

Prodigies 871

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Chapter 871: Robbing the Robber

Four days passed in a flash.

A fiery-red lava river flowed through the land of ice and snow, rumbling loudly like thunder as it rushed past.

Boom!

A giant crane spread its flaming wings in the air, sending out a spray of dreadful fire-light that tore open cracks in the surrounding space.

Its terrifying strength was comparable to Cyclic Derivation heaven prides.

However, it had unfortunately run into Lin Xun.

Plop!

Lin Xun executed the Combustion Star River dao art in a flash. A combusting starry river rapidly spread across the sky, swallowing the giant crane and killing it.

With a loud boom, its body turned into a rain of liquid fire as a glittering divinity crystal fell from the air.

Lin Xun caught the crystal and stored it in his storage ring.

Without stopping to take a break, he continued along the long lava river as his moon-white clothes fluttered amidst the snow and wind.

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Lin Xun had been wandering around the mysterious realm of ice and snow for the past four days. Although he encountered many dangers, they were all easily resolved by him.

"I've collected thirty-nine divinity crystals. If I absorb them, my cultivation should reach the mid Cyclic Derivation stage."

Lin Xun pondered as he advanced.

"It's regrettable that there seem to be no other places where divinity herbs can be found other than the Fire Lotus Ice Mountain..."

Lin Xun had also been searching for divinity herbs, but had found nothing so far.

He had originally wanted to return to the Fire Lotus Ice Mountain, but a strange change had occurred the day before yesterday that caused the Fire Lotus Ice Mountain to vanish.

According to the experts he had met along the way, a second nine-petal fire lotus had not appeared after Lin Xun collected the first one and left.

It made Lin Xun realize that there was probably a fixed number of these scarce opportunities, and not just anyone could obtain them.

Omm~

In the distance, the piercing sounds of spatial fluctuations drew Lin Xun's attention.

He approached just in time to see four young men and women cry out in anger before they were teleported away.

They had obviously been eliminated.

The culprit was a group of bats made of ice and snow. Each was the size of a millstone, had scarlet pupils, snow-white fangs, and possessed power comparable to a Cyclic Derivation expert.

The most frightening part was that they always appeared in huge groups that would fill the sky and were unbelievably ferocious.

Even Lin Xun was reluctant to be tangled up with them because there were always far too many of them, and it was impossible to kill them all.

"A group of experts was eliminated..."

Lin Xun didn't feel much. He avoided the group of ice snow bats and continued advancing along the lava river.

He had seen such scenes many times over the past four days. There were always people being eliminated somewhere and he had long grown used to the sight.

However, the astonishing rate of elimination still somewhat alarmed Lin Xun.

After all, it was only the first test of the Dao Lantern Festival. If so many heaven prides from the West Infinity World were eliminated here, it was easy to imagine how difficult it would be to pass all the tests and ultimately arrive at the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree.

Hmm?

Lin Xun suddenly paused as if noticing something.

However, he soon continued walking without a change in expression.

Boom!

A few breaths later, however, the ice layer a dozen feet from Lin Xun suddenly exploded as a bright flash of icy light shot straight toward him.

"Kill!"

The same thing happened at several other locations nearby as brightly glowing terrifying attacks rapidly shot toward Lin Xun from various directions.

Fast!

Everything was executed almost instantly and had obviously been planned in advance.

Any other expert would have likely been unable to react to such a sudden surprise attack.

However, Lin Xun seemed to have already anticipated this. Before the first attack could occur, he had already activated the Hornless Ice Dragon Step and disappeared from the spot.

Boom!

All the attacks missed the target and instead blasted a huge crater in the spot where Lin Xun had been standing, causing ice chips to fly everywhere as the land shook.

"Eh? Where did he go?"

"Damnit, the prey is gone."

"Something's not right, everybody be careful!"

Bewildered voices rang out in the vicinity as several young men and women emerged amidst the falling snow. They looked around but could not find any trace of the target.

"Killing and robbing again. In that case, I will give you guys a chance to leave your treasures behind, and I will let bygones be bygones."

Lin Xun's voice sounded across the area. Although there was nothing special about his speech, the words felt like a sudden strike of thunder to the experts, causing their bodies to stiffen as their expressions changed drastically.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

They instinctively fled, dashing off in different directions.

"Looks like I'll be sending you guys out."

A sigh sounded across the area.

Pff!

One of the youngsters was enveloped by flames before he could react and sustained serious injuries.

"NOOO!"

He shouted in alarm and anger, but it was already too late. A palm seal descended from above and squashed him into the ground, breaking his bones and causing blood to spurt from his mouth and nose in the process.

In another direction, a young lady happened to see this scene. Her scalp turned numb in fear, and she was just about to scream when she felt a sharp pain in her neck. Her vision immediately turned dark as she crumpled onto the ground.

Similar scenes played out in various locations.

Some of the experts managed to flee rather far, but Lin Xun eventually caught up to them, knocked them, and carried them back.

There were also experts who begged for mercy, but they were still knocked out by Lin Xun.

In the end, a total of seven unconscious people were carried back and stacked into a pile.

Lin Xun muttered to himself, "Instead of properly competing, you guys have resorted to robbing others with sneak attacks. You guys are so wicked."

Despite saying that, he swiftly searched their bodies for valuables like a veteran bandit.

The men were stripped down to only their pants and left half-naked on the cold and icy ground.

The women fared slightly better and retained a single layer of clothes at least. However, they were not spared either.

In just a few moments, Lin Xun had collected nine divinity crystals, as well as a few rare pills and medicines.

These men and women were indeed wealthy enough to be known as heaven prides from ancient sects.

Not only did they have a large amount of aeth essences, but they also had various treasures and even several cultivation methods and techniques.

However, Lin Xun only took the divinity crystals, pills, and medicines while leaving the rest of the items untouched.

He didn't really have a choice. After all, they were successors of ancient sects, and their elders were probably waiting outside Cangwu Mountain. Lin Xun could not take things too far to avoid becoming a 'public enemy' of the West Infinity World's many sects.

When he was done, Lin Xun left a jade strip behind and set off again.

He had encountered several of these sneak attacks over the past four days. However, all of them ended up becoming his victims instead.

They could only blame themselves for being blind fools for failing to recognize Demon God Lin.

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Gasp!

Not long after Lin Xun left, a gasp sounded in a faraway area as a fatty emerged from the ice. He was dressed in daoist robes and had large earlobes.

His face was twisted in a grimace as he mumbled, "Great deity, that guy is way too ruthless. I can tell with a single glance that he's also a rotten apple whose technique and experience can more than rival a grandmaster robber...."

As he spoke, he flourished a snow-white horsetail whisk and walked to the group that had been knocked unconscious by Lin Xun.

"Oh, not bad, there are still many treasures left. What a cunning guy. He's obviously worried about retaliation from the factions these people belong to."

The fat daoist clicked his tongue in admiration. He picked up the jade strip Lin Xun had left on the ground and took a quick look, only for his expression to turn rather strange.

A single sentence was written upon it: "This is a punishment for you guys. If you dare think about robbing me, Sha Liuchan, again, I won't show any mercy next time!"

Sha Liuchan?

Sha Liuchan my ass!

It was obviously a ploy to make Sha Liuchan take the blame instead!

The fat daoist inwardly cursed. What an evil guy, he wasn't just good at robbing the robber, but was also a master at framing others!

His eyes swirled in thought as he suddenly laughed. "Heh heh, I know who you are. Tsk tsk, who could have imagined that the fearless Demon God Lin would commit such unscrupulous and devious acts?"

"Interesting, really interesting. This master will also play with you when there's a chance and let you know who is the true ancestor of dirty deeds. More importantly, I want to find out if you have any Saint artifacts..."

The fat daoist was suddenly itching to meet Lin Xun.

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Hundreds of miles away, Lin Xun suddenly frowned and turned his head to look back. He had a faint feeling that he had missed something important.

In the end, he shook his head and continued on his way.

Twilight soon approached.

Night arrived as Lin Xun suddenly looked up and saw a giant vortex appear in the sky and release a loud rumbling noise.

At the same time, a terrifying and unstoppable suction force gushed out. Unable to resist, Lin Xun was swept up into the vortex.

"The first test is finally over..." A sliver of understanding dawned upon him.

Meanwhile, similar vortexes appeared in other areas of the Reverse Five Elements Secret Realm and sucked away the other experts.

The experts were relieved instead of alarmed and began to relax as if a heavy burden had been lifted from their shoulders.

They knew that the first test was over, and they had qualified to enter the second test!

As for the experts who were not fated with the second test, they had already been eliminated long ago...

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Chapter 872: Muddying the Water

Outside Cangwu Mountain.

"The first test is over!"

The cultivators waiting outside saw a purple glow rise from Cangwu Mountain and transform into a terrifying cloud of vortexes.

"Has the number of eliminated cultivators been tallied?"

It was a question many bigwigs were waiting for.

"There must be at least a thousand of them, right?"

"Over a thousand? No way it will be so little. I've heard from some of the already eliminated heaven prides that the first test was crazily dangerous this time. Many terrifying demonic beasts appeared, which has never happened before."

"So how many do you think will be eliminated?"

Many discussions were happening, creating quite a din.

Some of the eliminated heaven prides were feeling ashamed of their performance and hurriedly left with bitter hearts.

Their elders could only helplessly sigh at this sight.

There were heaven prides who were so angry that they refused to leave and stubbornly waited here to take revenge.

The reason for such behavior was simple. They had either been unluckily eliminated while competing with other heaven prides or had succumbed to some kind of sneak attack.

Under such circumstances, how could they possibly just let things go?

"It has been confirmed that between three thousand to four thousand heaven prides have been eliminated in the first test!"

It didn't take long for the Windspeaker Clan to release information that immediately caused a huge uproar. Even the bigwigs couldn't help but tremble when they heard this number.

More than ten thousand heaven prides had participated in the Dao Lantern Festival this time, which was more than ever before.

However, in the first test alone, more than three thousand heaven prides from the various provinces of the West Infinity World had already been eliminated! It was an insanely high elimination rate that would make anyone's heart shudder.

At the same time, several pieces of shocking news were revealed, causing countless gasps of surprise and subsequent heated debates.

"The Unsolved Mystery Sword Alms' successor, Ji Xingyao, captured a dragon-beard purple-scale fish from the Golden Light Lake in the Green Wood Secret Realm and obtained a supreme-grade dao art inheritance!"

"The Little Lightning Marquis of the Great Desolate Lightning Clan, Lei Qianjun, captured a Cold Snow Heavy Bamboo in the Blue Wave Sea of the Red Fire Secret Realm, and obtained a supreme-grade dao art inheritance!"

"Yu Lingkong of South Wonder World's Longevity Land obtained a Dragon Blood War Soul Banner in the Gold Secret Realm Garrison Earth Battlefield and..."

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Every piece of news caused an uproar that soon transitioned into heated discussions.

Even the bigwigs were unable to remain calm in the face of such news.

Supreme-grade dao arts!

Such dao arts were exceedingly rare and valuable even in the ancient sects of the West Infinity World!

A bigwig exclaimed in shock, "To think that supreme-grade dao arts would already appear in the first test. This has never happened in any of the previous Dao Lantern Festivals!"

"Granny Jin He was right. The Dao Lantern Festival this time is completely different from the past."

"A single supreme-grade dao art can significantly raise the strength of even a major faction!"

Many bigwigs sighed deeply.

Suddenly, an angry roar sounded from the distance, "What? You're saying that damned Demon God Lin snatched away a fire lotus that contained a supreme-grade dao art from our saint?"

"Abominable! How abominable!"

"It can't be. Even our Azure Sea Sect successor, Li Qinghuan, failed to stop Demon God Lin?"

"He should be killed! If not for his interference, the nine-petal fire lotus would definitely belong to Brother Wu Duanya of our Dark Sun Sect!"

Only then did the nearby crowd realize that these angry voices originated from the experts of the Ocean Shark Clan, the Azure Sea Sect, and the Dark Sun Sect.

All of them had twisted and stormy expressions.

"Is it true? Is Demon God Lin that strong?"

Some people were doubtful, but they soon received confirmation.

"That isn't even half of it. After Demon God Lin climbed the Fire Lotus Ice Mountain, he obtained a nine-petal fire lotus, two eight-petal fire lotuses, and a seven-petal fire lotus. He is so unreasonably strong that no one could stop him from start to end."

A heaven pride who had witnessed Lin Xun's feats on the Fire Lotus Ice Mountain but was subsequently eliminated gave this report.

Gasps immediately sounded as people were finally able to understand why the Ocean Shark Clan, the Azure Sea Sect, and the Dark Sun Sect experts were so enraged. After all, no one would be unable to remain calm in their situation.

"My goodness. Doesn't that mean Demon God Lin has obtained a supreme-grade dao art and three first-class dao art inheritances?"

Many people were amazed and envious of the rewards Lin Xun had obtained.

After all, dao arts were far more precious and incomparable to secret arts.

In the West Infinity World, only the ancient sects with extremely strong foundations and long history would possess first-class dao arts.

How could anyone not be envious and jealous of Demon God Lin who obtained several first-class dao art inheritances in the first test?

Moreover, he had also learned a supreme-grade dao art!

The bigwigs present were unable to retain their composure as their various expressions changed subtly.

"Shit!"

Bai Fengliu was also present and instantly realized that this information would bring trouble to Lin Xun.

The only silver lining was that he was still inside Cangwu Mountain. Otherwise, the jealous cultivators would have already made a move.

"Damnit, I have to hurry up and distract everyone. I can't have everyone focused on Demon God Lin alone."

Bai Fengliu stroked his chin as he fell into thought. In the end, he gritted his teeth and decided to make a few scapegoats to divert attention from Lin Xun.

Although it was quite despicable, Bai Fengliu couldn't care less at this juncture.

After learning that Lin Xun had obtained several dao arts, Bai Fengliu was anxiously waiting for him to come out and share some of them.

It didn't take long for Bai Fengliu to sneakily spread a few pieces of news.

"The Blue Luan Clan saintess, Qing Lian'er, chanced across a white bone filled with saintly aura in the Green Wood Secret Realm. It is suspected to be the remains of a Saint expert!"

Wow!

The news immediately caused a commotion.

Some people scoffed, believing it was fake news while others highly suspected that it might be true.

The Blue Luan Clan experts' faces immediately turned ugly, and they tried to explain that it was untrue. However, this instead made the other cultivators more suspicious.

Although it was a rumor, it had too many details and sounded very believable. It wouldn't be a surprise for anyone who didn't know the truth to be easily tricked.

The Blue Luan Clan experts suddenly felt a strong murderous impulse, wishing they could strangle the unethical bastard who had employed such a dirty trick against them.

Soon after, another piece of news was released, claiming the Jade Emptiness Temple successor, Mu Jianting, had obtained something even better than Little Thunder Marquis Lei Qianjun in the Red Fire Secret Realm. It seemed to be a book made from mysterious beast skin that contained an earth-shaking secret!

"No way, is that really true?"

"It should be. I heard Mu Jianting came prepared this time and brought the ultimate treasure of the Jade Emptiness Temple, the Myriad Spirit Umbrella, which has the ability to discover secrets no one else can find!"

"That's right. I recall that the Myriad Spirit Umbrella is a sentient treasure with unfathomable abilities. It is definitely possible that Mu Jianting relied on such a magical treasure to find many opportunities and blessings."

The news caused another stir and made many people secretly envious.

The Jade Emptiness Temple experts' faces turned grave at this development. What a vile rumor! It immediately pushed them into the limelight!

However, this wasn't the end. The crazy old bat, Bai Fengliu, was absolutely someone who wished the whole world would fall into chaos. Soon after, he gritted his teeth and decided to drag Unsolved Mystery Sward Alms down into the dirt as well.

"Rumor has it that Ji Xingyao and Yu Lingkong are cooperating to seize a secret blessing in Cangwu Mountain that might be related to the astonishing secret of becoming a King expert!"

The atmosphere outside Cangwu Mountain immediately exploded at this news.

Everyone knew that Yu Lingkong had specifically come to meet Ji Xingyao.

However, no outsiders knew the reason behind their meeting.

More importantly, Yu Lingkong was an expert who didn't belong to the West Infinity World. Hence, his participation in the Dao Lantern Festival had already made many cultivators unhappy.

Under such circumstances, it was impossible to remain composed in the face of such news.

"Someone is trying to muddy the water..." Horrifying icy light flashed in Granny Jin He's eyes when she learned of this.

For a time, the many news and discussions dispersed attention from Lin Xun.

The mastermind, Bai Fengliu, could not help but secretly feel pleased with himself at this development, feeling their Windspeaker Clan was indeed the best at spreading the news!

Bai Fengliu secretly muttered to himself, "Ahh, my good brother Lin, in order to help you, I've broken even the integrity of the Windspeaker Clan. If you have a conscience, you must bring back an amazing blessing for your good brother..."

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Cangwu Mountain.

Omm!

Space rippled as Lin Xun emerged.

When he opened his eyes, he saw a misty gray world before him. It felt as if he was the only one left in this seemingly endless world.

"Is this the second testing ground?"

The moment this thought appeared in his mind, a loud rumble was heard as a dark and ancient stone monument rose from the ground.

Several hundred words had been carved upon its surface. The text was squiggly like an earthworm and appeared to be some kind of ancient language.

"The Realm of Limits!

"Disciples who are participating in the test should do their best to fight to the other side of this realm.

"The time limit is one incense stick[1]. Those who are defeated mid-way will be eliminated; those who do not arrive within the time limit will be eliminated.

"Remember, the difficulty of the test is based on your strength. Only by using your full power will you be able to surpass your limits!

"When the test is over, the top three performers will receive various rewards."

As Lin Xun read ancient texts, a peculiar feeling suddenly rose in his heart. Disciples' who are participating in the test?

What an interesting choice of words!

1. 1 hour 🕒

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Chapter 873: Realm of Limits

The word disciple indicated the presence of a teacher or master!

Before attending the Dao Lantern Festival, Lin Xun had heard a rumor from Bai Fengliu.

In the ancient era, Cangwu Mountain was a divine mountain that was occupied by a sect with extremely terrifying foundations. It was a mighty sect with hundreds and thousands of disciples and where many Saint experts imparted their teachings and legacies.

However, due to some unknown reason, the ancient sect disappeared overnight and was removed from the annals of history.

Lin Xun had originally thought it to be nothing but a rumor but he now had second thoughts.

"The Ancient Dao Lantern Tree is a tree that imparts dao and now the word 'disciple' has appeared on this stone monument.

"If there really was such a sect in the ancient era, these five trials might actually be tests made by the sect for their disciples.

"At the present, however, the sect has long been annihilated, leaving only Cangwu Mountain and whatever has been built upon it. Every hundred years, it will start these so-called trials that have become a place for cultivators to seek opportunities and blessings..."

Lin Xun believed that such an explanation made perfect sense.

Suddenly, a strange change began to occur in the gray mist in the distance. Wisps of gray mist gathered together, gradually forming human-shaped creatures.

Lin Xun's heart shivered.

These humanoid creatures had blurry faces but their auras felt like real cultivators. Some carried various weapons, and there were even a few with swords strapped to their backs.

Some of them had peerless auras and seemed capable of controlling wind and lightning.

There were also some that resembled an immortal fairy carrying a feather fan.

A Cyclic Derivation Divine Wheel shone brightly behind each of them, dyeing the surroundings in gorgeously colored light.

In the blink of an eye, thousands of these creatures were formed. They were akin to a mighty cultivator army that gave off a suffocating pressure.

Lin Xun gasped. His powerful spirit sense instantly discerned that every one of these human-shaped creatures possessed initial Cyclic Derivation stage cultivation and had auras comparable to a first-class heaven pride!

Thousands of first-class heaven prides?

It was enough to make any cultivator's scalp turn numb and feel despair!

"Remember, the difficulty of the test is based on your strength. Only by using your full power will you be able to surpass your limits." Lin Xun glanced at ancient words on the stone monument again.

He understood that the second test was tailored according to the strength of the cultivator.

This would make it fair. However, it also meant that Lin Xun would not have any advantage despite possessing absolute strength that could steamroll over anyone in the Cyclic Derivation stage.

Instead, his test would be more difficult and crazier than anyone else!

"Realm of Limits...fight to the other side...within one incense stick...it seems that I'll have to use my full strength..."

Lin Xun took a deep breath as a domineering look emerged in his eyes. His eyes seemed to flash like lightning as he scanned the surroundings. He knew that he could not hold anything back in this trial and needed to use all his might.

"Kill!"

"Kill!"

Thousands of 'cultivators' moved out, producing a murderous intent that flooded the entire place as they rushed at Lin Xun.

Although they struggled to enunciate in their ancient language, the sound was so earth-shaking and terrifying that it seemed to make the surrounding world change color.

"Die!"

A burning river of stars spread, enveloping the area within a thousand feet.

The flaming stars instantly exploded, producing a blinding tsunami of fire.

Combustion Star River!

It was an incredibly powerful supreme-grade dao art that also contained the essence of the Fire Dao Ripple and was a very effective wide-area attack.

Crash~

The 'cultivators' screamed as if they were in the middle of a spreading wildfire. Several of them suffered heavy injuries while some were even burnt to a crisp before scattering into ashes.

"It seems that they have no intelligence which makes them easy to kill..." Lin Xun analyzed the situation.

However, more and more 'cultivators' began to form in the distance.

"Kill!"

Lin Xun did not dare to tarry. He activated the Hornless Ice Dragon Step and dashed forward.

There was only an incense stick of time, and he still didn't know where the other side of this Realm of Limits was. Hence, it was paramount to rush forward with everything he had.

Boom!

The burning river of stars rampaged without abandon, sending out raging flames that burned everything in a domineering fashion.

Several 'cultivators' were incinerated into nothingness before they could even approach.

"Eh?" Lin Xun soon frowned as his expression turned grave.

He could sense that the 'cultivators' were gradually growing stronger and faster as he advanced. Moreover, they were also using more powerful techniques. In conclusion, there was a clear increase in overall combat ability.

In only a few seconds, the killing power of the Combustion Star River had clearly grown less effective.

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Crash~

In the misty gray world, 'cultivators' continuously appeared as if there was an endless supply of them.

The Combustion Star River was horrifyingly powerful and instantly killed several hundred 'cultivators.'

Its blazing flames possessed extremely devastating destructive power. Anyone who was touched by them would either be killed or sustain serious injuries.

However, his opponents' strength gradually rose as Lin Xun advanced, making it difficult for Combustion Star River to achieve the same effect it had at the beginning.

What made Lin Xun frown, however, was that although the Hornless Ice Dragon Step was fast, an overwhelming number of 'cultivators' would appear where he dodged to.

This meant that dodging and retreating were useless in the Realm of Limits!

"Kill!"

Lin Xun cast aside all hesitation and charged straight ahead, deciding to no longer concede any ground to avoid attacks. In addition, he also abandoned the Combustion Star River dao art and began to use the Nine Heavenshaking Destructions Art.

Rumble!

Radiant fist-force erupted like a dragon soaring into the air or a mighty phoenix circling in the sky. Its power could crumble mountains, create tsunamis, and shake the very world itself.

The 'cultivators' in his path were immediately torn to shreds as if they were made from paper, allowing Lin Xun to easily push forward like an unstoppable force.

Although the Combustion Star River dao art was powerful, Lin Xun had only mastered Dao Ripple of Fire and had yet to attain the Dao Meaning level. Hence, he was still incapable of displaying the full power of the supreme-grade dao art.

In comparison, he had practiced the Nine Heavenshaking Destructions Art for many years and had perfectly integrated it with the Dao Meaning of Water. As such, the power it could unleash was far greater than the Combustion Star River!

"I can't let myself get tangled up anywhere or I'll quickly be heavily surrounded. If that happens, I'll probably use up all my energy and be eliminated, let alone reach the other side..."

Lin Xun's cold eyes flashed brightly as his black hair fluttered around him. His aura erupted like a volcano as he circulated all his power to the peak.

A layer of clear divine light enveloped him, surging like the tide as it shone radiantly while pulsing with power that seemed capable of swallowing mountains and rivers or seizing the moon and stars.

Boom!

A snow-white hornless ice dragon swung its tail, opening a path.

The power of Baxia Imprisonment bound many enemies and restricted their power.

The Bi'an Stamp viciously smashed through like a rock shattering the heavens, instantly killing dozens of 'cultivators.'

Pulao Roar produced golden sound waves that swiftly spread outwards, turning anything it touched to ashes...

The power of the Tribulation Dragon Nine Transformations and the Nine Heavenshaking Destructions Art was displayed without reservation, creating a peerless combination!

In the past, Lin Xun would only use such strength against supreme heaven prides like Sha Liuchan and Qing Lian'er.

From this, one could see just how difficult and dangerous the second test was.

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While Lin Xun was undergoing the second test, similar scenes were also playing out for the other participants.

If compared, it would be easy to see that the test difficulty was different for every heaven pride, making it a fair test for all.

"AHH!"

"No, I can't accept this. How could I lose so quickly after it began?"

"Damnit, it's too crazy. Who can possibly pass such a test?"

"I refuse to accept this!"

As time passed, heaven pride after heaven pride reached their limit and were eliminated amidst cries of anger and shock.

Of course, there were several individuals who performed outstandingly and steamrolled through their respective Realm of Limits such as the Unsolved Mystery Sword Alms' Ji Xingyao, the Great Desolate Lightning Clan's Lei Qianjun, the Jade Emptiness Temple's Mu Jianting, and other supreme heaven prides.

However, they soon encountered the same situation as Lin Xun. As they advanced, the 'cultivators' gradually grew stronger, which in turn slowed their speed.

Lei Qianjun inwardly muttered, "Old Ancestor said that since ancient times, those who manage to pass the test of the Realm of Limits would have their strength tempered thousands of times and obtain unimaginable benefits ..."

He was fierce and powerful like a god of lightning, wielding blinding lighting power as he rampaged through the army of enemies.

"I'd like to see if this test can force me to my limits!"

Sword will ferociously surged from Mu Jianting as he cut open a bloody path of corpses like a peerless sword.

"How exhilarating! It's been a long time since I've unleashed my full power like this!"

Sha Liuchan raised his head and laughed heartily.

"How interesting, only the top three most outstanding performances will receive rewards. I'm looking forward to it."

Zhongli Wuji fearlessly strode forward as an icy light flashed in his eyes.

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Supreme heaven prides courageously advanced, displaying all of their capabilities. If this was the outside world, countless cultivators would be astonished and amazed at their brilliance.

However, this was the Realm of Limits where they were alone and didn't need to worry about being seen by others.

"Old Ancestor was right. Due to the coming of the great age, the Cangwu Mountain's Realm of Limits test has become different and has a special reward unlike in the past. Such a thing has never happened before!"

"From this, it can be deduced that the treasure Old Ancestor longs for is likely hidden among the final rewards of the test..."

"I must obtain it and fulfill Old Ancestor's wish!"

In one of the Realm of Limits, Yu Lingkong advanced with incomparable speed and unstoppable momentum. Blinding rays of light shone from him, making him resemble a divine being.

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Chapter 874: Competition for the Reward

Reward!

In the outside world, the bigwigs' expressions changed when they learned the three top performances would receive special rewards.

This had never happened in any of the previous Dao Lantern Festivals!

What kind of reward was it?

The bigwigs fell into thought, displaying various expressions.

Cangwu Mountain was known as an ancient divine mountain that only appeared once every hundred years. The Ancient Dao Lantern Tree atop the mountain was also famous because the tree produced Ancient Dao Lanterns Flowers which contained peerless blessings.

A special reward from the second trial of the mountain was absolutely going to be extraordinary.

A bigwig asked, "In the Realm of Limits, you'll only have a chance to test by giving your all, but how do you determine who performed the best?"

After a brief pause, Granny Jin He said, "Simple, the trial has a time limit, which means that the faster you pass, the better your result."

"However, the Realm of Limits is extremely mysterious, and the number of enemies killed will also affect the results."

"Moreover, the Dao Lantern Festival this time is completely different from the past, and there are likely other hidden mechanisms we aren't aware of. Regardless, it will not be easy to obtain the special rewards."

The bigwigs shared similar sentiments.

A bigwig suddenly remarked, "In my opinion, your noble sect's disciple, Ji Xingyao, will certainly be one of the special reward winners."

Granny Jin He's expression was indifferent as she said, "No one can say who will ultimately manage to grasp a chance like this. Kindly do not speculate my fellow Dao Friends."

It was a silent warning.

After all, she didn't wish for Ji Xingyao to be targeted.

Of course, as someone from the Unsolved Mystery Sword Alms, she was unafraid if trouble did come knocking.

.....

The misty gray world continued to spawn 'cultivators' resembling ancient sect successors who wielded powerful dao arts and boasted terrifying combat abilities.

Although they displayed no intelligence, they charged forward brandishing various weapons without any fear of death, and were an extremely oppressive force.

Fist-force release!

Lin Xun pushed the Nine Heavenshaking Destructions Art to the limit. His eyes flashed fiercely as his long hair danced around him, making him resemble a demon god blasting through the nine heavens.

Plop plop plop~

'Cultivators' were killed one after another. Their bodies exploded into droplets of light that soon merged back into the gray haze.

Meanwhile, Lin Xun rushed forward with all his might using the Hornless Ice Dragon Step.

However, Lin Xun felt an increasing strain as time passed, which began to affect his rate of progress.

"Even the Nine Heavenshaking Destructions Art and the Tribulation Dragon Nine Transformations are unable to achieve the same effect as before..." A grave look emerged from between Lin Xun's brows.

From his estimation, the strength of the 'cultivators' he encountered at this juncture had become comparable to top heaven prides such as Wu Duanya!

"What an insane test, however..."

A trace of helplessness rose from the corners of Lin Xun's mouth.

He could blame no one but himself for being too strong. After all, it was his absurd strength that made the test so difficult and dangerous.

In fact, Lin Xun strongly suspected that only a small handful of experts would face the same insane test difficulty as himself.

In the beginning, the Combustion Star River dao art could destroy huge swathes of enemies.

Subsequently, however, it was at most able to kill seven or eight enemies.

The situation only changed after Lin Xun brought out the Nine Heavenshaking Destructions Art and the Tribulation Dragon Nine Transformations which allowed him to repeat the same level of dominance he had shown at the start.

However, the situation changed once again.

Despite using his maximum power, Lin Xun was at most able to kill five or six opponents with each attack.

It wasn't because he had become weaker, but because the new enemies were becoming increasingly powerful!

.....

Rumble!

Fist-force burst forth like a blinding torrent of lightning cutting through the void, killing 'cultivators' and turning them to dust.

However, more 'cultivators' would spawn from the misty gray world, wielding greater strength than their predecessors.

Bang!

It was not long before Lin Xun's fist-force only managed to heavily injure an opponent, who continued to fearlessly charge at him despite the injuries.

"I've hit my limit. These guys' strength is already no different from the likes of Sha Liuchan and Qing Lian'er. The nine Heavenshaking Destructions Art and the Tribulation Dragon Nine Transformations are no longer sufficient."

Lin Xun had long expected this. He immediately changed his combat strategy by drawing the Broken Blade.

Swish!

The almost transparent, snow-white Broken Blade slashed horizontally, instantly killing a dozen 'cultivators.'

At the end of the day, the Broken Blade was a spirit weapon that possessed peerless power. Moreover, the vicious heaven-defying blade could unleash multiple times its original power through the 'nameless inheritance of the dao rune array.'

Kill!

Lin Xun continued to advance.

.....

An incense stick of time would usually pass with the snap of a finger.

However, it felt exceptionally long during the second trial, and every second felt torturous.

Outside Cangwu Mountain, heaven prides continuously appeared after being eliminated amidst numerous sighs.

Every one of these heaven prides was famous for their strength in different regions of the West Infinity World, and they were usually the focus of attention.

Hence, it was alarming how so many of them had already been eliminated at the second trial.

Many cultivators lamented. "It is indeed different from before. The rate of elimination alone is incomparable to any of the previous Dao Lantern Festivals."

"It's already been thirty minutes which means half of the allocated time has passed. I wonder if anyone has passed the Realm of Limits."

Even more cultivators were anxiously watching the time, eager to know what was happening inside the second trial.

At this juncture, Ji Xingyao, Yu Lingkong, Sha Liuchan, Qing Lian'er, Zhongli Wuji, Mu Jianting, Li Qinghuan, and other supreme heaven prides were receiving more attention than ever before.

Who would be the first to pass the test?

The crowd was waiting in anticipation to find out.

.....

"First place!"

"The only way to obtain the greatest reward is to be the first to pass the test. The treasure that the Old Ancestor has been unable to forget will definitely appear in this test."

In the Realm of Limits, Yu Lingkong glowed with divine light like a proud dazzling sun. Combined with his slender figure and handsome features, it made him resemble a transcendental immortal.

His combat power was also extraordinarily frightening and easily swept through everything in his path. Astonishingly, his combat power was rising as the enemies grew stronger.

"No one can stop me. First place is mine!"

Yu Lingkong's eyes shone brightly, displaying peerless confidence.

.....

"I won't be missing out on the special reward."

In another Realm of Limits, Ji Xingyao sprinted forward in her white dress. There was a unique sense of serenity and confidence on her beautiful face.

She was also very fast, and her combat methods were extremely elegant while also boasting terrifying power. Brilliant sword light swept forth with unstoppable force, cutting a straight path through the numerous enemies.

.....

"Only the top three will get the rewards. Even if I can't be first, I must compete for one of the top three spots!"

"I don't know what the reward is but there is no doubt that it will be extraordinary. I must obtain it!"

"Everyone else is probably after the top three rewards. However, I believe that I will triumph over them!"

In different Realms of Limits, supreme heaven prides such as Lei Qianjun, Mu Jianting, and Li Qinghuan were doing their best and were determined to win the final reward.

This wasn't just an opportunity but also an unofficial competition against the other heaven prides.

No one would willingly be left behind!

.....

Swish!

The Broken Blade flashed across the murkiness like lightning, dazzling brilliantly while displaying unrivaled sharpness.

Lin Xun was already using his maximum power. He had never been so desperate even in the fight against Half-Step King Lin Taizhen.

'Cultivators' were killed one after another, unable to stop Lin Xun's advance.

"No wonder that old bat Bai Fengliu said the second trial will be an invaluable experience. It is incredibly effective at tempering a cultivator's strength, and if you manage to pass, your strength will definitely undergo a certain degree of evolution..."

Lin Xun began to understand what Bai Fengliu had told him previously.

He had been maintaining a peak level of combat which forced him to fully dig out his strength and potential. It was undoubtedly a rare form of training.

As the fighting grew increasingly intense, Lin Xun's control of the Broken Blade grew increasingly skillful. It began to feel like an extension of his body and made him feel complete as he grasped the blade in his hand.

Likewise, the Combustion Star River, the Nine Heavenshaking Destructions Art, and the Tribulation Dragon Nine Transformations had also been further refined and enhanced in the earlier battles.

Lin Xun could clearly feel a significant transformation occurring in his understanding of the martial dao....

Kill!

Later on, Lin Xun threw away all other thoughts and completely immersed himself in the battle, freely displaying his martial dao.

Star-Gather Slash...

Moon-Catch Slash...

Burning Sun Slash...

Silent Emptiness Slash...

The Heavenly Yuan Six Slashes were subsequently displayed by Lin Xun. With a light swing, the Broken Blade produced overwhelming power that swept across the domain with terrifying force.

It was a technique Lin Xun rarely used.

Even against the likes of Sha Liuchan and Qing Lian'er, Lin Xun had held back and not used the Heavenly Yuan Six Slashes.

Of course, it must also be noted that Lin Xun had only mastered the first four slashes, and had yet to learn the last two moves: the Birth Destruction Slash and the Impermanence Slash.

Despite this, the power of this blade art from the Omega Secret Realm was most definitely astonishing.

Eh?

Suddenly, Lin Xun, who was immersed in comprehending martial dao while advancing through battle, snapped awake and dazedly looked around.

There were no enemies left. He found himself all alone in the misty gray world.

"No more?" Lin Xun was stunned. Soon after, he realized might have reached the other side of the Realm of Limits.

[The Prodigies War](#)

Chapter 875: The Dao Has No Shore

Plop!

The final 'cultivator' was exterminated in a flash of divine radiance.

A slight smile rose from the corners of Yu Lingkong's lips.

I've succeeded!

Only a thousand feet to the finishing line!

He was slightly out of breath after fighting for so long with his full strength. However, it was all worth it with hope finally in sight.

Yu Lingkong inwardly muttered, "Old Ancestor, you will finally obtain the treasure you've longed for..."

He rushed forward without delay, deciding not to be careless at this crucial juncture.

Dong!

However, when he was still a hundred feet from the end, a deafening sound resembling a morning bell or evening drum suddenly rang out in the misty gray world.

"This..."

Yu Lingkong was stunned as the smile on his lips turned rigid. His pupils widened as disbelief filled his handsome face.

"No, this is impossible. How could someone else have arrived before me?"

Yu Lingkong felt as if he had been struck by lightning. Never felt before frustration and anger began to flood his heart, causing him to lash out and roar at the misty gray world.

A hundred feet!

It was a distance that would have taken a split second to cross and would be insignificant if it were any other time.

However, that very distance had been crossed by someone else first!

It was a tremendous blow. No matter how strong Yu Lingkong's mental fortitude was, he could not help but almost vomit blood in anger and feel a murderous impulse.

How is this possible?

A terrifying aura shot into the sky as his long hair danced around him as if he was an enraged god. His expression had turned frightful, and his presence was simply terrifying.

.....

"The Realm of Limits is indeed a marvelous place. I can't believe it managed to push me beyond my limits. Such excellent training is hard to come by."

In another Realm of Limits, Ji Xingyao's clear eyes flickered with illusory light.

She could clearly feel that she had benefited from the trial and her martial dao cultivation had advanced to the next stage!

Despite these thoughts, Ji Xingyao did not stop even for a moment as she rushed forward like a streak of light.

The end is just ahead!

Ji Xingyao had absolute confidence in her strength and was certain that she would obtain one of the top three rewards.

In fact, she was determined to take first place.

It wasn't arrogance but confidence in her abilities.

Dong!

Right before she could reach the end point, however, the sound of a bell rang out across the area.

Ji Xingyao immediately stiffened, and her clear eyes shone brightly. "Is it Yu Lingkong? Impossible, although I've yet to fight him, my foundations are not the least bit inferior to his!"

Despite this, she could not help but feel a sense of frustration and disappointment that made it impossible for her to remain calm.

.....

"It should be Ji Xingyao!"

Mu Jianting frowned as he inwardly sighed. As expected of the Unsolved Mystery Sword Alms' saintess. She was indeed amazing, and it was impossible to not be in awe of her greatness.

.....

"How is this possible?! Only half the allocated time has passed, but someone has already reached the finish line?"

Sha Liuchan let out an angry and frustrated roar.

.....

"Is it Ji Xingyao? Or maybe Yu Lingkong?"

The Great Desolate Lightning Clan's Little Lightning Marquis, Lei Qianjun, pulsed with raging battle intent. "However, this makes things more interesting. Life will be too boring without a few decent opponents."

.....

The same bell sound rang out in the many Realms of Limits and was heard by all the remaining heaven prides.

They immediately displayed varying reactions such as amazement, frustration, astonishment, and other emotions.

Outside Cangwu Mountain, the waiting cultivators also heard the bell and fell into an uproar.

"The first person has reached the finish line!"

"It's definitely Ji Xingyao. Only she is capable enough to beat the rest of the heaven prides and claim first place in less than an hour!"

"Agreed, Ji Xingyao is undoubtedly the most promising candidate to take first place in the second trial."

"Don't be too hasty. The second trial is the fairest and adjusts its difficulty according to the strength of the participant. In my opinion, some of the other supreme heaven prides could have also taken first place like Demon God Lin, for example."

"Demon God Lin? Hahaha, you must be joking. How dare you compare him with Fairy Ji? That's simply disrespectful toward her!"

"Yeah, even if we take a step back and assume it wasn't Fairy Ji, it's unlikely for it to be Demon God Lin because there are still so many stronger supreme prides like Mu Jianting, Li Qinghuan, Lei Qianjun, and Zhongli Wuji."

Various discussions ensued, and some cultivators even became red-faced arguing over it.

The bigwigs were much calmer in comparison. However, they were uncertain of the result and were more reserved with their predictions.

However, most of them believed Ji Xingyao was one of the most likely candidates.

For a time, many bigwigs congratulated Granny Jin He one after another.

Granny Jin He merely smiled politely in thanks but did not express any opinion.

After all, the final result was still undetermined. It would be rather humiliating if she were to celebrate too early, especially over something that was still uncertain.

"I wonder which three participants managed to win the final prizes of the second trial."

"The allocated time is almost up, everything will be revealed soon!"

Everyone was looking forward to finding out the outcome.

.....

An ancient stone monument inscribed with ancient dao text appeared soon after the bell sounded.

At this sight, Lin Xun was finally certain that he had reached the end point of the Realm of Limits!

"It's over just like that?"

Lin Xun was still in disbelief as he raised his eyes to look at the text on the stone monument.

"This realm has a shore but the dao has no shore!"

Although there were only a few words, they were very thought-provoking.

"It seems that this is indeed the end point..." Lin Xun was feeling a little unsatisfied.

Before arriving here, he had been immersed in polishing his martial dao and was gradually attaining a new high in his mastery of the Heavenly Yuan Six Slashes. However, he had reached the end point just as he was about to achieve a breakthrough...

It was a rather unpleasant feeling.

Wait a minute!

Suddenly, Lin Xun realized something was amiss. Although he had arrived at the end point, the second trial wasn't over yet.

The allocated time of an incense stick wasn't finished either.

Once he thought of this, Lin Xun suddenly began returning from where he had come from, hoping to test a certain hypothesis.

Crash~

Sure enough, Lin Xun wasn't disappointed as 'cultivators' began to appear again in the misty gray world!

Unlike before, however, the 'cultivators' who appeared gave off extraordinary auras. There was an indescribable sense of untouchable elegance to them as if they were disciples from an immortal clan.

Moreover, although their appearances were blurred, their eyes gleamed with intelligence. It was a complete turnaround from how they mindlessly attacked previously.

Lin Xun was soon even more surprised when a youthful man stepped forward, cupped his hands together in an ancient greeting, and said, "Congratulations, Junior Brother, for understanding the principle behind 'the dao has no shore.' Although there is an end to this realm, as cultivators, our paths should never stop here. Junior Brother will definitely attain great heights in the future!"

His clear and friendly voice echoed across the area.

At the same time, all the other 'cultivators' that had appeared also smiled and cupped their fists together at Lin Xun in congratulation.

Lin Xun could not help but become somewhat dazed at this turn of events.

It wasn't only because the 'cultivators' resembled actual people from the ancient era come alive, but more importantly, they were also calling him 'Junior Brother!'

A woman in a flowing rainbow dress with bright eyes and white teeth smiled sweetly and said, "Our Junior Brother looks a little confused. I'm guessing it's his first time participating in the sect's dao trials. This makes me recall the time when I participated in them all those years ago."

The others also smiled and displayed various expressions as if reminiscing about their own experiences.

It was a rather serene and enchanting sight.

"Sect?"

"Dao trials?"

Lin Xun's heart began to churn and he couldn't help but ask, "Uh...Dao Friends, may I ask what is going on?"

"Junior Brother, we left the sect long ago. We merely awakened a wisp of our wills which we left behind."

The young man at the head of the group smiled and said, "As for what is going on, you will understand everything after you leave the sect and begin to seek your own Saint dao."

The other men and women nodded.

"Left the sect? Seek your own Saint dao?"

Lin Xun gasped. Could it be that all of these men and women possessed the foundation and cultivation to seek the Saint dao when they left the sect?

The young man's expression suddenly became serious as he cautioned, "Junior Brother, the final test of the second trial is about to begin. Since we are merely phantasms generated from the will imprints we left behind, we won't be holding back later and will attack you with the peak power of the Cyclic Derivation stage. If you wish to obtain the reward, you must use everything you have."

The woman in the flowing rainbow dress grinned and said, "Senior Brother Li, stop scaring our Junior Brother. He's the first to reach the end point of the Realm of Limits and was able to quickly understand the principle behind 'the dao has no shore.' Such foundations and qualifications make him much stronger than we were back then."

The young man was rendered speechless. He soon recovered and said, "Enough chit-chat, we don't have much time, so let's begin."

"Wait..."

Lin Xun was feeling anxious. He still had so many questions to ask and was in no mood to take any 'final test.'

However, before he could continue, the young man summoned a majestic and incomparably compact sword will with a wave of his sleeve. It released a mighty pressure that caused Lin Xun's body to stiffen as he felt a pressure greater than anything he had ever felt before.

Shit!

Lin Xun's expression changed slightly. There was no time to think about anything else as he circulated his power to an unprecedented high and even activated the Sacred Combat Art!

It was something he had not used even in the earlier battles.

From this, it was easy to imagine how much the sword will pressured Lin Xun. In fact, it wouldn't be a stretch to say that it was the strongest sword will he had ever encountered!

[The Prodigies War](#)

Chapter 876: Heart of Battle

Swish!

Vast and majestic sword will filled the sky, overflowing with a fierce and oppressive aura that seemed capable of crushing heaven and earth. It felt as if a single cut from the sword will could collapse even space itself.

The young man seemed to become a completely different person at this moment. An imposing presence spread from between his brows as sword light flashed in his ruthless eyes.

It was as if all the emotions he had displayed earlier no longer existed.

Lin Xun felt a pressure greater than anything he had ever felt before. Although he still had many questions, there was no leeway to think about them as he attacked with his full might.

Clang!

The Broken Blade swept forth like a silver river of stars, leaving a dazzling trail in the air behind it.

The two forces collided, producing a thunderous explosion and a burst of blinding light.

Lin Xun's blood churned erratically as he was jolted backward. The attack had nearly injured him!

"Again!"

He gritted his teeth as raging battle intent burst from his black eyes. He circulated all of the Sacred Combat Art's power, causing his aura to rumble like thunder as it soared to new heights.

Star-Gather Slash!

When the Broken Blade passed through, it left the scene of stars falling amidst the eternal night in its wake as an aura of destruction spread.

Swish!

The young man stood in the air like an almighty sword immortal. With a snap of his finger, vast sword intent shot forth with terrifying power.

In the blink of an eye, the two individuals exchanged over a hundred blows!

"Although he's just a wisp of will imprint and can only use the power of the peak Cyclic Derivation stage, he's already much stronger than Sha Liuchan. What a monster..."

Lin Xun's heart rippled wildly in shock and amazement.

He was regarded as a demon god by countless cultivators because they believed that his strength was heaven-defying and abnormal. However, Lin Xun felt that the young man opposite him was the real monster.

It was hard to imagine what kind of amazing combat power he possessed when he was at the Cyclic Derivation stage all those years ago.

Crash~

Suddenly, the rainbow-dress woman also moved. She seemed to dance like a flowing rainbow as she swung a soft whip, causing rapid explosions in the air with each sweep.

Rumble!

The entire world seemed to fall into turmoil as the other 'cultivators' also moved. They surrounded and attacked Lin Xun, displaying various combat arts and treasures.

The scene of so many mighty Cyclic Derivation experts attacking together was unimaginably terrifying and earth-shaking.

If this was seen in the outside world, it would certainly cause a huge uproar.

However, in the Realm of Limits, no one would know that Lin Xun was the first to reach the end and was even facing such a crazy challenge before the second trial was over.

.....

"How much longer?"

"Fifteen minutes."

In the outside world, the bigwigs and cultivators were anxiously waiting.

"The dao has no shore..." Yu Lingkong also saw the ancient stone monument and read the ancient text on it.

He frowned slightly but soon understood and immediately turned around to rush back along his original path.

Gurgle~

'Cultivators' swiftly emerged one by one, each possessing an aura that was a cut above compared to before!

As expected!

"Fortunately, the test hasn't been completely decided yet. I still have a chance!"

An intimidating light burst from Yu Lingkong's eyes as he regained his fighting spirit. He charged forward without hesitation, throwing himself into battle again.

Unlike Lin Xun, however, Yu Lingkong's 'cultivators' didn't show any intelligence. Despite being much stronger, they were still mindless beings.

Meanwhile, in another Realm of Limits, Ji Xingyao encountered the same situation as Yu Lingkong.

"It matters not if Yu Lingkong or someone else reached the end point first, there's still a chance to turn the tides before the final result is confirmed!"

A determined light shone in Ji Xingyao's clear eyes. She was known as the leader of the younger generation in the West Infinity World and was extremely proud and confident in herself. Hence, she naturally could not tolerate being one-upped in the Dao Lantern Festival.

It wasn't just Yu Lingkong and Ji Xingyao. Several other supreme heaven prides who arrived at the end solved the secret of the ancient stone monument and also rejoined the battle.

As supreme heaven prides, none of them wished to fall behind others.

Amidst the process, there were also many heaven prides who were eliminated before they could even reach the end point.

At the same time, there were also top heaven prides who relaxed after arriving at the end point. They thought that they had successfully passed the second trial and failed to notice the secret mechanism at the end.

This was the great dao competition.

A single oversight would result in you falling behind without noticing!

Although such competition was often unseen and intangible, it was everywhere for those who had stepped onto the path of cultivation. For the younger generation, this unseen competition was especially cutthroat and intense.

.....

Plop!

Lin Xun was suppressed again, causing him to stagger backward and cough blood while feeling as if his body was about to break down.

The danger from the combined assault of a dozen peak Cyclic Derivation experts was something no outsider could possibly comprehend.

It was simply horrifying. Every opponent wielded astonishing dao arts and boasted superb combat prowess. In the outside world, any one of them would easily be called a supreme heaven pride.

With all of them surrounding and attacking Lin Xun, he was put in a precarious situation where he faced the risk of being eliminated at any moment.

Boom!

Another burst of vast sword will swept toward him. Although the attack seemed simple and straightforward, it gave off the sensation of being able to subdue heaven and earth and sweep through anything under the sun.

"I'm interested to see if you guys can push me back!"

Lin Xun gritted his teeth. The sensation of being suppressed until he was barely able to lift his head filled him with anger which finally exploded at this moment.

In an instant, his entire body seemed to become a chaotically burning furnace as his aura grew more powerful!

It was Yazi's Rage. It stimulated his potential, boosting his power far beyond its usual level.

Swish!

The Broken Blade emitted a clear cry as it grew increasingly resplendent. Cryptic runes began to emerge on its surface as an aura of destruction spread.

"Kill!"

Lin Xun charged into the group of 'cultivators,' engaging them in a chaotic melee. The world around them rippled violently as blinding light unfurled, creating a horrific scene of destruction.

Yazi's Rage, Sacred Combat Art.....and the 'nameless dao array inheritance' of the Broken Blade instantly made Lin Xun's combat power jump to an unprecedented level.

Likewise, the power of Star-Gather Slash, Moon-Catch Slash, Burning Sun Slash, and Silent Emptiness Slash were also further unleashed!

At this moment in time, Lin Xun was confident in killing even supreme heaven prides like Sha Liuchan and Qing Lian'er with a single slash!

However...it still wasn't enough!

Although he could fight back better now, he was clearly still being suppressed and could barely counterattack, let alone kill any opponents.

There were just too many opponents, and each of them was incredibly strong in their own right.

"Is this the final test of the Realm of Limits?"

"According to that young man, only by using my power to the limit will I be able to fight them, but

"I've already used everything I have!"

Lin Xun was feeling rather anxious. Being suppressed to such an extent made him realize that this was the greatest challenge he had ever encountered.

However, he refused to be eliminated!

After all, how could he admit defeat at the second trial?

Plop!

Moments later, Lin Xun suffered another heavy blow and was almost beheaded by a flying battle-axe. Although it missed its target, it left a large bloody wound on his chest.

I can't let this continue or I'll lose!

Lin Xun's eyes suddenly turned red. He threw aside all other thoughts and focused purely on the battle as he attacked with crazed abandon.

Battle!

The essence of battle lay in battle. This was the most fundamental essence of the Sacred Combat Art. Other worries would only mess up the flow!

Battle!

Lin Xun emptied himself of all other concerns and completely unleashed himself. Tactics, technique, past experiences...were all cast aside, and he instead relied purely on his burning battle intent.

Engage in battle with a heart of battle!

Rumble!

In this moment, Lin Xun burned like a mighty sun as an oppressive aura unfurled from him. He became a battle demon god from the ancient era that sought to fight through the nine heavens.

All I seek is a battle regardless of whether I win or lose!

It was the first time Lin Xun had let go of everything and fought without reservation since entering the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

Crash~

Amidst this extreme state of mind, the long-dormant Origin Aeth Artery near Lin Xun's heart began to generate a peculiar heat flow. The heat rapidly spread throughout his body and absorbed into his skin, blood, flesh, bones, internal organs...and even his aura.

Lin Xun paid no attention to these changes because every fiber of his being was purely focused on battle, forgetting the sky, the land, and everyone else around him!

.....

"I've succeeded!"

A Realm of Limits, Yu Lingkong's complexion was a little pale as he panted while drenched in sweat. It was a rather wretched sight compared to his usual dashing and confident appearance.

Despite this, his heart was filled with elation and anticipation.

Because all of the opponents had been killed.

"Although I took a little longer to reach the end point earlier, who can possibly compete with me in this final test?"

Yu Lingkong took a deep breath and looked around with confidence and disdain as if he was the one and only worthy person in the entire world.

.....

Meanwhile, Ji Xingyao muttered to herself, "That should do it, right?"

There were no longer any opponents in front of her. All of them had been annihilated.

Her beautiful face was covered in beads of sweat, her long black hair was in a mess, and her aura seemed to be about to fall into disorder.

The battle had clearly been hard on her.

"I would like to see who can still one-up me in the final test rankings."

A proud smile rose from the corners of Ji Xingyao's lips.

.....

As time passed, more and more supreme heaven prides were able to achieve the same feat like Mu Jianting, Lei Qianjun, Li Qinghuan, Zhongli Wuji, Sha Liuchan, Qing Lian'er, and a few others.

They didn't expect to be first but hoped to be in the top three.

At this juncture, only two minutes remained until the allocated time of an incense stick was up...

[The Prodigies War](#)

Chapter 877: Special Reward

Only two minutes remained...

Outside Cangwu Mountain, the crowd eagerly awaited the final results. Everyone was dying to find out who would come out on top in the second trial.

Even the bigwigs had stopped talking and were holding their breath in anticipation.

It's ending...

In the different Realms of Limits, the top dogs like Ji Xingyao and Yu Lingkong were quietly waiting for the final result.

The other heaven prides who had already reached the end point were relieved that they had not been eliminated and were finally able to regain some peace of mind.

As for those who were still fighting through the Realm of Limits, they could not help but begin to despair.

Although they weren't eliminated yet, time was running out. It was beginning to dawn upon them that they might not be entering the next trial...

.....

"Slash!"

Amidst a fierce battle, the resplendent Broken Blade swung upward, unleashing a divine radiance that could shock the world.

Up to slash through the nine heavens.

Down to sweep away everything under the sun.

Time suddenly seemed to stop in the misty gray world, leaving only a flash of blinding blade light.

It was breathtaking and peerless.

Plop! Plop! Plop! Plop! Plop!

The 'cultivators' were erased one after another like snow melting into water, unable to put up any resistance.

"Congratulations Junior Brother for surpassing your limits."

The rainbow-dress woman suddenly displayed a smile of relief and joy as she disappeared like a bubble.

The leader-like young man also said in a clear voice, "Everyone who enters the sect are brothers and sisters regardless of age. Junior Brother, we will meet again on the path of cultivation. Until then, take care."

He then turned around and also disappeared like bubbles into the misty gray world.

Lin Xun's body was still steaming with battle intent like molten-hot lava. When he saw this scene, however, he finally awoke from his battle stupor.

Lin Xun gazed at the place where everyone had disappeared and inwardly murmured, "Thank you all for your guidance. I, Lin Xun, will one day repay this debt!"

This battle allowed him to refine his martial dao to the extreme, resulting in a complete transformation. Moreover, he had obtained invaluable combat experience.

The Nine Heavenshaking Destructions Art, the Tribulation Dragon Nine Transformations, the Combustion Star River, and the Heavenly Yuan Six Slashes had been fully incorporated with the Dao Meaning of Water, multiplying their power and transforming them into almost completely different techniques.

The breakthrough also made Lin Xun realize that the true supreme path was the fusion of all the powers he wielded. It was, in essence, an unprecedented and extreme transformation on all fronts!

Additionally, his spirit power also underwent a metamorphosis...

There were just too many benefits.

Even the insights he gained from the battle alone would have to be polished and digested for quite some time.

Thud!

Soon after, Lin Xun swayed and crashed to the ground.

An indescribable sensation of weakness and exhaustion flooded his entire body. He had given his all in the battle and stimulated all of his potential. As a result, he immediately collapsed the moment he relaxed.

Pant~~ Pant~~

Lin Xun was drenched in sweat as he desperately gasped for breath. His handsome face was almost transparent, and every fiber of his body, even his blood and bones, felt completely spent as he lay on the ground, unable to even lift a finger.

He had never experienced such exhaustion since entering the Ancient Wasteland Domain. It felt as if he had been completely emptied out, and there was nothing left inside him.

Empty.

Completely empty.

However, Lin Xun was also feeling deeply satisfied. His clear black eyes calmly gazed at the misty gray sky as he lay there like a child on the roof quietly watching the twinkling stars of the night sky without a care in the world.

Gurgle~

A stream of heat suddenly gushed out in his empty body and spread to his limbs and skeleton.

In an instant, the body that had been squeezed dry began to recover at an astonishing rate like a tree reviving in spring or a dried river welcoming a sudden downpour...

Lin Xun silently immersed himself in the sensation.

It was the incomparably precious metamorphosis after breaking through his limits, and it was a transformation that he had never experienced before.

Like a butterfly emerging from its cocoon.

Dong!

It was at this moment that the time limit was finally reached and the sound of an ancient bell seemed to echo from far in the past.

The second trial was over.

.....

Dong!

The ring of an ancient bell echoed on Cangwu Mountain.

The cultivators in the outside world finally exhaled. It was over and the result of the second trial was about to be revealed!

Which three heaven prides won the special rewards?

Who managed to stand above the rest and take first place?

Everyone was looking forward to finding out.

"Quickly, go tally the number of heaven prides that were eliminated this time!"

The Windspeaker Clan experts were the first to move.

Although no one on the outside could observe the happenings of the trial, the number of heaven prides who passed could be estimated by counting the number of eliminated participants.

.....

In the different Realms of Limits, the ancient stone monuments at the end point began to vibrate.

In the end, this ancient stone monuments suddenly transformed into dao talismans which flew into the hands of each heaven pride who had passed the test.

The dao talismans had a plain design and were the size of a palm. They resembled jade but were not jade and were engraved with ancient characters which represented the achievements of each expert who had passed.

This dao talisman was also the participation token for the third trial.

Swish!

Yu Lingkong confidently caught the dao talisman.

"Old Ancestor, I will definitely fulfill your long-cherished wish and obtain that...eh?"

When he saw the words on the talisman, the originally confident and excited Yu Lingkong suddenly felt as if he had been struck by lightning.

His pupils contracted, and his lips trembled as he was once again assaulted by the strong urge to vomit blood...

Third?

Horrifying light burst from Yu Lingkong's eyes as he stared at the talisman in disbelief.

"How is this possible?"

In the end, he could not help but release an angry roar of frustration. His long hair wildly danced around him as his expression turned extremely terrifying.

Not even second, but third?

How could this be acceptable to the prideful Yu Lingkong?

He was always regarded as one of the most dazzling supreme heaven prides in the South Wonder World. His background, status, foundation, and cultivation were all considered outstanding among the younger generation, making him the cream of the crop.

With the exception of Ji Xingyao, he felt that no one in the Dao Lantern Festival was even worth his notice.

Despite this, he ended up getting third place in the second trial!

To the other heaven prides, it would probably be an achievement that could only be described as amazing and they would feel proud about.

For Yu Lingkong, however, it was an absolutely intolerable shame!

"Who is first?"

Yu Lingkong was unable to control his emotions and began to lose his composure for the first time as his face became ice-cold.

"No matter who it is, I will win back my dignity!"

Yu Lingkong emitted a terrifying aura as a fierce light flashed in his cold eyes.

It was at this moment that a brightly glowing halo appeared in front of Yu Lingkong. A pair of golden scissors emerged within the light, resembling two intertwined golden dragons.

It was the special reward that could only be obtained by the third-place winner of the second trial.

"Golden Dragon Scissors..." Yu Lingkong's pupils contracted as his heart trembled. Could this be that famous Saint treasure of the ancient era?

However, he was soon disappointed because he realized it was only an imitation and wasn't even at the Supreme King Weapon grade. Despite this, its power was unusually strong and comparable to ordinary Supreme King Weapons.

"The treasure that the Old Ancestor can't forget is a unique artifact of mysterious origin. It's definitely not this Golden Dragon Scissors imitation..."

"Regardless of who obtains it, I'll be sure to get that treasure back!"

Iceiness flashed in Yu Lingkong's eyes.

.....

"Second place...did Yu Lingkong really manage to beat me to the punch?"

In another Realm of Limits, Ji Xingyao frowned as anger flashed on her beautiful face. "Had I known, I..."

In the end, she sighed and decided not to say anything else.

"It's only a temporary loss. The important moment will come after the five trials. When that time comes, I will not tolerate any accidents..."

Ji Xingyao took a deep breath as determination shone in her clear eyes.

Everyone was unaware that she had not used her true trump card in the second trial.

In other words, she believed she had lost because she had been too conservative and made an error in judgment!

.....

Similar scenes occurred in the different Realms of Limits.

After learning their rankings, some were satisfied while others were resentful and unhappy.

However, no one could say for certain who the top three were.

.....

Meanwhile, Lin Xun, who had won first place, was still a little lost and dazed.

A glowing ball of light floated in front of him, containing the special reward for first place.

However, the treasure looked a little too unusual and tiny.

It was a thumb-sized jade bottle that gave off a faint but clear azure luster.

Lin Xun had never seen such a small jade bottle. It looked like a toy that a child would own.

This is the reward?

Lin Xun was stunned for a long time. While holding it, a cool and refreshing sensation spread from his palm.

The tiny bottle weighed almost nothing as it rested in the palm of his hand. Faint azure light flowed along its surface, making it difficult to tell the treasure's function.

Lin Xun sent in a strand of spirit sense, and the bottle's name immediately appeared in his mind, causing him to display a strange expression.

Dao...Immeasurable Bottle?

[The Prodigies War](#)

Chapter 878: The Sea of Sinking

How could such a tiny jade bottle actually have such a shocking name?

Lin Xun was very dubious of the name.

Dao Immeasurable wasn't a name an ordinary treasure could have. After all, the dao was the supreme law and power of the world. To use it in a name was undoubtedly a taboo that would bring disaster instead of fortune!

The usage of the word immeasurable was even more particular.

What was immeasurable?

It was a word to describe something that was infinite and impossible to measure!

Hence, any cultivator would be alarmed to find out such a tiny bottle possessed such a taboo name.

Lin Xun used his spirit sense to investigate the functions of the bottle and soon understood why it was given such a name.

Although the treasure looked like a tiny bottle, it contained a seemingly immeasurable world that Lin Xun could not find the end of.

Its greatest use wasn't storage of ordinary items, but instead to store martial dao power!

For example, the power of a punch using the Nine Heavenshaking Destructions Art could be stored in the bottle.

After storing martial power, it could be released with a single thought. Additionally, the power released would be twice as strong!

Lin Xun could not help but gasp when he understood this. "This is more amazing than those redirection techniques that leverage the opponent's force against them..."

Swish!

Lin Xun couldn't resist trying it out. He immediately drew the Broken Blade and executed his strongest Silent Emptiness Slash.

Omm~~

At the same time, he used his spirit sense to activate the bottle. The bottle mouth heated up and spouted radiant, dream-like light which transformed into a vortex.

A shocking scene followed. When the Silent Emptiness Slash was released, it was noiselessly swallowed by the shining vortex!

Yes, swallowed.

Its power, aura, and everything else was completely sucked away into the Dao Immeasurable Bottle!

Boom!

With a thought, the Dao Immeasurable Bottle fiercely erupted, sending out a Silent Emptiness Slash. A supreme flash of light instantly emerged and slashed open a ten-thousand-foot-long crack in the air.

An astonishingly huge gully was left on the ground, looking almost bottomless amidst the floating dust.

Lin Xun's heart violently shuddered. The power of this Silent Emptiness Slash was indeed much more powerful than his own!

What an excellent treasure!

Lin Xun's eyes glowed. The Dao Immeasurable Bottle was definitely an unbelievable treasure with unique and amazing abilities.

"In preparation to face an enemy, I can store martial power in advance to use as a deadly trump card by striking at an unexpected moment. "

"Similarly, I can activate the bottle in a battle to swallow the opponent's killing move and return to them at double the power..."

In an instant, Lin Xun came up with two different methods to use the bottle in the battle. Before the battle, power could be stored in the bottle in advance to use as a trump card during battle.

In battle, it could swallow the enemy's killing move and be returned with even greater power!

"I wonder if the bottle can swallow finishing moves from those King stage old monsters. If it can, the benefits will be even more astonishing..."

Lin Xun's heart involuntarily shivered when he thought of this.

He suddenly realized that if he was chased by King stage experts again in the future, he could use this bottle to swallow their killing moves and neutralize the danger.

Moreover, the bottle wasn't just capable of swallowing attacks. It could also release them again with double the power!

If the full power of a King stage expert was released by the bottle with double the power, could it kill a King stage expert?

The more Lin Xun thought about it, the more he felt that the treasure was simply magical and divine.

He had a strong feeling that he had only managed to figure out part of its capabilities, and the bottle definitely had more functions to be uncovered!

However, this was still speculation. He didn't actually know whether the bottle would be able to swallow the killing move of a King stage old monster unless he tested it first.

In any case, it was a happy surprise to obtain such a special reward from the second trial.

Omm~

Suddenly, the dao talisman in his hand produced a strange fluctuation, and Lin Xun was teleported away from the misty gray Realm of Limits.

.....

Swish!

When Lin Xun reappeared, he had arrived at a vast sea with violently raging waters. The sea was so boundless that it was impossible to find its end at a glance.

The Sinking Sea!

It was the venue of the third trial.

It was a very strange sea. When the test began, lotus flowers would appear on its surface. Cultivators would have to use these lotus flowers as footholds to race across the sea and reach the other side to pass the test.

Many figures had already assembled on the shore of the sea and were gathered in groups as they talked among themselves.

"Demon God Lin!"

"I wonder what ranking he obtained in the second trial."

"It's a pity that Demon God Lin has offended too many people. Otherwise, I would have been happy to cooperate with him in the third trial."

When Lin Xun appeared, he immediately drew a flurry of sideway glances and murmurs.

Lin Xun was unfazed. He quickly scanned the area and judged that there were about two thousand experts spread out across the shore.

"I recall there were over ten thousand people at the start, but less than thirty percent are left at the third trial. What a shocking elimination rate."

While Lin Xun was lost in thought, he walked to a remote corner and looked at the Sinking Sea.

As the name implied, cultivators would immediately sink the moment they stepped into the sea. Cultivators could only use the lotus flowers as boats to race across the sea because flying and traveling underwater were restricted.

Moreover, cultivators would be eliminated the moment they fell into the sea!

In previous Dao Lantern Festivals, although the Sinking Sea Race wasn't dangerous, it had an extremely high elimination rate.

Experts with grudges would often use this opportunity to attack their enemies. After all, since the participants could only rely on the lotus flower boats, it was far too easy to fall into the sea the moment a battle erupted.

In fact, a single wave could easily destroy an opponent.

After all, the water of the Sinking Sea wasn't ordinary water, but was instead filled with terrifying dao power. Each drop weighed more than ten thousand pounds, making a single wave no different from a mighty mountain.

Lin Xun soon withdrew his gaze.

He noticed that Ji Xingyao, Yu Lingkong, and the other supreme heaven prides had arrived long ago and were discussing something in low voices.

In addition, Mu Jianting, Lei Qianjun, Zhongli Wuji, Qing Lian'er, Sha Liuchan, Li Qinghuan, and Wu Duanya also had their own entourages.

Lin Xun also saw Bai Lingxi. She was dressed in white, still beautiful as usual as she stood to the side of Yu Lingkong.

Upon noticing Lin Xun's gaze, she smiled faintly and nodded.

Lin Xun smiled back, but his expression soon stiffened because he sensed a pair of cold eyes sweep toward him.

The owner of the eyes wore a white dress. She had a slender and graceful figure, skin that seemed to sparkle like gems, and a fair and beautiful oval-shaped face. She gave off an ethereal and sacred aura like a fairy who had walked out of a painting.

It was Ji Xingyao, the Unsolved Mystery Sword Alms successor.

Lin Xun was still feeling a little guilty. He had accidentally hit the proud girl's butt, which created an awkward and embarrassing misunderstanding.

Unless necessary, Lin Xun really didn't want to meet Ji Xingyao. She wasn't just proud but also didn't have a good temper...

Lin Xun could keenly sense that although Ji Xingyao's gaze seemed calm, it also contained a hint of murderous intent that felt like a cold knife pressing against the skin.

A cold voice rang out in Lin Xun's ears, "If you dare to reveal what happened that day, I guarantee that you will die a horrible death!"

It was a clear threat.

Lin Xun's eyes narrowed. This lass had such a terrible temper. Why did she still remember after so long?

A faint smile rose from the corners of his lips, and he suddenly waved at Ji Xingyao. "Don't worry, this will be our secret and I won't tell anyone."

"You" Ji Xingyao's expression froze as uncontrollable rage surfaced in her eyes. How could she have anticipated that he would be so shameless and say such easily misunderstood words in public?!

He was clearly toying with her!

Sure enough, the experts nearby were dumbstruck when they heard these words.

What was this situation?

Did Demon God Lin secretly hook up with Fairy Ji?

Everyone stirred restlessly and was in disbelief.

Ji Xingyao was the most highly regarded among the younger generation of the West Infinity World. She was like a fairy from the heavens who was admired by countless cultivators.

Previously, no one had ever heard of her having ties with any young man.

However, people could not help but think otherwise after hearing what Demon God Lin said.

For a time, many experts were secretly envious and jealous while many more were enraged, believing that Demon God Lin had insulted Fairy Ji.

The sight reignited Ji Xingyao's hatred. She gnashed her teeth as her eyes flashed fiercely, wishing she could rush over and rip Lin Xun to pieces.

It was simply infuriating!

She had never seen someone as shameless and brazen as Lin Xun!

"Just you wait!"

Ji Xingyao transmitted in a voice dripping with hatred. She suddenly realized that whenever she bumped into Lin Xun, she would become unable to control her emotions and remain composed.

Lin Xun displayed a wide grin as he inwardly remarked, "Only you're allowed to threaten me while I'm forbidden from retorting?"

Ridiculous!

The nearby experts' hearts churned at the sight.

Are Lin Demon God and Fairy Ji flirting?!

Is it a good idea to do so in front of so many people?

Ji Xingyao knew that she would only be more triggered by the shameless Lin Xun if this continued. With a deep breath, she turned away as if looking at him a second more would make her go completely berserk.

Next to her, Yu Lingkong witnessed everything as an almost undetectable iciness flashed in his eyes.

[The Prodigies War](#)

Chapter 879: New Grudges Are Made Before Old Grudges Are Settled

Ji Xingyao was often called the leader of the West Infinity World's younger generation and was revered by countless younger generation talents. Moreover, even her looks were peerless.

She had long and luscious hair, curved black eyebrows, and clear eyes that shone like stars. Every move she made gave off a unique sense of transcendence like a fairy who was as cold as snow.

In Yu Lingkong's opinion, only such a peerless woman was worthy of his pursuit.

To be frank, he had crossed thousands of mountains and rivers from the South Wonder World to not only participate in the Dao Lantern Festival but more importantly, to also get close to Ji Xingyao.

However, after witnessing the 'flirting' between Lin Xun and Ji Xingyao, Yu Lingkong felt as if he had eaten a dead fly.

"Miss Ji, this rude person is sullyng your reputation. Do you need my help?" Yu Lingkong said as he smiled at Lin Xun with cold eyes.

So what if this was the so-called Demon God Lin? Yu Lingkong didn't give a damn!

The nearby experts were alarmed. None of them had expected that the supreme heaven pride from the South Wonder World, Yu Lingkong, would step forward before Ji Xingyao even said anything.

Ji Xingyao was already pretty pissed and was fighting the impulse to rush over and rip Lin Xun a new one. As such, Yu Lingkong's words only made her increasingly annoyed.

What was Yu Lingkong trying to say? Did he think she could not solve this small matter and needed other people to help?

Ji Xingyao knew Yu Lingkong was interested in her, but she wasn't the least bit interested in him. Otherwise, she would not have sneaked into the Flame Capital and shown reluctance to meet Yu Lingkong who came to visit.

Although there was indeed nothing between her and Lin Xun, she was very repulsed by Yu Lingkong's actions, which made her very uncomfortable.

Lin Xun's expression turned a little strange. He raised an eyebrow and said, "Friend, you should be careful with what you say. What do you mean by rude? This is a private matter between me and Miss Ji. An outsider like you who doesn't understand anything shouldn't butt in, right?"

The experts present gasped. Demon God Lin had such an unyielding character, and he had even rebuked Yu Lingkong for interfering!

"How impudent!"

"Do you have no manners?"

"Hurry up and apologize to Senior Brother Yu!"

The other Longevity Land disciples who came with Yu Lingkong angrily reprimanded Lin Xun. They felt that he had offended and slandered Yu Lingkong, which was extremely disrespectful.

Lin Xun cast a sideways glance at them. He still remembered how arrogantly they had acted when he reunited with Bai Lingxi a few days ago and how they had blatantly looked down on him.

Lin Xun could not be bothered with them back then, but they were now clearly pushing it. Did they actually think he was an easy target?

A chilly light shone in his black eyes. "You guys best shut up. This isn't the South Wonder World, nor are we at your Longevity Land. So don't think that you can do whatever you want."

"You..." The young men and women were furious.

Upon seeing the atmosphere grow increasingly hostile, Bai Lingxi became anxious and immediately tried to step forward to mediate.

However, Yu Lingkong waved his hand to stop her and said, "Junior Sister Bai, I know you have ties with him. However, it will be best if you step down. This has nothing to do with you."

His expression was calm and indifferent as he gave off a strong pressure that seemed to convey he would not tolerate any disobedience.

Lin Xun grinned and said, "That's right. Miss Bai, there's no need for you to put yourself in a difficult spot. You should also know that I, Lin Xun, have never been afraid of anyone since I started cultivating."

Bai Lingxi frowned, but ultimately sighed and withdrew.

She could already tell that neither Yu Lingkong nor Lin Xun were going to back down at this juncture because it was a matter of dignity.

The other heaven prides felt a little peculiar. They didn't expect that Demon God Lin would not only appear to have some relation with Ji Xingyao but was also familiar with Bai Lingxi of Longevity Land!

How unfair!

What was so good about Demon God Lin that he could gain the attention of these two outstanding beauties?

Many men could not help but feel envious of him.

On the other hand, although the supreme heaven prides such as Sha Liuchan, Qing Lian'er, and Zhongli Wuji appeared to be watching like bystanders, they deeply wished that Lin Xun and Yu Lingkong would clash. In fact, it would be even better if they both suffered heavy injuries and were eliminated!

.....

Yu Lingkong looked Lin Xun up and down and indifferently said, "Everyone says that Demon God Lin is very bold, but in my opinion, rather than bold, it would be more appropriate to say you're a death-seeking fool."

Death-seeking fool!

The other heaven prides were shocked. Demon God Lin had already proven his strength through his many battle achievements, and there were now very few people who would dare to give him such an evaluation.

Despite this, Yu Lingkong had not only said it, but even declared it right in front of Demon God Lin. It undoubtedly showed that Yu Lingkong didn't give a damn about Demon God Lin!

"I do not wish to make things difficult for you in the Dao Lantern Festival. Hence, I will give you a chance to apologize to me and Miss Ji, and I will let you off this time."

Although Yu Lingkong spoke casually, his handsome face gave off a disdainful and oppressive aura.

Lin Xun snorted and was about to say something only to catch sight of Ji Xingyao acting as if she were a bystander waiting for the entertainment to start.

The proud girl was obviously the root of all these problems, but she wanted to stay out of it? How could there be such a good deal in this world?

As such, Lin Xun immediately changed his mind and said with a sigh, "Xingyao, won't you explain? I'm only doing this to protect our secret. If you really don't care, I'll have no choice but to reveal our secret..."

Without waiting for him to finish, Ji Xingyao froze and glared at him. "You dare!"

Everyone's expressions immediately turned strange.

At this juncture, even Yu Lingkong was beginning to suspect that there was some kind of suspicious relationship between Ji Xingyao and Lin Xun.

It caused Yu Lingkong's expression to darken, feeling angry and bewildered.

Ji Xingyao was feeling extremely indignant and embarrassed. She couldn't believe that the shameless bastard was using that incident to threaten her.

Even her snow-white neck had turned red, and her beautiful face was filled with embarrassment and alarm. She could not compose herself and felt as if she was about to go crazy.

"Lin Xun, are you forcing me?" Ji Xingyao took a deep breath and murderously glared at him.

Lin Xun displayed an innocent look and said in surprise, "Xingyao, what do you mean by that? I just want you to explain so certain people will stop being so extra and try to interfere in our matters without understanding anything. I've never planned on revealing our secret."

The way he called her Xingyao and said 'our secret' made it seem that they were on intimate terms, but it also made her want to kill him.

Her entire body trembled in anger, and her eyes were practically spitting fire as she gnashed her teeth. She was obviously on the verge of erupting.

Likewise, Yu Lingkong was furious when heard the word 'extra,' and murderous intent surged within him.

He was a descendant of the Yu Clan, the most outstanding expert of Longevity Land's younger generation, and was known to be unmatched among his generation in the South Wonder World.

Today, however, he was being viewed as an 'extra,' which was undoubtedly a massive insult!

"You're asking for death!"

Yu Lingkong's long hair rose around him as killing intent appeared on his handsome face. Light seemed to shoot from his eyes as an invisible pressure spread, causing the nearby experts' hearts to tremble. Strong!

In this moment, Yu Lingkong was akin to an enraged god. His presence soared into the sky, disturbing even the wind and clouds.

"Why? Are you going to lash out at me in anger? Bring it, I'm not afraid of you!"

Lin Xun displayed a sunny smile.

His black eyes flashed fiercely like lightning as his aura rumbled around him. He was curious about how strong Yu Lingkong was to dare and target him like this.

Moreover, after breaking through his limits in the second trial, his combat ability had undergone a complete transformation, and he needed a strong opponent to test the new extent of his capabilities.

The atmosphere instantly turned hostile and tense as if a bomb was about to go off at any moment!

No one had anticipated that because of Ji Xingyao, a sudden conflict would arise between Demon God Lin and Yu Lingkong before the third trial even began.

As the two individuals faced each other, it felt as if a storm was about to arrive.

The other experts watched from the sidelines with varying thoughts about the turn of events.

Some were eager for the battle to begin. They would be more than happy to see Demon God Lin or Yu Lingkong be eliminated.

Sha Liuchan and Qing Lian'er were part of this group.

Some were worried that a fight between two such peerless individuals would be so earth-shaking that it would end up affecting the others.

However, just as the battle was about to break out, an unexpected person stepped forward to try and dissuade Lin Xun.

"Lin Xun, I urge you to apologize to Young Master Yu and Miss Ji. Stop being so willful and stubborn, or catastrophe will strike you sooner or later!"

It was Xie Yutang.

Everyone was stunned. Who dared to take such a tone with Demon God Lin?

"The Little Sword Lord of the Xie Clan was once a proud individual. I never imagined that he would become such a lowly person. Instead of helping Lin Xun, he wants Lin Xun to bow his head. How disappointing..."

Bai Lingxi frowned, feeling very angry. They were all from the Ziyao Empire, but it was obvious that Xie Yutang did not treat Lin Xun as their own.

Lin Xun was also angered when he saw this 'old acquaintance.'

He had not forgotten that when he was clashing against the Black Nightmare Sky Dog Clan experts, it was this same Xie Yutang who had used the Windspeaker Clan to announce to the world that he would expose Lin Xun and squash the absurd rumors about him. The incident had suddenly left him in a disadvantageous position and even made him receive slander from many people.

To think that Xie Yutang would pop up again before they had even resolved their old debts!

Yu Lingkong was also slightly taken aback. He didn't expect such a sudden twist would occur at this juncture. He smiled slightly and decided to take a step back to watch how it would play out.

Suddenly, everyone's attention focused on Xie Yutang, which made him feel immensely pleased with himself.

Of course, he wasn't trying to steal the limelight, but instead hoped to use Yu Lingkong and Ji Xingyao to humiliate Lin Xun, take him down a notch, and ruin his reputation in front of all the other heaven prides!

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Chapter 880

Xie Yutang paid no attention to the odd looks he was receiving, nor was he afraid of Lin Xun's cold and murderous gaze.

Xie Yutang walked forward as he softly sighed and said, "Lin Xun, although you wanted to sever ties with me, I can't do the same and turn a blind eye to your conduct. After all, we're from the same place, and I naturally will not stand by and watch you willfully offend people you shouldn't offend."

This was when many heaven prides realized that Xie Yutang was also from the lower plane like Lin Xun.

"Lin Xun, it will be best if you take a step back and apologize to Young Master Yu and Miss Ji. Others might not know you well, but how can I not be familiar with you?"

Xie Yutang looked as if he was seriously giving consideration to Lin Xun's situation.

But the more he did this, the more disgusted Lin Xun felt. He knew that Xie Yutang was definitely up to no good.

However, he did wonder why Xie Yutang repeatedly tried to make his life difficult even though he had never offended the latter.

Due to this, Lin Xun restrained his murderous impulse and did not immediately attack Xie Yutang, wanting to see what exactly this guy was up to.

He's familiar with Demon God Lin?

The heaven prides present pricked their ears in curiosity.

Demon God Lin had rapidly risen to fame in a few months and shook the West Infinity World. In a single leap, he became a supreme heaven pride known by almost everyone under the sky.

His rise was too quick like a comet suddenly appearing in the sky. Some initially suspected he would not live up to his name. Still, he ultimately proved that he did possess the qualification to back himself up and was absolutely worthy of the title: supreme heaven pride.

However, his origins and background were still a mystery that no one had a clear answer to.

Hence, the topic was naturally intriguing.

An unknown youngster from the lower plane suddenly made a name for himself among the many talented heaven prides of the West Infinity World. In less than half a year, he became famous throughout the West Infinity World and was acknowledged to be a supreme heaven pride. It was an incredible and unbelievable feat that seemed like a miracle.

Under the attention of the crowd, Xie Yutang felt increasingly pleased although he still made sure to maintain a serious expression.

He looked at Lin Xun and said, "Years ago, you were merely a country bumpkin from some remote little village with average aptitude. You even struggled to kill wild beasts. If not for my help back then, you would probably not have survived until today."

The crowd's eyes widened slightly.

Had this guy actually saved Demon God Lin's life before?

The crowd couldn't help but look toward Lin Xun, only to find that his expression was cold and unfazed without any hint of emotional fluctuation.

Lin Xun asked, "What exactly are you trying to say?"

"Are you still unable to understand?" Xie Yutang frowned. "Do you really believe that obtaining a great blessing from one of the four ancient dao dominions, the Return Dominion, will allow you to be above the law and do as you please?"

At this point, he slapped his forehead and said, "Oh right, that's not all. Is your most trustworthy trump card the Saint treasure obtained from the Return Dominion? But don't forget that this is the Ancient Wasteland Domain. It is filled with many capable individuals and powerful experts here are as numerous as trees in the forest. Even though you possess a great blessing and a Saint treasure, you will still draw disaster to yourself if you don't know how to restrain yourself!"

Every word of the speech powerfully resonated with conviction.

However, everyone's expressions changed and they began to look at Lin Xun in a different light.

The Return Dominion!

It was one of the four ancient dao dominions, which were the most mysterious and unknown places in the world. They were rumored to contain ancient secret treasures that even Saint experts go crazy for.

To think that Demon God Lin had once entered the Return Dominion!

Moreover, according to Xie Yutang, Demon God Lin had not only entered the Return Dominion but also obtained a great blessing and a Saint treasure!

The experts immediately recalled a certain rumor about Demon God Lin, claiming that his meteoric rise in this West Infinity World was due to the great blessing he had obtained and the Saint treasure he owned.

Could that rumor be true?

The entire place was silent as various thoughts swirled in everyone's heads.

Even the supreme heaven prides such as Yu Lingkong, Ji Xingyao, Mu Jianting, and Lei Qianjun felt somewhat peculiar and began to look at Lin Xun in a different manner.

Desire!

In that instant, Lin Xun felt the burning desire in several experts' eyes. They were looking at him as if he was a peerless treasure trove.

He finally understood why Xie Yutang had jumped out at such a time. It was to provoke the herd and point all their sights onto him!

"He should be put to death!" In the distance, Bai Lingxi also sensed the change in the atmosphere. Her expression could not help but change slightly as she was filled with anger.

Xie Yutang had done it on purpose!

His seemingly pompous speech had in truth harbored evil intentions. He wanted to make everyone see Lin Xun as prey!

"Are you done?" Lin Xun black abyss-like eyes gleamed coldly. He could no longer forgive Xie Yutang.

"Why, are you still refusing to change your ways? Has my good advice failed to bring out even a sliver of repentance in you?" Xie Yutang appeared unhappy, but he was actually very pleased by the development.

His goal has been achieved. From now on, Lin Xun would be accompanied by endless troubles wherever he went.

"Who do you think you are to bark in front of me?"

Boom! Lin Xun stepped forward as a mighty pressure erupted from his body. It made everyone's heart shiver as if an ancient dragon had awakened.

"Do you...plan on resorting to violence?" Panic surfaced on Xie Yutang's face. Although he hated Lin Xun due to jealousy, he genuinely didn't have the guts to fight him.

Pak!

Lin Xun flickered from the spot. Before anyone could catch his movement, Xie Yutang received a slap on the face.

"AH..." He yelped in pain. He was also a heaven pride, but he was nowhere near Lin Xun's level and was unable to avoid the strike.

He was immediately sent flying and his cheekbone and jaw were broken, causing blood to spurt from his nose and mouth along with fragments of his teeth.

Everyone was shocked. Demon God Lin appeared to be furious. Did this mean that Xie Yutang's words were true?

"What a shameless hypocrite, do you think I don't know what you're up to? Should I call you devious and despicable, or should I say that you're a death-seeking fool?"

Lin Xun walked forward and sent Xie Yutang flying with another slap. He began to see stars as his ears buzzed loudly, basically on the verge of fainting.

"Lin Xun!" Ashen-faced, Xie Yutang furiously roared as he struggled to get up.

"Shut your mouth!" Lin Xun stepped on Xie Yutang's chest, crushing his ribcage as he looked down and coldly said, "I have put up with you for a long time. Do you really think I don't dare to kill you?"

Xie Yutang's face twisted in agony and hatred as veins popped on his forehead. All the delight he felt earlier had long disappeared. He never imagined he would face the humiliation of being trampled on by Lin Xun in front of a crowd of heaven prides.

"You..." Xie Yutang's eyes overflowed with resentment as he tried to say something.

"Shut up!" Lin Xun increased the force exerted by his foot, shattering Xie Yutang's ribcage and causing his chest to cave inward.

Xie Yutang shrieked in pain and almost lost consciousness.

"We haven't even settled our old scores yet, but you're already so eager to make new ones. Do you actually think I'll let you off for trying to use a petty trick like borrowing another person's blade to kill me?"

Lin Xun had a cold and cruel expression with horrifying icy light seemingly shooting from his eyes. "Let me tell you that everything you've done is useless, but I won't kill you. Instead, I will let you personally witness my rise in the Ancient Wasteland Domain. You'll see how I vie for the great dao while you'll forever be a pitiful worm who can only live in my shadow for the rest of your life!"

His tone was calm and indifferent. Xie Yutang had already crumpled on the ground like a pile of mud, unable to speak while his expression was filled with fear and resentment.

Only now did he realize that Lin Xun had long since become more terrifying than he had ever imagined and was so powerful that he couldn't even struggle or resist!

The nearby heaven prides were shocked by this scene.

As someone who could reach the third trial, Xie Yutang was undoubtedly a formidable heaven pride. However, he seemed even weaker than a chicken before Demon God Lin and had been subdued far too easily!

Several supreme heaven prides had varying reactions when they saw this. However, they now strongly suspected that Xie Yutang's words were true. Why else would Demon God Lin have such a big reaction?

For a time, their gazes changed subtly when they looked at Lin Xun again.

Lin Xun paid no attention to these changes. He could not help but feel angry, especially since Xie Yutang came from the same place as him. Lin Xun never expected that the first person to jump out and sabotage him would be a fellow expert from the Ziyao Empire. Moreover, it wasn't even the first time!

"Lin Xun, what are you doing? Junior Brother Xie was kind enough to advise you, but you not only refuse to listen but have even gone so far as to injure him. Don't you think you've gone overboard?"

Zhuo Kuanglan stepped forward at this moment. He was one of the five true disciples of the Feather Sword Sect while also a supreme heaven pride. Hence, he could not idly stand by and watch Xie Yutang continue to be trampled on.

After all, Xie Yutang was also a disciple of their Feather Sword Sect!

"You don't agree?"

Lin Xun raised his head and coldly looked over. Since his arrival at the Sinking Sea, he had been repeatedly provoked. Did they think he was a pushover who anyone could take advantage of?

Zhuo Kuanglan frowned. Soon after, he calmly said, "You should understand the consequences of your actions."

Lin Xun laughed, not caring about Zhuo Kuanglan's threat. He suddenly straightened his posture as his cold eyes swept across everyone present and indifferently said, "Whoever doesn't agree can step forward now. I, Lin Xun, will happily accompany you to the end today!"

His overbearing words caused everyone's expressions to change slightly. Had Demon God Lin gone crazy? This was way too wild!

There were so many heaven prides present. Did he think he could challenge them all alone?

Qing Lian'er softly laughed as she insidiously said, "Hehe. Look everyone, Demon God Lin is planning to make an enemy of all of us."

"Hmph, he's clearly asking for death."

"Lin Xun, you've just offended Miss Ji and Young Master Yu, and now you've not only hurt someone but also provoked us. Do you really think you're above the law?"

Sha Liuchan, Zhongli Wuji, Wu Duanya, and others also spoke up. They bore a grudge against Lin Xun since long ago, and naturally would not miss this opportunity to hit him while he was down.

For a time, numerous arrows were pointed at Lin Xun, causing the crowd of experts to inwardly tremble.

With so many supreme heaven prides speaking out, Demon God Lin was in big trouble!