

The Growth 538

Chapter 538 - 8: Battle of the Heavens

When Bai Shasheng received the news from Shuangliu Village and arrived with hundreds of fully armed [Taiping Taoist Soldiers], the village had already returned to its original silent state.

Everywhere he looked, except for a few traces of battle at the village entrance, Shuangliu Village seemed as if it had never experienced any conflict at all.

"This is not the method of the righteous path."

After surveying the village's situation, Yan Xi quietly approached the silently brooding Bai Shasheng.

At this moment, Bai Shasheng was holding a blood-stained saber, carefully wiping the blood from its blade.

This saber belonged to Jun Yao, and it was the only weapon they could find.

It was evident that this saber's owner fought until the last moment, as even its blade was full of nicks and dullness.

It seemed almost as if he did not want to be assimilated by those evil beasts.

The saber's owner delivered one last strike to his own neck, leaving behind the only bloodstain on the blade.

Unfortunately, even that did not prevent those evil beasts from taking his body and soul.

"I don't care about that, I only know that someone killed my brothers and sisters."

After a long silence, Bai Shasheng finally raised his head slowly, his face filled with killing intent as he surveyed the entire Shuangliu Village.

As a reformer—one who intends to overthrow the entire world order.

Bai Shasheng has never been a weakling.

"Someone killed my brothers and sisters, so they must pay the price!"

The deep eyes revealed an undeniable murderous aura, and Bai Shasheng's words immediately startled Yan Xi.

"But... we finally managed to reach a truce..."

Yan Xi naturally understood the implications of Bai Shasheng's words, but she also knew the cost of rashly starting a war.

Right now, with the [Taiping Tao] leaderless, relying solely on the power of the [Taiping Taoist Soldiers], any spark would surely evolve into a new large-scale war.

"Besides, this extreme method of slaughter is clearly the long-lost technique of the Evil Demon Sect."

With a faint glance at Yan Xi, Bai Shasheng replied with a calm tone.

"The Evil Demon Sect are also cultivators."

"I don't care where they originated from, I only know those cultivators must give me an explanation."

Gazing up at the sky, Bai Shasheng's eyes lingered long on those Immortal Mountains.

"Otherwise, I won't mind initiating another 'Battle of the Heavens'."

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The "Battle of the Heavens" is what the cultivators call the mortal's "counterattack war."

After Nine Peaks Mountain fell, cultivators and mortals engaged in a prolonged war.

In that war, the originally fragmented mortal powers gradually unified into several major forces.

The [Taiping Taoist Soldiers] was one of them, and they were joining other forces in moving towards true unification.

Conversely, the cultivators of the Immortal Mountain Archipelago were unable to form a unified front due to their own petty thoughts.

With this ebb and flow, the gradually emerging mortal powers swept across nearly half the continent, forming a tacit yet delicate alliance.

Under the pressure of this alliance, the cultivators of the Immortal Mountain Archipelago had no choice but to concede.

At the cost of sacrificing part of their own interests and territory, the cultivators of the Immortal Mountain Archipelago reached a temporary ceasefire agreement with the mortal powers.

As for how long this so-called "ceasefire agreement" can last?

It depends on whether the mortal power's alliance completes unification first.

Or if the Immortal Sect factions of the Immortal Mountain Archipelago reach a compromise first.

At the very least, at the current stage, cultivators are reluctant to break this tenuous balance, and are even more secretive about delving deeper into the heart of the continent.

Those unencumbered loose cultivators might occasionally appear within the influence range of the mortal alliance.

But those cultivators with true lineage and sects all choose to avoid the mortal alliance entirely.

In such circumstances, when the sects of the Immortal Mountain Archipelago received Bai Shasheng's ultimatum, all those in the know remained silent.

"This is simply an insult!"

"Is he giving us an ultimatum?"

"Does he intend to use our strength to find those demons lurking in the shadows?"

With endless fury, the Sect Leader of Xuan Yin Sect roared through the communication array at the heads of other sects.

After the "Battle of the Heavens," not only did the civilization of mortals advance, but even these lofty cultivators realized the imminent danger.

The fall of Nine Peaks Mountain was just the beginning.

In the subsequent war, the [Taiping Taoist Soldiers] attacked the archipelago multiple times, releasing those Immortal Spirits imprisoned for tens of thousands of years.

Even the floating Immortal Mountains weren't spared, as the [Taiping Taoist Soldiers] used suicidal hot air balloons to ascend.

Had it not been for the archipelago learning from past mistakes, and immediately securing the central hub of the Immortal Spirits,

it's likely that among the fallen in the "Battle of the Heavens" would be more than just Nine Peaks Mountain.

Recognizing that mortals had developed threatening power, the forces of the Immortal Mountain Archipelago chose to reach a ceasefire agreement with the mortal alliance.

Thereafter, to strengthen ties between major powers and to avoid being wiped out by the fiercely fearless [Taiping Taoist Soldiers],

a communication array specifically used for contact was developed.

With the function of this array, the various sects no longer needed to send people specifically to interact, sharing information and news smoothly.

"His intention isn't difficult to guess, is it?"

After a brief silence, a slightly helpless voice entered the ear of the Xuan Yin Sect Leader through the communication array.

The speaker was the Sect Leader of Nether Spring Sect, a rising star and new generation figure who emerged from the last "Battle of the Heavens."

Compared to those stubborn elders, as a top figure of the new generation, the Sect Leader of Nether Spring Sect understood the cunning of mortals better than anyone.

Especially the leader of [Taiping Taoist Soldiers]—Bai Shasheng, who was quite the prodigy the Celestial Being Realm hadn't seen in a thousand years.

Except for being unable to cultivate, Bai Shasheng never lost in anything he did.

"Either way, we absolutely cannot ignore this matter."

With a deep sigh, the Preliminary Sect Leader of the Golden Crow Sect spoke.

Since the fall of Nine Peaks Mountain, the disciples of the Nine Peaks and Nine Sects scattered throughout the Celestial Human Realm, only occasionally communicating with other powers through this Golden Crow Preliminary Sect Leader.

"After Demon Vanquishing True Monarch eradicated the known and named Evil Demon Sects, most of them vanished completely."

"The demons that suddenly appeared this time are unlikely to be the original sects of the Celestial Human Realm."

Observing and understanding the nuance, the Sect Leader of Xuan Yin Sect immediately responded with a question.

"Are you saying these demons come from the Outer Realm?"

"How can that be? All the space-time rifts connecting to the Outer Realm in the Celestial Human Realm have been sealed by us..."

Even before finishing his sentence, the Sect Leader of Xuan Yin Sect realized the flaw in his words.

Because the impetuous initiation of this "War of the End of the Dharma" by [Taiping Tao] seemed to be influenced by an Exotic God.

"I believe this event might be more serious than everyone imagines."

"The evil demons appearing in the Celestial Human Realm this time are possibly those Celestial Beings who left this world long ago."