

Stronger 451

Chapter 451: The Prestige of the Fire Spirit Sect, Expert of the Number One Sect_2

In the next instant, the Tier Nine Magical Artifact above his head, accompanied by a streaking afterimage and a large amount of crackling lightning, thrust toward the Fire Spirit Sect disciple, Yang Ding! Since it had come to this point, a fight was inevitable. Of course, striking first was the way to go!

When the Fire Spirit Sect disciple, Yang Ding, saw this, his expression changed, and he cursed loudly, "Damn it, you're looking for death!"

Immediately, the Flame Sparrow above his head suddenly flapped its wings, meeting the Tier Nine Magical Artifact that had already flown in front of him, while he quickly retreated backward. Just a moment ago, he had been complacent. He never expected this kid would dare to attack him, especially without a word, striking directly! This was after his master, Flaming Blade Duan River, had already intimidated the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's disciples and countless other cultivators present.

Astonished, he lost the initiative. Though he reacted quickly, using the Flame Sparrow to block the Tier Nine Magical Artifact, the numerous bolts of lightning spreading from the artifact still struck him. Fortunately, he had earlier activated a considerable amount of True Qi for protection. Otherwise, this sudden strike and the large amount of lightning would have been enough to injure him! Even so, being struck by the large amount of lightning, his red robe was still hit by many small bolts, creating numerous holes!

After retreating several hundred feet and barely managing to block most of the lightning, Yang Ding, the Fire Spirit Sect disciple, stared at his tattered red robe with a grim face. He then looked up at Li Xiaohu, his eyes brimming with intense killing intent!

At this moment, all those Fire Spirit Sect disciples in mid-air, including Second Prince Chang Li and Flaming Blade Duan River, had faces as dark as iron. Li Xiaohu's decisive strike, hitting the target and forcing Yang Ding's immediate retreat, was like a resounding slap to their collective faces!

"Damn it!" Chang Li's face was ironclad, and the Demon King-level Earth Dragon coiled around his palm started to writhe rapidly.

"I will definitely kill you!" Yang Ding roared, his face livid from being driven back by Li Xiaohu's strike. "Damn it, not only kill you but also burn you to ashes!"

He frantically activated the True Qi within him. Above his head, the fiery dome started to spin rapidly. Subsequently, Flame Sparrows dozens of feet long emerged continuously from the flames atop the Fire Spirit Cauldron, shrieking sharply as they flew towards Li Xiaohu! In the blink of an eye, as many as twenty-eight Flame Sparrows were near Li Xiaohu! Each Flame Sparrow was as solid as if real, like twenty-eight powerful Ninth-Layer Realm demons simultaneously attacking Li Xiaohu!

Moreover, even more astonishingly, these twenty-eight Flame Sparrows weren't even Yang Ding's limit. As he continuously activated his True Qi and absorbed more Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jade, more Flame Sparrows continuously flew out from the Tier Seven Magical Artifact, the Fire Spirit Cauldron, joining in the siege of Li Xiaohu!

Fortunately, the Magical Artifact in Li Xiaohu's hand was truly powerful—a rare Tier Nine Magical Artifact. With its full activation, terrifying bolts of lightning as thick as water buckets continuously shot out. These strikes caused the surrounding Flame Sparrows to tremble, temporarily averting the crisis of Li Xiaohu being overwhelmed and burned by them!

Lin Xuankong, seeing this scene, couldn't help but frown slightly. As expected, the Fire Spirit Sect's Cultivation Technique is extremely powerful. Even relying solely on the Tier Seven Fire Spirit Cauldron, he can hold his own against Li Xiaohu, who has reached Ninth-Layer Perfection and possesses a Tier Nine Magical Artifact, and even suppress him! If this Fire Spirit Sect disciple Yang Ding had a Tier Nine Magical Artifact, Little Hu would have been injured already in these few breaths!

However, if this continues, and Little Hu doesn't use the Initial Tier Immortal Artifact, he's likely to lose in the end!

Thinking of this, True Qi began to circulate silently within Lin Xuankong's body. The two sets of Immortal Capturing Arrays and the Grade-Three Cyan Nether Immortal Sword hidden in his Dantian also began to tremble slightly. Using two Immortal Capturing Arrays and a Grade-Three Cyan Nether Immortal Sword to deal with a late-stage Grade-Three Earth Immortal shouldn't be a problem, right?

Beside him, Hu Shuo, Yang Mountain, Han Lu, Li Er, Liy Ruofeng, and Liy Ruoqing also had serious expressions, their True Qis silently circulating within them.

Just as it seemed a fierce battle was about to break out, suddenly, a figure floated over, accompanied by a golden Buddha's Light. As the Buddha's Light shone, countless Buddhist Secret Patterns appeared, and

the air spontaneously vibrated, producing a chorus of Buddhist chanting! Upon the arrival of the Buddha's Light and chanting, the Flame Sparrows attacking Li Xiaohu rapidly shrank. Within a breath, they diminished from dozens of feet in size to mere fist-sized birds! Simultaneously, the mass of lightning that Li Xiaohu had summoned also turned dimmer under the Buddha's Light and quickly vanished!

Only then did the floating figure, a woman, clasp her hands in a Buddhist gesture toward the two of them and say, "Heaven is but a thought away, as is Hell. Both of you are righteous cultivators. Why fight over a mere squabble? Why not listen to me, lay down your weapons, and make peace!"

Li Xiaohu and Yang Ding both looked up. They saw a woman in Buddhist robes and a Buddhist hat; she was a composed young nun.

Li Xiaohu frowned and looked at Lin Xuankong.

Lin Xuankong nodded slightly, thinking to himself: Having now seen some of the Fire Spirit Sect's Cultivation Techniques, there's naturally no need to continue fighting. If it escalates into a full-blown fight, Duan River might get involved too. And although I might be able to contend with Flaming Blade Duan River using the Immortal Capturing Arrays and the Grade-Three Cyan Nether Immortal Sword, in such a public setting, it's unwise to reveal all my cards! Otherwise, if everyone knows I possess close to a hundred Immortal Artifacts, troubles would follow one after another, and I might even invite death upon myself! Unless I plan to enter the Secret Realm of the Tier Nine Celestial Demon Bone and never come out again! Besides, I've seen this young nun before; she is a True Disciple of Galin Bodhisattva. I might disregard others, but Galin Bodhisattva has done me a significant favor. Since she sent this young nun, I can't possibly oppose her! What's more, the Spirit Platform Buddhism is a massive sect that can suppress any Immortal Sect in the Central Divine Dynasty. Now that their disciple has intervened, I can't let Little Hu continue to defy this young nun!

Seeing Lin Xuankong's nod, Li Xiaohu immediately raised his hand and withdrew the Tier Nine Magical Artifact. It transformed into a Little Jian that fell into his hand.

At this moment, the Fire Spirit Sect disciple, Yang Ding, wore a vicious expression and snarled, "Who the hell are you? Which sect do you belong to, you bald brat? When did you have the authority to meddle in the Fire Spirit Sect's affairs?"

Chapter 452: Buddha's Light Secret Technique and Fire Spirit Divine Skill

The young Buddhist nun from Spirit Platform Buddhism frowned when she saw the Fire Spirit Sect disciple still acting so arrogantly.

"Benefactor, you were clearly losing. If I hadn't intervened in time, you would likely have been injured! Why must you insist on putting up a brave front?"

Hearing the young nun's words, the Fire Spirit Sect disciple, Yang Ding, turned livid. In the previous clash, he had indeed been somewhat careless, allowing his opponent to seize the initiative. On one hand, as a Fire Spirit Sect disciple, he was extremely confident in his Cultivation Technique and Magical Artifacts. On the other hand, he had never imagined that in the Central Divine Dynasty's Western Region, any cultivator would dare to strike first against a disciple of the Fire Spirit Sect!

In his view, within the Central Divine Dynasty's Western Region, only the Fire Spirit Sect had the prerogative to kill; only they initiated attacks. How could other sects dare to make the first move? With the exception of disciples from a few Immortal Sects, like the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect—whom they might hesitate slightly before attacking—other cultivators would invariably bow their heads obediently, allowing themselves to be humiliated and beaten whenever they encountered the Fire Spirit Sect.

Now, caught off guard and humiliated before tens of thousands of cultivators, how could he endure such disgrace? He desperately wished he could tear Li Xiaohu to pieces on the spot! Yet, in this instant, the one he hated most wasn't Li Xiaohu. It was this young Buddhist nun who had interfered and, worse, implied that he, a Fire Spirit Sect disciple, was inadequate.

At this thought, Yang Ding's face twitched, and he snarled, "Fine, fine, fine! Since you're seeking death, I'll grant your wish! I'll incinerate you until nothing but ashes remain! We'll see then if your Buddhist Technique, which can supposedly suppress Magical Artifacts, is superior, or if my three Fire Spirit Cauldrons are mightier!"

The next instant, he roared furiously. Two more seventh-tier Magical Artifacts—Fire Spirit Cauldrons—shot out from his waist. The three Fire Spirit Cauldrons, now floating mid-air, swirled continuously, suddenly unleashing a massive swarm of Flame Sparrows that densely filled the sky for miles around. Each Flame Sparrow was hundreds of feet in size, engulfed in fierce flames, their collective might several times greater than when he had fought Li Xiaohu!

The surrounding cultivators' expressions shifted upon witnessing this spectacle. The Fire Spirit Sect's dominance in the Central Divine Dynasty's Western Region wasn't solely due to their wicked and overbearing methods. A primary reason was their Fire Spirit Divine Skill, which allowed them to use their sect's Fire Spirit Cauldrons to instantaneously create numerous Flame Sparrows of the same tier as the caster.

This was practically equivalent to each Fire Spirit Sect disciple manipulating dozens of Demon Pearls at once. Furthermore, the more Fire Spirit Cauldrons a disciple possessed, the more Flame Sparrows they could simultaneously command. Although High-Tier Fire Spirit Cauldrons were difficult to refine, a disciple with three to five of them could effectively control over a hundred Demon Pearls, summoning over a hundred creatures of their own tier.

This tactic of overwhelming opponents with sheer numbers was utterly shameless. Consequently, hardly any cultivator of the same tier could withstand a Fire Spirit Sect disciple in the Transcendence Realm.

After all, while other cultivators could buy Demon Pearls to summon demons, their internal True Qi was finite. Typically, a cultivator at Ninth-Layer Perfection could manipulate about ten Demon Pearls at most before exhausting their True Qi. But how could ten same-tier demons possibly contend with over a hundred? Such a disparity inevitably led to an instant, crushing defeat!

Gazing at the hundred-plus gigantic Flame Sparrows soaring through the air, many cultivators shook their heads, their eyes filled with concern for the young nun. The Fire Spirit Sect's conduct had long been resented, and nearly every cultivator who knew of their ways yearned to see their disciples soundly thrashed. Yet, they also understood a harsh truth: unless one reached the Earth Immortal Realm, defeating a Fire Spirit Sect disciple of the same tier was virtually impossible. None of the cultivators present could do it, not even the disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. They feared this young nun would be no exception.

Indeed, as the hundreds of blazing Flame Sparrows filled the sky and charged towards her, the young nun, previously calm, now showed a flicker of apprehension. She dared not waste a moment. Clasp her hands together, she began reciting Buddhist chants, her entire body suffused with a gentle Buddha's Light. As this light shone and the chants spread, more than a dozen Flame Sparrows that had neared her were instantly affected. The moment they came within a hundred yards of her, their flames were quelled, their power drastically reduced, and they shrank into harmless, palm-sized firebirds.

The Buddhist Technique this young nun employed was clearly remarkable. While it lacked ferocious killing power, it was characterized by its neutrality and peace. With surprising ease, it seemed to make the imposing Flame Sparrows 'lay down their butcher knives,' transforming them into innocuous little birds.

However, Yang Ding, his heart now filled with murderous intent, was resolved to eliminate this young nun. In such a state, he wouldn't hold back in the slightest. Seeing his Flame Sparrows being rapidly

suppressed by the Buddha's Light, he roared, produced dozens of Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jades, and swiftly absorbed their energy. A surge of True Qi coursed through him, which he then funneled relentlessly into the three Fire Spirit Cauldrons!

Chapter 453: Buddha's Light Secret Technique and Fire Spirit Divine Skill_2

To kill this little nun, Yang Ding actually took out dozens of Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jades!

The surrounding cultivators saw this and couldn't help but click their tongues in amazement, marveling at the extravagance of the Fire Spirit Sect disciple.

The battle had just begun, yet this Fire Spirit Sect disciple had already produced dozens of Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jades. If the fight continued like this, even with the little nun's profound Buddhist Technique, she would probably be exhausted to death!

Not far away, Li Xiaohu saw this, his face tightened, and he once again reached for the Tier Nine Magical Artifact in his hand.

He wasn't worried about the little nun per se, but he couldn't stand to see the Fire Spirit Sect disciples acting so domineeringly, taking lives at the slightest provocation!

Lin Xuankong, however, pressed down on Li Xiaohu's hand and shook his head slightly. "Buddhist Techniques are profound and unpredictable. Since this Buddhist disciple has made a move, she won't be easily defeated. Just watch with peace of mind! If she is in danger, it won't be too late to act then!"

"But this..." Seeing Lin Xuankong stop him, Li Xiaohu felt quite unwilling but could only abandon his intention, then stared coldly at the Fire Spirit Sect disciple, Yang Ding.

Lin Xuankong's gaze, however, drifted towards the distance, a sudden smile touching the corners of his mouth.

「In mid-air,」

Standing on the red cloud, Chang Li smiled and said, "Senior Brother Yang truly lives up to his reputation as the most talented among our uncle-master's many true disciples. An ordinary cultivator's Heart

Thought Grade is insufficient; how could they possibly activate three Tier Seven Magical Artifacts simultaneously? Yet Senior Brother Yang can activate three Fire Spirit Cauldrons at once. With such strength, he could probably resist for several breaths even against an Initial Tier Earth Immortal!"

The dozen or so Fire Spirit Sect disciples beside him all nodded proudly.

"Senior Brother Chang is right! How can Senior Brother Yang's strength be countered by some random wild nun!"

"She doesn't even see which Sect is making a move, yet this wild nun dares to interfere. When our Fire Spirit Sect acts, even the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect has to step aside!"

"She doesn't even dare to name her sect! This little nun must be a disciple from some obscure Little Buddha Sect in some forgotten corner. She's probably ignorant of the world and unaware of our Fire Spirit Sect's renown!"

As the Fire Spirit Sect disciples discussed, their faces were filled with arrogance; not a single one believed that this little nun could be their Senior Brother Yang Ding's opponent.

However, their guesses were indeed correct.

At first, the little nun from Spirit Platform Buddhism could easily suppress the attacks of numerous Flame Sparrows.

But as Yang Ding summoned more and more Flame Sparrows, the Buddha's Light emanating from her began to gradually dim!

Seeing this, Yang Ding couldn't help but reveal an excited expression and burst into loud laughter.

"Hmph, truly an ignorant thing who doesn't know life from death! I thought you had some remarkable technique or treasure to dare interfere with us, but it turns out you only have that turtle shell-like Buddha's Light defense!

I want to see how long you can withstand my Fire Spirit Sparrow's attacks by purely taking hits!"

Before his words had faded, he flicked his hand, and the Flame Sparrows continuously flying towards the little nun suddenly changed their combat style.

They no longer rushed to within thirty zhang of the Buddha's Light. Instead, upon flying to a position thirty zhang away, each shrieked once before transforming into an intensely brilliant flame and exploding violently!

These giant Flame Sparrows, tens of zhang long—equivalent to a hundred meters—each possessed power comparable to a Ninth-Layer Perfection cultivator. At this moment, as they exploded towards the Buddha's Light, their power increased more than tenfold!

This was equivalent to Ninth-Layer Perfection cultivators self-destructing on the spot!

According to Lin Xuankong's comparison with modern weaponry from his past life on Blue Star, each Flame Sparrow's self-destruction was almost equivalent to the explosive power of a several-thousand-kilogram TNT bomb detonating instantly—what terrifying and dreadful power this was!

In an instant, dozens of explosions thundered.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

A massive torrent of flames and shockwaves spread in all directions. The vibrations from the explosions caused the ground and buildings within dozens of miles to tremble!

The cultivators who had been watching from hundreds of zhang away showed drastic changes in expression. They quickly activated their True Qi to protect their bodies and retreated rapidly. Even the expressions of the several Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect disciples changed as they quickly took out their Magical Artifacts to protect themselves and retreated backward!

Lin Xuankong, Li Xiaohu, Hu Shuo, Han Lu, and the others all frowned tightly, activating their True Qi to protect their bodies and then activating their Magical Artifacts to block the incoming, terrifying shockwave!

If it weren't for the fact that the structures of Spiritual Crane Immortal City were made of special materials and embedded with numerous Immortal Runes, these terrible explosions could have instantly blasted craters several zhang, or even over a dozen zhang deep, into the nearby ground!

However, as the explosions continued, although the little nun from Spirit Platform Buddhism floated tens of zhang high in the air, the Immortal Runes on the ground beneath her, which had been faintly shimmering, were already beginning to dim. It wouldn't be long before the runes shattered, making it impossible to maintain the integrity of the ground and surrounding buildings.

The mere aftermath of the explosions already possessed such terrifying power.

One could only imagine the dreadful force endured by the little nun from Spirit Platform Buddhism, who was facing the direct assault of those Flame Sparrows!

Under the relentless barrage of endless explosions, her frown deepened progressively, and the speed at which she chanted Buddhist Mantras increased.

Unfortunately, the Protective Buddha's Light around her body inevitably continued to dim, its protective range shrinking ever smaller!

Chapter 454: Buddha's Light Secret Technique and Fire Spirit Divine Skill_3

When the explosions had sounded for the one hundred and eightieth time, the Buddhist Mantra chanted by the little nun of Spirit Platform Buddhism had merged into one continuous sound, and her face had turned deathly pale. The Protective Buddha's Light was also suppressed by the terrifying self-detonations to a radius of merely thirty meters!

The surrounding cultivators watching had already retreated several kilometers away. However, even at this distance, their faces were still full of dread and fear. This was especially true for cultivators from remote dynasties who had never heard of the Fire Spirit Sect before. Though they were the pride of their respective dynasties, their status and strength far surpassing any other cultivator in their own realms, their hearts raced and their sense of superiority vanished completely upon witnessing the power and methods of the Fire Spirit Sect disciples firsthand!

"So this is the method of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect disciples? To drive countless Same Tier Demons to self-destruct and attack the opponent—such a method is too formidable!"

"Such a method would probably intimidate even an Initial Tier Earth Immortal with an ordinary Cultivation Technique!"

"Indeed, a Same Tier Demon, even just one, can contend with a Same Tier cultivator. Yet this disciple of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect not only summoned over a hundred of them but could also drive these Same Tier Demons to self-destruct. How can any Transcendence Realm Cultivator possibly overcome such an attack?"

"If I had to withstand the self-destruction of Same Tier Demons, just one explosion might gravely injure me. TSK TSK, this is the prowess of an Immortal Sect Disciple? Coming to the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect for this disciple selection ceremony was truly the right decision; it's been such an eye-opening experience!"

"This little nun isn't weak either—she has withstood nearly two hundred explosions. Even an Initial Tier Earth Immortal with an ordinary Cultivation Technique would be injured by so many explosions, but she has only been suppressed, not yet defeated!"

"Ah, the disciple selection ceremony of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect hasn't even started, yet we've already seen such a powerful Tier Nine Cultivator. I originally intended to earn a place in this ceremony, but now it seems I've underestimated the many geniuses and powerful figures of the Western Region. I should probably give up on this competition!"

"Yes! The disciples of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect are so strong. There seem to be over ten of them participating in this ceremony. Does that mean more than ten of their disciples might join the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect? But why would such powerful disciples from the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect want to join another Immortal Sect?"

While the disciples discussed, Yang Ding, the Fire Spirit Sect disciple, was growing increasingly arrogant. At this point, he even slowed the frequency of the explosions because he didn't want to kill the little nun right away. He intended to thoroughly humiliate and torture her. Most importantly, he wanted to use one of the strongest Cultivation Techniques of the Fire Spirit Sect to make her understand despair and terror before her defeat and death!

Thinking of this, he couldn't help but burst out laughing again. "Where did that self-righteous act of yours go, when you were about to meddle in others' business? HAHAHA! What damn defense? Before my Fire Spirit Sect's Fire Spirit Divine Skill, it's nothing more than a paper tiger!"

"I have a suggestion. If you, little bald nun, kneel down and surrender now, becoming my Immortal Servant and serving me comfortably every day, I might spare your life!

"I've tried all kinds of women, played with all kinds of them, but I haven't yet had a Buddhist nun. This is a great opportunity to indulge, HAHAHA!"

The little nun of Spirit Platform Buddhism, attacked by countless Flame Sparrows, turned extremely pale upon hearing Yang Ding's arrogant shouts!

Upon hearing Yang Ding's shouts, the surrounding cultivators secretly shook their heads, their faces also filled with dread.

Li Xiaohu, always straightforward, saw this scene and couldn't help but widen his eyes. "Godfather, I really can't take this anymore! Just let me go and finish that bastard!"

At this moment, a voice suddenly came from afar.

"Flaming Blade Brother Duan, it's been years, but your temper hasn't changed, and your disciples have certainly learned your temperament too! However, this is the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's territory, and today is the day of our disciple selection ceremony. The Fire Spirit Immortal Sect's actions are somewhat disrespectful to our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect!"

When the voice first sounded, it seemed to be dozens of miles away. By the time the speaker was midway through their sentence, the voice was already only hundreds of meters distant. Although not loud, it reached the ears of every cultivator present with perfect clarity. Even the violent explosions of the Flame Sparrows couldn't suppress it!

Flaming Blade Duan River, floating above the red cloud, turned his head with a slight change of expression toward the direction of the voice. The cultivating observers also looked in the direction of the voice. When they saw who had arrived, their faces turned solemn.

At this moment, a patch of white cloud had floated to where the little Buddhist nun was. Standing atop the white cloud were two cultivators radiating Immortal Yuan Fluctuation.

One wore a dark blue Daoist Robe embroidered with white auspicious clouds. Numerous miniature, illusory Immortal Cranes flew around him, making him appear extremely ethereal and lively.

The other wore a white Buddhist Robe, had a tall and well-proportioned figure, and a dignified and beautiful countenance. She was none other than Galin Bodhisattva of Spirit Platform Buddhism, whom Lin Xuankong had once saved!

However, Galin Bodhisattva seemed somewhat displeased at this moment. When Lin Xuankong had last seen her, this Galin Bodhisattva had always been quite low-key, never actively releasing her Immortal Yuan Fluctuation. Even when she had entered the Immortal City through the gates of Spiritual Crane Immortal City, not a single passing cultivator had recognized her as a true Earth Immortal!

Now, however, her expression was solemn, and she radiated a vast amount of Buddha's Light filled with esoteric script. Moreover, this Buddha's Light, compared to when she had met Lin Xuankong some time ago, was even more complex and mysterious. The Immortal Yuan Fluctuation it carried was also much more serene and profound!

Seeing this, Lin Xuankong's eyes flickered, and he thought to himself: When Galin Bodhisattva fought the Four Great Demons of the Profound Yin Demon Sect last time, her Buddha's Light wasn't this serene and pure. Her current state clearly shows her strength has significantly improved. It seems that life-and-death battle against the Four Great Demons helped this Galin Bodhisattva break through some bottlenecks! I just wonder, now that Galin Bodhisattva herself has arrived, will Flaming Blade Duan River of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect give her face? After all, although the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, to which Flaming Blade Duan River belongs, is far less powerful than Spirit Platform Buddhism, he is still one of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect's Vice Sect Leaders, a position of extremely high status. Moreover, in terms of strength, Duan River is already at Late Stage Tier Three and should be able to easily suppress Galin Bodhisattva!

Chapter 455: Is the Fire Spirit Sect Planning to Perish?

Lin Xuankong pondered silently.

Meanwhile, the cultivators who were previously discussing fervently had quieted down one by one. After all, even if they were lacking in foresight, they could still see that there were two Earth Immortals. One of them, in an indigo Daoist Robe, was clearly the host—an Earth Immortal from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect! With an Earth Immortal from the host sect stepping forward, even the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect should show some deference!

However, what surprised all the cultivators present was that, upon seeing the two Earth Immortals arrive together, the Fire Spirit Sect disciple Yang Ding did not stop his wild bombardment. Instead, the frequency of explosions increased severalfold; he evidently intended to forcibly kill the little nun!

Seeing this, Galin Bodhisattva's originally solemn expression gradually darkened. However, despite this, she still did not make a move. Instead, she floated quietly above the clouds, staring at Yang Ding, the Fire Spirit Sect disciple who was attacking the little nun.

"Hahahaha, I wondered who it could be. Turns out it's an old rival!"

At this moment, Flame Saber Duan River suddenly laughed heartily. After a burst of wild laughter, his expression darkened as he stared at the Earth Immortal from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect in the clouds.

"Of course, I know this place belongs to the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, and today is the day of their disciple recruitment competition. Our Fire Spirit Immortal Sect and the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect have always been close allies; we should naturally maintain harmony! But this little nun, who came from who-knows-where, insists on humiliating my Fire Spirit Sect disciple, completely disregarding my Fire Spirit Immortal Sect. This is intolerable! It's natural for my disciple to spar with her and show her the vastness of the heavens and the earth! Rest assured, if any buildings in the Spiritual Crane Immortal City are damaged in the conflict, I, Flame Saber Duan River, will naturally compensate in full!"

The Earth Immortal from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect floating in the clouds couldn't help but darken his expression upon hearing this. "So, Brother Yang, you insist on having your disciple attack this Buddhist Bhikkhu? Will you not give me face, nor the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect face?"

Flame Saber Duan River's face similarly darkened.

"Face? Hahaha... What if my disciple continues attacking this little nun? So what, Huang Liutao? You're just a Grand Chief Steward of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, merely late Second Grade. Do you plan to interfere in my, Flame Saber Duan River's, matters? On what grounds? Because you were defeated countless times when you were at the same tier as me back then? Because your current late Second Grade Realm is far inferior to mine? Your influence isn't enough! If you want my True Disciple to stop, you'd better invite your Vice Sect Leader. Otherwise, just watch as my True Disciple beats this arrogant little nun to death on the spot!"

After speaking, Flame Saber Duan River sneered coldly and raised his hand. His Flame Immortal Artifact, spewing terrifyingly hot white flames, immediately floated out. It transformed to a size of tens of meters and pointed remotely at the Earth Immortal from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect!

The Daoist-robed Earth Immortal from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, Huang Liutao, seeing Flame Saber Duan River so arrogant, couldn't help but show a hint of anger in his eyes. He lightly flicked the duster in his hand, coldly saying, "Very well, I was right indeed! As expected of the Flame Saber, known for his tyranny in the Western Region of the Central Divine Dynasty! As expected of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, known for its arrogance in the Western Region! However, Flame Saber, you might not know the identity of this Buddhist Bhikkhu, do you? Accustomed to running rampant, aren't you afraid of kicking a Profound Iron Plate and breaking your toes?"

The surrounding cultivators heard this and couldn't help but look at the Buddhist cultivator next to the Earth Immortal from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect.

Flame Saber Duan River, however, gradually showed a hint of confusion in his eyes. As one of the Vice Sect Leaders of the Fire Spirit Sect, my insights are naturally broader than those of these numerous cultivators! Seeing that this little nun didn't use any magical artifacts or activate any other treasures, only relying on chanting to block Yang Ding's full attack, I can naturally see that this little nun's origin is probably extraordinary! Moreover, having lived for nearly two thousand years, I am knowledgeable about various dynasties, Buddhist Sects, and Immortal Sects within the Western Region of the Central Divine Dynasty. To my knowledge, none of the numerous Buddhist Sects in the Western Region of the Central Divine Dynasty possess such Buddhist Techniques that can form terrifying defenses just through chanting!

For a moment, Flame Saber Duan River's expression fluctuated slightly, but very quickly, he, who had long been accustomed to being domineering, returned to his normal expression!

In my view, although it has attracted hatred and opposition from countless cultivators, the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect has stood strong until now primarily because its disciples have always been united and

aim to kill their enemies in one strike, leaving no survivors! It has been this way before, and it will be the same in the future! The dignity of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect cannot be disregarded or trampled upon by others!

At this moment, the little nun from Spirit Platform Buddhism, surrounded by Buddha's Light, was struggling more and more to resist the continuous and dense explosions! The Buddha's Light, filled with Buddhist Secret Text, had already been compressed to a distance of merely ten meters! At this distance, though the Protective Buddha's Light could still provide some protection to the little nun from Spirit Platform Buddhism, with every explosion, her body would tremble slightly. It was apparent that her True Qi was nearly exhausted, making it impossible to continue resisting!

Seeing this, Flame Saber Duan River's eyes gleamed with a hint of pride. Quietly, he sent a message using Immortal Yuan to his True Disciple, Yang Ding, "Continue! Increase the intensity! Eliminate that little nun immediately. She is merely from some Little Buddha Sect that doesn't even dare to reveal its name!"

Excitement immediately shone in Yang Ding's eyes. When I saw those two Earth Immortals arriving just now, I was worried that Master would make me stop. That would have been disgusting! Now that Master doesn't even regard the Earth Immortals from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, my face is brimming with pride, about to overflow!

He continuously took out a large number of Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jade from his Ghost Frog Pouch, fervently absorbing the True Qi inside. From the three Fire Spirit Cauldrons he operated, giant Flame Sparrows flew out like lightning, spreading their wings as they flew towards the little nun from Spirit Platform Buddhism!

Explosions echoed continuously.

「Time trickled away bit by bit.」

The Buddha's Light around the little nun from Spirit Platform Buddhism shrank to a size of merely five feet. Now, each explosion of a Flame Sparrow could penetrate the Buddha's Light and reach the little nun's body!

With every explosion, blood continuously flowed from the little nun's eyes, ears, mouth, and nose. The blood trailed down her cheeks and neck, gradually dyeing her white Buddhist Robe a dark red color!

At this point, the little nun's chanting of Buddhist Spells grew faster and faster, racing toward an extreme limit. Although her face was covered with blood and her brows were tightly furrowed, her expression was peaceful, showing no fear even at the brink of death!

Many of the female cultivators watching this scene had tightly furrowed brows. Normally, any cultivator who had achieved Ninth-Layer Perfection would have killed before; after all, the Path of Cultivation is closely tied to resource competition! Yet, even though they had killed, most of them had never used such cruel methods to slowly wear down someone's life!

What they found most unbelievable was that, even at this moment, the little Buddhist nun still only used Defense Techniques, without employing a single Attack Technique! Moreover, being constantly battered and bleeding, the pain she endured was unimaginable!

"Hahaha, you must be nearly out of True Qi! Beg for mercy! There's still a chance to plead now. If you beg for mercy, I might spare you!"

Yang Ding from the Fire Spirit Sect, looking at the little nun whose face and body were covered in blood, was exhilarated. It seemed that personally witnessing and inflicting suffering upon others gave him immense joy!

At this moment, even Lin Xuankong, who considered himself to understand Galin Bodhisattva's kind nature well, couldn't help but feel a pang of sympathy.

He felt puzzled. The little nun is clearly a disciple of Spirit Platform Buddhism and Galin Bodhisattva. How can the Bodhisattva just stand by and watch her disciple be so brutally beaten? Just watch as her disciple is tortured like this? Forget my Young Lady Lii Xiaolan and Yu Fei; if Little Hu, Hu Shuo, Yang Mountain, Li Er, or anyone close to me were tortured like this by a cultivator, on the verge of death, I would crush the perpetrator to dust, even if they were a heavenly emperor!

Just as Lin Xuankong was pondering this in confusion, he suddenly saw that the little nun from Spirit Platform Buddhism, whose face and body were covered in blood, suddenly relaxed her tightly furrowed

brows. A look of joy appeared on her face. Then, the Buddha's Light around her began to vibrate and gather, while the Buddhist chant from her mouth grew louder and more serene!

The Buddha's Light, which had been compressed to just over a foot, suddenly brightened immensely, expanding for hundreds, even thousands of meters!

Standing nearly a thousand meters away, Lin Xuankong, bathed in that Buddha's Light, felt a sudden sense of peace wash over him, calming his previously anxious mind!

Yang Ding, who was attacking the little nun, was stunned at this sight, a look of bewilderment in his eyes. He clearly did not understand what was happening!

Floating on the red cloud, Flame Saber Duan River's expression changed, and he shouted, "This is a sign of the Divine Soul and body merging to a certain extent! Damn it, this little nun must have taken an Immortal Ascension Treasure Pill for breaking through to the Earth Immortal Realm beforehand! She is seeking life in death, intentionally provoking your attacks to break through the Ninth-Layer Perfection bottleneck! Quick, attack with full force and interrupt her chance to break through to Initial Tier Earth Immortal!"

Lin Xuankong's expression changed upon hearing this.

At this moment, a cold voice rang out, "Continue attacking? Does the Fire Spirit Sect plan on being annihilated?"

Chapter 456: The Incredulous Chang Li and Duan River

This somewhat cold voice was clearly driven by Immortal Yuan and carried the extraordinary power of Buddhist Secret Techniques! With just this low shout, everyone present felt a jolt in their hearts, and a wave of immense fear rose from within!

The faces of the thousands upon thousands of Cultivators changed dramatically, their eyes filled with terror. This was because, at the same time the cold shout reached them, each person's vision was engulfed by extremely terrifying illusions!

In the illusions, a Buddhist Angry-eyed Vajra floated high in the sky. Tens of thousands of arms, each thousands of feet thick, extended from its sides. Each palm opened to reveal glaring eyes, and each eye

that looked out possessed an overwhelming aura! Surrounding the Angry-eyed Vajra's body, countless ferocious Buddhist Exotic Beasts appeared. These included Buddhist White Elephants towering tens of thousands of feet high, peacocks with wingspans of ten thousand feet, and serpentine Buddhist White Dragons... The presence of each Buddhist Exotic Beast was incredibly menacing, as though they would charge forth at any moment and crush the onlooking Cultivators!

In merely a twentieth of a breath's time, thousands upon thousands of Cultivators' Heart Spirits were profoundly shaken, unable to withstand the oppression of the illusions. Immediately, they lost control over their Heart Spirits, collapsing to the ground in fright, trembling all over. Some even wet themselves in terror on the spot!

These Cultivators, even those at the lowest Realm, were at the Sixth or Seventh Layer. Yet, they were terrified to such an extent! This truly showed the profound intricacy of the Buddhist Technique used by the Cultivator who had let out that cold shout.

At this moment, even Li Xiaohu, Hu Shuo, and others beside Lin Xuankong, who were all at the Ninth-Layer Perfection Realm, were still trembling slightly, their complexions exceedingly pale, evidently subdued by the illusions!

Among the disciples of the Fire Spirit Sect floating among the clouds, every one of their faces also changed dramatically. The previously composed and genteel Chang Li, too, showed a drastic change of expression, trembling all over, almost kowtowing to the ground in shock!

Among the countless Cultivators present, those who could withstand this Buddhist Secret Technique were only the Late-stage Second-Grade Earth Immortal Huang Liutao of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, Flame Saber Duan River of the Fire Spirit Sect, and Lin Xuankong, whose Heart Thought intensity had reached the Immortal Tier.

Of course, even though Lin Xuankong withstood the oppression of the illusions, his expression still changed. He looked with some surprise towards Galin Bodhisattva, who was beside Earth Immortal Huang Liutao of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect.

This method of illusion attack bears some resemblance to my Sixth Celestial Eye of the Eight Gates Celestial Eye. However, while the Sixth Celestial Eye can also intimidate opponents, it can only deal with one enemy at a time. How could it compare to Galin Bodhisattva's Secret Technique, which, with a single cold shout, caused thousands upon thousands of Cultivators to lose control over their Heart Spirits! Indeed, Spirit Platform Buddhism is worthy of being the foremost Buddhist Sect among

thousands. For it to contend with the Profound Yin Demon Sect and overshadow the countless Immortal Sects of the Central Divine Dynasty, it undoubtedly has its reasons—its formidable Buddhist Cultivation Techniques! Even though these Buddhist illusion Secret Techniques have no effect on Immortals, just a single cold shout can cause tens of thousands of Cultivators to lose their resistance for a period of time—this is terrifyingly powerful! I wonder if I'll have a chance to learn some of Spirit Platform Buddhism's Secret Techniques in the future. Of course, the prerequisite would be not joining Spirit Platform Buddhism myself. According to the rigorous rules and regulations Galin Bodhisattva mentioned, I definitely wouldn't be able to endure them! It would be best to rely on some other methods, such as using my unique second Talent... Lin Xuankong looked towards Galin Bodhisattva with a hint of eagerness in his eyes, pondering silently.

At this moment, the spectators a thousand feet away were terrified to such an extent upon hearing the cold shout infused with Buddhist might. This was even more so for Yang Ding, the Fire Spirit Sect disciple specifically targeted by Galin Bodhisattva!

Under the impact of the Buddhist Secret Technique, Yang Ding—who just moments ago was pompously and arrogantly demanding the little nun of Spirit Platform Buddhism to kneel and surrender—had already fallen to the ground in fright. His eyes were wide open and filled with extreme fear, and his mouth continually yelled wildly, "No, no, no, you Demons stay away! I am a disciple of the Fire Spirit Sect, you can't kill me! Stay away! AAAAAHHHHH!"

Screaming in terror, he scooted backward on the ground. His once clean red flame robe was soaked and filthy with cold sweat, urine, and feces, with not a trace of the Immortal Sect's dignity left!

The three Fire Spirit Cauldrons he had been propelling shrank back to their original sizes, falling to the ground with a series of CLINK! CLINK! CLINK! sounds as they lost the support of his True Qi. The giant Flame Sparrows that once filled the sky let out a mournful cry; their flames gradually extinguished, eventually dissipating into wisps of smoke in the air!

Yang Ding continued to scoot backward frantically, screaming in terror, almost like a madman!

A few breaths later, most of the tens of thousands of Cultivators around had regained their composure from the deterrence of Galin Bodhisattva's Buddhist Secret Technique. After all, Galin Bodhisattva's real target wasn't them; they were just unlucky enough to be caught in the crossfire!

Upon regaining consciousness, aside from a few embarrassed Cultivators who had wet themselves, most Cultivators showed expressions of shock and disbelief, all looking towards Galin Bodhisattva floating in the distant sky!

Most of them had heard of the formidable methods of Earth Immortal Powerhouses, but even in the tales they knew, there weren't many Earth Immortals able to defeat thousands of Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth-Layer Cultivators with a mere cold shout!

Chapter 457: The Unbelievable Chang Li and Duan River_2

"This Buddhist Earth Immortal is incredibly powerful! That Buddhist shout is simply unstoppable. What is her background? Which sect is she from?"

"Right! Just a casual shout was enough to defeat tens of thousands of Cultivators immediately. Even a Second-Grade Earth Immortal couldn't do that. Could she be a Third-Grade Earth Immortal?"

"In the Buddhist Sect, there are indeed many Cultivators known as Buddha Venerables who have mastered similar Buddhist Lion's Roar Secret Techniques. But this kind of Secret Technique, capable of intimidating tens of thousands of Cultivators with a mere cold hum, is too formidable. I've never heard of anything like it!"

The numerous Cultivators discussed this in succession, marveling at the methods Galin Bodhisattva had just used. Of course, many Cultivators also looked at Yang Ding, who was still in a state of shock and madness. Watching this Fire Spirit Sect disciple, so arrogant just moments ago, now reduced to such a crazed state, many felt a secret sense of satisfaction. If not for the presence of the Fire Spirit Sect's Flaming Blade Duan River, some Cultivators would have likely started discussing it openly and laughing loudly by now.

At this moment, above the red cloud, Flaming Blade Duan River looked at Galin Bodhisattva, his expression subtly changing. His True Disciple, Yang Ding, had been easily intimidated into such a state by a single Buddhist Secret Technique from her. It even had a momentary impact on his own Heart Spirit. Even Flaming Blade Duan River himself felt a bit surprised.

His gaze flickered a few times, then he coldly snorted at the few disciples beside him. "Why don't you quickly go and rescue your senior brother? Truly a disgrace to my Fire Spirit Sect! It's just an illusion, yet he's frightened to this extent!"

The few disciples behind him bowed deeply upon hearing this. After casting a wary glance at Galin Bodhisattva, they finally flew towards Yang Ding, who was still uncontrollably evacuating his bowels and bladder.

Flaming Blade Duan River then withdrew his gaze and rapidly mobilized the Immortal Yuan within his body. The Initial Tier Immortal Artifact, the Flaming Blade, floating above him began to enlarge rapidly! Within moments, the Flaming Blade Immortal Artifact transformed to a size of a thousand zhang. It was covered with flames soaring a hundred zhang high. The temperature of these flames was extremely terrifying, causing the surroundings to emit constant cracking sounds. At the tip of the Flaming Blade, the flames even burned open large, dreadful spatial rifts!

At the same time, Flaming Blade Duan River stared coldly at Galin Bodhisattva.

"What a grand display of power!" he declared.

"A dignified Earth Immortal Powerhouse, yet you brazenly bully a mere Transcendence Realm disciple of my Fire Spirit Sect in front of countless Cultivators!

"Do you truly think my Fire Spirit Sect is easy to bully?!

"Hmph, regardless of who you are! And regardless of your background!

"If you dare to lay a hand on a disciple of my Fire Spirit Sect, even if the Sect Leader of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect were present, I would still take your life!"

Before his voice fully fell, the hundred-zhang high flames on the Flaming Blade Immortal Artifact suddenly erupted, transforming into flames a thousand zhang high in an instant. The intense heat caused the surrounding space to crack apart! Terrifying heat waves spread out continuously, prompting the Cultivators standing a thousand zhang away to quickly retreat, their expressions changing drastically as they held their breath. They were so horrified not only because the terrifying temperature of the spreading flames was difficult to withstand, but more importantly, because an Earth Immortal Realm Powerhouse was about to strike—an Earth Immortal Powerhouse wielding an Initial Tier Immortal Artifact! If they didn't distance themselves now, once the dreadful battle between the two Earth Immortals broke out, these Ninth Layer Cultivators might be heavily injured or even killed if caught in the crossfire!

However, what surprised all the Cultivators present was that, facing the poised Flaming Blade Duan River, the Buddhist Earth Immortal who had previously unleashed the Buddhist Secret Technique remained exceedingly calm. She didn't even mobilize a large amount of Immortal Yuan!

Everyone wore expressions of deep confusion. Flaming Blade Duan River was a late-stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal. He was known for his famous Initial Tier Immortal Artifact, the Flaming Blade, with which he had once easily defeated other Earth Immortals of the Same Tier. Although this Female Bodhisattva has miraculous methods, she has yet to mobilize an Immortal Artifact. How could she possibly be a match for Flaming Blade Duan River without one?

Just at that moment, Earth Immortal Huang Liutao from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, who was standing beside Galin Bodhisattva, suddenly flicked his duster and coldly said,

"The Fire Spirit Sect is indeed powerful. You even intend to kill Galin Bodhisattva of Spirit Platform Buddhism?"

"Ha! Even our Sect Leader, who is at the late-stage Fifth-Grade Realm, is quite respectful when meeting Galin Bodhisattva. Moreover, several Supreme Elders of our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect have repeatedly invited Galin Bodhisattva to their seclusion sites! And yet you intend to slay her?"

"Come, I would love to see how Flaming Blade Duan River plans to brazenly strike against a Bodhisattva from Spirit Platform Buddhism in front of tens of thousands of Cultivators!"

After saying this, he slowly retreated, seemingly making way for Flaming Blade Duan River to strike!

At this moment, Earth Immortal Huang Liutao from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect wore a cold expression, but upon hearing his words, every Cultivator's face revealed a look of astonishment.

This was especially true for Duan River, who was about to strike with the Flaming Blade Immortal Artifact. Upon hearing the words "Spirit Platform Buddhism," the Immortal Yuan within him began to fluctuate violently. When he heard "Galin Bodhisattva," his face turned deathly pale. The flames on the Flaming Blade Immortal Artifact instantly shrank, retracting entirely into the artifact itself!

In the next moment,

Chapter 458: The Unbelievable Chang Li and Duan River_3

The Flaming Blade Duan River's forehead was already drenched in sweat. His face was pale as he urged the fiery red cloud towards Galin Bodhisattva. When he was about eighteen hundred yards away, this Vice Sect Leader of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect suddenly fell to his knees with a thud before the cold-faced Galin Bodhisattva!

At this moment, the once arrogantly boastful Flaming Blade Duan River, who had claimed he would kill Galin Bodhisattva, actually knelt there—in front of his own disciples, tens of thousands of cultivators, and his old rival Huang Liutao!

Moreover, after kneeling on the cloud, this eminent Late-stage Third Grade Earth Immortal unexpectedly showed a look of panic. He clasped his hands together and kowtowed repeatedly.

"I, Duan River, did not know that disciples of Spirit Platform Buddhism were here, and even less did I know that Galin Bodhisattva herself was present. I have failed in my welcome, truly failed in my welcome! Just now, I, Duan River, greatly offended Galin Bodhisattva and even ordered my disciples to attack the Bodhisattva's disciple. Truly, I deserve ten thousand deaths for my sins!"

After he finished speaking, a hint of grim resolve appeared on his face. He turned to look at Yang Ding, who had been brought back by the dozen disciples. At this time, Yang Ding was still in a state of terrified madness, continuously shouting, "Spare me! Don't come closer! Spare me! I am a disciple of the Fire Spirit Sect! Don't you dare come closer..."

Flaming Blade Duan River closed his eyes slightly. In the next instant, an intensely bright line of fire abruptly shot out from his pupils, landing on his direct disciple, Yang Ding.

PUFF.

A soft sound echoed.

Flaming Blade Duan River's direct disciple, Yang Ding, suddenly let out a horrific howl. Immediately after, his entire body began to glow with an eerie crimson light. Tiny, dense flames continuously erupted from

his eyes, ears, mouth, and nose. Not only that, but minuscule flames also seeped out from his countless pores!

The Magic Artifact Robe on Yang Ding's body ignited fiercely under the terrifying flames, rapidly turning into a cloud of flying ash.

Meanwhile, Yang Ding, who had been howling loudly, abruptly fell silent.

His entire body trembled violently while his skin and flesh curled and blackened, emitting a foul, burnt stench. Soon, his entire body was fiercely ablaze. In less than a single breath, he was reduced to a pile of ashes that scattered and drifted towards the ground!

This disciple of the Fire Spirit Sect, once so exceedingly arrogant, who had attacked Li Xiaohu and the young nun from Spirit Platform Buddhism, was directly incinerated—ashes and all—by his own master using a secret technique of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect!

The dozen or so rather arrogant disciples of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, including Second Prince Chang Li, witnessed this scene. They stood stunned on the fiery red cloud, their faces filled with utter disbelief.

In the eyes of Second Prince Chang Li and those dozen disciples of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, their sect had always dominated the Western Region of the Central Divine Dynasty, holding even the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect in little regard. Flaming Blade Duan River's fame was widespread; many cultivators had heard of his name, even in the Central Earth of the Central Divine Dynasty!

Yet, upon hearing that the other party was Galin Bodhisattva of Spirit Platform Buddhism, the dignified Third-Grade Earth Immortal, Flaming Blade Duan River—the Vice Sect Leader of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect—had actually knelt before Galin Bodhisattva in front of countless people!

And not only had he knelt, but Flaming Blade Duan River, in front of all those people, had also struck down his own most valued direct disciple, Yang Ding, with a backhanded blow, reducing him to cinders!

Even witnessing it with their own eyes, they could hardly believe this scene!

Chapter 459: The Prestige of Spirit Platform Buddhism, Immortal Tribulation

Not only were Second Prince Chang Li and his group incredulous, but the tens of thousands of cultivators present were almost all dumbfounded!

He was a dignified Third-Grade Earth Immortal! He was the esteemed Vice Sect Leader of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect! Especially, he was a terrifying cultivator wielding an Initial Tier Immortal Artifact!

That Flame Saber Duan River—he hadn't even officially made a move! He just heard the opponent's name and knelt on the spot? And not only did he kneel, he even reduced his own direct disciple to ashes?

Of course, those cultivators who had heard of Spirit Platform Buddhism looked at Galin Bodhisattva of Spirit Platform Buddhism with faces full of reverence.

Low murmurs began to fill the air.

"My heavens, it's actually someone from Spirit Platform Buddhism, and Galin Bodhisattva herself! No wonder that Buddhist Secret Technique affected tens of thousands of cultivators just now!"

"Indeed! Who could have imagined that a Bodhisattva from Spirit Platform Buddhism, all the way from the distant Western World, would be here? TSK TSK, this time... those few from the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect probably won't escape so easily!"

"Impossible! Isn't that Flame Saber Duan River a late-stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal? Isn't he the Vice Sect Leader of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect? How could he be so terrified? A late-stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal has an almost indestructible Golden Core; even if he couldn't win, he should have been able to escape!"

"Heh, escape? Brother, you probably don't know how powerful Spirit Platform Buddhism is!"

"Is Spirit Platform Buddhism very powerful?"

"More than powerful! The Central Divine Dynasty's Five Immortal Realms—north, south, east, west, and center—are vast beyond measure, with hundreds of Immortal Sects and likely thousands of Earth

Immortals in total. Even so, they often struggle against the Profound Yin Demon Sect in the north. This Demon Sect launches Immortal-Demon Wars every few millennia, reaping innumerable cultivators' lives and even slaughtering some so-called undying Earth Immortals!

But eighty thousand years ago, Spirit Platform Buddhism from the west once sent twelve Bodhisattvas across the Western World and the endless realms of the Central Divine Dynasty to the Profound Yin Demon Sect, inciting a Buddha-Demon War. It's said that in that war, seventy-two demons, whose realms were comparable to Earth Immortals and who could fight or even overpower Earth Immortals of the same realm, fell!

And in that Great Demon-Buddha War, which kept the Profound Yin Demon Sect confined to the Northern Territory for tens of thousands of years, none of the twelve Bodhisattvas from Spirit Platform Buddhism perished. Only two of them had their realms suppressed, reducing their strength to that of Eighth-Grade Earth Immortals!

So, do you see how powerful Spirit Platform Buddhism is? Compared to it, even the most powerful Immortal Sect of the Central Divine Dynasty is just a minor player. That's not to mention the Twelve Great Immortal Sects of the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region, among which the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect doesn't even rank in the top three! Can you sense the disparity in strength?"

"Holy shit!"

"Not only that! You've only heard about the power of Spirit Platform Buddhism, but probably not about this Galin Bodhisattva!

In that Buddha-Demon War, the strongest among the twelve Bodhisattvas was Yu Zhen Bodhisattva, who single-handedly punished thirty-six great demons of the Profound Yin Demon Sect, earning the title of First Dharma and Manifestation Bodhisattva!

And this Galin Bodhisattva is said to be a True Disciple of Yu Zhen Bodhisattva. It's rumored that after only a few hundred years of cultivation, she has already reached the Second-Grade Earth Immortal Realm!"

"Holy shit!"

"No wonder, no wonder! The Fire Spirit Immortal Sect's Flame Saber Earth Immortal didn't just kick an iron plate; he kicked the hardest, most terrifying iron plate in existence!"

"TSK TSK! I wonder how many Earth Immortals the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect has, and if they'll be enough for Yu Zhen Bodhisattva to kill..."

As the crowd discussed these things, Lin Xuankong, who 'heard' their murmurs with his Eight Gates Celestial Eye, also showed a look of utter astonishment.

He had long known Galin Bodhisattva and had heard that Spirit Platform Buddhism was powerful, reputed as the foremost among countless Buddhist Sects and capable of contending with the Profound Yin Demon Sect! Yet, he had never imagined Spirit Platform Buddhism's renown was so illustrious. Moreover, he hadn't realized that the kind-hearted Galin Bodhisattva, who earnestly sought to recruit him into Spirit Platform Buddhism, had such an extraordinary background! Her master, Yu Zhen Bodhisattva, was the foremost Bodhisattva of Spirit Platform Buddhism! No wonder! He had found it odd that Galin Bodhisattva would so casually gift him Buddhist Spiritual Treasures... It turned out she wasn't some spendthrift Little Bodhisattva; she was an incredibly wealthy Little Bodhisattva! She had Yu Zhen Bodhisattva, the most powerful backer in the world, supporting her. With such connections, what Buddhist Spiritual Treasure could she possibly not obtain!

Standing nearby, Li Xiaohu, Hu Shuo, Yang Mountain, Li Er, and others were also filled with astonishment at this scene.

Li Xiaohu, who had been ready to fight desperately just moments earlier, glanced at Galin Bodhisattva and then at Lin Xuankong. A peculiar smile suddenly appeared on his face. He quietly approached Lin Xuankong, leaned close to his ear, and whispered,

"Foster Father, you're really something! You actually saved such a Great Buddha! From now on, you can probably walk through Spiritual Crane Immortal City unchallenged! HAHAA! If Foster Father can win over this delicate Female Bodhisattva and make her your Young Lady, then forget merely walking unchallenged in Spiritual Crane Immortal City. You could probably walk unchallenged throughout the entire Central Divine Dynasty Western Region! After all, this Little Bodhisattva merely had to announce her name, and that Third-Grade Earth Immortal Duan River knelt and begged for mercy!"

Chapter 460: The Prestige of Spirit Platform Buddhism, Immortal Tribulation_2

"Oh my, really impressive, Foster Father, your luck is indeed invincible!"

Take this delicate Female Bodhisattva as your Young Lady? I'm afraid that Yu Zhen Bodhisattva from Spirit Platform Buddhism will be furious to the point of scattering her own ashes!

Lin Xuankong immediately gave Li Xiaohu a slap on the back of his head. "Stop talking nonsense!"

But Li Xiaohu continued to laugh cheekily. "At the very least, by relying on Foster Father's connection through this Female Bodhisattva, no one in Spiritual Crane Immortal City would dare to mess with us!"

What nonsense about a connection! This is simply tarnishing my reputation!

Lin Xuankong glared at him, but Little Hu covered his head and ran off.

「At this moment, near Galin Bodhisattva,」

The Earth Immortal Huang Liutao of Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, floating beside her, looked at the kneeling Flaming Blade Duan River with a schadenfreude smile in his eyes. Of course, he had long foreseen that upon hearing the names of Spirit Platform Buddhism and Galin Bodhisattva, Flaming Blade Duan River, no matter how courageous, would definitely wimp out on the spot and kneel to beg for mercy!

However, Huang Liutao, who had held a grudge against Flaming Blade Duan River for hundreds of years, was not about to let him get away with just kneeling so easily. In his view, the more grievously the perpetually domineering and utterly shameless Flaming Blade Duan River offended Galin Bodhisattva this time, the better. If that were the case, forget Flaming Blade Duan River; even the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect might face the threat of annihilation!

After inwardly gloating, this Earth Immortal from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect put on a thoughtful expression.

"Alas, Brother Duan, Brother Duan, I did warn you out of goodwill before. This person beside me is not someone you can afford to offend, nor is she someone your Fire Spirit Immortal Sect can afford to offend. What a pity, a true pity, that you stubbornly refused to heed my advice. If you had known then what you know now, why would you have acted so recklessly?"

Hearing his old rival's words, Flaming Blade Duan River felt a surge of resentment. However, in the presence of Galin Bodhisattva, he was already trembling with such fear that he dared not show any defiance.

He frowned at Huang Liutao of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, then once again clasped his hands towards Galin Bodhisattva, kowtowed dozens more times, and said with a pious expression,

"Galin Bodhisattva above, this Little Immortal, Duan River, has already killed the defiant subordinate on the spot. This fellow had been getting increasingly outrageous recently and never listened to my teachings. This time, he dared to rashly attack a Buddhist Disciple; he truly deserved to die, deserved to be sliced into a thousand pieces!

I only hope that Galin Bodhisattva will not be angry. Both Duan River and the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect have always followed the lead of Spirit Platform Buddhism. We have always been respectful towards Buddhist Disciples and would never dare to show the slightest defiance!"

After speaking, this distinguished Third-Grade Earth Immortal kowtowed dozens more times atop the fiery red cloud.

Lin Xuankong watched this scene, a flicker of killing intent suddenly flashing in his eyes. This Flaming Blade Duan River is truly an extremely ruthless fellow. The most terrifying part is, he's not only ruthless to others but also excessively ruthless to himself!

Even though I've never met the hundreds of Earth Immortals from the Central Divine Dynasty, I'm absolutely certain that very few of those Earth Immortals—whose strength, influence, and lifespan far surpass ordinary Cultivators—would be capable of kneeling before someone else in front of tens of thousands of people!

What an adaptable and ruthless fellow!

However, the more adaptable and ruthless he is, the more imperative it becomes to eliminate such a person! Otherwise, with Flaming Blade Duan River's kind of viciousness, if he were to target me, Lan, Ying'Er, or Little Hu in the future, he would undoubtedly use every conceivable method to put all our lives in danger!

At that moment, upon hearing Flaming Blade Duan River's servile words, Galin Bodhisattva completely ignored him, a hint of disgust even appearing in her eyes. Shaking her head slightly, she urged her cloud to move closer to her disciple. Only when she was within five hundred zhang of the young Buddhist nun from Spirit Platform Buddhism did she descend, landing near Lin Xuankong.

Seeing Galin Bodhisattva's actions, a look of terror appeared on Flaming Blade Duan River's face.

As an old monster who had undergone Cultivation for thousands of years, he knew perfectly well that although the Bodhisattvas of Spirit Platform Buddhism constantly proclaimed 'Our Buddha is Merciful,' when it came to the sheer number and caliber of enemies they had slain, dozens of Fire Spirit Immortal Sects combined probably wouldn't be enough for that Yu Zhen Bodhisattva to kill!

At this point, Flaming Blade Duan River was so overcome with regret that he almost impulsively wanted to slap himself, wishing he could knock his own jaw clean off!

Dammit, of all people to offend, why did I have to run headfirst into someone from Spirit Platform Buddhism!

Unfortunately, even though Flaming Blade Duan River was consumed by regret, he still dared not rise from the red cloud. He even kept his hands pressed together in a prayer gesture, seemingly afraid to relax for even a moment.

He knew with utmost clarity that if Galin Bodhisattva truly decided to pursue this matter, even the Sect Leader and the Supreme Elders of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect would instantly become cowards and sell him out without a second thought!

「As everyone was lost in their own thoughts,」

Dark clouds suddenly churned in the sky. Although it was early morning with the eastern sun shining brightly, as countless dark clouds suddenly appeared and gathered, the sky rapidly dimmed.

Moreover, the dark clouds grew in number, continuously rolling and approaching the ground. Before long, the vast expanse of incredibly thick dark clouds had descended to a position two thousand zhang above the earth.

This distance was extremely close to the ground. Strangely, Spiritual Crane Immortal City, after millennia of meticulous development by the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, was protected by an extremely powerful City-Protecting Immortal Array. However, these rolling dark clouds were completely unaffected by the Immortal Array's defensive barrier, which could even block attacks from High-grade Immortals. They directly penetrated it, pressing down to that position two thousand zhang above the ground!

Even the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's auction house, which had been floating high in the sky above Spiritual Crane Immortal City, was completely enveloped by the countless dark clouds.

Seeing this, Lin Xuankong's expression changed slightly. The entire sky, from south to north and east to west, was filled with dark, heavy clouds, all pressing down to a height of two thousand zhang. The sheer visual oppressiveness of these countless clouds in such a formation was immense.

What was most suffocating was that amidst the rolling dark clouds, bolts of lightning as thick as small buildings constantly streaked through. These incredibly agile lightning bolts, seeming to possess lives of their own, did not strike the ground but instead all converged towards Spiritual Crane Immortal City.

In mere moments, directly above the young Buddhist nun from Spirit Platform Buddhism within Spiritual Crane Immortal City, an unknown number of terrifying lightning bolts, each as thick as a large building and several thousand zhang long, had gathered. These lightning bolts writhed and twisted, continuously amassing. A single glance suggested there were tens of thousands, perhaps even a hundred thousand, of these dreadful bolts!

The most terrifying aspect was that the power contained within this lightning was hundreds of times fiercer than the lightning Lin Xuankong, a Ninth-Layer Perfection Yin Talisman Thunder Cultivator, could unleash!

This lightning was significantly stronger than the Yin Talisman Thunder Power Lin Xuankong could command even after activating all his Beneficial Techniques. Crucially, their numbers were terrifyingly vast and still increasing, seemingly gathering into the hundreds of thousands, or even millions, of bolts!

"Celestial Tribulation? This is the Celestial Tribulation? Is that little nun from Spirit Platform Buddhism about to undergo her Immortal Tribulation? This damned Immortal Tribulation is too outrageous! So

many Divine Thunders... they could probably turn the land for a hundred li around into molten rock!" Li Xiaohu exclaimed, looking up at the scene, unable to hold back his shock.

Lin Xuankong gestured for everyone to retreat. This young Buddhist nun is about to undergo her tribulation. When a massive number of Divine Thunders strike down, if they are caught in the fallout, Little Hu and the others probably wouldn't be able to withstand even a single Divine Thunder without activating their Immortal Artifacts!

So this is the Celestial Tribulation? The First Layer of the Celestial Tribulation that one must overcome to become an Immortal? It truly lives up to its name as a calamity... Even for me, facing it would be quite difficult!

Moreover, just looking at the sheer number of endless dark clouds, this Celestial Tribulation likely entails far more than just lightning strikes!

Thinking that he too would have to face such a tribulation in the future, Lin Xuankong, after retreating a thousand zhang with Little Hu and the others, gathered his focus and carefully observed the young Buddhist nun.