Prodigies 671

The Prodigies War

Chapter 671: Brilliance Fills the Capital

The Chi Clan.

The lush green trees swayed, occasionally providing shade for the tall bamboo.

A wooden pavilion was constructed on the rock garden, and on the other side of the cliff was a waterfall cascading down like a white dragon, splashing jade-like water beads across perfectly arranged rocks.

Chi Lingxiao, the clan leader of the Chi Clan, was sitting inside the wooden pavilion in a spotless white robe. He leisurely read the dao scripture in his hand, feeling content.

But Chi Cangmei, who was standing next to him, looked a little distracted.

"The Zuo and Qin Clans are impressive. They immediately dispatched several great Cyclic Derivation cultivators. Each one of them is a fierce character who has made a name for themselves years ago. Not a single one of them is ordinary. Based on that, it seems that Lin Xun has no hope of surviving," Chi Cangmei murmured.

The news surprised her a little because she never thought that the Zuo and Qin Clans would be so ruthless.

Finally, she couldn't help asking, "Father, why did the Zuo and Qin Clans mobilize so many people?"

Chi Lingxiao's gaze never left the dao scripture in his hand as he casually answered, "They just want to kill the chicken to scare the monkeys. They want to warn the world that the high clans mustn't be insulted or provoked."

Chi Cangmei nodded and fell silent.

As far as she knew, all the major clans and sects in the Forbidden City had dispatched spies to observe the storm.

Even the high clans including the Chi Clan, Song Clan, Hua Clan and Xie Clan were paying attention to everything.

After all, nothing similar had happened in the Forbidden City in many years. Naturally, it had attracted worldwide attention like a raging storm.

On one side was the Mind Cleansing Peak Lin Clan, a deteriorating family inferior to even the lower aristocratic clans. Only Lin Xun of the Lin Clan had many splendid titles and achievements. He was known all over the world as a young genius.

On the other side were the powerful Zuo and Qin Clans. They were like behemoths that would never topple even in the wind and rain. Their forces spanned across the empire and their majesty was known throughout the world.

The conflict that had broken out between the two parties was like a tremendous earthquake shaking the Forbidden City. No one would be able to sit still.

"It's a pity that the kid is too impatient. Given his foundation and potential, if he waited a few decades then he might have the power to compete with the high clans. But he overestimated his own ability and took action."

In Chi Cangmei's view, Lin Xun's action was no different from throwing away his life.

"I used to think that he was a peerless figure who had appeared since ancient times who could shake the world, but now it seems he has too many obvious flaws. His flaw of recklessness can already cost him his life!"

Chi Cangmei stated her judgment of Lin Xun. His good points were obvious, but his flaws were fatal.

"According to the time, this storm should be over now." Chi Lingxiao suddenly raised his head from the dao scripture.

"Father, what do you think the result will be?" Chi Cangmei asked hastily.

"Haha." Chi Lingxiao chuckled. "Don't you already have the answer in your heart? Girl, remember that the aristocratic clans mustn't be insulted. Anyone who insults them will have to die."

An indescribable surge of pity rose in Chi Cangmei's heart.

She had always regarded Lin Xun as the most difficult opponent to deal with. Even her Chi Clan had dealt with Lin Xun in the past, but Lin Xun still managed to resolve the issue and survive.

Her younger brother Chi Cangfeng had almost died in Lin Xun's hands during the empress' birthday banquet!

So, she had always been thinking of ways to defeat Lin Xun, but she never imagined that her rival would die under the attacks of the Zuo and Qin Clans.

She couldn't help but feel melancholic and a tinge of regret.

"It's a pity. The empire finally managed to cultivate such a monster, but he is about to fall today..." Chi Cangmei sighed.

"You don't understand. Many peerless monsters have been born since ancient times, but most of them died at a young age. They are like the shooting stars in the sky—splendid and dazzling but fleeting." Chi Lingxiao chuckled. "In this great vast world, only our high clans can remain standing forever, surviving all wind and rain! You will soon understand that the so-called geniuses and heaven prides are nothing in front of the aristocratic clans."

"Lingxiao, the patriarch has summoned you. Quickly come to the ancestral hall!"

The echoing of a deep voice startled Chi Lingxiao. "Patriarch has left closed-door cultivation? What matter could alarm him?"

"It's related to the kid Lin Xun!"

Chi Lingxiao's body stiffened and his eyes widened with bewilderment. Did that boy not die in the storm?

Without a single word, Chi Lingxiao hurried away with a flash.

Only Chi Cangmei continued to stand there, her beautiful face crossed with puzzlement. "Is it related to Lin Xun? But why would his life and death alarm the patriarch?"

The patriarch of the Chi Clan had been in closed-door cultivation for many years, but he had withdrawn from his cultivation and summoned the big shots of the clan to discuss Lin Xun.

"Miss—" Before long, a spy frantically appeared and stated hastily, "Miss, it's not good! Lin Xun...isn't dead!"

"What?"

Chi Cangmei froze. Didn't he die? That means six Cyclic Derivation cultivators failed to kill him. Could it be that someone intervened and rescued him?

That must be it!

Otherwise, how could he survive given that he only possesses the strength of the Heaven Ascension Stage?

Chi Cangmei drew a deep breath and tried to calm herself down before she asked, "Who rescued him?"

The spy looked taken aback before he realized that Chi Cangmei had misunderstood. He quickly explained and recounted the incident in the Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion.

Chi Cangmei felt her head explode when she learned that Lin Xun had defeated Qin Xuandu, Zuo Baoying and other Cyclic Derivation cultivators with just a spear.

"He...he...how is he so strong?" Chi Cangmei cried out.

She knew that she had forgotten her manners, but she couldn't care less about it now.

Thinking of Lin Xun's heaven-defying and savage feats, she couldn't help but feel uncomfortable and her face clouded over.

"What? Qin Cangjia, the patriarch of the Qin Clan, also appeared?! This..." Chi Cangmei gasped.

Finally, she realized why the patriarch of the Chi Clan had become alarmed and the reason why her father had been summoned all of a sudden.

It turned out that a Life Death Stage King had appeared in the storm!

Unbelievable!

In recent years, nothing similar had happened in the Forbidden City.

Immediately, Chi Cangmei realized something and asked, "If Qin Cangjia took action, then doesn't that mean Lin Xun is already dead?"

However, the spy shook his head in disappointment. "No, Qin Cangjia admitted defeat and left in a panic. Miss, even now I still don't understand why Qin Cangjia would admit defeat after three Cyclic Derivation cultivators of the Qin Clan had been killed. Is he really a Life Death Stage King?"

"Admit defeat..." Chi Cangmei was completely dumbfounded. Who in the Forbidden City could have such terrifying power to make Qin Cangjia admit defeat and willingly leave?

She went still for a minute. The news was so unbelievable that she couldn't accept it for a good while.

"Who did it?"

"The boss of Sky Martial Arena, Zhao Tailai."

"Nonsense! That fat man is just a slick and sly character of the imperial family, so how can he have the ability to scare away a Life Death Stage King?"

"But... it's true! Besides me, all the other spies who were present also saw it with their own eyes. I won't be mistaken. It seems that Zhao Tailai has another identity."

"What is it?"

"Blood Kill King!"

Chi Cangmei looked the most perplexed she had been since this conversation started. The name was very unfamiliar to her, and she had never heard of it before.

However, her intuition told her that the Blood Kill King was a terrifying existence, and his appearance had alarmed the patriarch of her clan!

"Lin Xun...is it really impossible to kill him?" she murmured as complex emotions swirled in her heart.

"Father is wrong. That guy is not a fleeting shooting star, nor is he reckless. It turns out that he has support from the start!"

A strong surge of bitterness rose in Chi Cangmei's heart. Lin Xun! What kind of person are you?

On the same day, the senior members of the Chi Clan gathered together and came to a decision. Going forward, they must not interfere in any matters related to Lin Xun!

Chi Cangmei fell into a daze when she heard the announcement. Since even her own clan had made such a decision, no one would be able to suppress Lin Xun from rising in the empire in the future!

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Just as Chi Cangmei had guessed, the Hua Clan, Song Clan, Xie Clan and the other high clans all held an emergency meeting and made a similar decision as the Chi Clan!

They had decided to never provoke Lin Xun, but also to not be afraid of him!

It was tantamount to covertly acknowledging Lin Xun's status in the Forbidden City.

The other clans and sects in the Forbidden City were also in disbelief when they heard all the news.

They were shocked by Lin Xun's heaven-defying strength and also the Blood Kill King's ability to scare Qin Cangjia away with one sentence.

"From now on, who in the Forbidden City will dare to provoke the Lin Clan of the Mind Cleansing Peak?"

"Lin Xun alone is comparable to an aristocratic clan! As long as he is around, the Lin Clan will undoubtedly rise to become one of the high clans again!"

"Even though I have lived in the Forbidden City for many years, I have never seen someone as amazing as Lin Xun!"

That day, the Forbidden City was completely thrown into an uproar. All sorts of news swept the various clans like a monstrous wave.

In the central area of the Forbidden City, the giant rune transmission light screen broadcasted the battle that stirred the capital.

Moreover, as the news was broadcasted, a senior Cyclic Derivation cultivator was specially invited to provide commentary.

However, the invited guest seemed too excited and nervous. After holding back for a long time, his face reddened and he exclaimed a sentence, "The Young Master is unrivaled, his brilliance fills the capital!"

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Chapter 672: Rotating Stars Hibernating Moon

"His brilliance fills the capital."

What a huge claim!

The appraisal set off another uproar in the Forbidden City. Many cultivators disagreed and thought it was a huge exaggeration. Lin Xun was just a teenager and did not deserve such huge praise.

However, some people scoffed at the naysayers and thought that those people were only jealous and envious of Lin Xun.

The majority of cultivators agreed with the evaluation.

It had only been three years since Lin Xun had come to the Forbidden City, but he had created countless miracles, achieved many amazing feats and forged many splendid achievements.

Young rune founder!

Instructor of the Qinglu Academy!

The master of Mind Cleansing Peak!

He had many halos on his head.

Now, he had even defeated six Cyclic Derivation cultivators with a spear and forced the Zuo and Qin Clans, two high clans, to return in defeat.

How would a young genius like him not deserve such praise?

The young master is unrivaled, his brilliance fills the capital!

Lin Xun deserved the praise!

Some people were happy, but some were sad. The Zuo and Qin Clans were shrouded in a miserable and gloomy atmosphere. It was rumored that when Qin Cangjia returned to the clan, he broke several valuable teacups and the entire Qin Clan became as silent as winter cicadas.

There were also reports that the patriarch of the Zuo Clan, in a fit of anger, almost became possessed by demons during his closed-door cultivation. The senior members of the Zuo Clan were also sent into a state of panic.

Regardless, the impact of the storm began to brew and ferment, spreading from the Forbidden City to throughout the empire and the entire world!

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While the uproar continued, Zhao Tailai brought Lin Xun, Lin Zhong and the others to a very remote place.

The place was called Rotating Stars Hibernating Moon House.

The otherworldly name was the name of...a restaurant.

Rotating stars, hibernating moon...only immortals could be so free and detached. But the place was indeed a restaurant.

A bony and bad-tempered old man owned the restaurant. He clearly had nothing in common with an immortal.

Zhao Tailai called him Lone Man.

In short, he was an old man who always preferred to be alone.

Seeing Zhao Tailai and the others arrive, he rolled his eyes and cursed with disgust, "The debtor has come to eat free food again, is that right?"

Zhao Tailai grinned and reassured him with a pat of his chest, "This time someone will pay the bill. Serve us your specialties please."

Lone Man snorted coldly, went into the kitchen, and started cooking.

"Kid, remember him."

Zhao Tailai smiled mysteriously at Lin Xun, "He is whom I was referring to, the only old monster who has abandoned the great dao and cultivated himself. Even though he has no cultivation base, no one in the lower domain world can kill him."

Lin Xun trembled inwardly. He had paid little attention to Lone Man at first, but Zhao Tailai's words made him realize that the man was a remarkable existence.

Abandon the dao and cultivate himself!

That fact alone was enough to fill Lin Xun with shock.

He couldn't help asking, "Not even a saint?"

Zhao Tailai shook his head. "I'm not sure, but I can tell you that the old man once inadvertently said that the so-called Saint Path in the world is inferior to his method of self-cultivation. Of course, he may also be exaggerating."

Lin Xun pondered this quietly.

Before long, dishes were brought to the table. The presentation was neither amazing nor bad, but they were all foods that Lin Xun had never seen before.

Zhao Tailai's eyes shined brightly as he lifted the chopsticks in his hand and started to gorge on the food. "Quickly, quickly, eat. I have lived for so long, but this is only my third time eating this old man's food."

Lin Xun, Lin Zhong, Xiaoke and Third Old Zhu didn't hesitate when they heard his serious and seemingly exaggerated words.

After just one mouthful, Lin Xun's eyes went wide and his heart palpitated. He felt as though all the taste buds on the tip of his tongue had been set off and an indescribably wonderful taste exploded in his mouth.

So delicious!

Lin Xun wanted to ask what the name of the dishes on the table was and find out about the seasonings and ingredients. But he couldn't care anymore. Just like Third Old Zhu, he frantically devoured the food.

It was the same with Lin Zhong, Xiaoke, and Third Old Zhu. They all looked like they had been starved.

Only chewing noises could be heard in the room.

It should be mentioned that every one of them was an experienced cultivator with a very high level of cultivation. They could survive without eating, but now they looked like gluttons.

After a few minutes.

The dishes on the table were cleanly finished. Zhao Tailai smacked his lips and sighed, "I don't know when I will be able to eat such delicious food again."

"It's simple. Pay off all your debts and you can eat whenever you want." Lone Man stood at the door like a ghost, staring coldly at Zhao Tailai.

Lin Huaiyuan couldn't help but say aloud, "Boss, how much for the dishes on the table? I'll pay for them."

Lone Man sneered. "How arrogant?! Do you know how much this table of food costs? How dare you make that claim?"

Lin Huaiyuan reddened with embarrassment, looking confused. Could there be something special about the dishes?

Zhao Tailai chuckled, "Only I can pay for the previous bills, but today's meal has to be paid for by that kid." He pointed at Lin Xun.

Lin Xun blinked blankly. He thought that there was a reason why Zhao Tailai had brought him there and let him enjoy those indescribably delicious dishes.

But he had never expected Zhao Tailai to bring him there to pay for the bill.

Lone Man turned to look at Lin Xun. His gaze seemed capable of seeing through all the secrets in his mind and made him feel extremely uncomfortable.

He couldn't help but shudder. He was certain that the old man possessed no cultivation base and was similar to an ordinary person, but his gaze seemed capable of penetrating people's hearts and fathoming the mysteries of the nine heavens.

Lone Man quickly retracted his gaze and said disdainfully, "He isn't even fully grown yet. He can't pay for the meal even if he goes to the Blood Kill Battlefield!"

Blood Kill Battlefield!

Finally, everyone including Lin Xun realized that the payment for the meal was not that simple.

However, where was Blood Kill Battlefield?

"We've eaten the meal and we need to pay the bill. We have to try to see whether we can pay it back." Zhao Tailai's expression turned serious. "I trust him."

"Hmph!" Lone Man snorted coldly after a pause, then turned around and left.

Lin Xun and the others were all left baffled. They asked Zhao Tailai, but he didn't tell them anything.

"Elder, you tricked me. Don't tell me you refuse to even give me a reason?" Lin Xun said in discontent.

Zhao Tailai snapped, "Kid, I scared Qin Cangjia away for you. I saved your life. How can you speak to me like that?"

He resembled a cunning old fox, completely different from the courageous and mighty Zhao Tailai when facing Qin Cangjia.

Lin Xun smiled. "Save my life? That was the emperor's arrangement. You are just following orders. Do you dare to take credit for it? Also, do you think I'm not capable of dealing with Qin Cangjia?"

His words stunned Lin Zhong and the others. Does that mean Young Master could protect himself at the time? Is he strong enough to fight against Life Death Stage Kings?

If true, it would be too unbelievable.

However, Zhao Tailai donned a strange expression as though he had realized something. With a flick of his fingers, a light screen emerged in the air.

The light screen casted the scene of Qin Cangjia appearing and about to kill Lin Xun!

"You were going to rely on that treasure in your palm, is that right?" asked Zhao Tailai.

There was an extremely subtle and illusory silvery glow in the crevices of Lin Xun's left palm.

"Correct." Lin Xun didn't explain further.

It was the Grand Universe Ark. Although he couldn't fight against Life Death Stage Kings, he had the means to avoid their attacks.

Even so, the fact set off waves in Lin Zhong's heart. As I thought, Lin Xun could protect himself even when facing Life Death Stage Kings!

Perhaps, that was what he relied on?

"Even so, you should still thank those people when you see them because even if I didn't make a move at the time, they would have helped you resolve the calamity." As Zhao Tailai was speaking, he drew his finger across the air. The light screen rippled, presenting a different scene, including a burly fat man and an old man with sharp lightning-like eyes

When Zhao Tailai spoke, he swiped his finger again, the light curtain flowed and more scenes emerged, including an extremely burly fat man, an iron-willed old man with lightning-like eyebrows, and a thin middle-aged man wearing a black hat.

The three stood in different areas, but when Qin Cangjia appeared, each of them emitted intense fighting spirit, a sign they would attack at any time!

Lin Xun stood still, flabbergasted. The three were Fortune God Shi from Stone Cauldron Alms, Steel Blood King Ning Bugui, and Gong Bupo from the Gong Clan.

"It turns out that they were also there at the time..." An indescribable warmth flooded Lin Xun's heart. He realized he hadn't been fighting alone at the time!

Lin Zhong and the others were more shocked. Who would have imagined that there were three Life Death Stage Kings hiding in the dark to protect Lin Xun?

How great of a storm would this news cause in the Forbidden City?

"See, although you have many enemies, many people value you. But after this, no one in the Forbidden City will want to provoke you in the future," Zhao Tailai said ruminatively.

Lin Xun shot an annoyed glance at Zhao Tailai. "Why do I feel like you have bad intentions?"

Zhao Tailai chuckled, and then he cursed out loud, "Stop talking nonsense!"

Halfway through, Zhao Tailai left, but before he did, he said that he would visit Mind Cleansing Peak sometime.

Lin Xun knew that after 'some time', Zhao Tailai might tell him his reason for making him owe a debt to Lone Man.

When Lin Xun and the others returned to Mind Cleansing Peak, the clansmen of the four collateral branches, North Light, West Creek, Cloud Weight and Flying Peak, as well as the villagers of Feiyun Village, were already waiting——

To welcome them back!

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Chapter 673: The Current Lin Clan

Lin Xun and the others received a warm welcome from everyone on Mind Cleansing Peak, which was something that had never happened before in the past.

As Lin Xun ran his eyes over the expressions of awe, admiration and excitement and the familiar or unfamiliar figures, an indescribable feeling rose in his heart.

After three years, the internal troubles of the Lin Clan had finally been resolved and the enemies would no longer dare to attack them from now on.

As he thought about his experience in the past three years, he made an announcement on the spot. In three days, the first clan meeting after the unification of the Lin Clan will be held!

Many things had happened since his return to the Forbidden City yesterday. He also needed some time to digest everything.

The newly unified Mind Cleansing Peak Lin Clan also needed some time to merge and re-establish a new order.

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Three days passed in a twinkling.

Before dawn, on Mind Cleansing Peak, Xiaoyan was already dressed and left.

"Paying respect to Steward."

"Steward Xiaoyan, please take care of your former brothers in the future."

"Xiaoyan, let's have a drink tonight. I specially reserved a table and ordered some delicacies for tonight."

Servants warmly greeted Xiaoyan along the way, many wearing ingratiating smiles.

Xiaoyan responded calmly without paying much attention to them.

In truth, he was nervous with excitement. A few months ago, he was just a little servant responsible for chores such as serving tea, watering flowers, and weeding.

But yesterday, he was selected and promoted to be a steward and became in charge of thirty servants.

For Xiaoyan, he felt he had reached the sky in one step.

"Don't be so excited, calm down, I must not make a mistake at this time..." Xiaoyan reminded himself.

A servant muttered sourly when Xiaoyan left, unable to conceal his jealousy, "Pah! Head Steward Ma Yong took notice of the brat when he was working yesterday and now he suddenly joined the ranks of stewards. He has such good luck."

Some servants who had gone through thick and thin together with Xiaoyan in the past were determined to serve Xiaoyan well, hoping for an opportunity to change their fate!

Unaware of all that, Xiaoyan arrived outside the room of Head Steward Ma Yong.

He straightened his clothes, took a deep breath, bowed his head and stood outside the door, waiting quietly.

Before long, the closed door was pushed open, revealing Head Steward Ma Yong's slender body.

"Xiaoyan? What are you doing here?" Ma Yong asked in surprise.

He sharply noticed the dewy white frost on the tip of Xiaoyan's hair, indicating that he had been waiting for a while.

"I am honored to receive the Head Steward's favor yesterday. I am filled with gratitude, but I don't know how to repay you..."

Before he finished, Ma Yong nodded and interrupted, "You don't need to. I promoted you because you are vigilant, smart, and have great potential. You are much better than the others."

Xiaoyan quickly took out a bag that he prepared earlier and respectfully handed it over with both hands. "Head Steward, this is a little token of my gratitude, please accept it."

There were one thousand gold coins inside the bag, which Xiaoyan had worked very hard to save over the years. His heart ached a little when he handed over the bag.

But he didn't mind because a little sacrifice was considered nothing for the sake of gaining a better foothold in Mind Cleansing Peak in the future.

However, Ma Yong's face darkened. "Boy, you are bringing trouble to me!" He slapped the bag to the ground.

Xiaoyan trembled and his face paled, looking bewildered. It was his first time giving the head steward a gift. He never thought the head steward would react in such a way.

Ma Yong drew a deep breath before he coldly warned, "Remember that this is the Mind Cleansing Peak Lin Clan. I noticed your potential and promoted you. It was not because I was after your gifts! If you want to thank me, show all your abilities and serve our Lin Clan wholeheartedly. If you try to play such tricks again, I will kick you out of Mind Cleansing Peak!"

Xiaoyan was so terrified that he trembled all over and cried out in panic, "I don't dare to anymore! Please forgive me this one time!"

Ma Yong's expression eased as he patted Xiaoyan on the shoulder. "Boy, do you know how many people in the Forbidden City want to serve the Lin Clan now? There are too many to count! The queue to join stretches across ten miles!"

"Our Lin Clan is different from before. As long as the head of the clan is around, even the high clans won't dare to offend us. How amazing is that? To put it simply, our Lin Clan will only continue to rise in the future. Someday, we might be able to return to the ranks of the high clans! If I had accepted that little bit of money from you, then what is the difference between that and destroying my own future?"

Only then did Xiaoyan learn that the reason that Head Steward Ma Yong had refused his money was the same reason why he had tried to give the steward money in the first place. Head Steward Ma Yong also wanted to rise higher and stand more stable in the Lin Clan in the future!

"Let's go, the clan leader is holding a clan meeting today. During this period, we servants must not make any mistakes. If you perform to my satisfaction today, then I will forget about today's matter." Ma Yong hurried away as he spoke.

Xiaoyan quickly followed him.

"Ah? Chief Steward Lin Zhong, you're so early."

Before long, Xiaoyan was surprised to see Head Steward Ma Yong, whom he admired and respected the most, humbly bowing to an old man with a polite smile.

"Head Steward, he..."

In his eyes, Ma Yong was like a divine being among the servants and had great authority.

If he could reach the position and status that Ma Yong had, he felt that he could die without regret. He had always viewed him as his goal.

How would he not be shocked by Ma Yong's humble manners?

Ma Yong turned around and scolded Xiaoyan, "Why are you standing there? Come and pay your respects to Chief Steward Lin Zhong!"

Xiaoyan quickly stepped forward and bowed. A thought struck his mind like lightning. He remembered who Chief Steward Lin Zhong was.

He was a higher-up who served the clan leader! It was said that Chief Steward Lin Zhong also served the former clan leader and so he held an extremely high status in Mind Cleansing Peak!

In the servants' hearts, Lin Zhong was like a celestial figure!

Lin Zhong glanced at Ma Yong and Xiaoyan and nodded, "Today, we need to stay alert and work hard."

With that, he turned around and left.

Ma Yong bowed and saw him off. It wasn't until Lin Zhong disappeared from his sight that he lifted his head and straightened his back. "Xiaoyan, did you see? Chief Steward Lin Zhong is who I aspire to be. If I have half his ability, then I can die without regret."

Xiaoyan fell into a daze, his emotions tumbling in his heart. He didn't tell Ma Yong that from that moment, he also regarded Lin Zhong as the person he aspired to be!

When Ma Yong brought Xiaoyan to the top of Mind Cleansing Peak, it was still dawn, but the vast and spacious hillside was already packed with figures.

Members of the North Light, West Creek, Cloud Weight and Flying Peak Lin Clans were all lined up and waiting.

Everyone wore solemn expressions, and no one dared to utter any nonsense. Only the whistle of the mountain wind echoed in the early morning.

Additionally, the villagers of Feiyun Village, Old Diao, Yang Ling, Blood Thorn and others were also present. They stood close together and dared not make any noise.

The atmosphere seemed extremely solemn.

Xiaoyan trembled inwardly, feeling a little nervous and suffocating. It was the first time he had seen so many higher-ups gathered together.

He stood at the edge of the crowd with Ma Yong. In that area were also other maids, stewards, and servants.

Xiaoyan's eyes went wide with amazement when he saw that all the big shots of the Mind Cleansing Peak Lin Clan had already arrived, including Chief Steward Lin Zhong, Lin Huaiyan of the North Light Lin Clan, and Xiaoke. Everyone stood in silence and dared not utter a word.

But his jaw dropped when he saw the patriarch of the North Light Lin Clan, West Creek Lin Clan and Cloud Weight Lin Clan, who were all the influential figures of the older generation!

Given their identities, they could sit inside the hall and participate in the clan meeting, but they were waiting like everyone else!

"The authority of the clan leader is so evident!" Ma Yong exclaimed emotionally, feeling indescribable awe and admiration. He couldn't help but think about some of the past legendary events of the clan leader.

Clang!

As the rays of the morning sun pierced the clouds and illuminated the mountains and rivers, a dull bell rang at the top of Mind Cleansing Peak.

Everyone palpitated and donned more solemn expressions before their gazes all shifted to the high steps of Mind Cleansing Hall.

The atmosphere was filled with a sacred and solemn mood.

Bathed in the morning sun, a tall and handsome figure strode out of the hall.

He was dressed in a moon-white robe that contrasted his fluttering black hair. His dark and straight brows framed his handsome, calm and resolute face, and his elegant figure seemed to be surrounded by an illusory glow under the rays of the morning sun.

Everyone thought he was an immortal radiating an invisible majesty.

"Paying our respects to the clan leader!"

The audience bowed in unison, and their voices reverberated like drums stirring the world.

Lin Xun ran his eyes across the audience. If Father and Mother could see this scene, would they be proud?

Inadvertently, Lin Xun noticed Uncle Zhong's eyes welling up with emotions. Perhaps he was also thinking of his parents.

After a long period of silence, Lin Xun took a deep breath and faced the morning sun, saying each word with a noticeable pause, "The Lin Clan...compared to before...is completely different now!

His voice had a rare hint of relief and pride as it stirred everyone's emotions like a clap of thunder from the nine heavens.

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Chapter 674: The Aftereffects

Lin Xun made many announcements at the meeting.

For example, the arrangement of duties for each member of the Lin Clan after unifying the collateral branches, which was an extremely trivial and complicated matter.

It concerned the benefits and interests of every collateral branch and so had to be properly resolved. Otherwise, it could lead to internal strife.

Lin Xun allowed Lin Zhong to take charge of the matter. He planned to discuss and consult with the higher-ups of the collateral branches before making any arrangements.

Additionally, Lin Xun made arrangements for cultivating the younger generation of the Lin Clan, revising the rules and regulations of the clan, and expanding and strengthening the Mind Cleansing Peak...

They were all affairs that a large clan had to first handle. If not properly arranged, troubles would arise sooner or later.

Fortunately, Lin Xun only had to provide a general framework to deal with those matters and then hand over the specific affairs to other people to take care of.

At the end of the clan meeting, Lin Xun announced something unexpected. It was regarding the successor of the head of the Lin Clan!

He announced that he might leave for a long period and had to hand over the position of the clan leader to someone in the clan to ensure the continued development of the Lin Clan.

He then announced the rules for competing for the position of the successor of the Lin Clan. The successor who could take on the huge responsibilities of the Lin Clan would be selected from the four collateral branches of the Lin Clan within ten years.

All clansmen from the four collateral branches could participate in the competition, but Lin Zhong would be the one deciding the result.

Lin Zhong held the Shattered Tragedy Spear, the treasured weapon of the clan, and would act as the guardian of the clan to assist the chosen clan leader with all his powers!

This important arrangement was made by Lin Xun and Lin Zhong after a long discussion.

They had no other choice. Lin Xun couldn't watch over Mind Cleansing Peak all his life. He still had many matters that he needed to resolve. Based on that, the safest course of action was to select a new clan leader within ten years to take charge of the Lin Clan.

Upon hearing the announcement, the members of the four collateral branches of the Lin Clan were all completely stirred up. They almost couldn't believe it.

Even Lin Beiguang, Lin Xixi and Lin Yunheng, the important figures of the older generation, were all frozen with shock.

No one imagined that Lin Xun would make plans and arrangements for choosing the next clan leader as soon as he took over the Lin Clan.

It proved that Lin Xun had no desire for the position of the clan leader.

Many important figures donned complicated looks. If they knew about that earlier, would they choose to fight against Lin Xun?

Everything happened because they viewed power too highly!

The rest of the clan members were filled with excitement and fighting spirit!

The Lin Clan had already shaken the Forbidden City. Its power was strong enough to deter the high clans from offending them.

As long as there was no accident, natural or man-made, the Lin Clan would soon return to the ranks of the high clans!

The one lucky enough to take charge of the Lin Clan and become the clan leader could be said to have achieved instant success!

They would become a character feared and respected by countless people in the Forbidden City and could sit on an equal footing with the noblemen!

That person would be born from the four collateral branches of the Lin Clan! Although ten years wasn't considered a short period, who wouldn't still be tempted by the position?

Lin Huaiyuan's heart pounded.

Lin Beiguang, Lin Xixi and Lin Yunheng had already begun to plan how to cultivate a candidate capable of taking on the great responsibility of the Lin Clan in the next ten years.

However, they all knew that the competition would be difficult but also fierce.

None of the four collateral branches would sit and do nothing and allow the Lin Clan successor to emerge from the other collateral branches!

This was exactly the purpose of Lin Xun's arrangement. He wanted the four collateral branches to compete!

Only a fierce competition could help cultivate and select a successor with the ability to take charge of the Lin Clan

Of course, Lin Xun also arranged for Lin Zhong to supervise them to prevent malicious intentions and internal strife.

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After the clan meeting, Lin Xun headed to the ancestral land at the rear of Mind Cleansing Peak by himself. He stood silently in front of the memorial tablets of the Lin Clan ancestors for a long time.

The tables were engraved with the name of his great-grandfather Duke Daochen and the names of his parents, grandfather and other relatives.

They felt very familiar yet also very unfamiliar.

This was because he had never met them before.

But he knew that he had already integrated into the Lin Clan and become a direct descendant of the Lin Clan, so he needed to take care of some matters by himself.

For example, avenging his parents and relatives!

....

It was dusk, and the setting sun painted the sky a fiery red hue.

The area around the ancestral shrine was extremely peaceful and quiet.

When Lin Xun left, he saw Lin Tianlong, Lin Nianshan and Lin Feifeng who were imprisoned in the ancestral land.

Lin Xun calmly informed them about the clan meeting before he left.

Lin Tianlong and the others stood there in a daze, their expressions complicated and melancholic.

They had betrayed the clan and had been confined to the rear mountain to repent for their sins. They might never be able to leave there for the rest of their lives.

At first, they were bitter and resentful, but when they learned about Lin Xun's arrangements for the next successor, they accepted their fate.

They even felt gratified and happy, knowing that someone from their clan might be at the helm of the Lin Clan in the future!

This was hope. It made them willingly stay there to repent for their sins. Even if they were to spend their entire life there, at least, there was still hope!

.....

Following the clan meeting, Mind Cleansing Peak became busier and busier day by day. Everywhere was full of busy activities.

Spirit Vulture had been in closed-door cultivation, refining the Demon Tribulation Poison and restoring his cultivation.

Lin Zhong, Xiaoke and Third Old Zhu all had affairs to deal with and were incredibly busy every single day.

The clansmen from the collateral branches of the Lin Clan, the villagers of Feiyun Village and the servants on Mind Cleansing Peak were also very busy.

Everyone was filled with an indescribable fighting spirit. The Lin Clan had resolved their internal problems and fought off enemies. They seemed to have been reborn.

At least, the current Mind Cleansing Peak Lin Clan was known throughout the Forbidden City!

On the contrary, Lin Xun was very leisurely. Apart from training, he only welcomed and received some distinguished guests.

Additionally, he also penned letters to the Stone Cauldron Alms, the Ning Clan and the East Sea Ye Clan to express his gratitude.

After all, Fortune God Shi and the others had secretly protected him when he was facing off against Qin Cangjia, a Life Death Stage King. He would never forget their kindness.

As for Zhao Tailai, he hadn't shown up at Mind Cleansing Peak. It was as though he had forgotten about what happened in Rotating Stars Hibernating Moon House.

Lin Xun found it a little strange at first, but he soon forgot about the matter.

Although Zhao Tailai didn't come, Shen Tuo, the head lecturer of Qinglu Academy's Rune Department, suddenly came to visit.

On the same day, Lin Xun left Mind Cleansing Peak with Shen Tuo on a carriage, heading for Qinglu Academy

It had been almost half a month since Lin Xun returned to the Forbidden City from the Spirit Burial Sea. As an instructor of the rune department, Lin Xun had neglected to resume his teaching duties at the rune department.

However, Shen Tuo reassured him that it was a trivial matter and that everyone understood his reason.

As the carriage passed through the central area of the Forbidden City, a fierce battle was being broadcast on the huge rune transmission light screen.

Wielding a jet-black spear, a youngster in a moon-white robe fiercely fought against six Cyclic Derivation cultivators in the air. The collision of the splendid beams of light produced terrifying but gorgeous shock waves.

Passersby all paused in front of the light screen, heads raised and staring unblinkingly at the duel shown on the screen. They all held their breaths as they watched and occasionally burst into surprised exclamations.

"That ... "

Lin Xun was taken aback. Isn't this my battle against the Cyclic Derivation cultivators that day?

"The news was first broadcast half a month ago, and it has been replayed countless times already. Even so, it still attracts a huge crowd of people every time." Shen Tuo explained.

Even he lost his composure when he saw the battle for the first time.

In the current Forbidden City, anyone who hadn't heard about the duel didn't deserve to be a resident of the city!

That was the influential power of the battle. Even now, the aftereffect of the battle was still spreading through the city. More and more people came to learn about Lin Xun.

The young master is unrivaled, his brilliance fills the capital!

Everyone thought of Lin Xun when they heard that praise!

Many cultivators in the Forbidden City started to complain that Lin Xun was always in the limelight. No matter where they went, the inns, tea shops or in the streets, they always heard about him.

Even the singers in the brothel wrote lyrics and music about Lin Xun.

Lin Xun withdrew his gaze from the light screen and couldn't help asking, "Brother Shen, what's the matter? Why did you ask me to come to Qinglu Academy?"

Under Shen Tuo's insistence, he started to call Shen Tuo 'Brother'.

In Shen Tuo's view, Lin Xun had already earned the respect of any rune master with his status as a rune founder. Moreover, Lin Xun was now a peerless genius who swept the capital with his brilliance.

Shen Tuo didn't think he was worthy of being called Elder by Lin Xun anymore.

The Prodigies War

Chapter 675: Named and Challenge

"Actually..." Shen Tuo muttered hesitantly. "I had no choice but to ask you to return to the academy because I have a favor to ask from you."

Lin Xun raised his eyebrows. "Is there a problem at Qinglu Academy?"

Shen Tuo's lips twitched in a wry smile. "This time, it is different from before. The situation is a bit unusual."

Shen Tuo explained everything to Lin Xun.

It turned out that an important figure from the Heaven Axis Holy Land of the Ancient Wasteland Domain brought a group of young disciples to Qinglu Academy yesterday.

Their purpose was to select seedlings with the greatest potential from Qinglu Academy and bring them back to the Heaven Axis Holy Land for training before the great dao catastrophe.

It should have been a good thing, but unfortunately, the more talented students at Qinglu Academy had already gone to the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

For example, Gu Yunting, Song Yi, Bai Lingxi and Zhao Yin, were the leading figures of the younger generation. Lin Xun had fought them all in the past.

The remaining students in the academy were still talented, but they were not as good as them.

The people from the Heaven Axis Holy Land weren't only disappointed but also showed contempt and disdain for the Qinglu Academy.

It wasn't considered a big deal, but today, Qinglu Academy's students clashed with the successors of the Heaven Axis Holy Land.

Shen Tuo's face became clouded with indescribable embarrassment and anger as he continued, "Those guys are so arrogant; they treat our students as ants! They speak so rudely to us!"

"So, the students couldn't stand them and got into a fight with them?" asked Lin Xun.

"Yes, it's a matter of honor and dignity, who could tolerate them?" Shen Tuo seethed. The fact that he became so furious indicated how arrogant the successors of the Heaven Axis Holy Land were.

Lin Xun started to understand the situation. "In the conflict, did our students..." he probed further.

Shen Tuo reddened with shame and nodded bitterly. "Yes, they were all defeated, utterly defeated."

First, they were belittled and then they were defeated by those who looked down on them...That feeling was no doubt embarrassing and suffocating.

Immediately, Lin Xun sympathized with Shen Tuo. He patted him on the shoulder and comforted, "Don't think too much about it. After all, they are successors of the Heaven Axis Holy Land. They have to be very strong."

He had seen the strength of Xiao Ran, Su Xingfeng, and Gong Yangyu, the successors of the Spirit Treasure Holy Land, so he knew that every successor of the ancient dao sects wasn't ordinary.

Compared to them, the students from Qinglu Academy were indeed inferior.

Lin Xun didn't want to look down on the Qinglu Academy students but he had experienced the strength of the successors from the Ancient Wasteland Domain first-hand, so he was able to compare them.

However, Shen Tuo turned redder and redder after hearing Lin Xun reassuring him. After a long pause, he mumbled, "It's understandable that the successors of the Heaven Axis Holy Land defeated our students but they lost to the successors' servants..."

Lin Xun couldn't help sighing inwardly.

All the students of Qinglu Academy are elites selected from rigorous examinations such as the district examination, prefectural examination, provincial examination and national examination. These students are the most talented group of people and also the ones with the greatest potential in the younger generation of the empire. They are the future pillars of the empire.

But they had to suffer provocation and contempt and were utterly defeated by servants...

It was indeed too shameful and embarrassing!

It's no wonder that Shen Tuo looks so humiliated and aggrieved.

"You also know that a few months ago a group of our top students were sent to the Ancient Wasteland Domain. This includes Gu Yunting, Zhao Jingwen, Zuo Yujing and Huang Longshen..." Shen Tuo sounded very depressed. "If any one of them was around, the outcome of the conflict would have been different..."

Lin Xun agreed with Shen Tuo.

From what he knew, every person listed on the Qinglu Academy's mysterious Spirit Sea Overall Rankings was considered a peerless genius.

Gu Yunting had also made it onto the list.

Unfortunately, those on the Spirit Sea Overall Rankings had all been sent to the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

Of course, in addition to the students on the Spirit Sea Overall Rankings, the students of the True Martial Department were also extraordinary and were all at least at the Heaven Ascension Stage.

However, those students had also left the academy.

It was no wonder that Shen Tuo asked Lin Xun for help.

The contempt and provocation from the successors of the Heaven Axis Holy Land had put the Qinglu Academy in an embarrassing and awkward situation

"It's just that I am only a teacher, so would it be appropriate for me to help?" asked Lin Xun, but he was more than happy to help.

He had received a lot of help from both Shen Tuo and the Qinglu Academy. He also regarded himself as part of Qinglu Academy, so he wouldn't stand and watch the reputation of the academy be damaged.

"Ah."

Shen Tuo sighed strangely, "You don't need to worry about that, because..."

He couldn't continue his sentence.

"Because of what?" Lin Xun became more curious.

"Because they specifically asked to challenge you," Shen Tuo finally stated the truth.

Lin Xun frowned. He had a feeling that the challenger was extremely hostile and said something unpleasant about him. It was just that Shen Tuo found it inappropriate to tell him.

"Haha, do they think they are qualified to challenge me?" Lin Xun grinned, showing his pearly white teeth.

He wasn't laughing out of arrogance, but how would he be afraid of a successor of another sect after he had killed the true successor of the Spirit Treasure Holy Land?

"Little Brother, will you help out?" Shen Tuo became anxious when he heard Lin Xun's response.

Lin Xun was speechless for a moment. Then, his black eyes turned unfathomable as he said calmly, "Of course, I will help, but I'm afraid they won't have the ability to fight against me. Let's make it clear first, I don't want the blame if I accidentally kill someone."

Shen Tuo inhaled sharply. Although he was excited and happy, he couldn't help being a little worried because he knew that the youngster in front of him was extremely fierce and ruthless in battle!

He was the one who defeated six Cyclic Derivation cultivators!

His fierceness was forged from battles and bloodbaths!

Suddenly, Shen Tuo was full of anticipation.

The Prodigies War

Chapter 676: One Slap

Qinglu Academy, True Martial Department, training hall.

The atmosphere was deathly still and silent, and the students and teachers all gathered around the training hall with darkened faces.

Some gritted their teeth and seethed.

Some looked frustrated and disappointed.

Some tightly pursed their lips, their faces red and aggrieved.

In the nearby seats sat several injured students. Some had bruised and swollen faces, others with broken bones, and some were unconscious.

In the center of the training hall stood a handsome and strong-looking young man with ash-gray hair. He wore a fierce and malevolent expression and emitted a ruthless aura.

With his hands clasped behind his back, he ran his eyes across the audience and twisted his lips disdainfully.

"Is there anyone else...who doesn't want to admit defeat?" he said in a frivolous voice.

The audience erupted. The male students almost shattered their teeth in rage and their eyes almost bulged out. The female students clenched their fists and their faces were suffused with anger.

The instructors didn't say a word, but they were all livid.

A quarter of an hour had passed since the conflict started, and eight students from the True Martial Department had fought one after another.

Every one of them was considered an elite student and possessed the strengths of the Heaven Ascension Stage. Everyone had high hopes for them once they graduated from the academy. If they joined the army, then they would be quickly promoted to the commander level. If not, then they would soon rule a territory or become an overlord.

However, the eight students had been utterly defeated and withstood less than one hundred moves!

Their defeat was too tragic!

The teachers and students were most ashamed and embarrassed by the fact that the opponent was just a servant of a successor from the Heaven Axis Holy Land.

Standing in the middle of the hall was a servant called Mu Qing. He was born with terrifying strength and had astonishing combat experience.

A servant displayed his mighty powers in the training hall and utterly defeated eight of the most dazzling students in the academy like he was invincible.

Everything that happened felt like a hard slap to the faces of the teachers and students, causing a huge blow to their self-esteem!

There was no need to guess to know what sort of impact it would have on Qinglu Academy's reputation if words got out. They would become a laughingstock.

"Why is no one speaking?" The contempt in Mu Qing's eyes deepened.

Some students were about to charge into the arena when they heard his provocative remark, but the teachers around stopped them. It wasn't the time to act impulsively.

However, Mu Qing sneered more disdainfully, "Haha, I already said that the Qinglu Academy students are not good enough, but you refused to accept it. You thought I was just mocking and humiliating you all. But isn't it obvious now? What else do you have to say?"

Everyone's eyes blazed with seething anger. An outsider was showing off his power and looking down on them in their territory.

An expression of sorrow suddenly clouded some students' faces. Is the academy's thousand years of reputation going to be destroyed?

"Allow me!" a deep voice boomed out as a gray-robed man stepped forward.

"Senior Brother Wang Ying!"

Many students' eyes lit up as they recognized that the gray-robed man was an elite of the True Martial Department. He was said to have been in closed-door cultivation to attack the upper Heaven Ascension Stage.

However, no one expected the conflict to alarm Wang Ying, though his appearance gave the students hope again.

"No way!"

Unlike the students, the teachers' expressions dramatically changed, and they rushed forward to stop him.

After Gu Yunting and other peerless figures left, Wang Ying was regarded as one of the strongest in the True Martial Department.

If he also lost, then Qinglu Academy would be truly utterly defeated. The students and teachers would never be able to lift their heads again, and their reputations would be completely destroyed.

The consequences were too serious, so they would rather him not fight than lose.

At least, they could protect their dignity a little.

"There isn't compromise in a battle of martial arts. I, Wang Ying, would rather lose than back down!" Wang Ying stated in a resolute tone as he strode onto the arena.

Everyone's spirits were lifted. One after another, they applauded Wang Ying's courage, turning the still atmosphere lively.

But the teachers sighed secretly. They were well aware of Wang Ying's strength, and they knew that he had little hope of defeating Mu Qing.

"Haha, it looks like you are very popular. But to me, you are just someone coming to throw away your life," Mu Qing mocked.

"Stop talking nonsense! Let's see what you have!" Wang Ying was clearly holding back his anger.

With a flash, he charged forward like an enraged dragon.

Wang Ying was no doubt very strong. At least, he was considered one of the strongest at the Heaven Ascension Stage.

But to everyone's dismay, Wang Ying also lost after exactly one hundred moves!

Mu Qing launched a deadly palm strike at his body. If he hadn't blocked the attack with his arms, the palm strike would have ripped open his chest and killed him on the spot.

Even so, his arms were crippled, his bones crushed and his body blasted across the air before slamming into the ground dozens of feet away, staining the beautiful stone floor with his blood.

The atmosphere instantly stilled, and it became palpably silent.

All students' eyes were wide with disbelief, and their faces skewed with despair and sadness.

If even Wang Ying was defeated, who else in Qinglu Academy could compete with Mu Qing?

The teachers turned ashen-faced. The scene they least wanted to see had happened. The result of the battle would spread quickly through the city and the reputation of Qinglu Academy would be completely destroyed when that happened.

"You're not bad to be able to withstand one hundred moves of mine. But unfortunately, there are too many people like you in the Ancient Wasteland Domain. You're not even qualified to join the Heaven Axis Holy Land." Mu Qing scanned the audience. Even though he was only a servant, he still exuded a fierce and imposing bearing.

Many people couldn't help but wonder how strong Mu Qing's master would be if even a servant was that strong.

All the teachers' faces were clouded over, and their hearts sank to a point of despair and helplessness.

A slight scoff suddenly came from the tall platform in the farthest part of the training hall.

It was from a young man sitting with his back facing the crowd.

He was dressed in a golden robe that matched his shiny golden hair. Even when he was sitting down, his back was spear-straight and he radiated a dazzling aura.

Everyone knew that his name was Nangong Huo, and he was Mu Qing's Young Master and a true successor from the Heaven Axis Holy Land!

Mu Qing curbed his arrogance, and his expression changed when he heard the scoffing. He respectfully stepped towards Nangong Hua, asking, "Young Master, did I perform not good enough just now?"

"We're here as guests. It's not right to not pick up your mess," Nangong Huo responded without turning his head around. His voice was uniquely deep and charismatic.

Mu Qing breathed a sigh of relief and quickly picked up Wang Ying from the pool of blood while he grunted in agony. He tossed him to the students in the distance. "Look after him! I don't want to create a mess in your place!"

With a wave of his sleeve, he cleaned the blood stains on the ground, then he bowed to Nangong Huo from behind, and returned to the center of the hall.

Everyone's eyes blazed with fury. How dare they treat Senior Brother Wang Ying like trash?!

Wasn't that the greatest humiliation?

Nangong Huo seemed unaware of their reactions. Or perhaps, he didn't care.

His back was still facing the crowd like he disregarded them. He was still drinking and chatting with the young men and young women next to him.

The young men and women were also successors from the Heaven Axis Holy Land. They only swept a glance over everything and smiled before retracting their gazes. It was as though they also didn't care.

Wasn't their leisurely attitude a sign of arrogance and conceit?

The atmosphere was so silent and still that it felt suffocating.

"Oh right, has Lin Xun come yet?"

Mu Qing's voice was tinged with discontent. He had resumed his superior and contemptuous attitude.

"Isn't it said that he defeated six Cyclic Derivation cultivators by himself? Why has he become a coward? Is he not even brave enough to come and face me?"

Mu Qing's words seemed to set off a bomb as the students all erupted with anger. They could no longer hold themselves back.

"Who do you think you are? Do you think you are worthy of facing Little Instructor Lin?"

"If Little Instructor Lin is here, do you think you will be qualified to speak?"

"How dare you call Little Instructor Lin a coward!"

Everyone raged. Lin Xun had become a legendary figure they all admired and respected. How could they allow someone to slander him?

Even some teachers couldn't stand it anymore. They spoke up one after another, criticizing Mu Qing for going too far!

It suddenly became a little chaotic.

Mu Qing scrunched his brows and thundered, "What a joke! If he has the guts, why hasn't he shown up until now? Do you think that I have a lot of time to waste with you all? Or do people in Qinglu Academy only know how to chatter? As I said, whoever refuses to accept the truth, stand forward now!" His thunderous voice reverberated throughout the hall, silencing the uproars and criticism.

The teachers' expressions changed.

"Of course, if the teachers don't like it, they can also come forward. I don't mind playing with you guys too."

Mu Qing's eyes were ice-cold, piercing with disdain.

His words were too arrogant and crazy. He was just a servant yet he dared to insult them without restraint. That alone was infuriating enough for students.

But now, he even challenged the teachers of the Qinglu Academy. His flippant attitude angered the students so much that their lungs almost ruptured.

Almost every teacher in the Qinglu Academy was at the Cyclic Derivation Stage. How would they do something so degrading to themselves?

However, they couldn't control their expressions from turning worse in the face of provocation from Mu Qing, a servant.

"Haha."

Mu Qing laughed, "It seems that the Qinglu Academy is disappointing. No one here is competent. I can't help but suspect that Lin Xun, whose 'brilliance fills the capital', is also not as great as rumored."

"I won't let you say that about our Little Instructor Lin!" Following a furious roar, a chubby young man charged at Mu Qing like he was crazy.

It was Little Fatty Liu Hui, a student in class 9C. As a rune master, he couldn't be compared to Mu Qing in terms of strength.

However, he lost control of his anger and went berserk when he heard Mu Qing repeatedly insult their Little Instructor Lin. He wanted to kill Mu Qing even if it cost him his life!

The teachers paled and even the students were caught off guard. But it was too late to stop him.

Mu Qing's eyes glinted coldly. A little ant like him dares to stand up to fight me?

Does he have a death wish?!

He decided to teach the kid a ruthless lesson that he would never forget in his life!

Buzz!

Jet-black lights gathered around Liu Hui's fingertips, but Mu Qing stood still like he was waiting for Liu Hui to come to die.

But to his surprise, a figure suddenly appeared and blocked Little Fatty Liu Hui.

"Huh?"

Mu Qing frowned, raised his eyes and saw a handsome young man in a moon-white robe. His figure was graceful and his deep-black eyes were unfathomable. His bearing also seemed extraordinary.

However, Mu Qing quickly dismissed him. He didn't see anything particularly special about the young man.

"Who the hell is stopping me? Let go of me! I'm going to fight him! How can I let trash like him insult Little Instructor Lin?" Little Fatty Liu Hui roared, flames almost spewing from his eyes.

He was so blinded with rage that he didn't notice who was standing right in front of him.

"Little brat, do you not recognize me?!"

The familiar voice took Liu Hui aback. Then, as though he regained his soul, he lifted his head to see a familiar handsome face.

He couldn't believe his eyes. "Heavens, has my vision been clouded with anger? Why does it look like I just saw a ghost..."

PA!

He was slapped on the back of his head. "You performed well today, but if you swear in front of me again, I won't let you off!"

All the teachers and students froze.

They were originally simmering with anger, filled with despair and helplessness, and losing control of their emotions, but the familiar figure standing in front of Liu Hui struck them dumb.

Mu Qing didn't notice everyone's reaction. He only heard the little chubby youth call him 'trash'!

"Kid, hurry up and get lost. No one can save this little bastard today!"

Following a loud bellow, murderous intent filled the air and Mu Qing launched a palm strike directly for Liu Hui's head.

He was unbeatable among the students of Qinglu Academy and no teacher dared to speak out at him. He was impressive and invincible.

However, a little fatty who hadn't even reached the Heaven Ascension Stage insulted him in his face. How could Mu Qing protect his dignity if he didn't kill him?

Boom!

The surrounding space exploded as a terrifying blast of wind and black light from the palm strike blotted out the sky, snapping the teachers and students awake from their dazed state.

Then, they saw a scene that they would never forget in their lives.

During that critical juncture, Lin Xun, who was standing in front of Liu Hui, made a slap in the air and swatted Mu Qing away like a fly...

The Prodigies War

Chapter 677: Directly Crippled

Boom!

The slap made a dull sound like a slap on a sandbag. Mu Qing also propelled across the air like a sandbag.

Liu Hui was dumbfounded.

All the teachers were also dumbfounded.

Mu Qing acted very condescendingly and looked down on everyone despite being a servant. He even consecutively defeated several elite students of Qinglu Academy.

His contemptuous words and arrogant attitude irritated all the students and teachers.

But the arrogant guy was unbelievably sent flying across the air like a fly from a single slap.

Lin Xun clapped Liu Hui on the shoulder. "Why are you still standing here? Are you still looking for a fight? Quickly go back."

"Little Instructor Lin...it really is you!" Liu Hui was so moved that his face flushed.

"Brat, you are so dramatic." Lin Xun smiled, picked up Liu Hui and tossed him out of the arena.

"It really is Little Instructor Lin!"

Everyone jerked out of their state of bewilderment. It was Lin Xun!

"Kid, you are dead!"

However, an enraged roar shook the arena followed by Mu Qing charging madly towards him.

His body was covered with flowing black light, his face was livid, and his eyes were blazing with fury. It was as though he couldn't believe the slap could defeat him!

Boom!

His body rumbled like thunder as his imposing bearing soared. Then, the wisps of divine black light rippled around his fingers and his hand blasted towards Lin Xun.

The space quaked and the airflow turned turbulent, adding to the terrifying scene.

As a servant, Mu Qing was no doubt a strong character after he crushed the elite students in the Qinglu Academy.

However...

With a dull boom, he propelled across the sky once again and slammed hard to the ground. The world seemed to be spinning before him as his entire body twitched and his blood and qi ran frantically around his body. He almost coughed up blood.

But Lin Xun was still standing in the same place. He had only thrust his palm forward.

His indifferent and leisurely attitude made Mu Qing look even more incompetent and made the audience gasp audibly.

"Little Instructor Lin...he's so strong!"

Some students uncontrollably cried out. They had absolute confidence in Lin Xun, but they also knew that Mu Qing wasn't an ordinary character.

They thought that it would take Lin Xun some effort to defeat him. Who would have known that the arrogant Mu Qing would look so incompetent in front of Little Instructor Lin?

The difference between them was too great!

"What do you mean he's so strong? Little Instructor Lin was always this strong!"

"Why do you think they say his brilliance fills the capital?"

Some female students argued, their eyes glowing with excitement and admiration to the point of becoming fanatical.

Even the academy teachers let out a sigh of relief and beamed with joy. The stronger Lin Xun performed, the better it looked for the Qinglu Academy.

However, even they couldn't help shuddering inwardly at the terror of Lin Xun's strength. As expected, only someone as strong as him could single handedly defeat six Cyclic Derivation Cultivators.

The atmosphere in the arena buzzed again, and cheers erupted one after another. Lin Xun's appearance caused a sensation.

"Are you Lin Xun?" Mu Qing rose from the floor, face ashen and grave.

After Lin Xun effortlessly defeated him twice in a row, Mu Qing had to realize that he had encountered a huge obstacle even if he was stupid.

Lin Xun didn't say a word and just studied him with his unfathomable black eyes. He then strode forward and uttered indifferently, "How dare someone like you come to Qinglu Academy to cause trouble?"

An invisible oppressive power spread outwards from him, making Mu Qing stiffen and almost suffocate. He felt as though a mighty mountain was bearing down on him.

"Hmph, what do you mean by creating trouble? We are just learning from each other through duels. It's just because the students of your Qinglu Academy performed very badly. Am I wrong?" Mu Qing sneered coldly, forcibly calming his shaking heart when he faced Lin Xun.

He was from the Ancient Wasteland Domain. He might be only a servant of Nangong Huo, a successor of the Heaven Axis Holy Land, but he was still confident that no one from the lower domain world would dare touch him!

"Is that right? Then how about we learn from each other through a duel?" Lin Xun calmly stepped forward, but he exuded an imposing aura that seemed capable of swallowing the mountains.

"You..."

Mu Qing's face twisted with shock and anger. He only uttered a word when his vision blurred, and he was lifted by the neck. He found it difficult to breathe, let alone speak.

So strong!

Mu Qing panicked. He hadn't believed the rumors about Lin Xun and he thought they were deliberate exaggerations.

But now, he realized he was wrong...

Unfortunately, it was too late. He flapped his arms wildly as he struggled in Lin Xun's clutches before being hurled to the ground like a wooden stick.

Bang!

Following the sound of crushing bones, his body violently convulsed and blood oozed from his wounds. All he could do was scream in agony.

The blow looked so ruthless and painful that even the teachers and students winced.

"Given your ability, do you think you are worthy of challenging me?"

Lin Xun sighed, seemingly a little disappointed or perhaps a little dissatisfied. "Never mind, we are at Qinglu Academy. If I kill you the outside world will just think we are bullies. I will just destroy your cultivation base as a punishment."

As he spoke, he lifted his leg.

"You dare!" Mu Qing broke down with anger and terror. How could he have imagined that Lin Xun would be so ruthless as to cripple him?

"Stop!" Nangong Huo finally couldn't stand watching from the platform and stepped in.

Kacha!

However, Lin Xun didn't care and sent a tremendous force through his leg to his toes and crushed Mu Qing's Heaven Ascension dwelling within his body with one kick.

"You...you!"

Mu Qing's eyes bulged wide open with disbelief, and his voice trembled with anger and despair.

To him, having his cultivation base destroyed was worse than death!

Even if he remained alive, from then on, he was useless and worthless!

Si!

The teachers and students gasped, shocked by Lin Xun's means.

Even though Mu Qing was a servant, he came from the Ancient Wasteland Domain and he was a servant of Nangong Huo, a true successor of the Heaven Axis Holy Land.

Lin Xun's direct and ruthless attack deepened the conflict!

On the tall platform in the distance, headed by Nangong Huo, the group of Heaven Axis Holy Land successors stood up one after another and turned their gaze to Lin Xun in the center of the arena.

They had always faced the crowd with their backs and chatted and drank leisurely, but it was a sign of arrogance and conceit. They attached no importance to the teachers and students of Qinglu Academy.

But now that Lin Xun appeared and unhesitantly abolished Mu Qing's cultivation base, they couldn't do anything anymore.

When one beat a dog, one had to answer to their master. Mu Qing might be a servant, but he served Nangong Huo and he came to Qinglu Academy with him. Hitting him was a direct slap to their faces.

"Are you Lin Xun? It seems that not only is your fame huge in this lower domain world, but your temper is also huge!"

Beside Nangong Huo was a handsome and haughty youngster with a crane cloak draped over his body and a python-dragon belt wrapped around his waist.

He was called Ran Chen and like Nangong Huo, he was a true successor of the Heaven Axis Holy Land.

Only the most remarkable and peerless characters could become the successors of the Heaven Axis Holy Land. In addition to Ran Chen and Nan Gonghuo, the other young men and women beside them were also peerless figures.

Lin Xun seemed unaware of the question. He kicked Mu Qing across the ground, then, with a swipe of his sleeve, cleaned up the bloodstains on the ground before he responded. "His blood dirtied the land of the Qinglu Academy. I just gave him a little punishment. How can you say I have a huge temper?"

He turned to look at Ran Chen. "What? Do you have any objections?"

His response moved the teachers and students as they realized that Lin Xun was getting justice for Wang Ying. Even in the face of successors from the Heaven Axis Holy Land, he didn't need to adopt a humble attitude.

Ran Chen's face darkened, but just as he was about to speak, Lin Xun interrupted him, "Even if you have any opinions, save them. I'm not in the mood to discuss who's right or wrong with you now."

Ran Chen flushed with fury. As a successor of the Heaven Axis Holy Land, he was an influential figure among the younger generation even in the Ancient Wasteland Domain. But he was being repeatedly rebuffed and provoked in the lower domain world. How would he not be furious?

"It seems you have a death wish."

"Haha, interesting. I didn't expect to meet someone so gutsy in the lower-domain world. What a rare sight. Unfortunately, people like you usually die the earliest."

"I'll give you a chance to apologize to us now. If you can appease us then I don't mind letting you go today."

The other Heaven Axis Holy Land successors spoke one after another. Although their words seemed easygoing, their voices reeked of superiority.

However, Ran Chen seemed a little dissatisfied. "Let him go? How can we let him go so easily? If he isn't killed, then how can I hold my head high in the sect in the future?"

The teachers and students scrunched their faces in worry and anger again.

No matter what, Heaven Axis Holy Land was like a colossus of the nine heavens. Even Qinglu Academy wouldn't dare to provoke or fight against it.

How would they not be worried? Nangong Huo and the others were targeting Lin Xun and expressed their unwillingness to let Lin Xun go easily.

However, Lin Xun was still standing there with his hands behind his back as if nothing had happened. He seemed to be in deep thought, but he never showed the slightest intention of backing down.

"It doesn't matter that Mu Qing is dead. He is just a servant, but I am his master. I would look incompetent if I can't get justice for him," Nangong Huo finally spoke.

Clad in a golden robe that complemented his golden hair, he was as dazzling as the blazing sun.

However, his expression was chilling and cold, and his body exuded a threatening and oppressive aura.

"I can give you a chance to pay for your sins. If you submit to me and serve me as my servant, then I can forget about this matter." He said calmly but his eyes were like beams of golden light as he stared at Lin Xun, making it seem like a command.

The teachers and students frowned. He wants Lin Xun to be his servant. How is this different from humiliating him?

"Haha, Senior Brother Nangong is too soft-hearted. Kid, you should hurry up and bow your head in gratitude. It's a privilege to be able to serve Senior Brother Nangong!" chuckled a man beside Nangong Huo. The man had strange purple eyes and was surrounded by a sort of demonic aura.

The Prodigies War

Chapter 678: Butt Kicked

The current Lin Xun was undoubtedly regarded as the pride of the empire. He had outshone everyone else in the younger generation.

But now, Nangong Huo wanted to force Lin Xun to submit and become his servant to atone for his supposed sins!

It was no doubt an insult and humiliation to Lin Xun. Anyone would be enraged to hear such a demand.

However, they found it most outrageous that the purple-eyed youngster blatantly said it was a privilege for Lin Xun to serve Nangong Huo.

They had gone too far!

The teacher and students turned livid-faced. The people from Heaven Axis Holy Land are all too arrogant.

The purple-eyed youngster furrowed his brows as though he found their anger baffling. "Why are you all so angry? We are already very generous to let him atone for his sin of destroying Mu Qing's cultivation base."

The other Heaven Axis Holy Land successors chuckled.

Their attitude filled everyone with indignation. They knew that they were trying to humiliate Lin Xun using such a way.

Only Shen Tuo and a few others remained calm with a trace of pity on their faces. They recalled that the Marquis of Rising Sky also had said something similar at the empress' 300th birthday banquet.

In the end...

The Marquis of Rising Sky was beaten and forced to his knees in front of all the nobles and influential figures of the empire.

Now, Lin Xun had become completely different from before. He had single-handedly defeated six Cyclic Derivation cultivators! Even so, the Heaven Axis Holy Land successors still acted superior and demanded Lin Xun submit to them. The result...

The look of pity deepened on Shen Tuo's face.

He knew Lin Xun very well. The youngster never feared the Ancient Wasteland Domain nor would he be afraid of the Heaven Axis Holy Land.

As expected, Lin Xun grinned in the center of the arena. He swept a glance over Nangong Huo, Ran Chen, the purple-eyed youngster and the others, saying, "You guys are not bad, at least you managed to ignite my wrath a little."

"But..."

"But what?" The purple-eyed youngster questioned disdainfully.

Lin Xun stated seriously, "I doubt that you can bear my wrath."

As though they heard the funniest joke, they burst into laughter.

Nangong Huo's lips twisted in a mocking smile as he said coldly, "Oh, I'm really curious. How powerful is your wrath, can it incinerate the sky?"

The purple-eyed youngster and the others laughed without any restraint.

"It's not possible to burn down the sky, but burning you all to ashes shouldn't be a problem. If you don't believe me, why don't you try it now?" Lin Xun's dark eyes became more and more unfathomable and devoid of emotion.

"Hahaha, okay, come then. I will play with you first! Lowly citizens of the lower domain world, I'll make you understand the difference between a dragon in the sky and an ant on the ground!" The purple-eyed youngster roared with laughter.

With a flash, he was standing in the arena and threateningly pointing his finger at Lin Xun. "I'll make it clear, if I'm not satisfied with the power of your wrath, I will have to tear you apart!"

"Fine!" Lin Xun readily nodded.

"Junior Brother Yingfeng has such an irritable temper. He shouldn't lower himself to the level of an ant. It is an insult to his status." Ran Chen shook his head. In truth, he wanted to teach Lin Xun a lesson, but unfortunately, the purple-eyed youngster acted before him.

"He is just following his heart's desires. Let's just watch the show. I'm really curious to see whether Lin Xun is as strong as rumored." Nangong Huo's expression was incredibly calm.

Boom!

That purple-eyed youngster might look frivolous, but with a slight movement, he pierced the air like a bolt of lightning and launched the most violent attack.

The teachers and students all tensed up with nervousness.

None of the successors of the Heaven Axis Holy Land was ordinary. Even if they had absolute confidence in Lin Xun, they couldn't help being nervous.

So fast!

It was unbelievably fast. The purple-eyed youngster amazed the crowd with his speed. He was already standing before Lin Xun after making one move.

He had already stretched out his smooth and slender hand, glistening brightly under the sun, and fiercely slapped down at Lin Xun.

Just relying on this kind of attack method, he could be called top-notch. If it were any other cultivator in the Heaven Ascension realm, he would be killed on the spot if he didn't even have time to react!

Even the Cyclic Derivation teachers had to admit that the Heaven Axis Holy Land successors were incredibly strong. They would be considered a generation of geniuses in the Forbidden City.

However, in their minds, Lin Xun was no longer considered a genius, but a heaven-defying being who could compete with Cyclic Derivation experts. Therefore, he couldn't be compared to ordinary Heaven Ascension cultivators.

Bang!

Lin Xun was actually struck?

However, the disdain on the purple-eyed youngster's face was quickly replaced by surprise. Lin Xun vanished like a popped bubble.

His palm seemed to have struck nothing but the air.

"This is bad!" The purple-eyed youngster's pupils rapidly shrank. Few people in the Heaven Axis Holy Land could match his incredible speed, but someone was able to dodge his attack with speed beyond the level that he could detect.

It was too unbelievable!

Shua!

As soon as the purple-eyed youngster's attack failed, he realized the unfavorable situation and leapt away in a flash.

But before he could steady himself, he felt a hard kick to his buttocks.

Bang!

The force felt like a bull had rammed into him. He clenched his teeth and grimaced before he was propelled across the air like a cannonball and blasted into the ground dozens of feet away, face first.

He felt so embarrassed and furious that he wanted to die. His attack emphasized speed, which he was best at, yet he had his butt kicked.

It was utterly humiliating!

All the teacher's and students' jaws dropped, dumbfounded. They only saw a blur before the purpleeyed youngster fell face-first to the ground...

"That..."

On the tall platform, Nangong Huo, Ran Chen and the others twitched and their expressions subtly changed. They had a bad feeling.

Even they had failed to catch Lin Xun's movement. It was too fast! Unbelievably fast!

Bang!

The purple-eyed youngster was about to get up in shame when a seemingly giant foot pressed down on his already swollen buttock. With a thud, he collapsed on the ground again. His butt was in excruciating pain like it had been hit hard by a hammer. He couldn't help but grunt in agony, and tears and snot began streaming down his eyes and nose.

"You can't bear even a trace of my wrath. Is this the power of the Heaven Axis Holy Land successors? It doesn't seem so remarkable."

Lin Xun secretly applied force to the sole of his foot and, with a muffled sound, crushed the pelvis and flesh of the purple-eyed youngster. Blood oozed onto the ground.

The purple-eyed youngster bellowed, his forehead veins popping, "You—you—I'm going to kill you!"

He had been utterly humiliated. His butt was kicked under the watchful eyes of everyone. If word spread back to the Ancient Wasteland Domain, he would no doubt become a laughingstock and never be able to hold his head up again in the future.

Bang!

With another kick, Lin Xun struck the purple-eyed youngster unconscious. His face was still planted in the ground with foam gathering around his mouth.

Many students couldn't help but burst out laughing.

Some teachers donned strange expressions. Lin Xun is the same as before. Once he wants to get revenge, he will use any means.

"Friend, you have gone too far!" Following a roar, another Heaven Axis Holy Land successor made a move.

It was a built man with a black beard and hair and a domineering aura.

Boom!

A dark green blade slashed forward, the tip producing a splendid light that tore cracks into the air.

The attack was no doubt vicious and fierce. It could be even considered a sneak attack, because who would have thought that another Heaven Axis Holy Land successor would suddenly attack?

Just as the blade was inches away from slashing Lin Xun, a Baxia beast roared out of him.

Boom!

A gush of restraining force spread outwards, preventing the blade from moving within one foot of Lin Xun. The blade stilled in a slashing stance in the air.

Even the black-bearded man froze like a sculpture, but he still maintained the same fierce and ferocious charging forward stance, looking a little comical.

At the same time, Lin Xun turned his head, grabbed the opponent's blade with a flip of his hand, lifted the opponent, and slammed him to the ground.

"I only won the match, what do you mean by I went too far?" As Lin Xun asked, he stomped on the man's buttock.

Then, with another muffled sound, the man's skin also ripped open, and his tendons and bones were crushed.

After suffering such humiliation, he immediately rolled his eyes back to his head and fainted. It was too embarrassing.

As a high and mighty Heaven Axis Holy Land successor, he had been captured by someone from the lower domain world in one move and had his butt kicked. When had he suffered something as humiliating?

So ruthless!

The teachers and students were stupefied. Lin Xun had stepped on two Heaven Axis Holy Land successors like mud. Who would have expected such a scene?

Even Nangong Huo and the others inhaled sharply, and their hearts twitched violently with disbelief.

As comrades, they knew how strong the two were. They could be regarded as top figures at the Heaven Ascension Stage.

But someone trampled them like nothing....

They had been crushed!

Their expressions turned grave. They had heard rumors about Lin Xun, but they found it difficult to believe that such a heaven-defyingly strong cultivator would exist in a lower-domain world. They thought it was nothing but an exaggeration.

But now, they realized they were wrong.

Lin Xun was also at the Heaven Ascension Stage like them, but he was several times stronger and more tyrannical than the successors of the Heaven Axis Holy Land!

All the Heaven Axis Holy Land successors shifted their gazes to Nangong Huo, as though waiting for him to make a decision.

They previously acted like they were above everyone else, but now they had no choice but to change their attitude. It was very embarrassing for them.

Nangong Huo kept silent, at a loss for words. How could he have imagined that he would run into such a monster in the lower domain world?

If he had known earlier, then he wouldn't have acted so high and mighty.

Unfortunately, it was too late to regret it.

"I didn't expect to meet such an outstanding person in Qinglu Academy." Nangong Huo took a deep breath. "I'll take back my words. Friend, can I ask you to let my two juniors go?"

His dazzling golden hair and splendid golden robe added to his peerless demeanor, but the way he spoke was tantamount to acknowledging Lin Xun's strength.

His attitude towards Lin Xun had changed.

The teachers and students flushed with excitement and pride. Not just anyone could make the successors of the Heaven Axis Holy Land willingly bow their heads.

The Heaven Axis Holy Land successors all looked gloomy and aggrieved. But no one dared to challenge again out of cautiousness.

But Lin Xun refused to back down. "Are you guys going to retreat before I vent all of my anger?"

"We are not retreating!" Ran Chen shouted out.

"Oh, do you want to continue?" Lin Xun asked indifferently.

However, his sentence seemed to have a great deterrent power as Ran Chen's face paled, and he became silent again.

They had always been the bullies, so how would they have thought that they would be the ones bullied today?

"Have you guys also experienced the feeling of being aggrieved and angry? What do you think? Isn't it very uncomfortable?" Lin Xun's black eyes were chilling.

He moved all the teachers and students with his words. They knew that he was avenging them.

Mu Qing was just a servant yet he showed off his strength and bullied and mocked the students of Qinglu Academy, making them feel aggrieved and angry.

Lin Xun was just giving them the same treatment!

"Friend, you should know when to stop. Don't think that us successors of the Heaven Axis Holy Land are really afraid of you," Nangong Huo stated in an ice-cold voice.

"Then fight!" Lin Xun urged. "Didn't you want me to serve you? If you're this cowardly, then I don't think I can look up to you."

"We've given you enough face. Do you really want to continue?" Nangong Huo's eyes shot rays of cold light. Lin Xun's words had ignited his anger and his body seemed to be on the verge of erupting.

"So what?" As Lin Xun was speaking, he made the first move. With a flash, he charged towards the tall platform.

They might be the Heaven Axis Holy Land successors and probably the top-class saints in the Spirit Burial Sea, but they were undoubtedly inferior to saints like Niu Tuntian and Meng Lianqing, whom Lin Xun had slaughtered quite easily in the past.

Lin Xun had brutally killed even Gong Yangyu, the successor of the Spirit Treasure Holy Land. How would he be afraid of Nangong Huo and the others?

If he let them go today, he would make himself look very incompetent!

The Prodigies War

Chapter 679: Playing

The teachers and students gasped again and again, and their eyes almost rolled out of their sockets.

They never thought that Lin Xun would refuse Nangong Huo's request and take the initiative to attack!

But after another thought, they were filled with satisfaction and contentment.

The Heaven Axis Holy Land successors had been incredibly arrogant. They had bullied, mocked and ridiculed the students of Qinglu Academy.

Now, it was time for them to suffer!

"I hope this won't kick up a fuss..." Shen Tuo, on the contrary, scrunched up his face with worry. He was worried that the matter would create a scene and would never end.

After all, although the other party might be rude and arrogant, they were still successors of the Heaven Axis Holy Land. Their status and identity were extraordinary.

But Shen Tuo also knew that Lin Xun would never change his decision, and no one would be able to stop him.

So, he was conflicted about what to do.

Boom!

A battle had already broken out on the tall platform in the distance. Waves of brilliant light erupted outwards from the platform accompanied by bursts of angry screams and roars.

Under the astonished gazes of the teachers and students, Lin Xun was invincible like a tiger among a flock of sheep.

Bang!

After just a few seconds, Ran Chen howled tragically. Lin Xun attacked him with a swift kick and sent him flying across the arena. He collapsed in the center of the arena, convulsing violently and struggling to stand back up.

Most shockingly, he also seemed to have his butt kicked. Blood oozed from him, and his face was distorted from the pain.

Bang!

Before long, a young woman in a scarlet dress was also kicked and landed in the arena. Her pretty face twisted, and her hair was disheveled.

Before the attack, her fair and bright skin and beautiful features made her look unattainable and ethereally graceful like a fairy from the celestial world. But now, she embarrassingly lay on the ground, facing downward. Lin Xun didn't treat her differently just because she was a woman.

The scarlet-clothed woman frantically screamed with shame and anger. She had always been treated like the moon in the Heaven Axis Holy Land, but now, a youngster had violently kicked her and stepped on her buttocks. The humiliation almost drove her crazy to the point she wanted to die.

"So...so ruthless." Some male students couldn't bear to watch.

Immediately, the female students argued, "Nonsense! So what if she's a woman? Does she deserve your sympathy? Your guys are taking good for evil! Little Instructor Lin is just getting revenge to the satisfaction of everyone!"

The male students immediately shut up and became as silent as cicadas in winter.

Whoever dared to argue back would receive hostile treatment from all the female students of Qinglu Academy.

The teachers also wisely chose to turn a blind eye and deaf ears.

Bang!

Another Heaven Axis Holy Land successor was kicked and rolled across the arena.

Every scene had a huge impact on the teachers and students like a thunderstorm.

After all, the wounded were all successors of the Heaven Axis Holy Land!

One by one, the peerless top figures of the Heaven Ascension Stage were ruthlessly trampled by Lin Xun like mud.

He had exceeded everyone's expectations. That wasn't because the Heaven Axis Holy Land successors were too weak, but because he was indeed very strong!

There were various rumors about Lin Xun in the outside world, but they were rumors in the end. It was not as shocking as witnessing his real power with their own eyes.

A more senior teacher sighed emotionally, "The principal is right. Lin Xun...must have embarked on the strongest supreme path!"

A few days ago, the news about Lin Xun slaughtering six Cyclic Derivation cultivators alarmed the principal and he made a remark...

"That boy has surpassed his peers and stepped onto the pinnacle like a king. He can be called invincible at the Heaven Ascension Stage!"

After witnessing his power, the teachers finally realized what the supreme path was and what a king of a cultivation stage was!

Regardless of how talented a cultivator was, what remarkable arts they had mastered, and how extraordinary their background was, they wouldn't stand a chance in front of the king!

"Is he playing with those guys?" a teacher suggested.

Since the conflict began, Lin Xun had kicked the butt of five Heaven Axis Holy Land successors and sent them to collapse in the arena.

If this wasn't playing, then what was?

It wasn't easy to achieve that step. It might be easy to kick the butt of one, but it was incredibly difficult to repeat it several times.

However, Lin Xun did it with ease, demonstrating that his strength had reached a frightening level!

"Do you want to form grudges with our Heaven Axis Holy Land?"

On the tall platform, Nangong Huo's expression was chill and livid. He was the remaining one standing. When he faced Lin Xun, although he was furious, his heart pounded with nervousness.

Particularly, all his comrades were lying in an embarrassed position on the ground after having their butts kicked.

He shuddered inwardly, worried that he would suffer the same treatment. That would be worse than death to him.

"Are you threatening me?"

Lin Xun stepped forward.

It was a casual step, but Nangong Huo recoiled and subconsciously shielded his buttocks with both hands.

Everyone burst into laughter.

They found it very amusing that the previously arrogant and proud guy flinched back in fear and went into defense mode.

Lin Xun also smirked playfully.

Nangong Huo flushed red and almost crushed his teeth in anger.

He had never experienced such humiliation ever since he started his cultivation path!

He roared like he had gone berserk, "You have gone too far!"

He was completely enraged and was determined to kill Lin Xun at all costs.

"Only you are left."

Lin Xun also no longer hesitated.

"Stop!" a majestic voice resounded, quickly followed by a figure flashing to the training arena.

It was a purple-clothed old man with gray hair. As soon as he appeared, he was recognized by many teachers. He was an influential figure from the Heaven Axis Holy Land.

Many people's countenance changed. They realized that the incident had alarmed even the influential figures of the Heaven Axis Holy Land to put a stop to it.

Nangong Huo, who was in a fit of rage, heaved a sigh of relief. He knew that he had been rescued and wouldn't need to suffer the humiliation of having his butt kicked like the rest...

Bang!

However, the next second, the corners of his eyes almost cracked, and his soul almost left his body. To his shock, Lin Xun didn't care about the arrival of an influential figure and continued his attack. His body flew uncontrollably across the air, the agonizing pain in his buttock draining the color from his face.

"How dare you?!"

The scene he dreaded the most still happened. He was so angry that everything before him darkened, and he fainted before he landed on the ground.

"Kid, do you want to die?!" The gray-haired old man's face turned dark and unpleasant. Without the slightest pause, he charged straight towards Lin Xun.

He was surrounded by a menacing aura like a dragon in the sky. His palm roared with monstrous power as he struck it forward and launched a thousand waves of Dao Ripple to envelop Lin Xun!

Everyone was stunned by the sight, and all the teachers and students turned ashen-faced.

Everything happened too fast. No one expected Lin Xun would attack Nangong Huo.

In the same way, no one expected an influential figure from the Heaven Axis Holy Land would directly attack Lin Xun as soon as he arrived!

It was too late to stop it.

Boom!

On the tall platform, Lin Xun narrowed his eyes, feeling unprecedented pressure.

But there wasn't a tinge of fear in his face.

His Heaven Ascension dwelling in his body was rumbling frantically and gushing out waves of divine light. It was being mobilized to its fullest. His essence, qi and spirit were also fully activated, making his body glow an illusory azure color.

He was akin to a dormant dragon awakening and soaring into the sky!

Boom!

A simple hand stamp took shape and launched from Lin Xun's palm. It seemed to be carved from the purest and most flawless jade in the world, emitting a majestic and beautiful glow.

Bi'an Stamp!

A deafening crash reverberated through the training arena, and terrifying shock waves swept the area, splitting the ground with multiple cracks.

The nearby buildings all collapsed and exploded, hurling debris and filling the air with smoke and dust.

Some weaker students' faces blanched and almost coughed up blood. Fortunately, some teachers shielded them in time. Otherwise, they would have suffered more severe damage.

The power of one blow was so terrifying!

Amidst the smoke and dust, Lin Xun's figure tottered and he uncontrollably reeled back a few steps. With every step he took, the ground quaked with cracking noises.

He had only retreated three steps, but the ground had cracked in a cobweb-like pattern and continued to spread outwards.

Lin Xun's face was a little pale, and his black eyes were blazing with surging fighting intent like molten lava. It seemed that he wasn't injured, but his aura and fighting spirit had intensified.

Opposite him, the purple-robed old man was also swaying side to side, but he hadn't retreated one step. He clearly had the upper hand.

However, his face darkened even more. He was bewildered by the fact that a Heaven Ascension Stage teenager managed to block his furious attack!

All the teachers and students were dumbfounded.

The old man was a big shot in the Heaven Axis Holy Land, yet Lin Xun was able to block his blow...

Unbelievable!

No one would believe it even if it spread.

"No wonder you dare to be so arrogant. It turns out that you have some ability. How about you take another palm strike?!" The old man's eyes flashed a menacing cold light before he charged forward with incredible speed.

He was a little embarrassed by the fact that a junior was able to block his attack, so his second attack was completely different from the first!

The Prodigies War

Chapter 680: Disruptor

He must be a top figure of the Cyclic Derivation Stage!

Lin Xun speculated in his mind. He had defeated Qin Xuandu, Zuo Baoying and other Cyclic Derivation experts so he had an understanding of the power of that cultivation stage.

So, from the exchange of blows just now, he knew that the gray-haired old man was a top figure of the Cyclic Derivation Stage.

That wasn't the most frightening. What was frightening was that the old man's power was complete, flawless and perfect, and far superior to that of Qin Xuandu and others.

That was caused by the damage to the great dao in the lower domain world.

Qin Xuandu and the others had reached the Cyclic Derivation, but in the eyes of the true big shots, their dao had obvious flaws, and they were much inferior to Cyclic Derivation cultivators who cultivated a true complete dao.

In the past, Lin Xun didn't understand the difference. Only after his various experiences and encounters in the Spirit Burial Sea, which helped him complete his own dao path and set foot on the supreme path, did he deeply realize the impact that the incomplete great dao had on cultivators.

It was no wonder that all geniuses of the younger generation were determined to leave and train in the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

They wanted to pursue the complete dao, which didn't exist in the lower domain world!

The dao was of utmost importance.

It was also the reason why the gray-haired old man was so powerful and much stronger than Qin Xuandu and the others.

.....

Boom!

While Lin Xun was in deep thought, the gray-haired old man launched his second attack. His imposing bearing continued to soar.

"I want to see whether you force me to use my ultimate strength!" Lin Xun drew a deep breath and activated the Sacred Combat Art, igniting his fighting spirit like flames.

Ever since Lin Xun returned to the Forbidden City, he hadn't met a worthy opponent. He wasn't afraid of facing the old man, but actually looked forward to their battle.

However, before the two faced off again, a figure appeared in the arena, blocking the old man.

"Xuan Xing, we are here as guests and not to fight. You should step back."

It was an extremely young-looking youth. Dressed in a dark green robe, his eyes looked as pure and innocent as a baby's, but the wrinkles in the corners of his eyes were an indication of his years of experience and knowledge.

With his hands behind his back, he exuded a calm and relaxed demeanor, but also majesty! His presence made people feel small and insignificant.

No one noticed how he appeared, but his appearance immediately became the focus of everyone's attention!

Everyone's pupils shrank and an oppressive power filled their hearts, including Lin Xun's. The man was no doubt a Life Death Stage King!

The entire audience was completely still and silent. Only the youth stood tall and unshakable like a mountain peak.

Xuan Xing, the purple-robed old man, also turned pale. He hesitated to speak several times before he finally retreated to the other side and stood in silence.

The scene demonstrated the youth's extraordinary authority.

He was Yue Xiu, an elder of the Heaven Axis Holy Land, an old monster of the Life Death Stage and also a famous figure in the Ancient Wasteland Domain!

"Take them and leave here first," Yue Xiu commanded.

Xuan Xing hesitated, resentment and anger rising in his heart. "Elder, just now..."

"Just now, I've seen everything. Their skills are inferior, but they still had to provoke other people. It's good that they learned a lesson. Do you think the successors of our Heaven Axis Holy Land are sore losers?" Yue Xiu stated indifferently but Xuan Xing's face paled more, feeling an enormous pressure bearing down on him.

He didn't dare to hesitate any longer and hurried away with Nangong Huo and the others.

Hu-

The teachers and students heaved a sigh of relief and cast respectful looks at Yue Xiu.

His graceful bearing and imposing manner—perhaps that is the true demeanor that people from the Heaven Axis Holy Land should have?

"Lin Xun, I've heard about you. Even the principal has nothing but praise for you."

Yue Xiu smiled as he looked at Lin Xun. "After watching the battles just now, I am more convinced that you are indeed as extraordinary as the rumors say. What do you think? Are you interested in training in Heaven Axis Holy Land?"

His words stirred the audience. Everyone went wild with shock and excitement.

Lin Xun was just beating up the Heaven Axis Holy Land successors, but now a big shot of the Heaven Axis Holy Land excused him and invited him to train in Heaven Axis Holy Land.

It was too unexpected!

Even Lin Xun was taken aback.

"You don't need to worry about your actions today affecting your training in the Heaven Axis Holy Land. Given your foundation, I believe that the training will truly unearth your potential," Yue Xiu said sincerely, eyes gleaming with undisguised admiration.

Although he looked young, he was an old Life Death Stage King monster. It was very unexpected that he actively recruited a junior.

Emotions welled up in the teachers and students. Perhaps only someone like Little Instructor Lin could make a Life Death Stage King treat him with respect.

Any other cultivator would have accepted the invitation without thinking.

After all, it was an incredibly rare opportunity for someone from the lower domain world to train in the Heaven Axis Holy Land!

But Lin Xun still deliberated.

It wasn't that he wasn't tempted. He had originally planned to train in the Ancient Wasteland Domain after he settled and arranged everything. He was hesitant because he still had many matters to settle and resolve.

Yue Xiu silently studied Lin Xun. He didn't look the slightest bit displeased. He admired Lin Xun greatly. The first time he laid eyes on Lin Xun, he felt a rush of unexpected joy in his heart, as if he had found a rare treasure.

Given his ability, he could easily tell that Lin Xun had embarked on the supreme path. A peerless genius such as Lin Xun would be considered a very good seedling even in the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

Moreover, Lin Xun was able to set foot on the supreme path in a world with a damaged great dao. His potential and talent had to be extraordinary to achieve that.

A talented genius such as him deserved his respect!

However, before Lin Xun reached an answer, a clear voice boomed out—

"Elder, there are some things that you probably don't know. If you did, then you wouldn't make such a hasty decision."

Everyone frowned. Who was so bold to speak out at this moment?

That person wanted to prevent Lin Xun from joining the Heaven Axis Holy Land!

Everyone turned their heads to see a handsome young man in a bright golden imperial robe with a purple-gold hat crowning his head.

"The Ninth Prince!" someone exclaimed in surprise, stunning the audience.

The Ninth Prince Zhao Jingzhen!

The son of the great emperor! He had an extraordinary status within the Ziyao Empire!

Why did he come here? Why did he interfere in the matter?

All the teachers and students had a bad feeling, realizing that the Ninth Prince didn't come with good intentions.

Lin Xun furrowed his brow when he heard about Zhao Jingzhen's identity. He was very puzzled as to why he would appear when he had never seen him or met him before.

"Why do you say that?" Yue Xiu frowned, eyes flashing with discontent.

As an elder of the Heaven Axis Holy Land in the Ancient Wasteland Domain and a Life Death Stage, he wouldn't be afraid or attach any importance to a little prince.

However, Zhao Jingzhen respectfully bowed to Yue Xiu. "Elder, don't over think. I have no intention of ruining things. I just want to tell you the truth."

Truth?

Everyone was perplexed.

Lin Xun frowned, but he didn't say anything. He wanted to see what kind of tricks the Ninth Prince wanted to play.

"Speak." Yue Xiu suppressed his discontent.

Zhao Jingzhen smiled calmly and began to speak in a loud and resounding voice, "Elder, you might not know that, not long ago, a successor of the Spirit Treasure Holy Land died in the hands of Lin Xun. The Spirit Treasure Holy Land now regards him as an enemy, and they will sooner or later capture and kill him as revenge."

Si!

All the teachers and students gasped. They had no idea that Lin Xun had done such a terrifying thing and angered the Spirit Treasure Holy Land.

Lin Xun imperceptibly narrowed his eyes, coldly studying Zhao Jingzhen. I killed Gong Yangyu in the depths of the Spirit Burial Sea, so how did this guy know about it?

Unless...the successors of the Spirit Treasure Holy Land personally told him!

Who would speak about such a shameful matter?

But Zhao Jingzhen knew about it. This means that he is somehow connected with the Spirit Treasure Holy Land!

Surprised, Yue Xiu couldn't help asking Lin Xun, "Is this true?"

Lin Xun nodded. He knew that the matter could no longer be covered up. Even if he denied it, then Zhao Jingzhen would be able to produce some kind of evidence to prove it!

In Lin Xun's view, Zhao Jingzhen had come prepared.

Yue Xiu kept quiet.

The teachers and students shuddered as they realized that the Ninth Prince Zhao Jingzhen intentionally came to target Lin Xun and ruin his opportunity to train in Heaven Axis Holy Land!

"Elder, I know that the Spirit Treasure Holy Land and the Heaven Axis Holy Land are two great ancient dao sects of the Ancient Wasteland Domain. How would they feel if you accepted Lin Xun?" Zhao Jingzhen still wore a very calm expression on his face. He spoke very eloquently, neither humble nor disrespectful, and he never glanced once at Lin Xun.

His behavior chilled everyone. He had to come with ill intentions, but why would he want to target Lin Xun?

Lin Xun found it very strange because he had a very good relationship with Zhao Jingxuan and also Zhao Tailai. Even the emperor and empress had secretly taken care of him.

He didn't expect the Ninth Prince, Zhao Jingzhen, would suddenly jump out and attack him.

"How would you understand the relationship between the two great ancient dao sects? It's funny if you think you can change my attitude based on that." Yue Xiu snorted coldly, looking at Zhao Jingzhen with disgust.

However, Zhao Jingzhen didn't mind and said respectfully, "Don't worry, Elder, the truth is, of course, more than that."

What did that mean?

Could there be something more terrifying about Lin Xun than his murder of a successor of the Spirit Treasure Holy Land?

Everyone quivered inwardly, their faces crossed with bewilderment.