

The Order 9711

Chapter: 9711

Just then, the carved wooden window of the lead carriage, which had been closed, creaked open gently.

A stunningly beautiful face emerged from behind the window.

It was a girl who appeared to be about seventeen or eighteen years old, with skin as white as snow, exquisitely beautiful features, and a pair of bright, fiery eyes like burning flames.

Her hair was styled in an elaborate updo, adorned with a crimson jade hairpin, and she wore a flowing, fiery red fairy dress, the hem embroidered with lifelike golden crow patterns.

Although she is still young, her beauty is already striking, especially the innate nobility and liveliness between her brows, which makes her unforgettable.

The girl's gaze swept curiously through the convoy, finally settling on Chen Ping, who was flying through the air.

Their eyes met.

Chen Ping saw her too.

Those fiery eyes were filled with undisguised curiosity and inquiry, as if she had discovered some interesting new toy.

Chen Ping was slightly taken aback, then nodded politely and looked away.

However, this eye contact attracted the attention of many people around them.

"It's Princess Huo Ling'er!" someone exclaimed in a low voice.

“The darling daughter of the Earth Fire Pavilion Master, what’s she doing here?”

“I heard Princess Huo Ling’er is extremely talented, having already reached the fifth rank of the Celestial Immortal Realm at such a young age, and is deeply favored by the Pavilion Master and all the elders. She rarely leaves the pavilion, but this time she actually came out with Elder Yan Xin.”

“What is she looking at? She seems to be paying attention to that guard named Chen Ping?”

“Tsk tsk, to be noticed by the princess, this kid is quite lucky...”

Whispers arose.

The Crimson Cloud Demon Lord nudged Chen Ping with his elbow, teasingly transmitting his voice, “Chen Ping, not bad, you’ve only just arrived at the Eleventh Heaven, and you’ve already got some good fortune with women?”

“This young lady’s identity is extraordinary, the daughter of the Earth Fire Pavilion Master. If you take her, wouldn’t the Earth Fire Pavilion become your backyard?”

Chen Ping glared at him irritably, “Senior, don’t talk nonsense. I was just curious to take a look.”

“Take a look?”

The Crimson Cloud Demon Lord chuckled, “Why do I feel like there’s more than just curiosity in her eyes? Young man, seize the opportunity. I think this young lady is quite good, beautiful, of noble status, and talented...”

“Anyway, you have plenty of women, what’s one more woman in the Eleventh Heaven? Besides, haven’t all the young ladies who’ve seen you ended up being played with by you?”

“Stop.”

Chapter: 9712

Chen Ping interrupted him helplessly, "We already have enough trouble, let's not create any more problems."

Despite saying that, Chen Ping also felt a strange unease.

That girl named Huo Ling'er, with her clear and bright eyes, was indeed different from others. Moreover, he could sense that besides curiosity, there seemed to be a faint...approval?

Even a subtle sense of closeness?

Was it because he possessed Chaotic Immortal Power and True Dragon Bloodline, making him sensitive to fire-attribute spiritual energy and the aura of the dragon race?

Just as he was pondering this, a young man dressed in the robes of a disciple of the Earth Fire Pavilion flew to Chen Ping's side, his attitude polite but carrying a hint of scrutiny: "Fellow Daoist Chen, the princess requests your presence in the carriage."

A wave of envious and jealous glances immediately fell upon them.

Chen Ping hesitated slightly, then nodded: "Alright."

With a meaningful smile from the Crimson Cloud Demon Lord, Chen Ping followed the disciple to the ground and walked to the carriage at the front.

The carriage door opened, and a faint fragrance mixed with cool spiritual energy wafted out.

The carriage clearly had a special cooling array inside, creating a stark contrast with the sweltering outside air.

"Fellow Daoist Chen, please come in."

The maid who had opened the window earlier stood at the carriage door and said respectfully.

Chen Ping stepped into the carriage. The space was more spacious than he had imagined, elegantly yet luxuriously furnished.

Soft sable fur carpets covered the floor, and the walls were inlaid with moonstones that emitted a soft glow. Several exquisite low tables were set with spiritual fruits and tea snacks.

Princess Huo Ling'er was sitting in the main seat, resting her chin on her hand, curiously observing Chen Ping as he entered.

Chen Ping sized up the princess, looking at the luxurious carriage, wondering if the princess had summoned him here for some kind of sexual encounter.

"You've met the princess, why aren't you bowing?" the maid said, noticing Chen Ping staring intently at the princess.

"What's on his mind?" she whispered, slightly annoyed.

"Chen Ping greets the princess."

Chen Ping quickly clasped his hands in a respectful bow, neither servile nor arrogant.

"No need for formalities, please sit."

Huo Ling'er's voice was clear and melodious, like a mountain stream. "I heard from Elder Zhao that you performed amazingly during the test, even crushing a seventh-grade puppet's Flaming Dragon Slash with your bare hands. Is that true?"

She blinked, her face full of curiosity, completely lacking the airs of a princess, more like a curious girl next door.

Chapter: 9713

Chen Ping sat down at the low table opposite her, and a maidservant served him spirit tea.

“Just a trivial skill, I’m afraid the princess will find it laughable,” Chen Ping said calmly.

“A mere trick?”

Huo Ling’er curled her lip. “Elder Zhao said he’d never seen anything like it in all his years, that sword energy pierced through a sixth-grade trial pillar.”

“Also, the spirit-testing crystal couldn’t accurately determine your cultivation level, displaying a chaotic seven-colored display—this is the first time it’s ever appeared. You’re quite mysterious.”

She leaned forward slightly, her fiery eyes fixed on Chen Ping: “What is your cultivation level? Are you really only at the first grade of the Heavenly Immortal Realm?”

“I don’t believe it. Also, the cultivation technique you practice is so strange. I feel your aura... is very special, both familiar and unfamiliar.”

Chen Ping’s heart skipped a beat.

Princess Huo Ling’er’s senses were indeed sharp. He calmly sipped his tea. “I am indeed only at the first rank of the Celestial Immortal Realm, but my cultivation technique is somewhat special, so my combat strength is slightly higher than my realm. As for my aura... perhaps it’s due to my cultivation technique.”

“Slightly higher than your realm?”

Huo Ling’er tilted her head. “You call that ‘slightly higher’? A first-rank Celestial Immortal Realm cultivator can crush a seventh-rank puppet with a killing move. If that’s ‘slightly higher,’ how are the others supposed to survive?”

She seemed very interested in Chen Ping, bombarding him with questions: “Where are you from? Who is your master? Why did you come to Crimson Flame City? Why did you participate in the guard mission? You didn’t even want the opportunity to become an inner disciple of the Earth Fire Pavilion, so what do you want?”

The barrage of questions left Chen Ping somewhat overwhelmed.

Chen Ping carefully considered his words before answering, “I come from the Tenth Heaven, a lone cultivator without a fixed master.”

“I came to Crimson Flame City to find a material called ‘Earth Core Jade Marrow Milk’ to save someone. I participated in the escort mission partly for the reward, and partly to take this opportunity to contact the Earth Fire Pavilion and gather information.”

He didn’t completely hide anything, but he didn’t reveal everything either.

The pursuit by the Evil Path Hall was something he couldn’t disclose for the time being.

“Earth Core Jade Marrow Milk?”

Huo Ling’er’s eyes lit up. “That’s a legendary item, produced from the deepest part of the Lava Demon Abyss, where only one drop is obtained every ten thousand years. Who do you need to save? Why would you need such a treasure?”

“A senior’s Daoist partner, whose physical body is on the verge of decay, needs this to lock in their life force,” Chen Ping explained simply.

“Oh...”

Huo Ling’er nodded thoughtfully, her gaze towards Chen Ping now filled with admiration. “Loyal and righteous, not bad. However, Earth Core Jade Marrow Milk is extremely rare. Even my Earth Fire Pavilion only possesses some clues about the Lava Demon Abyss; we don’t have any readily available stock. Obtaining it is as difficult as ascending to heaven.”

“No matter how difficult, I’ll try,” Chen Ping said firmly.

Huo Ling’er stared at him for a few seconds, then suddenly smiled brightly: “You’re quite interesting. Alright, seeing how sincere you are, this princess might be able to ask your father for you. But...”

Chapter: 9714

She winked mischievously: “You have to promise me you’ll chat with me along the way, tell me stories about the outside world. I’ve hardly ever left the Earth Fire Pavilion since I was little; I’m so bored.”

Chen Ping chuckled.

This princess is indeed charmingly frank.

“As long as the princess doesn’t find it boring, I’ll gladly oblige.”

Chen Ping also wanted to play with the princess.

From that day on, Huo Ling’er indeed frequently sought out Chen Ping for conversation.

Sometimes she would have a maid invite him to the carriage, and other times she would proactively go to Chen Ping and the Crimson Cloud Demon Lord’s resting place during the caravan’s rest periods.

She was filled with curiosity about the outside world, especially Chen Ping’s experience of conquering the eleventh heaven from the tenth. She listened with constant amazement.

“Is the Eternal Ice Plains of the Tenth Heaven really that cold? Colder than our Flame Domain’s coldest ‘Ice Cave’?”

“Are the Northern Underworld Gods really that arrogant? What do they look like?”

“You actually defeated a peak eighth-grade Celestial Immortal General? How did you do that?”

The questions were varied, and Chen Ping answered what he could, glossing over the rest.

Even so, Huo Ling'er listened with great interest, occasionally expressing surprise or admiration.

And from her, Chen Ping gained a deeper understanding of the Earth Fire Pavilion and the Flame Domain.

The Earthfire Pavilion, one of the overlords of the Flame Domain, is renowned for its alchemy and weapon crafting. The pavilion is divided into three branches: the Alchemy Hall, the Weapon Crafting Hall, and the Martial Arts Hall.

Huo Ling'er's father, the Pavilion Master of the Earthfire Pavilion, is a peak ninth-grade Celestial Immortal, and also one of the top alchemy masters of the eleventh heaven.

Huo Ling'er displayed fire-based talent from a young age and was highly regarded, but she was also extremely well-protected and rarely ventured out for training.

“Father always says it's dangerous outside and won't let me go out easily.”

Huo Ling'er pouted and complained, “If I hadn't pleaded and begged, and Grandpa Yanxin had spoken up for me, I wouldn't have been able to come. Now I'm stuck in the carriage, unable to go anywhere, so boring!”

Chen Ping comforted her, “The Pavilion Master is only thinking of the princess's safety. Crimson Flame Canyon is indeed dangerous; the Flame Dragon is incredibly powerful. It's always better to be careful.”

“I know, I know, you sound just like my father.”

Huo Ling'er waved her hand, then her eyes lit up, “By the way, do you have any good stuff on you? Show it to me!”

Chen Ping was stunned!

What good stuff could he possibly have to show?

Chapter: 9715

The Dragon-Slaying Sword?

The Dragon-Patterned Bell?

The God-King Bow?

The Demon-Slaying Whip?

Or his own...

Chen Ping looked down at his lower body. If he took that out, it would definitely scare Huo Ling'er.

"You don't have anything on you, do you?" Huo Ling'er asked.

Seeing her expectant face, Chen Ping summoned the little fire qilin from his storage ring.

After this period of rest and nourishment from the fire elemental energy of the Flame Domain, the little fire qilin had grown even larger, now over four zhang tall. Its golden-red scales shimmered, and its four hooves trod on golden flames, making it both majestic and spirited.

As soon as it appeared, it affectionately nuzzled Chen Ping with its large head, then curiously surveyed its surroundings and Huo Ling'er.

“Wow! So beautiful!”

Huo Ling'er exclaimed in delight, not at all shy, and ran over to touch the little fire qilin's head.

The little fire qilin was initially wary, but perhaps sensing the pure fire elemental energy emanating from Huo Ling'er, or perhaps realizing that Chen Ping meant her no harm, it didn't flinch. Instead, it lowered its head, allowing Huo Ling'er to stroke it.

“So warm, so comfortable!”

Huo Ling'er's eyes narrowed into crescent moons with joy. “What's its name?”

“It hasn't been named yet. We just call it Little Fire Qilin,” Chen Ping said.

“That won't do! How can such a majestic divine beast not have a name?”

Huo Ling'er thought for a moment. “Look at its golden-red body, surrounded by flames. How about calling it Wangcai? It has such a good meaning.”

“Wangcai?”

Chen Ping was stunned. He hadn't heard that name in a long time.

Back on Earth, his neighbor had a Wangcai.

But that was just a pug.

How could it compare to the Fire Qilin now?

In this Heavenly Realm, it's truly rare for a princess of the Eleventh Heaven to come up with such a down-to-earth name.

Chapter: 9716

The Little Fire Qilin seemed to understand, letting out a low growl and nuzzling Huo Ling'er's hand with its head in approval.

"See, it likes it!" Huo Ling'er was even happier.

Chen Ping chuckled. This little fire qilin was clearly a naive fellow, unaware of the significance of the name Wangcai.

However, since the little fire qilin had no objections, Chen Ping had none either.

"As the princess wishes, let's call him Wangcai!"

Chen Ping said helplessly.

Upon hearing this, Huo Ling'er happily led Wangcai around, chasing and playing.

Wangcai was also quite affectionate towards Huo Ling'er, often carrying her for walks around the camp, drawing envy from the Earth Fire Pavilion disciples and other guards.

"Fellow Daoist Chen is truly blessed. Not only is his strength outstanding, but he has also won the princess's favor."

"That little fire qilin is so magnificent! He's actually a pure-blooded qilin descendant. Fellow Daoist Chen's fortune is extraordinary."

“Her Highness the princess is lively and adorable; she and Fellow Daoist Chen are a perfect match...”

There were those who envied, those who praised, and also some with ulterior motives.

However, not everyone was happy to see this scene.

Among the disciples accompanying the Earth Fire Pavilion was a young deacon named Yan Lie, a rising star among the younger generation.

He was approximately twenty-five or twenty-six years old, handsome, and possessed a cultivation level reaching the peak of the seventh rank of the Heavenly Immortal Realm, making him virtually unmatched among the younger generation.

Even more remarkable was his talent in alchemy, earning him the favor of several elders and making him a strong contender for the future Pavilion Master.

Yan Lie had always admired Huo Ling'er, a fact known to everyone in the Earth Fire Pavilion.

He held himself in high esteem, believing only a genius like himself was worthy of the princess.

His volunteering to accompany the pavilion as a guard was not only a duty but also an opportunity to spend more time with Huo Ling'er.

However, since Chen Ping's arrival, Huo Ling'er's attention had been almost entirely drawn to this outsider.

She spent her days either chatting with Chen Ping or playing with the little fire unicorn, largely ignoring her childhood sweetheart and senior brother.

This fueled Yan Lie's burning jealousy.

“A rogue cultivator who appeared out of nowhere, relying on some strange skills, dares to approach the princess?”

Yan Lie glanced at Chen Ping, who was laughing and talking with Huo Ling'er in the distance, a sinister glint in his eyes. “Just a temporary guard, what does he think he is?”

Chapter: 9717

Several times, he tried to find an opportunity to intervene, to get Huo Ling'er away from Chen Ping.

“Junior Sister Ling'er, Elder Yan Xin wants to see you, says he has something to discuss.”

Yan Lie walked to the two of them, speaking gently to Huo Ling'er, but his gaze towards Chen Ping was undisguisedly cold.

“Ah? Grandpa Yan Xin wants to see me?”

Huo Ling'er was engrossed in listening to Chen Ping's stories about the Tenth Heaven, somewhat reluctantly, “What is it? Can't we talk about it later?”

“It's about the precautions for the Crimson Flame Canyon, very important.” Yan Lie emphasized.

Helpless, Huo Ling'er said to Chen Ping, “I'll go first, and come back to find you later.”

Watching Huo Ling'er's departing figure, Yan Lie didn't immediately follow. Instead, he turned to look at Chen Ping, his gentle expression vanishing instantly, replaced by a cold scrutiny and warning.

“Chen Ping, is it?”

Yan Lie's voice was low, carrying a condescending tone. “I don't care what tricks you played during the test, nor do I care why the princess is interested in you.”

“But I warn you, know your place. You're just a temporary guard; get out of here after the mission.”

“The princess is of noble birth, not someone you can aspire to. Staying away from her won’t do you any harm.”

Chen Ping looked up at Yan Lie, his expression calm: “Steward Yan, you’re overthinking it. I was merely having a casual chat at the princess’s invitation. I had no other intentions.”

“That’s for the best.” Yan Lie sneered. “Remember, the Earth Fire Pavilion isn’t a place for rogue cultivators like you to run wild. If I discover you have any improper intentions, or anything that could harm the princess... the consequences are unbearable.”

With that, he turned and left.

Chen Ping watched his retreating figure and shook his head.

He had absolutely no interest in this kind of petty jealousy.

If it weren’t for the clues to the Earth Core Jade Marrow Milk, he wouldn’t have bothered with such trivial matters at all. However, the tree may wish to remain still, but the wind will not cease.

In the following days, Yan Lie intensified his actions.

Whenever he saw Huo Ling’er and Chen Ping together, he would find a way to call Huo Ling’er away.

Sometimes it was a summons from an elder, sometimes a question about cultivation, and sometimes he would simply say, “Men and women are different; it’s not appropriate for them to have too much contact.”

After this happened several times, even Huo Ling’er noticed something was amiss.

“What’s wrong with Senior Brother Yan Lie lately? He keeps calling me.”

After being summoned by Yan Lie again under the pretext of discussing alchemy, Huo Ling'er couldn't help but complain to Chen Ping, "He's never been this enthusiastic before."

Chapter: 9718

Chen Ping smiled faintly: "Perhaps Steward Yan really cares about the princess."

"Come on."

Huo Ling'er pouted, "Do you think I don't know what he's thinking? He's just uncomfortable seeing me getting close to you. Humph, what a petty person."

She looked at Chen Ping, a sly glint in her eyes: "But don't be afraid of him. With me here, he wouldn't dare do anything to you." "..."

"If he dares to cause you trouble again, just tell me, and I'll have my father deal with him!"

Chen Ping chuckled: "Thank you for your protection, Princess. It's just a small matter; I can handle it."

"You can handle it? How?"

Huo Ling'er asked curiously, "Senior Brother Yan Lie is at the peak of the seventh rank of the Heavenly Immortal Realm, ranking among the top three of the younger generation in the Earth Fire Pavilion. Although you are powerful, your realm is still..."

She didn't finish her sentence, but her meaning was clear—Chen Ping, on the surface, is only at the first rank of the Heavenly Immortal Realm. Even with extraordinary combat power, he probably wouldn't fare well against Yan Lie at the peak of the seventh rank.

Chen Ping didn't explain, only saying, "Princess, rest assured, I know what I'm doing."

Two more days passed, and the caravan was about to arrive at the Crimson Flame Canyon.

During a rest stop at the camp, Yan Lie appeared again. This time, he went directly to Huo Ling'er and Chen Ping, who were feeding Wangcai Fire Spirit Fruit.

"Junior Sister Ling'er, Elder Yan Xin wants you to come over to discuss the specifics of entering the canyon tomorrow." Yan Lie's tone left no room for argument. Huo Ling'er frowned. "Didn't we just discuss this? Why do we need to discuss it again?"

"The situation has changed. The elder has discovered a new clue," Yan Lie said calmly.

Huo Ling'er reluctantly got up and said to Chen Ping, "I'll go first. You take care of Wangcai for now."

After Huo Ling'er left, Yan Lie didn't leave immediately. Instead, he stared coldly at Chen Ping. "Didn't you listen to what I said last time?"

Chen Ping stroked Wangcai's mane and said calmly, "I naturally remember what Steward Yan said. But since the princess came to see me, I can't very well turn her away, can I?"

"If Steward Yan has any objections, he can simply speak to the princess and tell her not to come to me again."

These words seemed polite, but they were actually barbed—it's your inability to control the princess, what does it have to do with me?

Yan Lie's face darkened. "Are you provoking me?"

"I wouldn't dare."

Chen Ping remained calm. "I'm merely stating the facts. If Steward Yan has nothing else, I'll take Wangcai for a walk."

With that, he patted Wangcai's head and turned to leave.

“Stop!”

Chapter: 9719

Yan Lie’s voice was low and sharp, a scorching aura locking onto Chen Ping. “Chen Ping, don’t think you can act recklessly just because the princess is protecting you. I’m warning you one last time: stay away from the princess. Otherwise...”

“Otherwise what?”

Chen Ping stopped, slowly turning around. His eyes remained calm, but a cold glint flashed deep within them. “Is Steward Yan going to make a move here? Don’t forget, our mission is to protect the princess and Elder Yan Xin as they gather the Flame Spirit Grass.”

“If personal grudges lead to internal strife, causing mission failure or even casualties... can Steward Yan bear that responsibility?”

Yan Lie’s breath hitched.

He truly dared not make a move here.

Firstly, he feared harming the princess or causing chaos; secondly, he worried about Elder Yanxin’s punishment.

More importantly, Chen Ping’s performance during the test was too bizarre. Although he was confident of victory, he wasn’t entirely certain.

“Sharp-tongued.”

Yan Lie took a deep breath, suppressing his anger. “Fine, very well. After the mission, back at the Earth Fire Pavilion, we’ll settle the score slowly. I hope you’ll still be this tough then.”

With that, he glared fiercely at Chen Ping and turned to leave.

Chen Ping watched his retreating figure, shaking his head slightly.

He had seen far too many people blinded by jealousy.

As long as it didn't interfere with his search for the Earth Core Jade Marrow Milk, he wouldn't bother with it. But if it dared to lay a hand on him... he wouldn't mind chopping off that paw.

Beside him, Wangcai seemed to sense Chen Ping's emotions, letting out a low growl and nuzzling his arm with its head in comfort.

Chen Ping smiled and patted it. "Let's go for a walk."

The next day, the convoy finally arrived at the edge of the Crimson Flame Canyon.

The Crimson Flame Canyon, like a hideous scar, stretched across the boundless red wasteland.

Standing at the edge of the canyon and looking down, the cliffs on both sides were steep and sheer, a deep blackish-red, like congealed blood.

Not a blade of grass grew on the cliffs, only some strangely shaped red crystals reflecting a blinding light in the sunlight.

Deep within the canyon, billowing heat waves shimmered, distorting the air into rippling waves.

Visible reddish-brown vapors rose from the valley floor, carrying a strong sulfurous odor and scorching heat.

Further inside, a dark red river of lava flowed slowly, occasionally bursting into a bubbling, boiling sound, spewing waves of lava several meters high.

Occasionally, strange, crimson creatures could be seen swimming in those lava rivers, moving with lightning speed.

Chapter: 9720

“Roar—!”

A deep, majestic roar echoed from the depths of the canyon, causing rocks to tumble down the cliff walls.

That was the oppressive aura of a fiery dragon; even the aftershocks made many cultivators at the fifth or sixth rank of the Celestial Immortal realm feel a chill.

“This is the Crimson Flame Canyon...”

Chen Ping narrowed his eyes, sensing the almost tangible fire-attribute spiritual energy in the air.

Here, his Chaotic Immortal Power circulated significantly faster, and his perception of the surrounding environment became much sharper.

The Crimson Cloud Demon Lord stood beside him, his expression grave: “Such dense malevolent energy and fire poison. Many powerful figures have likely perished deep within this canyon.”

The Earth Fire Pavilion’s team camped on a relatively flat area at the edge of the canyon.

Elder Yanxin gathered everyone and said in a deep voice, “The Crimson Flame Canyon is divided into three layers: the outer layer, the middle layer, and the core. The Flame Spirit Grass grows in the ‘Flame Spirit Basin,’ located at the boundary between the middle and core layers, which is also an area frequently frequented by the Flame Dragon.”

“Our objective is clear: quickly enter the Flame Spirit Basin, collect at least thirty mature Flame Spirit Grasses, and then immediately retreat. The entire process must not exceed three hours, otherwise the Flame Dragon will inevitably detect it and launch an attack.”

He looked around at everyone, paying particular attention to the ten recruited guards: "Gentlemen, since you have accepted this mission, you should be aware of the risks. But as long as you follow orders and cooperate properly, the chances of survival are still quite high. The Earth Fire Pavilion will not mistreat those who contribute."

Despite these words, Chen Ping could sense a subtle line between the Earth Fire Pavilion disciples and the hired guards.

The Earth Fire Pavilion disciples gathered around Elder Yanxin and Huo Ling'er, while the guards were positioned on the outer perimeter as sentries.

Yan Lie stood beside Elder Yan Xin, his gaze sweeping over Chen Ping, a barely perceptible sneer playing on his lips.

"Now, assign tasks."

Elder Yan Xin continued, "After entering the canyon, someone needs to lead the way, clearing away the ferocious beasts and obstacles along the way. This task..."

He looked at the guard team.

Yan Lie suddenly spoke up: "Elder, the path-clearing mission is dangerous and crucial, requiring someone of formidable strength and quick reflexes. I recommend Fellow Daoist Chen Ping."

He turned to Chen Ping, a seemingly sincere smile on his face: "Fellow Daoist Chen performed astonishingly during the test, his strength far surpassing others of his level. You are the most suitable person to lead the way."

Upon hearing this, the guards' expressions subtly changed.

The pathfinder, to put it nicely, is the vanguard; to put it bluntly, they are cannon fodder.

The Crimson Flame Canyon is fraught with danger. Whoever walks at the front will be the first to encounter various ferocious beasts, poisonous insects, and traps.

Although the reward will be higher, the risk is also the greatest.

Most of the other guards who passed the previous test were only at the fifth or sixth rank of the Celestial Immortal realm, and naturally, they were unwilling to take on this arduous task.