

The Order 9291

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“I can’t leave you alone,” Liu Xue said.

“We must face this together!”

“But there are too many of them,” Chen Ping said.

“We are no match for them.”

“I know, but we can’t give up,” Liu Xue said. “We must find a way to defeat them.”

Wu Fawang looked at Liu Xue, a flash of anger in his eyes.

“Alliance Leader Liu, now that you’re back, don’t blame me for being impolite.”

“Attack together...”

With that, Wu Fawang and the elders of the Evil Path Hall attacked simultaneously, unleashing countless attacks towards Chen Ping and Liu Xue.

Chen Ping and Liu Xue hurriedly dodged, but the enemy’s attacks were too dense, and they were still hit several times.

Their injuries worsened, their clothes already stained red with blood.

It seemed that Chen Ping and Liu Xue couldn't hold on any longer and were about to perish.

Just then, a terrifying aura suddenly swept in.

This aura was incredibly powerful, far stronger than Wu Fawang's.

Wu Fawang and the elders of the Evil Path Hall sensed this aura, their expressions changing drastically.

They knew this was a powerful being.

"Who is it?" Wu Fawang asked warily.

A figure quickly approached, soon appearing before them.

This was a middle-aged man, dressed in a white robe, appearing to be a scholar, but the aura he exuded was incredibly powerful.

"Who are you?" Wu Fawang asked, looking at the newcomer.

However, the middle-aged man ignored Wu Fawang and quickly walked to Chen Ping.

"Mr. Chen, are you alright?" the middle-aged man asked.

Chen Ping, seeing the newcomer, was overjoyed and exclaimed, "Senior Shen, it's you!"

It turned out that the newcomer was Shen Zhiyan, whom Chen Ping had rescued in the Heavenly Ladder of the Celestial Realm.

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If it weren't for Chen Ping, Shen Zhiyan would probably have been trapped in the Heavenly Ladder for life, working for that old Golden Immortal.

Shen Zhiyan waved his hand, and a surge of powerful spiritual energy enveloped Chen Ping and Liu Xue, quickly restoring them considerably.

Chen Ping looked at Shen Zhiyan before him, his eyes filled with surprise and gratitude. He struggled to his feet.

Despite her continued weakness, she tightly grasped Shen Zhiyan's hand: "Senior Shen, I never expected to meet you here. If it weren't for your timely appearance, Alliance Leader Liu and I would likely be in grave danger today."

Liu Xue also forced herself to stand, bowed slightly, and said softly, "Thank you for saving my life, Senior."

Shen Zhiyan smiled and waved his hand, saying, "Mr. Chen, you're too kind. You've done me a great favor. If it weren't for you, I'd probably still be struggling on the Heavenly Ladder. Now that I see you in trouble, it's only natural that I lend a hand."

"Moreover, I promised to follow you for three hundred years. For those three hundred years, I will be your servant..."

"Senior Shen, please don't say that. I don't consider you a servant," Chen Ping waved his hands repeatedly.

Clearly, Shen Zhiyan's strength was higher than that of Wu Fawang. In this realm, they might still need Shen Zhiyan's help. How could Chen Ping truly consider Shen Zhiyan a servant?

As the two were reminiscing, Wu Fawang was completely ignored, and his anger erupted like a volcano.

As a Fawang of the Evil Path Hall, he was usually high and mighty; when had he ever been so coldly treated?

"Do you think I don't exist?"

Wu Fawang roared, his aura suddenly surging, black light flashing wildly, distorting the surrounding air.

Shen Zhiyan then slowly turned around, his gaze calm as he looked at Wu Fawang, as if looking at an insignificant ant: "If you behave yourself, perhaps you can live a little longer."

Wu Fawang trembled with rage. He rapidly formed hand seals, chanting incantations, and a massive black energy wave swept towards Shen Zhiyan and his companions.

This energy wave contained terrifying power; wherever it passed, the ground cracked, and sand and stones flew everywhere.

Shen Zhiyan remained calm. He gently raised his palm, and a gentle yet powerful spiritual force surged forth, colliding with the black energy wave.

"Boom!"

A deafening roar erupted as the golden energy wave vanished instantly, while Shen Zhiyan's spiritual force surged forward with unstoppable momentum, directly attacking Wu Fawang.

Wu Fawang's expression changed drastically. He tried to dodge, but found his body seemingly bound by an invisible force, unable to move at all.

"Bang!"

The spiritual force struck Wu Fawang fiercely, sending his body flying backward like a kite with a broken string, crashing heavily to the ground, spitting out a mouthful of blood.

Wu Fawang struggled to his feet, his eyes filled with shock and fear: "You...who exactly are you? How could you possess such power?"

Shen Zhiyan coldly looked at him and said, "I am Mr. Chen's servant. Since you dared to attack Mr. Chen today, don't even think about leaving alive."

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Upon hearing this, Wu Fawang was startled and stared intently at Shen Zhiyan: "Could you be the powerful figure behind Chen Ping?"

Shen Zhiyan shook his head: "I said, I am Mr. Chen's servant. I have no right to be the powerful figure behind Mr. Chen."

Shen Zhiyan knew his own limitations. Back on the Heavenly Ladder, even the Golden Immortal was so terrified of the powerful figure behind Chen Ping that he had them go easy on Chen Ping.

Clearly, the person behind Chen Ping was far more powerful than that Golden Immortal. Shen Zhiyan lacked both the strength and the qualifications.

Wu Fawang stared at Shen Zhiyan, knowing he was no match for him. If this continued, death would be his only fate.

Thinking this, he turned and fled, his speed incredible, disappearing into the distance in an instant.

The elders and others from the Evil Path Hall, seeing this, turned pale with fright. They followed closely behind Wu Fawang, trying to escape this terrifying place.

Chen Ping, seeing this, hurriedly said to Shen Zhiyan, "Senior Shen, we can't let them get away! These people have committed countless evils. If we let them go, they will surely return with a vengeance."

Shen Zhiyan nodded slightly and said, "Don't worry, Mr. Chen, they won't escape."

With that, Shen Zhiyan's figure flashed, instantly vanishing from the spot.

The next moment, he appeared in front of the elders and others from the Evil Path Hall, blocking their path.

The elders of the Evil Path Hall stared at Shen Zhiyan in terror. One of them trembled and pleaded, "Senior, we...we were only following orders. Please spare us!"

Shen Zhiyan's gaze was icy. He said, "When you committed your evil deeds, did you ever think of sparing others? Today, you must pay the price for your actions."

As soon as he finished speaking, Shen Zhiyan's hands moved swiftly, forming hand seals. Powerful streams of spiritual energy shot out like arrows, heading towards the elders of the Evil Path Hall.

The elders of the Evil Path Hall hastily activated their defensive techniques, attempting to resist the spiritual energy.

However, before Shen Zhiyan's overwhelming power, their defenses were like paper, instantly shattered.

"Ah!"

Screams rang out as the elders of the Evil Path Hall were struck by the spiritual energy. Their bodies were instantly torn apart, turning into a cloud of blood mist that dissipated into the air.

After dealing with the elders of the Evil Path Hall, Shen Zhiyan flashed back to Chen Ping and Liu Xue's side.

Chen Ping looked at Shen Zhiyan, his eyes filled with admiration: "Senior Shen, your strength is truly astounding. Thank you so much for eliminating these villains for us."

Shen Zhiyan smiled and said, "Mr. Chen, you're too kind. It was nothing. However, that Wu Fawang has escaped, and he'll likely be a problem in the future."

Chen Ping smiled faintly: "Senior Shen, don't worry. Once we find the Tianmen Mountain ruins, my strength will greatly increase. Even if Wu Fawang causes trouble again, I'll kill him with a single sword strike."

Chen Ping was confident that once he found the Tianmen Mountain ruins, he wouldn't fear Wu Fawang.

"You're going to the Tianmen Mountain ruins?" Shen Zhiyan asked.

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"That's right, we've already found the entrance to the ruins," Liu Xue nodded.

Shen Zhiyan frowned slightly upon hearing this, seemingly wanting to say something, but remained silent.

Seeing Shen Zhiyan's hesitant manner, Chen Ping asked, "Senior Shen, is something the matter?"

"Oh, no!" Shen Zhiyan shook his head, then said, "Mr. Chen, I cannot accompany you to the Tianmen Mountain ruins, but I will remain in this area."

With that, Shen Zhiyan took out a jade pendant from his robes and handed it to Chen Ping: "This jade pendant was carefully crafted by me, containing a trace of my spiritual power. If you encounter danger, simply crush this pendant, and I will sense it and come to your aid as soon as possible."

Chen Ping accepted the jade pendant, his heart filled with gratitude: "Thank you very much, Senior Shen. I, Chen Ping, will forever remember this kindness."

Liu Xue also chimed in, "We will never forget your great kindness, Senior."

Shen Zhiyan waved his hand, saying, "Mr. Chen, we are destined to meet; there's no need for such formalities. If you encounter any difficulties in the future, please feel free to come to me."

Shen Zhiyan was about to leave when Chen Ping quickly called him back.

"Senior Shen, could you please wake the God-King?" Chen Ping pointed to the God-King, who was in a daze beside him.

Shen Zhiyan glanced at him, then waved his hand. A glimmer of clarity flashed in the God-King's eyes!

"I'm leaving..." Shen Zhiyan said, and his figure vanished instantly.

After Shen Zhiyan disappeared, the God-King looked around warily, then looked at Chen Ping and Liu Xue with suspicion: "Who are you? Why are you here?"

"I am Chen Ping," Chen Ping said. "I'm here to save you."

"My name is Liu Xue, the leader of the Earthly Fiend Alliance," Liu Xue said.

"Save me?" The God-King was stunned. "When did I need your help?"

"God-King, you may not recognize me, but you should recognize this." Chen Ping said, taking out a token from his storage bag.

This token was the token of the first God-King of the Temple.

Upon seeing the token, the God-King's expression changed drastically: "This... this is the token of the first God-King of my temple? How did you obtain this?"

"You don't need to know how I obtained this token. You only need to know that from now on, the temple is my domain," Chen Ping said calmly.

Hearing this, the God-King frowned slightly, somewhat disbelieving Chen Ping.

After all, Chen Ping was only at the third rank of the Human Immortal Realm, a strength even weaker than his Fifth Palace Master's, yet he aspired to control the entire temple.

Chen Ping also sensed the God-King's disbelief, so he said, "Back in the Eighth Heaven, the Third Palace Master, in alliance with the Evil Path Palace, attempted to seize the God-King's Palace. It was Wan Jianxing who intervened and stopped them. The Fourth Palace Master, Ling Xi, was also present; she witnessed it firsthand."

"It was Lingxi who found me, saying she couldn't contact you and sent me to the Nine Heavens to find you. I never imagined you'd been mind-controlled by the First and Second Palace Masters, who were going to hand you over to the Evil Path Palace."

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"If I hadn't appeared in time, you would already be a prisoner of the Evil Path Palace."

Hearing Chen Ping's words, especially the mention of Wan Jianxing, the God King knew it was true.

"Where is our ancestor now?" the God King asked.

"He has vanished into thin air, leaving only a wisp of his soul, trapped in the void passage."

"For so many years, he has been imprisoned there by the God Clan Chief. He said it was because he violated clan rules that he was imprisoned."

Chen Ping said.

Upon hearing this, the God King sighed and nodded.

Clearly, he knew about this; the God Palace must have records of it.

"Since the Ancestor entrusted the token to you, my Divine Palace will certainly follow your lead. Please, Mr. Chen, give me your orders."

The God-King became respectful towards Chen Ping.

“We’re going to the Tianmen Mountain Ruins. Now that you’ve recovered, return to the Divine King’s Palace immediately. The Divine King’s Palace has suffered heavy losses; only the Fourth Palace Master is holding it together.”

“You need to return to the Eighth Heaven to rebuild the Divine Palace. When selecting people in the future, observe them carefully.”

“The First Palace Master, Second Palace Master, and Third Palace Master are all ganging up on you. How dangerous!”

Chen Ping cautioned the God-King.

“Mr. Chen is right. I will be careful.” The God-King nodded.

Although the Divine Palace wielded considerable power in the Eighth Heaven and no one dared to provoke it, the collapse of an empire often begins from within.

If it weren’t for the betrayal of the First Palace Master and his group, the Divine Palace would still be intact.

After thanking Chen Ping, the God King returned to the God King Palace in the Eighth Heaven, while Chen Ping and Liu Xue went back to their cave to recuperate.

Both were severely injured, and entering the ruins at this time would be disastrous.

Inside the cave, Chen Ping took out the Demon-Suppressing Tower, set up a magic array, and then led Liu Xue inside.

When Liu Xue heard that time flowed a hundred times faster inside the Demon-Suppressing Tower than outside, she was shocked.

One year outside could be equivalent to a hundred years of cultivation inside the Demon-Suppressing Tower.

She finally understood why Chen Ping was so powerful.

“Alliance Leader Liu, this Demon-Suppressing Tower is my secret. I won’t bring anyone in unless they are very close to me,” Chen Ping said to Liu Xue.

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“Young Master Chen, I know...” Liu Xue smiled slightly and began to undress.

This time, Chen Ping didn’t refuse and pounced on her without hesitation!

Through dual cultivation, their injuries healed quickly.

When they emerged from the Demon-Suppressing Tower, both had fully recovered, and Chen Ping’s strength had even improved considerably, soon to break through to the fourth rank of the Human Immortal Realm.

“Let’s go, to the Tianmen Mountain Ruins,” Chen Ping said.

“Okay!” Liu Xue nodded shyly, unconsciously linking her arm with Chen Ping’s.

Women are like that; once the last bastion is breached, they naturally become close to men, especially after their first time.

Often, a woman’s most unforgettable experience is with her first man.

Soon, led by Liu Xue, the two arrived at the mountain peak, but the peak was barren, devoid of anything, let alone any entrance to the ruins.

However, before Chen Ping could speak, Liu Xue waved her hand, and with a ripple and distortion in the void, Chen Ping found that everything before him had changed.

On the barren mountain peak before him stood rows of stone pillars.

The stone pillars reached straight into the sky, forming a stone forest.

Although the exact number of stone pillars was unknown, there were certainly tens of thousands.

“Is this the entrance to the Tianmen Mountain ruins?” Chen Ping asked.

Liu Xue shook her head: “We need to get through this stone forest to the center. I’ve tried with others, but we simply can’t reach the middle.”

Chen Ping released his divine sense, trying to see what the stone forest looked like.

Unfortunately, his divine sense seemed to be blocked, and he couldn’t see the entire stone forest.

“It seems this stone forest is a magic formation. We need to break it to get to the center. Let’s try.”

With that, Chen Ping led Liu Xue into the stone forest.

As soon as Chen Ping and Liu Xue entered the stone forest, they felt the surrounding air become heavy, as if an invisible force was quietly surging within.

The stone pillars in the stone forest were of various shapes, some as thick as giant trees, others as slender as bamboo poles, their surfaces covered with mysterious and ancient runes, emitting a cold, eerie light.

Chen Ping took a deep breath and began to carefully observe his surroundings, relying on his keen perception of formations.

He quickly discovered that the arrangement of these stone pillars was not random, but followed a specific pattern.

He closed his eyes, his mind conjuring up patterns of the Heavenly Stems and Earthly Branches, and the Eight Trigrams, which corroborated the layout of the stone forest before him.

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“Alliance Leader Liu, this stone forest is indeed a large-scale magic formation, and an extremely complex one at that, but I am confident I can break it,” Chen Ping said confidently, opening his eyes.

A hint of surprise flashed in Liu Xue’s eyes. She followed closely behind Chen Ping, cautiously observing their surroundings, afraid of accidentally triggering any traps.

As Chen Ping walked, he silently calculated the changes in orientation and runes in his mind.

He discovered that with each step he took, the runes on the stone pillars would subtly change, and these changes were the key to breaking the magic formation.

“Following the order of the Heavenly Stems and Earthly Branches, we should first find the stone pillar corresponding to the ‘Jia’ position.”

Chen Ping spoke as he searched for his target in the stone forest.

Finally, he stopped before a thick stone pillar. The runes on this pillar shimmered with an eerie light, subtly resonating with the aura of the “Jia” position.

Chen Ping reached out and touched the runes on the pillar. Instantly, a powerful force surged into his body. Images flashed through his mind, as if he were engaging in some kind of mysterious communication with this ancient magic array.

A moment later, he opened his eyes, a look of joy on his face.

“Found it! This stone pillar is the starting point for breaking the magic array.”

Chen Ping said, his hands rapidly forming hand seals, chanting incantations.

With his movements, the runes on the pillar began to flash even more intensely, beams of light shooting out from them, intertwining and forming a massive light curtain.

Chen Ping, pulling Liu Xue along, stepped into the light curtain without hesitation.

In an instant, they felt a flash of light before their eyes, and the surrounding scenery underwent a dramatic transformation.

The previously intricate stone forest seemed to have been rearranged by an invisible force, revealing a clear passage before them.

“Looks like we’re on the right track. Let’s continue.”

Chen Ping said, leading Liu Xue along the passage.

Along the way, they encountered many similar stone pillars, each representing a different location and rune variation.

Relying on his profound knowledge of formations, Chen Ping accurately found the solutions time and time again, successfully passing through numerous trials.

As they ventured deeper, the aura within the stone forest became increasingly mysterious and powerful.

“Young Master Chen, your formations are amazing! I never knew you were such a multi-talented individual.” Liu Xue looked at Chen Ping with admiration.

“It’s nothing!” Chen Ping smiled.

It’s worth noting that he had received personal instruction from the Divine Pattern Ancestor and the Formation Demon.

Finally, after traversing a misty area, a magnificent hall appeared before them.

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The hall soared into the clouds, its imposing presence resembling the abode of an ancient deity.

The walls of the hall were constructed of massive stone blocks, each carved with exquisite patterns—mythical beasts, runes, and formations.

Chen Ping and Liu Xue slowly approached the hall. The doors were tightly shut, covered in intricate runes and patterns, emanating a powerful, restrictive force.

Chen Ping carefully examined the runes on the doors, discovering a subtle connection between them and those they had encountered in the stone forest.

“It seems that to open this door, we need to break the runic restrictions,” Chen Ping said, closing his eyes again and beginning to decipher the runes’ mysteries in his mind.

Liu Xue stood quietly to the side, her gaze fixed intently on the doors, her heart filled with anticipation and tension.

After arduous calculations and trials, Chen Ping finally found a way to break the rune seal.

He rapidly formed hand seals, chanting an incantation. Beams of light shot from his hands, striking the runes on the door.

As the light flickered, the runes began to change. The previously tightly connected lines loosened, and a powerful force surged from within the door.

“Now!” Chen Ping shouted, pushing hard with both hands. The door slowly opened.

An ancient and mysterious aura rushed out, as if transporting them to a completely new world.

The interior of the hall was spacious and bright, the floor paved with smooth marble, engraved with various mysterious patterns and runes.

Around the hall stood many enormous statues, each with a different form—some majestic and solemn, others enigmatic and unpredictable—as if guarding the secrets within.

In the center of the hall was a massive stone platform, upon which rested an ancient book radiating golden light.

Chen Ping and Liu Xue slowly approached the stone platform, their eyes fixed on the ancient book. They could sense that it contained endless mysteries and immense power.

“Could this be the legendary treasure of the Tianmen Mountain ruins?” Liu Xue murmured, her eyes gleaming with excitement.

Chen Ping nodded, saying, “Very likely, but we must still be cautious. There might be other hidden dangers within this hall.”

Just as they were about to reach for the book, a deep rumble suddenly echoed through the hall, and the ground began to tremble violently.

Immediately afterward, beams of black light shot out from all around the hall, converging to form a massive black vortex.

A powerful and malevolent aura emanated from the vortex, sending chills down their spines.

“Danger!” Chen Ping shouted, quickly shielding Liu Xue behind him, his hands forming a hand seal, preparing to face the impending danger.

A figure slowly emerged from the black vortex. It was a mysterious man clad in black robes, his face shrouded in a black mist, obscuring his features.

“Who are you? How dare you trespass into the Tianmen Mountain ruins!”

The mysterious man’s voice was deep and hoarse, as if it came from hell.

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Chen Ping stared fearlessly at the mysterious man and said, “We came here by chance and have no ill intentions. However, we are determined to obtain the ancient book in this hall.”

The mysterious man sneered and said, “You? You think you can take this ancient book? You’re delusional! This ancient book is a treasure I’ve guarded for many years. None of you will take it today!”

With that, the mysterious man waved his hands, and waves of black energy swept towards Chen Ping and Liu Xue.

Chen Ping quickly used his spiritual power to form a protective shield, protecting Liu Xue within it.

At the same time, he rapidly formed hand seals, and powerful streams of spiritual energy shot out like arrows, colliding with the black energy waves.

“Boom!”

A deafening roar erupted as spiritual energy and black energy waves canceled each other out, bursting into a blinding flash of light.

Chen Ping and the mysterious man each took a few steps back, their eyes fixed on each other, neither daring to let their guard down.

Chen Ping and Liu Xue exchanged a glance, their eyes flashing with unwavering determination. They knew that only by working together could they survive in this mysterious and dangerous ruin.

“Alliance Leader Liu, let’s attack from both sides, catching him off guard!” Chen Ping said softly, his voice carrying an undeniable resolve.

Liu Xue nodded slightly, her longsword flashing with a sharp, cold light. She shouted, “Alright!”

As soon as she finished speaking, the two moved with lightning speed. Chen Ping channeled his spiritual energy, his body radiating intense light, like a blazing sun, charging towards the mysterious man’s right side;

Liu Xue, on the other hand, leaped lightly, like a nimble swallow, attacking the mysterious man from the left.

Seeing this, the mysterious man sneered disdainfully. His hands moved swiftly, forming hand seals and chanting incantations.

Instantly, the surrounding black light intensified, forming countless black spikes that shot towards Chen Ping and Liu Xue.

Chen Ping’s eyes sharpened. He thrust his hands forward, unleashing a powerful surge of spiritual energy that transformed into a massive golden shield, deflecting the incoming black spikes.

At the same time, Liu Xue dodged the spikes with a swift movement, her longsword arcing gracefully like a meteor, aiming straight for the mysterious man’s chest.

The mysterious man sidestepped, easily avoiding Liu Xue's attack, then swung his hand back, sending a wave of black energy towards Liu Xue.

Liu Xue reacted quickly, lightly touching the ground with her toes and floating backward, avoiding the impact of the energy wave.

"Is that all you've got?" the mysterious man sneered.

Chen Ping sneered, "Don't be too smug!"

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With that, he rapidly changed hand seals, chanting ancient incantations. The surrounding air began to vibrate violently, and golden runes flew from his body, weaving into a massive golden magic circle in the air.

"Go!"

Chen Ping shouted, and the golden magic circle pressed down on the mysterious man.

The mysterious man felt the immense pressure from the golden magic circle, his expression slightly changing. He formed hand seals again, attempting to defend against the attack.

However, Chen Ping's golden magic circle was incredibly powerful, and the mysterious man's defense seemed strained.

Just then, Liu Xue seized the opportunity, letting out a delicate shout. Her longsword erupted with dazzling light as she unleashed the Earthly Fiend Alliance's ultimate technique, "Earthly Fiend Sword Shadows," sending a series of sharp sword shadows towards the mysterious man.

The mysterious man was overwhelmed, having to deal with both Chen Ping's golden magic circle and dodge Liu Xue's sword shadow attacks, finding himself in a predicament.

He roared, his body flashing with black light as he tried to break free of the golden magic array's restraints.

Seeing this, Chen Ping increased his spiritual power output, making the golden magic array even brighter, tightly suppressing the mysterious man.

Liu Xue seized the opportunity to close in, her longsword piercing the mysterious man's vitals like lightning.

"No!"

The mysterious man let out a desperate roar, trying to dodge Liu Xue's attack, but it was too late.

Liu Xue's longsword pierced the mysterious man's chest accurately, and a spurt of black blood gushed from the wound.

The mysterious man's body swayed a few times, then slowly collapsed.

However, in the instant the mysterious man fell, a smile appeared on his face, but neither Chen Ping nor Liu Xue noticed it.

Chen Ping deactivated the golden magic array, exchanged a glance with Liu Xue, and both breathed a sigh of relief.

"Finally, we've dealt with him," Liu Xue said, a tired but relieved smile on her face.

Chen Ping nodded. "Let's hurry and get that ancient book."

The two arrived at the stone platform, their eyes fixed on the ancient book that emitted a golden light.

Chen Ping slowly reached out his hand, and the instant his fingers touched the book, a dazzling light suddenly enveloped them.

“Ah!”

Chen Ping and Liu Xue exclaimed simultaneously. They felt a powerful force surge into their bodies, their vision blurred, and they instantly lost consciousness.