

# The Sword God of the Universe

Chapter 271: Chapter 271: To Seize the Golden Pass Order Chapter 271: Chapter 271: To Seize the Golden Pass Order “Time is almost up!” Jing Yan’s eyes suddenly snapped open.

Absorbing the mysterious energy within the array’s passage was indeed an unexpected delight.

If possible, Jing Yan wouldn’t mind staying there to absorb that mysterious energy wolf.

But now, time is about to run out.

Even if he didn’t exit the formation, he would be automatically transported out once time was up.

“Whew!”

A burst of Primordial Energy exploded forth, and Jing Yan’s figure left a lingering afterimage in the passage.

If anyone could see Jing Yan’s speed at that moment, they would probably be scared to death.

This was the interior of the Big Array, not the outside space.

Within the array, one was constantly under the pressure of the mysterious energy, making movement difficult for most Martial Artists.

Yet Jing Yan seemed to dart out unimpeded, his speed incredibly fast.

On the high platform!

“Why hasn’t that Jing Yan come out?”

“He entered the array and it’s been almost half an hour already.

He still hasn’t come out.

Could it be that he can’t even pass the Human Formation?” Shang Qu had been closely watching Jing Yan.

Of course, it wasn’t just Shang Qu who was watching Jing Yan.

Huang Luo from the Red Lotus Academy, Shu Ling from Dao Yi Academy, and even some of the young Martial Artists participating in the examination were paying attention to Jing Yan.

After Jing Yan publicly rejected Shang Qu's invitation, they naturally assumed Jing Yan was very strong and would quickly pass the Human Formation.

But now they felt they might have been wrong; time was almost up, yet Jing Yan had not emerged from the array.

Could this mean Jing Yan had no real strength at all?

Was Jing Yan pretending to be a pig while being swollen in the face?

Many people wore disdainful sneers at the corners of their mouths.

"Deacon Qing Mo, what do you think?" Shu Ling glanced at Qing Mo with a look of surprise on her face.

She had quite a bit of trust in Qing Mo.

Qing Mo had said that Jing Yan was very strong, so Jing Yan shouldn't be incompetent, but what was going on now?

Jing Yan had been inside for so long and had not come out of the array.

Could his strength be considered strong?

“I don’t know either!” Qing Mo frowned deeply, puzzled himself.

“Whoosh!”

Just as many people were discussing, Jing Yan, dressed in a blue robe, finally walked out of the exit of the array.

“That was close, almost didn’t make it.

In the last moment, I even activated the Sky Wings Body Technique.” Jing Yan looked at the scenery outside and exhaled lightly.

“You have passed the Human Formation assessment, this is your Passing Bronze Token.” An Armored Guard approached Jing Yan with a serious expression and handed him a bronze token, “Hand your assessment token to me.”

Jing Yan received the Passing Bronze Token and then handed over the previous assessment token to the guard.

“This young man’s strength can only be said to be very ordinary, right?

He only passed the Human Formation at the last moment!” Shang Qu shook his head, “If this is all the strength he has, then my personal invitation to him to join the Divine Wind Academy was just a joke.”

Deacon Gao Jie was at a loss for words!

Earlier, she had stated that Jing Yan’s strength was comparable to a Late-stage Innate Martial Artist.

Even Cang Long was puzzled!

He had personally witnessed Jing Yan’s combat power before; shouldn’t it be so weak?

“Could it be that Jing Yan did it on purpose?”

He deliberately came out from the array at the last moment!” Qing Mo speculated, not believing that passing the Human Formation would be so difficult with Jing Yan’s strength.

Hearing Qing Mo’s words, Dean Shu Ling’s brows furrowed slightly.

“How could that be?”

Although the Human Formation is the least difficult among the three formations, it's absolutely impossible to deliberately control the timing of passing.

Not to mention him; even we cannot control it at will." Cang Long shook his head, not believing it at all.

Cang Long and others were Innate Peak Experts!

"There is one possibility, though; Jing Yan's strength might have regressed!" A flash crossed Cang Long's eyes.

Jing Yan had previously entered the Divine Wind Academy, and after falling from the Innate Realm, it is possible that Cang Long and others had seen Jing Yan's strength as strong at the Donglin City Lord's Mansion, but now it was also possible that he had regressed again.

If so, that would explain it.

Qing Mo fell silent, and he had to admit that Cang Long's speculation was quite plausible.

Qing Mo and the others also knew that the reason Jing Yan was expelled from the Divine Wind Academy was Jing Yan's fall in realm.

...

“Brother Jing Yan, I failed!”

Jing Luoyu sighed and said to Jing Yan.

“But I still have a chance.

I failed this time, but next time I will definitely succeed.” Jing Luoyu was not very disappointed; he was still young, and there was still a chance.

Next time he took part in the entrance examination of the Three Major Academies, he would surely advance to the Innate Realm, and then his chances of passing the Human Formation would be great.

“Yeah.” Jing Yan nodded with a smile, “Luoyu, when you return to Donglin City this time, go to Splendid Pill Tower and ask Uncle Jing Chenxing for a bottle of Holy Spirit Potion, say it’s from me.

With the Holy Spirit Potion, your chances of advancing to Innate are even greater.”

The Holy Spirit Potions were all left by Jing Yan in the Splendid Pill Tower.

When Jing Yan left, he had urged that the Pill Tower could use the Holy Spirit Potion to increase its popularity by holding small auctions periodically.

Calculating the time, there should still be stocks of the Holy Spirit Potion available, it wouldn't make sense for all five bottles of the Holy Spirit Potion to have sold out in this time.

“Holy Spirit Potion?” Jing Luoyu did not know what the Holy Spirit Potion was.

“Yes, just mention it to Uncle Chenxing at the Splendid Pill Tower, and you'll understand,” Jing Yan said with a smile.

Jing Luoyu nodded and did not ask any further questions.

The assessment continued.

After another two and a half hours, all the martial artists had completed their assessments.

“For this round of enrollments into the Three Major Academies, a total of 12,384 people participated, and 2,766 have passed the assessment!” Mu Liantian announced the results.

“Those martial artists who have passed the human formation assessment may enter the Prince Manor again tomorrow morning to challenge the Earth Array, or you may choose not to take the challenge and use the Passing Bronze Token to apply to any of the Three Major Academies,” Mu Liantian said, looking down at the crowd from the high platform.

“Now, today’s assessment has come to an end, and everyone is free to disperse!” Mu Liantian finally waved his hand.

After his voice fell, the martial artists in the square began to surge outward.

Soon after, Jing Yan and Jing Luoyu returned to Juhua Restaurant.

“Brother Jing Yan, do you intend to take on the Earth Array?” Jing Luoyu asked, looking at Jing Yan.

“Yes!” Jing Yan nodded slightly.

“I’ve heard that the Earth Array is incredibly difficult, and those who pass it receive the Silver Pass Token.

The Three Major Academies actively court such martial artists,” Jing Luoyu said.

“But even if you get the Silver Pass Token, Brother Jing Yan, the Sealing Order from the Three Major Academies...”

“My goal is the Golden Pass Order!” Jing Yan said with a laugh.

The Golden Pass Order can only be obtained by martial artists who have overcome the Sky Crossing Array.

“The Golden Pass Order?”

“Brother Jing Yan, you want to challenge the Heaven Array?” Jing Luoyu’s eyes widened in shock, frightened by Jing Yan’s words.

Jing Luoyu also knew the terror of the Heaven Array.

He had heard that in the past few decades, no one had been able to get through the Heaven Array.

In the room, Jing Yan closed his eyes to conserve his energy.

“Is Jing Yan there?” A familiar voice came from outside the room.

Jing Yan quickly stood up, walked over, and pulled open the door.

“City Lord?” Jing Yan saw that it was Huo Chunyang standing outside.

“Jing Yan, it has been a while since we last met.” Huo Chunyang smiled, “I only arrived in Lanqu County City recently.

I first went to the Prince Manor and then immediately came here to see you.”

“City Lord, please come in and take a seat,” Jing Yan ushered Huo Chunyang into the room.

More than a month ago, Huo Chunyang had brought the ten martial artists from Donglin City who were participating in the assessment to Juhua Restaurant and then returned to Donglin City.

He had said he would do his best to come back for the assessment.

However, it was apparent that Huo Chunyang had missed the first day of the Human Formation assessment.

“Jing Yan, I’ve heard about the Sealing Order the Three Major Academies issued against you,” Huo Chunyang said with a worried expression, “They’ve gone too far.

They will regret this!

In a few years, your potential will make them realize how wrong their decision is right now!”

Huo Chunyang spoke indignantly.

“Jing Yan, don’t worry.

I’ll try to do something in Lanqu County City in the next few days to see if there’s any way I can get you into one of the Three Major Academies,” Huo Chunyang said, changing his tone.

However, Huo Chunyang wasn’t very confident in his own words.

In Lanqu County City, his network wasn’t very extensive.

Although he knew many people, there were very few who could really be of help and were willing to do him a favor.

“City Lord, you don’t have to go to any trouble,” Jing Yan said with an unconcerned smile.

“How can that be?

Even though the chances are slim, we still have to try.

Jing Yan, have you given up yourself?” Huo Chunyang’s expression darkened, “You’ve studied at Divine Wind Academy before; you should know how much the resources of the Three Major Academies can help you.

Jing Yan, you must never give up without a fight, no one can predict the outcome until the very end.”

“City Lord, you misunderstand; I haven’t given up,” Jing Yan shook his head, “I intend to take the Golden Pass Order.”

“What?” Even with Huo Chunyang’s composure, hearing Jing Yan’s words caused his voice to rise sharply.

“Jing Yan, you’re going to challenge the Heaven Array?” Huo Chunyang looked at Jing Yan in astonishment.

Of course, he knew of Jing Yan’s formidable strength—for someone in the Early Innate Realm to defeat warriors like Zhao Zhenyan.

But even so, challenging the Heaven Array seemed nearly impossible.

If Jing Yan really could succeed in the Heaven Array and obtain the Golden Pass Order, the Sealing Order would naturally be revoked.

But, the Heaven Array was not so easily conquered.

Over the years, so many confident and exceptionally talented martial artists had tried to challenge the Heaven Array, but in the end, not one had succeeded.

Keep in mind that those who dared to challenge the Heaven Array were not weak; every one of them had great strength, including young martial artists at the Peak of Innate Realm, but they too failed.

Challenging the Heaven Array not only risked failure but also lethal danger.

When challenging the Human Formation, one would just fail and be teleported out when time was up.

However, the Heaven Array was different; it harbored great perils, and one could easily die inside.

“Jing Yan, I understand that you’re angry about the Sealing Order from the Three Major Academies, but don’t act recklessly.

The Heaven Array...” Huo Chunyang shook his head, “Jing Yan, if you were to cultivate for another seven or eight years, and increase your strength by one or two more realms, then there might be a chance.

Now, you have almost no hope of passing through the Heaven Array.”

Huo Chunyang spoke quite straightforwardly.

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Chapter 272: Chapter 272: Breaking Through the Earth Array Chapter 272: Chapter 272: Breaking Through the Earth Array Huo Chunyang's meaning was clear to Jing Yan.

Failing the trial was a minor issue, but dying while attempting it would be a loss too great.

"City Lord, my current realm is the extreme limit of the Innate Middle Stage," Jing Yan said, his eyes slightly narrowed.

He wasn't offended by the straightforwardness of Huo Chunyang's words because he knew they were meant for his own good.

How could Jing Yan not understand?

"Innate Middle Stage limit?" Huo Chunyang was slightly surprised.

Just a few months ago, Jing Yan was at the Early Innate Cultivation.

That is to say, in less than a year, Jing Yan had improved by one realm and even reached the extreme limit of the Innate Middle Stage.

Just one small step more and he would be in the Late Innate!

“Yes, and now, ordinary Innate Peak Martial Artists are no match for me,” Jing Yan said without the need to hide his strength from Huo Chunyang.

“Therefore, although the Heaven Array is difficult, even if I’m unable to pass it, keeping myself alive within it should not be a problem!

It’s a rare opportunity, so, of course, I must try!”

“Good!”

“Just do it!

Jing Yan, you must strive to obtain the Golden Order.

I want to see what kind of faces those people will make when you get the Golden Order.

Haha..." Huo Chunyang was initially stunned when he heard Jing Yan's estimate of his own combat power.

However, he then burst into laughter, clapping his hands.

"Jing Yan, I really didn't expect your strength to become so terrifying.

With your combat power, once you step into the Innate Peak Realm, you'll be able to fight against Dao Spirit Realm experts.

Even I may not be able to defeat you when you have Innate Peak Cultivation," Huo Chunyang squinted into slits.

"..." Jing Yan was speechless.

"You must get your hands on the Heaven Array Golden Order.

By then, that old bastard Shang Qu will probably be green with envy.

With the Golden Order, you'll not only invalidate the Sealing Orders from the Three Major Academies but will also stir the Chief Masters of the academies.

I believe, the Dean of Divine Wind Academy will not let old bastard Shang Qu off easily,” Huo Chunyang continued, his eyes shining.

“Is it that outrageous?” Jing Yan was also astonished.

He knew the Golden Order was hard to seize, but he never imagined that obtaining it would cause such a commotion.

“Outrageous?”

Not at all!

Jing Yan, you still don’t realize the value of the Golden Order.

You should know that within Lanqu County City, it has been over thirty years since anyone managed to obtain a Golden Order.

Moreover, you should realize, you’re only eighteen years old, eighteen...

From what I know, in the last hundred years, only two martial artists have ever seized a Golden Order, and they were both more than twenty-five years old when taking the assessment.”

“Think about it!”

“If you manage to obtain a Golden Order, that means your talent would be considered the highest in Lanqu County City for the last century.

At least publicly, your talent would be the highest.”

“Could the Chief Masters of the Three Major Academies not be alarmed?” Huo Chunyang grew more and more excited as he spoke.

The next morning, Jing Yan left Juhua Restaurant and headed for the Prince Manor.

Today, there were fewer martial artists entering Prince Manor compared to yesterday.

Only those who had passed the Human Formation were qualified to enter Prince Manor today, while those who were eliminated had no such privilege.

At the entrance to the Prince Manor, Armored Guards checked the Passing Bronze Tokens of the martial artists who wanted to enter.

“There’s Jing Yan again!”

“He seemed to have passed the Human Formation yesterday!”

“Yes, he indeed passed the Human Formation, but since he’s been banned by the Three Major Academies, what’s the point in passing the assessment?”

I really don’t know why he’s still here.”

“Maybe he just wants to watch the excitement!”

In the square, some martial artists who had arrived before Jing Yan saw him and looked at him with strange glances, whispering amongst themselves.

Jing Yan heard many of these voices too, but he just sneered and didn’t bother to acknowledge or respond.

After a while, figures like the Outer Court Directors of the Three Major Academies arrived again at the high platform.

Jing Yan noticed that the high platform today seemed to have even more people than yesterday.

The number of martial artists in the square had decreased; yesterday there were more than ten thousand martial artists participating in the assessment, while today there were only around two thousand people present.

Unlike yesterday, they were not divided into different areas but were standing around casually.

“Jing Yan, what are you doing here?” Cang Long asked loudly with a smile from the high platform.

“Do you still delude yourself with thoughts of joining the Three Major Academies?”

“You’ve lost that privilege.

With your arrogant and disrespectful attitude, forget about joining the Three Major Academies in this lifetime.

I think you’d better roll back to Donglin City earlier.”

“Haha...”

Laughter rang out from the high platform.

Jing Yan stared at the high platform, but his anger began to subside.

“Cang Long, whether I come or not, it has nothing to do with you.

This is Prince Manor, not your home.

If it were your home, I wouldn't go even if you asked,” Jing Yan scoffed, his retort tinged with mockery.

“You...” Cang Long's face turned cold.

“What you?

Look at what you're saying.

People who don't know any better might even think you're the Prince,” Jing Yan directly interrupted what Cang Long was about to say.

“Damn!

You little brat!” cursed Cang Long inwardly.

“Kid, if you have the guts, break through the Earth Array today!” Cang Long barked.

“Laughable, if I’m so ordinary, where did you come from?”

Speaking of not knowing one’s place, you old rabbit-snot, you really don’t understand superiority or inferiority, perhaps it’s time I taught you a lesson!” Jing Yan shook his head.

Cang Long was slightly taken aback, as were the others, and for a moment, they didn’t comprehend the meaning of Jing Yan’s words.

However, soon after, Cang Long understood, and he erupted into a furious rage.

“You’re courting death!” Cang Long hysterically roared.

“Shh, the Lord Chief is coming.”

At this moment, someone lowly whispered a reminder beside Cang Long.

Cang Long had no choice but to forcibly suppress his anger, yet his eyes still blazed with flames, and he glared at Jing Yan with ferocity.

The veins on his forehead were bulging, nearly going berserk on the spot.

After Mu Liantian arrived, he cast an intentional yet casual glance at Cang Long.

Cang Long felt a slight chill through his body, sensing that something was amiss, but when he looked at Mu Liantian, Mu Liantian had already turned around, facing the vast square below.

“Ladies and gentlemen, the Earth Array challenge is about to begin!”

“Now, any martial artist interested in breaking through the Earth Array, please step forward.” Mu Liantian said with a gentle smile on his face.

Nobody noticed that Mu Liantian’s gaze lingered on Jing Yan for a moment longer.

“Martial artists attempting the Earth Array, please step out.

If no decision is made within ten breaths, it will be considered a forfeiture!” Mu Liantian continued.

“Whoosh!” Jing Yan glanced around and then swiftly moved forward.

Instantly, over a thousand gazes landed on Jing Yan.

“What is this kid trying to do?”

“I paid attention to him yesterday.

He barely succeeded in the Human Formation at the last moment.

And now, he actually wants to challenge the Earth Array?”

“Don’t you get it?

He’s been banned by the Three Major Academies.

Even if he gets through the Human Formation, he can’t join any of them.”

Someone seemed to see through Jing Yan’s intentions and said so, prompting nods of realization from the others.

Jing Yan was the first to stand out and decide to challenge the Earth Array.

After him, one after another, many figures also stepped forward.

Ten breaths later, a total of two hundred martial artists had stepped out from the crowd.

Yesterday, two thousand seven hundred and sixty-six martial artists passed the Human Formation, but now, only a mere two hundred chose to continue with the challenge, not even one-tenth of those who passed.

This showed that the vast majority of martial artists had no confidence in breaking through the Earth Array.

And among these willing to challenge the Earth Array, more than half were members of the major families from Lanqu County City.

They probably wanted to take a chance, as even if they failed and lost the opportunity to train at the Three Major Academies, they could still obtain immense cultivation resources within their own families.

The ordinary status of a disciple from the Three Major Academies didn't hold much appeal for these individuals.

With an Earth Array Silver Token, entrance to the Three Major Academies meant obtaining a very high status, incomparable to that of ordinary disciples.

Of course, the strength of these individuals was undoubtedly extremely formidable.

Jing Yan casually glanced over and could tell that the majority of those preparing to challenge the Earth Array were at the Innate Middle Stage and Innate Late Stage of cultivation.

Without sufficient confidence, indeed, no one would dare to rashly challenge the Earth Array.

“Now, you have one chance to forfeit!

If you’re sure you want to try the Earth Array, then you must understand that there is a certain danger within.

That is to say, you may encounter fatal dangers inside the Earth Array,” Mu Liantian said to Jing Yan and the other roughly two hundred martial artists ready to attempt the challenge.

The Human Formation had no danger.

The Earth Array had a certain danger.

As for the Heaven Array, it was fraught with peril; even Innate Peak martial artists were likely to die within it.

“Is no one forfeiting?” Mu Liantian squinted at Jing Yan and the others.

Indeed, no one chose to give up at this moment.

Having stood out, they were all prepared.

Before they came forward, they knew what it meant to challenge the Earth Array and were aware of the potential dangers it contained.

“Very well, let’s begin!”

“Open the Earth Array!” Mu Liantian waved his hand.

The Formation appeared the same as yesterday’s.

However, the same Formation had different forms.

This Formation should have three forms: the Human Formation, Earth Array, and Heaven Array.

The Human Formation was activated yesterday, and today it was the turn of the Earth Array.

The Big Array became enshrouded in mist again, and several dark entrances emerged in front of the Formation.

“You have two hours to pass.

If you cannot pass after two hours, you will be automatically teleported out,” said Mu Liantian.

“Begin entering now!”

With only about two hundred martial artists trying the challenge, there was no need to queue deliberately.

In just a few breaths, all two hundred martial artists could fully enter the Earth Array.

## **Chapter 273 - 273 273 Where is Jing Yan**

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Jing Yan leisurely approached one of the entrances of the Earth Array, his actions relaxed and unhurried, even offering a smile to the spectators and the high platform as he strolled as if walking in a leisurely garden.

The spectators really didn't know what to say.

Most of them probably thought that Jing Yan was putting on too much of a show.

This was the Earth Array, not the Human Formation from yesterday.

The difficulty of the Earth Array was many times greater than that of the Human Formation, infinitely harder.

Among the over ten thousand martial artists who participated in the assessment, more than two thousand had passed the Human Formation.

However, among these two thousand, only about two hundred dared to challenge the Earth Array.

It was unknown how many of these two hundred could eventually get through the Earth Array.

Passing the Earth Array was extremely difficult, tremendously so.

Shang Qu and others squinted their eyes as they focused on Jing Yan.

They didn't believe Jing Yan could pass through the Earth Array; even when he passed the Human Formation yesterday, it was barely in the nick of time, during the very last moments.

Today, facing the Earth Array, there was absolutely no chance for Jing Yan to get through.

As for what Gao Jie and Qing Mo said about Jing Yan possessing combat power comparable to a Late-stage Innate Martial Artist, perhaps what they said was true, but Jing Yan might have regressed recently in strength.

After all, there was a precedent for this!

If he truly had the combat power of a Late-stage Innate Martial Artist, then he wouldn't have taken so long in the Human Formation.

Therefore, there was only one explanation, Jing Yan's strength had regressed.

This possibility was very high!

Even the Outer Court Deacon of Dao Yi Academy, Qing Mo, who always thought highly of Jing Yan, couldn't help but think that Jing Yan might have regressed in strength.

“Swish!”

Jing Yan entered the Earth Array.

The scene before him changed instantly.

“Still this kind of passage?” Jing Yan glanced around, squinting his eyes.

More than two years ago, he participated in the assessment, entering only the Human Formation and not the Earth Array since he had no strength to face it back then.

Therefore, he didn’t understand the Earth Array.

Now it seemed, the structure of the Earth Array was similar to that of the Human Formation.

“The pressure is much greater!”

“Compared to the Human Formation, the pressure brought about by the Mysterious Energy in this Earth Array is several times greater.”

“For a regular Early Innate Realm martial artist, there’s a high chance of passing the Human Formation within half an hour’s time.

But for this Earth Array, if an Early Innate Realm martial artist were to enter, it would probably be tremendously difficult to advance even an inch,” Jing Yan subconsciously compared the difference between the Human Formation and the Earth Array.

Jing Yan stepped forward while operating the Sky Vaulting First Divine Skill.

As in the Human Formation, Jing Yan could still absorb the Mysterious Energy from the space.

However, this time, instead of standing still, Jing Yan walked while absorbing the energy.

The time limit for passing through the Earth Array was two hours.

But since the resistance within the Earth Array was so great, even when activating the Sky Wings, Jing Yan couldn't guarantee his speed.

Jing Yan's goal was to pass through the Heaven Array and seize the Golden Order.

Regardless, his first priority was to ensure he could get through the Earth Array.

“Huh!”

As Jing Yan was walking, a sudden premonition of danger surged within him, and he instantly tensed.

At that moment, a cluster of blue flames abruptly appeared in the space.

The blue flames manifested and violently enveloped Jing Yan, a terrifying aura spreading out.

Jing Yan dared not be negligent, swiftly invoking his Primordial Energy; he drew the Skyfire Sword rapidly, unleashing Sword Intent, and a Red Sword Light blasted out.

Struck by the Red Sword Light, the blue flames instantly dispersed, turning into palm-sized blue flames.

“Hmm?” Jing Yan frowned again.

The dispersed blue flames did not vanish in the space but reconvened into a vast expanse of blue flames within the time of a breath, continuing to envelope Jing Yan.

These blue flames did not have the temperature of ordinary flames, but to Jing Yan, they felt extremely dangerous.

He sensed that if he were completely covered by this cluster of blue flames, he might face the risk of death.

The fatal danger within the Earth Array might just come from this type of blue flame.

Seeing the fierce blue flames lunging at him, Jing Yan didn't hesitate and again launched a Red Sword Light.

Just like the previous time, the blue flames dispersed under the Sword Light but did not disappear.

This time, Jing Yan did not wait in place but activated the Sky Wings and flashed through.

After Jing Yan passed through the blue flames and appeared in front, the blue flames that hadn't regathered yet finally began to fade.

Seeing this, Jing Yan finally let out a sigh of relief.

If the blue flames had continuously pursued him relentlessly, although it wouldn't pose too great a threat to him, comfortably absorbing the Mysterious Energy within the Earth Array would have been impossible.

Continue forward!

After half an hour, Jing Yan was fairly certain that other than the more intense pressure from the Mysterious Energy compared to the Human Formation, only the blue flames that appeared sporadically posed any real trouble.

However, once he became familiar with the attack methods of the blue flames, such danger didn't amount to much for Jing Yan anymore.

Time slowly passed, and the limit of two hours was fast approaching.

Outside, whether it was the martial artists on the square or the people on the high platform, everyone was staring at the exit of the Earth Array.

Passing through the Earth Array earned one a Silver Pass Token.

The martial artists who could secure a Silver Token were absolutely the targets of fierce competition by the Three Major Academies.

The attitude of the Three Major Academies toward martial artists who passed the Human Formation was somewhat lukewarm; these martial artists held a Passing Bronze Token and could freely choose any academy to join.

Yet, for these academies to take the initiative to contact them was rather unlikely.

But if it was a martial artist who had secured a Silver Pass Token, then the attitude of the Three Major Academies turned eager.

Generally speaking, martial artists who, before the age of thirty, had obtained a Silver Pass Token, were almost guaranteed to become Dao Spirit Realm powerhouses in the future.

Such martial artists with potential naturally deserved the Three Major Academies to lower their stances and actively seek them out.

“Someone has passed!”

A voice rang out across the square.

At the exit of the Earth Array, a figure had emerged; it was a man about twenty-five years old, clad in a golden robe.

After passing through the Earth Array, he stood still, his gaze proudly sweeping around.

A stir also arose on the high platform.

“It’s Cai Yang from the Cai Family!” someone whispered.

“Elder Cai, congratulations, congratulations!”

A member of the Cai Family is the first to pass through the Earth Array!" someone said, congratulating one of the Cai Family elders who had come to the Prince Manor.

The Cai Family elder's face blossomed with a smile, and even his wrinkles smoothed out.

Passing through the Earth Array was definitely no small feat.

Thus, even the families of Lanqu County City couldn't help but feel excited and joyous.

"Shared joy, shared joy!" Elder Cai repeatedly responded to the congratulatory voices around him.

"Someone from the Wen Family has passed too!" Another loud voice declared.

"Elder Wen, I told you before, didn't I?"

Let Wen Yuan join our Divine Wind Academy," Shang Qu said with a smile to an elder of the Wen Family.

Wen Yuan, a member of the Wen Family, was the second martial artist among all those who entered the Earth Array to pass and secure a Silver Token.

“Very well,” the Wen Family elder said, wafting his hand lightly.

“Dean Shang Qu, that’s not very upright of you!

Even if you want Wen Yuan to join the Divine Wind Academy, you shouldn’t do it right in front of us.

You’re treating us like air!” Huang Luo, the Outer Court Director of the Dao Yi Academy, glared at Shang Qu.

“What I discuss with Elder Wen has nothing to do with you.

Besides, I mentioned this to Elder Wen a few days ago, and he said he would prioritize our Divine Wind Academy for letting Wen Yuan join,” Shang Qu humphed.

“That’s totally improper!” Huang Luo shook his head repeatedly, “Elder Wen, you can’t play favorites like this.

You mustn’t influence Wen Duan in choosing which academy to join.

No, I must talk to Wen Yuan later.

If he agrees to join our Red Lotus Academy, we will definitely train him as a priority student.”

Huang Luo then turned to the Wen Family elder.

“Are you being reasonable?

Is our Dao Yi Academy somehow inferior to your Red Lotus Academy, or Divine Wind Academy?”  
Shu Ling, the Outer Court Director of Dao Yi Academy, also joined in angrily.

Although she was a woman, this was definitely not a time for politeness or restraint.

For martial artists who had won a Silver Token, one must do whatever possible to secure them.

“Elder Cai, you did promise me before that Cai Yang would join Dao Yi Academy.

You wouldn’t go back on your word, would you?” Shu Ling asked the Cai Family elder with a smile.

“Hehe...

I'm not entirely sure about that.

Cai Yang is one of the finest young members of our Cai Family, and I can't simply dictate his mind.

The choice of which academy to join must ultimately be his own," Elder Cai said with a smile, waving his hand.

"No, Cai Yang must join our Dao Yi Academy," Shu Ling said, gritting her teeth.

While this debate over recruitment continued, the third martial artist who had passed through the Earth Array also emerged.

This was a member of the Lu Family, also one of the noble families of Lanqu County City.

Naturally, another uproar of recruitment ensued.

Every martial artist who managed to secure a Silver Token was a target for the Three Major Acadacies.

To absorb these martial artists into their institutions, each academy promised extremely generous conditions.

Next came the fourth, fifth, sixth...

As the two-hour deadline slowly drew to a close, the number of martial artists who had passed through the Earth Array continued to grow.

However, of the total 204 martial artists who had entered the Earth Array, only about a dozen had succeeded so far.

“Just sixty breaths left.”

Mu Liantian, watching the entire Earth Array, voiced out.

Mu Liantian’s face showed no emotion, but his heart couldn’t help but experience fluctuations.

Where was Jing Yan?

Where was Jing Yan who had entered the Earth Array?

Mu Liantian was extremely puzzled; although he had never seen Jing Yan engage in combat, his daughter Mu Yunfei had mentioned that Jing Yan was capable of fighting on equal terms with Late-stage Innate Martial Artists.

With such strength, wasn't passing through the Earth Array supposed to be easy?

But where was Jing Yan?

## Chapter 274 - 274 274 Obtaining the Silver Token

Chapter 274: Chapter 274: Obtaining the Silver Token Chapter 274: Chapter 274: Obtaining the Silver Token Only two hours left until the designated time was up, there were less than sixty breaths remaining, yet Jing Yan had not emerged from the Earth Array.

Could it be!

Jing Yan encountered some trouble in the Earth Array?

Even Mu Liantian could not help but worry.

Inside the Earth Array, there indeed existed deadly dangers.

Although the dangers within the Earth Array were far less than those of the Heaven Array, but...

even for a martial artist at the Innate Peak Realm, if careless, one could still potentially die inside.

“Jing Yan, come out quickly!” Mu Liantian silently urged in his mind.

On the high platform, Shang Qu and the directors of the Outer Courts of the Three Major Academies were still arguing non-stop, trying to attract as many martial artists who had captured the Silver Token for their academies as possible.

At this time, not many people were paying attention to Jing Yan anymore.

That was true, almost everyone did not believe Jing Yan could pass through the Earth Array.

If Jing Yan did not die inside the Earth Array, once time was up, the formation would automatically transport him out.

“Whoosh!”

Just at that moment, at the exit of the Earth Array, a green figure suddenly appeared.

The appearance of the green figure immediately drew the attention of everyone present.

All the martial artists present were continuously watching the exit of the Earth Array, and every martial artist who emerged from the Earth Array exit would elicit a sound of amazement, followed by soft murmurs discussing the background of the martial artist who had passed through the Earth Array, and from which family they hailed.

Eventually, there would be a chorus of flattering congratulations.

But this time was obviously different.

Because the martial artist who appeared at the exit of the Earth Array was not a descendant of a major family from Lanqu County City, but the Jing Yan from the small city of Donglin City.

“How is it him?”

“Jing Yan!”

“Donglin City’s Jing Yan, the one who had a Sealing Order issued by the Three Major Academies.”

“How is this possible!”

I remember, when he was passing through the Human Formation yesterday, it was very forced, and he only just managed to snatch the copper token at the last moment.

How could he have passed through the Earth Array?”

Many people could not accept it.

Originally, they did not even know Jing Yan, but because he had a Sealing Order issued by the Three Major Academies, they came to know of him and began paying attention to him.

Jing Yan barely made it through the Human Formation yesterday, how could he possibly get through the Earth Array?

The difficulty of the Earth Array is much higher than the Human Formation, even for martial artists at Late Innate Stage, it's difficult to pass through, how could Jing Yan manage it?

Seeing Jing Yan's figure appear, Mu Liantian slightly revealed a smile.

“This kid!” Mu Liantian muttered to himself.

His daughter, Mu Yunfei had said that Jing Yan possessed the combat power of a martial artist at the Innate Peak Realm.

With such strength, as long as he was a bit cautious, passing through the Earth Array shouldn't be too difficult.

And yet, Jing Yan had again only just passed in the nick of time, Mu Liantian believed that this was probably deliberate by Jing Yan, timing his exit from the Earth Array precisely.

Just like yesterday when he was passing through the Human Formation.

Mu Liantian did not know why Jing Yan chose to do this, but, it was also an unimportant matter.

As long as he passed within the allotted time, it was acceptable.

At that time, Shang Qu, the director of the Outer Court of Divine Wind Academy, was stunned.

He widened his eyes as he looked at Jing Yan at the exit of the Earth Array.

Earlier, he had said that Jing Yan's strength had probably regressed, and now Jing Yan had actually passed the Earth Array.

Then, the words he had uttered were like slapping his own face.

After being shocked, Shang Qu's expression darkened once more.

He felt that the gazes of the people around him looking at him seemed to carry a mocking tone, which made him even more irate.

“This Jing Yan, he’s quite strong!” Shu Ling, the director of the Outer Court of Dao Yi Academy, said softly, and Liu Mei also slightly frowned.

The strength of Jing Yan had somewhat exceeded her expectations.

Although before, Deacon Qing Mo had said that Jing Yan possessed the strength of an Innate Peak Realm martial artist, she somewhat felt that there was some exaggeration in those words.

Now, having seen it with her own eyes, she fully believed that Jing Yan indeed possessed the strength of the Innate Peak Realm.

If she had known earlier that Jing Yan was so formidable, then perhaps, she should not have issued a Sealing Order against him.

Jing Yan having passed through the Earth Array and obtained the Silver Token was remarkable, and such martial artists were rare; each examination session of the Three Major Academies, an academy could only recruit five to six martial artists who had won the Silver Token.

Any martial artist who had won the Silver Token was worth the academy’s significant cultivation!

Qing Mo sighed softly, he did not say anything.

He had known of Jing Yan's strength long ago and had advised Director Shu Ling not to issue a Sealing Order, but now that the Sealing Order had been issued, it was too late to say anything.

Once a Sealing Order was issued, it would not be easily withdrawn, even if Jing Yan had won the Silver Token, the Sealing Order would still be effective, and the Three Major Academies would not allow Jing Yan to enter their academies to cultivate.

And Huang Luo, the director of the Outer Court of Red Lotus Academy, similarly felt some regret.

Why regret?

Jing Yan was young!

Other martial artists who had passed through the Earth Array, the youngest of them were over twenty years old.

Jing Yan, however, had not yet reached twenty years, which highlighted Jing Yan's talent and strength.

Such a martial artist was an extremely rare genius, and from the standpoint of Red Lotus Academy, Huang Luo naturally hoped Jing Yan could enter Red Lotus Academy to cultivate.

Huang Luo shook his head; he didn't say anything.

Even if he regretted it, he couldn't admit it, as it would affect his own dignity.

Since he had issued the Sealing Order, even if it was a mistake, he had to persist with it.

Near the exit of the Earth Array, Jing Yan exchanged his copper token for a silver token with the Armored Guards.

With a smile, Jing Yan put away the silver token.

Then, his gaze turned to the high platform and met the eyes of Shang Qu and others.

"Little beast!" Shang Qu muttered under his breath, grinding his teeth, "What if you got the silver token?"

You still can't join the Three Major Academies!"

Shang Qu was infuriated!

It was all this kid's fault for snatching the silver token, damn it!

“Who are you?”

“Where did you come from?”

Jing Yan suddenly heard a stern voice nearby.

He turned to look and saw a man dressed in a silver robe.

This man had quite a handsome face, but his eyes were sinister, giving him a somewhat eerie appearance.

“And what about you?” Jing Yan knew he was the one being asked.

However, the man’s tone was very poor, filled with interrogation, which made Jing Yan uncomfortable, so his response was not polite either.

“Hmph, I am Wen Yuan of the Wen Family!” the man in the silver robe, Wen Yuan, declared proudly, “I have never seen you; you must not be a martial artist from Lanqu County City to have snatched a silver token!”

“Hehe, there are many people you haven’t seen,” Jing Yan said with a cold heart upon hearing the name Wen Yuan.

He held no good feelings towards the Wen Family or its members.

“Hm?” Wen Yuan frowned, his gaze growing even colder.

“Kid, don’t think that just because you got a silver token, you are strong.

You are nothing in my eyes.

I’m merely curious about your identity.

Getting a silver token just makes you garbage!” Wen Yan said with a tone of scorn.

Everyone who had come out from the Earth Array and obtained a silver token, he recognized.

They were all members of the large families of the Lanqu County City, which was within his expectations.

But Jing Yan’s sudden appearance annoyed him greatly.

“I never thought I was very strong, so don’t make such claims.

But honestly, even if I'm not very strong, I am certainly much stronger than you," Jing Yan scoffed.

"Kid, are you seeking death!" Wen Yuan didn't expect Jing Yan to be so arrogant and to talk back to him directly, anger boiling inside him as a hint of murderous intent was released.

"Wen Yuan, is it?"

Little guy, don't try to show off in front of me.

If you have the guts, let's meet tomorrow," Jing Yan said, turning his eyes quickly.

"Meet tomorrow?" Wen Yuan was slightly stunned, not immediately understanding Jing Yan's implications.

"Yes, meet tomorrow!"

Tomorrow, I will challenge the Sky Crossing Array.

If you have the guts, let's do it together.

Let's see who is really the garbage," Jing Yan said with a smile looking at Wen Yuan.

Wen Yuan's pupils sharply constricted!

Challenge the Sky Crossing Array?

He had never thought about challenging the Sky Crossing Array before.

The Sky Crossing Array was too difficult; in recent decades, no one had succeeded in crossing it.

Failing in the Sky Crossing Array cost the chance to enter the Three Major Academies, but more than that, the probability of death was very high.

Before the current assessments of the Three Major Academies, the mortality rate for martial artists who entered the Sky Crossing Array reached about half.

This meant that for every two people who entered the Sky Crossing Array, one would die.

Those martial artists daring to enter the Sky Crossing Array were not simple, all having great confidence in themselves.

Without such confidence, it was impossible to even consider challenging the Sky Crossing Array.

To have the ability to protect oneself within the Sky Crossing Array required strength at the Peak of Innate.

And generally, even Peak Innate Martial Artists found it difficult to pass through the Sky Crossing Array.

Only the top Peak Innate Martial Artists could possibly obtain a Golden Order by passing the Sky Crossing Array.

And every time a Golden Order was obtained, it was a significant event that shook Lanqu County City.

On average, it took about fifty years for a martial artist to snatch a Golden Order.

Wen Yuan looked at Jing Yan, speechless for a moment.

This kid, planning to challenge the Sky Crossing Array?

Was he serious about this or merely provoking him with his words?

“Swish swish swish!”

On a square at the side of the Earth Array, several figures appeared.

The time for challenging the Earth Array had come, and these martial artists had all failed to pass and were automatically teleported out.

Out of two hundred and four people who entered the Earth Array, only seventeen, including Jing Yan, had succeeded.

This means that less than one in ten who attempted the Earth Array successfully obtained a silver token.

Those daring to enter the Earth Array were among the best of the best.

Even so, less than ten percent managed to pass.

“This round of the Earth Array challenge is over!”

“Alas, it seems that four martial artists have died in the Earth Array.

Later, we will retrieve the bodies of the martial artists who died in the Array,” Mu Liantian said with a sigh.

Out of two hundred and four martial artists who entered, only seventeen passed successfully, and only one hundred and eighty-three were teleported out due to the end of the allotted time.

Thus, four martial artists had died in the Earth Array.

## The Sword God of the Universe

Chapter 275: Chapter 275: It Seems No One is Attempting the Heaven Array Anymore Chapter 275: Chapter 275: It Seems No One is Attempting the Heaven Array Anymore Juhua Restaurant, Jing Yan's room.

“Chief Mu?” Jing Yan opened the door and saw Mu Liantian outside.

He exclaimed in a low voice.

“Let's talk inside!” Mu Liantian entered Jing Yan's room directly.

Just two hours earlier, Jing Yan had left the Prince Manor and returned to the Juhua Restaurant.

He truly hadn't expected that Mu Liantian would come to see him in person.

“Jing Yan, I already know about the Sealing Order from the Three Major Academies against you.

You hold a deep grudge against Divine Wind Academy, don’t you?” Mu Liantian looked at Jing Yan.

“Chief Mu, it’s not that I hold a grudge against Divine Wind Academy, but that they’ve gone too far!

When they banished me from the academy, it was indeed because my strength fell and my realm declined.

I admit to that, and I didn’t blame fate or others.

But this time, during the academies’ assessment, choosing which academy to join is my freedom, right?

Yet Shang Qu, because I was unwilling to choose Divine Wind Academy, lost his temper and imposed a Sealing Order on me!

Ha, does he even deserve to be the director of the Outer Court of Divine Wind Academy?” Jing Yan scoffed.

“Mm, I’ve looked into this matter.

It really wasn't your fault.

So, Jing Yan, which academy do you wish to enter?

Is it Dao Yi or Red Lotus?" Mu Liantian asked, nodding his head.

"When I was in Donglin City, I promised Dao Yi Academy's Deacon Qing Mo that I would give priority to choosing Dao Yi Academy," Jing Yan replied.

"If that's the case...

once the assessment is over, I'll go see the Dean of Dao Yi Academy." Mu Liantian thought for a moment and said, "I have some connections with the Dean of Dao Yi Academy.

If he speaks on your behalf, you can join Dao Yi Academy.

Besides, your own strength is strong enough to have seized the Silver Token.

I suppose all three academies must now regret issuing that Sealing Order against you."

He was referring not to the director of the Outer Court of Dao Yi, but to the Chief Master.

The most powerful person within Dao Yi Academy!

“Chief Mu, that’s unnecessary!” Jing Yan shook his head.

He knew Mu Liantian meant well, but he had already decided to challenge the Sky Crossing Array and seize the Gold Seizing Order.

If he succeeded, the Sealing Order from the Three Major Academies would naturally become invalid, and there would be no need for Mu Liantian’s intervention.

“Oh?”

Does that mean you no longer wish to join any of the Three Major Academies?” Mu Liantian asked, puzzled.

“No!”

“I want the Gold Seizing Order!” Jing Yan declared emphatically.

“What?”

“The Gold Seizing Order?”

“Jing Yan, don’t act on impulse!” Mu Liantian’s expression changed upon hearing these words.

“I’ve thought it through carefully.

Tomorrow, I will challenge the Sky Crossing Array.

If I fail, then I won’t join any of the Three Major Academies this time,” Jing Yan said with a smile.

“Jing Yan, I know you’re very strong.

I’ve heard from Yunfei that you have the strength to oppose Innate Peak Martial Artists.

But, you may not be aware of the dangers of the Sky Crossing Array.

Over the years, many martial artists who died in the Sky Crossing Array were of the Innate Peak Realm, including some of the top-tier Innate Peak warriors,” Mu Liantian quickly said.

Jing Yan's brows furrowed slightly.

It seemed the Sky Crossing Array was even more difficult than he had imagined.

Jing Yan hesitated only briefly before his gaze became resolute again.

True heart!

If one were to shrink back due to difficulties, that would contradict the spirit of Martial Arts.

Since he had already made a decision, he could not change it lightly.

"It seems you won't change your mind," Mu Liantian noted, looking into Jing Yan's eyes, then he added, "Jing Yan, be careful.

Once you enter the Sky Crossing Array, if you find yourself outmatched, stay where you are and wait; when the time is up, you can be teleported out.

The Sky Crossing Array, like the Earth Array and Human Formation, becomes increasingly dangerous the farther you go." Mu Liantian gave his advice after a moment's thought.

"I understand.

Thank you, Chief Mu,” Jing Yan expressed his gratitude to Mu Liantian.

The next day, in the square of Prince Manor.

On this day, the number of martial artists entering Prince Manor for the assessment of the Three Major Academies was quite small.

Out of the seventeen martial artists who had obtained the Silver Token the day before, only fourteen showed up at Prince Manor today.

The martial artists who had been eliminated in the Earth Array assessment or who hadn't challenged the Earth Array were not qualified to enter Prince Manor today.

Those martial artists who came for the assessments were fewer today, but there were slightly more people on the high platform than in the previous two days.

Mu Liantian, who was in charge of overseeing the assessment, arrived earlier than usual that day.

“Today, to challenge the Sky Crossing Array, is anyone interested?” Mu Liantian stood at the front of the high platform, looking at the scattered dozen or so martial artists below, and asked.

“The peril of the Sky Crossing Array is something I think I needn't restate.

If you want to challenge the Sky Crossing Array, you must think it over carefully, as it involves your very life,” Mu Liantian continued.

“Now, those who have decided to challenge the Sky Crossing Array, step forward!” Mu Liantian gestured with a light wave of his right arm.

“Elder Cai, will Cai Yang challenge the Sky Crossing Array?” the Wen Family Elder asked the participating elder.

“I’m not sure; I asked Cai Yang yesterday, but he hadn’t decided for himself,” the Cai Family Elder shook his head and said, “Personally, I hope he doesn’t challenge it.

The Sky Crossing Array is too dangerous.

Cai Yang is one of the most outstanding members of our Cai Family’s younger generation, so I certainly don’t want him to take the risk.”

“Yes, Elder Cai has a point; that’s what I think as well,” the Lu Family Elder chimed in.

“Yes, the Sky Crossing Array is too difficult.

In the last thirty years, no one has been able to get through it,” Yuan Family Elder sighed.

“To get through the Sky Crossing Array, one needs strength close to the Dao Spirit Realm,” the Wen Family Elder said, shaking his head, “My family’s Wen Yuan definitely won’t challenge it.

Although he’s already close to the Peak of Innate, he’s miles away from the Dao Spirit Realm.

Entering the Sky Crossing Array could very likely be a one-way ticket.”

“Yes, indeed!”

“Getting the Silver Token is already quite an accomplishment; as for the Gold Seizing Order, better not to bother,” the elders from several families said in agreement.

“Gentlemen, if even the disciples of your Great Families won’t challenge the Sky Crossing Array, it looks like no one will attempt it in this session of assessments either,” the Outer Court Director of Divine Wind Academy, Shang Qu, added with a smile.

His mention that no one would challenge the Sky Crossing Array had its reasons.

In the last session of the Three Major Academies’ assessment, the one Jing Yan participated in, no one had challenged the Sky Crossing Array either.

That was the nature of challenging the Sky Crossing Array: sometimes, for several consecutive sessions, people would challenge, and sometimes, none would for just as many.

Sometimes there's only one challenger per session, and sometimes there could be four or five.

It's hard to say.

Shang Qu was in a good mood that day.

After the end of the previous day's assessment, he had personally contacted several martial artists who had obtained the Silver Token, hoping they would join Divine Wind Academy.

These martial artists had also expressed their willingness to join Divine Wind Academy.

Shang Qu felt that out of the sixteen martial artists who obtained the Silver Token, at least six, possibly even seven, would join Divine Wind Academy.

As for Jing Yan, he was outright ignored.

Jing Yan had already been banned, so he did not count.

# Chapter 276 - 276 276 Entering the Heaven Array

Chapter 276: Chapter 276: Entering the Heaven Array Chapter 276: Chapter 276: Entering the Heaven Array “Warriors who wish to challenge the Heaven Array, step forward!

You have ten breaths to think this over!” Mu Liantian scanned the warriors below, including Jing Yan and about ten others.

Ten breaths!

If no one stepped forward to challenge the Heaven Array after ten breaths, this year’s examination of the Three Major Academies would end like the last, with no one challenging the Heaven Array.

In the square, Wen Yuan from the Wen Family glared at Jing Yan with fierce eyes.

Yesterday, Jing Yan had declared his intention to challenge the Heaven Array and even provoked Wen Yuan to do the same.

At that time, Wen Yuan hadn’t responded; he hadn’t dared to.

Now, thinking back, he felt deeply ashamed that he, a much younger warrior, had managed to intimidate him.

He actually hadn't dared to respond on the spot.

Damn it, Wen Yuan, a genius among the youth of the Wen Family in Lanqu County City, had his face swept to the ground yesterday; it was like a sharp knife stabbing into his chest, making it hard for him to breathe.

Hatred boiled and rumbled within him.

Especially now, when he saw Jing Yan showing no intention of challenging the Heaven Array, it became even more unbearable.

"Kid, didn't you want to challenge the Heaven Array?"

"What?"

Are you just full of hot air?

Who was it that said they wanted to challenge the Heaven Array yesterday?

Why are you backing out now?

Why aren't you moving?" Wen Yuan's gloomy gaze fixed on Jing Yan.

"Oh?" Jing Yan looked at Wen Yuan.

"You coward, showing up again?" Jing Yan sneered.

"It seems you mean to challenge the Heaven Array, right?"

"You little brat, don't change the subject.

After the Earth Array ended yesterday, didn't you say you wanted to challenge the Heaven Array yourself?" Wen Yuan said through gritted teeth.

"Yes!

I did say that, and I admit it.

But I also seem to recall saying, if you have the guts, join me in challenging the Heaven Array.

Now, do you want to be a man with guts or remain a gutless loser?" Jing Yan scoffed.

"You..." Wen Yuan's eyes blazed.

"Kid, are you trying to say those who don't dare to challenge the Heaven Array are all gutless losers?"

Heh, your words not only insult us, but you are including yourself as well!" Wen Yuan took a deep breath as he glanced at the other warriors around.

"You gutless loser, I can't be bothered to argue with you." Jing Yan smirked.

Immediately after, Jing Yan stepped forward, walking toward the position of the Heaven Array.

Wen Yuan stared in astonishment, his mouth agape as he watched Jing Yan walk away.

Originally, he thought Jing Yan wouldn't dare challenge the Heaven Array, but now Jing Yan had moved.

He stood frozen in place, looking utterly foolish.

Ultimately, he still didn't dare to step out, his fear of death holding him back.

“Hmm?”

“What?”

“Could it be, he wants to challenge the Heaven Array?”

The gazes of Wen Yuan and the others landed on Jing Yan, their expressions changing dramatically.

Atop the high platform, Shang Qu and others, who were casually chatting and laughing, abruptly went silent when Jing Yan stepped forward, as if something forcefully cut off their conversation.

What is this kid trying to do?

“Jing Yan of Donglin City, greetings, Lord Chief!” After stepping out, Jing Yan bowed to Mu Liantian, “I wish to challenge the Heaven Array for the Gold Seizing Order!”

Jing Yan’s voice echoed throughout the arena.

Everyone’s expression subtly changed.

Eyes converged on Jing Yan; they all knew about the Sealing Order issued by the Three Major Academies against him.

Even though Jing Yan had already obtained the Silver Token, he was still banned from training in the academies.

So, was Jing Yan's current action a way to defy the Sealing Order from the Three Major Academies?

"Jing Yan, have you thought this through?" Mu Liantian asked, looking at Jing Yan.

Yesterday inside Juhua Restaurant, Mu Liantian had met Jing Yan and knew of his resolve.

His question here was not actually for Jing Yan to reconsider but rather a customary final confirmation.

"Yes!" Jing Yan slightly bowed as he spoke.

"Good!" Mu Liantian nodded slightly and looked at the other ten-plus warriors.

"Three breaths left!

Does anyone else wish to challenge the Heaven Array?"

As soon as Mu Liantian's words fell, another figure stepped out from the crowd, dressed in a white robe.

He walked out and finally stood beside Jing Yan.

“Lanqu County City, Wu Shen, challenging the Heaven Array for the Gold Seizing Order!” The man in the white robe bowed to Mu Liantian, his words clear.

Wu Shen, a descendant of the Wu Family from Lanqu County City!

Wu Family, also a Great Family of Lanqu County City, although the current Wu Family could hardly compare to the Four Great Families, was similar to the Chen Family by nature.

Even historically speaking, the Wu Family had a longer history than the Chen Family.

The Wu Family has been a family for over a thousand years.

The Wu Family was a family with profound heritage!

And on the high platform, there was also an elder from the Wu Family.

When Wu Shen said he wanted to challenge the Heaven Array, the Wu Family elder showed no surprise at all.

Clearly, he had long known that his Wu Shen from the Wu Family intended to take on the Heaven Array.

“Wu Shen, have you thought it through?” Mu Liantian asked.

“I have thought it through,” Wu Shen nodded.

Mu Liantian also nodded.

“The time has come, now, the Heaven Array is activated.”

“Jing Yan!

Wu Shen!

The two of you can enter the array now!

Remember, safety first, there are numerous dangers within the Heaven Array, you must be extremely careful.

You have three hours to pass through the Heaven Array.

After the time is up, if you haven't passed through, you will be transported out," Mu Liantian said slowly in a deep voice.

"Whoosh!"

Above the Heaven Array, ten black entrances appeared.

At that moment, Jing Yan and Wu Shen exchanged a glance, and Wu Shen gave a smile.

"Jing Yan, I don't want you to think of me as a useless waste.

So, I'm going to challenge the Heaven Array.

Hehe, if I die in the Heaven Array, remember, you're also responsible.

Alright, I'm going ahead!" Wu Shen said with a smile to Jing Yan, not waiting for Jing Yan's response; he lifted his foot and darted into the entrance of the Heaven Array, disappearing in an instant.

Jing Yan slightly shook his head.

This Wu Shen was indeed indifferent.

After shaking his head, Jing Yan didn't delay any longer, slightly activated his Primordial Energy, and like lightning, entered into the entrance of the Heaven Array.

In this session's test of the Three Major Academies, two people challenged the Heaven Array, one Jing Yan and one Wu Shen.

Jing Yan was a martial artist from the small city of Donglin City, and Wu Shen was a young member of the Wu Family, a Great Family of Lanqu County City.

The Four Great Families of Lanqu County City had no young members challenging the Heaven Array.

The elders of the Four Great Families, on the high platform, each showed different expressions, but one thing was the same; they obviously felt disgraced.

The progeny of their Four Great Families should have been the leaders, yet now, Jing Yan and Wu Shen had stolen the spotlight that should have belonged to the Four Great Families.

“The director of Dao Yi Academy, it seems that Jing Yan holds a great grudge against the Sealing Order of the Three Major Academies, so he chose to express his dissatisfaction by challenging the Heaven Array,” the Wen Family elder said with a dry laugh to Shang Qu.

He only mentioned Jing Yan, not Wu Shen.

Although Wu Shen was not a progeny of the Four Great Families, he was still a member of a Great Family of Lanqu County City, unlike Jing Yan who dared to steal the spotlight from his Wen Family.

Thus, the words of the Wen Family elder seemed harmless on the surface, but the tone was quite meaningful.

“Fool, his death would be no loss!” Shang Qu sneered, “Now it seems that the Three Major Academies’ decision to issue a Sealing Order against him was absolutely correct.

He thinks by challenging the Heaven Array, he can be remembered and be seen as someone very brave.

Actually, it’s a very foolish act.

Doesn’t he know the dangers within the Heaven Array?

Does he possess the strength to survive in the Heaven Array?

Knowing he would die, yet still going, it's simply foolishness!"

Shang Qu had already sentenced Jing Yan to death.

Even if Jing Yan possessed the combat power of a Late-stage Innate Martial Artist, surviving in the Heaven Array was nearly impossible.

Even martial artists at the Peak of Innate might not survive, let alone a martial artist with the combat power of Late-stage Innate.

"The director of Dao Yi Academy makes sense, Jing Yan is not even twenty years old this year, he has plenty of opportunities in the future.

He could still join the Three Major Academies later!

But instead, he chose a path of no return; too reckless!

Dying in the Heaven Array, it's his own choice!" Huang Luo, the Outer Court Director of the Red Lotus Academy also shook his head.

Among the directors of the Three Major Academies, only Shu Ling remained silent.

She felt somewhat regretful for Jing Yan!

Although she thought that what Shang Qu said was somewhat harsh, she had to admit that what he said was the truth.

Even if Jing Yan had the combat power of a Late-stage Innate Martial Artist, he would have a hard time surviving in the Heaven Array.

Shu Ling thought that Jing Yan was undoubtedly a genius martial artist.

Such a martial artist dying in the Heaven Array was indeed a pity.

If it hadn't been for the Sealing Order issued on the first day, Shu Ling would have hoped that Jing Yan could join the Dao Yi Academy.

Moreover, Jing Yan indeed intended to join the Dao Yi Academy.

“Hopefully...

he can survive,” Shu Ling sighed silently in her heart.

“Elder Wu, has Wu Shen reached the Peak Innate Realm?” Shang Qu’s gaze turned to the Wu Family Elder, asking.

Yesterday, Shang Qu had made contact with Wu Shen, hoping Wu Shen would join the Divine Wind Academy.

However, Wu Shen had not made any commitment in person.

“Wu Shen indeed possesses the cultivation of Peak Innate,” the Wu Family elder glanced at Shang Qu and said with a smile,

Wu Shen was the most outstanding young martial artist in the Wu Family in the past several decades.

“Impressive!” Shang Qu courteously complimented, “Elder Wu, it seems Wu Shen has a chance to seize the Gold Order!”

It has been thirty years since any martial artist has managed to seize a Gold Order.

Hehe, Wu Shen indeed has a great chance.

Elder Wu, I hope Wu Shen can join my Divine Wind Academy, regardless of whether he can seize the Gold Order or not.”

“Director Shang Qu, I can’t decide for Wu Shen; after he comes out of the Heaven Array, you’ll still have to ask for his opinion,” the Wu Family elder said with a smile.

“Hehe,” Shang Qu chuckled dryly a few times.

## Chapter 277 - 277 277 Murderous Intent

Chapter 277: Chapter 277 Murderous Intent Chapter 277: Chapter 277 Murderous Intent Within the formation, Jing Yan’s face suddenly changed.

A terrifying force, as if tangible, crazily crushed everything in its path.

That reckless power, within the space, formed terrifyingly intricate and fine patterns.

Jing Yan also spurred the Primordial Energy within the Fog Vortex inside his body in an instant.

Upon entering the Heaven Array, Jing Yan had come prepared; he knew the difficulty of the Heaven Array and its danger.

Jing Yan also understood that with his current strength, he definitely could not claim that he would surely pass through the Heaven Array.

His combat power could be said to be top-notch even among the Innate Peak Martial Artists.

Even so, Jing Yan did not dare say he would definitely pass through the Heaven Array.

He was mentally prepared for this.

Yet, when he entered the Heaven Array and felt the terrifying force within this space, he couldn't control the drastic change in his complexion.

This was still just upon entering the Heaven Array; if he continued deeper, the pressure he would face would obviously be fiercer.

“Heaven Array!

Heaven Array!

Truly extraordinary!” Jing Yan couldn't help but exclaim in his heart.

“Huff!” He exhaled deeply.

As Jing Yan spurred the Primordial Energy within and countered the pressing Mysterious Energy in the passageway, he felt much more relaxed.

The Primordial Energy and the Mysterious Energy inside the passageway continuously crushed against each other, emitting a 'sizzling' sound.

Under this forceful crushing and tearing, the spatial patterns became even clearer.

The black patterns, like a spider web, spread around Jing Yan's body.

In order to save Primordial Energy, Jing Yan intentionally controlled the burst of Primordial Energy, only keeping the Mysterious Energy at a safe distance.

If Jing Yan wildly spurred the Primordial Energy within the Fog Vortex, he could push the Mysterious Energy even further away, but that would consume his Primordial Energy much faster.

That was one reason!

Another reason Jing Yan did not want to completely push away the Mysterious Energy was because he wanted to absorb it to strengthen himself.

Inside the Human Formation and Earth Array, Jing Yan had already absorbed a lot of the Mysterious Energy present within the formations, which continuously strengthened the Primordial Energy inside his Fog Vortex.

Inside this Heaven Array, the Mysterious Energy was even more vast and majestic, making it naturally easier to absorb and more effective.

Under Jing Yan's deliberate control, he manipulated the Primordial Energy to slightly expose a small gap, allowing a small amount of Mysterious Energy to enter.

Afterwards, he operated Sky Vaulting First Divine Skill to absorb this Mysterious Energy and convert it for his own use.

While doing all this, Jing Yan also slowly walked forward.

He aimed to obtain the Golden Order and naturally could not remain in place.

The time limit for the Heaven Array was three hours, during which Jing Yan had to do everything he could to pass through the Heaven Array.

“Whoosh!”  
A chill suddenly appeared.

Immediately, cold light burst forth, and icy killing intent enveloped Jing Yan.

Jing Yan's whole body slightly shook as the Skyfire Sword was drawn in an instant, Primordial Energy exploded forth, and he swept out a Red Sword Light in front of him.

The Red Sword Light, containing powerful might, dragged a vast afterimage within the space.

Within that afterimage, a grey shadow appeared in Jing Yan's sight.

Jing Yan's heart chilled!

He knew that the bone-chilling killing intent from before was brought by this black shadow.

Jing Yan focused his gaze, wanting to see more clearly, but the black shadow seemed intangible, with Jing Yan only able to perceive a vague outline.

The shadow seemed to be holding a black scimitar.

The terrifying cold light just then should have come from this black scimitar.

"Crack!" The black shadow swung the scimitar in its hand, and a black ripple appeared, tearing Jing Yan's Red Sword Light apart.

“How powerful!” Jing Yan’s heart shook slightly, and at the same time, he released his five senses to their limits.

“Zing!” The black shadow paused slightly in front of him, then quickly closed in on Jing Yan, the scimitar in its hand bursting out with terrifying might, intending to tear Jing Yan’s body apart.

“Moon Cutting Sword Technique!” Jing Yan dared not be careless and thrust forth the Moon Cutting Sword Technique in response.

The thick Red Sword Light stirred up the Mysterious Energy within the space.

The black scimitar in the shadow’s hand collided harshly with the Red Sword Light.

“Puff!” A muted sound rang out.

The black shadow, within the powerful force vortex, retreated rapidly, withdrawing from about three or four meters away from Jing Yan to ten meters away.

But Jing Yan felt no relief.

Currently, his most powerful attack was the Holy Light Sword Technique, but even the might of the Moon Cutting Sword Technique, in Jing Yan’s hands, was still extremely formidable.

The fact that the Moon Cutting Sword Technique could only force the black shadow to retreat, without causing substantial damage, worried him.

“What in the world is this thing?” Jing Yan’s eyes stared intently at the black shadow.

At that moment, the black shadow moved again with ferocity, lunging towards Jing Yan.

“New Moon Cutting Sword Technique!” Jing Yan employed another Martial Arts technique.

Up to this point, Jing Yan had only delved a hundred meters into the passage.

There was still a long way to go, and encountering such an obstacle here meant Jing Yan certainly could not lightly use his strongest attack methods— who knew what else might be waiting for him ahead?

Regardless of what the black shadow actually was, one thing Jing Yan was sure of was that it was incredibly dangerous.

Once allowed to approach, Jing Yan would face a mortal threat, as the speed of the black shadow was exceedingly fast.

“Puff!” The black shadow retreated once more.

In the blink of an eye, the black shadow lunged back again.

“Eh?” Jing Yan’s gaze slightly condensed, and the corner of his mouth twitched.

With his five senses fully unleashed and his perception extremely sharp, he noticed that although the black shadow seemed undamaged, its breath seemed to have weakened somewhat.

His eyes flashed, and to validate his guess, Jing Yan continuously executed attacks with the Skyfire Sword, filling the entire passageway with Red Sword Light.

The Sword Light filled the space, energy burst forth!

Meanwhile, the black shadow kept retreating, its aura growing weaker and weaker.

“So that’s how it is!”

“Although I cannot directly kill it, this thing contains energy that must have a certain limit and is not infinite.

By continuously attacking, I can drain its energy and gradually weaken it,” Jing Yan silently nodded to himself.

After more than ten breaths, the black shadow finally dissipated.

The passageway returned to calm.

Jing Yan released a sigh of relief and looked at the ground ahead; there was no body left behind, “The black shadow is indeed not a tangible life form but rather an Energy Body, containing a certain amount of energy.

My current strength is not sufficient to directly annihilate this mass of energy, but I can slowly dismantle it with continuous attacks.”

## The Sword God of the Universe

Chapter 278: Chapter 278 Breakthrough in the Formation Chapter 278: Chapter 278 Breakthrough in the Formation “He!

He!

He!”

Inside the Sky Crossing Array pathway, Jing Yan took deep breaths, his blue robe completely soaked with sweat!

Difficult!

So difficult!

Extremely dangerous!

Since entering the Sky Crossing Array, more than one hour, nearing two hours, had passed.

During this time, Jing Yan had encountered four black shadows.

Just a few breaths ago, Jing Yan had just defeated the fourth black shadow.

The energy contained within these black shadows was not the same.

The second black shadow was stronger than the first one.

The third black shadow surpassed the second, and the fourth black shadow was much stronger than the third.

The further he went, the stronger the black shadows he encountered.

When Jing Yan fought the fourth black shadow, there were two or three perilous moments where, if not for relying on the “Sky Wings” movement technique martial arts, Jing Yan likely would’ve been seriously injured or even killed.

Although these black shadows attacked in simple ways, their speed was terrifyingly fast, making them hard to guard against.

He glanced ahead.

Jing Yan’s eyebrows furrowed together.

“What should I do?”

“At this rate, it’s simply impossible to get through the Sky Crossing Array!”

Jing Yan felt somewhat helpless.

The pathway of the Sky Array should be the same length as the pathways of the Human Array and Earth Array.

If calculated by the length of the Human and Earth Arrays’ pathways, then the distance he currently covered was likely just over one-third of the total pathway.

And the time limit of three hours was already over halfway used up.

The remaining journey, less than two-thirds of the way, would definitely contain more than one or two black shadows.

Even if these black shadows possessed the same level of strength as the fourth black shadow, Jing Yan had no chance of passing through the Sky Crossing Array.

Not to mention, based on the current situation, the black shadows ahead would undoubtedly be even stronger than the previous ones.

“Could it be truly impossible to obtain the Golden Order?” Jing Yan, unwilling to accept this!

He gazed into the dark pathway ahead.

His palm flipped upwards, a Guiyuan Pill appeared and was then placed into his mouth.

Defeating the black shadows caused Jing Yan’s primordial energy to be greatly depleted, and within the Sky Crossing Array, it was impossible to sit down and use a top-grade spirit stone to recover primordial energy, which contained much more energy than the Guiyuan Pill but he didn’t have time to use it; thus, he could only rely on the Guiyuan Pill to replenish his energy.

“Give it your all!” Jing Yan stepped forward.

Battling the black shadows had its benefits too; Jing Yan's Holy Light Sword Technique had received significant refinement, and its power was continuously growing stronger.

Thus, even if there was little hope of passing through the Sky Crossing Array, Jing Yan would still not stop; he intended to keep moving forward.

With a little over an hour left, maybe he could get through half of the Sky Crossing Array pathway and engage in battle with one or two more black shadows.

A slight smile slowly emerged on the corners of Jing Yan's mouth, his eyes brightening.

Do what one can and leave the rest to fate!

At this moment, Jing Yan felt a sudden clarity in his heart.

Securing the Golden Order was a result!

Results were important, but the process was equally significant.

Even if he ultimately couldn't secure the Golden Order, at least the journey itself was a gain!

Go as far as possible.

“Whoosh!”

A black shadow flashed!

This was the fifth black shadow Jing Yan had encountered!

The black shadow moved as fast as lightning; in an instant, it was beside Jing Yan.

The black curved blade in its hand, carrying a terrifying killing intent, slashed towards Jing Yan’s waist.

The cold killing intent was bone-chilling, as if even the surrounding temperature had dropped significantly.

“Sky Wings!”

In an instant, Jing Yan activated Sky Wings and flashed, moving seven or eight meters away.

When Jing Yan activated Sky Wings, his speed was almost comparable to a Dao Spirit Realm strongman's flight through the air.

“Holy Light Swordsmanship!”

After flashing seven or eight meters away, Jing Yan didn't hesitate; he turned and sent a sword light slashing towards the black shadow.

“Get out of my way!” Jing Yan shouted.

He was clearly aware that with his current strength, quickly defeating the black shadow was simply impossible.

He could only continue attacking, gradually draining the energy contained within the black shadows.

It was a process that needed to advance step by step, and hurriedness was of no help.

“Boom!” The black shadow's curved blade swung, leaving behind a black scar that collided with the black sword light released from Jing Yan's Skyfire Sword.

After this collision, the black shadow's form only retreated by about three or four meters.

“As expected, its strength is stronger!” Jing Yan’s pupils constricted.

When Jing Yan had previously encountered the fourth black shadow, he could repel it by about seven or eight meters with a full-force strike, but now, a full-force strike only pushed the black shadow back by three to four meters.

Defeating the black shadow in front of him was even more difficult than defeating the fourth one.

“Whoosh!” The black shadow flashed again, closing in on Jing Yan.

“Sky Wings!” Jing Yan immediately activated the Sky Wings.

Without the Sky Wings, with Jing Yan’s current strength, fighting the black shadow would have been even more difficult.

Now, Jing Yan understood why many martial artists at the Peak of Innate Realm died in this Sky Crossing Array.

He possessed combat power at the peak of the Innate Realm and had the Sky Wings movement technique.

Facing these black shadows was so difficult, let alone for those martial artists who did not possess the Sky Wings movement technique.

Indeed, only the top Peak Innate martial artists, those close to the Dao Spirit Realm, could possibly get through this array.

It was quite normal that no martial artist had claimed the Golden Order in dozens of years!

“Bang!”

“Boom boom boom!”

“Crack...”

Jing Yan and the black shadow constantly interchanged positions, with red sword light and black blade marks intertwining in the space.

Thirty minutes later, the aura of the black shadow began to weaken.

Once the aura of the black shadow weakened, the fight became much easier.

After all, Jing Yan could still maintain peak combat power, while the weakening aura of the black shadow meant that each attack could erode more of the energy contained in the black shadows.

Another hour passed, and the fifth black shadow finally completely dissipated.

Battling the fifth black shadow, Jing Yan had spent a full hour before completely defeating it.

Calculating the time, Jing Yan had been in the Sky Crossing Array for over two hours.

There was less than an hour left before he would be transported out of the array, and his attempt to pass the Array would end in failure.

“Just over half an hour left!”

“I should be able to defeat another black shadow, right?” After swallowing two Guiyuan Pills, Jing Yan’s eyes flashed, and he nodded slightly.

He lifted his foot and continued to walk forward.

Now, Jing Yan was approximately halfway through the entire array.

If his calculations were correct, there should be ten black shadows within this array, and Jing Yan had now defeated five.

There were five more waiting ahead of him.

And the five black shadows ahead were clearly much more frightening than the first five.

By this time, Jing Yan also knew he no longer had a chance to succeed in passing the array.

However, surviving within the array shouldn't be a problem.

After all, Jing Yan possessed the Sky Wings movement technique.

Although the speed of the black shadows was nearly unsolvable for other martial artists, it posed a relatively smaller threat to Jing Yan.

As long as Jing Yan didn't exhaust his Primordial Energy and was able to use the Sky Wings, it wouldn't be easy for the black shadows to kill him.

After defeating the sixth black shadow, the time would be about up, and he would be transported out of the array.

“Ha ha...”

“Failure, what does it matter?” Jing Yan laughed heartily, and his footsteps suddenly quickened.

Primordial Energy churned out from within the Fog Vortex, and the mysterious energy in the array was suddenly forced back several meters.

However, Jing Yan was still cultivating the Sky Vaulting First Divine Skill, absorbing these mysterious energies.

Even if he ultimately failed, Jing Yan had gained a lot.

Not only had he absorbed a significant amount of mysterious energy to enhance his cultivation, but he had also refined the Holy Light Sword Technique.

The power of the Holy Light Sword Technique continued to increase, and the compatibility of the integrated New Moon Cutting Sword Technique also kept improving.

Free-spirited and unrestrained!

At this moment, Jing Yan’s entire spirit reached a nearly transcendental, extraordinary state.

“Buzz!”

Suddenly, Jing Yan's body slightly vibrated, and the Primordial Energy within the Fog Vortex boiled like crazy, swirling fiercely.

"Hmm?" Jing Yan's eyes changed, and he hurriedly stopped, checking the change in the Fog Vortex.

"This...This is..." Jing Yan inspected his Fog Vortex with astonishment.

He discovered that his abdominal Fog Vortex was showing signs of transformation.

No!

It was not just showing signs of transformation, it was already transforming.

What did this represent?

This represented that Jing Yan's realm was about to break through!

"How could this be?" Jing Yan inspected his Fog Vortex, equally astonished; he had never expected to begin advancing in realm under these circumstances.

Jing Yan's cultivation had already reached the limit of the Innate Middle Stage before coming to Lanqu County City.

During the month or so in Lanqu County City, because he was unsure of the specific date of the assessment, Jing Yan had not tried advancing his realm.

His original plan was to wait until the assessment was over, join the Dao Yi Academy, and then try to advance.

But now, his Fog Vortex had naturally begun transforming without any active control.

"Could it be because I absorbed the mysterious energy within the array?" Jing Yan furrowed his brows.

It seemed this was the only explanation.

Jing Yan had absorbed some mysterious energy within the Human Formation.

In the Earth Array, he absorbed some mysterious energy.

In this Sky Array, he absorbed even more mysterious energy.

“Splutter!” Jing Yan quickly gathered his thoughts and sat down cross-legged, closing his eyes and cultivating the Sky Vaulting First Divine Skill.

## The Sword God of the Universe

Chapter 279: Chapter 279: Overwhelming Chapter 279: Chapter 279: Overwhelming Breaking through from the Innate Middle Stage to the Late Innate Stage was not that simple.

If it were easy, Jing Yan would have attempted to break through long ago!

There are no small number of martial artists who get stuck at the Innate Middle Stage and are unable to break through for their entire lives!

Jing Yan hadn't expected that he would undergo a transformation within the Heaven Array and self-initiate the transition of the Fog Vortex.

Therefore, at this moment he had no second option but to commit all his efforts, sprinting towards the Late Innate Realm.

“Hiss hiss...” The Primordial Energy within the Fog Vortex surged wildly, like waves in a storm.

Amid this tumult, the total amount of Primordial Energy in the Fog Vortex was also rapidly being depleted.

The transformation of the Fog Vortex required the consumption of a vast amount of Primordial Energy, so any martial artist, when breaking through, would make thorough preparations, keeping an ample supply of resources close at hand.

Feeling the swift depletion of Primordial Energy in the Fog Vortex, Jing Yan did not hesitate.

He first stuffed a handful of second-class Guiyuan Pills into his mouth, then took out a Top-grade Spirit Stone, activated the Sky Vaulting First Divine Skill, and absorbed the Primordial Energy contained within the Top-grade Spirit Stone.

“Boom!” The roiling Primordial Energy burst forth from within the Top-grade Spirit Stone, being drawn into Jing Yan’s body.

Speaking of which, Jing Yan really had to thank the Chen Family for the gift of one hundred Top-grade Spirit Stones, for without those hundred Top-grade Spirit Stones, Jing Yan truly would have had no other Top-grade Spirit Stones available for use.

At this moment, without Top-grade Spirit Stones, the situation would have been dire, potentially resulting in a failed breakthrough.

Although the Guiyuan Pills are also good for replenishing Primordial Energy, the amount of energy they contain is indeed far less than that of the Top-grade Spirit Stones.

“Activate the Soul Crystal!” Jing Yan’s mind stirred slightly.

When he had broken through from the Early Innate Stage to the Middle Stage, Jing Yan used a High-level Soul Crystal, which he had obtained from a rank-eight spiritual beast.

At the time of that breakthrough, he absorbed part of the Soul Crystal's energy, but the majority of it was confined within his body by the Sky Vaulting First Divine Skill, and he did not continue absorbing it.

A High-level Soul Crystal contains an extremely terrifying amount of energy, so when Jing Yan advanced from the Early Innate to the Middle Stage, he had only consumed about one-third of a High-level Soul Crystal.

The remaining energy was still within his body.

Now as his realm was breaking through once more, and the Fog Vortex was undergoing another transformation, it was the perfect time to trigger the remaining energy of the Soul Crystal.

The energy of the Soul Crystal was activated, and Jing Yan's Fog Vortex was instantly saturated with Primordial Energy.

His Martial Arts Meridians were also exceedingly full.

A few dozen breaths later, a scorching sensation came from his Martial Arts Meridians.

Jing Yan swiftly consumed an Azure Abyss Elixir to neutralize the intense and pure energy from the Soul Crystal.

Time gradually passed.

Under the control of the Sky Vaulting First Divine Skill, Jing Yan's realm was being improved in an orderly manner, and everything was going relatively smoothly.

After just over thirty minutes,

The Soul Crystal's energy was completely exhausted, more than sixty Top-grade Spirit Stones were consumed, and about twenty second-class Guiyuan Pills were used up!

A tremendous consumption!

"Whoosh!" Jing Yan, with his eyes open, had a brilliant gleam in his eyes and Divine Light rippling.

His entire demeanor had undergone a kind of transformation.

"Hu!" Jing Yan exhaled a long breath of turbid air from his chest.

"I've reached the Late Innate Stage!" Jing Yan murmured to himself.

His Fog Vortex had successfully transformed.

His realm had broken through from the Middle to the Late Stage.

And this entire process had taken just a little over thirty minutes.

Of course, although Jing Yan's realm was now at the Late Innate Stage, it was not yet stable.

Under normal circumstances, Jing Yan would certainly need more time to stabilize the realm he had just ascended to.

But at this moment, Jing Yan didn't have much time.

He was inside the Sky Crossing Array.

Checking the time, there should be just over thirty minutes left for him to pass through the Heaven Array.

"Let's continue through the Sky Crossing Array first!" With a flicker in his gaze, Jing Yan's aura converged, and a smile appeared on his face.

“Having advanced to the Late Innate Stage, my strength should have increased quite a bit!”

“Let’s try those black figures again!” After gathering the remaining dozen or so Top-grade Spirit Stones from the ground, Jing Yan hurried forward.

Although the breakthrough of his realm had consumed a terrifying amount of resources, for Jing Yan, as long as he could break through a realm, no amount of resource consumption was a problem.

He was a Pill Master; earning resources was much simpler for him than for ordinary martial artists.

If he ran out of resources, he could always earn more.

...

Prince Manor’s Plaza!

“Is it almost time?”

“Indeed, we have around thirty minutes left!”

In thirty minutes, it will end.

This time, the assessments for the Three Major Academies will also be fully completed.”

“I wonder what the situation is now with Jing Yan and Wu Shen who entered the Sky Crossing Array!”

“Hard to say, they might both be dead, or one could be dead, or they might both be dead.”

“Isn’t that stating the obvious?”

The people on the high platform were somewhat bored, idly chatting among themselves.

Sitting here for three hours was, indeed, a rather tedious affair.

However, almost no one chose to leave.

They all knew that it was almost impossible for Jing Yan and Wu Shen to pass the Heaven Array and seize the Golden Order.

They had all but decided on the final result.

Yet, until the Heaven Array session ended, they were not going to leave.

Because they wanted to see the final outcome with their own eyes.

If Jing Yan and Wu Shen had not been transported out after the three hours were up, then both men would have died within the Heaven Array.

“Elder Wu, the time is almost up, and Wu Shen has not come out of the Heaven Array yet.

Do you think Wu Shen can really seize the Golden Order?”

The Wen Family Elder asked, looking toward the Wu Family Elder.

The people around the Wen Family Elder also directed their gazes at the Wu Family Elder.

Many of them had meaningful looks in their eyes, especially the elders of the Four Great Families, who were obviously eager to see Wu Shen die in the Heaven Array.

After all, none of the disciples from their Four Great Families had attempted the Heaven Array, while Wu Shen of the Wu Family had chosen to brave it.

Although the Wu Family was an old, established family from Lanqu County City with profound heritage, Wu Shen showing off in front of the people from the Four Great Families would definitely be displeasing to them.

Elder Wu gave the Wen Family Elder a cold look and sneered without saying anything.

“Ha ha, Elder Wu seems to have a lot of confidence in Wu Shen.

Everyone, let’s just wait and see if Wu Shen can seize the Golden Order and if he can survive!” The Wen Family Elder, not getting a response from Elder Wu, flashed a keen light in his eyes and laughed with a mocking tone.

“It would be great if he survives at all!

Thinking about seizing the Golden Order?

Heh heh...” someone scoffed.

“Wu Shen is a martial artist at the Peak Innate Realm, there’s a good chance he will survive in the Heaven Array!

Elder Wu, you must urge Wu Shen to join our Red Lotus Academy!” Huang Luo, the Outer Court Director of Red Lotus Academy, said to Elder Wu with a smile.

“Wu Shen belongs to our Divine Wind Academy, Huang Luo, save your breath!” Shang Qu gave Huang Luo a glance and snorted.

“Director Shang Qu, that’s not quite right.

Wu Shen has not yet joined the Divine Wind Academy.

Perhaps he would prefer to join our Dao Yi Academy?” Shu Ling interjected.

If Wu Shen could survive the Heaven Array, no matter whether he could seize the Golden Order or not, the Three Major Academies would certainly do their utmost to recruit him.

It was not easy to survive inside the Heaven Array.

Entering and surviving in the Heaven Array was already enough to prove a martial artist’s strength and potential.

If Jing Yan could survive the Heaven Array, then the directors of the outer courts of the Three Major Academies would probably regret issuing the Sealing Order against Jing Yan even more.

However, at this moment, the directors of the outer courts of the Three Major Academies clearly did not believe Jing Yan could survive the Heaven Array.

Even with the strength of a Late-stage Innate Martial Artist, the chances of surviving the Heaven Array were slim.

In their eyes, Jing Yan was considered dead the moment he entered the Heaven Array.

While a martial artist at the Peak Innate Realm might stand a chance of survival in the Heaven Array, a martial artist at the Late Innate Realm had almost no chance – less than one in ten.

Not to mention that Jing Yan was reputed to have Late Innate combat power; his realm had not reached Late Innate and was likely only at Early Innate.

In fact, not only did the directors of the outer courts from the Three Major Academies think Jing Yan was dead, but most of the people here probably also thought Jing Yan had died in the Heaven Array.

...

Inside the Heaven Array!

“Boom!” Red Sword Light swept across, the overwhelming power carrying a black silhouette with it, directly flung away.

This was Jing Yan facing the sixth black silhouette.

This sixth black silhouette was much stronger than the fifth one.

Still, Jing Yan dispatched the black figure with a casual strike, using only his New Moon Cutting Sword Technique and not even needing his strongest move, the Holy Light Sword Technique.

“Ha ha...

my strength has increased several times over.

My realm is still not stable, but once it is, my strength will increase even more,” Jing Yan thought happily.

As his thoughts turned, Jing Yan struck with another sword, landing it on the body of the black silhouette.

After two strikes, the black silhouette’s aura had clearly weakened a lot.

“Another strike!” Jing Yan smiled slightly, sending out the third sword.

When the Red Sword Light swept over the black silhouette again, the sixth black silhouette completely dispersed, disappearing into the space.

Three strikes!

Jing Yan had completely defeated the sixth black silhouette with just three strikes, all in a few breaths' time.

“Thrilling!”

“Complete domination!”

“With my current strength, if I were to face the first five black silhouettes, except for the fifth one which might require two strikes, the first four could likely be instantly annihilated with a single sword!” Jing Yan chuckled.

Indeed, it was effortless domination!

From the appearance of the sixth black silhouette to its collapse, it didn't even have a chance to attack Jing Yan; three consecutive strikes vanquished it completely.

## Chapter 280 - 280 280 The Last Figure

Chapter 280: Chapter 280: The Last Figure Chapter 280: Chapter 280: The Last Figure Relaxed!

Exhilarating!

Previously, Jing Yan had exhausted the strength of “nine oxen and two tigers” before he finally defeated each of the black humanoids he encountered.

But now, it was a straightforward crushing victory with no suspense!

“Swoosh!”

“Swoosh!”

“Hehe, the seventh one has appeared, and its aura seems much stronger than the sixth!”

“Bring it on!”

“Slash!”

Slash!

Slash!” the sharp red sword light swept past.

“Oh?

It hasn’t dispersed yet?” After three slashes, Jing Yan saw that the black humanoid was still there and was still fiercely attacking.

“Die!” The fourth sword burst forth.

The seventh black humanoid, annihilated!

To defeat the sixth black humanoid, Jing Yan used three swords, whereas to defeat the seventh, he took a whole four swords!

Next, to defeat the eighth black humanoid, it took him a massive five swords to succeed!

“There should still be two black humanoids waiting behind,” Jing Yan said after defeating the eighth humanoid.

He paused for a moment, gazing ahead while also swallowing a Guiyuan Pill to restore the consumed primordial energy.

Although Jing Yan's strength now made it easy for him to crush the black humanoids, the consumption of primordial energy was not small.

Even though he hadn't used the strongest Holy Light Sword Technique yet, the continuous activation of the New Moon Cutting Sword Technique was still incredibly draining.

Jing Yan's primordial energy was remarkably robust, but he had only just broken through to the Late Innate Realm and hadn't even had time to stabilize his realm.

In fact, the primordial energy inside Jing Yan's Fog Vortex was still unstable.

When deploying it, Jing Yan had to deliberately control his energy, failing to achieve a smooth state.

Therefore, he required even more energy when annihilating the black humanoids!

Continuing to move forward!

The ninth black humanoid appeared!

“Hiss!”

“Bang!” The ninth black humanoid’s attack power had reached an extremely alarming level.

Even a standard Innate Peak Realm Martial Artist might be killed with a single blow.

After one exchange, Jing Yan roughly judged the strength of the ninth black humanoid.

Its strength was at least one and a half times greater than the eighth humanoid’s.

To contend with this ninth black humanoid, it would take the combat power of a top-tier Innate Peak Realm Martial Artist.

“Get lost!” The sword light swung by Jing Yan directly flung the black humanoid away.

However, the black humanoid flipped and turned in mid-air, and after flying out about ten meters, it once again lunged towards Jing Yan.

“Such speed!”

“It’s almost the speed of a Dao Spirit Realm practitioner, right?”

“Holy Light Sword Technique!” Jing Yan’s eyes sharpened, and with a slight twitch of his mouth, he unleashed the vast power of the Holy Light Sword Technique towards the ninth black humanoid.

“Be annihilated!” Jing Yan activated the Sky Vaulting First Divine Skill, going all-out.

Seven swords!

It took Jing Yan a full seven swords to finally defeat the ninth black humanoid.

“It’s really tough, isn’t it?”

Without exhausting the energy contained within these energy bodies, they simply cannot be killed.

If it were a human martial artist, I might only need three or four swords to slice them down,” Jing Yan shook his head, somewhat helplessly.

Dealing with these black humanoids, compared to human opponents, had its easier and harder aspects.

The easier aspect was that the black humanoids’ attack methods were simple, not as variable as humans’.

But the difficult part was that black humanoids didn't really sustain injuries unless their energy was exhausted; otherwise, they could maintain a fierce attack indefinitely.

"I need to speed up; there isn't much time left." Jing Yan took a deep breath and quickly rushed forward.

In this Heaven Array's first half, Jing Yan had delayed too much time.

He had spent close to four hours passing through the first half, and breaking through the realm had wasted another hour or so.

If there were more time, then Jing Yan could afford to face the situation more comfortably, but now, there was no time for rest.

The end of the three-hour period was almost upon him.

"Speed up!"

"Speed up again!"

Jing Yan directly activated the Sky Wings, speeding along the tunnel, while also calculating the remaining distance and time.

Although Jing Yan couldn't be entirely sure the length of this Heaven Array tunnel was the same as the previous Human Formation and Earth Array tunnels, based on the current indications, it seemed very likely.

“Spurt!” As Jing Yan was swiftly moving forward, a wave of energy suddenly emerged, aiming to pierce his chest.

“Swoosh!” With a slight flick to the side, Jing Yan evaded the energy wave.

At this moment, a figure appeared faintly visible ahead.

Jing Yan immediately heightened his senses to the maximum.

“Is this the tenth one?” Jing Yan stared at the faint figure.

The tenth figure was not black but semi-transparent.

In this dim tunnel, it was even harder to detect.

Jing Yan, with his keen senses, could easily spot the opponent.

But for a typical Innate Peak Martial Artist, accurately pinpointing the opponent's position would certainly be challenging.

“Die!” Jing Yan wasted no time, the Holy Light Sword Technique directly unleashed.

“Boom!”

“What?”

“Damn it!” A slight shock ran through Jing Yan's mind.

Jing Yan's Holy Light Sword Technique, his currently strongest offensive measure, only managed to push the tenth figure back by three steps.

“Crack!” After being pushed back three steps, the figure almost instantly launched another move towards Jing Yan.

“Did the attack method change?” Jing Yan's gaze sharpened.

The previous nine black humanoids all used close-range attacks; they would approach Jing Yan and attack him with their black crescent blades.

However, this tenth semi-transparent figure did not seem to intend to get close, standing from afar and slashing at Jing Yan.

The blade light condensed in space, forming a wave that swept towards Jing Yan.

Red Sword Light swung out, colliding with the blade light, both grinding against each other.

Moments later, the blade light was crushed, and the Red Sword Light continued to strike towards the semi-transparent figure.

“The attack intensity is about the same as the ninth black humanoid!” Jing Yan nodded slightly to himself.

“Saint Light Sword Technique!” Jing Yan continued to release Red Sword Light.

The semi-transparent figure continually endured the bombardment of the Red Sword Light, moving backward continuously.

During this retreat, the semi-transparent figure also launched counterattacks against Jing Yan.

After a brief exchange, Jing Yan was slightly relieved.

This semi-transparent figure was harder to detect, but in terms of attack strength, it was comparable to the ninth black humanoid.

However, the energy contained in this tenth black humanoid was clearly beyond what the ninth could match.

Attacking the ninth black humanoid, a sweep of his sword by Jing Yan could directly send it flying.

But this tenth semi-transparent figure only stepped back a few steps.

The energy contained within them was definitely not on the same level, and to annihilate this last figure would probably require more time.