

Y Master 1341

Chapter 1341: Mysterious Strong Person Lends Aid

The punch Lou Changhe threw before contained a special imprint that can track breaths.

While tracking, Lou Changhe also felt waves of heart-pounding fear.

He never expected that Ye Fan, in a desperate situation, could unleash such terrifying combat power.

Moreover, he could feel that Ye Fan's power was highly unusual, containing four completely different forces, nearly tricking him into injury moments ago.

If he were wounded by Ye Fan, it would be a humiliation for him—how ridiculous it would be for a mighty Divine Power Realm strongman to be injured by a little cultivator from the True Essence Realm.

Ye Fan, of course, was unaware that Lou Changhe had left an imprint on him; he was currently fleeing for his life.

However, Ye Fan wisely chose not to fly but instead moved quickly through the dense forest.

Aerial targets are too obvious, with no barriers within a thousand miles. Once Lou Changhe reacts, he can lock onto him directly.

“You brat, slow down; he’s not chasing you! What’s the rush?”

The Bai Yan wolf was panting behind, constantly complaining that Ye Fan was running too fast, yet it wasn’t much slower than Ye Fan.

In terms of speed, the Bai Yan wolf, living in the jungle, was faster than Ye Fan, but in terms of endurance, it fell short.

“Bai Yan wolf, stop following me; if we get caught, neither of us will survive!”

Ye Fan was thoroughly annoyed by the troublesome Bai Yan wolf, but he couldn’t shake it off; it was just as fast as him.

“Do you think I want this? You still owe me a bowl of fresh blood, and I won’t stop until I get it!”

The Bai Yan wolf was panting and arguing with Ye Fan, looking quite spirited—they could run another three thousand miles without issue!

“You still want my blood?”

Just thinking about it made Ye Fan furious; that dastardly wolf almost got him killed yet wouldn't let go of the matter.

After stealthily moving through the forest for countless miles, Ye Fan's view suddenly widened, revealing a mountainside.

This mountain was entirely different from others, which were lush and dense with primitive jungles. This one was barren, with only some withered wild grass and a few large trees that have been dead for who knows how many years.

The trees had nothing but branches, not a single leaf left.

"This place feels eerie!"

Bai Yan wolf noticed the peculiar low mountain, its eyes flickering with an unusual light as it quietly told Ye Fan, "I don't think this is a good place; let's go around!"

Just as Ye Fan was about to agree, faint chanting reached his ears. The scriptures were extremely profound, each word embodying the principles of the Heavenly Dao, indicating a hermit master was dwelling here.

Following the chanting sound, Ye Fan vaguely saw a cluster of ruined buildings on the summit, likely a monastery or temple-like structure.

As an Earth person, it was normal for Ye Fan to think this way; many famous mountains have ancient temples, and some with scant incense gradually deteriorate, resembling the buildings before him.

Hermit masters like this are typically very rare to meet, and naturally, Ye Fan wanted to see one. After only hesitating a moment, he started heading towards the summit.

By this point, the Bai Yan wolf stopped saying the place wasn't good, obediently following Ye Fan towards the ruined buildings, as it too heard the profound scriptures.

"Little beast, where are you running off to?"

Just then, Lou Changhe arrived via flight, closing in on Ye Fan thanks to the imprint and tracking nearly in a straight line—his speed was naturally fast.

Moreover, he didn't need to walk on the ground, flying directly to cover less ground. Upon catching up to Ye Fan here, he loudly shouted and formed a large flaming hand aimed at Ye Fan!

"Like an unyielding specter!"

Ye Fan's heart tightened, boosting his speed to the limit, narrowly evading Lou Changhe's fiery palm without retaliating.

Firstly, although he had understood the entry of Thunderclap Treasure Skill, his realm was far too low—nowhere near a match for Lou Changhe.

More importantly, he had been fleeing without even the time to operate and heal his injuries; although the split tiger mouth healed during the escape, the internal injuries were severe; not a good time to fight.

Boom!

The flaming palm hit the ground, creating a massive pit; the soil melted into lava, flowing like a volcanic eruption.

Swoosh!

After narrowly dodging Lou Changhe's attack, Ye Fan didn't dare to linger, immediately continuing his escape.

The Bai Yan wolf had already fled for the hills; though its combat prowess was lacking, its escape skills were top-notch, aided by the fact Lou Changhe wasn't targeting it—it had no issues.

"Trying to run? If I let you escape again this time, then I, Lou Changhe, will be your grandson!"

Lou Changhe spoke in haste. By the time he realized what he had said, it was already too late. How could Ye Fan pass up such a chance to provoke him? He immediately responded, "Spare me. I don't have grandsons who bully the weak or betray their masters and ancestors!"

"Ahhhhh... I'm so furious!"

Lou Changhe was so angry that smoke appeared from his seven orifices. He lost control of his Divine Skill for a moment, causing his hair to catch fire with a whoosh. In a panic, he quickly put out the fire on his hair and simultaneously swung a vicious hand blade at Ye Fan's back!

How could the hand blade, launched in anger by a strong person at the Divine Power Realm, be easy to withstand?

The edge of the blade resembled a heavenly blade made of flames. The fire element in the air ignited instantly, seemingly capable of cutting through any obstruction.

"Elder Xuan, help!"

Ye Fan knew he couldn't possibly dodge this incredibly sharp blade. At this critical moment, he could only call for help from Elder Xuan; otherwise, he was doomed to die.

However, just at that moment, a mysterious force pushed him more than three zhang away, precisely avoiding Lou Changhe's deadly hand blade, giving him a brush with death and a second chance at life.

“Thank you, senior, for your righteous help!”

Ye Fan silently glanced at the dilapidated building. He was aware that the mysterious force had definitely come from a hidden expert residing in the building. Without that help, he absolutely couldn't have dodged on his own.

But this was not the time to call out the truth. Without looking back, he continued to dash forward, trying to escape Lou Changhe's pursuit!

“Hmm?”

Lou Changhe was stunned. He couldn't believe that Ye Fan had managed to dodge his deadly strike as if he had eyes on his back.

However, he didn't think too much about it. Since his strike failed once, he could just attack again. He didn't believe Ye Fan could dodge again!

At that moment, Lou Changhe finally revealed his Spiritual Artifact, which should actually be called a Divine Weapon. Once one reaches the Divine Power Realm, all such Spiritual Artifacts can be called Divine Artifacts or Divine Weapons.

Lou Changhe's Divine Weapon was a Flame Divine Banner, usually nurtured in the Dantian. Once summoned, it unfurled in the wind, instantly transforming into a large banner.

His Flame Divine Banner was incredibly powerful. With a gentle shake, it could release a sea of flames with extremely high temperatures. Ordinary cultivators couldn't withstand the scorching heat and would turn to ashes in an instant.

"Kid, die!"

Holding the Flame Divine Banner, Lou Changhe sneered, "Forcing me to use this Flame Divine Banner, even in death, you should be proud!"

With that, Lou Changhe lightly shook the Divine Banner in his hand, pointing it at Ye Fan. Instantly, a flame surged toward Ye Fan. The temperature was so high that even the void trembled.

Luckily, there weren't many flammable objects on this mountain; otherwise, the whole mountain would surely have turned into a sea of fire.

Even so, the flames passing by caused the stones to collapse, showing how terrifying the temperature of these flames was.

The Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi in the Southern Domain is abundant with fire elements. Many cultivators in the Southern Domain, when at the Peak of the Holy Embryo Realm, choose to comprehend the fire element, a decision driven by their environment.

Elder Wang Qingshan of the Xuanwu Sect followed the same path, also comprehending the fire element when he broke through to the Divine Power Realm.

When the pillar of flames from the Flame Divine Banner was about to reach Ye Fan's back, he suddenly felt a massive suction force pulling him seven or eight meters to the left, once again evading Lou Changhe's attack.

"Ah... I refuse to believe this!"

This time, Lou Changhe was utterly embarrassed. He roared in fury as the Flame Divine Banner shook continuously, unleashing waves of fire toward Ye Fan.

However, Ye Fan's body felt as if it wasn't his own. At that moment, his speed became incredibly fast, narrowly dodging the flames each time, never getting burned.

At this point, Ye Fan completely understood. It had to be the mysterious expert in the dilapidated building who was deliberately helping him. Otherwise, there was no way he could avoid Lou Changhe's attacks on his own.

While Ye Fan was unharmed, the Bai Yan wolf suffered collateral damage. It was brushed by Lou Changhe's flames several times, howling in pain as its snow-white fur was almost completely burned off, making it look like a mangy dog, wretched and pathetic.

"Ouch, you old bastard, I won't let this go, you almost burned me to death!"

"Old bastard, you..."

The Bai Yan wolf cursed Lou Changhe while howling in pain, nearly prompting Lou Changhe to target it as his main opponent.

Even when attacking Ye Fan, he also punished it along the way, causing the Bai Yan wolf to leap about in agony, howling endlessly.

But the Bai Yan wolf was like a duck, with a bad attitude but refusing to surrender. Even in such a miserable state from the burns, it wouldn't concede defeat. The more fiercely it was burned, the more joyfully it cursed, throwing all sorts of vile language at Lou Changhe, leaving him utterly dumbfounded.

Just then, a stern and ancient voice suddenly resonated from the dilapidated building: "Cease this racket and fighting, begone!"

Chapter 1342: Celebrities of the Southern Domain

The elderly voice was like a booming bell, shaking the soul, even Lou Changhe felt a tremendous shock in his heart, faintly showing signs of unstable consciousness.

Swish!

This discovery made Lou Changhe's face change, he hurriedly stopped, suspiciously looking towards the dilapidated buildings.

“Six thousand miles west from here, there is a Thunder God Ridge, where divine power cannot be used. If you want to escape, go to Thunder God Ridge to take shelter temporarily. That’s all I can help you with!”

Simultaneously, such a sentence suddenly drilled into Ye Fan’s ears, followed by a feeling as if his body was submerged in warm water, indescribably comfortable, and his internal injuries instantly healed.

“This person’s cultivation is terrifying, probably reaching the Venerable Realm. Boy, follow what he said and flee!”

Elder Xuan estimated the cultivation of this mysterious elder who had never shown himself highly, believing that if that person made a move, even he wouldn’t be able to withstand it, even if he activated the Emperor Weapon it wouldn’t be useful.

“Thank you, senior, for your righteous assistance!”

Ye Fan secretly expressed his gratitude in his heart to the mysterious elder in the building, then he discerned the direction, leapt up, and flew westward. He must quickly travel to Thunder God Ridge.

“Little bastard, you can’t escape!”

Seeing Ye Fan escape under his nose, Lou Changhe was furious, he shouted and was about to chase.

However—

To his shock, he found himself suddenly restrained by someone, unable to move even a little finger from head to toe, let alone chase Ye Fan, he could only watch Ye Fan disappear from his sight again.

What shocked him even more was discovering that the mark he left on Ye Fan disappeared, he was no longer able to accurately track Ye Fan's whereabouts, which made him even more astonished.

Just what realm of a strongman is this elder hiding in the dilapidated building?

Being able to restrain him without him noticing, perhaps even an ancestor couldn't manage that?

Thinking of this, Lou Changhe's anger instantly disappeared, leaving only fear!

Although he didn't know why this person helped Ye Fan escape, considering his profound and unfathomable cultivation, he absolutely couldn't offend him.

Otherwise, if he provoked this mysterious strongman, perhaps he wouldn't even know how he died. He never knew such a Supreme Strongman was hidden in the Southern Domain.

Only when Ye Fan completely distanced himself, making it impossible to track him by aura, Lou Changhe's restraint disappeared.

As soon as he could move, Lou Changhe jumped up and directly approached the dilapidated building, questioned the elder inside in fury: "Senior, why did you stop me from killing that boy? He killed two of our family's most promising descendants and is a must-kill for our Lou family!"

"There's an unwritten rule in the Xuan Realm that the younger generation competes for supremacy, the elder generation must not interfere or seek revenge. Have you forgotten?"

The cold old voice from the dilapidated building said: "Moreover, this is a place of my secluded cultivation. No killing fights are tolerated here. You commit such an exterminating act, how could I stand idly by? If you don't leave now, I'll abolish your cultivation!"

"Sss..."

Lou Changhe drew a cold breath, this elder's tone was too bold, not caring about the Lou family at all. In the entire Qing Province, there aren't many who dare do that.

At this moment, Lou Changhe truly felt timid, he was smart, knowing he's absolutely no match for the mysterious elder. In case the opponent was from some Wu Shang Sect, or a Supreme Elder of one of the Holy Lands, even the Di Clan's Supreme Elder, he could destroy him as easily as playing, and even the Qing Family wouldn't dare utter a word.

Moreover, Lou Manyue was already dead, whether the Qing Family would still accept this marriage was questionable, let alone hoping they'd stand up for him and offend such a terrifying enemy.

Lou Changhe thought, even if the Qing Family Ancestor arrived personally, he might not be a match for the mysterious elder in the dilapidated building. Of course, this was just his speculation.

While speculating, he was also relieved that the elder in the building didn't strike him, otherwise he would be dead for sure.

Lou Changhe left, feeling oppressed.

Upon leaving the dilapidated building, Lou Changhe immediately began flying, pursuing the direction where Ye Fan disappeared.

As a resident of Qing Province, Lou Changhe was quite familiar with Qing Province's geography, knowing that continuing west from here led to the legendary Divine Power Forbidden Land, Thunder God Ridge.

Ye Fan must be fleeing towards Thunder God Ridge.

"Even if you escape to the ends of the earth, I will surely kill you!"

Lou Changhe said through gritted teeth, never before had he felt this oppressed, merely chasing after a little cultivator in the True Essence Realm, yet still unable to kill him.

He firmly believed that if Ye Fan escaped to Thunder God Ridge, even without using Divine Skills and Divine Power, just by physical strength alone, he could kill Ye Fan.

Just as Lou Changhe vanished into the horizon, a shabby old man silently emerged from the dilapidated building, looked deeply towards the west, and vanished like a ghost.

...

As Ye Fan and Lou Changhe headed towards Thunder God Ridge one after the other, Qing Family's ancestral land.

"He once appeared near Luori City?"

In Qing Family's ancestral land, Qing Zi confirmed once again with the servant who came to report, then grinned fiercely: "Ye Fan, if I don't kill you, I'm not human!"

"Qing'er, you've just undergone tribulation, stabilize your cultivation first before going. Lou Family's Bright Moon is already dead, it's not worth risking yourself for their Lou family. Someone will surely pursue that Ye-named boy, he won't live much longer!"

The Qing Family Ancestor's face was equally unpleasant. Ye Fan, relying on the Heavenly Tribulation around him, had chased him and numerous strongmen of their Qing Family in utter disgrace, truly a grave humiliation.

However, the Qing Family Ancestor was very restrained, despite such grave humiliation, he remained composed and wasn't blinded by anger.

"Ancestor, you don't understand. If it were only Lou Manyue, I could let others handle it. The key is, he chased me relying on the Heavenly Tribulation, making me flee everywhere, losing all face—this vengeance must be avenged!"

"This..."

Hearing Qing Zi say this, the Qing Family Ancestor couldn't say much more. With such deep hatred, Qing Zi must personally kill Ye Fan, no one else could do it.

"You can go, but not now. Stay home and stabilize your strength. Go three days later, rest assured, that boy won't be easily killed."

The Qing Family Ancestor seemed quite familiar with Ye Fan, he placated Qing Zi, then announced that delivering Ye Fan's accurate information would earn five thousand jin of top-grade spirit stone, capturing him alive would earn twenty thousand jin!

The bounty increased again, causing a sensation in the entire Southern Domain, everyone was discussing this, many cultivators were very tempted.

"If only I knew the news about that Ye-named boy, five thousand jin of top-grade spirit stone! It's enough for me to break into the Peak of Holy Embryo Realm!"

“Latest news, it is said Ye Fan appeared deep in the mountains south of Luori City, killed dozens of cultivators who tried to surround him, the strongest among them had reached late-stage Holy Embryo Realm.”

“Really? Is he really that powerful? Didn’t they say he only had True Essence Realm cultivation? How could he possibly cross a Great Realm and kill a late-stage strongman of Holy Embryo Realm?”

For a time, all taverns and tea houses in the cities across the Southern Domain were discussing this topic, Ye Fan had thoroughly become a celebrity in the Southern Domain.

After the Mist Sea expedition, Ye Fan became the biggest winner, even the Saint Heir from the two great sacred places and Qing Zi were like Crown Princes reading books, getting nothing in return.

Not only that, Qing Zi was chased by Ye Fan relying on the Heavenly Tribulation, having no way out, ultimately even invoked his own Heavenly Tribulation, nearly getting struck dead.

Finally, Ye Fan even consecutively used the Heavenly Tribulation to kill several strong people from the Qing Family and Lou Family, and under the eyes of two ancestors, he calmly escaped, shocking everyone.

His achievements spread quickly throughout the Southern Domain via some intentional people, soon everyone knew a person like him had suddenly risen.

Naturally, his story also reached the Xuanwu Sect in Tianyuan State, it was Yaling who brought the news back.

At the same time, the Xuanwu Sect seamlessly became an affiliated force of the Treasure Pavilion, avoiding revenge from major forces in Qing Province.

Ye Fan was unaware of all this.

Ye Fan flew all the way, directly heading towards Thunder God Ridge guided by the mysterious elder, as now only there could assure his safety.

By noon, Ye Fan faintly saw a towering and distinctive mountain range.

Other mountain ranges were lush green, except this one was barren, even the stones were purple, reflecting bright purple light under the sunlight, looking like purple jade.

“That should be Thunder God Ridge, right?”

Looking at that Purple Mountain, Ye Fan’s heart stirred.

Chapter 1343: Battle at Thunder God Ridge

Thunder God Ridge is also known as Purple Mountain!

The unique geographical environment makes it an excellent refuge for cultivators.

Unless you're a Great Emperor, anyone who acts here will provoke terrifying heavenly punishment lightning tribulations, reducing the one who acted to ashes.

Thunder God Ridge has existed since ancient times with a very mysterious origin, and no one knows how it came to be.

There are many versions of legends about Thunder God Ridge, and some ancient books also speculate about its origins, but most of them are vague and conjectural, without any basis.

Some say that Thunder God Ridge is the resting place of the Thunder God, but the Thunder God has not completely died, so once any cultivator acts here, it will surely attract heavenly punishment lightning tribulations.

The divine souls of those cultivators struck dead by heavenly punishment will nourish the residual soul of the Thunder God. One day, the Thunder God will reappear in the human world!

Others speculate that Thunder God Ridge was once a forbidden land for life, much like the depths of the Xuan Beast Forest, but over the past ten thousand years, its power gradually weakened, forming what is now Thunder God Ridge.

The most outrageous speculation is that Thunder God Ridge is related to immortals and is the relic left behind after the last immortal of the Xuan Realm underwent the immortal tribulation here.

In short, there are all sorts of theories, but it is an indisputable fact that at Thunder God Ridge, no force other than physical strength can be used.

“Keep chasing. Let’s see how I’ll deal with you when we reach Thunder God Ridge!”

By a small stream not far from Thunder God Ridge, Ye Fan secretly harbored resentment, not daring to be careless in the slightest.

During this time, he was chased by Lou Changhe like a homeless dog; the other party seemed capable of accurately tracking his whereabouts.

Ye Fan had employed no less than ten methods to evade pursuit, but none had worked. If he hadn’t started earlier than his opponent, he would have already been caught.

Seeing that Thunder God Ridge was in sight, Ye Fan finally felt at ease; once within Thunder God Ridge’s range, he was confident that, with his physical strength, he could defeat Lou Changhe of the Divine Power Realm.

Beside him, the Bai Yan wolf kept rolling its eyes.

Ye Fan's speed wasn't particularly fast, but his endurance left it dumbfounded.

Although they had been flying for such a long time, Ye Fan still looked as vigorous as ever, while it was so exhausted that its tongue was lolling out.

After steeling his resolve, Ye Fan continued onwards to Thunder God Ridge. Although he was close now, he didn't want any unforeseen events; being caught here would still be very dangerous.

As soon as he reached the foot of Thunder God Ridge, Ye Fan sensed an overwhelming thunderbolt aura. It seemed the mysterious elder was right—this was indeed the legendary Thunder God Ridge.

The stones at the foot of Thunder God Ridge were a dark purple, akin to purple jade that had lost its spiritual essence.

Ye Fan tried scratching it with his finger, only to find that these purple stones were tougher than refined gold, harder than most metals!

For ordinary loose cultivators without materials to refine spiritual artifacts, these stones were excellent artifact refining materials.

Here, one could not rely on True Yuan. Even Ye Fan had to ascend the mountain on foot, as flying would likely provoke a heavenly punishment lightning tribulation, which was no joking matter.

Having already undergone tribulation once, Ye Fan was well aware of the terror of heavenly tribulations. Even with the terrifying recovery capabilities of his Nine Heavens Profound Body and Pure Yang Qi, he found it hard to handle, and he certainly didn't want to experience it a second time.

Soon, Ye Fan reached the halfway point of Thunder God Ridge and discovered it wasn't desolate. In such concentrated thunderbolt aura, there were actually living creatures.

They were creatures similar to centipedes but much larger, up to a meter long, with bodies in a purple-gold hue. If they stayed still, they were virtually invisible, blending perfectly with the surroundings.

Thunder God Ridge hadn't seen visitors for countless years, so the sudden arrival of a person and a wolf startled the purple-gold centipedes into scurrying about.

Hmm?

Ye Fan was surprised to find that wherever the centipedes crawled, the stones tougher than refined gold were sliced into small chunks, a testament to the sharpness of their claws.

"Ye brat, do you think hiding in Thunder God Ridge means I won't dare to come up and kill you? You're wrong. Even without using divine power, I can kill you like slaughtering a dog!"

At this moment, an enraged Lou Changhe pursued him, and upon seeing Ye Fan slowly walking on the mountainside, he was seething with anger.

During this time, he had chased tirelessly, and Ye Fan seemed to know well how to countertrace, almost shaking him off several times.

Now that they reached Thunder God Ridge, Ye Fan's greatest reliance was likely the inability to use divine power here. He couldn't use divine skills and divine power to annihilate Ye Fan.

However, he was not afraid in the least; after reaching the Divine Power Realm, a cultivator's body undergoes a rebirth-like transformation thanks to divine power refinement. His body was equally powerful, confident he could easily kill Ye Fan without using divine power.

Swoosh!

At the foot of Thunder God Ridge, Lou Changhe unfolded his movement technique, chasing Ye Fan like a wisp of smoke, his speed still very fast even without using divine power.

"Old fool, come up and die!"

Seeing Lou Changhe ascend Thunder God Ridge, Ye Fan smirked with a trace of cruelty, which made Bai Yan wolf shudder inexplicably.

Others might not know how strong Ye Fan's body was, but it knew very well that even heavenly punishment lightning tribulations couldn't harm his body, an unlikely occurrence in the True Essence Realm.

In its memory, only Thunder Venerables and Great Emperors could perhaps withstand heavenly tribulations unscathed.

Of course, in previous great eras, there were many demons or geniuses who didn't fear the power of heavenly punishment lightning tribulations, undergoing tribulations as easily as eating or drinking.

"You little beast, you're courting death!"

Lou Changhe was furious; after all these years, no one dared to challenge his dignity like this.

As a core member of the Lou Family, a strong person in the Divine Power Realm, Lou Changhe commanded respect wherever he went. Even the Holy Land had to take him seriously, so when had he ever borne such humiliation?

Whoosh!

In the blink of an eye, Lou Changhe was close to Ye Fan, launching a punch with howling winds, like a dragon's roar, impressively powerful.

How could a strong person in the Divine Power Realm be easy to deal with?

Even without using divine power, his attacks were still extremely fierce.

“Old bastard, this time next year will be your death anniversary!”

Ye Fan remained fearless, throwing a punch to meet him, the punch surprisingly carrying traces of thunder power.

Crack!

With the fierce force combined with the encircling thunder power, Ye Fan’s punch shattered Lei Changhe’s fist, the sound of bones breaking resonating.

“Ah...”

Lou Changhe could never have imagined in his wildest dreams that Ye Fan’s body was so terrifying, even stronger than his own body tempered by divine power.

“This... this is impossible!”

Lou Changhe’s face was filled with shock, originally thinking he could easily kill Ye Fan, only to be the one injured in the end.

“Old bastard, I’ll send you on your way!”

Ye Fan’s face remained unchanged, without joy or sorrow, once again throwing a punch at Lei Changhe, attracting the thunder power from the heavens to condense on his fist.

This punch was even more powerful than the last!

“You little brat...”

Lou Changhe cursed, his eyes shining brightly, his injured right hand instantly recovering, once again meeting the punch.

Earlier, he hadn’t used his full strength, thinking Ye Fan was merely a True Essence Realm ant, even if his body was strong it would absolutely not be a match for him.

However, due to a moment of carelessness, he was injured by Ye Fan, which was an extreme humiliation for him!

This time, he no longer held back, going all out, throwing a punch, wind and clouds changing, even without using divine power, the power was still astonishing.

Boom!

The two sides exchanged powerful punches again, neither gaining an advantage, although Ye Fan could command some thunder power, Lou Changhe's physical strength at the Divine Power Realm was equally terrifying!

"Kid, keep going, I'm rooting for you!"

Bai Yan wolf leisurely watched from the side, without any intention of helping!

Whoosh!

Whoosh!

Whoosh!

Ignoring Bai Yan wolf's spectating, Ye Fan's war intent surged, every punch he threw was extraordinarily fierce, even if unable to use True Yuan, his attacks were still sharp!

Xuansha Fist, Yanhuang Fist, Domineering Fist, the three fist techniques were unleashed in turns, making Lou Changhe extremely stifled, almost only able to defend, without any chance to counterattack.

After reaching the Divine Power Realm, Lou Changhe had long abandoned his previous martial arts, comprehending and mastering an elemental power, martial arts were no longer as important.

However—

It was only at this moment he understood, though Divine Skills were powerful, in this specific environment, martial arts were equally important, but by the time he realized it was too late, facing Ye Fan's endless martial arts and fist techniques, a sense of powerlessness surged in his heart.

Under Ye Fan's storm-like attacks, Lou Changhe retreated step by step, inching towards the mountaintop, getting closer to the central area of Thunder God Ridge.

Bam!

Ye Fan struck Lou Changhe's shoulder with a punch, causing him to stagger and nearly fall to the ground.

"Ah ah ah..."

Lou Changhe cried out in frustration to the sky, how many years had it been since he felt so stifled—continuously being suppressed!

And Ye Fan was merely a True Essence Realm cultivator!

This made him mad with rage!

“You forced me to do this! I might as well go down with you!”

The successive blows drove Lou Changhe into a furious rage, he decided to risk using divine power, facing the risk of a forced tribulation to kill Ye Fan, to avenge Lou Manyue’s siblings, and to restore the clan’s honor!

Whoosh!

In an instant, Lou Changhe’s aura surged, as if a god or demon, fully displaying the prowess of a strong person at the Divine Power Realm, his right hand grasping a blood-red large banner appearing in his hand, directly stabbing toward Ye Fan!

Flames spread within a moment to a radius of five hundred meters, nearly turning the place where Ye Fan stood into a sea of fire!

“Old bastard...”

Ye Fan cursed, having no choice but to use True Yuan, his body flickered ghostly, dodging Lou Changhe’s attack.

“Boom~~”

At the next moment, a riot broke out above Thunder God Ridge, with no warning, bolts of thunder descended from the clear sky, enveloping both Ye Fan and Lou Changhe together.

Chapter 1344: The Fall of Lou Changhe

Thunder God Ridge strictly prohibits the use of any power besides Physical Strength, which is a well-known fact throughout the Southern Domain. Once used, it will surely attract the Heavenly Punishment Thunder Tribulation.

If not absolutely necessary, Lou Changhe would never risk using Divine Power to attract the danger of Heavenly Tribulation.

But if he doesn't use Divine Power, he will likely fall—he is no match for Ye Fan in a physical fight!

To save his life, and even more so to kill Ye Fan, he had to take the risk!

Sure enough, the moment he just used his Divine Skills, the Heavenly Tribulation descended, a lightning bolt as thick as a barrel struck him fiercely, almost instantly ending his life.

And Ye Fan wasn't much better off, struck by the same Heavenly Punishment, his hair stood on end, his entire body crackling with electricity, and his clothes turned to ash in an instant, leaving him completely exposed.

"I #%% ¥ &..."

The Bai Yan wolf, watching the spectacle from a distance, was suddenly enveloped by the Heavenly Punishment and was struck so that its white fur stood up, cursing endlessly.

What the hell did I do to deserve this? Why am I always getting caught in the crossfire?"

The Bai Yan wolf cursed in frustration as it struggled to withstand the Heavenly Tribulation, trying to escape, terrified of attracting its own tribulation.

Although it possessed copper skin and iron bones, it dared not resist the terrifying Heavenly Tribulation of Thunder God Ridge.

Not only it, but Ye Fan too could only grit his teeth and endure the tribulation, as resisting would surely attract his own.

Ah..."

Lou Changhe never expected the Heavenly Tribulation to descend so quickly; he had just used Divine Power when his own tribulation was brought forth.

At this moment, he could no longer continue pursuing Ye Fan and could only focus all his efforts on combating the Heavenly Tribulation!

. Ah ah ah ah...”

Lou Changhe roared fiercely, waving a Flame Divine Banner continually in his hand, dispersing the descending lightning tribulation, blocking the power of the Heavenly Punishment’s Divine Thunder.

. You little brat, once I get through this tribulation, I will definitely kill you!” Unable to chase Ye Fan, Lou Changhe roared angrily.

. Hey, Old Bastard, you better get through your tribulation first!” Ye Fan taunted as he fled outward, coldly sneering in response.

The power of the Heavenly Tribulation here was stronger and more destructive than the one he experienced in the Thunder Venerable master’s tomb; at this moment, he was charred all over as if he were a piece of charcoal, looking particularly miserable.

. Bai Yan Wolf, why haven’t I left the range of the Heavenly Tribulation?”

Meanwhile, Ye Fan saw the Bai Yan wolf jumping up and down with pain, and quickly approached, asking aloud.

He thought he should have left the range of the Heavenly Tribulation, as Thunder God Ridge's Heavenly Punishment Lightning had its limits, and others besides the Crossing Tribulation were hopeful to escape its range.

. Damn it, don't come over, are you trying to get me killed? You're also Crossing Tribulation, haven't you realized? Just that your tribulation's power is slightly weaker than that old geezer's."

The Bai Yan wolf responded while sprinting away, terrified of being enveloped by Ye Fan's tribulation.

Currently, with Ye Fan and Lou Changhe as the centers, hundreds of miles around were within the range of Heavenly Punishment, though the lightning tribulation's power was most terrifying near them.

Not wanting to be forced into Crossing Tribulation itself, the Bai Yan wolf was nearly roasted, blue arcs of electricity spat from its mouth, its muscles twitching uncontrollably.

. You should honestly Cross Tribulation yourself, don't drag me down with you!"

The Bai Yan wolf didn't care whether Ye Fan and Lou Changhe could safely get through their tribulation; it only cared if it could escape the range of the Heavenly Tribulation itself, for once caught in it, it would be no joking matter.

. Ugh...”

Listening to the Bai Yan wolf, Ye Fan finally realized that he too had previously used True Yuan, which, like any power other than physical strength, would surely attract his own Heavenly Tribulation, forcing him to reluctantly choose to Cross Tribulation.

At that moment, if there were outsiders near Thunder God Ridge, they would surely witness a strange spectacle, where lightning flashed all around, and two human-shaped creatures continually fought against the power of the lightning tribulation.

The Bai Yan wolf barely managed to escape from the range of the Heavenly Tribulation, collapsing on the ground, its tongue dangling long, plumes of black smoke rising from its seven orifices, too exhausted even to curse.

. These two perverts! Knowing you can't use Divine Power here, yet still defying the rules, nearly dragged me into Crossing Tribulation too. I curse you both to be struck dead by the Heavenly Tribulation!”

While watching Ye Fan and Lou Changhe Cross Tribulation, the Bai Yan wolf cursed them silently in its heart.

The power of Ye Fan's lightning tribulation was far less terrifying than Lou Changhe's, making it relatively easier for him to resist. Furthermore, with his strong body and mastery of the introductory Thunderclap Treasure Skill, he had a deep understanding of the characteristics of the Heavenly Punishment Lightning, making it not too difficult for him to resist.

However, Lou Changhe was not so lucky. His realm was that of the Divine Power Realm, and the Heavenly Punishment Lightning differed according to each Crossing Tribulation's realm and strength.

The stronger the power, the higher the realm, the stronger the power of the Heavenly Punishment Lightning, a test of heaven for a cultivator defying the heavens.

Get through it, and the sea is wide enough for fish to leap, the sky high enough for birds to fly.

Fail to get through, and you'll be reduced to ashes, returned to dust.

Ye Fan, under the weight of thousands of tribulation bolts, let the tribulation bolts fall on him without the slightest resistance, allowing the Heavenly Punishment's tribulation bolts to invade his body, finally channeling through the Yongquan point in his feet into the earth.

At this moment, he became a conductor of the lightning tribulation, the power of the Heavenly Tribulation repeatedly washing over his body, not only failing to cause any more harm but instead becoming a free tool for refining his body.

. Using Heavenly Punishment Tribulation Lightning to temper your body, even Emperor Xuan didn't dare to try this before. You're playing with fire, be extremely careful, don't overdo it."

Seeing Ye Fan actually using Heavenly Punishment Tribulation Lightning to temper his Nine Heavens Profound Body, Elder Xuan couldn't help but remind him. The Heavenly Punishment Tribulation Lightning contains terrifying destructive power, which is not easy to control.

Don't worry, Elder Xuan, I know what I'm doing!"

Ye Fan replied to Elder Xuan while using Heavenly Punishment Tribulation Lightning to temper his body. He understood which type of tribulation lightning could be absorbed into the body and which could not.

If the power of the tribulation lightning is too strong and is absorbed, it not only fails to temper the body but also causes great harm to the body. Ye Fan was well aware of this.

The Thunderclap Treasure Skill contains very detailed descriptions of Heavenly Punishment Tribulation Lightning, which Ye Fan didn't understand when he only had the Introduction.

However—

After obtaining the Thunder Venerable's inheritance, part of the Thunder Venerable's inspiration was also passed on to him through the inheritance, specifically how to control and use Heavenly Punishment Tribulation Lightning.

Heavenly Punishment Tribulation Lightning has many forms. Most people face the most ordinary thirty Nine Heavenly Tribulation, Fifty Nine Heavenly Tribulation, etc. Reaching the 99 Heavenly Tribulations is already a genius among geniuses.

Besides the 99 Heavenly Tribulations, there are also the Five Elements Thunder Tribulation, Seven-Colored Thunder Tribulation, and so on, which are harder to pass. Generally, only those at the monster level of strength would encounter such a tribulation.

And Heavenly Punishment Tribulation Lightning not only contains terrifying destructive power but also holds strong vitality.

The Heavenly Punishment Tribulation Lightning tests whether a cultivator's strength and realm match, not to extinguish the cultivator, hence the concept of life arising from death.

If one can withstand the Heavenly Punishment Tribulation Lightning, they can temper their body with it, retaining the vigorous vitality within the tribulation lightning, thus strengthening the body.

Lou Changhe's tribulation lasted for a full hour before gradually weakening and finally disappearing completely.

At this moment, Ye Fan's tribulation was still ongoing but nearing its end.

Enduring the tribulation lightning, Ye Fan walked towards the place where Lou Changhe was crossing the tribulation, only to see a pile of human-shaped ashes at the center of the tribulation, beside which lay a broken Flame Divine Banner, its flag surface ruined without a trace of divinity, seemingly completely destroyed.

Despite being as strong as Lou Changhe, he ultimately couldn't withstand the tribulation and was reduced to ashes, not even leaving behind any divine sense, completely turning to dust and disappearing.

Soon, Ye Fan's time of tribulation also came to an end, and the scattered thunder suddenly vanished as if it had never appeared.

There was no change on Thunder God Ridge either, the terrifying tribulation miraculously didn't destroy the stones on Thunder God Ridge, not even killing those purple centipedes.

Ye Fan came to the ashes of Lou Changhe, picked up the broken Flame Divine Banner that had lost its divinity, sensed it carefully, and found that although it couldn't be used any longer, it still had some value, so he put it into his own Space Bag.

Then, Ye Fan rummaged through Lou Changhe's ashes and found the Space Bag he carried with him!

Every cultivator has their own Space Bag, which is a small space carried with them to store spirit stones, spiritual artifacts, and materials.

The material of the Space Bag is very special and wasn't destroyed.

Ye Fan's divine sense probed into Lou Changhe's Space Bag to check, and he found very little gain; apart from some ordinary spirit stones, there were only a few sets of clothes and some food, not even a single spiritual artifact.

Ye Fan wasn't surprised by this.

If Lou Changhe had a spiritual artifact, he would naturally have taken it out to resist the tribulation—at a life-and-death moment, anything could be sacrificed.

Hoo!

Putting away the Space Bag, Ye Fan struck out with a palm, and without using True Yuan, he still released a strong palm wind, scattering Lou Changhe's ashes.

Thus, Lou Changhe, who had cultivated hard for a hundred years and reached the Divine Power Realm, completely disappeared from this world without leaving a trace!

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

Meanwhile, at the Lou Family's ancestral ground, the direct lineage disciple guarding the Soul Hall felt as if he had seen a ghost, his eyes widened, unable to believe what he saw.

"It's terrible, Elder Changhe's soul lamp has gone out..."

He rubbed his eyes hard and finally realized what he saw was real, instantly panicking, shouting as he ran outside, determined to inform the ancestor of this crucial situation at once.

With his shouting, the Lou Family was thrown into chaos. Changhe was one of the Lou Family's elders and among its most core members!

The soul lamp extinguishing means the person is dead; how could it not cause the entire Lou Family to tremble?

Chapter 1345: Rematch with Qing Zi (Part 1)

"What's going on?"

"What exactly happened?"

"Could it be that the Treasure Pavilion got involved?"

For a moment, the Lou Family was in chaos. All the Lou Family members were discussing fervently, not knowing why such a change had occurred.

"There must be some strong people who intervened. Otherwise, with Chang He's strength, killing that kid would be effortless! Find out who dares to go against my Lou Family. I'll personally wipe them out!"

The Ancestor of the Lou Family was utterly livid. Lou Changhe was the one he sent to kill Ye Fan, and now that Ye Fan's life or death is unknown while Lou Changhe is dead, how could he not be enraged?

The Lou Family's anger shook the entire Qing Province!

All the Cultivators in Qing Province knew that a massive storm was coming. What does an elder in the Divine Power Realm mean to a clan?

Everyone could foresee that the Lou Family would definitely not let this slide!

Many Cultivators were rushing to the Ten Thousand Mountains in Southern Luori City, the enormous benefits made them forget the dangers, thinking they could surely kill Ye Fan successfully and claim a massive amount of Spirit Stones from the Qing Family!

For a moment, the entire Southern Domain was in an uproar. Some astute Cultivators began to adopt a wait-and-see attitude, they were unsure of what kind of background Ye Fan had, even Lou Changhe in the Divine Power Realm was killed, it's a dangerous sign.

At the same time.

Qing Zi was swiftly heading towards Thunder God Ridge, he still didn't know Lou Changhe was dead, but having not found Ye Fan in the deep forests of Southern Luori City, he followed the trail of his escape.

After being tempered by Heavenly Tribulation, although Qing Zi's realm had not increased, his power had become more terrifying, with hardly any rivals within the Holy Embryo Realm.

Although Qing Zi didn't know Ye Fan was hiding in Thunder God Ridge, he also knew the characteristics of Thunder God Ridge, and considering that Ye Fan possessed Thunder Power, if he wanted to escape pursuit, Thunder God Ridge would definitely be the best choice.

After traveling day and night, Qing Zi finally arrived at Thunder God Ridge on the third afternoon.

At this time, Ye Fan was searching for something on Thunder God Ridge and hadn't left.

In the past two days, Ye Fan had explored almost the entire Thunder God Ridge, only the very center had a sky pit he dared not go down, because at the edge of the pit, he sensed great danger.

The pit was bottomless, with a diameter of a kilometer or more, continuously emitting mist, with no clue as to what lay beneath.

In these two days, the Bai Yan wolf had been unusually well-behaved and hadn't caused any further trouble for Ye Fan. The only incident was when it somehow provoked a giant centipede two meters long and almost got stung to death. If it weren't for Ye Fan saving it with Heaven and Earth Source Liquid and Pure Yang Qi, it would have gone to discuss 'wolf life' with the Thunder Venerable Master.

That purple centipede usually wouldn't actively attack, only counterattacking when threatened, and its poison was fierce, with Thunder Power embedded within.

Having suffered a major loss, the Bai Yan wolf walked extremely cautiously, afraid of accidentally stepping on a centipede. The soul-penetrating pain left it with lingering fear, like once bitten by a snake, dread of ropes for ten years.

Hmm?

Suddenly, the Bai Yan wolf, aimlessly wandering, sensed something and quickly turned to look at the entrance of Thunder God Ridge.

In the next moment.

It clearly saw Qing Zi enter Thunder God Ridge like the wind, rapidly approaching this direction.

At the same time, Ye Fan sensed Qing Zi's presence and cast his gaze in the direction Qing Zi was approaching from.

"Ye Fan, you're indeed not dead!"

Qing Zi, lightning-fast, quickly closed the distance to within a hundred meters of Ye Fan, glaring at Ye Fan with murderous intent and said chillingly.

“You’re not dead, why would I be?”

Ye Fan responded with a cold smirk, completely unafraid of Qing Zi—here, he feared no one under the Divine Power Realm!

Even if the Emperor’s disciple came, he would not be afraid!

“Exactly, if anyone’s gonna die, it’s you first, not us!” the Bai Yan wolf bared its teeth and jeered.

After Ye Fan healed it selflessly last time, the Bai Yan wolf’s attitude towards Ye Fan improved significantly, although it still occasionally mocked Ye Fan, it now stood on the same side when faced with external threats.

“Enough with the nonsense, today I’ll send you on your way!”

Qing Zi had no wish to bicker with Ye Fan; the two were now sworn enemies, their eyes burning red with hostility, any more words would be superfluous, only their skills could speak the truth.

Swish!

As soon as he finished speaking, Qing Zi flipped his hand, revealing a narrow treasure sword. This sword had no sheath but radiated brilliant cold light, obviously no ordinary object, likely a spiritual artifact at the Peak of the Holy Embryo Realm.

Him owning such a treasure was not surprising, after all, the Qing Family was the top family in Qing Province, with profound heritage, as an absolute genius of the younger generation of the Qing Family, Qing Zi's gear was certainly not inferior.

Seeing the opponent reveal a spiritual artifact, Ye Fan naturally wouldn't face them barehanded; with a flick of his wrist, the imitation Thunder Emperor Spear appeared in his hand, purple Thunder Power swirling around the spear, resembling a series of serpent dragons, dazzling in the sunlight.

"Prepare to die!"

Qing Zi struck first, slashing with a knife, carrying an ear-piercing sound of wind, the knife hadn't reached yet, but the fierce killing intent had already enveloped Ye Fan entirely.

"Hey!"

Ye Fan sneered, the spear tip precisely pinpointing the most lethal part of the blade, the powerful force instantly deflecting Qing Zi's long knife.

Whoosh!

Immediately, Ye Fan's wrist flicked, using a move called Golden Chicken Pecks at the Head, the spear tip transforming into a burst, stabbing towards Qing Zi's face.

This move was the most common in Spear Techniques, yet also the hardest to counter because one simply couldn't predict where it would ultimately pierce.

A slight mistake can lead to a thousand miles of difference. Once you fail to find the True Destiny Prince among the myriad spear shadows, a blocking error would result in the fate of shedding blood and leaving a corpse.

Of course, if one truly cannot crack it, they can retreat, temporarily avoiding the peak. However, doing so would inevitably invite the opponent's storm-like attacks, forcing them into a passive state.

Clang!

Qing Zi felt a chill in his heart, his eyes shot out two sharp beams of light like Heavenly Swords. Immediately, he turned to the side, striking the spear shaft with the hilt of his knife, dissolving Ye Fan's fierce killing move.

Then, Qing Zi made a risky move, slicing with the long knife along the gun's shaft toward Ye Fan's fingers, attempting to force Ye Fan to abandon the Thunder Emperor Spear.

When unable to utilize any power, physical strength and combat experience become particularly crucial.

Aside from this, the strength of the Spiritual Artifact is also important.

Though Ye Fan's Treasure Body is formidable, comparable to Heavy Treasures, he dare not block Qing Zi's treasure sword with his fragile fingers.

In the face of crisis, Ye Fan did something unexpected: letting go of the Thunder Emperor Spear, allowing it to fall, then transformed into a claw shadow, using the skill of seizing the blade with bare hands, grabbing Qing Zi's sword back.

Swoosh!

Qing Zi was unafraid, following his knife with his body, his wrist lightly flipped, using the blade to meet Ye Fan's claw shadow, trying to sever Ye Fan's hand.

Ye Fan quickly changed moves, flicking a finger on the knife to bounce it away, followed by a punch towards Qing Zi's face.

Qing Zi was also battle-hardened, not panicking in danger, transferring his knife to his left hand, also punching out a fist, meeting him head-on!

Bam!

The fists collided, Ye Fan remained unimpressed, not even a tremble in his fist. Qing Zi, however, retreated three steps, creating distance from Ye Fan, blood dripping from his fist as he gazed at Ye Fan, shocked.

Shock?

Indeed!

To him, having undergone the cleansing of the Heavenly Tribulation, his physical body was greatly strengthened. Even if he couldn't kill Ye Fan quickly, he believed he could definitely suppress Ye Fan with physical strength. But he hadn't expected that in pure physical strength, he was still inferior.

Shock?

Swoosh!

Ye Fan made a move, his toes hooked the Thunder Emperor Spear, lifting lightly, the spear returned to his hand.

"Continue!"

Ye Fan was full of pride; when it comes to physical combat, he feared not a single person of his generation. Indeed, with just physical strength, he could break the Spiritual Artifact refined by the True Essence Realm cultivator barehanded.

“I must admit, the strength of your body utterly exceeded my expectations, but it doesn’t matter; the outcome will not change, you still have to die!”

Qing Zi sneered coldly, taking a jade box from his Space Bag, swallowing a red bead the size of a dragon’s eye.

“Ah...”

In an instant, Qing Zi’s expression became particularly painful, his whole being erupted with a Xuan Beast’s aura, seemingly turning into a terrifying Xuan Beast.

“Xuan Beast Core? Unbelievable, how does he have such a thing?”

Bai Yan wolf was shocked, mouth agape, loudly warning Ye Fan, “Quickly dodge, he’s about to become a humanoid Xuan Beast, you are no match for him!”

Hmm?

Ye Fan raised an eyebrow, instinctively stepped back two steps, eyes fixed on Qing Zi.

Xuan Beast Core is an exceptionally precious item, far more valuable than Beast Cores. It's said that out of ten thousand Xuan Beasts, not even one might possess an inner core.

Any Xuan Beast possessing an inner core is an exceptional genius among Xuan Beasts, with the hope of ultimately cultivating into a Great Demon.

If a human takes a Xuan Beast Core, they will temporarily possess the full strength and innate skills of that particular Xuan Beast.

Undoubtedly, Xuan Beast's power is unquestionable—in normal circumstances, a human cultivator at the same realm is no match for a Xuan Beast!

The reason lies in the potent defense of Xuan Beasts, but more importantly, the Xuan Beast's strength far surpasses human cultivators. With equal cultivation, physical strength is the final straw that breaks the camel's back.

In an instant, these thoughts flash through Ye Fan's mind as the transformation in Qing Zi has already begun, muscle swelling rapidly, tearing his clothes.

Next, Qing Zi's body quickly grew covered with blood-red scales, as if donning scale armor, reflecting blood-colored light under the sun.

Witnessing this scene, Bai Yan wolf fled selfishly, unknown of what kind of Xuan Beast Qing Zi would transform into, but aware that all Xuan Beast's power was terrifying, beyond its means of challenge.

Ye Fan adjusted himself to optimum condition, gripping the model Thunder Emperor Spear, ready for whatever formidable Xuan Beast Qing Zi might become, as he must face it.

"Roar..."

At this moment, Qing Zi roared, the transformation finally completed, truly resembling a humanoid Xuan Beast, covered entirely in blood-colored scale armor, exuding terrifying aura.

Chapter 1346: Rematch with Qing Zi (Part 2)

"Kill!"

Qing Zi seemed to retain a trace of human expression, his eyes red as he slapped toward Ye Fan.

Whoosh!

Ye Fan put away the Thunder Emperor Spear and swung his fist to meet the attack,

Boom!

With a loud crash, Ye Fan was directly sent flying, his blood and energy roiling.

This result left him secretly shocked!

He put away the Thunder Emperor Spear and used the Iron Fist to counter, wanting to see how Qing Zi's power would change after swallowing the Xuan Beast Core. Unexpectedly, it had increased to such terrifying levels.

"Whew~"

After the initial shock, Ye Fan took a deep breath, suppressing his turbulent blood and energy, then adjusted his condition to the best state, with vigorous blood and endless vitality.

"Fight!"

With a loud shout, Ye Fan used his smaller physique compared to the expanded Qing Zi to implement a step technique, engaging in guerrilla tactics with Qing Zi.

The so-called guerrilla war is typically making a hit and then changing locations, each time delivering a blow and retreating to prevent Qing Zi from finding him.

After transforming, Qing Zi's power had indeed increased significantly, but he had also become clumsy, far less responsive than before.

There is always a trade-off; this is a natural rule. Qing Zi gained the terrifying strength of the Xuan Beast but naturally had to accept the fact of slower reactions.

"Ahhhhh..."

Ye Fan's guerrilla tactics made Qing Zi extremely angry, roaring continuously.

His power far exceeded Ye Fan's, but Ye Fan refused to confront him directly, opting for a strategy of striking and retreating, keeping him in a passive and beaten position. How could this not infuriate him?

"You bastard, have the guts to face me in a direct fight. What's with the sneak attacks?"

Repeated missed attacks made Qing Zi more and more impatient, unable to resist provoking Ye Fan to engage in a direct confrontation. He was confident he could severely injure Ye Fan and then easily kill him!

"Heh, you have some gall? If you had guts, you'd use outside help to fight me."

Ye Fan was unmoved; he knew well that Qing Zi's state wouldn't last. Once he reverted from this state, it would be time for Ye Fan to counterattack.

“You... ahhh...”

Qing Zi was so angry he couldn't stop yelling, but he had no solution against Ye Fan. He knew well that although the Xuan Beast Core was strong, it also had a time limit.

The most critical issue was that once this state ended, there would undoubtedly be a brief period of weakness. If he couldn't quickly adjust, there would be a risk to his life.

Ye Fan was calm and unhurried as he wore him down, not anxious at all, as Qing Zi's current state couldn't hit him.

“This won't do. Sooner or later, I'll die at his hands!”

Qing Zi wasn't a fool. He immediately realized Ye Fan's intention and decisively moved toward the base of Thunder God Ridge. If his state dissipated, he could immediately use Holy Power to absolutely kill Ye Fan.

Hmm?

Seeing Qing Zi moving downhill, Ye Fan immediately understood that Qing Zi's state would not last long, hoping to seize this chance to escape downhill, away from the special environment of Thunder God Ridge.

Understanding was one thing, but stopping him was another. With Qing Zi's current strength far surpassing his, attempting a reckless interception might fall into his trap.

Thinking of this, Ye Fan immediately changed his tactics, harassing Qing Zi from behind, preventing him from quickly leaving the range of Thunder God Ridge.

As long as Qing Zi remained within range of Thunder God Ridge, once he reverted from this state, Ye Fan could strike and kill him.

This change in strategy from Ye Fan made Qing Zi so angry he nearly spat blood!

In terms of realm, he was far ahead of Ye Fan; in terms of strength, he completely outclassed Ye Fan. But in this damned Thunder God Ridge, without the ability to use Holy Power, purely physical strength wasn't enough against Ye Fan.

In the end, he painfully swallowed a Xuan Beast Core painstakingly obtained by his clan, only to endure a passive beating...

How could this not frustrate him?!

"Little Qing Zi, don't run! Fight him again; he's not your match."

The Bai Yan wolf whispered insidious words from the side, its comments infuriating Qing Zi to the point of wanting to strangle it. The Bai Yan wolf's mouth was too vicious.

"Bastard, just you wait. I don't believe you'll stay in Thunder God Ridge forever. I'll wait at the foot of the mountain. Whenever you come out, I'll cut you down!"

Qing Zi's speed might not touch even a corner of Ye Fan's clothing, but it wasn't slow. He decided to risk getting injured by Ye Fan in order to leave Thunder God Ridge.

"I don't believe I can't kill you!"

Ye Fan was also determined, ready to risk triggering a heavenly tribulation to use True Yuan and drag Qing Zi down with him, potentially enduring a tribulation together.

After experiencing two heavenly tribulations, Ye Fan had some understanding of its power. Coupled with his own practice of Thunderclap Treasure Skill, he was unafraid of the power of Heavenly Punishment Tribulation Lightning.

But Qing Zi was different. He had never experienced the power of a heavenly tribulation, having passively endured one during his escape from the tomb of the Thunder Venerable. He certainly wouldn't want to face another tribulation willingly.

Otherwise, he would have directly used Holy Power before.

With this thought, Ye Fan decisively attacked, his momentum soaring, his whole body surging with True Yuan, punching out with a punch ray whistling and shining brightly.

“Are you crazy?!”

Qing Zi was aghast, exclaiming in shock.

Whoosh!

No response, Ye Fan sneered coldly and struck again.

Qing Zi was deeply resentful. The previous tribulation nearly took his life. If the Qing Family Ancestor hadn't used divine medicine from their clan to save him, he would have been unable to recover.

In this situation, he had developed a shadow over heavenly tribulations. That feeling of being infinitely close to death was something he never wanted to experience again.

This was why he preferred to swallow the Xuan Beast Core rather than use Holy Power to kill Ye Fan!

But he never expected Ye Fan to be so decisive, willing to endure the tribulation lightning just to drag him down.

But he had no choice. Even knowing that Ye Fan's actions were to drag him down, he had to use Holy Power, or he wouldn't withstand Ye Fan's lethal strike.

"Roar..."

Qing Zi let out a great roar, Holy Power surging all over, forming into a set of Holy Power armor, then punched toward Ye Fan.

Mutual destruction!

Qing Zi completely ignored Ye Fan's punch toward him, directly aiming to punch Ye Fan in the chest.

Swish!

A layer of Xuanwu Armor formed from True Yuan instantly appeared on Ye Fan, gleaming with green light, like real treasure armor.

"Kid, use this!"

Seeing Ye Fan about to go all out, Elder Xuan hurriedly told Ye Fan to place the palm-sized, neither metal nor wood, stone piece in front of his chest for additional defense.

Upon Elder Xuan's reminder, Ye Fan immediately moved with his mind, placing the stone piece in front of his chest as a shield against Qing Zi's punch.

He knew well the stone piece's terrifying defensive ability; even with all his might, his imitation Thunder Emperor Spear couldn't leave a white mark on it, showcasing its solidity.

He believed Qing Zi couldn't break through this stone piece's defense, allowing him to fight Qing Zi freely and boldly.

Boom!

In an instant, the attacks of Ye Fan and Qing Zi landed on each other simultaneously, producing a deafening sound.

Swoosh!

Swoosh!

Both retreated at the same time, Ye Fan's blood and energy surging. Despite having Xuanwu Armor formed from True Yuan and the stone piece's defense, Qing Zi's Holy Power was too strong. Through two layers of defenses, it still sent him flying, causing a block in his chest.

Qing Zi was equally uncomfortable. Ye Fan's punch contained two distinct terrifying forces. The Thunder Power was unstoppable, coupled with the thick and fierce True Yuan, also sending him flying, shattering a part of the armor formed by his Holy Power, causing some injuries.

Boom!

At the same time, an unexpected heavenly tribulation descended. Using any force other than physical power at Thunder God Ridge would trigger a heavenly tribulation.

In an instant, both Ye Fan and Qing Zi were enveloped by the heavenly tribulation.

Ye Fan, like a divine being, stepped toward Qing Zi amidst the thousand layers of tribulation lightning. He aimed to seize this opportunity to destroy Qing Zi.

"Ugh..."

Qing Zi let out a shout, his black hair standing on end, dispersing the descending tribulation with a punch, then walking toward Ye Fan. Both held the same mindset, utilizing the power of the tribulation to kill the other.

“Damn it, these two maniacs invited another heavenly tribulation. Why do I always get caught in the crossfire and end up injured?”

The Bai Yan wolf felt like crying, once again suffering collateral damage, wailing as it was struck by the tribulation.

Chapter 1347: Rematch with Qing Zi (Part 2)

Originally, Qing Zi was quite apprehensive about the heavenly tribulation, but after triggering it, he decided to go all out, hoping to use the power of the tribulation to kill Ye Fan once and for all!

In his view, his heavenly tribulation power must be stronger than Ye Fan's. If he could use the tribulation's power to catch Ye Fan off guard, Ye Fan would surely be unable to resist.

However—

The truth was that Ye Fan's tribulation power was more terrifying than Qing Zi's. Qing Zi's was just an ordinary heavenly tribulation, while Ye Fan's was the Liangyi Divine Thunder, the tribulation lightning divided into two colors: gold and silver!

The Liangyi Divine Thunder contains the way of yin and yang, with extremely terrifying power. Even Ye Fan dared not resist it directly but chose to avoid it.

“How can his tribulation power be more terrifying than mine? How did he make it through?”

Before Qing Zi could get close to Ye Fan, he sensed the terrifying power of destruction contained in Ye Fan's tribulation, which frightened him immensely. Without another word, he hurriedly fled out of Thunder God Ridge.

"Trying to escape? Too late!"

Ye Fan shouted fiercely, resisting the tribulation while swiftly pursuing Qing Zi.

Their departure allowed the Bai Yan wolf to escape disaster, quickly moving out of the tribulation's range.

"Thud——"

As soon as it left the tribulation range, the Bai Yan wolf fell to the ground, its four paws twitching like a seizure, mouth askew, eyes slanted, with blue arcs of electricity flashing continually in its white eyes.

Meanwhile, Ye Fan exerted all his strength, disregarding the damage the tribulation caused him, chasing Qing Zi all the way. However, Qing Zi was slightly faster; not only did Ye Fan fail to catch up, but the distance kept increasing.

But Ye Fan did not give up and kept chasing Qing Zi out of Thunder God Ridge!

Huh?

After an unknown period, Ye Fan stopped in his tracks.

He had a premonition that his tribulation was ending and must return to Thunder God Ridge before it ended. Otherwise, once discovered by others, it would not be easy to hide back in Thunder God Ridge.

Fifteen minutes later, Ye Fan returned to Thunder God Ridge. The tribulation completely vanished, leaving him looking like a piece of charred coal, pitch black.

“Open!”

Ye Fan shouted loudly, urging the Pure Yang Qi in his body to heal his wounds. The old skin on his body peeled off, revealing the bronzed new skin beneath, looking extraordinarily strong.

However, Ye Fan’s body had no raised muscles, with beautiful lines. Every inch of skin contained terrifying power.

Inside, it was even more crystalline, with his bones emitting a faint purple-gold light, and thick True Yuan flowing through his meridians, continuous and unending.

In three hundred and sixty acupoints, True Yuan surged in each, the Nine Heavens Profound Skill operating automatically without deliberate effort.

“Kid, I’m becoming more impressed with you! Hmm, not bad capital!” Bai Yan wolf’s eyes flashed a strange light, then it teased with a smile.

Ignoring the Bai Yan wolf’s teasing, Ye Fan took out a set of clothes from the space bag and put them on, then walked to the peak of Thunder God Ridge, looking towards where Qing Zi was undergoing the tribulation.

He wanted to see if Qing Zi could safely pass through the tribulation. If the tribulation killed him, that would be ideal.

Overlooking the scene, Ye Fan found Qing Zi sitting cross-legged on a stone.

At this time, Qing Zi had also changed his clothes, his hair scorched black, face pale, with bloodstains at the corners of his mouth.

Seeing this scene, Ye Fan understood that Qing Zi was injured during the tribulation, but the injuries should not be fatal; he still retained combat power.

In such a situation, he couldn’t go out to kill Qing Zi, and on the contrary, if he went out, Qing Zi using Holy Power would be hard to match.

And Qing Zi seemed to know this, deliberately staying at the entrance of Thunder God Ridge to heal, intending to wait for Ye Fan to walk into his trap.

“This situation is not sustainable!”

Ye Fan frowned, deep in thought.

Qing Zi was guarding the mountain below, and if he rashly descended, he would certainly be intercepted. But staying here was not a viable long-term plan either.

He knew clearly that Qing Zi was no match for him in close combat, but if Qing Zi used Holy Power, it would be perilous unless he used the Emperor Weapon to kill him.

However, unless it was a last resort, Ye Fan did not want to use the Emperor Weapon.

Because it would consume the energy of the Emperor Weapon!

“Bai Yan wolf, aren’t you able to carve transmission array runes? Carve another one, and we will cross the void to leave here. Otherwise, if I die, they will not spare you either!”

Ye Fan explained the stakes to Bai Yan wolf, urging it to carve another transmission array rune to leave here, or they would eventually die here.

“You think carving a transmission array rune is simple? It requires Xuanyu as a medium! I only had one piece of Xuanyu, which was used up before. Without materials, how can I carve?”

Bai Yan wolf rolled its eyes, looking at Ye Fan as if he were a fool.

“This...”

Ye Fan was bewildered for a moment. Although he had many spoils of war, not a single piece of Xuanyu.

Without Xuanyu, transmission array runes couldn't be carved, and without transmission array runes, he couldn't silently leave, forming a deadlock.

“Since leaving isn't an option, I can only rapidly boost my strength, aim to kill Qing Zi, and even if not kill, at least escape and temporarily remove the threat!”

Seeing Bai Yan wolf unable to carve a transmission array and leave, Ye Fan's mind was like a clear mirror, knowing that if he didn't use the Emperor Weapon, he must quickly boost his strength, aiming to escape Thunder God Ridge before the Lou Family, Qing Family, and other forces arrived.

“Elder Xuan, given the current situation, my only path is to boost my strength. Do you think I should focus on condensing the Holy Embryo and fully assaulting the Holy Embryo Realm, or should I delve into the Thunderclap Treasure Skill?”

After making up his mind, Ye Fan sought Elder Xuan's advice. He had reached the extremity of the True Essence Realm and could condense a Holy Embryo.

"If you can grasp the Thunderclap Treasure Skill to the entry-level's Great Perfection, your combat power will undergo a qualitative improvement. But it's tough. Although this place is very suitable for comprehending the Thunderclap Treasure Skill, it involves sudden enlightenment, which isn't easily grasped and requires opportunity as well.

And right now, you don't have much time to waste. If unsuccessful, you might have to use the Emperor Weapon to kill all those besieging you to possibly escape alive."

Elder Xuan suggested, "In comparison, condensing the Holy Embryo and breaking into the Holy Embryo Realm is more likely to succeed—a clear dividing line between the Holy Embryo Realm and the True Essence Realm, where True Yuan converts into Holy Power, greatly enhancing strength!"

"Alright, then I'll condense the Holy Embryo and aim for the Holy Embryo Realm!"

Ye Fan agreed with Elder Xuan's suggestion and chose to condense the Holy Embryo.

After all, gaining insight into the Thunderclap Treasure Skill was exceptionally difficult!

And now, time was pressing; he must seize every moment to rapidly boost his strength. Only by doing so could he break through Qing Zi's blockade.

Once away from here, the vast ocean and sky would be his to explore, and the southern domain was too vast for the Qing Family to find him.

With determination, Ye Fan seized the moment when Bai Yan wolf was wandering and found a hidden place to summon the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown, hiding it, and then stepped forward into the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown's virtual space.

Everything in the virtual space was as usual, and Elder Xuan stood not far away, hands clasped, smiling at him without a word.

Ye Fan knew Elder Xuan was letting him decide.

Condensing the Holy Embryo is a very important process, crucial for future cultivation!

Ye Fan sat down cross-legged, quietly pondering all the creatures he knew, comparing their merits and faults.

Dragon, Qilin, Phoenix, Mystic Turtle, Tiger, Yazi, Taotie...

After long consideration, none satisfied him.

The Holy Embryo would accompany a cultivator throughout life, and Ye Fan didn't want to settle for anything less. He wanted to form his unique Holy Embryo.

If he condensed an ordinary Holy Embryo like a leopard, tiger, or lion like others, although it might show great power in the short term, it would hinder future cultivation.

Condensing the Holy Embryo reminded Ye Fan of Huaxia's totem beliefs in the past, where each tribe or nation had its totem, be it the sun, moon, stars, or flying birds and beasts.

"Why should I believe in those? I only believe in myself!"

At this moment, Ye Fan finally made up his mind!

What creature is more familiar than himself?

Ye Fan was familiar with every inch of his own skin, bones, and flesh.

"With myself as the Holy Embryo, the Holy Embryo is me, and I am the Holy Embryo, inseparable. I don't need any creature's skills; I am enough!"

With firm resolve, Ye Fan decided to pioneer taking himself as the Holy Embryo!

According to Elder Xuan, no Great Emperor in history had taken themselves as the Holy Embryo!

Chapter 1348: Condensing Holy Embryo

Every cultivator starts as a Mortal Body, even those geniuses with special constitutions are no exception.

Only by condensing the Holy Embryo within a Mortal Body can one truly make a solid step forward on the path of cultivation, with limitless achievements in the future.

However, the process of condensing the Holy Embryo is extremely perilous, and a single misstep can lead to eternal silence, with both body and path destroyed.

The stronger the Holy Embryo, the more difficult it is to condense, which is why many cultivators who know their talent is ordinary choose less powerful, even docile creatures to condense their Holy Embryos with.

These creatures may not be very strong, but the process of condensing them is somewhat easier, and they are less likely to pose a threat to the cultivator.

Throughout the brilliant history of the Xuan Realm, all the strong people who have left their mark in history possessed incredibly powerful Holy Embryos.

According to legend, in the Taigu era, a Great Emperor's Holy Embryo was a blade, a treasure sword that overpowered the world. Ultimately, that Great Emperor became one with the sword, sliced through the void, and disappeared from the sight of all beings.

People speculate that this Great Emperor became immortal, slicing through the void with his sword and ascending to the Immortal Realm.

However, whether immortals exist in this world is still uncertain; it's possible the Great Emperor entered an unknown world from which he never returned.

The history of the Xuan Realm is too long, with the Middle Ages above Ancient times, the Taigu above the Middle Ages, and the Primordial above Taigu. No one can clearly say how many tens of thousands of years this world has existed.

Yet, few have chosen their own bodies as the Holy Embryos; Ye Fan's attempt is definitely an adventurous journey as no one knows what will happen when condensing one's own body as a Holy Embryo.

In the Virtual Space, Ye Fan sits like a statue, cross-legged on a smooth azure stone, his expression unchanged.

At this moment, he is outlining his own form within his Heart, in order to condense the Holy Embryo; first, there must be an image in the heart, and only by condensing the Holy Embryo according to this image can there be no deviations.

There was once a genius among geniuses who, during the condensing of the Holy Embryo, thought he could freely condense a powerful Holy Embryo without needing an image.

This genius among geniuses had quite an imaginative thought, wanting to combine the strongest parts of all creatures to create an ultra-powerful Holy Embryo.

However, biting off more than one can chew, he wanted to combine the strongest parts of all creatures, resulting in a mishmash, not realizing that every creature has its flaws.

Ultimately, because the Holy Embryo he wanted to condense was too strong for him to bear, he exploded and died before the Holy Embryo could take shape.

He thus became a perfect negative example for providing caution to the people of the Cultivation World, who are not short of arrogant individuals believing they can combine the strongest parts of all creatures to eventually form a super Holy Embryo.

At this point, his predecessors would use this event to warn him that cultivators are human and not immortal or divine beings, so it's best not to aim too high.

Only by being grounded can one step by step ascend to the realm of strong people, otherwise those like the exploding genius are their models.

After three days of careful outlining, Ye Fan finally crafted a miniature version of himself in his sea of consciousness, so lifelike that even the details were exactly the same, like a three-dimensional photograph.

Next, Ye Fan followed the instructions in the Nine Heavens Profound Skill related to the Holy Embryo Realm, using his Divine Soul as fire to refine the True Essence Sea in his Dantian.

This is a lengthy process; although the Nine Heavens Profound Skill provides specific methods, implementing them is incredibly challenging.

Ye Fan's Divine Soul is much stronger than other cultivators in the same realm, yet it took him several days just to initially refine the True Essence Sea in his Dantian into a solid form, resembling a small piece of Divine Iron, radiating dazzling light.

His True Yuan is so strong that it takes longer to refine than for ordinary cultivators, but there is no doubt that once condensed into a Holy Embryo, its power will be greater than that of ordinary cultivators.

Reward follows effort, Ye Fan's immense strength comes from several times the effort compared to others, an effort that is difficult for ordinary people to endure.

"Hoo~"

At the moment of completing the refinement, Ye Fan exhaled a long breath and then smiled bitterly. He is different from other cultivators; while others only need to condense one Holy Embryo, he has True Essence Seas in all three hundred and sixty acupoints of his body, meaning he needs to condense three hundred and sixty Holy Embryos, which is no joke.

Condensing one Holy Embryo is already such a challenge; thinking about condensing three hundred and sixty Holy Embryos makes one's scalp tingle.

Shaking his head vigorously, Ye Fan shook off these idle thoughts; what is most urgent now is to condense the Holy Embryo in his Dantian. Once he successfully condenses the Holy Embryo in his Dantian, with experience, other Holy Embryos might be easier.

With all preparations complete, Ye Fan took a brief rest, then removed all the Spirit Stones he had with him, and set up a Gathering Essence Array with them around him to prevent Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi from leaking away.

“There are truly many good people!”

Looking at the Spirit Stones obtained from the cultivators who chased him, Ye Fan couldn’t help but feel grateful. Had it not been for these people bringing him so many Spirit Stones, he wouldn’t dare to rashly attempt to condense a Holy Embryo.

With everything ready, what follows is the most crucial step: condensing the Holy Embryo.

Ye Fan was extremely cautious!

Because he is practically setting a precedent, no one knows what will happen.

Nonetheless, Ye Fan has no regrets; once a choice is made, he must firmly implement it, confident that his choice is not wrong.

Sitting in the center of the Gathering Essence Array, Ye Fan refined the Spirit Stones, and the dense Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi submerged him within, continuously providing what he needs.

Soon, Ye Fan immersed himself in focusing inward, at this moment his Dantian seemed to transform into a vast space, with a small piece of solid True Yuan resembling Divine Iron floating and sinking in the center, emitting thousands of radiant light beams.

The actual process of condensing the Holy Embryo began; Ye Fan used his Divine Soul as fire, and his divine consciousness as a hammer, to start forging this piece of True Yuan resembling Divine Iron.

Ding ding dang dang...

The entire Virtual Space echoed with sounds akin to iron forging, as Ye Fan tirelessly forged his own Holy Embryo.

If other cultivators knew he was condensing his Holy Embryo this way, they'd be dumbfounded.

Typically, one molds liquid True Yuan into the shape of a Holy Embryo first, then proceeds to forge and polish — not like him, who burns True Yuan into a solid before forging the Holy Embryo.

The advantage of forging a Holy Embryo this way is enormous — the Holy Embryo is extraordinarily solid!

In his sea of consciousness, a specific figure stands, and Ye Fan isn't worried about his forging going astray, even if there are slight deviations, they can be corrected promptly.

As time passed day by day, Ye Fan had been in the Virtual Space for more than half a month, and his Holy Embryo had basically taken shape, already having a trace of Ye Fan's outline.

But this is far from enough. Though it possesses form, it lacks divine essence; the sanctity of the Holy Embryo lies in its divine essence, which is yet another lengthy process.

Looking at the roughly formed Holy Embryo in his Dantian, Ye Fan took a slight breath and continued forging. At this point, he couldn't rush but needed precise carving, not missing even a single strand of hair.

At this moment, Ye Fan finally understood why no one throughout the ages has used their own image to condense a Holy Embryo — it's not just difficult but extremely time-consuming, and one's divine soul can hardly endure.

Now, aside from the sounds of iron forging emanating from within him, Ye Fan was like a clay sculpture, his life essence fully withdrawn within, with not an iota leaking out.

Piles of Spirit Stones had already turned into Waste Stones, the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi within them refined completely.

From a distance, Elder Xuan silently observed all this. He neither intervened nor instructed, leaving it entirely up to Ye Fan to comprehend and implement.

In truth, though Elder Xuan was knowledgeable, he was, after all, merely an Artifact Spirit. His understanding of humans wasn't too detailed, nor could he offer any constructive suggestions on condensing the Holy Embryo, so he simply kept silent, letting Ye Fan play to his own strengths.

Meanwhile, Bai Yan wolf was anxious in the outside world. It had no idea where Ye Fan had gone — when it returned from a stroll, Ye Fan was nowhere to be seen, and its sensitive intuition couldn't perceive even a trace of Ye Fan's presence.

Initially, it thought Ye Fan broke through Qing Zi's blockade and escaped, but seeing Qing Zi seated at the mountain's foot didn't seem right.

It knew Ye Fan's strength well; to say he silently broke through Qing Zi's blockade and fled, it wouldn't believe it even if killed.

Yet, all over Thunder God Ridge not a hint of Ye Fan's presence could be sensed, leaving Bai Yan wolf extremely perplexed, unable to fathom where Ye Fan might be.

"Could he have gone there?"

Upon realizing a possibility, Bai Yan wolf startled.

In the central part of Thunder God Ridge lay an enormous abyss, its depths unfathomable and particularly perilous.

It couldn't believe Ye Fan had ventured into the abyss alone.

...

"What? That lad hid in Thunder God Ridge?"

In tandem with Ye Fan's seclusion in the Virtual Space, the Qing Family received Qing Zi's report stating Ye Fan had hidden in Thunder God Ridge where divine power couldn't be wielded.

Without a Forbidden Artifact, Qing Zi too was unable to kill him on Thunder God Ridge, yet Ye Fan triggered a Heavenly Tribulation, nearly causing Qing Zi's downfall.

This news once again jolted the Qing Family!

As the foremost clan in Qing Province, when had the Qing Family suffered such humiliation?

The Qing Family never expected Ye Fan to hide on Thunder God Ridge. In this way, even though Qing Zi was stronger than Ye Fan, he could only engage Ye Fan in physical combat, proving no match.

"Send Qing Wu and the others with Forbidden Artifacts, he must be killed!"

The Qing Family Ancestor, enraged, dispatched strong people to annihilate Ye Fan and instructed them to carry Forbidden Artifacts!

These Forbidden Artifacts possess enormous power but are limited in use. Once damaged, they are completely destroyed and can't be repaired.

Forbidden Artifacts serve various functions. Some boast immense attack power, like Blood Demon Bomb; others possess unrivaled defense, able to withstand attacks surpassing the user's Great Realm.

Some Forbidden Artifacts can resist Heavenly Tribulations, and some can obscure divine fate; even in Thunder God Ridge's unique environment, they won't attract Heavenly Punishment Lightning Tribulation, which is precisely the Forbidden Artifact mentioned by the Qing Family Ancestor.

With such Forbidden Artifacts, they can exert divine power in Thunder God Ridge's special environment without attracting Heavenly Tribulation.

On the Qing Family Ancestor's command, Qing Wu led a group of over ten Qing Family strong people, carrying Forbidden Artifacts, marching imposingly toward Thunder God Ridge.

Simultaneously, the Lou Family also received the news and dispatched several strong people at Peak of Holy Embryo Realm and Divine Power Realm to assist the Qing Family.

Ye Fan's death was certain!

The news spread, shaking the Southern Domain, and almost everyone concluded similarly.

Chapter 1349: Switching from Defense to Offense

The Qing Family and Lou Family once again dispatched strong people carrying a forbidden artifact to besiege Ye Fan, causing a disturbance in the Southern District.

Ye Fan, however, was completely unaware of all this.

But Ye Fan had long felt a sense of crisis; if he didn't manage to condense the Holy Embryo soon, once the strong people from the Qing Family and other forces arrived, it would be impossible to leave unless he used an Emperor Weapon.

While the Qing Family and Lou Family dispatched strong people again, Ye Fan was still at Thunder God Ridge condensing the Holy Embryo, attempting a breakthrough to the Holy Embryo Realm.

After the Holy Embryo took a rough shape, Ye Fan's speed slowed down. He had to meticulously carve it to ensure the Holy Embryo closely resembled himself!

As time passed, the Holy Embryo in Ye Fan's Dantian gradually became clear. Although radiating brilliance, it could still be seen that it was almost identical to his body, without any differences.

The only difference was the lack of spirit in the eyes. Once the eyes had spirit, the Holy Embryo would be considered completely condensed, entering the Holy Embryo Realm, transforming all True Yuan into Holy Power.

Of course, he was different from others.

He didn't have just one True Essence Sea.

Although the True Yuan in the Dantian transformed into a Holy Embryo, the True Yuan vortices in other acupoints were merely affected, undergoing some changes, but had not completely transformed into Holy Power.

Highlight the finishing touch!

Condensing the Holy Embryo is the same, the eyes are the most difficult and also the most important point.

Ye Fan dared not be careless. He rested for four hours before starting, injecting his Divine Soul into the eyes of the Holy Embryo, crafting eyes that truly had spirit.

"It's done!"

A quarter of an hour later, Ye Fan withdrew his hand, and two beams of light shot from the eyes of the Holy Embryo, manifesting outside through his skin, **** for tens of thousands of miles.

At this moment, Ye Fan truly stepped into the Holy Embryo Realm. The Holy Embryo was formed, extremely solid, akin to his own Treasure Body, radiating brilliance all over, like a divine being.

The True Essence Sea in all three hundred and sixty acupoints around his body simultaneously ceased to operate, a stream of Holy Power connecting them all with full force.

Moments later, Ye Fan was surprised to find that in the three hundred and sixty acupoints around his body, the True Essence Sea disappeared, replaced by a vague humanoid shadow.

But judging from its form, it was undoubtedly the projection of his Holy Embryo.

“Such a change actually occurred...”

Ye Fan was utterly surprised; it was normal for a cultivator to experience some strange changes while condensing the Holy Embryo, but he had never heard of such a change as his.

At this time, more than twenty days had passed in the Virtual Space. Ye Fan didn't rush to leave but continued staying in the Virtual Space, refining all the remaining Spirit Stones around him to solidify the newly broken realm.

Having just broken through to the Holy Embryo Realm, his realm was still unstable; he needed time to stabilize it.

However, he also knew he couldn't waste more time; he had to break out as soon as possible, or else it would be troublesome when the forces of the Qing Family and Lou Family sent reinforcements to Thunder God Ridge.

For three consecutive days, Ye Fan continuously refined Spirit Stones to consolidate the newly broken Holy Embryo Realm.

During this time, Elder Xuan was not idle either; he refined the mysterious stone piece that Ye Fan obtained, and although he couldn't refine it into armor, he managed to refine it into a small Heart Protecting Armor.

When Ye Fan received the Heart Protecting Armor, he was very moved; although his body was extremely robust, even overwhelming opponents of the same realm with an absolute advantage without suspense,

However, when facing geniuses like Qing Zi who far surpassed his realm, his advantage disappeared, and he needed strong defense to protect himself.

This Heart Protecting Armor was refined from the mysterious stone piece and was crafted by Elder Xuan, its defensive power undoubtedly extraordinary, enough to safeguard against Qing Zi.

With one step forward and time passage, Ye Fan stepped out of the Virtual Space, appearing on Thunder God Ridge, quietly collecting the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown.

Although he had stayed in the Virtual Space for nearly a month, only less than three days had passed outside.

“Kid, where did you go...”

Bai Yan wolf sensed Ye Fan’s aura first and dashed towards him with curiosity filling its eyes.

It wanted to interrogate, Ye Fan had too many secrets; he could even hide from its perception.

However, its words were swallowed halfway as it was suddenly enveloped again by the Heavenly Tribulation.

“I ¥%#...”

Bai Yan wolf almost wanted to die; every time Ye Fan underwent tribulation, it was inevitably caught within, suffering alongside.

Are you seeking death? The enemy hasn’t attacked, and you’re recklessly stirring True Yuan?”

Bai Yan wolf frantically escaped faster than it came, questioning Ye Fan.

I didn't..."

Ye Fan was quite frustrated. He hadn't used any Holy Power, so why did the Heavenly Tribulation descend out of nowhere?

Boom!

The scope of the Heavenly Tribulation covered a radius of ten miles, particularly intense at Ye Fan's center, with each tribulation as thick as a bucket, containing terrifying Destruction Power.

Kid, this is your Holy Embryo Tribulation, Heaven's test for you. Good luck!"

Elder Xuan reminded him with a word, while feeling a sense of relief in his heart, Ye Fan had finally attracted his own Heavenly Tribulation.

Throughout history, which of the strong people who have left their mark weren't of demon-level existence?

They all had to undergo the test of the Heavenly Tribulation when breaking through to the Holy Embryo Realm.

If Ye Fan couldn't attract a Heavenly Tribulation, it would only mean his talent wasn't demon-like enough, and he might not have the qualification to step into the Emperor Road in the future power struggle.

Yet Ye Fan attracted the Heavenly Tribulation immediately after breaking through the Holy Embryo Realm, indicating his talent was not weaker than those demons, at least giving him a place in the Emperor Road contention.

Below Thunder God Ridge, the many experts of the Qing Family and Lou Family had just arrived, carrying forbidden artifacts, prepared to strike Thunder God Ridge and kill Ye Fan, but they didn't expect such a thing to happen.

A thousand-layered thunder tribulation was on Thunder God Ridge, they simply dared not advance, only waiting at the foot of the ridge.

. Is this boy courting death? Is he summoning the Heavenly Tribulation for fun?"

. What's going on? We just arrived, and he summoned the Heavenly Tribulation?"

. He's just an ant at the True Essence Realm, probably knowing we brought forbidden artifacts and his advantage is gone, fearing being captured by us and having his Life Soul refined, so he risked attracting the Heavenly Punishment, not knowing it's a path to self-destruction!"

The Qing Family and Lou Family strong people were discussing as they saw Ye Fan attract his Heavenly Tribulation from afar.

They looked relaxed, with disdain filling their words, as if Ye Fan was already a dead man.

“Hmph! Unless he turns to dust, even if only his bones remain, I will crush them to powder!” Qing Zi’s face was extremely dark.

He was always seen as a genius, yet he suffered setback after setback in Ye Fan’s hands, how could he endure this?

Moreover, Ye Fan was his enemy for killing his wife and child, with such deep hatred, how could he avenge without personally dealing with him?

Just as he spoke, Qing Zi’s eyelid twitched suddenly, realizing Ye Fan was actually charging towards him with the terrifying Heavenly Tribulation, his expression changed drastically.

“This...”

The experts from the Qing Family and Lou Family who came to kill Ye Fan were stunned, even though they brought forbidden artifacts, those could only wield Divine Power on Thunder God Ridge without stirring up a Heavenly Tribulation, but couldn’t resist the already occurring Heavenly Tribulation.

“You wanted to kill me, didn’t you? Here I come!”

While resisting the Heavenly Tribulation, Ye Fan charged toward the Qing and Lou Family members. This time, the power of his Heavenly Tribulation was much stronger than before, starting directly with golden lightning, shattering the hard purple stones on Thunder God Ridge.

. No way? Five Elements Heavenly Tribulation? Is this boy a demon or what?"

Bai Yan wolf, knowledgeable as ever, immediately recognized that Ye Fan was undergoing the legendary Five Elements Heavenly Tribulation, a bit dumbfounded.

. Retreat!"

Seeing Ye Fan with golden Divine Thunder and Heavenly Tribulation charging at them, the Qing and Lou Family strong people turned pale, scrambling to escape.

They knew clearly, once enveloped by this golden Divine Thunder, at the least they'd attract their own Heavenly Tribulation, at worst they'd be struck to dust, they wouldn't dare take such a risk.

The Qing and Lou Family strong people, who were just boasting wildly, were chased by Ye Fan like lost dogs, afraid of being passively subjected to the Heavenly Tribulation.

Unfortunately, Ye Fan, having reached the Holy Embryo Realm, had already had a qualitative leap in overall strength, his speed was no less than theirs, and in the blink of an eye, several of them were enveloped in the Heavenly Tribulation.

Ah... ah... ah!”

The power of the golden Divine Thunder was irresistible to them, these cultivators who had never undergone a Heavenly Tribulation couldn't withstand the power of the Five Elements Heavenly Tribulation, instantly struck to dust, dying non-natural deaths.

No...”

A Lou Family strong person got caught by Ye Fan, a finger pointed, directly piercing his forehead.

At this moment, Ye Fan was like a divine being walking the world, the golden Heavenly Tribulation couldn't harm him, but to others, it was deadly.

I hate this...”

The next moment.

A strong Divine Power Realm cultivator from the Qing Family wailed.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

After wailing, he was directly blasted by Ye Fan's three consecutive punches, then struck to ashes by the thunder, no bones remained, and his Divine Soul was utterly destroyed.

Chapter 1350: Escape from Death

The Five Elements Heavenly Tribulation is one of the rarest among many tribulations, possessing immense power.

Generally, it only descends when one attempts to break through from the Divine Power Realm to the Lord Realm, testing a person's comprehension of elements.

However, Ye Fan's first heavenly tribulation turned out to be the Five Elements Heavenly Tribulation, which is extremely rare and can even be said to be unprecedented.

"Great Emperor, can this kid survive?"

The Bai Yan wolf watched Ye Fan's tribulation from a distance, not daring to get closer but also not daring to stray too far.

It was well aware of its own strength. Without Ye Fan's protection, it wouldn't survive the Five Elements Heavenly Tribulation.

Moreover, after spending time together, coupled with Ye Fan's previous selfless acts to save its life, the Bai Yan wolf felt somewhat indebted to Ye Fan.

Speaking of which, if it hadn't deliberately leaked Ye Fan's whereabouts, Ye Fan wouldn't have ended up in his current situation.

If Ye Fan really got struck to death by the tribulation, the Bai Yan wolf would bear some responsibility.

"Forget it, let it be my apology to him!"

Not knowing what it was thinking, the Bai Yan wolf muttered and continued to chase after Ye Fan, knowing that Ye Fan's tribulation wouldn't last long, and the Qing and Lou families still had some people on the run.

Once the tribulation dissipates, those people will definitely circle back, putting Ye Fan in danger.

"Qing Zi, you can't escape!"

Ye Fan knew well that chasing others was futile; heavily injuring Qing Zi would suffice, and killing him would be ideal.

As for any revenge from the Qing family, that was a problem for another day.

Ye Fan believed that when the road reaches the mountain, there will be a path; when the river reaches the bridge, it will straighten out. There will always be a way!

Qing Zi remained silent, pushing his speed to the limit, fleeing for his life, having been forced to endure two tribulations in just a few days. He didn't want to get struck again.

Moreover, he could feel that this time, the Five Elements Heavenly Tribulation triggered by Ye Fan was terrifying. If he got caught in it, he might perish there.

In the distance, several strong people from the Qing and Lou families were desperately resisting their tribulations. Although they'd survived the narrow slit of the Five Elements Heavenly Tribulation, they had triggered their tribulations in the process and were now being struck mercilessly, facing potential annihilation at any moment.

Within the tribulation, Ye Fan was almost invincible. No one dared to risk triggering their tribulation to approach him, let alone attack.

After chasing Qing Zi for thousands of miles, Ye Fan finally forced him back into the range of the tribulation, successfully making him endure yet another involuntary trial.

"Damn...!"

Qing Zi felt like cursing everything. Experiencing three involuntary tribulations in half a month drove him mad with hatred.

Though stronger than Ye Fan, he couldn't move as freely within the tribulation or fight as Ye Fan could; he had to give his all to resist it.

Meanwhile, Ye Fan felt his tribulation growing stronger, forcing him to stop and focus solely on enduring it.

The Five Elements Heavenly Tribulation was terrifying, having faced the golden divine thunder, the Taiyin Green Wood Thunder, and other menacing tribulations, leaving only the Earth Divine Thunder.

The power of the tribulation lightning increased sequentially, and the Earth Divine Thunder was far stronger than the Golden Divine Thunder and Taiyin Green Wood Thunder; even he had to handle it with focus.

Boom!

A massive bolt of lightning descended, with terrifying energy fluctuations, striking Ye Fan forcefully. Despite his formidable body, he was left with lacerated flesh, and blood welled up at the corners of his mouth.

The dreadful power left Ye Fan somewhat alarmed, and he dared not let up, immediately channeling Pure Yang Qi to heal his wounds.

Boom!

Boom!

The Earth Divine Thunder continued to descend, repeatedly injuring Ye Fan's body critically.

He kept utilizing Pure Yang Qi to recover from his injuries.

Each recovery made his body feel stronger.

"At this rate, I must prepare a treasure armor; otherwise, each tribulation will leave me exposed."

While confronting the tribulation, Ye Fan pondered strategically, hoping to acquire an armor that could withstand the tribulation's power.

Such treasure armor might only exist with the Di Clan or perhaps within a Holy Land or Wu Shang Sect; obtaining one would not be easy.

The tribulation came suddenly and vanished abruptly; the originally thousand-layered thunder tribulation disappeared without warning.

Ye Fan quickly retrieved clothes from his space bag and dressed. By then, several strong individuals from the Qing and Lou families had already perished under the tribulation, while the remaining ones were struggling dearly, seemingly only a matter of time before they too succumbed.

“Kid, why are you standing there? Flee quickly!”

The Bai Yan wolf saw that Ye Fan hadn’t escaped immediately and urged him, before making a break for the north, as only the north had no tribulation blocking the way.

Hearing the Bai Yan wolf’s words, Ye Fan quickly came to his senses. Since his location had been exposed, staying any longer was out of the question; leaving immediately was the wisest choice.

At this moment, Qing Zi and the others were still undergoing tribulation and couldn’t chase after him, making it the perfect opportunity to escape. Once their tribulation ended, escaping would not be so easy.

Swoosh!

Swoosh!

In the next moment, under the frenzied gaze of Qing Zi and others, one person and one wolf rapidly vanished to the north.

The entire Southern Domain is truly vast, even just a Qing Province is overwhelming.

In the following days, Ye Fan and Bai Yan Wolf fled for tens of thousands of miles, passing through some villages and towns, listening to the natives say that this area still belongs to Qing Province; they have yet to leave its boundaries.

Ye Fan was secretly shocked, just one Qing Province is so vast, then how large should the entire Southern Domain be?

And there are four others like Tianxuan Continent—Northern Domain, Eastern Domain, Western Region, and Central Earth—making one wonder how vast Tianxuan Continent must be?

Ye Fan felt dizzy thinking about it; without Transmission Array Runes, it might be difficult for the domains to connect, each becoming a world unto itself.

According to Elder Xuan, without Transmission Array Runes, ordinary people simply cannot traverse a domain; they live and die in a tiny corner all their life.

Even for Cultivators, flying from the southernmost part of the Southern Domain to its northernmost part would take over ten years of flying non-stop.

If traveling from the Southern Domain to the Northern Domain, even powerful Cultivators would need generations to make the journey, which is why Transmission Array Runes are extraordinarily important.

It is precisely because of the emergence of Transmission Array Runes that such natural barriers between the domains have become thoroughfares.

Shortly after Ye Fan escaped, Qing Zi finally overcame his Heavenly Tribulation, battered by lightning, miserable beyond words, and covered in scars, his body pitch-black like charcoal.

“Ahhh... Ye Fan, if I don’t kill you, I swear I’m not human!”

With the Heavenly Tribulation over, Qing Zi roared angrily at the sky, then ignoring his own injuries, quickly led people in pursuit of Ye Fan!

Qing Zi and his men pursued for thousands of miles, unable to find even a shadow of Ye Fan, and finally had to stop helplessly.

“Young Master Qing, what should we do now?”

A middle-aged strong person of the Divine Power Realm from Qing Family who surprisingly survived the Heavenly Tribulation without being struck dead asked Qing Zi.

“Inform the Ancestor and have him send people to seal off seventy thousand miles around this area; we will search slowly and eventually find him, I don’t believe he won’t appear!”

Qing Zi's face was dark enough to drip water, his eyes burning with flames of fury.

Repeated failures not only failed to kill Ye Fan but also caused the loss of many strong people from the clan, which made it hard for the Qing Family to bear such losses despite their heritage.

On this day, the entire Southern Domain was again shaken, as Ye Fan's name was added to Qing Family's kill list, indicating that Qing Family would spare no expense in hunting Ye Fan.

A Little Cultivator in the True Essence Realm just arrived in Qing Province and stirred up endless turmoil, making the Southern Domain's cultivators incredulous.

At the same time, many cultivators were on edge, fearing they might anger Qing Family at this critical juncture and become their punching bags.

However, many cultivators also had ideas: if they could capture Ye Fan alive and deliver him to Qing Family, they could not only receive substantial rewards in Spirit Stones but also build good relations with Qing Family.

Ye Fan's predicament became increasingly dire; even though he successfully condensed the Holy Embryo and advanced into the Holy Embryo Realm, he still felt a strong sense of crisis.

Crushing opponents of the same level and capable of defeating in cross-realm battles, yet if he encounters a genius like Qing Zi, he may not win, let alone face strong people of the Divine Power Realm.

On this day, Qing Family's Ancestor and Lou Family's Ancestor held a lengthy secret meeting in Qing Family Ancestral Land and eventually agreed to dispatch ten youthful experts at the Peak of Holy Embryo Realm to hunt and kill Ye Fan.

Simultaneously, they allied with some small sects and clans to completely seal off seventy thousand miles in the direction of Ye Fan's escape, forming a massive cage to prevent Ye Fan from sneaking out of the area.

Not only Qing Province, but strong people from other provinces in Southern Domain also joined the army searching for and killing Ye Fan.

For a time, the entire Southern Domain was in turmoil, with discussions about this matter heard everywhere.

"It seems that this Little Cultivator named Ye Fan is destined for doom!"

"The strength gap is too large; sooner or later, Qing Family's people will find and kill him!"

"What a pity; a genius capable of slaughtering so many strong individuals from Qing Family and Lou Family, it's worth even if he dies."

"Qing Family is too domineering; doesn't everyone know about Lou Family's scandals? Using a maiden's Yin Blood to refine Demon Techniques, Ye Fan killing them is outright justice!"

“Shh, keep it down; you’ll be in trouble if Lou Family hears you!”

“What’s there to fear? We’re neither in Qing Province nor Chi Yang City; Lou Family doesn’t have such extended reach!”

“We all understand what you’re saying, but Ye Fan is a Little Cultivator without any background, fighting against giants like Qing Family and Lou Family—Isn’t that seeking death?”

“Hehe, Qing Family and Lou Family are a domineering duo in Qing Province, yet repeatedly humiliated by that Little Cultivator; he even exterminated some of their strong people, no wonder they can’t sit still.”

The same kinds of discussions could be heard throughout Southern Domain; people were indeed not favorable towards Qing Family and Lou Family, merely unwilling to cause trouble. In fact, many sympathized with Ye Fan.

Among those cultivators who voluntarily joined the army encircling Ye Fan, if not closely connected with Qing Family and Lou Family, then they are blinded by greed, wishing to trade Ye Fan for substantial Spirit Stone wealth.

Besides that, Qing Family and Lou Family also instructed some small clans and sects loyal to them to dispatch people to search for Ye Fan’s traces within a seventy thousand-mile radius.