

Stronger 581

Chapter 581: Lin Xuankong's Second Trump Card

After Lin Xuankong finished speaking, Flaming Blade Duan River hesitated no longer. The Immortal Yuan within his gigantic Immortal Body surged violently. At the same time, his Initial Tier Immortal Artifact, the Flame Saber—renowned throughout the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region—rapidly expanded under the considerable infusion of his Immortal Yuan. In the blink of an eye, it transformed into a colossal flame blade thousands of units long. The flames burning on this blade shone brilliantly, reaching heights of several hundred units. With every flicker of these flames, a Flame Giant Sparrow with a wingspan of several hundred to over a thousand units appeared instantly!

The Fire Spirit Divine Skill of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect and the Thousand Cranes Technique of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect were somewhat similar. This Fire Spirit Divine Skill, when wielded by an Earth Immortal, possessed two particularly unique offensive methods beyond basic burning and scorching flame attacks. One was to condense all flames, forming a Demon King Level Flame Sparrow corresponding to the wielder's realm.

For instance, with Flaming Blade Duan River currently using the Fire Spirit Divine Skill, if he wished to condense a Demon King Level Flame Sparrow, given his realm was already the extremely high Late Stage Third-Grade, the Flame Sparrow Demon King summoned by his Fire Spirit Divine Skill would naturally be a Late Stage Tier Three Flame Sparrow Demon King. This creature would possess Demon Techniques and Flame Strange Skills stronger than even Third-Grade Earth Immortals. Of course, this method of wielding consumed a tremendous amount of Immortal Yuan. Thus, Earth Immortals of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, unless at the brink of life and death, generally would not exhaust all their Immortal Yuan to summon a Demon King Level Flame Sparrow.

The other unique offensive method of the Fire Spirit Divine Skill was to transform the massive amount of flames it mobilized into numerous Flame Sparrows. Although these Flame Sparrows were not Demon King Level, and their offensive power and speed were not particularly formidable, their strength lay in sheer numbers.

Yang Ding, Flaming Blade Duan River's direct disciple at the time, had once dueled Little Bodhisattva Yikong, Galin Bodhisattva's direct disciple. Even though Yang Ding was only a Ninth Layer Late Stage cultivator, with the help of the Fire Spirit Cauldron, he had managed to summon a continuous stream of Flame Sparrows in a very short time—at least several hundred. That Yang Ding, using his legion of Flame Sparrows, had almost subdued Little Bodhisattva Yikong from Spirit Platform Buddhism, nearly defeating her on the spot. One could only imagine how truly fearsome the Fire Spirit Divine Skill of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect was!

After all, this was comparable to a cultivator mobilizing hundreds or even thousands of Demon Pearls to summon an equal number of demons to assist in combat. The Immortal Yuan consumption for mobilizing Demon Pearls and summoning demons was enormous. In this world, aside from Lin Xuankong, who else could mobilize a large quantity of Demon Pearls and summon numerous demons in such a short time? It could be definitively stated: no one else! Yet, the Fire Spirit Divine Skill of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, much like the Thousand Cranes Immortal Technique of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, enabled cultivators to summon numerous absolutely loyal and powerful demons for combat, all thanks to their exquisite Cultivation Methods!

Yang Ding, Flaming Blade Duan River's direct disciple at the time, had been able to summon several hundred Flame Sparrows using the Fire Spirit Cauldron, a mere Magical Artifact. Now, however, the one mobilizing the Fire Spirit Divine Skill was the distinguished Vice Sect Leader of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect himself, Flaming Blade Duan River—a dignified Late Stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal. Moreover, he was using a genuine Initial Tier Immortal Artifact, not just a Magical Artifact! Consequently, the number of Flame Sparrows summoned by Flaming Blade Duan River was terrifyingly vast, far exceeding what Yang Ding could summon with the Fire Spirit Cauldron!

In the span of a mere tenth of a breath, the space between the towering Flaming Blade Duan River and Lin Xuankong, several thousand units away, became densely packed with innumerable Flame Sparrows! The sheer number of Flame Sparrows was beyond measure. There were not just hundreds, nor merely thousands—there were likely tens of thousands, perhaps even over one hundred thousand!

One had to remember that these were all Tier Nine demons, each with a wingspan of several hundred units. Although not Demon King Level Flame Sparrows, they were still immensely awe-inspiring. As this legion of Flame Sparrows flapped their wings, massive flames spread out, threatening to incinerate the heavens and earth across tens of thousands of units.

Most ominously, these more than one hundred thousand Flame Sparrows were not just capable of attacking and spewing flames; their specialty was self-destructing upon reaching their target! Previously, Little Bodhisattva Yikong from Spirit Platform Buddhism, with her extraordinarily powerful Buddhist Techniques, could have withstood attacks from same-tier cultivators for ten days and nights without sustaining so much as a scratch. Yet, under the self-destructive attacks of Yang Ding's mere hundreds of Flame Sparrows, even her despairingly formidable defense had nearly crumbled, almost leading to her defeat!

And that had been the self-destructive assault of merely several hundred Flame Sparrows. Now, targeting Lin Xuankong and preparing to charge, were over one hundred thousand Flame Sparrows...

Witnessing this scene and its terrifying momentum, even the hundreds of Earth Immortals from the Seventy-six Immortal Sects showed a slight change in expression and instinctively moved a little further away. Some Earth Immortals couldn't resist murmuring in low voices,

"Hmph, although the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect is somewhat... questionable, their Fire Spirit Divine Skill is undoubtedly terrifyingly powerful! If these more than one hundred thousand Flame Sparrows rush to self-destruct one after another before an opponent, forget a Transcendence Realm cultivator; even a Third-Grade or Fourth-Grade Earth Immortal's Immortal Body would likely collapse from the blasts!"

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"This Flaming Blade Duan River actually cultivated the Fire Spirit Divine Skill to such an extent, capable of directly summoning over one hundred thousand Flame Sparrows of Ninth-Layer Perfection! When we were just attacking the Sect Protection Array of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect together, if this Flaming Blade Duan River had used such a method, he would have likely destroyed more than half of the array hubs of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, possibly even breaching its Sect Protection Array!"

"Heh, so it's fortunate for everyone that this Flaming Blade Duan River didn't use this Fire Spirit Divine Skill! Otherwise, when Galin Bodhisattva arrived, if she found that we had already broken through the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Sect Protection Array and were rampaging inside, we'd probably have no chance of survival! But it's truly surprising that Flaming Blade Duan River could cultivate the Fire Spirit Divine Skill to this level! No wonder he, a mere Late-Stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal, could become one of the Vice Sect Leaders of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect. You must know, in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region, the Vice Sect Leaders of each of the Twelve Great Immortal Sects must be at least Fifth-Grade Earth Immortals!"

"You can't just look at the realm; you also have to consider strength and combat power! With such a terrifyingly powerful and exquisitely refined Fire Spirit Divine Skill, Flaming Blade Duan River could probably easily suppress a Third-Grade Earth Immortal of the same tier. He might even be able to fight a Fourth-Grade Earth Immortal. Even if he couldn't win, he could still hold his own for a while!"

"Exactly. I advanced to the Mid-Grade Four Realm over two hundred years ago, and I've always prided myself on being able to easily suppress any Third-Grade Earth Immortal! But today, seeing Flaming Blade Duan River's Fire Spirit Divine Skill, I finally understand that the world is vast and full of wonders. Even a Third-Grade Earth Immortal can possess combat power comparable to a Fourth-Grade! If those more than one hundred thousand Flame Sparrows were to charge, forget about me, a Mid-Grade Four Earth Immortal; even a Late-Grade Four Earth Immortal would have to beat a hasty retreat and temporarily avoid their spearhead!"

As these hundreds of Earth Immortals murmured amongst themselves, their eyes revealed a hint of apprehension as they gazed at the more than one hundred thousand Flame Giant Sparrows. Even some Fifth-Grade Earth Immortals couldn't help but frown slightly at the sight of the ferocious might of these densely packed, more than one hundred thousand Flame Giant Sparrows. They involuntarily circulated their Immortal Yuan and adopted defensive postures. After all, while Ninth-Layer Perfection demons couldn't harm an Earth Immortal with a full-powered attack, their specialty was self-detonation... The power of self-detonation wasn't merely dependent on their tier. Even a thumb-sized firecracker could injure an adult, let alone these Flame Giant Sparrows, each hundreds of zhang tall... That would be equivalent to over a hundred thousand terrifying bombs, each weighing thousands or tens of thousands of tons!

Listening to the hushed discussions of the hundreds of Earth Immortals, Flaming Blade Duan River, who was already quite pleased with himself, became even more arrogant. With a light wave of his hand, thousands of Flame Giant Sparrows immediately soared into the air, gradually forming the shape of a long saber between Lin Xuankong and himself. The tip of the saber pointed with extreme arrogance towards Lin Xuankong.

Flaming Blade Duan River sneered, "Tributor Mu, oh Tributor Mu, I, Flaming Blade Duan River, have been renowned in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region for thousands of years. I have always acted fairly and have never bullied the weak! If you hadn't insisted on a one-on-one duel with me today, I, Flaming Blade Duan River, would never have stooped to dealing with a mere Initial Tier Tenth-Layer cultivator. Tsk, tsk, this is truly demeaning, a loss of status for me! But since I've already agreed, I, Flaming Blade Duan River, can only reluctantly oblige! However, I am, after all, a dignified Late-Stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal, while you are just a minor Transcendence Realm cultivator... How about this: I'll let you attack me first for one hour, just to showcase the prowess of an Earth Immortal from our Fire Spirit Immortal Sect! HAHAAAA!"

With that said, Flaming Blade Duan River clasped his hands behind his back and looked leisurely towards Lin Xuankong, his eyes filled with smugness and disdain, regarding Lin Xuankong as if he were the most laughable person in the world!

Flaming Blade Duan River was letting Tributor Mu attack him for several hours?

Upon hearing Flaming Blade Duan River's words, the many Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect all frowned, their eyes brimming with anger.

Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect even floated to Lin Xuankong's side, her willow-like eyebrows knitted in anger. "Tributor Mu, why bother with a one-on-one duel against such shameless people? Wouldn't it be better if we all attacked together and utterly crushed him?"

Flaming Blade Duan River, who had been looking proud and disdainful, tensed up the moment he saw Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er—a Third-Grade Perfection cultivator—float to Lin Xuankong's side with an Immortal Artifact in hand. His previously composed and leisurely expression vanished instantly. He could act recklessly in front of Lin Xuankong, an Early Stage Tenth-Layer Transcendence Realm cultivator, but Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er's cultivation realm was slightly higher than his own. Moreover, she had become famous much earlier than he, Flaming Blade, had. How could he dare to show contempt for such a figure!

When Lin Xuankong saw Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er float over, he merely shook his head with firm resolve, not even bothering to repeat his words.

Seeing this, Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er's heart filled with anxiety. She was terrified that if Lin Xuankong fought Flaming Blade Duan River, he might be severely injured or captured. If Flaming Blade Duan River then used Lin Xuankong's life to threaten them, they would be utterly helpless! However, seeing Lin Xuankong's resolute attitude, Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er remained silent for a long moment before finally sighing with a touch of helplessness and retreating to the side.

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Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er's Initial Tier Immortal Artifact remained activated. Similarly, the immortal artifacts of Sect Leader Li from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, along with those of the three Grand Elders—Sui He, Qing He, and Cang He—were primed for immediate use. They were all clearly waiting for the instant Lin Xuankong was defeated to rescue him!

It wasn't that the numerous Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect lacked confidence in Lin Xuankong; rather, these Earth Immortals had absolutely zero confidence in his actual strength.

Flaming Blade Duan River was a genuine Late Stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal. Now, after demonstrating the Fire Spirit Divine Skill, it was clear he had already cultivated the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect's core Immortal Technique, the Fire Spirit Divine Skill, to an extremely proficient level. Under these circumstances, how could a mere ten-layer Initial Tier Transcendence Realm Cultivator possibly have any chance of victory against the attacks of a Third-Grade Earth Immortal?

At this moment, Flaming Blade Duan River saw Lin Xuankong refuse Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er's help and couldn't help but laugh aloud. "HAHAHAHA, this Tributor Mu, you indeed have some spirit! Good, good, good! Just for that spirit, I'll let you attack me for two full hours first. How about that?"

To Flaming Blade Duan River, it seemed impossible to kill Tributor Mu in this confrontation. After all, Galin Bodhisattva of Spirit Platform Buddhism was watching nearby. Anyone who truly dared to kill or harm this Tributor Mu would, at best, risk their own life and cultivation, and at worst, invite the destruction of their sect!

Though Spirit Platform Buddhism outwardly preached compassion, their Dharma Protector Vajras and Dharma Protector Bodhisattvas were infamous for their ruthless slaughter. Even the Great Demons of the Profound Yin Demon Sect would be scared witless by them. Who wouldn't be afraid!

Since he couldn't kill or harm this Tributor Mu, this fight was naturally an opportunity to thoroughly humiliate him. After all, the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect had long since grievously offended this Tributor Mu. If not now, when else would be the time to humiliate him!

As Flaming Blade Duan River finished speaking, Lin Xuankong suddenly withdrew his right hand from the Golden Patterned Ghost Frog Pouch, a palm-sized, thin talisman held between his fingers.

He placed the talisman in his palm, then looked up at Flaming Blade Duan River. "To deal with you, why would I need two hours? A single strike is all it will take!"

Flaming Blade Duan River was stunned for a moment, then immediately burst into laughter again.

He glanced at the hundreds of Earth Immortals surrounding them, then laughed heartily, pointing at Lin Xuankong. "Fellow Daoists, did you hear that? This little ten-layer Initial Tier Transcendence Realm Cultivator just told me he only needs one strike to defeat me, a Third-Grade Earth Immortal! HAHAHAHA!"

The hundreds of Earth Immortals had clearly heard Lin Xuankong's words. They all scoffed and shook their heads in derision.

To them, Mu Shiba's Artifact Refining skills were undoubtedly coveted and admired. Indeed, the very reason they had all come to the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect was to gain control over this Mu Shiba!

Furthermore, Mu Shiba's background and connections also filled these hundreds of Earth Immortals with envy. To be favored and acknowledged by Galin Bodhisattva of Spirit Platform Buddhism... any Cultivator who received such favor and recognition would absolutely be taking a shortcut to the heavens!

However, while these hundreds of Earth Immortals acknowledged Lin Xuankong's Artifact Refining skills and his background and connections, not a single one of them acknowledged his actual combat strength!

Especially after Lin Xuankong claimed he needed only one strike to defeat Duan River, a single thought arose simultaneously in the minds of these hundreds of Earth Immortals: This Mu Shiba is far too arrogant! He completely disregards the powerful Late Stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal before him. Is he blind? Can't he see the over one hundred thousand Flame Giant Sparrows arrayed here?

Just as these hundreds of Earth Immortals were inwardly ridiculing Lin Xuankong, the 'Leader' of the Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance, Five Elements Wanderer—the Grand Elder of the Five Elements Immortal Sect, who had once relied on an Immortal Transformation Talisman to reach the Sixth-Grade Earth Immortal Realm—suddenly focused his gaze on the talisman in Lin Xuankong's right palm, a flicker of doubt in his eyes.

He then took out his own Immortal Transformation Talisman, examined it carefully, and murmured to himself:

"Something's not right. The talisman in Mu Shiba's hand is definitely not simple. This is clearly a Spirit Talisman made from Celestial Demon Hide, an extremely rare material throughout the entire Central Divine Dynasty! It's just like my Immortal Transformation Talisman!

But this type of Spirit Talisman... apart from my Five Elements Immortal Sect, only six or seven other Immortal Sects, along with the Profound Yin Demon Sect and Spirit Platform Buddhism, possess them. Where did Mu Shiba get this Spirit Talisman, and what is its purpose?"

At this moment, Lin Xuankong infused some True Qi into the talisman in his hand and began to carefully sense it.

Far away, floating on a cloud, a smile touched Galin Bodhisattva's lips.

「Several days ago,」 having already departed Spiritual Crane Immortal City, she had received a message from Lin Xuankong. Worried she might not reach the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect in time to rescue him, she had specifically activated the Buddha Summoning Talisman given to her by her master, Yu Zhen Bodhisattva. She then transmitted this Buddha Summoning Talisman directly into Lin Xuankong's hands across an immense distance.

As for the effect of this Buddha Summoning Talisman... A trace of anticipation flickered in Galin Bodhisattva's eyes.

Ever since her master, Yu Zhen Bodhisattva, had bestowed this Buddha Summoning Talisman upon her, she had never once used it. Before attaining the Bodhisattva Fruit Position, Galin Bodhisattva had never stepped outside Spirit Platform Buddhism. Even after achieving that status, though she had undertaken numerous missions within the domain of Spirit Platform Buddhism, she had never encountered a crisis she couldn't overcome.

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The last time she encountered a crisis, when she was attacked by those four demons from the Profound Yin Demon Sect, she had almost used this Buddha Summoning Talisman. However, Lin Xuankong had arrived just in time and saved her!

So, at this moment, Galin Bodhisattva was somewhat expectant and curious about the actual effect of the Buddha Summoning Talisman. She was curious about which Bodhisattva's projection would appear once this Spirit Talisman, made from Celestial Demon Hide, was activated!

Galin Bodhisattva thought to herself: Within the Spirit Platform Buddhism, there are over a hundred Ninth-Grade Great Accomplishment Bodhisattvas that I am aware of. All these Bodhisattvas have minds as clear as mirrors and profound Buddhist techniques. Although, in terms of profundity, none of these hundred-plus Ninth-Grade Great Accomplishment Bodhisattvas can match my teacher, Yu Zhen Bodhisattva, they each have their own unique and exquisite Buddhist techniques. Some excel in Divine Foot, some in Divine Ear, some in Divine Eye, and some in Other Transformation. I wonder which Dharma Protector Bodhisattva will be summoned when Tributor Mu activates the Buddha Summoning Talisman? However, one thing is certain: no matter which Dharma Protector Bodhisattva's projection is summoned, it will undoubtedly easily defeat this Late Third-Grade Flaming Blade Duan River! After all,

even though it's just a projection summoned through the Spirit Talisman, it is still a projection of a Late-Grade Nine Great Accomplishment Bodhisattva. How could a mere Late Third-Grade Flaming Blade Duan River withstand it? Tributor Mu wasn't exaggerating when he said he could defeat him in one strike!

As Galin Bodhisattva's thoughts whirled, the Buddha Summoning Talisman in Lin Xuankong's hand had already begun to brighten under the massive influx of True Qi. Then, the Buddha Summoning Talisman trembled. The numerous runes on the Celestial Demon Hide all transformed into writhing characters that crawled onto Lin Xuankong's body, continuously spreading over the surface of his skin. Strands of peaceful and majestic Buddha's Light steadily emanated from Lin Xuankong's skin!

The Five Elements Wanderer of the Five Elements Immortal Sect, who had been muttering in a low voice, paled the moment he saw this scene. "No, the fluctuations caused by this type of Spirit Talisman are so powerful—even more terrifying than those from my Immortal Transformation Talisman! This Spirit Talisman made from Celestial Demon Hide is definitely not an ordinary offensive Spirit Talisman; it must possess an extremely terrifying effect!"

Upon hearing this, the expressions of the hundreds of Earth Immortals changed, and they all scrutinized the runes on Lin Xuankong's body.

The formerly triumphant Flaming Blade Duan River, who was still laughing loudly, found his laughter abruptly ceasing upon hearing the Five Elements Wanderer's words. Just moments ago, Flaming Blade Duan River had witnessed with his own eyes how the Five Elements Wanderer used that Immortal Transformation Talisman to transform into a terrifying Sixth-Grade Earth Immortal in an instant. An Immortal Transformation Talisman like that was already enough to make any Earth Immortal tremble with fear. Yet, the Five Elements Wanderer actually claimed that the Spirit Talisman in Mu Shiba's hand was even more terrifying than his own Immortal Transformation Talisman?

A trace of dread flickered in Flaming Blade Duan River's eyes. Could this Spirit Talisman made from Celestial Demon Hide directly elevate Mu Shiba to an Initial Tier Earth Immortal? Or perhaps to a First-Grade Earth Immortal, or a Second-Grade Earth Immortal? Even if Lin Xuankong were to become an Initial Tier, First-Grade, or even a Second-Grade Earth Immortal, I still wouldn't be easily defeated by him. However, his endless array of techniques, his numerous connections and background, and his countless Immortal Artifacts and treasures truly make me somewhat apprehensive and intimidated!

At this point, how could he possibly hesitate any longer? The thousands of Flame Sparrows forming the long blade immediately screeched, then transformed into immense streams of blazing light, hurtling towards Lin Xuankong!

Chapter 585: This is Just the Beginning

At this moment, Flaming Blade Duan River, who had initiated the attack, had long forgotten his own words about letting Lin Xuankong attack him for one or two hours first, to avoid accusations of an elder bullying a junior.

Of course, for the perennially overbearing and utterly shameless Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, and for this Flaming Blade Duan River, going back on his word was an entirely normal occurrence. Even the hundreds of Earth Immortals present showed no surprise, nor did their expressions betray anything unusual; they were all too familiar with the shamelessness and tyranny of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect.

It was, however, the many Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, along with their tens of thousands of disciples, whose faces showed a hint of anxiety. The Initial Tier Immortal Artifact in Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er's hand swelled with the wind, flying directly over to hover beside Lin Xuankong. She stood ready to slay any Flame Sparrows that approached, lest they injure him.

However, what surprised those hundreds of Earth Immortals, and what astonished Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er, the Earth Immortals, and the tens of thousands of disciples of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, was what happened next. When the thousands of Flame Sparrows conjured by Flaming Blade Duan River closed in within three thousand zhang of Lin Xuankong at a terrifying speed, under the illumination of the Buddha's Light, those murderous, flame-wreathed Flame Demon Sparrows suddenly shrieked and rapidly shrank.

This scene was identical to when Little Bodhisattva Yikong had dealt with Yang Ding's hundreds of Flame Giant Sparrows. However, there was a significant difference. Little Bodhisattva Yikong's Buddha's Light required the Flame Giant Sparrows to be within a few dozen zhang to take effect. In contrast, the Buddha's Light emanating from Lin Xuankong, who had never cultivated any Buddhist Technique, caused the Flame Giant Sparrows to shrink from three thousand zhang away!

Not only this, but the Flame Giant Sparrows that came within three thousand zhang of Lin Xuankong, after shrinking to the size of a fist, let out strange screeches. Then, their flames completely extinguished, and they turned into wisps of blue smoke, dissipating in mid-air as if they were mere illusions.

Seeing this, Flaming Blade Duan River's expression changed dramatically. Although he had witnessed Little Bodhisattva Yikong's Buddha Light Technique in the Spiritual Crane Immortal City, how could he have imagined that this Mu Shiba's Buddha Light Technique would be dozens, or even hundreds, of times stronger?

"Damn it! I don't believe it! I don't believe you can reduce all of my over one hundred thousand Flame Giant Sparrows to nothing!" Flaming Blade Duan River roared, his face contorted. "You're just a mere early-stage tenth-layer Transcendence Realm cultivator! Your True Qi is ultimately limited. How can you possibly outlast me in a battle of attrition?"

His Immortal Yuan surged violently within him. In an instant, the countless, densely packed Flame Giant Sparrows that filled the sky all hurtled towards Lin Xuankong!

There were over a hundred thousand Flame Giant Sparrows, each with a wingspan of several hundred zhang. The scene was as if the entire world had been set ablaze, as if everything was about to burn.

Witnessing Flaming Blade Duan River unleash his full power, the hundreds of Earth Immortals stirred and retreated further. This was especially true for the First- and Second-Grade Earth Immortals. They weren't powerful Fourth- or Fifth-Grade Earth Immortals; even with their Immortal Bodies, the self-destruction of those massive Flame Giant Sparrows nearby would still be excruciatingly painful.

At this moment, Lin Xuankong, surrounded by over a hundred thousand Flame Giant Sparrows, paid them no heed whatsoever. His gaze was fixed upon a Spirit Talisman.

[Buddha Summoning Talisman:

From Great Success Yu Zhen Bodhisattva of Spirit Platform Buddhism, using Buddha Light, Buddha Skill, and Buddha Words.

An Enlightenment Treasure, consecrated for twenty-eight thousand, eight hundred eighty-seven years and eighty-six days.

Contains the Minor Success Bodhisattva Realm's Buddha's Light defensive technique. Can annihilate all summoned beings of the Minor Success Realm. Each activation of Buddha's Light consumes one thousand Buddha Power.

Contains the doppelganger projection of Great Success Yu Zhen Bodhisattva. The projection's power is at the Early Stage of the Seventh Grade. Each activation consumes ten thousand Buddha Power, lasting two and a half breaths.

Buddha Power: 98,999/99,999]

Although he had seen the information on this Spirit Talisman since obtaining it a few days ago, activating it now and verifying its effects still filled Lin Xuankong's heart with joy.

That Minor Success Realm's Buddha's Light defensive technique was, naturally, the Buddha's Light used by Little Bodhisattva Yikong and the kind of Buddha's Light currently covering Lin Xuankong's body.

However, according to the information on the Spirit Talisman, this Minor Success Bodhisattva Realm's Buddha's Light technique could not only repel those Ninth-Layer Perfection Flame Giant Sparrows; as long as the Buddha's Light continued to emanate, it could even annihilate summoned beings from the Minor Success Bodhisattva Realm—that is, those summoned by Initial Tier, First-Grade, Second-Grade, or Third-Grade Earth Immortals, or beings of the Demon King Realm!

Moreover, with a single gleam of the Buddha's Light, the opponent's summoned creatures would directly vanish. This was truly too powerful!

Lin Xuankong had already learned the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Thousand Cranes Technique. He naturally knew that summoning an endless number of Spiritual Cranes required a tremendous amount of True Qi or Immortal Yuan. Summoning Immortal Tier Spiritual Cranes demanded an even more terrifying quantity of Immortal Yuan. An ordinary First-Grade, Second-Grade, or Third-Grade Earth Immortal could, at most, perform such a summoning a few times before exhausting all the Immortal Yuan in their Immortal Body.

Yet, this defensive technique from Spirit Platform Buddhism—Buddha's Light—was specifically designed to counter such summoning-type Immortal Techniques!

You painstakingly exhaust your True Qi and Immortal Yuan to summon vast numbers of Spiritual Cranes, Flame Giant Sparrows, or other demons, only for them to disappear with a mere flash of Buddha's Light. Isn't that frustrating?

Thinking of this, the corners of Lin Xuankong's mouth curled up as he looked coolly at Flaming Blade Duan River, who was frantically channeling his Immortal Yuan.

At this moment, Flaming Blade Duan River's eyes were wide, his face somewhat flushed, as he continuously directed a large number of Flame Giant Sparrows to attack Lin Xuankong.

However, no matter how many Flame Giant Sparrows he simultaneously controlled, no matter how fast they flew, once they approached within three thousand-odd zhang of Lin Xuankong, those enormous and ferocious Flame Giant Sparrows, without exception, all lost control. They instantly shrank to the size of a fist and then annihilated into wisps of blue smoke.

But Flaming Blade Duan River was not resigned. He stared fixedly at Lin Xuankong, thinking inwardly, Hold on, just hold on! Maybe in the next breath, this Mu Shiba's True Qi will be exhausted! He's just a mere early-stage tenth-layer Transcendence Realm cultivator. How can he possibly compare to me in terms of reserves? I am a genuine late-stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal! The abundance of my Immortal Yuan is dozens, even hundreds, of times greater than that of an Initial Tier Earth Immortal, let alone someone in the Transcendence Realm!

At this thought, Flaming Blade Duan River's face twisted, and he growled in a low voice, "Hmph, Mu Shiba! So what if you have a Spirit Talisman that can activate Buddha's Light? Can you really outlast me? I'm telling you, these over one hundred thousand Flame Giant Sparrows are just the beginning!"

Chapter 586: Endless Endurance, Summoning Buddha

Hearing that Flaming Blade Duan River wanted to compete in endurance, Lin Xuankong's expression turned somewhat peculiar.

He used the Buddha Summoning Talisman to activate Buddha's Light, which indeed consumed True Qi. Moreover, this consumption would increase with each annihilation of an opponent's summoned creature!

Of course, since it was one of the core cultivation techniques of Spirit Platform Buddhism, this exquisite Buddha's Light cultivation technique consumed far less True Qi and Immortal Yuan to annihilate an opponent's summoned creatures than the opponent themselves expended. In other words, at this moment, Lin Xuankong, using Buddha's Light against the Flame Giant Sparrows continuously summoned by Flaming Blade Duan River, consumed much less True Qi than Flaming Blade Duan River himself!

The crucial point was that Lin Xuankong's Life Plate Talent had undergone another change after he advanced to the Early Stage of the Tenth Layer of Transcendence.

Lin Xuankong: Remaining lifespan is 5,472 years and 180 days.

Life Plate: [Vigorous in Old Age]

First Life Plate Talent: [Old and Wise] Increases cultivation speed based on age. At sixty years old, cultivation speed is increased sixtyfold.

Second Life Plate Talent: [Wives, Children, Elders, and Youngsters] Constantly gain cultivation techniques and skills from wives, children, etc....

[True Qi: 9,999,999/10,000,000]

[Realm: Transcendence Tenth Layer Early Stage]

[Yin Talisman Technique: Perfection (Temporarily unable to improve)]

[Pine Crane Longevity Technique: Perfection (Extends lifespan by a total of 1,500 years, temporarily unable to improve)]

[Shadow Concealment Primordial Technique: Perfection (Increases explosive power twenty-fourfold, temporarily unable to further improve)]

[Eight Gates Celestial Eye: Eighth Layer 1576/999,999]

[Blood Bath Divine Skill: Perfection]

[Fierce Tiger Roar Bone Technique: Perfection, increasing explosive power sixteenfold]

[Blood Eating Technique: Reached the Pinnacle 2657/12,000]

[Blood-Burning Secret Technique: Perfection, increases explosive power sixteenfold]

[Alchemy Technique: Dharma Tier Alchemy Skill 2486/3000]

[Heart Thought: Mortal Tier Tenth Grade 27/1000]

[Third Spirit Puppet Technique: Perfection]

[Tier Nine True Spirit Bone: Mastery Level: 48,978/10,000,000,000]

[Great Reincarnation Technique: Mastery Level: 48,978/10,000,000,000]

[Tier Two True Spirit Bone: Mastery Level: 4800/4800]

[Great Enhancement Technique: 4800/4800, increases body strength and explosive power forty-eightfold]

[Cyan Nether Immortal Sword: Growth-type Immortal Artifact, can grow up to Immortal Tier Third Grade, can be activated for three breaths of time once fully nurtured.

Nurturing Level: True Qi 500,000/500,000 Third Grade 500/500]

As shown in his Life Plate, Lin Xuankong's True Qi capacity limit had increased from the original 9,000,000 points to a full 10,000,000 points!

With such a terrifying True Qi capacity, Lin Xuankong couldn't imagine what kind of creature in this world could compare to him in endurance or battles of attrition. At the very least, the so-called high and mighty Earth Immortals before him, even if every single one of them was brought out, couldn't possibly surpass him in terms of True Qi capacity! Even if he allowed his opponents to use Profound Truth Jade, they probably still couldn't surpass him! After all, a single Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jade held only

dozens of points of True Qi capacity... His ten million points of True Qi capacity equaled that of hundreds of thousands of Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jades!

Thinking of this, an amused look touched Lin Xuankong's face as he watched Flaming Blade Duan River continuously summon Flame Sparrows. At this time, the face of this Vice Sect Leader of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, a dignified Late Stage Third Grade Earth Immortal, was already somewhat distorted. He frantically activated the Fire Spirit Divine Skill, summoning large swaths of Flame Sparrows from the flames to charge at Lin Xuankong!

However, no matter how many Flame Sparrows Flaming Blade Duan River summoned, once they entered the range of Buddha's Light, they were invariably reduced in size, annihilated, and turned into wisps of smoke!

After dozens of breaths, the Late Stage Third Grade Earth Immortal's face twisted, his complexion turning somewhat pale. He suddenly realized that nearly all the Immortal Yuan in his thousands-of-feet-tall Immortal Body had been completely depleted! Summoning Ninth-Layer Perfection Flame Sparrows frequently and at high speed was incredibly draining. Even though a single Flame Sparrow consumed only a few dozen points of True Qi, and dozens of Flame Sparrows were needed to consume one point of Immortal Yuan, the sheer quantity was overwhelming. In those dozens of breaths, Flaming Blade Duan River, determined to engage Lin Xuankong in a war of attrition and drain him dry, had summoned a truly astonishing total of nearly three hundred thousand Flame Sparrows!

Such a massive number of summons... Even though it took dozens of Flame Sparrows to consume a single point of Flaming Blade Duan River's Immortal Yuan, the total expenditure had depleted the nearly ten thousand points of Immortal Yuan he had nurtured at his Third Grade Late Stage Realm, leaving almost nothing behind.

By this point, Flaming Blade Duan River stared at Lin Xuankong, his face pale and his eyes filled with disbelief. "Impossible, absolutely impossible! How did you manage this? You used a Spirit Talisman to gain this defensive Buddha's Light, and to annihilate my Flame Sparrows, the consumption must be immense! Nearly three hundred thousand Flame Sparrows, and you wiped them out completely, not one could get close enough to attack you... You actually possess such an enormous reserve of True Qi?"

Lin Xuankong remained silent, his hand once again landing on the Spirit Talisman. By now, he had no intention of engaging in idle talk with this doomed Flaming Blade Duan River! At this moment, what he anticipated most was the technique to summon Yu Zhen Bodhisattva's avatar projection...

The several hundred Earth Immortals observing around them were now utterly stunned, discussing among themselves, "This... this is too abnormal! A cultivator in the Transcendence Realm, relying on a defensive cultivation technique, actually withstood all the attacks of a Late Stage Third Grade Earth Immortal?"

Chapter 587: Endless Endurance, Summoning Buddha_2

"Yeah! If I hadn't seen it with my own eyes, I almost wouldn't believe it!

That's the Fire Spirit Divine Skill of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, and those are hundreds of thousands of Flame Sparrows! With so many Flame Sparrows capable of attacking and self-destructing, even I, a Late-stage Third Grade Earth Immortal, would have to retreat! Yet Mu Shiba actually defended against them. And it seems Flaming Blade Duan River is the one who can't hold on?"

"I thought this battle would definitely be one-sided! After all, one is a famous Late-stage Third Grade Earth Immortal of the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region, while the other is just a cultivator at the initial stage of the tenth level of the Transcendence Realm!"

"Tsk tsk! I originally thought this Mu Shiba was only skilled at artifact refining. Who would've thought his actual combat strength is also so formidable? He withstood the full-force attacks of a Late-stage Third Grade Earth Immortal for dozens of breaths!"

"It seems he's relying on that spirit talisman... Could it be a powerful spirit talisman made from Celestial Demon Hide, just like the Celestial Demon Talisman of Brother Five Elements Wanderer?!"

"No matter what this spirit talisman is made of, that Buddha's Light must be related to Spirit Platform Buddhism... Tsk tsk! With a Bodhisattva from Spirit Platform Buddhism backing him, the outcome of this battle between Flaming Blade Duan River and Mu Shiba is still uncertain!"

As the numerous Earth Immortals discussed, Flaming Blade Duan River heard their words, and his face turned from pale to a livid, ghastly color, looking even more unsightly.

It was completely unexpected that Mu Shiba could hold out for so long! I had thought that in just a few breaths, this guy would exhaust his True Qi and admit defeat on the spot... Now, this situation is truly shameful! In front of hundreds of Earth Immortals of the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region, I, a dignified Late-stage Third Grade Earth Immortal, the Vice Sect Leader of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, can't even handle an initial stage, tenth-level Transcendence Realm cultivator?

In his humiliation, Flaming Blade Duan River reached into his Golden Patterned Ghost Frog Pouch, grabbing a full three thousand Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jades. Moreover, these three thousand jades were all filled with Immortal Yuan, personally infused by Flaming Blade Duan River, intended for use in certain perilous battles in the future!

To his great frustration and regret, the one forcing him to use these three thousand Immortal Yuan-infused Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jades was neither an invincible Middle-High Grade Earth Immortal nor an unbeatable middle-high tier Demon King. The person forcing him to use his treasured Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jades was, shockingly, a mere Transcendence Realm cultivator...

In the next moment, a massive amount of Immortal Yuan was extracted from the Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jades, flowing into Flaming Blade Duan River's Immortal Body.

In less than a breath of time, Flaming Blade Duan River's previously somewhat pale face instantly regained its rosy complexion.

These three thousand Grade-Entering Profound Truth Jades, each storing about three to four points of Immortal Yuan, meant that the Immortal Yuan stored within them had completely replenished his originally depleted Immortal Yuan!

Flaming Blade Duan River took a deep breath, sensing the abundant Immortal Yuan flowing through his body. The sense of defeat that had arisen from his depleted Immortal Yuan had completely vanished, replaced by a rekindled battle intent and desire for victory!

He shook the massive head on his Immortal Body and glared coldly at Lin Xuankong. "Your so-called Buddha's Light might withstand the Flame Sparrows, but let's see if it can withstand my flames, my Flame Saber Immortal Artifact, and my Flame Spirit Sparrow!"

Before his words had even faded, he raised his hand.

A torrent of Immortal Yuan burst forth from his Immortal Body, flooding into his Initial Tier Immortal Artifact, the Flame Saber.

In an instant, on the thousands-of-feet-long Flame Saber, the numerous flames that had previously died down all blazed fiercely to life. Furthermore, it seemed that because Flaming Blade Duan River had activated a special cultivation technique, these newly ignited flames were even brighter, hotter, and more ferocious than before!

Each flame on the thousands-of-feet-long Flame Saber was hundreds of feet high, distorting the very space around them!

Immediately after, all the flames on the Flame Saber were suddenly swept together by a powerful force, forming a colossal pillar of fire that soared thousands of feet into the sky!

From the very center of this towering inferno, a clear, resonant cry echoed.

Then, a giant Flame Sparrow with a wingspan of one hundred thousand feet emerged from the flames, its wings, capable of burning rivers and boiling seas, began to beat. Its fiery red eyes were locked intently on Lin Xuankong!

This scene unfolded before the hundreds of Earth Immortals, and instantly, everyone couldn't help but start discussing again.

"It's the Flame Spirit Sparrow King! This is one of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect's strongest Immortal Techniques, capable of summoning an immortal and undying Flame Spirit Sparrow King. As long as a single wisp of flame exists nearby, it can regenerate, attack, and fight endlessly!"

"It's not just about being immortal and fighting endlessly. The key is, it's said that the Flame Spirit Sparrow King summoned by a Fire Spirit Immortal Sect Earth Immortal matches their realm exactly! This means the Flame Spirit Sparrow King summoned by Flaming Blade Duan River is a true Late-stage Third Grade Demon King Level entity!"

"Tsk tsk! A Late-stage Third Grade Demon King Level entity, capable of using various Demon Techniques! The Fire Spirit Divine Skill of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect truly deserves its reputation as one of the twelve great Immortal Techniques of the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region!"

"Not only that, you should know, this Flame Spirit Sparrow King can also choose to self-destruct to injure the enemy!"

Chapter 588: Endless Stamina, Summoning the Buddha_3

"Tsk, tsk. If this thing self-destructs... A Late-Stage Third-Grade Demon King Level being... its self-destruction must be incredibly terrifying, right? A Late-Stage Third-Grade Demon King Level being generally possesses an Immortal Body far larger than an Earth Immortal of the same tier. In other words, if this Flame Spirit Sparrow King were to self-destruct, its power would undoubtedly be several times greater than that of a Late-Stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal's self-destruction!"

"Alas, it's no wonder the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect has thrived in the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region for thousands, even tens of thousands, of years. Such masterful Immortal Techniques, capable of summoning Demon King Level beings... it seems only the Five Elements Immortal Sect and the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect in the entire Central Divine Dynasty Western Region are capable of such feats!"

"No matter what, it's best to keep our distance. If Flaming Blade Duan River truly forces this Late-Stage Third-Grade Flame Spirit Sparrow King to self-destruct, anyone too close will likely be injured!"

At these words, the hundreds of Earth Immortals from the Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance all showed expressions of apprehension, quietly backing away. If a Late-Stage Third-Grade Demon King Level being self-destructed, it could effortlessly kill Initial Tier Earth Immortals, First-Grade Earth Immortals, and Second-Grade Earth Immortals. Even a Late-Stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal, someone of the same realm, would suffer grievous injuries and be unable to escape if caught in a point-blank self-destruction!

Even the Grand Elder of the Five Elements Immortal Sect, the Five Elements Wanderer, activated his Immortal Yuan and retreated some distance. Despite being at the Late Stage of the Fifth Grade, nearing the Perfection Realm, he still considered the self-destruction of a Late-Stage Third-Grade Demon King Level being quite troublesome!

Seeing the crowd of Earth Immortals retreat upon witnessing his summoned Flame Spirit Sparrow King, Duan River, the Vice Sect Leader of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, once again revealed a gleeful expression. While commanding the Flame Spirit Sparrow King to keep its eyes on Lin Xuankong, he also aimed his Initial Tier Immortal Artifact, the Flame Saber, at him. With a smug look on his face, he sneered, "Mu Shiba, Mu Shiba, how could you possibly handle the true methods of a Third-Grade Earth Immortal? Let me ask you, would you prefer to first taste the Flame Breath of this Flame Spirit Sparrow King, or the Flame Cutting of my Initial Tier Immortal Artifact, the Flame Saber? Of course, if you're not convinced, we can fight for dozens of rounds. I'll let you experience the true methods of a Third-Grade Earth Immortal, and then you can decide! Hahaha!"

Lin Xuankong looked at the smug Flaming Blade Duan River but didn't respond. Instead, he continued to infuse True Qi into the Buddha Summoning Talisman, preparing to activate the second Buddhist Technique it contained.

Seeing Lin Xuankong remain silent, Flaming Blade Duan River sneered again. He raised his right arm and pointed forward!

Instantly, the Flame Spirit Sparrow King—with its wingspan measuring tens of thousands of feet, its enormous body blazing with crimson flames—transformed into a massive, fiery red stream of light, hurtling towards Lin Xuankong at terrifying speed! The scene resembled a continent-destroying meteor crashing down upon him. The Initial Tier Immortal Artifact Flame Saber, activated by Duan River, also transformed into a massive stream of light resembling a fire dragon, shooting towards Lin Xuankong! This was the advantage of an Immortal Artifact; although the Flame Saber was merely an Initial Tier Immortal Artifact, being wielded by a Third-Grade Earth Immortal meant its speed and power were not much inferior to those of the Flame Spirit Sparrow King!

Simultaneously, Duan River suddenly opened his mouth wide, and a round, crimson Treasure Elixir floated out! This was none other than Flaming Blade Duan River's Earth Immortal Golden Core, a Late-Stage Third-Grade treasure he had refined for thousands of years, rendering it nearly indestructible! As soon as this Golden Core appeared, it ignited with a large amount of flames, also transforming into a fiery stream of light, shooting towards Lin Xuankong!

To defeat Lin Xuankong and save face before the hundreds of Earth Immortals from the Central Divine Dynasty Western Region, Flaming Blade Duan River didn't just simultaneously activate the Flame Spirit Sparrow King and his Initial Tier Immortal Artifact Flame Saber; he also unleashed his strongest trump card—his Late-Stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal Golden Core!

"Damn it, something's going to happen!"

At this moment, the expressions of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect cultivators changed. Sect Leader Li cried out in alarm and, without hesitation, activated the Initial Tier Immortal Artifact in his hand.

Previously, when Lin Xuankong used the Buddha Summoning Talisman to activate the Buddha's Light Buddhist Technique, the Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect had all heaved a collective sigh of relief. This included Sect Leader Li, the three Grand Elders, Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'er, and

even the tens of thousands of Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect disciples. These cultivators from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect were amazed by Mu Shiba's strength and his numerous trump cards. Naturally, they were happy for him and proud that he could withstand the attack of a Third-Grade Earth Immortal.

However, when Flaming Blade Duan River summoned the Flame Spirit Sparrow King, the expressions of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Earth Immortals changed drastically. When Duan River unleashed the Flame Spirit Sparrow King, the Initial Tier Immortal Artifact Flame Saber, and his Late-Stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal Golden Core to simultaneously attack Lin Xuankong, the hearts of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect's Earth Immortals leaped into their throats!

After all, any one of these three attacks—the Late-Stage Third-Grade Flame Spirit Sparrow King, the Initial Tier Immortal Artifact Flame Saber, or the Late-Stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal Golden Core—was potent enough to give even a Third-Grade Earth Immortal a severe headache!

Chapter 589: Endless Endurance, Summoning Buddha_4

Flaming Blade Duan River was actually forcibly using all his trump cards to fight a cultivator at the Tenth Layer of the Transcendence Realm!

Among the many Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, Sect Leader Li and Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er acted decisively. They immediately activated the Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts at their disposal and rushed towards Lin Xuankong.

Unfortunately, their timing was still slightly late. This was true even though Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect was somewhat stronger than Flaming Blade Duan River, and even though Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect was a dignified Fifth Grade Late Stage cultivator. The main reason for their delay was their utter astonishment: they simply hadn't expected that the distinguished Vice Sect Leader of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, when fighting a mere cultivator at the Tenth Layer of the Transcendence Realm, would unleash every single trump card, even going as far as to throw out his Earth Immortal Golden Core!

Just as Sect Leader Li and Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er from the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect launched their Initial Tier Immortal Artifacts, they saw with despair that the Initial Tier Immortal Artifact Flame Saber and the Flame Spirit Sparrow King, both activated by Flaming Blade Duan River, were already closing in on Lin Xuankong.

In the sky at that moment, the Flame Spirit Sparrow King, with its wings stretching ten thousand zhang, suddenly opened its long beak. It spat out an intensely bright fire line that instantly shot towards Lin

Xuankong. Simultaneously, the Initial Tier Immortal Artifact Flame Saber, wreathed in endless, furiously burning flames and possessing the terrifying power to shatter space, slashed directly at Lin Xuankong's head! Meanwhile, the bright red, perfectly round Late-stage Third Grade Earth Immortal Golden Core hovered three thousand zhang from Lin Xuankong, spinning continuously, seemingly searching for the right moment to deliver a finishing blow.

Just then, Flaming Blade Duan River abruptly discovered that Lin Xuankong's location was suddenly bathed in brilliant Buddha's Light. It became blindingly bright, as if millions of miniature suns had ignited all at once! Simultaneously, waves of solemn and majestic Buddhist chants resonated from Lin Xuankong's position. It was as if, in that instant, hundreds of thousands, or even millions, of incredibly devout Buddhist Disciples were reciting scriptures right where he stood.

What shocked Flaming Blade Duan River most concerned the fire line spat out by the Flame Spirit Sparrow King, whose wings spanned ten thousand zhang. This fire line was the ultimate Talent of the Flame Spirit Sparrow race, capable of igniting any object within the same realm. Because the Sparrow King was a Late-stage Third Grade Demon King Level existence, its fire line could even ignite and damage the Golden Core of a Mid-grade Third Grade Earth Immortal!

Yet now, that Talent Fire Line from the Flame Spirit Sparrow King—a power capable of incinerating mountains and boiling seas—was just a hundred-thousandth of a breath away from striking Lin Xuankong. However, it was completely blocked by the suddenly appearing Buddha's Light, unable to advance even an inch! The Initial Tier Immortal Artifact Flame Saber met the same fate. As an artifact that could effortlessly shatter space and cleave through an Earth Immortal's Immortal Body, it had already reached Lin Xuankong's head and was about to strike. Yet, it too was obstructed by the Buddha's Light. No matter how desperately Flaming Blade Duan River tried to urge it forward, the Flame Saber couldn't move the slightest bit.

"Damn it! So close, just a little bit more!" Flaming Blade Duan River's expression was incredibly grim, his eyes blazing with murderous intent.

Ordinarily, he was fully aware that Galin Bodhisattva of the Spirit Platform Buddhist Sect was nearby and that Mu Shiba was under Galin Bodhisattva's protection. Even if he possessed the audacity of a million lions, he wouldn't dare harbor any designs on Lin Xuankong's life! Moreover, Lin Xuankong's Artifact Refining Technique was the very reason the Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance had gathered. This meant that even if the entire Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect were to be slaughtered, Lin Xuankong had to remain alive. As the one who had relayed this information, Flaming Blade Duan River was acutely aware of this fact.

Regrettably, accustomed as he was to acting tyrannically, in his towering rage, he had already lost some of his reason. Especially after unleashing his trump cards one after another, only to be thwarted each time by this insignificant cultivator at the Tenth Layer of Transcendence, the boundless shame and anger had already driven him to the brink of madness.

Chapter 590: The Peerless Golden Body's Giant Palm

In extreme shame and madness, Flaming Blade Duan River's eyes filled with intense killing intent. In the next moment, his Initial Tier Immortal Artifact, the Flaming Blade, surged with a tremendous amount of Immortal Yuan and flew directly back, leaving Lin Xuankong's position! His Late-Stage Third-Grade Earth Immortal Golden Core, controlled by his Heart Thought, also flew back.

However, the Flame Spirit Sparrow King, with its wingspan of ten thousand zhang, had eyes blazing with fire. Carrying a terrifying aura of destruction, it quickly approached Lin Xuankong's position. When the Flame Spirit Sparrow King had attacked Lin Xuankong earlier, it had used its Talent Fire Line and was still a full ten thousand zhang away from him. For a Demon King of this level, however, such a distance was merely a flap of its wings!

As the Flame Spirit Sparrow King flew above Lin Xuankong, its body, originally sleek and covered in countless soaring flames, suddenly emitted a series of twisting, winding lights, as if it were about to split open! Yet, this was clearly not its body cracking open; the Flame Spirit Sparrow King was preparing to self-destruct!

Upon seeing this, the hundreds of Earth Immortals who had already retreated showed slight changes in their expressions and moved even further away. Grand Elder Duan Qianchou of the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect furrowed his brows and thoughtfully looked towards Galin Bodhisattva.

In Duan Qianchou's mind, since there was no longer a chance to acquire Mu Shiba, the Artifact Refining Tool, and use him to forge a large number of Immortal Artifacts for the Five Elements Immortal Sect and the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect, it was better to destroy Mu Shiba on the spot. This would prevent the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect from using him to grow rapidly. If the Fire Spirit Immortal Sect couldn't have him, why should the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect be able to?

However, despite such thoughts, with Galin Bodhisattva present, even if Duan Qianchou had a thousand times more courage, he would never dare to defy Galin Bodhisattva's preferences and forcefully eliminate Mu Shiba. Yet, at this moment, Duan Qianchou felt somewhat proud. Duan River truly hasn't disappointed me, he thought secretly. Not only is his Cultivation Speed far beyond others, but his decisiveness and ruthlessness are also commendable!

A Late-Stage Third-Grade Flame Spirit Sparrow King self-destructing would severely injure even a Third-Grade Earth Immortal caught in that position. Mu Shiba is doomed this time! The only problem is, how do I explain this to Galin Bodhisattva after Mu Shiba is eliminated? Thinking of this, Duan Qianchou's brows furrowed, a mix of joy and worry on his face.

At this moment, Sect Leader Li of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect, Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er, Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er, and the three Grand Elders all shouted loudly, "Tributor Mu, leave quickly! The Flame Spirit Sparrow King is about to self-destruct!"

"Tributor Mu, don't just stand there! No matter how powerful your Buddha's Light is, it can't withstand the self-destruction of a Late-Stage Third-Grade Demon King-level sparrow!"

As they shouted, Sect Leader Li, Medicine Immortal Qu Wan'Er, Spiritual Crane Fairy Qu Qiao'Er, and the others all activated their Immortal Artifacts, directing them towards Lin Xuankong. They were ready to collectively resist the self-destructive power of the Flame Spirit Sparrow King at any moment.

Just then, the sky suddenly blazed with light. Immediately, a gigantic hand extended from its depths! The hand shone with endless Buddha's Light, so bright it was almost impossible to look at directly. What was most astonishing was its sheer size: a full ten thousand zhang. Even what appeared to be wrinkles on its skin looked like ravines dozens or hundreds of zhang deep! At the edge of the hand were conspicuous hairs, each one hundreds of zhang tall and several zhang thick. This hand extending from the sky was truly enormous!

In truth, an Initial Tier Earth Immortal who had stepped into the Earth Immortal Realm already possessed a massive body. Among the Earth Immortals of the Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance, there were many powerful individuals at the Mid- and Late-Stages of the Fifth Grade. These Fifth-Grade Earth Immortals, who were already considered Middle Grade Earth Immortals, could easily achieve a height of over 5,000 zhang when they activated their Immortal Bodies.

However, even the 5,000-zhang-tall Immortal Body of a Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal was insignificant compared to this ten-thousand-zhang giant palm! One could imagine that in a battle, this enormous hand could easily grab the Immortal Body of a Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal and crush it effortlessly. After all, a 5,000-zhang-tall Immortal Body would only take up half the space in the ten-thousand-zhang giant palm!

And so, as the Earth Immortals of the Spiritual Crane Immortal Sect watched in terror, fearing the Flame Spirit Sparrow King's self-destruction would injure or kill Lin Xuankong; as the hundreds of Earth

Immortals from the Seventy-Six Immortal Sects Alliance, fearing they would be caught in the blast, retreated even further; and as Flaming Blade Duan River, his face a mask of sinister madness, prepared to drag Mu Shiba to hell with him even if it meant his own death—at that very moment, the gigantic palm, emitting countless rays of Buddha's Light, suddenly descended from the sky! It forcefully seized the Flame Spirit Sparrow King with its ten-thousand-zhang wingspan!

At that exact instant, the Flame Spirit Sparrow King let out a sudden screech. The countless cracks covering its body simultaneously burst open! A destructive power capable of toppling mountains and raising thousand-zhang-high waves erupted from the Flame Spirit Sparrow King's location, spreading outwards! It had self-destructed! This Late-Stage Third-Grade Demon King-level existence, under Flaming Blade Duan River's control, had detonated itself!

The self-destruction of a Late-Stage Third-Grade Demon King-level being could cause even a Third-Grade Earth Immortal to perish if they were careless. Even a Fifth-Grade Earth Immortal would suffer heavy injuries if too close! Yet, as the Flame Spirit Sparrow King self-destructed while grasped in the giant palm's grip, all of its terrifying destructive power was contained within that hand!

Brilliant Buddha's Light shone continuously from the skin of the giant palm, resisting the self-destructive power of the Late-Stage Third-Grade Demon King. Waves of Immortal Yuan Fluctuation, filled with various Secret Patterns, radiated from every pore on the giant palm. These formed a bright ripple, completely containing all the self-destructive power within its grasp, not allowing even a sliver to spread outwards. It is well known that while the power of an explosion is immense when allowed to spread, its might becomes terrifyingly magnified if confined to a limited space!

Now, all the self-destructive power of the Late-Stage Third-Grade Demon King, the Flame Spirit Sparrow King, was sealed within the palm of the giant, Buddha's Light-infused hand by the Immortal Yuan ripples it emitted. One could only imagine the terrifying force of the Late-Stage Third-Grade Demon King's self-destruction now concentrated and resonating within that palm! Yet, no matter how boundless the power unleashed within its grip, the hand extending from the sky remained slightly clenched, without the slightest tremor.