

Stronger 571

Chapter 571: Everyone Wants to Be Bald, He Actually Scolded a Fifth Grade Earth Immortal

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect looked at Lin Xuankong with a peculiar expression.

In the heart of this Sect Leader of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, he naturally did not want Lin Xuankong to leave the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect to join other sects.

But now, hearing Lin Xuankong refuse Galin Bodhisattva's request for him to join Spirit Platform Buddhism, he felt extremely conflicted.

There was a sense of relief, yet also disbelief, mixed with envy and a touch of disappointment.

After all, even he, the Sect Leader of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, would probably agree immediately if he received an invitation from Galin Bodhisattva of Spirit Platform Buddhism to join Spirit Platform Buddhism. He would likely pass on the position of Sect Leader to a Vice Sect Leader and then shave his own head bald.

What a pity; Galin Bodhisattva would hardly look favorably upon an ordinary Earth Immortal. Even a Fifth-Grade Late Stage Earth Immortal like Sect Leader Li would probably be considered a minor figure within Spirit Platform Buddhism. Spirit Platform Buddhism has a heritage spanning hundreds of thousands of years, during which the number of Bodhisattvas above the Sixth Grade has become truly overwhelming.

At this moment, Little Bodhisattva Yikong, standing beside Galin Bodhisattva, saw Lin Xuankong refuse her master's invitation and was about to scold him. However, Galin Bodhisattva gently shook her head, and Yikong immediately fell silent. Galin Bodhisattva then turned to look at Lin Xuankong again.

She clasped her hands together, nodded slightly, and said,

"A genius like Tributor Mu, who possesses great Wisdom Root, will one day have a great enlightenment and join our Spirit Platform Buddhism. Though you refuse me today, you may not refuse me tomorrow. Even if you refuse me tomorrow, you might experience a sudden great enlightenment the day after. In short, Galin will always leave the door open for Mr. Mu. Whenever and wherever you decide, when you wish to join Spirit Platform Buddhism, I will come to see you immediately!"

Great enlightenment? Haha, after great enlightenment, become a monk? Shouldn't great enlightenment lead to becoming a Buddha!

Lin Xuankong secretly mocked in his heart but did not speak aloud.

Above the Sect Protection Array of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, the Five Elements Wanderer, who had just put away the First-grade Immortal Artifact Silver Jade Duster, witnessed this scene and heard Galin Bodhisattva's words, his brows furrowing tightly.

At this point, how could he not see that this Galin Bodhisattva from Spirit Platform Buddhism was determined to recruit Mu Shiba, resorting to any means necessary?

Such a thing, if he hadn't seen it with his own eyes, even he, who had lived for over ten thousand years, would find it unbelievable.

After all, this was Galin Bodhisattva of Spirit Platform Buddhism, the true disciple of Great Accomplishment Yu Zhen Bodhisattva. For such an esteemed Bodhisattva to personally invite someone to join Spirit Platform Buddhism, and yet still have to wait so patiently, even showing such overt persistence...

Gazing from Galin Bodhisattva of Spirit Platform Buddhism to Lin Xuankong within the Sect Protection Array, the Five Elements Wanderer's expression was exceedingly peculiar.

However, no matter how peculiar he felt, he was certain of one thing: since Galin Bodhisattva had appeared and shown such keen personal interest in inviting Mu Shiba, he absolutely could not touch this Mu Shiba.

Not only could he, the Grand Elder of the Five Elements Immortal Sect, not touch him, but even if elders and sect leaders from other major sects in the Central Divine Dynasty were present, they would undoubtedly remain silent before Galin Bodhisattva, equally afraid to lay a hand on Mu Shiba.

Before the colossal entity that was Spirit Platform Buddhism, even the Profound Yin Demon Sect paled in comparison, let alone other sects.

As for the others... The Five Elements Wanderer glanced back at the hundreds of Earth Immortals behind him.

The sight that met his eyes made the Five Elements Wanderer sigh deeply.

Those hundreds of Earth Immortals had already retreated several thousand feet, standing respectfully at a distance. They dared not speak, much less discuss matters casually.

All the Earth Immortals gazed at Galin Bodhisattva with respectful expressions, nearly half of them already showing clear signs of wanting to retreat, their faces etched with fear.

Even the Five Elements Wanderer, the strongest cultivator among them, had to be respectful and deferential before Galin Bodhisattva of Spirit Platform Buddhism. How, then, could these Evil Dao Earth Immortals dare to be presumptuous?

Although Galin Bodhisattva of Spirit Platform Buddhism was rumored to have a very good temper, her master was known for having a formidable one! If they offended Spirit Platform Buddhism, the dispatch of a mere dozen Great Accomplishment Bodhisattvas could instantly annihilate their Immortal Sects.

Seeing this, how could the Five Elements Wanderer not sigh?

As the leader of the Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance, he had arrived with hundreds of Earth Immortals—what an imposing sight they had made!

Even the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, one of the Twelve Immortal Sects, had been battered by him and his numerous subordinates to the point where they dared not emerge from their Sect Protection Array.

As for Wine Immortal Chi Liuxia and the others, despite being veteran Earth Immortals from the Central Divine Dynasty's Western Region with considerable strength, they only dared to launch sneak attacks before fleeing thousands of miles when faced with the Five Elements Wanderer and his contingent.

If not for the sudden appearance of Galin Bodhisattva from Spirit Platform Buddhism, he would likely have already breached the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array and be standing atop their Thirty-Sixth Spirit Peak. That fellow, Mu Shiba, would undoubtedly have fallen into his hands.

However, it was all too late.

With Galin Bodhisattva of Spirit Platform Buddhism present, who would dare act presumptuously?

At this thought, the Five Elements Wanderer felt a profound sense of disappointment. He lightly thumped his chest, and his Immortal Yuan began to circulate. In an instant, the billions of runes that had covered every part of his body suddenly stirred, rapidly spreading back to the original Celestial Demon Hide.

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And the Five Elements Wanderer, who had relied on the Immortal Transformation Talisman to advance to the Sixth Grade realm, saw his cultivation immediately drop significantly. The Immortal Yuan Fluctuation he emitted also weakened by more than ten times. The size of his Immortal Body rapidly shrank, transforming to the same size as other Late Stage Fifth-Grade Earth Immortals!

Holding the piece of Celestial Demon Hide, the Five Elements Wanderer turned his head towards the several hundred Earth Immortals and spoke, "Fellow Daoists, since Galin Bodhisattva has arrived, we naturally must heed Galin Bodhisattva's suggestions and arrangements and immediately cease our attack on the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect! Moreover, fortunately, we haven't completely destroyed the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array. This can also be considered a case of Cliff Leash, significantly reducing our losses!"

Upon hearing the Five Elements Wanderer's words, the several hundred Earth Immortals all wore expressions of disappointment. Some Earth Immortals couldn't help but whisper among themselves:

Alas, just tens to hundreds more breaths, and the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array would have been broken. But then, Galin Bodhisattva arrived. This means the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's destiny isn't over yet, and they can hang on for a while longer!

That can't be helped. Who would have thought that Mu Shiba of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect would actually know Galin Bodhisattva from Spirit Platform Buddhism!

Exactly! After this, it's not just that the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's destiny isn't over; it won't be extinguished at all! With a Tributor Mu who is on good terms with Galin Bodhisattva of Spirit Platform Buddhism, in the future, the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect will not only have an endless stream of Immortal Artifacts but will also gain the greatest backing in the entire world! How is this their destiny not being over? For the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, this is misfortune giving way to extreme good fortune; they are poised for a direct rise in the future!

As the Earth Immortals whispered among themselves, a Late Stage Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal suddenly stepped out from the crowd. This Earth Immortal was surrounded by constantly shifting, cloud-like masses of pure white aura, both large and small. Among the several hundred Earth Immortals, his aura was second only to the Five Elements Wanderer and Duan Qianchou, the Grand Elder of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect.

He took several steps forward to the front of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array and then suddenly threw out the Initial Tier Immortal Sword in his hand.

When a Late Stage Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal threw an Initial Tier Immortal Artifact with all his might, its flight speed was naturally extremely fast. In less than one-hundredth of a breath, it landed on the energy shield of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array!

Seeing this, the expressions of the several hundred Earth Immortals all changed. They truly hadn't expected that after Galin Bodhisattva of Spirit Platform Buddhism appeared, someone would still dare to strike at the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array... Is he mad?

All the Earth Immortals stared in astonishment at that Late Stage Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal. Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, the three Grand Elders, Spiritual Crane Immortal Artifact Qu Qiao'Er, and Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er also showed expressions of surprise.

However, before the Earth Immortals could speak, they suddenly realized that something was amiss!

When that Fifth-Grade Late Stage Earth Immortal threw the Initial Tier Immortal Artifact with all his might, normally, even if it couldn't damage the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array, it should have been enough to make the entire Sect Protection Array tremble violently! However, this Initial Tier Immortal Artifact, after landing on the Sect Protection Array, was surprisingly gentle, as if a feather had fallen upon the grand array, carrying no attacking power whatsoever!

While the Earth Immortals stood in astonishment, that Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal gestured behind him. Instantly, more than twenty Earth Immortals stepped out from the crowd and stood uniformly behind this Fifth-Grade Late Stage Earth Immortal. He then clasped his hands together towards Galin Bodhisattva and said with a serious expression, "Qiu Qianren, First Grand Elder of the Profound Pure Immortal Sect, hereby bows and confesses my sins to Galin Bodhisattva, and also to Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect.

This old man, this time, was misled by slander, mistakenly believing the words of petty individuals, which is why I misunderstood the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and thought they had committed some heinous acts that provoke divine wrath and public outrage. Now that the misunderstanding is cleared, I, Qiu Qianren, am filled with immense regret! Fortunately, Galin Bodhisattva arrived in time, and the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array was not destroyed by us, thus preventing a monstrous catastrophe!

However, even so, the Profound Pure Immortal Sect's attack on the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect this time is still a grievous sin...

This Initial Tier Immortal Artifact is the Purple Sun Sword, one of the Purple Gold Twin Swords of my Profound Pure Immortal Sect. Although it is only an Initial Tier Immortal Artifact, it is considered one of the finest among Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts. This Initial Tier Immortal Artifact will be gifted to Tributor Mu or Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, as compensation from my Profound Pure Immortal Sect for this incident!"

Galin Bodhisattva didn't seem to mind; she nodded slightly without speaking.

However, the several hundred Earth Immortals of the Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance had their expressions change slightly upon witnessing this scene.

They naturally understood the purpose of the First Grand Elder of the Profound Pure Xuan Sect's actions.

Firstly, they were certainly worried: what if Galin Bodhisattva, who appeared lenient on the surface, decided to settle scores behind the scenes? For the Great Accomplishment Bodhisattvas of Spirit Platform Buddhism, crushing these several hundred Earth Immortals would be utterly trivial!

Their other worry stemmed from Mu Shiba!

Although these several hundred Earth Immortals all knew that Lin Xuankong's current cultivation was only at the tenth level of the Initial Tier, far, far inferior to even an Initial Tier Earth Immortal, he already possessed the Sixth Celestial Vein! His future advancement to Initial Tier Earth Immortal, First-Grade Earth Immortal, Second-Grade Earth Immortal, and even Third-Grade or Fourth-Grade Earth Immortal was practically a certainty!

Today, they had thoroughly offended such a cultivator with immense prospects, one who also possessed artifact refining techniques far surpassing all Artifact Refiners in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region!

Perhaps today's Mu Shiba couldn't lead the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect to deal with these several hundred Earth Immortals, nor could he deal with their alliance of seventy-six Immortal Sects. But what about three years from now? Ten years? Twenty or thirty years later? Or even further in the future? With Mu Shiba's assistance, the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect was absolutely, one hundred percent guaranteed to surpass any other Immortal Sect in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region in the future!

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At that time, who could guarantee that the numerous Earth Immortals and disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect would let go of today's grudge? After all, today, this alliance of Seventy-six Immortal Sects, these hundreds of Earth Immortals, had openly and repeatedly declared their intent to completely obliterate the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. They vowed to eliminate every Earth Immortal of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. Even worse, they intended to capture the many disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect alive and use them as Tripod Furnaces for refining their Cultivation Techniques...

Thinking of this, the hundreds of Earth Immortals from the Seventy-six Immortal Sects present looked at the Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal from the Profound Pure Immortal Sect. As he obediently handed over an Initial Tier Immortal Artifact to apologize and avoid the wrath of Mu Shiba and Galin Bodhisattva, pain was evident in their eyes.

Even the Grand Elder of the Five Elements Immortal Sect, the Five Elements Wanderer, was filled with visible regret at this moment. They had formed the Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance this time primarily to capture Mu Shiba and, in the future, obtain some Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts from him. Now, before even destroying the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect or capturing Mu Shiba, much less obtaining any Initial Tier Immortal Artifact, they had to apologize and hand over an Initial Tier Immortal Artifact! How could they not feel the sting? How could they not feel depressed and heartbroken?

At this moment, near the position where Qiu Qianren's Initial Tier Immortal Artifact hovered before the Grand Array of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, a slight ripple suddenly appeared in the protective shield. In an instant, the Initial Tier Immortal Artifact passed directly through into the Sect Protection Array of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, slowly descending toward Sect Leader Li.

Qiu Qianren, the Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal of the Profound Pure Immortal Sect, slightly gritted his teeth and directly severed the connection between the Initial Tier Immortal Artifact and his Immortal Yuan and divine sense.

Seeing this, Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect activated his Immortal Yuan, and the Initial Tier Immortal Artifact swiftly flew into his hands.

Sect Leader Li played with the Initial Tier Immortal Artifact in his hand and looked up at Qiu Qianren, the Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal from the Profound Pure Immortal Sect. This previously imposing and domineering Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal now looked utterly dejected, devoid of his former vigor, as if he had aged thousands of years in an instant.

It wasn't that he, a Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal, couldn't withstand failure. Rather, he knew perfectly well that with Galin Bodhisattva stepping in to protect the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect today, and Mu Shiba securing his position as the First Tributor there, the sect's future development would be terrifying! The Profound Pure Immortal Sect would no longer have any chance to oppose the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. Even the hundreds of Earth Immortals of the Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance would become utterly scattered and difficult to reunite. And even if they did manage to unite again, so what? If Mu Shiba could help the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect refine dozens of Immortal Artifacts in the future, how could the strength of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect possibly be compared to this so-called Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance?

The disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect became somewhat excited upon seeing this scene. Just tens of breaths ago, each of them had been consumed with righteous fury, filled with the resolve to die. However, in the blink of an eye, with the arrival of Galin Bodhisattva—who had good relations with Tributor Mu Shiba—the crisis in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region, which no one could resolve, had suddenly come to an abrupt end, easily settled! The many disciples looked at Lin Xuankong, one by one, their eyes filled with a mix of surprise, joy, and admiration.

At this moment, Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect looked at Lin Xuankong and asked, "Tributor Mu, this Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal is the Grand Elder of the Profound Pure Immortal Sect. He

wants to offer this Initial Tier Immortal Artifact to settle the previous grievances with our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. What is your opinion?"

That this dignified Fifth-Grade Late Stage Earth Immortal, this Grand Sect Leader of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, would actually, at such a critical moment, place such an important decision in Lin Xuankong's hands, letting Lin Xuankong make the judgment! It was clear that by this point, Sect Leader Li had unconsciously placed Lin Xuankong's status above his own as Sect Leader!

For Sect Leader Li, obtaining an Initial Tier Immortal Artifact from Qiu Qianren of the Profound Pure Immortal Sect was naturally an unexpected boon. If not for considering the sacrifices of thousands of Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect disciples due to the recent explosions at several Spirit Peak Array Hubs, he would probably have already shown a delighted expression.

But the deaths of thousands of Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect disciples... As the Sect Leader, how could he not be mindful of it? How could he not want revenge? But... facing an alliance composed of hundreds of Earth Immortals, could they truly exact revenge for those thousands of disciples right now? These hundreds of Earth Immortals, under Galin Bodhisattva's deterrence, would certainly not dare to launch an active attack on the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array. However, if the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect did not agree to their terms for peace and instead launched an attack... even though those hundreds of Earth Immortals feared Galin Bodhisattva, they wouldn't just sit idly by and wait to be killed. At the very least, if they scattered in all directions, there would be no chance of obtaining the Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts in their hands!

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect sighed inwardly. That was an Initial Tier Immortal Artifact. Even though Tributor Mu could refine them, it still took time. If they could acquire a few more Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts right now, it would undoubtedly be a great advantage for the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. It would also be a tremendous boon for avenging those thousands of Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect disciples as soon as possible!

Sect Leader Li felt conflicted. The other Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, looking at the Initial Tier Immortal Artifact and then at the smoking ruins of the few exploded Spirit Peak summits behind them, also showed conflicted expressions.

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It was understandable; true Immortal Artifacts were a greater temptation to these Earth Immortals than any other treasure!

However, for Lin Xuankong, who could easily refine a large number of Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts, how could he possibly value these artifacts that others held so dear? Upon hearing the words of Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, Lin Xuankong's gaze did not linger on that Initial Tier Immortal Artifact but instead fell directly upon those hundreds of Earth Immortals.

He frowned, circulating True Qi within his body, and gradually flew toward the Sect Protection Array Shield of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. During the flight, Lin Xuankong first glanced briefly at Qiu Qianren, the Late Stage Fifth Grade Earth Immortal of the Profound Pure Immortal Sect. Then, his gaze coldly focused on Duan River and Great Elder Duan Qianchou of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, and the Five Elements Wanderer of the Five Elements Immortal Sect. Lin Xuankong's voice turned somber as he spoke:

"Qiu Qianren of the Profound Pure Immortal Sect, right? You can step aside and cool off for a while. Your issue will be dealt with later. After all, you are neither the leader of this so-called Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance nor the mastermind behind this alliance's assault on the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect!"

With regards to the hundreds of Earth Immortals intending to use him as a pawn and slaughter tens of thousands of his fellow Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect members, Lin Xuankong had no reason to show the slightest courtesy.

Facing Qiu Qianren, the Late Stage Fifth Grade Earth Immortal of the Profound Pure Immortal Sect, Lin Xuankong brazenly told him to step aside and cool off. As these words were spoken, the faces of the hundreds of Earth Immortals from the Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance immediately changed. Their brows furrowed, and their eyes flickered as they looked at Lin Xuankong.

Among these hundreds of Earth Immortals from the Seventy-Six Immortal Sects, if ranked by strength, Grand Elder Qiu Qianren, a Late Stage Fifth Grade Earth Immortal of the Profound Pure Immortal Sect, could only be ranked below the Five Elements Wanderer of the Five Elements Immortal Sect, Great Elder Duan Qianchou of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, and Grand Elder Guangfa Immortal of the Guangqing Immortal Sect. This placed him fourth. Yet, he was ultimately a highly formidable figure among these hundreds of Earth Immortals!

This Mu Shiba, to be so disrespectful even to such a highly ranked Late Stage Fifth Grade Earth Immortal, what would he do next to the rest of them...? Many Earth Immortals' eyes flickered, a hesitant look appearing as they contemplated retreat.

At least half of the Earth Immortals were considering a direct retreat. After all, they dared not act against the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and Mu Shiba in front of Galin Bodhisattva. They also did not want to hand over their Sects' precious Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts to the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. Furthermore, they did not wish to be humiliated by this Mu Shiba, who was merely at the Early Stage of the Tenth Layer. Thus, their best strategy was to retreat. As for later retaliation from Mu Shiba and the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect... that was a matter for another time.

These seventy-six unscrupulous and wicked fellows, who had long run rampant in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region, were not known for their foresight; otherwise, they would not have fallen to this state!

Qiu Qianren, the Late Stage Fifth Grade Earth Immortal from the Profound Pure Immortal Sect, became livid when Lin Xuankong mocked him so. Having achieved Fifth Grade Earth Immortal status for thousands of years, never had he been rebuked like this. Even his own master, whose current cultivation was less than his, no longer dared to reprimand him directly. Yet, after all these millennia, he was being chastised like a mere disciple by a cultivator only at the Initial Tier of the Tenth Layer.

At that moment, the Immortal Yuan within Qiu Qianren, the Late Stage Fifth Grade Earth Immortal of the Profound Pure Immortal Sect, fluctuated violently. Hundreds of strands of his hair stood on end, a clear sign he had reached the pinnacle of his rage!

Lin Xuankong looked at him, a cold smile playing on his lips. "What? Qiu Qianren, do you still wish to continue fighting?"

Chapter 575: Once Spoken, None Dare Defy

Once again, Lin Xuankong asked coldly.

Qiu Qianren, the Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal from Profound Pure Immortal Sect, breathed heavily. A stream of condensed Immortal Yuan transformed into a long white mist, pouring out from his nostrils and spreading for thousands of feet, lingering.

This Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal was clearly enraged, wishing he could pulverize the Tenth Level Early Stage cultivator who had reprimanded him on the spot!

Just at that moment, Lin Xuankong floated out directly from the Sect Protection Array of Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect! The Sect Protection Array of Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect was quite marvelous. It could

block all items, Magic, Magical Artifacts, Immortal Artifacts, and living beings attacking from the outside, yet it offered no obstruction whatsoever to anything attacking from the inside out!

At this moment, seeing Qiu Qianren, the Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal of Profound Pure Immortal Sect, so enraged, and seeing 'Tributor Mu' fly directly out of the Sect Protection Array, the expressions of the numerous Earth Immortals of Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect instantly tensed. Sect Leader Li, the three Grand Elders Sui He, Qing He, and Cang He, the two Vice Sect Leaders, several Tributors, plus Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er and Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er all transformed into streaks of light and flew out of the Sect Protection Array without any hesitation!

Then, these more than ten Earth Immortals from Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect gathered around Lin Xuankong, looking vigilantly at the hundreds of Earth Immortals around them, especially Qiu Qianren, the enraged Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal of Profound Pure Immortal Sect.

And those hundreds of Earth Immortals from the Seventy-six Immortal Sects Alliance, whether they were the Five Elements Wanderer from Five Elements Immortal Sect, Duan Qianchou and Duan River from Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, or other Earth Immortals, all looked at Mu Bashi as if they were looking at a fool!

A mere Tenth Level Initial Tier cultivator dared to come out of the Sect Protection Array of Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect! It was hard to tell if this guy was genuinely bold or simply not afraid of death. If he had dared to do this dozens of breaths ago, any Earth Immortal, by exerting their full strength, could have likely captured this Mu Shiba instantly. After all, the weakest of the Earth Immortals present were at least First Grade Earth Immortals; even Initial Tier Earth Immortals weren't qualified to partake in such a monumental event!

Of course, the gazes of these hundreds of Earth Immortals not only showed some surprise but also flashed with greed. If Galin Bodhisattva were not hovering nearby, looking this way with a gentle expression, some Earth Immortals would have long since succumbed to temptation and attacked Lin Xuankong directly!

At this moment, Lin Xuankong looked up at the towering, thousands-of-feet-tall Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal, Qiu Qianren, the coldness in his eyes growing more intense. His right hand was already placed inside the Golden Patterned Ghost Child Pouch at his waist. This pouch stored one of his trump cards for this occasion—a new one that could most significantly enhance his combat prowess!

Actually, my main target in coming out of the Sect Protection Array this time is Duan He and Duan Qianchou from Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, including every Earth Immortal from their sect. Especially Flaming Blade Duan River! If not for that bastard stirring up trouble secretly, I wouldn't have wasted so much time, nor would I have needed to reveal my trump card of a close relationship with Galin Bodhisattva... This kind of vile person scheming against me must be completely eliminated this time! And as for Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, an evil and heretical path, even if they've committed fewer evil deeds than Profound Yin Demon Sect, they absolutely deserve to die, to be utterly annihilated!

However, if the Earth Immortals from the other so-called Seventy-six Immortal Sects intend to court death first, I am naturally happy to oblige!

However, just as Lin Xuankong's hand reached into the Golden Patterned Ghost Child Pouch, Qiu Qianren, the Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal from Profound Pure Immortal Sect, suddenly sighed heavily.

Then, his thousands-of-feet-tall Late Stage Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal body instantly shrank. In merely one-hundredth of a breath, his originally towering physique became comparable in height to Lin Xuankong, even a few centimeters shorter...

It was unknown whether this Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal from Profound Pure Immortal Sect was originally slightly shorter than Lin Xuankong, or if he had intentionally transformed to be a few centimeters shorter.

After his body transformed to this size, this Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal from Profound Pure Immortal Sect showed no trace of battle intent in his eyes. He first glanced at Galin Bodhisattva, then at the Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts held by each of the numerous Earth Immortals of Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect.

Then, the Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal, Qiu Qianren, bowed deeply and cupped his hands very respectfully towards Lin Xuankong.

"Tributor Mu, your admonishment is entirely correct. Since you are handling matters with other Earth Immortals, how could I, Qiu Qianren, dare to interrupt? I shall step aside and await your commands, Tributor Mu!

I, Qiu Qianren, can assure you that henceforth, whether it is myself, or any Earth Immortal or disciple of Profound Pure Immortal Sect, upon hearing Tributor Mu's command, we will comply immediately and will not dare to offer the slightest excuse!"

After speaking, he addressed the twenty-odd Earth Immortals of Profound Pure Immortal Sect behind him, saying, "Tributor Mu is about to be busy with other matters. You lot, don't be hasty to disturb him. Just prepare the Treasures and Magical Artifacts you each possess. Later, present them to Tributor Mu or the seniors of Spiritual Crane Upper Sect to implore the forgiveness of Spiritual Crane Upper Sect's many seniors!"

Upon hearing this, the expressions of the twenty-odd Earth Immortals from Profound Pure Immortal Sect flickered. However, not a single one dared to defy their Grand Elder's orders. They could only retreat into the distance with Qiu Qianren and begin to take stock of the Treasures in their respective Ghost Frog Pouches!

Seeing this scene, the greed in the eyes of the hundreds of Earth Immortals from the Seventy-six Immortal Sects Alliance vanished instantly. No one dared to stare at Lin Xuankong any longer, and no one harbored any improper thoughts.

Meanwhile, inside Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array, the remaining dozen or so Earth Immortals and tens of thousands of disciples witnessed Profound Pure Immortal Sect's dignified Late Stage Fifth-Grade Grand Elder being utterly defeated before 'Tributor Mu' without even daring to lift a finger. How could they not be excited? How could they not be overjoyed!

Waves of cheers echoed incessantly from within the Sect Protection Array and from the dozens of Spirit Peaks of Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect!

"Long live Tributor Mu! Tributor Mu is indeed the hope for Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's rise, the future of our sect!"

"Hahaha, not just the future! Even now, Tributor Mu is already virtually peerless! The moment he speaks, even a Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal must obey instantly, not daring to resist in the slightest!"

"Hahahaha! I just thought Sect Leader and the others went out to fight another battle with Profound Pure Immortal Sect and those hundreds of Earth Immortals. But it turns out... Tributor Mu is indeed supremely awe-inspiring!"

Chapter 576: How Could You Possibly Be a Match for the Flame Saber

Listening to the discussions and cheers of the many disciples from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, the numerous Earth Immortals from the Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance felt extremely embarrassed. Just a short while ago, it was their several hundred Earth Immortals who were shouting and discussing wildly! But in the blink of an eye, Mu Shiba and Galin Bodhisattva had completely reversed the situation by one hundred and eighty degrees!

At this moment, among those several hundred Earth Immortals, the ones with the ugliest expressions were naturally the Leader of the Earth Immortals, Five Elements Wanderer, and the initiators of this action: the many Earth Immortals of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, including Flaming Blade Duan River and their Great Elder Duan Qianchou.

In their opinion, if this Tributor Mu had made up his mind to pursue responsibility, none of the Earth Immortals present could escape. After all, no matter how fast they could run, could they outrun the pursuit of those Dharma Protector Vajras of Spirit Platform Buddhism? However, even though every Earth Immortal present bore some responsibility, the severity of it would surely differ! For a moment, all several hundred Earth Immortals looked towards Five Elements Wanderer and the many Earth Immortals of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect.

At this time, Lin Xuankong also naturally directed his gaze towards Five Elements Wanderer and the many Earth Immortals of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect.

This time, the many Immortal Sects of the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region had united. They claimed to be eliminating the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, a so-called tumor, but their real purpose was to capture him and make him their controlled Artifact Refining Tool!

How could Lin Xuankong endure such an incident? He could never let these Earth Immortals off the hook!

Even if he couldn't kill all several hundred Earth Immortals, he had to ensure a mark was left in their hearts, so they would never dare to covet him again!

With this thought, Lin Xuankong's gaze turned and fell on Flaming Blade Duan River. The Vice Sect Leader of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect felt Lin Xuankong's gaze and his entire body tensed. The phenomenon of countless small flames swirling around his body accelerated by several dozen times. Clearly, this Vice Sect Leader of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect had pushed his Immortal Yuan to its limit, and his heart was also immensely tense!

"Duan River, will you kill yourself here, or shall I do it for you?"

Lin Xuankong's voice carried a chill, coupled with an undeniable firmness.

Upon hearing Lin Xuankong's words, Flaming Blade Duan River's face changed dramatically. The many Earth Immortals of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, including their Great Elder Duan Qianchou, also paled and secretly reached for the Magical Artifacts and Immortal Artifacts at their waists.

Especially Great Elder Duan Qianchou of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, whose eyes flashed with killing intent. The Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, relying on their powerful Fire Spirit Divine Skill and Fire Spirit Cauldron, had run rampant in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region for thousands of years. Even the Earth Immortals and disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect would give them a wide berth. The Earth Immortals and disciples of the First Immortal Sect, the Five Elements Immortal Sect, were often like sworn brothers with those of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect!

For thousands of years, it had always been the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect targeting others; no one had ever dared to target the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect!

But right before their eyes, despite several hundred Earth Immortals from seventy-six different Immortal Sects being present, this Tributor Mu chose not to pick on others. Instead, he decided to use the cultivators of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect to make an example. The members of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect found this nearly unbearable!

However, upon seeing Galin Bodhisattva in her white Buddhist Robe, every Earth Immortal present, including the Great Elder of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, showed shifting expressions and gradually loosened their grips on their Magical Artifacts and Immortal Artifacts.

Great Elder Duan Qianchou of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect had a trace of unwillingness on his face. He stared fiercely into Lin Xuankong's eyes and said in a deep voice,

"What does Fellow Daoist Mu mean by this?"

"This time, we gathered at Spiritual Crane Immortal City to deal with the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. There are several hundred Earth Immortals from seventy-six Immortal Sects here. You choose not to address the others, not to act against them, but instead focus solely on our Fire Spirit Immortal Sect's Flaming Blade Duan River... Isn't this somewhat unfair?"

"Besides, the many Earth Immortals of our Fire Spirit Immortal Sect have already acknowledged our mistakes to our Fellow Daoists of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and to you, Fellow Daoist Mu. What more do you want? Do you really intend for us to draw weapons?"

"Although we, several hundred Earth Immortals, attacked the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect and accidentally destroyed several Array Hubs of their Sect Protection Array, injuring and killing some of their disciples, all of us have bowed our heads to the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect! We, several hundred Earth Immortals, even discarded our dignity!"

"All of us several hundred Earth Immortals apologized to the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. Isn't that enough?"

Listening to the words of Great Elder Duan Qianchou of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, Lin Xuankong, who was already feeling somewhat cold, felt an even deeper chill. This shameless old bastard really dares to say such things!

Destroying several Array Hubs of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array, killing thousands of their disciples, and then just offering an apology? As if the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect and these hundreds of Earth Immortals were the ones who suffered a loss... What kind of twisted logic is that? They lost their lives, but we lost our dignity? To hell with that!

If the Great Elder of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect hadn't said these shameful words, it might have been better. Now that this shameless speech was out, Lin Xuankong felt his eyes had been truly opened. He had witnessed what true shamelessness, what true double standards, and what true disgust really meant.

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Upon this thought, he ignored Grand Elder Duan Qianchou of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect. Instead, he moved towards Flaming Blade Duan River, also from the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect.

Flaming Blade Duan River, a Late Stage Third Grade Earth Immortal, felt a strong hatred flare in his eyes upon seeing this.

In his heart, with his Late Stage Third Grade Realm, his Initial Tier Immortal Artifact, and his proficient Fire Spirit Divine Skill Immortal Technique, dealing with this Mu Shiba would be as easy as crushing an ant!

But he knew that, let alone his current Late Stage Third Grade Realm, even if he were at the Initial Tier Fourth Grade Realm, the Late-Grade Four Realm, the Late Stage Fifth Grade Realm, or even the Late Stage Sixth Grade Realm, he couldn't touch a cultivator Galin Bodhisattva of Spirit Platform Buddhism intended to befriend—not right in front of her. Not unless he no longer wished to live, nor wished for the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect to continue existing!

At this thought, Flaming Blade Duan River felt an immense, suffocating hatred. He looked at the approaching Lin Xuankong and said coldly, "Mu Shiba, if we really fought freely, I could kill a hundred like you without even needing to replenish Immortal Yuan! You are just a fox borrowing the tiger's might, relying on some forces to casually bully the Earth Immortals of the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region. What kind of skill is that? Hmph! If all Earth Immortals of the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region were as shameless as you, the entire region would never know peace!"

Upon hearing Flaming Blade Duan River's words, Lin Xuankong felt a wave of physical revulsion. These so-called high and mighty Earth Immortals of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect have truly outdone themselves today, perfectly demonstrating what it means to preach virtue while secretly engaging in murder and arson. The most critical issue is their sheer audacity; when they speak of righteousness and morality, they all adopt such an air of solemn integrity. It's utterly disgusting, profoundly so—not just ordinarily repulsive!

Dealing with such vile creatures by simply killing them would be far too lenient! He must be thoroughly humiliated... Otherwise, it would be impossible to dispel this sickening feeling in my heart!

Thinking this, Lin Xuankong stared at Flaming Blade Duan River before him and said in a deep voice, "Flaming Blade Duan River, do you really think your plan is flawless, seamless? Flaming Blade Duan River, do you really think no one knows about the disgusting arrangements of your Fire Spirit Immortal Sect?"

As he spoke, he nodded slightly to Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect behind him. Sect Leader Li, in turn, raised his hand towards the interior of the Sect Protection Array.

Instantly, dozens of auspicious clouds rose from within the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array. These clouds floated above the Thirty-Sixth Spirit Peak. Each cloud carried several disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, who were using specially made magical artifact ropes to restrain dozens of semi-conscious cultivators. The disciples controlling these captives all wore grim expressions, their faces clearly etched with anger.

Seeing this, Grand Elder Duan Qianchou of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, Flaming Blade Duan River, and the dozens of other Fire Spirit Earth Immortals all showed drastic changes in their expressions.

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect then said in a deep voice, "When have we, the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, ever provoked your Fire Spirit Immortal Sect? And yet, your Fire Spirit Immortal Sect actually planted hundreds of spies within our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. Not only that, but there are also three Initial Tier Earth Immortal spies among them! Hmph, what a so-called righteous and moral Fire Spirit Immortal Sect! What more do you have to say now?"

Flaming Blade Duan River looked at the restrained cultivators and the three Earth Immortals, his eyes flickering. Just as he was about to speak, the controlled cultivators and the three Earth Immortals all fell to their knees, wailing and accusing.

These hundreds of cultivators vividly confessed everything: how the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect had recruited them, how they had been trained, when they had been infiltrated into the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, and what tasks they had been assigned. They laid it all bare! Furthermore, the three Earth Immortals and dozens of the cultivators produced tokens and Communication Jade Tokens from the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, retrieved from their Ghost Frog Pouches, as damning evidence!

Seeing this, Flaming Blade Duan River, who had intended to argue, immediately frowned and was rendered speechless.

At this moment, the three restrained Initial Tier Earth Immortals also confessed. They revealed that the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect hadn't only planted numerous spies in the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect; they had infiltrated nearly every Immortal Sect in the Central Divine Dynasty. In some smaller Immortal Sects,

even the position of Vice Sect Leader had fallen under the control of spies dispatched by the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect!

One could only imagine: if Lin Xuankong and the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect hadn't exposed these despicable acts by the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect today, given enough time, the numerous Immortal Sects of the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region would have been infiltrated and controlled by the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect to an almost unrecognizable degree! Among these, even the Five Elements Immortal Sect had spies planted by the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect.

Faced with such irrefutable evidence, the hundreds of Earth Immortals from the Seventy-six Immortal Sects now looked at the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect's Earth Immortals with eyes full of disgust and faces contorted in anger. They all began to surreptitiously reach for their weapons.

Five Elements Wanderer, the Grand Elder of the Five Elements Immortal Sect, activated the Immortal Artifact in his hand and pointed it at Grand Elder Duan Qianchou of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect. His voice was ice-cold as he spoke, "Old Duan, Old Duan! I, Five Elements Wanderer, have always regarded the many Daoist friends of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect as if we were from the same sect! But I never imagined that while I was treating you as brethren, your Fire Spirit Immortal Sect was secretly making many of your people into *my* sect members! If this continues, I'm afraid that in a few hundred years, half the Earth Immortals in my Five Elements Immortal Sect will be spies planted by your Fire Spirit Immortal Sect!"

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"That way, all the resources, effort, and countless Heavenly Materials and Earthly Treasures spent by our Five Elements Immortal Sect to cultivate disciples and Earth Immortals would simply benefit your Fire Spirit Immortal Sect! How vicious... the shamelessness of your Fire Spirit Immortal Sect greatly exceeds my expectations!"

At this moment, the Five Elements Wanderer of the Five Elements Immortal Sect already harbored murderous intent towards the many Earth Immortals of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect. Of course, it wasn't just the Five Elements Wanderer; every Earth Immortal of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect wished to tear the Earth Immortals of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect into pieces! The hundreds of Earth Immortals from the Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance also brandished their weapons.

As a battle seemed imminent, Lin Xuankong's voice suddenly echoed, "Everyone, excuse me, but these Earth Immortals of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect belong to me, Mu Shiba. Whether it's Flaming Blade Duan River or the so-called Great Elder Duan Qianchou of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, unless they commit suicide, they will die by my hand!"

The hundreds of Earth Immortals present were taken aback and couldn't help but fix their gazes on Lin Xuankong, their eyes filled with confusion and disbelief.

Upon hearing Lin Xuankong's words, Flaming Blade Duan River, the numerous Earth Immortals of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, and Great Elder Duan Qianchou couldn't help but narrow their eyes. Great Elder Duan Qianchou even sneered, "Mu Shiba, oh Mu Shiba, you truly underestimate Earth Immortals! Those powerful Cultivators who have become Earth Immortals have already withstood the cleansing of the Celestial Tribulation, gained unbelievably strong Immortal Artifacts, and condensed nearly indestructible Golden Cores! For Earth Immortals with Immortal Bodies and Golden Cores, what can a mere tenth-level Initial Tier Cultivator like you hope to achieve with a few Cultivation Techniques that temporarily boost strength, or a handful of Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts? Even a First-Grade Earth Immortal could retract their Divine Soul and Immortal Yuan into their Golden Core to escape from a Sixth-Grade Earth Immortal. In doing so, they could achieve an escape speed comparable to a First-Grade Immortal Artifact! Unless they are ambushed, even a Sixth-Grade Earth Immortal could hardly kill a First-Grade Earth Immortal, so what makes you think you can? Do you think you can kill a First-Grade Earth Immortal with your pitiful tenth-level Initial Tier Transcendence Realm Cultivation? Or do you think your glib tongue will talk a First-Grade Earth Immortal to death?"

As he said this, Great Elder Duan Qianchou of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect cast his gaze around at the Earth Immortals, all showing ill intent, before finally setting his cold eyes on the Five Elements Wanderer of the Five Elements Immortal Sect. He said icily, "The Fire Spirit Immortal Sect now has over forty Earth Immortals, more than twenty of whom are Third Grade or higher. Purely in terms of strength, the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect is not inferior to the Five Elements Immortal Sect! If any of you intend to fall out with the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, you may try now! If you can manage to keep all the Earth Immortals of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect here, then consider yourselves lucky. But should any one of our Earth Immortals escape, don't imagine your Sects will have peace in the future! The Dynasties under your Sects' rule will be trampled flat by our Fire Spirit Immortal Sect's Earth Immortals!

Can't beat you? Then can't we outrun you?

Can't overpower your alliance? Then can't we harass you in secret?

Can't challenge your Sects directly? Then can't we massacre the people and Cultivators of the Imperial Dynasties under your Sects' rule?"

This tactic of striking at their very foundation was indeed ruthless!

Flaming Blade Duan River nodded repeatedly at the Great Elder's words and sneered.

The hundreds of Earth Immortals who had been ready to fight, including the Five Elements Wanderer of the Five Elements Immortal Sect, showed signs of reluctance on their faces upon hearing Duan Qianchou's words. Except for the Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, everyone else's expressions changed, and they sheathed their Magical Artifacts and Immortal Artifacts.

Their retreat wasn't because they couldn't defeat the twenty-odd Earth Immortals of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, but because it is extremely difficult to kill an Immortal once a Cultivator achieves that status. Although these hundreds of Earth Immortals could defeat the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect's twenty-odd Earth Immortals, they could not guarantee they could kill even a few of those Earth Immortals.

The dozen or so Earth Immortals who fell just now during the Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance's attack on the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array were ambushed, leading to their Immortal Bodies being directly destroyed. They were then hit by the self-detonation of a Sixth-Grade Spirit Crane. Only then did their Divine Souls dissipate and they perished completely. Otherwise, even if faced with an attack by a Sixth-Grade Earth Immortal, it would have been difficult to kill those dozen Earth Immortals!

If even a Sixth-Grade Earth Immortal would find it difficult, what hope did these hundreds of Earth Immortals have? Since they couldn't guarantee the elimination of these twenty-odd Earth Immortals from the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, who among them would dare to make a move?

The shamelessness and ruthlessness of the Earth Immortals and disciples of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect were well-known throughout the Western Region of the Central Divine Dynasty!

For a moment, except for the Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, who were still slowly closing in on the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect's twenty-odd Earth Immortals, the Earth Immortals from the other Immortal Sects all moved away from them!

Seeing this, Lin Xuankong frowned and shook his head. The Fire Spirit Immortal Sect indeed relies on their shamelessness and domineering tactics, disgustingly causing trouble for numerous Immortal Sects. Even those Evil Dao Sects are hesitant to provoke them!

However, the more this is the case, the more reason I have to completely eliminate all the Earth Immortals of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect who are present here! Otherwise, after being so thoroughly humiliated by me and the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, this disgusting bunch from the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect will certainly never let this matter rest!

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At that moment, open attacks were easy to dodge, but hidden ones were hard to guard against. No matter how strong he was, he could still fall victim to a clandestine attack.

Moreover, even if he had a way to protect himself, could he simply hide on the First Spirit Peak forever? Was he to keep Third Princess Xiaoo Ying'Er, Young Lady Li Xiaolan, and the Lin Family Seven Tigers practically tethered to him, never allowing them to leave the Spirit Peak? Would that mean condemning them to a form of house arrest, and himself to endless vigilance and daily anxiety?

Impossible, absolutely not!

Upon this thought, the determination in Lin Xuankong's eyes grew stronger.

Flaming Blade Duan River of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, seeing the retreat of the hundreds of Earth Immortals, couldn't help but laugh triumphantly.

"HAHAHA, where did the resolve to take our lives go? Realizing your own limits, you must have finally understood that you can't deal with us from the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect!"

The hundreds of Earth Immortals, having retreated, frowned at Flaming Blade Duan River's arrogance. However, recalling the words of Great Elder Duan Qianchou of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, they shook their heads slightly and looked elsewhere, ignoring the tremendously arrogant and triumphant Flaming Blade Duan River.

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, along with dozens of Earth Immortals from his sect, changed the sizes of their bodies at this moment.

The Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect had always been quite strong. This time, their inability to hold their heads up was due to the overwhelming number of Earth Immortals attacking them. If it were any other

Immortal Sect in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region, they would have had no way to defend against such an onslaught!

Now that hundreds of Earth Immortals had retreated, the Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect transformed their bodies and their Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts. This instantly boosted their momentum, making it almost equal to that of the more than twenty Earth Immortals from the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect!

The crucial factor was their reliance on the Immortal Artifacts given to them by Lin Xuankong. Because of these artifacts, the Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect were now significantly more confident. They were certain they could thoroughly repel the more than twenty Earth Immortals of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect!

Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, after transforming his Immortal Body to a height of five thousand feet, flew to Lin Xuankong's side.

Lin Xuankong was flying at an altitude of more than ten thousand feet. At this moment, a massive head of Sect Leader Li appeared beside him. The teeth visible in Sect Leader Li's mouth as he spoke were hundreds, even thousands, of times larger than Lin Xuankong's entire body!

"Tributor Mu, since you insist on dealing with the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, all the Earth Immortals of our Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect will fight to the death! Especially that Flaming Blade Duan River. Tributor Mu, you must be targeting his head. Don't worry, in this great battle, even if any other Earth Immortal from the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect escapes, we will not let this despicable person get away. I have loathed him for a long time!"

Just as Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect finished speaking, the dozens of Earth Immortals behind him from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect—including the Three Grand Elders Sui He, Qing He, and Cang He, as well as Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er and others—immediately pushed their Immortal Yuan to the extreme. Each Initial Tier Immortal Artifact, now enlarged to a thousand feet, was aimed directly at Flaming Blade Duan River!

Various phenomena constantly emanated from the Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts due to the activated Immortal Yuan. The Sword Bodies trembled slightly and buzzed continuously, seemingly ready at any moment to turn into streaks of light and devour their targets!

At this moment, Lin Xuankong's voice suddenly rang out.

"Sect Leader Li, Three Grand Elders, all the seniors and friends of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, Flaming Blade Duan River is mine. Could you please not take him on randomly? If you want to fight, you can first give a good thrashing to the other Earth Immortals of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect!"

Upon hearing this, Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect turned his eyes, hundreds of times larger than Lin Xuankong's body, to him, his gaze filled with doubt.

Although Sect Leader Li did not speak, the look in his eyes clearly said: How could you possibly be a match for Flaming Blade Duan River?

Chapter 580: Transcendence Challenges Third-Rank Earth Immortal

At this moment, it wasn't just Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect. The other Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect—including the three Grand Elders, two Vice Sect Leaders, and several Tributors—all looked towards Lin Xuankong with some confusion and incomprehension.

Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er even floated over and said to Lin Xuankong, "Tributor Mu, don't worry. If we act, we will definitely defeat Flaming Blade Duan River! However, you are... after all, your cultivation is only at the Early Stage of the Tenth Layer. There's no need for you to personally deal with Flaming Blade Duan River!"

Apparently, even the Earth Immortals from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect standing alongside Lin Xuankong did not believe he could handle Flaming Blade Duan River. After all, Flaming Blade Duan River was a Late-Stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal. Moreover, he was renowned, adept in immortal techniques, and, as the Vice Sect Leader of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, equipped with the Initial Tier Immortal Artifact, the Fire Spirit Cauldron.

Such a Late-Stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal was a formidable opponent. Never mind a cultivator at the Initial Tier of the Tenth Layer; even Earth Immortals of the same tier might not be able to defeat Flaming Blade Duan River! For instance, Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er herself... if it weren't for Lin Xuankong's Initial Tier Immortal Artifact in her possession, she would be no match for Flaming Blade Duan River.

At this moment, it wasn't just the Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect who were filled with confusion and incomprehension. Hundreds of Earth Immortals from the Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance were also shaking their heads, sneering. Among these Earth Immortals, nearly half were below Third Grade. This meant there were a good 150 to 160 First and Second Grade Earth Immortals! None of these hundred-plus Earth Immortals dared claim they could defeat Flaming Blade Duan River. Many of them, under Flaming Blade Duan River's attack, likely wouldn't last more than a few breaths before their immortal bodies were shattered, forcing them to rely on their Earth Immortal Golden Cores to escape! If First and Second Grade Earth Immortals faced such a fate, what about a mere Transcendent Realm cultivator?

At this, Flaming Blade Duan River couldn't suppress a cold laugh. If he were facing an assault from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, especially with Mu Shiba's assistance where many of their Earth Immortals possessed Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts, he, the Vice Sect Leader of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, would indeed be somewhat apprehensive and ready to flee at any moment.

However, when he heard Lin Xuankong declare he wanted to fight him one-on-one, Duan River truly couldn't hold back his amusement. Of course, Flaming Blade Duan River had seen the powerful methods Lin Xuankong used during his battle against Chang Li. Those beneficial techniques had allowed Lin Xuankong, while still at Ninth-Layer Perfection, to possess a body size and potency akin to an Initial Tier Earth Immortal! Based on those methods alone, Lin Xuankong was undoubtedly the strongest Ninth-Layer Perfection cultivator in the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's disciple recruitment competition.

But ultimately, he was still just a Ninth-Layer Perfection cultivator, an ant-like existence in the Transcendence Realm! So what if he relied on beneficial techniques to boost himself to the level of an Initial Tier Earth Immortal? He was still several major realms below a Late-Stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal—a disparity as vast as that between the clouds and mud!

Thinking these thoughts, Flaming Blade Duan River shot a sneering glance at Lin Xuankong, then turned to Galin Bodhisattva of Spirit Platform Buddhism, who was not far away. A murderous glint flickered in his eyes, yet his face wore a respectful expression. "Galin Bodhisattva, it's not that Flaming Blade Duan River intends to harm your friend! He wishes to challenge me one-on-one. I can't just stand here dumbly and let him attack me, can I? Galin Bodhisattva, what do you say?"

Galin Bodhisattva, dressed in a white Buddhist robe, glanced at Lin Xuankong. Seeing him nod slightly, the Minor Success Bodhisattva of Spirit Platform Buddhism immediately shifted her gaze back to Duan River and nodded. "Flaming Blade Duan River, since Tributor Mu wishes to challenge you one-on-one, you two can naturally go all out and rely on your own abilities. However, Flaming Blade Duan River, you are a Late-Stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal. Remember, when you make your move, be careful not to harm Tributor Mu's life!"

Upon hearing this, Flaming Blade Duan River was overjoyed. At this moment, who did the hundreds of Earth Immortals from the Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance, including the many from the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, fear the most? Naturally, it was this Minor Success Bodhisattva from Spirit Platform Buddhism. With her present, forget the Earth Immortals from the Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance; even if seven hundred and sixty such alliances were present, they wouldn't dare touch Mu Shiba! Yet now, Galin Bodhisattva of Spirit Platform Buddhism had surprisingly agreed to let Flaming Blade Duan River and Lin Xuankong duel...

Flaming Blade Duan River was secretly ecstatic. Not harm Tributor Mu's life? Hmph, when dealing with a cultivator, merely taking their life is the simplest outcome! If I want to make him suffer, there are far more ways than just killing him! Wiping out his body and most of his meridians completely, as was done to Second Prince Chang Li, would make him suffer far more than simply killing him. That would be equivalent to forcing him to restart his cultivation from Transcendence Realm Tier One. This is especially true for this Mu Shiba, who managed to condense the Sixth Celestial Vein by some ridiculous luck. If his body were annihilated and all his meridians destroyed, he would not only drop to Transcendence Realm Tier One but also lose this Sixth Celestial Vein. Losing the Sixth Celestial Vein... trying to obtain it again would be as difficult as ascending to the heavens! Furthermore, I could target his divine soul. Damaging his divine soul would equally ensure that this damned Mu Shiba wouldn't make any significant progress in his cultivation for the next several hundred years! Thinking of these possibilities, Flaming Blade Duan River couldn't stop a wide grin from spreading across his face.

At this time, Great Elder Duan Qianchou of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect also felt a surge of delight. A hint of killing intent flashed in his eyes as he said calmly, "Duan River, although Galin Bodhisattva has instructed you not to harm Mu Shiba's life, as Grand Elder, I must reiterate: remember, you absolutely must not harm Mu Shiba's life! Our Fire Spirit Immortal Sect cannot be seen to bully the weak; we must act with restraint. You understand my meaning!"

Hearing this, Flaming Blade Duan River turned to look at Duan Qianchou. Their eyes met, and it was clear they understood each other's unspoken meaning. Wasting no more time, Flaming Blade Duan River quickly transformed his body and approached Lin Xuankong. With his hands clasped behind his back, he looked at Lin Xuankong with disdain. "Tributor Mu, I, Flaming Blade Duan River, am ready. I intend to witness your astounding techniques and see just how you, a mere Transcendent Realm cultivator, plan to challenge me, a Third-Grade Earth Immortal!"

Flaming Blade Duan River spoke this way, goading and belittling Lin Xuankong, because he was naturally worried that Lin Xuankong might suddenly get cold feet and back out of the duel. To Flaming Blade Duan River's further delight, Lin Xuankong turned to the assembled Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane

Immortal Sect and shook his head with a solemn expression. "This Flaming Blade Duan River is mine! Everyone, please rest assured and observe the battle peacefully from the side!"

With these words, the True Qi around Lin Xuankong's body abruptly surged—he was clearly preparing to strike!