returned to the original chaotic and primal state.

It was also at this moment that his primitive, embryonic Great Dao Field suddenly fell into an extreme silence as it quietly floated in the air without a sound or a hint of movement.

Doh!

In Lin Xun's heart, all his perceptions seemed to burst out completely, almost driven by instinct, and a sound of the Dao resounded.

Boom!

The crude Great Dao Field, which had fallen into an extreme silence, began to undergo amazing changes and vaguely morphed into a deep abyss.

It was so large and deep that it seemed to be able to swallow up the entire sky!

Upon closer look, this abyss had also taken on the shape of a furnace that was filled with an immortal aura that was ever changing and evolving.

It looked like a furnace but not a furnace, and like an abyss but not an abyss!

It seemed as if everything had returned to the very beginning, but it gave off a feeling that this was a great step forward, resembling the perfection of nature's ever changing process.

As Lin Xun pondered on his Great Dao Field, various dao arts appeared. There were true dragons raising their heads and howling, water and fire flowing between heaven and earth, clear and turbid yin and yang qi hanging over the sky and ground, and the charm of immortality and endless life spreading...

A terrifying aura that was enough to make ghosts and gods palpitate also spread.

Boom!

The array covering the room was impacted by this and shook violently, as if it could not withstand the oppression of such a terrifying aura.

A smile appeared on Lin Xun's face.

His Great Dao Field, which was originally in its prototypical form, had now reached a more complete form!

Its power and quality were completely different from what it was in the past.

Crash~

Lin Xun's mind shifted and his Great Dao Field suddenly disappeared.

It's a pity that there is still one step left to reach ultimate perfection...

But it's enough. When I killed quasi-Emperor Qu Rao, my Great Dao Field could still burst out with incredible power in its previous state. Now that my Great Dao Field is more complete, I should not need to worry about any of my peers breaking it.

Lin Xun had never witnessed an absolutely perfect Great Dao Field, and he wasn't sure if there was one similar to the one he was searching for in the world.

However, he had a hunch that when the Dao Debate Assembly held by the Great Six Courts kicked off, perhaps, there might be a peerless figure who could control such a Great Dao Field.

After all, the foundation of the Great Six Courts was so huge that it was not an exaggeration to overestimate it.

While Lin Xun was cultivating alone, night had already fallen in Fierce Wind City.

The first day of selections had ended. Among the thousands of participants, only thirty-two had achieved ten consecutive victories and successfully qualified for the second round.

From this, it was easy to imagine how fierce and cruel the competition was!

Other than some mournful sighs, no one cared about the losers.

Tonight, the winners had become the most eye-catching and dazzling figures in Fierce Wind City.

Lin Xun, Chu Qiu, Zhuo Fengying, Gu Jianxing, Gao Lingtian...one by one, those names had caused countless sensations in Fierce Wind City.

Among them, the most eye-catching one was Jin Duyi, Lin Xun's fake identity!

"One person, ninety-nine consecutive victories, fighting to the end, no one dared to challenge! This is a true example of what it means to be invincible!"

"How powerful is Chu Qiu? How dazzling is Gu Jianxing? But after today's competition, they can only play second fiddle to Jin Duyi. Who could have thought of this result?"

"How to describe Jin Duyi? In one word, stable! Unshakable, unmatched, and terrifyingly stable!"

"Damn, I should have bet heavily on Jin Duyi earlier!"

Similar discussions and uproars could be seen and heard everywhere in Fierce Wind City. Every expert who was talking about today's selection was destined to mention Jin Duyi.

In short, on this night, Jin Duyi had become completely famous by amazing everyone with his incredible feats. He was like a bright sun, shining alone on Fierce Wind City.

In comparison, all the other experts who had participated in the selection were eclipsed by his brilliance!

...

Time went by, and the second day came. The selection for the Dao Debate Contest continued in the Fierce Wind Show Arena.

However, compared with the first day, the battles on the eighteen stages on the second day seemed a bit lackluster.

In fact, this was normal. Almost all of the most popular dazzling figures had successfully advanced on the first day, making the current selection day less exciting.

Although there were other dark horses like Lin Xun, most of them chose to stop fighting after obtaining ten consecutive victories.

Not to mention breaking Lin Xun's battle record, even compared with Chu Qiu and Zhuo Fengying, they seemed much inferior.

At the end of the second day, a total of twenty-three people obtained ten consecutive victories and were qualified to participate in the second round.

The name that was discussed the most that night was still Jin Duyi.

Even though he did not appear in Fierce Wind Show Arena today, he was now the benchmark. No matter who was being talked about, they would always be compared with him.

Therefore, people were becoming more and more aware of the relevance of Lin Xun's ninety-nine consecutive victories.

On the third day, the selections continued on.

Today was also the last day of the first round of selections. In the previous two days, regardless of whether they won or not, all the experts who participated in the Dao Debate Contest had tried their best.

This made this day much more exciting and tragic.

In the end, seventeen participants obtained ten consecutive victories. When added to the number of people who advanced in the previous two days, a total of seventy-two people had the qualifications to enter the second round of the selections in the Dao Debate Contest.

At first glance, seventy-two was not a small number, but this was obtained after weeding from thousands of participants, which was equivalent to eliminating over ninety percent of the contestants!

It was also on this last day that in the Fierce Wind Show Arena, Tao Songting, Madam Yu and the seven other quasi-Emperors jointly announced the person who obtained number one in the first rounds.

Jin Duyi!

He was the top of the top at first place, the leader of all who had participated.

However, this first place was only the first place in Fierce Wind City after all.

As far as Lin Xun knew, there were ten other people who obtained first place in Cloud State.

Moreover, this first place was just during the first round of selections in the Cloud State Dao Debate Contest.

Therefore, Lin Xun was not excited by this.

He didn't care about winning or losing at all. In fact, being able to obtain first place was unexpected but also within reason.

However, while Lin Xun was not excited, that did not mean that the others were of the same mind.

When this was announced, the huge stadium was full of thunderous voices, exclamations, sighs, cries of worship, and so on.

Even Tao Songting and others were deeply affected.

Prior to this, who could have expected that the top of Fierce Wind City's selections would be a dark horse that had suddenly appeared?

Ninety-nine consecutive wins!

Such a record was a stunning feat!

On this day, the news that Jin Duyi, Lin Xun's fake identity, had obtained the number one spot in Fierce Wind City swept through the city like a storm and spread to all directions...

Following that, Jin Duyi's name also entered more and more cities in Cloud State and was known by more and more cultivators.

All of this had nothing to do with Lin Xun.

At this time, he had left Fierce Wind City with Chu Qiu, Gu Jianxing, Zhuo Fengying and the other contenders who had qualified by following Tao Songting and the others.

The second round of the selections was going to kick off in half a month.

The location was Great Void Mountain, where the Great Void Sect, the number one lineage of Cloud State, was located.

By then, the experts who had advanced in the first round of selections in the other parts of Cloud State would gather together and start the second round of selections along with the disciples of the seven major lineages!

"Young friend, if you are willing, I promise that after you enter the Cloud Star Sect, you will immediately become a core disciple and have your own blessed place for cultivation. In addition, you will enjoy the support of 8 million dao crystals and various cultivation resources every year.

"And, as long as you have any requests, regardless of whether I have the authority to make a decision or not, I will do my best to help you get it!"

Along their way to Great Void Mountain, Madam Yu found Lin Xun and attempted to appeal to him and tempt him with benefits. She used every means she had to win him over, hoping that Lin Xun would join Cloud Star Sect.

Her attitude was so sincere and enthusiastic that Chu Qiu, Zhuo Fengying, and Gu Jianxing, who were traveling with him, couldn't help but feel a little jealous.

This was the treatment that someone at the top got!

It made people feel envious, but also helpless.

In the end, Lin Xun still refused. Of course, he knew that Madam Yu really admired him, but he had long been accepted as a disciple of a different orthodoxy, so it was impossible for him to join another sect again.

In this regard, Madam Yu was disappointed, but she forced herself to be strong and said firmly, "No matter what, I will continue to fight for it!"

Hearing this, Lin Xun couldn't help but smile bitterly. Sometimes being valued too much by others was also a troublesome thing...

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1890: Contention House

Great Void Mountain.

Sitting in the northwest of Cloud State as a territory of the Great Void Sect, the number one sect in Cloud State, Great Void Mountain was naturally a first-rate blessed mountainous ground.

Nestled in Great Void Mountain was Great Void City, which was hailed as the greatest city in Cloud State and was an extremely bustling and prosperous place.

Following the Dao Debate Contest of Cloud State kicking off recently, Great Void City had become increasingly busy, with cultivators flocking in from all over the world every day.

Although the city was vast and covered a large area, the continuous influx of cultivators made it extremely difficult to find an inn in the city.

Half a day after leaving Fierce Wind City, Lin Xun and his party arrived at Great Void City.

As someone who was qualified to participate in the second round of selections for the Dao Debate Contest, his living arrangement in the city had been organized directly by Great Void Sect.

When the second round of selections began, Lin Xun and other cultivators would set off from the city and head to the Great Void Mountain!

.....

Great Void City.

In a quiet and tranquil courtyard.

As the champion of Fierce Wind City, Lin Xun was specially arranged to rest in this beautiful courtyard. No one else enjoyed such a treatment.

“When the second round of selections begins, I will come to collect you. Before then, it is your free time.”

After taking care of everything, Tao Songting left in a hurry.

“Is Brother Lin here?”

As soon as Lin Xun settled down in the courtyard, someone came to visit him.

“Fellow Daoist Gao, what can I do for you?”

Lin Xun opened the courtyard door and saw Gao Lingtian standing outside.

“There is still a good half a month until the second round of selections begins. Brother Lin, don’t you want to take this opportunity to soak up the charm of Great Void City?” Gao Lingtian asked with a smile.

Although he was defeated by Lin Xun in the first round, he had been greatly impressed by Lin Xun’s strength and that made him want to befriend him.

“Oh, Brother Gao is also here.”

Before Lin Xun could respond, Chu Qiu, clad in a black robe, came over together with Gu Jianxing and Zhuo Fengying.

Chu Qiu stepped forward, and after greeting Lin Xun and Gao Lingtian, then said with a smile, “I received information that the champions and experts who emerged at the top in the first round of selections in Cloud State are now gathered in Contention House in Great Void City.

“Also, I have received an invitation for us Fierce Wind City representatives to attend the gathering.”

“Really?” Gao Lingtian exclaimed.

Chu Qiu, Gu Jianxing and Zhuo Fengying all nodded.

They were considered the most dazzling figures of the younger generation in Cloud State. Moreover, they were all at the Supreme Saint-King Stage. It was normal for them to be invited to such gatherings.

“Brother Lin, will you go?” Gao Lingtian looked over at Lin Xun.

“I have nothing to do, so there’s no harm in checking it out,” said Lin Xun with a smile.

Chu Qiu and the others also smiled.

Like Gao Lingtian, they were also impressed by the strength that Lin Xun displayed in the first round of selections.

“Come on, let’s head there right now.” Chu Qiu led the way.

On the way, Lin Xun learned that the first round of selections that took place in Cloud State was divided into ten participating zones.

Fierce Wind City was one of them.

Lin Xun was precisely the champion of Fierce Wind City.

Besides him, there were also champions like him from the other nine participating zones.

For example, the gathering held in Great Void City was initiated by Su Muhan, the champion of Blue Sea City.

Su Muhan!

He was a pure-blooded descendant of an ancient imperial clan in Cloud State and a perfect supreme Saint-King.

Rumor had it that he had demonstrated remarkable talent at a young age and all seven major factions in Cloud State had high hopes for him.

To recruit him into their sect, the higher-ups of the seven major factions had tried to win him over countless times and almost wore down the doorstep of the Imperial Su Clan.

Unfortunately, Su Muhan declined all the offers.

Therefore, a rare talent like Su Muhan had appeared in the first round of selections.

When talking about Su Muhan, the eyes of Chu Qiu and Gu Jianxing showed a tinge of fear.

Cloud State was vast like a world of its own.

The fame of Chu Qiu and the others were confined to only a certain area. But it was different with Su Muhan. He enjoyed a dazzling reputation across the entire Cloud State and was even considered as one of the most talented of his peers.

According to Chu Qiu and the others, Su Muhan was even stronger than many core disciples of the seven major factions!

Lin Xun reacted very calmly to this. He did not say much and just listened to the discussions between Chu Qiu and others with a smile on his face.

However, there were a few names that stuck to his mind after hearing them more often than the others.

For example, Lan Yunke, the champion of Waterair City, who controlled the Great Dao Field Lotus Treasure Vase. He was equally as famous as Su Muchan.

For example, You Tianxing, the champion of Wind Rainbow City, who possessed the Great Dao Field called Nine-Colored Jade Hall. He was said to be a rare spirit cultivator seen only once every thousands of years.

For example, Yun Xiangyi...

They were all champions of the other participating zones, and they all rose to fame after the first round of the Dao Debate Contest.

.....

Late at night.

The huge, thousand-foot-tall Contention House was brightly lit, with countless servants and attendants running back and forth inside like butterflies.

When Lin Xun and the others arrived, many had already gathered in the main hall on the top floor of the building. The champions of each participating zone and the descendants of ancient clans were all in attendance.

“The one sitting in the center is Su Muhan,” Gao Lingtian whispered.

Lin Xun looked up and saw a young man in a bright yellow robe matched with a tall hat and a wide belt. His face was as beautiful as jade. He was sitting tall in the center and looking around charmingly.

Undoubtedly, he was the champion of Blue Sea City—Su Muhan.

In addition to him, in other areas of the hall sat other top performers from different participating zones, men and women, and all had an astonishing aura.

With Gao Lingtian's guidance, Lin Xun was able to identify the champions of each participating zone.

For example, Lan Yunke, champion of Waterair City, was dressed in all white and was waving a white feather fan. He looked handsome and elegant yet not showy.

You Tianxing, champion from Wind Rainbow City, had a cold, steely face and blade-like eyes. His aura was just as terrifying.

Every champion had their own unique bearing, and even if they were just sitting there, their presence was unignorable.

Lin Xun just swept a glance over them and didn't pay much attention to any of them, but when he passed Helian Qi, the champion of Black Nightmare City, his eyes narrowed slightly.

This was not because Helian Qi was extraordinary, but because he recognized the woman in black sitting next to him.

During the first round of selections in Fierce Wind City, the woman in black had attacked Lin Xun with the God Killing Needle, but in the end she was terribly wounded by Lin Xun.

At that moment, Lin Xun suspected that she was from the Ancient Nebula Underworld, but she probably did not recognize him.

Unexpectedly, the woman in black had also attended the gathering!

"Hmph!" The woman in black also noticed Lin Xun, and hatred and resentment flashed across her eyes.

"Haha, Chu Qiu, Gu Jianxing, the experts from Fierce Wind City are finally here."

In the center, Su Muhan stood up and came over to greet them with a smile. His movement immediately shifted all eyes in the hall onto Lin Xun and the others.

Suddenly, the noisy atmosphere quieted down.

"Greetings, Brother Su."

Chu Qiu and Gu Jianxing also greeted him with smiles.

"Ah, I thought the champion of Fierce Wind City would definitely be one of you two. Who would have thought there would be a dark horse?" As Su Muhan said that, he glanced over

at Lin Xun, Gao Lingtian and the others. “Brother Chu, so who is Jin Dui who holds the record of ninety-nine consecutive wins? Quickly introduce him to us.”

Ninety-nine consecutive wins!

Jin Dui!

In the hall, the champions and top figures of each participating zone pricked up their ears.

One of their purposes of coming to the gathering was to meet Jin Dui and see whether he was worthy of the fame.

“Brother Su, this is Fellow Daoist Jin Dui.”

Chu Qiu stepped aside and introduced Lin Xun with a smile, “Brother Jin’s strength amazed us all. We all should take this chance to get to know each other.”

All eyes in the hall gathered on Lin Xun, swirling with curiosity, surprise, and deep thoughts.

An astonishing record of ninety-nine consecutive wins could not be faked, but they just did not imagine that Jin Dui would look so plain and nothing special.

He stood as peaceful and steady as a rock. Besides that, there was nothing noteworthy about him.

Even Su Muhan was taken aback for a moment, then he smiled and said, “I am Su Muhan, please to meet you Fellow Daoist Jin. Your great name reverberates like thunder. Please, take a seat.”

As he spoke, he invited Lin Xun and the others to take their seats, and servants quickly came over to serve up tea and various delicacies.

Almost all the people present were cultivators from Cloud State. Even if they had never met before, they had heard of each other’s name and reputation.

The only exception was Lin Xun. A person who they had never heard of before was now shining splendidly after the first round of selections in Fierce Wind City. This matter naturally attracted the attention of many people.

Before long, cultivators came over to give a toast to Lin Xun and to chat with him.

Lin Xun drank with each of them one by one in a manner that was neither humble nor overbearing.

Watching from the side, Chu Qiu and the others couldn't help but sigh to themselves. *This is the respect and admiration one gets from winning ninety-nine consecutive battles!*

Even if they had never seen or heard of him before, who wouldn't respect him now?

Would an ordinary character get to enjoy the treatment of being toasted by so many top figures?

Cloud State was huge, spanning vast territories and comprising numerous factions and countless cities.

However, there were only ten champions from the ten participating zones.

What was different about Jin Duyi from them was that he had created a legendary record that all other champions had to take notice of!

At least, among the ten participating zones, only Jin Duyi had such an achievement!

"You're Jin Duyi?"

While Lin Xun was drinking with someone, a low, ice-cold voice suddenly sounded from the other side.

Lin Xun looked up and saw Helian Qi, the champion of Black Nightmare City, looking down at him from not far away as if he was an ant.

The woman in black next to him smiled coldly as she swirled the winebowl in her hand.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1891: Suppression!

The one who spoke was Helian Qi.

He was clad in a navy blue daoist robe embroidered with patterns of pines, cranes and clouds. As he moved, dao light circulated him before taking the shape of a bottomless ancient well behind him.

Helian Qi, the champion of Blue Sea City, possessed the Great Dao Field called Moon Reflection on Ancient Well, which was said to store all the grand daos he had grasped. Once trapped in the bottom of the well, one's life would no longer be in their control.

The moment that Helian Qi spoke, the people around him immediately shut up, and the lively atmosphere in the hall also turned silent.

The experts who were toasting with Lin Xun also sensed that something was not right and quickly stepped back. Many of them revealed expressions of awe and fear.

“Brother Jin, Helian Qi is a descendant of the ancient Nightmare Suppressor Clan. He practices the Nightmare Suppressor Dao Qi and possesses tyrannical strength. He is as good as Su Muhan.” Gao Lingtian sent a voice transmission to Lin Xun.

Although the Nightmare Suppressor Clan was not as powerful as the seven major factions in Cloud State, it was steeped in history and was one of the orthodox ancient clans in the world of demonic cultivators.

Helian Qi was a peerless figure of his clan, and now he had been crowned one of the ten champions. Many present experts felt awe and respect towards him.

Lin Xun set down the wine bowl and asked indifferently, “Is there something wrong?”

Helian Qi pointed at the black-clothed woman beside him. “She’s my little sister Helian Rong. She was badly injured by you in the first round of the Dao Debate Contest. If that was only it then I would not pursue the matter further, but you even ruthlessly damaged my sister’s cultivation foundation. Don’t you think you went too far?”

His eyes were terrifyingly cold, and behind him the well was roaring as if threatening to swallow people’s souls.

Everyone shuffled nervously, eyes flashing. Everyone could tell that Helian Qi wanted to retaliate against Jin Dui!

“Why didn’t you tell everyone that your sister was only injured by me because she attacked me with a God Killing Needle?” Lin Xun’s expression was as indifferent as ever.

God Killing Needle!

Many people’s eyes widened in surprise. An evil and sinister treasure like that could only be crafted in the Ancient Nebula Underworld.

“There is no rule in the contest that prohibits the use of weapons and treasures!”

Helian Qi snorted as his expression became increasingly ice-cold.

Lin Xun argued nonchalantly, “There is also no rule that prohibits injuring the opponent’s foundation. Just because your sister was injured, you came here to criticize me”

Helian Qi’s face stiffened, and murderous rage blazed in his eyes.

He confronted Lin Xun because on the one hand, he wanted to stand up for his sister, and on the other hand, he wanted to test Lin Xun's strength.

Who would have thought that Lin Xun would be so tough and uncompromising?

Seeing the conflict intensifying between Lin Xun and Helian Qi, Chu Qiu stood up with a frown on his face. "Helian Qi, this gathering is not organized for your personal revenge."

"Chu Qiu, step aside. You let the champion title be snatched away by someone else. What qualifications do you have to talk to me?" Helian Qi snorted disdainfully.

Chu Qiu's face instantly darkened.

In the main hall, peerless figures such as Lan Yunke and You Tianxing all donned amused expressions. It was obvious that they had no intention of interfering in the matter.

Or perhaps, they also wanted to use Helian Qi to test Lin Xun's strength.

Moreover, they had nothing to fear. After all, they were in Cloud State, their territory, and Jin Duyi...was said to be just an independent cultivator not affiliated with any factions.

Su Muhan sighed, "Brother Helian, can you give me a little respect?"

Helian Qi said aloud, "Of course, but you must first tell Jin Duyi to bow and apologize to us, then I won't give him a hard time here for now!"

His attitude was undeniably aggressive.

Su Muhan shook his head and did not try to persuade him again.

Although he was the host of this gathering, he did not want to offend Helian Qi for the sake of Jin Duyi.

In comparison, Jin Duyi was just an outsider, while Helian Qi was a peerless figure from the Cloud State's Nightmare Suppressor Clan.

Who would interfere in Helian Qi's affairs because of an outsider?

Lin Xun scanned the hall, avoiding only Helian Qi, and said calmly, "It's better for you all not to interfere in this matter. If something happens later, whoever dares to stop it will become an enemy of mine."

Everyone's expressions altered strangely. *This guy looks ordinary, but he has confidence!*

Helian Qi burst out laughing. "Jin Duyi, who holds the record of ninety-nine consecutive wins, do you dare to fight me?"

He had a domineering and haughty manner.

The atmosphere in the hall became austere.

Lin Xun finished the wine on the table before he got up and said to Chu Qiu and the others, "This gathering is rather boring. I will leave first."

Chu Qiu, Gao Lingtian and the others quickly stood up. "If Brother Jin wants to leave, we shall also take our leave now."

They were also unhappy with what happened.

"Do you want to leave? Have you asked for my permission?!" Helian Qi's face turned overcast.

"Oh?" Lin Xun chuckled. "You have a deathwish, right?"

Deathwish!

The face and eyes of Helian Qi hardened, anger rising in him. He was a peerless figure of the Nightmare Suppressor Clan and he had now been crowned one of the ten champions. In the entire Cloud State, who dared to speak to him in such a way?

Lin Xun's words completely ignited the murderous intent in his heart.

The murderous intent erupted like a volcano from Helian Qi's body, while the well behind him condensed as if it was a real, tangible object. It was dark and unfathomable, as if it was choosing someone to swallow.

"Be careful!" Chu Qiu and the others tensed up.

They all knew about Helian Qi's ruthless and violent nature. If he wanted to fight, no one could stop him.

Lin Xun said nothing else and just extended his hand and swiped his palm down.

Rumble!

A rush of invisible and obscure palm force suddenly descended like an ancient mountain falling from the sky, pressing down on Helian Qi.

Helian Qi smirked coldly and with a roar, his navy blue daoist robe whipped around him, dao light rumbled as it gathered and the ancient well behind him flared up and shot upwards.

"Demonic Well Traps the Sky!"

Helian Qi mobilized all his cultivation to strike back at Lin Xun, hoping to crush him on the spot.

Unexpectedly—

The deep well instantly exploded, followed by the infinitely terrifying force continuing to press down, crushing the defensive power around his body and forcing him to the ground on all fours.

All five body parts were touching the ground!

The floor shook violently.

“He...”

Everyone was stunned by the scene. They all knew that Helian Qi was strong and tyrannical as demonstrated by the fact that he ranked first in the first round of selections.

Yet he was suppressed by one palm strike!

Even if he was caught off guard, even if he was too careless and underestimated his opponent, it was still shocking that he was suppressed just like that.

“Argh!” Helian Qi roared in shame and anger.

Demonic qi of the Nightmare Suppressor Clan surged forth from him like giant dragons before taking the shape of an ancient well that emitted a frightening aura. Unfortunately, not only did he fail to break free, but he was also pressed so hard by the force that it left a human-shaped dent in the ground.

Everyone gasped audibly. Even top figures such as Su Muhan, Lan Yunke and You Tianxing could not hide the look of surprises on their faces.

Jin Duyi is strong!

Chu Qiu and the others were relatively calm compared to them. They were the only ones who knew that Lin Xun’s winning streak in the first round of selections would have been much higher if there were more people who dared to challenge him!

Was a heaven-defying person like him someone who Helian Qi could provoke?

The hall was utterly silent and still.

Lin Xun glanced down at Helian Qi and said, “If I want to leave, does it matter whether I have your permission?” His voice was nonchalant.

However, everyone looked at him differently.

Although the two were both champions, Lin Xun was able to suppress Helian Qi with just one palm. They were so shocked that their hearts tumbled in their chest like the sea.

“Also, your sister used a God Killing Needle. I suspect your clan has colluded with the Ancient Nebula Underworld. If that’s the case...I don’t think Cloud State can accommodate you anymore.”

With that, Lin Xun turned around and left.

From beginning to end, he paid no attention to the so-called peerless figures present.

Chu Qiu and the others quickly followed him and left together.

In the silent hall, it was not until a good while later that everyone came out of the state of shock and donned complicated expressions.

Jin Duyi, who had consecutively won ninety-nine matches in the first round of selection, was unexpectedly strong!

They finally realized how powerful Lin Xun was.

But it was hard for Helian Qi. His defeat today not only destroyed his reputation, but it also wouldn’t be long before the entire Great Void City would learn that he was suppressed in such a way!

Worst of all, the words that Lin Xun left behind implied he was in collusion with the Ancient Nebula Underworld. If those words spread...

How would the cultivators in Cloud State view the Nightmare Suppressor Clan?

.....

As expected, on the same day, news of what happened in Contention House spread like wildfire and caused a stir in Great Void City.

It should be mentioned that the second round of selections was around the corner, which meant countless cultivators from all over Cloud State had already gathered in Great Void City.

Helian Qi, one of the ten champions, was easily suppressed by Jin Duyi, who was also one of the champions. Who would not be surprised?

“Jin Duyi, a peerless figure with ninety-nine consecutive wins, is a mysterious independent cultivator. His appearance is bound to lead to many variables in the Dao Debate Contest!”

“I pity Helian Qi. The reputation he had built as one of the champions was destroyed by Jin Duyi in one move.”

“Quick, collect all the information you can find about Jin Duyi. I want to bet big on him!”

.....

Great Void City was in an uproar, with everyone discussing the incident.

Great Void Sect.

On a mountain peak reserved for distinguished guests.

“Even a young man like Helian Qi is no match for him...”

Xie Yuhua, a core disciple of Cloud Star Sect, quietly read the news she had just received, eyes gleaming with surprise.

“Girl, you see, that Jin Duyi is an extraordinary person.”

Madam Yu said softly on the other side, “At least, his strength is definitely not weaker than yours.”

Xie Yuhua smiled. “Isn’t that good? If the opponents are too weak, this Dao Debate Contest will be rather boring.”

She was wearing a blue feather dress and had her black hair drawn up in a bun, leaving a few wisps to frame her beautiful, fair face. Her eyes were as bright as stars, and rays of light blue lingered around her slender and graceful figure, amplifying her elegance and aura. She was as dreamy as the lone orchid in an empty valley.

“You—still don’t understand.” Madam Yu sighed softly, “When you personally watch his performance in the second round of selections, you will understand that it is impossible to overestimate that kid.”

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1892: Attack in the Middle of the Night

It is impossible to overestimate him...

Xie Yuhua narrowed her eyes and said, “Now that you’ve said that, I’m even more curious to see what Jin Duyi is capable of...”

.....

“Hah, does that Helian Qi really think that he could behave arrogantly just because he was the champion in the first round? Now, he has been suppressed by someone with just one hand.”

In another mountain peak of Great Void Sect, a boy in green was grinning widely.

He looked like a young boy, but he carried a giant sword on his back, and his eyes would occasionally flash a chilling light.

Wang Tu!

He was the number one core disciple of Sky Piercer Sword Sect, and a genius who practiced the Reborn Sky Mending Sutra. He had the outer appearance of a child, but he was actually a Saint-King Sword Cultivator with frightening combat skills.

Standing next to him were other core disciples of Sky Piercer Sword Sect, all wearing expressions of awe.

Wang Tu grinned as he looked through the information he had just received. “Jin Duyi is quite interesting. He was able to win ninety-nine consecutive matches against his peers... He must feel very lonely, right?”

The core disciples of Sky Piercer Sword Sect looked at one another.

“Well, if he meets me, I guarantee he won’t be lonely anymore.”

Wang Tu stroked his chin with his little soft hands and smiled innocently.

However, the huge sword behind him was a constant reminder to everyone that the guy with the appearance of a child was no ordinary person.

.....

“An independent cultivator had such courage. So that means among the ten champions in the first round, the one we should be watching is not Su Muhan, but Jin Duyi, isn’t that right?” Lu Dubu nodded approvingly.

He was slender and wore a wide-sleeved robe, which made him look like a weak scholar. But his eyes were incredibly bright and deep.

In the entire Cloud State, almost everyone had heard of the name Lu Dubu.

He had shown his talent from a young age and had progressed rapidly on the cultivation path. He had fought countless battles in his life and remained undefeated to this day!

Some nosy people believed that with Lu Dubu’s talent, he could definitely be called the number one supreme Saint-King among the younger generation in Cloud State!

However, the world likely would never have thought that the renowned Lu Dubu would look like a weak and handsome scholar.

“Senior Brother, what you should be caring about is neither Su Muhan nor Jin Duyi, but what top ranking you will hold when the Cloud State Dao Debate Contest ends and when you attend the Dao Debate Assembly in the Central Plain State jointly organized by the Great Six Courts.”

Next to him, there was a beautiful woman with eyes as clear as water and a gentle and sweet voice. When she looked at Lu Dubu, her eyes sparked with admiration.

Lu Dubu was speechless for a moment, then he smiled and said, “Junior Sister, you think too highly of me. Many powerful characters will emerge in the Cloud State’s Dao Debate Contest.”

“But none of them could compare with our Senior Brother.” The beautiful woman said sincerely.

Lu Dubu smiled bitterly. “You can’t see the forest for the tree.”

“It’s because the tree is so beautiful! Why would I want to see the forest?” The beautiful woman giggled.

Lu Dubu was taken aback for a moment before it dawned on him that his junior sister was comparing him to a tree...

Touched, he smiled. “Fine, who cares about Su Muhan and Jin Duyi. Since my junior sister thinks so highly of me, I will definitely not let you down.”

.....

“Is the Jin Duyi who defeated Helian Qi the same guy who defeated both of you?”

On another mountain peak, a black-robed young man was sitting casually. The gray mist swirling around him made him look as though he had integrated with the darkness of the night.

His skin was fair and beautiful as jade, his chiseled face seemed to be carved by a knife, and his eyes had a chaotic gray sheen.

Sitting there casually, he seemed like the ruler of darkness, exuding a chilling aura of silence.

She Ling and She Zi who were beside him both nodded respectfully as their breathing became oppressed.

This was because the black-robed young man was Wu Huang!

He was the last disciple of an old antique Emperor from Holy Illumination Ancient Sect, a rare and unparalleled evildoer and also a true Holy Imperial Apostle!

Before him, Holy Apostles like She Ling and She Zi had to bow their heads.

Back when Wu Huang was at the initial Supreme Saint-King Stage, he had already assassinated a Quasi-Emperor Stage figure by himself!

“I know about this. If there’s an opportunity, I will personally kill him to avenge you two.”

After Wu Huang said that, he no longer paid attention to the matter.

She Ling and She Zi looked at each other, faces lighting up, and they exclaimed gratefully at the same time, “Thank you, Holy Imperial Apostle!”

.....

The information about the battle between Lin Xun and Helian Qi appeared in the hands of many cultivators on the same night.

Even the disciples of the seven great factions were alarmed.

For example Xie Yuhua, Wang Tu and Lu Dubu.

Compared to the others, Lu Dubu, a core disciple of an ancient sect, seemed relatively calm.

Meanwhile, Jiang Heng and Ji Qian of Xuanji Dao Sect smiled knowingly when they heard the news.

They have had regular contact with Lin Xun so they knew very well how terrifyingly strong Lin Xun was.

It would be more absurd if he failed to defeat Helian Qi.

“Where’s Miss Xuanyue?”

“Oh, she left as soon as she learned that Brother Jin had arrived in Great Void City,” said someone in a jealous tone.

Jintian Xuanyue was a pure-blooded descendant of the ancient Imperial Jintian Clan. She had a noble status and was considered a talented genius even in the Great Primordial Chaos World.

Despite that, in front of Jin Duyi, she behaved as humble and submissive as a servant. How could one not sigh emotionally about this?

.....

Great Void City.

The night was as dark as ink. When Lin Xun returned to his residence, he was surprised to find Jintian Xuanyue, dressed in all white like a fairy, waiting for him.

“Young Master.” Jintian Xuanyue’s face lit up with joy when she saw Lin Xun and she beamed a smile that could make anyone fall head over heels for her.

“Have you been waiting long?” asked Lin Xun with a smile.

“I just got here.”

“Let’s go talk inside.”

How could Lin Xun not tell that Jintian Xuanyue had been waiting for a long time?

He was also quite touched. This genius maiden of the Imperial Jintian Clan was known to be cold and aloof, but towards him, she was as gentle and agreeable as a beautiful girl from a humble background.

“Young Master, before I came here, Elder Heng Xiao asked me to give you this.”

Once they were seated in the courtyard, Jintian Xuanyue took out a jade slip and handed it to Lin Xun with both hands.

The jade slip contained the names of the disciples from the seven major factions who would participate in the second round of selections, with some extraordinary figures specifically highlighted.

For example, Lu Dubu of Great Void Sect, Xie Yuhua of Cloud Star Sect, Wang Tu of Sky Piercer Sword Sect, Wu Huang of Phantasm Empyrean Island, and Yuan He of Jianan Zen Sect.

The jade slip even recorded in detail their personalities, cultivation, and past experiences. It could be seen that Heng Xiao, the sect master of Xuanji Dao Sect, had put a lot of effort into compiling the information.

“Xuanyue, please thank Sect Master Heng Xiao for me when you go back,” Lin Xun instructed as he put away the jade slip.

Jintian Xuanyue nodded.

After that, she instinctively took out the tea set and began to prepare tea for Lin Xun. “Young Master, Elder Heng Xiao urged you to be careful of Wu Huang from Phantasm Empyrean Island. He said that this person has a very complicated background and that he will very likely try to avenge She Ling and She Zi in the Dao Debate Contest.”

Lin Xun’s dark eyes narrowed.

Wu Huang should also be from the Holy Illumination Ancient Sect!

After enjoying the fine tea made by Jintian Xuanyue, the two chatted some more before she had to leave.

Lin Xun walked her to the door and watched her graceful figure disappear into the distance. Only then did he withdraw his gaze and uttered indifferently, “Enough sneaking around, if you don’t show your face now then don’t blame me for being rude.”

His voice faded and there was no response.

Lin Xun flicked his finger.

Clang!

A streak of sword qi shot out, slashing into the distant shadows cast onto the street.

Swoosh—

Suddenly, a figure flew out from the shadows, dodging the streak of sword qi. “You have a sharp spirit sense to be able to locate my whereabouts.”

It was a stick-thin middle-aged man with gray hair tied up in a bun and sunken eyes.

Although he had restrained his aura, Lin Xun could still tell right away that he was a quasi-Emperor!

As the stick-thin middle-aged man spoke, he made a flourish with his sleeve. The area suddenly seemed to be spinning as a layer of restriction power enveloped it, isolating it from the outside world.

Lin Xun had intended to do the same, but he didn't expect the old guy to act quicker than him.

"It seems like I can't escape today. Before then, can you tell me who asked you to come?" asked Lin Xun.

"Surrender and I will tell you."

The skinny middle-aged man strode leisurely towards Lin Xun. With every step he took, the restrained aura around him grew stronger.

By the time he made nine steps, he was covered in a veil of dense black mist, and the terrifying aura of the Quasi-Emperor Stage was spreading outwards like a tide.

Lin Xun seemed to not notice this as he said calmly, "It seems like we will have to chat later."

Surprised, the middle-aged man asked with a frown, "You look rather calm, do you think someone in Great Void City will save you?"

"Do you find it odd?" Lin Xun smiled. "Surrender and I will tell you."

The skinny middle-aged man snickered. "Stop pretending!"

Shua!

He suddenly vanished from the spot, and the next second he reappeared in front of Lin Xun, extending his right hand. His slender fingers were like five sharp swords, cloaked in terrifying Quasi-Emperor Law Power, and reached to grab Lin Xun's throat.

He was unbelievably fast but also extremely powerful and domineering!

Even a lion would go all out when wrestling a little rabbit. The thin middle-aged man did not dare to hold back and unleashed full-power in the first attack.

He was confident that not only Jin Duyi, but even the core disciples of the seven major factions would be unable to survive his attack!

Unfortunately for him, Lin Xun was not the real Jin Dui.

Just as the thin middle-aged man's five fingers were mere inches away from him, a Great Dao Field that partly resembled a furnace and partly an abyss suddenly emerged.

Chi!

The thin middle-aged man's full-strength attack seemed to hit nothing.

However, what terrified him more was that he seemed to have fallen into a bottomless abyss. A devouring force wrapped around his body and carried him into the depths of hell.

This is bad!

His face blanched. He never thought that, given his level of cultivation, he would be unknowingly caught like that.

What kind of Great Dao Field is that?

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1893: Wu Huang

With just his Great Dao Field, a supreme Saint-King was able to quietly trap a quasi-Emperor who was launching a full-power attack.

Unbelievable.

At least, the thin middle-aged man was completely taken by surprise.

However, what chilled him to the core was that being trapped in the Great Dao Field was tantamount to falling into a bottomless abyss. A frightening devouring force imprisoned his entire body, making it impossible to break free no matter how he tried with his quasi-Emperor level powers.

He was absolutely panic-stricken, terrified. *Is this power that a supreme Saint-King would possess?*

Boom!

Before he could think about it more, everything darkened before his eyes and he was pressed to the ground, blood spurting from his mouth and nostrils.

By the time he regained his vision, the power of the Great Dao Field was gone. Only the young man called Jin Duyi was standing condescendingly in front of him with his hands behind his back and an undisguised sneer across his face.

The thin middle-aged man stared blankly at him, finding it completely absurd.

A quasi-Emperor had transcended the Saint Stage and was infinitely close to the Emperor Stage. Not only could they kill ordinary Saint-Kings with ease, they would have no trouble killing supreme Saint-Kings.

But now, it was a completely different situation. A supreme Saint-King easily overpowered him, a quasi-Emperor!

Even if this matter spread out, who would believe it?

“Now, why don’t you tell me who sent you here?” Lin Xun said indifferently.

The middle-aged man bellowed, “You wish!”

Crack!

Lin Xun stepped forward and the middle-aged man’s bones began to crackle and crumble and blood seeped out from his skin.

He grimaced from the agonizing pain.

“It’s a shame that Little Silver is not here, otherwise there would be no need to go through so much trouble,” Lin Xun murmured, his eyes becoming increasingly chilling and unfathomable.

“I’ll ask you once more, who sent you here?”

A menacing expression contorted the middle-aged man’s already pained features.
“Bastard, if you have the guts, then kill me. There is no place for you in Cloud State!”

Bang!

Lin Xun exerted force to his foot and directly crushed the thin middle-aged man’s heart and primordial spirit.

Before his death, the thin middle-aged man’s eyes bulged wide with utter disbelief, as if he had not expected Lin Xun to have the guts to do it...

“You died with your eyes wide open. Do you regret not saying some last words?
Unfortunately, I have no patience to listen to you anymore. I might not know who you are,

but your death will surely bring more people out. At that time, I will still know who sent you.”

Lin Xun flicked his sleeve.

Swoosh—

The thin middle-aged man’s corpse turned to ashes and completely dissipated.

After that, Lin Xun turned around and walked towards the courtyard.

Bang!

With every step he took, the restriction power that enveloped the area began to shatter like glass and disappear.

The night sky was dark as ink. It was utterly silent all around.

Lin Xun stood at the entrance of the courtyard, waiting quietly.

After the time to burn a stick of incense, Lin Xun suddenly vanished with a flash.

At the same time, a figure appeared in the distance. It looked over for a moment and then left in a hurry.

It was a man in a gray robe. Leaving in such haste, he did not notice that when he left, Lin Xun was already silently tailing him.

Great Void City was huge, and the gray-robed man was extremely vigilant. After repeatedly patrolling many streets, he finally turned into an area full of ancient buildings.

Finally, he stopped in front of a courtyard and darted in with a flash.

As Lin Xun watched from afar, a cold smirk tilted the corners of his lips.

He did not investigate further and just turned around and left.

“Friend, apologies for bothering you, but may I ask who resides in that courtyard?” Lin Xun stopped to ask a cultivator along the way.

“Brother, do you not know? That’s where Helian Qi, the champion of Black Nightmare City, stays.” The cultivator looked at him disdainfully.

Lin Xun smiled, unbothered by his attitude. He just said thank you and left.

“Helian Qi...it’s indeed him...”

On the way back, Lin Xun had figured out the gist of what happened. Today, Helian Qi was subdued by him with one palm strike in Contention House and completely embarrassed himself. It made sense that he would send people to get revenge to vent his anger.

“When the Dao Debate Contest is over, you’d better not let me catch you.” Murderous intent flickered across Lin Xun’s heart.

Meanwhile, in Helian Qi’s courtyard.

“Young Lord, it’s not good, Elder Zhan is gone!”

The gray-robed man, who Lin Xun had followed all the way to the courtyard, reported back in a quavering voice.

Helian Qi, who had been drinking alone while waiting to hear back good news, was taken by surprise, “Gone?”

The gray-robed man nodded. “I suspect...I suspect that Elder Zhan...he...may have met his end...”

PA!

The wine bowl in Helian Qi’s hand dropped to the ground, but he seemed unaware of it. He only felt his hands and feet going ice-cold. *How would a quasi-Emperor be killed so easily?*

Could there be a powerful master protecting Jin Duyi?

“On your way back, did you notice if anyone was following you?”

It suddenly struck Helian Qi.

The gray-robed man shook his head. “I deliberately took a long detour and I didn’t notice anything unusual along the way.”

Helian Qi donned a cloudy expression. He was a little worried that Jin Duyi would suspect that tonight’s incident was his doing.

Even Elder Zhan met with disaster. If Jin Duyi wanted to deal with him...

With this thought, he felt his heart weighing heavier.

After a long while, he took a deep breath and said aloud, “This matter will end here for now. I will settle the score with Jin Duyi once the Dao Debate Contest is over!”

.....

After returning to his residence, Lin Xun went to meditate as if nothing had happened.

From this day on, he never went out again. He either meditated, studied the All-Inclusive Plant Index or analyzed his martial arts.

As the second round of selections neared, Great Void City became more and more busy and packed with cultivators.

It was no exaggeration to say that everyone in Cloud State was paying close attention to the upcoming event.

“The ten champions definitely have a high chance of making it through the second round, but as for the others, it’s difficult to say.”

“We should be watching the core disciples of the seven great factions. They are all peerless figures with remarkable abilities!”

“I heard that the second round of selections will be held in the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda. This pagoda is the strongest treasure of the Great Void Sect.”

“It is more than just a strong treasure. There has been a rumor circulating for a long time that the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda is a treasure that the founding ancestor of Great Void Sect acquired from an uncharted land and it has an astonishing origin!”

In the streets and alleys, in teahouses and restaurants, everyone was talking about the second round of selections and the Dao Debate Contest.

Against a background of discussions, the anticipated day for the second round of selections came.

On this day, dawn was just breaking when Tao Songting, an elder of Great Void Sect, came and summoned Lin Xun and other experts from Fierce Wind City.

“Today is the day when the second round of selections begins. It will be held on the Immortal Martial Peak of our Great Void Sect.”

As Tao Songting explained, he led Lin Xun and the others out of Great Void City and headed towards Great Void Mountain.

At the same time, experts such as Su Muhan, Lan Yunke, You Tianxing and Helian Qi who came from other participating zones were also brought to Great Void Mountain.

Great Void Mountain was known as a blessed mountainous ground in Cloud State.

The majestic and impressive undulating mountain ranges stretched across the world.

The sun cast divine, auspicious rays of light and bathed the mountain range in a sacred glow, making it seem like the mountain had been standing since eternity.

The scenery made Lin Xun conclude that the Sacred Wind Dao Mountain, where Xuanji Dao Sect was located, was slightly inferior.

Great Void Sect was indeed worthy of being called the number one sect in Cloud State.

Under the guidance of Tao Songting, the group entered the main gate of the mountains without any trouble and flew for a while before finally arriving at a magnificent mountain peak.

Undoubtedly, this was the Immortal Martial Peak that Tao Songting spoke of.

At the summit of the mountain peak was a jade platform hanging in the air. It was at least ten thousand feet in area and occasionally peeked out from the sea of clouds like the abode of immortals.

When Lin Xun and the others arrived, the disciples from the seven major factions who were participating in the second round of selections had already assembled on the massive jade platform: Great Void Sect, Cloud Star Sect, Xuanji Dao Sect, Phantasm Empyrean Island, Jianan Zen Sect, Unified Sword Pavilion and Phoenix Cloud Mountain.

Tao Songting led Lin Xun and the others to an area on one side of the jade platform.

“Stay here and don’t go anywhere. The sect master of our Great Void Sect will announce the details of the second round of selections soon.” Tao Songting instructed solemnly before he left.

“Brother Jin, look, that’s Lu Dubu, the current number one figure of Great Void Sect, a legendary character known throughout Cloud State!”

Gao Lingtian’s eyes blazed with fighting spirit.

Lin Xun followed his gaze and saw a man in a wide-sleeved scholarly robe standing in the area where disciples of Great Void Sect had gathered. He looked like a fragile scholar.

He was gentle and peaceful, but the Great Void Sect disciples around him made him look remarkable, like the moon being surrounded by stars.

“His body of qi is contained inside, his spirit and mind are connected, this person has clearly shown signs of a breakthrough, but it seems like he suppressed his power in order to participate in the Dao Debate Contest.”

Lin Xun could tell from one glance that Lu Dubu was extraordinary. He definitely lived up to his reputation.

“Brother Jin, look, that’s Xie Yuhua from Cloud Star Sect, Wang Tu from Sky Piercer Sword Sect and Xue Kongzhe from Xuanji Dao Sect...”

Gao Lingtian’s eyes brightened even more and his voice was filled with excitement, as if he had spotted figures from the legends.

Lin Xun followed his gaze and identified the famous, extraordinary characters one by one.

Xie Yuhua’s dreamy aura and Wang Tu’s childlike appearance both left deep impressions on Lin Xun.

When Lin Xun’s gaze shifted to where the successors of Phantasm Empyrean Island stood, a young man in a black robe immediately captured his attention.

The young man, tall and imposing-looking, had a languid demeanor, with wisps of gray mist swirling around him. He was beautiful and fair, but there was a cold and distant look on his jade-like face.

Standing beside him, She Zi, She Ling and others all looked dull in comparison. They were like leaves highlighting the beauty of a flower.

Wu Huang!

A name emerged in Lin Xun’s mind.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1894: Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda

Wu Huang!

Just by looking at the humble attitude of She Zi and She Ling when facing him, Lin Xun could tell that this person held an extremely high status within the Holy Illumination Ancient Sect.

Shua!

Almost at the moment when Lin Xun looked at him, Wu Huang also looked back at Lin Xun, and their gazes collided.

Wu Huang's gray-brown eyes shone a threatening and fierce light, as if he was trying to see through all the secrets of Lin Xun.

That gaze alone would have terrified other cultivators to the point of their spirits trembling.

However, Lin Xun's expression remained indifferent, as if he did not notice, and he retracted his gaze.

"Imperial Apostle, that's Jin Dui!" She Ling sent a voice transmission to Wu Huang with a cold and unpleasant look on her face.

Wu Huang expressionlessly nodded and remarked, "He looks ordinary on the outside, but he actually is a character with hidden deep secrets. No wonder he was able to defeat the two of you so easily."

She Ling and She Zi froze.

Meanwhile, Lin Xun also spotted Jiang Heng, Ji Qian, Jintian Xuanyue, and others, but they just exchanged glances and did not greet each other.

Facing the disciples of the seven major factions, Chu Qiu, Gu Jianxing, Gao Lingtian and others palpitated with excitement, as if itching to start the second round.

They were top figures who stood out in the first round of selections, but whether it was in terms of background, foundation, fame or influence, they were far inferior to Lu Dubu, Xie Yuhua, Wang Tu and the other renowned characters in Cloud State.

Now, it was understandable that they would be excited and anxious to face off against them.

Not only them, but experts from other participating zones such as Su Muhan, Lan Yunke, You Tianxing and Helian Qi were the same.

At the same time, the disciples from the seven major factions were also studying the candidates selected from the ten participating zones.

However, their focus was only on the ten champions.

"That's Su Muhan, a genius who declined offers to join the seven major factions when he was a young child. He has a very terrifying foundation."

"Lan Yunke controls the Great Dao Field called Lotus Treasure Vase Bottle which is of an extraordinary grade and must not be underestimated."

“Everyone, please do not underestimate You Tianxing. His Nine-Colored Jade Hall is amazing and he is said to be a rare spirit cultivator seen only once every thousands of years.”

“Look, that guy is Jin Duyi, a dark horse who was a nobody before the first round, but now look at his fame. Yesterday, he defeated Helian Qi with one move in the Contention House.”

“So that’s Jin Duyi.”

The disciples of the seven major factions discussed in whispers.

Besides the peerless figures from the powerful sects such as Lu Dubu, Xie Yuhua and Wang Tu, the ones that received the most attention were Su Muhan and Lin Xun.

Su Muhan’s name had long been known throughout Cloud State. He was a truly dazzling character with a solid foundation, stronger than many disciples of the seven major factions.

It was natural that many people paid special attention to him.

Whereas Jin Duyi, Lin Xun’s disguise, was a dark horse who recently rose to fame after he won ninety-nine consecutive matches and even subdued Helian Qi with one move. Who would not take notice of him?

“That person is not deliberately hiding his strength. Instead, his cultivation has reached such a high level that he radiates an ordinary feeling, like a divine object obscuring their splendor.” Lu Dubu also noticed Lin Xun. After a pause, a ruminative look came onto his face.

“I hope he will be like what Madam Yu said: it’s impossible to overestimate him...” Xie Yuhua’s dreamy eyes shone with a ripple of light.

“I still think that guy must be very lonely.”

Wang Tu, who carried a huge sword on his back, was grinning innocently like a child.

At the same time, many eyes were sizing up Lin Xun, both intentionally and unintentionally.

Even so, Lin Xun maintained calm and indifferent.

When he noticed that Helian Qi was also looking over at him, he smiled and sent a voice transmission to him, “Last night, I had an unexpected visitor. Do you know about this?”

Helian Qi was startled, then his face darkened. “Jin Duyi, what are you talking about? Why don’t I understand you?”

Lin Xun said nonchalantly, “It doesn’t matter if you understand or not. I just want to tell you that the old guy died an ugly death in the end.”

Murderous intent rushed up Helian Qi’s heart, which he almost lost control of. He gritted his teeth and said, “Jin Duyi, I will never forget the shame I suffered yesterday!” His chilling voice was loaded with murderous intent.

Lin Xun simply replied with five words, “I’ll be waiting for you.”

He did not glance at Helian Qi again after that.

Clang!

The clear ring of a bell resounded from the jade platform above the Immortal Martial Peak, echoing far and wide.

The atmosphere instantly became solemn.

All eyes were directed towards the center of the jade platform, where the leaders of the seven major factions were standing together.

They were headed by a lean old man in an ancient costume matched with a tall hat. When his eyes opened, there seemed to be a majestic vision of the starry sky being cast from them.

This person was none other than the sect master of the Great Void Sect—Guan Xu!

Many years ago, there were rumors that Guan Xu was one step away from the Emperor Stage. His foundation was unfathomably strong.

“The second round of selections will be held in the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda, which is divided into nine floors, and each floor contains Dao Refining Battle Spirits.

“The goal of participants is to defeat those Dao Refining Battle Spirits and reach the ninth floor of the pagoda.

“You will have a time limit of one incense stick!

“After one stick of incense has finished burning, those who fail to make it to the ninth floor will be eliminated.”

Guan Xu’s deep voice reverberated throughout the area, causing many participants to quiver nervously, but many more were filled with anticipation and eager to give it a try.

Guan Xu waved his sleeve.

Boom!

A magnificent pagoda descended from the sky. Its simple and unadorned body was an azure color, with chaotic qi flowing around it and millions of divine light rays sprinkling forth.

Everyone couldn't help trembling inwardly.

Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda!

This was the most precious and strongest treasure of the Great Void Sect. Rumor had it that it was an ancient treasure born from an uncharted land. It was not only mysterious but also boundlessly powerful.

At this moment, even the leaders of the other factions could not help but marvel. The treasure's contribution to the Great Void Sect being hailed as the number one sect in Cloud State could not be ignored!

The Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda grew to thousands of feet tall, towering above the clouds, and a door slowly creaked open at the bottom of the pagoda.

"You may enter," Guan Xu announced.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Before his voice died away, some participants could not help but speed across the air and quickly disappear into the door.

Lu Dubu, Xie Yuhua, Wang Tu and others from the seven major factions. Lin Xun, Su Muhan, Lan Yunke and others from the ten participating zones...

Altogether there were more than nine hundred people. All were racing into the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda.

Finally, with a loud boom, the door at the bottom of the pagoda slammed shut.

Shua!

Guan Xu raised his hand, and a stick of incense was lit in midair and smoke began to spiral upwards in a delicate wisp.

This signified the commencement of the second round of selections.

When the stick of incense had burned completely, which would take around two hours, the second round of selections would come to an end.

At this moment, all eyes shifted to the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda.

“I wonder which participant will be the first to reach the ninth floor of the pagoda and become first place in the second round of selections.”

“In truth, the ranking is not important. What’s important is how many of these participants can rise above the others and successfully pass.”

“I estimate there will be no more than fifty people!”

Higher-ups from the seven major factions as well as important figures from the ancient clans who came to watch the event had all taken their seats on the cloud platform, waiting for the results.

“Everyone, this challenge is not easy.” Guan Xu smiled slightly. “There are nine floors in the pagoda, and the level of difficulty and danger increase as you go up. Long ago, when I was still at the Supreme Saint-King Stage, I also challenged the pagoda and it took me almost one and a half hours to reach the ninth floor.”

Everyone was staggered to hear this.

One stick of incense was two hours[1] and Guan Xu’s record was one hour and a half!

Guan Xu was the sect master of Great Void Sect, but it took him such a long time to pass all nine floors of the pagoda when he was at the Supreme Saint-King Stage!

This meant that the participants must be as strong as Guan Xu was back then if they wanted to pass the second round of selections!

Anyone weaker than that would be in danger!

“But participating in the Dao Debate Contest this time are many experts who are much more extraordinary than I was. It’s hard to say how many will be successful in the end.

“This makes it all the more interesting.”

As Guan Xu said that, he made a flourish with his sleeve.

Hua!

The Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda started to glow before it projected a huge light screen that presented the scene inside the pagoda.

Nine hundred odd participants were now on the first floor. They seemed to be together, but they had actually been teleported to different secret realms.

This was one of the wonderful abilities of the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda.

This prevented the participants from being disturbed by others inside the pagoda and thereby ensuring a fair challenge. The participants only needed to defeat the Dao Refining Battle Spirits on each floor of the pagoda to progress to a higher level.

All eyes were fixed on the huge light screen and conversations faded into a low murmur.

.....

Meanwhile, inside the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda....

The first level.

It was an endless stretch of golden desert. Scorching hot wind swept across, howling and whipping up sand and dust.

Yellow sand blanketed the world, as fierce and sharp as blades!

The scorching heat in the desert gave rise to a shimmering heat haze.

This was the first level of the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda: The Yellow Sand Secret Realm.

Lin Xun paused as he sensed that this secret realm was filled with an aura as violent and fierce as a windstorm wreaking havoc.

However, this had no effect on him.

He soared into the air and moved forward.

The jade slip given to him by Heng Xiao, the sect master of Xuanji Dao Sect, also had some notes about the nine levels of the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda.

Therefore, Lin Xun knew very well that to pass the Yellow Sand Secret Realm and advance into the second level of the pagoda, he only needed to kill nine Dao Refining Battle Spirits.

Rustle—

Just as Lin Xun made a move, yellow sand suddenly rolled up from the ground and condensed into a figure. It had a dazzling golden sheen as if it was crafted from real gold.

Dao Refining Battle Spirit!

It emitted a terrifying aura that was comparable to that of a supreme Saint-King. Its appearance threw the desert into turmoil as if the God of Sand had descended upon the world!

1. Usually a stick of incense represents ~15 minutes but I guess this particular stick burns longer 🙄

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1895: Martial Dao Origin Power

Boom!

The Dao Refining Battle Spirit that was made up of countless grains of golden sand came charging violently at Lin Xun like a golden-clad god of war.

Terrifying battle spirit raged around it like a hurricane. It was clearly not a real living creature, yet it was able to manipulate astonishing daos and techniques.

For example, at that moment, it threw a punch with a force that was comparable to a roaring murky-yellow dragon unleashing destruction upon everything in its way.

Vaguely, it even showed signs of condensing a Great Dao Field!

This surprised Lin Xun.

From what he knew, Dao Refining Battle Spirits were only formed from a mysterious power of the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda

Even so, the Dao Refining Battle Spirit in front of him was close to becoming a real living person!

Bang!

While Lin Xun was analyzing his opponent, he thrust his palm forward, crushing the blast of force from the punch like rotten wood. Then, he vanished from the spot and reappeared in front of the battle spirit, following up with another mighty punch.

A muffled explosion sounded. The Dao Refining Battle Spirit that was like a real supreme Saint-King was smashed under Lin Xun's punch.

Amid the dispersing yellow sand, Lin Xun furrowed his brows. He sharply noticed a mysterious power dissipating and merging into the world of the pagoda.

“That must be the power of the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda...” Lin Xun thought.

Without wasting any time, he continued onwards.

The next moment, the yellow sand swept up again and another Dao Refining Battle Spirit formed.

Boom!

It sped across the air with terrifying killing intent.

This time, Lin Xun made a grabbing motion, activating the power of his Great Dao Field. The palm of his hand became like a bottomless abyss as he caught hold of the Dao Refining Battle Spirit.

Bang!

The huge golden body of the Dao Refining Battle Spirit exploded into swirling yellow sand.

At the same time, the force around Lin Xun’s palm madly swallowed up an obscure and mysterious power before it could merge into the world.

Then, an unusual warm current transformed into pure mysterious power and rushed into Lin Xun’s body.

A thought struck Lin Xun and he quickly activated the technique of tempering the Five Viscera Spirit Embryo. The mysterious power immediately coursed into his heart, driving the Red Flame Spirit Embryo that was being raised inside to improve at a speed visibly to the naked eye!

“What kind of power is this? How can it have such a wonderful tempering effect?” Lin Xun exclaimed.

Cultivation base could be improved with aeth qi and divine herbs.

Grand dao could be grasped and controlled when one comprehended the power of the great dao of heaven and earth.

Martial dao could be honed and improved by studying dao scriptures and by relying on one’s own comprehension.

Ever since Lin Xun started cultivating, he had never heard of any kind of power that could directly elevate one’s martial dao cultivation!

Unbelievable!

“Perhaps, this mysterious power comes from the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda...” Lin Xun’s dark eyes gleamed.

He did not hope for much in the second round except for passing it within the time limit of two hours.

But now, he saw an opportunity!

By killing Dao Refining Battle Spirits, he could obtain a mysterious power that improved his martial dao cultivation!

“Let’s go!”

Lin Xun continued onwards, and when he encountered the third Dao Refining Battle Spirit, he treated it the same way as he did with the previous. At the same time of killing the opponent, he activated the power of his Great Dao Field to devour the remnants of mysterious power.

Sure enough, his Red Flame Spirit Embryo was further tempered!

“If I can continue like this, by the time I reach the ninth level, I might be able to forge the Red Flame Dao Body...” He quivered with excitement.

He wasted no time and moved full speed ahead.

.....

Inside the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda.

On the same first level, the Yellow Sand Secret Realm, Lu Dubu was traveling incredibly fast like flashes of light.

Along the way, whenever a Dao Refining Battle Spirit obstructed him, he would kill and crush them with a wave of his sleeve.

He did not even spare them another glance after that, as if he was in a hurry.

As the current number one disciple of Great Void Sect, Lu Dubu was naturally aware that after killing a Dao Refining Battle Spirit, he could absorb its mysterious power, which had an wonderful effect on improving one’s martial dao.

But he was not bothered.

In other words, he looked down on the Dao Refining Battle Spirits on the first level of the pagoda.

His plan was to reach the ninth level of the pagoda in the shortest possible time, and then hunt for Dao Refining Battle Spirits there, because those were endowed with the most powerful and amazing mysterious power!

He had an advantage from being a disciple of Great Void Sect—He knew in advance some insider information that others were unaware of.

The second round seemed like a fair competition, but it wasn't quite true.

.....

“Hey, this power is interesting...”

Meanwhile, Xie Yuhua's eyes brightened. She also sensed the wonders of the mysterious power.

“Haha, it's actually good for improving martial dao!

“No wonder this Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda is a treasure born from an uncharted land.

“I must not waste any time!”

As time went by, peerless figures such as Wang Tu and Yuan He also noticed the mysterious power that lingered after Dao Refining Battle Spirits were killed.

Their interest was aroused and they went all out to collect them.

As for the other cultivators, they were still completely unaware of this.

This was not because their eyes were not sharp enough, but because they were already put under a lot of stress when killing a Dao Refining Battle Spirit, so how would it cross their minds that the Dao Refining Battle Spirit would retain its mysterious powers after death?

Above Immortal Martial Peak, on the jade platform suspended in the sky.

The influential figures who had been watching the situation in the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda had intrigued looks on their faces.

Someone couldn't help but ask, “Brother Guan Xu, what are the youngsters collecting?”

Many people looked curious.

Guan Xu did not try to hide it from them either, and said with a slight smile. “Martial Dao Origin Power, a mysterious power that accumulates in the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda. If absorbed, it can enhance and improve one’s martial dao cultivation.”

Everyone gasped audibly.

A power that can improve martial dao cultivation?

This is incredibly rare and would be invaluable!

“Brother Guan Xu, how generous of you!”

Many people sighed with deep emotions.

Guan Xu said nonchalantly, “These disciples are cultivators of our Cloud State. They have already demonstrated extraordinary qualities by being qualified to participate in the second round of selections. I am just giving them a little opportunity. Just see it as a little gift from our Great Void Sect to those young cultivators.”

His beautiful words proved that he was a man of great vision.

As expected of the number one sect of Cloud State. The other influential figures present had to acknowledge their inferiority.

“Look, only a short while has passed since it started, but Lu Dubu is already on the second level!” someone gasped.

All of a sudden, all eyes shifted back onto the huge light screen.

Lu Dubu was indeed ahead of everyone else. He raced into the secret realm on the second level of the pagoda like a horse vanishing in a cloud of dust.

Following behind him was neither Xie Yuhua or Wang Tu, but Wu Huang from Phantasm Empyrean Island!

This surprised many important figures, making their gazes change when they looked at the island chief of Phantasm Empyrean Island, Daoist Lan, again.

It should be noted that Phantasm Empyrean Island was only ranked fourth among the seven major factions in Cloud State. Its disciples were extraordinary, but the majority was still inferior to peerless figures such as Xie Yuhua and Wang Tu.

But now, Wu Huang from Phantasm Empyrean Island was actually on the heels of Lu Dubu!

Xie Yuhua and Wang Tu were also not too far behind them!

Of course, this was just a comparison of speed, and not based on strength. Even so, Wu Huang's performance had impressed the audience.

"Everyone, take a look at Jin Duyi. He is currently still considered fast, but he can't be called outstanding. I really don't know how he won ninety-nine consecutive matches. He is not living up to his illustrious reputation."

Daoist Lan from Phantasm Empyrean Island suddenly remarked with a hint of mocking in his tone of voice.

It was just a comment about a junior and none of the influential figures present was bothered by it, but unexpectedly, Heng Xiao from Xuanji Dao Sect suddenly retorted.

"Daoist Lan, the challenge has just begun. It's too early to speak."

His voice was calm, but it was tinged with hostility.

Daoist Lan sneered, "Oh, then I really want to see how amazing Jin Duyi would perform in the end."

Heng Xiao's face remained expressionless and he paid no more attention to him.

Everyone present was accustomed to this. They were all aware of the grudge between Xuanji Dao Sect and Phantasm Empyrean Island so they were not surprised.

At this moment, Lin Xun had also entered the second floor of the pagoda—Molten Secret Realm!

It was a fiery-red world with rapidly flowing rivers of lava crisscrossing and tongues of fire dancing about, setting the universe aflame.

The Dao Refining Battle Spirit distributed here were like lava giants. Whether it was in bearing or combat strength, they were much stronger than the Dao Refining Battle Spirits on the first level of the pagoda.

To pass this level, participants first had to kill eight Dao Refining Battle Spirits.

Fortunately, this was nothing to Lin Xun. He crushed all opponents that appeared, almost eliminating each one in one move.

His final harvest was a total of eight Martial Dao Origin Power!

As Lin Xun felt the clear transformation of the Red Flame Spirit Embryo in his heart, excitement fluttered inside him. He had never thought that he would encounter such an amazing opportunity in the second round of selection.

Without wasting any time, he entered the third level.

However, he was not the first one to reach here. Lu Dubu, Wu Huang, Xie Yuhua and others had already arrived.

The reason for this was because Lin Xun was more focussed about the changes of the Red Flame Spirit Embryo and cared little about his speed in the competition.

All his thoughts were on passing the levels and gathering Martial Dao Origin Power.

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“In seven and a half minutes, nineteen people reached the third floor.”

Outside the pagoda, an influential figure made an accurate deduction. The others nearby looked surprised.

Among the nineteen people, there were disciples from the seven major factions, as well as top figures from the ten participating zones, such as Su Muhan, Jin Duyi and Lan Yunke.

The other nine hundred odd people were still on the first and second levels.

Around four hundred were still stuck on the first floor. Some influential figures reckoned that most of them were likely to be eliminated!

As time went by, Lu Dubu’s performance caught the attention of all the influential figures.

“Lu Dubu has reached the fourth level!”

“He is again the first to reach the fifth level!”

“The sixth level!”

Just when half an hour passed, many influential figures were astonished to see that Lu Dubu was again the first to advance into the sixth level.

Even Guan Xu was surprised for a moment, and then he smiled knowingly. *This kid Dubu is likely going to be unrivaled again!*

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1896: Terrifyingly Steady

In less than half an hour, he had already reached the sixth level!

From the looks of it, Lu Dubu was indeed leading the competition and leaving the rest in the dust.

When he reached the sixth floor of the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda, Wu Huang, Xie Yuhua, Wang Tu, Yuan He, Su Muhan...and a dozen other peerless figures were still fighting on the fifth floor.

Meanwhile, on the fourth floor were about forty odd people, including fierce characters such as Helian Qi, Lan Yunke, You Tianxing, Chu Qiu and Gu Jianxing.

On the third floor, there were approximately four hundred people.

On both the second and first floors were more than two hundred people.

The present situation was very obvious. Half an hour had passed, which meant that it was impossible for those still stuck on the first and second levels to pass the selection.

From this moment on, the influential figures only focused their attention on the participants in the third level and above.

“If we ranked the students who took part in the assessment, Lu Dubu would be at the top.”

Daoist Lan from Phantasm Empyrean Island said leisurely, “Wu Huang, Xie Yuhua, Wang Tu and dozens of others are also ranked in the first tier.”

“Helian Qi, Lan Yunke and others are in the second tier.”

He frankly expressed his opinion and many important figures echoed his thoughts.

But soon, Daoist Lan changed the topic. “According to this division, Jin Duyi...haha, is almost in the second-tier. He does look extraordinary and is worthy of being called a champion of a participating zone.”

Many people’s countenance altered. Even an idiot could tell that he was seemingly acknowledging Jin Duyu’s strength, but in truth, was mocking him.

In fact, Lin Xun was currently on the fourth level, killing his last opponent.

The face of Heng Xiao from Xuanji Dao Sect darkened. Jin Duyi was the little martial uncle of Master Bo Yazi, so how could he allow others to mock him like this?

Of course, Heng Xiao also knew that Daoist Lan did this because of the incident where Jin Duyi had defeated She Ling and She Zi!

Taking a deep breath, Heng Xiao held back his anger and said aloud, “Daoist Lan, given your status, should you deliberately target a junior like that and lose your manners over it?”

Daoist Lan forced a smile. “I am just telling the truth.”

Heng Xiao uttered coldly, “Then I will also tell you that, whether it is Jin Duyi or any one else, they may be in the second tier now, but it does not mean that they will remain there when the selection is over.”

“Then let’s just wait and see.”

Daoist Lan roared with laughter, as though he was too lazy to argue with him.

“Everyone, look, after Lu Dubu reached the sixth floor, his progress slowed significantly.”

Someone suddenly exclaimed, “Wu Huang has already entered the sixth level, and judging by his speed, he is very likely going to surpass Lu Dubu.”

Those words immediately drew the attention of all the influential figures in the audience.

The sixth level was the Black Mist Secret Realm. Participants could progress to the seventh level as long as they defeated four Dao Refining Battle Spirits.

Now, Lu Dubu had killed the second Dao Refining Battle Spirit and was about to fight the third.

Wu Huang, who had just reached the sixth level, was incredibly impressive. After crushing the first Dao Refining Battle Spirit with overwhelming power, he quickly moved on to deal with the second Dao Refining Battle Spirit.

Based on his power and attack speed, he was showing signs of catching up with Lu Dubu!

“Wu Huang is so strong. Daoist Lan, when did the Phantasm Empyrean Island have such an extraordinary disciple?”

“That kid is indeed extraordinary. He has such a domineering aura as if saying no one else in the world can rival him. Both his foundation and talent are incredible.”

“I didn’t think that the Phantasm Empyrean Island would be hiding such a secret. Daoist Lan, at such a time, why don’t you tell us more about Wu Huang?”

All of a sudden, all kinds of surprised and curious voices rang out.

Seeing so many influential figures show such interest, Daoist Lan couldn't help but feel proud. He smiled modestly. "Well, he's nothing special. He is just a little better than Jin Duyi who won ninety-nine consecutive matches."

He did not dare to say that Wu Huang was better than Lu Dubu, for fear of offending Guan Xu of Great Void Sect.

However, he did not hold back when criticizing Lin Xun.

Heng Xiao's face darkened even more. *This old guy really wants to compete with me!*

Unfortunately, Lin Xun's performance so far had indeed been a bit lacking when compared to Wu Huang, which made Heng Xiao lack the confidence to refute.

Why hasn't he shown his power yet? He cried anxiously in his heart.

Three hours later.

Wu Huang and Lu Dubu arrived on the seventh floor at almost the same time.

This set off another round of exclamations from the audience.

However, it was also from this moment on that the speed of the two slowed significantly.

This was because the Dao Refining Battle Spirits they encountered were stronger than those before and they began to feel the pressure!

On the sixth floor, Xie Yuhua, Wang Tu and a dozen other peerless figures were all fighting hard, trying to overtake each other.

Their speed of attack also was much slower than before.

It was the same with the participants on the fifth level, including Helian Qi, Lan Yunke and You Tianxing.

As for below the fifth level...

Many who had performed rather well at the beginning were starting to feel the strain, and the gap between them and the other participants ahead of them was increasingly widening.

"Three quarters of an hour have passed. I think those who have yet to reach the fifth level will be eliminated..." someone sighed.

Below the fifth floor, there were nearly eight hundred participants.

They all stood out from the first round of selection, and some were even ranked among the top ten in a particular participating area.

For example, Dong Liushi, Shi Long and others from Fierce Wind City were now on the fourth level. If they did not quickly turn things around, they would have no hope of reaching the ninth level before the time limit and would fail the round.

“This is the fight for the great dao. This is just the second round of selections, and the participants are only limited to our Cloud State territory.

Guan Xu said calmly, “There are a total of forty-nine states in the Great Primordial Chaos World. Except for the Central Plain State, all other states are undergoing the same level of selection as our Cloud State.

“Under such circumstances, the usual genius and prodigy will also look dim.

“Only those who are truly strong enough to lead the experts of the forty-nine states can shine brightly in the Great Primordial Chaos World!”

These words sent a cascade of emotions surging in everyone’s heart.

The Great Primordial Chaos World was too vast and tremendous. Even the smallest state was comparable to a world of its own, and a state such as the Central Plain State was even larger than one could imagine!

If one wanted to lead the younger generation and shine brightly in the Great Primordial Chaos World...

It was more than difficult!

Throughout history, rarely did such people appear. Compared to them, the geniuses and talents who rose to fame in a state indeed looked dim.

As the saying went, no matter how good you think you are, there is always someone better!

It seemed to be a rather lame saying, but it was actually a subversive truth since ancient times.

“I only hope that, this time, in the Dao Debate of Cloud State, several remarkable talents will emerge and attend the Dao Debate Assembly held by the Great Six Courts as representatives of our Cloud State to compete with the most outstanding, dazzling, magnificent and powerful group of talents in the entire Ancient Nebula Road!”

Guan Xu's earnest hope lurked in his deep and resounding voice. "By then we can prove to the world, to the starry sky and to the heavens that strong cultivators do also exist in our Cloud State!"

Hearing this, everyone was moved.

Guan Xu's vision had already transcended the scope of Cloud State and spanned the whole world. His ambition and courage impressed every single influential figure present.

This was the grand ambition of the leader of the number one sect in Cloud State!

"Alas, the Great Six Courts and the Great Ten Battle Clans...plus some unrivaled characters from other worlds in the starry sky exist. When the Dao Debate Assembly kicks off, how intense and fierce would the competition be," someone sighed.

These words made many people sigh in response.

"With effort, one can achieve anything. When striving to be the best in a cultivation stage, what is being competed is their ultimate strength in that cultivation stage. Whoever has the strongest foundation, whoever grasps the top grand daos and whoever possesses the greatest martial power would have the highest hope of standing out from the crowd!"
Guan Xu's voice was calm.

Suddenly, someone exclaimed, "Hey, everyone, take a look, on the fifth floor, Jin Duyi is actually starting to surpass the others!"

Chatting leisurely, everyone was startled by those words and all shifted their gazes to the fifth floor.

In the fifth level, Lin Xun was actually not much different from before. His speed and attacks were about the same and hadn't changed at all.

But it was this steadiness and consistency that astonished the important figures.

It should be noted that the strength of Dao Refining Battle Spirits increased as participants moved up the nine floors of the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda.

As they progressed, the difficulties and number of dangers encountered would also increase.

For example, Lu Dubu and Wu Huang, who were leading, had slowed considerably once they reached the sixth level. When they reached the seventh level, they started to feel great pressure and their attack speed slowed even more.

Similarly, on the fifth level, Helian Qi, Lan Yunke, You Tianxing and others were in similar situations.

Therefore, Lin Xun, whose attack speed remained extremely consistent, stood out from the rest!

This could be easily explained. With increasing difficulties and dangers, others slowed down, but he did not.

This contrast made it seem like his attack speed had been reversed!

“Hmph, he does not know the importance of conserving energy and is going all out now. Has he not heard of the saying, the fighting spirit aroused by the first roll of drums is depleted by the second and exhausted by the third? That kid won’t go far at all.” Daoist Lan snorted.

He was prejudiced against Lin Xun. When their Phantasm Empyrean Island sent disciples to challenge Xuanji Dao Sect, they were certain of winning, but who would have thought that they would return in defeat.

The reason for that was because Jin Duyi, who was Lin Xun in disguise, had intervened.

Naturally, Daoist Lan particularly disliked Lin Xun.

Many people also agreed with Daoist Lan. They reckoned that Lin Xun was fighting with all his might in the hope that he would catch up, but this was bound to exhaust him.

Over time, it would put him in an extremely unfavorable situation!

However, to the shock of everyone, as time went by, Lin Xun not only surpassed Helian Qi and others and reached the sixth level, but his attack speed remained the same as before.

He was terrifyingly steady!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1897: Erupt With Everything

The sixth level—Black Mist Secret Realm.

Participants had to defeat four Dao Refining Battle Spirits before progressing onto the seventh floor.

In addition, everyone knew that the higher the level of the pagoda, the stronger the Dao Refining Battle Spirits.

For example, the Dao Refining Battle Spirits on the sixth level seemed to be condensed from invisible black mist, yet they each possessed strength equivalent to a perfect supreme Saint-King!

Moreover, they had grasped frightening daos and arts. Although they were not real living creatures, their terrifying strength and combat skills were enough to drain the color from ordinary people's faces.

Xie Yuhua, Wang Tu, Su Muhan and other peerless figures were regarded as one of the most dazzling groups of people in Cloud State, but in this sixth level, they were put under great pressure, which considerably affected their speed and progress and their situation became extremely intense.

However, it was different with Lin Xun.

After leaving Helian Qi, Lan Yunke, You Tianxing and others behind in the dust, he reached the sixth level and was as dauntless as ever, attacking at the same speed as before!

The influential figures who saw this couldn't help but look a little bemused.

"From the beginning, this kid gave the feeling of neither rushing nor leisurely, neither arrogant nor hot tempered. His speed of advancing up the pagoda was also not particularly fast nor slow, but it is this steady speed that's most astonishing..." someone inhaled sharply.

"Yes, Lu Dubu and Wu Huang have both been moving forward with unstoppable force and are far ahead of everyone else, but they are now facing pressure in the seventh level," someone analyzed. "On the other hand, Jin Duyi has been very steady throughout. From the first level to the sixth level, he spent roughly the same amount of time in each level and he activated the same technique every time. This itself is frightening.

"To achieve this, one must possess overwhelming strength. The Dao Refining Battle Spirits on the sixth level are clearly no match for this kid!"

Many other important figures nodded in agreement.

They were either the leader of a sect or the head of an ancient clan. With their experience and shrewdness, they could see that as long as Jin Duyi continued to advance like that, he would very likely win first place in the end!

Hearing everyone praise Lin Xun highly, Heng Xiao couldn't help smiling, thinking to himself, *How would the junior uncle of our Xuanji Dao Sect's founder be an ordinary person?*

Only Daoist Lan had a gloomy look on his face.

He had previously asserted that Lin Xun would not last long and was doomed to fail with the way he was going all out and not conserving his energy.

Who would have thought that Lin Xun not only overtook his competitors in the fifth level, but he also showed no signs of slowing down even when he arrived in the sixth level?!

He was speechless. He felt he had been slapped silently in the face. His face went a little red with embarrassment.

Taking a deep breath, he said in a deep and serious voice, “Currently, on the sixth level, there are the talented maiden Xie Yuhua and rare genius Wang Tu. There are also people like Su Muhan who are outstanding top figures. If Jin Duyi wants to catch up to them...I don’t think his chance of success is that high.

Everyone was taken aback by his words. Many secretly shook their heads. How could they not hear the bias in Daoist Lan’s tone of voice?

“Whether his chance of success is high or not is not for you to decide, Daoist Lan!” Heng Xiao couldn’t hold it in any longer. “As the leader of a sect, you keep targeting a junior and even speak so harshly towards him. Daoist Lan, are you not afraid of being laughed at by the world?”

Daoist Lan’s face became overcast and he was about to say something.

At that moment, a cry of surprise rang out, “Look, that guy has killed the second Dao Refining Battle Spirit on the sixth floor, overtaking nine opponents in one fell swoop!”

Those words shocked the entire audience, and everyone looked over in the same direction.

The sixth level was the Black Mist Secret Realm. Participants had to defeat four Dao Refining Battle Spirits before they could enter the seventh level.

Xie Yuhua, Wang Tu, Yuan He, Su Muhan and dozens of others had to do everything they could to kill four Dao Refining Battle Spirits.

Powerful participants like Xie Yuhua and Wang Tu had each killed three Dao Refining Battle Spirits and were currently in a fierce battle with the last.

Meanwhile, Yuan He, Su Muhan and others had killed two Dao Refining Battle Spirits and were currently fighting fiercely with the third Dao Refining Battle Spirits.

Nine others were fighting the second Dao Refining Battle Spirits.

Lin Xun had only just reached the sixth level and had already killed two Dao Refining Battle Spirits, which meant he had overtaken nine competitors in one fell swoop!

This scene astonished many people.

Daoist Lan, who had been planning to refute Heng Xiao, suddenly went quiet upon seeing this. Unable to vent the pent-up anger, his wrinkly face turned dark and sullen and his expression morphed indefinitely.

Heng Xiao smiled pleasedly, “This is called catching up from behind. This is a fantastic tactic!”

The other important figures looked at each other with varying expressions.

They had never met Jin Duyi before, so they had no grudges against him and of course no prejudice.

However, they could tell that Jin Duyi must have offended Phantasm Empyrean Island from the way that Daoist Lan repeatedly targeted him!

They would not say anything about this, nor would they want to go against the leader of Phantasm Empyrean Island just because Jin Duyi performed well.

To their surprise, the next moment, they couldn’t help but tense up nervously.

The leader of Sky Piercer Sword Sect, Cloud Star Sect, Jianan Zen Sect and the Imperial Su Clan...all donned solemn expressions.

This was because Lin Xun had killed the third Dao Refining Battle Spirit and was leveled with Xie Yuhua, Wang Tu, Su Muhan and Yuan He!

The atmosphere became silent and still, as all eyes were fixed on the huge light screen.

“Great!”

“Not bad!”

Before long, the sect master of Cloud Star Sect and Sky Piercer Sword Sect both lit up with delight.

Xie Yuhua and Wang Tu had both killed the fourth Dao Refining Battle Spirits at almost the same time and entered the seventh level!

The head of the Imperial Su Clan, the abbot of Jianan Zen Sect, and other important figures all shook their heads with complicated expressions on their faces.

This was because the third person to reach the seventh floor was Lin Xun!

This meant that Su Muhan, Yuan He and others were behind Lin Xun.

The head of the Su Clan praised, “Jin Duyi is truly a terrifying character. He hid his power well and is as stable as a rock.”

“The true power of a heavy sword is not its sharp edge, but from the one who uses it. Jin Duyi is indeed extraordinary.” The abbot of Jianan Zen Sect nodded.

At this point, how would the spectators not see that Jin Duyi, who was selected from Fierce Wind City, was an undeniably remarkable character!

He became known far and wide in Cloud State after ninety-nine consecutive victories.

He defeated Helian Qi in one move and came into the attention of the seven major factions.

And now, in this second round of selections, his unhurried speed and steady pace in passing the levels amazed all the influential figures present!

Only Daoist Lan felt a tight feeling in his chest and could not help but say aloud, “When he surpasses Wu Huang and Lu Dubu, I will personally apologize to him and admit that I misjudged him!”

Those words surprised everyone.

However, when they thought about it more, they knew that it was near impossible.

Lu Dubu and Wu Huang were already fighting on the eighth floor, while Jin Duyi had just reached the seventh floor. It was almost impossible for him to catch up with the two.

Unless he could maintain that terrifyingly steady pace and attacking speed throughout the seventh, eighth and ninth floors, only then would he have a glimmer of hope.

But...

Was that possible?

Only Heng Xiao said confidently to himself. *It's possible!*

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An hour had passed since the second round of selections began.

Lu Dubu and Wu Huang had both fought their way up to the eighth level, and they were equally matched, drawing the attention of everyone in the audience.

On the seventh level were Xie Yuhua, Wang Tu and Lin Xun, who also drew a lot of attention.

On the sixth level were Su Muhan, Yuan He, and others.

On the fifth level, many people including Helian Qi, You Tianxing, and Chu Qiu were about to break into the sixth level.

As for the participants below the fifth level, they no longer received any attention from the influential figures.

This was because everyone knew well that half the time had already passed and it was near impossible for those still on the fourth floor and below to pass the second round of selections!

The participants in the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda were unable to perceive what was happening in the outside world.

Time flew by and everyone was fighting with their all.

Some people were overflowing with fighting spirit.

Some people were killing like mad.

Some people were calm and composed.

Unfortunately, more were feeling hopeless and powerless.

Over nine hundred experts had participated in the second round of selections this time. Some of whom stood out from the competition in the ten participating zones while some were descendants of the seven major factions.

But now, those stuck on the fourth level and below were gradually losing their confidence and giving up, because they knew that even if they continued to fight, there would not be enough time to pass!

None of this affected Lin Xun.

The seventh level.

The Cloud Sea Secret Realm.

To pass this level, one had to defeat three Dao Refining Battle Spirits.

At this moment, Lin Xun's state of mind was as calm as ever. Every time he fought an opponent, he adjusted his combat power accordingly.

Even though the Dao Refining Battle Spirits on the seventh floor were unbelievably strong, they were not enough to bring any pressure to him.

In less than a few moves, the winner was decided!

Lin Xun was unbothered. He only cared about the Martial Dao Origin Power that he would obtain from killing Dao Refining Battle Spirits!

Boom!

With an explosion, Lin Xun killed another Dao Refining Battle Spirit and acquired pure Martial Dao Origin Power.

His eyes lit up. "I'm about to break through. I am only one step away from condensing the Red Flame Dao Body!"

Lin Xun contemplated, "This last step must be completed in one go. It seems like I have to do a final all-out sprint..."

Meanwhile, in the outside world, the influential figures could not keep calm.

"Lu Dubu has started the final spurt!"

"Wu Huang is also beginning to show his true power!"

Exclamations of surprise rang out and almost all eyes were gathered on the eighth floor, where Lu Dubu and Wu Huang were neck and neck.

On the eighth level, participants had to defeat two Dao Refining Battle Spirits to reach the final ninth level!

However, the two Dao Refining Battle Spirits possessed abnormal and terrifying powers. Lu Dubu and Wu Huang fought for nearly seven and a half minutes before they each killed one.

After that, the two erupted with all their power as if they had no more reservations!

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1898: Cheating?

On the eighth floor.

Dressed in a wide-sleeved scholarly robe, Lu Dubu, who looked like a frail scholar, seemed to have turned into a completely different person. A divine brilliance surrounded him and his body emitted an imperishable noble spirit.

When his eyes opened and closed, there seemed to be the sun and moon floating up and down within them, captivating the soul.

“Life Passes Like A Dream!”

His long hair billowed and in front of him appeared a magnificent, dreamy Great Dao Field, reflecting the ups and downs of the world and the joys and sorrows of all living beings.

Boom!

On the opposite side, a black-clothed and black haired Dao Refining Battle Spirit, who looked like a peerless sword immortal, was caught off guard and trapped inside the Great Dao Field.

“In a dream, everything changes in the blink of an eye. In the world, the scenery transforms drastically in a moment!” Lu Dubu said leisurely like the ruler of the world.

As his voice faded, there seemed to be a river of time surging forth from the Great Dao Field.

It immediately submerged the black-clothed and black haired Dao Refining Battle Spirit.

Amidst muffled rumbling thunder, the magnificent Great Dao Field gradually swallowed up the frantically struggling Dao Refining Battle Spirit with frightening power. It was like a beautiful dream turned into a nightmare.

Lu Dubu put his hands behind his back, exuding an elegant and graceful bearing.

“After I kill the Dao Refining Battle Spirit on the ninth floor, the Martial Dao Origin Power I gain will be enough to transform my Life Passes Like a Dream to the perfect state!

“At that time, I have nothing to fear when I compete against the most extraordinary people in the world at the Dao Debate Assembly!”

Lu Dubu suddenly was full of pride and enthusiasm.

.....

Meanwhile, also on the eighth level.

“Ten Directions Luosha!”

Wu Huang wore a cold and ruthless expression on his face. As he moved onwards, thick ink-like fog spread outwards from him, like the curtain of eternal night, transforming into a Great Dao Field.

Inside the Great Dao Field, the ground was paved with scarlet and adorned with bones. Luoshas were veiled in sinister black mist like evil spirits emerging from hell, swooping down from the sky with sharp and menacing screams and a ruthless arrogance.

Wu Huang's black robe rattled as he stood there like the lord of Luoshas, the king of evil spirits. His gray-brown eyes were filled with cold-bloodedness.

As a Holy Imperial Apostle of Holy Illumination Ancient Sect, his foundation, talent as well as strength were all superb.

If it wasn't for the fact that he came from the Ancient Nebula Underworld, given his strength and combat ability, he would have been ranked on the All Heavens Saint-King Rankings long ago!

"Die!"

He made a flourish with his hand.

Luoshas descended from all ten directions, as if the gates of hell had been opened. Endless evil spirits and Luoshas came charging madly at the Dao Refining Battle Spirit on the opposite side.

.....

In the eyes of the influential figures in the outside world, Lu Dubu and Wu Huang had become completely different people.

The extraordinary bearing they exuded when they erupted with all their strength shocked them to the core.

"Amazing!" Guan Xu exclaimed, looking moved.

Lu Dubu, unrivaled in Cloud State and the pride of Great Void Sect, was a rare genius seen only once every thousand of years. He was bound to shine brilliantly at the Dao Debate Assembly held by the Great Six Courts!

"Not bad...not bad..."

Daoist Lan also smiled, but he sighed regretfully in his heart. *How great would it be if Wu Huang was a true disciple of Phantasm Empyrean Island?*

He cast a glance over at Heng Xiao and was about to make some sarcastic remarks when Heng Xiao sprang up, glowing with joy, and applauded, "Fantastic! Fantastic! Fantastic!"

Everyone else was startled.

Daoist Lan looked at him suspiciously.

Neither Lu Dubu nor Wu Huang were disciples of Xuanji Dao Sect, so why was Heng Xiao more excited than them?

When the influential figures followed his gaze, their jaws almost dropped, followed by gasps of shock.

It turned out that when their attention was fixed on the performance of Lu Dubu and Wu Huang, Lin Xun had already killed three Dao Refining Battle Spirits on the seventh floor with unstoppable force!

He overtook both Xie Yuhua and Wang Tu in one fell swoop!

“He...”

The sect master of Cloud Star Sect was flabbergasted.

“What happened just now? How did Jin Dui suddenly become so powerful?”

The sect master of Sky Piercer Sword Sect was also dumbfounded.

The rest looked like they had seen a ghost. They could not imagine how he could reverse the situation in such a short period of time!

“Could it be that...the kid did not really show his true strength until now?” someone suggested, which made everyone look at each other with disbelieving gazes.

Before this, Jin Dui’s pace was already terrifyingly steady, which made many people suspect that he had already used his full strength in secret.

Now it seemed like they all underestimated the foundation of this youngster!

His unparalleled attacking speed stunned everyone with disbelief.

His opponents were powerful Dao Refining Battle Spirits on the seventh floor, but in front of him, they were crushed like paper!

At this moment they finally understood why Heng Xiao was so stirred up.

Jin Dui’s performance was indeed extraordinary, and in no way inferior to that of Lu Dubu or Wu Huang!

“The speed of passing the levels can’t compare to real life combat. After all, Dao Refining Battle Spirits are non-living things, and a real battle between cultivators tests not only one’s strength but also state of mind and willpower!” Daoist Lan spoke aloud, “In my

opinion, Jin Duyi is indeed extraordinary, but if you say that he can be compared with Lu Dubu and Wu Huang, I simply can't agree with that."

Perhaps it was because he had been slapped in the face too many times, but when he said this, he seemed to be holding back a lot although he was still targeting Lin Xun.

Heng Xiao snorted, "It's not difficult to tell who is stronger and who is weaker. When the third round begins, it will all be clear."

Daoist Lan smiled. "You are right, but unfortunately Lu Dubu and Wu Huang have already reached the ninth floor, but Jin Duyi has just entered the eighth floor. If he wants to catch up...it won't be easy."

Wu Huang represented Phantasm Empyrean Island.

Daoist Lan would be satisfied as long as Wu Huang beat Lin Xun.

However, before his voice died away, the audience burst into exclamations!

On the eighth floor, Lin Xun was still advancing with overwhelming power, killing an opponent in the blink of an eye!

It should be mentioned that both Lu Dubu and Wu Huang took around seven and a half minutes to kill the required Dao Refining Battle Spirits on the eighth floor!

Such a comparison could immediately judge who was better.

When Lin Xun killed the second Dao Refining Battle Spirit and progressed to the ninth level, all influential figures, including Guan Xu, were utterly dumbstruck.

The situation was completely beyond their expectations and imagination!

He was too fast!

So fast that they had no time to react.

By the time they reacted, Lin Xun had already left everyone in the dust and entered the ninth level!

"How is that possible..."

Daoist Lan cried out as he completely lost his composure. His expression dramatically changed.

The other influential figures also struggled to keep calm. Jin Duyi had indeed brought them too many surprises.

In the first six levels, he was neither hurried nor slow, but steady as a rock, catching up with one competitor after another. He demonstrated an extremely powerful foundation.

At that time, the impression he gave everyone could be summarized in one word: Steady!

Then, starting from the seventh level, he seemed to have become another person. He was like an unrivaled sharp blade emerging from a deeply hidden box—unstoppable and swift as the wind!

Even the amazing Xie Yuhua and dazzling Wang Tu were left behind by him.

At this moment, he rushed onto the ninth floor at an unbelievable speed!

The atmosphere was quiet and still. Even though the important figures had much life experience, they were still stunned by the scene and billows of thoughts rolled across their minds.

“That Jin Dui has hid his strength well!”

“How can an independent cultivator have such an ability? He has to be a peerless monster from another world in the starry sky. I wonder which old antique is his master...”

“I didn’t expect this.”

Even Heng Xiao was astonished. He knew that Lin Xun was incredibly strong and had a powerful background.

Despite that, he did not think that the rough-diamond-like youngster who kept such a low-profile would be so dazzling when he showed his brilliance!

After a while, Daoist Lan recovered from the shock and tried hard to suppress his emotions. “Right now, Jin Dui has already reached the ninth floor like Lu Dubu and Wu Huang. I wonder if he can...” His voice ended abruptly.

His eyeballs almost popped out and his face was frozen stiff.

However, no one laughed at him because they were just as shocked, standing transfixed in stupefaction.

On the ninth level, the Great Void Secret Realm, was only one Dao Refining Battle Spirit, but it was also the most powerful and terrifying. Even the most outstanding perfect supreme Saint-Kings would have to exert a great deal of strength to kill it!

For example, Lu Dubu and Wu Huang were already straining themselves, but they were still locked in a fierce battle with their opponent. It did not look like the match would end anytime soon.

But it was different with Lin Xun.

Once he reached the ninth floor, just like before, he killed the Dao Refining Battle Spirit within a few breaths!

His domineering and powerful bearing and his invincible demeanor left the influential figures all shocked and speechless.

After a long period of silence, someone spat out three words, “What a monster!”

“Unbelievable..” someone else murmured in a daze.

“If someone tells me that the kid is a core disciple from the Great Six Courts, I will not have any doubts. Only a huge colossus like the Great Six Courts can raise someone like him.” Someone sighed emotionally.

Daoist Lan completely lost control of himself and screamed out loud, “No, this can’t be true, Jin Dui must have cheated!”

He had been targeting Lin Xun ever since the second round of selections began, but Lin Xun’s marvelous performance every time was like a direct slap to his face, which made the anger and frustration in him built up.

Until now, when Lin Xun surpassed Lu Dubu and Wu Huang in an unparalleled manner, it was like a loud and crisp slap to his face that unleashed all the pent-up frustration in him.

In truth, if the influential figures present had not witnessed it with their own eyes, they would never believe that such a reversal could happen at the last moment.

Lu Dubu and Wu Huang, who were believed to be most likely to win first place in the second round of selections, were overtaken by the dark horse Jin Dui!

Who would have imagined this would happen?

“Daoist Lan, you are simply ridiculous. This selection takes place in the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda. Do you think Fellow Daoist Guan Xu is someone who will allow cheating?” Heng Xiao questioned coldly.

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1899: Eyes of Smoldering Flames

As soon as Heng Xiao said that, everyone couldn’t help but laugh.

Cheated?

How would that be possible?!

Everyone on the cloud platform was either the head of a sect or the leader of an ancient clan. If anyone tried to cheat, they would have known right away.

Moreover, the second round of selections took place in the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda, the most precious treasure of Great Void Sect!

Under such assessment circumstances, Daoist Lan actually accused Jin Duyi of cheating. This was simply an insult to the Great Void Sect!

As expected, Guan Xu, the sect master of Great Void Sect, suddenly fixed Daoist Lan with a cold glare and his face darkened. “Fellow Daoist, do you suspect our Great Void Sect of allowing cheating?”

Daoist Lan’s face paled, and he frantically explained, “No, no, it’s just that...Jin Duyi’s performance was too unusual, so I couldn’t help but make an outburst like that.”

Many other important figures shared the same thought.

Before this, who would have imagined that while Lu Dubu and Wu Huang were competing fiercely for the first place, such a reversal would happen?

Jin Duyi, in an unstoppable manner, overtook Lu Dubu and Wu Huang to break through to the ninth level of the pagoda, becoming the first person to pass the second round of selections!

Who would have predicted this result?

It was too unexpected!

.....

On the ninth floor of the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda.

Lin Xun stood alone, his eyes slightly closed, his expression calm and tranquil.

And inside his body, as the majestic Martial Dao Origin Power poured into him, the Red Flame Spirit Embryo moved rhythmically like a pulsating thunder as waves of life qi madly gushed out like the sea.

Boom!

After just a moment, a sound akin to the chaos upon the birth of the universe rang in his heart, and the spirit platform above Lin Xun's head started to rain gorgeous fiery-red light.

Almost at the same time, the Well-Wishing Dao Robe draped around Lin Xun produced a mysterious aura that completely obscured all the strange visions.

Outsiders would see nothing but fiery clouds and were unable to pry into the miraculous phenomenon that was happening to Lin Xun.

Finally, the crimson red rain of light condensed and transformed into a tall and imposing figure clad in a robe of fire. His body was bathed in sparkling flames like the god of fire!

Red Flame Dao Body!

Fire was one of the five elements, the innate essence of yang, and one of the Eight Trigrams.

The Red Flame Dao Body was an incarnate of the great dao that was conceived from the Red Flame Spirit Embryo. With an aura as mighty and vast as the scorching sun, it was not only extremely yang and domineering but also flamboyant.

This was the fourth incarnation of the great dao that Lin Xun had formed so far.

Boom!

As his qi, spirit and energy entered into the Red Flame Dao Body, countless wonderful insights surged into his mind like a tide.

After a long moment, a thought struck the red-robed Lin Xun and his slightly closed eyes sprang open.

At this moment, a terrifying scene was reflected in his eyes—Between heaven and earth, all fell silent except for a ball of raging fire. The world, the sun, the moon, and the stars were all incinerated into ashes.

All traces of time and space were burned away.

Only that ball of fire was constant and eternal!

This astonishing vision appeared within Lin Xun's eyes and eventually transformed into two beams of fiery light and shot out.

Boom!

The ninth level, the Great Void Secret Realm, was like a dark world of nothingness. However, as Lin Xun's eyes opened, the flaming beam illuminated the entire world!

It was as if the entire world was being set alight!

This was the innate power of the Red Flame Dao Body—Eyes of Smouldering Flames!

Its core secret lay in one word: Smoulder!

Incinerate the sky and the earth, burn everything into smoldering ashes.

This innate power was the most domineering and violent!

A moment later, as Lin Xun withdrew his power, the incineration power between heaven and earth also faded, and everything was restored to calmness.

However, a strange glint flashed in Lin Xun's eyes.

This was because when he activated the Eyes of Smouldering Flames, he had inadvertently awakened the power from the All-Wonder Dao Fire and allowed a wisp of the All-Wonder Dao Fire to integrate into this mysterious innate talent, thereby raising the power of the Eyes of Smouldering Flames to an unimaginable level!

Lin Xun reckoned that the original power of the Eyes of Smouldering Flames could easily take down top figures among his peers.

Now that it was strengthened with a wisp of aura of the All-Wonder Dao Fire, it would have no problem with killing a Quasi-Emperor Stage cultivator.

When Lin Xun came to this conclusion, his heart pounded faster as he became aware of the terror of the Grand Dao Yellow Court Classic.

“The Green Wood Dao Body wields the power of wither and thrive, life and death...”

“The Yellow Earth Dao Body controls the Seal of All Beings...”

“The Black Water Dao Body activates the wonders of Three Thousand Streams...”

“And this Red Flame Dao Body, with its Eyes of Smouldering Flames, practices the way of domineering destruction!”

Lin Xun contemplated, feeling the secrets of the Red Flame Dao Body, unaware that he had become the first to pass the second round of selections.

Or perhaps it should be said that, from the moment he first stepped into the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda until now, he never cared about his ranking.

.....

In the fifth quarter of the second round of selections.

Clad in a wide-sleeved robe and looking like a frail scholar, Lu Dubu emerged from the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda.

A hint of a smile lifted the corner of his lips and he was in glowing spirits.

After passing the ninth level, the accumulated Martial Dao Origin Power in his body allowed him to completely control his Great Dao Field, Life Passes Like a Dream, at the perfect level!

This could be regarded as a pleasant surprise.

Walking out of the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda, Lu Dubu was ready to receive everyone's attention.

Unfortunately, to his surprise, he was not greeted with the expected applause, exclamations and cheering.

Everyone had an indescribably strange look on their face, a mixture of shock and daze.

The atmosphere was also oddly quiet.

"Is it because they didn't expect that I would pass the second round so they didn't know how to react?"

Lu Dubu looked confused.

He was very confident about the second round of selections. Just like his name, he was destined to walk alone and leave everyone in the dust![1]

However, the reactions of the crowd left him confused. Even if they were surprised...this shouldn't be their reaction, right?

Just when Lu Dubu was about to say something, he sensed eyes watching him from behind.

He turned his head and saw Wu Huang's tall and mighty figure walk out of the Great Void Dao Refining Dao Pagoda. His black robe whipped about his body as it exuded a frightening aura.

When Wu Huang noticed Lu Dubu's gaze, a smile played about his lips.

Lu Dubu wrinkled his brows, and a bad feeling surged in his heart.

“Dubu, come over here.”

At this moment, Guan Xu let out a long sigh, breaking the silence.

Lu Dubu froze, and then he turned his head to Guan Xu with much difficulty. “Sect Master, could it be the first place in the second round of selections...”

Guan Xu nodded.

Lu Dubu felt a buzzing in his head, as if he was struck by lightning!

Am I not first place?

He felt a thunder bolt struck from a clear sky. The unexpected news made Lu Dubu, who was full of confidence and eagerly waiting to receive everyone’s praise, almost lose control of his emotions.

How is that possible?

If I am not first, then who else would it be?

As the most dazzling genius of the younger generation in Cloud State, Lu Dubu, despite his seemingly modest appearance, was actually a proud and unyielding character.

But he never imagined that the first place of the second of selection, which he was determined to win, would disappear from his grasp without a trace!

“Hahaha...Lu Dubu, are you surprised? Is it hard to take?”

A burst of loud laughter was particularly grating on the ear.

Lu Dubu turned his head to see Wu Huang’s hair fluttering in the air as he threw his head back and laughed without restraint, showing no intention of disguising his mocking towards him.

Lu Dubu’s face turned overcast. *It turned out to be that guy!*

An incredibly strong feeling of bitterness and anger beat at his heart, making him quietly curled his fingers into a fist.

“Wu Huang, this is only the second round of selections. When the third round comes, I will make you not able to laugh again!” Lu Dubu seethed, his voice sounding like it was squeezed out from between his teeth.

“Well, I’ll fight you anytime!”

Wu Huang grinned smugly, revealing his snow-white teeth. After saying that, he couldn't help but burst into laughter again.

Among the competitors in the second round, he only took Lu Dubu seriously.

And now, he had surpassed him. How would he not be satisfied with himself?

This was his personality—outspoken, direct, and blunt, never hiding anything.

“Oh, young man, isn't it too early to be this happy? I advise you to understand the situation first before you celebrate,” Guan Xu said coldly as if he couldn't bear to watch anymore.

Wu Huang was taken aback by those words. He looked around and found that everyone was staring at him with unusual expressions.

There was no praise or exclamations of admiration and shock, but instead there were looks of pity...

At this moment, Daoist Lan from Phantasm Empyrean Island couldn't help but explain, “Wu Huang, the first person to pass is someone else...”

Before he finished, Wu Huang's expression drastically changed and he cut him off, “Impossible!”

That single word was filled with anger and disbelief.

Lu Dubu was also surprised at first, then his expression turned strange. *It turned out that Wu Huang was not ranked first!*

At this moment, Lu Dubu really wanted to ask, *Wu Huang, Wu Huang, why are you not laughing now?!*

At the same time, everyone looked at Wu Huang with more pity, while Wu Huang himself felt increasingly uncomfortable. The smugness and satisfaction in his heart were all replaced by shock and bewilderment.

“Then who was first?” he couldn't help but ask.

Lu Dubu was just as curious.

“It's Jin Dui.”

Daoist Lan sighed, his face livid. He was the one who was most prejudiced against Lin Xun, but at this moment he had to begrudgingly admit the fact that Lin Xun was ranked first.

“Impossible!” Wu Huang and Lu Dubu cried out simultaneously, looking as if they had seen a ghost.

Jin Dui?

They did indeed think highly of that person before, but they never considered him worthy of the first place!

“How is it impossible?” Heng Xiao smiled and said indifferently, “Everyone present witnessed it clearly. Youngsters...why don’t you calm down first, so as not to embarrass yourselves further.”

He said those words lightly, but the expressions of both Lu Dubu and Wu Huang went a little stiff. They looked at the audience, but found that no one refuted Heng Xiao.

The truth made their hearts sink horribly!

1. His given name is 独步, which literally translates to ‘walking alone.’ ㄟ

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The Prodigies War

Chapter 1900: The One and Only Jin Dui

In the second round of selections, Jin Dui came first!

This reality was like a heavy blow to Lu Dubu and Wu Huang, leaving them stunned and speechless.

When Lu Dubu remembered how he thought his appearance would be met with applause and cheers, his face suddenly became red and hot.

Likewise, Wu Huang felt a suffocating feeling in his chest. He had just been laughing loudly and mocking Lu Dubu, but he had become the joke in the end...

At this moment, both of them wanted to crawl into a crack in the ground.

So embarrassing!

Furthermore, it happened in front of everyone. If word got out, wouldn’t their reputation be destroyed?

“It’s only the second round of selections. Don’t be dispirited. When the third round comes, you can defeat Jin Dui then,” Daoist Lan comforted them in a gentle voice.

Heng Xiao immediately looked displeased. “Defeat Jin Dui? Daoist Lan, why are you so forgetful?”

The two were about to bicker again when a commotion broke out.

Lin Xun walked out of the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda, drawing everyone’s attention right away.

Every influential figure donned a complicated expression.

Some exclaimed with curiosity, some showed heartfelt admiration, some gasped in amazement, and some sighed...

The seemingly ordinary-looking youngster had achieved too many earthshaking feats.

In the first round of selections, he was a dark horse that had suddenly appeared out of nowhere and became the champion of Fierce Wind City.

He set a record of ninety-nine consecutive wins!

He was in a class by himself!

And now, he was the first to pass the ninth floor of the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda, becoming the number one of the second round of selections.

Even the amazing Xie Yuhua, Wang Tu, Su Muhan and others were all left behind by him.

Even peerless characters like Lu Dubu and Wu Huang were reduced to supporting roles in the end!

It could be predicted that when the results of the second round of selections were announced to the world, it would shake the entire Cloud State!

After all, compared to Lu Dubu, Jin Dui...was a nobody in the past, so the sensation that his name would cause was bound to be tremendous.

“Young man, your performance was indeed extraordinary and impressed us all. But you have to be careful because the third round of selections is a one-on-one battle. There are a lot of variables that can affect whether or not you will make it into the top ten,” Guan Xu said with a smile, making no disguise of his admiration at all.

“In my opinion, it shouldn’t be difficult for this youngster to make it into the top ten.”

“Yes, I am looking forward to his performance in the one-on-one battles. I believe he won’t let us down.”

The other influential figures also spoke up, most of whom had good intentions.

Lin Xun bowed with a cupped fist salute, “Elders, thank you for your advice.”

Seeing this, Lu Dubu and Wu Huang only felt more and more upset. This was the treatment that the number one person received.

Unfortunately, it was not them.

As time went by, more and more experts came out of the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda.

Xie Yuhua, Wang Tu, Su Muhan, Yuan He...

Followed closely by You Tianxing, Helian Qi, Lan Yunke, Jintian Xuanyue...

When they learned that the first to pass the second round of selections was neither Lu Dubu nor Wu Huang, they all gasped in shock.

When they learned that Lin Xun won first place, they were in even more shocked disbelief.

Especially Helian Qi, who had a grudge against Lin Xun. His eyes almost popped out of his sockets and the color was drained from his face.

Jintian Xuanyue was the calmest of them all. After all, she knew best how terrifying strong Lin Xun was.

When the incense stick finished burning, a total of forty-nine people had successfully passed the second round of selections.

Among them, the majority were core disciples from the seven major factions, and a much smaller percentage was from the ten participating zones.

Gu Jianxing, who was selected from the participating zone Fierce Wind City together with Lin Xun, was considered as a talented sword genius, but he was also eliminated!

Many people couldn't help but sigh audibly when they saw that strong cultivators such as Gu Jianxing progressed no further than the second round of selections.

This was the fight for the great dao. However strong one was, there would always be someone stronger. In the end, only ten people would be selected from the Dao Debate of Cloud State to attend the Dao Debate Assembly jointly held by the Great Six Courts as representatives of Cloud State.

The competition was brutal.

Among those who had passed the second round of selections, thirty-nine of them would be eliminated in the next round!

Lin Xun was not worried about this at all. Ever since he came out of the Great Void Dao Refining Pagoda, his mind had been completely focused on comprehending and studying the wonders of the Red Flame Dao Body. He was completely uninterested in what was happening around him.

Clang!

A deep clanging of bells resounded from the cloud platform above Immortal Martial Peak, announcing the end of the second round of selections.

Out of the nine hundred odd participants, only forty-nine passed and the rest were all eliminated. Their paths came to a bleak end.

On the cloud platform, Lin Xun and forty-eight others were lined up in order. Far away from them, Guan Xu and other bigwigs fixed their gazes on them.

The area was permeated with a solemn atmosphere.

“The third round of selections will be conducted in a one-on-one tournament format.” Guan Xu announced in a deep voice. “Before it starts, lots will be drawn. One lucky person will be able to advance to the next round without having to compete.”

As he spoke, he flicked his sleeve and a bronze box emerged.

“Jade sticks are inside, each one corresponding to the name of an opponent. Now, Jin Duyi will be the first to draw.”

After he finished speaking, amidst countless gazes, Lin Xun walked forward and began to draw lots.

The bronze box was covered with mysterious restriction arrays that blocked spirit sense, thus

preventing any cheating.

Lin Xun chose a jade stick without much thought, glanced at it, and a strange smile curved the corner of his lips.

Helian Qi!

What a coincidence!

He handed the jade stick to Guan Xu, and when Guan Xu announced that the first match was between Jin Duyi and Helian Qi, many people couldn't help shaking their heads.

Helian Qi?

How would he be a match for Jin Duyi?

It was worth noting that just last night in the Contention House, Helian Qi was defeated by Jin Duyi in one move. Who in the city did not know about this?

Some people cast sympathetic gazes towards Helian Qi.

Helian Qi's face was darker than the bottom of a pot. He just stood there, stunned, feeling as if ten thousand wild horses were galloping across his heart. He almost coughed up blood from the suffocating feeling.

Damn it...

I'm so unlucky!

"Brother Helian, I look forward to our match." Lin Xun smiled.

Helian Qi almost crushed his own teeth as he uttered coldly, "Jin Duyi, don't look so triumphant yet. You don't know the outcome until we fight!"

However, his heart was running around his chest and he had no confidence in the match at all...

Next, everyone came forward and drew lots one by one.

The results were announced one by one, sparking a lot of discussion and excitement.

Unexpectedly, Jintian Xuanyue actually drew the lucky jade stick and it automatically granted her to advance into the second round of matches without a duel.

When good fortunes came, even heaven and earth would be on your side. Once it faded, even the wisest heroes would fail.

Luck was always a kind of strength!

"Rise!"

Guan Xu folded his hands together in a hand seal, and with a deafening rumble, an ancient battlefield emerged above the massive cloud platform!

The suspended battlefield was constructed from some sort of ancient gray-brown stone material that had been stained badly with blood and produced an overwhelming austere aura.

“After the first set of matches in the third round, there will be twenty-four winners advancing to the next round, plus the lucky person who received a bye.”

Guan Xu announced solemnly, “And now, the first match begins!”

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