

Tang Sect 466

Chapter 466.1: Ice Empress' True Feelings

There was a dazed look on her face, while her gaze was filled with sadness amidst the confusion, "Yes! Perhaps I've really fallen for him. Snow, you're wrong. You shouldn't have killed him. By killing him, I'll never be together with you anymore. Perhaps I've not fallen in love with him, but I'll never be able to get together with you because he died under your hands. Otherwise, how can I live up to the feelings he has for me? Although he wasn't strong, and was even my enemy in the past, he's been really very good to me. I've always felt a sense of hope with him around. However, you've destroyed my hope. Snow, why did you have to do that? Why do you have to make me stand on different ground from you? He's dead, which means that my heart will never belong to you anymore. Do you know? You were wrong. You were wrong to kill him. By killing him, you've destroyed the relationship between us."

The Snow Empress sighed and said, "Are you really not in love with him? Because of him, you're even willing to give up on our hundreds of thousands of years together. I wasn't wrong. I was right. Perhaps even you don't know that you've fallen in love with him. It's just that you aren't willing to admit it."

"You're wrong. You're wrong!" The Ice Empress was shouting maniacally.

The Snow Empress smiled. Her smile was very beautiful. She was normally very indifferent and cold, and often appeared very unapproachable. However, she was extremely captivating when she smiled. Her smile even gave off a sense of warmth.

"I'm not wrong, Ice. Silly girl, I'm only helping you see yourself more clearly."

As she spoke, the Snow Empress stood to one side. Behind her, the deep-blue from the Skydream Iceworm slowly faded away, and he also slowly turned around, revealing a teary face.

"Ice, Ice, Ice, Ice..." The Skydream Iceworm's voice was trembling. He couldn't even call her name properly and his body was shuddering non-stop. His eyes were already filled with emotional undulations.

The Ice Empress was stunned as she saw the tears on his face.

He's not dead. He's actually not dead. He's alive, he's still alive!

"Ah!" The Ice Empress screamed and instantly turned into a flowing streak of jade-green light. She crashed straight into the Skydream Iceworm's arms and hugged him tightly. However, she was sobbing furiously.

The two of them hugged each other as they cried. The feelings that they had always been hiding for each other were finally revealed.

The Snow Empress was drifting not far from them. There was a warm smile on her face as she muttered to herself, "I told you – I was right."

"Thank you, Snow Empress." Huo Yuhao's voice sounded. n/(0ve1B1n

He had already awoken from his meditation. He saw everything that had happened. In fact, he already knew what the Snow Empress was intending to do when she hit the Skydream Iceworm earlier. As the

Snow Empress was closely connected to him and was even his Spirit, he knew that she didn't unleash her Snowless Glacier. How would it be so destructive if that was the case?

The Snow Empress drifted beside Huo Yuhao and said, "I've already regained my memory. If I didn't do this, Ice would still be conflicted. She wouldn't be able to know her true feelings."

Huo Yuhao looked at the Snow Empress and softly said, "Have you ever liked the Ice Empress? You're too noble."

The Snow Empress revealed a subtle bitter smile on her face, and her thoughts rang out in Huo Yuhao's mind, "I'm not noble. I've always only had sisterly love for Ice."

This...

Huo Yuhao suddenly understood, and his expression turned slightly weird as he looked at the Snow Empress. However, there was more of a warm smile on his face.

Seeing that the Skydream Iceworm had finally won the heart of the woman he loved, he was delighted! This was perfect.

The Skydream Iceworm was the first to stop crying, but he was still hugging the Ice Empress tightly. The Ice Empress' cries slowly stopped too, but she was unwilling to lift her head. She buried her head in the Skydream Iceworm's embrace.

The Skydream Iceworm lifted his head to look at Huo Yuhao. Seeing that he was amused, he immediately turned red, and nodded gratefully at the Snow Empress.

The Snow Empress smiled and didn't say anything.

"Ice, everything's fine. Everything's fine. I'll protect you in the future. Did you know? Today is the happiest day of my life. It's true. I'm really happy. I'm the most blissful iceworm in the world. I must be!"

The Ice Empress snorted lightly and smacked his shoulder. Suddenly, she forced herself from his embrace and turned into a streak of jade-green light before disappearing into Huo Yuhao's body. She was truly embarrassed right now.

The Skydream Iceworm chortled as he watched the Ice Empress disappear. He rubbed the tears off his face, and there was only a coquettish look left.

"Continue absorbing!" As he spoke, he posed coquettishly – he placed one hand on his waist and grabbed the second Manifold Mysterious Ice Essence with his other hand, continuing his earlier absorption.

Time passed very quickly. After the Star Anise Mysterious Ice Grass completely absorbed its sixth pillar of Manifold Mysterious Ice Essence, the Skydream Iceworm also completed the absorption of his third pillar.

Although it was only his third one, it was still sufficient to strengthen the foundations of his spiritual origins. It was just that most parts of his body were spiritual-type, which was why he was unable to seal some ice essence for Huo Yuhao.

The Star Anise Mysterious Ice Grass was much stronger in this aspect. It had absorbed four for itself, and sealed another two for Huo Yuhao. It was only inferior to the Ice Empress.

At this moment, there were only six pillars of ice essence left. The temperature in this cavern had also started to rise.

“Yuhao, do you sense it? Although there’s much less ice essence here, the temperature isn’t rising quickly. Why is this?” The Snow Empress asked Huo Yuhao after allowing both the Skydream Iceworm and the Mysterious Ice Grass to return to Huo Yuhao’s body.

Huo Yuhao replied, “It’s because the temperature here is too low. a lot of thermal energy is needed to make the temperature rise. However, there is very little thermal energy in this cold spring. Even if we take all the ice essence away, the temperature here will still take some time before it starts to rise.”

The Snow Empress nodded and said, “That’s right. Alright, you can absorb the last six pillars. You should be able to bear this amount of ice essence, given the strength of your body. I’ll help you. Don’t worry. Go and stand in the center.”

“Alright.” Huo Yuhao agreed and went to the center of the ice cavern. He increasingly felt that it was a good thing that the Snow Empress had regained her memory. Not only was she a strong partner, she was also like a teacher to him as she kept on helping him.

The Snow Empress drifted in place, and her white dress danced in the air. She was like a fairy. As she waved her hand, her sleeves shot up, and the last six pillars of ice essence suddenly drifted into the air. They surrounded Huo Yuhao in six different directions and were separated from one another at exact distances and angles.

These six pillars were like six ice sticks of life energy. They exuded dim light, and a gentle white glow emanated from the Snow Empress’ body. This white glow shone on the ice essences. Suddenly, all the ice essences lit up, and shone with a bright blue glow. The Ultimate Ice origin energy in the air started to become more and more concentrated.

Huo Yuhao immediately sensed greater viscosity in the surrounding air. The extremely pure ice essence was even purer than his fluid soul power. Gentle soul power started to seep into his body in streaks.

Huo Yuhao didn’t need to intentionally circulate his soul power before his soul power started to circulate in the trajectory of his Mysterious Heaven Technique. The Ice Empress’ tattoo on his back became clearer, and his entire body was glowing jade-blue.

Very soon, Huo Yuhao felt that his soul power was completely nourished. Following this, he felt that his entire body was ballooning up. It was also at this time that the fusion of Manifold Mysterious Ice Essence in his body began to slow down.

With every round of circulation, Huo Yuhao’s soul power would fuse more and more with the ice essence. He could sense that he wasn’t fully absorbing the ice essence. However, it was being turned into spots before being stored within his soul power.

If Huo Yuhao’s original soul power was fluid, these ice essences that he had just fused into his body but was unable to absorb had turned into thin ice floes that remained within his fluid soul power. Under such a condition, he was able to store more and more Ultimate Ice origin energy.

Huo Yuhao's body was becoming stronger and stronger under the nourishment of his Life Gold. His passageways were becoming more and more springy. Even if he wasn't able to absorb the ice essences, he could still store them. As his soul power circulated, his ballooning body slowly began to feel more and more comfortable. As his body gradually fused with the ice essences, the speed at which the ice essences surged into his body increased.

This process carried on for close to two hours before Huo Yuhao managed to fuse all of the six ice essences into his body.

Even though he could only temporarily absorb part of them, he could still sense the improvements to his soul power throughout this process. Given enough time, he believed that his soul power could make significant improvements.

"We're done. These ice essences have been compressed within your body. When you cultivate in the future, they'll slowly fuse further into your body and strengthen your cultivation." The Snow Empress woke Huo Yuhao from his cultivation state.

As he opened his eyes, Huo Yuhao suddenly saw small white cyclones around his body. They exuded an icy-cold aura. As he breathed, he discovered that these cyclones were coming out of his nose. It was really magical.

"This place... it's a pity." The Snow Empress looked around her and sighed.

Huo Yuhao was curious as he asked, "What's wrong?"

Chapter 466.2: Ice Empress' True Feelings

The Snow Empress said, "The formation of any Manifold Mysterious Ice Cavern is a gift of nature. This one is no exception. However, it's a pity that it wasn't in the Extreme North. The temperature of the outside world can't sustain the development of this Manifold Mysterious Ice Cavern. Otherwise, more ice essence might form in a few years as long as we leave some behind. If I'm not wrong, this ice cavern should have been moved here as the earth's crust changed. It shouldn't have formed here. Even if we don't take all this ice essence away, it will slowly disappear as the outside temperature changes. Without the Manifold Mysterious Ice Essence and Divine Ice Crystals, this place will vanish completely soon."

Huo Yuhao nodded and said, "This is a miracle of the Creator! I'm already very satisfied."

The Snow Empress glanced at him and said, "Leave this place. In this period of time, you must place more of your attention and energy on understanding the mysteries of Ultimate Ice and the intrinsic nature of ice."

"Yes."

The Snow Empress sprang up and flew towards Huo Yuhao. In the past, Huo Yuhao didn't have any sort of feeling when that happened. After all, the Snow Lady was only a little girl then. However, she had regained her former look now. She was already very ravishing, and looked out of this world. As she flew, she was like a fairy. Even the determined Huo Yuhao couldn't help but be slightly stunned.

The Snow Lady waved her hands, blocking his vision. Immediately after this, she turned into a streak of flowing light and fused into his body.

Huo Yuhao didn't stay any longer. He made his way into the spring before swimming out.

The icy spring outside was still cold, but it was a little different from before. It had lost some of its intrinsic nature, and wasn't able to pose any threat to Huo Yuhao.

Nan Shuishui and Nan Qiuqiu were waiting very anxiously outside. Nan Shuishui had even tried diving in once, but the temperature was simply too low. She had no choice but to give up and wait outside.

When Huo Yuhao reappeared, he was immediately reprimanded by Nan Qiuqiu. He could only smile as he looked back at her.

"Yuhao, what's your plan?" Nan Shuishui asked Huo Yuhao.

Huo Yuhao said, "I still have to go to one place and help eldest senior find something. At the same time, I'll need to go take a look at Big n{-0Vell1n

Mao and Second Mao."

"I want to go too." Nan Qiuqiu immediately said.

Huo Yuhao replied, "Qiuqiu, don't go. Auntie wants to move all the remaining stuff from the Earthdragon Sect over. Help her. I'll go and return quickly. It won't take too long. That place is already occupied the Sun Moon Empire. It might be dangerous."

"I'm not afraid of danger." Nan Qiuqiu immediately responded.

Huo Yuhao smiled and said, "I'm afraid even if you're not. If you're hurt, how can I account to Auntie?"

Nan Qiuqiu snorted and said, "Stop it. You just want to get away from me. Don't think I don't know that. No, I have to go."

Huo Yuhao was a little helpless as he said, "Qiuqiu."

She turned her head around and ignored him.

Nan Shuishui was grinning at one side, not uttering a single sound. As an elder, she wasn't willing to intervene in the matters of young people. Furthermore, she could tell that her daughter didn't stand a chance with Huo Yuhao even though she wanted to help her. If she tried to blindly help her daughter at one side, she might even catalyze the opposite effect. It was fine just letting Nan Qiuqiu speak for herself.

Huo Yuhao replied, "Alright then. We'll go together. However, you must listen to me. Entering the Sun Moon Empire's territories now isn't the same as before. If we encounter enemies, you must never be impulsive."

"I'll listen to you." Nan Qiuqiu's anger turned to delight, and she reacted cheerfully to his words.

Huo Yuhao said, "Have some rest tonight first. We'll set off tomorrow morning."

"Okay." Nan Qiuqiu acknowledged readily.

The three returned to the cloth shop as they silently left the original address of the Earthdragon Sect. Although the backyard of the cloth shop wasn't very large, it was still possible for them to allocate a room to Huo Yuhao, while Nan Qiuqiu slept with her mother.

After he was given his accommodations, Huo Yuhao immediately entered his room and told Nan Qiuqiu not to disturb him. He was not going to eat dinner, and was prepared to retreat in his room until the next morning.

He had just fused a lot of Manifold Mysterious Ice Essence into his body. The faster he absorbed the ice essence, the faster his cultivation would grow. Of course he wasn't willing to give up on this opportunity.

He sat cross-legged on his bed and shut his eyes. His soul power circulated in his body as he started to cultivate.

After leaving the Manifold Mysterious Ice Cavern, he managed to discover what his problem was immediately during this session of cultivation.

As he had fused with a huge amount of Manifold Mysterious Ice Essence, which had formed ice floes, his soul power was moving much slower as it circulated.

Although this wouldn't affect him in a fight, he would still take a long time to absorb all the Manifold Mysterious Ice Essence, given the speed of his soul power circulation.

Huo Yuhao didn't dare to blindly increase the speed of his soul power circulation. He was afraid that the ice floes would harm his body.

He could only take it slower. As he thought, he initiated the circulation of his soul power and also divided a part of his attention to his soul core in his Eye of Destiny.

Within his soul core, the compressed space was filled with immense spiritual power. A huge amount of spiritual power surged out under his command and fused into his passageways. His spiritual power fused with his Ultimate Ice soul power.

This was the benefit of having great spiritual power. Even when he didn't unleash his Spirit Eyes, his spiritual power was still at the standard of a Titled Douluo.

After his spiritual power fused with his Ultimate Ice soul power, he didn't increase the circulation speed of his soul power. Instead, he relied on his spiritual power to gather all the ice in his soul power. Slowly, he was changing the form of his soul power.

If the ice essence was separated in his soul power, blindly increasing the circulation speed of his soul power could harm his passageways. However, if the ice essence formed a thin line under the effect of his spiritual power, and was then engulfed by his Ultimate Ice soul power, what would happen? The problem was immediately solved!

When Huo Yuhao tried to perform such a combination, the Snow Empress was in awe in his spiritual sea. This wasn't something a normal seven-ringed soul master could control. Even some Titled Douluo couldn't do this. However, Huo Yuhao relied on his soul core and immense spiritual power to do it.

It took him a full four hours before he completed this combination and smoothed out the flow of his soul power. With sufficient spiritual power to control it, he was afraid of changes to his soul power. In such a state, he wouldn't be affected whether he was cultivating or directly using his soul power to fight.

He recirculated his soul power according to the trajectory of his Mysterious Heaven Technique. Under the fusion and protection of his spiritual power, Huo Yuhao's soul power circulated faster and faster.

Very soon, he understood why the Ice Empress was so obsessed and in awe of the Manifold Mysterious Ice Essence. In just one major circulation, Huo Yuhao could already sense an improvement in his soul power. At the very least, it was comparable to the results he normally obtained from days of cultivation. What was even more impressive was that his Ultimate Ice had grown stronger. This meant the temperature of his Ultimate Ice soul power was even lower now. It was also much purer. Even his life energy had grown stronger as a result. His passageways and bones were also strengthened under the nourishment of the Manifold Mysterious Ice Essence.

It's indeed very strong! Huo Yuhao was delighted, and immediately continued to cultivate without any hesitation.

His soul power had reached Rank 74. After absorbing the ice essence, Huo Yuhao sensed that his soul power had reached Rank 75. If he continued in this manner, his soul power would be bound to increase further and further. This opportunity that Nan Shuishui had brought to him was indeed very rare.

He performed more and more major circulations of his soul power, and slowly lost track of time. His soul power was filtered and purified. Furthermore, his soul power wasn't the only thing absorbing the ice essence. His body, bones, passageways and organs were also absorbing this treasure.

The energy from the six pillars of Manifold Mysterious Ice Essence was slowly being absorbed into his body. His abilities were also slowly increasing.

Huo Yuhao only stopped when he sensed that his soul power was already greatly nourished, and he needed some time to adapt to the changes.

As he opened his eyes, Huo Yuhao let out a long breath. A white mist was released from his mouth, and the entire room was instantly covered in a layer of frost.

It was a magical feeling. Huo Yuhao was very awed in his heart. His soul power circulated like mercury – it was gentle and heavy, yet it ran smoothly. With every movement he took, his soul power would surge. He was even more surprised by the fact that his soul power seemed to have gained a greater connection with the origin energy in the air. This meant that not only could he adjust his soul power in a fight, but he could also better guide the origin energy in the air for his own use.

He drifted up and took a look outside. The sky was still bright outside, but he was shocked to learn how long he had spent cultivating. Surely it's not morning, is it?

As he pushed his door open and walked out, Huo Yuhao immediately saw Nan Qiuqiu, who was supposed to be guarding his door, but was dozing off right now.

A warm feeling surged through his heart. Without a doubt, Nan Qiuqiu was here to protect him!

"Qiuqiu." Huo Yuhao squatted down beside Nan Qiuqiu and called softly.

“Oh?” Nan Qiuqiu was immediately jolted awake. She heaved a sigh of relief when she turned her head and saw that it was Huo Yuhao. She was surprised as she asked, “You’re awake? You’re finally awake. You said it was going to be one night, but seven days have already passed! How ridiculous can you get?”

Chapter 466.3: Ice Empress’ True Feelings

Huo Yuhao was apologetic as he said, “I’m sorry! I couldn’t stop myself after going into cultivation. I only just woke up.”

Nan Qiuqiu was speechless, and silently thought to herself –?it’s already very difficult for me to enter deep meditation, but this guy can do so at any time and anywhere he wants. It’s really frustrating!

“Alright. It’s good that you’re awake. How’s it? What have you gained?”

Huo Yuhao replied, “My soul power should have improved. I feel good. This is all because of Auntie. I have gained significant rewards from my venture into the Earthdragon’s Sect secret location this time. In the depths of that cold spring, there was something called Manifold Mysterious Ice Essence. For soul masters like me that cultivate Ultimate Ice, it’s extremely helpful. This is why I’ve benefited greatly this time.”

Nan Qiuqiu said, “That’s great then. Talking about it, thanks for the last time.”

Huo Yuhao was a little perplexed as he asked, “Thanks? What’s there to thank me for?”

“Thanks for abusing me,” Nan Qiuqiu snapped.

Huo Yuhao was confused as he asked, “What? Abusing you? What are you talking about?”

Nan Qiuqiu snorted and replied, “You’re really so forgetful. Have you forgotten that you used your spiritual power to exert pressure on me? I didn’t have any feeling when I woke up the second day, but I’ve regained some sensation over the past few days. My spiritual control seems to have strengthened. It must be your doing. That’s why I’m thanking you.”

Huo Yuhao smiled and said, “I took seven days during my deep meditation this time. What has happened in the outside world?”

After hearing his question, Nan Qiuqiu straightened her face and nodded before replying, “For some unknown reason, the Sun Moon Empire brought a legion of troops and stationed them outside Dragon City.”

“A legion of troops?” Huo Yuhao was also astonished. Dragon City was basically the most northern part of the Heavenly Soul Empire, and it was also the largest city in the northeast of the Heavenly Soul Empire. Why did the Sun Moon Empire send troops here? Moving east from here, it’ll already be the Dou Ling Empire. Don’t tell me they’re making their move on the Dou Ling Empire before they’ve even occupied the entirety of the Heavenly Soul Empire?

“How many of them are there? Are there soul engineers?” Huo Yuhao asked.

Nan Qiuqiu shook her head and answered, “I’m not clear on the details yet. My mother and I are afraid that the other party has soul detectors. This is why we only watched from afar and didn’t dare to get too close. However, the troops appear to be very orderly, and there’s at least twenty thousand of them. I’m

not sure if there are soul engineers. There should be some. Even a normal legion of the Sun Moon Empire will have some soul engineers to perform surveillance and aid the rest of the legion.”

Huo Yuhao nodded and said, “Since it’s so timely, I’ll go take a look too. I’ll go see what their plan is, and send a message to the Heavenly Soul Empire and Dou Ling Empire.”

“Alright. We’ll leave after you finish checking them out?”

Huo Yuhao answered, “Yes. We’ll see how it goes. Although there are only twenty thousand people in this legion, their fighting strength will be fairly great if they’re a soul engineer legion. I’ll need to find out their motives first before we talk about anything else.”

“Alright. I knew that you weren’t reliable.” Nan Qiuqiu twisted her lips.

Huo Yuhao was helpless as he smiled. “I’m hungry, Qiuqiu.”

“.....”

When Huo Yuhao woke up from his cultivation, it was already noontime. Even he didn’t know how much his soul power had increased. It was at least Rank 75 or 76. He was fairly confident about this. Otherwise, he would have absorbed all the Manifold Mysterious Ice Essence for nothing.

After having some food, he silently left the city. Even though nighttime was the best time for him to perform his surveillance, he still had to get a grip on what was going on first.

Nan Shuishui was no longer in Dragon City. She had left Nan Qiuqiu behind to protect Huo Yuhao and left for Shrek Academy with the last batch of resources from the Earthdragon Sect. Regarding Huo Yuhao, she was very relieved. In Dragon City, there was hardly anyone who could threaten him, given his cultivation.

The gates of the Earthdragon Sect weren’t sealed just because of the arrival of troops. It was just the same as it was when Huo Yuhao first came.

According to Nan Qiuqiu, this Sun Moon Empire legion was stationed outside the city. As for their motive, it was unclear.

Huo Yuhao changed into an ordinary cloth shirt and used his Imitation to slightly change his appearance. He now looked like an ordinary person and snuck out of the city. To prevent drawing attention to himself, he didn’t leave the city through the northern city gate. Instead, he left from the eastern city gate. After leaving the city, he made his way to the northern city gate.

He unleashed his Spiritual Detection and started to scan the air.

Very soon, Huo Yuhao discovered that the number of aerial surveillance soul tools in the sky above the northern city gates had greatly increased.

Just by simply scanning around, Huo Yuhao was astonished to discover that the number of aerial surveillance soul tools outside the northern city gate was more than a hundred.

It seemed like there was a soul engineer legion within this regular legion! Otherwise, there wouldn’t be so many soul tools.

After discovering this, Huo Yuhao was even more determined to carry out surveillance.

He quickly shifted his attention to the northern city gate. Around five to six kilometers from the northern city gate, Huo Yuhao made his way into a patch of forest.

From the fact that there was a forest outside the city, it was evident that Dragon City was a city that hardly had any wars. Normally, huge cities wouldn't have any forests at all for dozens of kilometers around. There wouldn't be a barrier blocking the view from the city like this forest.

Huo Yuhao wasn't anxious at all as he peered into the sky. He was only going to carry out surveillance when night fell. Those aerial surveillance soul tools hadn't detected him at all. After his soul core formed, Huo Yuhao's spiritual power grew by another tier. Not only was it stronger, but it was also able to recover much faster. Even when he unleashed his Imitation using his Eye of Destiny, he was still able to last for a long time. Now that he had completed this round of deep meditation, his understanding of the origins of ice was much deeper too. His control over his own temperature was much stronger than before. Apart from oscillation detectors, there weren't any soul tools that could detect his presence. No matter how tight the defense of this legion, it couldn't possibly compare to that of the Ming Dou Mountain Range with the Death God around.

After cultivating for some time, the sky had already slightly turned darker. From afar, smoke could be seen rising, indicating that the Sun Moon Empire's troops were cooking. It was time for dinner.

Huo Yuhao didn't continue waiting. The change in the color of the sky and the rest that the troopers were taking during dinner was a rather good opportunity for him to carry out his surveillance.

He silently left the forest and fully unleashed his Imitation. He seemed to have fully fused into the air as he rapidly came closer to the northern city gates.

His spiritual power fanned out towards the military base at the northern city gates. Huo Yuhao wasn't even very afraid of oscillation detectors since the effective range of any oscillation detector couldn't compare to his Spiritual Detection. This was why he could avoid the oscillation detectors after performing his surveillance.

The spiritual barrier that the Death God Douluo could unleash wasn't something that was found everywhere. If there was one here, he would consider himself unlucky.

Very soon, Huo Yuhao discovered the positions of some oscillation detectors and noted them in his mind.

At the same time, he also discovered that the troops were indeed as orderly as Nan Qiuqiu had mentioned. Even though it was already dinnertime, patrolling, surveillance and scouting was still being carried out diligently.

Huo Yuhao's spiritual power extended into the military base. Very soon, he found some tents that were different from the others.

These tents were much smaller than the tents at the perimeter of the base. Each tent was roughly five to six square meters in size. For tents of such size, it was evident that they were only meant for single individuals. However, the quality of these tents was far superior to the tents on the perimeter. They were actually made of mature leather.

Such leather was very tough. By applying wood oil to it, it was able to repel water and fire. These tents were definitely top-quality. Huo Yuhao wasn't surprised by their presence. However, he discovered that there were several hundreds of such tents when he scanned the camp with his Spiritual Detection. They were neatly arranged, and they were all dark-red. There were even dim golden patterns on these tents.

Observing more closely, Huo Yuhao discovered that these patterns were actually images of phoenixes.

He was shocked when he saw until here. He could roughly guess at the core of this legion now.

In the Sun Moon Empire, there were five strong soul engineer legions. Among them, the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineer Legion was the strongest, followed by the other four beast lord-ranked soul engineer legions. Together, they formed the Hand that Protects the Nation.

Huo Yuhao had faced Wang Yiheng's Evil Tyrant Legion the most. Wang Yiheng had even perished under his and his partners' hands.

From how this soul engineer legion was equipped, it was likely that it was another one of the beast lord-ranked soul engineer legions, the Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion!

Among all of the Sun Moon Empire soul engineer legions, it was ranked within the top three.?Why are they here? Don't tell me that they're really here to invade the Dou Ling Empire?

However, Huo Yuhao discovered some problems as he scanned the camp with his Spiritual Detection. Although this military base followed a very strict formation, there weren't any soul formations present. This meant that this soul engineer legion had no plans to fight. In that case, their true motive was a big question mark.

It would have been fine if he didn't encounter them. However, now that he had, he had to find out what they were up to.

As he thought until here, Huo Yuhao exploited the darkness and rapidly snuck into the base. He circumvented a few oscillation detectors and made his way deep into the base.

The rations of this army were rather good. Huo Yuhao could immediately smell meat soup not long after he entered. Some soldiers were already holding bowls in their hands and walking towards the mess areas. However, there was hardly anyone joking around. Even when they spoke to one another, they whispered. The quality of such an army might compare to that of the White Tiger Duke's army.

Volume 34, Chapter 467.1: Star Anise Omnithrust

A twenty-thousand men army was already considered rather large. Nan Qiuqiu's estimation was accurate. After Huo Yuhao used his Spiritual Detection to scan the place, he could basically confirm that the size of the army was between twenty to twenty-five thousand men.

He continued to advance further in. He moved his way past the tents at the perimeter and got closer to the dark-red tents. At the same time, he strengthened his Spiritual Detection and sensed any changes that could occur around him.

If this were an ordinary army, they couldn't possibly threaten Huo Yuhao. However, things were different with the presence of the Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion. There had to be a Class 9 soul engineer

in this soul engineer legion. Furthermore, the strategy of such an advanced-tier soul engineer legion could threaten a Titled Douluo, much less Huo Yuhao. This was why he had to be careful.

As he moved forward, he discovered through his Spiritual Detection that there was a huge tent in the center of all the tents. It was also dark-red, but it was as large as the commander's tent. There were even obvious golden phoenix images on it. It was extremely crowded inside this tent.

What left Huo Yuhao the most shocked was that he sensed something wrong just as his Spiritual Detection came closer to the tent. He immediately stopped his detection. This was because he discovered spiritual barrier around it.

If not for the fact that he had just formed his soul core, and the sensitivity of his Spiritual Detection had increased significantly, he wouldn't have discovered the presence of this spiritual barrier. If he had tried to probe further in, he would have likely been discovered.

No wonder it was a beast lord-ranked soul engineer legion. The defense of the commander's tent was extremely tight – there was even a spiritual barrier around it.

Huo Yuhao was naturally not disappointed because of that. He silently inched forward and came closer and closer to the tent. It was only by getting close to it could he obtain the most reliable information.

At the same time, his spiritual power also entered the rest of the other tents for detection purposes. The members of this soul engineer legion were indeed all female soul engineers. Furthermore, their cultivations were quite strong too. They all possessed at least four soul rings. Some of them even possessed five or six soul rings.

In the slightly bigger dark-red tents, there were even seven-ringed soul engineers. Such soul engineers were considered quite strong.

As he inched forward, Huo Yuhao circumvented a few more oscillation detectors. Finally, he stopped thirty meters away from that huge tent. This was the furthest he could go, given the presence of the spiritual barrier. If he moved any further forward, he would most certainly be discovered.

I can't go any closer, or I'll be discovered. However, I can't get any reliable information if I don't get closer.

Huo Yuhao furrowed his brow.

He found a corner and squatted down. At the same time, he unleashed his Spiritual Detection laterally around the commander's tent. He was trying to survey everything that was going around the tent, and waiting for his opportunity.

The black soul core of his Eye of Destiny subtly appeared. His aura of destiny spread out, and Huo Yuhao shut his eyes. He sensed everything silently.

Given the standard of his current spiritual power, almost the entire base was engulfed by his spiritual power apart from the commander's tent. He was definitely more effective than the aerial surveillance soul tools in the sky.

However, Huo Yuhao's expression soon turned weird.

The members of this Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion were all females. It was already very late. Some of the female soul engineers toned down on their dressing after dinner. Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Detection was all-engulfing. When the images of countless females dressed rather lightly entered his spiritual world, Huo Yuhao felt as if he were about to go crazy.

After his expression turned momentarily weird, he started to blush. After this, he frantically retracted his Spiritual Detection. He only kept it in the air, stopped surveilling the conditions inside the tents.

Huo Yuhao heaved a sigh of relief when he could no longer sense their bodies. He continued to look towards the commander's tent, and silently waited for his opportunity. Although there was a spiritual barrier blocking him here, he didn't believe that he didn't stand a chance at all.

Dim lights flashed, and Huo Yuhao revealed an icy-cold look in his eyes. As he silently waited, he was also observing things.

Very soon, his opportunity arrived.

A few female soul engineers dressed in red armor walked towards the commander's tent. Their armor was well-fitted. Evidently, it was top-quality. Every one of their suits of armor was custom-made. There were even buckle-like accessories and slots on them. Obviously, these slots were used to connect to different soul tools.

Although these female soul engineers weren't particularly ravishing, they still looked like suave heroines.

Very soon, they arrived in front of the commander's tent. Unlike what Huo Yuhao had feared, they walked through the spiritual barrier and into the tent as if there were nothing there.

Huo Yuhao's spiritual power had engulfed everywhere else nearby. This was why he had an acute feeling of everything around him. He immediately discovered a layer of light shining from each of their bodies when they passed through the spiritual barrier. These layers of light were extremely weak, but there were obvious spiritual undulations coming from them. When they passed through the spiritual barrier, they would demonstrate their compatibility with the spiritual barrier before they managed to pass through.

Impressive! Huo Yuhao was in awe.

In terms of soul tool research and manufacturing, the Sun Moon Empire was indeed superior to the three empires of the original Douluo Continent. This wasn't an extremely impressive piece of research, but the attention to detail was great. While this spiritual barrier didn't have any fighting use, it was still very practical. n)-0ve**ll**1n

Since this was the case, these soul engineers must possess some kind of special soul tool on their bodies that could help them disperse the spiritual undulations. This meant that Huo Yuhao could sneak in with someone else if he possessed such a soul tool. That would help him avoid all the spiritual barriers.

As he thought until here, Huo Yuhao started to take action.

Under the surveillance of his Spiritual Detection, it was definitely not difficult for him to find a suitable soul engineer. Huo Yuhao quickly made his way around a few tents while continuing to use his Imitation to conceal himself.

Very soon, he found a member of the soul engineer legion not far from the side of the military base.

To ensure that he could get what he wanted, Huo Yuhao intentionally selected a Class 4 soul engineer.

In Huo Yuhao's eyes, a Class 4 soul engineer was an easy target. He crept closer and closer. Given his Imitation, he wouldn't be discovered even if he got right up to his opponent's back.

Huo Yuhao controlled his body temperature very well through a combination of his ice-type soul power and Imitation. Very soon, he was behind that female soul engineer. He swiftly hacked at her neck with his palm. At the same time, he unleashed his Spiritual Interference Domain and engulfed both him and the female soul engineer inside.

When his palm hit her neck, he immediately discovered something amiss.

A gentle yet resilient wave of soul power immediately rose. Following this, the female soul engineer's body shone with a streak of red light. The appearance of this red light was very sudden. However, the moment it appeared, a deafening alarm also immediately reverberated throughout the entire base.

The red light wasn't sufficient to resist Huo Yuhao's right hand. The Class 4 soul engineer collapsed to the ground amidst the deafening alarm.

What's going on? Not only does she have an automatic defensive soul tool on her body, but she also has an alarm-type soul tool with her??Huo Yuhao was shocked, but he didn't have time to hesitate anymore.

He bent over and quickly picked the soul engineer up. He was going to flee before deciding on what to do.

After being discovered by such a strong soul engineer legion, there were many methods that could be used to detect his location.

However, something else caught him by surprise again. When his hands touched the unconscious female soul engineer, another layer of red light shone from her body. Following this, this layer of red light seemed to cause more than ten different beams of red light around them to shine at the same time too.

Not only did this red light protect this female soul engineer, but it also engulfed a large area around her.

It's a linked defensive soul tool. It can still work after she's struck unconscious?

Huo Yuhao was depressed!?!I have to go. Otherwise I'll be in trouble.

He couldn't be bothered with capturing her anymore. He quickly shot up and charged out like an arrow. He was about to collide with the red lights in front of him, but he snorted coldly and lifted his left hand before smacking it in front of him. A strong sense of chill was instantly unleashed. That sense of chill was very strong when it first appeared. However, it soon toned down.

However, just as the temperature turned from extremely cold to normal, the red lights in front evidently became weaker. Huo Yuhao waved his hand and unleashed the destructive strength of his Darkgolden

Terrorclaws. He forced open a slit in the barrier that the red lights had formed before charging out and up towards the sky.

Even though he could also be detected in the air, he had no choice but to do it now. This was because there were many oscillation detectors scanning in his direction right now.

Furthermore, more red lights also shone within the Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion

Huo Yuhao was secretly counting his blessings. If he were any slower, the earlier linked defensive soul formation would have become stronger, and it would have become impossible for him to escape. He would have landed in the enemy's hands!

Chapter 467.2: Star Anise Omnithrust

No wonder it's the Hand that Protects the Nation. This indeed an extremely strong soul engineer legion.

Huo Yuhao silently compared the Evil Tyrant Soul Engineer Legion to the Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion. He immediately felt that this Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion was even stronger than the Evil Tyrant Soul Engineer Legion.

Perhaps the difference in their overall fighting strength wasn't very obvious. However, the Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion was evidently better in terms of the details.

As he thought, Huo Yuhao immediately flew into the sky. Even if he was discovered, he couldn't make this trip for nothing.

The oscillation detectors below were scanning everywhere, including the sky.

Huo Yuhao wove and turned in the sky with the help of his Spiritual Detection, avoiding detection by his enemy.

His motive was simple. He at least had to destroy the batch of aerial surveillance soul tools in the air and cause some damage to the Sun Moon Empire. Furthermore, it would make it more convenient for him in the future if he wanted to spy on this soul engineer legion.

However, his expression suddenly changed before he could fly to the altitude of the aerial surveillance soul tools. As he extended his Spiritual Detection upward to find out the exact location of those aerial surveillance soul tools, they quickly shifted and got into a very weird formation.

Shit!

Before he even had time to be shocked, Huo Yuhao reacted without any hesitation. He continued flying upwards, but in addition, he also burst out in a diagonal direction at full speed.

Indeed, the moment he moved, a huge invisible web from the sky fell.

This huge web was made from hundreds of aerial surveillance soul tools. They unleashed soul power undulations that came from oscillation detectors.

The soul power unleashed wasn't strong, but it came in streaks and was very dense. When the web fell from the sky, it covered almost the entire sky above the military base.

The reason why Huo Yuhao felt that things were amiss earlier was because the aerial surveillance soul tools had fallen from an altitude of a thousand meters to five hundred meters.

Something had to be going on if they all fell collectively. This was why he had reacted immediately, and he was right. These aerial surveillance soul tools all contained the ability of oscillation detection, and they bore down as a huge web. No matter how powerful Huo Yuhao was, he couldn't possibly avoid them all.

The undulations couldn't cause him any harm, but Huo Yuhao soon felt his skin numbing. Without a doubt, he had been locked on.

Streaks and streaks of intense red light shone below. Following this, more than fifty beams of piercing red light rose into the sky and shot straight towards where Huo Yuhao was. These fiery-red lights covered hundreds of square meters around him, with him at the center. There was no way he could avoid them.

These were high-temperature scorching rays. They were at least Class 5 soul tools. Such rays couldn't pose any harm to Huo Yuhao, but they were definitely the most rapid attack the Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion could unleash in the short-term. Their aim was also very simple. They wanted to stall Huo Yuhao before deploying other attacks against him.

As these scorching rays shot towards him, more than ten figures had already risen from the base into the attack. From their auras, it was evident that they were at least Class 7 soul engineers. One of them was even a Class 9 soul engineer. They were all flying towards Huo Yuhao at the quickest possible speed.

Damn it! They're too ruthless!

Huo Yuhao was a little depressed right now. However, his greatest potential was always unleashed whenever he was facing danger.

A layer of icy-jade glow emanated from his body. His seven soul rings shone brightly. If the soul engineers from the Sun Moon Empire could see these seven soul rings clearly, they would certainly be astonished.

There was one red and four orange-gold, followed by another two red soul rings. These were the seven soul rings that Huo Yuhao possessed right now.

He controlled his Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice and unleashed it within a small region. All the scorching rays turned to nothing when they entered this region. The beams of scorching red light only added large patches of mist in the sky and didn't serve to stop Huo Yuhao at all.

Huo Yuhao turned into a beam of flowing light and flew downwards diagonally. *Over the*

Right now, he had already been locked on by oscillation detectors. His highest priority was to charge his way out from the region covered by those oscillation detectors. Otherwise, even if he had wings, he wouldn't be able to fly out of the grasp of the enemy's top-ranked soul engineers!

As he completely unleashed his soul power, his Eye of Destiny opened. His soul core revolved quickly, and immense spiritual power shot out from his head.

His spiritual power was very strong. After it appeared, it immediately turned into a spiritual windstorm in the sky.

Spiritual Blast!

Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Blast basically engulfed the entire area spanning a diameter of five hundred meters. It wasn't targeted at any soul master, but at the oscillation detectors in the air.

Spiritual power could generate undulations too. Under the effect of his Spiritual Blast, all the undulations within this region immediately went haywire.

Huo Yuhao knew that he couldn't immediately charge out from the engulfment of the huge web. Those aerial surveillance soul tools were chasing after him based on the direction he was escaping in.

With the soul engineers below him to stall him, how could he successfully escape? This was why he had to disrupt the enemy's knowledge of his exact position.

At least he had some free room to move about within this region now.

Indeed, the moment he unleashed his Spiritual Blast, the second round of attacks that was supposed to come towards him from the ground was silenced. An area five hundred meters in diameter was rather large.

Huo Yuhao needed to use this limited amount of time he had.

His body was still positioned diagonally downwards from earlier. He had already quickly put a flying-type soul tool on his back. After stabilizing his body in the air, he immediately burst up like a shell and shot straight upwards.

Go down? The bottom was completely covered – there was an elite force of soul engineers on the ground, and there were even aerial surveillance soul tools that formed a huge web in the sky. Huo Yuhao was truly trapped. The only escape route was up. It was only by breaking free from the web that he stood a chance of escaping. Furthermore, the attacks that came from below would also weaken as they moved progressively farther through the air. Huo Yuhao was a Class 7 soul engineer himself. He still possessed a deep understanding of soul tools.

This was why the only escape route was above.

The aerial surveillance soul tools were roughly at an altitude of five hundred meters. Under the influence of his Spiritual Blast, Huo Yuhao wasn't able to carry out any detection in the region that he was in. However, he unleashed his Spiritual Interference as he charged up.

Even though his Spiritual Interference wasn't as effective as his Spiritual Blast, it still had some confusion effects under the influence of his earlier Spiritual Blast. After rising a few hundred meters into the sky, he was finally discovered again. However, his exact position wasn't exposed, even though one could roughly gauge where he was, because of his Spiritual Interference.

Right now, he was very calm. He had faced more perilous situations on many other occasions. He knew that he needed to remain calm in a situation like this. It was only by remaining calm that he could increase his chances of survival.

He continued to unleash his full strength and didn't even look at the soul engineers that were pursuing him. Ordinary soul tool attacks couldn't harm him at all. If advanced-tier soul tools couldn't lock onto him, their strength was also limited. After all, there were very limited soul tools like the Death God that could unleash area attacks with such great and terrifying destructiveness.

The Sun Moon Empire had evidently discovered his intentions. The aerial surveillance soul tools in the sky started to rise higher and higher.

Huo Yuhao wouldn't give them such an opportunity. At this moment, he was only a few hundred meters away from these aerial surveillance soul tools. As he flew up, he was already putting another type of soul tool on his back.

Lights started to shine brightly, and Huo Yuhao accelerated amidst strong soul power undulations. During this process of acceleration, he curled his body up, to the point where he resembled a cannon shell.

Not far from him, the soul engineers were shocked as they pursued him.

Is that a soul thruster? However, this soul thruster that this person is using is a little too overpowered. Can his body withstand such strong forces?

They didn't know that Huo Yuhao had already unleashed his Ice Empress' Armor to protect himself as he used his soul thruster. Furthermore, he was also very strong, comparable to a Titled Douluo. Even though it was still a little overwhelming, it wasn't as intense as the soul engineers were predicting.

Huo Yuhao quickly closed the gap. His eyes flashed with cold light, and he stomped with his right leg. Following this, the Star Anise Mysterious Ice Grass surfaced from behind his back. It revealed an icy-blue halo which spread from Huo Yuhao's body. After this, something shocking appeared.

The temperature high up in the sky was naturally lower than on the ground. When that halo spread, all the water vapor and ice elements started to gather in Huo Yuhao's direction at an alarming speed.

Chapter 467.3: Star Anise Omnithrust

This was one of the two soul skills that the Star Anise Mysterious Ice Grass had conferred to Huo Yuhao through that right leg bone – Star Anise Ice Coagulation. It was specially used to form ice elements. Even though it was just an auxiliary-type soul skill, it was important to note that the Star Anise Mysterious Ice Grass was a hundred thousand year soul beast. This meant that the soul bone that it gave Huo Yuhao was also a hundred thousand year soul bone!

As the ice elements in the air formed, the aerial surveillance soul tools that were quickly rising into the air were affected by the temperature and ice elements. They rose slower and slower as the temperature of the air fell significantly.

Following this, Huo Yuhao's right leg suddenly lit up with blinding, icy-blue light. The projection of the Star Anise Mysterious Ice Grass also ballooned significantly behind Huo Yuhao. After this, it turned into countless icy-blue light projections that scattered all around before disappearing.

In the air, ice spikes that were several meters long started to appear out of nowhere. They looked very astonishing from afar. It was as if a huge ice flower had formed at that instant. This ice flower covered a

region that spanned close to a thousand meters in diameter. As the region that it covered was extremely huge, the soul engineers that were pursuing Huo Yuhao subconsciously slowed down, and their expressions all changed.

When soul masters cultivated and added soul rings, they would generally add a domain-type soul skill. Under certain special conditions, domain-type soul skills could be very useful. However, this domain-type soul skill was something that the soul engineers from the Sun Moon Empire were seeing for the first time in their lives.

How ridiculous was it that it covered a thousand meters? That was a full kilometer! Ice spikes filled that region completely. Such a domain-type attack was something they could hardly imagine. It could even rival some deadly soul tools.

Huo Yuhao disappeared as the ice flower bloomed in the sky. However, those aerial surveillance soul tools faced a different fate.

The thick ice spikes ruthlessly penetrated the metal outer shells of those soul tools. Piercing booms and scratching sounds started to resonate through the air.

Even though not all the aerial surveillance soul tools had been engulfed, most of them were gathered here, as they were trying to capture Huo Yuhao.

More than sixty percent of the aerial surveillance soul tools were destroyed just like that. The earlier blockade naturally ceased to exist.

How could Huo Yuhao give up such a fantastic opportunity? He quickly changed directions and flew diagonally upwards to a greater altitude.

“Star Anise, I didn’t expect this! This soul bone that you’ve given me is actually so powerful.” Huo Yuhao complimented as he flew.

The earlier attack had drained more than thirty percent of his soul power. However, Huo Yuhao was well-aware that he couldn’t possibly inflict such great damage if he purely used thirty percent of his soul power to attack.

The earlier attack was completely reliant on the Star Anise Mysterious Ice Grass’ help.

The Star Anise gave Huo Yuhao two soul rings and one soul bone. Originally, Huo Yuhao didn’t put too much hope in it. At some point, he had even forgotten the two soul skills that came with his right leg bone. After all, he already had the Skydream Iceworm, Ice Empress and Snow Empress. Any one of them was much stronger than the Ice Grass.

However, Huo Yuhao had gradually grown to understand the true meaning of the origin of ice after the Snow Empress’ guidance. At times, power wasn’t everything. The best thing was something that suited one the most.

His earlier attack was actually the combined effect of three soul skills.

Among the two soul rings that the Ice Grass gave Huo Yuhao, the sixth soul ring carried a soul skill called Ultimate Ice Enhancement. It helped Huo Yuhao to greatly increase the strength of his Ultimate Ice. Hundred thousand year soul rings generally came with two soul skills, but the Ice Grass was a plant-type

soul beast. It had fewer innate soul skills compared to most ordinary animal-type soul beasts. There were also two soul skills in its right leg bone. This was why it didn't have extra soul skills to confer to Huo Yuhao.

The other two soul skills that took effect earlier came from the right leg bone. One of them was called Star Anise Ice Coagulation. This soul skill was very effective in tandem with Ultimate Ice Enhancement. It was also an important reason why Huo Yuhao's later strike was able to cover such a huge area. As for the ice spikes that had appeared, they came from the other soul skill of the right leg bone, called the Star Anise Omnithrust. *noVe.lb-In*

One attack was enough. More than sixty percent of the Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion's aerial surveillance soul tools had been destroyed. Huo Yuhao felt great. The grim look on his face when he was pursued earlier had vanished completely.

Without oscillation detectors locking onto him and with his Imitation protecting him, detecting him would be extremely difficult. The soul engineers below tried to use two rounds of domain-type attacks, to no avail. Eventually, they had no choice but to retreat back to their base.

Huo Yuhao was very pleased with how he had reacted to the situation. As he flew towards Dragon City, he silently thought to himself – if the earlier fight was on the ground, or if those people chasing me were a little closer, I could have directly used my Ice Explosion Technique after my Star Anise Omnithrust. They'd have been completely blown apart.

What if I used this combination on the Sun Moon Empire's military base? I should be able to cause quite a lot of damage to them.

All this while, Huo Yuhao hadn't used any direct domain-type attacks. After trying it this time, he was rewarded with an unexpected result.

Huo Yuhao escaped in delight, but the atmosphere in the Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion felt extremely repressed.

He wouldn't have imagined that the dark-red commander's tent that he had tried to sneak into earlier actually had the Empress of the Sun Moon Empire inside. She was his former classmate and friend who was once under Xuan Ziwen's guidance in the aspect of soul tool production, Ju Zi.

Ju Zi looked very gloomy as she sat in the main seat in the commander's tent, decked in fiery-red armor.

Ever since she came to the Heavenly Soul Empire, she had never been on such a big losing end before. When she heard that more than sixty percent of the aerial surveillance soul tools had been destroyed, she stood up furiously and broke a glass cup that she normally liked very much.

There were many senior soul engineers of the legion standing below her. However, they were all very petrified now. They lowered their heads and didn't dare to utter a sound at all.

Ju Zi tried to suppress the fury in her heart and asked, "Can someone tell me what's going on?"

A lady who was wearing the same red armor and who appeared to be about forty years old stepped forward and said, "Commander, there seems to only be one enemy. However, this enemy is very strong."

“Be more specific.” Ju Zi said coldly.

“Yes. This enemy should have been here to carry out surveillance. He was able to conceal himself using his own abilities or through a soul tool. After he entered our base, he seemed to be intending to carry out surveillance on this tent. After that, he attacked one of our soul engineers, triggering our linked soul tool. We immediately surrounded and attacked him. However, he was very sly, and his abilities were also very strong. He managed to break free from our initial encirclement and tried to escape by flying higher. To more accurately determine his position, we lowered our line of aerial surveillance soul tools and attempted to use an oscillation detection web to discover his exact position. Very soon, we pinpointed his location.”

As she spoke until here, she paused for a moment before saying with some difficulty, “We were about to succeed. However, he suddenly unleashed some kind of soul skill that stopped us from locking onto his position. After that, he rose into the sky at an alarming speed. As we pursued him, he reached the same altitude as our aerial surveillance soul tools. Following that, he unleashed an ice-type soul skill that covered a region spanning a thousand meters in diameter. The entire sky was filled with ice spikes, destroying many of our aerial surveillance soul tools. Without the web, he concealed himself once again. We tried to use domain-type attacks on him, but they were useless. He managed to escape.”

Ju Zi looked very serious after hearing this report. She furrowed her brow and paced up and down in the tent.

“Concealment. Yet another concealment. At the Ming Dou Mountain Range, it was also because of a fellow who managed to carry out surveillance and used some unknown method to teleport so many Titled Douluo in that it caused our defense to be overwhelmed. Eventually, we were trapped on the losing end. Don’t tell me it’s the same person? Or have the Star Luo and Heavenly Soul Empires found a method of creating soul tools that can help with concealment?”

As she spoke until here, Ju Zi paused for a moment before revealing a pensive look on her face.

The Ming Dou Mountain Range’s failed defense actually had a great impact on the Sun Moon Empire’s overall situation in this war. Given the high status of the Death God Douluo Ye Xishui, no one dared to question her at all.

Ye Xishui didn’t reveal any details of the fight. She only mentioned that the Star Luo Empire had a soul master who was very adept at concealment that used a special method to sneak into the Ming Dou Mountain Range. Furthermore, this soul master brought in many Titled Douluo and caused significant damage to the defense line at the mountain range. To prevent damage of the Death God, she chose to retreat.

This answer was extremely ambiguous to Ju Zi, and greatly affected her judgment. However, while she was the Empress, her position in the empire was nothing compared to Ye Xishui. As a result, she couldn’t do anything even though she was doubtful. She could only plead to Xu Tianran to get to the bottom of things.

Xu Tianran attempted to do so, but Ye Xishui didn’t say anything else. As the Emperor, he was also helpless. He couldn’t afford to offend the Holy Ghost Church. The two Ultimate Douluo in the Holy

Ghost Church and many evil soul masters were the foundation of his plan to dominate the entire continent. This was why he couldn't do anything against the Death God Douluo.

Chapter 468.1: Fire Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion

The Sun Moon Empire had a lot of confidence in their overall strength in this war. The invention of linked soul tools gave them an absolute advantage. However, in terms of high-level fighting strength, the Sun Moon Empire didn't have enough to defeat the Douluo Continent's three native continents and Shrek Academy by themselves. Therefore, they had to rely on the Holy Ghost Church's power.

The Holy Ghost Church was very formidable. Without discussing other things, the existence of the Death God Douluo, Ye Xishui, and the Dragon Emperor Douluo, Long Xiaoyao meant they had two Ultimate Douluo. That was enough to intimidate countless powerful Titled Douluo.

From Ju Zi's perspective, if there weren't any unforeseen incidents, there wouldn't be any problem with Ye Xishui standing guard at the Ming Dou Mountain Range. But who knew that the Star Luo Empire managed to break through in the end?

Afterwards, the White Tiger Duke had used a very venomous strategy, and Ju Zi was still held back no matter how powerful she was.

The White Tiger Duke had dispersed the Star Luo Empire's soul master legions, and deployed five legions with thirty soldiers in a team, which formed one unit. He divided them to go deep into the Sun Moon Empire to destroy things.

They focused on destroying the Sun Moon Empire's granaries and armories in their respective cities. The Star Luo Empire had almost as many soul masters as the Sun Moon Empire did, and they didn't have many soul engineers. However, soul masters were as destructive as soul engineers when they unleashed their destructive power!

There were at least a hundred and fifty units of soul masters scattered into the Sun Moon Empire's territory. They retreated after an assault wherever they were attacking, and they immediately escaped beyond the horizon. They didn't give the Sun Moon Empire a chance to surround and kill him. They were practically engaging in guerilla warfare, and they caused many losses to the Sun Moon Empire after little more than a month.

The Sun Moon Empire's royal family had to pull back a few soul engineer legions because of that, and to defend their territory. They even deployed two of their royal soul engineer legions, which were like their trump cards, so that they could surround the Star Luo Empire's units and establish defensive perimeters. Only then were they able to suppress the Star Luo Empire's soul masters that were undercover in their territory.

But they were in a standoff at the moment.

The Sun Moon Empire could only produce large amounts of aerial surveillance soul tools and rely on their surveillance to fight against the Star Luo Empire's soul masters in their territory.

However, aerial surveillance soul tools were expensive to craft. The Sun Moon Empire's territory stretched over many kilometers, so they couldn't possibly cover every inch of land. Otherwise, the White Tiger Duke's strategy wouldn't have been so hard to deal with.

Nobody was a match for the Death God Douluo in face-to-face battle, but the Death God Douluo was just a mortal, and not actually a God. She couldn't stretch her strength to cover overly large areas.

The soul masters who were undercover in the Sun Moon Empire preoccupied them, while the White Tiger Duke himself led his remaining soul master legions to create defensive structures and perimeters at the Ming Dou Mountain Range with the Star Luo Empire's Northwestern Field Army. They regained everything that they had lost before.

The Sun Moon Empire could only maintain their current situation because the Star Luo Empire was holding them back. They didn't have more strength to continue their invasion, and this was especially so because the Sun Moon Empire didn't dare to attack in Shrek Academy's direction. Even the Holy Ghost Church were fearful of Shrek Academy.

The Douluo Continent's three native empires knew about Shrek Academy's battle against the Great Star Dou Forest's beast wave, and the Sun Moon Empire had also received similar information.

Xu Tianran turned pale with fright when he heard that Shrek Academy had pushed back the Great Star Dou Forest's immense army, and when he heard that the Dragon God Douluo, Mu En, had reappeared.

The Darkness Holy Dragon, or the Death God Douluo, Ye Xishui had told him long ago that everything between them could be discussed or worked out, but they would never directly participate in attacking Shrek Academy.

Xu Tianran didn't have those two Ultimate Douluo in his war against Shrek Academy. As of now, he didn't have any confidence in fighting an open battle against Shrek.

Ju Zi personally returned to Radiant City, and they went through a series of military conferences after a deep chat with Xu Tianran. They finally decided that they should stabilize the current situation and consolidate, and that they had to assimilate as much of the territories that they had conquered in the Heavenly Soul Empire as possible. The commander that Huo Yuhao admired and respected was actually Ju Zi. Her reputation in the Sun Moo Empire was growing exponentially throughout this war.

The Sun Moon Empire's current situation wasn't as good as it was in the beginning, and that was because the Death God Douluo hadn't been able to defend the Ming Dou Mountain Range, and had nothing to do with Ju Zi's war strategies and tactics.

The Sun Moon Empire had conquered two-thirds of the Heavenly Soul Empire's territory with minimal costs and losses by following Ju Zi's war plan. She had earned a lot of credit for the Sun Moon Empire's glorious victories, expansion, and conquered territories. This was especially so because she had feigned an attack against the Star Luo Empire in the beginning, when her real target was the Heavenly Soul Empire, and when she made sure that the Star Luo Empire's intel and surveillance were locked down. She had accomplished great feats.

Ju Zi had been lauded as the Sun Moon Empire's military genius after the war, one who only appeared once in a blue moon, and even the queen's halo wasn't as bright as her own commander's. Ju Zi had increasingly more authority and influence. Besides the Sun Moon Empire's royal legions, the other four beast-ranked soul engineer legions were under her control. She was the commander-in-chief of the great army that was invading east.

Xu Tianran trusted Ju Zi the most, and that was the reason why he was very assured that she held all the authority.

She didn't disappoint him. After conquering large areas of the Heavenly Soul Empire, Xu Tianran was very supportive of penetrating those territories with soul tools and technology. Xu Tianran admired and respected Ju Zi, and he knew that he couldn't devise such strategies by himself. He held her in very high regard.

This time, she had discreetly led an army of twenty thousand to the Heavenly Soul Empire's northeastern region to investigate some mineral resources in the north.

What were wars fought with? They were fought with resources and money.

The Sun Moon Empire had been accumulating reserves for many years, and they were considered sufficiently prepared. However, Huo Yuhao had shaken them at their very core after the massive explosion that he had triggered inside Radiant City. Money and resources were continuously expended after the war started, and that was especially so for their rare metals. They were starting to run low. Therefore, the Sun Moon Empire had been trying to strengthen their search for mines and minerals recently, especially within the Heavenly Soul Empire. They would undoubtedly excavate and mine anything they discovered as quickly as possible.

Ju Zi had received reliable reports from her people in the Heavenly Soul Empire saying that there was an enormous mine in the Heavenly Soul Empire's northern region, in the areas bordering the Extreme North. There were more than ten veins of rare metals that they could excavate there.

She had sent someone to investigate the matter previously, and the report was confirmed. This mine was very close of the Dou Ling Empire's northern borders, and it was positioned between the Heavenly Soul Empire and the Dou Ling Empire.

Before the Sun Moon Empire had started this war, the Heavenly Soul Empire and the Dou Ling Empire had just discovered the existence of this mine. They hadn't had time to excavate it before the war had started.

Therefore, the Sun Moon Empire would likely clash with the Dou Ling Empire if they wanted to mine these resources.

The Sun Moon Empire had very formidable tools for detecting rare metals. Ju Zi had instructed experts to do a serious investigation of this area before coming here, and her experts had told her that this mine held an extremely large volume of rare metals. If they could extract it, they would have enough to support another war.

Ju Zi had reported that to Xu Tianran once she managed to confirm those reports.

Rare metals had undoubtedly become the most important resource after accompanying soul engineers into the history of war. Xu Tianran wasn't assured at all to leave such important resources in the hands of just anyone. He decided after discussing with Ju Zi that she was to personally lead the Fire Phoenix Legion here, and she was to be in charge of excavating this mine.

Besides this army of twenty thousand, there was to be an enormous team of excavators that would arrive later. However, they were going to mine in the Extreme North, and the weather would greatly

affect the speed and progress of excavation. The team needed time to prepare. Therefore, Ju Zi came first so that she could conquer and assimilate this entire place before making other plans.

Huo Yuhao wouldn't know about all this if he had left with Nan Qiuqiu before. Destiny worked in such mysterious ways, and a single episode of deep meditation created an opportunity for him such that he could do reconnaissance like he did.

How could she not be dejected? She hadn't accomplished her true aim of being here, and yet she had sustained such heavy losses. It wasn't hard to imagine how expensive soul detectors that were equipped to beast lord-ranked legions were, and even she couldn't bear a sixty percent loss! This was a colossal blow. Furthermore, she couldn't fathom what kind of soul master could achieve this feat. If that individual was a soul engineer, not even the Sun Moon Empire had any results in using soul tools for the art of concealment. Ju Zi didn't believe that the Douluo Continent's three empires could surpass the Sun Moon Empire in this respect.

If a single soul master did everything by himself, then wouldn't this soul master's abilities be far too powerful? He could conceal himself, and he could unleash ice-type soul skills over large areas. She had never heard of any Titled Douluo that could achieve all that!

"Pass down my orders – everyone in the Fire Phoenix Legion is to move at once. Everyone will hold oscillation detectors to search within thirty kilometers of the army camp. However, don't affect Dragon City, so that we don't affect our plan to assimilate the city through our technology."

"Yes!" Her subordinate soul engineers acknowledged at once and departed swiftly.

Ju Zi frowned tightly as she calculated in her head, and considered where that person who was investigating them came from. The Heavenly Soul Empire shouldn't have any strength left to conduct such reconnaissance in the northern regions, and they would definitely use an individual with such impressive scouting abilities on the battlefield. The Dou Ling Empire was in the same situation. They were teamed up with the Heavenly Soul Empire, and their army was in a standoff against her own army on the battlefield. They wouldn't have anybody to deploy into the northern regions. She hadn't even attempted to excavate those mines yet!

Chapter 468.2: Fire Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion

There was only one other possibility besides these two empires. The person who had just come to investigate came from one of the Heavenly Soul Empire's reclusive sects. This was the only plausible explanation.

Ju Zi felt a headache come on when she thought about "reclusive sects". As of now, they had conquered more than two-thirds of the Heavenly Soul Empire's territory, but the Sun Moon Empire had also sustained heavy losses. Their greatest losses weren't in the war – instead, their greatest losses occurred when they were fighting those reclusive sects.

The Heavenly Soul Empire had a long history, which could be traced back ten thousand years. Back then, the Heavenly Soul Empire was still called the Heaven Dou Empire, and this empire was formed by the Heavenly Soul Empire and the Dou Ling Empire. There were many soul masters in the Heavenly Soul Empire, and there were many reclusive sects as well.

Even though these reclusive sects didn't want to have anything to do with the Heavenly Soul Empire in normal days, the Sun Moon Empire was their enemy in the end. The enemy of my enemy is my friend, and they had to work together against their common enemy. Reclusive sects were always very secretive with what they did, as they focused on protecting themselves. They were always doing hit-and-runs against the Sun Moon Empire, and that highly irritated her. Even though these people didn't have a decisive impact on the war, they were consistently causing damage to the Sun Moon Empire.

They had appeared in the Ming Dou Mountain Range before, and now they had appeared far into the Heavenly Soul Empire's northeastern region. It seemed like this sect, who was adept with the art of concealment and reconnaissance, didn't just have one person who was good at these things. What was more frightening was the ice-type domain attack that had a reach of a thousand meters in diameter. Based on this range, that person should be a powerful Titled Douluo.

Titled Douluo were always terrifying as an enemy. A Titled Douluo was just one person, and his powerful strength, in addition to the fact that he was hiding in the darkness, meant that he was a threat whenever and wherever. Even if this person didn't care about lashing out against normal soldiers, he was still a great threat to the Fire Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion. Without talking about other things, this person would destroy every single one of their aerial surveillance soul tools if he attacked a few more times. He could cause her entire army to go blind.

Ju Zi's hands gradually clenched into fists. Cold light flickered in her eyes – she had to find a way to remove this threat, no matter what.

Huo Yuhao had already returned to Dragon City at this point. The soul-stirring thrill from before was just another unimpressive experience among all his past experiences.

He returned to the cloth store. Nan Qiuqiu was still awake, and was waiting in the courtyard for him.

"Why did you take so long?" She asked with a frown.

Huo Yuhao said, "The situation is more serious than I had imagined. The Sun Moon Empire's Fire Phoenix Legion is hidden amidst the army of twenty thousand."

Nan Qiuqiu was thrown into shock. How could she not know about the Fire Phoenix Legion? "What are they trying to do?" she said nervously, "Do they wish to destroy Dragon City?" If a legion with an overall fighting strength such as that one wanted to cause destruction, destroying an entire city really wasn't anything much.

Huo Yuhao shook his head and said, "How can that be? If that were the case, then they wouldn't have to expend so much energy to penetrate Dragon City with soul tools and technology. However, I wasn't able to discover their goal."

Nan Qiuqiu frowned and said, "Then what should we do? We should continue investigating and figure out what's happening. There must be something they want, with such a powerful soul engineer legion around."

Huo Yuhao stared at her with a strange look in his eyes. "Yes, investigating is the right way to go. But there's no we – there's only me."

Nan Qiuqiu's eyebrows immediately went vertical. "What do you mean? You intend to abandon me and go alone?"

Huo Yuhao said sincerely, "Qiuqiu, did you notice the disturbance outside just now?"

Nan Qiuqiu was momentarily stunned, and said, "I didn't hear any disturbance, but I did see faint flickers outside the city. That was you?"

Huo Yuhao nodded as he recounted his experience in detail.

"I managed to escape, but by a hair's breadth, with my own abilities. If you were with me, neither of us would have been able to escape." Huo Yuhao spoke with a very pained look on his face.

Nan Qiuqiu was rude and unruly, but she definitely wasn't unreasonable. She stared at him and said, "You can't put it like that. Are you saying that I'm a burden?"

Huo Yuhao said nothing, and he just stared quietly at her.

Nan Qiuqiu was a little embarrassed and annoyed at his stare. She grunted furiously and said, "Fine, so I am a burden. I won't follow you, then. But since they have already discovered you, their defenses will be much tighter. How are you going to find out what they want?"

Huo Yuhao said, "I wanted to find intel directly, but since I can't do that, then I can only follow them. Since they have come all the way to the northern regions, their destination can't be far. I will definitely be able to find out what they want as long as I follow them. Don't worry, I will be more careful with the lesson I've just learned."

Nan Qiuqiu contemplated for a while. Even though she wasn't convinced, she had no choice but to admit that she was a lot weaker than Huo Yuhao was. Huo Yuhao would be burdened if he had to take another person with him.

"Alright, alright. You go, then. I'll wait in Dragon City for you, and we'll head to our own destination from before after you come back. But you must be careful."

Huo Yuhao laughed and said, "Qiuqiu is a reasonable lady, indeed."

"Don't do that. I'm going to sleep. Hurry and leave if you must." Nan Qiuqiu turned around and went back to her own room after that.

Huo Yuhao heaved a sigh in his mind as he watched her elegant profile. Qiuqiu is a nice girl, and I can't let her become like Qiu'er back then, no matter what.

His heart began to ache when he thought about Wang Qiu'er. Dong'er should still be alive no matter how her situation was, but Qiu'er was already... This had become an agony deep in his heart that would last forever. *novE(l&)*In

Huo Yuhao sighed as his thoughts stopped here, and returned to his own room. After this night's hustle, the Sun Moon Empire wouldn't move out throughout the night, so it wouldn't be too late for him to follow them in the morning.

Huo Yuhao snuck out after finishing breakfast the next day. Nan Qiuqiu didn't escort him out, but she sulked in her own room after he left instead.

Am I not just a little weaker than you? I'll catch up to you! Nan Qiuqiu decided that she would go into closed-door cultivation during the days that Huo Yuhao wasn't around, and she began to work hard inside the cloth store.

Huo Yuhao left the city through the eastern gate just like he did the previous day. He returned to the forest that he was hiding in previously. He wasn't hasty to go out this time – instead, he began to meditate in the middle of the forest as he observed the movements of the Sun Moon Empire's army in the distance.

He wasn't stupid. He had dealt such a heavy blow to the Fire Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion the previous day, so the defenses within their army camp had to be incredibly strict. He would be going to certain death if he took the risk to investigate at this time. Since that was the case, he chose to observe from afar, since his aim was to follow them anyway.

The maximum range of his Spiritual Detection meant nothing could possibly go wrong if all he wanted to do was follow an army. Only if the Sun Moon Empire could redirect all their aerial surveillance soul tools to his location so that they could conduct surveillance closer to the ground across all positions could they possibly discover his presence.

There wasn't much disturbance within the Sun Moon Empire's great army. Everything seemed very calm and peaceful one day after, as if nothing had happened last night.

Huo Yuhao was very patient. He wasn't flustered at all as he just cultivated quietly inside the forest. He would just wait it out – his enemies weren't hasty, so why should he be?

He simply used his spiritual power to detect in a single direction from time to time, and he would sweep over the Sun Moon Empire's camp to make sure that the Fire Phoenix Legion was still around before he continued cultivating.

He had gained quite some inspiration from last night's battle. Furthermore, he had been focusing his energy on studying Ultimate Ice over recent weeks. That was something that needed a lot of time for him to slowly grasp. At the same time, he needed time to absorb the Manifold Mysterious Ice Essence in his body. Cultivating anywhere made no difference to him. As for the exposed outdoors, that was a piece of cake.

Three days passed like that in the blink of an eye. The Sun Moon Empire finally couldn't stand the loneliness anymore, as they set off to depart.

Huo Yuhao had to admit that this army was very outstanding. They didn't create much of a disturbance as they moved out, and their formations were very neat and strict. The army on the periphery began to move first, and they took down their tents, while the soldiers responsible for impedimenta took everything apart and packed it up. The soldiers formed up in neat lines as they proceeded towards the north.

Huo Yuhao quickly saw the Fire Phoenix Legion's team. The legion's members were also walking on the ground, and their formation was very neat. They didn't act all high and mighty just because they were soul engineers.

They can't hold back any longer? A faint smile appeared at the corner of Huo Yuhao's mouth as he stood up. He wasn't worried at all. He couldn't follow too closely, as he would be easily discovered if he came too close. He just had to follow them from several kilometers out. With his Imitation, those aerial surveillance soul tools in the sky couldn't possibly discover his presence as long as he maintained a sufficient distance.

Huo Yuhao followed far behind once the army had completely uprooted and moved on. He didn't follow behind them for long, proceeded on their flank as he gradually shifted forward.

He knew that for him to complete his reconnaissance mission, or even to ruin the Sun Moon Empire's mission, he had to allow his enemies to lower their guard first. Therefore, he couldn't allow his enemies to discover his presence, no matter what. His enemies would believe that he was already gone, given enough time, and that he had never returned after escaping the other day. As for making a move, he wouldn't do anything unless as a last resort.

Huo Yuhao followed at a distance just like that. The Sun Moon Empire's army continued pushing forward as they went straight towards the north.

The army was moving very quickly. They were almost always jogging; they would jog for an hour before they walked for a bit, and then jog again. This army was moving at a spectacular speed, and their overall quality was very obvious.

The army went a hundred kilometers north after one day. The air was starting to become increasingly cold. They stopped to set up camp and cook food.

Chapter 468.3: Fire Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion

Huo Yuhao hid behind a small hill. The weather was cold, but that didn't affect him at all. However, he couldn't help but swallow some saliva as he stared at the smoke spiraling from the army camp in the distance. Drinking some hot soup in such snowy lands would be so luxurious! I'm just doing hard labor now.

He couldn't help but laugh bitterly as his thoughts stopped there. However, he could only continue, since he was already at this stage.

Huo Yuhao laid out his map as he leaned against the hill. He had prepared this map long ago. It wasn't a map of the Heavenly Soul Empire's northern region – instead, it was a detailed map of the Douluo Continent's northern regions. He had spent quite a lot of money to get this map. The map itself was made from goatskin, and it was tough and soft at the same time. It could be preserved for a long time.

Huo Yuhao scrutinized the map for a while when he discovered that the Sun Moon Empire's army was still going northeast. They would reach the border between the Heavenly Soul Empire and the Dou Ling Empire if they went further in the same direction. They would also be bordering the Extreme North there, and it would be even colder than it was here.

The temperature there was no small problem for typical soul masters, but could normal soldiers really bear it?

Huo Yuhao turned around as he contemplated, and he lay on his stomach on the hill as he gazed at the Sun Moon Empire's camp in the distance. He activated Spiritual Detection at the same time as he swept in toward the army camp.

He quickly discovered that something else was happening. The Sun Moon Empire's camp seemed to be handing something out, and their soldiers were all lined up to collect those things. Everybody was to collect two items that resembled small boxes, and cotton-padded clothes.

The cotton-padded clothes seemed decent in quality. That was especially so for the cotton shoes – they were very thick and sturdy, and Huo Yuhao could tell that they would be very good at retaining warmth.

It seems like the Sun Moon Empire have long been prepared! These soldiers are probably decent at resisting the cold, so the Sun Moon Empire can't have deployed soldiers from their own northern territories. Since that's the case, and in addition to the cotton clothes that they have prepared, they will actually be able to resist the severe cold for a short period of time.

Huo Yuhao went through the night amidst the chilly winds.

He understood during what those boxes that were given out to the soldiers did the next morning.

Every box was about the size of a palm, and the soldiers placed them in their clothes. These boxes were very closely pressed against their inner shirts and tied around their waists. When they began to march, Huo Yuhao immediately realized that the boxes emanated gentle heat. The heat coursed throughout the soldiers' bodies and helped them resist the external cold.

That works?? Those tiny boxes should also be soul tools. If that was the case, the box definitely needed sealed Milk Bottles inside. Maintaining the heat didn't need too much soul power, but Huo Yuhao could tell from the size of the box that it could only be sustained for a few days before it had to be charged.

Huo Yuhao thought carefully for a moment, and he couldn't help but concede his enemies' ingenuity. The Sun Moon Empire's army was following a formidable soul engineer legion, and the Fire Phoenix Legion had at least three hundred soul engineers, while charging those small milk bottles didn't need too much of their soul power. When the army was resting at night, every soul master would be responsible for some soldiers' sealed Milk Bottles. Naturally, they would be able to charge all those milk bottles that way.

Huo Yuhao hadn't expected the Sun Moon Empire to have developed soul tools for commoners to use. If, one day, they could find something to substitute for milk bottles, the Sun Moon Empire could truly conquer the entire continent – because that would be the time when normal soldiers could become soul engineers, and they would have a soul engineer's attacking power. Huo Yuhao thought about it – how frightening would it be, if a hundred thousand soul engineers appeared on the battlefield?

Huo Yuhao heaved a faint sigh inside. He shook his head as he accepted this reality in exasperation. It seemed like the Douluo Continent's three native empires had to accomplish great feats as soon as possible if they wished to fight back against the Sun Moon Empire. Otherwise, within a hundred years,

even if the Sun Moon Empire didn't launch an invasion, their technological advantage would become increasingly evident. The Douluo Continent would finally belong to them like a meal on a lunch plate.

Huo Yuhao was lamenting inside, but he had to continue following them. He was still following far behind them on their flank, and he followed the army forward towards the Heavenly Soul Empire's northeastern region.

The Sun Moon Empire's great army moved slower as the weather became colder. The place that Huo Yuhao had estimated they would reach within a day took them two days.

Everything was white and snowy around him, and the cold winds howled through the air as they cut like blades. There wasn't much moisture in the air in a snowy place like this, because any bit of water would be immediately frozen. The temperature here was at least thirty degrees below zero, and normal people would find it extremely difficult to survive in such an environment.

It was almost evening when the Sun Moon Empire set up camp once more. Their camp was a lot more compact compared to before. Furthermore, Huo Yuhao realized to his surprise that the layout was also different.

The Fire Phoenix Legion, who were originally in the innermost sections, were shifted to the periphery. They formed an arch as they directly faced the northwestern winds, as if they were alpha wolves guarding their companions from the most bitter chill. The commander's tent was apparently right at the front, and it didn't move at all even when the cold wind blew against it.

The other tents were tightly and neatly arranged in rows behind them. This was the layout that could preserve as much heat as possible.

The spiraling smoke had disappeared by now, and he could see hot air rising from some large tents. There was no doubt that the army cooks were located toward the center, and not on the outside. Otherwise, starting a fire would be very difficult in a place like this, where water turned into ice.

Huo Yuhao heaved another faint sigh in his heart. I have been freezing for a day, and I should also get a sip of that hot soup! Even though I'm not afraid of the cold, I have been exposed to the weather in this snowy place for days. These days haven't really been comfortable at all.

However, Huo Yuhao could tell that the Sun Moon Empire's army wasn't that far away from their destination. That was because they were always travelling toward the northwest, and now, they were near the Extreme North's borders. They would enter the Extreme North if they continued forward.

Huo Yuhao had been in the Extreme North before, and was thus very clear on the dreadful conditions there. Normal people would definitely not survive in a place like that, and that was the case even with cotton-padded clothes and soul tools that provided heat.

Even soul masters couldn't go deep inside if they didn't have a certain standard. Furthermore, there were many ice-type soul beasts that lived in the Extreme North. They borrowed strength from their surroundings, and they were much more powerful than typical soul beasts. The Fire Phoenix Legion would run out of strength no matter how powerful they were if they ran into a pack of formidable soul beasts. Huo Yuhao could faintly guess that the reason why the Fire Phoenix Legion was involved in this operation was likely to be because their abilities had something to do with fire. Fire-type abilities would

be greatly limited in a place like this, but fire-type abilities were also good at resisting the cold. The more he thought this way, the more Huo Yuhao felt that the Fire Phoenix Legion wasn't directing the Sun Moon Empire's army here to battle. They were here for something else.

Huo Yuhao continued to think as faint light flickered. He hid himself within a small depression in a mountain. He didn't have any fire-type abilities, and having something warm in such a snowy place was completely impossible. However, he had his own methods.

He retrieved some dry rations from his storage-type soul tool before he placed them on his right hand. A strange scene occurred – the tough dry rations in his hand gradually became soft, before they began to emanate a faint warmth.

Huo Yuhao hadn't wasted his time in the Extreme North over the past few days. His understanding of the element of ice had become increasingly deep, especially in terms of controlling heat.

Ice needed a lot of heat to melt. In the same way, water forming ice would release large amounts of heat.

Huo Yuhao leveraged this principle as he sealed off the air around him before he began to control his blood and condense it into ice. This naturally released heat; such control shouldn't be too difficult for a person with spiritual power as powerful as his.

However, the dry rations would only be a little warm and soft. He had to eat them quickly. In the end, he couldn't let the blood in his hands freeze for too long, as long as he could swallow those dry rations.

Huo Yuhao swiftly dealt with dinner as he prepared to meditate once more. However, right at this moment, he suddenly realized to his surprise that something was happening in the Sun Moon Empire's army.

The Sun Moon Empire began to erect thick metal pillars around their camp in the dark of night. Some of the Fire Phoenix Legion's members clad in dark-red armor were hard at work, and they were flying through the air as they arranged those metal pillars according to their designated locations, before certain individuals would hammer them into the ground and stabilize them.

Normal people would need many large machines to complete a task like this. However, this wasn't much for soul engineers. Soul engineers were soul masters first, and they could rely on auxiliary soul tools for aid, so they found such tasks very easy and casual. It didn't take long before they were almost done with their job.

Have they arrived at their destination??Huo Yuhao observed closely.

There was no doubt that these metal pillars were brought with their storage-type soul tools. Every pillar seemed about fifty meters long, and had diameters of more than three meters. It wasn't hard to imagine their weight. They were not only brought by storage-type soul tools – this had to be done with high-quality storage-type soul tools.

What is the Sun Moon Empire doing here? Is this where they intended to be? What can there be in the barren Extreme North?

Huo Yuhao had many doubts in his mind. However, he could only continue observing. At least, he was sure of one thing, that the Sun Moon Empire wouldn't create a fortress here like idiots.

The enormous metal pillars weighed at least five thousand kilos, and several high-tier soul engineers had to work together to arrange and install them properly in the ground. Seven or eight pillars were quickly drilled into the ground, and every pillar was at least thirty meters deep, while twelve meters remained aboveground.

Chapter 469: Devious Trap

After this, Huo Yuhao saw that the Sun Moon Empire had used these metal pillars as a foundation to build machines around them.

It was Huo Yuhao's first time seeing such machines. He had no idea what they were. Their structure appeared very complicated, and soul power undulations rippled from them.

These machines were very sophisticated. Although Huo Yuhao could use his spiritual power to imprint their structure in his mind, he had to get closer first. Right now, he was around five kilometers from the Sun Moon Empire's military. He would only be discovered if he went too close. This was why he wasn't anxious at all.

No, I'll go take a look at night. Huo Yuhao believed that he could find out what these soul tools were used for if he could observe their core formations, given his understanding of soul tools.

The Sun Moon Empire wouldn't do this for nothing. They had to have their reasoning behind building such a formation here. Furthermore, he was a little relaxed knowing that the Sun Moon Empire had not built them as a means of war. The Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion didn't seem to have the intention of constructing a soul formation here. Without a sufficiently large soul formation, Huo Yuhao believed that this place wasn't enough to threaten him yet.

Night fell. The Sun Moon Empire's soul engineers returned to their tents after working for more than two hours. When night fell, the temperature of the Extreme North would fall significantly. No soul engineer would be able to work under such rigorous conditions!

The sky had turned fully dark. Amidst the chilly wind, the snow on the ground was blown into the air, turning into huge patches of ice flakes. Not only was the temperature of these ice flakes extremely low, but they also combined with the chilly wind to make it biting cold. If a normal person's skin was exposed, it would dry up and sustain frostbite in a matter of seconds.

Huo Yuhao waited another two hours until the entire military base had quieted down and all the soul lamps had been switched off before he silently snuck out.

Around a week had passed since the start of this expedition. Huo Yuhao believed that the Sun Moon Empire's military should have lowered their guard slightly, even though they were very cautious. Those machines were on the perimeter of the base. No matter what, there shouldn't be too much danger.

Huo Yuhao inched forward amidst the darkness. He unleashed his Imitation and rapidly came closer to the military base.

Five kilometers was a very short distance for him. In just a short while, he managed to get close to the military base.

He unleashed his Spiritual Detection and first scanned the sky. He didn't want to repeat his earlier mistake. If the aerial surveillance soul tools were at an altitude of five hundred meters or below, he would rather give up on this surveillance mission.

There were indeed aerial surveillance soul tools in the sky. However, they were much higher up. They weren't carrying out any oscillation detections towards the ground. At the same time, Huo Yuhao also carefully used his Spiritual Detection to scan the surroundings of those machines. There weren't any oscillation detectors or spiritual barriers around those machines either.

After ensuring his safety, he continued to get closer, and quickly came near those large-scale machines and observed them.

The massive metal pillars gave off a stronger sense of oppression the closer he came to them. He touched them gently before using his spiritual power to sense them. Huo Yuhao discovered that these metal pillars were constructed using alloys. Although they were large, they were still mixed with many other rare metals inside. This also meant that the cost of even one metal pillar would be astronomical. The pillars were very strong. It seemed that they were being used to support some other soul tools.

Many of the soul tools that were manufactured with these metal pillars as their foundation didn't have core formations yet. They looked very exquisite, but it was unclear what they were going to be used for.

After furrowing his brow, Huo Yuhao started to become a little confused. What is the Sun Moon Empire trying to do?

It seemed like he had to continue waiting. It was only through greater observation that he could discover their true motive.

Huo Yuhao didn't dare to stay any longer as he thought until here. He turned around and was prepared to retreat.

At this moment, a cold voice sounded. "Since you're already here, you don't have to rush to leave."

Huo Yuhao was petrified. At that instant, the surrounding several hundred square meters started to shine brightly with light. All the lights were focused on him, and the metal pillars were completely exposed under the lights.

Although Huo Yuhao was protected by his Imitation, he could clearly sense that he was being locked on.

How is this possible?? Huo Yuhao was astonished at this instant. He had believed that he was very cautious. How could he possibly have been discovered? He hadn't discovered any oscillation detectors or spiritual barriers earlier!

"Weird, isn't it? You don't have to be surprised. Since you're able to perform surveillance on us, we had to put in a lot of effort to set this trap for you. The edges of the Extreme North are famed for their extremely low temperatures. Amidst the low temperatures, thermal detectors are especially sensitive. Even though you've tried your best to assimilate your body temperature with your surroundings, you

forgot that there will be changes in the air currents as you move about. This more or less changes the temperature of the air. No matter whether it's you or the air, the outcome is the same."

"Of course, such slight changes are unable to explain anything. Generally, we wouldn't be too bothered even if we discovered this. However, it's different today. When I instructed people to build this foundation, I expected you to come. This was why I gathered many thermal detectors far away, and these thermal detectors are specifically targeted at this small region. Even a slight thermal change can be detected. Furthermore, those controlling the thermal detectors are ordinary soldiers under me. They don't know what the point of it is. This is why they won't develop any caution against you."

"I'm clearly aware that Titled Douluo like you are very sensitive to danger. However, these people I sent out won't pose any threat to you. How can you sense any danger if that's the case? Even the people surrounding you right now were informed that this was only an exercise. I'm afraid you have nowhere to run now."

Huo Yuhao couldn't help but sigh as he heard the lady speak until here. It seemed like he had been too careless! Or rather, this person was simply too cunning. To trap him, she had been waiting for an opportunity to set up this trap. Wasn't she afraid that he hadn't followed them here? Or rather, she was setting up this trap based on the thinking that he would be here. She was patient, even more patient than him. She was indeed a very strong opponent.

Huo Yuhao didn't utter a sound or move. He could only feel his skin numbing, and couldn't move at all. Once he moved, countless hidden soul tools would be fired towards him instantly.

Since the enemy had prepared such a trap, they would definitely reckon that their attack was sufficient to harm him. Furthermore, he could also hear from the words of the enemy that it was a trap set for a Titled Douluo.

Huo Yuhao wasn't feeling depressed. He was reprimanding himself instead. In the academy, he was the only one who had completed the Ultimate Soldier Plan, but he was actually in such a situation right now. He could only blame his carelessness. It was a problem birthed from his overconfidence.

Of course, the cunning of his enemy was key to him being trapped. However, he could only pick problems with himself at this moment. At the same time, he started to think of ways he could escape.

"You should feel that you've been locked on by us. I'm not afraid of telling you that you have been completely locked on by our linked defensive soul tools. It's impossible for you to escape. At the same time, there are more than a hundred offensive soul tools aimed at you. They are all at least Class 5 soul tools. Among them, one is even a Class 9 soul tool. There are sixteen Class 8 soul tools. If you think you can escape, you can try."

That cold voice sounded gentler. For some reason, Huo Yuhao seemed to feel that he knew this voice as it became gentler.

Do I know this person?

However, this thought disappeared as soon as it appeared. The pressing issue was how he was going to escape. The enemy had said everything she said to out psychological pressure in him. However, by saying all that, it was clear that she wanted to capture him alive.

Although Huo Yuhao was trapped, he had great spiritual power, and was very calm. He was able to maintain his cool even in such a situation, and made a correct judgment.

The other party doesn't want to kill me. She wants to capture me alive. This is my opportunity.

If their aim was to kill him, he would have felt it earlier. He didn't have the senses of a Titled Douluo, but he possessed the Eye of Destiny. Once he faced mortal danger, he would have some sort of sensation. His enemy was too cunning. She got almost everything right, but she didn't have any intention of killing him.

It seems like it's my Imitation and Star Anise Omnithrust that attracted her attention. Given her absolute advantage, her intention must be to capture me and get information out of me. If that's the case, I stand a chance.

Huo Yuhao didn't move. He unleashed his spiritual power and turned it into a huge invisible web that started to spread out in the direction of that voice.

Very soon, he discovered that he knew nothing about this trap. The soul engineers that were in ambush weren't on the ground at all. They were beneath the ground. They weren't far away and dug their way out before aiming their soul tools at him.

At this instant, Huo Yuhao understood everything. When the enemy was installing the metal pillars earlier, they looked like they were trying to draw his attention. In fact, they were thinking of ways to dig tunnels below and hide their soul engineers. Without a doubt, these soul engineers had some ways of hiding their own auras. At the same time, they didn't receive any instructions to carry out an ambush. This was why Huo Yuhao didn't discover them. Cunning, this marshal is indeed too cunning. She actually set such a big trap to catch me. n(-o-/v())e)/L/(\&-(!--n

Huo Yuhao intentionally deepened his voice, made it nasally, and said, "What's the point of saying all that? If you want to kill me, do it."

The lady with the cold voice laughed. "I just want to avoid unnecessary death. As long as you're willing to lay down your arms and surrender, I can guarantee your safety. Otherwise, we'll just lose some machines."

Huo Yuhao was silent for a moment before saying, "How do I know you're telling the truth? What if you kill me after I surrender? What happens then?"

That lady chortled coldly, "Do you have the right to negotiate with us now? If you believe me, you might survive. If you don't, you'll die. A clever person knows what to choose."

Huo Yuhao definitely knew that there weren't any guarantees, given such a cunning opponent. However, he needed some time to analyze the situation. This was because this lady was clearly using a displacement soul tool. Her voice didn't come from where she actually was. He needed more time to determine her position.

"Let me consider it for a moment." Huo Yuhao replied.

"You can do so, but shouldn't you reveal your true self, so that I can see who the person who brought so much damage to my Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion is?"

“Yes.” Huo Yuhao answered without any hesitation. At the same time, he removed his Imitation. It was just that he used it to slightly change his appearance just as he removed it. He now looked like an ordinary middle-aged man. As for his figure, he didn’t change it. It was easy to be exposed if he changed his appearance too much.

As Huo Yuhao slowly appeared, more and more equipment locked onto him.

The other party seemed to be observing him. After a brief moment, that lady’s voice sounded very skeptical, “You used a soul skill to conceal yourself? Not a soul tool?” Her voice sounded disappointed.

Huo Yuhao nodded and replied, “You’re right, of course it’s through a soul skill. I have never heard of a soul tool being capable of concealing someone.”

That lady said after a momentary silence, “Alright, whether it’s soul skills or soul tools, you only have one chance to survive – that is to submit to the Sun Moon Empire and become one of us. Life is precious. Everyone can only live once. You’ve been cultivating since the beginning, and have put in a lot of hard work. I don’t suppose you want to die just like that. If you listen to us from now on, I can give you a new life. This world is going to be ruled by the Sun Moon Empire soon.”

Chapter 470.1: Ju Zi, Ju Zi, Ju Zi!

Huo Yuhao laughed sarcastically and replied, “Do I have a choice? Whatever you say is final? You’re right. I admit that I don’t want to die. However, will you trust me if I surrender so easily?”

The lady laughed coldly and said, “I can confirm that this is very simple. I’ll start with understanding who you are.”

At this moment, an object flew towards Huo Yuhao. He didn’t move as it was flung at him, and it landed three meters away from him.

“Bang!” It was a pair of dark gold manacles. There was a ring of sharp teeth pointing inwards within the manacles.

“Those are called Godrestricting Manacles. When you put it on, it will restrict your soul power. We can start talking properly then.” The lady said in a very relaxed manner.

Huo Yuhao stood there and hesitated for a moment. He revealed a slightly hesitant look in his eyes, “If I put these manacles on, will you really not kill me?”

The lady calmly replied, “I already mentioned that you have no choice. You can only believe me. Moreover, do you think you’d still be alive if I wanted to kill you? Put them on. My words are final.”

She was both threatening and convincing him. Her tone of voice also sounded very reassuring.

Huo Yuhao stood where he was, his expression changing. That lady didn’t force him any further. She only maintained her silence as she waited for his response.

After a while, Huo Yuhao let out a long sigh and slowly walked towards those manacles. He was walking very slowly. As he moved, the soul tools that were locked onto him also slowly moved.

The lady smiled and said, "You're clever. Just like that, walk slowly. Otherwise, I can't guarantee that my men won't accidentally discharge their soul tools."

Huo Yuhao was indeed very slow. He didn't want to move too quickly. There was a look of helplessness and dejection in his eyes. Finally, he arrived in front of the manacles. He slowly bent at the waist over and moved to put the manacles on.

"Just put them on directly?" Huo Yuhao asked.

"Yes, Both hands." The lady said very patiently.

"Alright, I concede defeat." Huo Yuhao sighed once more and used the Godrestricting Manacles to cuff himself.

All the soul tools were still locked onto him. However, Huo Yuhao's spiritual power was very sensitive. When he moved to put on the manacles, he immediately sensed that all the soul engineers relaxed slightly.

They didn't make a mistake; this was a normal human reaction. Any human would react like that under such a circumstance, especially in this icy place. However, Huo Yuhao made his move just as they reacted.

The Godrestricting Manacles were getting closer and closer to his wrists. To a normal person, this happened in just an instant. However, Huo Yuhao was able to delay this instant through his spiritual power.

The manacles were less than an inch away from his left wrist. At this moment, Huo Yuhao could sense the power of the manacles. He immediately made his judgment – once he was cuffed, one of the cuffs was already enough to restrict him completely. He didn't need to be cuffed on both hands.

At the last inch, Huo Yuhao suddenly moved.

Lights flashed without any warning.

Huo Yuhao instantly switched positions. An old lady who was around seventy was standing where he was now. She appeared very confused.

This sudden change caused all of the soul engineers to be shocked. This was because they had clearly locked onto Huo Yuhao earlier. However, he had disappeared now, and caused their lock-on to vanish too. Many of the soul engineers suddenly fired, as they couldn't control themselves. However, their attacks were blocked by a layer of light that rose from the old lady's body.

"This is not good, commander!" The old lady shouted.

The surrounding soul engineers were all in a state of panic. This was because they could recognize that the old lady was the vice-legion commander of the Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion. She was a Class 9 soul engineer!

The original strict formation changed. Following this, an anxious voice sounded. "I'm fine. Catch him. He's fake."

The old lady revealed a slight smile on her face. Had he finally appeared?

Lights flashed again before that old lady disappeared. She was replaced by a tall, big lady who was around forty years old.

Yes, that old lady earlier was still Huo Yuhao. He had used his Spiritual Interference to isolate all lock-ons before using his Imitation to change his appearance.

He had no choice. He still hadn't managed to trace the original source of the voice using his spiritual power earlier. However, he still managed to discover the Class 9 soul engineer who could threaten him the most using his Spiritual Detection.

How could he stop the enemy from attacking him even after discovering him? Choosing to adopt the appearance of this soul engineer was evidently the wisest choice. This was why Huo Yuhao did this. He only had one motive – draw the legion commander out from her hiding place.

It was a fact that even the most intelligent hunters could make mistakes when panicking. The reason why that lady's voice couldn't be traced by Huo Yuhao earlier was because her emotions didn't change at all. Using a displacement soul tool, she had managed to conceal herself. Right now, her emotions changed as she panicked. Naturally, Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Detection managed to capture her detailed position. Following this, he used his Xuanwu Displacement.

Every time Huo Yuhao used his Spiritual Inscription, he would return to find Xu Sanshi to re-inscribe it once again. He promoted it from the Mysterious Underworld Displacement to the Xuanwu Displacement. It was a life-saving change!

The Xuanwu Displacement had saved Huo Yuhao on many critical occasions. This was why he always re-inscribed this soul skill. Whether it was control or attack, he had great self-confidence. While his surveillance was good, his greatest shortcoming was in terms of how well he could escape. The Xuanwu Displacement was undoubtedly the best soul skill to use to escape.

The Xuanwu Displacement could teleport Huo Yuhao a greater distance than his Instant Teleportation. Furthermore, there would be a substitute in his place, which made it even more confusing. When used in tandem with his Instant Teleportation, it could bring about unexpected results.

Right now, Huo Yuhao made a life-saving displacement.

Through his Spiritual Detection earlier, he was clearly aware that the enemy's words were right. He was heavily trapped. It was impossible for him to charge out. A bunch of soul engineers had surrounded him, and linked defensive soul tools were ready to be fired. Even an Ultimate Douluo might not be able to force his way out. It was only by killing and reducing the number of people that he might possibly stand a chance of escape. ~~novel~~ ¹⁶⁻¹ⁿ

Huo Yuhao's abilities were still a far ways off from those of an Ultimate Douluo. This was why he only had one chance – he had to capture the leader of the enemy and use her as a hostage to stand a chance of survival. Force him to surrender? In his dictionary, there was no such word.

As Huo Yuhao heard exclamations, he had already unleashed his Xuanwu Displacement. Suddenly, he appeared behind a lady wearing red armor. He was trying to displace this person's bodyguard. From the voice of this person and her attire, he had already determined earlier that she was the marshal who had

been speaking earlier. Whether she was the true marshal or not, she had to hold an important position in the Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion.

After displacing himself behind this lady, he continued to maintain the appearance of the old lady. All the soul engineers around were astonished, but they didn't do anything immediately.

Huo Yuhao wasn't bothered at all. He had already planned his move. His Eye of Destiny had already opened, and his soul core was already revolving extremely quickly. He didn't conserve his spiritual power as he unleashed it. Immediately, his Spiritual Blast was unleashed.

A strong spiritual blast was compressed within a hundred square meter region. The soul engineers around were all seven-ringed and Class 7 soul engineers. There were even stronger soul engineers that had locked onto Huo Yuhao from different directions earlier. However, these Class 7 soul engineers were not very strong against Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Blast. This was not to even mention that Huo Yuhao had enhanced his Spiritual Blast using his Eye of Destiny.

At this moment, there was no room for error. Huo Yuhao attacked immediately. Even though his Spiritual Blast was strong, the red-armored lady in front of him had actually unleashed a spiritual barrier around her. It managed to resist his blast as they collided.

Oh? I'm right, she must be the marshal. How could she not be the marshal, given that she's equipped with such an expensive defensive soul tool? However, Huo Yuhao was surprised that her abilities weren't that strong. She was at most a Soul Sage. He was very confident about this. After understanding the mysteries of soul cores, he had developed a deep understanding of the soul power undulations of Titled Douluo.

Even if she was a Titled Douluo, he still had to take action! This was his only chance.

He instantly unleashed his Spiritual Shock. A beam of rose-gold light that seemed to come from prehistoric times flashed before disappearing. Huo Yuhao had already formed his soul core. Along with the enhancement of his Eye of Destiny, he unleashed this strike with all his strength. In terms of power, it had to be the strongest one that he had ever unleashed. It was comparable to the attack of a Titled Douluo.

The rose-gold light flashed, and the lady in front of him groaned. A necklace on her neck snapped and fell off, and the spiritual barrier covering her was destroyed. She even fell forward.

Huo Yuhao didn't care. He lifted his hand and grabbed hold of her neck. He used his left hand and unleashed his Ice Empress' Pincer instantly. At the same time, he stomped his right foot on the ground, and his Star Anise Omnithrust was unleashed.

Chapter 470.2: Ju Zi, Ju Zi, Ju Zi!

As his attacks were all too closely-linked, he couldn't care about using any auxiliary-type soul skills. Even so, his Star Anise Omnithrust still covered an area that spanned more than two hundred meters in diameter.

This was an icy place in the Extreme North, the coldest region in the entire world. Here, all ice-type abilities were greatly enhanced. Huo Yuhao's martial soul was Ultimate Ice. It was evident that his abilities would be greatly strengthened here.

Huge ice spikes that were as long as three meters and as thick as water buckets shot out in all directions. These terrifying spikes tore some of the tents apart. The soul engineers were sent flying into the sky even though they were protected by protective soul barriers. Some of the soul engineers who were slightly weaker were even stabbed through by the spikes. Huo Yuhao was suddenly free of any soul engineers around him.

Huo Yuhao's left hand was about to grab hold of the lady's neck, but a layer of golden light suddenly appeared on the lady's body.

Invincible Barrier!

At this moment, Huo Yuhao really wanted to curse. The reason why he continued using his spiritual-type attack on the enemy was because he hoped to make his enemy lose her awareness, so that she wouldn't be able to use her Invincible Barrier or any types of abilities similar to that of an Invincible Barrier. An Invincible Barrier could last for more than ten seconds! How would he stand a chance then?

However, Huo Yuhao still had to continue on even though the Invincible Barrier had been unleashed. He didn't continue attacking the lady, which would be a waste of his soul power. His eyes flashed, and he switched to his Spirit Eyes. A white halo quickly spread out from his body. Huo Yuhao unleashed his Mass Enfeeblement under the effect of his soul core.

His Mass Enfeeblement spread in all directions, and large patches of red light started to appear in bursts. This was a fire-type attack, which the Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion was most adept at.

Huo Yuhao squinted his eyes. He clenched his left hand into a fist, and loud booms started to resonate.

"Boom...Boom..." The booms echoed, and the explosions were centered around Huo Yuhao and the lady. They were wildly spreading outward.

The fiery-red lights were immediately devoured. At this instant, it seemed as if a terrifying and brutal snowstorm with terrifying explosive force raged. Ice flakes were dancing in the sky, and the intense explosive force was so strong that even a Titled Douluo would have to stay away.

At the same time, Huo Yuhao's eyes turned deep-blue, and a figure silently surfaced behind him. It was the Snow Empress, who had already recovered her origin and regained her memories.

The Snow Empress didn't open her mouth. She drifted silently behind Huo Yuhao. She reached out her hand and pointed to the sky with one hand, and to the ground with her other hand. The intense explosions weren't even able to get close to Huo Yuhao and the Snow Empress. The ice flakes in the sky instantly turned into a snowstorm under the Snow Empress' control.

Huo Yuhao switched back to his Ice Jade Empress Scorpion. His seven soul rings started to shine brightly.

Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice!

With the support of the Snow Empress, the strongest version of the Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice was unleashed. At the same time, the Star Anise Mysterious Ice Grass surface from Huo Yuhao's shoulder. Blue halos quickly spread. This was the strengthening effect of his Ultimate Ice.

The terrifying Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice instantly raged, and caused everything within a region spanning several thousands of meters to be trapped within it. Almost the entire military base was

caught in this region. Although the soul engineers were strong, they could only maintain their linked defensive soul formation. It was impossible to see what was going on in the domain. Everyone's senses, the soul tools that were locked onto Huo Yuhao, and all surveillance soul tools lost their effect in the Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice.

At this moment, the lady seemed to have regained her awareness. She suddenly turned around and looked at Huo Yuhao, who was still imitating the old lady's appearance.

When she saw Huo Yuhao's seven soul rings, she was completely shocked. What soul ring colors are these? Out of his seven soul rings, four don't even belong to the normal scheme of colors, and the other three are hundred thousand year soul rings. Is he really a soul master?

She was in a daze as she looked at Huo Yuhao. Huo Yuhao was about to unleash his full strength at her under the cover of his Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice, but he also went into a daze after seeing her. Suddenly, he turned completely amazed.

"Ju, Ju Zi..." Something seemed to be stuck in Huo Yuhao's throat. His voice changed slightly at this instant. He didn't expect that this cunning marshal was actually Ju Zi, whom he had not seen in a long time.

In her military outfit, Ju Zi appeared very suave. Her symbolic crystal-clear skin was still as smooth and clear as ever. Her beautiful big eyes were locked onto Huo Yuhao in disbelief. Both of them were just staring at each other just like this. Their expressions were around the same – they were both in complete disbelief.

"Who, who are you?" Ju Zi was astonished when she heard the other party calling her name.

A light projection flashed, and Huo Yuhao removed his Imitation. He looked at Ju Zi and laughed bitterly.

Ju Zi subconsciously lifted her hand to cover her lips. Huo Yuhao hadn't expected the enemy to be her, and she also hadn't expected that the person who had caused such heavy losses to the Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion and brought her such a headache today was actually Huo Yuhao. n.(o-.V.(e-)l)b-.1-/n

"You, you, why is it you? How could it be you?" Ju Zi's voice was filled with shock and astonishment.

Huo Yuhao laughed bitterly and said, "It's me."

At this moment, the Snow Empress' cold voice sounded, "Quickly, take action. This domain is unable to handle the pressure much longer. They'll soon make their way here."

Huo Yuhao's body shook, and there was a complicated look on his face as he looked at Ju Zi, as her Invincible Barrier started to become dimmer and dimmer.

Ju Zi also looked at Huo Yuhao with a complicated expression. She sighed, "Damn it!" She didn't activate her second Invincible Barrier. She turned around and hugged Huo Yuhao.

Huo Yuhao subconsciously grabbed onto her waist. At this instant, he felt extremely emotional.

He did have some feelings for Ju Zi. Back then, his relationship with Wang Dong'er wasn't established yet. In his eyes, Wang Dong'er was still Wang Dong, and a guy. Ju Zi was probably the first female that

he had developed some feelings for. It was just that their identities, backgrounds and a series of changes that happened after, such as Wang Dong'er's appearance, caused them to slowly drift apart.

Their next few meetings were also very rushed. Huo Yuhao could still clearly remember that Ju Zi took the risk to send him a letter during the Continental Advanced Soul Master Academy Soul Dueling Tournament in Radiant City.

At this moment, even though it was Ju Zi who was in his embrace, he felt his heart throbbing.

"Ju Zi, you..."

Ju Zi suppressed her inner emotions and said, "I am the marshal of this army. If you hold me as your hostage, they won't dare to do anything to you."

Huo Yuhao naturally knew that this wasn't the time for them to catch up on old times. As he placed one hand over her waist, he gently pressed his other hand on her neck. He looked into the sky and shouted, "Stop! Your marshal is in my hands!"

Seeing that Huo Yuhao had gotten his wish, the Snow Empress glared at him with a weird look on her face. After this, she turned into a beam of flowing light and re-entered his body, and the Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice slowly disappeared.

The Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion immediately ceased fire as Huo Yuhao shouted. Following the disappearance of the Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice, red figures started to slowly surface.

Huo Yuhao looked very cold and indifferent as he stood there. Right now, he had yet to revert to his original appearance. He continued to use his Imitation to mimic the look of that old lady. He stood behind Ju Zi, and one of his hands was on her waist, while the other was in a stranglehold around her neck. A killer aura spread. Given his spiritual power, it was easy for him to imitate a strong killing aura.

After the Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice disappeared, Huo Yuhao finally saw that the sky had been completely engulfed with a red barrier. Every member of the Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion had a diamond-shaped soul tool on their chests that shone brightly with red light. Evidently, those were their linked defensive soul tools. It was a linked defense that was unleashed by several hundred advanced-tier soul engineers. He couldn't possibly breach such a defense. This was why his earlier strategy was correct, which was to take the marshal hostage. It was the only way out. It was just that Ju Zi was the marshal. However, no matter what, this act had to continue. Ju Zi also seemed very willing to play along.

Everyone watched Huo Yuhao intently. A fiery-red figure rapidly made it to the front and watched him coldly. Wasn't she the Class 9 soul engineer that Huo Yuhao had imitated?

The two of them stared at each other. The scene was very weird. Huo Yuhao was completely surrounded by the Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion. All types of advanced-tier cannons were aimed at him. He started to develop numbness and itching as a multitude of soul tools locked onto him. Once an order was given, Huo Yuhao would be instantly torn to pieces when so many powerful soul tools fired at him.

However, Huo Yuhao wasn't anxious at all. He even appeared extremely calm.

"Let go of our legion commander." The old lady on the opposite side said coldly.

This old lady was the original legion commander of the Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion. Ever since Ju Zi came, she was demoted to the position of vice-legion commander. Her abilities were even greater than Wang Yiheng's, and she was one of the oldest Class 9 soul engineers in the Sun Moon Empire.

Chapter 470.3: Ju Zi, Ju Zi, Ju Zi!

She was a Rank 94 Titled Douluo, known as the Fire Phoenix Douluo. It was a pity that her martial soul wasn't a Fire Phoenix, but a Fire Phoenix Sword instead.

The Fire Phoenix Douluo was once a very notable name in the Sun Moon Empire. She was as reputable as the Starsky Douluo, Ye Yulin.

When Ju Zi first took charge of the Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion, this Fire Phoenix Douluo wasn't very convinced. How could she possibly submit to such a young lady? However, Ju Zi was the Empress, and Xu Tianran even pleaded for her to continue to remain in the Fire Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion. She would be treated the same, and she was even given greater benefits. Apart from her title, she would continue to command the Fire Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion. She was even told that Ju Zi was the commander in name only. This was why she remained.

However, as time passed, Ju Zi led the legion to countless successes in this war. She commanded the entire army, and managed to overwhelm both the Star Luo and Heavenly Soul Empires. The Fire Phoenix Douluo was slowly convinced by her. She was now fully committed to aiding Ju Zi in managing this soul engineer legion. Apart from admiration for Ju Zi, she was also starting to like her now.

Ju Zi also called her 'granny' normally. For the unmarried Fire Phoenix Douluo, it was her desire to have such a granddaughter. She imparted everything she knew about soul tools to her. This was why she shared a very complicated relationship with Ju Zi. She was her subordinate, kin and teacher.

Seeing that Ju Zi had been captured, she was very anxious, even though she looked very calm. She didn't suspect Ju Zi at all. After all, they kept thinking that their target was a Titled Douluo before they had attacked. Furthermore, they believed that it was likely to be a Transcendent Douluo. Otherwise, they wouldn't set such a huge trap.

While Ju Zi had an Invincible Barrier on her body, it still had a limit. Against a true Transcendent Douluo, it couldn't possibly completely resist a serious attack.

"Stay away. Otherwise, she'll perish with me." Huo Yuhao sounded very forceful. He intentionally changed his voice to sound hoarse and old. It was difficult to tell his age or even his gender from his voice.

"Let go of her!" The Fire Phoenix Douluo screamed furiously before taking a step forward. A strong beam of fiery-red light subtly surfaced behind her.

In fact, even in the Sun Moon Empire, someone who could become a strong soul engineer would also naturally have a pretty strong martial soul. The Fire Phoenix Douluo was a good example of that.

Huo Yuhao laughed coldly. "If you want her to die, make a move. Otherwise, move away." As he spoke, he pressed his hand harder on Ju Zi's throat. It was as if he was gripping her throat tightly. Ju Zi played along with him and groaned in pain as she revealed a painful look on her face.

"Stop it!" The Fire Phoenix Douluo was very anxious. She was almost unable to maintain her calm exterior. Her eyes flashed. She had gone to so much trouble to set up such a trap to capture Huo Yuhao, but it eventually led to her legion commander being taken as a hostage. This person is simply too strong. Not only can he conceal himself and imitate someone else's appearance, but he also possesses great ice-type abilities. Don't tell me he has twin martial souls? Or does he have a strong soul tool with him? The Fire Phoenix Douluo couldn't tell right now, but she clearly knew that she couldn't let him go. If she wanted to capture him again, it would be extremely difficult. However, if she didn't let him go, Ju Zi would be in danger. Ju Zi wasn't only the marshal of three armies; she was also the Empress! If her safety was endangered, no one could possibly handle the responsibility.

Huo Yuhao couldn't care about what the Fire Phoenix Douluo thought. He strangled Ju Zi as he slowly moved forward. He wasn't very quick, but his spiritual power started to spread quickly. When he only had two rings, he was able to scare a bunch of soul beasts by imitating the aura of the Ice Empress. After all these years, his abilities in imitation were unparalleled.

He seemed to have assimilated with his surroundings as he unleashed a terrifying soul beast aura. The pressing aura that belonged to a hundred thousand year soul beast immediately caused all the seven-ringed soul engineers to turn pale. Some of them almost fired the soul tools in their hands.

Huo Yuhao took one step at a time as he walked towards the Fire Phoenix Douluo. Ju Zi was completely in his arms. No one would doubt that a Titled Douluo had countless ways to kill a person. The Fire Phoenix Douluo gritted her teeth and roared, "Stand back! Let him leave."

A pathway was slowly opened. The Fire Phoenix Douluo asked, "What will make you let go of our legion commander?"

Although everyone from the legion had already made way, their linked defensive barrier hadn't moved yet. The Fire Phoenix Douluo was very experienced. She instructed everyone to make way to reduce Huo Yuhao's killing intent, so that she would be able to negotiate with him afterward.

Huo Yuhao calmly said, "You don't have the right to negotiate with me. After I leave, I'll definitely let go of her."

The Fire Phoenix Douluo didn't budge. "Swear on your martial soul before I'll believe you. Otherwise, I'd rather perish together if you hurt our legion commander after leaving."

Huo Yuhao snorted coldly and said, "Alright, I swear on my martial soul that I'll let go of this hostage after I leave. Otherwise, my martial soul will be crushed, and never be restored. Is this fine?"

How would he ever hurt Ju Zi? The Fire Phoenix Douluo had suggested that he should swear, and so he went along with her.

Seeing that he agreed so readily, the Fire Phoenix Douluo furrowed her brow. After hesitating for a brief moment, she eventually gestured and instructed her subordinates to remove their linked defense.

Huo Yuhao slowly left with Ju Zi. He still remained very wary at this moment. There were so many soul engineers here. Perhaps the enemy had some kind of special soul tool.

He unleashed his Spiritual Interference Domain and caused both his and Ju Zi's figures to become blurry. This also caused all the soul tools to be unable to lock onto him anymore.

Ju Zi's skin was as smooth as ever. Even though he was only touching her neck now, he could still feel how soft and smooth it was.

Ju Zi didn't make any noise apart from the earlier groan. To those from the Fire Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion, she had been completely suppressed, and wasn't able to speak at all.

Finally, Huo Yuhao broke free from the encirclement. He turned around and faced the Fire Phoenix Douluo, who was following him. He slowly stepped back. Under the effect of his Imitation, he slowly melted into the darkness.

"You are also very strong. I hope you stay true to your words. Otherwise, your vow will turn into a curse." The Fire Phoenix Douluo said coldly.

For a Titled Douluo like her, she fully believed in destiny. A vow couldn't be made easily, especially one that was on one's martial soul. This was why a vow was usually the most serious and official form of transaction between many Titled Douluo when they negotiated with one another. With Huo Yuhao's vow, she believed that he wouldn't dare to renege on it.

Never would she have guessed that Huo Yuhao wasn't a Titled Douluo.

Huo Yuhao heaved a sigh of relief after melting into the darkness. Although they were stuck in ice and snow, the back of his shirt was completely drenched with sweat.

It was simply too dangerous. If the legion commander of the Fire Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion hadn't been Ju Zi, he wasn't sure if he could have even made it out alive.

He could clearly see that Ju Zi was ready to unleash her second Invincible Barrier. Under that circumstance, he could only attack with all his might. He had to either stop her from unleashing her Invincible Barrier, or crush the Invincible Barrier and take her as a hostage before his Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice vanished.

As for whether he would succeed, Huo Yuhao didn't have any confidence at all. Today's situation wasn't any less dangerous than the time when he was surrounded by two evil soul masters and the Evil Tyrant Soul Engineer Legion in Sunrise City. Wang Qiu'er was the one who had saved him then. This time, it was Ju Zi. Fortunately, Ju Zi's life wouldn't be in danger.

He subconsciously let go of Ju Zi's neck. He only held her waist as he fled far away.

Ju Zi didn't utter a sound at all. She let Huo Yuhao bring her wherever he wanted. Right now, how could she not be emotional?

It was only after flying tens of kilometers away and using his Spiritual Detection to scan his surroundings to ensure no one was following them that Huo Yuhao landed. He found a place to stop.

"I'm sorry, Ju Zi." Huo Yuhao let go of his arms around Ju Zi's waist and gently sighed.

Ju Zi turned around suddenly and forcefully embraced him. He was completely in her embrace.

Huo Yuhao was in a daze. The surrounding winds were very chilly. He had unleashed his soul power to protect himself and Ju Zi. He wasn't afraid of the cold, but she was! At this moment, he had already forgotten that Ju Zi was a Soul Sage. *noVe(lb-1n*

Ju Zi stuck close to him. Although they were separated by a layer of armor, Huo Yuhao could still feel the passion from Ju Zi.

"You're still alive. That's great. Did you know? I thought you were dead all along." Ju Zi muttered.

Huo Yuhao chortled and replied, "I won't die so easily. Don't worry, I'm doing well."

Ju Zi laughed gently and softly said, "Did you know? I've not had such blissful feelings for a long time. You're still alive. Great, I feel very blissful."

Huo Yuhao was in a daze. He hadn't expected her to say something like this to him. He didn't know how to respond.

Ju Zi gently lifted her hands and relaxed her grip on his waist. She took a step back and widened the gap between them.

"How have you been?" Ju Zi lifted her head, and there was a concerned look on her face.