

Sovereign 4231

Chapter 4231 Natural Secret Realm

It was difficult to obtain battle merits on the Realm Battlefield.

To open secret realms for advanced Emperors of Gods, one needed a lot of battle merits. Under normal circumstances, it would take hundreds of years for an advanced Emperor of Gods to accumulate enough merits to do so.

However, Duan Ling Tian was an exception. It was easy for him to accumulate battle merits since he was strong enough to kill ordinary Supreme Gods and obtain their battle merits. Despite being an advanced Emperor of Gods, his speed of accumulating battle merits was much faster than that of an ordinary intermediate Supreme God.

‘I can only open secret realms that correspond to my cultivation base in the realm of an advanced Emperor of Gods. There are two kinds of secret realms: a multi-person secret realm and a single-person secret realm. I need quite a lot of battle merits to open a single-person secret realm. In comparison, it doesn’t require as many battle merits to open a multi-person secret realm. However, if I use more battle merits to open a multi-person secret realm, I’ll have fewer competitors in the secret realm.’

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Everyone needed to contribute the same battle merits to open a multi-person secret realm. However, if one used more battle merits, one could open a two-person secret realm.

As for single-person secret realms, one needed to reach a certain level or accumulate enough battle merits to open it. If one's battle merits exceeded the threshold, the secret realm would turn into a higher-level secret realm. Needless to say, a higher-level secret realm would have many more treasures and fortuitous encounters.

'I'll continue to accumulate battle merits for now instead of entering a secret realm. When that place is about to open, I'll enter the single-person secret realm. Based on the current speed that I'm accumulating battle merits, I'm sure I'll have a lot of battle merits at that time. With so many battle merits, the single-person secret realm I open will definitely be of a high level. However, it'll be even better if I open the secret realm as a Supreme God. It'll have many opportunities for rudimentary Supreme Gods...'

The secret realm one opened corresponded to one's cultivation base. As such, in multi-person secret realms, only those with similar cultivation bases could enter them, and the treasures and fortuitous encounters in the secret realm were also tailored to one's cultivation base.

For example, treasures and fortuitous encounters useful to Supreme Gods would not appear in the secret realm opened by an advanced Emperor of Gods, and vice versa.

Duan Ling Tian, who could not wait to become a Supreme God, naturally preferred to open and enter a supreme-grade secret realm. His goal was to stabilize his cultivation base in the secret realm.

Over the next period of time, Duan Ling Tian began to wholeheartedly accumulate battle merits and obtain rewards. His cultivation was improving at every moment as well. With this and the help of the third Heavenly Dao Fruit, he would definitely break through into the realm of a Supreme God.

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"Hmm?"

Duan Ling Tian frowned slightly. He had just killed an advanced Emperor of Gods from the Sanction Land when he felt as though he was being watched. His eyes narrowed as he looked at a barren hill in the distance. He quickly released his Divine Consciousness as well and soon discovered another advanced Emperor of Gods.

As soon as Duan Ling Tian discovered the other party, the other party quickly flew out and said guiltily, "I have no malicious intention! I'm also from the Divine Offering Land. I heard the commotion earlier so I came to have a look. I, I saw you easily kill that man from the Sanction Land. You're really powerful! You should be an imminent Supreme God, right?"

The other party was a frail and friendly young man. Despite his friendliness, he was clearly afraid of Duan Ling Tian. His eyes flashed with a hint of anticipation when he asked Duan Ling Tian if Duan Ling Tian was an imminent Supreme God.

"Imminent Supreme God?" Duan Ling Tian was slightly stunned. After a moment, he said with a nod, "That's right."

The strongest advanced Emperors of Gods were imminent Supreme Gods. It was not wrong to say that Duan Ling Tian, who was undoubtedly the strongest advanced Emperor of Gods, was an imminent Supreme God.

Up until now, Duan Ling Tian did not only kill advanced Emperors of Gods and Supreme Gods from the Sanction Land, but he also killed a lot of people from the Divine Offering Land, including two rudimentary Supreme Gods. However, it had to be said that the people from the Divine Offering Land he killed attacked him first. He did not attack those who did not take the initiative to attack him.

Duan Ling Tian had only encountered a few people from the Divine Offering Land who did not take the initiative to attack him.

At this time, after receiving Duan Ling Tian's confirmation, the seemingly frail young man's eyes lit up. He said, "I'm Hou Lian Yu, and I'm a member of the Hou clan, a heavyweight supreme-rank clan in the Divine Offering Land! What's your name?"

"Duan Ling Tian," Duan Ling Tian replied. At the same time, he studied the young man in front of him. He did not expect the young man to be a member of a heavyweight supreme-rank clan in the Divine Offering Land. As a heavyweight supreme-rank clan, it was similar to the Myriad Laws Academy and the Lone Primordial Spirit Congregation in the Profound Energy Land.

"Big Brother Duan," Hou Lian Yu called out.

Duan Ling Tian was slightly taken aback by the way Hou Lian Yu addressed him. Then, he said, "I might not be older than you."

"I know," Hou Lian Yu said with a smile, "However, in my eyes, those who are stronger have higher seniority. Since you're stronger than I am, it's not wrong for me to address you as 'big brother'. Big Brother Duan, since fate brought us together, I have a suggestion. I'm looking for someone to enter an emperor-grade secret realm with me. Are you interested in joining me? You don't have to use your battle merits to enter this secret realm. The secret realm I mentioned is a natural secret realm that already exists on the Realm Battlefield. I, along with a few people, happened to be lucky enough to find one."

Upon hearing Hou Lian Yu's words, Duan Ling Tian, who was about to ignore Hou Lian Yu and leave, stopped in his tracks. His interest was piqued. "You and a few people found a secret realm?"

Apart from secret realms that could only open using battle merits, there were also natural secret realms on the Realm Battlefield. This secret realm was rare and mysterious, and one had to be very lucky to come across it. Even Yang Yu Chen, Duan Ling Tian's Third Senior Brother, who spent

nearly 1,000 years on the Realm Battlefield 10,000 years ago, did not come across a natural secret realm.

Only a limited number of people could enter a natural secret realm, and there was also a restriction on cultivation bases. Only those with the same cultivation bases could enter the natural secret realm.

Hou Lian Yu grinned as he said, “To be precise, I, along with another three people, found the natural secret realm! Among the three, one of them is also from the Hou clan!”

As Hou Lian Yu spoke, Duan Ling Tian discovered a trace of disgust in Hou Lian Yu’s eyes.

“As for the other two people, they’re from another heavyweight supreme-rank force in the Divine Offering Land. I personally know both of them from before. The four of us came to an agreement to find a person each to enter the natural secret realm. That secret realm can accommodate ten people, but we plan to enter with only eight people. Since there are four of us, it’s the fairest for us to bring a person each. I met a few powerful advanced Emperors of Gods before this and wanted to invite them. Alas, they either wanted to kill me, ignored me, or rejected me because they were worried that I and the others would kill them,” Hou Lian Yu said with a helpless expression on his face.

Hou Lian Yu continued to say, “Big Brother Duan, if you’re not interested, then I won’t persuade you anymore.”

Hou Lian Yu seemed prepared to be rejected at this moment.

“Why don’t you and the others look for your respective friends? Why would you look for strangers on the Realm Battlefield?” Duan Ling Tian asked skeptically. After all, it would be easy if Hou Lian Yu had just looked for his clan member to enter the natural secret realm with him. Moreover, it would carry lower risks.

Hou Lian Yu said, “We have our concerns. If we find fellow members to enter the secret realm, it’s likely that news of us entering a natural secret realm would spread. All of us aren’t very prominent in our respective forces. It’ll only bring trouble to us if the news spreads. Moreover, it’s best for us to choose strong people to enter the secret realm with us. However, if the other party we chose from our respective force is too strong, it definitely won’t be good for us...”

Although Hou Lian Yu was brief with his explanation, Duan Ling Tian could easily guess Hou Lian Yu’s thoughts.

If Hou Lian Yu invited someone from the same clan who was stronger than him, the other party would be privy to the treasures and fortuitous encounters that Hou Lian Yu obtained. At that time, who knew if the other party would try to rob those things from him or cause trouble? The risk, although not completely gone, was minimized if he invited an outsider. After all, an outsider would not be able to easily enter the Hou clan’s estate to cause trouble. Even if the outsider exposed the fact that Hou Lian Yu had obtained treasures, not many would believe it and would only dismiss the outsider as trying to stir up trouble.

After a moment, Duan Ling Tian stared at Hou Lian Yu with a probing gaze as he asked, “If I enter the secret realm with you and join forces with you, how are we going to divide our gains?”

Upon hearing this, Hou Lian Yu smiled and replied, “Big Brother Duan, you’re much stronger than I am. Things you obtain on your own are all yours. If you need my help, then I’ll take a 30% share. In regards to the things we find, they’ll belong to the first person who obtains it.”

Hou Lian Yu seemed very sincere when he spoke.

“Alright,” Duan Ling Tian agreed immediately, “Apart from that, if I obtain things that aren’t useful to me, you can have them. They might be of use to you. Think of it as a ‘thank you’ for your invitation.”

Hou Lian Yu's smile widened upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words. He said excitedly, "I really didn't invite the wrong person! Big Brother Duan, you're really considerate!"

As Hou Lian Yu spoke, he gave Duan Ling Tian a thumbs-up to express his admiration.

"Big Brother Duan, the others and I agreed to meet in three months. There's a month left until then. Shall we make our way there now?" Hou Lian Yu asked.

"Alright," Duan Ling Tian said with a nod. He was not worried that Hou Lian Yu would deceive him. After all, Hou Lian Yu had no reason to do so. If Hou Lian Yu wanted to deceive someone, he would not be so stupid as to find an imminent Supreme God to deceive.

Moreover, Duan Ling Tian was confident about his ability to read people. He dared not say he was 100% certain that Hou Lian Yu was not lying, but he was 80% to 90% certain.

Chapter 4232 Sectless Cultivator

Some people were just luckier than others.

For example, Hou Lian Yu, whom Duan Ling Tian just met. He had a good background as a descendant of the Hou clan, a heavyweight supreme-rank force in the Divine Offering Land. After entering the Realm Battlefield, he even found a natural secret realm. Many people lived for tens of thousands of years and spent thousands of years on the Realm Battlefield, but they never came across a natural secret even once.

Natural secret realms were left by the supreme powerhouses on the Realm Battlefield, waiting for the fated person to discover them. One did not need battle merits to enter it. Those with not very

good luck could only enter the secret realms that required battle merits to open and enter. Alas, the majority of the people on the Realm Battlefield were people with such average luck.

During the journey, Hou Lian Yu asked curiously, “Big Brother Duan, which clan or sect do you come from in the Divine Offering Land?”

Hou Lian Yu was fond of Duan Ling Tian, an imminent Supreme God who did not put on airs. From the beginning until now, Duan Ling Tian did not look down on him at all. Although his strength was close to that of an imminent Supreme God, he had met many imminent Supreme Gods who treated him with disdain and acted arrogantly toward him.

“I’m just a sectless cultivator,” Duan Ling Tian said with a slight smile. He did not say that he was not from the Divine Offering Land but from the Profound Energy Land. He was not familiar with Hou Lian Yu so there was no need to reveal too much.

“Sectless cultivator?” Hou Lian Yu looked at Duan Ling Tian in surprise. “Big Brother Duan, you’re a sectless cultivator? I assumed you were from a major force. Moreover, it seems like you’re younger than me. It’s really hard to imagine that such a young sectless cultivator is an imminent Supreme God.”

Although Hou Lian Yu did not probe Duan Ling Tian’s bone age, he could still vaguely sense when someone was much younger than he was. Duan Ling Tian was an example. Under normal circumstances, if someone with a similar cultivation base could vaguely sense an age gap, it meant that the age gap was at least 3,000 years.

“I thought about this before. I wondered if I were a sectless cultivator, would I be as strong as I am now? If I have a choice, would I choose to be a sectless cultivator or a descendant of the Hou clan? Needless to say, after thinking about it, I chose being a descendant of the Hou clan,” Hou Lian Yu said with a sigh, “Big Brother Duan, you managed to grow so strong in such a short time as a sectless cultivator. You must have suffered a lot along the way, right?”

Duan Ling Tian smiled indifferently as he said, “Not really. Everyone has their own destiny. If you have a good background, but you’re complacent and refuse to suffer hardships outside, you can only rely on your background to grow stronger. However, if you’re willing to work hard and train outside, you’ll also be able to achieve a lot. You’ll also be able to experience and gain things unique to most sectless cultivators. In short, no matter what one’s background is like, it all depends on the individual.”

As Duan Ling Tian spoke, he could not help but think of Yun Qing Yan of the Yun clan. When he was still in the mundane realm, he felt that Yun Qing Yan was extremely powerful and that the level of Yun Qing Yan’s strength was far from reach. In hindsight, Yun Qing Yan was really not as powerful as he thought. In fewer than 1,000 years, he had already surpassed Yun Qing Yan. In terms of background, he could not compare to Yun Qing Yan. However, Yun Qing Yan could not compare to him in terms of experiences, especially life-or-death ones.

If Yun Qing Yan, who was lucky enough to be born into the Yun clan and received abundant resources, was willing to get out of his comfort zone, he might be an advanced Supreme God now.

However, Duan Ling Tian knew it was easier said than done. Perhaps, if he was born into a prime-rank supreme force like the Yun clan, he might not be willing to leave his comfort zone and venture out as well when he would receive abundant resources anyway.

Moreover, even without a good background, the reason Duan Ling Tian left his comfort zone and traveled to so many places and came to the Realms of Gods was to bring Ke’er home. To be precise, from the moment he left the mundane realm for the Devata Realm, his purpose was to go to the Divine Offering Land to save his family and friends and bring his wife, Ke’er, home. Since Xia Jie, the Third Master of the Xia clan, released his family and friends, his only purpose now was to bring Ke’er home. He grew stronger and stronger for this reason.

During this time, his horizon had been greatly expanded. He realized how strong the supreme powerhouses were. He also deeply realized the world was dominated by the strong. With that realization, he gained another purpose to become stronger. Apart from bringing Ke’er home, he also wanted to be strong enough to protect and take care of his family in the future.

Becoming a Supreme God was not enough. Only by becoming a supreme powerhouse would he be able to protect his family. At that time, he no longer needed to fear anyone. However, he also knew that after becoming a supreme powerhouse, there would likely be supreme powerhouses stronger than him. Becoming a supreme powerhouse might not necessarily be the end of his quest to become stronger.

In conclusion, Duan Ling Tian would never give up on his quest to become stronger. In this life, he was determined to become strong enough to protect his loved ones.

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Since Duan Ling Tian met Hou Lian Yu, they did not run into anyone from the Sanction Land. They did meet someone from the Divine Offering Land, but the other party did not attack them so they did not attack the other party as well. Their journey was a rather peaceful one.

After a month, Hou Lian Yu brought Duan Ling Tian to the meeting place, and Duan Ling Tian finally met the three people whom Hou Lian Yu mentioned.

One of them was also a member of the Hou clan, a heavyweight supreme-rank clan in the Divine Offering Land.

As for the other two people, they were from a heavyweight supreme-rank sect in the Divine Offering Land. The duo was fellow disciples of the same sect. However, based on the way the man flattered the woman, it was likely that the woman had a higher status in the sect.

At the same time, a person stood next to each of them.

At this time, the other member of the Hou clan, who was a young man, glanced at Duan Ling Tian, who was standing next to Hou Lian Yu. Then, he clicked his tongue in a disapproving manner and said mockingly, “Hou Lian Yu, the person you found seems to be younger than you... Is he reliable?”

Since Hou Lian Yu could sense that Duan Ling Tian was young, it was not difficult for the young man from the Hou clan, who was slightly older than Hou Lian Yu, to sense it as well.

Hou Lian Yu looked at the young man and said expressionlessly, “Hou Dong, you don’t need to worry about me. Who I invite is up to me. You have no say in this matter.”

Upon hearing these words, Hou Dong, the young man, narrowed his eyes slightly. “I’m only worried about you. If you die under my watch, I’m afraid your elder brother will seek revenge from me. After all, I only brought you along with me because my elder brother told me to do it for your elder brother’s sake.”

Hou Lian Yu scoffed. “Hou Dong, stop acting so superior. Our strength is almost the same. Even if you’re stronger, you’re just a little stronger than I am. You’re still not an imminent Supreme God. You’re traveling with me for your own safety as well. During our time together, you’ve taken the initiative to provoke no fewer than three people. If I didn’t take action, do you think you’d survive?”

Hou Lian Yu was a little annoyed when he recalled how Hou Dong had taken the initiative to provoke people from the Divine Offering Land. He, on the other hand, had no intention of attacking people from the Divine Offering Land. Unfortunately, Hou Dong kept provoking people from the Divine Offering Land who looked like weaklings. There were several instances where Hou Dong was almost defeated, and he was forced to make a move to defeat or kill the opponents.

Hou Dong looked at Hou Lian Yu disdainfully and said, "Very well. Hou Lian Yu, since you're so great, you shouldn't have taken the spoils."

Hou Lian Yu scoffed. "Since I took action, I naturally have to take my share. It has nothing to do with you causing trouble unnecessarily."

After helping Hou Dong to deal with the opponents, Hou Lian Yu would claim the opponents' belongings. Since the opponents' spatial rings would self-destruct, Hou Dong did not gain anything. He did this hoping that Hou Dong would stop stirring up trouble. Perhaps, Hou Dong would stop if he knew he would not gain anything. Alas, Hou Dong did not understand his good intentions and even thought that he took advantage of him.

At this time, a tall young man, who was the junior brother of the woman next to him, looked at Hou Dong and said expressionlessly, "Enough. The two of you, stop quibbling. We still have to work together after entering the secret realm. Let's introduce the people we brought here."

Hou Lian Yu and Hou Dong stopped arguing upon hearing these words.

Then, Hou Lian Yu looked at Duan Ling Tian and took the initiative to say, "I'll introduce my friend first. He's the person I invited to help me in the secret realm. His name is Duan Ling Tian. Big Brother Duan is a sectless cultivator."

"Sectless cultivator?"

Hou Dong, the pair of fellow disciples, and the people they brought with them instinctively turned to look at Duan Ling Tian. Sectless cultivators were quite foreign to them after all.

There were many powerful sectless cultivators, but their number could not compare to those who belonged to a force. Their numbers were in completely different leagues.

As such, the others looked at Duan Ling Tian curiously when Hou Lian Yu said that he was a sectless cultivator.

Hou Lian Yu turned to Duan Ling Tian and said, “Big Brother Duan, this is Hou Dong. He’s also a member of the Hou clan. This is Qiu Ping. He’s from the Misty Rain Divine Sect, a heavyweight supreme-rank sect in the Divine Offering Land. This is Jiang Yu Wei. She’s also from the Misty Rain Divine Sect. She’s the direct descendant of an intermediate Supreme God in the Misty Rain Divine Sect.”

Duan Ling Tian’s expression remained the same when he heard Hou Lian Yu’s final words. After all, it was not like he had never killed an intermediate Supreme God before.

On the contrary, the people Hou Dong and Qiu Ping brought were shocked. They did not expect there to be such a person in the group. As for the person Jiang Yu Wei brought, she wore a veil so no one could tell if she was shocked.

Following that, Hou Dong introduced the person he brought. “Although my friend isn’t from a heavyweight supreme-rank force, he’s a prodigy of a supreme-rank sect. He’s almost as strong as a rudimentary Supreme God. He’s an imminent Supreme God!”

As Hou Dong spoke, he looked at Hou Lian Yu with a smug expression on his face.

Upon hearing Hou Dong’s words, Hou Lian Yu frowned. It was naturally not a good thing that Hou Dong found an imminent Supreme God. It was not that he was worried about Hou Dong snatching things from him. He was worried that Hou Dong would stir up trouble again now that he found a strong helper and dragged their group down.

Chapter 4233 Third Brother

Following Hou Dong's introductions of the imminent Supreme God, Qiu Ping and Jiang Yu Wei also introduced the people they brought.

The person Qiu Ping brought was also an imminent Supreme God. Similar to Hou Dong, Qiu Ping also made a point to mention this fact.

As for Jiang Yu Wei, she only revealed the veiled young woman's name and did not mention how strong she was.

"Since we're all here, let's go in. Although we hid that place, who knows if anything happened. If someone discovered the Formation and attacked it, the natural secret realm would move to another place," Qiu Ping said.

The natural secret realms on the Realm Battlefield could only be found by luck. One could choose not to enter it immediately and hide it with a Formation. However, if the Formation was not deactivated properly and was forcibly destroyed, it would disturb the natural secret realm, and it would move to another place. The entrance of the natural secret realm was unstable in nature. If the fluctuations of energy were too strong, it would cause the natural secret realm to move.

Hou Dong also became impatient after listening to Qiu Ping's words. He quickly urged, "Let's go now."

Since everyone was in a hurry, Hou Dong did not bicker with Hou Lian Yu. He was focused on getting to their destination as soon as possible.

On the Realm Battlefield, the use of flying ships was prohibited. If one brought a flying ship out, the flying ship would be instantly destroyed by the energy that enforced the rules on the Realm Battlefield.

Those who entered the Realm Battlefield for the first time would be warned by their elders not to use flying ships on the Realm Battlefield. Bringing out a flying ship on the Realm Battlefield was no different from destroying the flying ship.

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The Realm Battlefield was mostly barren and dark. The mountains were also barren. There were very few places with plants. Strangely, the plants here were not verdant, but withered and yellow.

Duan Ling Tian followed Hou Lian Yu and the others as they traveled through a mountain range. After a while, they finally arrived in a valley. When they entered the valley, he saw a very inconspicuous cave. However, after walking deeper into the cave, he saw a place that was like paradise. It was rather dark here so he could only see the scene clearly after a few people conjured up flames.

The imminent Supreme God whom Qiu Ping brought, a middle-aged man, said, slightly surprised, "This place is very well hidden!"

The middle-aged man came from a supreme-rank sect in the Divine Offering Land, and his sect also had some connections to Qiu Ping's Misty Rain Divine Sect. This was also one of the reasons Qiu Ping selected him.

Although it seemed like Qiu Ping was not very familiar with the middle-aged man, Duan Ling Tian speculated that Qiu Ping left the Realm Battlefield to invite the middle-aged man here. On the

Realm Battlefield, it was impossible to send messages through Soul Pearls. Such a restriction naturally did not apply once one left the Realm Battlefield.

Similarly, Duan Ling Tian also suspected that Jiang Yu Wei from the Misty Rain Divine Sect left the Realm Battlefield to invite the young woman here.

On the contrary, the two naive members of the Hou clan only searched for people on the Realm Battlefield. Naturally, it was also possible that the duo did not know any good candidates so they had to search for strangers instead.

Compared to sects, clans were usually rather isolated so their members did not know as many people compared to the members of sects.

Hou Dong grinned, looking a little proud as he said, “Of course, it’s well hidden! Otherwise, others would have found it before we did!”

Hou Lian Yu, Hou Dong, Qiu Ping, and Jiang Yu Wei discovered the natural secret realm together. Although the four of them were quite powerful, they were still not powerful enough. As such, they traveled together on the Realm Battlefield to ensure their safety. There were many people who grouped together for this reason on the Realm Battlefield. However, traveling in a group had both advantages and disadvantages. One needed to be wary of one’s companion and guard against betrayal as well.

Hou Dong looked at Qiu Ping and said, “Qiu Ping, deactivate the Formation. You’re the one who laid the first layer of the Formation so only you can remove it. I’ll remove the second layer since I was the one who laid it.”

The Formation was actually not complicated. There were four layers to the Formation, and each of them laid a layer. Each of them could easily remove the respective layers. However, to remove the

layer of the Formation, they need to offer up their blood. This was to prevent skilled Formation masters from deactivating the Formation. It was a simple but effective Formation.

The four people stepped forward one after another to remove the layers of the Formation.

After all four layers were removed, a mysterious energy surged in the cave before a pitch-black vortex appeared in front of Duan Ling Tian and the others.

As soon as the vortex appeared, a message appeared in the minds of Duan Ling Tian and the others.

“This natural secret realm was discovered by four advanced Emperors of Gods. A maximum of ten advanced Emperors of Gods can enter the realm. As soon as the first person steps into the realm, it will open up immediately. The realm will be open for a month. After that, everyone in the realm will be transported to the nearest base camp.”

The others did not seem surprised upon hearing this message. It was as though they had already known this.

Conversely, Duan Ling Tian was slightly surprised. He only knew that secret realms, which were opened with battle merits, did not send those inside to a base camp when the time was up. Instead, the people in the secret realm would be sent to random places on the Realm Battlefield. There was even a chance of being sent to the inner area of the Realm Battlefield.

Duan Ling Tian sighed inwardly. ‘It seems like there are preferential treatments for those who enter natural secret realms. However, I have never heard about this from Third Senior Brother. Is he unaware of it? Or, perhaps, he’s aware of it but didn’t pay much attention to it since he’s never encountered a natural secret realm before. Perhaps, he didn’t expect me to enter a natural secret realm so he didn’t tell me about it. I wonder how Third Senior Brother is doing now. Now that we parted ways, he should have an easier time, right?’

Duan Ling Tian knew very well that he was a burden to Yang Yu Chen while they wandered the Profound Zen Battlefield, the Realm Battlefield of the Profound Energy Land and the Zen Boundary Land. Without him, Yang Yu Chen would have long gone to the inner area of the Profound Zen Battlefield.

‘I wonder how he’d react when he finds out that I entered a natural secret realm? Previously, when he briefly mentioned the natural secret realm, I could detect a hint of regret in his voice. Clearly, he regrets not coming across any natural secret realm.’

Duan Ling Tian was filled with anticipation when he thought about this.

‘When we meet again, I’ll tell Third Senior Brother about entering the natural secret realm. He’ll definitely feel envious!’

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At this moment, Duan Ling Tian could never imagine that his Third Senior Brother, Yang Yu Chen, was in a natural secret realm.

After accompanying Duan Ling Tian to the Divine Sanction Battlefield, Yang Yu Chen returned to the Profound Zen Battlefield. Coincidentally, the place where he was transported to was near a natural secret realm.

“Junior brother, you’re truly my lucky star!” Yang Yu Chen sighed emotionally. If he did not accompany Duan Ling Tian to the Divine Sanction Battlefield, he would not have found the natural secret realm.

One could only encounter the natural realm by luck. It was a happy coincidence that Yang Yu Chen was transported to that place.

The natural secret realm that Yang Yu Chen found could accommodate up to three intermediate Supreme Gods. As such, he did not enter the secret realm immediately. Instead, he went to the nearest base camp, left the Realm Battlefield to return to the Profound Energy Land, and found two intermediate Supreme Gods to enter the natural secret realm with him.

The two intermediate Supreme Gods were among the few sworn brothers Yang Yu Chen had in the Profound Energy Land. One was a sectless cultivator and the other was from a prime supreme-rank force. Both of them were very powerful as well. At the very least, they were not weaker than Yang Yu Chen. However, it had to be said that they were much older than Yang Yu Chen.

“Third Brother, you’re so lucky! To think that you found a natural secret realm! Amazing!”

“Even the air in the natural secret realm smells different.”

The duo who entered the natural secret realm with Yang Yu Chen looked young. One was dressed in a pale golden robe; he was handsome and possessed a pair of piercing eyes. The other one was dressed in a white robe and held a folded fan in his hand, looking like a scholar.

The duo was not only good friends of Yang Yu Chen, but they were Yang Yu Chen’s sworn brothers. One of them was more than 3,000 years older than Yang Yu Chen, and the other was more than 1,000 years older than Yang Yu Chen.

Yang Yu Chen met the duo on the Realm Battlefield when he was 10,000 years old. At that time, the three of them were attacked by a powerhouse so they joined forces. They entrusted their lives to each other and trusted each other, and as such, they managed to survive. After that, one of them suggested that they become sworn brothers.

The white-clad young man who was dressed like a scholar was the oldest. At that time, he was also the strongest among the three. As such, he became the 'Big Brother'.

As for the handsome golden-clad young man, who was from a prime supreme-rank force, he became the 'Second Brother'. Although at that time his strength was no different than that of Yang Yu Chen, he became the 'Second Brother' because he was a little older than Yang Yu Chen.

As such, Yang Yu Chen, the youngest of the trio, became the 'Third Brother'. He did not care much about being the youngest. After all, at that time, he was also ranked third in terms of seniority in the Myriad Laws Academy's Inner Palace faction.

"It's all thanks to my junior brother!" Yang Yu Chen said without hiding anything. He trusted Big Brother and Second Brother unconditionally. During the 10,000 years they knew each other, the duo had never let him down. The duo was reliable and never hesitated whenever he asked them for help.

As the saying went, 'Time will reveal a man's heart'. After getting along for more than 10,000 years, even if they only saw each other from time to time, their relationship grew stronger and stronger to the point where they were even closer than biological brothers were.

Chapter 4234 Acting Weak?

"Speaking of which, we're indirectly indebted to my junior brother."

The golden-clad young man from the prime supreme-rank force in the Profound Energy Land chuckled.

At the same time, the white-clad young man nodded and said, “I have to find a way to repay this favor in the future.”

Yang Yu Chen only smiled upon hearing these words and did not say anything. He knew that his two sworn brothers were righteous people. Even if he told them that there was no need to repay this favor, the duo would not listen to him. Moreover, he also felt that the duo’s favor would benefit his junior brother in the future. Who knew if his junior brother might need it one day?

Although Duan Ling Tian was from the lower realm, he had made quite a few enemies in the Realms of Gods. For example, the Lone Primordial Spirit Congregation, a heavyweight supreme-rank force in the Profound Energy Land, wanted his life before this. Although the congregation had sent people to make amends with him later on, there was no doubt that if the congregation was presented with a chance to kill him, they definitely would not spare his life. Only if he was dead would he no longer pose a threat to the congregation.

After cultivating for so many years, Yang Yu Chen was naturally aware of this fact. It was not difficult for him to guess the Lone Primordial Spirit Congregation’s thoughts. It was not surprising if the congregation changed their minds about making amends with Duan Ling Tian.

...

After Duan Ling Tian, Lian Hou Yu, and the others entered the natural secret realm, they saw a vast canyon. Dark shadows like dark clouds loomed at the top of the canyon.

“Heavens! They’re huge monsters!” Hou Dong exclaimed in a slightly frightened and high-pitched voice.

Duan Ling Tian and the others looked up. They discovered that the darkness looming above the valley was not clouds but huge monsters. Initially, the monsters' eyes were closed. Coupled with the darkness, they could not see the monsters clearly. However, at this time, the monsters opened their eyes, revealing chilling blood-red eyes, which dimly illuminated the canyon.

At the same time, Duan Ling Tian and the others heard the sounds of heavy breathing.

“This should be the first level of the natural secret realm,” Qiu Ping said solemnly, “I’m afraid that even the weakest of these monsters are in the realm of a rudimentary Emperor of Gods... There’s also a chance that they’re stronger than that... If the weakest is in the realm of a rudimentary Emperor of Gods, it means that this natural secret realm isn’t a very good one. However, if the weakest is in the realm of an intermediate Emperor of Gods, it means that this natural secret realm, which corresponds to our cultivation bases, is a rather good one.”

After Qiu Ping finished speaking, the eyes of Hou Lian Yu, Hou Dong, and the imminent Supreme Gods, whom Hou Dong and Qiu Ping brought, brightened one after another.

Hou Dong muttered to himself, “I hope the weakest among these monsters are in the realm of an intermediate Emperor of Gods...”

Qiu Ping said again, “These huge monsters are growing impatient... Passing the first level shouldn’t be a problem if we attack together. Let’s make our moves now and defeat them. Even if this is the best natural secret realm, which corresponds to our cultivation bases, there shouldn’t be a monster in the realm of an imminent Supreme God in the first level. At most, there’ll be one or two monsters that are almost as strong as an imminent Supreme God.”

Clearly, Qiu Ping had a rather good understanding of natural secret realms.

Hou Lian Yu asked curiously, “Qiu Ping, have you been to a natural secret realm before?”

“No,” Qiu Ping shook his head and replied, “I heard some elders from our Misty Rain Divine Sect talking about the Realm Battlefield’s natural secret realms before. There are records detailing the experiences of the people in the sect who had entered natural secret realms before...”

“I see. I thought you were lucky enough to enter a natural secret realm before,” Hou Lian Yu said.

Qiu Ping shook his head. “It’s not so easy to encounter natural secret realms. Some ancestors in our Misty Rain Divine Sect have lived for tens of thousands of years. They had entered the Realm Battlefield several times and stayed for thousands of years, but they had never encountered a natural secret realm. The fact that we encountered a natural secret realm this time is enough to make countless people jealous.”

At this time, Hou Dong said impatiently, “Alright, stop talking. We should hurry up and pass the first level. You can talk as much as you want after we leave.”

As soon as Hou Dong finished speaking, he took the lead and attacked.

Everyone was shocked as soon as Hou Dong attacked. Wave after wave appeared out of thin air and swept toward the monsters above the canyon immediately.

The huge monsters above the canyon were already restless to begin with. As soon as Hou Dong attacked, they roared and wasted no time in attacking Hou Dong.

Initially, Hou Dong was very confident. However, when he saw the huge monsters charging toward him in unison, he could not help but feel slightly frightened. His face turned pale, and he hastily yelled, “Attack!”

Boom!

The imminent Supreme God, whom Hou Dong brought, made a move at this time. Flames appeared beneath his feet, and he was lifted into the air by the flames. In just a moment, he arrived next to Hou Dong and quickly attacked the monsters before Hou Dong did. His strongest law was the law of fire, and his attacks were powerful. With just a flick of his sleeves, flames raged in the sky and burned dozens of huge monsters into ashes.

With this, a small opening appeared in the midst of the hundreds of thousands of huge monsters.

“Kill them!”

While dozens of rewards shone down from the sky on the imminent Supreme God, Hou Dong's eyes lit up. He rushed out as huge waves swept out like angry dragons. In just a moment, many monsters exploded into blood mists, which were then washed away by his law of water.

One after another, rewards shone down on Hou Dong from the sky.

“Let's go and kill the monsters!” Qiu Ping said to the person next to him before he flew up as well.

At the same time, Jiang Yu Wei looked at the young woman next to her. The duo tacitly flew into the sky as well.

With the addition of another four people, more and more huge monsters died.

“Big Brother Duan, let’s go!” Hou Lian Yu said urgently. Initially, he planned to wait for Duan Ling Tian to make a move first. However, after a long time, he found that Duan Ling Tian showed no signs of making a move. In the end, he could no longer hold back and quickly flew up into the sky as well.

Upon seeing this, Duan Ling Tian shook his head before he followed Hou Lian Yu. In fact, he did not plan to make a move. However, since Hou Lian Yu had already made a move, it would look bad if he remained idle. In all honesty, he did not care about the rewards from killing these monsters in the realm of an Emperor of Gods.

Among these monsters, there were not many in the realm of an advanced Emperor of Gods. Most of them were in the realm of an intermediate Emperor of Gods. As such, the rewards from killing them were useless to him.

When Duan Ling Tian joined the fight, he saw the flames from the imminent Supreme God whom Hou Dong brought here. Every time the other party made a move, flames would burn the monsters to ashes. It reminded him that it had been a lifetime since he had last used the law of fire in combat.

Boom!

With just a punch, flames raged and surged, killing a monster in the realm of an intermediate Emperor of Gods in just a blink of an eye.

‘It’s still a little weak,’ Duan Ling Tian thought to himself as he shook his head inwardly after he attacked with the law of fire.

Duan Ling Tian attacked again with the law of fire. This time, he used the Mastery Dao along with his law of fire, which increased the power of his law of fire.

Boom!

With just one blow, Duan Ling Tian killed several monsters in the realm of an intermediate Emperor of Gods in just a blink of an eye.

Hou Dong, who originally looked down on Duan Ling Tian and assumed Duan Ling Tian's strength was only average, frowned slightly when he saw that Duan Ling Tian was not any weaker than him. He planned to ridicule Hou Lian Yu for not finding a strong helper, but now, he only remained silent. After all, in his opinion, even if Duan Ling Tian was not an imminent Supreme God, Duan Ling Tian was not weaker than him or Hou Lian Yu. As such, Duan Ling Tian was qualified to enter the natural secret realm with them.

Apart from Hou Dong, the others also paid attention to Duan Ling Tian. They were all curious about the strength of the person Hou Lian Yu invited to enter the natural secret realm with them. If Duan Ling Tian was too strong, there would be an extra competitor when they came across treasures later. As such, they sighed in relief when they found that Duan Ling Tian was not that strong.

'Big Brother Duan... His strength isn't any weaker than mine even though he's using the law of fire?!' Hou Lian Yu, who was also looking at Duan Ling Tian, was shocked by Duan Ling Tian's law of fire. Unlike the others, he knew that Duan Ling Tian's strongest law was not the law of fire but the law of space. After all, he had previously witnessed Duan Ling Tian easily killing an advanced Emperor of Gods from the Sanction Land, who was close to becoming an imminent Supreme God.

Nonetheless, Hou Lian Yu did not expose Duan Ling Tian. He was not a fool after all. He thought that Duan Ling Tian wanted to act weak and would only show his strength at the critical moment. Seeing that Hou Dong, Qiu Ping, and the others looked dismissive of Duan Ling Tian at this moment, he thought that this must be part of Duan Ling Tian's plan.

Duan Ling Tian was unaware of Hou Lian Yu's thoughts. Otherwise, he would definitely be rendered speechless. He only used the law of fire on a whim and did not think too much about his decision to do so. It was not necessary for him to pretend to be weak or hide his strength at all. If he went all out, even if everyone present, including Hou Lian Yu, joined forces, they still would not be a match for him.

‘Jiang Yu Wei’s helper...’

Soon after, Hou Lian Yu turned his attention to the young woman who wore a veil on her face. He watched as she killed the huge monsters with each of her attacks. The strength she showed was comparable to his, Hou Dong, Qiu Ping, and Jiang Yu Wei. They were close to becoming imminent Supreme Gods, but they were still not imminent Supreme Gods.

‘I wonder if she’s also acting weak?’ Hou Lian Yu wondered inwardly when he thought about how Duan Ling Tian was also hiding his strength.

However, unlike Hou Lian Yu, the others, especially Hou Dong, did not think so much. Hou Dong only took a look at the veiled young woman before he looked away with contempt flashing in the depths of his eyes.

Chapter 4235 The Imminent Supreme God From the Sanction Land

The first level of the natural secret realm inside the canyon was not difficult for Duan Ling Tian and the others. In fact, Duan Ling Tian had held back a lot and did not attack much.

It did not take long before the others killed all the huge monsters above the canyon. After that, the rewards appeared. These rewards were individual rewards; there were no additional rewards for clearing the first level in the natural secret realm.

“Extra rewards for clearing the first few levels in a natural secret realm are rare. Usually, extra rewards will only be given in the last few levels or only in the last level...” Qiu Ping from the Misty Rain Divine Sect said again.

Duan Ling Tian felt that Qiu Ping was deliberately showing off his knowledge. This was because he noticed that every time Qiu Ping gave an explanation, Qiu Ping would look at Jiang Yu Wei from the corners of his eyes. With this, it was not difficult for him to guess that Qiu Ping was trying to impress Jiang Yu Wei, hoping to gain Jiang Yu Wei’s admiration.

!!

Based on Hou Lian Yu’s earlier words, Jiang Yu Wei had a high status in the Misty Rain Divine Sect. Apart from having a high status in the sect, she was also good-looking. It was normal that an ordinary disciple of the Misty Rain Divine Sect like Qiu Ping wanted to pursue her.

‘Alas, Qiu Ping’s efforts are in vain...’

As an outsider, Duan Ling Tian could see that Jiang Yu Wei did not like Qiu Ping very much. Even when Qiu Ping took the initiative to talk to her, she would only give him simple replies. There were even a few times when Qiu Ping intentionally approached her, she would avoid him with a subtle hint of disgust flashing in the depths of her eyes.

The difficulty of the next few levels in the natural secret realm was naturally higher than the first level, but it did not pose a threat to the group.

Similar to before, Duan Ling Tian maintained a lackadaisical attitude.

The veiled young woman, whom Jiang Yu Wei brought, also kept a low profile.

Conversely, the two imminent Supreme Gods, whom Hou Dong and Qiu Ping brought, dominated the fights arrogantly. It was as though they were invincible.

During that time, Hou Dong also ridiculed Hou Liang Yu several times. He indirectly mocked Hou Lian Yu for finding a useless helper.

Duan Ling Tian was not angry at all and only ignored Hou Dong.

On the contrary, Hou Lian Yu barely held back from losing his temper. If it were not for Duan Ling Tian who ignored Hou Dong, he would have exploded from anger long ago.

...

“The eighth level...”

After passing seven levels consecutively, the two imminent Supreme Gods were beginning to struggle when they attacked.

At this time, Qiu Ping said, “Based on the current situation and the difficulty of the previous seven levels, there may be additional rewards for the eighth level. I don’t know what the extra rewards are, but there’s no doubt that it’ll be useful to us, advanced Emperors of Gods!”

Up until now, the tests in the natural secret realm were carried out in the canyon.

Monster after monster kept appearing. Occasionally, human powerhouses would appear as well. These human powerhouses were from the Sanction Land and were transported to the canyon in the natural secret realm by the design of the supreme powerhouses. These human powerhouses strayed into dangerous places on the Realm Battlefield and were transported to the natural secret realm by some means of the supreme powerhouses to serve as a test to those who entered the natural secret realm.

In fact, these people were rather unlucky. If they were weaker than those who entered the natural secret realm, they would only die. If they were stronger than those who entered the natural secret realm, they would be transported out of the natural secret realm after killing those who entered the natural secret realm. They would not be given a chance to explore the natural secret realm at all. Apart from the rewards of killing the people who entered the natural secret realm, they did not benefit at all from this.

Apart from that, if those who entered the natural secret realm were from the Divine Offering Land, only people from the Sanction Land would be chosen to be opponents in the natural secret realm. Conversely, if those who entered were from the Sanction Land, only those from the Divine Offering Land would be chosen to become opponents.

...

At this time, under Duan Ling Tian and the others' watchful eyes, a spatial vortex appeared above the canyon before five figures appeared one after another.

These five people obviously did not know each other. They quickly retreated to the sides vigilantly as soon as they appeared.

“What’s this place?”

“Where are we?”

Realization only dawned on these people when they saw Duan Ling Tian and the others standing below.

“We were pulled into a natural secret realm! We’re their test in the natural secret realm!”

“We have to join forces to kill them! The rewards from killing them aside, we can only leave after we kill them!”

“It’s important that we join forces. Otherwise, we’ll be defeated by them!”

“How strong are you? I’m skilled in the law of space, and I’m almost as strong as an imminent Supreme God.”

“I’m also almost as strong as an imminent Supreme God, and my strongest law is the law of water.”

“I’m an imminent Supreme God, and I’m skilled in the law of destruction.”

The five people, who discovered they had been transported into a natural secret realm, quickly reached an agreement to join forces. They stood back to back in a circle. At this time, they were no longer wary of each other. After all, their lives were tied to each other. Any betrayal among themselves would only lead to their deaths.

Moreover, the five people also knew that Duan Ling Tian and the others could not be weak. In fact, there was a possibility that Duan Ling Tian and the others were stronger than them.

The five people communicated through Voice Transmissions from the beginning until the end. As such, Duan Ling Tian and the others were still unaware of their strength. The only thing Duan Ling Tian and the others knew about them was that they were from the Sanction Land, evident from the blue light their bodies emitted.

Duan Ling Tian and the others knew that these five people were just like them. These five people also entered the Realm Battlefield in search of opportunities and breakthroughs.

“Among the five of us, I’m the only imminent Supreme God. This means that there’s a high chance that they’ve yet to encounter any imminent Supreme Gods before we appeared,” the only imminent Supreme God among the five people said, “When we fight, I’ll hide my strength first. I’ll display strength weaker than all of you so they won’t be wary of me. I suspect that at least one of them is an imminent Supreme God. If there’s only one imminent Supreme God among them, I’ll launch an ambush and kill that imminent Supreme God. After that, it’ll be easy for us to deal with the others and escape...”

The eyes of the other four lit up immediately upon hearing these words.

“Alright, I’ll do as you said!”

“All of us want to survive! We’ll follow your plan!”

“This is the best way! It’s worth it even if it means we’ll suffer minor injuries in the beginning!”

“I agree!”

The other four people agreed very quickly. No one hesitated or questioned the imminent Supreme God. They knew that this was their best option. If the other party also had an imminent Supreme God, they would likely be defeated if they recklessly charged forward. If they hid their strength, even if they were at a disadvantage in the beginning, there was a chance for them to turn things around at the critical moment. It was imperative that they were careful. After all, the other party was definitely not weak.

“Alright, let’s do as we planned,” the imminent Supreme God from the Sanction Land said, relieved that no one opposed his idea. Fortunately, the other four people were not fools and agreed to cooperate with him.

However, after a beat, the Sanction Land’s imminent Supreme God said, thinking it was necessary to warn the other four, “There’s also another possibility... There might be two imminent Supreme Gods among our opponents. If that’s the case, even if I manage to kill one imminent Supreme God, we might not be able to survive. However, we’re not completely without hope. According to the rules, they’ll fail if they can’t clear the level within 15 minutes. At that time, those of us who survive will be transported out of this place...”

The expressions of the other four turned grim upon hearing these words.

“If the other side has three or more imminent Supreme Gods, then... there’s nothing we can do to escape death. Saying that, our deaths will be worth it if we can kill even one imminent Supreme God,” the imminent Supreme God from the Sanction Land said.

The expressions of the other four were extremely solemn. They all understood the gravity of the situation they were in. Their only choice was to go all out and fight.

At this time, just like before, Hou Dong said before he took the initiative to rush out again, “They’re from the Sanction Land! Kill them!”

“Kill them!”

After the imminent Supreme God next to Hou Dong flew out, Qiu Ping and the imminent Supreme God next to him flew out as well, followed by Hou Lian Yu and Jiang Yu Wei.

Duan Ling Tian and the veiled young woman were the last ones to make a move.

The veiled young woman glanced at Duan Ling Tian as they moved.

Although the veiled young woman was discreet, Duan Ling Tian still noticed it. However, he pretended not to notice anything. Since the time they met, he had a strong feeling that she was much stronger than she seemed. After all, she was someone whom Jiang Yu Wei invited. Logically, Jiang Yu Wei would find an imminent Supreme God to help her in the natural secret realm. It would be useless for Jiang Yu Wei to find a weak helper. Naturally, there was also a possibility that Jiang Yu Wei had a good relationship with the veiled young woman so she brought her here regardless of her strength.

However, in Duan Ling Tian’s opinion, if Jiang Yu Wei and the veiled young woman had a good relationship, the veiled young woman would have declined Jiang Yu Wei’s invitation since she would only be a burden to Jiang Yu Wei. It was more beneficial for Jiang Yu Wei to bring a strong helper into the natural secret realm after all. It was only normal to want the best for one’s good friend. Naturally, he did not discount the possibility that the veiled young woman did not care about what was best for Jiang Yu Wei.

In any case, Duan Ling Tian was not worried at all. Even if the veiled young woman was stronger than the average imminent Supreme God, she was still no threat to him.

Chapter 4236 Additional Reward

When Duan Ling Tian and the veiled young woman made a move, Hou Dong, Qiu Ping, and the two imminent Supreme Gods had already begun to fight the other five gatekeepers of the level.

Since the imminent Supreme God from the Sanction Land was hiding his strength, Hou Dong bellowed, "There's no imminent Supreme God among them! Kill them!"

Hou Dong's energy surged, and he became much stronger. The last trace of worry in his heart disappeared completely when he discovered their opponents were only almost as strong as imminent Supreme Gods. Since there were no imminent Supreme God among their opponents, what was there to worry about?

Earlier, Hou Dong was still worried that there would be imminent Supreme Gods among their opponents. As such, he had held back and stayed close to the imminent Supreme God he brought with him. Now that his worries were dispelled, he no longer had any scruples and let loose completely.

!!

At the same time, Qiu Ping and the other two imminent Supreme Gods smiled smugly. Without an imminent Supreme God, their opponents were no match for them at all. It would be easy to kill all of them.

As for Jiang Yu Wei and Hou Lian Yu, they slowed down a little after hearing Hou Dong's words. Since there was no imminent Supreme Gods among their opponents, they felt that the four people in front of them were more than enough to deal with their five opponents from the Sanction Land.

Even Duan Ling Tian and the veiled young woman instinctively slowed down when Jiang Yu Wei and Hou Lian Yu slowed down.

Not long after, the four people in Duan Ling Tian's group fought the five opponents and quickly gained the upper hand.

Suddenly, Duan Ling Tian's eyes narrowed when his eyes fell on the seemingly weakest person among the five people from the Sanction Land.

There was something amiss with the other person. Despite seeming like the weakest with the other four protecting him, his eyes were fixed on the four people from Duan Ling Tian's group as though he was calculating something. It was as though he was the core of the group.

After a moment, the veiled young woman's eyes also fell on that person. Clearly, she had also sensed that something was amiss with that person.

In the next moment, the seemingly weakest person of the group from the Sanction Land, who was targeted by two people from Duan Ling Tian's group, deliberately moved closer to the imminent Supreme God, whom Hou Dong brought here. Following that, his energy suddenly exploded.

Boom!

A terrifying destructive energy surged out as a gigantic hammer fell from the sky toward Hou Dong's imminent Supreme God who was chasing another person from the Sanction Land.

Initially, Hou Dong's imminent Supreme God did not pay attention to the imminent Supreme God from the Sanction Land. After all, he assumed the other party was the weakest among the opponents. At this time, he suddenly discovered that the weakest opponent was now no weaker than him, becoming far stronger than the person he was chasing. Due to his inattention in the beginning, the prominent divine artifact of the imminent Supreme God of the Sanction Land, which had been imbued with bloodline power, fell on him heavily like Thor's hammer.

"Help me!!" the imminent Supreme God, whom Hou Dong found, cried out. He panicked now that his life was being threatened. He hastily turned around, trying to avoid the attack. Alas, his movements were a little too slow.

Boom!

The others had yet to react when an explosion rang in the air after the giant hammer with the bloodline power and the destructive energy fell on Hou Dong's imminent Supreme God. It easily crushed his attack before crushing him.

A blood mist had just appeared in the air when it was dispersed by the wind, causing Qiu Ping and his imminent Supreme Gods to feel chills running up their spines.

Just like that, an imminent Supreme God died.

"How's this possible?!"

Hou Dong's expression changed drastically. He did not expect an imminent Supreme God to be hiding among the five people from the Sanction Land.

“Kill them!”

Before Duan Ling Tian and the others caught up, the four people from the Sanction Land who were almost as strong as imminent Supreme Gods rushed toward Hou Dong and Qiu Ping. Since the duo's strength was on par with theirs, it was only natural that they had the advantage since there were four of them.

At the same time, the imminent Supreme God, whom Qiu Ping found, fought fiercely with the imminent Supreme God from the Sanction Land.

“Jiang Yu Wei, Hou Liang Yu, hurry up!” Hou Dong roared. He could not help but feel anxious at this time. He did not dare to fight the four opponents in front of him and hurriedly retreated.

Similarly, Qiu Ping retreated as well, feeling flustered.

Jiang Yu Wei did not move immediately. Her beautiful eyes lit up as she murmured, “He really hid his strength well...”

At this time, Hou Lian Yu who was just about to make a move was stopped by Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian said, “Be patient... You should only make a move after Jiang Yu Wei makes a move...”

Hou Lian Yu was slightly puzzled. He frowned when he saw that Jiang Yu Wei was not moving at all. Soon enough, his expression turned solemn when a thought appeared in his mind. It was clear to him now that Jiang Yu Wei did not make a move immediately because she hoped that Hou Dong and Qiu Ping would suffer some injuries. She clearly harbored selfish intentions.

However, everyone was selfish to a certain extent. Hou Lian Yu was not completely selfless as well.

Hou Lian Yu and Hou Dong did not have a particularly good relationship even though they were from the same clan. As for Qiu Ping and the others from the Misty Rain Divine Sect, they were no different from strangers to him. There was no reason for him to help the others when Jiang Yu Wei had yet to take action. After all, without Jiang Yu Wei, he would also be injured if he stepped forward to help Hou Dong and Qiu Ping now. Unless Duan Ling Tian helped him, the three of them were no match for the four people from the Sanction Land at all.

The four people from the Sanction Land chased after Hou Dong and Qiu Ping, and both of them were injured in just a blink of an eye, spitting out blood.

At this time, Jiang Yu Wei and Hou Lian Yu finally made a move while Duan Ling Tian and the veiled young woman followed closely behind.

Duan Ling Tian used the law of fire again as he joined forces with Hou Lian Yu, Jiang Yu Wei, and the veiled young woman.

Despite being injured, Hou Dong and Qiu Ping were still able to fight.

As such, it did not take long before the four people from the Sanction Land, who had the upper hand just a moment ago, were completely suppressed.

At this time, Hou Lian Yu quickly seized the chance and said apologetically, "I'm sorry. I was a little distracted earlier. I was really shocked that there's an imminent Supreme God among them..."

Jiang Yu Wei, who was planning to use the same excuse, frowned slightly upon hearing Hou Lian Yu's words. Then, she hastily said, "Me too. I really didn't expect there to be an imminent Supreme God."

At the same time, Jiang Yu Wei could not help but wonder inwardly, 'Why did Hou Lian Yu suddenly become smarter?'

Previously, Jiang Yu Wei, Qiu Ping, Hou Lian Yu, and Hou Dong wandered the Realm Battlefield together. As such, she understood Hou Lian Yu to a certain extent. Although Hou Lian Yu was calm and rational, he was also dense and honest to a fault. He was definitely not cunning like he was now; he was like a different person at this moment.

'Is it because of his helper?' Jiang Yu Wei could not help but speculate.

Jiang Yu Wei's speculation was correct. Duan Ling Tian had reminded Hou Lian Yu and taught him to say those words through Voice Transmission earlier. He knew Hou Dong and Qiu Ping would definitely question Hou Lian Yu and Jiang Yu Wei after the fight. After all, Hou Dong and Qiu Ping were injured due to Jiang Yu Wei and Hou Lian Yu's brief hesitation earlier.

If Jiang Yu Wei had spoken first, Qiu Ping and Hou Dong would definitely place the blame on Hou Lian Yu. Similarly, now that Hou Lian Yu had spoken first, Jiang Yu Wei was in a disadvantageous position. However, fortunately for Jiang Yu Wei, the duo would not dare to blame her openly. After all, Qiu Ping was from the Misty Rain Divine Sect as well, and most importantly, Jiang Yu Wei's status was higher than his in the sect. As for Hou Dong, he had lost his helper so he definitely would not dare to show dissatisfaction to the duo from the Misty Rain Divine Sect.

Just like this, the matter was swept under the rug.

Hou Lian Yu, Jiang Yu Wei, Qiu Ping, and Hou Dong continued to attack the four people from the Sanction Land. Qiu Ping and Hou Dong's attacks were particularly fierce due to their anger.

The four people from the Sanction Land continued to lose ground. They wanted to ask for help from the imminent Supreme God from the Sanction Land, but he was occupied with Qiu Ping's imminent Supreme God. Under these circumstances, they fell deeper and deeper into despair, losing the will to fight before they died one after another.

After the four people from the Sanction Land died, Duan Ling Tian and the others flew toward the two imminent Supreme Gods, who were fighting. With numbers on their side, they easily turned the tide of the battle despite most of them only possessing the strength close to an imminent Supreme God.

The imminent Supreme God from the Sanction Land lost his fighting spirit after a while, and in the end, he was killed by the imminent Supreme God who Qiu Ping found.

With this, they passed the eighth level in the natural secret realm.

"We did it!" Hou Lian Yu exclaimed.

Contrary to Hou Lian Yu's joyful expression and the faint smiles on Jiang Yu Wei and Qiu Ping's faces, Hou Dong wore a dark expression on his face. It was only natural since he suffered the biggest loss this time. Not only was he injured, but the imminent Supreme God whom he had found to help him died as well. This meant that he no longer had the qualifications to fight the others if they discovered treasures in the future. He could only meekly follow the others.

Hou Dong took a deep breath as he glanced at Jiang Yu Wei and Qiu Ping. Then, he shifted his eyes to Hou Lian Yu as he said through Voice Transmission, "Hou Lian Yu, although we're not on

particularly good terms, we have to work together now. As it is now, the people of the Misty Rain Divine Sect have the upper hand.”

Contrary to Hou Dong’s expectations, Hou Lian Yu sneered upon hearing the Voice Transmission. He said without using Voice Transmission, “Hou Dong, now that your helper is dead, you want to join forces with me? Keep dreaming! I have no interest in joining forces with you.”

Naturally, Hou Dong’s expression turned unsightly when he heard Hou Lian Yu’s refusal. If it were not impossible, he would have left the natural secret realm at this moment. After all, there was no doubt that he would not gain any benefits from staying in the natural secret realm now. Not only that, but his life was at risk now that he lost his helper.

Apart from that, Hou Dong was also a little puzzled. He could not help but wonder why Hou Lian Yu suddenly became so difficult.

Suddenly, Qiu Ping’s imminent Supreme God exclaimed, “There’s additional reward!”

Duan Ling Tian and the others instinctively followed the direction of his gaze.

After the rewards from killing the people from the Sanction Land vanished, a beam of light carrying a divine pill shone down from the sky. Following that, the tempting fragrance of the divine pill permeated the air in the canyon.

At this moment, except for Duan Ling Tian, everyone’s eyes lit up immediately.

Chapter 4237 The Ninth Level

Duan Ling Tian was calm unlike the others because he could tell from the fragrance that the divine pill was just an ordinary emperor-grade divine pill. At least, it was only ordinary to him. After all, even if the divine pill was rare, it was not of much use to him. Compared to the Heavenly Dao Fruit he obtained in the Trial of Gods, it was far inferior. Moreover, as long as he possessed the necessary ingredients, he could easily refine the pill. In fact, he was rather confident about refining the Limit Divine Pill version of this divine pill.

The divine pill was called Emperor Pill, and it was most useful to those who had just become advanced Emperors of Gods. It would speed up the stabilization of one's cultivation base. However, its efficacy would decrease significantly when one took another pill. Even an Emperor Limit Divine Pill was no different. As such, Duan Ling Tian's interest in it fell further. Even if this divine pill were useful to his family, he was not interested in it. Why would he be interested in it when he could refine Emperor Limit Divine Pills for his family in the future?

Duan Ling Tian was very confident about refining Emperor Limit Divine Pills in the future even if the ingredients were rare. Even heavyweight supreme-rank forces needed to rely on their luck to obtain the ingredients. Perhaps, only prime supreme-rank forces would be able to obtain these ingredients easily. However, he was not worried because he was confident that it would not be difficult for him to obtain the ingredients in the future and that he would be able to refine the divine pill for his family.

At this time, while everyone looked at the divine pill with bright eyes, Qiu Ping looked away and said with a smile, "It's thanks to Brother Shen that we're able to pass the eighth level. As such, this Emperor Pill should be given to him. Everyone shouldn't have any objection, right?"

The eyes of the imminent Supreme God next to Qiu Ping lit up immediately.

Although Hou Dong was a little unwilling, he was not in the position to object. Perhaps, if his helper was still alive, he could have said something. However, what qualification did he have to object now?

As for Jiang Yu Wei, she glanced at the veiled young woman next to her. When she saw the veiled young woman next to her shaking her head gently, she also remained silent.

Hou Lian Yu wore a reluctant expression on his face. However, Jiang Yu Wei and also Duan Ling Tian did not say anything so he could only remain silent.

Seeing that no one objected, Qiu Ping looked at the imminent Supreme God next to him and said with a smile, "Since there's no objection, please take the Emperor Pill, Brother Shen."

"Very well," the imminent Supreme God said with a nod and a smile before he reached out for the Emperor Pill that fell from the sky.

Qiu Ping continued to say, "Although the Emperor Pill is useless to us, it's a treasure for those who have just become advanced Emperors of Gods and have yet to stabilize their cultivation bases. Brother Shen, you can give this Emperor Pill to your family, friends, or disciples. You can also use it to exchange for a decent treasure."

In fact, Qiu Ping's words were rather useless. After all, everyone present on the scene were familiar with the Emperor Pill.

"Now that we've passed the eighth level, we'll be facing the ninth level. Under normal circumstances, the ninth level is the penultimate level," Qiu Ping said solemnly, "The ninth level is naturally difficult. Perhaps, we might have to face two imminent Supreme Gods. It'll be fine if they're monsters. After all, they won't be as strong as human imminent Supreme Gods. If our next opponents are from the Sanction Land, I suggest we leave the natural secret realm if we can't beat them. There's no need to fight them if we can't beat them..."

On the Realm Battlefield, as long as everyone came to an agreement, they could leave the secret realm, natural or not. It did not matter if the secret realm was the kind that stayed in place or not.

Perhaps, that was why people did not hesitate to enter secret realms in groups. If they were confident, they could stay and fight. Otherwise, they could choose to leave. With this, their safety was absolutely guaranteed. The only caveat was that everyone had to be in agreement. Otherwise, they would not be able to leave even if one person disagreed.

However, the dead naturally did not count. The dead could not speak and had no right to speak. For this reason, those who stirred up trouble and refused to leave at the critical moment would be killed.

Qiu Ping looked at everyone before he asked, “Do you have any opinions?”

No one spoke up. Clearly, they all, including the imminent Supreme God, silently acquiesced to Qiu Ping’s words. The imminent Supreme God was strong, and he was not a fool. He would not endanger his life for no reason. Moreover, out of everyone present, he had gained most in the natural secret realm now. Even if he had to leave now, he would not suffer a loss. Compared to the imminent Supreme God who died, he had benefited greatly. He still could not help but break out in cold sweat when he thought of the death of the other imminent Supreme God. After all, it could have easily been him. At that time, the person laughing now would be the other imminent Supreme God.

At this time, Hou Lian Yu said to Duan Ling Tian through Voice Transmission, “Big Brother Duan, if the person Qiu Ping found is unreliable during the ninth level, I’m afraid I can only rely on you...”

Hou Lian Yu naturally knew that Duan Ling Tian had not been taking things seriously so far. He thought that Duan Ling Tian was trying to hide and preserve his strength and that Duan Ling Tian would only reveal his strength at the critical moment. In his opinion, if they encountered treasure, the imminent Supreme God whom Qiu Ping found, who did not hold back all this while, might not be a match for Duan Ling Tian since Duan Ling Tian had been preserving his strength.

As for Jiang Yu Wei, unless the veiled young woman had also been hiding her strength, Hou Lian Yu did not think they were a match for Duan Ling Tian as well.

Moreover, Hou Lian Yu felt that Duan Ling Tian was not an ordinary imminent Supreme God. Previously, he had seen Duan Ling Tian kill an advanced Emperor of Gods, who was not any weaker than him, with just a move. This was not something ordinary imminent Supreme Gods were capable of. At the very least, it was not something the imminent Supreme Gods, whom Hou Dong and Qiu Ping found respectively, were capable of.

At this time, Duan Ling Tian replied to Hou Lian Yu's Voice Transmission, "We'll act according to the situation..."

Duan Ling Tian was very calm. It was as though he had an endless supply of patience.

"You're right. There's no need to worry for now," Hou Lian Yu said before adding, "Perhaps, the veiled young woman next to Jiang Yu Wei has also been hiding her strength. Big Brother Duan, at the critical moment, you have to see if she makes a move. It's better to let her make a move first."

Duan Ling Tian was slightly surprised by Hou Lian Yu's words. He did not expect Hou Lian Yu to suspect the veiled young woman next to Jiang Yu Wei of hiding her strength.

...

Duan Ling Tian and the others were still waiting patiently when the wind suddenly picked up speed and chased away the clouds above the canyon. Following that, a spatial vortex, larger than the one before, appeared in the sky.

Qiu Ping's expression changed immediately upon seeing this. "Damn it! It's the people from the Sanction Land again!"

Up until now, the vortex would only appear when the people from the Sanction Land appeared. There was no vortex for the monsters. Instead, the monsters looked as though they had appeared out of thin air.

Swoosh!

The expression of the imminent Supreme God next to Qiu Ping turned solemn as well. Following that, he quickly flew up and attacked the vortex. However, despite his powerful attack, the vortex continued to churn quickly. In fact, the vortex seemed to be churning faster due to his attack.

At this time, the imminent Supreme God seemed to detect the aura of another person so he quickly retreated to his original spot.

Qiu Ping, who had just regained his senses at this time, shook his head and said, "It's useless. Once the spatial vortex appears, there's no stopping it. If you attack it, it'll absorb the energy of the attack and speed up the process of transportation. Let's wait. We'll see if the people from the Sanction Land are strong. We'll withdraw if they're strong. We must also consider the possibility that they're hiding their strength. This time, remember not to rush out recklessly. We should fight together. It's best if we let them make the first move."

After a while, several figures appeared in front of the spatial vortex. This time, there were seven people; two more compared to the previous group. This meant that their number was similar to Duan Ling Tian's group, which had lost one person.

After discovering that they were the gatekeepers of the ninth level in the natural secret realm, the seven people from the Sanction Land only panicked briefly before they regained their composure.

A bearded middle-aged man cursed, “Damn it, damn it! I’ve been transported to a natural secret realm again to act as a test!”

As for the other six people, their expressions were solemn, and their eyes shone with vigilance.

At this time, someone asked the bearded man through Voice Transmission, “How strong are you? Under these circumstances, we should confirm our strength so we can cooperate accordingly. It’s seven against seven so we might not lose to them. It’s best if we can win with the fewest number of casualties.”

The bearded man stopped cursing, and his expression turned solemn upon hearing these words. Then, he replied through Voice Transmission, “My strength is close to that of an imminent Supreme God. However, if you can buy me a few breaths, I can unleash an attack that’s capable of injuring or even killing an imminent Supreme God as long as I can catch him or her off guard. My bloodline power is quite special…”

The person who asked the question was an imminent Supreme God. His eyes lit up now that he found out that someone on his side had the means to seriously injure or kill an imminent Supreme God. Following that, he quickly asked the other five people through Voice Transmission, “How strong are you? I’m an imminent Supreme God, and my strongest law is the law of metal.”

Chapter 4238 Duan Ling Tian and the Veiled Woman’s True Strength

It did not take long before the imminent Supreme God from the Sanction Land found out that there was another imminent Supreme God in his group. Apart from that, the other five people were almost as strong as an imminent Supreme God. Following that, he began to discuss how to deal with the seven people from the Divine Offering Land. It would be reckless for them to attack without a plan after all. He said to the other six through Voice Transmission, “Did any of you notice it? Those seven people from the Divine Offering Land are split into groups. Six of them are standing together in groups of twos while one is left out. Unlike secret realms opened using battle merits, people usually enter natural secret realms in groups. I suspect two possibilities. One, the seven of them discovered this natural secret realm together or two, four of them found this natural secret realm and each of them brought a helper. If it’s the second possibility, it means that they’ve lost one person. Apart from that, I also noticed that one of them looked afraid when he saw us. It seems like he wants to flee. It’s obvious that he’s not confident about facing us.”

After listening to these words, the other six people from the Sanction Land glanced at the person in question.

“My lord, you’re truly observant! I’m impressed! I’m willing to obey your orders!”

“It’s amazing that you can see through that person’s thoughts! By the way, it seems like there are another two of them who don’t seem very confident about facing us.”

“It’s likely that they’d just lost someone. That’s why they’re shaken...”

“In any case, it’s best for us to be cautious. We’ll obey your orders, my lord.”

Apart from the other imminent Supreme Lord, the others addressed the imminent Supreme God, who spoke first, as ‘lord’.

The imminent Supreme God, who spoke first, did not disappoint and quickly came up with a plan, which was slightly similar to the plan that the previous group from the Sanction Land came up with. He proposed that they conserve their energy. He also speculated that there had to be at least one imminent Supreme God among the people from the Divine Offering Land since they had two imminent Supreme Gods in their group. Instead of only conserving their energy, he proposed that he and the other imminent Supreme God attacked while they conserved their energy to avoid suspicion. If their opponents decided to flee after they fought, it would mean they were victorious and could leave the natural secret realm alive. The rewards of killing the opponents were not important to them now. After all, many of them were transported to this natural secret realm unwillingly after venturing into dangerous places on the Realm Battlefield. There was nothing they wanted more than to leave the natural secret realm alive.

...

At this time, Qiu Ping said to the others, "Let's make a move together to test their strength!"

After that, Qiu Ping and the imminent Supreme God next to him flew out first.

Jiang Yu Wei, Hou Lian Yu, and Hou Dong made a move after that with Duan Ling Tian and the veiled woman bringing up the rear.

In just a moment, a fight broke out between the group of people from the Divine Offering Land and the Sanction Land.

The two domineering imminent Supreme Gods from the Sanction Land made a move against Qiu Ping and the imminent Supreme God next to him.

The expression of the imminent Supreme God next to Qiu Ping changed immediately. 'Two imminent Supreme Gods! We have to leave!'

Subsequently, a portal appeared above the imminent Supreme God next to Qiu Ping. This was a sign for the others to leave.

After a brief moment, a portal appeared above Qiu Ping and Hou Dong as well.

On the contrary, there were no portals above Duan Ling Tian, Hou Lian Yu, Jiang Yu Wei, or the veiled woman.

This showed that not everyone was in agreement to leave.

“Stop wasting time! Let’s get out of here!” Hou Dong urged anxiously as he tried to fend off the imminent Supreme God from the Sanction Land. He could only leave if all of them agreed to leave.

Alas, Duan Ling Tian, Hou Lian Yu, Jiang Yu Wei, and the veiled woman ignored Hou Dong’s words. Apart from that, the four of them also exchanged a look when they realized that the people from the Sanction Land did not attack them at all.

“Do all of you have a death wish?” the imminent Supreme God next to Qiu Ping bellowed as he turned to look at Duan Ling Tian and the others. In just a brief moment, he was driven into a corner by the two imminent Supreme Gods from the Sanction Land. Fortunately, he retreated in time and did not suffer any injuries.

“Junior Sister Yu Wei!” Qiu Ping cried out. He could barely defend himself. He and Hou Dong were soon surrounded by four people from the Sanction Land. Although the four were not as strong as them individually, the four of them had number on their side.

At this time, one of the people from the Sanction Land whose strength was almost as strong as an imminent Supreme God laughed and said, “Die!”

Following that, he flew over and blocked the path of the imminent Supreme God, whom Qiu Ping found, and activated his bloodline power. Then, a terrifying energy surged out along with a blood-red crescent sword ray.

“No!”

The expression of the imminent Supreme God, whom Qiu Ping found, changed drastically. He was shocked by the appearance of a third imminent Supreme God. It was only natural that he came to this conclusion since the other party's attack was something only imminent Supreme Gods were capable of unleashing. Filled with unwillingness, he blocked the sword ray with everything he had. However, the sword ray was so powerful that it forced him to his knees and caused him to spit out a mouthful of blood.

Meanwhile, the other party from the Sanction Land did not escape unscathed and was injured by the backlash.

At this time, the two imminent Supreme Gods from the Sanction Land finally arrived and attacked in unison. After a beat, two waves of earth-shattering energy surged out and killed the imminent Supreme God, whom Qiu Ping brought to the natural secret realm.

When Hou Dong saw the imminent Supreme God die from the corners of his eyes, he turned pale immediately. He roared, "What are all of you waiting for?! Are you waiting for those three imminent Supreme Gods to kill all of us?!"

Conversely, the leader of the group from the Sanction Land grinned as though victory was already in his hand. He said, "Kill them!"

He did not know why Duan Ling Tian and the others refused to flee, and he did not think too much about it. At this time, he only saw it as a good opportunity for them to kill all those from the Divine Offering Land so they could obtain the rewards.

Suddenly, Duan Ling Tian and the veiled woman made a move at almost the same time.

Duan Ling Tian quickly restrained the advanced Emperor of Gods who ambushed Qiu Ping's imminent Supreme God with the law of space's Restraining Profundity. He had long known that the other party was not an imminent Supreme God due to the other party's inferior defenses. Apart from that, he could also see that the other party's earlier attack was boosted by his bloodline power.

"Help me! He's an imminent Supreme God!" the advanced Emperors of Gods cried out and his expression changed when he sensed the spatial turbulence in his surroundings. No matter how hard he tried, he could not break free from Duan Ling Tian's Restraining Profundity.

At this time, the veiled woman faced the two imminent Supreme Gods alone. Despite being outnumbered, she was not at a disadvantage. Clearly, she was much stronger than the imminent Supreme God Qiu Ping found.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Meanwhile, Hou Lian Yu and Jiang Yu Wei promptly joined forces with Hou Dong and Qiu Ping, who was on the brink of exhaustion. The burden on Hou Dong and Qiu Ping eased immediately. Although the duo still felt slightly pressured, they finally could look around their surroundings. In the next moment, their eyes widened when they saw Duan Ling Tian restrained and killed his opponent. They did not expect that Duan Ling Tian was also an imminent Supreme God. Moreover, the law of space was his strongest law, not the law of fire!

They were shocked by how effortless it was for Duan Ling Tian to restrain and kill his opponent with the spatial energy. After a moment, they realized that Duan Ling Tian was much stronger than the imminent Supreme Gods they found to help them.

After a moment, the duo shifted their attention to the veiled woman Jiang Yu Wei brought. They saw that she was using a law different from the one she used earlier. Most shockingly, she managed to restrain the two imminent Supreme Gods from the Sanction Land with her law of water.

‘Damn it!’ Hou Dong cursed Hou Lian Yu inwardly. He did not expect that the helper Hou Lian Yu was an imminent Supreme God who deliberately hid his strength. However, regardless of how resentful he felt, he naturally did not dare to show it too much. After all, he still had to rely on Duan Ling Tian to survive. In the end, he could only say to Hou Lian Yu through Voice Transmission, “Hou Lian Yu, you’ve always been honest. I didn’t expect you to play such a trick!”

Even then, Hou Dong did not dare to be excessive with his words, worried that he would offend Hou Lian Yu.

Meanwhile, the two imminent Supreme Gods were also shocked when they saw Duan Ling Tian easily kill their companion. It was clear to them that Duan Ling Tian was stronger than them.

‘This is bad!’

Chapter 4239 The Sky Ascension Fruit

Initially, the gatekeepers of the ninth level in the Sanction felt triumphant after the death of their opponent’s imminent Supreme God. Alas, they did not expect that there were another two terrifying imminent Supreme Gods among their opponents. One of them had killed their advanced Emperor of Gods who were only second to their imminent Supreme Gods, and the other one was evenly matched when fighting two of their imminent Supreme Gods at the same time.

The four remaining people from the Sanction Land were locked in a stalemate with their opponents from the Divine Offering Land for a while. When the purple-clad young man, one of the opponents’ two imminent Supreme Gods, finally killed their advanced Emperor of Gods and was no longer preoccupied, they felt waves of despair washing over them.

At the same time, the two imminent Supreme Gods who were fighting the veiled woman looked bitter when they glanced at the purple-clad young man through the corners of their eyes. Their plan had failed. They could only comfort themselves by thinking that they had at least killed one imminent Supreme God.

After killing the advanced Emperor of Gods, Duan Ling Tian teleported and reappeared near the veiled woman before he said nonchalantly, "I'll restrain them so you can make your move."

!!

Before the veiled woman could respond, Duan Ling Tian casually raised his right hand. A spatial storm raged around the two imminent Supreme Gods immediately.

When the two imminent Supreme Gods returned to their senses, they were already confined in a small area. They used their prominent divine artifacts and struck the spatial barrier with all their might, but it was futile. The barrier only shook for a few moments; they barely left a scratch on it. Seeing this, their expressions changed. Clearly, they were no match for Duan Ling Tian even after joining forces; he was even more powerful than the veiled woman.

Although the woman's face was hidden by the veil, a hint of surprise could be seen in her crystal-clear eyes and her slender figure trembled imperceptibly. However, she quickly recovered her senses and made her move.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

A huge wave swept toward the two men like a water dragon. Initially, they were evenly matched with the veiled woman. However, they were at a disadvantage now that they had to direct part of their energy to defend themselves against the spatial storm surrounding them. As such, in just a few breaths, they succumbed to the veiled woman.

Two beams of energy shone on the veiled woman soon after the two imminent Supreme Gods from the Sanction Land perished.

The remaining four people from the Sanction Land were consumed by fear and lost their will to fight completely after the deaths of the two imminent Supreme Gods. As a result, they were easily suppressed by Hou Lian Yu and the others.

Duan Ling Tian and the veiled women stood at the side and silently watched as Hou Lian Yu and the others gained the upper hand and dealt with their opponents.

The veiled woman glanced at Duan Ling Tian furtively through the corners of her eyes multiple times. A hint of fear could be seen in her eyes when she looked at him. She and Jiang Yu Wei had planned to hide her strength so they would have better chances of obtaining treasures in the natural secret realm. In order to hide her strength, she also did not object when Qiu Ping suggested giving the Emperor Pill to his imminent Supreme God.

‘This is beyond my expectations...’

Initially, the veiled woman and Jiang Yu Wei were optimistic about their chances to obtain the best treasures in the natural secret realm. However, she was no longer as optimistic as before after discovering that another person had also hidden his strength. Most importantly, the other party was not weaker than her, and she was not confident about her chances if she were to fight him.

At this time, Hou Lian Yu and the others finally killed the four people from the Sanction Land. In the beginning, they were evenly matched with their opponents due to Hou Dong and Qiu Ping’s injuries. However, their opponents lost their will to fight due to the deaths of their two imminent Supreme Gods, and as a result, he and the others were able to gain the upper hand and kill them.

Soon after, four beams of energy shone down on Hou Lian Yu and the others after they killed their opponents.

After the beams of light disappeared, Hou Lian Yu flew over to Duan Ling Tian before he said with a smile, “Big Brother Duan, we could have died if you and this lady didn’t save us.”

At the same time, Jiang Yu Wei returned and stood next to the veiled woman. She looked at Duan Ling Tian warily before she turned to Hou Lian Yu and said tonelessly, “Hou Lian Yu, I underestimated you. I assumed you brought an ordinary Emperor of Gods here. I didn’t expect you to bring such a formidable imminent Supreme God.”

Hou Lian Yu said nonchalantly, “Jiang Yu Wei, I didn’t expect your friend to hide her strength so well...”

Meanwhile, Hou Dong and Qiu Ping finally understood Duan Ling Tian, Hou Lian Yu, Jiang Yu Wei, and the veiled woman did not want to leave the natural secret realm earlier. As it turned out, the quartet was confident about defeating their seven opponents from the Sanction Land.

Jiang Yu Wei looked at Hou Lian Yu and said, “The reward for this level will definitely be better than the one before. You can have the reward, but the reward for the final round belongs to us. What do you think?”

Hou Lian Yu scoffed and said with a scornful expression on his face, “Jiang Yu Wei, it seems like you’ve already planned everything. What if the final reward is better? Are you trying to take advantage of me?”

Hou Lian Yu was not a fool after all.

Jiang Yu Wei shook her head. “You can’t say that. We have no idea how difficult the final level will be... What if we can’t pass the next level and fail to get the reward? However, you’re certain to get the reward for this round.”

The scornful expression on Hou Lian Yu's face became even more obvious when he heard Jiang Yu Wei's words. He said, "I don't think we'll fail to pass the next level. How about this? You can have this round's reward, and we'll take the next round's reward? We don't mind taking the risk."

Hou Lian Yu laughed mockingly after he finished speaking. He really wondered if Jiang Yu Wei treated him like a fool.

At the same time, Hou Dong and Qiu Ping's expressions were rather sour. After all, they were in a very disadvantageous position now.

"Hou Dong, your clan's Hou Lian Yu is really unreliable. He found such a formidable imminent Supreme God to help him, but he didn't even save the helper you brought," Qiu Ping said through Voice Transmission. He was filled with resentment, but there was nothing he could do apart from venting his anger on Hou Dong. After all, compared to Hou Lian Yu and Jiang Yu Wei, Hou Dong was a much easier target.

Hou Dong, who was seething with anger, did not tolerate Qiu Ping's words. He said with a sneer, "Qiu Ping, it's useless to provoke me. I won't fall for it. It's true that the imminent Supreme God that Hou Lian Yu didn't save my helper... However, did your junior sister help you? Hou Lian Yu and I are mere acquaintances. In fact, we even have a small conflict between us. It's only normal that he didn't help me. However, you treated your junior sister so well, but she still didn't help you. How pitiful..."

Qiu Ping's blood boiled when he heard Hou Dong's words. He was very close to attacking Hou Dong, but he managed to rein in his temper in the end. If he made a move at this point, it would definitely leave a bad impression on the others.

Hou Dong smiled smugly when he saw Qiu Ping was unable to do anything to him. The gloominess that lingered in his heart seemed to have been dispelled at this moment.

“Here it comes...”

Hou Dong’s eyes widened slightly as Qiu Ping instinctively raised his head.

Soon enough, Duan Ling Tian and the others saw a glowing fruit with a refreshing scent descending from the sky.

‘This is...’

Duan Ling Tian discovered that the fruit was rather similar to the Heavenly Dao Fruit he obtained in the Trial of Gods. He quickly searched his memories and identified the fruit.

‘The Sky Ascension Fruit!’

Chapter 4240 The Ten Ape-Like Monsters

The Sky Ascension Fruit was a divine fruit similar to the Heavenly Dao Fruit. Both of them could help an advanced Emperor of Gods break through the realm of a Supreme God. It was a life-changer for imminent Supreme Gods with low innate talent who were unable to become Supreme Gods.

“It’s the Sky Ascension Fruit!”

Hou Dong and Qiu Ping's widened eyes shone with greed at this moment. However, after a beat, they sighed inwardly as they glanced at Duan Ling Tian and the veiled woman from the corners of their eyes.

'I hope they'll fight over the divine fruit and die,' Hou Dong thought to himself. He knew it was just wishful thinking, but he still could help but imagine the duo fighting to their deaths.

Jiang Yu Wei's eyes shone brightly as well.

The veiled woman was also moved, but she did not dare to act recklessly with Duan Ling Tian standing so close. After a moment, she sent a Voice Transmission to Jiang Yu Wei.

After listening to the Voice Transmission, Jiang Yu Wei turned to Hou Lian Yu and asked, "Hou Lian Yu, are you sure you want us to take this Sky Ascension Fruit? If that's what you want, you can't go back on your words later."

A hint of excitement flashed in Jiang Yu Wei's eyes after she finished speaking.

Hou Lian Yu frowned slightly upon hearing Jiang Yu Wei's words. Before the Sky Ascension Fruit appeared, he had told Jiang Yu Wei that she could have this level's reward because he was afraid that she was taking advantage of him and Duan Ling Tian. However, he did not expect the reward to be a Sky Ascension Fruit, which was very helpful to an advanced Emperor of Gods. If he had known better, he would not have made such a hasty decision on Duan Ling Tian's behalf earlier.

While Hou Lian Yu was caught in a dilemma, he heard Duan Ling Tian's Voice Transmission. His eyes widened, and a fearful expression appeared briefly on his face. He instinctively looked at Duan Ling Tian before he turned to Jiang Yu Wei and said, "Jiang Yu Wei, we want this level's reward."

Jiang Yu Wei and the veiled woman's eyes widened slightly upon hearing these words.

Hou Lian Yu continued to say, "You can have the final level's reward if you agree to our conditions."

The faint smile on Jiang Yu Wei's vanished immediately and was replaced by an indignant expression. "Hou Lian Yu, what do you mean by that? You want the Sky Ascension Fruit, and you also want us to agree to your conditions to obtain the final level's reward?"

Although the veiled woman did not speak, her gaze turned icy immediately. She turned slightly to look at Duan Ling Tian following that. She knew that Hou Lian Yu's words were Duan Ling Tian's intention.

At this time, Duan Ling Tian raised his hand and claimed the Sky Ascension Fruit before putting it away in his spatial ring. He did not have any use for the Sky Ascension Fruit, but it was useful to his family. The divine fruit was rare so he did not hesitate to claim it. After putting the divine fruit away, he only glanced at the veiled woman briefly before looking away. Clearly, he did not feel worried at all.

Meanwhile, Hou Lian Yu said to Jiang Yu Wei, "Jiang Yu Wei, why are you so impatient? Listen before you come to a conclusion. The Sky Ascension Fruit is indeed very valuable. However, the final level's reward will definitely be better. Perhaps, the reward is another two or more Sky Ascension Fruit..."

Jiang Yu Wei scoffed before she asked coldly, "What are your conditions?"

Hou Dong and Qiu Ping looked at Hou Lian Yu curiously, wondering what the conditions were.

Hou Lian Yu slowly said, “The reward for the final level will belong to both of you if both of you can pass it on your own. Big Brother Duan and I won’t be helping both of you.”

Jiang Yu Wei’s expression changed immediately, and the veiled woman’s gaze turned even icier. Let alone the final level that would be even more difficult, they knew it would be very difficult for them to pass the ninth level without Duan Ling Tian’s help earlier.

Jiang Yu Wei said angrily with an unsightly expression on her face, “Hou Lian Yu, you’re too shameless! Didn’t we help you with the ninth level? You want us to face the final level on our own?”

Although the veiled woman did not speak again, her anger was palpable.

Meanwhile, Hou Dong and Qiu Ping also thought that Hou Lian Yu had crossed the line. However, they did not dare to speak up. Who knew if provoking Duan Ling Tian would cause them to die?

Hou Lian Yu shook his head and said, “Let me finish speaking... If you can’t pass the final level, Big Brother Duan will step in. If he manages to pass the level without your help, it goes without saying that the reward belongs to him. However, if he can’t do it alone, we’ll all join forces, and the reward will go to you. The point is that Big Brother Duan wants to use the final level to test his strength.”

Jiang Yu Wei and the others turned to look at Duan Ling Tian in unison after Hou Lian Yu finished speaking. They wondered why Duan Ling Tian was confident about passing the final level on his own.

A hint of shock could be seen in the veiled woman's eyes as well when she looked at Duan Ling Tian. After a moment, she said to Jiang Yu Wei through Voice Transmission, "Based on how difficult the ninth level was, it's impossible for him to pass the final level on his own unless he has the strength of a rudimentary Supreme God. If he really possesses such strength, there's nothing we can do even if he decides to go back on his word and claim the reward. In short, we have no choice but to agree to their conditions. We can only hope that he's blindly confident and is not strong enough to pass the final level on his own."

Jiang Yu Wei felt that the veiled woman's words made sense. Hence, she said to Hou Lian Yu, "I agree to your conditions. I hope the both of you will keep your promise."

Hou Lian Yu smiled. "Rest assured. We will definitely keep our promise."

Inwardly, Hou Lian Yu was rather shocked as well. When Duan Ling Tian told him about the conditions earlier, he was very certain that Duan Ling Tian could pass the final level on his own. However, he could not understand why he would trust Duan Ling Tian, someone whom he had met not long ago, so much. He did not doubt Duan Ling Tian at all.

Meanwhile, after recovering from his shock, Hou Dong asked Qiu Ping through Voice Transmission, "Qiu Ping, do you think he's strong enough to pull it off?"

"I have no idea," Qiu Ping said as he glared at Hou Dong. He found it difficult to believe that Hou Dong had the gall to strike up a conversation with him after their argument earlier. Did Hou Dong forget about their argument?

...

The tenth level was the final test in the natural secret realm.

After waiting for a while, the opponents for the tenth level finally showed up. This time, the opponents were no longer people from the Sanction Land. Instead, they were ten medium-sized humanoid monsters with terrifying auras. They were about three to six meters tall, and they resembled apes. All of them held a long staff, which was at least ten meters long, in their hands. A faint translucent figure could be seen looming above each of the staves.

“The staves are prominent divine artifacts with incomplete artifact souls!” Hou Dong exclaimed.

Before flying out, Jiang Yu Wei glanced at Hou Dong and Qiu Ping and said, “Let’s test their strength.”

Hou Dong and Qiu Ping felt extremely reluctant, but in the end, they flew out as well.

Unlike before, the veiled woman did not wait. Instead, she flew past Jiang Yu Wei, Hou Dong, and Qiu Ping and charged toward the ten ape-like monsters.

Roar!

The ten monsters roared when they saw the veiled woman charging toward them. They raised the staves in their hands simultaneously and pointed them at her.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Five staves easily crushed the veiled woman’s attack and sent her flying in the sky.

The other five staves were weaker so they failed to land on the veiled woman when she was sent flying back.

Based on this, it could be seen that the five strongest monsters were in the realm of imminent Supreme Gods while the other five were slightly weaker. Unlike the monsters from before, all of them wielded prominent divine artifacts with incomplete artifact souls.