Prodigies 2481

Chapter 2481 Wanted by the Luo Clan

Lin Xun had no idea what was happening outside the city gate. Even if he did, he would probably just feel secretly relieved and grateful that he had left in time. Otherwise... He didn't even want to imagine it!

"Green Sparrow, tell me what's the fastest way to leave the Third Immortal Pass? Money is not a problem." Lin Xun asked urgently.

Ever since the green sparrow had obtained a batch of treasures imbued with immortal matters, its attitude toward Lin Xun had clearly changed. It had become much more attentive and didn't hesitate to offer guidance this time.

As a result, Lin Xun paid a staggering twenty million first-grade cosmic origin crystals that day, instantly qualified to pass the trial, and left on the same day! Indeed, money made the world go round. The ancients were not wrong.

It was the same even in the Great Thousand Domain Battlefield. As long as one could afford the price, one beyond the means of ordinary Emperors, doors would open. When Dugu Youran heard the news, she couldn't help but feel both angry and amused.

"That guy...does he really think I'm some sort of disaster spirit?"

She ground her teeth in frustration. Back in the Eternal True Realm, she couldn't stand the endless matchmaking arranged by her clan elders. Seeking escape, she used 'travel' as an excuse to run off to the Great Thousand Battle Domain to clear her mind.

However, she never thought that even after arriving at the Great Thousand Battle Domain, admirers would still flock to her. Like Peng Tianxiang, Zhu Lin, Rong Xiangli, and all those other dazzling figures now pursuing her. It was exhausting.

Hence, she never imagined that Ling Xuanzi would treat her as some sort of living disaster, fleeing at the first opportunity as though she would devour him alive. This was the first time that Dugu Youran, who

had always been doted on and treated like a precious jewel by her clan elders, experienced anything like this.

She was very sharp and naturally understood all the usual tricks: playing hard to get or laying bait to reel in a big catch. In the past, many had pursued her this way, but she had always scoffed at such tactics.

Only Lin Xun had ever truly, and without the slightest pretense, treated her like a nuisance. It left her both exasperated and amused. How could someone like that even exist in this world? Did he not realize that with just a few words from her, she could help him reach the Eternal True Realm directly without him having to face a single danger?

“He actually spent twenty million first-grade cosmic origin crystals just to avoid me at the first chance he got. That guy...is just...absolutely outrageous!” Dugu Youran muttered.

“Miss Youran, since your savior has left, there’s no need to overthink it. He must have had urgent matters to attend to,” said the man who had arrived earlier in the purple chariot, smiling politely.

Clad in golden armor and radiating heroic bearing, he was an eighth realm Emperor with an extraordinary background. With his identity and status, even the city lord had to treat him with respect.

However, Dugu Youran replied irritably, “And how would you know if he had urgent business? My affairs...just stay out of it!”

Everyone exchanged puzzled glances, unable to understand why Dugu Youran was suddenly so short-tempered.

“Peng Tianxiang, come with me to catch up to that guy. He saved my life, how could I owe him a favor? I want to see just where he thinks he can hide!” Dugu Youran suddenly made up her mind.

Peng Tianxiang quickly nodded, heart racing with excitement. Though Dugu Youran’s attitude toward him wasn’t exactly warm, it was still better than how she treated the others! Otherwise, why would she choose only him?

Watching Dugu Youran and Peng Tianxiang depart, the rest of the powerful figures, all from prestigious lineages, couldn't help but frown in dissatisfaction.

"Jin Duyi? Who is he, and why does Youran care so much?" someone asked, clearly baffled.

"It's bad. Could it be that she's taken a liking to him?" another muttered darkly.

"Hmph, how could someone from the Great Thousand Worlds be worthy of Youran's attention? In my opinion, Youran just doesn't want to owe anyone a debt," someone said disdainfully.

"Jin Duyi...no matter the reason, if Youran is this concerned about him, he must be eliminated!" another said, eyes flashing with murderous intent.

This was the power of Dugu Youran. How could ordinary people endure the pressure that came from being the target of jealousy among her many powerful admirers? Fortunately, Lin Xun had left early. Otherwise, he would have found himself in another storm.

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Time passed quickly. Lin Xun traveled alone, crossing perilous battlefields and drifting through the eerie, desolate expanse of the starry sky.

Battle after battle.

Bloodshed at every turn.

Without the clingy and troublesome Dugu Youran, without the endless stream of troubles, Lin Xun found himself enjoying the solitude of his journey. The road to becoming an Emperor was a struggle for supremacy, and the path to the dao was one walked alone.

The path of cultivation was a journey of self-transformation, which was destined to be riddled with trials and never smooth or easy. Only by braving perils, surviving the edge of life and death, and tempering oneself through bloodshed could one achieve breakthrough after breakthrough.

Indeed, along the way, Lin Xun encountered countless deadly trials, many of which nearly claimed his life. However, each time he turned peril into fortune, tempering and solidifying his foundation, which was a rare form of cultivation. Only those who had faced death and braved true perils were worthy of speaking of the great dao!

Half a year had passed since Lin Xun left Fengji City, which marked one year and three months since he entered the Great Thousand Battle Domain. Weathered by countless trials, he finally arrived at the fourth Immortal Heavenly Pass.

He spent a day selling off the treasures he had accumulated along the way, all items he had no use for. Then, he bought five Yellow Spring Beads. Wasting no time, after completing the trial at the City Lord's Residence, he set off again.

By the time a year and seven months had passed since he first entered the Great Thousand Battle Domain, he reached the fifth Immortal Heavenly Pass. It was during this arrival here that he heard a startling piece of news: his identity had been exposed!

Even the wanted notices posted on the city walls now bore the name 'Lin Xun'! This deeply shocked Lin Xun. After a careful investigation, he traced the source of the news to experts from the Luo Clan of the other side of the cosmos.

"The Luo Clan..." Lin Xun frowned deeply.

This sudden turn of events caught him off guard, but after some thought, he realized how the Luo Clan pieced it together. In the Eternal True Realm, no one understood the Ancient Nebula Road better than the Luo Clan.

Furthermore, Lin Xun was the only cultivator in the past hundred thousand years to become a supreme Emperor. He was also someone the Luo Clan viewed as a thorn in their side. Given that 'Ling Xuanzi' also hailed from the Ancient Nebula Road, it wouldn't have been hard for them to piece it all together!

Despite that, how did they uncover the truth so quickly? It was likely closely connected to the wanted notices posted throughout the cities of the forty-nine Immortal Heavenly Passes.

After all, 'Ling Xuanzi' was ranked ninth and hailed from the Ancient Nebula Road. How could it not draw suspicion from the Luo Clan?

It seems the Luo Clan already know that I'm crossing the Great Thousand Battle Domain and making my way toward the Eternal True Realm... No, they might have already started to make their move... Lin Xun thought, his gaze deep and unreadable.

He knew more danger lay ahead, but he wasn't afraid. With his current cultivation and trump cards, he had no reason to fear confronting the Luo Clan in the Great Thousand Battle Domain.

In fact, after thinking it over, he saw it as an opportunity. At least, it would give him the chance to test the foundation and true strength of the Luo Clan.

"I'm curious, when will you show yourselves?"

Lin Xun noticed that his position on the wanted list had risen and he now ranked third. This was largely due to the Luo Clan's interference. They had issued a bounty of twenty million first-class cosmic origin crystals.

Combined with the earlier bounties from the Wen and Heng Clans, the total now reached twenty-six million first-class cosmic origin crystals.

It was just one million less than the bounty for the second-ranked Blade Bearer, and only four million less than the bounty for the top-ranked Cang Fusheng. Moreover, the Luo Clan had specially marked that anyone who could capture Lin Xun alive and deliver him to them would see the bounty increased tenfold!

Lin Xun narrowed his eyes when he read this. Unsurprisingly, the wanted notice caused a commotion throughout the Great Thousand Battle Domain. Countless experts speculated on what Lin Xun, who was once known as Ling Xuanzi, had done to provoke so many forces and angered the Luo Clan to go to such lengths.

This commotion caused a stir and had a remarkable impact, attracting the attention of even peerless figures of extraordinary origin.

After all, since ancient times, riches had moved the hearts of people. Even an Ancestor of a Path might be unable to resist if the reward was tempting enough.

It was clear that after this incident, once Lin Xun's identity was exposed, he would be hunted like 'prey' by countless powerful cultivators!

Unfortunately for them, Lin Xun was no longer the same as before. With his current cultivation, he could veil his identity so perfectly that even Ancestors of a Path would be deceived.

However, he realized that the wanted notice didn't just name him. It also listed all his known characteristics and even vividly depicted the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron! In other words, the moment he summoned his weapon, his identity would be exposed.

"You've certainly gone to great lengths to deal with me..."

In an inn, Lin Xun sat alone, quietly drinking with a calm, unfazed expression. He did not care about any of this. Ultimately, the current him was different from before.

At his current level, the only beings he might truly fear were immortals who had transcended the Ancestor Realm.

A few days later, he left the fifth Immortal Heavenly Pass and resumed his journey. Even if his identity had been exposed, it would have no immediate impact on him, at least for now.

Not long after Lin Xun left, outside the fifth Immortal Heavenly Pass, two figures, a man and a woman, appeared out of thin air. It was Dugu Youran and Peng Tianxiang.

Upon seeing the wanted notice hanging from the city gate, Dugu Youran froze in astonishment. Then, a strange gleam flickered in her clear eyes and the corners of her lips curled upwards.

What a big liar!

Chapter 2482 The Great Catastrophe Approaches

“Hey, Ling Xuanzi’s ranking suddenly shot up, and his real identity is Lin Xun. Who is he? Some terrifying figure from the Ancient Nebula Road?” Peng Tianxiang was shocked. Despite that, he found nothing strange. He had no idea that the ‘Jin Duyi’ he had regarded as a close brother was actually Lin Xun and was now ranked third on the wanted list.

All he saw was Dugu Youran silently staring at the name on the notice.

“That guy’s a scoundrel and a big, fat liar,” Dugu Youran said with a faint smile.

That smile lit up Peng Tianxiang’s heart. He remembered his uncle Peng Qianhe’s advice: Think what she thinks, worry about what she worries about.

So he quickly declared, “Youran, if you hate him that much, how about I hunt him down myself in the name of the Peng Clan? Hey, wait, Youran? What’s wrong? Wait for me...”

Before he could finish, Dugu Youran turned away and walked toward the city gates, her expression dark and unreadable. Peng Tianxiang wanted to cry but he couldn’t. What happened?

Why are women’s moods so hard to grasp?

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The thirty-sixth city of the Immortal Heavenly Pass.

This was one of the cities under the control of the Luo Clan.

Inside the City Lord Residence, a stunning woman with flawless features and a graceful bearing spoke coldly, her voice tinged with pride, “Fifth Uncle, back then I was the one responsible for overseeing our

clan's bounty hunts targeting cultivators from the Ancient Nebula Road. This time, I was also the first to uncover Lin Xun's true identity. So, this matter should be handled by me."

This woman was Luo Ling, a jewel of the Luo Clan. She was breathtakingly beautiful and remarkably gifted. Her cold, detached gaze and elegant bearing made her seem unapproachable.

It was because of her that Wen Shaoheng had once gone to great lengths to search for Lin Xun, all just to win her favor.

In the grand hall, a number of Luo Clan experts were seated. At the head sat the lord of the city, Luo Yunfeng, an Emperor Ancestor with unfathomable cultivation and also Luo Ling's fifth uncle.

"Your sixth, seventh, and ninth uncles all perished in the Ancient Nebula Road.

"Your ninth uncle was slain by Combat Emperor, Fangchun Mountain's first disciple.

"Your seventh uncle died in the Celestial Phoenix World.

"Your sixth uncle died in the Kunlun Dominion and rumors say he was killed by Zhong Qiu, Fangchun Mountain's second disciple."

Luo Yunfeng said with a serious expression. "Ling'er, do you know how devastating these losses are? In the Sixth Heaven Domain, many great forces are already pushing to drive our Luo Clan down to the Fifth Heaven Domain!"

A hint of violence flashed between his brows and his expression turned grim. "Back then, our Luo Clan was a mighty imperial clan rooted in the Seventh Heaven Domain! We were powerful enough to contend with the Ten Immortal Giants of the Eighth Heaven Domain!"

The grand hall was silent, with only Luo Yunfeng's voice echoing through the stillness. All the Luo Clan cultivators wore dark expressions, their moods shifting like unsettled skies.

Luo Ling said in a low voice, “I understand. It’s because we’ve lost the clan’s most supreme innate talent. That’s why we’ve declined to this point.

“This is why I’m determined to take Lin Xun down myself. If we capture him, our clan will have the chance to rise again and regain our former glory!”

However, Luo Yunfeng gave a cold snort, “Do you really think...with your current strength...you’re capable of that?”

He didn’t wait for an answer. “He’s a successor of Fangchun Mountain.

“And he’s already stepped into the seventh realm Supreme Emperor Stage. When he entered Origin City, he started a killing spree and he killed Heng Tianshuo, an Ancestor of a Path in a direct battle!

“Most importantly, he carries our clan’s strongest innate power, and he’s most likely awakened it to its second stage!”

By the time he finished speaking, Luo Yunfeng couldn’t suppress the intense jealousy surging in his heart.

Grand Abyss Heaven Devourer! This was like a thorn in the hearts of all the Luo Clan elders.

Looking back, it was thanks to that innate talent that the Omega Lord had built an extraordinary foundation for the Luo Clan. The clan’s power shook the entire Seventh Heaven Domain, forcing even the mighty overlords who commanded Heaven Rank laws to lower their heads!

Those glorious days were unmatched!

The Omega Lord had even scorned the Ten Immortal Giants of the Eighth Heaven Domain. That incredible dominance still echoed across the Eighth Heaven Domain to this day.

Now...

With the mysterious disappearance of the Omega Lord and the loss of the Grand Abyss Heaven Devourer bloodline, everything changed. Even the Luo Clan's hold over the Sixth Heaven Domain had begun to falter!

The contrast was staggering. For elders of the Luo Clan like Luo Yunfeng, how could there not be bitterness? All of it stemmed from the loss of that supreme bloodline talent!

Furthermore that very talent had resurfaced in a young man without the surname Luo. The realization made Luo Yunfeng seethe with resentment and fury.

"Now, tell me, what do you have that can capture that little bastard alive?" Luo Yunfeng's gaze was icy and oppressive as he looked at Luo Ling.

All eyes in the hall turned toward Luo Ling.

After a moment, she took a deep breath and replied, "I possess methods that can threaten even Emperor Ancestors. And more importantly, I can rally the Heng and the Wen Clan to act alongside me."

Luo Yunfeng sneered. "Ling'er, you don't understand what the Grand Abyss Heaven Devourer truly represents. It is the strongest innate talent of our entire bloodline, a power capable of shaking the great powers of the Seventh Heaven Domain! Remember, never underestimate the talent that once belonged to our clan!"

As he reached the end of the sentence, each word landed with weight, as if striking the ground, filling the hall with immense pressure.

Luo Ling fell silent. After a long moment she said with resolve, "Even if it costs me my life, I will capture that man alive!"

With that, she rose and strode out of the hall.

Some elders stood up to stop her, but Luo Yunfeng waved a hand. “Let her go. I want to see if she can actually get this done!”

Then after a pause, a sharp gleam flickered in his eyes. “Besides, if I’m not mistaken, she’s carrying that treasure, which may have a miraculous role against that boy.”

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After leaving the fifth Immortal Heavenly Pass, Lin Xun quickened his place.

According to the green sparrow’s guidance, the journey from the fifth to the ninth Immortal Heavenly Pass would take him through fewer than ten perilous and unpredictable battlefield planes. The distance had shortened, but the danger had intensified dramatically.

Ordinary Emperors needed to travel in groups just to survive.

Even supreme Emperors had to tread carefully, otherwise they would perish on the way!

Indeed, Lin Xun experienced firsthand the terrors and perils of the journey, bathing in bloodshed and enduring countless hardships

Several times, he narrowly escaped death by relying on the power of his divine ability, Time Stopping.

Those battlefields were filled with unfathomable strangeness and ominous forces, almost all linked to terrifying remnants of the previous epoch.

On the flip side, the rewards were immense.

By the time he reached the eighth Immortal Heavenly Pass, the treasures he exchanged had already earned him a staggering fifteen million first class cosmic origin crystals!

Additionally, his cultivation had also improved, entering the advanced levels of the seventh realm Supreme Emperor Stage. Though he was still far from the level of perfection, his progress was astonishing.

At least, in the outside world, there was no way he could have experienced so many life-and-death trials or acquired so many transformative opportunities.

The long journey, the unending slaughter and the repeated brushes with death had gradually tempered Lin Xun's aura and demeanor into something more calm and unremarkable.

Just like when all splendor faded, everything returned to its truest form.

He was as silent as a still abyss, as steady as a settled cauldron.

Among crowds, he was like any other under heaven, common, unremarkable and forgettable.

However, in the eyes of true powerhouses, one could glimpse the immense and unfathomable mystery hidden beneath that plainness.

He was like an abyss of immeasurable depth and power!

This was the manifestation of cultivation refined to its limit, a return to the true nature, where illusion and reality intertwined and one remained one's true self. True cultivation was precisely the pursuit of this 'truth'.

It needed no embellishment from the power of the dao, because it was the embodiment of the dao!

As Lin Xun left the eighth Immortal Heavenly Pass, he suddenly recalled something.

Half a year had already passed, yet the supreme Emperor-level assassin Frost from Empty Hidden World had yet to appear.

Could Empty Hidden World have given up?

If he counted the days, it had already been two and a half years since he left Origin City at the first Immortal Heavenly Pass and had made his way to the eighth. Had this sudden thought not surfaced, Lin Xun might have completely forgotten the matter.

“If they’re planning to deal with me, then the ninth Immortal Heavenly Pass will be their best chance.” Lin Xun murmured, his eyes clear as he made his prediction.

Whether it was the Heng Clan, the Wen Clan, the Luo Clan, or Frost, if any of them wished to seize an opportunity, there was no doubt they would choose the ninth Immortal Heavenly Pass.

The reason was simple: The ninth Immortal Heavenly Pass held a Battle Stele of the Domains!

Lin Xun would never miss such an opportunity.

In addition, if those enemies had even the slightest foresight, they would be preparing in advance, if only to be ready.

Lin Xun remained calm.

The countless battles and trials along the way had tempered his heart and mind. He was no longer the newcomer who knew nothing about the Great Thousand Battle Domain.

He understood clearly that on this bloody, unreturnable road, the only way forward was to advance with courage. There could be no retreat!

If he wished to survive in a world of the so-called Immortal Imperial Clan descendants, peerless giants, and Ancestors of a Path, then he had to be stronger than all of them!

He had walked his path alone from a young age, weathered countless storms, witnessed the rise and fall of life and tempered his dao heart into one of invincible will.

This was no blind arrogance, but an absolute confidence in the strength of his own cultivation.

On the path of the Emperor, none rival me!

Only with such resolve could one remain firm on this unprecedented path, surpass all of the same realm, and transcend the ages!

On this day—

Lin Xun set off again, continuing his journey toward the ninth Immortal Heavenly Pass.

“A great catastrophe is approaching. It is inevitable. When it arrives, a bloody storm will sweep through the ninth Immortal Heavenly Pass...”

In the ruins of an ancient battlefield, a thin monk in plain hemp robes stood still.

It was none other than Yunliu, the monk from Little Thunderclap Temple who had entered the Earth Kun Realm Gate alongside Lin Xun.

At this moment, he seemed to sense something. He brought his palms together in silent prayer, raised his gaze to the distant horizon, and a profound, unfathomable Zen light flickered in his eyes.

In that instant, terrible visions surfaced in his eyes—blood pouring like waterfalls, the sky collapsing, the earth splitting apart, Emperors falling, and all things crumbling.

Terror beyond imagination!

Chapter 2483 Taiyi City

Yunliu let out a muffled groan. His eyes that were showing terrifying, blood-soaked scenes suddenly dimmed.

“When the successor of Fangchun Mountain is involved, everything...becomes uncertain?” he sighed.

He practiced the Buddha Prophecy Sutra of the Little Thunderclap Temple, a scripture known for peering into the hidden mysteries and secrets of heaven and foretelling what was to come. This sutra was revered as a method of prophecy. With just a glance at an ordinary person, Yunliu could foresee their fate and the trajectory of their life.

Even most cultivators couldn’t escape his insight. Unfortunately, the dao of fate and destiny was among the most profound. It touched upon the secrets of eternity and immortality. What he could glimpse were only fragments, hazy, vague and elusive.

Just now, a sudden feeling arose. He sensed signs and omens, visions of a looming catastrophe descending upon the ninth Immortal Heavenly Pass.

Unfortunately, no matter how he tried, no matter how he exhausted his cultivation, he could not discern the figures involved.

He knew very well that this was partly due to the limits of his cultivation, but more importantly, it was because a certain someone was involved in this catastrophe! The successor of Fangchun Mountain!

“Fate shifts like clouds and wind, unpredictable and hidden in the unseen. Whether it brings fortune or misfortune, no one can escape its grasp,” Yunliu murmured. Blood trickled from the cracks at the corners of his lips, but he seemed unaware.

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In the third year after entering the Great Thousand Battle Domain. After countless hardships, dangers and life and death trials, Lin Xun finally reached the outskirts of the ninth Immortal Heavenly Pass!

In the vast, silent universe, a colossal ancient city floated in the void, radiating divine brilliance in all directions. Far beyond the city hung a black curtain like the veil of night draped across the heavens, forming a dark backdrop to the city.

From atop the city, if one gazed into the distance, they could faintly make out silhouettes of mountains and rivers within the darkness. Even the vague outlines of terrifying creatures loomed in the shadows, their chilling roars echoing through the void, shaking the boundless cosmos!

The black curtain was no ordinary night, but more like an ominous and mysterious region of space. It was the ninth Immortal Heavenly Pass, and the ancient city suspended before it was known as Taiyi.

Unlike the previous eighth Immortal Heavenly Pass, Taiyi City was vast beyond measure and resplendent beyond compare. It stood like the beating heart of the universe, sacred and radiant, bathed in billions of strands of divine light.

“I’ve finally arrived...” Lin Xun exhaled a long breath of turbid air.

On the way to the ninth Immortal Heavenly Pass, he had experienced dozens of bloody battles, both large and small.

The most recent danger Lin Xun had faced occurred when he passed by a dilapidated ancient temple, a ruin that had somehow endured since the last epoch. There, a bronze halberd clutched in the hand of a clay statue caught his eyes, but when he tried to take it, he was struck by a deadly blow.

The halberd looked decayed, yet it unleashed an overwhelming and terrifying power. With a single swing, it could split the sky and shatter the earth. Its might was absurd.

Lin Xun battled it for several days, sustaining countless wounds. He was nearly killed several times, but in the end, he managed to suppress the strange halberd with the power of his divine ability, Time Stopping.

Unfortunately, just as he had subdued it, the bronze halberd seemed to have exhausted all its remaining strength and crumbled into pieces, exploding into dust. Lin Xun could only stand there, dumbfounded.

After all that effort...what a waste!

Though such bizarre and frustrating events were not uncommon during his journey, this one still left Lin Xun somewhat dispirited. Perhaps the only consolation was that the battle had served as a rare training session, tempering his skills to an astonishing level.

After leaving the ancient temple ruins, he headed straight to the universe where the ninth Immortal Heavenly Pass was located.

At this moment, though his body was stained with blood, his hair disheveled, and he looked battered and worn, the faint wisps of murderous intent swirling around him were incomparably concentrated and terrifyingly sharp.

He was like an ancient demon god that had just emerged from a sea of blood and corpses! When he appeared in this stretch of the starry sky, he immediately drew attention.

All the cultivators passing by turned to look, but when their eyes met Lin Xun's, they froze in horror, as if plunged into an icy abyss. His cold, killing gaze seemed capable of reaping lives with a single glance!

"So terrifying!"

"Who is that?"

"It's very rare for anyone to reach the ninth Immortal Heavenly Pass alone and still be alive..."

Voices filled with awe and confusion rose in the air. However, when they looked again, their expressions turned to astonishment. The man who had just radiated terrifying murderous intent now seemed no different from an ordinary mortal. His presence had faded entirely.

There was no aura, no energy fluctuations! It was as if he had become a completely different person! Lin Xun ignored the attention and vanished from sight in a flash.

At the gates of the majestic ancient city, two lines of imperial guards stood on either side and two Ninth Realm Ancestors sat in command. Their presence was awe-inspiring.

The green sparrow advised, “The ninth Immortal Heavenly Pass is extraordinary and full of mysteries. In the past, many fierce and powerful figures have undergone transformation here.”

According to it, the number nine was a special number because it was ever-changing and unlike any other. Furthermore, this city was known as a place for tempering the dao. The most ancient and primal dao laws were concentrated here. Cultivating here could forge an incomparably solid foundation for one’s dao path.

The reason was that throughout the ages, countless powerful figures, ancient sages, and peerless giants had come to this place, each treating it as a battleground to prove their dao, leaving behind their will on the Battle Stele of the Domains within the city

The Battle Stele of the Domains possessed the power to communicate with the laws of the entire Great Thousand Battle Domain, effectively recording and preserving the might of the dao of those who had left their names.

Mediating quietly in the city, one could feel the immense dao power that had built up over countless years. For those who grasped its essence, the rewards were huge and with no drawbacks at all.

As the green sparrow explained, Lin Xun stepped into Taiyi City. He could clearly sense that this city was far larger, more populated, and more prosperous than any of the previous eight Immortal Heavenly Passes.

Over the years, countless powerful cultivators from across the Great Thousand Battle Domain had come to this place for various reasons, choosing to remain and temper themselves here. It was not that they couldn’t leave. Instead, this city held too many secrets, too many temptations they were unwilling to part with.

At the heart of it all was something located just on the outskirts of Taiyi City. That stretch of darkness in the depths of the universe, like a curtain of night, was actually a perfectly preserved relic from the last epoch: the Dao Ruins!

The Dao Ruins were not dilapidated in the slightest but instead had remained intact, brimming with unimaginable mysteries and fortunes. In the past, some cultivators had achieved sudden breakthroughs in their dao within those ruins, elevating their path in a single leap.

Others discovered secret dao scrolls left behind from the last epoch, comprehending peerless paths of cultivation. Some even unearthed divine materials and treasures born in the last epoch!

While the Dao Ruins was steeped in mysteries from the last epoch, it was also riddled with dangers and terrors, making it both deeply alluring and feared.

“I wonder if that wanted criminal Lin Xun will really show up in the ninth Immortal Heavenly Pass like the rumors say.”

“He’s so fierce and ruthless! He killed Heng Tianshuo, the city lord of Origin City, and beat the Wen Clan’s young master Wen Shaoheng to death. They say the bloodshed dyed all of Origin City red. I’m curious what this Lin Xun looks like.”

“After tens of thousands of years, the deteriorating Ancient Nebula Road has finally produced a supreme Emperor. But now, he’s in grave danger. If he dares to appear, I bet Taiyi City will be his burial ground.”

Shortly after arriving in the city, Lin Xun overheard discussions about him. After making some inquiries, he quickly learned that someone had deliberately spread a rumor that he would appear in the ninth Immortal Heavenly Pass.

According to the rumor, the Immortal Imperial Clans, the Wen Clan, the Heng Clan, and the Luo Clan, were already preparing to join forces to kill him. If it were just gossip, it wouldn’t have caused such a stir. Surprisingly, both the Wen and Heng Clans had personally acknowledged the claim!

Furthermore, many renowned experts even announced that if Lin Xun dared show up in Taiyi City, they would make sure the murderer who was ranked third on the wanted list wouldn’t leave alive! Because of all that, it was no wonder Taiyi City had been thrown into a frenzy. At this point, just about everyone in Taiyi City knew about this matter.

“Indeed, they’ve prepared their net in advance...”

Lin Xun remained unfazed. He had anticipated this long before stepping foot in Taiyi City. The wide and ancient streets bustled with life. Apothecaries, weapon shops, pill pavilions, wine taverns and tea

houses lined both sides. The city was vibrant and flourishing, just like every other Immortal Heavenly Pass.

Lin Xun headed straight to several large merchant guilds to sell the treasures he had collected along the way. At the same time, he was also on the lookout for businesses that sold Yellow Spring Beads.

It was not until three hours later that he finally settled down in an inn to rest.

“I only need nine more Yellow Spring Beads to fully condense the last three netherworld funes...”

In the room, Lin Xun carefully placed the newly acquired Yellow Spring Beads one by one into the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron. Watching the subtle transformation in the three netherworld runes, he couldn’t help but nod in satisfaction.

Since the third Immortal Heavenly Pass, he had purchased Yellow Spring Beads in every city he passed. Though it cost him a fortune, the results were undeniably significant.

He had a premonition.

Once all nine netherworld runes were fully condensed, earthshaking changes would happen!

“Green sparrow, tell me about the trial in Taiyi City.” Lin Xun said casually.

The green sparrow replied, “It’s not difficult to enter the Dao Ruins outside this city and capture ten Emperor-level spirits. The real danger lies in the ruins themselves. It is full of terrors, but it also holds rare fortunes from the last epoch. If you want to survive and return, you’ll need to be especially cautious.”

Lin Xun nodded.

Earlier, while selling treasures in the city, he had already learned that each month, a group of registered cultivators would be sent to the Dao Ruins.

Now, only three days remained until the next dispatch. There was still time to register.

However, before that, Lin Xun planned to visit the location of the Battle Stele of the Domains!

Chapter 2484 Heaven, Earth, and Mythic Rankings

Wasting no time, Lin Xun set out at once.

He had barely stepped out of the inn when—Roar!

A deafening roar erupted from the depths of the universe, shaking all of Taiyi City. Even the ancient city walls trembled under the impact.

Boom!

Moments later, beams of divine restriction light surged into the sky from within the city, forming a brilliant curtain of radiance that enveloped the entire city in protection.

Lin Xun's expression shifted slightly in astonishment. His gaze immediately turned toward the distant darkness deep in the cosmic void. There, an immense, majestic shadow had emerged. It resembled the figures of gods and demons in legends, towering tens of thousands of feet tall, striking upon stars and standing proudly above the heavens.

At this moment, the divine phantom was writhing violently, as though trying to break free from some ancient seals. The universe shook with every movement, cracks spreading across the void, releasing terrifying waves of destruction. The aura it exuded far surpassed even that of an Ancestor or a Path!

Yet in Lin Xun's eyes, this divine demonic figure...was merely a manifestation of will projected from the pitch-black world that resembled a curtain of night! In other words, what appeared in the cosmos was nothing more than an illusory will.

Even so, its power transcended the Emperor Stage! Lin Xun couldn't help but take in a sharp breath. What kind of terrifying existence was this? How could it wield such terrifying might?

“It's happening again. The Dao Ruins have been growing increasingly unstable. Strange phenomena like this have been occurring more frequently. Fortunately, Taiyi City hasn’t been affected....”

The passersby around him remained relatively calm. It was clear that this was not their first time witnessing such an event.

“I heard a mysterious forbidden seal within the Dao Ruins has started to loosen,” someone murmured. “A terrifying creature sealed from the last epoch might be breaking free.”

“That’s just a rumor. I’ve heard others claim a great fortune is about to surface in the Dao Ruins. It is supposedly tied to a ferocious sword from the previous epoch,” another said confidently.

“Yes, I’ve heard that as well. The sword has yet to be unearthed, but the sword intent that has leaked from it has already formed blood-soaked visions like mountains of corpses and seas of blood, piled with the remains of gods and demons. It’s extremely eerie and chilling.”

Through their discussions, Lin Xun pieced together what was happening. In recent days, strange disturbances had erupted again and again in the Dao Ruins. The chilling cries of a ferocious sword echoed from within, giving rise to bloody visions that buried even gods.

Many powerful cultivators who witnessed these scenes believed the phenomenon was likely connected to a sword buried deep within the Dao Ruins. Additionally, roars like the one just now continued to echo and divine and demonic wills thrashed violently, as if struggling against some sealing force, attempting to break free and emerge into the world.

All of this cast a shadow over Taiyi City. Because the city lay so close to the Dao Ruins, any catastrophe born from it would sweep through Taiyi City first.

However, for the powerful characters, this change within the Dao Ruins hinted at something else: An earthshaking fortune was about to emerge!

In no time at all, the Dao Ruins’ disturbance had become the hottest topic in all of Taiyi City.

After learning this, Lin Xun couldn't help but frown. If these anomalies were indeed tied to the last epoch, then once they fully erupted...the consequences would be unimaginably dire!

In the depths of the cosmos, the towering phantom that was over tens of thousands of feet tall, resembling a god or demon, continued to thrash for more than half an hour before letting out a bitter, frustrated roar. Then, all at once, it dissipated and vanished.

"You see, the Dao Ruins are unimaginably dangerous. Ordinary Emperors don't even dare to set foot beyond the boundary. Only true fearsome figures have the courage to enter and seek fortune there," someone sighed.

The Dao Ruins had not only become increasingly abnormal, but were also teeming with unimaginable Emperor-level spirits, making it a land of great peril. Of course, for the tough characters, it was also a place teeming with unimaginable opportunities.

Lin Xun didn't dwell on it. He turned and made his way directly to the eastern part of the city. Taiyi City was grand and magnificent. Its massive walls stretched like mountain ranges, tall, thick and radiated a powerful sense of grandeur.

The eastern district of the city had been cordoned off as a restricted area, accessible only to Emperors and above. Here stood one of the nine Battle Stele of the Domains that had survived since the last epoch.

When Lin Xun arrived, he saw a stone stele enveloped in swirling primal chaos energy. It towered three thousand feet into the sky, imposing and awe-inspiring. It exuded a chaotic, primordial aura and stood tall like a pillar supporting the heavens, pulsing with unique laws.

The Battle Stele of the Domains!

It was said that nine such steles existed across different Immortal Heavenly Passes, each having survived the destruction of the previous epoch. The material from which they were forged remained a mystery, but they possessed an extraordinary property. They could connect with the power of order in the entire Great Thousand Battle Domain.

Throughout the ages, countless immortals had coveted these steles and tried to claim them. However, to everyone's surprise, not even immortals were able to budge them an inch!

At this moment, near the Battle Stele of the Domains, several figures could be seen. Some were standing in silence, others were seated cross-legged in meditation. Streams of dao light flowed gently around their bodies, clearly showing they were immersed in sensing and comprehending the stele's power.

In truth, Lin Xun instantly felt the energy it emitted. Subtle, invisible waves were rippling through the air, covering the entire area.

As he carefully attuned himself to the fluctuations, he found that each one was unique with different dao will power. Some were domineering and cold, others wild and unrestrained, some fierce and unruly, while others were gentle and serene like drifting clouds....

They were all different.

Lin Xun immediately understood that these were the lingering auras of the dao wills left by cultivators who had left their names on the Battle Stele of the Domains over the countless ages. It was no deep or unfathomable secret, but just a manifestation of residual aura. Even so, by simply comprehending and sensing it, these auras had remarkable benefits on one's cultivation.

No wonder so many cultivators were unwilling to leave after arriving at Taiyi City. Even setting aside the opportunities within the Dao Ruins, just cultivating near this battle stele alone could help them temper their dao and refine their cultivation to a new level...

In this area, apart from those already immersed in meditation and comprehension, there were also many new arrivals like Lin Xun.

"There are three rankings on this stele: Earth, Heaven, and Mythic." An elder in a luxurious robe said leisurely, explaining to those gathered around him.

“To leave your name on the Earth Ranking means you are a dragon among men, a phoenix among women. Your talent is one in ten thousand, and you must have reached at least the sixth realm Emperor Stage.

“To leave your name on the Heaven Ranking, you must be a rare-heaven-blessed genius. Across the vast universe and myriad planes of the Great Thousand Worlds, such cultivators are few and far between. They are born extraordinary and favored by the heavens themselves.

“In other words, they are almost all peerless beings who have embarked upon the Supreme Path. Each one wields unimaginable might that can shake the heavens and suppress the earth.”

His words stirred a chorus of exclamations.

Just qualifying to leave a name on the Earth Ranking required one to be at the sixth realm Emperor Stage.

And the Heaven Ranking? Only supreme Emperors were eligible!

The difficulty of meeting such conditions was staggering.

Then the elder in the luxurious robe smiled and went on, “Merely having the qualifications doesn’t guarantee success. Whether one can truly leave a name depends on their strength, talent and potential.”

“Then what about the Mythic Rankings?” someone couldn’t help but ask. Others turned their eyes toward the elder as well.

The elder took a deep breath, raised his gaze to the highest point of the Battle Stele of the Domains, and said, his eyes gleaming, “Since ancient times, it’s been said that anyone who can leave their name on the Mythic Ranking must be invincible in their generation, and with a presence that stuns the ages. Someone who has the foundation to transcend the Ancestral Realm!

“Such cultivators are worthy of being called overlords of a world and the pinnacle of cultivation!”

The crowd fell into stunned silence before a wave of gasps broke out.

“Although what the old man said is a bit exaggerated, he’s not wrong. The three great rankings, Earth, Heaven, and Mythic represent completely different paths.” The green sparrow commented, “A guy like you will probably make it onto the Mythic Ranking.”

Having followed Lin Xun all the way from Origin City to Taiyi City, the green sparrow had long since witnessed his terrifying and monstrous cultivation. It wasn’t the least bit worried about Lin Xun being unable to leave his name on the Mythic Ranking. The only uncertainty was how high his name would appear on the list.

“I’ll go see for myself!”

A man in a silver robe stepped forward. Dao light bloomed beneath his feet, forming glowing dao patterns on the ground as he walked. His entire body seemed ablaze with power. When he reached the Battle Stele of the Domains, his aura had surged its peak. He placed a palm on the surface of the stele.

Buzz—

A rain of mysterious light fell like dancing petals. The stele rumbled, and its surface rippled with obscure, ancient dao light.

Gasps rippled through the crowd. This silver-robed man was an eighth realm Emperor. Although he was not a supreme Emperor, his cultivation was undeniably terrifying.

Moments later, a light golden rain bathed the silver robed man.

“He left his name on the Earth Ranking!” declared the elder in the luxurious robe. The golden light was proof that the man had successfully imprinted his will upon the Earth List.

The crowd stirred with excitement and envy.

Despite that, the silver-robed man shook his head bitterly, clear disappointment on his face. “I’ve never set foot on the Supreme Path... As expected, the gap is just too great...”

With that, he turned and left alone, His departing figure had a faint, desolate air.

“Why can’t we see the actual rankings?” someone asked.

The elder responded casually, “Only the person who leaves a name can see their ranking. Others have no way of knowing.”

After a pause, he added, “Take that fellow daoist just now. He has a cultivation of the eighth realm Emperor Stage and he left a mark on the Earth Ranking, but if I’m not mistaken, his ranking is likely outside the top ten thousand.”

“Ten thousand?” someone exclaimed in disbelief.

Even Lin Xun was surprised.

Outside the top ten thousand?

Didn’t that mean that, over the ages, at least ten thousand cultivators with at least sixth realm Emperor Stage cultivation had left their names on the Earth Ranking?

That was an astonishing number!

“It’s simple. These rankings have existed since the beginning of the ancient era, over 1.8 million years ago. Even with such harsh conditions, after countless generations, the number of names left behind has naturally grown.” The elder in the luxurious robe explained, “In truth, being able to leave your name on the Battle Stele of the Domains is already an extraordinary feat. The number of Emperors who failed to leave their names is far greater!”

Chapter 2485 Shake Taiyi City

Everyone vaguely understood. Such a grand spectacle could only be witnessed within the Great Thousand Battle Domain.

One had to remember that the Great Thousand Worlds was incomparably vast, encompassing countless universes and planes. Yet since ancient times, wave after wave of Emperor-level figures had always walked the paths of the Great Thousand Battle Domain and gathered here.

This meant that aside from native inhabitants, nearly everyone present in the Great Thousand Battle Domain was an Emperor. It created the illusion that Emperors were as common as dogs in the street.

However, that was merely a cognitive illusion. In reality, Emperors were incomparably rare in any universe of the Great Thousand Worlds.

If there were only a thousand universes and ten thousand Emperors had left their names on the Earth Ranking, that would average to only ten Emperors per universe. Spread across countless years, evenly distributed, that number became even smaller!

Once this realization sank in, many were left shaken and silent. Even if the silver-robed man was likely ranked outside the top ten thousand, no one dared to belittle him anymore.

“I’ll give it a try.” A purple-haired man suddenly stepped forward, full of confidence.

Unfortunately, when the test was conducted, the battle stele showed no response. The man’s face flushed red, his neck bulging with tension, and his fists clenched. He didn’t even meet the qualifications to be ranked!

Back in his own universe, he was a mighty overlord, revered by millions and standing tall above the starry skies. The fact that he reached the ninth Immortal Heavenly Pass alive was already proof of his formidable strength.

Despite that, in the end...he failed to leave his name on the stele! It was a devastating blow!

Many hearts in the crowd began to race, and heavy pressure settled over them. They finally understood that even leaving your name wasn't something just anyone could achieve!

More cultivators stepped forward afterward, but one after another, they faced disappointment. Almost all failed. Before long, when everyone looked at the Battle Stele of the Domains again, their gazes were filled with reverence.

It stood lofty and unreachable, its surface etched with the names of peerless Emperors throughout history, shining together so blindingly bright that one could not help but feel compelled to kneel.

The more they understood, the more fear and awe they felt. The gap between themselves and those names was far too vast.

"The Earth Ranking alone blocks so many," someone murmured bitterly. "Just imagine what kind of terrifying power would one need to reach the Heaven Ranking? And the Mythic Ranking? Could it be that only those legendary, heaven-defying geniuses of all time can make it there?"

When he first laid eyes on the stele, he hadn't thought much of it. Now his chest felt tight, as if he were standing before a gathering of mythical figures who had shone brilliantly across the river of time.

"Anyone else want to give it a shot?"

Hundreds had gathered here and many had already tried. In the end, only a handful managed to place their names on the Earth Ranking while the rest withdrew in silent humiliation.

At this point, only a few remained motionless. Among them was Lin Xun

"Brother, why don't you try?" Someone called out, half-jesting. "If you make it onto the Earth Ranking, your future will be limitless."

They noticed Lin Xun's aura was plain, unremarkable, and without any sharpness, so they boldly teased him.

“Haha, this brother’s smart.” Someone else joked, “He knows there’s no hope, so he won’t embarrass himself. That’s wise!”

Laughter rippled through the crowd.

“In a moment, I hope you two can still laugh.” Lin Xun also chuckled. He didn’t bother arguing further because they meant no harm.

“Brother, are you actually going to try?” asked the first man with surprise. Then he saw Lin Xun walk straight toward the stele.

Lin Xun stood before the Battle Stele of the Domains, his mind and body calm and clear. Unlike the others, his presence was plain and unremarkable and he didn’t gather strength or put on any display. He simply and causally pressed his palm forward.

Many burst out laughing again. This guy really did just go up there to give it a try. It’s obvious that he has no hope.

However, the next moment, their smiles froze on their faces.

Boom!

A booming dao sound suddenly erupted from the battle stele like a thunderclap from the nine heavens, echoing across the sky and shaking the nine heavens above. Everyone nearby was stunned, as if they had seen a ghost.

What’s going on?

Even the experts who had been meditating nearby, immersed in comprehending the dao wills, were jolted awake, their bodies trembling violently. The noise was so deafening that their ears rang and their minds reeled.

Before anyone could react, they saw brilliant divine clouds surging into the sky as the ancient stele resonated. Blossoms of the great dao bloomed and fluttered down one after another. Then, a dazzling divine radiance erupted, completely engulfing Lin Xun's figure where he stood!

Waves of celestial dao sound echoed endlessly, turning the world sacred and solemn. The surrounding void was bathed in a layer of crystal-clear dao light.

"What happened?"

At that moment, countless experts across Taiyi City were shaken. They halted whatever they were doing and turned toward the direction of the Battle Stele of the Domains.

"Heavens, that's..."

"The battle stele is resonating! Dao light is gathering in the world. This is a phenomenon that can only occur when someone leaves their name on the Mythic Ranking!"

"Unbelievable...who could have caused it?"

"Quick, let's go."

In an instant, countless figures in the city began rushing toward the site. Anyone who could leave their name on the Mythic Ranking was considered a peerless overlord of their cultivation stage, invincible in their generation and capable of shaking the world through the ages.

Such individuals even held the potential to surpass the Ancestor Realm!

Back at the battle stele, those who had teased and mocked Lin Xun earlier were now crying out in disbelief. They had completely lost their composure. Who could have imagined that the ordinary-looking man they ridiculed would trigger such a world-shaking phenomenon by just casually extending his hand?

This wasn't just leaving a name on the Earth Ranking. Nor was it challenging the Heaven Ranking.

This was making a mark on the legendary Mythic Ranking!

This completely caught everyone off guard. When they thought about how they had mocked Lin Xun earlier, their faces turned green with embarrassment.

Even those farther away were dumbstruck. Gazing at the distant stele, they saw a breathtaking spectacle: clusters of great dao flowers blooming and sacred light blazing across the heavens and earth.

It was as if a sun had risen. Someone had left their name on the stele, illuminating the entire void! The first wave of cultivators arrived, raising their eyes to the stele, it was still resonating and magnificent, blazing dao light was swirling all around it.

“Who is it? A peerless genius from one of the Immortal Imperial Clans?”

“Such a phenomenon is rare even among those already ranked on the Mythic Ranking. It clearly means that the person who just left their name is ranked extremely high on the list, and is bound to shake the world!”

More and more supreme Emperors appeared. Ninth Realm Ancestors also came. Even mysterious figures with unfathomable origins arrived on the scene.

At this moment, every gaze was focused on the Battle Stele of the Domains. Their expressions were deeply moved. This phenomenon was far more intense than any seen in the past. It was clearly extraordinary beyond compare.

It should be noted that throughout history, many remarkable cultivators had left their names on the Mythic Ranking, each triggering their own phenomenon. So for cultivators in Taiyi City, such scenes weren’t entirely unheard of.

However, this time, it was different. It was much grander.

The battle stele radiated dazzling light as divine flames surged skyward, piercing through the heavens. It resonated without end, rumbling with the sound of the great dao, while a mysterious aura of the dao blanketed the area.

“Not long ago, even the phenomenon caused by that giant from the Seventh Heaven Domain wasn’t this intense....” someone murmured.

“Are you referring to Hua Ruoxu? He’s an eighth realm supreme Emperor, but if we’re making comparisons, the spectacle he caused back then indeed pales in comparison to what we’re witnessing now.”

Many were growing restless, silently weighing the difference in their hearts. Recently, several world-renowned figures had shaken Taiyi City by leaving their names on the Mythic Ranking. Each event caused a sensation, drawing the eyes of countless cultivators.

Among them were legendary characters from the Great Thousand Worlds as well as formidable beings from the Eternal True Realm.

Now, in contrast to all the phenomena that had happened before, everyone was stunned to realize that none of them compared to what was happening now!

“Who could it possibly be?”

One by one, the crowd’s curiosity deepened, and countless eyes turned toward the battle stele. Unfortunately, the divine radiance there was too intense, and the rain-like light and the unfathomable aura of the great dao obscured all perception. They could only glimpse a hazy silhouette amid the glow.

Only after a long time, when the auspicious light in the sky gradually faded and the blossoms of the great dao dissipated, did the figure finally become clear.

It was a face unfamiliar to them. He had a tall, upright figure and an unremarkable presence, without the slightest trace of imposing aura. He looked like one of the countless ordinary people you might see in a crowd.

However, his appearance was strikingly handsome and he carried an air of elegance, making him stand out as someone extraordinary.

Everyone froze. Who is he?

For a moment, the atmosphere turned heavy and silent. Many people exchanged glances, as if hoping someone would speak his name. Unfortunately, to their awkward surprise, no one could.

Clearly, he was a complete stranger, someone who had just arrived in Taiyi City. But despite his plain appearance, was undoubtedly a terrifying existence with unfathomable depth!

Someone opened their mouth to ask about his identity, but before the words could leave his lips, the man turned and left in the blink of an eye.

Some cultivators immediately gave chase. They were stunned to find that the other party had used some sort of profound secret technique. Not a trace was left behind!

Even so, the storm he had caused by leaving his name on the Battle Stele of the Domains didn't die down. On the contrary, the city was boiling with excitement, drawing countless attention.

"What? Someone defied the heavens and surpassed even the phenomenon caused by Hua Ruoxu?"

"They say Hua Ruoxu ranks within the top one thousand on the Mythic Ranking. Although we don't know his exact position, even that is already defying the heavens. After all, the names on the Mythic Rankings were all peerless figures across countless eras, and every name represents an invincible existence.

"If that's the case, then this mysterious man must rank even higher than Hua Ruoxu. He must be firmly within the top thousand!"

The news spread like wildfire, shaking the entire Taiyi City and stirring up a tremendous uproar. Countless people began speculating and discussing the matter.

Meanwhile, at the Battle Stele of the Domains, wave after wave of cultivators rushed over, hoping to uncover more information.

Before long, a flawlessly handsome man in golden robes arrived. His eyes were deep and unfathomable, and his every gesture and movement exuded a transcendent majesty, as though he stood above the world, gazing down upon all living beings.

He stood silently before the battle steel, lost in thought. Some of the older cultivators in the crowd stirred, their expressions shifting. When they finally recognized the man's identity, their hearts began to tremble.

Chapter 2486 The Secret of the Rankings

Hua Ruoxu! He was a legendary figure from the Seventh Heaven Domain. The clan behind him wielded Heaven Rank Laws and possessed terrifying might.

The moment his identity was recognized, shock rippled through the crowd and countless people were visibly shaken.

It was clear that Hua Ruoxu had come after hearing the news.

"Young Master, it's said the one who left his name is an unfamiliar face. No one could recognize him. He's definitely not a known figure from the Eternal True Realm, but more likely an extraordinary talent from the Great Thousand Worlds."

Standing beside Hua Ruoxu was a beautiful and graceful woman in a flowing purple robe. Every movement she made carried the unmistakable presence of a mighty Emperor.

"From the Great Thousand Worlds...that's quite impressive," Hua Ruoxu mused. "If I can fully integrate my dao law with my cultivation on this trip, then when it reaches true perfection, my ranking will surely rise to an even greater height."

His voice was deep and magnetic, his tone calm and indescribably confident.

The beautiful purple-clad woman said with a soft smile, “Young Master, why concern yourself? This ranking is only temporary. He’s from the Great Thousand Worlds, even if he’s a rare genius, he will never compare to you in the long run.”

No one found her words arrogant. After all, this was Hua Ruoxu, a legendary figure. Even in the Eternal True Realm, his presence commanded the respect of countless powerhouses.

Hua Ruoxu merely smiled in response. The next moment, they vanished on the spot.

Although he had appeared for only a brief moment, Hua Ruoxu’s presence carried its own brilliance. As news of his arrival spread, it stirred a great commotion and heated discussions across the city.

Without a doubt, his appearance added even more weight and significance to Lin Xun’s feat of leaving his name on the Mythic Ranking. Many peerless cultivators who had previously dismissed the matter due to their pride and status, began to take notice.

Everyone had a vague feeling that this mysterious figure from the Great Thousand Worlds was like a rising star, destined to shine with undying brilliance and become a formidable rival.

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“It’s him! It has to be him!”

Meanwhile, in a majestic hall in Taiyi City, Luo Ling, seated at the head, narrowed her eyes as a piercing, icy light flashing within them. She had already heard the news that was shaking the entire city.

Someone couldn’t help but ask, “Who?”

“Who else but...my younger cousin.” Luo Ling’s voice carried a bone-chilling coldness.

In her fair, lustrous hand, she held a piece of black jade. A faint smear of blood stained its surface. Although it had dried long ago, it remained vividly red and emanated a chilling and oppressive aura.

At that moment, the black jade began to tremble slightly, releasing faint, almost imperceptible ripples of energy. It buzzed softly as if sensing something. This reaction made Luo Ling certain that the mysterious figure who had left his name on the Mythic Ranking of the Battle Stele of the Domains was Lin Xun!

Because the black jade she held was imbued with the bloodline aura of the Grand Abyss Heaven Devourer. It was a rare and mysterious treasure passed down from the Omega Lord of the Luo Clan.

This treasure could detect the bloodline talents within members of the Luo Clan members. Upon sensing the aura of the Grand Abyss Heaven Devourer, it would resonate in a wondrous and mysterious way.

Every newborn in the Luo Clan would have their innate talents tested by this stone at the earliest opportunity. Now, Luo Ling was using this very treasure to track and confirm Lin Xun's whereabouts!

"Inform the Heng and Wen Clans that Lin Xun has entered Taiyi City," Luo Ling said coldly, her eyes flashing with a piercing chill. "And spread the word that the mysterious figure who caused the earthshaking phenomenon at the Battle Stele of the Domains was none other than Lin Xun, who is third on the wanted list!"

Inside the main hall, all Luo Clan cultivators wore subtle, intrigued expressions. Luo Ling's scheme could be summed up in a few words: Kill with a borrowed knife!

Understanding her strategy, they couldn't help but nod their heads in agreement. Days ago, Luo Ling had arrived in Taiyi CIty with a group of Luo Clan cultivators and immediately spread the news that Lin Xun was bound to appear in Taiyi City.

At that time, it drew the attention of the entire city. Now, the forces of the Wen and Heng Clans were already lying in wait, ready to act. Moreover, many powerful cultivators were drawn in and openly declared that if the wanted criminal Lin Xun dared set foot in the city, they would show him no mercy. They were all after that sky-high bounty.

Now, Lin Xun had not only entered Taiyi City, but had also triggered a spectacular and unprecedented phenomenon at the Battle Stele of the Domains.

If his identity were to be exposed now, the flood of greed and killing intent it would unleash could be imagined. Without delay, someone left to carry out Luo Ling's order.

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While the outside world roiled with turmoil and heated discussions, Lin Xun had returned to the inn.

"Quick, tell me, what's your rank on the Mythic Ranking?" asked the green sparrow impatiently, burning with curiosity.

"Nine hundred and eighteenth," Lin Xun answered casually. He made no effort to hide it, but a strange glimmer flickered in his eyes.

Back at the stele, when he left his name, he sharply sensed a strange power surging from the stele into his body like a tide. It examined his cultivation, state of mind, will, and others.

He instinctively resisted at first, but when he realized the force bore no malicious intent, he gradually relaxed. However, when it tried to probe his Origin Aeth Artery, he immediately cut it off!

The Origin Aeth Artery was his greatest secret, concealing the second stage talent of the Grand Abyss Heaven Devourer. It could never be exposed. Not even to the Battle Stele of the Domains. Because of that, his final rank was nine hundred and eighteenth on the Mythic Ranking.

Lin Xun reckoned that if he hadn't blocked the force, his ranking might have continued to climb, and not stopped at nine hundred and eighteenth...

After all, among the factors the stele examined, such as foundation, talent, cultivation and will, innate talent carried the most weight. With that factor excluded, his position was naturally pushed lower.

Even so, the green sparrow was left speechless when it heard the result

After a long pause, it smacked its beak and exclaimed, “Monster, you really are a monster. That was your first time leaving your name and you already broke into the top thousand on the Mythic Ranking. This kind of feat is enough to echo through the ages and shake the entire Seventh Heaven Domain!”

The Seventh Heaven Domain was home to the mighty Immortal Imperial Clans who wielded Heaven Rank laws. For such an event to shake the Seventh Heaven Domain was enough to indicate Lin Xun’s achievement was earth shattering!

“First time leaving my name? So I can leave my name a second time in the future?” Lin Xun asked.

The green sparrow replied, “Not exactly. Once you’ve used your will power to leave your name on the Battle Stele of the Domains, any achievements or improvements in your cultivation as you move through the Great Thousand Battle Domain will be sensed immediately by its power of order.

“As you know, the power of the Battle Stele of the Domains can connect with the power of order in the Great Thousand Battle Domain. This means that whenever your strength grows or you achieve something noteworthy, that power will sense it and your ranking on the Mythic Ranking will adjust accordingly.”

After a pause, the green sparrow concluded, “In short, from now on, the stronger the foes your defeat and the stronger you become, the more your ranking on the battle stele will rise.”

Understanding dawned on Lin Xun. This also meant that his current ranking on the Mythic Ranking was only temporary and subjected to change.

“Young man, work hard.” The green sparrow said with encouragement. “I’ve heard that in the past, there was a legendary Emperor who soared to the top one hundred in a single leap before reaching the Eternal True Realm.

“That event not only shook the Great Thousand Battle Domain, but also brought tremendous benefits to the cosmic plane that the legendary Emperor came from. Its ranking among the Great Thousand Worlds also shot up into the top fifty.

“One person alone changed the fate of their world and created an unprecedented miracle. How incredible is that!”

Lin Xun couldn’t help but ask, “What’s the benefits of raising your cosmic plane’s ranking?

The green sparrow looked at him with exasperation, as if saying, How do you not know that?

Still, it explained patiently.

It turned out that the higher a cosmic plane ranked among the Great Thousand Worlds, the closer its position would be to the Great Thousand Battle Domain. This in turn would transform the great dao aura of that plane, allowing it to flourish and grow stronger!

Lin Xun drew a sharp breath in surprise. According to the green sparrow, the position of a cosmic plane was not fixed, but shifted and changed like the stars in the sky!

For example, in the primeval era, the Ancient Nebula Road was ranked number one among all the Great Thousand Worlds, and its position was closest to the Great Thousand Battle Domain!

However, as the Ancient Nebula Road declined over the ages, its rank plummeted and its position was pushed farther and farther away from the Great Thousand Battle Domain...

After learning all this, Lin Xun found it increasingly difficult to stay calm.

The rankings of the Great Thousand Worlds turned out to be so intricately tied to the rankings on the Battle Stele of the Domains. It even influenced the fate and prosperity of an entire universe! This was almost beyond belief!

Lin Xun said thoughtfully, “So if I were to rise to the top of the Mythic Ranking, does that mean the Ancient Nebula Road, where I come from, would also ascend to the upper ranks of the Great Thousand Worlds?”

The green sparrow nodded. “That’s more or less how it works.”

Upon hearing this, a strange look crossed Lin Xun’s face. He had never set out to seek an opportunity to change the fate of the Ancient Nebula Road. Now, by sheer coincidence, he stumbled into such an opportunity...

It left him feeling strangely passive. He quickly pushed the thought aside. He had no interest in playing the role of a savior.

The only reason he chose to leave his name on the Battle Stele of the Domain was to prepare for entering the Battlefield of the Gods when he reached the 49th Immortal Heavenly Pass.

As for everything else...he couldn’t afford to worry about it.

“Green sparrow, I’ll be entering the Dao Ruins in three days. Can you use this time to tell me everything you know about it?” Lin Xun said thoughtfully.

The green sparrow readily agreed.

As Lin Xun and the green sparrow chatted, meanwhile in Taiyi City—

As Luo Ling’s people spread the news, it didn’t take long before the entire city was thrown into an uproar.

Chapter 2487 A Murderous Calamity

Due to the earth-shattering phenomenon caused by Lin Xun at the Battle Stele of the Domains, Taiyi City was thrown into unprecedented turmoil.

However, no one knew who the mysterious man with the unfamiliar face was, which only deepened the public’s curiosity. Speculations ran wild and the mysterious man’s identity quickly became the hottest topic in the city.

Then, the arrival of Hua Ruoxu undoubtedly poured fuel on the flames. Even those with extraordinary status and background began to take the matter seriously. Against this backdrop, Luo Ling made her move, sending her subordinates to spread the news and reveal the mysterious man's identity.

Lin Xun! The third most wanted criminal!

"It's him?"

Countless cries of shock rang out.

"When did such a terrifying existence emerge from a backwater like the Ancient Nebula Road?"

Many found it difficult to believe. Among the countless peerless talents from the top ten cosmic planes in the Great Thousand Worlds, those who manage to leave their names on the Earth Ranking were truly one in a million.

As for those who made it onto the Heaven Ranking, they were all without exception undisputed overlords of their respective cosmic planes.

As for the Mythic Ranking...

That depended entirely on luck!

Throughout the ages, even those with unparalleled talent and monstrous ability had failed to even brush against the edge of the Mythic Ranking, no matter how hard they tried. Now, someone from the declining Ancient Nebula Road had not only left his name on the Mythic Ranking but also triggered an earth shattering phenomenon.

Who could anyone accept such a reversal?

“He killed City Lord Heng Tianshuo in Origin City and also Wen Shaoheng of the Wen Clan. He’s a wanted criminal across the entire Great Thousand Battle Domain. But he still dares to show up in Taiyi City and leave his name on the Battle Stele of the Domains. Is he flaunting his strength to us?”

Just as the city reeled in shock and uproar over the news, voices of incitement began to spread.

“No matter how dazzling his cultivation or how deep his foundation, he’s still a criminal who broke the rules. We can’t let him run wild in Taiyi City!”

“I’ve heard he’s staying at an inn in the southwest part of the city. Now’s the best time to take him down!”

“Haha, if we kill him, we could claim the reward of twenty-six million first class cosmic origin crystals. No matter how terrifying he is, if we join forces, we’ll definitely kill him!”

These malicious voices constantly incited the cultivators in the city, fanning the flames and fuelling the unrest.

In no time, countless cultivators grew agitated. Those fanning the flames were none other than experts of the Luo Clan. Since they intended to kill with a borrowed knife, the more cultivators they could incite into action, the better.

“The Wen Clan’s cultivators are on the move! They’re heading southwest!”

Not long after, breaking news spread across the city. A powerful group from the Wen Clan had taken action.

“Look! The Heng Clan’s forces are also taking action!”

One news followed another, stirring Taiyi City into a frenzy. It felt as if a great storm was about to erupt. Countless gazes turned in the same direction.

“It wouldn’t hurt to see who this Lin Xun really is. After all, leaving a name on the Mythic Ranking is no ordinary feat...”

“If he dies just like this, we might never get the chance to meet him ourselves.”

Even some of the peerless figures from extraordinary backgrounds couldn’t resist and began making their way toward the southwest of the city. According to the rules of the Immortal Heavenly Pass, all fighting and killing were strictly prohibited within the city boundaries.

However, everyone knew that Lin Xun was a wanted criminal and deserved to be killed by all. Even if he were slain in the city, it would be seen as ridding the world of evil!

From above, one could see countless figures surging through the vast Taiyi CIty, like crashing tides heading in the same destination.

It was a spectacular sight.

Upon hearing the news, a cold smile curved Luo Ling’s radiant lips. Confidence radiated from her as if she already had the entire situation under control. She asked casually, “Has the City Lord Residence intervened?”

“The City Lord Residence only dispatched some troops to maintain order, but they did not stop anyone. It seems they’ve chosen to stand by and watch.” A Luo Clan cultivator promptly reported.

Luo Ling nodded slightly. “It seems the Wen and Heng Clans must have already received approval from that big shot in the City Lord Residence.”

As she said that, a chill glinted in her eyes. “We should head out. No matter what happens, we can’t let my cousin die like this. He is far more valuable when he’s alive.”

Luo Ling rose to her feet and walked gracefully out of the hall.

……

At the inn, Lin Xun was in quiet meditation.

He had been through countless deadly trials and fierce battles before arriving at the ninth Immortal Heavenly Pass. His strength had been tempered to an astonishing level of purity and even showed signs of approaching perfection.

He recalled that back in Origin City, he was only at the seventh realm Supreme Emperor Stage, yet he had managed to suppress Heng Tianshuo, an Ancestor of a Path, in a head-on clash.

Now, after crossing one Immortal Heavenly Pass after another, forging forward through countless battles over the past two years, his cultivation had grown with such terrifying speed that it was already nearing perfection. This level of progress was earth-shattering.

Of course, the greatest gain was not the improvement in his cultivation.

It was the fact that the endless tempering and slaughter had continuously refined and solidified his grasp of the dao. He had stripped away the superfluous, refined the essence, washed away all impurities, and returned to a state of original purity.

This was the most precious form of dao experience: transforming in the midst of life and death, and rising to a higher state through battles.

“If I can gain some fortunes that benefit my cultivation in the Dao Ruins...perhaps I can attempt to breakthrough into the Dao Harmonization Realm, Fusing with the Dao...” A look of anticipation appeared on Lin Xun’s face

Ding—

A copper bell covered in intricate and complex restrictions rang crisply in the quiet room

Visitors?

Lin Xun stirred from his meditation, a faint frown appearing on his brow. This was his first day in Taiyi City and he didn't know anyone here. Who would come to visit him at this time?

"Could someone have tracked me from the Battle Stele of the Domains?"

As the thought flashed through his mind, Lin Xun rose to his feet. With a wave of his hand, he withdrew the restrictions within the room and stepped toward the door.

Then, he stopped cold. The moment the protective forces lifted, his spirit sense picked up murderous intent.

This is bad!

The killing intent was overwhelming, encircling the inn from all sides. It was so intense that it was hard to tell how many enemies lurked outside.

My identity's been exposed!

A cold glint flashed in Lin Xun's eyes. He immediately suspected the Wen Clan, the Heng Clan, or the Luo Clan!

They located me this quickly. It seems I have underestimated the abilities of those Immortal Imperial Clans... Lin Xun sighed, then his gaze turned cold and composed.

There's no other way. I'll have to fight my way out.

This inn is like a cage, staying inside will be suicide.

Furthermore, Taiyi City is unlike any other Immortal Heavenly Passes. It draws countless peerless figures and ruthless powerhouses.

Once they all come after me because of that bounty, I'd have no place to stand in Taiyi City!

Ding—

The bell chimed again.

Outside the room, seven or eight figures stood waiting. Each one had withdrawn their aura, yet their power was already fully gathered, poised to strike.

They were led by two Ninth Realm Ancestors.

Among them, a man in crimson robes gave a low warning, "Remember, our goal is to lure the prey out. Don't fight to the death. Otherwise, given the criminal's strength, he can definitely kill us with ease."

The others all nodded, their expressions grim.

However, as time passed with no sign of movement from inside the room, restlessness began to grow in their hearts.

"Could it be that he's already sensed something was wrong and fled? someone whispered.

The crimson-robed man's eyes flashed. After a moment's thought, he took a deep breath and said, "Everyone step back, I'll break the door."

The group immediately moved far away. The crimson-robed man was also extremely cautious. He retreated to a safe distance before bringing out a massive blood-red seal and hurling it forward with full force.

Boom!

Like a bolt of blood-drenched lightning, the seal struck the door with a thunderous crash. It exploded on impact, scattering smoke and splinters in every direction. As the dust settled, the scene inside the room slowly came into view.

The crimson-robed man and the others were ready to bolt. No one wanted to face Lin Xun directly. After all, he had killed Heng Tianshuo, an Ancestor of a Path. Who wouldn't fear him?

"Wait, no one's here?"

Just as they were about to withdraw, the group was shocked to find that not a single soul was in the room.

"Did he really escape in advance?" The crimson-robed man muttered in disbelief.

Then, at that very instant, a tall, imposing figure stood before him as if appeared out of thin air. The sudden appearance was so terrifying that the crimson-robed man's scalp went numb. Instinctively, he unleashed his full power, striking out like a god hurling a sacred mountain. Dao light surged wildly from his body. The strike was mighty beyond belief.

Boom!

However, the tall figure simply extended a hand and the crimson-robed man's attack dissolved like mist. Then, his entire body exploded with a deafening boom. Before blood or bone could scatter, a terrifying devouring force crushed him into nothingness.

Both his body and spirit were annihilated!

This man was a Ninth Realm Ancestor, a peak existence in the Great Thousand Battle Domain. Even ordinary supreme Emperors were no match for him.

Now, he had been erased in the blink of an eye.

The attacker was of course Lin Xun. His aura was calm, his presence unremarkable, and no waves of power surged from him. Even so, the experts who came with the crimson-robed man were all instantly terror-stricken.

“Run!”

They turned and bolted from the inn like terrified fugitives.

“You’ve chosen death by coming here. You might as well stay.” As a calm voice echoed, streaks of invisible sword qi slashed through the air.

Pu! Pu! Pu!

Those experts, all with a cultivation of at least the Emperor Stage, were slaughtered where they stood, regardless of their level or escape methods.

It was effortless.

Yet it was fierce and domineering!

All defensive weapons and treasures, indestructible Emperor body and secret escape arts, they were all meaningless.

Those sword qi were too terrifying. It treated Emperors like weeds, cutting them down at will!

What was most terrifying was that from beginning to end, the tables, chairs and furnishings in the room, even small objects like wine jars and teacups, remained perfectly intact.

Not a single item had shifted. The only change was the stench of fresh blood now hanging heavy in the air.

This undoubtedly proved that Lin Xun's command of lethal power had reached a world-shaking level, making the mighty seem effortless, the devastating seem simple.

Unbelievable!

Chapter 2488 Who is from the Luo Clan?

"What's going on? You still haven't found the target?" A young man in brocade robe walked into the inn with his hands clasped behind his back, his brows creased in impatience.

The moment he stepped inside, his expression froze. The crimson-robed man and his group had vanished without a trace.

In the quiet inn, only a tall figure stood: Lin Xun!

The brocade-robed youth's eyes flickered, but his confidence didn't waver. He said coldly, "Those people...you killed them all?"

"What do you think?" Lin Xun replied calmly.

"Arrogant!" The youth barked, but just as he was about to say more—

Lin Xun took a step forward and a streak of sword qi shot forth. It was simple and unremarkable in appearance, but it appeared in a flash.

It was unthinkably fast!

Bang!

The youth's protective armor shattered in an instant, and his body was nearly torn apart. He was blasted out of the inn, slamming into the ground with a blood-curdling scream.

Outside the inn, chaos erupted.

The area around the inn had long been sealed off and a dense crowd of cultivators with terrifying auras had surrounded it. There were members from the Wen, Heng, and Luo Clans, along with peerless experts from other major forces, each exuding overwhelming might.

In the distance, countless figures stood watching. The entire wide street was completely sealed off, leaving no way through. Those who dared to surround the inn at this moment were clearly no ordinary cultivators. Even Ancestors of a Path were among them!

In addition, supreme Emperors were not uncommon, every one of them radiating sky-shaking power that created an oppressive atmosphere. When they saw the brocade-robed youth blasted away by a single sword strike, gasps rippled through the crowd.

Though he wasn't a supreme Emperor, he had reached the eighth realm Emperor Stage and was a formidable figure under the Luo Clan! At this moment, he was lying on the ground, flesh torn and bloodied!

The street fell into a stunned silence. And then, all eyes turned toward the inn's doorway.

A tall figure emerged. He wore a moon-white robe, with his black hair loose. He looked simple, unadorned, like a heavy sword with no edge, revealing not a hint of power. Yet the moment he stepped out, a wave of shock rippled through the crowd.

"Is that him? The peerless criminal whose name is on the Mythic Ranking?" someone exclaimed in disbelief.

He didn't radiate any aura. He looked too ordinary

“His aura is concealed. He’s returned to a state of profound simplicity. This man is unfathomably dangerous. Don’t let his ordinary appearance fool you!”

Some people were visibly shaken, their expressions turning grave.

Countless eyes were fixed on Lin Xun, each gaze carrying a different emotion, but without exception, not a single person dared to underestimate him. He was a terrifying existence who had already proven his strength through bloodshed. He was a peerless and ruthless man who had left his name on the Mythic Ranking!

Even Ancestors of a Path were cautious of him. After all, it was said that he had personally slain Heng Tianshuo, an Ancestor of a Path.

“Indeed, he’s extraordinary, not a supreme Emperor in the conventional sense. There are only a handful like him even in the Seventh Heaven Domain.”

Far away, atop a tall building, Hua Ruoxu, dressed in gold robes and strikingly handsome, watched Lin Xun with eyes that gleamed with interest and a trace of surprise.

So this is the mysterious man ranked higher than me on the Mythic Ranking? He’s definitely not ordinary.

“Young Master, are you planning to recruit him? If so, allow me to remind you that it’s best we stay out of this bloodbath.” The beautiful woman in purple beside him advised, “Within a radius of thousands of miles, the three Immortal Imperial Clans, Wen, Heng and Luo, have set up an inescapable net and laid down layers of restrictions.

“In addition, four Ancestors of a Path have been deployed, not to mention the many Emperor-level experts present...this encirclement is almost impossible to break.” She paused and swept her gaze around the battlefield. “Moreover, many old monsters are hiding in the shadows.”

She perfectly summarized the danger surrounding Lin Xun.

Hua Ruoxu smiled faintly. “I’m not concerned with any of that and I have no intention of recruiting him. I understand all too well that a man like him would never bow to any power.”

The purple-clad woman let out a breath of relief, patting her ample chest. “That’s good. Then we’ll just watch.”

Meanwhile, at the inn’s entrance, Lin Xun’s gaze swept across the surroundings, instantly grasping the peril he was in. He had to admit that it was an overwhelming lineup.

The area within a radius of thousand miles was densely packed with enemies, layered with restrictions, and steeped in killing intent from every direction.

It was clear the Wen, Heng, and Luo Clans had gone all-out to kill him. If it were any other supreme Emperor, they would likely be consumed by despair. But not Lin Xun.

Not only because of his unwavering confidence, but more importantly, he had also faced countless life-and-death trials throughout his cultivation journey. How could such a scene possibly shake him?

However, to the spectators watching from afar, seeing him stand alone amid such an encirclement stirred feelings of sympathy and regret.

Anyone who could leave his name on the Mythic Ranking and shake the entire Taiyi City would no doubt one day transcend the Ancestor Realm!

Despite that, now, he was about to be slaughtered. How could they not lament such a loss?

Meanwhile, those who saw Lin Xun as prey fixed him with icy stares, their murderous intent unmistakable, each ready to pounce.

“Lin Xun, do you see the situation you’re in? Do you think you can escape this time?” The voice boomed like thunder, shattering the clouds and tearing through the silence. It came from an old man seated atop a black qilin.

He was Wen Taolue, an Emperor Ancestor of the Wen Clan. His cultivation was as vast and deep as the sea, and he had been an Ancestor for over ten thousand years. His name alone struck awe across the world.

His gaze was grim, his voice laced with bone-chilling coldness and undisguised mockery.

Despite that, Lin Xun paid him no attention. He didn't even spare the old man a glance. Instead, he asked calmly, "Which of you are from the Luo Clan?"

The question stunned everyone. At a time like this, does this guy really not care about his own life and death?

With this thought, many eyes still turned toward where the Luo Clan's forces were gathered.

"I am."

Almost at the same time, Luo Ling stepped forward, graceful and elegant, her bearing peerless and her features as perfect as a painting.

Her bright eyes remained calm as she looked at Lin Xun and said lightly, "The Wen and Heng Clans have both agreed. If you surrender, I can offer you a path to live. Whether you seize it or not is up to you."

The crowd stirred restlessly, and many exchanged bewildered looks. What was the Luo Clan up to? Could they actually be trying to subdue him and make him serve them?

Lin Xun glanced at Luo Ling, then at those around her, and couldn't help but laugh. "I know exactly what your Luo Clan is thinking. When I step into the Eternal True Realm, I'll pay the Luo Clan a visit myself."

"Absurd! You'll be dead today! What future are you even talking about?" A black-robed man snapped coldly.

"Is that so? Then let's see who survives in the end." Lin Xun's voice rang out.

Boom!

An indescribably terrifying murderous aura burst forth from him. It swept across the area like a tide, eclipsing both the sky and the sun. The surrounding void groaned and collapsed piece by piece.

A chill ran down every spine. Many felt a sharp ache in their bodies, and vaguely, they seemed to glimpse blood-drenched visions, such as mountains of corpses, seas of blood, heavens collapsing, and gods falling. Their minds trembled with fear.

Furthermore, this was caused by just the murderous intent of Lin Xun alone.

“That...”

“What terrifying killing intent!”

Cries of shock rang out, and those with weaker cultivation clutched their heads in pain as if their minds were about to be torn apart, their eyes stinging and their faces pale with fear.

Even the peerless figures couldn’t hide their unease. Many of their eyes glinted coldly. This level of murderous intent was terrifying, so intense that it could shatter a person’s mind with ease!

To possess such murderous intent was proof of how formidable Lin Xun’s mastery over the art of slaughter was.

On the battlefield, Lin Xun seemed to have become a different person. Divine brilliance blazed from him and a terrifying aura surged like a vast abyss suspended in the sky. His terrifying might pierced all nine heavens!

A single glance from him could make the spirit throb with pain and bring a feeling of suffocation to the chest.

Invisible murderous intent swirled around him, making him resemble an ancient demon god who had just slaughtered his way out of a blood-soaked purgatory. His terrifying power blanketed the heavens!

Compared to his earlier calm and unremarkable appearance, it was as if he had become someone else!

A deathly silence fell.

Many onlookers were stunned, and the enemies who had been eager to strike now wore grave expressions.

“Is this the power of the Grand Abyss Heaven Devourer...” Luo Ling murmured, an imperceptible flicker of envy flashing in the depths of her starry eyes.

Soon, this envy turned to chilling murderous intent. Then she declared coldly, “Everyone, this man is too defiant and must be eliminated! I only ask that if we can capture him alive, the Luo Clan will never forget this favor.”

The crowd stirred. Murderous intent flashed in the eyes of Wen Taolue who was seated atop the black qilin and he let out a loud laughter, “Good!”

Boom!

Suddenly, a grand formation emerged, and an endless downpour of rune light swept forth, completely engulfing Lin Xun and the inn behind him.

A chill gripped the hearts of the spectators. This was clearly a terrifying formation that had been set up in advance, waiting for Lin Xun to step out. It was designed to trap and kill him!

Swoosh—

The rain of light surged like a tide, dazzling and brilliant, and the array was incredibly mystical. Waves of restriction power condensed into a massive lotus blossom over a thousand feet wide, its petals layered and as vivid as dripping blood. Faint, cryptic dao sounds echoed from it, shaking the soul.

Someone whispered, his face pale with fear, “That’s the Wen Clan’s Red Lotus World Array. Once activated, it can annihilate an entire world. Even an Emperor Ancestor caught within it would be trapped and refined alive!”

His words triggered a wave of shocked exclamations.

“To die by this array is enough of a feat to justify you being worthy of leaving your name on the Mythic Ranking,” Wen Taolue said with a sneer as he stroked his beard.

Then he gave an order, “Enter the array, activate its killing strike, and eliminate this boy once and for all.”

“Yes!”

Thirty-six Emperors of the Wen Clan stepped forward and charged into the Red Lotus World Array, each taking control of one of the thirty-six array bases. Only then did the array reveal its full, devastating power.

The spectators in the distance were chilled to the core.

It was clear that the three Immortal Imperial Clans, Wen, Heng and Luo, had made thorough preparations to deal with Lin Xun in advance. Not only had they mobilized a terrifying lineup, but they also deployed a deadly forbidden array. This was to ensure nothing went wrong!

“It’s best not to kill him and leave him alive.” Luo Ling reminded the others.

Wen Taolue laughed loudly. “As you wish.”

Chapter 2489 Astonishing! The Might of the Sword Cauldron!

Everything was clearly visible from the outside world.

Within the Red Lotus World Array, the heavens and earth seemed to be burning away. Torrents of searing flames surged like a flood, roaring and rumbled with terrifying force, creating a scene of utter devastation.

As the thirty-six Emperors of the Wen Clan entered the array and each took control of an array base, the array's power surged dramatically.

The sea of fire blazed furiously.

Killing intent layered upon killing intent!

Just looking from a distance was enough to strike terror into the heart.

Once trapped inside, there was no escape. Everything would be reduced to ashes in moments.

Yet in the face of such peril, Lin Xun stood calm and composed, as if walking on level ground. When the killing intent closed in, he simply stretched his body slightly.

And then—Boom!

He took a step forward, and countless dazzling sword qi's erupted from him, shooting out from every acupoint, and a roar of swords echoed through the heavens. It was as though golden arcs had swept across the sky, slicing through the void and crossing the nine heavens in every direction.

No matter how mysterious and profound the Red Lotus World Array was, it stood no chance. It was utterly incapable of withstanding the violent and boundless downpour of sword qi.

The next moment—

The thirty-six Wen Clan Emperors stationed within the array, before they could even react, were reduced to blood mist. Their bodies and spirits were annihilated on the spot.

The unparalleled sword qi rampaged through the formation, tearing through the restrictions one after another like a hot knife slicing through butter.

Boom!

In the blink of an eye, the tremendous array that was like a giant red lotus spanning a thousand feet suddenly exploded. Shards of light like burning petals scattered into the air, gorgeous and radiant.

At that moment, the entire battlefield fell silent.

One strike.

Thirty-six Emperors were annihilated! The Red Lotus World Array shattered to dust!

Even the peerless figures present were stunned, their eyes wide with disbelief.

Wen Taolue, who had been stroking his beard atop the black qilin with a smug smile, now wore a face dark with fury and shock.

Luo Ling was also dazed, her expression shifting rapidly.

The Red Lotus World Array was a formation so terrifying it could trap even Emperor Ancestors, but it was destroyed as if it was nothing. This outcome was completely beyond her imagination.

Amid the rain of light, Lin Xun's towering figure suddenly rushed forward. His aura surged like that of a divine being, shaking both heaven and the earth.

From afar, he seemed like a colossal abyss crashing forward, obliterating everything in his path.

In an instant, the Emperors stationed there were blown apart, their bodies shattering under the unstoppable force of Lin Xun's assault.

Blood splattered. Screams echoed through the air.

Lin Xun showed no mercy. He intended to force his way out of the encirclement and escape the city.

Therefore, from the very first blow, he unleashed his full power. He rampaged forward, smashing countless Emperors to pieces. Broken limbs and remains flew through the air, and torrents of blood surged behind him, forming a long, gruesome trail.

Panic erupted. Faces went pale.

"The evil creature is trying to break through, stop him!"

"Attack! Now!"

"We must not let him escape—"

Earth-shaking cries echoed through the heavens.

Rumble!

The army of Emperors sprang into action, charging toward Lin Xun like a tidal wave. They formed a dense, forest-like formation and activated their treasures and divine arts, besieging him from every direction.

Those Emperors were no ordinary characters. Most hailed from the Wen, Heng, and Luo Clans, and had experienced countless battles and survived many bloodbaths. Clad in resplendent armor, they wielded extraordinary Emperor-grade weapons that radiated terrifying power.

At that moment, they attacked in unison, leaving even some peerless figures watching from afar gasping in shock.

Boom!

Amid the earth-shaking roar and rumble, Lin Xun's rampage was finally slowed.

"Kill!" Taking advantage of the moment, the Emperors closed in from all directions. Endless golden flames, divine weapons, flying swords, and beams of starlight tore through the void, converging into a terrifying tide of force aimed squarely at Lin Xun.

What did it mean to have hundreds of Emperors strike together?

In addition, these were not just any Emperors, these were elites among elites. Even a Ninth Realm Ancestor might fall before the force of their combined attacks!

Rumble!

The world descended into chaos. The restriction powers blanketing the city were activated, rumbling thunderously.

Streaks of dao light, each stretching thousands of feet, crisscrossed the sky. The battle array loomed like a dense forest, and countless Emperor-grade weapons blazed like tightly packed divine rainbows, ripping through the air and flashing with chilling brilliance.

Every Emperor radiated divine light, and when they attacked in unison, it was as if they could shatter the sky, sink the earth and annihilate all existence!

From a distance, all one could see was the endless battle, killing cries rang through the air, while countless brilliant, blazing dao lights swept out in all directions. Emperor-grade weapons and divine arts filled the skies, forming a storm of radiance that completely enveloped Lin Xun, making it nearly impossible to see his figure.

“Fortunately, he’s not as difficult to deal with as we feared. As long as he’s trapped, the outcome is certain.” Far away, Luo Ling said with a breath of relief. Rather than fighting directly, she remained on the sidelines to oversee the array.

“I’ll hand this evil creature over to you alive, but before that, I’ll skin him, tear out his tendons, and crush his bones!” Wen Taolue said darkly, a murderous glint in his eyes.

The destruction of the Red Lotus World Array and the deaths of thirty-six Wen Clan Emperors still made his heart bleed with rage and grief.

“Fine.” Luo Ling’s expression was relaxed. As long as Lin Xun didn’t die, she didn’t care how he suffered.

Just then—Boom!

A deafening roar erupted across the battlefield. The sound pierced the eardrums and reverberated through the soul, like an ancient bronze bell or a colossal furnace being struck. It was thunderous and soul-shaking.

Almost simultaneously, vast waves of visible great dao energy surged outward. Every Emperor touched by it trembled violently as if struck by divine lightning. Those nearest were instantly torn apart. Their bodies exploded and even their souls were annihilated.

Then it appeared.

A three-legged, two-eared cauldron erupted with monstrous power, suddenly radiating blinding brilliance and unleashing billions of rays of divine light.

In an instant, numerous unfathomably powerful Emperor-grade weapons exploded like paper, reduced to worthless scraps as their spiritual essence vanished completely.

Countless arts and techniques unleashed by the enemies evaporated like bubbles, wiped out before they could even reach the cauldron.

This divine might made the heavens and earth wail. It was utterly terrifying!

“What kind of treasure is that?” Gasps erupted across the battlefield.

“Emperor weapons can’t possibly be this powerful. Could the cauldron be an immortal-grade weapon?” Countless people were shocked.

It was just a single treasure, but its appearance alone was enough to strike fear into the hearts of nearly everyone present!

Even a distant glance made one’s blood run cold.

“Hm?” Hua Ruoxu, who was watching the battle from a distance, donned a serious expression for the first time. “This cauldron has the aura of immortality, but it is not an immortal-grade weapon...nor is it an Emperor-grade weapon. It’s really unusual.”

“It really is.” The beautiful woman in purple also looked surprised.

With their vision and insight, how could they not tell that the cauldron was no ordinary artifact. It was a rare and unparalleled creation of the heavens.

Rumble!

Back on the battlefield, the layers of encirclement were beginning to crack. The moment Lin Xun summoned the sword cauldron, its destructive power already sent a wave of terror through more than a dozen Emperors. Their souls nearly fled their bodies on the spot.

That wasn’t the end.

Just as another wave of enemies was preparing to attack, a sudden sword hum rang out from within the cauldron.

It echoed through the nine heavens.

It shook the earth.

A simple and unadorned dao sword emerged, slashing through the void.

Shua!

A boundless, majestic sword qi rose up, vast as the sky, filled with terrifying, incomprehensible power. The moment it struck, the heaven and earth shuddered, and the void collapsed.

The figures blocking Lin Xun's path were blasted apart one after another, their bodies crushed instantly by the incomparably devastating force of the sword qi. They simply had no chance to resist.

Defensive techniques and treasures were all as fragile as paper before it!

In the blink of an eye, a thousand-foot-long path of blood opened before Lin Xun.

It was eerily empty and reeking with the thick stench of blood.

Si!

Countless gasps echoed in the air. The spectators were left stunned, their hearts shaken by the might of the sword strike.

How could such an Emperor weapon exist in this world?

The sword and the cauldron coexisted, and they were invincible, unstoppable and devastating all in their path!

That single slash had slaughtered dozens of Emperor-level beings, including seven or eight Ninth Realm Ancestors!

The battlefield fell into a deathly stillness.

Only now did people truly understand how Lin Xun had slain Heng Tianshuo, an Ancestor of a Path, and why he was able to make it onto the Mythic Ranking!

Whether it was his strength or the Emperor treasure he wielded, both were heaven-defying. He far surpassed his peers and he cut down Emperors like weeds, invincible wherever he went!

Seizing the moment, Lin Xun surged forward, crossing a great distance in a flash.

However, this thousand-mile area was shrouded in layers upon layers of restrictions. Before Lin Xun could get far, he was abruptly halted by the power of those barriers.

Boom!

Dense runes surged like a celestial river bursting its banks, crashing down toward Lin Xun with destructive force.

Lin Xun frowned and swung his sword.

Instantly, the grand restriction array trembled violently, then shattered under the crushing blow.

Just then, a furious roar rang out, “Little junior, you’re dead!”

A silver halberd cleaved through the air, carrying with it the might unique to the Ancestor Stage.

With just one strike, the vast heavens and earth were filled with dazzling silver brilliance.

The attacker was none other than Wen Taolue, an Ancestor of a Path. He had been overseeing the formation, thinking that capturing Lin Xun would be as easy as turning over a hand.

Unfortunately, the moment Lin Xun summoned the sword cauldron, the tide turned. Unable to remain passive, Wen Taolue charged into battle.

Clang!

Lin Xun blocked with the sword cauldron, and as the two forces collided, a blinding downpour of radiant light erupted.

Lin Xun's figure wavered slightly, but he only sneered coldly, "Old man, are you trying to follow in Heng Tianshuo's footsteps?"

As he spoke, the sword cauldron was activated, charging forward again with unstoppable force.

"Evil creature, today is the day you perish!"

Wen Taolue bellowed in fury, spurring the black qilin beneath him to race across the skies. His might surged like a divine being descending, and the silver halberd in his hand illuminated the world.

Those watching from afar gasped sharply, their hearts and minds in turmoil. The power of an Ancestor of a Path shook them to the core, and they were almost unable to bear the pressure.

However, to everyone's surprise, Lin Xun held his ground. The two clashed dozens of times in the blink of an eye, and each impact was an earth-shattering collision. The terrifying shockwaves alone were enough to force even Emperor-level experts to retreat!

Eyes went wide. Scalps tingled. Lin Xun...can actually go head-to-head with an Ancestor of a Path?!

Before anyone could recover from the shock, a sharp metallic clang rang out.

A sword hum erupted like a tidal wave.

The Limitless Abyss Dao Sword slashed forward once more, its blade ripping through the void

Roar!

The black qilin beneath Wen Taolue let out a miserable howl. It was struck directly by the sword qi. Its belly split open, and blood poured out like a waterfall.

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Amid the rain of blood, the black qilin's agonized wail was abruptly cut off. It was entirely engulfed by the sword qi, vanishing without a trace. Wen Taolue, who was seated atop it, staggered mid-air and was flung backward, clearly flustered and discomposed.

At that moment, countless spectators were stunned and couldn't believe their eyes. In a direct confrontation, Lin Xun had actually slain the mount of an Emperor Ancestor!

"Bastard!" Wen Taolue's face turned livid. Rage and humiliation burned in his heart, yet he showed no sign of mourning the loss of his mount. With a furious roar, he leapt into the sky, his halberd sweeping out as he charged straight at Lin Xun with terrifying killing intent.

The power he unleashed grew increasingly terrifying!

"Go!"

With a flick of his sleeve, he summoned a glazed palace lantern, glowing with azure and golden light. As it spun in the air, divine flames roared from within. A pillar of black flame shot forth, tearing through the void and leaving behind a scorched rift in space. It was as though molten lava had seared across the sky.

What was even more terrifying was the countless divine and demonic figures emerging from within the flames. Towering and majestic, they seemed to have strode out of ancient legends, each exuding an overwhelming and terrifying aura.

“Demon Searing Lantern!” someone cried out.

This was one of the Wen Clan’s legendary Emperor-grade weapons that was known across the world. The divine flame within was said to be capable of burning even the sun and moon, and once unleashed at full force, it could incinerate entire worlds and reduce starry skies to ashes!

Despite that, Lin Xun didn’t dodge. Instead, he activated the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron and unleashed a devastating counterattack.

Boom!

A vast and terrifying aura erupted in the void.

Billions of radiant sword rays burst from the cauldron, drowning the battlefield in blinding brilliance. They crushed the oncoming divine and demonic figures, and even the black divine flames that were powerful enough to reduce the sun, moon and river of stars to ashes couldn’t leave a mark on the sword cauldron. Instead, they were annihilated.

In moments, the full-force strike of the Demon Searing Lantern was obliterated! The entire crowd was left in awe, eyes wide with disbelief. They now realized that the power of Lin Xun’s sword cauldron far surpassed that of the Emperor-grade Demon Searing Lantern.

Some peerless experts even couldn’t hide the blazing desire in their eyes. The sword cauldron’s heaven-defying power stirred their hearts and made them crave to possess it.

“Old man, get lost if you don’t want to die!”

With a thunderous shout, Lin Xun once again activated the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron and charged forward.

Wen Taolue's expression turned even darker. As an Emperor Ancestor, he had been unable to gain the upper hand after such a long battle. If word spread, he would become a laughingstock of the world.

With a deep breath, his might intensified. Wielding both the halberd and lantern, his aura surged to even greater heights and became increasingly terrifying.

Lin Xun had no intention of getting entangled and was going all out to carve a path out of the encirclement.

And just then—Dong!

Suddenly, a thunderous drumbeat exploded in the air, like the sound at the dawn of creation. With his heart trembling violently, Lin Xun dodged without hesitation.

Boom!

The void where he stood suddenly exploded. The shockwave was like a landslide, sweeping in all directions and shaking heaven and earth violently.

A rough-looking man emerged from the chaos, carrying a beast-skin drum. He was built like a mountain, with thick bones and eyes like lightning. His entire body was shrouded in Ancestor Realm dao light, resembling an ancient brute god.

Heng Xingzhou! He was an Ancestor of the Heng Clan.

The moment he appeared, he struck the beast-skin drum. The drumbeat boomed like thunder, so deafening that it made the spirit tremble with pain and vision blur. Some spectators felt as if they were about to cough up blood from the sheer force.

Even severing one's six senses couldn't block out the sound. It was too eerie, striking directly at the spirit and state of mind. In an instant, two Emperor Ancestors launched their attacks. Lin Xun couldn't help but frown, but there wasn't the slightest trace of fear in his eyes.

He had already anticipated a bloody battle!

Unexpectedly, not long after Heng Zingzhou appeared, another figure emerged. She was a thin, ethereal old woman. Her hair was gray, her face deeply wrinkled, yet her eyes were clear as still water, cold enough to pierce bones.

Holding a jade staff in one hand, she moved silently through the air. With no warning, she raised the staff and struck at Lin Xun's back. The attack seemed light and effortless, yet it tore through the constraints of space, as if it carried a terrifying power that could destroy all resistance.

Clang!

Lin Xun blocked the blow with the sword cauldron, but the force sent his blood and qi roiling violently. His eyes narrowed slightly. The old woman appeared ordinary, but she was even more formidable than Wen Taolue!

Her appearance caused an uproar.

Luo Shentu!

She was an old antique who had become an Ancestor tens of thousands of years ago. The Star Chasing Staff in her hand was an Emperor-grade weapon of terrifying renown, capable of driving stars away and splitting the sea of stars!

With her arrival, the three Ancestors, Wen Taolue, Heng Xingzhou and Luo Shentu, formed a triangle and besieged Lin Xun from three sides. His situation instantly turned perilous.

Three Ancestors of a Path had joined the battlefield! In the entire Great Thousand Battle Domain, who below the Emperor Stage could possibly survive such a siege?

"If he doesn't have some hidden trump cards, Lin Xun is doomed." Hua Ruoxu, watching from afar, couldn't help but sigh.

Even if he faced the three alone, there was no chance of victory. At most, he might be able to escape using some life-saving means, but winning was out of the question.

“Lin Xun, let’s see how you escape this time!” Luo Ling’s face was like frost. The Luo Clan had lost many Emperors in the earlier battle, and the pain of it gnawed at her heart.

“How is he going to fight?”

Even the spectators present could see that Lin Xun was in a perilous situation, and their hearts churned with emotion. There was no gloating, no mocking, no scorn. Lin Xun had already silenced them with his strength and earlier feats. Who dared to belittle him now?

All they felt was a deep sense of regret. Such a remarkable talent was rare even in a thousand years and nearly impossible to find across the ages. If he survived, he was destined to become a legend who transcended the Ancestor Realm.

But now...he was at the end of his rope and about to meet death!

Boom!

The battle raged on. The sky dimmed, shrouded in gloom.

The three Emperor Ancestors attacked, each unleashing the full extent of their cultivation. In an instant, the heavens and earth were engulfed in endless dao light and divine radiance. It was all so bright and resplendent it was blinding.

Each of their attacks possessed the might to obliterate an entire world, but now all three were aimed solely at Lin Xun. Just witnessing it from afar filled onlookers with despair

Despite that, Lin Xun’s expression remained as calm and composed as ever. Only his eyes had changed. They were cold and sharp, brimming with menace.

Because this was the moment he had been waiting for: an opportunity to annihilate all three Emperor Ancestors in one fell swoop! Only then could he break free from the siege and escape Taiyi City's deadly encirclement.

Once he left the city, the vast world would be his to roam. If he remained trapped in the city, even if he managed to hold out for a while, he would be like a bird in a cage and might have to face wave after wave of deadly pursuit at any moment.

Truthfully, that wasn't even what he feared the most. What he feared the most was the City Lord Residence.

Once the city lord issued the order, all of Taiyi City would be searching for him, and the entire city would become a prison. This was why he chose to go all out and fight his way out.

However, just as he was about to unleash his killing trump card, a voice boomed across the sky, filled with unparalleled majesty.

"The battle ends here. Otherwise, don't blame me for being ruthless!"

Every word was like the voice of the great dao, thunderous and soul-shaking. It echoed through the nine heavens, silencing even the roars of battle.

"The City Lord!"

Countless people looked surprised. Who would have expected this?

Just when Lin Xun was about to be captured, the city lord of Taiyi City intervened.

This sudden turn stunned everyone.

"What's going on?" Luo Ling's expression changed.

From what she knew, before launching the operation, the Heng and Wen Clans, both Immortal Imperial Clans, had already used their connections and received tacit approval from the city lord!

On the battlefield, Wen Taolue, Heng Xingzhou and Luo Shentu, three mighty Ancestors, wore grim expressions. They were also caught off guard.

However, they were unwilling to stop now. They were one strike away from capturing Lin Xun!

They exchanged glances, and in the next instant, they moved in unison, unleashing their full power as they charged toward Lin Xun.

It was clear they intended to get rid of Lin Xun once and for all with one decisive strike.

On the flip side, Lin Xun was also unwilling to let this perfect opportunity to kill three Emperor Ancestors slip away.

Moreover, he wasn't sure whether the city lLord's sudden intervention was a blessing or a curse. Seeing the three charge at him without hesitation was exactly what he had been hoping for.

But at that moment—A cold snort echoed across the battlefield. A green figure suddenly appeared, raising a palm.

Boom!

With a single strike, Wen Taolue's silver halberd, Heng Xingzhou's beast-skin drum, and Luo Shentu's Star Chasing Staff were all blasted aside.

The pupils of the three contracted sharply. They immediately withdrew their treasures, faces turning grim.

Almost simultaneously, Lin Xun forcefully suppressed the wisp of extinguishing law flame that was about to erupt from the sword cauldron. His brows furrowed.

On the battlefield, the green-clad figure was revealed to be a strikingly handsome man who looked like a youth. His snow-white hair cascaded to his waist, and his eyes were deep as the sea, imbued with the aura of endless years.

The battlefield fell utterly silent.

All eyes were fixed on this handsome white-haired youth. Regardless of their cultivation, background or status, everyone showed awe and reverence in their expressions.

The person was Bai Jianchen, the city lord of Taiyi City.

He was a legendary swordmaster, a towering figure of unimaginable power from the Bai Clan, which was an Immortal Imperial Clan of the Seventh Heaven Domain! His name had long echoed across the Great Thousand Battle Domain, etched into the minds of countless cultivators!

At this moment, even Lin Xun couldn't help but feel a ripple of fear in his heart.

Although they were all Ancestors of a Path, compared to Bai Jianchen, Wen Taolue and the others seemed much dimmer. Whether in terms of presence or power, he outshone them completely.

Figures like him were truly terrifying. With just a casual strike, he neutralized the combined full-force attacks of three Emperor Ancestors. Who could remain unfazed before such might?

"City Lord, why did you stop us?"

Wen Taolue's face was dark and his voice hoarse as he broke the silence.

"I will not allow chaos to continue in Taiyi City."

Bai Jianchen's gaze lifted toward the sky, in the direction of the Dao Ruins. "The anomalies and calamities born from the Dao Ruins could strike at any moment. At a time like this, Taiyi City must not fall into chaos."

His voice was calm, yet carried unquestionable authority.

"But he's a wanted criminal! Everyone has the right to punish him. If we don't kill him, Taiyi City will only fall into greater chaos!" Heng Xingzhou growled angrily.

Bai Jianchen turned to Heng Xingzhou and said calmly, "Do you really think that Taiyi City will fall into chaos while I am here?"

It was just a sentence, but it brimmed with undeniable dominance and absolute authority. Facing Bai Jianchen's gaze and pointed question, Heng Xingzhou felt a chill run down his spine.