

Y Master 1221

Chapter 1221: Not a Single One Will Escape!

The sound of thunder, intimidating and daunting.

Ye Fan's voice was like a thunderbolt on a clear day, causing the four disciples of the Tianyuan Sect to have their blood and energy surge, involuntarily stopping in their tracks.

He appeared with the voice, words fading as Ye Fan now stood before them, blocking Shen Tu behind him, surrounded by a menacing aura, akin to an Asura.

"People from the Tianyuan Sect?"

Ye Fan did not expect to encounter people from the Tianyuan Sect so soon in the secret realm.

Because, after he killed Luo Xiaolin, the leading elder of the Tianyuan Sect had already taken all the disciples away, they shouldn't have appeared so quickly.

However, Ye Fan couldn't afford to think about that now, as Shen Tu's severe injuries had driven him to furious anger. These four had relentlessly pursued Shen Tu, clearly intending to kill him here while no one noticed.

Even aside from his brotherly bond with Shen Tu and the solidarity of fellow disciples, the fact that they were from the Tianyuan Sect meant Ye Fan would not let them leave alive.

Thump!

Seeing Ye Fan appear like a godsend, the four from the Tianyuan Sect were immediately startled. They were very apprehensive about Ye Fan, having realized from Luo Xiaolin's death the terrifying reality of Ye Fan's combat strength, fearing they were not able to handle him.

Yet, at this point, even if they wanted to deny it, it was impossible because their clothes bore the obvious marks of the Tianyuan Sect, something they couldn't escape from.

But seeing Ye Fan was alone, the four relaxed somewhat, with one saying coldly, "Ye, I admit you're strong, but do you think you can hold off our four-man combined attack?"

This was intimidation. In reality, they still held deep apprehension towards Ye Fan, and if they could scare him off, that would be ideal. Even if not, they were confident their joint effort wouldn't lose to Ye Fan, since they were all late-stage True Essence Realm strong people.

The joint effort of late-stage True Essence Realm cultivators is not as simple as one plus one equals two, but rather one plus one being greater than two. A combined attack of four, even against a Holy Embryo Realm cultivator, could hold its ground, let alone Ye Fan, who was merely mid-stage True Essence Realm.

"Ye... Ye Zi, Old Jin was killed by them..."

Originally thinking he too would follow in Jin Zhanfei's footsteps, Shen Tu turned red upon seeing Ye Fan and broke into tears.

Though he usually was sly-tongued, he was deeply loyal and righteous. Jin Zhanfei was killed by the four from the Tianyuan Sect while buying time for him to escape, causing him immense grief.

"What... what?"

Hearing this, Ye Fan was initially surprised, then his heart surged with killing intent, glaring angrily at the four, "All of you will die!!"

"Ye... Ye Fan..."

One of the Tianyuan Sect disciples wanted to say something, but the words were interrupted by a piercing sound.

Whoosh!

Upon learning that Jin Zhanfei had died at the hands of the four Tianyuan Sect disciples, Ye Fan's killing intent soared sky high, without further words, he directly attacked!

With this punch, Ye Fan unleashed his full strength, showing it to the fullest!

With one punch, heaven and earth changed color, the purple Thunder Power intertwined around the fist, a punch that shattered the void, its power unparalleled!

Swish!

The four's faces changed dramatically, not expecting Ye Fan to strike so suddenly without any warning. Most importantly, from Ye Fan's punch, they sensed the breath of death.

"Courting death!"

In great alarm, the four made their move, each unleashing their strongest combat power, not daring to be careless at all.

Even a genius like Luo Xiaolin had fallen at Ye Fan's hands, Ye Fan's true power could not be measured by his realm. Anyone who judged his power based on his realm would be gravely mistaken.

Mid-stage True Essence Realm, yet killing a genius at the True Essence Realm Peak in seconds—before Ye Fan, this feat was likely only achieved by heirs of the Wu Shang Sect; others simply did not have the ability.

In an instant, Ye Fan's punch reached one of them, causing the person to be terrified out of their mind, instantly burning their true essence, boosting their combat power by a third. Without time to retrieve their spiritual artifact, they also punched out.

Netherworld Cold Fist, though he was not the first core disciple of the Tianyuan Sect, as a core disciple and a future pillar of the sect, he could also practice martial arts like the Netherworld Cold Fist.

The other three had no time to rescue, each attacking Ye Fan, hoping to use a strategy of rescuing their comrade by forcing Ye Fan to defend himself.

Yet Ye Fan ignored the spiritual artifact and Iron Fist directed at him, with eyes on only one target, determined to annihilate him.

Boom!

With a loud noise, Ye Fan's fist collided with the Tianyuan Sect disciple's fist, the invincible Thunder Power instantly dismantled the opponent's punch force.

Bang!

Splurt—

The Tianyuan Sect disciple screamed miserably, his fist first shattered, then his arm also exploded, and subsequently, his entire body burst apart like a fleeting brilliant firework, blood and flesh splattering everywhere, covering the remaining three disciples with bloody residue.

Meanwhile, the attack from the three also landed on Ye Fan, yet caused him not the slightest harm!

After countless cycles of fragmenting and rebirthing, Ye Fan's body was exceedingly robust, virtually reigning supreme amongst True Essence Realm sturdiness, coupled with True Essence Protection, his defense level troubled even Chu Hong, let alone them.

"This..."

The remaining three Tianyuan Sect disciples were shocked, looking at each other in dismay, never expecting Ye Fan's body to be so unyielding, rendering their attacks ineffective. How could they possibly fight?

At this moment, fear overwhelmed them, giving rise to retreat thoughts. Even with a combined attack, one was already killed by Ye Fan in an instant, now leaving just the three of them, they likely stood no chance.

"Today, none of you will leave!"

Ye Fan seemed to see through the thoughts of the three, speaking once more, his voice cold as ice.

Swish swish swish...

Without any hesitation, the three disciples of Tianyuan Sect scattered like birds and beasts, fleeing into the dense forest.

They shared the same idea as Shen Tu: flying into the sky would undoubtedly make them live targets for Ye Fan, and they had no confidence in being faster than him.

Therefore, the dense forest became their best choice. As long as they could dive into the deep mountains and old forests, and then conceal their own auras, they believed that even with great abilities, Ye Fan could never find them.

Ideal is full, but reality is harsh!

Whoosh!

With a movement of his feet, Ye Fan darted like a beam of light, flashing in place, and in the blink of an eye, caught up with Brother Chen, who was escaping the fastest, slapping him heavily.

Brother Chen let out a scream and immediately ignited his True Essence. Both his attack and defense, as well as his speed, suddenly surged. While escaping quickly forward, he turned around and threw a punch, trying to stall Ye Fan for a moment.

Ye Fan's terrifying speed had already shattered his courage, but under the intense stimulation of his survival instinct, he still chose to confront Ye Fan head-on, hoping to hold him back for an instant.

In his view, the dense forest was just ahead, and as long as he could get into it, his hope for survival would greatly increase.

At that moment, he wished to encounter Chu Hong, because only Chu Hong could resist Ye Fan; no one else could. Besides, Chu Hong was bound to break through to the Holy Embryo Realm.

As long as Chu Hong broke through to the Holy Embryo Realm, Ye Fan would certainly not be his match.

But hope was slim, and Ye Fan wouldn't let him escape even ten steps away. Not only him but the other two from Tianyuan Sect couldn't escape either.

Pa!

In the rapid chase, Ye Fan's body swayed, dodging the whistling Punch Ray. He then caught up with Brother Chen and slapped his head to pieces!

Brother Chen didn't even let out a scream before meeting his untimely death!

"It's your turn!"

After dealing with Brother Chen, Ye Fan didn't pause at all and turned to chase the other two.

"Ye, don't push us too far!"

The other two disciples of Tianyuan Sect seemed to know they couldn't escape and started burning their True Essence Essences, ready to fight to the death.

Woosh!

Woosh!

Ye Fan paid no heed to them burning their True Essence Essences. His two fists struck out simultaneously, using the mental method of the Domineering Fist to execute the deadliest strike from the Yanhuang Fist—Snake and Dragon Joint Attack!

The Snake and Dragon Joint Attack was the most lethal move in the Yanhuang Fist created by Yan. Back when they broke through the Xu Family's Defensive Formation, Ye Fan had witnessed the formidable power of Yan using this move.

At that time, Yan was only at the Peak of the Gang Qi Realm, merely half a step into the threshold of the True Yuan Realm, yet was able to break through the Xu Family's Defensive Formation with this move.

Since entering the Xuan Realm, Ye Fan had been using the Domineering Fist, even abandoning the Xuansha Fist, because in terms of attack power, neither the Xuansha Fist nor the Yanhuang Fist could compare with the Domineering Fist.

But at this moment, filled with killing intent, Ye Fan used this killing move, his fists striking out like dragons and snakes, ruthlessly attacking the two.

Swish!

Swish!

The two from Tianyuan Sect were greatly alarmed and revealed their Spiritual Artifacts: a long spear and a Gui tou Blade, launching a desperate counterattack.

Crack!

Crack!

With two crisp sounds, their Spiritual Artifacts couldn't withstand Ye Fan's Iron Fists and were shattered upon contact.

The Spiritual Artifacts shattered, yet Ye Fan's fist momentum didn't diminish and directly slammed into the two's bodies.

"Poof!"

"Poof!"

The two exploded simultaneously, blood and flesh splattering all over, dying without whole bodies. The air was filled with a tragic and bloody smell.

"Well done! Well done!"

Seeing this, Shen Tu laughed loudly while coughing up blood, his eyes red, "Old Jin won't die with unfulfilled wishes now!!"

"Senior Brother Shen, your injuries are severe, don't speak now, I'll heal you immediately!"

Hearing this, Ye Fan felt a lump in his throat but knew that Shen Tu was severely injured, so he spoke up to remind him, preparing to heal Shen Tu.

"Ye Zi, Old Jin is dead, I owe you a life!"

Shen Tu looked at Ye Fan with eyes reddened, allowing blood tears to fall.

Chapter 1222: A False Alarm

Shen Tu's injuries were actually very severe, with his True Yuan heavily overdrawn, causing his realm to become unstable. If not treated in time, he might very well fall from his current realm.

Realizing this, Ye Fan did not dare to delay, quickly administering a Restoration Pill to Shen Tu, and then using his own Pure Yang Qi to heal Shen Tu's injuries.

Pure Yang Qi nurtures all things with incredible restorative abilities, capable of repairing almost anything except for injuries to the Divine Soul.

As Ye Fan channeled Pure Yang Qi into Shen Tu's body, Shen Tu felt a warm stream of energy rapidly coursing through all his meridians, swiftly repairing his damaged meridians and replenishing his Life Force.

Hmm?

This discovery amazed Shen Tu greatly.

"Senior Brother Shen, relax, don't worry, your injuries will be healed soon." Ye Fan said to reassure Shen Tu, helping him relax.

An hour later, Shen Tu's injuries were fully healed. Although his True Yuan still needed some time of meditation to fully recover, his body was no longer in trouble.

For Shen Tu, this was undoubtedly a second lease on life!

If Ye Fan hadn't appeared in time, his fate would have been no better than Jin Zhanfei's.

Even after Ye Fan forcefully killed the four from the Tianyuan Sect, he thought he would surely drop a realm, but unexpectedly, Ye Fan's medical skills were so advanced that not only were his injuries fully healed, but he also didn't fall a realm.

"Ye Zi, Old Jin, he..."

After the healing was done, Shen Tu immediately thought of Jin Zhanfei. If it weren't for his desperate efforts to hold off the four from the Tianyuan Sect for a moment, neither of them would have escaped.

Now that he was fine, Jin Zhanfei was probably gone, so he proposed they first go find Jin Zhanfei's body, as they couldn't let his fellow disciple's body be exposed in the wilderness no matter what.

Ye Fan naturally had no objections, and the two of them flew towards the small valley along the path Shen Tu had escaped, soon finding Jin Zhanfei's corpse lying on the ground, already stiff.

“Old Jin... I’m sorry...”

The usually carefree Shen Tu’s eyes were red, his knees buckled, and he fell to his knees beside Jin Zhanfei’s body, sobbing uncontrollably.

He didn’t have a good relationship with Jin Zhanfei before, but recently they had become close friends. Jin Zhanfei died here fighting to create an escape opportunity for him, and he owed Jin Zhanfei a life.

Ye Fan’s heart also filled with bouts of melancholy. He originally thought, as an Earth person, he would definitely have no feelings for anyone in the Xuan Realm, but in his bones, he was still a person who valued relationships and loyalty deeply.

Jin Zhanfei, apart from Tong Qianchen, was the first among the top ten core disciples of the Xuanwu Sect to show goodwill towards him, and after doing so, their relationship had always been good.

At this moment, Jin Zhanfei’s body was covered in wounds, with almost no intact part, like a sieve, his whole body soaked in blood, emitting a gruesome bloody scent.

When Ye Fan and Shen Tu turned over Jin Zhanfei’s body, they were shocked to find his eyes wide open, like he died with regret.

Ye Fan felt great sorrow in his heart. He did not cry, but clenched his fists tightly, his body emitting a murderous aura!

“Old Jin, I, Shen Tu, am sorry, rest in peace, the ones who killed you have been killed by Ye Zi, your vengeance has been taken!”

Shen Tu, crying, gently closed Jin Zhanfei’s wide-open eyes with his hand, then roared to the sky:
“Tianyuan Sect, I swear I will never stand with you!”

A moment later, seeing Shen Tu’s emotions stabilize a bit, Ye Fan, along with Shen Tu, buried Jin Zhanfei in the Secret Realm.

“We must reunite with Xiao Qian, Senior Brother Zhang, and the others as soon as possible!” After burying Jin Zhanfei’s body, Ye Fan said with some concern.

He was afraid Tong Qianchen and Zhang Taiyi might encounter the same situation, worried they would fall victim to Chu Hong and others, ending up like Jin Zhanfei, and decided to reunite with them first.

Ye Fan had a premonition that this Tianyuan Secret Realm would become a place of death, and he didn’t know how many would leave their lives here, so they had to unite to have a chance to survive until the end.

At this moment, Shen Tu’s gaze was incredibly firm. The loss of a friend made him, though naturally scheming, deviously bad, much more composed.

The Tianyuan Secret Realm was indeed too vast. Ye Fan and Shen Tu had been traveling for nearly a day, yet apart from encountering a few not-so-strong Xuan Beasts, they hadn’t met a single person.

...

At the same time.

Tong Qianchen and Zhang Taiyi ran into each other unexpectedly and journeyed together, simultaneously searching for Ye Fan, Shen Tu, and Jin Zhanfei.

Evidently, they also sensed that the opening of this Tianyuan Secret Realm was bound to be a bloody storm, and they had to rendezvous with Ye Fan and the others as quickly as possible to better survive in the Secret Realm.

If they couldn't even ensure survival, how could they talk about searching for fortunes and obtaining treasures?

The Tianyuan Secret Realm was littered with standing Strange Stones everywhere, and the place they were in was particularly desolate, with no greenery around, except for a bit of green in the distance.

"Senior Brother Zhang, let's go take a look there!" Tong Qianchen suggested they check out the area with some greenery ahead.

"Alright!"

Zhang Taiyi nodded in response, then swiftly headed towards the front with Tong Qianchen.

Thud!

Just as they reached the green mountain area, they abruptly sensed a flurry of Qi and saw several figures, their hearts sinking.

The person leading them was none other than the top genius of the Qing Xuan Sect, Qing Xuan!

Qingxuan was unexpectedly defeated by Tong Qianchen in the top eight competition. The two had irreconcilable conflicts, and Qingxuan's true combat power was definitely above Tong Qianchen, even above Zhang Taiyi.

At this moment, Tong Qianchen and Zhang Taiyi unexpectedly had a fateful encounter with Qingxuan...

How could this not make their hearts sink?

If Qingxuan made a move, the two of them would probably find it difficult to leave this place alive.

Because, behind Qingxuan, there was a group of disciples from other small sects or clans. These people were the top geniuses of their respective clans or sects. Although their strength could not be compared to core disciples from large sects like Tong Qianchen, they were definitely not easy to deal with.

Hmm?

It was clear that Qingxuan and his group did not expect to encounter them here. They paused momentarily, and immediately, the disciples from small sects or clans stared at the two, ready to strike at any moment.

With Qingxuan backing them, they were not afraid of Zhang Taiyi and the two of them. As long as Qingxuan decided to make a move, they would swarm them, using sheer numbers to overwhelm them.

This was Qingxuan's charisma. Although he was momentarily careless and lost to Tong Qianchen in the top eight competition, it did not affect his appeal at all. These disciples from small clans or sects respected him greatly.

In an instant, Zhang Taiyi and Tong Qianchen were on high alert, a sense of war intent subtly spreading between the two groups.

A great battle was imminent!

Tong Qianchen and Zhang Taiyi also knew that the other party was formidable. Once a fight broke out, they would have to fight desperately, so they stayed on guard, ready to preemptively strike at any sign of hostility, taking out as many as they could.

"Sister Tong, Brother Taiyi, truly, what a small world. We meet again here; it's truly my honor!"

Just when the two had steeled themselves for a fight, Qingxuan unexpectedly did not make a move but approached with a smile.

Hmm?

Qingxuan's attitude left Tong Qianchen and Zhang Taiyi bewildered. However, since there was no hostility from the other side, they naturally wouldn't foolishly offend Qingxuan.

Not to mention, there was a group of people behind Qingxuan!

"Brother Qingxuan, do you have any business with us? If not, we'll take our leave!"

Zhang Taiyi, knowing that Tong Qianchen was straightforward and worried she might offend Qingxuan with a single remark, broke his usual silence to speak to Qingxuan.

"No big deal, just some friendly advice as friends. I hope you will listen!"

Qingxuan remained very courteous, giving the impression to the unknowing that he and Zhang Taiyi were old friends. However, Zhang Taiyi and Tong Qianchen did not think so.

But at the moment, outright leaving without listening would be impolite, as well as show cowardice and guilt. Thus, Zhang Taiyi patiently replied, "Brother Qingxuan, please speak. I am all ears!"

"It's like this, let's not mention the previous competition. However, the life-and-death battle between your sect's Ye Fan and the Chu family's top genius isn't truly over yet. Based on my understanding of Chu Hong, upon entering the Secret Realm, he would certainly find a safe place to condense the Holy Embryo, breaking through to the Holy Embryo Realm."

Qingxuan spoke eloquently, stating facts so astutely that even Tong Qianchen couldn't ignore them.

"Once Chu Hong succeeds in condensing the Holy Embryo, he will certainly seek out Ye Fan from your sect. It's been a long time since we entered the Secret Realm, so he might have already broken through the Holy Embryo Realm, and slain Ye Fan."

"Pardon my bluntness, but once Chu Hong breaks through, Ye Fan will definitely not be his match. So, I advise you two to find a safe place to hide. Don't wander around like this anymore, and don't even think about snatching treasures. Just being able to leave alive would be the greatest fortune."

Tong Qianchen and Zhang Taiyi exchanged glances, both feeling that although Qingxuan's words were harsh, they were not without reason.

Once Chu Hong breaks through to the Holy Embryo Realm, becoming a strong person in the Holy Embryo, could Ye Fan still suppress him?

"Alright, by saying this to you, perhaps I've overstepped. I just hope you understand my good intentions. I don't want you to perish here, for it would be a great loss to the future of the Xuanwu Sect!"

After speaking, Qingxuan led his group in a different direction, leaving the two behind.

The two had dodged a bullet and didn't have to fight Qingxuan, but they were very worried about Ye Fan and Shen Tu, Jin Zhanfei's safety.

In their view, once Chu Hong successfully condenses the Holy Embryo, his first target will undoubtedly be Ye Fan. If Ye Fan is with Shen Tu and the others, they could all be in danger.

To ordinary cultivators, condensing the Holy Embryo might be a hurdle, but to a genius like Chu Hong, it probably wouldn't be a bottleneck. He might really succeed in condensing the Holy Embryo soon.

Concerned about Ye Fan and the others' safety, the two decided to speed up their search for them. They were determined to find them before Chu Hong did.

By then, with everyone's combined strength, even if Chu Hong truly broke through the Holy Embryo Realm, they would have the power to fight!

Swish!

With that decision made, the two no longer hesitated and quickly left.

Chapter 1223: Making Wedding Clothes for Others

Shen Tu and Tong Qianchen moved swiftly, and before they knew it, they arrived at the entrance of a gorge.

Hmm?

The two stood at the gorge's entrance and simultaneously caught a whiff of an intoxicating medicinal fragrance, a scent so faint yet unmistakably distinct.

"Treasure herb?"

Their hearts leaped with joy, for the mere scent confirmed that there must be a treasure herb deeper within the gorge.

So-called treasure herbs must be at least five hundred years old to be considered as such, containing terrifying essences of heaven and earth, beloved by all cultivators.

Evidently, the two hadn't expected a treasure herb to be growing in this unremarkable gorge!

After all, even within the Secret Realm, finding a treasure herb over five hundred years old is an extremely rare feat.

Despite their surprise, the two did not recklessly enter the gorge but, instead, cautiously ventured deeper.

This is because they knew well that any treasure herb infused with heaven and earth's spiritual energy would certainly be guarded by a formidable Xuan Beast, making it not easy to pluck.

Regardless, the two decided it was worth the risk since a treasure herb in the Tianyuan Secret Realm was akin to another life, potentially life-saving in critical moments.

Though the gorge wasn't large, it was long, and the two followed the direction of the medicinal scent, fearful of disturbing the Xuan Beast guarding the treasure herb.

The gorge was overgrown with wild grass, and vines as thick as arms were everywhere, posing considerable difficulty in their infiltration.

Luckily, both were skilled, and despite their snail's pace, they managed to reach the proximity of the treasure herb without incident.

Six-leaf Lingzhi!

Upon discovering that the treasure herb was a Six-leaf Lingzhi, they were overjoyed.

Six-leaf Lingzhi is top-grade among treasure herbs, just a hundred years shy of sprouting a seventh leaf, at which time it would become even more valuable.

However surprised they were, they didn't let excitement cloud their judgment; a Six-leaf Lingzhi, already among the best of treasure herbs, couldn't possibly be unguarded by a powerful Xuan Beast.

To pluck it, they had to either lure away or slay the Xuan Beast guarding it.

Generally, slaying was the approach since Xuan Beasts possessed spiritual wisdom comparable to that of humans, making it challenging to lure them away.

"Squeak! Squeak!"

Just as they were struggling to devise a strategy, a red shadow screeched out from a small cave near the Six-leaf Lingzhi, its long, slender arms darting towards Zhang Taiyi's eyes.

"You wretched beast, seeking death!"

Zhang Taiyi shouted, unleashing a Xuanwu Fist, slamming a punch towards the red shadow. Simultaneously, with a thought, he instantly performed the Xuanwu Armor Technique, forming a sturdy layer of True Yuan armor on his body.

Boom!

Though Zhang Taiyi wasn't as skilled as Ye Fan, he had been the top core disciple of the Xuanwu Sect, not to be underestimated. His attack sent the red shadow flying back.

However, Zhang Taiyi felt a chill. The speed of the Xuan Beast matched his own, making victory in a one-on-one battle challenging.

At the same time, Tong Qianchen discerned the identity of the red shadow attacking Zhang Taiyi—a Fire Monkey, its entire body aflame in red hair like a fireball.

This type of Xuan Beast was exceedingly difficult to deal with, as its intelligence rivaled that of humans, its body as tough as Refined Gold, and its defenses exceptionally strong; coupled with its speed, it was hard to kill.

But without slaying this Fire Monkey, the two had no chance of plucking the treasure herb. For the sake of the treasure, they had to risk it.

Fortunately, though strong, the Fire Monkey was solitary; had there been more, they would have no choice but to retreat.

With that thought, Tong Qianchen decisively joined the fray, flanking the monkey with Zhang Taiyi, hoping to quickly resolve the battle and take the treasure herb.

Should others discover the treasure herb, a battle for it would be inevitable, and even together, they might not be able to retain the herb.

The Fire Monkey's defenses were formidable, its one weakness being its poor eyesight, akin to a near-blindness, while the mature Six-leaf Lingzhi had the remarkable effect of improving vision. If it got hold of it, defeating it would become even harder.

Huff! Huff! Huff!

Knowing the Fire Monkey would be hard to overcome, Zhang Taiyi decisively chose to burn his True Yuan, rapidly enhancing his attack power, launching a frenzied assault on the monkey with Tong Qianchen.

After a grueling struggle, the two expended great effort to severely wound the Fire Monkey, just about to finish it off when they sensed someone rapidly approaching.

Boom!

The next moment, Qingxuan arrived with his entourage, delivering the killing blow to the wounded Fire Monkey and deftly extracting the Beast Core.

Swish!

Then, Qingxuan nonchalantly stepped forward, plucking the Six-leaf Lingzhi before Zhang Taiyi and Tong Qianchen, claiming it for himself.

“Qingxuan, what do you mean by this? We discovered this treasure herb first, do you intend to claim it as your own?” Tong Qianchen couldn’t help but demand in anger upon seeing Qingxuan’s actions.

“Sister Tong, your words are unfair!”

Qingxuan leisurely stowed the treasure herb, then unhurriedly said, “I was saving you, and you ought to be thanking me instead of accusing me of taking your discovered treasure herb. This is preposterous.”

“That Fire Monkey was already gravely injured by us, posing no threat whatsoever. You barged in halfway, seized our Beast Core, and took our discovered treasure herb, and yet you expect gratitude? This is shameless!” Tong Qianchen trembled with rage.

“Tong Qianchen! Don’t go too far in your speech!”

Qingxuan’s face darkened, his voice cold, “The treasures of the Secret Realm are ownerless; everyone seizes them by their own merit. If you claim what’s discovered is yours, can I say the Secret Realm I’ve beheld is mine?”

Facing Qingxuan’s unreasonable words, Tong Qianchen fumed and said, “Qingxuan, you’d better return the treasure medicine to us, otherwise...”

“Otherwise what?” A hint of mockery flashed in Qingxuan’s eyes as he said, “Do you really think you can snatch the treasure medicine from my hands? Or do you wish to make enemies of everyone in the world?”

“Qingxuan, are you threatening us?” Zhang Taiyi stepped forward and coldly questioned Qingxuan.

“No, no, this is not a threat, but a statement of fact and a kind reminder. There’s often only a fine line between commendable courage and foolhardiness. How you choose is up to you.”

Qingxuan wasn’t angry at all, still looking unhurried, as if he wouldn’t lose his temper. Yet his demeanor made Zhang Taiyi’s heart sink.

A cold-faced enemy is not hard to deal with, but a smiling tiger like this, who is calm and composed, is the most difficult. This kind of person won’t make a move lightly, but once they do, it will definitely be a sinister attack, and a deadly one at that.

“Senior Brother Qingxuan is kindly advising you, aren’t you going to thank him?”

“Exactly, show some appreciation whatever treasures you have on you, and Senior Brother Qingxuan might allow you to follow him!”

The disciples of the small sects or families following behind Qingxuan all spoke up, mocking Tong Qianchen and Zhang Taiyi with cold sarcasm.

At this moment, they were feeling proud and arrogant. With Qingxuan covering them, they weren't afraid that Zhang Taiyi and Tong Qianchen would do anything against them.

Usually, even if you gave them two guts, they wouldn't dare to speak to Tong Qianchen and Zhang Taiyi like this. They have no right to challenge Tong Qianchen, let alone threaten or ridicule verbally.

Such an opportunity isn't available every day. At this moment, they felt triumphant, their confidence surging. They believed that unless they met a freak like Chu Hong, there wouldn't be anyone in the entire Tianyuan Secret Realm who dared to contend with them.

"Qingxuan, the mountain doesn't turn, the water does. I believe we will meet again."

Zhang Taiyi decided to endure because he knew very well that even if he and Tong Qianchen joined forces, they were no match for Qingxuan and his companions.

What's more, they had just gone through a fierce battle, and their True Yuan and stamina were greatly depleted.

The wise man knows when to retreat to avoid losses. A single treasure medicine isn't worth more than their lives.

"Senior Brother..."

Tong Qianchen was unwilling, feeling extremely aggrieved. Clearly, she and Zhang Taiyi had gone through a tough battle to deal with the Fire Monkey, yet they ended up being exploited by others.

“Let’s go!”

Zhang Taiyi knew that staying here any longer was meaningless and would only lead to more ridicule and humiliation from Qingxuan and his group. Moreover, the treasure medicine was irretrievable. The priority now was to continue searching for Ye Fan and the others.

Tong Qianchen also knew that the treasure medicine was likely lost forever, but she wasn’t reconciled. After all, treasure medicines are hard to come by, and missing this one might mean there won’t be another.

However, she also knew that Zhang Taiyi’s choice was correct. Confronting Qingxuan and escalating the conflict at this time would only lead to unpredictable consequences.

“Haha... If you had realized this earlier, it wouldn’t have come to this.”

“Safe travels, sorry for not seeing you off!”

“As expected from the Xuanwu Sect, this skill of endurance is beyond my learning!”

Seeing Tong Qianchen and Zhang Taiyi choose to endure, the small sect disciples around Qingxuan laughed gleefully, mocking them with insufferable words.

Qingxuan smiled faintly, not because he didn't want to vent his pent-up frustrations from the top eight matches by killing Zhang Taiyi and Tong Qianchen, but because he knew he couldn't do that.

The interests of the sect are paramount!

For him, temporary endurance is no big deal. As long as the Tianyuan Sect, the Xuanwu Sect, and the Chu Family go to war, the one who will ultimately benefit is certainly Qingxuan Sect.

By then, Qingxuan Sect might unify the entire Tianyuan State!

And he is the next Sect Leader of Qingxuan Sect!

At that time, looking across the entire Tianyuan State and even the entire Southern Domain, no one will dare underestimate him!

The taunts from the small sect disciples behind Qingxuan reached the ears of Zhang Taiyi and Tong Qianchen, trembling with anger, but they still suppressed their rage, preparing to leave.

Huh?

Just then...

Whether it was Zhang Taiyi and Tong Qianchen or Qingxuan and others, they all clearly sensed two auras.

Swish!

They simultaneously turned their gaze towards the source of the auras.

In the next moment.

They clearly saw two figures rapidly flying towards the canyon, as fast as flowing light.

Ye Fan and Shen Tu have arrived!

Chapter 1224: Sudden Turn of Events, Concealing Strength and Biding Time

“Hiss...”

The valley was filled with the sounds of people gasping; Qingxuan and the others were all stunned. They never dreamed that Ye Fan would appear at this critical moment.

“Whoosh~”

Seeing Ye Fan and Shen Tu, Zhang Taiyi couldn't help but breathe a sigh of relief.

Although Qingxuan hadn't taken action from the beginning, he had suppressed and humiliated Zhang Taiyi and Tong Qianchen at every turn, which made him very angry, but due to the pressing situation, he could only choose to tolerate it.

And now, with Ye Fan here...

Everything will change!

“Brother Ye!”

Tong Qianchen called out loudly, jumping up excitedly, waving her hands at Ye Fan, who was flying in rapidly, and she also breathed a sigh of relief.

She knew that with Ye Fan's temper, there was absolutely no way he would let Qingxuan snatch away the treasure medicine for nothing.

Swish!

Recalling Qingxuan's nonchalant demeanor as he snatched her treasure medicine earlier, Tong Qianchen couldn't help but look at Qingxuan again.

At this moment, Qingxuan was in a bind, never expecting that Ye Fan hadn't been taken down and that he had arrived at such a critical moment.

His expression fluctuated. Although he wanted to fight Ye Fan, considering that Ye Fan could suppress even Chu Hong, he feared that even using his divine consciousness attack would be futile.

If he dared to be the first to make a move, Ye Fan would surely dare to kill him here and now!

But the treasure medicine he had just acquired hadn't even warmed in his hands, and was he going to hand it over just like that?

Even though this treasure medicine wouldn't significantly aid his divine sense cultivation, it was a treasure medicine nonetheless!

"Forget it, taking a step back will open up broader horizons!"

Qingxuan thought to himself, gritted his teeth, and secretly decided that if Ye Fan insisted on retrieving the treasure medicine, he would hand it over, for however precious the treasure was, it was still insignificant compared to his life.

Ye Fan even dared to kill Luo Xiaolin directly, indicating he didn't regard anyone at all. If he remained stubborn, he had no doubt he'd follow in Luo Xiaolin's footsteps.

Since even Qingxuan was somewhat afraid of Ye Fan, it was needless to say for the disciples from the small sects behind him. They could only rely on borrowed authority, and if they faced Ye Fan's wrath, they would certainly not have the guts.

At this moment, these people were terrified!

They had dared to mock and threaten Tong Qianchen and Zhang Taiyi so brazenly before, mainly because they believed Ye Fan had been killed by Chu Hong and even if not, he would be too busy to trouble them.

But now they were no longer confident; Ye Fan's appearance had made their previous confidence vanish without a trace. If it weren't for fearing trouble from Qingxuan, they might have scattered like birds and beasts long ago.

"Damn, what do you mean by so many of you surrounding Senior Brother Zhang and Junior Sister Tong? Are you trying to bully with numbers?"

Even before he arrived, Shen Tu's angry shout resounded, his speed as fast as lightning, flying over to join Zhang Taiyi and Tong Qianchen.

At the same time, Ye Fan also landed in the canyon, quickly descending next to Tong Qianchen and Zhang Taiyi.

Thunk!

Shen Tu's angry shout and the sudden presence made the disciples from the small sects or clans following Qingxuan tremble with fright, their faces full of fear.

Although they were most afraid of Ye Fan, Shen Tu had also left a deep impression on them.

In their eyes, Shen Tu was extremely insidious and treacherous. Offending him would definitely not end well—Ye Fan might refrain from attacking them out of concern for face, but Shen Tu likely wouldn't care about that.

Shen Tu's speed was fast enough, but he was still a step behind Ye Fan in landing, coming to stand directly with Zhang Taiyi and the others.

At this point, the situation had completely changed!

"Xiao Qian? What happened?"

Ye Fan, being meticulous, took one look at the situation and knew Qingxuan was bullying under borrowed authority. However, before understanding the truth, he wouldn't act rashly.

Moreover, he had to consider the Xuanwu Sect; Tianyuan Sect and Xuanwu Sect were arch-enemies. Killing was killing, and the Sect wouldn't say anything about it, but Qingxuan Sect was always a neutral sect. With the Xuanwu Sect's strength, offending two sects not inferior to itself at the same time was not a wise move.

He couldn't bring disaster to his sect!

"Brother Ye, this is what happened..."

Tong Qianchen described the events in detail from beginning to end to Ye Fan, not missing a word, including what was said during the incident.

Swish!

As soon as they heard Tong Qianchen say that they had threatened and mocked them, the disciples of the small sects' faces turned drastically and became ashen.

At this moment, they all hoped Qingxuan would put up a stronger front so that at least their faces wouldn't fall too much.

Clap!

After quietly listening to Tong Qianchen's account, Ye Fan, without saying a word, began walking towards Qingxuan, his entire body exuding a murderous aura, causing the temperature around to drop significantly.

Hmm?

Qingxuan was startled, involuntarily taking two steps back, truly afraid that Ye Fan might retaliate against him without holding back.

"Either return the treasure medicine, or fight, choose one of the two!"

When he was less than ten meters away from Qingxuan, Ye Fan stopped, coldly staring at Qingxuan, his tone unquestionable.

His voice wasn't loud, yet it was like a clap of thunder in everyone's ears, sending chills down the spines of those disciples from small sects or clans who were attached to Qingxuan.

At this moment, the air seemed to freeze, and everyone was waiting for Qingxuan's choice.

Faced with Ye Fan's domineering stance, Qingxuan was filled with rage. He really wanted to fight Ye Fan at all costs, but remembering Luo Xiaolin's fate, his heart turned cold.

Fight?

How could he possibly fight?!

He is the future hope of Qing Xuan Sect and must not die, and these useless ones around him can't help at all—those people can bully someone like Zhang Taiyi, but when it comes to Ye Fan, they are practically useless.

Given Ye Fan's strength, he could wipe them out as easily as playing a game. Moreover, Xuanwu Sect, as one of the Three Great Sects, isn't afraid to offend these small sects or clans; if need be, they could simply annihilate them.

More importantly, the moment he chooses to fight, there's no turning back; Qing Xuan Sect and Xuanwu Sect would irrevocably break, fighting to the death!

This would conflict with the 'Three Tigers Fight, One Sect Gains' plan set by his master.

Due to lack of strength, he didn't dare to fight, and for the sake of the bigger picture, he couldn't.

But even a clay figurine has some nature of soil; as the number one core disciple of Qing Xuan Sect, Qingxuan also has his pride. His self-esteem won't allow him to bow his head and concede.

If he chooses to return the treasure medicine now, it would mean he's afraid of Ye Fan, a result he can't accept!

Qingxuan's expression constantly changed, unable to make a choice. Both options were difficult for him, and no matter which he chose, he was unwilling.

At this moment, he finally understood the feeling that Tong Qianchen and Zhang Taiyi had just experienced. Resentful, humiliated, yet helpless.

Ultimately, reason triumphed over impulse. Qingxuan gritted his teeth, deciding to hand over the treasure medicine. He couldn't completely sever ties with Ye Fan because he couldn't afford to lose.

"Alright, Brother Ye is indeed unparalleled in dominance, I admit defeat, the treasure medicine is here, returned to its rightful owner!"

Qingxuan's heart was bleeding. Perhaps there were only a few treasure medicines in the entire Tianyuan Secret Realm, and even if there were, it might not be his turn.

"Phew~"

Seeing Qingxuan choose to hand over the treasure medicine rather than fight, those small sect disciples attached to him quietly sighed in relief.

They really feared that Qingxuan would choose to fight, as they would be implicated if that happened.

Because they knew very well, Qingxuan was not Ye Fan's opponent!

In the whole secret realm, if anyone could stand against Ye Fan, it would be Chu Hong, not Qingxuan.

"There's also the Beast Core, that belongs to us too."

Ye Fan wanted to push Qingxuan a bit, to see how much Qingxuan could endure. If Qingxuan chose to return it straightforwardly, then Ye Fan would truly not underestimate him in the future.

"Oh! Right, I almost forgot if you hadn't mentioned it..."

Qingxuan, with a look of sudden realization, happily handed the Beast Core back to Ye Fan without any hesitation.

With his nature, once he chose to endure, he would naturally put on a better act. Even if his heart was bleeding, he had to put on a smiling face, not letting Ye Fan see any flaws.

He thought Ye Fan was just an ordinary boy from the mountains, not realizing that Ye Fan had experienced so much on Earth, had seen all kinds of human nature, and with eyes as sharp as fire, how could Qingxuan hide from him?

At the moment of receiving the Beast Core, Ye Fan's killing intent surged in his heart!

He really wanted to act right away, to kill Qingxuan here, not giving Qingxuan a chance to grow.

But thinking of Xuanwu Sect's current situation, he suppressed the impulse.

"Concealing one's abilities, Brother Qingxuan lives up to his reputation!"

Ye Fan holding the Beast Core, once again stood with Tong Qianchen, Zhang Taiyi, and Shen Tu, looking at Qingxuan with deep meaning.

"Could it be I've been seen through?"

Ye Fan's words echoed in his ear, and turmoil rose in Qingxuan's heart!

Chapter 1225: Role Reversal

Despite the shock in his heart, Qingxuan didn't show it on his face, merely looking at Ye Fan with a complicated expression.

At this moment, intuition and reason told him that Ye Fan was by no means the naive village boy everyone perceived him to be!

"Huh~"

As Ye Fan returned to Tong Qianchen and the other two, the disciples from the small sects behind Qingxuan all breathed a sigh of relief.

To them, the ordeal was finally over, and Ye Fan hadn't paid attention to them or considered them worth his time.

Although this feeling was unpleasant, compared to losing their lives, they would rather lose face!

At this moment, they completely forgot how arrogant they had been before Ye Fan arrived!

Now, one could say this was retribution!

"You, you, you, step forward!"

Ye Fan choosing not to engage with those disciples from small sects or clans didn't mean Shen Tu would hold back. He had long been suppressing his anger, eager to find someone to vent on. How could he let them go?

He reached out and pointed at a few disciples from small sects who had sneered at Zhang Taiyi and Tong Qianchen earlier.

Thud!

Seeing Shen Tu pointing over, the previously relieved disciples from small sects felt a jolt in their hearts, their hearts instantly hanging again.

Now, it was absolutely impossible for them to rely on Qingxuan for help— with Ye Fan around, Qingxuan was like a clay bodhisattva crossing the river, unable to protect himself!

Realizing this, they suppressed their inner unease and stepped out of the crowd.

“Each of you slap yourselves ten times, make sure it leaves a mark and makes a sound! Of course, you can also choose to refuse!”

Shen Tu's hawk-like gaze swept over their faces, directly instructing them to slap themselves to vent for Tong Qianchen and Zhang Taiyi.

He wanted to make those disciples from the small sects understand that every word they said came at a price, and only pain and humiliation would teach them a lesson!

Besides, disciples of the Xuanwu Sect were not ones to be ridiculed by these small sect disciples!

“Uh...”

They looked at each other, unable to muster the courage to slap themselves in public. Every genius had their dignity, and they absolutely did not want to lose face in front of everyone.

If they really did as told, how could they ever hold their heads high in the future?

“I refuse to do it!”

Just as Shen Tu said that anyone unwilling could state so, a genius from a small clan immediately stood up and made his position clear.

“Very well!”

Shen Tu sneered, and without another word, kicked and shattered the man’s Dantian, abolishing his entire cultivation, turning him into a cripple with no chance of ever becoming a cultivator again.

“Hiss!”

Seeing Shen Tu’s ruthless tactic, the remaining individuals gasped in terror.

The individual who stepped out had a cultivation on par with theirs, yet didn’t have time to react before his cultivation was abolished. This showed Shen Tu’s true strength was far beyond what he displayed in the arena.

Witnessing all this, the remaining disciples from the small sects no longer harbored any illusion of luck, and began slapping themselves one after another.

“Slap!”

“Slap!”

“Slap!”

...

The sound of slapping was continuous, Qingxuan's face turning iron blue with anger, but seeing Ye Fan watching him intently, he had to swallow his anger.

At this moment, it wasn't that he was unwilling to stick up for the disciples from the small sects; on the contrary, if he did, it would be a great opportunity to win people's hearts.

But the premise was that he had the strength and the capital!

Without strength and capital, he could only keep his mouth shut and his hands and feet in check, otherwise, even he would be implicated!

Zhang Taiyi was secretly grateful to Ye Fan, knowing that if Ye Fan hadn't arrived in time, not only would they not reclaim the treasure medicine, but he and Tong Qianchen would have to leave in utter humiliation.

Because of Ye Fan's appearance, the situation completely reversed, making him feel particularly proud and elated!

Compared to Zhang Taiyi, Tong Qianchen was even more moved.

She instinctively thought that Ye Fan's decisive actions were mainly to stand up for her.

"I didn't misjudge him, Brother Ye is indeed someone I can entrust my life to."

Tong Qianchen's eyes reddened slightly, thinking to herself, and unknowingly, a hint of blush crept onto her pretty face..

The ten slaps were quickly dealt, and their faces swelled as if they had ballooned, and even for those with strong cultivation, self-inflicted slaps were undeniably unpleasant.

The physical pain was secondary, but the humiliation was hard for them to let go, yet no matter how humiliating, they had to endure it, for their previous loose tongues had brought this retribution upon them.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

With the situation resolved, Ye Fan did not linger and led Tong Qianchen and the others toward a towering mountain peak in the distance.

The opening time of the Tianyuan Secret Realm is limited to just thirty days, leaving no room for wasting any time.

This mountain peak is enormous; although it seems far away, it appears as if it is right in front of him. More importantly, it seems to be the highest peak in the entire secret realm.

Other places also have mountains and rivers, strange stones, and flowing streams, but no mountain is as massive as the one in front of them. It can be said to be the king of all mountains, comparable to the majestic Taishan on Earth.

Ye Fan speculated that while other places in the secret realm might hold unexpected opportunities, any treasures would surely be found on this mountain peak.

Qingxuan also felt that if there were treasures, they must be on this magnificent mountain. Hence, he followed the path toward the mountain, not far behind Ye Fan's group of four.

After the previous situation, the disciples from the small sects following Qingxuan dared not make any rash moves and merely followed silently without uttering a word.

Hmm?

Shortly after starting the climb, Ye Fan discovered a patch of spiritual medicine, totaling hundreds of plants, some of which had already withered.

Spiritual medicine can evolve into treasure medicine, but it requires a fortuitous opportunity. Many spiritual medicines have ages, and they mature upon reaching their time limit.

This is the optimal time for harvesting. If left unpicked for too long, these spiritual medicines will wither due to exhausted life force, and the accumulated Heaven and Earth Essence will dissipate into the air.

Those spiritual medicines capable of evolving often have a tumor-like thing at the roots—it's where the spiritual medicine accumulates essence, akin to the nourishment stored in tubers like radishes.

Such spiritual medicine, after years of accumulation, has the potential to undergo a Heavenly Tribulation. If it withstands the tribulation, it officially upgrades to treasure medicine; if not, like human cultivators, it returns to dust.

Therefore, spiritual medicines are common, but treasure medicines are hard to find for precisely this reason.

Treasure medicines also have the potential to upgrade, but this possibility is even smaller and more challenging than upgrading spiritual medicine to treasure medicine.

After upgrading, treasure medicines become divine medicine, possessing miraculous effects of reviving the dead and restoring flesh to bones. However, very few have obtained divine medicine.

Apart from the Great Emperor finding some, others have no hope of obtaining divine medicine.

Divine medicines have intelligence, and those aged divine medicines are further spiritually communicative, even possessing transformation abilities with strong attack power that only the Great Emperor can easily subdue, while others cannot harness a single divine medicine so easily.

This patch of spiritual medicine is only two hundred years old, with some three hundred-year-old ones among them, and they are not precious. Ye Fan doesn't even want them.

Because the Heaven and Earth Essence contained within these spiritual medicines has very little effect on him.

However, Shen Tu felt that even the smallest mosquito is meat, and they shouldn't leave anything behind. He pointed to Qingxuan and the others following behind and said, "Even if it's useless, don't leave it for them. Just let them eat dust while following us, and don't leave them a single hair."

As his words fell, Shen Tu went ahead and collected the spiritual medicine without a second thought.

After Shen Tu's sweep, not a single leaf remained of the hundreds of plants of spiritual medicine, and he even plucked some weed-like plants resembling spiritual medicines, causing Ye Fan and the three others to shake their heads and smile bitterly.

After collecting the spiritual medicine, Ye Fan and the others continued onward up the mountain.

Moments later, Qingxuan and others reached the area Shen Tu had just swept clean, looking at the ravaged and unrecognizable patch of grass while sniffing the lingering scent of spiritual medicine in the air. Qingxuan's face turned grim.

"They didn't even leave us a single leaf."

One of the small sect disciples stubbornly searched the area but returned empty-handed, muttering softly as he looked at the backs of Ye Fan and the others.

“Brother Qingxuan, this won’t work. Following behind them, we won’t even get to sip the soup. They clearly aren’t leaving anything for us. What do we do now?”

A disciple from a small sect consulted Qingxuan for advice; his sect was very small, and while a large sect might not care about spiritual medicine, a spiritual medicine is extremely precious to a small sect.

“What should we do? How should I know what to do?”

Qingxuan muttered to himself silently, finding himself absolutely helpless.

“Let’s catch up to them and get ahead of them; otherwise, following behind them, we truly won’t get anything.”

Ultimately, Qingxuan decided to catch up and surpass Ye Fan and the others. Otherwise, there was no hope of obtaining any treasures.

Ye Fan’s group of four moved at a rather slow pace, and as they walked, they kept watch for any spiritual medicines, treasure medicines, or other treasures to collect.

However, most of the time, they found nothing. After all, treasures are quite rare. If they were abundant, they wouldn’t be precious and wouldn’t be called treasures.

In most cases, places with treasures are invariably guarded by powerful Xuan Beasts. But under Ye Fan's formidable attack power, all those Xuan Beasts were slain.

The blood and Beast Cores of those Xuan Beasts containing Essence Qi were all collected by Ye Fan.

Thus, each time they encountered treasures, whether discovered by Qingxuan or Ye Fan, ultimately without exception, they all ended up in the hands of Ye Fan's group of four. Qingxuan and his followers could only watch, powerless to do anything.

Role reversal!

It was only at this moment that they understood the feeling of discovering something only to have someone else snatch it first!

At this moment, they felt as if they had swapped roles with Tong Qianchen and Zhang Taiyi, feeling incredibly suffocated.

Qingxuan was so depressed he almost spat blood; he never imagined that one day he would be outdone by others, yet he had no way to react, watching helplessly as treasure after treasure fell into Ye Fan's group's hands.

"Kid, hurry to the front; there's the scent of Dark Immortal Gold ahead!"

Just as Qingxuan and the others were feeling frustrated, Elder Xuan suddenly spoke, his emotions exceedingly agitated, urging Ye Fan eagerly to proceed forward.

Chapter 1226: Dark Immortal Gold

Within the Xuan Realm, there are several special Immortal Materials, which are essential Divine Gold for the Sacrificial Refinement of Emperor Weapons.

Dark Immortal Gold is one of them, highlighting its preciousness!

Others include Fiery Sun Red Gold, Moonlight White Gold, Dragon Pattern Azure Gold, Qilin Purple Gold, and so on.

These materials are things even a Great Emperor would crave; throughout the history of the Xuan Realm, not every Great Emperor has been able to find these Immortal Golds for the Sacrificial Refinement of Emperor Weapons.

Especially since the power of Emperor Weapons is too immense, aside from these top-grade materials, other metals simply can't withstand the pressure of a Great Emperor, let alone be used to refine Emperor Weapons.

Furthermore, Dark Immortal Gold is an indispensable material for the Sacrificial Refinement of Emperor Weapons. Any Emperor Weapon requires the inclusion of some Dark Immortal Gold during its refinement process to ensure stability during refinement.

Additionally, under Elder Xuan's introduction, Ye Fan also learned an important piece of information—the Dark Immortal Gold is one of the best Divine Materials for repairing the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown!

In this situation, Ye Fan didn't hesitate at all, nor did he continue searching for other treasures, and directly dashed forward with Tong Qianchen and Shen Tu, along with Zhang Taiyi.

Although Ye Fan didn't tell them what exactly he had discovered, Tong Qianchen and the others trusted Ye Fan greatly and didn't ask, directly following him in a rush forward.

"What's happening?"

"What is wrong with them?"

"Could they not want the Spiritual Medicine?"

"If they don't want it, that's even better. It benefits us!"

Seeing Ye Fan and the other three rushing forward at top speed, not even searching for treasures, the small sect disciples following Qingxuan were very surprised, not knowing what had happened, and immediately started discussing.

“No, they must have discovered something good; otherwise, there’s no way they would leave the Spiritual Medicine for us!”

In that instant, Qingxuan suddenly realized the situation, vaguely guessing that Ye Fan must have discovered some incredible treasure, which is why he discarded other treasures like worthless trash.

“Let’s go and take a look at exactly what kind of treasure made him give up all this Spiritual Medicine!”

Saying so, Qingxuan was the first to chase forward. Just now, they weren’t far from Ye Fan and the others, so it’s still in time to catch up.

In the places Ye Fan and the others passed by, there were quite a few treasures as well, but they didn’t even move.

At this moment, those small sect disciples were hesitant; these things might be trivial to Ye Fan and Qingxuan, but to them, they were certainly very rare.

Some wise small sect disciples had already sensibly stopped, preparing to collect treasures that weren’t guarded by Xuan Beasts.

As for the treasures discovered by Ye Fan, they didn’t have any hope of competing, so they decided to take whatever practical gains they could get.

These people could certainly be called smart, but after all, smart people are a minority, the majority still chose to follow Qingxuan to see what's going on.

Under Elder Xuan's guidance, Ye Fan and the other three quickly arrived at the mountainside, where they found a cave covered with grass and vines. The entrance was polished to a shine, clearly indicating a powerful Xuan Beast resided within.

The faint aura of Dark Immortal Gold wafted from the cave, affecting the growth of nearby plants, indicating the presence of Dark Immortal Gold within the cave.

At the same time, outside of the Dark Immortal Gold aura, an extremely powerful aura emanated from within the cave, with no sound of birds or insects around, creating a somewhat eerie silence.

"Dark Immortal Gold?"

Qingxuan, being knowledgeable, immediately recognized the aura of the Dark Immortal Gold, this Immortal Material even a Great Emperor would be tempted by, and his eyes gleamed with excitement.

Such an Immortal Material as Dark Immortal Gold, even powerful people from Holy Lands or the Di Clan find it difficult to encounter, it's truly too precious.

At the same time, Qingxuan was a bit puzzled, as the aura of Dark Immortal Gold is distinctive but hard to detect from a distance, so how did Ye Fan know there was Dark Immortal Gold here?

Not only was he puzzled, but so were Tong Qianchen, Zhang Taiyi, and Shen Tu, who came with Ye Fan.

Could it be that Ye Fan has some special treasure-seeking skill?

Otherwise, how did he sense the presence of Dark Immortal Gold from such a distance when no one else did?

Or perhaps he merely sensed something remarkable here but didn't know it was Dark Immortal Gold?

To know, even Saint Heirs from Holy Lands and heirs from the Di Clan desire some Dark Immortal Gold for their future Sacrificial Refinement of Emperor Weapons after proving their Dao and becoming Emperors.

But at least Tong Qianchen and the others wouldn't be suspicious; whatever Ye Fan finds is always beneficial for them.

At least as Ye Fan grows stronger, it's a good thing for the entire Xuanwu Sect; they wouldn't foolishly compete with Ye Fan, and they lack the capital anyway.

If even they lack the capital to compete with Ye Fan, then it's even more so for those small sect disciples, they're just here to watch the scene.

Standing a short distance from the cave entrance, Ye Fan hesitated, wondering whether to wait for the strong Xuan Beast inside to come out on its own, or to take the risk of entering the cave himself to find the Dark Immortal Gold.

“Awwroar...”

Just as Ye Fan was hesitating, a strange beastly roar came from within the cave, resonating throughout the entire mountain, echoing like muffled thunder in everyone’s ears.

Immediately after, a bizarre-looking beast swaggered out of the cave.

This beast was nameless to Ye Fan, and not just to Ye Fan; among so many present, not one recognized what kind of Xuan Beast it was.

The stout body, large head, and a pair of copper bell-like eyes flickered with a purple light, shining brightly, covered with bowl-sized black scales all over as if wearing a suit of iron armor, it looked astonishingly defensive.

What’s most speechless is that this monster has a circle of ghost-like bone spurs growing around its neck, like sharp swords.

Seeing the appearance of this monster, Ye Fan suddenly thought of a common animal he had seen on Earth — a dog!

Some dog owners, to prevent their dogs from being bitten by other dogs, would put a collar on the dog, a collar studded with spikes, with the tips facing outward, if enlarged, it quite resembles this monster.

But unlike the collar, this monster not only has sharp bone spurs growing around its neck but also grows a row of bone spurs of varying lengths on its back, like swords piercing the sky.

“Roar...”

After walking out of the cave, the monster roared again, instantly releasing a Holy Embryo realm aura, scaring several disciples from small sects almost to the point of fainting immediately.

Holy Embryo realm Xuan Beast!

A Holy Embryo realm Xuan Beast guarding the Dark Immortal.

Feeling the power of the monster, even Ye Fan felt bursts of trepidation, not to mention those small sect disciples, who retreated one after another, the Dark Immortal Gold might be good, but it was not destined for them, simply unattainable.

Ye Fan did not retreat.

The Dark Immortal Gold could repair the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown, he was determined to obtain it!

He carefully observed the Xuan Beast ahead, trying to find its weakness to figure out a way to kill it.

This careful observation made Ye Fan gradually feel apprehensive. This Xuan Beast can be said to have no weaknesses — its mouth full of fangs, thick limbs, and sharp claws hidden within the pads, once it strikes, even armor can't withstand it.

Moreover, the monster has an extremely thick tail, a whole ten feet long, also covered with scales. Even if this tail hit the body, Ye Fan probably couldn't bear it.

Ordinary cultivators, even those who are Saint Heirs of the same realm, couldn't withstand the Divine Dragon Tail's blow.

Qingxuan didn't retreat too far, he was waiting for the opportunity. Although he wasn't Ye Fan's match, escaping shouldn't be a problem. He planned to snatch the food from the tiger's mouth; as long as Ye Fan could distract this Holy Embryo realm Xuan Beast for a moment, he could enter the cave to get the Dark Immortal Gold and then escape.

He firmly believed that based on his abilities, as long as he escaped, Ye Fan would almost certainly be unable to find him. He was extremely confident in his ability to hide his aura.

There was also the aura of the Dark Immortal Gold on the scales of this monster, showing that it often used its body to rub against the Dark Immortal Gold to achieve such an effect.

Moreover, Ye Fan highly suspected that this Xuan Beast wasn't originally like this; it must have unknowingly undergone some mutation due to being together with the Dark Immortal Gold for a long time.

However, this mutation was undoubtedly a good development, greatly enhancing its defense abilities.

"Ye Zi, here's the plan: the three of us will draw the attention of this beast, and then you take the opportunity to enter the cave to find the Immortal Gold. Once you get it, flee immediately. We can handle our escape."

Just as Ye Fan was tangled in whether to take the risk or not, Shen Tu suddenly proposed.

"This is also a plan, Junior Brother Ye Fan, I think it's feasible. You're the fastest, and with a moment, you can get it. Once you do, escape immediately. This beast will definitely abandon us, so you don't need to worry about our safety."

"That's right, just hold it for a moment. Believe in us, we can do it."

Zhang Taiyi and Tong Qianchen also chimed in, agreeing the plan was viable.

Ye Fan hesitated for a moment, thinking the proposal was indeed a way. As long as he moved fast enough, there shouldn't be much danger.

“But be very careful, if you can’t take on this beast, don’t take unnecessary risks. It’s crucial just to stall it for a moment. If it can’t be done, just let it go, we’ll still have a chance.”

Ye Fan agreed to Shen Tu’s proposal, but repeatedly warned them to be extra cautious, knowing that they were facing a Holy Embryo realm Xuan Beast.

Xuan Beasts are different from humans. Once they rage, they definitely produce great destructive power. Jin Zhanfei was already dead, and he didn’t want anyone else to get hurt or killed because of him.

“Don’t worry, we know what we’re doing!”

With that, Zhang Taiyi and the others prepared to act.

“What to do?”

Qingxuan heard all this clearly from the side and was secretly anxious. If Zhang Taiyi and the others helped Ye Fan divert the Xuan Beast, Ye Fan would most likely obtain the Dark Immortal Gold.

By then, the Dark Immortal Gold would be completely out of reach for him.

Because...

He planned to snatch the Dark Immortal Gold from Ye Fan, which was tantamount to seeking death!

Chapter 1227: Snatching Food from the Tiger's Mouth

Although anxious to the point of despair, Qingxuan did not choose to leave at this moment, but remained to observe the changes.

He wanted to see if Ye Fan could really obtain the Dark Immortal Gold!

“Kill!”

Among the three, Zhang Taiyi was the strongest. He was the first to launch an attack, taking out a spiritual artifact he had never used before. It was a golden large seal, resembling a large hammer, and he viciously smashed it towards the beast's head.

In his view, the Xuan Beast ahead was covered in black scale armor, obviously possessing extremely strong defense. Attacking its body would likely be ineffective; targeting its head was the best choice.

After all, for any creature, the head is a fatal spot. If they could break through here, they might be able to stall this Holy Embryo Realm Xuan Beast for a while, buying Ye Fan some time.

As he made his move, Shen Tu and Tong Qianchen also took action, with the three forming a triangular formation, each exhibiting their best skills and launching their strongest attack on the Xuan Beast.

“Roar...”

The bizarre-looking Xuan Beast was indeed successfully enraged. Originally, it didn't take these humans seriously at all, but these weak creatures, whom it viewed as ants, dared to challenge its dignity, making it angry.

With an angry roar, the Xuan Beast lunged at the three, its sharp claws extending from its pads, shooting out beams of death-like light like sharp daggers.

“Fight!”

Zhang Taiyi, Shen Tu, and Tong Qianchen also fought desperately, instantly burning their True Yuan to quickly enhance their attack power.

Because they knew very well that facing a Holy Embryo Realm Xuan Beast, holding back was tantamount to putting their lives at risk.

The Xuan Beast, after all, was a Xuan Beast; it wouldn't reason with them. Dare to offend its dignity, and it would tear them to pieces and turn them into its blood food.

Among the three, Shen Tu was the weakest, not because his power wasn't strong enough; in terms of overall strength, he was still stronger than Tong Qianchen. The downside was his spiritual artifact was too short.

Though it's said that shorter weapons are more dangerous, this only applies when the power gap isn't significant. This Xuan Beast was like a moving fortress with astonishing defense, making it unassailable; under such circumstances, his protective arm spiritual artifact was somewhat redundant.

Swoosh!

At the moment when the three successfully lured the Xuan Beast away, Ye Fan made a move, transforming into a streak of flowing light and rushing into the cave.

He knew that time was too precious to afford any hesitation. If he couldn't obtain the Dark Immortal Gold now, he might have to wait until he broke through again.

The oddly-shaped Xuan Beast had long activated its spiritual wisdom, and its intelligence wasn't inferior to ordinary humans. While battling Zhang Taiyi and the others, it kept most of its attention on its lair.

As a Holy Embryo Realm Xuan Beast, it had long been spiritually communicative and naturally knew the value of Dark Immortal Gold, fearing someone might steal it if not careful.

Swoosh!

Seeing Ye Fan rushing towards its lair, it immediately understood Ye Fan's intention, decisively abandoning the fight with the three, preferring to endure their strongest attacks with its super-strong defense, just to block Ye Fan outside the cave. The Dark Immortal Gold absolutely couldn't be lost.

Huff!

The Xuan Beast seemed somewhat bloated, yet its speed was absurdly fast. Although it started later than Ye Fan, it still managed to block Ye Fan at the cave entrance in time, swinging its thick tail back furiously at Ye Fan.

Hmm?

The situation changed so suddenly that even if Ye Fan wanted to retreat, it was too late. He only had time to use the Thunderclap Treasure Skill, instantly concentrating his entire True Yuan and physical strength into his right fist, and under the boost of the Thunder Gloves, he punched with all his might!

Boom!

With a loud crash, Ye Fan's fist collided with the Holy Embryo Realm Xuan Beast's tail.

"Puff—"

A massive force rebounded back, sending Ye Fan flying four or five zhang away. Before landing, he already spat out a mouthful of blood.

This clash severely jolted his meridians. The power of the Holy Embryo Realm Xuan Beast was indeed formidable, having experienced some kind of change in strength.

However, the Holy Embryo Realm Xuan Beast didn't fare well either. The scales on its tail were knocked off by Ye Fan's punch, leaving a large area the size of a washbasin exposed, with muscles torn and even bones and tendons visible.

After landing, Ye Fan spat another mouthful of blood, finally resolving the fierce penetrating force, his face as pale as paper.

This was the first time he had been so severely injured in a long time. Previously, nearly no opponent had been able to hurt him.

Indeed, the Holy Embryo Realm Xuan Beast was powerful. It seemed that after reaching the Holy Embryo Realm, both Xuan Beasts and humans undergo a fundamental evolution.

This evolution greatly enhances a cultivator's attack power, and the same goes for Xuan Beasts. The Holy Embryo Realm is a watershed; only by stepping into the Holy Embryo Realm can one be considered a true master.

"This..."

"Unbelievable!"

“So fast, so strong...”

Tong Qianchen and the other two were stunned, never expecting that this seemingly bloated and clumsy Xuan Beast was actually so agile, fast, and intelligent, impossible to deceive.

Especially its defense was monstrous, enduring the three’s strongest attack with no issue; the three didn’t even knock off a single scale.

Now even Ye Fan, the most hopeful to snatch the prize, had suffered severe injuries. They had no way to obtain the Dark Immortal Gold from the Xuan Beast’s watchful guard.

The clear wine reddens the face, and the Immortal Gold stirs the Daoist heart.

All present are young geniuses, and with the Dark Immortal Gold, such a celestial material, right in front of them, who wouldn’t be tempted?

But no matter how tempted they are, it’s useless if they can’t break through the Xuan Beast’s defense; no one should think about obtaining the Immortal Gold.

At this moment, everyone was speechless at the Tianyuan Secret Realm’s rule—only cultivators below the Holy Embryo Realm can enter, yet the Xuan Beast in the secret realm is at the Holy Embryo Realm.

In the same realm, it's very difficult for human cultivators to confront the Xuan Beast head-on, let alone being a whole realm lower. This is simply an unsolvable deadlock.

Qingxuan was both secretly shocked and relieved, relieved that Ye Fan did not obtain the Dark Immortal Gold.

He even felt a little schadenfreude!

He had suffered a setback at the hands of Ye Fan, submitting in front of those disciples from small sects, handing over Treasure Medicine and Beast Core, which was already quite humiliating. Seeing Ye Fan suffer, he was naturally pleased.

"Brother Ye, how are you?"

"Ye Zi, are you okay?"

"Junior Brother Ye Fan..."

Seeing Ye Fan being blasted away, Tong Qianchen and the other two exclaimed, rushing towards him.

"I'm fine, but we won't be able to get the Immortal Gold in the short term. Let's retreat to a safe place first." Ye Fan shook his head.

As he spoke, Ye Fan led the three away from the cave entrance. The Xuan Beast, for some reason, perhaps disdainful of pursuing or considering guarding its lair more important, did not chase after them.

Ye Fan sat cross-legged at a safe distance, operating energy to heal his injuries.

His injuries weren't too severe. Spitting two mouthfuls of fresh blood had already dissipated most of the force the Xuan Beast had driven into his body, with his own True Yuan resolving part of the rest.

Sitting cross-legged on the grass, Zhang Taiyi and Shen Tu served as protectors, while Ye Fan circulated his pure yang qi, slowly repairing his injured meridians.

Innate Pure Yang Qi is a holy item for healing, more effective than any elixir pills, being the purest life energy.

With the Pure Yang Qi's repair, Ye Fan's injuries recovered at a speed visible to the naked eye.

An hour later, Ye Fan's injuries were fully healed, and he was back to being full of vigor. After this injury, Ye Fan discovered some secrets about the Holy Embryo Realm.

After the Holy Embryo Realm, True Yuan seems to undergo a fundamental change, but since he had not yet stepped into that domain, it felt somewhat vague.

Seeing Ye Fan recover so quickly, Qingxuan's eyelids twitched wildly.

What kind of monster is this Ye Fan? How can his self-healing ability be so terrifying?

Unlike Qingxuan's shock, Tong Qianchen and the other two didn't think the same; Ye Fan's rapid recovery was naturally a good thing for them.

"Junior Brother Ye Fan, that Xuan Beast's strength is too strong. A Holy Embryo realm Xuan Beast exceeds our imagination, and it seems to guard the Dark Immortal Gold very closely, leaving us almost no chance to sneak in."

After Ye Fan recovered, Zhang Taiyi spoke to Ye Fan with a face full of worry: "Moreover, even if we can enter the cave, we may not be able to find the Dark Immortal Gold immediately. Once trapped inside, it's almost certainly a dead end."

"Senior Brother Zhang is right. I think if we want to get the Immortal Gold, we must unite with Qingxuan and his followers from those small sects, letting them join in the attack... maybe then there's hope, otherwise, there's almost no possibility."

Shen Tu glanced towards Qingxuan, suggesting to Ye Fan.

He made no attempt to hide his voice, so what he said could be heard by Qingxuan and his followers not far away.

Hearing his suggestion to join the attack on the Holy Embryo realm Xuan Beast, Qingxuan turned his head as if he hadn't heard.

Are you kidding? This is a Holy Embryo realm Xuan Beast. Not to mention whether joining would stall it for a moment, even if they could, the Dark Immortal Gold wouldn't be his.

Moreover, he could feel the Xuan Beast was very concerned about the Dark Immortal Gold. If Ye Fan really succeeded, the Xuan Beast would surely go berserk. In that case, with indiscriminate attacks, he'd be in trouble, along with those disciples from small sects.

This kind of thankless task, which might even bring disaster, Qingxuan absolutely wouldn't do.

Ye Fan thought for a moment, believing what Zhang Taiyi and Shen Tu said made sense. With just their group, snatching food from a tiger's mouth was virtually impossible.

He also knew that it was already fortunate that Qingxuan wasn't stabbing him in the back; hoping for him to help was almost completely futile.

Still, Ye Fan didn't want to give up. After all, the Dark Immortal Gold was one of the best materials for repairing the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown; missing this chance meant it wouldn't come again.

After thinking it over, Ye Fan decided to first find a hidden place to break through to the late-stage True Yuan Realm.

He was now at any time on the verge of breaking through the shackles into the late-stage True Yuan Realm, and a breakthrough wasn't difficult.

In his view, as long as he broke through to the late-stage True Yuan Realm, he could go head-to-head with that Xuan Beast!

After all, that Xuan Beast was only Holy Embryo Realm early-stage.

The Dark Immortal Gold, he must obtain it!

Chapter 1228: Chu Hong Leaves Seclusion

At the same time that Ye Fan and others failed in their attempt to snatch food from the tiger's mouth, Chu Hong was diligently condensing the Holy Embryo in a very secluded cave within the Tianyuan Secret Realm.

Since entering the Secret Realm, he hadn't stopped for a moment, immediately seeking out a secret cave to break through to the Holy Embryo Realm.

For him, the treasures within the Secret Realm were inconsequential; as long as he broke through to the Holy Embryo Realm, no one in the Secret Realm would be able to rival him!

At that time, he wouldn't even need to search for treasures, as everything obtained by others would be his, and anyone who dared not hand them over would be annihilated.

He always believed that strength was the most important, and only with unparalleled strength could one act without fear.

Condensing the Holy Embryo is a very slow process. It wasn't until he started condensing it that he realized that it was not as simple as breaking through to the True Essence Realm.

In the True Essence Realm, as long as one's strength reached the required level, breaking through was easy. But condensing the Holy Embryo is a slow process where True Yuan must be condensed into a creature to be considered a successful condensation.

But how easy is it to condense True Yuan into a creature?

Even Chu Hong, with his exceptional talent, spent a long time and only succeeded after numerous failures.

His ambitions were high; he disdained to condense an ordinary creature. If he was to condense, it would be into a super powerful creature to better exert strong attack power.

Ultimately, he succeeded in condensing a creature in the form of a fierce tiger. In his Dantian, all the True Yuan disappeared, revealing a small, awe-inspiring tiger, full of killing intent.

"Success!"

Upon successfully condensing, Chu Hong shouted loudly and threw a punch. The Punch Ray formed the shape of a tiger's claw, pulverizing a huge rock blocking the cave entrance into dust.

Pa!

Taking a step out, Chu Hong exuded a majestic aura, looking down on the world. His black hair fluttered behind him, and his sinister and cold face bore a contemptuous smile.

"Ye, your death is near, and as for the treasures in the Secret Realm, they're all mine. Dare to compete with me and you will face slaughter!"

Having successfully broken through to the early-stage of the Divine realm, Chu Hong was high-spirited. Not only did he want to kill Ye Fan, but he also intended to seize all the treasures in the Secret Realm.

With a quiver of his body, Chu Hong disappeared on the spot, and soon appeared in the distant sky, vanishing into the air as a small black dot.

...

Ye Fan was a very decisive person.

After making a decision, he left that cave and found a very secluded place with a cave only the size of a washbasin, covered with thick vines outside, and almost impossible to find unless one searched carefully.

Ye Fan took out the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown and placed it in the cave, then stepped directly into the Virtual Space within the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown to prepare for a breakthrough to the late-stage True Essence Realm.

Because there was a True Essence Sea within each of the 360 acupoints in his body, his Combat Power far exceeded that of other Cultivators in the same realm, but this also created an unavoidable problem: his realm advancement was very slow and required more Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi.

For every realm's advancement, Ye Fan needed 360 times the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi that a normal Cultivator required!

Ye Fan felt that as his strength increased, it would be difficult for him to stay in Xuanwu Sect for much longer—each of his promotions required Spirit Stones in astronomical numbers, something that Xuanwu Sect simply couldn't provide.

Upon entering the Virtual Space, Ye Fan began to break through to the late-stage True Essence Realm, with a large pile of Beast Cores and Spirit Stones beside him, and he also took out various Heavenly Materials and Earthly Treasures.

To clear the barrier, Ye Fan used nearly all his possessions, but fortunately, he had collected a good amount of Beast Cores and Heavenly Materials and Earthly Treasures along the way. Otherwise, he wouldn't have had enough.

While Ye Fan was putting all his effort into breaking through to the late-stage True Essence Realm, Tong Qianchen and the others had also moved to a safe area, which was still within the territory of that powerful Holy Embryo Realm Xuan Beast, so there was no need to worry about interference from other Xuan Beasts.

Moreover, the Xuan Beast seemed very wary of anyone stealing its Dark Immortal Gold, so it didn't stray far from its lair, and it hadn't attacked them either.

Tong Qianchen and Shen Tu, Zhang Taiyi, and others, along with Qingxuan and his subordinates, were all waiting in this area for the outcome. The Dark Immortal Gold was gripping the hearts of too many people.

"Do you think that Ye will break through to the late-stage True Essence Realm?"

As they all waited in silence, a disciple from a small sect suddenly posed this question, causing everyone to ponder deeply.

"I think he can probably do it. Since he dared to choose to break through at this time, he must have some level of confidence, otherwise, it would be a gamble."

Some believed Ye Fan could break through, a perspective that greatly displeased Qingxuan. Ye Fan was already so strong in the Mid True Essence Realm. Once he broke through to the late-stage, how powerful would he become?

At that moment, Qingxuan felt a sense of despair. He considered himself very talented, but didn't expect this generation to have so many geniuses. Never mind Chu Hong, he was already hailed as the number one genius of Tianyuan State years ago, envied for his high talent.

Ye Fan, whom they had never even heard of before, had risen swiftly within a single year, at a speed that left everyone unable to react.

If he hadn't known that Ye Fan was a disciple Tong Qianchen found in the Xuanshou Mountain Range, he might have suspected Ye Fan was the ace secretly cultivated by Xuanwu Sect, just like the young powerhouses hidden within the Di Clan and Holy Land.

These people were destined to compete on the Emperor Road. The Holy Land or Di Clan would not allow them to appear before the public eye until they had reached a strength level that could ensure their own safety.

Once he emerges, it signifies that he already has enough ability to protect himself and can roam the world to train. Even the older generation of powerful adversaries cannot easily annihilate him.

Moreover, with the powerful emblem of the Di Clan or the Holy Land backing him, ordinary people dare not act rashly. Otherwise, they would inevitably incur the frenzied pursuit by the massive forces behind this disciple, leaving no place for him to stand on the entire Tianxuan Continent.

"I think he may not be able to break through. After all, the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi necessary to break through a realm is vast, and it takes a long time. Unless he is already on the verge of breaking through, otherwise it is very difficult!"

Some believe that Ye Fan can break through, naturally, there are also those who think Ye Fan cannot break through and is just wasting time.

Tong Qianchen, Shen Tu, and Zhang Taiyi certainly wish to believe that Ye Fan can break through; however, what will happen after the breakthrough, they are not sure.

“Humph! Even if he manages to break through to the late-stage True Essence Realm by luck, so what? Don’t forget, he is about to face a Xuan Beast at the early-stage of the Divine realm, although it is just the early stage of the Divine realm, it’s still a Divine realm, with a difference of a Great Realm, he can’t defeat this Xuan Beast.”

“That’s right, even if that guy Ye breaks through, he’s only breaking through a small realm. If he could break through to the Holy Embryo Realm and successfully condense a Holy Embryo, then he could naturally kill that Xuan Beast. But now...”

Soon, someone among the crowd proposed the theory again that Ye Fan wouldn’t be able to defeat that Xuan Beast even if he broke through.

And there is reason in this, after all, that Xuan Beast is from the Holy Embryo Realm, whereas Ye Fan only broke through from the mid-stage to late-stage True Essence Realm, just a small realm. Even if his strength improved, it certainly wouldn’t be by much, so defeating a Xuan Beast of the Holy Embryo Realm is almost impossible.

Qingxuan liked this theory very much. He also felt that, though Ye Fan is powerful, it is impossible for him to defeat a Xuan Beast across stages from the Holy Embryo Realm.

Not only him, even Tong Qianchen and the others felt that it would be very difficult for Ye Fan to defeat this Xuan Beast. However, they still held immense confidence in Ye Fan.

The reason is simple, Ye Fan is a creator of miracles. On him, any miracle is possible, late-stage True Essence Realm might not be incapable of killing a Xuan Beast of the Holy Embryo Realm.

Of course, only they continued to maintain great confidence in Ye Fan, while disciples from other small sects completely agreed with this view.

If they weren't afraid of encountering other powerful Xuan Beasts if they left hastily, thus putting their lives in peril, they would have already left, as waiting here is meaningless.

Yet, because Qingxuan didn't leave, they naturally didn't dare to leave rashly. In this Secret Realm, strong people like Qingxuan who are willing to let them depend on are rare. Most are solitary, fearing they might delay their time and miss the opportunity to seize treasures.

Hmm?

Suddenly, everyone suddenly felt a powerful aura howling from afar at a breathtaking speed.

“Roar~”

This powerful aura was utterly unrestrained. The sharp killing intent caused many Xuan Beasts on the mountain to roar continuously, instantly shaking the entire mountain. All kinds of beast roars filled everyone's ears.

"Who is the incoming person? Why is his aura so strong?"

Including Qingxuan, Tong Qianchen, Zhang Taiyi, and Shen Tu, everyone was shocked in their hearts.

At this moment...

The powerful aura had already arrived nearby, soon appearing not far in front of everyone!

The person was none other than Chu Hong, who had successfully condensed a Holy Embryo and stepped into the Holy Embryo Realm.

At this time, Chu Hong exuded the powerful aura of the early-stage of the Holy Embryo Realm, dominating everything, looking down on the world, reaching an extreme arrogance.

Upon arriving in front of everyone, Chu Hong immediately saw Tong Qianchen and the other two among the crowd, and his eyes instantly showed intense killing intent.

Swish!

With a step, Chu Hong arrived one zhang in front of Tong Qianchen. For someone of the Holy Embryo Realm, killing a person at this distance was as easy as crushing an ant.

“Where is Ye Fan? Let him come out and die!”

Chu Hong glared down at Tong Qianchen and the others, speaking coldly. His voice was as chilling as thousand-year-old solid ice, causing hearts to freeze.

Chapter 1229: Unmatched

“I don’t know!”

Tong Qianchen and the other two were greatly astonished when they discovered Chu Hong’s breakthrough to the Holy Embryo Realm. Hearing Chu Hong’s question and sensing his intense killing intent, they all instinctively spoke up, indicating they do not know where Ye Fan is at the moment.

Although Ye Fan is nearby in closed-door training to break through the late-stage True Essence Realm, he did not inform them of his exact location.

Moreover... even if they knew Ye Fan’s closed-door training location, they would never tell Chu Hong.

“Is that so?”

A flash of murderous intent glinted in Chu Hong's eyes as his aura surged, preparing to force Ye Fan out. He couldn't believe Ye Fan would disregard Tong Qianchen and the others' safety.

At this moment, Qing Xuan's eyes turned, and he greeted Chu Hong with a smile, saying, "Brother Chu, don't trouble them. They really don't know, and as you know, no one can make someone come out before they finish their closed-door training."

"Qing Xuan, what do you mean by that?"

Although Chu Hong did not regard Qing Xuan highly, he couldn't ignore the Qingxuan Sect, and since Qing Xuan always had no conflicts of interest with him, he did not make things difficult for Qing Xuan.

"It's like this..."

Qing Xuan smiled obsequiously as he narrated the whole situation to Chu Hong, including how they discovered the Dark Immortal Gold, guarded by a Holy Embryo Realm Xuan Beast, and how Ye Fan, unable to defeat the Xuan Beast, chose to train to break through to the late-stage True Essence Realm.

"What... what did you say? There's Dark Immortal Gold here?!"

Upon hearing about the Dark Immortal Gold, Chu Hong immediately set aside his grudge against Ye Fan, looking at Qing Xuan with an expression of joy.

“That’s right, it’s the legendary immortal material indispensable for sacrificial refinement of Emperor Weapons, Dark Immortal Gold!”

Qing Xuan added, “This is the immortal material bestowed by the heavens for Brother Chu; others simply cannot obtain it. It’s left for Brother Chu. Brother Chu wouldn’t not want it, right?”

Isn’t this nonsense?

How many people wouldn’t want an immortal material that even a Great Emperor would covet?

Even a small amount, when mixed with other materials for sacrificial refinement, produces a Spiritual Artifact far stronger than ordinary ones.

“Good, good, indeed the heavens help me. I was just planning to have the Ancestor help me refine a Spiritual Artifact of the Holy Embryo Realm. With Dark Immortal Gold, it’s possible to sacrificially refine it to a Divine Power Realm Spiritual Artifact.”

Chu Hong’s eyes lit up, and he laughed heartily, his mood greatly uplifted at the thought of possessing a Spiritual Artifact refined with Dark Immortal Gold in the future.

Whoosh!

As the words fell, Chu Hong dashed directly towards the entrance of the cave where the Dark Immortal Gold was hidden, paying no heed to the Xuan Beast of the same realm guarding it.

“Roar...”

The Holy Embryo Realm Xuan Beast naturally sensed an intrusion, with an aura on par with its own, and immediately became enraged, charging out of the cave.

“Beast, seeking death!”

Chu Hong bellowed, throwing a punch that formed a holy-powered tiger claw, striking the Xuan Beast’s forehead and causing it to stagger.

“Roar~”

The Xuan Beast was enraged. It could sense Chu Hong’s cultivation rivaled its own, yet he was overpowering it, making it extraordinarily indignant.

At the same time, it was clear that if it lost the battle, the Dark Immortal Gold it had guarded for countless ages would be lost to it forever.

To protect the Dark Immortal Gold, the Xuan Beast decided to fight desperately!

“Roar~”

With a roar, the Xuan Beast transformed into lightning, charging fiercely at Chu Hong, hoping to inflict heavy damage with its sharp bone spurs.

Swish!

Simultaneously, its tail whipped fiercely at Chu Hong, displaying remarkable power.

Boom!

Chu Hong’s punch struck an empty spot, shattering the mountain’s rock into fragments, creating a large pit. Meanwhile, the Xuan Beast’s tail missed as well, snapping a few hundred-year-old towering trees at their waists, an awe-inspiring display.

“Hiss~”

Qing Xuan and the others watched in stunned amazement, inhaling sharply.

If such powerful attacks landed on them, they would instantly become a pile of minced flesh.

Bang bang bang...

A series of muffled sounds echoed as the battle between the man and the beast grew increasingly fierce. Gradually, Chu Hong showcased his strength, almost pressing the Xuan Beast into a one-sided fight.

The Xuan Beast's strong defense couldn't withstand Chu Hong's attacks, continuously losing scales and spilling blood.

"Roar..."

The Xuan Beast cried in agony.

At this moment, it was no longer furious but filled with fear and despair—the human before it was overwhelmingly powerful, leaving it with no strength to resist!

"Die, beast!"

After a prolonged fight without victory, Chu Hong lost his patience, shouted menacingly, and landed a brutal punch on the Xuan Beast's neck, breaking several bone spurs and causing it to scream in pain.

Then, Chu Hong resembled a reborn War God, his gaze icy and his attacks ruthless and merciless, each strike heavily wounding the Xuan Beast.

However, the Xuan Beast's vitality was exceptionally stubborn. Even off-balance, it continued to endure, making it not easy for Chu Hong to finish it off for the time being.

After a while, the Xuan Beast, repeatedly suffering heavy injuries, was at its end, unable to hold on much longer, and seemed on the brink of death.

Too powerful!

Everyone was completely stunned by Chu Hong's strength, their hearts deeply shaken.

When Ye Fan battled this Xuan Beast earlier, he was severely injured in just one strike, but Chu Hong managed to suppress the beast. The gap between the two was evident!

Amidst the shock, Tong Qianchen and the other two were very worried. They feared that once Chu Hong dealt with the Xuan Beast and obtained the Dark Immortal Gold, he might trouble Ye Fan. At that time, Ye Fan would be in grave danger.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Meanwhile, Chu Hong attacked again, landing three consecutive punches on the Xuan Beast's brow ridge, bursting one of its eyes.

Immediately afterwards, Chu Hong struck again, kicking the Xuan Beast's throat. The beast, which had been howling in pain, suddenly went silent with a series of choking sounds as its throat was shattered.

Although its entire body was covered with thick and hard scale armor, the throat was the weak spot, uncovered by the armor.

Chu Hong's strength was inherently superior to the beast's, and this kick extinguished its life force instantly. A small, dog-like blue shadow emerged from the Xuan Beast's body, preparing to escape when Chu Hong snorted coldly and with a mighty shout, shattered the blue shadow.

Thus, this powerful Holy Embryo Realm Xuan Beast was completely killed, and that blue, dog-like shadow was its Holy Embryo form.

The Holy Embryo can preserve a person's soul, and if it escapes, there's a chance for a takeover and rebirth. Unfortunately, it didn't even have that chance, as Chu Hong directly shattered the Holy Embryo.

Seeing this scene, Qingxuan and the small sect disciples beside him twitched their eyelids – Chu Hong was truly too fierce, not only defeating the Xuan Beast but giving it no chance of survival!

In an instant, everyone considered Chu Hong an extremely dangerous individual, never to be opposed, or death would be gruesomely certain.

After slaying the Xuan Beast, Chu Hong swaggered over, extracted the Beast Core, and leisurely walked into the cave.

A moment later, Chu Hong walked out, now holding a fist-sized piece of shimmering black metal, none other than Dark Immortal Gold!

“Dark... Dark Immortal Gold... so this is Dark Immortal Gold!”

“It’s so beautiful, like a fantasy.”

“The legendary Immortal Gold, something that even the Great Emperor would covet, truly a supreme treasure!”

Seeing Chu Hong come out with Dark Immortal Gold, everyone present was in an uproar. They had only heard of Dark Immortal Gold before, never seen what it truly looked like. Today, they finally witnessed it.

However, this piece of Dark Immortal Gold was in Chu Hong’s hands, and they had no ability to snatch it, only watching with extreme envy.

At the same time, their gazes towards Chu Hong were filled with fear and awe.

Chu Hong had successfully condensed a Holy Embryo at such a young age, reaching the Holy Embryo Realm. In Tianyuan State, this was unprecedented, even rivaling the heirs of great powers.

Qingxuan sighed silently.

He firmly believed that once the Qingxuan Sect Leader's plan succeeded, the Qingxuan Sect would surely rise. Although Chu Hong was powerful, he would eventually fall, though it was a pity for this piece of Immortal Material.

Dark Immortal Gold, unlike other precious Immortal Materials, cannot be reforged once refined into a Spiritual Artifact.

In other words, once Chu Hong refines this piece of Dark Immortal Gold into another Spiritual Artifact, it is wasted with no other use.

Perhaps the Great Emperor has a way to strip the Dark Immortal Gold from a Spiritual Artifact and restore it, but now, there's not even one Great Emperor left.

There has never been a period with two Great Emperors; a single Great Emperor symbolizes an era, a glorious history!

And in this era, there is no Great Emperor!

A new Great Emperor has yet to rise while the old ones have all disappeared, rumored to have perished!

Holding the Dark Immortal Gold, Chu Hong approached Tong Qianchen and the other two, coldly saying, "Tell me, where exactly is Ye Fan closed in seclusion?"

"Chu Hong, don't think that just because you've broken through to the Holy Embryo Realm, you can do whatever you want. This isn't a competition arena, not the Ancient Arena. If you dare to kill Ye Zi, our Xuanwu Sect will be at irreconcilable odds with your Chu Family!"

Noticing Chu Hong's determination to kill Ye Fan, Shen Tu stepped forward and angrily rebuked Chu Hong.

"Oh, really?"

With a cold laugh, Chu Hong suddenly, without warning, slapped Shen Tu.

"Slap—"

With a crisp sound, Shen Tu was sent flying by Chu Hong's slap.

"Chu Hong, you..."

Tong Qianchen and Zhang Taiyi were both shocked and then simultaneously attacked Chu Hong.

Whoosh!

With a casual shake of his hand, Chu Hong sent a True Yuan whistling out, forming a True Yuan wall to block in front of him.

Bang! Bang!

With two muffled sounds, the attacks of Tong Qianchen and Zhang Taiyi were all blocked by the True Yuan wall and dissipated into nothing.

“I warn you, do not anger me further. If you continue to overestimate yourselves, I won’t mind taking you down before going after that Ye scum!”

Effortlessly dispersing the attacks from Tong Qianchen and Zhang Taiyi, Chu Hong’s gaze was like a knife on the two of them, speaking murderously.

Chapter 1230: Cross-Realm Duel

Whoosh!

As the words fell, Chu Hong's figure flickered, stepping close to Shen Tu.

At this moment, Shen Tu was lying on the ground—the slap from earlier by Chu Hong was too heavy, leaving Shen Tu unable to recover for a long while.

“Heh!”

With everyone watching, Chu Hong let out a cold laugh, lifted his right foot, and stomped directly on Shen Tu's face.

Then, Chu Hong circulated his True Yuan underfoot, his face twisted as he shouted fiercely, “Ye bastard, I know you're in seclusion nearby. I'll count to three. If you don't show up by then, I'll have your brother Shen Tu's blood splatter five steps!”

“One!”

Chu Hong glanced around, hoping to find where Ye Fan was secluded, but he was disappointed. The scenery here was too similar, and he really couldn't determine where Ye Fan was.

“Don't even dream about it. Even if I die, you won't be able to kill Ye Zi!”

Being trampled under Chu Hong's foot, Shen Tu spoke with difficulty. He didn't care about his life or death but was instead worried that Ye Fan might be discovered by Chu Hong or forced to show himself.

"Hmph!"

Chu Hong snorted coldly, the weight on his foot increasing as he shouted again, "Two!"

Boom!

As Chu Hong said "two," a powerful aura burst forth not far ahead.

From the pit of stones nearby, Ye Fan stepped out of the virtual space, his whole body exuding a powerful aura.

He succeeded in breaking through!

He successfully broke through to the late-stage True Yuan Realm!

After entering the Tianyuan Secret Realm, he ventured into the Illusion Realm of the Ancient Battlefield, gaining deep martial insights. With ample Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi available, there were no bottlenecks.

Exiting the virtual space, Ye Fan immediately put away the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown, then looked in the direction where Chu Hong was, having guessed something in his heart.

“Heh, finally showed up!”

At the same time, sensing Ye Fan’s presence, Chu Hong sneered, a look of satisfaction flashing in his eyes. In his view, someone like Ye Fan, who values loyalty so much, has the greatest weakness.

If a person can’t become indifferent to family ties, they don’t deserve to become a strong person, because family will be your biggest bond. Just like now, he can use Ye Fan’s weakness to force him out.

Chu Hong could let anyone go, but he would never let Ye Fan go. He urgently needed Ye Fan’s blood to wash away the humiliation he once suffered.

Slap!

In an instant, Chu Hong retrieved his foot from Shen Tu’s face, stomped hard on the ground, and jumped up, turning into a stream of light rushing toward where Ye Fan was.

At this moment, he restrained his aura, as Ye Fan, sensing his aura of the Holy Embryo Realm, withdrew in shock.

If Ye Fan resolutely decided to escape, it would take more effort to kill him.

He was quite wary of Ye Fan's speed.

As for Shen Tu and Tong Qianchen, in his eyes, they were nothing more than clay chickens and pottery dogs, easily slaughtered at any time.

"Don't harm Brother Ye!"

Seeing Ye Fan reveal himself, Tong Qianchen immediately panicked, pausing and chasing after Chu Hong.

"Chu Hong, how dare you?"

Zhang Taiyi and Shen Tu also chased after Chu Hong, fully aware of his intentions. If Chu Hong found Ye Fan, Ye Fan would be in dire peril.

If Ye Fan was done for, their situation in the Secret Realm would become even more difficult, and they might follow in Ye Fan's footsteps!

"Ye Zi, this Chu brat has broken through to the Holy Embryo Realm. Run quickly!" Shen Tu flew and roared using the Lion Roar technique, filled with True Yuan.

Not only him, but also Tong Qianchen and Zhang Taiyi raised their voices in warning.

They had all witnessed Chu Hong's power moments ago, and even Xuan Beasts of the Holy Embryo Realm were no match for his overwhelming strength.

"Only now reminding, too late!" Qingxuan said gleefully.

In his view, Chu Hong was not only formidable in attack but also incredibly fast, leaving Ye Fan with no chance of escape.

"Exactly. That Ye bastard deserves to die long ago. Letting Chu Hong kill him is the best outcome!"

"If he doesn't die, it's simply against the heavens!"

The disciples from other small sects were also howling with excitement.

At first, they followed Qingxuan, unafraid even in the face of Tong Qianchen and Zhang Taiyi, and even mocked openly.

However, after Ye Fan and Shen Tu appeared, they tucked their tails between their legs, not daring to rob treasures nor speak out of turn, feeling utterly aggrieved. Now, seeing Chu Hong going to kill Ye Fan, how could they not be excited?

Especially the few small sect disciples forced by Shen Tu to slap themselves, feeling as if they were the ones going to kill Ye Fan, instead of Chu Hong.

“Ye bastard, you can’t escape!”

Chu Hong radiated the unique aura of a Holy Embryo Realm strongman, flying arrogantly above Ye Fan, saying coldly.

“Do I need to run?”

Ye Fan stood in place, coldly staring at the arrogant Chu Hong above, unafraid.

Regardless of the cultivation gap between him and Chu Hong, at least in terms of presence, he was not inferior to Chu Hong.

“Is this kid crazy?”

“Facing Chu Hong of the Holy Embryo Realm, he’s actually not running?”

“Did I hear him wrong?”

“Overestimating himself, just being hard-headed before death.”

Hearing Ye Fan’s firm rebuttal, the disciples from the Qingxuan camp, from small sects, discussed among themselves. Most believed Ye Fan was overestimating his abilities, merely seeking a temporary verbal win.

Only Qingxuan thought otherwise. Although he hadn’t spent much time with Ye Fan, he knew Ye Fan wasn’t a reckless fool.

Now that Ye Fan spoke so, he surely had some sort of reliance, though Qingxuan didn’t know what it was.

Or rather, what was Ye Fan’s confidence?

Tong Qianchen and the two, Zhang Taiyi and Shen Tu, were also extremely shocked by Ye Fan’s response. They knew Ye Fan was strong, but didn’t expect him to say something like that.

In their shock, the three flew to Ye Fan’s side, knowing that facing someone like Chu Hong from the Holy Embryo Realm, one more person meant one more strength. They were determined to fight alongside Ye Fan, even willing to die fighting together.

“Good, good, good, excellent! Since you’re not fleeing, come up here and face your death!!” Meanwhile, Chu Hong laughed in angry defiance.

“You don’t need to come over; didn’t he just break through to the Holy Embryo Realm? So what if it’s the Holy Embryo Realm? I can still slay him!”

Ignoring Chu Hong’s taunts, Ye Fan shouted loudly to stop Tong Qianchen and the others from rushing over, then moved his feet and soared into the air.

The sky was their battlefield; otherwise, fighting on the ground would cause incredibly terrifying effects, akin to the collapse of mountains and splitting of the earth.

“Kill!”

Seeing Ye Fan fly up, Chu Hong didn’t waste words and directly launched a punch at him. The hatred between him and Ye Fan was palpable, so killing was the best form of communication.

“Holy Embryo Realm—so what?!”

With a long cry, his voice echoed for miles. Ye Fan instantly showcased his newly enhanced power to the fullest, striking back with a punch as well.

Boom!

A loud explosion sounded as their punch rays collided in mid-air, energy sweeping in all directions—the trees below instantly turned to dust, and the ground exploded, forming a giant crater.

At the same time, the powerful recoil forced both of them to retreat a full ten yards.

Evenly matched!

It was their first encounter after entering the Tianyuan Secret Realm, and neither gained any advantage.

“Is this all you’ve got? Hand over your life!!”

Chu Hong sneered coldly and launched another attack. His Fierce Tiger Divine Embryo made him exceptionally powerful in attack; otherwise, he wouldn’t have been able to kill that Holy Embryo Realm Xuan Beast so quickly.

Ye Fan waited silently; in his view, a life-and-death battle didn’t require words—killing the opponent was enough, and there was no need to say more.

Swoosh!

Facing Chu Hong's powerful assault, Ye Fan didn't budge, showcasing his own formidable strength, unleashing the secret technique of the Thunderclap Treasure Skill with a punch. Thunder power exploded, akin to heavenly punishment descending, as purple punch rays pierced the void.

Boom!

In the next moment, another huge sound was heard as their bodies flew back once again, still evenly matched.

Swoosh!

Bam!

Immediately, neither paused as they charged towards each other again, engaging in fierce combat.

For a moment, shadows flickered across the sky, energy swept everywhere, and their battle was deadlocked, neither able to prevail over the other—they were astonishingly evenly matched in attack power.

"This...how is this possible?!"

Witnessing this scene, both the disciples from Qingxuan and the small sects, as well as Tong Qianchen and the others, were all stupefied.

They knew Ye Fan was strong; overcoming challenges beyond his level was routine. But they didn't expect Ye Fan to boost his combat power so drastically by merely breaking through one Xiao realm, standing toe-to-toe with early-stage Divine realm Chu Hong!

"So strong, no wonder he was confident in slaying the Holy Embryo Realm Xuan Beast after breaking through to late-stage True Essence Realm—he truly could do it!"

"He's only at late-stage True Essence Realm, yet his combat power is this strong—it's truly unbelievable!"

The disciples from small sects, who originally thought Ye Fan couldn't defeat the Xuan Beast guarding the cave even after breaking through, were utterly shocked.

Qingxuan was even more shocked; he most hoped for Ye Fan's death.

Ye Fan's performance made him uneasy, not only possessing great strength but also intelligence, posing a significant threat to his carefully laid 'Three Tigers Fight' strategy.

As for Chu Hong, he didn't take him seriously.

In his mind, though Chu Hong had exceptional cultivation talent, he wasn't very clever and was overly arrogant.

Such a person was not worth fearing!

On the other hand, the Chu Family was strong, but still fell short compared to the Three Great Sects.

Once the three sides started fighting, after exhausting themselves, one side would inevitably fall.

Then, whether the remaining two continued fighting or not, Qing Xuan Sect's foundation would be enough to handle them. By then, Qing Xuan Sect would dominate the entire Tianyuan State.

Tong Qianchen was dazzled, her eyes glowing with admiration. She hadn't imagined Ye Fan could truly stand neck-and-neck with Holy Embryo Realm Chu Hong at just late-stage True Essence Realm.

"Ye Zi is mighty, beat that Xuan Beast!"

Seeing Ye Fan and Chu Hong at a stalemate, Shen Tu was undoubtedly the most excited.

He had been humiliated by Chu Hong before, and seeing Ye Fan tie with Chu Hong at late-stage True Essence Realm now made him holler with excitement.

Bam bam bam bam bam bam...

The muffled sounds echoed across the sky as they exchanged over a hundred moves, yet Chu Hong gained no advantage.

Even though Ye Fan was merely at True Essence Realm, it seemed his True Yuan was endless; coupled with thunder power, his combat prowess was not inferior to Chu Hong.

This angered Chu Hong greatly but also astonished him.

Swoosh!

Just then, Ye Fan precisely grasped Chu Hong's mental fluctuation, abruptly changing tactics, unleashing eight punches in succession, each punch sharper than the last, as purple punch rays pierced the void.

"Ah..."

Chu Hong yelled out, also sending out eight punches to counter Ye Fan's fierce attack, ready to counterattack when Ye Fan was already by his side.

Close combat!

After a hundred moves, Ye Fan finally seized the opportunity for close combat, initiating a close-quarters battle!

“Die!!”

Ye Fan shouted, launching the close combat that had previously brought Chu Hong to ruin, combining his True Yuan with his physical strength, activating the Thunderclap Treasure Skill, punching towards Chu Hong’s head!