

Swordsman 2531

Chapter 2531: Following You

Above a vast void in Dark Thunder Territory.

Although Jian Wushuang was slowly gliding forward his mind kept replaying the battle with the Infernal Heart Prefecture Governor.

‘Sword World. Now, that’s a real complete Sword World!’

The kind of stunning effects against sword principles and sword-based techniques not to forget the sword essences which filled every corner of Heaven and Earth...’

Jian Wushuang sank into deep thoughts and only got out from his stupor after a very long time.

Phew!

Jian Wushuang exhaled lightly with a faint smile on his face.

“The battle with the Infernal Heart Prefecture Governor was not victorious, but I had gained a whole lot through and through.”

Jian Wushuang muttered to himself, “The Governor is truly very powerful, but he can only easily suppress me due to his Sword World’s stunning effects. If I’m against other Peak Ultimate God who has opened his own World, my sword principles won’t suffer such suppression so long it was not a Sword World and I won’t end up in such a miserable state.”

A sword cultivator who formed his Sword World and one who did not were two different concepts.

Furthermore, a cultivator who had formed his Sword World would have a bigger shock and suppression impact against other sword cultivators.

If the opponent cultivated other principles such as blade principles, the effect would not be as apparent.

Jian Wushuang had truly suffered a lot under the Governor’s Sword World.

“I’ve now personally experienced his Sword World. Once I’ve formed my own Sword World and encounter the Infernal Heart Prefecture’s Governor again, it’ll no longer be such an easy win with both our Sword Worlds suppressing against each other.”

Jian Wushuang was really looking forward to forming his own Sword World.

However, he also knew forming a Sword World was not something he could do as he wished. Even for him, he would need time to gradually study and understand how it works.

Jian Wushuang met up with Xiao Tiexin half a day after he left the Central Region.

“Mr. Jian Yi, did you run into any troubles along the way?” Xiao Tiexin asked curiously.

“A little bit. I had a battle with the Luo Brothers and the Governor of Infernal Heart Prefecture,” said Jian Wushuang.

“The Luo Brothers? The Governor of Infernal Heart Prefecture?” Xiao Tiexin was shocked.

It was believable that he fought the Luo Brothers, but the Infernal Heart Prefecture Governor was considered the number one expert in the Eighteen Prefectures.

“What is the outcome?” Xiao Tiexin continued to ask.

“I suffered a small defeat, but they couldn’t force me to stay.” Jian Wushuang smiled and did not explain too much. “The remaining fifteen prefectures are frantically looking for me now, I don’t think I can stay in this territory anymore. Let’s go to Northern Darkstar Continent.”

“Mhm.” Xiao Tiexin nodded.

They immediately took off.

Jian Wushuang and Xiao Tiexin naturally sped up upon leaving the Central Region for their remaining journey as regular thieves could not pose any threats so long those Fifteen Prefecture experts did not come after them.

They arrived at the border of Dark Thunder Territory a month later.

“Let’s stop here,” said Jian Wushuang.

“Mr. Jian Yi?” Xiao Tiexin took a glance at Jian Wushuang and now knew what he intended to do.

Jian Wushuang had obtained a big amount of resources and treasures from destroying the Demonic Moon, Heaven Poison, and Underworld Prefectures. Close to 90,000 Primordial Stones to be exact.

During that whole time, Jian Wushuang did not have time to refine and absorb those Primordial Stones.

However, at that moment...

“As soon as we leave Dark Thunder Territory, we would be in the Northern Darkstar Continent. I should refine those Primordial Stones before entering the Northern Darkstar Continent. Even though it won’t allow me to make further breakthroughs, an increase of divine powers will still upgrade my abilities to an extent,” said Jian Wushuang.

He very soon found a quiet place, sat down cross-legged, and began refining those stones.

As for Xiao Tiexin, she was still assisting him as before.

There were only 6,000 Primordial Stones last time and Jian Wushuang needed only two days to finish refining them.

However, there were 90,000 pieces now and Jian Wushuang needed an entire month to refine all of them.

Jian Wushuang stood up and looked at those Primordial Stones which had turned into regular stone piles around him and exclaimed, “It only took a month to finish all ninety thousand of them, my absorption speed is beyond overly-luxurious.”

The 90,000 pieces of Primordial Stones were the three prefectures of Dark Thunder Territory’s accumulation and Jian Wushuang had just exhausted it like that.

If others knew about it, they would probably be dead envious.

Xiao Tiexin walked over at that moment.

Xiao Tiexin was shocked as well upon looking at those rocks on the ground. She then asked, “Mr. Jian Yi, since you have absorbed close to 90,000 Primordial Stones, does that mean your divine power is...”

Jian Wushuang laughed. “It’s not as simple as you think. These ninety thousand Primordial Stones may upgrade my divine powers by a lot, but there’s still a slight gap before I could make a breakthrough to the next cultivation level.”

“A slight gap?” Xiao Tiexin was shocked as those 90,000 Primordial Stones were the equivalent of unfathomable divine powers and yet Jian Wushuang still could not make a breakthrough to the next level?

“Just a little bit.” Jian Wushuang sighed as well.

His divine powers at that time could be considered at the very top of a First-Class Divine Demon and infinitely close to the Peak Divine Demon realm.

According to Jian Wushuang’s estimation, he would just have to refine another 20,000 to 30,000 Primordial Stones if he wished to make a breakthrough into the Peak Divine Demon realm.

That figure was not considered too big for him who had just refined 90,000 Primordial Stones. The problem was that he could not find so many Primordial Stones at this moment.

He had exhausted all of his Primordial Stones and there were only a huge number of resources and treasures left which he could not refine like Primordial Stones.

Although, Xiao Tiexin still possessed 6,000 pieces of Primordial Stones that were not remotely enough.

“Forget it, I’ll go to the North Darkstar Continent first and think of a way there,” mumbled Jian Wushuang before looking over at Xiao Tiexin. “Tiexin, where are you planning to go after leaving Dark Thunder Territory?”

“Nowhere, I’ll just follow you,” said Xiao Tiexin straightforwardly.

“Following me?” Jian Wushuang was shocked.

“I have a feeling I’ll gain some benefits if I’m with you,” said Xiao Tiexin.

“Oh, but why?” Jian Wushuang asked casually.

“I’m not sure, perhaps because of your terrifying abilities, talent, or advancement speed. I’ve never heard anyone refining Primordial Stones as recklessly as you do. If you could keep progressing in this manner, perhaps you would become a pinnacle existence within the Northern Darkstar Continent. In the end, you could even become...”

Xiao Tiexin suddenly paused with a peculiar look on her face.

Chapter 2532: North Darkstar Continent

“Are you trying to say I’ll threaten the Northern Darkstar Territory Lord and even find ways to eliminate him to take over his position in the end and help you with your revenge at the same time?” Jian Wushuang looked over at Xiao Tiexin.

“Yes.” Xiao Tiexin solemnly nodded and immediately knelt down. “Mr. Jian Yi, I’m willing to be your slave, servant, or concubine for the rest of my life without regrets if you could kill the Northern Dark Star Territorial Lord and avenge my family.”

“Please get up.” Jian Wushuang immediately helped her up as he could see through her eyes Xiao Tiexin’s deep grudge.

The grudge of her clan’s annihilation.

Her parents, relatives, and many siblings had died in the hands of the Northern Darkstar Territorial Lord.

It was an enormously mortal hatred.

Jian Wushuang frowned and said, “Tiexin, you’re actually very gifted and have an incredibly strong comprehensive mind. You’ll be able to take revenge yourself with your current progress on top of having good opportunities. There’s no need to become someone’s slave or concubine.”

Xiao Tiexin smiled wryly. “No, there’s something you do not understand, Mr. Jian Yi. I was the only one who escaped when my clan was destroyed. Although I survived, I had to perform my family’s unique secret technique during that battle to protect myself. The secret technique could radically and briefly raise my abilities at the cost of ruining my foundations.”

My potential has been exhausted with my damaged foundation. I’m really lucky to be able to become a Low-Level Ultimate God and will have an even slimmer hope of becoming a High-Level or Peak Ultimate God. It’s even more impossible for me to become an Earth Ultimate God. It was because of this that when the Northern Darkstar Territorial Lord found out I’m still alive, he didn’t care to send people after me as he knew that I don’t pose a threat to him.”

I’ll need to rely on other people’s help to seek revenge.”

“Is that so?” Jian Wushuang raised his eyebrows.

‘Her foundation is damaged and future potential exhausted?’

He clearly knew the importance of a foundation toward any cultivator.

That was fundamental for all cultivators. One’s foundation had to be sturdier and stronger the further one wanted to go. Otherwise, it would be very difficult to make a breakthrough in the future.

It was the precise reason that so many cultivators in Ancient God Domain permanently remained at their particular level and were unable to make a breakthrough anymore. They lost the possibilities for further breakthroughs once their potentials were completely exhausted.

In normal circumstances, not many people would do something that might damage their foundations unless under desperate situations.

Xiao Tiexin was forced to use her clan’s secret technique in order to survive the dire situation.

However, she also exhausted her potential due to that.

As a matter of fact, Jian Wushuang's method of directly ingesting divine powers to achieve cultivation breakthroughs could also affect one's foundation, but he was not afraid.

First of all, his understanding of principles, laws, and many other matters in addition to his mental maturity had reached the breakthrough stages. He only lacked divine powers. The impact and effect on his foundations due to external divine power refinement and ingestion was extremely little such that he need not have to worry about it

Secondly, he possessed a perfectly flawless foundation such that those tiny bits of effects were like ants shaking a huge tree—completely negligible.

Hence, Jian Wushuang could behave so recklessly.

“Tiexin, I’ll be honest with you. Even without you asking me, I’ll seek the Northern Darkstar Territorial Lord sooner or later. I’m not just interested in his position as Territorial Lord. More importantly, he possesses the Stately Painting treasure taken from the Xiao clan!” Jian Wushuang said with a deep voice.

“The Stately Painting? Mr. Jian Yi, are you also interested in it? Or do you mean...” Xiao Tiexin stared firmly at Jian Wushuang. She was quite shocked when Jian Wushuang mentioned the hidden information within the Stately Painting earlier. It was clear to her at that very moment Jian Wushuang had a strong yearning for the Stately Painting.

“I’m not only interested in it. I’m dead set on obtaining the painting as it was originally mine from the start!” Jian Wushuang said.

Xiao Tiexin began to slightly frown but soon relaxed.

All she wanted then was to seek revenge—to kill the Northern Darkstar Territorial Lord. She could care any lesser for the Stately Painting.

“Alright, do so if you wish to follow me. I don’t know much about the Northern Darkstar Continent after all and you can fill me in on that. However, you’d better disguise yourself before we go. Although the Territorial Lord didn’t deliberately send anyone to kill you if you appear as you are in the Northern Darkstar Continent right under his sight, I believe he’ll conveniently kill you off,” said Jian Wushuang.

“Aye, I’m prepared for that.”

Xiao Tiexin took out a veil and a hat while she was speaking. The moment she put them on, none could recognize her.

After that, both of them immediately left Dark Thunder Territory and headed toward Northern Darkstar Continent.

...

The Northern Darkstar Continent was the core of Northern Darkstar Territory, but it was not very vast. It was not even the size of a wilderness. However, experts who lived there were way above other regions of the Northern Darkstar Territory.

Jian Wushuang and Xiao Tiexin were already at Northern Darkstar Continent. Xiao Tiexin had told Jian Wushuang a lot of things about that place as they journeyed over.

Jian Wushuang carefully listened.

“The Northern Darkstar Continent is different from the wildernesses. Sects are almost non-existent in this continent. There are only various clans with varying ability levels.

“There were four top-tier clans in the continent among them, but since the Xiao clan had been eliminated, only three top-tier clans remained. The three clans are Wu, Shi, and Situ clans respectively. These three clans contained legacies accumulated over a million years or so. It goes to say their foundations and abilities—extremely stable and strong. Take the Xiao clan as an example...

“When we were at our prime, there were a total of four Peak Ultimate Gods and over twenty High-Level Ultimate Gods. As for Low-Level Ultimate Gods, we had over a hundred of them. Even so, we’re only ranked third among those great clans in the Northern Darkstar Continent.”

“Oh?” Jian Wushuang looked rather surprised.

Four Peak Ultimate Gods, over twenty High-Level Ultimate Gods, and more than a hundred Low-Level Ultimate Gods—that was an even stronger lineup than the combined forces of Dark Thunder Territory’s Eighteen Prefectures.

Even with that lineup it only ranked third?

Chapter 2533: Structure

“The Xiao clan was so strong during its prime and only ranked third, then which are the two clans more powerful than Xiao clan?” Jian Wushuang inquired.

“Wu and Shi clan with both clans a step ahead of the Xiao clan in terms of general abilities. Not to mention that both clans have their own Earth Ultimate God,” said Xiao Tiexin.

Jian Wushuang was truly shocked then. “What? You’re saying that these two clans both have an Earth Ultimate God?”

“They do indeed but their Earth Ultimate Gods don’t stay in the Northern Darkstar Continent. They went out very early on to wander. Not everyone is like the Territorial Lord who wants to control territories and become its overlord after all. Most experts choose to go wander and experience bigger places so that they could become stronger and travel further,” said Xiao Tiexin.

Jian Wushuang understood.

Humans truly aspire for higher pursuits in life.

When a cultivator reached a peak in certain territories, he would naturally expand his horizons and find bigger arenas to test his abilities.

Although Jian Wushuang was interested in the Territorial Lord position, his main goal was to obtain more Primordial Stones. He would definitely adventure to larger places as soon as he obtained sufficient Primordial Stones.

“Actually, not only the Wu and Shi clans. The Xiao and Situ clans have also produced Earth Ultimate Gods in the past. It’s exactly because there used to be Earth Ultimate Gods in their residence that these few clans were qualified to be labeled as a top-tier clan. Unfortunately, both Xiao and Situ clans lost their Earth Ultimate Gods when they died during their adventures outside,” said Xiao Tiexin.

Jian Wushuang nodded slightly.

He imagined an alternate reality where the Xiao clan’s resident Earth Ultimate God was still alive, the Territorial Lord might perhaps not dare touch the Xiao clan. Even though said Earth Ultimate God did not stay in the Northern Darkstar Continent as his opponent was also an Earth Ultimate God about the same level after all. Some consideration must be given before making any moves.

Unfortunately for them, the Xiao clan’s Earth Ultimate God had died, hence the Northern Darkstar Territorial Lord would naturally not be scrupulous.

“Other than top-tier clans are a lot of mid-tier and low-tier clans on the Northern Darkstar Continent!” Xiao Tiexin continued her explanation.

“Most mid-tier clans have Peak Ultimate Gods in residence, but the most they have are two at any time. Furthermore, the clans’ foundations aren’t too strong. Their general substantiality was a far cry from top-tier clans. Those mid-tier clans had to lower their heads when facing the Xiao clan at its prime. They won’t even have the nerve to cross us.”

Those low-tier clans are the bottom feeders who could have a standing on the Northern Darkstar Continent. Their abilities are still quite extraordinary despite being low-tier clans. They don’t have Peak Ultimate Gods in residence, but they do have quite a lot of High-Level Ultimate Gods and most importantly a very vast network. It’s one matter when they are in normal fights, but when facing life-and-death situations these low-tier clans will utilize their networks and foundations to actually form a rather strong allied force in a short time.”

Jian Wushuang finally understood.

The three clan levels on the Northern Darkstar Continent in terms of abilities might seem very far apart from each other. However, there were reasons that allowed them to have a foothold on the continent and should not be taken lightly.

“Of course, regardless of a clan’s abilities or sturdy foundations, the real overlord on the Northern Darkstar Continent will always be the Northern Darkstar Territorial Lord.” Xiao Tiexin’s expression turned frosty. “The Territorial Lord is an Earth Ultimate God. Furthermore, I hear he’s also extremely strong among Earth Ultimate Gods. There were only three people who tried challenging him since he became the Territorial Lord.”

“Challenge?” Jian Wushuang was paying more attention.

“Territorial Lords are the lord of a territory. It’s his abilities that gave him his position in the first place. Anyone who is confident about his own abilities could of course challenge the Territorial Lord. However, he would have to meet a lot of criteria before the challenge. The Territorial Lord is a noble position after all and not anyone could challenge him. As long as the criteria are met, one could challenge the Territorial Lord but he would need to be free to take up the challenge.”

Xiao Tiexin paused a little and continued, “Normally, as long as that person met the criteria and issued a challenge, the Territorial Lord will have to accept it within a millennium, but that also implies he would always wait for a thousand years before finally crossing hands with his challenger.”

However, this Territorial Lord has never dragged it out. He answers those challenges very soon so long someone issues him a challenge. There were only three people who met all criteria to challenge him since he became the Territorial Lord with those three people being Earth Ultimate Gods through and through. However, the results were...all three being defeated and two of them were killed by the Territorial Lord. The remaining survivor is severely injured.”

“Is he that powerful?” Jian Wushuang frowned.

He originally thought the Northern Darkstar Territorial Lord was merely a regular Earth Ultimate God but looked like it was not so.

Among those three Earth Ultimate God challengers, two died and one suffered serious injuries. It was proven the Territorial Lord’s abilities were extremely strong even among Earth Ultimate Gods.

“This Northern Darkstar Territorial Lord isn’t only powerful in terms of abilities. He also has an official army under his control. The Official Army—the most powerful and terrifying army in the Northern Darkstar Territory that only a Territorial Lord could control.” Xiao Tiexin looked solemn.

“The Official Army is ten thousand men strong with each battalion consisting of a thousand men. You have to understand that the weakest soldiers in the Official Army are Peak Divine Demons. In addition, sergeants leading the ten-men squads are at least Low-Level Ultimate Gods while leaders for the hundred-men platoons are at least High-Level Ultimate Gods. As for leaders of the thousand-men battalions are none other than Peak Ultimate Gods. In other words, just the Official Army itself will contain more than ten Peak Ultimate Gods, a hundred High-Level Ultimate Gods, and a thousand Low-Level Ultimate Gods!”

“Heavens!” Jian Wushuang showed a stunned expression.

When he was at Wusha Wilderness, even the most powerful sects only had four Ultimate Gods with the entire Wusha Wilderness having only approximately a dozen Ultimate Gods.

However, just the Northern Darkstar Territory’s Official Army had a thousand Ultimate Gods!

What would that mean?

“It’s exactly because of his strong abilities in addition to his control over the terrifying Official Army that the Northern Darkstar Territorial Lord could rule this territory with supreme authority. It’s one of the reasons many sects in the various wildernesses including many clans on the Northern Darkstar Continent under the Northern Darkstar Territory’s control would not dare disobey him and had to make Primordial Stone offerings every millennium with just a single order from him.”

Even the Wu and Shi clans who still have living Earth Ultimate Gods in residence had to make handsome offerings every thousand years to show their loyalties.”

Jian Wushuang thus completely understood the Northern Darkstar Continent power structure when Xiao Tiexin finished speaking.

Chapter 2534: A Special Gamble

“As a newcomer in the Northern Darkstar Continent, my first step is to find my footing followed by finding ways to obtain more Primordial Stones and upgrading my cultivation level and abilities. Once I have absolute confidence, only then will I plan on challenging the Northern Darkstar Territorial Lord.” Jian Wushuang squinted slightly and looked over at Xiao Tiexin.

“Tiexin, you’re familiar with this place. Do you know how I could obtain a large sum of Primordial Stones in a short time?” Jian Wushuang asked.

“The fastest way to obtain Primordial Stones is becoming a territorial lord. First and foremost, Mr. Jian Yi has great potential, but still quite a distance from being able to challenge the Territorial Lord,” said Xiao Tiexin.

Jian Wushuang rolled his eyes at Xiao Tiexin and signaled her to say something more useful.

“Other than becoming a Territorial Lord, you can also provoke the Northern Darkstar Continent clans as even the weakest clan would have huge savings, but as I’ve said before that those low-tier clans do have their strengths and especially their networks. If you’re planning on getting Primordial Stones by annihilating the clans individually as you did back in the Dark Thunder Territory, I’m afraid it’s not so easy,” said Xiao Tiexin.

Jian Wushuang shrugged.

He currently could not butt head-on against those clans due to his lack of abilities. Even if he did, he would not annihilate an entire clan with no good reason except for obtaining some Primordial Stones.

Those clans were different from the Dark Thunder Territory’s Eighteen Prefectures after all. The Prefectures were thieves, murderers, and smugglers, hence he was not bothered at all when killing them.

“If you don’t have the heart to deal with these clans, then the only place to get a large sum of Primordial Stones within a short time would be the Gladiatorial Arena—Gamble-Fight! I know of a very large gladiatorial arena in North Darkstar Continent owned by the Shi clan—one of the three top-tier clans. In the arena, participants could carry out gamble-fights. Furthermore, there is a special gamble-fights method in the arena which is the Blood Gladiator Challenge!” Xiao Tiexin solemnly said.

“Blood Gladiator Challenge, what’s that?” Jian Wushuang asked.

Xiao Tiexin smiled and explained, “Mr. Jian Yi, there would be a limit to bets placed in regular gamble-fights as you might know. It’s the same in the Shi clan’s arena. The upper limit is a thousand Primordial Stones at max. Therefore, if you want to obtain ten thousand Primordial Stones in one go, you would have to win ten consecutive gamble-fights. In addition, the arena’s management will lower the odds upon noticing your excessively strong abilities which will allow you to win with certainty. This will then make it even harder to obtain those ten thousand Primordial Stones.”

However, challenging Blood Gladiators is completely different as the bet’s upper limit which can be placed on a Blood Gladiator is five thousand Primordial Stones not to mention those bets could be constantly accumulated. For example, if you brought five thousand Primordial Stones to a gamble-fight and win a game, the next game’s bet will be ten thousand, and winning that game will yield you twenty

thousand which can then be accumulated for the next round and so on. This is the only way you could win many Primordial Stones in one go at the arena.”

However, the condition is that you must first win five consecutive games before you can stop when taking up the Blood Gladiators challenge. It’s without the need to mention that the arena will pick your opponents who won’t be too ridiculous as they will pick someone close to your standards. For example, the five opponents you’ll go against are going to be Primary-Level Ultimate Gods and there won’t be any High-Level Ultimate Gods appearing if Mr. Jian Yi is to challenge the Blood Gladiators.”

“Understood,” answered Jian Wushuang.

The bet’s upper limit could reach 5,000 Primordial Stones when taking up the Blood Gladiators challenge with his winnings being doubled at every round. However, he had to finish five games before he could leave. If he lost even one of the five games, not only would he lose all his bets, he might even lose his life.

“I’m afraid that the arena would pick my next opponents according to my performance in the five gamble-fights. They would probably send mighty similar level experts to defeat me and make it difficult for me to leave with the Primordial Stones I’ve won. Therefore, I’m afraid it won’t be so easy to win those five games,” said Jian Wushuang.

“Indeed. The Blood Gladiators challenge is not for just about anyone and neither could everyone hold themselves together for their five games. The Gladiator Arena won’t easily allow you to bring home your winnings, hence many tried challenging those Blood Gladiators and usually could only win two to three gamble-fights before losing their lives in the end,” said Xiao Tiexin.

“It’s no doubt that one’s risk is directly proportional to his final winnings. There have been several challengers who succeeded in the Blood Gladiators challenge. They not only won a huge amount of Primordial Stones but even became very famous in the end. As far as I know, there’s a Peak Ultimate God General in the Territorial Lord’s Official Army who succeeded in the arena’s Blood Gladiators challenge.

“Mr. Jian Yi, you’re a genius in every aspect and can already easily kill High-Level Ultimate Gods while being at the Primary-Level Ultimate God. You even managed to safely retreat when facing a Peak Ultimate God. Winning five games shouldn’t be a problem if you do indeed take up the arena’s Blood Gladiators challenge. As for Primordial Stones... your total winnings would be a hundred and sixty thousand pieces if you placed a bet of five thousand Primordial Stones followed by winning five consecutive games!”

Jian Wushuang felt tempted when he heard that.

He had reached the peak of First-Class Divine Demon and only needed 20,000 to 30,000 Primordial Stones before making a breakthrough to Peak Divine Demon. However, cultivating towards the Ultimate God realm would require even more Primordial Stones once he reached Peak Divine Demon.

160,000 Primordial Stones were not a small figure for Jian Wushuang.

The Blood Gladiator Challenge would most definitely be dangerous and difficult for most people, but it was probably nothing for Jian Wushuang.

“Tiexin, I’ve exhausted all my Primordial Stones obtained at Dark Thunder Territory. You still have six thousand pieces. Lend me five thousand and when I’ve completed the Blood Gladiators challenge, I’ll return you double the amount.” Jian Wushuang smiled.

“No problem.” Xiao Tiexin agreed without a second thought.

“In that case, lead the way,” said Jian Wushuang with a smile.

Jian Wushuang headed toward the Shi clan’s gigantic gladiatorial arena with Xiao Tiexin leading the way.

...

The Gladiatorial Arena was incredibly noisy.

There were probably a few hundred thousand people sitting tightly together in the audience seats with many of them hysterically shouting and roaring.

The noises could probably shake the Heavens.

In the arena’s center was a giant battlefield.

Two Peak Divine Demons giving their all and fighting violently on the battlefield as there could only be one survivor.

Chapter 2535: Gladiatorial Arena

“That’s pretty crazy,” exclaimed Jian Wushuang while he took in the battlefield’s sight.

“Those who dare come and gamble-fight at this arena are crazy,” said Xiao Tiexin.

Jian Wushuang nodded slightly and immediately recalled his past life’s younger days.

During that time, he obsessively upgraded his abilities and also went to the arena for deathmatch gamble-fights to obtain more cultivation elixir because of a woman humiliating him.

He was only a teen then and was lucky he won in the end.

He wanted to laugh as he recalled how naive he was during those days.

“Tiexin, I’ll register for the gamble-fight wait for me here,” said Jian Wushuang.

“Ok.” Xiao Tiexin nodded and seated herself.

Jian Wushuang went to the arena’s registrar with the usher’s guidance.

It was an empty field with several cultivators there other than Jian Wushuang. Most of them were waiting to go on with only a very few still lining up to register.

“That’s quite a lot of people.”

Jian Wushuang looked around at those people who were in the Divine Demon Realm with their levels ranging between Second-Class, First-Class, and Peak Divine Demons.

However, there were no Ultimate Gods there.

It was rather normal as Ultimate Gods were considered experts at Northern Darkstar. They would be placed in a rather high position regardless if they joined the Official Army or one of the continent's clans, hence erasing the need for them to be involved in such arena gambling fights.

Even if they did, they were gambling and fighting to gain experience or like Jian Wushuang who merely wished to earn a huge amount of Primordial Stone. However, there were not many such Ultimate Gods.

Jian Wushuang queued to register and it was his turn soon.

"Leave your name in the jade slip beside, show us your divine power aura and your bets before waiting here," spoke a black-robed old man sitting next to the desk slowly without even raising his head to look at Jian Wushuang. His only action was passing a jade slip toward Jian Wushuang.

Jian Wushuang took the jade slip but did not do anything.

The black-robed old man impatiently instructed, "Faster, there are still many waiting behind you."

"Well... I would like to challenge the Blood Gladiators," said Jian Wushuang plainly.

The old man immediately raised his head as soon as he said that.

Every cultivator in the field who was waiting for their turns also turned their gazes at Jian Wushuang.

The entire place fell silent.

"What did you just say?" asked the black-robed old man.

"I would like to challenge the Blood Gladiators. Is there a problem?" Jian Wushuang said.

"Oh no, no. You can of course. The Blood Gladiator Challenge rules are written there. You can of course make the challenge as long as you are confident, but I would like to ask for you to show your divine power aura." The black-robed old man's attitude toward Jian Wushuang became more polite.

The Blood Gladiator Challenge was the most unique gamble-fight way in the Gladiatorial Arena.

This kind of gamble-fight was incredibly cruel and unfair, but with amazingly huge rewards.

In normal circumstances, those who had the galls to challenge those Blood Gladiators were mostly very competent experts at their levels who were also very confident about themselves!

The black-robed old man surely did not dare treat them like everyone else toward such experts.

Jian Wushuang shook his body under the black stone's disguise as he projected his divine power aura outwards.

"Ultimate God?!"

Everyone around was once again shocked.

Why would an Ultimate God show up in a place for gamble-fights? Not to mention, he was challenging the incredibly merciless Blood Gladiators!

The black-robed old man inquired, "So you're an honorable Ultimate God. May I know what's your name and how much you would like to bet, sir?"

“My name is Jian Yi and isn’t the bet’s upper limit for the Blood Gladiator Challenge five thousand Primordial Stones? I’ll place that amount as the bet.”

Jian Wushuang took out an Interspatial Ring which contained 5,000 Primordial Stones within soon as he finished speaking.

“Five thousand Primordial Stones as the bet!” The old man was shocked.

Those surrounding people were also gasping in surprise.

5,000 Primordial Stones was a huge number even for an Ultimate God. At least, it was not something any Primary-Level Ultimate God could afford.

However, that Jian Yi wanted to place 5,000 Primordial Stones as his bet. It meant that the total Primordial Stones that he could potentially bring home from the arena would amount to 160,000 if he won all five games in the Blood Gladiator Challenge!

How large a number was 160,000 Primordial Stones?

Even a top-tier clan like the Shi clan who owned this gladiatorial arena would probably feel pain from losing such a big amount.

After taking a deep breath, the black-robed old man respectfully said, “Please wait for a little bit, sir. I’ll need to immediately inform our supervisor and we shall arrange a Blood Gladiator to be your opponent.”

“Very well.” Jian Wushuang nodded slightly.

The black-robed old man immediately entered the gladiatorial arena’s inner layer while ignoring the others who were waiting to register.

Jian Wushuang was not in a hurry and merely waited in the field quietly. The cultivators around him occasionally looked over toward him with awe and respect.

...

In a delicately built room at the gladiatorial arena’s inner layer...

“A Primary-Level Ultimate God wants to challenge a Blood Gladiator?”

An elegant lady who was wearing a snow-white fleece dress sat calmly in there as the black-robed old man stood respectfully before her.

“In a ten-year average, there isn’t even a person who would come to challenge. Moreover, those who come are usually some Divine Demons and now we have an Ultimate God? On top of that, he’s betting five thousand Primordial Stones. Looks like he’s pretty confident about himself. Interesting.” The elegant lady smiled faintly. “Oh yes, what’s his name?”

“His name is Jian Yi. I’ve checked with the clan’s intelligence department, but it seems like no one knows about this Jian Yi,” said the old man.

"If the clan's intelligence has no information about him, that means he's a newcomer in the Northern Darkstar Continent. An unknown expert in the continent who probably came from one of the wildernesses," muttered the elegant lady before instructing, "Go on and make the arrangements. Simply pick two opponents for him and test him out first."

"Aye." The black-robed old man bowed and left immediately.

On the battlefield located in the arena's center, one of the two fighters who were fighting had died and hence a winner had been decided.

The audience remained to be incredibly noisy even with the battle being over.

At that moment, a purple-clad middle-aged man who was the arena's host walked into the center of the battlefield.

Chapter 2536: Selecting Blood Gladiator

"Ladies and gentlemen!"

The purple-clad middle-aged man's voice resonated in the entire gladiatorial area with the help of his divine power and completely overpowered those noises from the crowd.

The arena quickly quieted down.

The purple-clad middle-aged man cleared his throat and said with a rather excited voice, "Dear guests, we have just been paid a visit by a certain Ultimate God called Sir Jian Yi. He placed a bet of five thousand Primordial Stones and wishes to challenge the arena's craziest and most unique Blood Gladiator!"

As soon as those words were spoken, the quiet arena was suddenly filled with waves of roars from the audience.

All the audiences in the arena stood up and shouted.

"Blood Gladiators, someone actually wants to challenge the Blood Gladiators!"

"This is so crazy! A supposedly respectable Ultimate God actually wants to challenge Blood Gladiators?"

The passion of more than a hundred thousand audiences in the arena had completely lit up.

"Is it starting soon?"

Xiao Tiexin casually sat in an audience's seat with a faint smile.

"Ladies and gentlemen, let's invite Mr. Jian Yi to enter the arena," said the purple-clad middle-aged man passionately.

As soon as his voice faded, Jian Wushuang moved with a quick sway and swiftly appeared in the middle of the battlefield after being led to one side of the arena.

His appearance caused the audiences' gazes locking on him. The more than a hundred thousand pairs of eyes stared right at him.

"He's that Jian Yi?"

"He seems very young!"

"Tsk tsk, such a handsome young man. I like..."

"Hmph, don't be deceived by his young look. He's a true Ultimate God expert. God knows how many years he has been cultivating. He could be an old monster."

"I hear he needs to win five consecutive games when challenging Blood Gladiators. Moreover, all of his opponents are selected by the arena making the chances of him succeeding very low unless he's an extremely terrifying genius who could fight against higher realm opponents."

"Indeed, I've been living in the Northern Darkstar Continent for so many years and heard quite a few Blood Gladiator Challenges. It's already very impressive if there's even a one-in-ten challenge that succeeded. Furthermore, the one who succeeded is only a Second-Class Divine Demon. It's exactly because of his low cultivation level which made it easier for him to challenge those of a higher realm. That's how he succeeded. However, this guy is an Ultimate God after all..."

"Hehe, five thousand Primordial Stones is the highest betting limit in this arena, that's a huge amount. If he succeeded in the challenge, doesn't that mean he'll bring home a hundred and sixty thousand Primordial Stones? How could this arena and its benefactor, the Shi clan let him get away with it? Look at him, he's definitely gonna die on the battlefield."

There were all sorts of discussions among the audiences.

Most people were not confident in Jian Wushuang.

It was not only because Jian Wushuang was currently an Ultimate God which made winning all five battles to be extra difficult. The most important matter was his placed bet was too large. The Shi clan whose behind this Gladiatorial Arena would find every way to kill or make him stay. Otherwise... 160,000 Primordial Stones were not a financial burden the Shi clan was willing to bear.

Xiao Tiexin was sitting in a corridor and sneering at all the argy-bargy around her.

"These people have no idea how terrifying Jian Yi's abilities are. He's someone who continuously topples three Dark Thunder Territory's prefectures and slaying High-Level Ultimate Gods by himself. Even though the Shi clan is one of Northern Darkstar Continent's top-tier clans, they would not be able to find another primary level Ultimate God who could withstand Mr. Jian Yi despite having controlling rights to everything!"

Xiao Tiexin was absolutely confident about Jian Wushuang.

That confidence came from her personally observing Jian Wushuang's abilities.

In the battlefield's center, the purple-clad middle-aged man spoke again, "Dear guests, let's welcome Mr. Jian Yi's first battle, His opponent is...Mr. Mo Xing!!!"

A muscular figure violently glided over and landed on the ground in the middle of the battlefield.

He was a two-meter-tall middle-aged burly man. The man's face was covered in a beard as his vicious aura radiated through the heavens like a fierce living beast. As he appeared, the ground under his feet cracked from being unable to bear his weight.

The audience once again broke into an uproar upon seeing him.

"It's Mo Xing, Sir Mo Xing!"

"Good god, this is only the first battle and they already sent Sir Mo Xing!"

"This Mo Xing has fought head-to-head with four Primary-Level Ultimate Gods in this arena previously and won all of them! He's definitely incredibly strong among the Primary-Level Ultimate Gods."

A lot of people began to pity Jian Wushuang.

His opponent was already so strong in the first round and they would only get stronger in the four forthcoming games.

"Let's not waste any more time. The first battle of the Blood Gladiator challenge will now begin!" The purple-clad middle-aged man announced before going away, leaving Jian Wushuang and Mo Xing on the battlefield.

The audience began to get agitated.

Numerous audiences began screaming with some calling Mo Xing's name while others called out Jian Yi.

On the battlefield, Jian Wushuang and Mo Xing stared at each other from a distance.

Mo Xing sneered, "Kid, you got some guts challenging the Blood Gladiators."

"Show me what you got." Jian Wushuang's expression was indifferent.

"Hmph!"

Mo Xing did not waste another word and swept out a horrifying vicious aura from his body. He already looked like a fierce beast and was even more beast-like when his figure turned into an exotic beast halfway through gliding toward Jian Wushuang and suddenly appeared right before and pounced at him.

His right hand turned into a claw equipped with sharp nails which reflected cold lights.

Slash!

The claw swung.

It produced a noise that made both of them shudder as though space was being slashed open.

The sharp claw went right through Jian Wushuang's body like a light beam but did not make contact with anything substantial.

"What?" Mo Xing was stunned and felt a cold aura immediately come from his side.

Mo Xing suddenly understood what was going on and instantly waved his claws to protect himself.

Clank! Clank! Clank!

Three clashing sounds were heard.

Mo Xing was being thrown off his feet with the first two clashes while the last clash caused by Jian Wushuang's sword hit against Mo Xing's body armor.

Mo Xing's face turned red with a trace of blood flowing out of his mouth as he was already standing on the battlefield's edge.

Chapter 2537: Three Consecutive Wins

He fearfully looked at Jian Wushuang before immediately bowing and respectfully said, "Thank you for holding back."

Jian Wushuang retracted his sword and did not say anything more.

Mo Xing immediately exited the battlefield.

Around the arena, the more than a hundred thousand audiences were dumbfounded by the spectacle.

An uproar like a surging tsunami followed suit after the audiences' momentary shock.

"It's a win! Jian Yi wins the first Blood Gladiator Challenge!"

"Winning is for sure, but I didn't foresee him winning so easily. If he didn't hold back on the last hit, Mo Xing will probably be dead by now."

"Amazing. This Jian Yi is truly amazing!"

Countless audiences were maniacally cheering for Jian Wushuang.

However, Jian Wushuang looked extremely calm while standing on the battlefield and waiting for his second opponent.

In the delicate room at the gladiatorial arena's inner layer, the elegant lady was scrutinizing every detail of the battle.

"This Jian Yi is fast and knows how to leave behind an apparition. He has made a breakthrough to the Space-time Law First Stage. In addition, his sword skills are extraordinary." The elegant lady squinted. "It's a shame that Mo Xing is too weak as he hasn't even reached Primary-Level Ultimate God, hence he couldn't force Jian Yi to show more of his abilities and tactics. For his next opponent, get him someone a little stronger who is at least peak of Primary-Level Ultimate God."

"Aye." The black-robed old man nodded respectfully and went off to make the arrangements.

Jian Wushuang's second Blood Gladiator Challenge soon began.

His second opponent was a short and skinny old man who seemed very weak, but his abilities were extraordinary and definitely at the peak of Primary-Level Ultimate God.

It was unlucky for him that his opponent was Jian Wushuang.

In that battle, Jian Wushuang again quite easily defeated his opponent by simultaneously forming three apparitions accompanied by his sword technique.

Jian Wushuang's third opponent was a red-haired young woman.

The young woman's weapon was a long whip and had reached the first stage in two laws alongside her extremely outstanding whip skills and secret techniques. Her general abilities were even a little stronger than Xiao Tiexin in Jian Wushuang's opinion.

Xiao Tiexin was someone who could simultaneously withstand three Ultimate Gods and still held the upper hand.

Hence, this red-haired young woman's ability was unimaginable, and enjoyed great fame not only within the Gladiatorial Arena but also the entire Northern Darkstar Continent.

In order not to reveal too much of his true abilities, Jian Wushuang did not unleash secret techniques in his battle, hidden his true understanding of Space-time Law, and suppressed his sword skills. As such, he needed to spend some effort before defeating the red-haired young woman.

Jian Wushuang won three consecutive battles!

The entire arena was already boiling.

In the delicate room, the elegant lady remained seated but her expressions showed a faint coldness.

"Hong Ying is considered extremely strong among the Primary-Level Ultimate Gods. She could still fight a good fight when facing regular High-Level Ultimate Gods but had also lost to him. It also seems like he's still holding back his true strength." The elegant lady slightly squinted.

In the Blood Gladiators challenge, one had to fight five challenges and Jian Wushuang had already won three of them.

Only two battles were remaining.

"Get Tu Ying," instructed the elegant lady.

"Aye." The black-robed old man nodded and immediately exited.

The black-robed old man soon brought in a devilish-looking black-robed young man and stood before the elegant lady.

"Tu Ying, did you see the previous battles just now?" The elegant lady looked below at him.

"Not for the first two games, but I saw his battle with Hong Ying. This Jian Yi is truly capable. Based on what he has displayed, I see that he's no weaker than me, plus I get a feeling that he's still holding out on us. I probably only have a forty percent winning chance in a head-on fight against him," said the black-robed devilish man called Tu Ying.

"Forty percent, huh?" The elegant lady's eyes turned frosty. "What about killing him?"

"If you want me to kill him, I have a seventy percent confidence," said Tu Ying.

Their conversation would sound strange if others heard it.

How could he have a 70% chance of killing Jian Wushuang while only having a 40% chance to win him in a head-on fight?

"You will take the next battle then, but remember that I don't want you to defeat him. I want you to kill him off." The elegant lady's voice was cold. "He has already won three of the five Blood Gladiator Challenges. It's time to finish it now while the crowd's emotions are still rather high."

"Understood." Tu Ying smiled devilishly before turning around and left.

Not long after, Tu Ying appeared in the battlefield's central area.

He came before Jian Wushuang.

The audience immediately recognized him as soon as he appeared.

"It's Sir Tu Ying!"

"Is Sir Tu Ying going to personally fight him?"

"Sir Tu Ying is the most powerful and prized Primary-Level Ultimate God fighter in this gladiatorial arena! I thought he'd only appear in the fifth battle, but now he's already appearing during the fourth."

"This Jian Yi is in big troubles."

The audiences were discussing.

Jian Wushuang looked extremely cold without showing any expressions as he took a glance at Tu Ying.

Tu Ying humbly and respectfully greeted Jian Wushuang, "Jian Yi, yes? I hope to exchange some pointers with you¹."

"Go ahead." Jian Wushuang did not waste any time.

"Please be careful then." Tu Ying gave him a friendly warning and vanished into thin air in a flash.

Whoosh!

A ghastly figure appeared next to Jian Wushuang along with layers of blade shadows concurrently formed from the cold battle blade headed directly toward Jian Wushuang.

Jian Wushuang remained still, but his Blood Mountain Sword was slightly raised and blocked the battle blade in front of him.

Tang!

The sound of metals clashing was heard as Tu Ying smiled devilishly and with a shattering noise~~~

Stern beams of blade-light exploded.

His continuous swinging created colorful blade-lights which left behind traces of a shiny blade river in the void.

'This guy's blade technique is pretty good.'

Jian Wushuang secretly exclaimed. The Seven Stars Secret Technique within his body was already activated. After that, his violently surging divine power enabled Jian Wushuang to easily block Tu Ying's blade.

At first glance, Jian Wushuang was only able to passively ward off Tu Ying's relentless attacks and kept retreating as though he was on the losing side.

Jian Wushuang's expression remained as calm as ever regardless of Tu Ying's fierce attacks.

"Is that your full capabilities?" Jian Wushuang looked at Tu Ying.

Tu Ying's abilities were slightly stronger than the red-haired young woman, Hong Ying who crossed-hands against Jian Wushuang a while ago, but there was still a limit regardless of how strong he was.

Chapter 2538: Murderous Intention

"Did he just completely ward off my saber?" Tu Ying looked surprised.

"That's enough." Jian Wushuang's eyes were cold. His body concurrently transformed into seven apparitions from not wanting to waste time mucking around with Tu Ying.

He was faster than before while his sword skills had also improved to be more seamless and flitting.

His strength was slightly revealed.

He instantly switched from defense to offense.

On the contrary, Tu Ying strenuously started madly warding off Jian Wushuang's sword attacks and barely able to hold on any longer.

'I'm going to lose.' Tu Ying was aware and tried to distance himself from Jian Wushuang when he could no longer resist those attacks.

"It's amazing you can concurrently produce so many apparitions. Your understanding of Space-time law is certainly quite high. Not to mention your outstanding swordsmanship," said Tu Ying admiringly.

"Thank you," said Jian Wushuang as he withdrew his Blood Mountain Sword.

Suddenly...

Boom!

Tu Ying's blood started boiling. He was gearing up to perform his most powerful secret technique.

His speed had increased by several folds in an instant, and he appeared in front of Jian Wushuang in a crazy forward dash. He held a saber in his hand which was shining with a cold light and he was aiming it at Jian Wushuang's head.

He was moving swiftly all of a sudden.

The spectators were convinced that Tu Ying had given up, but who would have thought that he would make a comeback shot.

He was acting so humble and polite before, but his face now turned distorted in scowls of rage.

His gaze became inhuman with strong desires to kill.

“Idiot, the rules clearly state that the battle is only over when one party leaves the Gladiatorial Arena. I was pretending earlier. Do you really think that I’ve really lost?” Tu Ying sneered.

He was the trump card among their Primary-Level Ultimate Gods after all.

He was chosen not only because he was extremely powerful, but also due to his cunning nature.

The secret technique he was using ramped up his powers not to mention he also had a killing blow which he spent a long time cultivating. He was convinced it would threaten a High-Level Ultimate God’s defenses and eventually kill them.

That was why when he told the elegant lady in the room that he only had a 40 percent chance of winning if he were to duel with Jian Wushuang, but was 70 percent sure he could kill Jian Wushuang.

It was indeed true that he was not Jian Wushuang’s opponent in a one-on-one fight.

Life-or-death battles in the Gladiatorial Arena did not limit their participants to winning via frontal fights only. All kinds of methods including sneak and poison attacks were also acceptable.

Tu Ying did not violate any rules of the Gladiatorial Arena.

“Go to hell!

“Don’t blame me! Blame yourself for being stupid and naive.”

Tu Ying grinned slyly. His blade was less than a foot away from Jian Wushuang’s head.

A large hand suddenly grabbed the saber to his surprise.

The saber’s powers surged as Tu Ying was trying his best to completely discharge his divine powers into the saber. However, the saber stayed motionless under the large hand’s tight grip.

“How is that possible?” Tu Ying stared at Jian Wushuang in bewilderment as he realized the large hand belonged to Jian Wushuang.

Jian Wushuang had his eyes fixed on Tu Ying sternly like he was staring at a clown or an ant.

“Y-you...” Tu Ying was shocked and speechless.

“Actually, I didn’t plan to kill you but you brought it upon yourself. Go to hell,” murmured Jian Wushuang who seemed to be muttering to himself.

Hum!

The icy-cold sword-light flashed passed and instantly killed Tu Ying as it penetrated his body without giving him even a second to react.

Tu Ying’s eyes widened with disbelief look on his face as the last breath escaped his body.

This was Jian Wushuang’s first kill since the many battle rounds he had.

He merely defeated and subdued his previous three opponents without killing them.

However, he had a murderous intent toward Tu Ying.

Jian Yi should be declared the victory party which brought an end to the battle as soon as Tu Ying died.

Usually, tumult would break out from the spectator's seats from cheers for the winner. Instead, it was dead silence.

Many spectators were dumbfounded and looked blankly at the scene in the Gladiatorial Arena.

Everyone thought Jian Wushuang was going to die when Tu Ying executed his mysterious killing blow sneak attack, but...it was Tu Ying who died in the end.

His death was tragic as he initially thought of himself as being the strongest and capable of killing Jian Wushuang with his ultimate blow, but the reality was that his attack had been stopped by his opponent with just one hand.

The audience did not expect this.

The silence did not last long and was soon replaced by an earth-shaking roar.

In an exquisite room within the inner circle of the Gladiatorial Arena.

"Bastard!"

The graceful woman stood up and stared at Jian Wushuang, who was seemingly unscathed on the Gladiatorial Arena. Her complexion became extremely ugly.

"Jian Yi has been hiding his real strength from the beginning," said the graceful woman solemnly.

"Are you saying he's not a Primary-Level Ultimate God? Could he be a High-Level Ultimate God or even above that but was just masking his true divine powers?" The black-robed old man looked over in surprise.

"No, the breath of his divine powers seems normal. There's no trace of disguise, but he's powerful indeed. The average High-Level Ultimate Gods have no chance to survive Tu Ying's killing blow but we saw that not only was Jian Yi uninjured, but he could also even grip the saber with his bare hands!

"In order to grab a top Primary-Level Ultimate God expert's most powerful attack with his bare hand alone, he must be a High-Level Ultimate God on top of having an extremely powerful divine body. I'm not surprised if his true strength is better than what he has shown us now." The graceful woman's eyes became stern.

The black-robed old man asked, "What should we do now? The Blood Gladiators Challenge has five rounds in total and he has won four of them. Who do we send for the final battle? There is no one more powerful than Tu Ying among the Primary-Level Ultimate Gods."

The graceful woman waved her hand. "Don't be flustered. Let Jian Yi wait while I report this situation to the Shi clan's head and seek for his decision."

"Hmm." The black-robed old man nodded.

The graceful woman would usually have made up her mind, but the bet was 160,000 Primordial Stones. Such a huge amount of Primordial Stone had exceeded the graceful woman's authority and the Shi clan head must be alerted for a decision to be made.

Chapter 2539: Dragon Phoenix Pavilion

The Shi clan was one of the top-tier clans in the Northern Darkstar Territory, hence naturally their residence was huge.

In a grand hall, the head of the Shi clan, Shi Qianhan was talking with two other people and the three were seemingly equal as none of them had acted haughtily.

Those two who could be with Shi Qianhan on equal footings were definitely not ordinary people. In fact, they were commanders of the army.

At that instance...

"Mmm?" Shi Qianhan's expression changed with his brows knitted tightly as he received a message from the graceful woman.

"What's the matter?" asked both commanders upon noticing the changes in Shi Qianhan's complexion.

"Something happened at the Gladiatorial Arena. A Primary-Level Ultimate God who joined the Blood Gladiators Challenge had won four games in a row," said Shi Qianhan.

"Blood Gladiators?" The two commanders were surprised.

One of the commanders wearing scarlet armor smiled and said, "It's not easy to challenge the Blood Gladiators, especially the Ultimate Gods experts. He must be extremely powerful if this person can win four games in a row."

"I haven't seen a Blood Gladiator for a long time." The other commander also smiled.

"I'm happy if there are new Blood Gladiators, but the current problem is Jian Yi's very large bet. He bet five thousand Primordial Stones and upon success, the Shi clan will lose one hundred sixty thousand Primordial Stones at once. That's not a small sum," said Shi Qianhan.

"One hundred and sixty thousand Primordial Stones?" The two commanders were shocked.

The Shi clan was indeed unwilling to lose such a large amount of Primordial Stones.

"I hope both of you can help me this time since we have a great friendship," said Shi Qianhan.

"Both of us are Peak Ultimate Gods. What can we do for you?" asked the scarlet-armored commander.

"There's no need for both of you to take action in person. Are there any powerful Primary-Level Ultimate Gods in the army? It's best if there's someone who's strong enough to face a High-Level Ultimate God," explained Shi Qianhan.

"A powerful Primary-Level Ultimate God?" The two commanders exchanged looks between each other as they knew Shi Qianhan wanted to find a suitable expert from the army to face off Jian Yi.

It seemed impossible to get a Primary-Level Ultimate God from within the Shi clan to defeat Jian Yi, hence Shi Qianhan was hoping someone from the army could do it. The army had many geniuses and experts among them after all. Some of them were definitely great, powerful, and brave warriors.

This was not the only time the Shi clan received help from the army. There were many occasions when they had to win the Blood Gladiator Challenge's final battle and their last resort was to get help from the army.

It was only possible for the Shi clan who had an excellent relationship with the powerful army leaders.

"It's not difficult to find someone from the army. In fact, I have a candidate under my command who is a Primary-Level Ultimate God, yet is able to compete against High-Level Ultimate Gods and might even have a good chance of winning. He's currently serving as an army captain which is a fitting position for a High-Level Ultimate God. However, it's a pity I sent him on a mission not long ago. There's no way that he could return in a short time," said the scarlet-armored commander.

Shi Qianhan frowned.

It was no use even though he could defeat Jian Yi as he was going to be away for a while.

"I can recommend someone to you," said the other white-robed commander.

"Who?" Shi Qianhan immediately looked over.

"Ancient Witch," said the white-robed commander.

"Oh? It's her!" The scarlet-armored commander was taken aback.

"Ancient Witch? Who's she? Is she a Primary-Level Ultimate God in the army?" Shi Qianhan asked.

"No, she's not from the army. Some members of our army accidentally provoked her not long ago. As a result, she taught those people a hard lesson. Those members later got their platoon consisting of a High-Level Ultimate God and four Primary-Level Ultimate Gods to avenge her, but they were miserably defeated," said the white-robed commander.

"Really? Is she that powerful? Did you say she's just a Primary-Level Ultimate God?" Shi Qianhan seemed hopeful.

"Of course she's just a Primary-Level Ultimate God," the white-robed commander smiled and continued, "The issue became worst such that the leaders were alarmed. We decided not to act rashly and we investigated her origin instead. We later discovered that she's from the Dragon Phoenix Pavilion!"

"Dragon Phoenix Pavilion!" Shi Qianhan was taken aback. "Is that the group which only accepts the cream of the crop as their members?"

The white-robed commander smiled and nodded. "Yes. After discovering her identity, the commanders were shocked and immediately ordered those members who provoked her to apologize, and the matter was finally put at rest."

Shi Qianhan finally understood after the explanation.

He had also heard of the Dragon Phoenix Pavilion. If the Ancient Witch was part of the Dragon Phoenix Pavilion, no one would dare to nettle with her. Even the Northern Darkstar Territory's Territorial Lord would not dare to offend her.

"In terms of strength, Ancient Witch has defeated a High-Level Ultimate God before. She's much more powerful than the army's Primary-Level Ultimate Gods. If you can seek her help, you won't have to worry about Jian Yi winning the Blood Gladiators Challenge." The white-robed commander sneered.

"That's true. However, the Shi Clan has no connections with her who had such a great background. Why will she help me?" Shi Qianhan frowned.

"You'll have to try hard and offer her something great in return. I've heard the Ancient Witch is especially fond of competing with other genius experts. If you tell her there's someone in the Gladiatorial Arena who's in the same realm, but with similar if not better combat prowess than her, she might be tempted to fight. Provided there are some rewards added as well," said the white-robed commander.

Shi Qianhan's eyes immediately lit up. "Haha, thank you for telling me about her."

Shi Qianhan did not delay any longer and set off to meet the Ancient Witch.

...

Jian Wushuang was waiting patiently on the huge and almost borderless Gladiatorial Arena with his eyes closed.

The more than a hundred thousand spectators around were also waiting. They knew the Shi clan must be looking for a strong expert to join the final battle.

The expert invited must be very powerful seeing how long they had to wait. This in turn would make for a more exciting Blood Gladiators Challenge finale.

Everyone waited for almost a day before an usher finally entered the Gladiatorial Arena while guiding a black-clothed lady with a somewhat menacing appearance.

Chapter 2540: Ancient Witch

All eyes had fallen on her as soon as the black-clothed lady appeared.

"Is she the expert specially invited by the Shi clan?"

"She looks like a weak lady to me."

"Don't underestimate her. The Shi clan will never make fun of one hundred and sixty thousand of Primordial Stones unless they have gone crazy!"

The spectators were talking.

Jian Wushuang opened his eyes and looked at the black-clothed lady.

He could sense the lady had practiced some sort of technique to mask her true aura so that none could guess how powerful she truly was.

He knew she must be powerful if the Shi clan sought her out as a candidate to face him in the final battle.

“So, you are Jian Yi?” The black-clothed lady—the Ancient Witch—blinked her eyes and peered at Jian Wushuang. “I hear from the Shi clan that you’re very powerful, so I’m keen to meet you.”

“Make your move.” Jian Wushuang was indifferent.

“Haha, you do have the charisma of a powerful person.” The Ancient Witch cracked an evil grin before a black spear appeared in her hand.

In a room within the inner layer of the Gladiatorial Arena.

The graceful woman stood alongside a black-robed old man as her eyes fixed on the Gladiatorial Arena.

“Can that lady threaten Jian Yi at all?” The black-robed old man was doubtful.

“I’m uncertain, but she should be quite good. The clan head had personally invited her after all. She’s famous for having defeated a High-Level Ultimate God,” said the graceful woman.

“Defeated a High-Level Ultimate God?” The black-robed old man was stunned.

“They have started.”

The graceful woman was observing intently.

The Ancient Witch made the first move.

A black net seemed to have engulfed the entire Gladiatorial Arena as she moved.

The Ancient Witch completely melted into the darkness and disappeared.

Jian Wushuang coldly stood there while discharged his soul powers but was unable to locate the Ancient Witch’s position within the darkness.

“She has an excellent command of the Dark Law.” Jian Wushuang concluded.

Swoosh!

A cold light suddenly appeared right beside Jian Wushuang without any signs.

It had a terrifying penetrating power aiming directly for Jian Wushuang’s head that pierced through and wrung the void.

Jian Wushuang was startled as the cold light almost brushed his nose bridge.

“Oh?”

The Ancient Witch who reappeared was surprised that Jian Wushuang so easily avoided her spear. However, her imposing aura started surging the next second.

The black spear in her hand instantly evolved from a venomous serpent into an awakened dragon.

Rumbling... The void was shaking.

The spear was eager to attack and she thrust it toward Jian Wushuang in anger.

Jian Wushuang retreated and was so close to being stabbed.

The Ancient Witch raged when she saw that. "Be a man and fight me instead of dodging around like a coward!"

Jian Wushuang chuckled in his heart as he had also decided not to elude her attacks anymore.

"Well, this is the fifth and final battle. There's no need to hide my strength anymore. Let's unleash our full potential, shall we?" Jian Wushuang's face sank.

Swoosh!

He broke into a terrifying speed with his eleven apparitions and formed a total of twelve figures including his real body.

Twelve identical figures were positioned around the Gladiatorial Arena with no way of distinguishing which was the real Jian Wushuang from either one's naked eyes or soul powers.

In the inner layer's room, the graceful woman's eyes were cold like a frozen lake. "It's indeed true that he's still concealing his true strength. He must have a very high understanding of the Space-time Law if he's able to form eleven apparitions. His strength is perhaps equivalent to a Peak Ultimate God!"

Jian Wushuang had only used seven when he fought against Tu Ying in the fourth battle.

However, Jian Wushuang was moving like a phantom with his eleven apparitions on the loose at the same time as he appeared in front of the Ancient Witch with his explosive sword skills.

Slash! Slash! Slash! Slash!

There was a blurry trail of sword shadows as he casually waved his arm.

That was right, he was moving around casually and effortlessly.

He was incredibly fast under the Space-time Law's influence.

On the other hand, the Ancient Witch who was completely contained in the darkness fiercely thrust her spear.

She was very skillful with the spear and definitely, the best spear handler Jian Wushuang had encountered so far. Jian Wushuang perceived the Ancient Witch's spear skills might be even better than his own sword skills.

Unfortunately, she was nowhere near Jian Wushuang's speed.

The Ancient Witch was completely at a disadvantage when the two fought head-on.

"Haha, you are great indeed!"

Although she was suppressed by Jian Wushuang from her somewhat restricted movements, she was not angry at all. On the contrary, she seemed to be quite surprised.

Hum!

The dark light that enshrouded the void suddenly converged and wrapped around the Ancient Witch as her complexion turned cold and her divine power breath thickened.

At the same time, there was an earth-shaking rumbling sound before a strong killing intent covered the area with astonishing spear intent.

An infinite Spear World instantly appeared in the arena.

“Spear World?” Jian Wushuang was impressed.

Some of the spectators recognized the Ancient Witch’s technique.

It was a complete display of Spear World!

The Spear World was somewhat similar to Sword World as they were both Principle Worlds.

The Sword World was a sword cultivators’ higher realm achievement in order to establish their very own Sword World.

On the other hand, the Spear World was created by spear cultivators.

They were similar in terms of power and characteristics.

The ancient Witch’s Spear World seemed to be recently established as it was evidently not as powerful as the Infernal Heart Prefecture Governor’s Sword World in the Dark Thunder Territory. In addition, a Spear World also posed a lesser threat to Jian Wushuang as compared with a Sword World. Nonetheless, it was still a Principle World.

“Impressive! You’re indeed a super genius from the Dragon Phoenix Pavilion since you’re able to display your very own Spear World while just at the Primary-Level Ultimate God realm.”

The two army commanders appeared at the spectators’ seat without warning. They were surprised from seeing the scenes in the Gladiator Arena.

Generally, only Earth Ultimate Gods could learn a Principle World with very few Peak Ultimate Gods capable of doing so.

Neither of the two of them had reached that level.

However, the Ancient Witch was able to establish her own Spear World.

Both commanders were envious of her.