

War God 441

Chapter 441: The Purple Extreme Heavenly Flame Shows Its Divine Might!

BOOM!

A thunderous roar shook the heavens and earth as the main gate of the Fire Cloud Sect crumbled in an instant. Boulders shattered, and dust billowed into the air. Everyone in the sect was startled, their faces etched with terror.

Under the starry sky, amidst the settling dust, a figure slowly walked onto the plaza of the Fire Cloud Sect.

The Fire Cloud Sect was the largest ancient martial sect in Jiangling, with a long and storied heritage. It had stood for hundreds of years, and never before had anyone dared to forcefully shatter its gates. Yet tonight, someone had done just that—a blatant provocation!

"Who goes there?"

Instantly, a Fire Cloud Sect Elder appeared in the plaza, accompanied by a group of disciples. Each wielded a sharp blade, their eyes fixed on the newcomer.

The visitor was dressed in casual clothes, with short, cropped hair and eyes that shone like stars. It was Lin Mu.

Lin Mu walked forward with his hands clasped behind his back. Glancing at a huge sculpture in the center of the sect's plaza, a cold smirk touched his lips.

"River City Lin Wudi, here for a visit!"

As soon as he spoke, the Fire Cloud Sect erupted in an uproar.

Lin Wudi! It was him!

"Lin Wudi, the tenth-ranked Martial Arts Grandmaster on the Heavenly List!"

"Why has he come to our Fire Cloud Sect?!"

"It's over... it's all over! Our sect is doomed!"

The faces of the Fire Cloud Sect disciples showed sheer panic. The name Lin Wudi was as renowned as a clap of thunder, and now that the man himself stood before them, they were so terrified they dared not even breathe too loudly.

"Lin Wudi!"

The Fire Cloud Sect Elder was a crone over sixty years old, wielding a Serpent-head Crutch. Her eyes were frosty as she stared at Lin Mu. "Our Fire Cloud Sect has no grudge against you," she demanded coldly. "Why did you destroy our gate?!"

"No grudge?" Lin Mu's face was devoid of emotion. "Does the Fire Cloud Sect need me to remind you of what you have done?"

The crone gripped her crutch tightly, her voice turning to ice. "What do you mean, Lin Wudi? The Fire Cloud Sect has a centuries-long legacy of integrity and honor. When have we ever wronged you?"

"Hahaha! Such integrity and honor!" Lin Mu laughed, but his voice was devoid of warmth. "Your Fire Cloud Sect dispatched two Elders and several disciples to River City with the intent to destroy my company and kill my wife. Have you forgotten this so soon?"

Hearing his words, the crone's face changed drastically. "You are River City's Lin Mu?" she exclaimed.

Shock filled her heart as she scrutinized Lin Mu, her pupils narrowing. "That's right... that's right! River City Lin Wudi, you share the surname Lin... No wonder, no wonder!"

Her expression twisted with rage. "If you, Lin Wudi, are also Lin Mu, then it was you who killed our Young Sect Master and our Elders and disciples!"

"Indeed," Lin Mu stated indifferently. "They merely got what they deserved."

"Hahaha, what they deserved?" The crone let out a sharp laugh. "I really don't know where you get your confidence from, Lin Wudi! Your company was destroyed, and your wife was harmed, yet you claim my Elders and disciples deserved to die? You'll say anything, won't you!"

Lin Mu's expression remained unchanged as he spoke calmly, "In a conflict between Martial Artists, family should not be harmed. Yet your Fire Cloud Sect crossed even that final line. And you ask why they deserved to die?"

"Fine!" The crone slammed her crutch onto the ground. "In that case, there's nothing more to say! Today, I will see for myself if you, the tenth-ranked Grandmaster on the Heavenly List, live up to your reputation!"

I heard that River City Lin Wudi was heading north to Jiangling to destroy the Fire Cloud Sect. Today, I'll make sure he never returns!

The crone snorted coldly. "Disciples of the Fire Cloud Sect, heed my command!"

"We are here!"

Though the disciples were afraid of Lin Mu, they all stepped forward in unison under the crone's imposing command.

"Form the array!" the crone ordered with another cold snort. "I'd like to see how a single man like you, Lin Wudi, can stand against hundreds of my Fire Cloud Sect disciples!"

"YES!" the Fire Cloud Sect disciples roared in furious unison.

Scorching True Qi began to flow between them, vaguely coalescing into streaks of red flames. A single spark can start a prairie fire. These flames gathered at a terrifying speed, merging into a great fireball above the plaza. The ambient temperature surged, drenching everyone in sweat.

"Lin Wudi, since you dared to destroy our sect's gates, you can be the first to taste our Fire Cloud Sect's Fire God Formation!" the crone sneered sinisterly, raising her Serpent-head Crutch as her True Qi erupted.

BOOM!

In midair, the massive fireball exploded with fearsome power, unleashing a giant fire dragon that roared toward Lin Mu. The dragon radiated a temperature high enough to annihilate anything. An Inner Strength Martial Artist would be vaporized, and even a Martial Arts Grandmaster wouldn't dare face it head-on. This was the combined, full-force attack of all the Fire Cloud Sect disciples!

However, Lin Mu didn't even blink, his expression calm as he watched the fire dragon approach. "You dare present such a paltry fire-gathering technique before me?"

He smiled faintly and simply blew a breath.

WHOOSH!

A wind rose, instantly gathering into a gale. As it swept past, the mighty fire dragon began to dissipate, bit by bit, until it vanished completely without a trace.

The full-force attack from all the Fire Cloud Sect's disciples, blown away by a single breath?

The disciples stared in horror, their faces a mask of shock. The crone's expression changed dramatically, her eyes wide with disbelief as she looked at Lin Mu.

"What a Lin Wudi! I have indeed underestimated you!" Her eyes now brimmed with murderous intent as her figure flickered to the center of the plaza, where her disciples quickly surrounded her.

"Disciples, lend me your strength!"

At her call, all the Fire Cloud Sect disciples wildly mobilized their True Qi, gathering flames and channeling them into the crone. She spread her arms wide, eagerly absorbing the power. In moments, she was transformed into a living inferno, the temperature radiating from her body terrifyingly high.

BOOM!

An overwhelming aura burst from the crone as the flames covering her body exploded outward, releasing a fearsome heat.

"Lin Wudi, so what if you're ranked tenth on the Heavenly List?" the crone's sinister voice echoed from within the inferno, filled with endless murderous intent. "At this moment, my cultivation level is no weaker than yours. Today, I will see just what is so remarkable about a legendary Grandmaster like you!"

As her words fell, the crone's fire incarnation charged directly at Lin Mu. The ground in her wake was left with pitch-black scars where the hard tiles had melted from the extreme heat. It was a testament to the strange power of the Fire Cloud Sect's cultivation technique.

Lin Mu's eyes narrowed as he watched the flaming figure approach. Instead of retreating, he advanced. He took a step toward the inferno, and then another. In the palm of his hand, a faint wisp of flame flickered into existence.

"Fire God Formation?" Lin Mu said with a scornful shake of his head. "I am also curious how your mere mortal fire compares to my Purple Extreme Heavenly Flame."

The two rapidly converged!

The flaming figure suddenly morphed, and a giant python made of flames emerged, lunging to bite Lin Mu as if to devour him whole. The terrifyingly high temperature scorched the very air.

However, Lin Mu responded by simply lifting a hand, upon which a purple flame danced.

The Purple Extreme Heavenly Flame!

"SEVER!"

As his hand rose and fell, the seemingly faint purple flame erupted with a heat that could melt mountains and boil seas. His palm, now like the sharpest blade in the world, sliced the fire python clean in two.

Chapter 442: Laugh at Your Foolishness!

HISS!

A sound like the hiss of a giant python echoed as the massive Fire Python was split in two.

PFFT!

A figure shot out from the sparks—it was the old crone. At this moment, however, she looked utterly wretched. Her snake-headed staff was broken in two, her hair was singed, her clothing was tattered, and she reeked of a burnt stench. As she appeared, all the disciples of the Fire Cloud Sect spewed blood, their faces turning pale with shock and horror.

"How is this possible... How is this possible!" the old crone cried in disbelief, her hoarse voice roaring at Lin Mu. "How did you do it!?"

Lin Mu clasped his hands behind his back and looked at her indifferently. "The glow of a firefly dares to compete with the brilliance of the moon. I don't know whether to call you arrogant or just foolish."

"COUGH! COUGH!" Provoked by Lin Mu's words, the old crone coughed violently, spitting out a mouthful of blood.

"Lin Wudi, a warrior can be killed but not humiliated!" the old crone said coldly. "Don't push us too far!"

"And what if I do?" Lin Mu's eyes narrowed. "Are you going to kill me?"

"You..." The old crone sprayed out another mouthful of blood, her breathing ragged.

Lin Mu said flatly, "Enough. Have the Sect Leader of the Fire Cloud Sect come out. You are not my opponent."

"Lin Wudi, you are too presumptuous!" the old crone fumed. "Who do you think our Sect Leader is? Someone you can see just because you wish it?"

Lin Mu's stance was domineering. "If he doesn't come out, I'll personally invite him out myself!"

His aura surged as he prepared to make his move.

"Stop!" a roaring voice commanded. A streak of firelight shot toward them, materializing before Lin Mu. It was the red-robed elder from Fang Tang's study.

"Great Elder!"

"The Great Elder is here!"

"We're saved!"

The appearance of the elder ignited a wave of excitement among the Fire Cloud Sect disciples. After the Sect Leader, the Great Elder was the strongest in the entire sect, having reached the Transformative Realm. No one in the Fire Cloud Sect dared to underestimate him. So what if Lin Wudi was formidable?

"Who are you to trespass on our sect's grounds and harm our elders and disciples? Do you think the Fire Cloud Sect is defenseless?" As the Great Elder spoke, a terrifying pressure burst forth, enveloping Lin Mu.

However, Lin Mu's expression didn't change in the slightest; he simply watched the Great Elder with an indifferent gaze.

Who exactly is this person? How can he withstand my oppressive aura? A sliver of shock entered the Great Elder's heart.

The old crone at his side said, "Great Elder, he is Lin Wudi!"

"What?" the Great Elder exclaimed, stunned. "You are Lin Wudi?!"

"Indeed," Lin Mu replied calmly.

Taking a deep breath, the Great Elder said with a grave expression, "Lin Wudi, as I recall, there is no enmity between you and the Fire Cloud Sect, correct?"

Lin Mu remained silent.

The old crone recounted the preceding events to the Great Elder. After listening, his expression turned exceedingly ugly.

"So that's what happened," the Great Elder sighed. A cold light flickered in his eyes as he said to Lin Mu, "Lin Wudi, both our sides are at fault. Can we stop here?" Fearing refusal, he quickly added, "Rest assured, the Fire Cloud Sect will give you a satisfactory explanation."

"Great Elder!" the old crone protested, her expression changing.

The Great Elder shot her a cold glance. She flinched and immediately fell silent.

"An explanation?" Lin Mu said with a smile that wasn't a smile. "I wonder what kind of explanation the Fire Cloud Sect can give me?"

"This..." The Great Elder was momentarily at a loss for a suitable answer. He was only trying to stall for time.

Lin Mu spoke again. "Don't bother stalling. I came here today for one purpose only." A cold smirk played on his lips. "To annihilate your entire Fire Cloud Sect!"

As his words fell, the faces of all the Fire Cloud Sect disciples changed dramatically, their expressions filled with utter horror.

"Lin Wudi, are you truly determined to do this?" the Great Elder said in a frigid tone. "Have you considered the consequences? If we clash, it will start a blood feud!"

"A blood feud?" Lin Mu said dismissively. "You really think too highly of yourself. Now that I'm here, do you believe I'd let a single person from the Fire Cloud Sect escape?"

First, the Fang Family of River City had invited members of the Fire Cloud Sect to help them, and he had killed them. Afterward, the Jiangling Fang Family and the Fire Cloud Sect had colluded to destroy his foundation in River City and harm his loved ones. If Lin Mu hadn't arrived in time, who knows what would have happened. From that moment, Lin Mu had sworn to eradicate both the Fire Cloud Sect and the Fang Family.

Today, he would start with the Fire Cloud Sect.

"Lin Wudi, if you do this, aren't you afraid the Martial Alliance will come after you?" the Great Elder raged, shocked that Lin Mu was so impervious to reason.

"The Martial Alliance?" Lin Mu scoffed. "The Martial Alliance has an ironclad rule: ancient martial sects and Martial Artists are forbidden from harming ordinary people. When your Fire Cloud Sect and the Fang Family conspired to wreak havoc in River City and harm my wife, did you ever consider this day would come?"

"This..." For a moment, the Great Elder was at a loss for words. It was, after all, an unassailable law established at the Martial Alliance's founding.

"Hmph, a few mere mortals. If they die, they die." Just then, a disdainful voice rang out, dripping with arrogance and indifference.

"Major General Liu!" Hearing the voice, the Great Elder was overjoyed and let out a long sigh of relief. Thank goodness, the reinforcements had arrived.

A middle-aged man in a major general's uniform walked over, a mocking expression on his face. "Master Lin, Lin Wudi. We meet again."

The newcomer was Liu Xiu. However, this Liu Xiu was different from the one Lin Mu had met in River City. Dressed in full military attire, he radiated an imposing aura. Most importantly, flanking him were two tall men also in uniform, their insignia marking them as colonels. The two exuded an aura of iron and blood, their gazes as sharp and piercing as eagles.

"Major General Liu, you've finally arrived!" The Great Elder's expression relaxed, and he even wore the smug smile of a man whose cunning plan had succeeded.

"Rest assured, Great Elder. The Fire Cloud Sect is a renowned ancient martial sect in Jiangling and an indispensable force within the Martial Alliance. I would never stand by and watch someone harm a single disciple of your sect," Liu Xiu declared, glancing dismissively at Lin Mu. "Should anyone dare to violate the laws of the Martial Alliance, I, Liu, will certainly see that justice is done for you!"

BANG!

With a wave of Liu Xiu's hand, the two colonels behind him drew their pistols and fired a shot into the air.

Shortly after the crisp gunshot faded, everyone felt the ground begin to shake. Within minutes, the pupils of the Fire Cloud Sect disciples constricted, their mouths falling agape in astonishment. Row after row of armed soldiers appeared in the Fire Cloud Sect's plaza, surrounding Lin Mu completely.

CLICK!

In unison, the soldiers raised their rifles and aimed them at Lin Mu. A single command from Liu Xiu was all it would take for them to open fire and turn Lin Mu into a sieve.

HISS!

The disciples of the Fire Cloud Sect all drew a sharp breath, their faces etched with disbelief. The reinforcements the Great Elder had summoned were an actual army!

The Fire Cloud Sect was saved!

A faint smile touched Liu Xiu's lips as he looked at Lin Mu, his tone dripping with mockery. "Well, Master Lin? Do you still wish to continue with the annihilation of the Fire Cloud Sect?"

Faced with Liu Xiu's mockery and rows of soldiers aiming their weapons at him, Lin Mu's expression remained unchanged. Only the curve of his lips grew wider.

"What are you laughing at!" Seeing Lin Mu smile, Liu Xiu flew into a rage. He hated Lin Mu's smile more than anything. Ever since River City, this man had been nothing but defiant, repeatedly challenging his authority. It was outrageous!

Lin Mu looked at Liu Xiu and grinned. "I'm laughing at your sheer stupidity for rushing over here, so eager to die."

Chapter 443: The Protector of the Dragon, Authorized to Act Alone!

"How dare you!"

As soon as Lin Mu finished speaking, a colonel instantly pulled out his pistol and pointed it at Lin Mu's head. "If you disrespect Major General Liu again, believe it or not, I'll blow your brains out!"

"You'd better put that gun down," Lin Mu said, glancing at the man. "Otherwise, I'm afraid you won't be able to handle the consequences."

"Are you threatening me?" the colonel scoffed, clicking off the safety. "When I was fighting on the battlefield, you were probably still playing in the mud somewhere!"

"Hmph, some people are just asking for death!" the old crone from the Fire Cloud Sect said coldly. "The Martial Alliance governs the Martial Artists of Huaxia, but it is also under the jurisdiction of the Military Department. So what if you, Lin Wudi, are ranked tenth on the Heavenly List?"

"He's truly courting death!" the Great Elder chimed in with a sneer, a mocking smile on his face as he watched Lin Mu. With Liu Xiu's backing, he didn't believe Lin Mu would dare to act recklessly.

"Well said," Liu Xiu announced with an air of arrogance. "Lin Wudi, I hereby order you to surrender immediately and accompany me to the Martial Alliance to plead guilty!"

"Plead guilty?" Lin Mu laughed. He looked at Liu Xiu, his face an emotionless mask, and said, "Who do you think you are, telling me to plead guilty?"

"Audacious!" The colonel's finger twitched and pulled the trigger.

BANG!

The bullet shrieked through the air, heading straight for Lin Mu. Facing a Martial Arts Grandmaster, the colonel had fired without a moment's hesitation, showing his deadly resolve. The bullet flew incredibly fast.

However, everyone's eyes suddenly widened in disbelief. Just as the bullet was about to strike Lin Mu, they saw him raise his hand and snatch it from the air.

In an instant, many onlookers sneered inwardly. Has Lin Wudi lost his mind? Trying to catch a bullet with his bare hands? Even for a Martial Arts Grandmaster, does he think he's bulletproof?

But the next moment left everyone with their eyes bulging and mouths agape in shock.

CLANG!

A crisp metallic sound rang out. The speeding bullet was now held firmly in Lin Mu's hand. He opened his palm, and the bullet dropped to the ground, making a clear clinking sound.

Everyone gasped, their eyes as wide as saucers.

"This..." The colonel's face turned deathly pale, his heart pounding with shock. Catching a bullet with bare hands? And from the looks of it, he doesn't seem to be hurt at all.

TAP. TAP. TAP.

Lin Mu began to walk slowly toward the colonel. For every step Lin Mu took forward, the colonel took one step back.

"What do you want?" the colonel asked, a hint of panic in his eyes. He was clearly shaken by Lin Mu's display.

"Stop!" the colonel yelled, raising his pistol again. "If you dare take one more step, I'll kill you right now!"

However, Lin Mu didn't stop.

"Fire!" Liu Xiu commanded with a sharp wave of his hand. Two thousand soldiers instantly raised their rifles, ready to pull their triggers.

"I'd like to see who dares!"

Just then, Lin Mu suddenly raised his hand, and an ancient-looking token appeared in everyone's sight. The token was a majestic purple-gold, carved with a nine-clawed Golden Dragon that gave it an air of ancient authority. On its face were two boldly stroked characters: Protector of the Dragon!

Beside these characters was a line of smaller text: "A heart of warm blood, guarding our rivers and mountains!"

Seeing these words, all the soldiers present felt a surge of hot blood rushing to their heads. It was like a memory etched deep in their souls, something that resonated within their very blood and bones.

The Dragon Guard Order!

"This is..." The colonel's body trembled, his lips turning white as a tumultuous shockwave crashed through his heart. "The Dragon Guard Order!" he uttered in disbelief. "This is the Dragon Guard Order!"

It wasn't just him. Liu Xiu and the two thousand soldiers stared, utterly aghast, at the token in Lin Mu's hand.

The Dragon Guard Order!

Across the vastness of Huaxia and its million-strong army, those who possessed this token were few and far between. Many had only heard of it in legends, never having laid eyes on it themselves. Yet today, they were witnessing the real thing. Its unique design and familiar aura, an essence seemingly embedded in their very bones, confirmed it for every soldier: this was the Dragon Guard Order!

"Now, do you still want to kill me?" Lin Mu asked the colonel, his eyes as cold and still as water.

"I..." The colonel was so shocked he couldn't speak. His limbs felt weak, and an icy chill spread through his heart. He had just attacked a bearer of the Dragon Guard Order. According to military law, this was an act of gross insubordination, an offense punishable by a court-martial!

"Colonel Zhao Dalong of the Second Group Army, Jiangling Military Region, greetings, Sir!" The colonel snapped his heels together and threw Lin Mu a sharp military salute.

"Colonel Jia Jianguo of the Second Group Army, Jiangling Military Region, greetings, Sir!" the other colonel followed suit, also snapping his legs together and saluting.

Their gazes were locked on the Dragon Guard Order in Lin Mu's hand, their eyes burning with fervor. For a soldier, to see the Dragon Guard Order was the greatest honor of their life.

With a unified clatter, the two thousand soldiers instantly lowered their weapons and saluted, their voices thundering like a great bell, "Greetings, Sir!"

At this moment, their hearts were filled with shock and... terror. From the day they joined the army, they had been told one thing: A Protector of the Dragon could act with sole authority!

They had just pointed their guns at a member of the Dragon Protection Hall. This was a grave act of disrespect, an indelible stain on their military careers.

Liu Xiu said nothing.

The old crone and the Great Elder dared not speak.

The disciples of the Fire Cloud Sect didn't even dare to breathe.

When did Lin Wudi become a member of the Dragon Protection Hall? This is beyond shocking! They'd really courted disaster today!

The Dragon Guard Order could mobilize three thousand soldiers! A Protector of the Dragon could act with sole authority! Today, they had truly brought a catastrophe upon themselves.

That included Liu Xiu. Although he was a Major General, he wielded no real power. Compared to a member of the Dragon Protection Hall, he was leagues below. Daring to lead troops to besiege a member of the Dragon Protection Hall was a military crime! Even if Lin Mu killed him now, no one in the Military Department would dare to object!

This was the privilege of the Dragon Protection Hall. Acting with sole authority wasn't just for show!

"Sir, I..." Zhao Dalong knew he had made a grave mistake and was terrified.

But Lin Mu had no desire to hear his explanation. He turned to Jia Jianguo and said, "Take him away and turn him over to the Military Department."

"Yes, Sir!" Jia Jianguo's heart trembled, but he didn't dare object. He immediately stepped forward, disarmed Zhao Dalong, and put him in handcuffs.

"Sir, I'm sorry!" Zhao Dalong offered no resistance. As a soldier, he knew the magnitude of his mistake. The judgment of a military court awaited him.

After dealing with Zhao Dalong, Lin Mu turned to Liu Xiu, the Major General who harbored such deep resentment for him.

"Lin—" Liu Xiu opened his mouth, but before he could finish, he suddenly clutched his throat as blood began to stream from it. Lin Mu was the one who had struck.

"I warned you not to provoke me," Lin Mu said, his gaze icy as he watched Liu Xiu. "But you brought this on yourself. You have only your own stupidity to blame."

If he had heard these same words earlier, Liu Xiu would have scoffed. But now, all he felt was terror.

"Please... don't kill me..." As soon as Liu Xiu spoke, a torrent of blood gushed from his mouth.

"In your next life, remember not to provoke me again."

The moment Lin Mu finished speaking, Liu Xiu collapsed to the ground, dead.

A Major General of the Military Department had died so miserably. A cold shiver ran down the spines of the Fire Cloud Sect members.

Lin Wudi... so ruthless!

Chapter 444: Fan Li Appears!

"Fan Li, if you don't come out, Lin Mu will destroy your sect's gate and kill every last one of your disciples today!"

Killing Liu Xiu hadn't dampened Lin Mu's murderous intent toward the Fire Cloud Sect in the slightest. He had once sworn to annihilate them, and he intended to keep his word.

"Lin Wudi, you dare!" The old crone's face contorted as she pointed a trembling finger at Lin Mu and shrieked, "If you dare make a move, I will fight you to the death!"

"You think I don't dare?" Lin Mu let out a cold laugh and stomped his foot. A terrifying power surged from his body.

RUMBLE!

The great hall of the Fire Cloud Sect trembled violently before collapsing under the horrified gazes of all the sect's Disciples.

"Ah!" the old crone screamed, her eyes seeming to split with rage. "I'll fight you to the death!"

With a furious roar, she charged directly at Lin Mu.

"You seek death for disrespecting the Commander!"

However, before the old crone could even get close, Jia Jianguo drew his pistol and fired a single, precise shot into her head.

BANG!

The crisp report of the gun echoed as the old crone's head exploded. She collapsed to the ground without another sound.

"Ah, the Fourth Elder is dead!"

The faces of the Fire Cloud Sect Disciples turned ashen, and they scrambled backward in terror.

"I will count to three. If you don't come out, I will give the order to open fire and wipe your Fire Cloud Sect from existence!" Lin Mu declared, his voice carrying clearly for a hundred meters as he stared coldly at a distant point.

"One!"

As Lin Mu began his count, the Disciples' faces grew even paler. A few tried to make a break for it, but with two thousand soldiers standing at the ready with their rifles, escape was impossible. Two quick shots rang out, and the two fleeing Disciples fell into pools of their own blood.

"Two!" Lin Mu called out the second number coolly, as if he hadn't seen a thing.

"Sect Leader, please save us!"

"Sect Leader, if you don't show yourself, we're all going to die!"

The remaining Disciples of the Fire Cloud Sect dropped to their knees, kowtowing and begging desperately for Fan Li to appear.

"Three—" Lin Mu raised his arm high, poised to give the command.

"Stop!" the Great Elder of the Fire Cloud Sect suddenly roared. He stepped forward to face Lin Mu and demanded, "Lin Wudi, you've killed so many of our people. What more do you want?"

"What do I want?" Lin Mu replied nonchalantly. "If I recall correctly, your Sect Leader, Fan Li, sent a message that he was waiting for me in Jiangling. I have come today as requested. Why does he refuse to see me?"

"Could it be that the esteemed Sect Leader of the Fire Cloud Sect is nothing but a coward?"

Lin Mu's words pierced the hearts of every Fire Cloud Sect Disciple like silver needles.

This Lin Wudi is simply too overbearing!

But not only was his strength unfathomable, his status was terrifying. He was a Major General of the Military Department who could order executions on a whim. What chance did their Fire Cloud Sect stand against such a man?

"Our Sect Leader is no coward who fears death!" the Great Elder snorted. "The Sect Leader is in closed-door cultivation and naturally cannot see you. If you want a fight, I will be your opponent!"

As soon as he finished speaking, a terrifying aura erupted from his body. His red robes seemed to ignite with a layer of phantom flames, making him look like a Fire God incarnate.

"That's... a Martial Arts Grandmaster!" one of the Disciples cried out in shock. His cry was met with expressions of wild joy from the others.

"The Great Elder is a Martial Arts Grandmaster! We're saved!"

The revelation that the Great Elder of the Fire Cloud Sect was a Martial Arts Grandmaster was enough to shock the world.

"Commander, this..." A hint of worry touched Jia Jianguo's face. A Martial Arts Grandmaster wasn't someone who could be dealt with by ordinary firearms.

"Heh, it's of no concern," Lin Mu said, his expression calm. He didn't even blink, seemingly unsurprised by this development.

"Lin Wudi, I had no desire to reveal my true strength, but you have pushed us too far," the Great Elder snarled, his aura intensifying as the murderous intent in his eyes thickened. "Today, I have no choice but to ensure none of you leave here alive!"

"You dare!" Jia Jianguo's expression changed drastically.

The Great Elder of the Fire Cloud Sect wants to kill us all!

"Hmph, there's nothing I wouldn't dare!" the Great Elder said coldly. "If I kill you all, who's to say the Fire Cloud Sect was responsible?"

"Die!"

The flames engulfing the Great Elder's body swelled, shooting up to three meters high.

WHOOSH!

A wave of terrifying heat washed over the crowd, forcing everyone to stumble back in shock.

"All of you, stand back," Lin Mu said calmly as he took a slow step forward.

"Lin Wudi, take this palm strike!" The Great Elder's killing intent was palpable as he charged at Lin Mu. "Fire Cloud Palm!"

He thrust his hand forward, and the roaring flames instantly coalesced into a massive fiery palm that slammed toward Lin Mu. Jia Jianguo and the soldiers stared in horror. Though they were military men, they were still ordinary mortals. They had never imagined a human could wield such incredible power.

Yet, in the face of the Great Elder's attack, Lin Mu's expression remained unchanged. He even continued to walk calmly toward his opponent.

"Commander, look out!" Jia Jianguo yelled, but then a shocking scene unfolded.

The fiery palm struck Lin Mu's body and simply vanished, dissipating like melting snow.

"This..."

Not only Jia Jianguo, but the Great Elder himself was stunned into silence.

"I have constructed the Twelve-Fold Towers, rendering me impervious to blades and spears, invulnerable to water and fire. How could you possibly harm me?" Lin Mu glanced at the Great Elder and added lightly, "Since I've taken a palm from you, it's only fair that you take one of mine."

As his voice fell, Lin Mu raised his hand and sent a palm strike of his own flying forward.

At the sight of this attack, the Great Elder cried out in disbelief, "The Fire Cloud Palm?!"

The palm strike Lin Mu had unleashed was identical to his own, the signature secret art of the Fire Cloud Sect!

"Impressive, Lin Wudi! To learn my Fire Cloud Sect's ultimate technique after a single glance, you truly are a prodigy!" The Great Elder took a deep breath as the flames around him surged, forming a protective sphere in an attempt to block the incoming attack.

BOOM! BOOM!

However, as the palm made of condensed flames descended, the temperature of the air skyrocketed, and the Great Elder's face fell.

This isn't the Fire Cloud Palm!

From this attack, he felt a profound sense of dread. It was a terrifying power capable of annihilating everything.

Run!

It was the only thought in his mind. Acting on instinct, the Great Elder shot backward, not daring to meet the palm head-on. But no matter how fast he was, he couldn't outrun the attack. With the speed of lightning, the fiery palm slammed into his body.

BANG!

The Great Elder was smashed into the ground as the flames covering his body erupted, completely engulfing him.

"No..." he screamed, his voice filled with sheer terror. "Sect Leader, save me!"

He struggled frantically, crying out for help.

"Sigh..."

Suddenly, a soft sigh echoed from the back mountain of the Fire Cloud Sect. Everyone looked up, their eyes widening in disbelief.

Stretching across the sky was a Flame Avenue, a path of pure fire that extended from the back mountain to the airspace directly above the square.

A figure was walking slowly along this fiery path. He was clad in a robe of flames, appeared no older than forty, and possessed vibrant, fiery red hair that danced in the wind.

This person was none other than the Sect Leader of the Fire Cloud Sect, Fan Li—ranked thirty-second on the Heaven's List

Chapter 445: Deciding Both Superiority and Life or Death!

Fan Li!

Ranked thirty-second on the Heavenly List and a Martial Arts Grandmaster! His mastery of Flame True Qi was divine, earning him the title of Fire God! Upon his arrival, the very air seemed to heat up, scorching everything in its wake!

Jia Jianguo and the others stared at the sky in horror, a tsunami of shock washing over their hearts.

Walking on fire—was that something a human could do? Could the power of a Martial Artist really achieve such a feat? Their entire worldview was overturned. They could even feel their gun-wielding hands tremble as a fine sweat formed in their palms.

"Fan Li, I've been waiting for you for a long time," Lin Mu said, his expression barely changing as he watched Fan Li appear.

He was a little surprised, though. This Fan Li's control over fire was more formidable than anyone he had ever encountered. Perhaps it was due to the Cultivation Technique he practiced.

"Lin Wudi, I've been waiting for you for a long time, too," Fan Li replied. His red hair fluttered in the wind, his expression cold, his eyes filled with a chilling murderous intent. He stood upon the Flame Avenue, looking down on Lin Mu. "You killed my son and destroyed my sect. Today, this place will be your grave!"

BOOM!

As soon as his words fell, the Flame Avenue beneath his feet retracted and transformed into a fiery battle robe that draped over his body.

THUMP!

Fan Li descended from the sky, landing a meter from Lin Mu. The two locked eyes, and an intense fighting intent instantly erupted between them.

RUMBLE!

The ground between them cracked open as terrifying flames swept out. All the Fire Cloud Sect disciples fell back, and even the two thousand soldiers retreated, watching the two men with horrified expressions. They had never witnessed a battle between Martial Artists, and their hearts now pounded with a mixture of excitement, anticipation, worry, and nervousness.

As a member of the Dragon Protection Hall, Lin Mu was technically their superior. If anything happened to him, they would be hard-pressed to escape the blame.

Without turning his head, Fan Li commanded, "Disciples of the Fire Cloud Sect, retreat one hundred meters!"

With a wave of his hand, the flames on the Great Elder's body vanished. Fan Li then pushed him away with a palm strike, sending him flying toward the other disciples. The Fire Cloud Sect disciples supported the Great Elder as they watched Fan Li from a distance, their expressions filled with excitement.

"You all move back, too," Lin Mu said, waving for Jia Jianguo to lead his men away.

The soldiers all retreated. In stark contrast to the disorganized disciples of the Fire Cloud Sect, their steps were orderly and their actions meticulous. Although they were about to witness a great battle, these soldiers were all veterans of the battlefield, possessing incredible mental fortitude.

"Lin Wudi, achieving the rank of Martial Arts Grandmaster before the age of thirty, making you the number one figure in the Martial Arts World today?" Fan Li looked at Lin Mu, his eyes brimming with killing intent. "At the start of your career, you killed Yun Xu, slayed Xing Zirong, and claimed the tenth spot on the Heavenly List?"

Fan Li shook his head slightly. "To me, these are nothing more than superficial titles—flashy, but without substance."

Lin Mu smiled. "If you kill me, all of them will be yours."

Fan Li chuckled. "True, but I am not killing you for fame. I simply want to see what is so special about the so-called number one in the Martial Arts World!"

As he finished speaking, two flaming long sabers condensed in his hands, and he slashed directly toward Lin Mu. A Martial Arts Grandmaster can manifest their True Qi, condensing it into any form! Given Fan Li's control over flame, the power of these two sabers was not to be underestimated.

"Slash!"

As Fan Li's voice faded, he chopped down with both hands.

BOOM!

Two beams of flaming saber light cleaved directly at Lin Mu.

A look of delight appeared on the faces of the Fire Cloud Sect disciples, and the Great Elder exclaimed, "The Burning Wood Sword Technique?!"

The Burning Wood Sword Technique was a legendary art, said to be one of the seventy-two ultimate skills of Shaolin, possessing immense power. To cultivate such a skill, one had to be a Grandmaster or above and also possess exquisite control over flames.

It seems the Sect Leader has made significant gains during his seclusion!

As the two beams of flaming saber light roared toward him, Lin Mu's expression remained unchanged. He simply lifted a hand, brought two fingers together, and swept them through the air.

TSSSH!

A beam of sword light whistled out, slicing the two beams of flaming saber light in half. Sparks scattered everywhere, leaving Lin Mu completely unharmed.

WHOOSH!

However, just as Lin Mu dispelled the attack, a fist wreathed in flame shot out from the sparks, heading straight for his chest. Right before making contact, it struck forward with thunderous momentum.

"The Fire God Fist!" the Great Elder cried out again. The Fire God Fist was a martial art of a higher grade than the Fire Cloud Palm, considered by the Fire Cloud Sect to be their sect-guarding treasure.

Burning Wood Sword Technique and Fire God Fist! The Sect Leader's strength has really increased severalfold!

BAM!

The fist struck Lin Mu's chest squarely, a dull thud that echoed clearly in everyone's ears.

"It landed!"

Joy flashed across the faces of the Fire Cloud Sect disciples, all of them visibly exhilarated. In contrast, Jia Jianguo and his men turned pale with panic.

Chief...

However, Fan Li, who should have been celebrating a successful strike, saw his expression change drastically as he tried to yank his fist back. But it was too late.

POP!

Lin Mu's chest caved in slightly before bulging out, and a terrifying force erupted from his body.

"Hmph!"

Fan Li grunted, sent flying backward as if by an immense force, sliding more than ten meters.

"Sect Leader!" the disciples of the Fire Cloud Sect cried out, their eyes wide with shock.

The Sect Leader clearly landed his attack! Why is he the one retreating? And he looks like he's hurt!

Meanwhile, Jia Jianguo and the two thousand soldiers let out a brief cheer before quickly clamping their mouths shut.

"Lin Wudi, you truly did not disappoint me!" Fan Li declared as he looked up, his eyes fixated on Lin Mu, flames surging within his gaze.

"You're not weak either," Lin Mu replied with a slight smile, lightly brushing the dust from his clothes.

Fan Li's attacks had been incredibly swift; anyone else might have been injured. But Lin Mu was different. His powerful Divine Soul already placed him in an unassailable position during combat. On top of that, having completed the Construction of the Twelve Floors, his body was incredibly resilient, a perfect fusion of hard and soft. How could Fan Li possibly hope to defeat him?

"The warmup is over," Fan Li sneered, his lips curling with icy killing intent. "Now the real show begins!"

THUD!

He stomped his foot fiercely on the ground. The earth cracked, and the solid paving stones melted under the intense heat. Fan Li himself transformed into a figure of pure flame and charged toward Lin Mu.

"Well met!" Lin Mu laughed heartily, stepping forward to meet the charge as he threw a punch. "Deicide Fist!"

The two fists collided heavily, and terrifying Internal Energy swept out in all directions. Everyone felt as if they had been struck by a massive shockwave. Their bodies swayed, and some couldn't even remain standing, slumping to the ground as they watched the two combatants in horror.

In the center of the battlefield, two figures flickered in and out of existence. One was completely enveloped in flames, while the other used nothing but his iron fists to beat sparks from his opponent's flaming body.

GULP!

Jia Jianguo swallowed hard and muttered, "Such terrifying power!"

BOOM!

After another explosive exchange of fists, Fan Li was thrown back dozens of meters. He barely managed to halt his momentum by bracing himself against one of the plaza's buildings. Lin Mu, on the other hand, remained standing in the same spot, unmoved, as he slowly retracted his fist. After hundreds of exchanges, it was clear Lin Mu had the upper hand.

"Excellent! Lin Wudi, you are truly without peer in any age!" Fan Li wiped the blood from the corner of his mouth, his gaze burning intensely. "To encounter a rival like you in this lifetime is a true joy!"

"You're not weak either."

Lin Mu wasn't lying. In terms of sheer power, this Fan Li is almost on par with Xing Zirong. Of course, compared to me, he's still lacking by a wide margin.

"Lin Wudi, our battle today has been exhilarating!" Fan Li stared at Lin Mu, his tone complex. "But you killed my son, and countless disciples of my sect died by your hand. As their Sect Leader, by all rights, I must avenge this!"

CRACK!

Fan Li slammed his palm against the nearby building, ripping something out from within it. He pointed it at Lin Mu. "Today, we will not only determine who is superior but also who lives and who dies!"

"Proceed!"

Chapter 446: The Earth Rises a Dragon, One Sword Shines Over Jiuzhou!

BOOM!

With a shake of Fan Li's hand, a flaming long spear suddenly appeared in his grasp. A terrifying aura pierced through heaven and earth as an overwhelming sense of invincibility rose from him.

"The Fire God Spear!" the Great Elder exclaimed, his face filled with horror.

A disciple asked, "Great Elder, what is the Fire God Spear?"

The Great Elder took two deep breaths and said, "The Fire God Spear is the most powerful treasure of our Fire Cloud Sect. It's said to be a relic left by the first Sect Leader, the Fire Cloud Evil God. This spear holds immense power; ordinary people simply cannot wield it!"

"The Fire Cloud Evil God!"

The faces of the Fire Cloud Sect disciples lit up with excitement. One of them said, "With this spear, doesn't that make our Sect Leader invincible?"

The Great Elder nodded heavily. "Without a doubt! The Fire God Spear was the weapon of the Fire Cloud Evil God. It accompanied him in his conquests, achieving legendary feats. Although the Fire Cloud Evil God has long since disappeared, this spear has been passed down."

The Great Elder's eyes shone with a fervent light. "Once the Fire God Spear is unleashed, who can stand against it!"

"Our Sect Leader will be victorious!"

"The Fire Cloud Sect will be victorious!"

The Fire Cloud Sect disciples were ecstatic, their faces radiating with excitement.

Fan Li held the Fire God Spear, clad in a robe of flames. His aura flowed seamlessly, making him resemble a true Fire God in the mortal world, exuding endless majesty.

"Lin Wudi, in this battle, one of us will die!" Pointing the long spear at Lin Mu, Fan Li declared, "Bring out your weapon!"

Lin Mu looked at Fan Li, his eyes narrowing slightly. At this moment, Fan Li's presence was even stronger than before. The Fire God Spear in his hand, in particular, gave Lin Mu a strange sensation, as if the weapon possessed its own intelligence.

To think, this spear is almost a Spiritual Artifact.

Magic Artifacts were classified into tiers. From lowest to highest, they were: Spiritual Artifact, Magic Artifact, Immortal Artifact, and Divine Artifact!

Lin Mu's Yulong Sword was currently just a Spiritual Artifact. But in his hands, it was comparable to a Magic Artifact. And the Fire God Spear in Fan Li's grasp was on the verge of becoming a Spiritual Artifact. This was truly a rare sight on an Earth so scarce in Spiritual Energy.

"If I were to draw my weapon, you wouldn't stand a chance," Lin Mu said, shaking his head. He raised an arm, palm facing upward.

RUMBLE! RUMBLE!

Above the Fire Cloud Sect, thunder roared fiercely. Everyone felt their skin tighten, as if something was about to descend from the nine heavens. Even Fan Li instinctively looked up, a solemn expression in his eyes.

CRACK!

A peal of thunder echoed as a blinding bolt of lightning descended from the sky, landing right in front of Lin Mu. Everyone was startled, thinking Lin Mu had angered the Thunder God and been struck by lightning.

However, Fan Li's expression grew even more grave, a flash of alarm flickering in his eyes. He saw Lin Mu actually reach out and slowly grasp the bolt of lightning.

SIZZLE!

Endless electrical light spread out, causing Jia Jianguo and the others to retreat repeatedly, afraid of being caught in the blast. When the lightning vanished, a longsword had appeared in Lin Mu's hand.

The sword was three feet and six inches long, with a cyan scabbard that resembled lush green vines. The hilt itself was entwined with vines, shaped like an ancient dragon.

"To forge a Heaven Lightning Born Sword... Lin Wudi, your ingenuity is truly wondrous and godlike!" Fan Li praised. "But do you really think you can fight me with this sword?"

Lin Mu shook his head and replied, "You're wrong. I don't wish to draw my sword."

Fan Li was slightly stunned. "What do you mean?"

"Because if I draw it, you will have no chance left."

Hearing Lin Mu's response, Fan Li grew enraged, the wild flames around him threatening to incinerate his opponent. "Lin Wudi, I admit you're powerful, but you are going too far!"

As his words fell, Fan Li's wrist flicked. The Fire God Spear danced with a flourish of attacks, thrusting directly at Lin Mu. A spear strike like a dragon! This perfectly described Fan Li. The terrifying power of

the flames combined with the scorching heat of the Fire God Spear, forming a startling force. The spear was so fast that an ordinary Martial Artist wouldn't have been able to react.

However, Lin Mu simply held his sword sheathed horizontally before him. The tip of the Fire God Spear struck the sheath.

DING!

A shower of sparks erupted, but the sheath remained completely still. The Fire God Spear, however, was sent flying backward.

Clutching his spear, Fan Li's expression turned exceedingly grave. He hadn't expected that even with the power of the Fire God Spear, he couldn't shake Lin Mu in the slightest.

Is this Lin Wudi truly undefeated in the world?

I don't believe it! Fan Li roared inwardly as the endless True Qi within him circulated, pouring entirely into the Fire God Spear.

BOOM! BOOM!

An incredible power erupted from Fan Li's body, and the shaft of the Fire God Spear began to crack. But it did not truly break. Instead, it was like a volcano on the verge of eruption, amassing a ferocious power within.

"Everyone, retreat quickly!" the Great Elder yelled, his expression changing drastically as if he had realized something.

Some disciples were still confused and moved too slowly. In the next moment, they paid a heavy price for their ignorance.

BOOM!

An unprecedented aura burst forth from Fan Li. His entire body lifted three feet off the ground, where he began to hover slowly. The Fire God Spear in his hands became incredibly thick, waves of power spilling out from its shaft. The ground below melted, and buildings began to collapse. A few disciples couldn't withstand the horrifying temperature and their bodies abruptly burst into flames as they screamed in agony.

Fan Li turned a blind eye to them. He closed his eyes, his battle robe fluttering noisily behind him.

Suddenly, Fan Li's eyes snapped open, and a beam of firelight shot forth from them. He slowly loosened his grip, and the Fire God Spear floated before him, its tip aimed directly at Lin Mu.

The stars shone in the night. Flames surged upward.

In the vast expanse of heaven and earth, only Fan Li, suspended in mid-air, was the most dazzling sight. He was like a true Fire God descending upon the mortal world.

"Lin Wudi, this is the single strongest attack of my entire life. If you can take it, I will die!" True Qi flowed continuously from Fan Li's body into the Fire God Spear. His complexion grew paler and paler, and his face even began to crack. "But if you can't, then you will die!"

As his voice faded, the last wisp of True Qi in Fan Li's body poured into the Fire God Spear.

BOOM!

In mid-air, a giant spear, easily ten meters long, suddenly materialized.

"Go!"

Fan Li slapped the butt of the Fire God Spear. The long spear howled through the air, charging toward Lin Mu like a cannonball. It was like heavenly fire descending, like the wrath of the Fire God himself. This one strike, carrying all of Fan Li's strength and hope, shot directly at Lin Mu.

Jia Jianguo and the others had long since retreated from the Fire Cloud Sect. They watched the giant spear fall from the sky, their faces etched with utter shock.

Lin Mu stood his ground, his expression serene. Facing Fan Li's killing blow, the corners of his mouth lifted in a faint curve.

Then, he placed his right hand on the hilt of his sword and slowly drew.

CLANG!

The Yulong Sword was unsheathed!

The very next moment, a great dragon rose from the earth.

A single sword illuminated Jiuzhou

Chapter 447: The Fall of the Fire Cloud Sect!

ROAR!

The cry of a dragon shook the world as a sword rose into the sky. The entire world was illuminated by a clear, brilliant sword light.

Jia Jianguo and the others gaped in shock, watching in disbelief as an arc of light erupted from the ground. It streaked across the sky faster than lightning, striking upward.

Like an aurora!

Immediately after, the sword transformed into a Gigantic Dragon!

A dragon, tens of meters long, spanned the heavens and the earth, charging straight into the clouds. High above, a colossal spear, also tens of meters long, plunged down. The clouds were torn asunder, the air was pierced, and the starlight was obscured.

The two forces met in absolute silence.

Then, the colossal spear was shattered by the dragon and cleaved apart by the sword's light. The dragon surged forward, unstoppable, until it finally pierced through the figure that resembled the Fire God.

"No!" a shrill scream, a painful wail.

All the disciples of the Fire Cloud Sect watched with wide eyes as their Sect Leader was impaled through the chest by the sword and began to plummet.

"Sect Leader!"

The Great Elder's eyes nearly split with rage as he rushed out to catch Fan Li.

PFFT!

The terrible force of the fall transferred to him, breaking the Great Elder's arms and causing him to spew blood.

THUD!

The Great Elder was violently thrown aside, forced to watch helplessly as Fan Li smashed into the ground.

The earth quaked and the mountains shook. All the buildings of the Fire Cloud Sect collapsed.

The sound carried for dozens of miles.

Everyone in Jiangling was startled, staring in panicked horror toward the Fire Cloud Sect.

COUGH! COUGH!

As the dust settled, Fan Li slowly stood up from the giant crater. His body swayed, covered in countless wounds from which blood flowed freely. On his chest was a ghastly wound that had nearly cleaved his body in two. He was a truly tragic sight.

He looked at the young man who stood with his sword sheathed, his expression desolate, a bitter taste in his mouth.

"I have lost."

With a long sigh, Fan Li looked up at the sky as two lines of tears rolled down from the corners of his eyes.

"Lin Wudi, may I ask one thing of you?"

Fan Li glanced at his disciples, then looked back to Lin Mu, his face showing a hint of pleading.

Lin Mu said, "Speak."

"Could you spare my disciples? After all, they are innocent." A trace of guilt flickered in Fan Li's eyes.

"Those who abolish their cultivation may live."

Lin Mu's voice was as calm as ever, but to everyone who heard it, it was filled with ice-cold killing intent.

"Thank you."

Fan Li nodded and looked toward the disciples of the Fire Cloud Sect, his expression growing even more guilt-ridden.

"Sect Leader, if you die, we don't wish to live on without you!" the Great Elder cried, while the other disciples wept inconsolably.

"We don't want to live alone!"

"Sect Leader, don't leave us!"

Seeing his crying disciples, Fan Li smiled.

Then, beams of firelight burst forth from his body, striking every single disciple of the Fire Cloud Sect. Painful screams rose and fell, and then all of them collapsed.

Their cultivation was utterly destroyed.

COUGH! COUGH!

Fan Li seemed to be at the end of his tether, barely able to remain standing.

"Sect Leader!"

The Great Elder supported Fan Li, his face contorted in pain.

Fan Li gave a bitter smile. "Martial Uncle, after I die, disband the disciples. Let them live as ordinary people."

"No!"

The Great Elder's eyes were bloodshot as he said coldly, "They are all disciples of our Fire Cloud Sect! As long as our people live, the sect lives!"

"Martial Uncle!" Fan Li gripped the Great Elder's arm tightly. "They are still just children!"

The Great Elder looked at the disciples slumped on the ground and let out a long sigh. "Very well. Since you insist, Sect Leader, I will do as you ask."

"Thank you... Martial Uncle..."

After saying this, Fan Li closed his eyes and passed away.

"Sect Leader!" the Great Elder roared, his expression a mask of grief and indignation.

All the disciples of the Fire Cloud Sect knelt on the ground, weeping their hearts out.

Jia Jianguo and the others watched the scene in silence.

"From this day forward, the Fire Cloud Sect is no more."

Lin Mu turned and walked toward the mountain gate.

"Give the order: Bury Fan Li, the Sect Leader of the Fire Cloud Sect, with full honors. Disband the sect's disciples. If anyone dares to bully them... kill them!"

The icy voice drifted back, causing Jia Jianguo and the others to shiver as they hastily agreed.

「The next morning」

"Kid, you've caused a huge disaster!"

Lin Mu received a call from Han Xiaochuan first thing in the morning.

Lin Mu was noncommittal. "What disaster?"

On the other end of the line, Han Xiaochuan took a deep breath, trying to suppress his anger. "Do you realize what you've done? You killed Liu Xiu and wiped out the Fire Cloud Sect! Now the Military Department and the Martial Alliance are both demanding your death!"

"My death?"

Lin Mu let out a cold laugh. "If they want to kill me, let them come. I'll be waiting for them in Jiangling."

With that, Lin Mu hung up.

「The Capital」

"Damn it!"

Han Xiaochuan stared at the disconnected call, seething with fury.

Does this bastard really think he's invincible?

"Commander, I will go to Jiangling myself," Han Xiaochuan said, taking a deep breath after having made his decision.

Elder Xiao was looking at a pile of letters that had been sent to him, all demanding a ruling on Lin Mu. With a casual glance, he tossed the letters aside as if they were garbage.

"Why go to Jiangling? To find that kid?" Elder Xiao looked at Han Xiaochuan. "What are you worried about? He killed Xing Zirong and destroyed the Fire Cloud Sect single-handedly. In this world, who would dare kill him? Who could kill him?"

Han Xiaochuan said urgently, "Commander, you can't keep spoiling him! Killing Xing Zirong and destroying the Fire Cloud Sect can be chalked up to conflict between martial artists. But he killed Liu Xiu! The Military Department is up in arms over it!"

"Up in arms?"

Elder Xiao snorted. Though he had no cultivation, a domineering and sharp aura radiated from him, making even Han Xiaochuan tremble.

"What, does the Military Department belong to the Liu family?"

Elder Xiao picked something up from his desk and tossed it to Han Xiaochuan. "Go. Tell them Liu Xiu deserved to die. If they continue to harp on this matter, I will personally go and have a word with them!"

Han Xiaochuan hurriedly caught the object, and his expression changed drastically.

The Tiger Talisman!

This was the token for mobilizing troops. The Commander held one half, and the supreme leader held the other.

Is the Commander... going to protect Lin Mu no matter what?

"Well? Aren't you going?" Elder Xiao barked impatiently when he saw Han Xiaochuan still standing there stunned.

"Yes!"

Clutching the Tiger Talisman, Han Xiaochuan hurried out the door.

After Han Xiaochuan left, Elder Xiao leaned back in his chair and sank into thought for a long moment before suddenly smirking.

Good kid!

He opened a drawer and looked at the secret reports inside, a gratified smile appearing on his aged face.

The likes of Yun Xu and Xing Zirong deserved to die. But Fan Li was a passionate and honorable man. You gave him a worthy burial and even put his disciples under your protection. It seems this old man's judgment isn't so bad after all.

Elder Xiao slapped the desk sharply and muttered, "If you can achieve a total victory against Zhang Daoyun, then I'll throw everything away to get you into the Military Department!"

His eyes glinted as he suddenly said, "Make the arrangements. I'm preparing to go to Jiangling."

Chapter 448: Comparing with Others Can Be Maddening!

After taking down the Fire Cloud Sect, the next target was the Fang Family.

However, Lin Mu had already made ample preparations. He didn't want to use force to deal with the Fang Family as he had with the Fire Cloud Sect. Since the Fang Family was a major financial consortium in Jiangling, he decided it was best to crush them financially. The first step of his plan was already in motion: the Coiling Dragon Bay project.

In just three short days, Coiling Dragon Bay had become famous throughout Jiangling. Everyone knew that this development, formerly Haiyuan Tiancheng, had been sold and redeveloped. It had been transformed into a veritable Immortal Realm on earth.

At first, the people of Jiangling who saw the news reports were skeptical. But as more and more of them went to see it for themselves, they were shocked. This wasn't just an Immortal Realm—it was even better!

Consequently, countless people rushed to spread the word, all planning to buy a property in Coiling Dragon Bay. However, they were all taken aback by the price. One hundred thousand per square meter! And that was for a standard apartment!

"Are you robbing people? Who sells houses like this?" a wealthy businessman bellowed in the sales office lobby. "One hundred thousand per square meter! Even villas don't sell for that much!" A single apartment would cost over ten million! This was daylight robbery!

However, a sales associate from Coiling Dragon Bay simply smiled and said, "I'm sorry to disappoint you, sir, but our villas are not yet for sale."

"Is that so?" The businessman hugged the woman by his side. "Darling, if there are no villas, then we won't buy."

The glamorously dressed woman looked a little disappointed. "Honey, why don't we just get an apartment? I really love the environment here."

"But a hundred thousand per square meter is just too expensive," the businessman whispered. "Darling, you don't get it. This is a classic developer's trick. They're treating us like idiots, and I'm not falling for it."

Maintaining a professional smile, the sales associate said, "Sir, if you can't afford it, please step aside. You're blocking other clients who wish to view the properties."

"What? I can't afford it?" The businessman was clearly infuriated. "Say that again if you dare!"

"Honey, let it go!" Seeing her companion fuming, the woman quickly pulled him back. "Let's just look around a bit more." Clearly, she also thought one hundred thousand per square meter was too expensive.

The businessman shot the sales associate a grumpy look and stepped aside. He didn't leave, choosing instead to watch from the sidelines. He refused to believe a business run this way could survive. He was convinced the developers would be forced to lower their prices in a few days. It wouldn't be too late to buy then.

"That's right. This is the place!"

Just then, another group of people walked in. The man in the lead was tall and bald, his face a mask of brutish muscle that made him look extremely fierce. However, it was the woman beside him that immediately caught the businessman's eye. She had a tall, slender figure and a cool, glamorous demeanor. From head to toe, she exuded the mature charm of a ripe peach.

"Enjoying the view?" As if sensing his gaze, the woman turned her head and gave the businessman a slight, knowing smile.

At that moment, the businessman felt a fire ignite in his belly.

"Ouch!" Suddenly, a sharp pain shot through his side. The businessman's eyes watered as he looked at his companion. "Darling, be gentle! We're in public."

His companion snorted coldly. "That's what you get for letting your eyes wander!" She then shot the glamorous woman a disdainful look and muttered, "Fox Spirit!"

The glamorous woman merely pursed her lips and smiled, unfazed.

"Sister Hua, I've seen the apartments in Coiling Dragon Bay myself," the bald man boomed with a hearty laugh. "The environment is beautiful, the construction is absolutely top-notch, and it's truly an Immortal Realm! Buying one is a decision you won't regret!"

The bald man was none other than Long Ao, leader of the Six Dragons of Jiangbei, and the glamorous woman was Hua Meiniang, one of the Five Phoenixes of Jiangbei.

Unable to help himself, the businessman stepped forward. "Excuse me, beautiful. The properties in Coiling Dragon Bay are nice, but they're just too expensive," he said. "One hundred thousand per square meter! Aren't they just ripping us consumers off?"

Hua Meiniang exclaimed, "One hundred thousand?" Before the businessman could say anything else, she continued, "That cheap? I'd better hurry and buy one."

"Huh?" The businessman was stunned. Cheap? One hundred thousand per square meter? A single apartment costs over ten million! How could a price that high be considered cheap?

"Ma'am, are you sure you don't want to reconsider?" the businessman urged. "A single apartment costs over ten million!"

A faint smile touched Hua Meiniang's lips. "I have the money, and I'll do as I please."

With that, she produced a card under the businessman's dumbfounded gaze and said to the sales associate, "I'll take two."

The businessman was speechless. Two units? That's over twenty million! Is this woman really that wealthy? His own companion was also shocked into silence, lowering her head with a sense of inferiority.

"Sister Hua, what are you buying two for?" Long Ao couldn't help but ask.

Hua Meiniang's lips curled into a smirk. "It's a gift."

Long Ao's expression flickered, and he chuckled knowingly. "A gift for Mr. Lin, I presume?"

Hua Meiniang's smile didn't waver, but she bit her red lip and retorted, "Who said I'm giving it to that guy!" Hmph, that ungrateful little brat! Just wait until I see him next. I'll teach him a lesson!

"Miss, I'm sorry," the sales associate interjected. "Company policy limits each customer to the purchase of one unit."

"What?" Hua Meiniang thought she had misheard. "What kind of business are you running? I'm willing to pay for two, and you're telling me I can't?"

"My apologies, but that is the company rule," the sales associate said apologetically.

"Fine, fine. One unit it is, then." Hua Meiniang was rather speechless. Who on earth came up with such a ridiculous rule? It's completely idiotic.

"Sign me up for one, too!" the businessman hurriedly said, whipping out his own card. The fear of being outdone was a powerful motivator. Before, when no one was buying, he had thought it was too expensive and not worth the price. But now that someone else was buying, if he didn't, wouldn't that make it look like he couldn't afford it?

"Of course, sir! One moment, please!" The sales associate felt like she was dreaming. She had been posted here for three days, seeing countless interested people but not selling a single apartment. If it weren't for the high base salary, she would have already quit. But today, it was as if the God of Wealth himself had descended, allowing her to sell three units in one go. Even though her commission wasn't a large percentage, on over thirty million in sales, even a sliver was a huge amount of money. I have to thank him, she thought gratefully. I should definitely treat him to a meal to show my appreciation. Of course, given his status, he probably wouldn't accept, would he?

While Hua Meiniang and the others were filling out their paperwork, a young man walked in. Seeing that the sales associate was busy, he didn't say anything and began looking around the office.

The businessman, having finished his own paperwork, felt refreshed and smug. As he stood up, he noticed the young man wandering through the lobby. Mistaking him for an employee, he couldn't help but call out, "Hey, kid, get me a glass of water. Make it quick."

Lin Mu was momentarily startled but replied, "Of course."

Lin Mu brought the businessman a glass of water. The man took a satisfying sip, then glanced at Lin Mu patronizingly. "Not bad, young man. You're quick on your feet. Keep up the good work. Even if you can't afford a place like this, you should have no problem buying an apartment worth a few hundred thousand." He let out a hearty laugh, looking extremely pleased and proud of himself.

"Alright, thank you," Lin Mu said with a faint smile, not bothering to explain.

Just then, the sales associate walked over with the completed documents. She was startled to see Lin Mu. "President Lin! What brings you here?"

"Just having a look," Lin Mu replied.

"Please, have a seat! I'll get you some water!" The overjoyed sales associate quickly brought a stool over for him.

The businessman stared at Lin Mu, dumbstruck. His throat felt hoarse as he managed to stammer, "You..."

The sales associate explained, "This is our President Lin. He's the developer of the Coiling Dragon Bay project."

The businessman was speechless. He felt so incredibly embarrassed he wished a hole would open in the floor and swallow him whole. Just moments ago, he had patronizingly told this man to work hard so he could one day afford an apartment worth a few hundred thousand. But in reality, the entire Coiling Dragon Bay development belonged to him. The contrast was utterly infuriating—a true case of comparisons driving a man to despair.

Chapter 449: Offend a Grandmaster, There's Death Without Life!

"Honey, is this guy a shill?" the wealthy businessman's wife asked, sidling up to him and whispering.

A shill? The businessman's eyes lit up. Right. He must be a shill! Otherwise, how could such a young kid develop a massive project like Coiling Dragon Bay? Besides, I've never heard of such a person in Jiangling.

"Hmph, nice acting," the businessman huffed. "You almost had me fooled."

Lin Mu simply smiled. "As long as you're happy."

The businessman was speechless. Who does this kid think he's talking to?

Just as he was about to retort, a surprised voice suddenly exclaimed, "Mr. Lin!"

Long Ao and Hua Meiniang came over, looking at Lin Mu with excitement.

"Mr. Lin, what are you doing here?" Long Ao sounded somewhat fearful upon seeing Lin Mu. Hua Meiniang, meanwhile, just glared at him without a word.

"I developed this property," Lin Mu said. "Are you two here to buy a house?"

"Ah? Mr. Lin, this is really your company?" Long Ao was startled. He had personally investigated the Coiling Dragon Bay project. As the largest real estate project in Jiangling, it was naturally the center of attention. The price of one hundred thousand per square meter alone made the entire development incredibly hot, but in reality, very few people were buying. Long Ao could never have imagined that this property belonged to Lin Mu.

"Yes. How are things over in Jiangbei?" Lin Mu asked, changing the subject.

Long Ao quickly replied, "Please rest assured, Mr. Lin. With me overseeing Jiangbei, there won't be any trouble." After a pause, he added, "Brother Liu was supposed to come with us, but he got held up and will be here a bit later."

Liu Zijian is coming to Jiangling? Lin Mu was taken aback, as he had no idea.

Long Ao chuckled. "He heard about Coiling Dragon Bay, this paradise on earth in Jiangling, so Brother Liu was planning to buy a place for himself."

Lin Mu gave a wry smile. "Why would he need to buy one? I've already prepared a villa for him."

"Really?" Long Ao said with envy. "Brother Liu has a great big brother like you, Mr. Lin. I'm truly envious."

Long Ao was both awed and terrified of Lin Mu. This man was currently ranked tenth on the Martial Arts Grandmaster list, an existence even the Crane Immortal Sect had to respect. Not to mention, his reputation in the Martial Arts World was now terrifyingly immense. Stories of him wielding divine arts or annihilating entire sects with a single sword were circulating wildly.

Meanwhile, the wealthy businessman was staring, completely dumbfounded. This young man I've been looking down on is actually the developer of the Coiling Dragon Bay project? This is really... At that thought, the businessman had the immediate urge to leave.

Just then, a loud laugh echoed. "Young Master Mu, I didn't expect to run into you here."

"Mr. Lin, we meet again," another voice added.

It was Sun Tianyang and Zheng Mingye.

Seeing them, the businessman gasped, "Zheng Mingwang!" The old man in the traditional Tang suit was none other than the wealthiest man in Jiangling, Zheng Mingwang. Although the businessman didn't recognize the other man beside him, he knew that anyone walking with Zheng Mingwang must have a high status. One of the arrivals called Lin Mu 'Young Master Mu,' and the other called him 'Mr. Lin.' Doesn't that mean Lin Mu's status is even more terrifying than I imagined? The businessman's face went pale, and sweat beaded on his forehead.

"What are you two doing here?" Lin Mu asked, surprised to see Sun Tianyang and Zheng Mingye arrive together.

Sun Tianyang chuckled. "I bought an apartment in Coiling Dragon Bay. I'm just here to handle the paperwork."

Zheng Mingye's face darkened, and he said with some discontent, "Mr. Lin, speaking of that, I have a complaint."

"Go on," Lin Mu said, holding back a laugh.

Zheng Mingye huffed, "Master Sun and I both called you, so why is his price eighty thousand per square meter while I have to pay one hundred thousand?"

"So, do you want it or not?" Lin Mu replied. "You haven't signed the papers yet."

"I do!" Zheng Mingye said in a panic. "Of course I do! I've already got the money ready!"

Seeing Zheng Mingye's reaction, Sun Tianyang burst into hearty laughter.

Lin Mu gestured to a salesperson. "Xiao Juan, go process the paperwork for these two gentlemen. Put the commission under your name."

"Ah?" The salesperson, Xiao Juan, gaped in surprise. "President Lin, this..."

"Go on," Lin Mu said with a smile.

Xiao Juan wanted to say something, but in the end, no words came out. With her eyes turning red, she went to get the documents for Zheng Mingye and Sun Tianyang.

"Tsk, tsk. Such a philanderer," Hua Meiniang couldn't help but mutter.

Lin Mu glanced at her. "Itching for a beating?"

Hua Meiniang's eyes widened. Remembering how ruthless Lin Mu could be, she felt a wave of fear, snorted coldly, and ignored him.

At that moment, Sun Tianyang spoke up. "Young Master Mu, I see Coiling Dragon Bay has quite a few villas. Why aren't you putting them on the market?"

Zheng Mingye chimed in, "Yes, Mr. Lin, Master Sun is right. I saw at least a hundred villas here. Why aren't you selling them all at once?" He then added with a worried tone, "Because of what's happening

with Coiling Dragon Bay, the Fang Family seems to be making some big moves. If you don't sell quickly, you'll lose out."

Business is like a battlefield. Having been in the Jiangling business world for so long, Zheng Mingye understood this well. If Coiling Dragon Bay wasn't sold off as quickly as possible, they wouldn't just miss out on profits; the initial investment would be lost, and the project would become a huge mess later on. Of course, the properties would sell easily if the price were lowered. The problem was that at one hundred thousand per square meter, almost no one could afford them.

Lin Mu just smiled. "No rush. I have big plans for those villas."

「At the Fang Family estate.」

Fang Tang sat in the main hall, surrounded by the family's most influential members.

"You all know about Coiling Dragon Bay, right?" Fang Tang scanned the crowd, his voice laced with ice.

"We do," an elder sneered. "It's just some project Lin Mu threw together for shock value. It's nothing but a stunt."

"Exactly! I bet he won't last three days!"

"A hundred thousand per square meter? He must be insane!"

The crowd murmured in agreement, their words dripping with disdain.

Seeing that no one was taking it seriously, Fang Tang slammed his hand on the table. "Are you all unaware that Zheng Mingwang and the others were scrambling to buy properties there today?"

"Zheng Mingwang?" the elder said. "So what? How many can he buy? Coiling Dragon Bay was originally our Fang Family's project; it was just bait. Now that Lin Mu has taken it, the project is inconsequential."

Fang Tang's expression was grim. Taking a deep breath, he said, "We all know what Coiling Dragon Bay truly is. But given its massive transformation, haven't any of you considered the reason why?"

"Family Head, you mean..." The elder seemed to realize something, and his face turned pale.

Fang Tang sighed. "That's right. We can no longer contact Master Feng from the Corpse Raising Sect, which means something must have happened to him."

"This..."

All the Fang Family members were stunned. Their greatest secret was their collaboration with the Corpse Raising Sect, using Coiling Dragon Bay to line their pockets. Now that Lin Mu had completely transformed the property and Master Feng was unreachable, they instantly understood the terrifying implications.

"And there's more news." Just then, Lu Tong burst into the hall and said in a panic, "Last night, the Fire Cloud Sect was annihilated, and Liu Xiu is dead!"

At these words, Fang Tang shot to his feet, his expression drastically changing. "What exactly happened?"

Lu Tong's face was grave. "I now have a strong suspicion that the one targeting your Fang Family is Grandmaster Lin Wudi!"

"What?" Fang Tang was thrown into a complete panic. "Lin Wudi?"

"Yes." Lu Tong sighed, a wry smile on his face. "If not for Lin Wudi, who else could possess the power to turn decay into a miracle?"

BANG!

Fang Tang collapsed back into his chair, his expression ashen as utter despair flooded his heart. To offend a Grandmaster is to court certain death.

Chapter 450: Battle of the Strong, the Focus of Attention from All Directions!

"Have you heard? The Fire Cloud Sect seems to have been wiped out."

"What? Who on earth could be responsible?"

"Who else could it be? Naturally, it's our invincible Grandmaster Lin Wudi. I heard he did it to vent his wife's anger, and now he has set his sights on the Fire Cloud Sect."

As news of the Fire Cloud Sect's destruction spread, rumors immediately began to fly. Many knew that the Sect Leader of the Fire Cloud Sect, Fan Li, had been slain by Lin Wudi with a single sword strike. The sect's disciples had their cultivation levels crippled before being scattered. Not only that, word in the Martial Arts World was that Lin Wudi was preparing to strike against the Jiangling Fang Family.

The purpose was revenge.

The Fire Cloud Sect, the Jiangling Martial Alliance, and the Fang Family had united to suppress Lin Wudi's wife in River City. Now, he was coming for them.

Upon hearing this news, countless female martial artists instantly became fans of Lin Wudi. This Lin Wudi is absolutely mad when it comes to protecting his wife. To be his wife must be pure bliss!

But some people worried. There were only a few days left before Lin Wudi's duel with Zhang Daoyun of the Celestial Master Mansion. Instead of focusing on improving his cultivation level, Lin Wudi was causing trouble everywhere to avenge his wife. It was a classic case of putting the cart before the horse and neglecting his true priorities.

With Zhang Daoyun's current cultivation level, defeating a martial artist like Lin Wudi, ranked tenth on the Heavenly Ranking, would be a piece of cake, wouldn't it?

Furthermore, Lin Wudi's reputation in the Martial Arts World had always been mixed, so half the people hoped he would lose. Even among the other half, there were some who felt Lin Wudi had no chance of winning. This was because Zhang Daoyun of the Celestial Master Mansion was a Martial Arts Grandmaster ranked in the top ten of the Heavenly Ranking, and his cultivation level was considered immeasurable.

When these rumors from the outside world reached Lin Mu's ears, he simply smiled. "Since everyone thinks I'm no match for Zhang Daoyun, then when the time comes, I'll just have to defeat him in a single move."

When these words were spread by certain individuals, the Martial Arts World erupted in condemnation. Everyone accused Lin Wudi of being outrageously arrogant. Defeat Zhang Daoyun in one move? How could he say something so audacious! Only Lin Wudi would have the nerve.

Immediately, countless martial artists began rushing to Dragon Tiger Mountain to witness the great battle. As the martial artists of Huaxia journeyed there, Lin Mu also set out, preparing to face Zhang Daoyun.

As for the Fang Family, he would let them enjoy their freedom for a few more days.

"Hahaha, that Lin Wudi is courting death!" Lu Tong was overjoyed when he heard the news.

Fang Tang also wore a smile. He had just confirmed that Lin Mu was, in fact, Lin Wudi. His emotions had gone from initial terror to immense relief, like riding a roller coaster.

"So what if he's tenth on the Heavenly Ranking?" Fang Tang sneered coldly. "He's still going to die at the hands of Master Zhang!"

"Exactly," Lu Tong said. "Zhang Daoyun's cultivation can no longer be judged by ordinary standards. Besides, he's been in seclusion for a year. His power must have grown even stronger!"

Fang Tang slammed his hand on the table. "As long as that brat Lin Mu dies, Coiling Dragon Bay will be ours again!"

Lu Tong nodded. "When that happens, I want half of Coiling Dragon Bay!"

"No!" Fang Tang declared. "I'll give you seventy percent. As long as Lin Mu is dead, the Fang Family will weather this storm. We'll have plenty of opportunities to make money after that."

Lu Tong nodded in satisfaction, thinking that Fang Tang was a savvy operator.

「...」

Dragon Tiger Mountain was the thirty-second Blessed Land of Taoism. It earned its name when Zhang Daoling, while concocting the Nine Heavens Divine Elixir, witnessed a vision of a dragon and a tiger. Thus, it came to be known as the Ancestral Hall of the Dao of the Heavenly Master.

A year ago, the current Heavenly Master, Zhang Daoyun, was enraged when Lin Wudi killed his junior brother. He declared a challenge, setting the date for a battle one year from then. Now, that year had passed.

The entire Martial Arts World was focused on this event, eagerly awaiting the outcome. However, almost no one favored Lin Wudi. They acknowledged he was an unparalleled martial arts prodigy of his generation—possessing exceptional, almost demonic talent—and had become a Martial Arts Grandmaster, ascending to tenth on the Heavenly Ranking, all before the age of thirty. But Lin Wudi was seen as arrogant and overambitious, with a heavy killing intent. Since his debut, he had killed several Grandmasters and even annihilated the entire Fire Cloud Sect.

If he were allowed to continue his rampage, wouldn't he throw the Huaxia Martial Arts World into chaos? Voices from both the Martial Arts World and the Military Department were already demanding he be sanctioned after he lost the battle. In fact, representatives from the Military Department and the Martial Alliance Headquarters had already arrived to observe. They were ready to execute Lin Wudi on the spot the moment he was defeated.

On top of that, there was his previous claim of defeating Zhang Daoyun in a single move. Only Lin Wudi would dare say something so outrageously arrogant.

Yet, many others found Lin Wudi to be incredibly impressive. He was the model, the standard-bearer, the living myth of the current Martial Arts World. "One should strive to be a man like Lin Wudi!" became a popular joke in martial arts circles.

But this also showed the high regard many martial artists held for him. He had subtly become the leader of the younger generation.

The myth of the Martial Arts World? Leader of the younger generation? At the foot of Dragon Tiger Mountain, an elder scoffed at these rumors.

"Dongfeng Po Tian, with your current cultivation, what are your chances of defeating him?"

Sitting beside the elder was a handsome man of about thirty. There wasn't a hint of softness about him; on the contrary, his entire body exuded a rugged aura. His hands were noticeably larger than average, and his knuckles were covered in thick calluses.

The man's eyes were closed. Hearing the question, he opened them. His gaze was calm, yet seemed to flash with latent thunderbolts. The moment his eyes opened, it was as if a great lion had awakened, brimming with explosive power.

"I have never met him, so I wouldn't know."

The elder nodded slightly at the man's response, his expression unreadable.

Closing his eyes again, the man stated, "However, if I were to fight Xing Zirong, I could kill him with a single punch."

"Not bad. Not bad at all." The elder was stunned for a moment, then burst into hearty laughter. "Worthy of being called East Madness, one of the Four Great Grandmasters! I like that!"

This man was none other than East Madness, Dongfeng Po Tian, ranked seventeenth on the Heavenly Ranking.

Rumor had it that after his defeat by the Sword God, Shen Lang, he had traveled overseas to hone his boxing. Now, he had reappeared at the foot of Dragon Tiger Mountain. Having been absent from the world for several years, no one knew to what heights Dongfeng Po Tian's cultivation had reached.

And the elder was Yao Kuohai, one of the heads of the Martial Alliance Headquarters.

"After this battle, if Lin Wudi is still alive, bring him back to headquarters to be sanctioned," Yao Kuohai said, his eyes narrowing. "If he dies, well, then he dies."

Dongfeng Po Tian remained silent, his eyes closed in meditation.

But just then, Dongfeng Po Tian's eyes snapped open. He stared toward Dragon Tiger Mountain, a sharp light flaring in his gaze. "The Sword Qi blankets the mountains... It's the Great Array of Dragon Tiger Mountain!"

Dongfeng Po Tian's expression turned solemn. He knew that the Great Array of Dragon Tiger Mountain was powerful enough to challenge several Grandmasters at once.

Yao Kuohai's voice grew heavy. "It seems Zhang Daoyun has emerged from his seclusion. Now, we just have to see if Lin Wudi dares to answer the challenge."

The battle between two such powerhouses was bound to draw attention from all corners of the world.