

The Doctor 1581

Chapter 1581: Interference

Countless lightning bolts descended and landed in the ball of light one after another, quickly disappearing!

Everyone looked over from afar and could only see the dazzling light, almost blinding them.

Amidst the commotion, someone couldn't help but mutter, "What level of Yuan instrument is Shangguan Yue refining to actually summon so much lightning!?"

No one knew.

Elder Yi Yu was guarding the pavilion at the side. Nobody could approach, so they naturally didn't know the exact situation inside.

Therefore, everyone could only watch from afar as the ball of light gradually bathed in a sea of lightning.

Elder Yi Yu quickly attacked!

A scarlet-gold flame surged out of his sleeve. In the blink of an eye, it formed a huge barrier that enveloped the space within a radius of dozens of kilometers!

Countless bolts of lightning splattered and shook violently. It looked like it would break at any moment.

Elder Yi Yu frowned with a solemn expression. *It is naturally very difficult to cause such a commotion with just Shangguan Yue. There is a high chance that she has even used a Heaven-Wrecking Holy Seed.*

Some time ago, what happened in Ling Xiao Academy had spread throughout the entire God Residence Realm. Among them, the most talked about was Shangguan Yue's true identity and her many trump cards!

There was no need to mention the Heavenly Square Cauldron and the supreme Yuan instrument. The most shocking thing was that she actually had a Heaven-Wrecking Holy Seed!

Under normal circumstances, only legendary warriors could control a Heaven-Wrecking Holy Seed. However, Shangguan Yue broke this custom.

In fact, too many similar things had already happened, so much so that everyone was starting to become numb.

In the end, there was only one result—Shangguan Yue couldn't be measured by normal standards at all!

It was obviously the same this time.

"How did a true god activate the Heaven-Wrecking Holy Seed..." Elder Yi Yu muttered, his heart filled with doubts.

At this moment, a sound tore through the air in the distance.

Sensing something, he quickly glanced over his shoulder—it was none other than Yi Gong.

Before he arrived, when he saw the lightning swimming in the sky and the rumbling Phoenix Mountain, his expression was already extremely ugly.

“Is this going against the heavens!?”

...

In the past ten days, Elder Yi Gong had been busy preparing for the ancestral ceremony, so he had never known the situation here.

Today’s phenomenon and the violent lightning alarmed him. He rushed over and didn’t expect to see such a scene.

“Yi Yu! What exactly is going on?!” Elder Yi Gong suppressed his intense anger.

“First Elder, don’t worry. It’s just that Shangguan Yue is refining Yuan instruments and has triggered lightning.” Elder Yi Yu greeted him with a smile. “It’s just a small matter.”

“A small matter?” Elder Yi Gong immediately raised his eyebrows, then sneered and pointed ahead. “Yi Yu, Phoenix Valley is already in such a mess, and you still say it’s a small matter?! It’s not like I’ve never seen humans refine Yuan instruments. It’s impossible for them to cause such a huge commotion. There’s clearly something fishy going on! Where’s Shangguan Yue? Tell her to come out!”

Elder Yi Yu was still smiling, and he seemed to be in a difficult position. “This... isn’t too appropriate, right? She’s refining Yuan instruments and is at a critical moment. If we force her out now, wouldn’t that be—”

“Yi Yu, if something really happens, can you take responsibility?” Elder Yi Gong glanced at him coldly. The threat in his voice was self-evident.

He could tell that Yi Yu seemed to have a good attitude toward Shangguan Yue and Tuan Zi. Otherwise, he wouldn’t be so protective of them at this moment.

Elder Yi Yu paused, then took a step back and made way. “Then... let’s do as First Elder says.”

Elder Yi Gong glanced meaningfully at him before stepping forward.

Although these lightning bolts were extremely powerful, they weren’t fatal to him, who had already opened the sixth meridian.

Elder Yi Gong stared at the silver ball of light with killing intent flashing in his eyes. *?I didn’t know how to stop them, but I didn’t expect them to cause trouble first. Making such a commotion in Phoenix Mountain is equivalent to taking their lives. It isn’t appropriate for others to say anything!*

Shangguan Yue was refining Yuan instruments and needed to be careful the most. Once she was disturbed and her mind was in chaos, she might lose the entire game!

At that time, as the fiend she had an agreement with, Tuan Zi would naturally be greatly affected!

Perhaps... he could take this opportunity to end everything!

Elder Yi Gong suddenly raised his hand. Flames surged in his palm, and he was about to take action!

“Hold on!” A voice suddenly sounded!

When Elder Yi Gong heard this, he immediately felt annoyed. *Yi Shang! It is him again!*

It was obvious why Yi Shang had come over.

Elder Yi Gong’s gaze darkened, and he decided to ignore it. *As long as I resolve Shangguan Yue, the rest is nothing to worry about!*

He flipped his wrist and immediately attacked!

An arrow suddenly tore through the air, drawing a straight black line in the air as it headed straight for the ball of light!

When Elder Yi Shang saw this, his eyes darkened! At the same time, he waved his sleeve!

Whoosh!

Wind blew and blocked the arrow!

The next moment, he was holding the arrow tightly in his hand!

“Yi Shang!” After the attack failed, Elder Yi Gong immediately frowned. “What are you doing?!”

“I should be the one asking that.” Elder Yi Shang’s expression was calm, but there was a hint of coldness between his eyebrows.

“Yi Yu has already sealed the surroundings, so this power won’t affect the outside for the time being. Why is First Elder so anxious to attack now?”

Elder Yi Gong narrowed his eyes. “Of course, I’m doing this for the sake of Phoenix Valley. If anything happens—”

“What huge trouble can a mere true god cause? On the other hand... If we rashly attack now, it’s fine to hurt Shangguan Yue, but... If this affects the others, I’m afraid it’ll be difficult to explain to the clan leader, right?”

After mentioning the clan leader, Elder Yi Gong naturally could not say anything else. He ground his teeth and snorted. “Alright! In that case, if anything happens, you’ll take responsibility alone!”

Elder Yi Shang smiled and returned the arrow in his hand. “It’s only right.”

Elder Yi Gong suppressed the anger in his heart and snatched the arrow back!

“Master—”

Yi Gong turned at the sound. “Yi Ran? Why aren’t you cultivating? Are you here to join in the fun?”

Yi Ran hurriedly said, “I just heard the commotion and came out. I’m not—”

Elder Yi Gong sized him up with a bad expression. *It had been ten days since my last guidance. Why hasn’t he broken through yet?!*

But before he could ask, the lightning in the sky suddenly struck at even greater speeds!

Chapter 1582: Glutton Tuan Zi

Seeing this commotion, everyone in Phoenix Valley focused their gazes with different expressions. *What level of Yuan instrument is Shangguan Yue refining? Isn't the speed at which it consumes heavenly lightning too fast??*

Can she really take it?

...

"Tuan Zi, how do you feel now?"

Inside the ball of light, on the mountain peak, Chu Liuyue was sitting cross-legged and looking at Tuan Zi above her head.

The triggered lightning didn't land on the bracelet. Instead, it was all intercepted by Tuan Zi!

Its small body was covered by a dazzling light, making it almost impossible to see. She could only roughly guess its current situation through their contract.

Tuan Zi didn't say anything.

After a while, the lightning subsided, and the fiend gradually revealed itself. At that moment, it suddenly cut off a bolt of lightning and devoured it without hesitation!

A few silver lights seemed to flash across its body before quickly hiding under its feathers.

The entire process was smooth without a pause.

"Burp..." Tuan Zi burped and devoured another fine bolt of lightning.

Chu Liuyue sneered at it. "Why are you eating in such a hurry? Anyway, these are all yours."

Tuan Zi lowered its head and looked at her. It blinked aggrievedly, as if embarrassed.

Actually, it didn't do it on purpose. It was just that after seeing these lightning bolts, it suddenly felt hungry.

For some reason, it became hungrier the more it ate. It accidentally ate too quickly and burped.

It hadn't felt that way at first, but somehow...

Chu Liuyue's brows moved slightly.

In fact, she wasn't as calm as she looked.

She wanted to attract lightning to help Tuan Zi break through, so she asked Tuan Zi to intercept those lightning bolts halfway. But gradually, she realized that things were gradually derailing.

Tuan Zi's tolerance and devouring power for the lightning far exceeded her expectations.

Seeing that Tuan Zi wasn't injured by the lightning and had even become more energetic, she felt completely relieved. *?Perhaps... it is Tuan Zi's previous experience in Million Wine Mountain that makes it so different?*

The answer was unknown, but she knew that attracting lightning would indeed help Tuan Zi break through. The aura on its body was rapidly becoming stronger as it devoured more lightning!

As long as I continue to persevere, I might really be able to help Tuan Zi open its meridians in the remaining time!

Soon, lightning descended again!

Tuan Zi looked up, its eyes bright and restless.

...

The wait always seemed especially difficult.

Everyone on Phoenix Mountain was already a little anxious from waiting.

They looked up again and again and were disappointed. This was because the sky was still dark, and in the clouds, heavenly lightning gathered endlessly.

Nobody knew how long this situation would last.

Elder Yi Yu yawned lazily. "No, I've been watching here recently and haven't even closed my eyes. I really can't hold on anymore; I'll go rest first."

With that, he turned and left in a carefree manner.

He wasn't worried. With Yi Gong and Yi Shang here, definitely nothing would happen!

Besides, he was indeed tired.

From the looks of it, it won't stop anytime soon. I might as well go back and take a nap.

Elder Yi Gong looked very unhappy. *?Is he directly pushing the responsibility to us? But I still have a lot of things to do! How can I keep standing guard here? Who knows how long we will have to wait?*

However, he was unwilling to leave just like that.

At the side, Elder Yi Shang seemed to be calm and waiting patiently.

Elder Yi Gong thought for a moment and turned to look at Yi Ran. "Go back and cultivate in peace."

Yi Ran actually didn't want to waste any more time here, but he was worried that he would still not be able to calm down after returning, so he hesitated and said, "Master, this commotion is indeed a little big..."

Elder Yi Gong had been his master for many years, so he naturally guessed his thoughts. He couldn't help but frown and go over to pat his shoulder.

Yi Ran felt a warm power instantly surge into his body!

His heart skipped a beat.

“As long as you’re focused enough, none of this will affect you, understand?”

Yi Ran hurriedly responded. “Thank you for your teachings, Master.”

“Go back!”

“Okay.” Yi Ran didn’t continue to hesitate and quickly left.

Elder Yi Shang’s gaze lingered on Yi Ran for a moment longer before he quickly retracted it as if nothing had happened.

After Yi Ran left, many people began to return one after another. However, whether they could completely withdraw their thoughts was another matter.

...

A day passed quickly.

Elder Yi Gong’s face was as black as the bottom of a pot. His faintly throbbing forehead showed his anger, which was on the verge of erupting. “What exactly is Shangguan Yue planning to do?!”

After so long, Phoenix Valley still can’t calm down!

Heavenly lightning gathered and fell one after another.

He couldn’t even count how many lightning bolts had entered the ball of light!

Elder Yi Shang smiled faintly. “Refinement is very troublesome to begin with. I’ve heard that some refiners spend months or even years to refine a Yuan instrument. Although Shangguan Yue’s level isn’t that high, her ancestor is a supreme Armory Refinement Master. Her talent and strength in this aspect shouldn’t be weak, so a day or two... is naturally not enough.”

Elder Yi Gong choked. His lips moved, but in the end, he swallowed the rest of his words.

Elder Yi Shang glanced at him and smiled.

What he didn’t say was that when those people refined Yuan instruments, heavenly lightning was usually summoned all at once or every once in a while to temper repeatedly. It wasn’t like Shangguan Yue, where the lightning seemed to be endless.

Usually, only refiners knew these things the best. He had only understood them because he had accidentally seen them in the past.

However, there was clearly no need to tell Yi Gong about this.

He folded his arms and looked ahead. *How did Shangguan Yue do this?*

Chapter 1583: Delay

Another few days passed.

In Phoenix Valley, everything was the same.

After looking up countless times and discovering that the number of lightning bolts still didn't decrease, Elder Yi Gong finally could not help but leave angrily.

He wanted to see something happen to Shangguan Yue and also wanted to see the red-gold heavenly phoenix suffer. It would be best if they could completely disappear together!

Unfortunately, he didn't have that much time to continue waiting here. The ancestral ceremony was about to begin, and there were still more things waiting for him to arrange.

!!

Not long after Elder Yi Gong left, Elder Yi Yu slowly arrived.

He smiled at Elder Yi Shang. "I'll watch over this. You should go busy yourself with the ancestral ceremony!"

Elder Yi Shang didn't decline and nodded. "Take more care."

Elder Yi Yu laughed. "I know. Don't worry."

...

Other than Phoenix Valley, the other places on Phoenix Mountain were already bustling with activity. Of course, there was more solemnity, nervousness, and seriousness in this commotion.

They would prepare very grandly for every ancestral ceremony, and this year was naturally no exception.

Many people were busy checking everywhere, afraid that there would be mistakes.

However, Godly Phoenix Hall was still silent.

...

In the hall, Yi Zhao took one last look at the huge mural and bowed deeply. "Ancestor, please protect our clan."

He maintained this posture for a long time before finally turning around and leaving the hall.

After walking out, there was a huge square in front of the hall.

Clear white jade stones were neatly laid out, clearly reflecting every figure.

In the middle was the totem of the red-gold heavenly phoenix clan.

At this moment, there were already several people guarding the entire square. This was the place where the ancestral ceremony was held.

Seeing Yi Zhao come out, they bowed respectfully. "Greetings, Clan Leader!"

Yi Zhao raised his hand and looked around before asking faintly, "Where's Yi Gong?"

The crowd exchanged glances.

The person in front lowered his head. "Clan Leader, the First Elder should still be in Phoenix Valley."

Yi Zhao frowned. "What's he doing there? Has he finished the preparations on this side of the hall?"

Hearing the dissatisfaction in his tone, the people below naturally did not dare to answer.

Yi Zhao raised his eyes slightly and looked in the direction of the Phoenix Valley.

From here, he could vaguely see dark clouds gathering and lightning striking.

Of course, he knew what had happened there.

"Yi Yu has always been in charge of Phoenix Valley. As a First Elder, why did he run over to join in the fun for so long?"

"Clan Leader, please forgive me!" Suddenly, a hurried voice sounded. It was Yi Gong who had just returned.

When he saw Yi Zhao standing there, he knew that something was wrong, but he could only brace himself and go over.

Yi Zhao's gaze was as sharp as a knife as it slowly swept across Yi Gong's body, as if he wanted to skin the latter alive!

Cold sweat broke out on Elder Yi Gong's forehead.

But in the end, Yi Zhao didn't reprimand him. "Forget it. Let's talk about this later. Prepare the hall first."

Elder Yi Gong secretly heaved a sigh of relief. "Yes! Yes!"

Yi Zhao glanced at the sky and frowned. "I think you still have a lot to do. If you don't complete it within the remaining time..."

Elder Yi Gong was about to defend himself when he heard Yi Zhao continue, "We'll postpone the ancestral ceremony."

Yi Gong's heart skipped a beat! "Clan Leader!?"

Chapter 1584: Bold

The ancestral ceremony was held only once every 100 years and was one of the most important events of the red-gold heavenly phoenix clan. How could he dare to postpone the ancestral ceremony because of him?

"Clan Leader, don't worry. I've already made most of the necessary preparations. I won't delay the ceremony..." As Elder Yi Gong spoke, his voice trembled.

Although he had extremely high status in the family and held great power, there were some things that were the bottom line that even he wouldn't dare to touch easily.

Yi Zhao glanced at him indifferently. "You also know that there can't be any mistakes during the ancestral ceremony. You have to be extremely careful. You seem to have been staying at Phoenix Mountain for the past few days, right? In that case, it's inevitable that you'll have some thoughts..."

"A delay is better than some slip-up when the time comes."

Many eyes were on them.

Elder Yi Gong's face turned green and white, and he was very embarrassed. *?Yi Zhao's words make sense, but in front of so many people, he really didn't give me any face. Besides, this isn't the first time I have prepared for the ancestral ceremony in so many years as the First Elder. Nothing has ever happened in the past. Why would I suddenly die this time just because I stayed in Phoenix Valley for two more days?*

His mind raced. Then, he glanced at Yi Zhao and suddenly felt suspicious. *?Why does it feel like the clan leader wants to delay the ancestral ceremony?*

Elder Yi Gong retracted his gaze and calmed himself down. "Clan Leader, there's no need to worry. I'll definitely personally supervise the rest of the time to ensure that nothing goes wrong. If anything really happens, I'm willing to bear all the responsibility."

This meant that he had made a military pledge.

Yi Zhao raised his eyebrows slightly. "Since you say so... I'll believe you this time."

Elder Yi Gong was stunned. *?Why... did he agree directly instead of stalling for time?*

He looked up quickly, but unfortunately, he couldn't tell anything from Yi Zhao's face.

He could only suppress his doubts.

"Alright. Go down and prepare." Yi Zhao waved his hand.

Elder Yi Gong lowered his head and responded. "Yes."

...

The Sky-Cloud Empire.

Silence filled Tongshen Palace.

Rong Xiu's question made Respected Elder Yu Jing panic. After a while, his back was drenched in sweat.

His clothes were sticky, cold, and uncomfortable.

"It's... it's because..." Respected Elder Yu Jing hesitated, but he couldn't come up with a reason.

He felt Rong Xiu's gaze fall on him, as sharp and cold as an ice blade!

Right at this moment, a low and deep voice suddenly sounded. "When something happened to the clan leader, the first person to enter was Yu Jing. Isn't it normal for the clan leader to have his scent?"

It was Respected Elder Tong Chuan who spoke.

Hearing this, Respected Elder Yu Jing's thoughts suddenly broadened!

He sat bolt upright. "Yes! Yes! At that time, I had something to discuss with the clan leader, but after knocking on the door for a long time, there was no response. I was worried, so I forced the door open. After entering, I saw that the clan leader was already unconscious, so I took his pulse and transferred some force into him... That's all."

He looked away. "I forgot about this just now..."

Nobody knew if he had really forgotten.

It was up to Rong Xiu whether he believed it or not.

"Really?" Rong Xiu sat at the head of the hall, tapping the armrest with one hand. His eyes were deep and unreadable, and nobody could tell what he was thinking.

Respected Elder Tong Chuan raised his eyebrows and said, "Respected Elder Yu Jing has always been close to the clan leader. When he saw that something had happened to the clan leader, he was too worried to do anything else. Actually, I have some thoughts about the clan leader's sudden coma."

Rong Xiu looked up.

Respected Elder Tong Chuan suddenly looked worried and let out a long sigh. "Actually... I thought that the clan leader had suffered a blow in Fangzhou and was depressed. That's why he locked himself in his residence after he returned and refused to see anyone."

"Since Your Highness has already checked the clan leader's physical condition, you should know that he's not injured inside or outside. Perhaps... his sudden coma has something to do with his mood."

It was silent.

The incident in Fangzhou City that day had already spread like wildfire. Now, almost the entire God Residence Realm knew about it.

The clan leader of the Sky-Cloud Empire, Baili Chun, had brought Jiang Zhiyuan up since she was young. Clan Leader Baili looked after her carefully and doted on her. Unexpectedly, in the end, she wasn't his biological granddaughter.

This matter had already become a laughing matter for everyone. Nobody could accept it, let alone Baili Chun, who had always cared about his reputation.

Respected Elder Tong Chuan looked up at Rong Xiu. "Your Highness, family scandals can't be made public. You were really a little impulsive that day."

After the commotion in Fangzhou City, Baili Chun had almost lost all his face. It would probably be difficult for him to appear in front of the God Residence Realm's people in the future.

If they could come back and talk about it in private, perhaps the clan leader wouldn't be like this.

Rong Xiu smiled lazily. "Respected Elder Tong Chuan, do you mean... that everything is my fault?"

“That’s not what I meant.” Respected Elder Tong Chuan said, “I just feel that there should’ve been a better way to deal with what happened that day...”

“The clan leader knew that there were many troubles at Ling Xiao Academy, but he still brought Jiang Zhiyuan there. Moreover, after the many crimes Jiang Zhiyuan committed were exposed, he was still very biased toward her. I didn’t want to get involved in all of this at that time. However, the clan leader only helped Jiang Zhiyuan, and I couldn’t persuade him no matter what. In the end, things developed to that extent, and I didn’t want to see it happen.” Rong Xiu interrupted Tong Chuan and smiled at him again, but there was coldness in his eyes.

“Do you think I wanted to embarrass myself in front of the God Residence Realm’s experts?!”

Respected Elder Tong Chuan choked. *Of course, I can’t admit that. But... If it wasn’t premeditated, why would Rong Xiu have arranged for someone to replace Jiang Hetian and completely take the Jiang family under his command? He had clearly planned everything!*

Respected Elder Tong Chuan even felt that Rong Xiu had long known about the matter between Baili Chun and Jiang Zhiyuan.

As for losing face...

At most, Rong Xiu would lose face, but the one who was really humiliated was still Baili Chun!

Rong Xiu looked around. “Everyone, are you here with the same thoughts?”

His voice was soft and faint, but it was like a heavy stone that weighed down everyone’s hearts.

Respected Elder Tong Chuan hurriedly explained, “Your Highness, you’ve misunderstood... I just think that that matter might have dealt a huge blow to the clan leader, so... Of course, there might be other possibilities—”

“Of course, there are other possibilities.” Rong Xiu said calmly, “The clan leader has just left seclusion, and his strength has increased greatly. Even if he’s depressed, it shouldn’t be like this. Instead of investigating, you’re all here waiting to question me...”

His thin scarlet lips curved slightly. “You guys are getting bolder.”

Chapter 1585: Time is Up

“It seems like this Shangguan Yue is not only gutsy, but she does have some skills...”

Phoenix Valley.

When Elder Yi Yu saw the ball of bright light afar, he couldn’t help but snort.

It had already been a total of 13 days since she triggered the lightning bolts.

All the commotion was as usual, and it didn’t look like it was stopping. Every day, every night, every single moment, Phoenix Valley would have the same scene.

He was going to be frustrated by watching it.

Initially, he was prepared with much interest to count how many lightning bolts she had triggered. However, he quickly gave up because he realized he couldn't count it properly.

The lightning bolts kept striking one after another, as if it did not need money.

The lightning flashed, and it was dazzling. How could one count it clearly?

"It has already been so long. Why hasn't there been any movement..." Elder Yi Yu knew that Shangguan Yue triggered so many lightning bolts not to nourish a Yuan instrument, but to help Tuan Zi break through.

It was a pity that not many signs could be seen until now.

However, time is almost up...? Elder Yi Yu squinted his eyes and suddenly turned around to glance at the distant Godly Phoenix Hall.

It was getting increasingly closer to the ancestral ceremony, and the whole red-gold heavenly phoenix clan became busy nervously.

I wonder if it can make it in time...?

...

Chu Liuyue was also very dazed.

She sat cross-legged on the star stone, raised her head slightly, and looked at the busy Tuan Zi in midair with conflicted feelings. *Logically speaking, it should end...*

Such a long time had passed. Not only did Tuan Zi show zero signs of breaking through and opening its meridian, but it even seemed increasingly angry.

The only change was that there were more flashing lightning bolts on its body that swam within its feathers from time to time. Besides, its aura kept strengthening at the start, but it stopped three days ago.

Seeing Tuan Zi eat all those lightning bolts in one shot again, Chu Liuyue turned around and glanced at the bracelet in midair. *Mm... With Tuan Zi around, it seems pretty hard to nourish it...?*

Chu Liuyue rubbed her glabella. *Tuan Zi had absorbed quite a bit of lightning strength in Million Wine Mountain's fountain that time. However, that was to activate the bloodline in its body, to break through from a red-tailed phoenix to an ancient legendary fiend, a red-gold heavenly phoenix. That was reasonable.?*

But what's happening now? Its small body seemed to turn into a bottomless pit. All the lightning bolts landed with no return!?

After some thinking, Chu Liuyue finally couldn't help but ask, "Tuan Zi, when are you planning to break through?"

Tuan Zi was dazed as it looked down and glanced at her. Just as it was about to say something, a loud sound spread in the air!

A few bolts of lightning flew down again!

Tuan Zi's eyes lit up. Disregarding what Chu Liuyue said, it rushed forward.

Pilihuala!

Crisp sounds were heard.

Seeing Tuan Zi swallowing the lightning bolts habitually, the corner of Chu Liuyue's eyes twitched as she resigned herself to her fate and swallowed her remaining words.

Nice. There Is really no need to ask about some things.?

...

Beside the vast ocean, Shangguan Jing stood with his hands behind his back as he stared in front with a heavy expression. *?It has already been so long, but Yue'er hasn't returned. I wonder how the situation inside is.?*

The more he waited, the more uneasy he was.

Right at this point, a red-golden light suddenly shot out from the water surface and rushed toward the skies!

Thump!

That ball of intense fire drew a bright line in midair and suddenly exploded! Countless sparks bloomed!

It was ten in the morning. The sky was bright, and the sun shone down, but the sparks were still dazzling. In the end, they actually formed a pattern of a gigantic red-gold heavenly phoenix spreading its wings in midair.

Shangguan Jing's heart tightened. *?This...*

Suddenly, he seemed to have recalled something as shock flashed across his eyes. *?This formation. Could it be... that the red-gold heavenly phoenix clan's ancestral ceremony is about to begin?!?*

He had never gone to Godly Phoenix Mountain. Even when he dominated the God Residence Realm a thousand years ago, he had never interacted with the red-gold heavenly phoenixes.

To the world, the two ancient legendary fiend clans were extremely mysterious. However, there were quite a few rumors regarding their ancestral ceremony.

Rumors had it that the ancestral ceremony was held once every hundred years. It was very solemn and held great meaning.

Shangguan Jing looked over.

In the air, the red-gold heavenly phoenix pattern that formed from the blooming fire didn't dissipate. On the other hand, it seemed frozen as every spark burned intensely and exuded a bright light.

It was indeed vibrant and eye-catching.

Shangguan Jing unwittingly became even more uneasy. *The ancestral ceremony is very important. The red-gold heavenly phoenix clan has always hated humans. Logically speaking, it is impossible for them to let Yue'er continue staying there. Why hasn't she come out until now??*

At this point, a relaxed and loud shriek sounded from afar. It instantly spread across the waters!

Shangguan Jing's heart shook, and he almost could not stand still. Following this, he saw a layer of ice quickly extend on the seawater before him.

Transparent ice cubes covered the ocean. With one glance, a red-golden light could faintly be seen.

It was exactly the same as the ice bridge that day, but this time, the ice layer had already spread across the entire sea surface from that narrow bridge.

In no time, more than half of the ocean in front of Shangguan Jing was already frozen.

At first glance, it was icy cold. However, there was a red-golden fire burning silently.

It was magnificent, holy, and quiet.

...

In the square before Godly Phoenix Hall, the red-gold heavenly phoenix clan split into two sides as they nervously and expectantly waited for the ancestral ceremony to begin.

At this point, the clan leader and the five elders were still in Godly Phoenix Hall and hadn't come out.

Thus, the crowd wasn't so nervous as they discussed something softly.

"We've been waiting for so long, and the time has finally come! Hehe, this is my first time attending the ancestral ceremony!"

"Me too! We need to undergo a talent test during the ceremony. I wonder if I'll get a decent result..."

"Actually, I'm not worried about the talent test. After all, everyone roughly knows their own standards. However... you have to compete after testing. This... I'm afraid it's difficult to win beautifully!"

"Yi Ran should be the most confident, right? I heard that he's aiming for the position of young master..."

"Hasn't he always been at the top alone amongst the younger generation? However, he does have the ability, so we're not in the position to say anything."

"Hm, why hasn't he come yet?"

Upon hearing this, quite a few people surveyed their surroundings and indeed didn't see Yi Ran's figure.

"That's strange. He has always been the most enthusiastic one about such a scene. Why did he come so late today?"

"Don't talk about him. Time is about to be up, but the clan leader and the rest haven't come out yet!"

Within Godly Phoenix Hall, Yi Zhao and the five elders stood still.

Elder Yi Gong looked up. "Clan Leader, it's time. We should... head out."

Chapter 1586: Ancestral Ceremony

Yi Zhao nodded and first turned around to walk outside.

The black-golden door was automatically activated.

Bright sunlight shone in.

Yi Zhao raised his chin slightly and looked outside.

From here to the square, one had to walk down nine flights of stairs. Hence, he could easily look down on the entire square from here.

When the door opened and the few figures appeared, the originally crowded square instantly fell silent.

Everyone's gazes gathered here. Then, the crowd bowed in unison. "Greetings, Clan Leader!"

The many figures that were split to two sides nodded at the same time.

Even though there weren't many people, those who could come here today were the most outstanding ones in the entire red-gold heavenly phoenix clan. Standing on the sides, they invisibly exuded an extremely strong suppression.

Yi Zhao silently looked in the direction of Phoenix Valley.

Dark clouds gathered, and thunder brewed. Clearly, the commotion there hadn't ended.

He didn't know if it would end within a short period of time.

Yi Zhao quickly retracted his gaze and waved his hand.

A tremendous aura rapidly spread across. "All rise."

The crowd then stood up.

Yi Zhao surveyed his surroundings. When he saw the younger generation, he paused for a moment.

Detecting the clan leader looking over, the young children all couldn't help but be nervous. Amongst them, it was quite a few people's first time attending the ancestral ceremony and their first time at the square in front of Godly Phoenix Hall.

It was rather normal for them to be nervous and uptight.

Luckily, Yi Zhao quickly retracted his gaze, reducing the invisible suppression on them.

Yi Zhao's low and distant voice spread far as it clearly landed in everyone's ears.

"Today's ancestral ceremony is a grand event held once every hundred years for our red-gold heavenly phoenix clan! This time, other than paying respects to our ancestors and testing the young blood, we have another very important matter—choosing the clan's young master!"

"I have inherited the clan leader position for more than a thousand years. It's now time to choose the young master, who is the choice for the next clan leader!"

Once he said this, quite a few people seemed agitated.

Actually, they had known about this previously. But when they heard it personally, they couldn't help but be overwhelmed.

This matter was of great meaning to the entire red-gold heavenly phoenix clan. Even if the majority knew that they didn't have the right to compete, they were still filled with curiosity and excitement.

Being able to personally witness the selection of the young master was also a lucky event!

"The first matter of the ancestral hall: testing the bloodline talent!" Yi Zhao raised his hand and was about to point at Yi Ran. But after some time, he still didn't see that familiar figure, so he couldn't help but knit his brows.

Previously, he took a rough glance and thought that Yi Ran was at the back. It was only now that he realized that Yi Ran was not here at all.

This momentary pause immediately attracted the attention of the crowd present.

Quite a few people glanced at each other awkwardly.

According to the rules, the first to be tested in the ancestral ceremony was usually the most outstanding one amongst the young generation. This was also considered as having a good start.

For their batch, Yi Ran should be the one to go up first. However, he still hadn't arrived.

Upon seeing this, Elder Yi Gong hurriedly stepped forward and softly explained, "Clan Leader, Yi Ran told me a few days ago that he had understood quite a bit and had faint signs of breaking through. During this period of time, he has been in seclusion, so he probably hasn't come out yet."

It wasn't a small mistake to be late for the ancestral ceremony, but if it were for cultivation... It could be understood.

Yi Zhao's gaze became slightly warmer. "Yi Ran always knows what he's doing. If there wasn't a special reason, I believe he wouldn't do this. It seems like he has hopes of breaking through."

Elder Yi Gong hurriedly said, "Thank you for your blessing, Clan Leader. However, he hasn't broken through successfully yet, so I don't dare to say much as his mentor."

Yi Zhao laughed. "He's very talented; I believe it'll be done successfully. Besides, he's already outstanding on his own. If he can successfully break through this time, he will be even better."

Elder Yi Gong humbly lowered his head. "He's young and ambitious. There's much for him to learn."

He seemed humble, but the arrogance in his eyes caused everyone in the know to see it clearly.

Yi Zhao didn't mind it either.

During the recent few years, Yi Ran did perform quite well, so it was no wonder Yi Gong would be proud of him.

Besides, Yi Ran had already opened three meridians. If he could really successfully break through this time, he would open his fourth one. Amongst the younger generation, there hadn't been anyone who reached such a level.

Yi Zhao raised his hand and pointed at a young man at the side. "Yi Xin, we'll start with you then!"

The young man, who was called on, was shocked. However, he quickly reacted. "Yes, sir!"

Then, he walked directly over and stopped when he was in the middle of the square.

This place was carved with the red-gold heavenly phoenix clan's totem. They had to rely on this totem to undergo the test.

Yi Xin stood on the totem, looked down, and took a deep breath to calm himself down.

He was also considered extremely outstanding in the clan. Other than Yi Ran, he was the top out of the remaining ones.

Yi Ran and Yi Xin were of similar age, but in comparison, he was normally much more stable and discreet.

Other than cultivation, he rarely intervened in the clan's matters. This was the complete opposite of Yi Ran.

The surrounding gazes all looked over.

Even though Yi Ran didn't get the ball rolling, Yi Xin's talent and skills were considered decent.

"Let's begin!" Yi Zhao commanded.

Yi Xin nodded and closed his eyes. A red-golden fire emerged from his body the next moment!

The fire instantly surrounded him, and the scorching heat caused the surrounding air to rise in temperature!

Whir!

His feet suddenly had a strange whirring sound! Following this, that totem seemed to light up as it gradually became brighter!

A warm light slowly surfaced under the totem!

Everyone watched on with much focus, and some didn't even dare to blink, terrified that they would miss something.

The shape of the red-gold heavenly phoenix clan's totem was extremely special. It seemed like a ball of fire and also a phoenix that was about to spread its wings. Its tail had nine lines, which seemed like fire sparks that were separated and also the tails of phoenixes.

At this point, as Yi Xin's fire burned, the nine lines were gradually lit up.

The first line.

The second.

The third!

When the three fires lit up, the crowd instantly held their breaths in.

Lighting three lines meant that he had opened three meridians.

It wasn't surprising to open three meridians, but the point was whether he could continue!

What shocked everyone was that the fire on Yi Xin didn't immediately extinguish! The fourth line finally appeared with sparks of red-golden!

"Si... Is he lighting up the fourth line?"

"Is he for real? He can only do that if he has opened the fourth meridian, right? I didn't hear about Yi Xin breaking through..."

"He has always been discreet, focused on cultivation, and very humble. Perhaps he can really light up the fourth one—

Chapter 1587: Losing Face

The expressions of Yi Zhao and the others also changed slightly, and their eyes were clearly much more serious than before.

Only Elder Yi Gong frowned quickly. *?Yi Xin has broken through? Why don't I know? No matter how low-key he is, he couldn't hide such a thing, right? If this is true, then... the competition for the position of young master will probably be much more intense...*

Shoo!?

A small flame suddenly exploded and then annihilated.

The fourth totem did not light up in the end.

The surroundings instantly fell silent, and everyone had different expressions.

Yi Zhao and the others looked disappointed, but Elder Yi Gong secretly heaved a sigh of relief.

On the other hand, Yi Xin's expression was as usual. There was only a hint of regret on his young face, but it quickly dissipated.

It seemed like he had expected this.

He looked up. "Yi Xin is useless and has disappointed the clan leader and the elders."

Yi Zhao had always been serious, but at this moment, he revealed a rare smile. "Don't blame yourself. Although you haven't successfully opened your fourth meridian, it should be soon, right?"

Yi Xin nodded as if embarrassed. "Actually, I've been stuck for a long time. Recently, I've finally touched on something, but my talent is limited, and I haven't completely comprehended and broken through."

“Even so, it’s already very rare.” As Yi Zhao spoke, he glanced at Elder Yi Shang beside him. “Yi Shang, Yi Xin is your disciple. Why didn’t you give him some pointers?”

Elder Yi Shang smiled. “I can help him for a while, but I can’t help him for a lifetime. He’s only opened his fourth meridian now. If he can’t even comprehend these things on his own, won’t it be even harder in the future? Cultivation ultimately depends on himself.”

As soon as he said this, many people subconsciously looked at Elder Yi Gong.

Sure enough, they saw his face darken.

Everyone knew that Yi Ran had been cultivating with Elder Yi Gong recently and had probably received a lot of guidance.

Wasn’t Elder Yi Shang secretly slapping their faces?!

“Besides, Yi Xin has a steady personality and is patient. I believe that in time, he will definitely succeed.”

Yi Zhao nodded in agreement. He could tell that Yi Xin was indeed only a step away from opening the fourth meridian.

If the ancestral ceremony was delayed for a while longer... It might even cause Yi Ran a lot of trouble.

“Go back and cultivate well.” Yi Zhao gave Yi Xin a few more instructions before letting him go back.

“Next!”

Seeing that Yi Xin had only opened the third meridian, the people behind heaved a sigh of relief.

Although they couldn’t compare to the top few, they did not want to be left too far behind. Fortunately, Yi Xin’s results didn’t make them feel too uncomfortable.

The tests went on one after another.

Elder Yi Gong watched from above. Seeing that nobody had opened the fourth meridian, his mood improved.

Those who opened the third meridian naturally had varying levels of talent and strength. But no matter what, it was still much inferior to those who had opened the fourth meridian.

Now, he only hoped that Yi Ran could successfully break through...

...

Time slowly trickled past.

In the square, everyone carried out the test in an orderly manner. Everything went smoothly and calmly.

Those who could come up here had already transformed into human forms. In other words, they had at least opened their third meridian. But because the tested red-gold heavenly phoenixes were very young, most of them had yet to open the fourth meridian.

He had already tested more than 20 of them, but as expected, none of them had opened the fourth meridian.

Yi Zhao couldn't help but look up in the direction of Phoenix Valley, his eyes deep.

...

Elder Yi Gong gradually became anxious. This was because more than half of the test had passed, but Yi Ran had yet to come.

In fact, there was no movement at all.

Previously, I had repeatedly instructed that he must not miss the ancestral ceremony. If he doesn't make it in time, it will be useless even if he has successfully opened the fourth meridian. It is already time for Yi Ran to come...

Elder Yi Gong frowned. *Could it be that he encountered some trouble during his breakthrough?*

"First Elder, the children are almost done testing. Is Yi Ran coming or not?" Elder Yi Yu asked curiously. "If he's any later, he won't be able to make it!"

Elder Yi Gong's frustration worsened when he heard this. "Of course, he'll come."

Elder Yi Yu's eyes darted around, and he smiled. "Why don't... you go take a look yourself? No matter what, it's always more reassuring to take another look, right? Yi Ran has always been hard-working. We don't want to see him affecting his future just because he's late. What do you think?"

Although Elder Yi Gong didn't like Yi Yu very much, he was a little tempted when he heard this.

This was a serious matter, and it was always better to be careful.

He looked at Yi Zhao hesitantly.

Yi Zhao nodded.

Elder Yi Gong heaved a sigh of relief. "Thank you, Clan Leader. I'll be right back."

With that, he moved in the direction of Phoenix Valley.

But at this moment, rumbling suddenly sounded from afar!

Elder Yi Gong was shocked and immediately looked over.

Everyone in the square turned around.

In the distance, a figure suddenly rushed out of the mountains! His body burned with scarlet-gold flames with a shocking aura!

The surrounding natural energy also began to surge toward him quickly!

Elder Yi Gong was delighted. *Yi Ran! It seems that he is finally going to break through!*

As if to verify his guess, the flames on Yi Ran's body quickly gathered and finally condensed into the shape of a long feather in front of him.

The feather moved slowly.

At this moment, there were already three golden patterns between Yi Ran's eyebrows that were dazzling.

As the feather moved, the fourth line slowly formed!

Elder Yi Gong was overjoyed.

But just as the line was about to be completed, another loud bang suddenly sounded from the depths of Phoenix Valley!

For a moment, golden flames splattered in all directions, and the world shook!

Chapter 1588: Opened Meridian!

The feathers in front of Yi Ran seemed to be affected and began to sway.

The remaining half of the line was delayed.

This made Yi Ran anxious, but at this critical moment, he didn't dare to move. He could only stare at the feather in front of him and pray. *Nothing must happen! Everything must go smoothly! No matter what happens over there, I have to open my fourth meridian!*

His body trembled slightly from nervousness.

Unfortunately, things didn't go as planned.

Before he could think further, he suddenly felt a terrifying violent energy surge from behind him! At the same time, an indescribably powerful pressure descended!

The feathers in front of Yi Ran swayed even more!

Hong hong hong!?

In an instant, the remaining lightning bolts in the sky finally struck down! All of them landed in the depths of Phoenix Valley!

At this moment, the world changed color as if the end of the world had arrived!

Yi Ran's eyes widened. The feather in front of him suddenly changed direction and flew over!

"No—" Before Yi Ran could finish his sentence, his body suddenly trembled as he spat out a mouthful of blood!

"Yi Ran!" The expression of Elder Yi Gong—who had been watching the situation—changed, and he immediately rushed over!

He was very fast. In the blink of an eye, he was in front of Phoenix Valley.

But when he arrived here, he realized that the entire Phoenix Valley was already covered by that terrifying power. It was very difficult for outsiders to enter.

His speed decreased drastically, almost as if he was in a swamp, moving forward with difficulty.

Fortunately, Yi Ran's location wasn't far from the exit of Phoenix Valley. Elder Yi Gong didn't spend much time before arriving in front of him.

Seeing Yi Ran's current situation, Elder Yi Gong's heart suddenly sank!

Yi Ran's face and body were covered in blood. His face was exceptionally pale, and his eyes were dull.

The aura on his body seemed to have withered a lot. It was obvious how much that blow had affected him.

Actually, this was normal. Yi Ran was already at the breakthrough stage and could not be disturbed. However, such an accident had forcefully interrupted his breakthrough.

He was unprepared and was naturally shocked.

What worried Elder Yi Gong even more was that there were only three lines left between Yi Ran's brows!

The fourth stroke that he had painstakingly drawn just now was only halfway completed when it suddenly stopped.

Yi Ran suffered a backlash from the power. At this moment, the half-drawn line had already quickly dissipated.

The sudden loss of the support of that feather was too much of a blow for him.

At this moment, he was filled with anger and resentment. The situation was naturally worse.

"...Master..." Yi Ran's mouth was filled with blood. When he saw Elder Yi Gong, he spoke with difficulty, but his voice was very weak.

Under the continuous loud sounds in the Phoenix Valley, he looked especially pale.

Elder Yi Gong couldn't care less and quickly brought Yi Ran out!

Yi Ran turned around indignantly.

In Phoenix Valley, mountains rose and fell.

The ball of fire was burning fiercely in midair. Countless lightning bolts descended and struck it fiercely.

Vaguely, there seemed to be a figure among them.

At this moment, the red-gold feather had already flown over. It hung in midair, swaying gently in front of the burning ball of red-gold flame.

Yi Ran's eyes suddenly widened, and they were bloodshot! *It was it! It was the red-gold heavenly phoenix that had returned from outside—it had snatched my opportunity to open my meridians!*

That red-gold feather was left behind by the ancestor of the red-gold heavenly phoenix clan back then and was the only one in the world.

All red-gold heavenly phoenixes needed this feather to open their meridians.

Everything was fine on his side, and his fourth meridian was about to open! Unexpectedly, someone suddenly appeared halfway, interrupted his breakthrough without a word, and even forcefully took away that feather!

Yi Ran was filled with anger!

Looking at the fluttering feathers in the distance and the flames that kept flickering with blinding light, his eyes almost popped out.

He struggled to get back.

Elder Yi Gong sensed his actions and frowned even more. "Yi Ran! What are you doing?!"

Yi Ran was still staring fixedly in that direction. His voice was hoarse and filled with deep resentment. "Master! It... it's going too far!"

Seeing that his expression wasn't right, Elder Yi Gong turned around. However, what he saw made his expression change.

Apart from shock and anger, there was also disbelief.

He had been the First Elder for many years and had seen all kinds of storms, but the situation in front of him was really too strange!

The figure in the flames was clearly the red-gold heavenly phoenix that had just returned. It had actually snatched Yi Ran's opportunity to open his meridian!

In fact, because there was only one ancestral feather that could open meridians, it was inevitable that there would be competition among the red-gold heavenly phoenix clan.

Under normal circumstances, the stronger ones had a higher chance of success. This was normal.

However, the situation in front of him...

That red-gold heavenly phoenix has yet to transform into human form! How could it directly defeat Yi Ran?!

While Elder Yi Gong was in a daze, a strong wind suddenly swept over from the Phoenix Valley!

He was caught off-guard and was ruthlessly shaken off by this terrifying force!

Yi Ran's body was also sent flying uncontrollably!

At this moment, the feather finally made a light cut. It was smooth and natural!

Everyone's eyes widened in shock. *That red-gold heavenly phoenix has opened its meridians!*

Chapter 1589: Continuous Meridian Unlocker!

"How... how could this be..." Elder Yi Gong widened his eyes in disbelief. *Didn't that red-gold heavenly phoenix just break through not long ago? Why is it opening its meridians again now?! Moreover, the commotion is so huge!*

Seeing that stroke, Yi Ran suddenly seemed to have lost all his strength. His legs went weak, and he almost fell to the ground.

Elder Yi Gong was shocked and hurriedly pulled him back.

However, Yi Ran's eyes were already dim. He stared at the flames and couldn't help but laugh at himself. *To think that I had worked so hard for so long to summon the feather and open my meridians. Who knew... I was actually intercepted halfway?!*

He knew very well that after today's failure, it would only be harder for him to open his meridians than before!

"Master... I've disappointed you..." Yi Ran muttered and spat out another mouthful of blood.

He was filled with anger and had nowhere to vent it. His chest was about to explode from holding it in!

There was so much he wanted to say, but he didn't know where to start.

"You... you must help me..." Before Yi Ran could finish speaking, his eyes rolled back as he fainted.

"Yi Ran!" Seeing this, Elder Yi Gong immediately became even more anxious and resentful.

The violent energy in Phoenix Valley was still sweeping over! They couldn't stay here any longer.

Elder Yi Gong looked back deeply before gritting his teeth and leaving!

...

Elder Yi Gong brought the unconscious Yi Ran back to the square in front of Godly Phoenix Hall.

Seeing them return, everyone fell silent, but their gazes landed on Yi Ran.

Yi Ran's face was pale, the corners of his mouth and chest were stained with a lot of blood, and his breath was sluggish. He looked like he had never been in such a sorry state.

Many people looked at each other with complicated expressions. *Who would've thought that this would happen?*

"Clan Leader! Please be sure to seek justice for Yi Ran!" As soon as Elder Yi Gong arrived, he spoke angrily. "Shangguan Yue and that red-gold heavenly phoenix have gone too overboard! They've made up their minds to take Yi Ran's life!"

Yi Zhao walked over with a frown. He first leaned over to check on Yi Ran's condition before heaving a sigh of relief. "Don't worry. He has only suffered a backlash from a portion of the power. At the same time, his anger attacked his heart, causing him to faint. His life is not in danger."

As he spoke, he reached out and placed his broad palm on Yi Ran's forehead. A bright light seemed to surge out of his palm and quickly enter Yi Ran's body.

Yi Ran's originally pale face began to recover visibly.

A moment later, Yi Zhao withdrew his hand.

Yi Ran's eyebrows twitched. He then slowly woke up, his eyes still filled with confusion.

“...Mentor?” His voice was weak and hoarse, but he was finally awake.

Yi Zhao said, “Fortunately, there’s no major problem. He’ll recover after resting for a few days.”

Elder Yi Gong was still stunned. *?I didn’t expect Yi Zhao to help Yi Ran so decisively. Moreover... Yi Ran actually woke up just like that.*

“T-This... It’s...”

Yi Zhao glanced at him and said indifferently, “The Ancestral Golden Feather is a sacred object of our clan. No matter what, it won’t take the lives of our clansmen. Yi Gong, as the First Elder, don’t you know this best? Why did you say those words just now to make everyone nervous?”

“I...” Elder Yi Gong was speechless for a moment before gritting his teeth. “Clan Leader, I’m not saying that there’s something wrong with the Ancestral Golden Feather, but Shangguan Yue! Yi Ran was at the critical moment of breaking through and couldn’t be disturbed the most. However, they just had to snatch the Ancestral Golden Feather away at this time! It was clearly on purpose!”

He pointed at the burning flame deep in Phoenix Valley and said angrily, “If they hadn’t used some despicable method, how could the Ancestral Golden Feather have been forcefully snatched away while opening Yi Ran’s meridians?!”

Even if Yi Ran’s current injuries weren’t fatal, the key was that this caused him to fail to open his meridians!

Today was the ancestral ceremony! Without opening the fourth meridian, what was the difference between him and the others? What would he rely on to fight for the position of young master?

Not to mention that he was still injured!

This was the greatest loss!

The moment Elder Yi Gong thought about how his years of hard work had been ruined, he was almost driven mad!

“Clan Leader, they have ulterior motives and should be killed!” Because of his agitation, Elder Yi Gong’s voice was very sharp.

Everyone in the square heard him clearly.

Yi Zhao’s eyes turned slightly cold.

Elder Yi Yu was the first to speak. “First Elder, aren’t you being biased? I think this matter is just a coincidence. Yi Ran wanted to open his meridians and summoned the Ancestral Golden Feather. But at this moment, Tuan Zi was also going to open its meridians... It was purely an accident!”

Elder Yi Gong sneered. “Accident? Yi Yu, you’ve been in the clan for many years, so it’s not like you’ve never seen someone open their meridians at the same time, right? But when have you seen someone forcefully snatch away the Ancestral Golden Feather?”

Under normal circumstances, this matter was based on a ‘first come, first served’ basis.

Now that the other party had already snatched it from them, they still had to swallow their anger?!

Impossible!

“This... First Elder, do you mean that Shangguan Yue and Tuan Zi have already reached the point where they can control the Ancestral Golden Feather at will?” Elder Yi Yu blinked.

Elder Yi Gong suddenly choked. His expression froze for a moment before he said anxiously, “W-What nonsense are you talking about?! When did I say such a thing?!”

The Ancestral Golden Feather was considered a supreme existence in the clan. How could he dare to speak rudely about it?

“But what you said just now... Isn’t that what it means?” Elder Yi Yu raised his chin.

“Here, everyone saw it just now. The Ancestral Golden Feather went to Tuan Zi. Moreover, it did open Tuan Zi’s meridians just now.”

When the line was drawn, everyone had seen it clearly!

Flames seemed to be surging crazily in the chest of Elder Yi Gong, almost driving him crazy!

“Even if it wants to open a meridian, it has to wait until Yi Ran has finished! How can they explain what has happened?!”

Their intentions are obvious! They are too arrogant!

Elder Yi Yu also smiled. “Actually, it’s not easy to say anything about this... Under normal circumstances, it’s indeed according to the order of meridian opening. However... First Elder seems to have forgotten that there’s another premise: the strong are respected. They’re both opening their meridians, so the higher-level one naturally has the advantage.”

Elder Yi Gong was stunned for a moment. A moment later, he finally reacted and almost laughed in anger. “Yi Yu, your words are too ridiculous. You have to know that Yi Ran was going to open the fourth meridian! And that red-gold heavenly phoenix is only opening the second meridian! Isn’t it obvious at a glance who’s stronger?! Don’t you think it’s too ridiculous to say that it can snatch away the Ancestral Golden Feather from Yi Ran?!”

Elder Yi Yu stroked his chin and didn’t seem to care much about his words. “That’s right. What do you think is the reason a person who’s opening the second meridian can snatch it away from a person who’s opening the fourth meridian?”

The expression on Elder Yi Gong’s face suddenly froze.

Yi Zhao said lightly, “Those who continuously open their meridians can snatch the Ancestral Golden Feather!”

Chapter 1590: Which is More Important?

There was a sudden silence.

Elder Yi Gong opened his mouth, but no sound came out.

Continuous meridian opening... To many people in the red-gold heavenly phoenix clan, this was just a legend.

After the creation of the world, two ancient legendary fiends were born in the chaos. They had a history of tens of thousands of years.

Over the long years, the red-gold heavenly phoenix clan continued to multiply, and the number was by no means small. However, there were fewer than five people who could open their meridians consecutively.

One had to know that a red-gold heavenly phoenix was born with one opened meridian. In the next hundred years, they could open their second meridian.

After another hundred years, they could try to open the third meridian and transform into a human. However, it might not succeed.

Some of the more talented ones could do it naturally at a little more than 100 years of age. However, there were also those with ordinary aptitude who wasted 200 to 300 years and still lingered outside the gates of the third meridian.

After opening the third meridian, it was even harder to go higher. This was basically the time to rely completely on talent.

Those with outstanding talent and strength could successfully break through.

Those who opened the sixth meridian were directly promoted to elders.

Those who could open the seventh meridian were basically stable in the position of clan leader.

This was also why they had to choose the most talented one when choosing the young master.

Only with strength would one have the right to speak. If they couldn't even control the situation below, what else was there to say?

"Continuous... meridian opening?" In the dead silence, Yi Ran was actually the first to react. He looked up in panic and gazed at Phoenix Valley again.

The ball of fire was still burning, and the figure inside couldn't be seen clearly. However, that Ancestral Golden Feather had indeed not dissipated! It was still hanging quietly in the air as if it were waiting to draw a second line at any moment!

"This... this... how is this possible..." Yi Ran muttered, his eyes filled with disbelief. However, his heart had already completely sunk.

He was in a fit of anger just now, so he didn't have time to think too much. But after he calmed down, he realized that things might really be as Yi Zhao and the others had said! *That red-gold heavenly phoenix really wants to open its meridians continuously! Otherwise, how could it have easily snatched the Ancestral Golden Feather from me?*

After a meridian is opened, the Ancestral Golden Feather will automatically disappear and wait for the next summon. But now, it is still there. If this isn't to continue opening meridians, what is it?

Yi Ran found it unacceptable. His heart seemed to be weighed down by something, and he could not breathe. *?Ridiculous! How laughable! That red-gold heavenly phoenix had only broken through a few months ago. Now that it has just returned to the clan, it is actually going to open its meridians consecutively?!*

Yi Ran suddenly recalled what his master had said to him previously. At that time, Yi Gong had said that this red-gold heavenly phoenix might become a threat to him.

He hadn't taken it to heart, but now, he finally knew why his master had such a solemn expression.

At this moment, Elder Yi Shang raised his chin and said softly, "Look, the Ancestral Golden Feather is moving!"

When everyone heard this, they subconsciously looked over and saw that the red-gold feather was slowly drawing a second line!

The square was silent.

Shock, nervousness, doubt, exclamation, envy...

Everyone had different expressions, and their mood at this time was obviously very complicated.

Actually, if it were anyone else in the clan, they might not have reacted so strongly. However, it was the red-gold heavenly phoenix that had just returned from outside.

Didn't they say that it had only broken through a few months ago?

Didn't they say that it was only a lowly Nine-Colored Heavenly Pheasant in the past??

More importantly, it has yet to terminate its contract with that human!

They had always looked down on humans and rarely interacted with them. They even regarded contracts with humans as a stain. However, who knew that such a red-gold heavenly phoenix—who they secretly looked down on—would actually defeat all of them!?

It had to be known that even Clan Leader Yi Zhao had never opened his meridians consecutively!

How could they not be shocked by this situation?

...

"Clan Leader, it seems that you're going to lose your bet this time!" Elder Yi Yu shrugged, but there was a smile in his eyes. "This is the first time you've lost in so many years, right?"

He even lost to a human.

Yi Zhao put his hands behind his back and looked into the distance solemnly, waves surging in his eyes. He said nothing, but there was no anger on his face as if in tacit agreement.

Actually, although he looked calm and indifferent as usual, he was shocked.

He had actually not thought much about the bet back then. In his opinion, the possibility that Shangguan Yue could help Tuan Zi transform into a human form in a month was almost zero.

As long as she failed, the contract had to be broken. This saved the two sides from continuing to argue.

It was undeniable that because of Tuan Zi's pure bloodline, he actually had a little extravagant hope in his heart. However, he hadn't expected this to actually work.

Only at this moment, when he saw the Ancestral Golden Feather draw another line, did he believe that all of this had really happened!

"Tuan Zi is still very young, and it's really not easy to open meridians continuously. During this period of time, Shangguan Yue triggered lightning and caused such a huge commotion. It should be because of this, right?"

Elder Yi Shang smiled. "On the other hand, we misunderstood her previously. Fortunately, Yi Yu has been guarding her recently, and nobody has rashly disturbed her. If Tuan Zi fails to open its meridians because of this, we'll suffer a huge loss."

No matter what, Tuan Zi was of their red-gold heavenly phoenix clan's bloodline. Opening its meridians consecutively and breaking through was a joyous matter for their entire clan.

Elder Yi Gong's face turned pale.

Of course, he could tell that these words were mocking him!

After enduring for a while, he couldn't help but walk up to Yi Zhao.

Yi Zhao narrowed his eyes slightly when he saw his angry expression. "Yi Gong, what are you doing?"

Elder Yi Gong gritted his teeth. "Clan Leader, I don't want to do anything. I just want to seek justice for Yi Ran!"

He suddenly raised his hand and pointed at Phoenix Valley. "I know! It can continuously open veins—that's its ability! However, you can't just be biased toward it because of this!"

"It has now opened the third meridian, but what about Yi Ran?! He could've opened the fourth meridian! Don't you know how much he has sacrificed for this day?! Could it be that, just because that red-gold heavenly phoenix wants to open its meridians continuously, it can do whatever it wants and hurt others?!"

"Besides, although it has opened its third meridian today, it's still unknown if it's good or bad to rush the seedlings like this! Nobody can guarantee that it can continue to open its meridians in the future! However, Yi Ran—he really lost the chance to open his fourth meridian! Clan Leader, do you know which is more important?!"