Prodigies 801

The Prodigies War

Chapter 801: The Storm Rises Again

Sun Huan's attack was simple, direct and ruthless!

It showed his absolute confidence in his strength which surpassed the Cyclic Derivation Stage. He believed he could destroy all sorts of secret arts and techniques with his strength alone!

It was also the foundation and confidence of a half-step king. He believed he could obliterate another mere cultivator with a flick of his finger, and there was no need to make a huge fuss.

Rumble!

Beams of light surged like monstrous waves slapping the sky. The brightness was so intense and terrifying that it illuminated the sky and earth.

Hua Qingchi and the others trembled at the sight, almost suffocating. It was their first time seeing Sun Huan launch an attack.

The frighteningly tremendous power of that blow left no doubt that even cultivators at the perfect Cyclic Derivation Stage would fail to survive it!

It's over for that little bastard!

Their hearts palpated with excitement.

However, before they could rejoice, they simultaneously stiffened and an unforgettable scene happened before them.

Lin Xun bent a bow and slid an arrow over the string. His tall and slender body suddenly looked as mighty and majestic as a demon god. An indescribable terrifying aura erupted from the bow and arrow in his hands.

Boom!

The sky and the earth seemed to be collapsing. The terrifying vision of the great sun dipping into the blue sky and the golden crow weeping in the sapphire sea emerged amidst clapping thunder and flashing lightning. It was as though the gods and demons of ancient times were roaring.

The earthshaking scenes of the catastrophe were akin to the signs of doomsday.

Boom!

A jet-black arrow shot across the sky like the first ray of dawn ripping apart the eternal darkness.

The space shattered around the arrow wherever it passed, forming turbulent air currents. The beam of dao light released by Sun Huan was torn to pieces like paper and disintegrated into a shower of light and scattered across the sky.

Time felt like it had frozen.

At first, Sun Huan wore an indifferent and cold expression and exuded an air of superiority, but when he saw Lin Xun bend a bow and set an arrow on the string, his pupils shrank and his expression dramatically altered.

When Lin Xun pulled the bright red bowstring back, his heart inexplicably quivered, his hair stood on end, and a chill ran down his body like it sensed impending danger.

His mouth opened in astonished disbelief.

He lost all tranquility when the arrow was released from the string. His face blanched with terror, and he almost screamed out. His superior demeanor was completely gone as he trembled like a frightened rabbit.

He was scared out of his wits. He realized that he had been too careless, which wasn't because he underestimated his opponent, but because he underestimated the treasures in his opponent's hand!

It was as though a divine dragon had discovered that a tiny ant was wielding a remarkable sword that could slay a dragon!

Run!

It was not surprising that Sun Huan was regarded as an old monster among half-step kings. His fighting instinct and rich experience helped him react to the danger in the first instance.

However, his carelessness was undeniable, and that little slip up might not be significant in any other situation, but at this moment, it was fatal!

He was facing the No-Nonsense Bow and the Biluo Arrow, which both had unfathomable backgrounds. The pair had once taken the lives of many half-step kings on the Blood Kill Battlefield and made them die with extreme regret.

The bow and arrow even aided Bloodthirsty Queen Zhao Xingye in invading the Magi Brute Camp and forcing them to agree to a ceasefire!

This was Lin Xun's first time in mobilizing the bow and arrow in the Ancient Wasteland Domain. If he failed to kill his opponent, then he would be unworthy of the monstrous power of the two treasures.

Boom!

A thunder-like explosion erupted and blazing lights of destruction swept the area, dispersing the darkness of night and disturbing the nine heavens as it spread in all directions.

Sun Heng was hit in an instant. His flesh and blood were instantly crushed, and he was annihilated in the destructive light!

Even at death, the old monster who was one step away from the Life Death Stage failed to let out a single sound and vanished without leaving a corpse or any bones!

The terrifying shock waves continued to spread through the area, tearing down the distant mountains, turning the ancient forests into ashes, and splitting the ground with huge abyss-like cracks. Everything was too shocking and resembled the scenes of doomsday.

Thud-

Hua Qingchi and other influential figures of the Spirit Pearl Sect were propelled dozens of feet away like straws from the shockwaves, coughing up blood. They were utterly stupefied.

In addition to the physical pain, their hearts were being bombarded by waves of unprecedented fear that made them feel despair and helplessness.

The only Grand Supreme Elder of the Spirit Pearl Sect, a renowned half-step king of the Fire Spirit Province, Sun Huan, was killed by an arrow before their eyes.

They almost collapsed from the shock.

He's dead!?

They couldn't accept the cruel reality!

Meanwhile, Lin Xun's face was utterly pale, and his body seemed to be on the verge of exhaustion.

That was the aftereffect. He was already familiar with it so he didn't panic and instead, he prepared several pieces of aeth essence to restore his strength and body.

However, unlike in the past, a ray of imperceptible fiendish thought rose in his mind and constantly battered his state of mind and spirit to the point where it felt unbearable.

"The Bloodthirsty Queen is right. I shouldn't recklessly activate the No-Nonsense Bow. Otherwise, the fiendish qi inside it will be triggered and it could lead to unpredictable problems in the future..."

Lin Xun's black eyes shone with a cold light as he activated the Little Divine Meditation Art to fend off and dissolve the fiendish qi that was attacking his mind.

Zhao Xingye had told him before that the bow was stained with saint blood, and it was called a peerless murderous weapon in ancient times.

However, it was too badly damaged and had accumulated too much fiendish qi and blood. Sooner or later, it would completely erupt!

When Zhao Xingye killed King Yan Qiong of the Fire Tribe, she saw a wisp of qi transform from a saint's resentment seep out from the bow. Even if it was only a wisp, a top Life Death Stage King figure like her almost ran into an accident!

Imaginably, the fiendish qi was frightening.

Now, Lin Xun realized that it was a problem even if he only felt a wisp of imperceptible fiendish qi.

After all, it sent his body of qi into a state of chaos and affected his entire body.

Only then did Lin Xun realize the terror of the No-Nonsense bow. It not only had an unpredictable impact on the opponent but also on the cultivator who used it!

"If there's a chance, I want to take a trip to the Sunset Current Valley which is also known as the hidden sacred land. I hope to find the lost weapon spirit of the No-Nonsense Bow and fix its problem..." Lin Xun drew a deep breath. He remembered the advice that Zhao Xingye gave him.

The No-Nonsense Bow Bow was a true egofied saint treasure. It differed from ordinary saint treasures in that it possessed a weapon spirit that could suppress fiendish qi and bloodthirst.

After endless years of changes, the No-Nonsense Bow had become severely damaged and worn. Its weapon spirit had also drifted off to an unknown place.

If he wanted to find the weapon spirit, then he should go to the Sunset Current Valley!

A pained groan from the distance woke Lin Xun up from his deep thoughts. His black eyes quickly turned cold, and he peered into the distance.

Hua Qingchi and other influential figures from the Spirit Pearl Sect might be in the most miserable and tragic state they had ever been, but they were still all alive.

Lin Xun put away the bow and arrow, and slowly approached them.

Even if he had drained his energy, he was still confident that he could kill them if he used all his strength.

Arf! Arf!

Before Lin Xun neared them, the sharp barking of dogs from the direction of the Flame Capital sent a shiver down his spine.

His face clouded over. He swept a glance over Hua Qingchi and the others. Finally, he resisted the urge to kill them and immediately left in a hurry.

If his guess was correct, then the experts of the Black Nightmare Dog Clan had been alarmed and were coming for them at full speed!

After all, they had caused too great of a disturbance. The Flame Capital wasn't far from there, so anyone could be alerted and come to investigate.

Lin Xun wasn't traveling alone. He had Xia Xiaochong with him so he couldn't take any risk to ensure her safety.

"If you leak out what happened just now then I will wipe out the Spirit Pearl Sect in the future!"

Lin Xun ran his dark eyes over Hua Qingchi like sharp blades.

Hua Qingchi was chilled to the bone, feeling as if he had fallen into an ice cave. Fear had already flooded his heart, but now that he heard Lin Xun's threat, he almost had a breakdown.

He knew that the youngster wouldn't hesitate to do so.

Shua!

As soon as Lin Xun left those threatening words, he vanished into the mountains shrouded in the darkness of the night.

"Is...is he letting us go?"

Han Yanque couldn't believe it. He had lost an arm and had broken many bones. His abdomen was split with a bloody hole, and his hair was disheveled.

The others were as bewildered as him. No one could believe that Lin Xun would show mercy and spare them at such a time.

Only Hua Qingchi guessed something. "Everyone, you heard what he said just now. I don't want any accidents to happen in the future so for the sake of the Spirit Pearl Sect...just pretend that nothing happened today!"

Nothing happened?

Everyone's face was skewed with a mix of fear, bewilderment, anger and disappointment. Grand Supreme Elder Sun Huan had been killed, but they had to pretend that nothing happened!

Hua Qingchi was even more unwilling to pretend that nothing happened compared to them. But he knew that if he didn't do so, then the Spirit Pearl Sect would be in danger of being wiped out in the future!

"We have to accept defeat this time. It's our fault that we offended and underestimated that youngster..."

Hua Qingchi's eyes glazed over as he murmured, "How is he a peerless genius of the younger generation? He is a monster that defies heaven...Unless he dies, we will have no choice but to admit that we lost this time!"

His expression suddenly became determined and filled with unquestionable authority.

Yes, admit defeat!

Their Spirit Pearl Sect might be able to rule the Fire Spirit Province, but in the entire West Infinity World, it was only considered a little sect. They couldn't afford to anger a heaven-defying genius, who was destined to rise in the Ancient Wasteland Domain!

Otherwise, they would suffer the fate that the young man threatened them with! Their sect would be wiped out.

"This way!"

A solemn voice in the dark night jolted Hua Qingchi and the others from their troubled thoughts.

Horses bathed in black flames were rapidly and silently coming their way.

The night was dark as ink.

They were like a group of demons from hell.

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Chapter 802: Black Fox Ancestral Blood

"What happened here?"

The group of experts from the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan all sat astride the muscular backs of their horses with confidence and superiority. They had fully surrounded the area so as not to let anyone escape.

In the dead of night, the atmosphere was incredibly oppressive.

Afar, their comrades were searching the devastated battlefield.

If the Windspeaker Clan was the most well-informed clan in the Ancient Wasteland, then the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan had the sharpest sense of smell in the world. Almost no one would be able to escape their pursuit.

The one who asked the question was a young man with a black cloak draped over his back. He had a fair and handsome face, but his eyes were malevolent and cold.

His name was Gou Dong, and he was the leader of the team.

Hua Qingchi and the others' expressions changed indefinitely. They never thought that a group of more vicious characters would come as soon as the heaven-defying demon-like youngster left.

The Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan!

It was a tremendous clan that made countless experts in Ancient Wasteland Domain turn pale at the mere mention of its name. They were infamous for their sinister means, brutal killings, and monstrous crimes.

Even some ancient sects were reluctant to get involved with them.

Thud!

Seeing that no one was answering, Gou Dong's lips quirked in a slight smile. The next second, his long and thin serrated blade was raised into the air.

With a splatter of blood, a head flew into the air!

It was a Cyclic Derivation cultivator who was wounded in the earlier fight. Unable to fight back, he was killed directly.

The sudden gush of waterfall-like blood caught them off guard and sent them into a panic. Quickly, they quivered with anger. They never thought that the other party would kill one of them at the slightest disagreement.

The ruthlessness and bloodthirstiness of the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan was being demonstrated right away.

"Our time is precious so I hope you will cooperate with us." Gou Dong's voice deepened. His words reeked of coldness and callousness. "If not, then none of you will likely survive today."

Hua Qingchi's eyes were bursting with anger, but in the end, he sighed dejectedly. "Just now we wanted to ambush a target here, but we encountered a mysterious master and suffered heavy losses. Unfortunately, we even lost our Grand Supreme Elder..."

His face was filled with fury and aggrievement, but he never mentioned a word of Lin Xun. Instead, he told them that Grand Supreme Elder Sun Huan was killed by a mysterious master.

Pu!

Gou Dong remained expressionless, but he swung his blade across the air and took off another head. "I want to hear the truth."

Another was dead!

Hua Qingchi and the others almost broke down, feeling unprecedented despair and anger. Their Spirit Pearl Sect was considered a famous sect in the Fire Spirit Province. But the heads of elders of their sect were being slashed off like blades of grass. This was no doubt the greatest humiliation they had suffered.

"Kill me! The Grand Supreme Elder of our sect is dead, and we have suffered disastrous losses. I don't want to live anymore!" Hua Qingchi stood forward, glaring at Gou Dong with bloodshot eyes.

Gou Dong narrowed his sinister eyes, and he immediately said with a smile, "That's right, if it were me, I also wouldn't cover up for an enemy at such a time." As he was speaking, he waved his hand and summoned one of the subordinates who was investigating the devastated battlefield.

"How is it?" asked Gou Dong.

The subordinate quickly reported, "Based on the clues left behind, I can confirm that a half-step king died here and the murderer killed him in one blow with the help of a terrifying treasure..."

Gou Dong's expression altered, and his eyes shone a cold light. "No wonder there was such a huge commotion just now. The battle involved a half-step king...Can you identify the murderer?"

The subordinate shook his head. "There are too few clues."

At that moment, another Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan expert shouted from the battlefield. "Lord Gou Dong, there is a trace of the little girl's aura here!"

Immediately, all the experts moved restlessly, erupting with terrifying murderous intent on the horses.

Gou Dong immediately shifted his eyes to Hua Qingchi and took out a painted scroll, asking, "Old fellow, have you seen this girl?"

He unrolled the scroll, revealing the painting of a young and cute girl with big and beautiful eyes.

Hua Qingchi and the others were all struck dumb. Could the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan appear here because they are looking for a little girl?

Only Han Yanque's expression changed awkwardly. He recognized that the girl was Xia Xiaochong!

Almost at the same time, he sensed a pair of sharp eyes locked on him, and his body stiffened immediately.

"Speak," Gou Dong said emotionlessly.

His one word had such a suffocating oppressive power that made Han Yanque almost subconsciously blurt out, "Her name is Xia Xiaochong, and she comes from the Star Dome Sect. I met her once during the Fire Spirit Province training competition."

Gou Dong studied Han Yanque for a moment before he withdrew his gaze and commanded, "Send a message to the young master that the target has appeared here. She did not flee with Lin Wenjun!"

Swoosh!

Not long after that, dazzling blood-colored fireworks soared into the sky. The bursts of colors looked particularly beautiful and splendid in the dark sky.

It was the Messenger Blood Flower, a unique treasure of the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan that could send messages across thousands of miles.

Within seconds, a black chariot carried by eight Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan experts sped across the sky.

"Paying our respects to the Young Master!"

Everyone including Gou Dong stopped to kneel down and bow.

"That girl escaped from here?" A calm and elegant voice sounded from the black chariot.

"I believe so!"

"Haha, Lin Wenjun doesn't give up. Does she think that as long as that little girl is alive, she will have a chance to reverse the fate of their clan? Unfortunately for her, the blessings of the Azure Hill Sky Fox Clan have ended and it is impossible to change it!"

A disapproving sneer rang from the black carriage. "Also Puppet Lord is taking part in this operation. There is no way that Lin Wenjun can survive this!"

"Young Master, we have analyzed that the girl shouldn't be far away. Also, a huge battle just happened here, and a mysterious figure whom we suspect to be a half-step king was also in the battle."

Gou Dong reported, "We suspect that the mysterious person took that girl away."

"A half-step king?" A surprised voice sounded from the black chariot. "Lin Wenjun is in such a state already; I'm surprised she could still get help from a half-step king."

"But her struggle is futile. Even a true king will have to pay the price of his life if he dares to obstruct us!" He spoke very casually, but a gush of invisible power of superiority sent everyone trembling.

"No matter what, that girl possessed the Black Fox Ancestral Blood. This is an extremely rare constitution. Over the years, only a few people in the entire Azure Hill Sky Fox Clan have that kind of constitution. If we allow her to grow, then she will possess immeasurable terrifying power in the future."

The young master said leisurely, "Fortunately, the girl hasn't awakened that power yet. Although she isn't much of a threat now, she is still a problem to us and we must get rid of her once and for all."

He commanded without wavering, "Begin the operation! That girl has become a thorn for all the old monsters in the clan. They are all eagerly waiting to hear back good news..."

Boom!

The next second, the group of Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan experts set off, soaring into the sky like spirits from hell and vanishing into the vast mountains and forests in the distance.

Only Hua Qingchi and the others remained. They were terror-stricken after witnessing everything, thinking that they wouldn't be able to survive. But they never thought that they would be disregarded and ignored like air.

"Unexpectedly, we only survived because the other party attached no importance to us..." Hua Qingchi uttered bitterly, looking haggard.

Everyone else's eyes were lifeless.

Today felt like a nightmare to them. They still found it hard to accept it even now.

And everything had started because of their greed.

They didn't know whether they should regret their actions or hate themselves for it. Perhaps, that was the price they had to pay for greed. But the price was too high!

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The mountains stretched endlessly, among which were many beautiful treasure lands, but more were barren hills and dangerous waters. The environment was very primitive.

Compared with the city, the mountains and forests in the wilderness were no doubt more dangerous as they were the homes of many fierce beasts and birds.

Lin Xun sat cross-legged on a beautiful mountain peak, meditating and restoring his strength.

The mountain wasn't tall, but it was quiet and peaceful with verdant trees, picturesque waterfalls, tranquil springs, and calming silvery mist. It was like a sacred cultivation place.

The place had originally been occupied by a giant white python monster, but it immediately fled in a panic upon sensing Lin Xun's aura.

Lin Xun looked majestic with dazzling misty light streaming out of his mouth and nose, and dao qi swirling around his body.

In his hand, mid-grade aeth essence were being crushed into powder one after another, but he didn't seem to realize it.

His mind was free of thoughts, his energy, spirit and qi were perfectly integrated with his body, and his body was emitting an ethereal glow.

Within his body, his spirit power that had almost been completely drained was recovering at an astonishing speed, surging up and down his body like a roaring tide.

Compared with high-grade aeth crystals, mid-grade aeth essence was undoubtedly more pure and rich in energy. They helped greatly to speed up Lin Xun's recovery.

It would previously take him three to five hours to restore this much energy, and now it only took one hour!

However, even if mid-grade aeth essence were incredible, they were very expensive and could be considered a luxury to the present Lin Xun. He was hesitant to use them unless it was absolutely necessary.

He wouldn't be able to afford to use them for his daily training sessions.

Suddenly, a strong feeling of imminent danger enveloped him. He immediately captured someone spying on him in the distance with his sensing powers.

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Chapter 803: The Atmosphere in the Mountains

Lin Xun's spirit power was so tremendously strong and sensitive that it was beyond imagination.

In a split second, he was able to detect a figure hiding in the dense bushes around three thousand feet in the distance.

This person had cold eyes and huge nostrils. He was sniffing the air using a secret art, and he soon cast his eyes to the direction of the mountain where Lin Xun was situated.

Clearly, the person determined Lin Xun's whereabouts entirely by his sense of smell!

Lin Xun narrowed his eyes. The rumors about the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan came to his mind. The clan was known for their sharp sense of smell.

The nose of a dog is powerful!

Frowning, Lin Xun quickly ended his cultivation session.

He realized that the fight with the Spirit Pearl Sect had alarmed the powerful experts of the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan!

Then, he sensed that the person hiding in the distance suddenly took out a black and blood-red bamboo slip.

That's—?

Although Lin Xun didn't know what it was, his instincts told him that something was wrong.

Shua!

The next moment, he vanished from the spot and activated the Hornless Ice Dragon Step to its peak. Without hiding his aura, he darted into a full-speed dash towards the person.

Rumble!

He sped across three thousand feet in the blink of an eye.

The Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan expert might have been startled, but his reaction was as fast as always. He immediately sprang up and bolted.

However, he was still too slow. With a swoosh, the Broken Blade slashed through the air like a rainbow and pierced his back, sending him across the ground, staggering and screaming.

At the same time, Lin Xun drifted down and crushed his back with his foot. "Speak! Are you going to talk or do you want to force me to do it myself?"

"Little bastard, how dare you injure me..." It was a gaunt young man in black with huge nostrils.

He glowered maliciously at Lin Xun, but before he finished speaking, he saw sparks fly before him, and his skull was almost shattered.

Lin Xun didn't waste time talking to him. He directly aimed a palm strike at his head. He planned to torture him using the means he learned from the Blood Kill Camp.

Half a moment later, the young man was twitching on the ground. His face was deathly pale, his forehead was beaded with cold sweat, his teeth were shattered, and his eyes were lifeless. He seemed to be on the verge of collapsing from the excruciating pain.

But he longed for death. The pain of the torture was too tormenting and worse than hell.

Unsurprisingly, Lin Xun soon found everything he wanted to know.

Pu!

He released a God-Devourer Insect and let it drill into the body of the black-robed youngster, devour his spirit, and end his life on the spot.

Then, the youngster was transformed into his original form—a huge black dog with an ox-like body, scarlet-red eyes, silky and shiny fur, strong hooves, and white, razor-sharp fangs.

That was the true appearance of a Black Nightmare Sky Dog.

Swoosh!

Lin Xun carried the black dog and disappeared from the spot.

.....

In front of a clear mountain stream, a campfire crackled and burned fiercely. Meat was being barbecued above it until it was a beautiful golden brown color and gave off a salivating aroma.

It was the meat of a Black Nightmare Sky Dog, a special species of dogs. It was rich in blood qi and essence and could be considered a food delicacy.

Lin Xun drifted off in deep thought before the campfire.

He might have found out what he wanted to know, but the truth shocked him a little.

The Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan had dispatched more than one hundred elites to Flame Capital, including two half-step kings and a true king!

Additionally, a direct descendant of the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan also came with the army of elites. In other words, the leader of the operation had to be the direct descendant.

His name was Gou Xuxing, whom others addressed as Young Master. He was regarded as one of the top figures in the young generation of the tremendous Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan.

Gou Xuxing wasn't an ordinary character. Based on the internal appraisal system of the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan, he had earned himself the title of Thousand Killer.

What did Thousand Killer mean?

It meant that Gou Xuxing once killed thousands of enemies who were stronger than him with his own strength!

Cultivation did not represent real combat strength.

The fact that Gou Xuxing was able to achieve this astonishing feat was enough to prove that he was a fierce character who could kill enemies of higher cultivation levels.

His remarkable feet also helped him achieve a transcendent status within the clan. He was worshiped as a young master and was always accompanied by clan experts of the older generation.

It was rumored that among the younger generation of the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan were also geniuses with the title Million Enemies.

Of course, that information didn't rattle Lin Xun. But he was most shocked by the fact that their ultimate goal wasn't to deal with Lin Wenjun, but to kill Xia Xiaochong!

This was because Xia Xiaochong was also a descendant of the Azure Hill Sky Fox Clan, and she had the purest bloodline as the Black Fox Ancestral Blood ran in her veins.

Lin Xun had no idea how incredible the bloodline talent was, but he found out that Xia Xiaochong would possess boundless power once she awakened the bloodline power. After that, she would become a huge threat to the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan.

Therefore, they viewed her as a thorn that they had to get rid of to prevent troubles in the future!

They went to so much trouble and mobilized so many people and even dispatched two half-step kings and a true king to kill Xia Xiaochong!

"It turns out that this girl has such an extraordinary identity..." While thinking, Lin Xun tore the meat of the roasted dog. It was so delicious that he looked visibly moved.

So tasty!

The meat was charred and crispy on the outside and tender and juicy on the inside. The flavor and fragrance burst in his mouth as he chewed. No wonder it was considered a delicacy.

Anyone else would feel uneasy and unable to eat at peace upon hearing that information.

But Lin Xun seemed unbothered. He sat leisurely by the clear stream, gorging on the roasted meat and sipping wine from time to time.

Before long, he devoured the entire black dog, leaving only a pile of bones on the ground.

Then, he stood up and exhaled a long breath of turbid air. He was so full that he felt as though he possessed inexhaustible energy.

"It seems like the black dog meat is a great supplement for cultivation, and it also tastes delicious."

Lin Xun smacked his lips and then smiled to himself, "This is pretty good, at least I get to enjoy eating black dog meat. It's worth it..."

Without further delay, he turned around and left.

Lin Wenjun had asked him to bring Xia Xiaochong to Azure Hill Mountain in the Perched Phoenix Province.

When he set off, he came to learn that the Perched Phoenix Province was extremely far from the Fire Spirit Province and was separated by dozens of provinces and cities between them.

It would take them at least ten days to get there even with the speed of the Grand Universe Ark.

However, Lin Xun had other plans.

.....

Two hours later.

A pack of Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan experts appeared by the banks of the stream.

Their faces turned livid at the sight of the pile of gnawed bones left on the ground. Then, a furious howl sent the nearby creatures trembling with fear.

"Argh! Who dares to devour the experts of our clan like food?! Who is so arrogant?! Who doesn't want to live?!"

The Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan had always done what they wanted and always slaughtered their opponents ruthlessly. Who would have thought that someone in this world would dare to barbecue and eat them?

They viewed that as the greatest provocation and insult, and whoever did that couldn't be forgiven!

"He better hope that I don't catch him, otherwise I will make him experience what is worse than death!" Gou Dong's expression was ice-cold.

"Don't tell the young master about this, otherwise we might have to bear his wrath." He instructed after taking a deep breath, "Clean up this place and continue to search for traces of the enemy. No matter who he is, he has to pay for his actions of going against the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan!"

"Yes!" The other experts took the order and launched into action, emitting waves of strong murderous intent.

No target had ever escaped their pursuit. Since they had already locked onto the target's aura, they believed it wouldn't take long for them to kill the opponent!

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Dawn broke. The gorgeous rays of morning sunlight slipped through the forests and beamed down the mountains, bathing everything in a golden glow.

Fierce birds chirped, beasts roared, and waterfalls rumbled down the thousand-foot-tall cliffs like a white dragon.

Lin Xun was standing atop a mountain peak with his hands behind his back. His tall and elegant figure resembled a green pine tree on the edge of a cliff. He surveyed the mountains, valleys, and rivers in the distance. The mountains stood motionless and silent like halberds with mists swirling around them.

But Lin Xun saw a completely different scene.

Mysterious and obscure runes emerged in his eyes, and two beams of divine light shot out from them. Currents of air appeared one after another from the mountains in his field of vision.

Some were as dark as ink, eerie like fog, blotting out the sun and the sky.

Some were as bright and captivating as gold and with auspicious rays of light dancing within them.

But most were ordinary and gray, like smoke and fog.

"The ones that are black as ink are the unpleasant qi in the mountains, and must be concealing highly toxic objects or fierce monsters and beasts."

"The ones that are bright and dazzling are treasure lights, which indicate the location of a mine in the mountains..." Lin Xun pondered.

The colorful currents were the flow of air in the mountains and rivers, a kind of power of heaven and earth.

Not many cultivators were able to identify and perceive them.

However, Lin Xun was able to see through them right away and perceive their true nature. That was the magical ability of the Chaofeng Eye.

Of course, this was a simple and superficial use of the Chaofeng Eye.

Its core use was in exploring veins!

Huh?

Lin Xun's eyes suddenly narrowed after feeling a piercing pain. He sensed a majestic gush of qi surging into the sky on the distant mountain like it was a forbidden land.

"Could that be a great treasure land?" Lin Xun's heart fluttered, and his figure vanished right away.

The Prodigies War

Chapter 804: Gold Essence Jade Liquid

What a majestic and beautiful mountain!

Lin Xun's eyes lit up with delight as he approached the mountain, surprised to find such a wonderful mountain in the vast wilderness.

The lofty mountain stood thousands of feet tall. Its verdant green looked particularly gorgeous in the soft morning sunlight and being bathed in the swirling mist.

The roots of ancient trees were intricately intertwined on the mountain while bamboo swayed elegantly with the wind. Rare plants and grass occasionally spewed out vapors of light. From time to time, white

apes and green deer gracefully galloped through the woodlands, almost imperceptible to ordinary people.

Additionally, ancient vines coiled around the foliage, and plants and flowers bloomed beautifully. Everywhere was a beautiful and delightful picture, just like a blessed land of celestial beings.

Lin Xun activated the Chaofeng Eye and observed silently.

"Auspicious qi is contained within the mountain like a dormant dragon. This is the sign of a top treasure land..." Lin Xun marveled after a moment.

He reckoned that he could easily establish a sect on the mountain because it was a blessed cultivation land!

But soon, he felt a chill in his heart. He sensed that something was wrong. The areas around the mountain were unusually quiet and still.

Even after he activated his spirit sense, he couldn't detect a single life force, not even an ant!

"It stores auspicious qi and tremendous power within it yet living creatures actively avoid it and dare not to get close to it. Could there be some sort of shocking secret to the mountain?"

After Lin Xun drew a deep breath, he manipulated Suanni Qi to envelop his body before he snuck into the mountains with a flash.

He now had a much deeper grasp of the Suanni Qi and was able to conceal his aura using it. It was impossible to detect his movements unless a true king came.

However, he could at most activate the Suanni Qi for a quarter of an hour before it dissipated and exposed his aura.

It was another scenery on the mountain. Beautiful green pine trees and exotic flowers and fruits were everywhere, cutting through the swirling mist and glowing a golden hue under the sunlight.

Within minutes, he discovered dozens of rare and valuable medicinal ingredients.

There were Purple Nascent Blood Mushrooms that were as thick as an arm and coiled like snakes, Fire Jujube Trees hung with fiery red and plump fruits on their branches like lanterns, and Gold Vein Snow Lotus floating on the surface of a green pond!

While Lin Xun was spaced out from astonishment, he grew increasingly cautious.

The beautiful mountain contained so many rare medicinal ingredients, but no beasts or monsters were in sight. It was too abnormal.

Lin Xun didn't dare to touch anything and instead, he silently continued onwards.

Soon, he was astonished once again. He came across a cave dug out of the mountain. The moss framing the cave entrance and the ancient vines coiling around it indicated that it hadn't been visited in a long time.

But there was no doubt that the cave was man-made and not natural!

"Was it a cave dwelling of a cultivator in the past..."

Lin Xun became still as he carefully studied the cave with the Chaofeng Eye. He saw the inside for a moment before a light so bright stung his eyes like the blinding sun and he had to look away immediately.

He trembled inwardly because it suggested that some earthshakingly rare and sacred treasure was concealed within the cave.

After some hesitation, a thought struck him and he summoned one of the God-Devourer Insects.

"Whether or not I'll find a treasure depends on you now."

He drew a deep breath and instilled a wisp of spirit sense into the God-Devourer Insect. Then, he guided it to explore the depths of the cave. If he hadn't investigated the cave with the Chaofeng Eye, then he would have seen nothing but darkness, stillness and twists and turns.

The God-Devourer Insect might only be the size of a grain of rice, but that made it easy for it to silently navigate the cave, acting as Lin Xun's eyes and allowing him to perceive everything along the way.

To Lin Xun's surprise, the cave was incredibly deep and led underground. It didn't seem like a cultivation place but instead a passageway.

After the God-Devourer Insect flew over a thousand feet, a thunder-like rumble echoed endlessly.

Lin Xun perked up and manipulated the God-Devourer Insect to continue onwards. Soon, his field of vision widened and a stretch of magnificent and sacred light appeared.

At the same time, an indescribable terrifying oppressive power pervaded the air, making the God-Devourer Insect quiver uneasily.

Meanwhile, Lin Xun froze outside the cave, inhaling sharply.

Through the spirit sense he instilled into the God-Devourer Insect, he captured an astonishing scene. In the depths of the stretch of magnificent and sacred light was a brilliant golden pond spewing out abundant life force.

If Lin Xun's guess was correct, then the golden liquid that filled the pond was the legendary Gold Essence Jade Liquid!

It was a remarkable treasure known as one of the Eight Treasures of Heaven and Earth. Not only was one drop of it enough to revive the dead, but it also had limitless miraculous effects on one's cultivation!

Treasures like that were incredibly rare even among the ancient sects, and only peerless geniuses were allowed to enjoy them.

However, a pond of Gold Essence Jade Liquid existed in the depths of the unknown mountain. This discovery would make any of the major clans and forces jealous and try to seize it at all costs.

Lin Xun's heart thumped. It was no doubt a unique earthshaking opportunity.

But then, a chill ran all over his body and his expression dramatically changed. He almost cried out loud.

A dragon head suddenly poked out of the pond of Gold Essence Jade Liquid!

Its eyes resembled copper bells, its beard swayed as it moved, its body was covered with dragon scales, and the single horn of its head flared a golden light.

Is a real dragon hiding in this pond? Lin Xun was truly dumbfounded.

But he very quickly realized that he was wrong. The churning water revealed a strong and muscular body resembling that of an elk appeared, with slender and long hooves and a swaying tail. Its body glimmered like it was cast from gold.

What sort of creature is that?

It looks like the legendary Qilin Beast!

Lin Xun was struck dumb once again. Only after a moment did he recover from the shock. He began to analyze the creature that he saw in his memory. It looks like a dragon, but it isn't a dragon. It looks like a Qilin, but it isn't a Qilin beast. It should be a kind of fierce creature that has only existed in ancient times...

The Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast!

It was rumored to be progeny from the union of the Torch Dragon and the Golden Qilin, so it was born with infinite powers. Not only could it summon the wind and manipulate the rain, soar above the universe, but it also wielded divine powers and supernatural abilities.

In ancient times, there were rumors that a saint attempted to subdue a Single-Horned Golden-Eyed beast. Unfortunately, the ferocious beast ate him alive in the end!

Of course, this was only a rumor with exaggerated components, but there was no doubt that the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast was a terrifyingly fierce creature.

"It's no wonder that this mountain is so gorgeous with untouched beauty. No creatures dare to get anywhere near it because it has been occupied by a terrifying fellow already..." Lin Xun understood.

Immediately, he was chilled to the bone once again. The Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast seemed to have sensed something as its eyes glowed as bright as the scorching sun and shifted to the God-Devourer Insect.

Run!

Lin Xun unhesitatingly issued the order while he frantically steered the Grand Universe Ark away from the cave with all his strength.

"Roar!"

A thunderous roar quaked the area and dispersed the clouds in all directions. The space surrounding the unknown mountain exploded and collapsed, turning into turbulent air currents and spreading outward.

So terrifying. The sound waves of the roar alone spread like torrents and crumbled the mountains and land within a radius of hundreds of miles. The rocks and ancient trees were pulverized. Everything was sent into turmoil and chaos.

Boom!

Despite the incredible speed of the Grand Universe Ark, it still failed to escape in time. Impacted by the shockwaves, it hurtled across the air, swaying violently while Lin Xun staggered and paled.

That damn thing is so fierce and strong!

Lin Xun was utterly horrified. He frantically steered the Grand Universe Ark dozens of miles away before he was able to stabilize the ship.

Then, he saw the unknown mountain standing proud and alone, spewing purple qi and misty light into the sky.

Around it were collapsed ruins. It was as though a hurricane had swept across and left a trail of devastation.

"Roar!"

A golden beast appeared like a god. It raised its head in the air and stomped its four hooves, its brilliant golden eyes running across the area. Its tremendous body emitted a frightening monstrous aura.

It was a Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast, but its power and might were as unfathomable and boundless as the ocean, and more terrifying than a true king. Even the entire world would tremble at its sight.

Swoosh!

Without any hesitation, Lin Xun once again guided the Grand Universe Ark to flee far away from the beast. He had no other choice. The beast was too terrifying and could deal unpredictable damage to him and the ship if it caught up to them.

After some moment, the ferocious beast flew into the clouds and vanished into the unknown mountains. The monstrous aura that blanketed the sky also faded with it.

Lin Xun breathed a sigh of relief. I'm glad it didn't catch up. Its aura is already more terrifying than that of a true king, so its strength has to be even more frightening.

"If I was a little slower just now, I would have been..." Lin Xun didn't dare to think about it any more.

To his surprise, the God-Devourer Insect he sent out was still alive and it flew back to him, but it seemed to be on its last breath.

Lin Xun quickly took out a piece of mid-grade Spirit Accumulation Jade, fed the little fellow, and then carefully withdrew it into his mind-sea for it to recuperate.

"But the Gold Essence Jade Liquid...If I have it, when I break through to the Cyclic Derivation Stage, I can forge the Absolute Apex Path of that cultivation stage!"

There was a world of difference between the cultivation levels.

Although Lin Xun was regarded as an absolute apex king of the Heaven Ascension Stage, that didn't guarantee that he would still be at the pinnacle when he reached the Cyclic Derivation Stage.

The reason he went to such effort to suppress his cultivation and push back his breakthrough to the next cultivation level was that he wanted to continue to be at the absolute apex when he broke through to the Cyclic Derivation Stage.

Even so, he wasn't confident that he could achieve that.

But it would be another story if he had the help of the Gold Essence Jade Liquid!

He was very reluctant to leave, unwilling to part and miss out on such a rare opportunity.

"It would be great if I could lure the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast away for a while..."

Suddenly, his dark eyes flashed and an insuppressible smile curled his lips. An idea struck him as he thought of the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan experts who were following him...

The Prodigies War

Chapter 805: Sharpen Blade For The Black Dog

At the foot of the unknown mountain, Lin Xun was sneaking around once again. This time he had concealed his entire body with the Suanni Qi for fear of being noticed by the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast.

The Messenger Blood Flower!

Then, he suddenly took out a jet-black bamboo slip that was stored in his bosom. It was part of the loot from the Black Nightmare Dog Clan expert.

After a quick examination, he understood its marvelous use and his eyes flashed a strange glint. Immediately, he instilled a wisp of spirit sense into the Messenger Blood Flower.

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"Young Master, judging from the traces that the target left behind, I believe we will be able to catch up to him within one day!" Gou Dong respectfully reported near an ancient woodland.

Gou Xuxing's indifferent but elegant voice sounded from the black chariot, "Gou Dong, you are hiding something from me."

His one sentence made Gou Dong's face turn pale and his body stiff.

Gou Xuxing explained calmly, "There is a faint scent of roasted bone on you. It is a very special scent that nauseates me. Can you tell me the reason for that?"

His indifferent and calm words changed Gou Dong's expression once again. But in the end, he dared not hide anything from the young master knowing how terrifying his wrath was.

He summoned the courage and explained, "Young Master, when we were searching for the enemy, one of our spies...was barbecued and eaten..."

Before his voice faded, the air seemed to have frozen, the skies were choked by dark clouds and a malevolent aura filled the area.

All Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan experts, including Gou Dong, trembled inwardly and broke out into cold sweat.

The deathly still atmosphere and Gou Xuxing's silence made them feel extremely uneasy and nervous.

They knew how terrifying was Gou Xuxing, who had the terrifying title of Thousand Killer. No one could bear his wrath if he was truly enraged!

"Barbecued and eaten...barbecued and eaten..." Gou Xuxing murmured for a long moment as though he couldn't believe that someone in this world would do that.

Thud!

Unable to bear the rising panic in their hearts, many Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan experts dropped to their knees. Even Gou Dong tensed up, and his face blanched and stiffened.

All of a sudden, the curtain of the carriage was lifted and a slender figure stepped out.

He was tall and strongly built with thick eyebrows and fierce tiger-like eyes which were full of heroic spirit. His eyes were a strange dark green, glowing with a menacing light that instilled fear into everyone.

His appearance sent Gou Dong shuddering and dropping to his knees. "Young Master, please calm down!" His voice trembled.

He was facing Gou Xuxing, a top genius with the Thousand Killer title in the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan!

Gou Xuxing had forged his status and reputation within the clan with his bloody killings and feats.

"Within one day, I want the target captured, ready to be stewed, and eaten alive." Indescribably frightening light surged within his dark green eyes, and his voice was thick with cold, killing intent.

The Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan had forces all over the four great worlds of the Ancient Wasteland Domain. Their tremendous background and foundation were enough to make cultivators turn pale at the mention of their name. No ordinary ancient sect or clan dared to provoke or anger them.

But someone had treated them as food!

How insulting was that?! They had crossed the line! It was intolerable and unforgivable!

Two old figures loomed in the darkness, both shrouded in a terrifying and obscure aura.

They were Gou Shan and Gou Hai, both half-step kings who were accompanying Gou Xuxing on the operation to protect him from danger!

"Whoever it is, we must kill him as punishment!" They uttered with sinister expressions.

They were evidently irritated.

Unexpectedly, another gravelly voice responded to them, "That's right. Even true kings wouldn't dare to insult our clan in such a way. We have to kill that fearless person in the most torturous way!" Then, an old man draped in a blood-colored cloak and enveloped in brilliant dao light emerged before them.

"Paying our respects to Lord Gui!" Everyone donned dignified expressions and bowed respectfully.

The old man was called Gou Gui, a true king and a terrifying figure who wielded incredible power and extraordinary status within the clan.

"Fourteenth Uncle, has Lin Wenjun been killed?" Gou Xuxing asked.

Gou Gui shook his head with an overcast face. "Almost."

"How is that possible?!" Gou Xuxing cried out.

Yes! How is it possible that she's still alive?!

Bewildered looks crossed everyone's faces. Lord Gui was a true king who had moved unhindered across the world for years with his mighty powers. How could Lin Wenjun escape his pursuit?

"She was rescued by someone," Gou Gui uttered, his ice-cold expression reflecting his shame. He regarded it as the greatest shame that he allowed a target to escape his hands.

"Who was it?" Gou Xuxing asked.

"An old granny."

Gou Gui's countenance darkened even more. "I don't know who she is, but I will never forget her aura. Sooner or later, I will find her!"

Gou Xuxing's handsome face also clouded over, and anger rose in him like a tide.

For this operation, they came in the most mighty and aggressive manner, thinking that they could overpower the target but unexpectedly, they repeatedly failed.

The girl who had the Black Fox Ancestral Blood running through her veins had been taken away by a mysterious and suspected half-step-king figure while Lin Wenjun had been saved by someone else. They both managed to escape their clutches.

How could Gou Xuxing accept that?

If this matter spread out of the clan, then not only would it bring endless criticism and mocking to him, but it would also tarnish his reputation and prestige and affect his status among the younger generation of the clan!

Although Gou Xuxing was regarded as a young master, he knew very well that the power of their Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan was too tremendous and there were over a dozen people in the younger generation alone who were on par with him.

Moreover, in the East Victory World were several more terrifying people with the title of Million Enemies. They made Gou Xuxing feel enormous pressure!

Based on that, how could Gou Xuxing not be enraged that the operation he led had repeatedly failed?

Worst of all, the target who was suspected to be a half-step king and had taken away Xia Xiaochong regarded them as food. This was the same as touching the inverted scale of a dragon!

"Forget about Lin Wenjun for now. As long as we kill that girl, our operation will be considered a success."

After a long moment, Gou Xuxing inhaled deeply and murderous intent shot out from his green eyes. There seemed to be a noticeable pause in his every word as he hissed through gritted teeth, "There's also that guy who sees us as food...he must be captured. I need to cook him alive and eat him!"

As he reached the end of the sentence, his voice almost cracked.

Clearly, he was exasperated.

Bang!

Suddenly, a bizarre blood-colored firework bloomed in the distant sky.

Messenger Blood Flower!

It instantly drew everyone's attention, but their expressions soon morphed when they saw the message within the Messenger Blood Flower.

It was a drawing of a huge bone club with a column of words beside it, "When it comes to the best food in the world, the black dog meat deserves a top spot. Little puppies, be ready to be stewed in the pot! My stomach is already growling with hunger!"

Immediately, the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan experts flew into a rage and almost went berserk. That bastard is too arrogant! How dare he provoke us like that! Does he not want to live anymore?!

Gou Shan and Gou Hai, the two half-step kings, were livid.

Gou Gui, the real king, was fuming with so much rage that smoke spiraled up from his head, and murderous intent blazed in his eyes.

Gou Xuxing gnashed his teeth, and his face became more livid and cold. His entire body exuded an incomparably threatening aura and his voice seemed to squeeze out of his throat, "Why are you all still standing there?! Go! Kill that bastard!"

Boom!

Instantly, the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan experts launched into action. Their fiendish qi gushed into the sky as they soared like evil spirits from the underworld.

The clouds dissipated, the sky and the earth darkened, and all living creatures within hundreds of miles trembled on the ground, petrified by the strong murderous intent.

The Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan were infuriated. No one in the world had ever dared to mock and provoke them in such a way!

.....

"Come on!"

At the foot of the unknown mountain, Lin Xun went into hiding, concealing his aura and presence using the Suanni Qi.

He even withdrew his spirit sense.

However, through the Chaofeng Eye, he saw the waves of fiendish qi erupting into the sky like billowing smoke and racing towards him.

He chuckled to himself. Those bastards can't control their anger at all.

Soon, the figures of Gou Xuxing and his group appeared, navigating the void in an aggressive and domineering manner. They didn't try to conceal themselves in the slightest.

That was understandable. They had a true king, Gou Gui, watching over the team and they also had two half-step kings, Gou Shan and Gou Hai, accompanying them. In this vast wilderness, even if they encountered a king-level cultivator, they had nothing to fear.

That was the source of their confidence.

However, as they approached the unknown mountain, surprised looks crossed their faces. They also noticed the unusualness of the mountain.

"Is the target hiding there?" Gou Xuxing's green eyes flickered around the extraordinary mountain. He had sensed the majestic and powerful spiritual qi that surrounded the mountain.

"His aura and trace disappeared here, so he must have gone into hiding in this mountain," Gou Dong replied unwaveringly. Tracking was a unique talent of their clan so he was of course very confident.

"But something is wrong. This mountain is like a heavenly treasure land yet there are no living creatures nearby. It's very abnormal." Gou Shan frowned.

Gou Hai calmly analyzed, "Indeed, the target pretended to send out that Messenger Blood Flower as a provocation but he is just trying to lure us there."

"No matter what schemes or tricks he is using, they are nothing in the face of absolute strength."

However blood-colored qi and Dao light circulated Gou Gui. He oozed superiority and contempt like he ruled the mountains and valleys. It was the demeanor of a true king.

"Come on, let's go and take a look. This mountain is beautiful and covered with auspicious qi. Maybe we will unearth some rare treasures there." Gou Gui confidently led the way first, darting into the unknown mountain.

Gou Xuxing and the others cast away their worries. Given their combined powers, even if they ran into an accident, how would they not be able to deal with it?

The Prodigies War

Chapter 806: Tricked

Watching from the shadows, Lin Xun couldn't help but be impressed by the old fellow's confidence. He was indeed worthy of being a king.

However, everything was progressing as he wanted. He was on full alert, ready to act.

Boom!

He had to admit that the Black Nightmare Black Dog Clan experts were too domineering and arrogant. They descended upon the unknown mountain in such a mighty manner and caused such a huge disturbance like they were superior and fearless of anything.

He almost burst out laughing. Those bastards think they are the best in the world, but let's see what they will look like when the Single-horned Golden-Eyed Beast appears.

"Whoa! There are so many precious medicinal ingredients!"

The Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan experts were originally erupting with murderous intent and couldn't wait to get their hands on Lin Xun, but their attention was very quickly drawn elsewhere. Their eyes widened with delight at the rare medicinal ingredients dotted all over the mountain.

"That's the Fire Jujube Tree! Heavens, the branches are already covered with ripe fruits. One Fire Jujube is worth ten mid-grade aeth essence!" Many experts' eyes blazed covetously, and some started to drool.

"There's also Gold Vein Snow Lotus. Based on their appearance, they must have been growing for at least tens of thousands of years. The lotus plants have already produced Gold Vein Lotus Seeds, which are one of the rarest medicines in the world."

"That...aren't those Purple Nascent Blood Mushrooms? It has thirty-six leaves, and its roots are as long as waterfalls! How rare!"

Even Gou Xuxing, Gou Shan, and Gou Hai were moved by the sight. As they surveyed the surroundings, their eyes gleamed every time they discovered a precious medicinal ingredient.

Only Gou Gui remained calm and composed. As a true king, he no longer paid any attention to the so-called rare medicinal ingredients. But soon, his expression tensed and he exclaimed in surprise, "There is a cave left here!"

Shua!

His remark attracted everyone's attention. All eyes shifted towards the direction of his gaze. After that, everyone lost their composure and their eyes blazed more intensely.

The mountain was not only otherworldly beautiful, but had also given birth to many precious medicinal ingredients. Could there be more shocking opportunities buried in the cave?

Gou Dong's eyes flickered around as he calmly analyzed, "Perhaps, that kid is hiding in there right now!"

That sentence filled Gou Xuxing's heart with murderous intent. Immediately, he ordered with a wave of his hand. "Go in and take a look, but remember to be extra careful."

He didn't let his anger cloud his judgment. He decided to send his subordinates inside to check out the situation first.

But Gou Gui chuckled, "There is no need for that. I can check it out alone."

In truth, he knew that the mountain was extraordinary and that there might be peerless treasures hidden inside the cave, so he couldn't let anyone get to them before him.

While speaking, he stepped forward and shrank as small as a thumb. As his blood-colored cloak fluttered in the air, he had already vanished into the depths of the cave.

Gou Xuxing's eyes flashed. He could read Gou Gui's mind, and he felt a little annoyed that an elder of the clan wanted to be the first to snatch the opportunity.

"Gou Shan, Gou Hai," he said.

"Young Master, is there an order?" the two half-step kings asked urgently.

"Go inside and take a look with Lord Gui. This place is very unusual. It looks beautiful, but we don't know what dangers are hidden inside. We can't let Lord Gui take the risks for us," Gou Xuxing ordered in a deep voice.

Gou Shan and Gou Hai immediately understood that they were being sent to supervise Gou Gui. Whoever discovered any kind of peerless opportunity mustn't pocket it themselves!

Immediately, with a flash, the two darted into the depths of the cave.

At the foot of the mountain, Lin Xun was watching everything in the shadows, and his expression turned more and more strange. How daring! They are still fighting and scheming against each other at this time!

He thought he had to put in more effort to make the Black Nightmare Black Dog Clan experts and the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast fight to the death while he reaped the benefits, but the situation was progressing beyond his expectation. He didn't need to do anything for those bastards to walk into the trap.

He almost choked trying to stifle his laughter.

He secretly gathered his strength, ready to strike.

Meanwhile, Gou Xuxing was clearly in a very good mood on the mountain. He thought he could not only capture the target today, but also find some rare fortune. He felt blessed by the heavens.

"After the rain comes good weather!"

Gou Xuxing had always believed in luck.

"Haha, my luck is here and it's impossible to stop it!" He chuckled leisurely.

The others nodded and flattered, "Young Master is blessed by heavens and is born with incredible luck that will shine through the ages!"

Gou Xuxing smiled smugly in his heart, but he said calmly, "I have self-awareness, I may have luck, but I can't possibly shine forever, so please don't praise me like that."

He glanced around. "There are medicinal ingredients planted all over this place, go and pick them. You guys can also keep some of them for yourself. Take it as a reward for this operation."

"Thank you, Young Master!" Gou Dong and the others perked up immediately. They had been itching to do so.

Gou Xuxing smiled reservedly, but he was feeling more and more pleased. His previous anger and frustration had been completely swept away, and his spirit had been lifted.

"This mountain really deserves to be called a treasure land. Perhaps, this is a kind of good luck that befalls me?" he murmured. "If I have such good luck in my future cultivation path then I wouldn't need to worry about becoming a genius of the world and rising to the top of the world in the battle of the great age?"

Boom!

Suddenly, the whole mountain quaked violently. The auspicious qi roiled around the mountain and a wave of divine light swept across in a spectacular scene.

Gou Xuxing's eyes flashed like lightning, and he exclaimed, "Are the heavens responding to my voice?"

The next moment, his body went stiff and his pupils dilated.

He saw a figure frantically rushing out of the cave, hair disheveled, clothes ragged and skin scorched.

It was like a madman.

Gou Xuxing almost jumped up in shock and slapped the person. "Who are you?! How dare you scare me!"

The discomposed figure never expected that Gou Xuxing would attack all of a sudden and failed to block in time.

However, he was unwounded by the palm strike while Gou Xuxing was blasted back several steps. His expression dramatically changed as he tried to steady his body, but when he recognized the person, he couldn't help screaming like a ghost, "Lord Gui, It's you! What happened to you?!"

The disheveled-haired man was none other than Gou Gui!

Gou Xuxing stared at him blankly, taken by surprise by the unexpected incident. Gou Gui was a king, but he sprinted out like a madman after he went into the cave to look for peerless opportunities.

"Young Master, run quickly! We've been tricked!"

Gou Gui had no time to explain, so he took Gou Xuxing and soared into the sky.

The other Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan experts stood dumbfounded. What's going on?

They were happily picking rare medicinal ingredients, so how would they not be caught off guard by such an incident?

"Ah-!"

"No-!"

Two spine-chilling screams rang almost at the same time from the depths of the cave before they stopped abruptly.

But everyone could identify the voices to be that of Gou Shan and Gou Hai, two half-step kings!

Instantly, their scalps numbed, and their hearts were flooded with fear. Realizing that something was wrong, they gave up on the rare medicinal ingredients, turned around and bolted in terror, running faster than the other, as if wishing they had four legs instead of two.

So terrifying!

They had a feeling that Gou Shan and Gou Hai might have suffered an accident. Even though Gou Gui had escaped, he looked extremely discomposed, unlike his usual self. This indicated that there was no peerless opportunity in the cave, but instead peerless danger!

Gou Xuxing's expression was the worst of them all, as if someone had beaten him with a stick. He trembled all over.

We've been tricked!

This place might be exceptionally beautiful like a land of treasure, but it is riddled with dangers.

We were ecstatic, thinking that we had found a great opportunity, but it turned out to be like this...

Gou Xuxing almost vomited blood from anger.

He thought that good luck had befallen him, and he had nothing to worry about in the future.

It never crossed his mind that the situation would be reversed in the blink of an eye. Reality slapped him hard in the face and filled him with shame and indignation. He almost went berserk with rage.

"What the hell is going on?" His face was darker than the clouds as Gou Gui brought him to the high altitude.

Looking down from the height, he could see that the unknown mountain was roaring and quaking, and a terrifying oppressive power was spreading outwards.

"That's..." Gou Xuxing was terror-stricken.

"A Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast that has stepped into the king stage, or perhaps it should be called the beast king!' Gou Gui's voice was cold and low, and his face was ashen.

He took the lead to rush into the cave, thinking that there was a peerless opportunity, but who would have thought that he would run into a Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast?!

The beast possessed boundless and terrifying strength. By the time he realized that something was wrong, it was already too late to escape. The beast slapped him with its tail and sent him flying. His skin was ripped open, and his flesh was mangled. He was injured quite heavily.

He was a king who had moved unhindered across the world for many years. He never attached any importance to ordinary kings, but he was tragically beaten by the tail of a beast.

Imaginably, the beast king possessed abnormally terrifying strength.

So, he immediately decided to run for his life!

Intense shame flooded him as he thought back to the scene.

He was blasted away head-on. Had he ever looked so embarrassing before?

It was the greatest shame and humiliation in his life!

In the sky, the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan experts were all haphazardly fleeing for their lives. Meanwhile, Lin Xun was watching them all in the dark, and he couldn't help from sighing to himself. What are panicking stray dogs? They are!

The distressed appearance of Gou Gui and Gou Xuxing was an eye-opener for Lin Xun.

Soon, he couldn't care about that anymore because the mountain was roaring more and more violently. A wave of terrifying majesty accompanied by blinding golden rays of light was spreading like a tide, stirring the wind and clouds and sending a shudder through the earth.

Lin Xun knew that the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast was about to come out, and his opportunity was also about to come...

The Prodigies War

Chapter 807: Snatch Opportunity

With an earthshaking roar, the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast soared into the sky, its body shimmering like gold and pouring out sacred dao light that illuminated the mountains and rivers.

Rumble!

Following the appearance of the majestic beast, golden thunderbolts struck down one after another and engulfed everything.

Immediately, several fleeing Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan experts were struck. They plunged from midair and convulsed on the ground before they became burnt corpses.

The beast was clearly enraged. Its divine powers flooded the sky and golden lights beamed from its body. There seemed to be lightning bolts raging within its eyes.

It's much more terrifying than before!

Lin Xun trembled at the foot of the mountain. He could feel the stifling oppressive atmosphere. This was his second time encountering the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast.

Roar!

Its roar dissipated the clouds and shattered the surrounding space. As soon as it rose into the air, it transformed into a golden shadow and charged at Gou Gui.

Rumble!

It crushed mountains and valleys with its four hooves and spewed out golden lighting bolts from its mouth. It seemed to wield the god-like power of lightning.

Gou Gui grunted furiously. He had been propelled across the air and completely humiliated. How would he not be annoyed to see the fierce beast charge at him once again?

Clang!

He summoned a blood-colored scimitar that was entwined with dazzling dao light and sped forward to meet the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast head-on.

Instantly, the dome of heaven seemed to have exploded. The sky collapsed and the earth cracked, and the terrifying power of the king stage swept across, tearing down the surrounding mountains.

It was a battle between kings. Naturally, the power was extremely frightening.

Fortunately, the unknown mountain was extremely special and as strong as a great dragon. Its otherworldly beauty and the auspicious qi lingering around it were never affected by the fierce battle.

It's my chance now!

Lin Xun decided to act now. He had been hiding and waiting in the shadows not for the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan, but for the Gold Essence Jade Liquid!

Swoosh!

He enveloped his entire body with Suanni Qi and activated the Hornless Ice Dragon Step with all his strength and rushed up the mountain and into the cave.

His heart pounded violently. It was a pond of Gold Essence Jade Liquid. He wouldn't need to worry about his cultivation in the future if he was able to bring it away with him.

Soon, he arrived. Extremely concentrated life force came rushing towards his face. The pond was very mysterious, releasing dazzling rays of golden light like the sun had melted into it.

He quivered as the warmth of life bathed him. His entire body, qi, spirit and energy seemed to be cheering energetically. He felt as though he had been lifted by the colorful clouds into heaven.

"No wonder it is called one of the eight treasures of the world!" Lin Xun's eyes blazed as he stared at the pond.

The pond brimmed with life. The golden liquid glistened and released rays of bright light just like it was the melted sun.

"It's no wonder that the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast is so powerful since it can bathe in this extraordinary liquid every day..." Lin Xun marveled as he swiftly took out a bottle from the Nameless Pagoda and started to fill it.

The golden pond turned into a stream of golden liquid and poured into the bottle while Lin Xun was mesmerized by the waft of vitality in the air.

Boom!

Suddenly, a beam of golden light flashed out of the pond like a sharp sword, cutting through the air. If Lin Xun hadn't dodged in time, it would have slashed him in the face.

Lin Xun broke out in a cold sweat. He never thought that murderous intent was concealed within the pond.

He looked up and was stunned for a moment. Why is there a little guy?

He noticed that there was a little Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast with a body that was only over a foot tall poking out of the water. It had a dragon head, an elk body, four sturdy hooves and shining golden eyes.

It stared at him fiercely, bared its teeth and growled, but its voice was like a child's with no deterrent power at all.

Lin Xun breathed a sigh of relief. He finally understood why the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast was so furious. It turned out that it was protecting its child.

"Little guy, go and play."

Lin Xun picked up the little guy, dangled him upside down and dropped him into the depths of the pond with a huge splash.

After that, he continued to draw up the Gold Essence Jade Liquid into the bottle.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Beams of golden light shot out from the water one after another, aiming directly at Lin Xun.

The little Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast was infuriated, determined to prevent Lin Xun from stealing the precious golden liquid.

Lin Xun frowned in annoyance. Time was more precious than anything else for him!

He stormed forward, picked up the little guy into the air by its tail, and slapped it on the butt a few times. "If you won't be good, I will make you into a stew!"

The little guy glowered at Lin Xun like it wanted to tear him into pieces.

Regardless, it didn't dare to cause more trouble. It was either afraid of Lin Xun himself or it was afraid of being stewed by Lin Xun.

Lin Xun heaved a sigh of relief. Luckily, the little Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast is just a hatchling and has no attacking power. Otherwise, it wouldn't be so easy to steal some of the Gold Essence Jade Liquid.

Unexpectedly, the little beast suddenly opened its mouth wide and slurped the Gold Essence Jade Liquid into its stomach like a bottomless pit.

Clearly, the little guy was getting revenge by preventing Lin Xun from taking the golden liquid.

Moreover, it wagged its small tail and cast a smug sideways glance at Lin Xun.

Lin Xun erupted with rage when he saw the Gold Essence Jade Liquid pour into the little guy's mouth. He exasperated, This thing doesn't give up!

He again grabbed the little guy by the tail and violently shook him upside down. "Spit it out, spit it out now!"

The little Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast felt the world spin around him. His screaming crying voice was cracking with anger.

He likely never thought that humans could be so shameless. Not only did he steal their Gold Essence Jade Liquid but the man was also forcing him to spit out the liquid in his stomach.

He was so ruthless!

Lin Xun didn't agree. That was the Gold Essence Jade Liquid! One of the eight treasures of Heaven and Earth. He couldn't tolerate the little guy wasting such treasure!

Huh?

An ear-piercing whistle in the distance sent a chill down Lin Xun's spine.

His face turned overcast. Why did someone come to ruin everything at this moment?

In the end, he tossed the little Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast back into the pond and, with a flash, circulated the Suanni Qi and went into hiding.

Not long after that, a slender and tall figure appeared. He had a handsome face and radiated a heroic spirit, but he had menacing green eyes that shot out rays of cold light.

It turned out to be Gou Xuxing, a top figure of the younger generation of the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan who had the title of Thousand Killer!

"It's that guy!" Lin Xun fumed, ready to give the guy a beating

"Gold Essence Jade Liquid!" Gou Xuxing quivered with surprised excitement as soon as he arrived. His dark green eyes were fixed on the golden liquid glimmering in the pond, spacing out in astonishment. "Lord Gui was right. There is not only murderous intent and dangers in this place, but also unbelievable treasures and opportunities!"

Without any wavering, he flicked his sleeve and brought out a green gourd to draw up the pond.

At the same time, the little horned beast surfaced again. When it saw that another person had come to steal its treasure, its face reddened with fury and it bared its teeth and unleashed a roar.

But that didn't frighten Gou Xuxing in the slightest. On the contrary, his face was alighted with joy. "Heavens! A hatchling of a Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast! If I can tame it then I will own an unrivaled battle beast!" A glint of greed flashed in his eyes.

The little guy dived into the pool like it sensed the bad situation.

"Little guy, this is fate, you are destined to belong to me. How can you run away?" Gou Xuxing smiled smugly as he reached to grab the little beast.

In the dark, Lin Xun had furtively activated the Broken Blade, ready to strike.

He was truly annoyed. That guy had to come at this time and disrupt my plan. If the powerful Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast returns now, then there would be unimaginable consequences!

However, just when Lin Xun was about to make a move, his entire body froze and an ice-cold intent swept him like a hurricane.

This is bad!

He was so terrified that his heart pounded and his hair stood on end. There was no need to guess to know that the adult Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast had been alarmed!

Realizing the danger, Lin Xun turned around and fled without hesitation.

Swoosh!

He didn't even attempt to conceal his aura but activated the Hornless Ice Dragon Step to its full power with lightning speed and summoned the Grand Universe Ark to escape the cave.

Meanwhile, Gou Xuxing was startled. He was about to capture the little horned beast, but a figure suddenly appeared and then vanished without a trace.

He gasped.

Who was that guy? Could it be the mysterious figure who took away Xia Xiaochong?

If he attacked me just now, wouldn't...

He stood rooted to the spot, face ashen and drenched in sweat, realizing how dangerous his situation was. He was only focused on snatching the opportunity and treasure and almost met with an accident.

Wait!

Why did he run?

By the time Gou Xuxing realized that something was wrong, a wave of ice-cold intent had swept towards him like a hurricane.

At this moment, his fingertips were still in a grabbing stance, and they were only a palm's length away from the little horned beast.

Perhaps it was because of that a thunderous voice exploded from the wave of terrifying, cold intent.

"Do you want to die!" The voice chilled Gou Xuxing to the core and almost split his spirit.

It was filled with majesty.

If he hadn't possessed a remarkable cultivation base, then that shred of spirit power alone would have obliterated his spirit and killed him on the spot!

His expression dramatically changed as he realized the severity of his situation. He almost cried out loud. How would he have thought that he would alert the king stage Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast?!

The Prodigies War

Chapter 808: Determined Counterattack

"Young Master, run! I can't hold on for much longer!" Meanwhile, Gou Gui's roar thundered from outside the cave.

There's still a chance!

A glimmer of hope was rekindled in Gou Xuxing's heart. He immediately cast aside all other thoughts and frantically fled. As for the little Single-Horned Beast, he did not dare to even think about it.

Even if he managed to catch it, he would end up being targeted by the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast King and would most certainly suffer a terrible fate before he could escape the mountain.

Thud!

However, the moment Gou Xuxing reached the cave entrance, he suddenly felt a sharp pain in his mind-sea that caused his vision to darken as he stumbled and fell.

"God Devourer Insects!"

Gou Xuxing was furious. In his mind-sea, his Primordial Spirit was covered in a layer of mysterious armor as it defended against the attacks from a grain-sized God Devourer Insect.

"It must be that scumbag's doing!"

Gou Xuxing was so enraged that you could almost see steam rising from his head. A mighty Thousand Killer class, elite, young-generation expert like him had not only suffered repeated setbacks but was also now being taken advantage of during a moment of weakness. How could he possibly tolerate this?

In fact, it would have been disastrous if he didn't possess a secret treasure that protected his Primordial Spirit.

"You'd better pray I don't catch you!"

With a deep breath, Gou Xuxing staggered to his feet and continued to flee.

After being obstructed, the God Devourer Insect had decisively withdrawn from his body and disappeared, which only proved that the terrifying bug was being controlled by someone.

However, Gou Xuxing could care less about such things at the moment. Just as he finally managed to leave the cave, he sensed an incomparably frightening power descend from the sky. Golden lightning poured down like a torrential rainstorm, filled with a world-destroying aura.

It sent chills through his body and made his hands and feet turn cold.

I'm finished.

He was ultimately a single step short...

"Young Master, go!"

A loud roar sounded in his ear. At this critical juncture, Gou Gui abruptly appeared in front of Gou Xuxing to block the attack.

Gou Xuxing was overjoyed, feeling as if a lifeline had been thrown to him amidst a desperate situation as he hurriedly fled.

Gou Gui's miserable screams rang out behind him.

The entire sky was filled with endless horrifying golden lightning from the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast King's enraged assault.

Despite resisting with all of his might, Gou Gui was struck until smoke could be seen rising from his head, and his skin was scorched until it cracked open. He trembled like a shaking sieve as he repeatedly coughed blood.

It was simply miserable.

The faint smell of burning flesh wafted from his body as if he had been cooked by lightning.

However, Gou Gui was, after all, a true Life Death King expert. Despite being covered in blood and sustaining grave injuries, he continued to resist with all of his power, stubbornly refusing to be killed.

By this juncture, Gou Xuxing had already rendezvoused with the other Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan experts and escaped together.

However, his expression looked terrible. His eyes bulged from their sockets as he howled at the sky in rage, frustration, and resentment.

He knew that all of this was a trap prepared by the enemy who had sought to destroy them using the power of the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast King!

They had been so clueless earlier, thinking that they had discovered an unrivaled opportunity, and foolishly jumped straight into the trap...

Gou Xuxing almost wanted to slap himself. What kind of crappy luck was this? Why were they so unlucky?

Soon after, he suddenly stiffened as he felt a terrifying ice-cold will sweep toward him.

His howl had drawn the attention of the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast, causing it to reach out with its spirit senses.

A chill shot up from the bottom of his feet, causing him to curse inwardly at his unluckiness as alarm, fear, and frustration flooded him. Why was the Beast King showing hostility just because he vented a little? To make it worse, he didn't dare to resist and could only meekly look away. It was a horrible feeling that nearly made him go crazy.

"Quick, run!"

In the distance, Gou Gui's injuries had finally grown too severe, causing him to reach his limit. In a panic, he hurriedly fled as well.

"Go!"

Gou Xuxing's heart shivered in fear as he suppressed his anger and frustration and ran away with the others.

ROAR!

Absolutely furious, the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast's roar boomed across the land and sky like thunder. Blinding golden rays shot from its body, illuminating the surroundings.

However, it ultimately didn't give chase. After releasing its rage, it rushed into the cave, clearly worried about the small Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast's safety.

Dust filled the air as peace returned.

However, the vicinity of the nameless mountain was now scarred by massive destruction and huge crevices.

The mountains, forests, underbrush...had all been destroyed during the battle, leaving a bare land that was still smoking.

It had undoubtedly been a terrifying battle where the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast King had been the biggest menace. With its absurdly monstrous strength, it had forcefully suppressed a Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan King expert.

If not for its concern over the little Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast's safety, it was likely that Lin Xun, Gou Xuxing, and others would have all died there!

Lin Xun inwardly sighed. He was currently hiding behind a small clump of raised earth a dozen miles from the nameless mountain while concealing his body with Suanni Qi.

He wasn't afraid of being discovered by the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast King because he could evade the attacks of a King expert using the Grand Universe Ark.

It was something that had already been proven in the Spirit Burial Sea.

Lin Xun's only regret was that despite stirring up such a huge commotion, he had failed to annihilate all of those Black Dog scum.

However, he was content with such an outcome. At the very least, they had lost nearly half of their elite forces, two Half-Step King experts, and even a King expert had been gravely injured. It was definitely a heavy blow.

"It's a pity about the Golden Essence Jade Liquid..."

Lin Xun ultimately decided to leave after some deliberation, knowing that there was no longer any chance to obtain the Golden Essence Jade Liquid.

In fact, he strongly suspected that he would be immediately bombarded by an even more terrifying attack from the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast King the moment he approached.

After all, he had taught that little Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast quite a harsh lesson at the pool deep in that cave.

Although it was a youngling, it was still a descendant of a King stage existence!

If it was known that he had not only spanked the little beast but also held it by the tail and given it a brutal shake to make it spit out the Gold Essence Jade Liquid, the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast King would definitely go crazy with rage.

.....

"Wait a minute!"

After flying for about a hundred miles, Lin Xun suddenly realized something that caused him to stop and contemplate.

"In the earlier battle, the King expert of those black mongrels suffered serious injuries. This is the best time to kill that old dog and it would be far too regretful to miss such a golden opportunity..."

Lin Xun's black eyes gleamed in thought. He knew that the other party would not forget him and would certainly go after him the moment they could.

Although Lin Xun wasn't afraid, he knew that being targeted by them would eventually create unforeseen risk and danger.

Instead of having to go through all that, wouldn't it be better to solve the problem once and for all?

"I could try to kill him with the No-Nonsense Bow and the Biluo Arrow, but the backlash from the bow and arrow would likely grow increasingly serious..."

Lin Xun slightly hesitated but ultimately made his decision. "Bah! Worst comes to worst, I can seal the bow and arrow, suppress it with the wonder-gold dao light in the Nameless Pagoda, and never use it again unless it's a life or death situation..."

Whoosh!

He swiftly returned along his original path as he searched for traces of Gou Xuxing and others to discover their whereabouts.

There was no time to waste!

Lin Xun knew he would lose the chance to kill the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan King expert once he recovered.

As for Xia Xiaochong...

It would be safest to leave her inside the Nameless Pagoda. Those dogs' noses were too sharp, and it would be inconvenient to move with her.

Lin Xun decided that it would be best to release her after he arrived at the Azure Hill Mountain of the Perched Phoenix Province.

.....

"How humiliating!"

On a barren peak, the cold wind howled while an ashen-faced Gou Xuxing gnashed his teeth so hard they nearly broke.

The casualties count had finally been completed. On the nameless mountain, they had lost two Half-Step Kings and thirty-seven elite clansmen.

It was a disastrous loss that felt like a knife stabbing his heart!

The clansmen that followed him were part of his power base, and every death was a considerable loss to him.

Especially the two Half-Step Kings, Gou Shan and Gou Hai. They were protectors that the clan had specially assigned to him, which was a special privilege the other clansmen did not have.

However...

They were all dead now!

Gou Xuxing already knew that even if the operation was successful, he would be subjected to countless criticisms, questions, and ridicule when he returned!

It would not only affect his reputation in the clan but also might even lose him the support of the elders, causing him to lose power and status!

The more he thought about it, the more Gou Xuxing's hatred grew and the uglier his expression became, turning so stormy that it was as if rain would start pouring at any moment.

Nearby, Gou Dong and other experts kept silent out of fear while also feeling extremely angry, sullen, and frustrated. After all, when had the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan ever suffered such a big loss?

"Young Master, did you manage to get a clear look of the target?"

An elderly voice suddenly rang out. However, it sounded a little weak and breathless. it was none other than Gou Gui, who had sustained severe injuries.

He was currently recovering from his injuries using the Golden Essence Jade Liquid given to him by Gou Xuxing. Hence, he wasn't worried about any residual effects.

However, it would still take him some time to fully recover.

He estimated that he would need at least three days for his injuries to heal, which was already accounting for the Golden Essence Jade Liquid and many other elixirs he had consumed. Without them, his recovery would take far longer.

"He..."

Gou Xuxing carefully sifted through his memories. After a long time, he frowned and said, "I recall seeing that it was a youngster and not a Half-Step King as we had anticipated..."

Intimidating green light suddenly burst from his eyes as he said, "Right, I might not have been able to discern his age, but I could smell from his aura that he isn't a Half-Step King. In fact, he isn't even at the Cyclic Derivation stage, but instead at the Heaven Ascension stage!"

"However...his aura was far more powerful than the average Heaven Ascension expert. His blood and qi burned like a mighty sun, and his vital energy was vigorous like a burning furnace. If I'm not wrong, he should be a supreme-tier expert of the younger generation!"

It would be interesting to know what Lin Xun would think if he knew that Guo Xuxing had figured out his cultivation through smell alone...

Everyone was dumbfounded. Who would have thought that the opponent who caused them such terrible losses would turn out to be a Heaven Ascension youngster?!

The Prodigies War

Chapter 809: Provocation and Pursuit

A Heaven Ascension youngster?

Gou Gui was also stunned and soon began trembling with anger. How dare an ant view our clansmen as food?!

Moreover, the ant had even set a trap for them and caused them to suffer heavy casualties!

He was an almighty King Stage existence who had risen to fame many years ago. In fact, even ordinary King Stage experts were unable to enter his eyes.

Despite this, he had suffered serious injuries and had barely avoided disaster!

Indescribable shame and anger flooded his heart. Gou Gui wished he could grab Lin Xun right now and skin him alive.

Gou Gui sinisterly said, "Don't worry, Young Master. When I recover from my injuries, I will immediately set out to capture him and make him beg for death!"

If the news that a famous King expert like himself had fallen into such a sorry state due to a Heaven Ascension youngster, he would undoubtedly become a laughing stock in the Ancient Wasteland Domain!

Gou Xuxing was clearly also in a terrible mood. "I genuinely wish I could personally capture him, cook him alive, and eat him!"

He was a top young-generation expert with the title of 'Thousand Killer.' It was very humiliating for someone like him to have been tricked by another individual from the younger generation.

"Hehe."

Light laughter suddenly sounded from the sky far away as something emerged above the clouds.

A figure stood atop the ship. His clothes fluttered in the wind as his black hair danced around him, giving off an untouchable aura. It was Lin Xun.

"It's you!" Gou Xuxing instantly recognized him with a single glance. It was the target they were supposed to deal with.

"How ballsy of you to show up on your own accord!" Gou Xuxing laughed in anger as his eyes glowed intimidatingly with burning hatred and an ice-cold light.

He never imagined that the other party would voluntarily appear before them instead of fleeing. Was he trying to show off?

Looks like he's not afraid of death!

"I can smell that girl's scent on him. He's the target!"

The other Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan experts shouted, realizing Lin Xun's identity.

The anger that had built up inside them erupted. This was the damned little shit that had eaten one of their companions and caused them to suffer heavy casualties!

To think that he would come straight to them and voluntarily reveal himself. He was clearly provoking them!

"Die!"

Gou Gui was even more direct. He rose to his feet the moment he identified Lin Xun and viciously swung his palm.

Boom!

Horrifying blinding blood-light infused with the godly power of a King expert blasted through the air, violently scattering the clouds as it shot toward Lin Xun.

However, before the strike could land, Lin Xun had already fled on the Grand Universe Ark, using its unbelievable speed to easily avoid the attack of a King expert.

This stunned Gou Gui, leaving him in disbelief.

Although he was badly injured and could only exert less than ten percent of his usual power, that shouldn't be something that a Heaven Ascension youngster could avoid!

"How dare you try and leave, stay there!"

Indescribable rage surged in Gou Gui. How dare a worm provoke them? What dignity would he have left if he allowed this brat to escape?

Boom!

He ignored his injuries and rushed into the sky to give chase.

This was the confidence of a King expert. The power of a King stood far above the five great cultivation realms. The King's dao was forged from the understanding of life and death, and even a dying King expert was an existence that not just anyone could disrespect!

Upon seeing Gou Gui pursue the target, Gou Dong could not help but grow anxious.

He quickly said, "Young Master, something strange about this situation. The target is clearly as crafty as a ghost and even managed to trick us previously. With him appearing all of a sudden and provoking us, I'm afraid that there will be another trap awaiting us!"

Gou Xuxing also realized this. It was indeed very unusual for the target to flee almost immediately after appearing. Who knew what kind of deviousness he was up to?!

However, Gou Gui had rushed off too quickly for them to warn him.

"Don't worry, even though Lord Gou Gui is seriously injured, killing that guy will be as easy as slaughtering a chicken!"

Gou Xuxing took a deep breath as a cold sinister light shone in his green eyes, "A despicable and crafty worm like him doesn't understand at all what a King expert is!"

Gou Dong asked, "Young Master, what should we do?"

"Chase him!"

Gou Xuxing had a murderous expression. "If I don't personally witness him being executed, I will regret it forever!"

He rose into the air and flew away into the clouds.

Gou Dong and the other experts hurriedly followed.

.....

Boom!

Dreadful blood-light was fired again and again, leveling mountain after mountain. Rocks and ancient trees were blasted to pieces while terrifying spatial cracks were left behind in the air.

The devastating attacks were from Gou Gui. He continuously bombarded Lin Xun, making every moment terrifying and filled with danger.

The Grand Universe Ark rushed through the skies like a thunderbolt, moving at a speed so fast that it broke the sound barrier. It could cross ten thousand feet in the blink of an eye.

However, it was still impossible to shake off Gou Gui.

After all, the old man was a King expert that stood at the apex of this world. He was unimaginably powerful and was still able to unleash terrifying power despite his heavy injuries.

"Little shit, this king is waiting to see what kind of sneaky schemes you're up to this time!"

Gou Gui wore an icy and cruel expression. Although his skin was still charred black and his clothes were in tatters, it didn't affect his overwhelming presence.

He had already seen through Lin Xun's intentions and knew that he had deliberately provoked him to lure him away.

However, Gou Gui was unafraid.

Unless the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast King somehow reappeared, Gou Gui could not imagine how a mere Heaven Ascension youngster could possibly do anything to him.

Hmm?

Gou Gui's heart suddenly shivered. The Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast King? Is this little bastard trying to do the same thing again and lead me back to the nameless mountain?

His expression turned uncertain. In the end, he gritted his teeth and released an earth-shaking roar.

Boom!

Endless blood-light erupted from his body as he transformed into a giant dog that was dozens of feet long and was covered in black, silk-like fur!

His eyes were akin to blood-colored lakes and his sharp fangs were snow-white. A tidal wave of bloody qi pulsed from his body, causing the sky to change color.

Black Nightmare Sky Dog!

In the ancient era, a single hiss from the Black Nightmare Sky Dog's ancestors could shatter the sky and cause stars to fall!

After transforming into his true body, Gou Gui's King stage aura grew even more terrifying. He opened his giant blood-red mouth and breathed out ink-black flames that rapidly covered the sky and land.

Black Nightmare Fire!

It was rumored that this was a dreadful divine fire that could burn even the gods and was the strongest talent inheritance of the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan.

With a whoosh, Lin Xun dodged the flames with the Grand Universe Ark as a shocking hole was burned in the spot where he had been just moments ago.

Some embers of the Black Nightmare Fire scattered onto the ground, instantly turning an ancient forest to ashes!

It was a horrifying scene.

Lin Xun's heart shivered. The old dog was indeed quite terrifying. It was hard to believe that he could still wield such monstrous power despite his heavy injuries.

Boom!

Space rapidly collapsed as the giant black dog rampaged while giving off a divine blood-colored glow. He pounced at Lin Xun and blindly grabbed at him, the huge paw nearly blotting out the entire sky.

Danger bells blared in Lin Xun's head as he pushed the Grand Universe Ark to its limit. With a whoosh, it fled away at an unbelievable speed.

This surprised Gou Gui and made him frown. He could tell that Lin Xun's ship was no ordinary treasure and gave off a faint Saint dao aura.

A damaged Saint treasure?

No wonder he dares to provoke us...

A horrifying light shone from Gou Gui's eyes as he grew increasingly determined to not only kill Lin Xun but also seize that ship!

"Thankfully, that old dog is seriously injured. Otherwise, I wouldn't be able to escape no matter where I try to run..."

An icy light surged in Lin Xun's eyes.

Meanwhile, Gou Gui was also feeling very frustrated. He would have long swatted the other party to death if he was at his full strength.

Instead, he was unable to make any headway even after so long which made him feel ashamed and furious.

He icily threatened, "You can't escape. This king will rip off my own head for you if you don't die today!"

"Heh, a dog's head is too hard and has too little meat. It would be horrible to eat." Lin Xun's chuckle sounded from the Grand Universe Ark.

Gou Gui's face darkened, clearly triggered. Does this little shit actually think I can't deal with him?

Rumble!

He no longer cared about his injuries or wasting energy and rocketed forward at full speed.

A chase between the two parties ensued. They zipped through the vast wilderness, destroying swathes of mountains and forests along the way.

While Lin Xun silently tracked the time, he was surprised by how terrifying the old dog remained despite his grave injuries. Even until now, there was still no sign of his oppressive strength weakening.

Lin Xun had originally wanted to see how much strength the old dog had left before attempting to finish him off with the No-Nonsense Bow and Biluo Arrow as it would minimize the risk.

However, he had not anticipated that the old dog would still be so strong!

Lin Xun immediately realized that he had somewhat underestimated the terrifying strength of the King stage and that it was far beyond a Half-King expert's power.

This was a true King!

Lin Xun had seen many powerful King experts such as Zhao Tailai, Zhao Xingye, and several others, but he had only witnessed them in action, after all, and not faced them in battle.

Lin Xun was finally realizing the true extent of a King expert's terror. If Gou Gui was already so terrifying with such heavy injuries, how strong would he be at full power?

"Little shit! It looks like you're indeed out of tricks. Are you trying to use the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast King against this king again? How laughable!"

A bellow filled with disdain sounded from behind.

Only then did Lin Xun realize he had unknowingly returned to the vicinity of the nameless mountain and was fast approaching it.

This left him speechless. He had never thought of trying the same trick.

In fact, he strongly suspected that the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast King would go after him instead!

After all, he had stolen more than ten pounds of Golden Essence Jade Liquid and bullied the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast's youngling. How could it possibly let him off for such a huge offense, let alone allow itself to be used against the old dog?

Swish!

Lin Xun immediately braked. From atop the Grand Universe Ark, he watched Gou Gui rapidly approach from far away as he took out the No-Nonsense Bow and the Biluo Arrow.

The old dog should have used up a substantial amount of energy after that long chase. It was time to decide this!

The Prodigies War

Chapter 810: Unwilling to Accept a Loser's Death

"Little shit, why aren't you running anymore?" Gou Gui suddenly returned to human form and strolled through the air with a cold expression. A blood-colored aura spread from him as a mighty King pressure engulfed the sky and land.

He was feeling very relaxed at the moment. He had originally been on high alert while chasing Lin Xun because he suspected that Lin Xun was up to something.

But now, Gou Gui finally realized that Lin Xun was merely trying to use the same trick he had before and sought to borrow the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast King's power to suppress him.

How ridiculous. I've already been tricked once, why would I fall for it a second time?

This kid is obviously out of ideas!

"Escape? Why would I escape?"

Lin Xun smiled, displaying his snow-white teeth that gleamed brightly under the sunlight. "Don't you think the feng shui here is pretty good?"

"Feng shui?"

Gou Gui frowned, feeling the kid was displaying very unusual behavior. Out of caution, he didn't rush to make his move. "Have you begun to talk nonsense now that you're at death's door?"

Lin Xun grinned and said, "Old dog, I'm not joking around. This is the burial ground I specially prepared for you."

Gou Gui's expression darkened. When he next blinked, killing intent that could shake heaven and earth burst from his eyes. How dare the kid provoke him at this juncture; it was simply unforgivable!

Buzz!

It was at this moment that Lin Xun made his move!

The accumulating power in his body instantly soared to an unprecedented peak, causing a radiant, dream-like azure haze to steam from his body.

Omm!

The No-Nonsense Bow was pulled back to the max as the Bilou Arrow emitted a low but clear hum.

Lin Xun seemed to transform into a master archer from the ancient era. His waist and spine were straight and imposing while his arms were pulled impossibly wide as peerless killing intent rose from him like billowing smoke.

Intimidating!

Unlike the previous time he used the bow, Lin Xun had also activated the Sacred Combat Art and Yazi's Rage, allowing his focus and power to soar to an unprecedented level.

The boiling battle intent completely transformed his aura, causing him to resemble a fighting god whose sole desire was to fight forever!

This was undoubtedly Lin Xun's strongest attack and was the combined might of all his power pushed to the max.

Hmm?

There was no choice for him but to acknowledge that Gou Gui was a frightening individual. As a King expert, he instantly sensed a fatal threat that caused his expression to change drastically as he retreated without hesitation.

Boom!

He transformed into a giant Black Nightmare Sky Dog and shifted away at an astonishing speed that almost made it feel like teleportation.

"What a terrifying aura. Did he lure me here to kill me with that horrifying weapon?"

"What is that bow and arrow? Why do they fill me with such dread? Could they be a set of Supreme Saint Weapons?"

"Damnit! How does that little shit have so many treasures? If I had known, I would have destroyed him much earlier!"

As Gou Gui frantically fled, his expression fluctuated indeterminately and he gnashed his teeth so hard in hatred they nearly broke. How humiliating was it that a mighty King expert like him would struggle so hard to kill a mere Heaven Ascension insect without success?

To make things worse, he had even been scared off!

It made Gou Gui so angry that his lungs nearly burst. Who could have anticipated that the youngster he viewed as a bug would be so difficult to deal with?

However, he did not dare to stop and turn back. The terrifying fatal danger he felt made him afraid to display any hesitation whatsoever.

Boom!

Gou Gui's expression abruptly changed when he realized that a bolt of golden lightning was suddenly descending from the sky with an aura of absolute destruction.

Shit!

It scared him to death and nearly made his scalp explode. Who could have expected that such a deadly attack would appear while he was escaping?

Caught off-guard, he had no choice but to take evasive maneuvers. He sped forward, crossing more than a thousand feet in an instant and narrowly avoiding the golden thunderbolt.

However...

His entire body stiffened as he felt a deadly killing intent arrive.

"This King will fight you!"

Gou Gui displayed the decisiveness of a King expert. Dreadful divine dao radiance violently surged out from his body as he pounced at Lin Xun with deadly focus and resolve.

Boom!

In the blink of an eye, the Biluo Arrow blew open a huge hole in Gou Gui's body, causing an explosion of blood and flesh.

If any other cultivator were to receive such an attack, they would have probably died on the spot.

Gou Gui, however, continued to rush forward as a horrifying aura of destruction rose from his body like steam, causing the world around him to wail in agony.

In the distance, Lin Xun's complexion had turned pale as a wave of weakness washed over his body. His expression was also grave, clearly caught off-guard by Gou Gui's tenacity.

He had originally thought that one arrow would be enough to kill an already heavily injured Gou Guo. Who could have imagined that the old dog would be so tenacious?!

This was the power of a King expert. The five greater cultivation realms were akin to five mighty mountains that many cultivators of the world were trudging through.

A King expert stood above these mountains and was an existence that surpassed the five greater cultivation realms. They were akin to overlords that overlooked the world, and the power they wielded had already transcended the barrier of life and death and begun to strive toward the secrets of immortality!

How could such a transcendent existence be easy to kill?

In the past, Lin Xun had only killed Half-Step King experts before. While he had also witnessed true King experts being killed, he had never truly faced one and was naturally unable to understand how terrifying they were.

It was only now that he realized this and knew that his situation had become very dangerous.

"Little shit, die!"

Gou Gui's eyes bulged from their sockets, glowing with craziness and rage. The wrath of a King expert could change the very terrain itself and make rivers of blood flow, let alone the most terrifying final desperation of Gou Gui before death.

The nearby area crumbled and dao light thundered as if doomsday itself had arrived, creating a terrifying scene of destruction.

If such a thing were to happen in a populated city, it would be no less than an unimaginable catastrophe!

Lin Xun felt as if his presence had been locked onto, making him feel suffocating danger and pressure.

Whoosh!

Unable to care about anything else at the moment, he rapidly burned his essence blood with Yazi's Rage, squeezing every last bit of potential he had left to escape with the Grand Universe Ark.

However, he was ultimately a split-second slow, and Gou Gui's claw ruthlessly smashed into the Grand Universe Ark.

Boom!

The Grand Universe Ark smashed into the ground, causing a huge explosion of dirt. Lin Xun instantly suffered heavy injuries, causing him to violently cough blood and feel as if all of his bones and tendons were nearly shattered and torn.

Terrifying!

If not for the Grand Universe Ark's sturdiness due to being a damaged Saint treasure, it would have been impossible to block the attack and Lin Xun would almost definitely be dead.

Worst of all, shooting the arrow earlier had practically emptied Lin Xun of his energy and left him in a weak state. The grave injuries he suffered were just an insult to injury.

In the sky, what was left of Gou Gui furiously roared, "Die!"

At this very moment, he resembled a demon god attempting his final strike of desperation. With a hideously twisted expression, he released terrifying Black Nightmare Flames that rapidly loomed at Lin Xun, threatening to swallow him whole.

Whoosh!

The Grand Universe Ark flickered away, narrowly avoiding the attack.

Lin Xun had poured Golden Essence Jade Liquid into his mouth. He had also thrown caution to the wind and was using everything he had to flee.

He had already realized that this was akin to the old dog's final blaze of glory, and he would soon fall once enough time passed!

"Still trying to escape?"

The crazed Gou Gui seemed to flicker across the air and instantly caught up.

However, before he could attack, another golden thunderbolt suddenly fell from the sky.

Crack!

Space was torn as under as destructive dazzling golden light struck Gou Gui, causing him to stagger and nearly fall from the air.

"You again!"

Gou Gui was infuriated. Blood dripped from his eyes as he glared at the nameless mountain. "This king will destroy your nest!"

Boom!

He opened his mouth and breathed out Black Nightmare Fire. The sky and land were rapidly flooded with flames that rumbled as they burned space itself and rushed toward the nameless mountain.

Meanwhile, he sprinted through the air as he raised his hand and chopped at the ark.

Thud!

The Grand Universe Ark was sent careening through the air like a kite with a broken string. Lin Xun didn't know how many more bones he broke as he repeatedly coughed blood, causing his already pale complexion to become almost transparent.

However, he gritted his teeth and didn't give up. He wrestled back control over the wobbly Grand Universe Ark and continued to flee.

"Abominable!"

Gou Gui had gone completely mad. He had not expected the Grand Universe Ark to be so sturdy and save Lin Xun's life twice in a row.

Gou Gui bellowed, "Die!"

However, his body suddenly stiffened. The wound in his chest left by the Bilou Arrow had finally begun to fall apart...

He had already lost nearly half of his body and the earlier attack had been his last desperate counterattack. Now, there was no longer any way to suppress his injuries.

The remaining half of his body began to crumble.

"No!"

Gou Gui finally began to feel fear at his imminent death, causing him to panic as unease rapidly flooded him. He was a King expert that had already begun to search for the path of immortality, how could he possibly go willingly?

He was still waiting for the battle of the great age to arrive to investigate the mystery of Sainthood, he still...

His heart was filled with overwhelming regret, which nearly led to Gou Gui's mental collapse. He knew that he was truly finished this time...

However, the thought that he was being dragged to his death by a Heaven Ascension youngster nearly made him go crazy with sullenness and frustration.

To feel so frustrated before death was unbearable!

Boom!

Gou Gui dragged his crumbling body through the air, desiring to bring Lin Xun along to death.

However, he didn't notice that it only made his body fall apart even more rapidly.

It was only when he caught up to the Grand Universe Ark that he realized to his shock that he could not exert even a sliver of power!

The hands were gone and his body was also gone, leaving only his head and eyes that were wide with rage!

It was a horrifying sight that he could hardly believe and felt like being struck by lightning. What a horribly frustrating way to die!

Gou Gui's anger and sadness hit their peak as his vision finally darkened and he slipped away into the eternal void.

Thud!

His head fell to the ground, creating a large crater. His dead eyes continued to bleed as they stared at the Grand Universe Ark as if unable to accept this reality.

A mighty King expert who had commanded influence and power for many years and was famous throughout the lands had died. Even until death, he never imagined that an opponent he had viewed as an insect would be the one to put him into the dirt.

In the Grand Universe Ark, Lin Xun coughed up blood and rose to his feet. His heart was still beating wildly as he muttered, "That old dog has finally died...so this is the King stage, huh?"