

Y Master 1621

Chapter 1621: The Number One of the Younger Generation!

Outside the Immortal Academy!

The ground is devastated, with broken mountains, deep gorges, and abysses everywhere. The heavenly tribulation has destroyed this desolate vein and turned it into a barren land.

Although the heavenly tribulation has ended, no one is willing to approach here, not even the heroic lords of various powers who are watching Ye Fan and Ling Haotian from a distance.

“Still looking for humiliation?”

Ye Fan easily blocked Ling Haotian’s desperate attack and then unleashed the Immortal Stele Scattering Hand, slapping Ling Haotian to the ground, asking coldly.

“You... ugh...”

Ling Haotian had barely broken through, yet was severely injured during the heavenly tribulation and repeatedly humiliated. At this moment, being knocked to the ground again, hearing Ye Fan’s words, his anger surged, spitting out a mouthful of blood, nearly fainting again, saved by a Supreme Elder of the Ling Family.

Seeing this scene, Princess Yue Bai couldn’t help but shake her head and silently left.

“Yue Bai...”

Seeing his fiancée’s deeply disappointed expression, Ling Haotian felt anxious. Just as he was about to use divine power to chase after her, it triggered his injuries, causing him to spit out another mouthful of blood and fainted directly.

The duel ended completely here, with heroic lords of various powers leaving one after another. Other loose cultivators discussed this duel, all believing Ye Fan to be the number one among the younger generation of the Five Domains. Even Ling Haotian lost; who else could be his opponent?

From this moment on, his opponents will become those stronger elder-level opponents, and even the major powers dare not underestimate him.

Most importantly, he possesses an Emperor Weapon. Even if a Saint Lord level master attacks stealthily, they might not be able to kill him with one strike. If Elder Xuan intervenes, the attacking Saint Lord level master could be in trouble.

“The Human Race cannot be underestimated!”

An elder from the Demon Clan viewed this duel and sighed, as both Ye Fan and Ling Haotian are very powerful, enough to rival the top demon-level geniuses of the younger generation of the Demon Clan.

“Humph!”

Bai Lin snorted disdainfully, saying, "Do they consider themselves strong? After all these years, the Human Race is still so weak; the younger generation is simply no match for our Demon Clan. Hopefully, the so-called emperor's son will bring us some surprise; those emperor's sons sealed away should be emerging anytime now!"

"Silence!"

A Supreme Elder of the Demon Clan stopped Bai Lin from speaking further, then bowed to the Immortal Academy Director Old Immortal and other heroic lords, saying, "We have benefited greatly from this observation; we will take our leave now, and if fate allows, I believe we will meet again."

"Then I will not keep you, the green hills never change, the green waters flow forever, we will meet again!"

Old Immortal nodded, watching the strong people of the Demon Clan disappear into the horizon.

Meanwhile, Ling Haotian was awakened under the clan's treatment but was mentally listless, with his eyes distracted, seemingly unable to bear the blow and completely collapsing.

"Farewell!"

The Saint of the Ling Family bowed to Old Immortal and Monk Dao Yan, taking a deep look at Ye Fan before leaving the Immortal Academy with Ling Haotian and the Ling Family members, returning to their clan.

Soon, only people from the Immortal Academy and Imperial Academy were left outside the Immortal Academy, as all spectators had left, and Old Immortal also led Ye Fan and others to fly toward the academy.

Monk Dao Yan, director of the Imperial Academy, felt extremely awkward, initially thinking the Imperial Academy would again defeat the Immortal Academy with overwhelming superiority, continuing past glory. Unexpectedly, it was this outcome.

Thinking for a moment, Monk Dao Yan sighed and took the Immortal Academy crowd and the top disciples needing rescue back to the Immortal Academy.

To return, they must use the Transmission Array Platform of the Immortal Academy; otherwise, they can only go to other towns to use small transmission array platforms, which would be too time-consuming.

Back at the academy, the faces of all people from the Imperial Academy were unsightly, especially You Yunxiao and Liang Boyao, who had a good relationship with Ling Haotian. Ling Haotian lost this duel, and they also felt ashamed.

Ironically, the three almost all lost to Ye Fan personally, which made it difficult for them to accept, especially Liang Boyao, whose gaze was almost fiery when looking at Ye Fan.

From the beginning, when Ye Fan extracted Earth Vein Dragon Qi to transform into a True Dragon to battle Ling Haotian, he could already be sure it was one of the secret techniques in the Liang Family's Dragon Seeking Formulas.

Thus, they could roughly guess who robbed them. At least, Ye Fan was certainly among the robbers, and the Dragon Seeking Formulas likely fell into his hands.

However—

He could not openly ask for it, or he would be more embarrassed.

Moreover, he also knew Ye Fan would definitely not admit—besides the Dragon Seeking Formulas, some other secret techniques could utilize Earth Vein Dragon Qi in battle; he couldn't be certain Ye Fan was the one who robbed him.

"Ye, just wait and see!"

Liang Boyao vowed secretly, deciding to call upon the clan's strong people to use the secret technique from the Dragon Seeking Formulas against Ye Fan.

"Old Immortal, congratulations, your Immortal Academy has won once!" Monk Dao Yan, with an iron-blue face and gritted teeth, said to Old Immortal.

“Not at all, it was just a draw; five to five, no one won!”

Although these words were spoken, the smile on Old Immortal’s face betrayed his thoughts. At this moment, Old Immortal’s face was wrinkled into a blooming chrysanthemum, clearly in a good mood.

“Hypocrisy! All right, let’s use your Transmission Array Platform; we’re heading back!” Monk Dao Yan said with a bitter smile.

“Don’t be in such a rush to leave. You come here once in a blue moon, so stay a few more days, right? Let us fulfill our host duties at the Immortal Academy!” The Old Bastard said with a smile.

“There’s no need, when the next sparring match is held at our Imperial Academy, I’ll invite you!”

Monk Dao Yan certainly knew what the Old Bastard was thinking. The strongest disciple lost miserably in the sparring, causing him to lose face completely, and he wouldn’t want to stay here any longer.

“Alright then, I’ll immediately instruct someone to open the Array Platform for you, however... you know, our Immortal Academy isn’t as wealthy as your Imperial Academy...” The Old Bastard said.

“No need to say any more, we’ll provide the Spirit Stones for the Array Platform!”

Monk Dao Yan gritted his teeth, knowing all too well that the Immortal Academy is always stingy; he didn’t expect they’d refuse to pay the Spirit Stones for opening the Transmission Array Platform!

“Then I won’t keep you, you see, I wanted to fulfill my host duties, yet you don’t even give me face, not very friend-like!” The Old Bastard, taking advantage of the situation, then blamed Monk Dao Yan for not giving face, making Monk Dao Yan nearly challenge him to a duel in anger.

The contingent from the Imperial Academy activated the Transmission Array Platform, directly traversing the void back to the Central Domain, while Ye Fan was hailed as a hero by the entire Immortal Academy, acclaimed as the top figure of the younger generation.

As a result, those disciples of the Immortal Academy who targeted Ye Fan completely lost their voices, initially thinking Ye Fan could be bullied, just a new disciple, not the heir of any Holy Land or major force, merely someone from a small sect.

However —

Now, their hearts were completely chilled, for Ye Fan had not only demonstrated absolute strength but also, in terms of background, possessed the Emperor Bloodline and Emperor Weapon, making it as easy to kill them as crushing an ant.

...

Half a day later, the sparring match at the Immortal Academy, the battle between Ye Fan and Ling Haotian quickly spread, shaking the Five Domains; no one expected such an outcome.

“What? Ye Fan of the Immortal Academy actually defeated Ling Haotian, the strongest heir of the Emperor Clan Ling Family? Are you kidding?”

“Are you talking nonsense? Everyone knows Ling Haotian is the strongest heir of the Ling Family. In the absence of the Emperor’s son, he’s the foremost of the younger generation in the Five Domains, how could he lose?”

“Not only that, Ling Haotian was extremely miserable, nearly killed by his own Heavenly Tribulation, while Ye Fan fought him in the tribulation without drawing his own tribulation, it’s so bizarre!”

“...”

All of a sudden, the events of this sparring match spread like wildfire across the Five Domains, major forces began to see Ye Fan, the rising star, in a new light, no longer able to underestimate him.

In fact, Ye Fan’s name had recently been appearing frequently in the Cultivation World: in the battle at the Blood Pool, he used the Heavenly Tribulation to capture Ling Batian’s fiancée and the geniuses of the Ling Family’s affiliate forces in one sweep, eliminating them all.

In the Immortal Mansion Ruins, he once again used the Heavenly Tribulation to defeat the human-shaped creatures, sparing the Human Race from a great disaster!

Soon after, he went on a killing spree, uprooting the Qing Family, scaring the Qingxuan Sect into relocating the whole sect without daring to meet!

These events one after another were all glorious achievements Ye Fan had recently created, making it difficult to ignore him, especially considering he possessed the Emperor Weapon left behind by the Nine Heavens Xuan Emperor!

“This child cannot be allowed to live; once he grows up, he’ll spell disaster for all Saint Heirs!”

That was the first thought that arose among those eager to get rid of him upon receiving the news.

Even monsters like Ling Haotian couldn’t match Ye Fan, once Ye Fan grows, who could possibly control him? Better to crush him now, before he truly grows up.

After this battle, Ye Fan’s fame overshadowed all young geniuses!

After all, to surpass the first figure of the same generation, such a feat, only Young Emperors of ancient times could accomplish!

In the distant ancient times, there were prodigies not yet twenty years old, capable of fighting strong people two or three Xiao realms higher, this was not legend, but true history.

But now, times are different; such figures rarely appear, yet Ye Fan did it, causing widespread astonishment!

“Is this the path to becoming a Great Emperor?”

Thinking of this question, many were restless, especially those with old grievances against Ye Fan.

“Comparable to the ancient demons, he can at least reach the Peak of the Venerable Realm, or even the Quasi-Emperor level!” Many were in a trance.

Compared to the outside world’s agitation, the Immortal Academy was full of joy; although on the surface they’ve merely tied with the Imperial Academy, in reality, Ye Fan’s victory over the strongest Ling Haotian had already turned the tide for the Immortal Academy, finally giving them a chance to boast.

“Awards, Ye Fan must be heavily rewarded!”

The Old Bastard gleefully said to the Old Fox beside him, “All Immortal Academy disciples who won against their opponents in the sparring match should be heavily rewarded, especially Ye Fan, who should receive major rewards!”

“Rewards must be given, but our Spirit Stones are already scarce, after this celebration, I’m afraid even the cultivation resources needed each month for ordinary disciples can’t be distributed!” The Old Fox said worriedly.

“Why hasn’t the Northern Territory Spirit Stone Mine sent more Spirit Stones yet? What’s gone wrong?” The Old Bastard frowned.

“Rumor has it that the academy’s Spirit Stone Mine has had unusual changes, all the miners who went down have died, and even the accompanying cultivators didn’t make it back up; I’ve already sent someone to investigate, they should have news in the next two days!”

The Old Fox truthfully said, feeling vaguely uneasy.

Chapter 1622: Spiritual Ore Mutation

Two days later, news came from the Northern Territory Spirit Mine of the Immortal Academy.

The strong people sent to investigate the spirit stone mine calamity were all dead; not a single one survived. This incident alarmed many other forces, who all believed that something extraordinary might emerge from the spirit mine of the Immortal Academy, and they were all eager to move.

However, before the situation was clarified, they did not act recklessly, and they were all watching, waiting to see how the Immortal Academy would handle this matter!

“Immediately send more people to investigate, no matter what, we must understand what is happening in the mining area!” Even the Old Fox couldn’t sit still.

The academy’s top brass held a small meeting and finally decided to have the Law Enforcement Elder Lan Yingfei select a few elite disciples to go to the Northern Territory Spirit Mine to see what exactly happened.

Of course, to ensure the safety of the academy’s disciples, they were only observers and would not participate directly in the investigation. The academy would also send other experts.

Soon, the list of those heading to the Northern Territory Spirit Mine was finalized, among them was Ye Fan.

On one hand, Ye Fan's recent performance had been too dazzling, and the Old Bastard wanted him to gain some experience.

More importantly, Ye Fan had learned the Dragon Seeking Formulas, which could help investigate the spirit mine issues—in the mining area, the Dragon Seeking Formulas had the effect of averting danger and also had superb means of finding spirit stone veins, which was precisely what was needed for investigating the mine incident.

The next day, Ye Fan, along with Shi Ye, Qi Tianlin, Wu Jingtian, and others, were summoned to a Forbidden Land of the academy.

Ye Fan and the others were no strangers to the Forbidden Land; it was the great hall used for traversing the void to the Immortal Secret Realm.

In the hall, there were various transmission array platforms that could traverse to any place in the Five Domains; it was the academy's highest secret place.

Rumble!

Under the leadership of Lan Yingfei, Ye Fan and his group boarded the transmission array platform, the domain gate opened, and they stepped into the domain gate.

The space passage was silent, with no time passing, no light appearing, in a pitch-dark void, exceptionally quiet.

As if in the blink of an eye, yet as if ten lifetimes had passed, this strange journey finally ended, making one feel the passage of time.

The void split open, Ye Fan and the others stepped out from the void, descending upon this harsh land in the Northern Domain.

“Is this the Northern Domain?”

Ye Fan looked around. Although he had previously traversed to the Central Domain, the Central Domain was not the Northern Domain, the place renowned for its abundant spirit stones.

Looking around, everything was desolate: no splendid flowers, no bustling crowds, no vibrant vegetation. The land was barren, with red soil and reddish-brown rocks, presenting an image of bleakness and desolation.

Endless land, extraordinarily vast with no sign of life, only a few bare stone mountains dotted the horizon. It was a barren land with no sign of life, no sign of humanity, a place full of deathly silence.

“That’s right, this is the Northern Domain, and also the main production area of our Immortal Academy’s spirit stones. Most of the spirit stones you receive from the academy every month are produced here!” Lan Yingfei nodded.

“The environment here is terrible; it’s far worse than my hometown!” Shi Ye murmured.

“You should be content; the Northern Domain has always been like this!”

Han Sandong, who originated from the Northern Domain, was well aware of its environment and felt particularly familiar, as if returning home.

“What can discontent do? After all, we won’t be here for long, treat it as a journey.” Shi Ye quickly adjusted his mood, curiously looking around.

“Tsk tsks... This really is a godforsaken place!”

Even Qi, the demon, who was usually stern and silent, said this, indicating how harsh the environment was here.

The Northern Domain, boundless and limitless, teeming with spirit stone mines, famous across the world.

Regarding the vast land, it is sparsely populated, with no sign of humanity for thousands of miles, most places are wasteland.

As the saying goes, success because of spirit stones, failure because of spirit stones. This mysterious substance gathers the Heaven and Earth Essence, seemingly draining all the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi of the entire Northern Domain.

The Northern Domain's characteristics, social environment, and living conditions are all intertwined with spirit stones. Although oases exist, they are insignificant compared to the vast expanse.

Producing spirit stones here means people do not need to worry about food and clothing, but spirit stones also lead to frequent conflicts, resulting in fierce and aggressive customs, often fighting over spirit stone mines.

Therefore, the major Holy Lands, Di Clans, and Wu Shang Sects excavate the origin mines of the Northern Domain, mostly bringing people from their respective regions.

The preciousness of spirit stones to a cultivator is akin to gold coins to ordinary people, resulting in rampant banditry, not only from locals but also forces from various parts of the Eastern Desolation.

Fierce battles over spirit stone mines, with blood flowing in rivers, are common occurrences. Overall, the Northern Domain is a chaotic land. Known for its spirit stone mines, it is destined to be a place of disorder and bloodshed.

As everyone was discussing, Lan Yingfei walked forward on foot, leaving behind a series of footprints on the red earth, accompanied by thunderous sounds, and suddenly his figure disappeared in front of them.

“Boom...”

The earth shook, the mountains and rivers seemed to move, several thousand people stood unsteady, many fell, all showing looks of panic.

In front, the scene changed dramatically, and on the vast and boundless land, many stone houses piled by rocks appeared, accompanied by figures and several spirit stone mines.

This region is set with a supreme array, harnessing the power of the Heaven and Earth to protect the academy’s mining area, encapsulating everything!

The Northern Domain has endless mining areas, but the most productive area is around the Primordial Ancient Mine, with it as the center, tens of thousands of miles in radius, divided among the major Holy Lands.

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The Primordial Ancient Mine is one of the Forbidden Zones of life in the Xuan Realm, located in the depths of this region, surrounded by the mining areas of the major Holy Lands, but no great power dares to explore it.

The Immortal Academy's spirit stone mine is located in this vast area, and compared to other Holy Lands and Di Clans whose mines are frequently plundered, the mines of the Immortal Academy and the Imperial Academy are much safer.

The spirit stone mine of the Immortal Academy, like the Imperial Academy, is adjacent to the Primordial Ancient Mine District. The quality of the spirit stones produced here is extremely high, and many Strange Stones are produced, imbued with primordial aura, exceptionally precious.

Of course, to ensure the safety of the mining area, a top expert stationed by the Immortal Academy guards the mine. His strength is comparable to strong people like Lan Yingfei and Zhao Guangcheng.

At this moment, he is looking worriedly at the distant No. 7 Mining Area, where gray mist is pervasive near the mine, and corpses are scattered everywhere, shocking to behold.

As the person in charge of the mine district, such a significant event naturally couldn't be concealed, and he immediately reported to the Immortal Academy.

However—

The first group of experts from the Immortal Academy who rushed here never emerged after entering the mine, evidently having faced misfortune!

Ye Fan and others were considered the second wave. Soon, following Lan Yingfei, they met the mine district's manager, who led them to the accident-stricken No. 7 Mine!

Seeing the scene outside the mine, Ye Fan and others were startled. Near the accident mine, fifty to sixty corpses lay chaotically, all with faces blackened and eyes wide open, as if unable to rest in peace.

From that mine, wisps of black fog floated out, causing an oppressive feeling even from a distance, which was precisely why this tragedy occurred.

“Why aren’t the corpses buried?” Lan Yingfei asked, gazing at the mine’s vicinity.

“No one dares to approach. That black fog holds deadly things; even I face life-threatening danger when close, so...” the manager hesitated to answer.

“Have compensation payments been distributed?”

“They’ve all been given out. Old Ying, our losses this time are too great. I suspect something ominous is unfolding; this disaster differs entirely from other mining areas.” The manager was deeply worried.

“Hmm, let me check what is truly happening!” Lan Yingfei said, stepping towards the mine, ignoring the pervasive black fog.

“Be careful, Old Ying!”

The manager couldn't help but remind him; he had personally witnessed the peril of the black fog and nearly got obliterated by it, exceedingly dangerous.

“Hmm.”

As he spoke, Lan Yingfei reached the edge of the black fog, emitting a gentle Mystic Light from his body, keeping the fog at bay, preventing it from entering.

Ye Fan and the others also approached, yet none dared touch the black fog. At a hundred meters from it, they already sensed immense dangers.

“Any survivors?”

Ye Fan frowned, inquiring the manager.

“None, as soon as it appeared, everyone died, even those transporting stones outside the mine weren't spared!” The manager shook his head, his tiger eyes filled with deep worry.

“The black fog lightened!”

Ye Fan observed closely; indeed, the black fog was dissipating gradually, indicating that the danger was almost lifted.

Lan Yingfei ventured only a dozen meters into the fog and ceased advancing, feeling substantial danger, with terrifying death aura consuming his Divine Power four to five times quicker than usual, which was not a good sign.

Fortunately, the black fog was slowly thinning; perhaps it wouldn't be long before it entirely vanished, at which time further investigation would not be too late.

"I'll see what this black fog truly is!"

A strong individual who came with Ye Fan and others sacrificed a White Jade Bottle, attempting to collect a wisp of black fog for research.

"Whish!"

The White Jade Bottle transformed into Flowing Light, swiftly emitting a gentle glow as it began absorbing the fog.

"Crack!"

To everyone's surprise, as soon as a wisp of black fog entered, the White Jade Bottle shattered, losing its luster, falling to the ground.

"This..."

The strong individual trembled, looking incredulously at the broken White Jade Bottle, which was his Spiritual Treasure, destroyed, unable to contain a wisp of black fog.

"A Venerable Realm Early-Stage cultivator's Spiritual Treasure couldn't withstand a wisp of black fog. What is this thing?" Everyone was shocked.

"An aura of Taigu..."

Ye Fan's eyes emitted Strange Light, and from the black fog, he saw the apparition of Human-shaped creatures, though vague, he was sure he wasn't mistaken.

"Could this black fog relate to Taigu Human-shaped creatures?"

Ye Fan was unsettled. Knowing the terror of Human-shaped creatures, if a living one was to be unearthed beneath the mine, it would surely spell disaster!

Chapter 1623: The Truth Behind the Mutation

The black mist had already enveloped the area for many days. Initially, it was much denser than it is now, and most miners from the Immortal Academy died during that time.

If it weren't for the timely intervention of the person in charge, who used Mystical Skill to take the remaining miners away, it's likely that the entire mining area would have been deserted by now.

At this moment, the miners who were lucky enough to survive were trembling in the distance, their eyes filled with endless fear. They didn't even know what had happened in the mine; all they saw was the black mist spreading, and their companions were falling one by one.

The tragic way of death made these ordinary people feel an infinite terror, making them realize for the first time how close death could be.

Fortunately, the black mist was gradually dissipating and becoming lighter, allowing their fearful hearts to slightly calm down.

Moreover, the Immortal Academy, unlike other Holy Lands or the Di Clan, did not see these ordinary people as ants. At the very least, they still considered the ordinary miners.

Watching the scene before them, a few middle-aged strong people of the Immortal Academy all showed a solemn expression. They felt that this matter was somewhat unusual and had no idea what was going on.

After a full three hours, the black mist completely dissipated, disappearing into the world.

Soon after, a yellow dog was thrown into the mine shaft, its barking echoing continuously. Although it sounded miserable, it was undoubtedly still alive.

After a long time, the barking never stopped, allowing the strong people of the Immortal Academy to finally breathe a sigh of relief. It seemed that the mine shaft was no longer dangerous.

“Fortunately, it’s not as bad as expected!”

“It seems it was merely an evil aura, and no living creatures appeared; otherwise, this place would have already become a land of death.”

Lan Yingfei, along with a few middle-aged strong people and Ye Fan, approached the shaft opening, observing each corpse. Then they leaned forward and surveyed the mine for a while, finding nothing unusual.

“Remove these bodies and bury them in an abandoned mine.”

Lan Yingfei sighed heavily, then instructed Ye Fan and others to bury the bodies. They were Cultivators and could detect and avoid any danger, but these people died horribly, possibly due to poison. If ordinary people came into contact with them, they might very well die.

The Immortal Academy governs with benevolence and naturally wouldn’t senselessly sacrifice the lives of ordinary miners. This distinguished them from the Imperial Academy and other Holy Lands.

Even though mining presents various dangers, the Immortal Academy never has a shortage of miners, unlike other forces that need to offer high wages or use unusual methods to capture ordinary people for mining.

Moreover, in the bitter cold lands of the Northern Domain, even the mines of the Di Clan are frequently raided by the Nine Great Bandits. Only the Immortal Academy and Imperial Academy are spared, which ensures the safety of ordinary miners' lives.

Soon, the corpses outside the shaft were cleared, and now it was time for the bodies in the mine. Thankfully, Ye Fan and the others all possessed Space Spiritual Artifacts, so they could simply collect the bodies into them and bring them out, posing no significant risk.

"Be careful. If anything unexpected happens, don't bother with anything else—just escape first, understood?"

Lan Yingfei cautioned Ye Fan and others before watching them descend into the mine.

The mine was dimly lit, but fortunately, everyone had already reached the realm of being able to see white in a dark room. Unless it was absolutely dark, their vision wasn't compromised. As they looked around, the ground was littered with corpses, scattered in various positions, each death more tragic than the last.

"Hiss..."

Even though everyone was accustomed to death, the scene before them was chilling, with too many corpses to count.

Qi Tianlin, Shi Ye, Hu Fei, and the others summoned their Space Spiritual Artifacts to collect the bodies from the ground.

Ye Fan also summoned a Jade Bottle, using Mystical Skill to activate it. The Jade Bottle emitted a powerful suction, pulling the corpses from the ground into it.

Clearing as they progressed inward, more and more bodies appeared, with increasingly terrifying forms of death. Some bodies had decomposed into piles of bones, and even the bones were black, evidently poisoned.

The deeper they went, the more uneasy Ye Fan felt, as if a great danger awaited them ahead, discomfiting him.

Hmm?

Suddenly, Ye Fan noticed some light ahead. Focusing closer, he saw a Heaven Grade Spirit Stone, the size of a human head, gleaming embedded within the stone.

Ordinary Spirit Stones are five-colored and dull, containing little Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi, and though richer than natural Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi, they're not particularly valuable.

Mid-Grade Spirit Stones are seven-colored with a faint glow, containing much more Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi compared to ordinary Spirit Stones.

High Grade Spirit Stones are nine-colored and radiant, highly valuable. Generally, only Holy Lands and Wu Shang Sects or forces like the Di Clan possess them. Small sects like the Xuanwu Sect consider it a great fortune to acquire them quickly.

Then comes top-grade Spirit Stones, even more precious than High Grade.

Heaven Grade Spirit Stones surpass top-grade Spirit Stones in value, truly invaluable treasures.

Now, in front of them lay a Heaven Grade Spirit Stone, the size of a human head. How could Ye Fan not be moved?

Not only he, but everyone else noticed and swiftly gathered around. No corpses surrounded this Heaven Grade Spirit Stone, either completely vaporized or perhaps no one died there altogether.

“The problem lies here...”

Ye Fan cautiously approached the stone, and upon seeing everything clearly, inhaled sharply.

Inside that head-sized Heaven Grade Spirit Stone, there was unexpectedly a claw, similar to a Human's hand but covered with dark cyan scales. Each scale was as big as a fingernail, gleaming with a green light, even the palm was no exception, looking extremely fierce.

“Judging from the age of these Stones, they're at least from before the Taigu era. Could they really be Human-shaped creatures?”

Ye Fan was shocked in his heart. He recalled the Human-shaped creature shadows he saw in the black mist outside the mine.

“Ghost Claws?”

“What kind of demon?”

“What monster is this?”

Shi Ye, Hu Fei, Qi Tianlin, and the others all exclaimed in shock. It was their first time seeing such a thing, and they were extremely astonished.

Ye Fan rubbed the stone wall with his hand and sent his divine consciousness into it. He was immediately astounded to discover that it was originally a gigantic Stone fractured by the Miners, revealing this Heaven Grade Spirit Stone. Bone patterns within the stone layer were connected to this Spirit Stone.

“This...”

Ye Fan was greatly shocked.

This should be a fossil, with only the palm preserved intact by the Spirit Stone, while the rest had become fossilized.

“Could this be the remains of a Demon Clan strong person?” Hu Fei pondered.

“No, it’s not correct. It has wings on its back and scales on its body. Such a creature is definitely not from the Demon Clan!” Shi Ye said gruffly.

“There’s no need to guess. This is a Human-shaped creature, different from the Demon Clan. I can sense that deathly aura from its body!” Ye Fan said.

At this moment, he also realized why there was black mist and why so many people had died.

It turned out that when the giant Stone was pierced, this Heaven Grade Spirit Stone cracked, exposing the claw’s scales and flesh to the air, drying it up, and thereby generating the black mist.

“Human-shaped creatures are indeed terrifying. Just a bit of their flesh rotting in the air exudes such terrifying power. A mere wisp of gray mist was enough to shatter the Spiritual Treasures of Early-Stage Venerable cultivators. It’s unimaginable!”

Ye Fan felt secretly fortunate. In the Immortal Treasure Land, if not for using the Heavenly Tribulation, he couldn’t have dealt with Human-shaped creatures.

“Ye Fan, take it up and let Elder Lan Yingfei have a look and see what kind of ghostly thing this is,” Wu Jingtian suggested to Ye Fan.

“Alright, everyone back up a bit.”

Ye Fan nodded in agreement, then activated his Mystical Skill, his right hand glowing with a prominent purple light, imbued with Thunder Power. He easily pierced the stone wall, extracting the Heaven Grade Spirit Stone along with the dried-up claw, and stored it into the Space Spiritual Treasure.

“Huh! There are some patterns here, they seem man-made, very Mysterious!”

After extracting the Heaven Grade Spirit Stone, Ye Fan keenly noticed some Mysterious patterns within the stone, resembling Array Patterns but slightly different.

“Hu Fei, you all take this Spirit Stone out first, I’ll study these patterns further.”

Ye Fan handed the Space Spiritual Treasure containing the Human-shaped creature's claw to Hu Fei, then turned around to continue his research.

"Aren't these natural Stone patterns? What's there to study?" Hu Fei grumbled.

Despite his words, he didn't disturb Ye Fan further, and instead returned to the mine's surface with Qi Tianlin and the others, handing over the Heaven Grade Spirit Stone with the sealed Human-shaped creature's claw to Lan Yingfei.

"Roar..."

Just as Ye Fan was studying the patterns in the stone and infused a bit of Divine Power into them, he suddenly heard a loud roar and furious howl, though he couldn't understand a word.

From this roar, Ye Fan could only discern deep hatred and despair, undoubtedly the roar was from this Human-shaped creature at the moment of its death.

His powerful strength sealed his voice within the stone until Ye Fan's Divine Power stimulated the patterns on the stone, restoring the voice.

Ye Fan felt his Divine Soul unsteady. This roar nearly shattered his Divine Soul. If not for his Divine Soul having condensed into the Heavenly Tao Seal, possessing part of the Heavenly Dao's Tao Marks, he would've been dead.

“There must be some Array Patterns, but too few have appeared now. It’s impossible to ascertain what kind of Array Patterns they are without further excavation!”

After much research, Ye Fan finally came to this conclusion. From some clues, it was inferred that this array might likely be a Divine Formation recorded in the Dragon Seeking Formulas—the Sky-locking Array!

If it truly is the Sky-locking Array, it would indicate that past Earth Masters had once battled here, as only an Earth Master can set up this kind of Killing Array!

“Surely past Earth Masters have fought here, though whether it was the first generation or which generation is still unknown?”

Ye Fan pondered in his heart.

Chapter 1624: The First Earth Master

“Dig! Keep digging!”

Upon seeing the claw wrapped in the Heaven Grade Spirit Stone, Lan Yingfei was extremely excited. He personally went down to the well to inspect the situation and came to a conclusion similar to that of Ye Fan.

In Ancient Times, this must have been a battlefield. These patterns must be some kind of mysterious array patterns, but no one knows exactly what they are.

As time flows by, with the changes of the world, the battlefield of Ancient Times has now turned into a vein, especially since it's not far from the Primordial Ancient Mine, which further increases his speculation.

"You all continue to oversee the excavation here. As soon as there are new discoveries, report to me immediately. This matter is extremely important, and I will record great merits for you." Lan Yingfei said solemnly, then spoke a few words to the person in charge here and disappeared.

Ye Fan knew that Elder Lan Yingfei was likely reporting the happenings here to the dean. If an Ancient Battlefield could truly be uncovered, then the matter would be significant enough to require the Old Bastard to come and stabilize the situation personally.

"What exactly is that creature? Why didn't Elder Lan clarify?"

"It's at least a creature from before Taigu, seemingly extremely terrifying and powerful."

"Before Taigu... no one knows if humans existed at that time. Even if they did, no one knows what position humans held back then!"

Many people were discussing with much doubt in their hearts, wondering if continuing to dig this way would lead to even more demonic events.

Only Ye Fan secretly smiled bitterly. This creature definitely wasn't of the Demon Clan, the body was so powerful that even after countless millennia of death, the death Qi from a single piece of flesh was still so horrifying.

However, he was also secretly grateful that human-shaped creatures have become extinct in this world. Otherwise, human survival would be extremely difficult.

In the Forbidden Land of the Divine Race, many battlefields still remain where the Divine Race fought against human-shaped creatures, with skeletal remains preserved, marking an extremely brutal war.

“Could they really research some secret technique or Divine Skills from that claw?”

“It’s hard to say. If it’s a sufficiently powerful creature, that hand might indeed be a priceless treasure.” The middle-aged cultivators of Immortal Academy were also whispering to each other.

“Even the dean might not truly understand it, considering how distant the past is!”

“In today’s world, perhaps only the core of the Primordial Ancient Mine holds the answer, where exists powerful beings that survive through Heaven Grade Spirit Stones...”

“Don’t speak about it, the Primordial Ancient Mine is a taboo land, and such things must not be spoken lightly here.”

The Primordial Ancient Mine is located at the very center of this region, surrounded by mining areas of the Holy Land and Di Clan, as well as the Immortal Academy and Imperial Academy. No one dares to explore it; it is an ominous Forbidden Zone, a deathtrap.

In the following days, Ye Fan was in the well, excavating the spirit stone mine with the workers, yet there was no gain. Not only did they not uncover the so-called Sky-locking Array, not even a single Spirit Stone was found.

“Could my speculation be wrong? That it’s not the Sky-locking Array?”

Ye Fan was full of doubts; even though he saw traces of the Sky-locking Array, they were no longer there.

Compared to him, the miners were secretly relieved, as there had been no misfortune in the past few days, nor had they dug up anything evil or monstrous.

Just when Ye Fan was near despair, the miners in the front suddenly let out cries of surprise.

“What’s happening?”

With a loud shout, Ye Fan quickly squeezed through the crowd toward the deepest part of the mine. Due to the narrow passage, he couldn’t fly, but the Chasing Star Step allowed him to move swiftly even in the crowd.

“Bones, there’s a massive discovery of bones!”

The people in front were exceedingly frightened, automatically opening a path for him, allowing Ye Fan to reach the scene first.

After spending time here, Ye Fan had become familiar with these miners, who treated him very well, almost as if he were their Guardian God.

“Immortal, come and see!”

An experienced elderly miner pointed shakily towards the area they had just excavated and spoke to Ye Fan.

At first, Ye Fan didn’t mind much, for underground anything could happen. Discovering some skeletal remains was quite ordinary; some mining areas had even unearthed coffins!

However—

When he saw everything before him, he couldn’t help but gasp in shock!

An endless sea of skeletal remains, all turned into fossils, impossible to count their number.

Whenever a stone was shattered, inside it was filled with a terrifying number of bones.

Ultimately, there were no stones, only stone-like bones, and it was as if they had stumbled upon a mass burial pit.

Soon, Qi Tianlin and others arrived, accompanied by several middle-aged cultivators from the Immortal Academy.

Seeing the scene before them, they were all chilled to the core, the atmosphere becoming increasingly eerie and cold.

Being of a Pure Yang Body, Ye Fan didn't feel too much discomfort. His eyes shot out two beams of Purple Light, searching among the skeletal remains for every suspicious point.

It was evident that these remains were not human. They had human-like skeletons, but some had extra features while others had missing ones.

"The Sky-locking Array! It is indeed the Sky-locking Array!"

.

Ye Fan found some clues on these skeletons. All these skeletons had scars, and these scars could only have been caused by the Sky-locking Array.

The Sky-locking Array is one of the strongest Killing Arrays of the Earth Master lineage, and also a very ancient one. It had already been lost by the third generation, with only a few barely comprehensible mentions in the Dragon Seeking Formulas.

Ye Fan had studied this Killing Array before, so he had some understanding of it. Judging from various signs, it was indeed caused by the Sky-locking Array.

“Dig, keep digging, it’s okay, it’s just some skeletons, there’s no danger!”

Ye Fan personally encouraged everyone and fought at the front line.

Seeing such a cultivator like Ye Fan risk his life, the miners couldn’t say much and continued digging, sending up the unearthed skeletons for the high-ups of the Immortal Academy to research.

Just a few days ago, the Old Bastard arrived at the mining area, personally overseeing the site, fearing any strange or demonic incidents.

When these skeletons were brought up, the Old Bastard was quite shocked, as he had never seen so many skeletons of human-shaped creatures. Although these skeletons had turned to fossils, they still emitted a cold death Qi, indicating how formidable they were when alive.

“Unearth a stele!”

Half a day later, an elder guiding at the front exclaimed, directing everyone to quickly disperse.

Ye Fan quickly arrived on the scene. He saw a stele about two meters high embedded in the cliff face, inscribed with many symbols like ghost talismans.

“This is... pre-Taigu script!”

Ye Fan was shocked. These symbols resembling ghost talismans were the type of script found in the Dragon Seeking Formulas.

If it weren't for Elder Xuan's vast knowledge teaching him this ancient script, even facing this stele, he wouldn't know what was written on it.

Ye Fan carefully excavated the stele from the cliff, then brushed it with his hand, discovering it still contained traces of divine power, protected by the Tao Mark of the Heavenly Dao from decay.

Quickly, Ye Fan deciphered the script on the stele, and a colossal wave surged in his heart!

His speculation was confirmed: these human-shaped creatures were killed by the Sky-locking Array, and the Earth Master who arranged this array was the first-generation Earth Master, the founding ancestor of the Earth Master lineage.

Based on the few traces left on the stele, Ye Fan deduced that the first-generation Earth Master was exceptionally skilled, excelling not only in Dragon Seeking and Positioning on the earth veins but also having profound knowledge in other domains.

In his later years, the first-generation Earth Master fought a great battle with the human-shaped creatures here, using the Sky-locking Array to harness the Power of Heaven and Earth, transforming it into a massive grindstone, burying tens of thousands of these creatures here.

Afterward, he was hunted by powerful human-shaped creatures and, in desperation, entered the Forbidden Zone alone, only thus escaping the pursuit.

Ye Fan thought that the first-generation Earth Master might have buried himself in the Forbidden Zone. While the Forbidden Zone is a deadly area for ordinary people, he, with his immense knowledge, might not have perished there.

After deducing this, Ye Fan decisively decided to shatter the stele, ensuring that this secret would not spread!

Understand that the Dragon Seeking Skill is very powerful, coveted by many Holy Lands, including the Di Clan. With the Dragon Seeking Skill, pinpointing mountain veins and finding Spirit Stones would be as easy as playing.

After Ye Fan shattered the stele, he thought for a moment, then asked Elder Xuan to erase the memories of those involved with the stele—keeping this secret known only to him forever!

As more skeletal remains of human-shaped creatures were brought up, the news finally leaked. The President of the Imperial Academy was the first to arrive, wanting a share of the findings.

Soon afterward, various major Di Clans and the Family of the Martial Emperor also arrived. Later, all major Holy Lands and Wu Shang Sect came one after another. The entire Immortal Academy Mining Area was bustling, with everyone astonished by the skeletons of these creatures.

“Our Imperial Academy demands to take ten skeletons back for research!”

Imperial Academy Monk Dao Yan was the first to speak, asking for ten skeletons.

Compared to the thousands of skeletons unearthed, asking for ten wasn’t much, and the Old Bastard readily agreed!

Immediately after, other Di Clans, Wu Shang Sect, and Holy Lands also made their requests, wanting to take back some of these skeletons for research.

“No problem, whoever wants it, take it quickly!”

The Old Bastard was very generous, seeing these skeletons as worthless for research. He wasn’t worried about their loss, especially since he had many more. He was now the true king of wealth.

“Ahem, ahem...”

The Old Fox stood out from the crowd, coughed twice, and said, “One skeleton, one hundred jin of Spirit Stones. Take as much as you like, I’ll arrange for registration. These skeletons were unearthed by our Immortal Academy, and we’ve lost quite a few miners. You should give us some compensation for labor, right?”

“Ah?”

Everyone was stunned. No one expected the Old Fox to make such a demand at this moment, truly taking advantage to demand money!

“Blood, they found fresh blood! Part of a body hasn’t decayed...”

Just then, a scream came from the mine, followed by a succession of screams—the mine was undergoing a disaster.

“Not good, Ye Fan and the others are still down there!”

The Old Bastard’s face changed drastically as he quickly rushed toward the mine.

Chapter 1625 Corpse

This is a very large spirit stone mine, with hundreds of people digging inside, it still feels spacious. The cries of fear broke the original silence.

"Run!"

Everyone seemed to be going mad, fleeing towards the exit. Everywhere there were stone bones, piled up like stones, hard as rock. Occasionally, someone would fall, causing congestion and trampling.

Right at the deepest part of the mine, blood mist floated, and anyone who touched it would scream tragically, instantly turning into pus and blood, dying tragically.

Ye Fan was at the deepest part of the mine, he saw the clearest. On the stone wall, half a corpse was embedded, wrapped in a heaven grade spirit stone weighing several hundred pounds.

The miners accidentally broke a corner of the heaven grade spirit stone, and the blood mist was spreading from there, causing him to feel a great danger.

Qi Tianlin and Shi Ye, Wu Jingtian, and others took action, either deploying spiritual treasures or displaying divine skills to block that cold blood mist.

However, whether it was spiritual treasures or divine skills, none could stop the blood mist—it was highly corrosive, and several spiritual treasures were melted in an instant.

"Something evil has happened!"

"Help! I don't want to die!"

The miners ran for their lives, shouting various cries of fear, completely ignoring Ye Fan and the others.

"Everyone, don't panic, I will lead you out!"

Ye Fan made a decisive decision and immediately used a space spiritual treasure to draw the nearby miners, including Hu Fei, Shi Ye, and others, into it.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Then, before the blood mist could spread to him, Ye Fan used the Chasing Star Step, quickly rushing out, leaving behind a series of afterimages.

These afterimages disappeared immediately upon contact with the blood mist, but fortunately, he was not affected. He escaped the mine with no mishaps.

"Ye Fan, where are they?"

As Ye Fan rushed out, the Old Bastard asked anxiously.

"Where's Jingtian?"

"Where's Tianlin?"

"Where's Little Fei?"

"..."

As soon as he came out, Ye Fan was surrounded by a group of Saint Lord level strong people, all talking at once, asking questions.

"They are all fine, I brought them out!"

Ye Fan did not dare to be negligent and directly released Hu Fei and others from the space spiritual treasure, even the miners suffered few losses.

Compared to other mines where similar evil incidents occurred with a high death toll, this time could be said to have incurred no significant losses.

"Little Fei, what exactly happened down there?"

One of the Nine Great Bandits, Hu Tian, grabbed his grandson by the collar, glaring as he asked.

"We dug out half a corpse, with flesh, don't know what happened, then blood mist spread, and several miners screamed just once before turning into blood water..."

After Ye Fan and the experienced old miners narrated the events, the Saints finally understood what had happened in the mine, all feeling a lingering fear.

"Everyone, step back."

The Old Bastard shouted, wielding his fingers like a sword, slashing forward remotely.

Whoosh!

A divine radiance shot out, transforming into a gigantic light sword, slashing downward.

Boom!!

With a thunderous sound, dust flew upwards, and the mine was sliced open, a dark, eerie, and strange-looking pit.

The Old Bastard continued to tremble his fingers, the divine radiance condensed into a light sword over ten zhang long, continuously falling, splitting open the mine completely, exposing it to the sky.

All the soil and rocks were thrown hundreds of meters away, and gradually before everyone's eyes appeared a huge sky pit, with many stone bones extracted and placed not far away.

As the Old Bastard continued his actions, the divine radiance-congealed giant sword sliced through the spirit stone mine, extracting all the stone bones. Soon, a stone bone mountain of over ten thousand pieces appeared on the desolate ground.

Lines of blood mist rose, and upon contact with the Old Bastard's divine radiance, sizzling sounds ensued, and it was actually dissolved.

He waved his sleeve, dispersing the blood mist, shooting it into the sky, until after a long time passed, the area finally calmed.

Then, he performed a divine skill, the divine radiance condensed into a giant hand, reaching towards the depths of the mine. Instantly, the earth trembled as the giant hand extracted all the soil and rocks from below the mine, placing them on the ground.

"Demon!"

"That's right, it's that demon!"

Many miners couldn't help but exclaim. When they were previously in the mine, they saw the demon with their own eyes, with just a wisp of blood mist turning dozens into blood water.

In a piece of blood-colored stone, a huge heaven grade spirit stone was very conspicuous, a piece of heaven grade spirit stone more than half a cubic, enough to cause a sensation in the cultivation world. Even among various Great Emperor clans, such a large heaven grade spirit stone had never been unearthed.

However, the interior of this heaven grade spirit stone was not pure. In addition to its glowing light, half a corpse of a humanoid creature was sealed inside, bloody.

On this piece of heaven grade spirit stone, there was an obvious defect, at the part that was chiseled, where the blood mist spread from. But now it had repaired itself, sealing the crack, otherwise, no one could touch this spirit stone.

"Heaven grade spirit stone, such a large piece of heaven grade spirit stone, it's absolutely priceless!"

Many Saint Lord level strong people were moved. Not to mention the value of the heaven grade spirit stone, even the half corpse of a humanoid creature sealed inside was already a priceless treasure.

This spirit stone is crystal clear, and from the outside, the half-sealed corpse inside is visible in detail.

"Hiss~"

When people saw the corpse inside, everyone was stunned, including strong people at the Saint Lord Level, who all took a sharp breath.

This half corpse seemed to have been torn apart, leaving only the left half of the body, while the right half was nowhere to be found.

However—

Even half the corpse shocked everyone!

He was a tall, powerful man, his face covered with tiny silver scales, and in the center of his forehead was a vertical eye, which now looked more like a hole made by someone's finger.

Besides his face, his body was also covered with a layer of silver scales, and there was a bone wing on his back, with edges sharp as knives.

"Ancient creature!"

"Human-shaped creature!"

People were amazed, this half-sealed corpse in the Heaven Grade Spirit Stone was clearly not human, nor did it look like it belonged to the Demon Clan.

Before ancient times, there was a kind of human-shaped creature in this world, similar in appearance to humans, but definitely not human. These creatures were filled with Death Qi, and seemed to have no other instinct but slaughter.

Many major forces wanted to obtain this and explore the weaknesses of such a creature. If possible, they might be able to study why these creatures were so powerful.

If they could gain any insight, it would be a huge gain for any force, so no one was willing to give up, all hoping to get a share of the pie.

As for the bones, they were not considered as important. Who would care about the bones when they could have flesh and blood?

"On behalf of the Imperial Academy, I request that the Immortal Academy share this half-corpse with everyone. We, the Imperial Academy, must have a share!" Imperial Academy Director, Monk Dao Yan, was the first to speak.

"Exactly, we also want to take part of the flesh and blood back for research!"

Many major forces couldn't help but clamor, even the Di Clan and Holy Land spoke up, expressing that they would not give up on this half corpse.

The flesh and blood of the human-shaped creature was secondary; what they really aimed for was to divide the Heaven Grade Spirit Stone from the Immortal Academy.

"What are you doing?"

Old Bastard glared and said, "Want to divide this half human-shaped creature's corpse? No way! This was unearthed by our Immortal Academy, it's our private property. Why should we share it with you?"

These words were sonorous and well-reasoned. It was the Immortal Academy that spent a tremendous effort to excavate it. Why should they share with others?

"Old Bastard, that's not right. Although this half-corpse was excavated from your Immortal Academy's mine, it concerns the safety of all humankind. You can't possibly monopolize it, can you?" Monk Dao Yan said with a sly smile.

"Exactly, Brother Dao Yan makes a good point. These human-shaped creatures concern the survival of humankind, and we must be involved!"

"This half human-shaped creature's corpse must be shared among us for research!"

"Don't forget, according to ancient records, human-shaped creatures are the great enemy of all humans. The Immortal Academy cannot represent all humanity, right?"

"The Immortal Academy is obliged to share their discovery with the world, they cannot monopolize this half corpse!"

Under the leadership of Monk Dao Yan, the heroic lords made a commotion, implying that the Immortal Academy could not keep the half corpse to themselves, and must share it equally with everyone.

"I propose we clear the venue now. Those unrelated should leave immediately, and only the few of us from the Di Clan, Immortal Academy, and Imperial Academy will discuss how to allocate the half human-shaped creature's corpse."

A Saint of the Di Clan said coldly, his gaze as sharp as a knife, looking down on saints from some Holy Lands, not taking them seriously at all!

"You..."

Many strong people at the Saint Lord level glared angrily, but were powerless, as he was holding a crimson Ancient Tower exuding the might of an Emperor Weapon.

They even brought an Emperor Weapon, how could they possibly contend against that?

Those saints had no argument left; faced with an Emperor Weapon, even if they used all their heritage, they might not be able to compete against the Di Clan armed with an Emperor Weapon.

"No, that's not a true Emperor Weapon, it's a replica!"

One of the saints from the Wu Shang Sect shot two gleams of light from his eyes, affirming this.

"Yes, it's indeed not a real Emperor Weapon, but it can unleash a single strike like an Emperor Weapon. Do you want to try?" the Saint of the Di Clan said coldly.

Though a replica, it was equivalent to a Forbidden Artifact, capable of exhibiting a fraction of the Emperor Weapon's power when attacked with full force.

Even these saints dared not underestimate this fraction of the Emperor Weapon's power unless they possessed a Quasi-Emperor Weapon, otherwise, they could not resist.

"Enough! Stop arguing!"

Old Bastard glanced at all the saints, then let his gaze fall on Monk Dao Yan, lingering for a moment before looking at Ye Fan, "This half-corpse was discovered by our disciple, Ye Fan. Let him decide how to distribute it; what does everyone think?"

"No way, he's your disciple from the Immortal Academy, of course, he'll side with you. We don't agree!" many saints clamored, throwing their gaze at Ye Fan.

"If you don't agree, then our Immortal Academy will protect this half corpse with all our might. Let's see who dares to provoke us!" Old Bastard suddenly became firm, unleashing a powerful aura that stunned everyone.

"Fine, let's have Ye Fan decide the ownership of this half human-shaped creature's corpse!"

Imperial Academy Monk Dao Yan said with a smile, deliberately or inadvertently glancing toward Ye Fan.

Swish!

In the next moment, everyone's eyes fell on Ye Fan, awaiting his decision!

Chapter 1626 - Gu Family

In an instant, Ye Fan became the absolute main protagonist!

Even the heroic lords of various major forces did not dare to underestimate him, for he determined the ownership of this human-shaped creature's corpse.

Feeling the many gazes upon him, Ye Fan showed not a hint of fear. His eyes were like torches as he glanced at the half-corpse of the human-shaped creature sealed in the Heaven Grade Spirit Stone on the ground, then swept his gaze over the heroic lords present.

Under the tense watch of everyone, Ye Fan slowly spoke: "I believe this half-corpse of the human-shaped creature should be jointly researched by Immortal Fate and Imperial Academy..."

At this point, without waiting for anyone to retort, Ye Fan continued: "I say this for a reason, firstly, this half-corps was excavated in Immortal Academy's mining area, and should logically belong to them. Otherwise, if something peculiar is dug out from your own mining areas, would you share it with others? I bet not!"

"Secondly, whether in terms of resources or research personnel, Immortal Academy and Imperial Academy have more advantages than other major forces and are more capable of researching. They might make some significant discoveries, who knows."

"Of course, the research results are not exclusive to Immortal and Imperial Academy, but shared with all humans. I believe all of you have disciples studying in the academies, so there shouldn't be any bias, right?"

"Thirdly, both Immortal Academy and Imperial Academy take the welfare of the world as their responsibility, having made indelible contributions to the development of the Human Race since ancient times. Both academies have produced Great Emperors but have you ever seen them bully others? So I believe it's most appropriate for the half-corps to be researched jointly by both academies. What do you think, seniors?"

Ye Fan's words were logical and reasonable, and all the heroic lords fell silent.

Indeed, as Ye Fan said, neither Immortal Academy nor Imperial Academy is an ambitious sect or Holy Land; their contributions to the Human Race are evident to all.

In this situation, insisting on dividing the half-corps would be unreasonable.

For a moment, all the heroic lords were silent, their gaze towards Ye Fan filled with a complex light!

Ye Fan is not only powerful and full of potential but also possesses high emotional intelligence. It's a pity he doesn't belong to their force; otherwise, they would surely train him with all their might!

Without a doubt, after defeating Ling Haotian, Ye Fan has subtly become the first among his generation. In times when no Emperor's son emerges, few in his generation can stand against him.

However, the Demon Clan is about to emerge, and then there will surely be a great clash between the Human Race and Demon Clan. Perhaps having Ye Fan is an advantage; at least he can withstand the pressure from the young generation of the Demon Clan.

This resolution is truly a win-win, satisfying the demands of the heroic lords, honoring Immortal Academy, and securing the greatest benefit for them.

This befits the expectation even the Old Bastard didn't anticipate. He secretly feels gratified; Ye Fan is indeed a rare good seed who might go far on the path of the strongest trial.

Imperial Academy has nothing to say. Ye Fan has considered their reputation, and it would be unreasonable to make further demands.

However, Seng Dao Yan somehow feels something's not right, but can't pinpoint exactly what's wrong.

Though jointly researched by Immortal and Imperial Academy, the half-corpse of the human-shaped creature will surely be transported back to Immortal Academy. This is undeniable and undisputed.

"Boom!"

Just as the turmoil subsided and the ownership of the half-corpse was settled, the void suddenly split open, and several terrifying powers arrived in an instant.

"People from the Ling Family..."

Ye Fan was too familiar with the aura of the Ling Family members; being blood-related, he naturally identified them instantly.

The Ling Family's Saint Master strides like a dragon and tiger, his eyes radiating with authority, fully showcasing the demeanor of a heroic lord. Behind him, Ling Gu and Ling Haotian closely followed; it seemed they received the news, just arriving a bit late.

Beside the Ling Family's Saint Master, a middle-aged man with a leopard head and ringed eyes stood shoulder to shoulder with him, equal in both presence and majesty.

Beside that man were several young strong individuals, all exuding sharp aura, clearly not to be trifled with.

"The Ancient Emperor Family has arrived too..."

"Isn't that young man the strongest heir of the Gu Family, Gu Xiao? He's also out of seclusion!"

Seeing the people beside the Ling Family's Saint Master, the various major forces couldn't help but discuss, feeling surprised by the Gu Family's arrival.

Among the gathered heroic lords, the middle-aged man with a leopard head and ringed eyes was not unfamiliar, only, it was strange: wasn't the Ancient Emperor Family always low-key?

This time, they actually appeared too!

Through others' discussions, Ye Fan gradually understood that the middle-aged man with a leopard head and ringed eyes walking alongside the Ling Family's Saint Master was the Ancient Emperor Family's Saint Master, Gu Yuankong.

The Gu Family is also a Di Clan, their ancestor was the renowned Ancient Emperor, predating Emperor Wu and Human Emperor greatly, undoubtedly a clan with a long-standing heritage.

Before the Emperor Weapon battle, the Gu Family was exceedingly low-profile, not interacting with any forces, hibernating in one domain. However, in the last catastrophe within the Xuan Realm, all Di Clans' Emperor Weapons joined the fray, including the Gu Family.

Nevertheless, in that brutal war, the Gu Family's Emperor Weapon was the least damaged, and precisely due to this reason, after the catastrophe ended, Gu Family swiftly became the strongest among the Di Clans.

Ling Gu intends for Ling Yun to ally with the Gu Family members, ostensibly to strengthen ties between the two clans, but actually to seize the Mystic Crown!

Yet—

He never expected Ling Yun would refuse to the death, eventually disappearing with the Emperor Weapon.

Despite this, the relationship between the Ling Family and Gu Family hasn't estranged but grown closer instead.

Gu Xiao, the strongest heir of the Gu Family, has been secluded in the family's ancestral land, recently emerging, timely arriving for this matter.

A few years ago, Gu Xiao was already dominating among the young generation, once powerfully defeating a Saint Heir of a certain Holy Land, cementing his unshakeable status among the younger generation.

In just a few years unseen, he cultivated the Early Lord Realm to its utmost, ready to break through to the Mid-stage of Lord Realm at any moment.

"Real unexpected! Gu Xiao is already at the Lord Realm!"

"Indeed, he might be the earliest to reach the Lord Realm among this batch of youths, even his talent compared to Emperor's son wouldn't be lacking!"

Gu Xiao's appearance triggered a commotion, many found it incredible!

"Really unexpected! In just a few years unseen, he has grown to this degree, leaving us far behind!" Wu Jingtian lamented.

"Hmph, being strong now doesn't mean being strong forever. Historically, many strong people performed averagely early on, but eventually became prominent later." Qi Tianlin said solemnly.

Indeed as he said, throughout Mystic Sky Continent's history, such cases are numerous. Many Demon Level geniuses emerged strikingly early, their glory radiant, but when they entered Venerable Realm, they gradually faded among others.

Conversely, some early-stage cultivators who displayed average performance, due to their astounding potential, showcased formidable strength later, overtaking those Demon Level geniuses, ultimately becoming the main protagonists of this world.

The two Saint Masters of the Gu Family and Ling Family brought their clan's strong individuals, presenting indeed an undeniable force, even Immortal Academy and Imperial Academy frowned.

"Upon hearing Immortal Academy has excavated half a human-shaped creature's corpse, my Ling Family desires a closer observation, is it convenient?" The Ling Family's Saint Master's voice spread throughout the mining area, speaking loudly.

"Indeed, the Gu Family also wishes for a look; presumably, Immortal Academy wouldn't refuse, right?" The Gu Family's Saint Master commented.

"Already stored away. If you wish for a look, you may follow me to Immortal Academy; Brother Dao Yan will also accompany..."

The Old Bastard repeated Ye Fan's previous statements, explained the human-shaped creature's corpse will be co-researched by Immortal Fate and Imperial Academy, with results publicized, leaving nothing hidden.

"I see!"

The Gu Family's Saint Master pondered for a moment, then said: "Since everyone has no objection, naturally I cannot object either. I will surely visit Immortal Academy at that time!"

"Immortal Academy welcomes you anytime!"

The Old Bastard responded calmly.

Hmm?

Simultaneously, Ye Fan suddenly felt several unfriendly gazes fall upon him, furrowing his brow.

The owners of the gaze were none other than the Ling Family's disciples led by Ling Haotian!

This discovery made Ye Fan's brows furrow slightly; if Ling Haotian doesn't know how to retreat, persists in causing trouble, Ye Fan won't hesitate to act as an assassin!

After all, one can forgive twice but no more three times!

Moreover, it's the Ling Family who failed his mother Ling Yun, not he who failed them.

"Is this the bastard child spawned by that slut Ling Yun?"

At the moment Ye Fan slightly furrowed his brows, a middle-aged cultivator from the Gu Family pointed at Ye Fan, asking Ling Gu.

Chapter 1627 - Battle It Is—Who's Afraid?

With those words, the entire mining area fell silent, everyone staring in astonishment at Ling Gu and his companions.

Shu!

The middle-aged cultivator from the Gu Family and Ling Gu continued their conversation, their voices icy, clearly targeting Ye Fan.

Ye Fan's face turned an intense shade of iron blue, his fists clenched tightly, fingernails digging into his flesh unnoticed, purple blood dripping onto the hard ground below.

At this moment, Ye Fan's eyes seemed almost ready to spit fire, but he rationally restrained his anger!

Because he was well aware that Ling Gu and the middle-aged cultivator from the Gu Family were deliberately provoking him.

Though he had some abilities now, he was far inferior to Ling Gu, and could not afford to act impulsively!

"That middle-aged man is the Gu Family genius whom Ling Gu wanted your mother Ling Yun to marry back in the day. His name is Gu Yunfeng, quite a genius, now at the Lord Realm Peak!"

In Ye Fan's sea of consciousness, Elder Xuan's icy voice echoed. Clearly, he was also suppressing his anger, refraining from taking action.

On one hand, if he took action, it would consume the energy of the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown. More importantly, he wanted Ye Fan to personally resolve this matter, motivating Ye Fan to cultivate more diligently!

"Hey, Ling Yun, that fool, not only refused to marry me but also defected from the Ling Family, bringing shame upon the Di Clan, and gave birth to such a little bastard, even handing him the Emperor Weapon, simply outrageous!"

Gu Yunfeng cast a contemptuous glance at Ye Fan, sneering as he spoke.

"She was ungrateful, oblivious to the big picture, her actions are blaming her own fate!"

Ling Gu nodded in agreement, showing no perception of any wrongdoing by his sister, indicating his malicious mind.

"Humph, I treated her reasonably well back then, yet that wretched woman was so ungrateful. If I had known, I'd have destroyed her cultivation first," Gu Yunfeng jeered, "I heard your Emperor Weapon, the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown is now in the hands of this little bastard, why not take it back?"

Gu Yunfeng's comment, hitting a sore spot, instantly changed Ling Gu's expression to resemble pig liver in embarrassment.

The two chatted blithely, not sensing any impact on their families. In their eyes, Ye Fan's mother, Ling Yun, was merely an object for trade.

Through their conversation, Ye Fan gradually understood the whole story, with Elder Xuan withholding some truths. His mother's life in the family was genuinely arduous, facing exclusion at every corner back then.

Especially Ling Gu, lower than an animal, even willing to harm his own sister, pushing her into the flames!

The genius of the Gu Family was nothing but a spoiled disciple, living extravagantly while having a violent disposition.

Ling Yun possessed a kind nature. If it weren't for the protection from Elder Xuan, she would have fallen into Gu Yunfeng's hands long ago—his mother's life in the Ling Family was a tragic history of blood and tears!

"Ling Gu, one day, I will personally tear you apart!"

Ye Fan clenched his fists, silently swearing. He never felt a stronger urge to kill than now, with the flaming hatred almost consumed his spiritual wisdom.

He might spare anyone in the Ling Family, but he would never spare Ling Gu. His death is necessary for cosmic justice!

Feeling Ye Fan's intense murderous intent, Elder Xuan refrained from speaking further.

Ye Fan naturally kind-hearted, placing great emphasis on family bonds, producing such strong murderous intent; other than Ling Gu, no one else could evoke it.

Moreover, Ye Fan inherited his father Ye Haotian's mettle and strategic mind along with the resilient and decisive character. His decisions were irrevocable.

Besides Ling Gu, the Gu Family also deserved death for their vile persecution of his mother Ling Yun back then.

Back when Ling Yun fled to the depths of the Xuanshou Mountain Range in the Southern Domain, a big reason was the bounty issued by the Gu Family, leaving her with nowhere to live, no path above nor passage below, forcing her to the Demon Clan territory.

"What are you looking at?"

The message in their glance asked coldly, disregarding any notion of shame in their words.

The Ling Family's Saint Master furrowed his brow, casting a glance at Ling Gu yet choosing to say nothing, internally resentful. Revisiting such disgraceful history in public, only stained the family's reputation!

Elder Xuan's previous lessons hadn't sufficed; one day he'd perish due to this foul mouth!

At this moment, Gu Family's strongest descendant Gu Xiao stepped forward facing Ye Fan, arrogantly demanding: "Brat, hand over the Emperor Weapon—Emperor Weapon belongs exclusively to those with Emperor Bloodline, and only a true descendant should wield it. How can an outsider bastard possess the Ling Family's Emperor Weapon? Hand it over quickly, and I'll spare your life!"

Clamor!

With those words spoken, there was an uproar!

No one expected Gu Xiao's bold move, coming forth on behalf of the Ling Family asking Ye Fan for the Emperor Weapon.

"Who are you? Meddling when not needed, is the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown your Gu Family's Emperor Weapon? It's like an emperor unhurried while the eunuch is anxious!" Hu Fei, wielding a replica of the Heavenly Weapon sword, stood by Ye Fan coldly speaking.

"Brother Gu Xiao, though you're strong, meddling in others' affairs isn't wise!" Wu Jingtian also stood by Ye Fan.

Shortly, Yue Chuan, Han Sandong, Shi Ye, and others stood beside Ye Fan, forming a powerful aura, stably suppressing Gu Xiao's aura.

"What's the meaning of this?"

Gu Xiao frowned, despite his arrogance and strength, faced with formidable heirs from the Wu Family, Imperial Family, and Barbarian clan, he was somewhat apprehensive.

If these individuals joined forces, even at his Lord Realm Early-Stage Peak, securing victory wasn't assured, especially with their backing from powerful forces!

"You know what we mean, so what's your take?" Hu Fei assertively spoke, the Heavenly Weapon sword replica in hand, its sword light pulsing, filled with towering murderous intent.

The Heavenly Weapon is Emperor Sha's Emperor Weapon, despite being semi-abandoned, still immensely powerful, and even as a replica, holds significant might.

"You brats need fixing, or you want a war?"

The Gu Family's Saint Master snorted coldly, first glancing over Hu Fei and others, and then towards their elders, allowing a massive Azure Gold Furnace to appear above his head, spinning and exuding ancient majestic aura with Emperor Weapon presence permeating the mining area.

"Fight then, who fears whom!"

Hu Tian shouted fiercely, his hand glowing with brilliance, the Heavenly Weapon treasure sword appeared in his palm, and the sharp killing intent surged straight into the Nine Heavens.

Bandit Hu Tian was ready to make a move!

On one hand, Bandit Hu had a good personal relationship with Ye Fan, and Hu Tian also saw Ye Fan's potential. More importantly, he had old grievances with the Gu Family's Saint Master, and seeing his precious grandson being reprimanded by the opponent was unbearable!

"Since we must fight, let's go to the battlefield outside the heavens to fight, to avoid affecting the innocent!" The Gu Family's Saint Master glanced at Hu Tian, flying into the sky first, a great battle was about to commence.

"Fine!"

Hu Tian shouted fiercely, brandishing the Heavenly Weapon treasure sword and following.

At the same time, the Saint Master of the Wu Family hesitated for a moment, and suddenly an eight-sided Purple Gold Hammer appeared overhead, although covered in cracks, it still emitted a trace of destructive imperial weapon aura.

This is not a true imperial weapon but a forbidden artifact refined by later generations imitating the imperial weapon, only able to unleash ten percent of the true imperial weapon's power!

Even so, the Wu Family's Saint Master, wielding this forbidden artifact, could sweep across the Nine Heavens and Ten Earths without an imperial weapon. Facing this forbidden artifact, even quasi-emperor level strong people would turn tail and flee.

"Brother Hu, wait for me!"

The Wu Family's Saint Master finally flew into the sky too.

"How can I remain uninvolved?"

The Imperial Family's Saint Master also released a forbidden artifact and followed, the terrifying scene shocking everyone.

"What do you mean? Are you all against my Gu Family?"

The Gu Family's Saint Master felt a sinking heart, Gu Family's Imperial Weapon was the least damaged, but if, while facing the Killing Emperor's Heavenly Weapon treasure sword, they met two artifacts able to exert part of imperial weapon power, they would stand no chance.

"No particular meaning, just here to watch!"

The Wu Family and Imperial Family's two artifacts stabilized the void, preventing the great battle from affecting the onlookers.

The battle was on the verge of eruption.

The heroic lords of various major forces present also ascended to the sky, observing this rare battle, and the sky was filled with silhouettes for a while.

Gu Xiao couldn't care about Ye Fan, he also took to the sky, standing with his family's strong people, watching the movements on the battlefield.

Ye Fan and Bandit Hu and others naturally also rose to the sky, the battle was because of him, he naturally couldn't stand by and do nothing!

"Hu Tian, make your move, let's settle new and old scores together!"

The Gu Family's Saint Master coldly looked at Hu Tian and said.

"Fine! Eight hundred years ago, you attacked me during my injuries. Even though you didn't show your true face, the old me still recognized you!" Hu Tian said with a gloomy expression.

"Brother Hu, I am here to assist you!"

As a loud shout rang out, a burly, disheveled middle-aged cultivator strode forward, each step causing the void to tremble.

"Third Bandit Wenren Tongtian? He has come too!"

The surrounding heroic lords watching in the sky frowned upon seeing the arrival. The Nine Great Bandits shared the same breath and honor, Wenren Tongtian's arrival was not good news for the Gu Family.

"Third Brother, you came so timely, help me wield the Heavenly Weapon treasure sword together and chop this shameless old cur to pieces!" Hu Tian laughed.

"Not only I have come, Second Brother and other brothers are also on the way. I have already sent Old Ninth to invite the boss!" Wenren Tongtian glanced at the Gu Family's Saint Master upfront and said with a laugh.

Swish!

These words not only changed the Gu Family's Saint Master's expression but also made other heroic lords nearby want to curse, the Nine Great Bandits gather together, plus the Heavenly Weapon treasure sword, who dares provoke?

"Old cur, taste my blade!"

Hu Tian wasted no words, directly slashed out, the sword light transformed into a hundred-zhang Divine Dragon, fiercely cleaving at the Gu Family's Saint Master, nearly shattering the entire sky.

"Boom!"

The azure-colored furnace quickly enlarged, viciously collided with the sword light, issuing a huge roar, the place immediately turned into chaotic energy, creating a massive black hole, absorbing all the energy.

"Kill!"

The Gu Family's Saint Master urged the Azure Gold Furnace to crash toward Hu Tian, fast as lightning, it reached before him in a blink.

"Don't be arrogant!"

Bandit Hu and Wenren Tongtian jointly wielded the Heavenly Weapon treasure sword, resisting the Azure Gold Furnace, both imperial weapons gradually revived.

The Azure Gold Furnace was ancient and majestic, the sun, moon, and stars engraved on it seemed to come alive, emitting ten thousand rays!

The Heavenly Weapon treasure sword also revived, the sharp killing intent moved through the Nine Heavens, beneath the Nine Netherworld, from a distance making flesh feel like crumbling, worthy of the Killing Emperor's imperial weapon!

Chapter 1628 - Who Hunts Whom?

The emperor weapon is comparable to an alternative life continuation of the Great Emperor, its power is terrifying to such an extent!

Once two emperor weapons engage in battle, it would be at a destruction level; even a fight in the boundless starry sky could obliterate a section of it!

Since the last time an emperor weapon suppressed the dark turmoil and got damaged, emperor weapons from various clans are rarely used for duels. Usually, they serve as deterrents; a true clash would be unimaginable disaster, laying corpses over millions of miles, blood flowing like a river.

However—

Today, it seems no one can stop the collision between the two emperor weapons. The Gu Family's Azure Gold Furnace and Hu Fei's Heavenly Weapon Sabre both show signs of revival, which is not a good omen.

In the last battle of emperor weapons, every participating weapon sustained some damage, which is why so few Di Clans are willing to bring them out.

Firstly, the emperor weapon can suppress a family's foundation, and secondly, it can repair itself over the long course of time.

Meanwhile, every Di Clan is frantically seeking immortal materials to refine their emperor weapons and repair them!

In eras without the Great Emperor, emperor weapons represent the ultimate combat power and are the main reason why families with emperor weapons last hundreds of thousands of years without perishing.

No one expected that the Gu Clan would actually bring their emperor weapon out. It seems their foundation no longer needs suppression and will soon emerge.

Thinking of this, many Di Clans felt uneasy.

In the distant Ancient Times, several Great Emperors left offspring, among them, some have been sealed until now!

The opening of the path to immortality happens in this era. Whether it's those living fossils with limited lifespan or the sealed offspring of emperors, it seems they are about to emerge.

Back when the Human Race and the Demon Clan had their ultimate battle, deciding the sovereignty of this land, an agreement with the Demon Clan also reached this era. The Demon Clan is about to emerge to compete for the sole opportunity for immortality and hope for proving the way.

"Boom!"

The two emperor weapons nearly drained all the divine power of those who wielded them, finally unleashing a terrifying strike!

The entire universe trembled, and the beings in the Five Domains felt an apocalyptic sensation at that moment.

The revival of the emperor weapons pierced through the firmament; divine radiance reaching the heavens and the earth, soaring upward eighty thousand miles, the divine might of the Ancient Great Emperors reappearing, as though spanning across ancient, present, and future!

If not for the Wu Family's Saint Master and the Imperial Family's Saint Master using forbidden artifacts to stabilize the void and withstand the aftershocks of the two emperor weapons' battle, no one around could have survived, all would have been turned into a blood mist.

"Boom boom boom..."

The Heavenly Weapon Sabre and Azure Gold Furnace clashed several times, but ultimately the Heavenly Weapon Sabre was overmatched. After all, in the last emperor weapon battle, the Azure Gold Furnace was the least damaged, while the Heavenly Weapon Sabre was severely damaged, unable to exert its full power.

Nevertheless, it was still astonishing. Even severely damaged, as the emperor weapon of the Eternal Slaughter Emperor, it withstood several attacks from the Azure Gold Furnace without falling behind.

"Do we really have to determine life and death?"

The Gu Family's Saint Master was also nearly exhausted. While the power of an emperor weapon is immense, activating it is also extremely draining of divine power, and even he was at his limit.

"Determine life and death then, do you think I'm afraid of you? Your Gu Clan is strong, but my Nine Great Bandits are not made of clay!" Hu Tian said while coughing blood.

"You two, let it end in a draw. Must you determine life and death to benefit the emerging Demon Clan?" The Saint Masters of the Wu and Yue families both advised.

They knew that although the Heavenly Weapon Sabre was overmatched due to its severe damage against the Azure Gold Furnace, a true fight to the death wouldn't leave the Gu Clan unscathed.

Meanwhile, the Immortal Academy's Old Bastard and the Imperial Academy's dean both rushed into the battlefield, each protecting one person and separating the two.

"Fine, let it end in a draw!"

The Gu Family's Saint Master nodded and withdrew the Azure Gold Furnace.

"Gu Chongteng, I admit I lost to you this time, but don't get cocky. Unless you use your emperor weapon for protection, I'll frequently visit your Gu Family's spirit stone mine."

Hu Tian took a Holy Pill, instantly recovering his primordial Qi, shamelessly threatening.

"Uh..."

The crowd was flabbergasted. They had seen threats before, but never one so blatant, directly stating his intent to raid the opponent's spirit stone mine.

One must know that spirit stone mines are the foundation of every major power, indispensable. Even Di Clans and Holy Lands place great importance on spirit stone mines.

If Hu Tian really carried the Heavenly Weapon Sabre to raid the Gu Family's spirit stone mine, it would truly cause them headaches, as they couldn't possibly place an emperor weapon at the mine and must bring it back to the family to suppress their foundation.

"Hmph!"

The Gu Family's Saint Master snorted coldly in anger, glanced at Hu Tian, and said, "If you have the guts, come. Believe it or not, I'll wipe out all your Nine Great Bandits' descendants?"

"What did you say?!"

Hu Tian's eyes shot open instantly, and Wenren Tongtian frowned. What Gu Chongteng said was practically declaring war on the Nine Great Bandits. What gives him the confidence? Is it merely the less damaged emperor weapon?

"Gu Chongteng, do you really consider us Nine Great Bandits incompetent? Want to slaughter our descendants clean!"

"Gu, if our descendants suffer any harm, I'll personally bring the Heavenly Weapon Sabre to block your family's emperor children!"

Wenren Tongtian and Hu Tian each spoke up; although they fell behind in the recent battle, they remained extremely domineering, shaking the entire Gu Family!

The Gu Family has emperor offspring sealed in this era, and are certainly about to emerge. If Hu Tian were truly to bring the Slaughter Emperor's Heavenly Weapon Sabre to block the Gu Family's emperor offspring, it would indeed cause them anxiety. After all, the Gu Family's emperor offspring cannot always remain under their protection, and they would not permit such actions.

At that point, this battle had concluded and could not continue.

After everyone retreated to the mines of the Immortal Academy, an inexplicable Emperor Weapon collision happened, and it's already a miracle that no one died.

"Then let this Ye hand over the Emperor Weapon!"

The Gu Family's Saint Master looked at Ye Fan expressionlessly and said coldly.

"Hey, old bastard, why don't you take a good look at yourself in some piss? Who do you think you are? What does the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown have to do with you?"

Ye Fan had been suppressing his anger. Earlier, seeing the two fierce bandits stand up for him, he almost communicated with Elder Xuan to stand up for him. Seeing the Gu Family's Saint Master mention handing over the Emperor Weapon again, he was furious!

"You..."

"Presumptuous!"

The members of the Ancient Emperor Family were all enraged and approached, with a posture of ready to act!

At this moment, a powerful Emperor's Might emanated from Ye Fan, and a Golden Crown appeared above his head, releasing a myriad of Golden Light, protecting him thoroughly!

Boom!!

Immediately, Elder Xuan manifested, directly urging the Emperor Weapon to suppress the Gu Family people, incomparably powerful!

"You..."

The Gu Family's Saint Master was shocked and hastily activated the Azure Gold Furnace to withstand this Emperor's Might, with the Azure Gold Furnace trembling slightly, as if the Artifact Spirit within was about to awaken.

Several elders of the Gu Family couldn't bear this extreme Emperor's Might and directly knelt on the ground, their faces pale, with a trace of blood seeping from the corners of their mouths!

Hmm?

Ye Fan was very surprised, as this time Elder Xuan manifested without communicating with him, which clearly signified something important. He then remained silent, observing everything quietly.

Elder Xuan didn't pay much attention and quickly stopped, his gaze majestic and sweeping across the Ling Family within the Gu Family's camp.

Being swept by his gaze, everyone in the Ling Family, including the Saint Master, felt their faces burning. Originally, this Emperor Weapon belonged to their family, but now it had become Ye Fan's amulet, making them especially resentful.

The reason the Gu Family demanded the Emperor Weapon from Ye Fan was partly to demonstrate their might and partly because they were entrusted by the Ling Family.

Due to the previous wager, the Ling Family couldn't personally act against Ye Fan, let alone demand the Emperor Weapon, which made them particularly indignant, and it was Ling Gu who came up with the idea to let the Gu Family demand it.

"Humph!"

Elder Xuan snorted coldly, shifting his gaze from the Ling Family people to finally focus on the strongest successor of the Gu Family, which made the Ling Family secretly breathe a sigh of relief.

If they were to be reprimanded by Elder Xuan in front of so many people again, they truly wouldn't dare to remain there!

However——

The Gu Family was like facing a formidable enemy, although they had an Emperor's son about to be born, Gu Xiao was a genius with ancestral lineage, possessing a bloodline similar to the Ancient Emperor's, also very powerful. After being concealed for so many years, it was time for him to make a breakthrough, so he mustn't be killed in a fit of rage by Elder Xuan.

Thinking of this, the Gu Family's Saint Master unhesitatingly sacrificed the Azure Gold Furnace, suspending it above Gu Xiao's head, protecting him!

"Hehehe..."

Elder Xuan smiled slightly and said, "Do you think I would attack a younger generation? No, I just want to say a few words to him!"

"Please speak!"

With the protection of the Azure Gold Furnace, Gu Xiao suddenly gained more confidence and said defiantly.

"First, Xiao Fan has the Nine Heavens Profound Emperor's bloodline in him. You should pay attention to your words in the future, so people don't think you lack the demeanor of a strong person, or even the most basic education. As the saying goes, do not impose on others what you do not desire for yourself!"

As soon as these words came out, all the cultivators from the Gu and Ling Families who looked down on Ye Fan suddenly changed their faces. They had previously belittled Ye Fan with their words, and now Elder Xuan was clearly warning them not to continue, otherwise, he might take action!

Who could withstand the attack of the Artifact Spirit of an Emperor Weapon?

Many felt green in the face, especially Ling Gu, who looked as if he had swallowed a dead child, his complexion extremely unsightly.

"Second, although you also have the Great Emperor's bloodline, the Ancient Emperor is too far away in history, and your bloodline has long become thin. Compared to Xiao Fan, you're way behind because the Nine Heavens Profound Emperor was the last Great Emperor in the Xuan Realm, becoming an emperor under the least likely circumstances. In terms of bloodline power, you have no advantage whatsoever!"

"Third, judging from various signs, this era will be a golden era, with many rare constitutions appearing one after another, and long-lost Mystical Skills, Martial Arts, Divine Skills, and secret techniques will reappear, vying for the hope of Proving Dao. Ultimately, who will laugh last, overpower the heroes, and ascend to the pinnacle of Proving Dao is still hard to say. Therefore, there's no need for you to have an overwhelming sense of superiority!"

Elder Xuan's voice grew louder, eventually resounding like a great bell and a mighty drum, forceful and powerful.

Everyone knew that Elder Xuan's appearance this time was to vindicate Ye Fan—Ye Fan was not unqualified to possess the Emperor Weapon, but on the contrary, with the Nine Heavens Profound Emperor bloodline, he was the most qualified!

For a moment, everyone's gazes at Ye Fan became incredibly complex. This young man who emerged from a small sect and fought his way forward couldn't be underestimated anymore.

"According to you, he's more likely to prove the Dao and become an emperor than I am? Ridiculous, I could kill him as easily as slaughtering a chicken!"

Gu Xiao's face was ashen. Elder Xuan's words clearly belittled him to elevate Ye Fan, which infuriated him greatly.

"Oh really? Then go ahead and try, and see who kills whom?!"

Ye Fan responded with a strong counter, showing no fear!

Chapter 1629 - Battle Against the Strongest Gu Family Heir!

Ye Fan's voice resounded throughout the Immortal Academy Mining Area, shocking everyone, especially the Gu Family, who couldn't believe their ears.

They never imagined in their wildest dreams that Ye Fan would be so dominant, completely disregarding the strongest heir of the Gu Family!

For a while, the entire Immortal Academy Mining Area fell silent, the powerful war intent erupted from both Ye Fan and Gu Xiao's bodies, and the tension was palpable, a great battle was imminent!

"Hahaha..."

Gu Xiao laughed wildly, and after the laugh, his eyes shot out two fierce beams, coldly saying, "Since you're seeking death, I'll grant your wish—there's no better time than today, let's have a duel today, life and death shall be left to destiny, no using Emperor Weapons, how about that?"

"As you wish!"

Ye Fan responded coldly, then handed the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown to the Immortal Academy Director Old Immortal for temporary safekeeping, striding towards Gu Xiao!

Seeing this, the Old Immortal hesitated for a moment, but ultimately did not stop them.

Gu Xiao also handed the Azure Gold Furnace to his family's Saint Master, emitting a primitive fierce aura, the whole person like a beast, his eyes shooting out fierce glints.

The Gu Family's Saint Master sneered coldly, convinced that Gu Xiao would kill Ye Fan!

"To prevent affecting the mining area, we'll fight outside!"

Ye Fan did not immediately strike, but instead walked straight out of the mining area.

The Northern Domain is vast and sparsely populated, with many places being desolate and barren, perfect for a battlefield. As long as they stay away from the mining area, even if they fight fiercely, it won't matter, innocents won't be harmed!

"It won't hurt to let you live a little longer!"

Gu Xiao was extremely arrogant, believing that without his Emperor Weapon, Ye Fan was nothing more than fish on a chopping board, ready to be slaughtered at will!

"If you have any last words, better say them quickly, otherwise you might not have the chance when we're outside!" Ye Fan retorted sharply.

In the blink of an eye, the two had left the mining area, followed by disciples from various major forces, including the heroic lords, as they came along for the life-and-death battle, which was completely different from a friendly competition, sure to be unprecedentedly fierce, not to be missed!

"Gu Xiao will surely win, the dignity of the Di Clan cannot be desecrated!"

"That Ye surname can't possibly be a match for Gu Xiao, this duel is without suspense!"

Some young disciples related to the Gu and Ling Families stepped forward to clamor, attack, and weaken Ye Fan, shaking his belief in his inevitable victory!

Hmm?

Many people felt chills in their hearts, this was definitely deliberate, on one hand heating up Gu Xiao's momentum, while ruthlessly attacking and weakening Ye Fan, under these circumstances, the prospects of Ye Fan's battle seemed worrying!

These people might not be prompted by the Gu or Ling Families, it's also possible that the disciples made their own decisions, creating an opportunity to curry favor with Gu Xiao and the Gu Family!

Outside the Immortal Academy Mining Area, the Red Wilderness stretches for miles, desolate and ruined, with low hills in the distance, clearly without any Dragon Veins or Spirit Stone Veins for Ye Fan to utilize.

"I heard you can use Earth Vein Dragon Qi to fight, why not battle in the mining area, so you can enhance your strength a bit?"

Gu Xiao had already learned from Ling Haotian that Ye Fan could use Dragon Qi in battle, and seeing Ye Fan choose such a place, he couldn't help but ask curiously.

"To kill you, there's no need to borrow Dragon Qi!"

Ye Fan stood firm, his blue robe fluttering in the cold wind, his black hair flying with the wind, like a god demon, his aura swallowing the heavens!

"Hope you can stay this arrogant later!"

Gu Xiao roared, transforming into a beam of dark light rushing over, launching a killing blow right away without any nonsense.

"Boom!"

Gu Xiao punched, scorching Punch Ray piercing through heaven and earth, like the Eternal Light, covering the front, heaven collapsing and earth cracking!

Whoosh!

Ye Fan raised his hand, also throwing a punch, the Xuandi Fist combining central justice and peace with domineering energy. This was the effect of integrating the Fist Intent of the Domineering Fist and Heaven Slaying Seven Spears into the Xuandi Fist, immensely powerful, nothing could stop it!

Boom!!

Earth and stone shattered, the two shook violently, like two suns exploding with billions of rays of dazzling light, making it hard to keep eyes open.

"Is this the collision of Emperor Bloodline, truly incomparable to others, going up will surely turn into Blood Mud!"

The crowd was shocked!

Their strikes were like two worlds crashing, the infinite light illuminating all directions, even clouds several miles away crumbled, this piece of heaven and earth shattered like beautiful jade.

This was a catastrophic clash, except for Mid-Stage Lord Realm strong people, everyone else stepped back, thinking they were in a safe area. Now it seemed far from enough, destructive energy filled the battlefield.

Bang!

Bang!

Bang!

The world was bright, dazzling there, amidst two tall figures fighting, their appearances unseen, only the brilliant outlines could be seen, each blow made the heavens tremble!

Like two gods in a duel, everything else faded away, leaving only the two of them, becoming the only radiance.

"Boom!!"

On the last strike, the two brushed past each other, simultaneously withdrawing, standing at a distance, silently observing each other, summing up the gains and losses of the battle just now!

Gu Xiao felt a chill in his heart, judging from the situation of the encounter just now, although Ye Fan's realm was only Late-stage Divine Realm, his true strength was in no way inferior to his own!

Although he had already learned from Ling Haotian that Ye Fan was not weak, the real encounter shocked him immensely!

In comparison, Ye Fan felt no ripples in his heart, Gu Xiao's strength did not exceed his expectations.

The brilliant light vanished, the world returned to clarity, the earth collapsed, utterly devastated, a scene seemingly after a great calamity, extremely terrifying.

The world was silent, especially the elite of the younger generation, as if being doused with icy water from head to toe, the gap was too large, to be in the same era with such individuals was truly a sorrow.

How could others compete?

Even the so-called geniuses, at the same realm, would probably be killed by these two with a single punch, leaving no suspense!

"Stretched my muscles, it's quite alright."

Although Gu Xiao was shocked by Ye Fan's strong power, he didn't show it on his face, but instead licked his lips and said coldly.

Swoosh!

Many people turned pale, is this not considered a real duel? Only a probing exchange? How strong are they when truly fighting?

"Let's go!"

Ye Fan shouted loudly, initiating the attack first, his body enveloped in a layer of purple light, strands of Thunder Power roamed around him like little dragons, his hair turned into purple-gold, dazzling and swaying backward, he launched a punch forward.

"Roar..."

Gu Xiao roared at the sky, like a Heavenly Demon crossing worlds, his long black hair scattered, he too launched forward fiercely, his eyes sharp like knives, terrifyingly intimidating.

"Boom!"

Their meeting crumbled the entire firmament, an aura resembling a great destruction spread out, both of their bodies ignited, radiating millions of rays of light.

"What, neither of them defended, are they aiming for mutual destruction?"

"Right at the start, they are deciding life and death, so fast!"

People from all directions exclaimed in tension, all of them with mouths agape, absorbed in watching all of this intensely.

Ye Fan's punch seemed to shatter the Nine Heavens, purple Thunder Power swirled around his fist, emitting a terrifying sound like a thunderous roar, lightning illuminated the sky.

Gu Xiao was similar, the ripples from his black fist destroyed mountain and earth, turning a radius of dozens of miles into a vast desert, devoid of life.

"Poof!"

"Poof!"

Neither avoided, with divine power they struck each other.

Ye Fan's punch pierced through half of Gu Xiao's body, extending out, stained with a large area of blood.

And Gu Xiao also punched through his chest, purple-gold blood splattered everywhere, a mutual destructive style that shocked hearts.

Each drop of their blood, each gust of punch wind was terrifying, tearing apart the earth, breaking the clouds, surrounding devastation was unimaginable!

"Poof!"

Gu Xiao, ruthless beyond measure, yanked hard, tore Ye Fan's half chest apart, his bloodline showing signs of returning to ancestry, unmatched worldwide, almost as if Ancient Emperor reincarnated!

However—

Ye Fan's physical strength pressed down various constitutions, in terms of physical strength, reaching the Fifth Level of Nine Heavens Profound Body, Ye Fan's body was nearly as strong as Lord Realm Peak strong people, stronger than Gu Xiao!

"Poof!!"

Soon, Ye Fan broke free, almost splitting Gu Xiao, tearing half his body, a large amount of blood gushed out.

"Ugh..."

Blood spattered, the crowd was once again appalled.

Nobody had expected Ye Fan and Gu Xiao to forsake divine skills and Domain Power right away, engaging in the most brutal and primitive close combat, bloody, an unbearable scene.

This was a physical clash between two Emperor Bloodlines, who is weak and who is strong, Ancient Emperor and Nine Heavens Profound Emperor Bloodline, who is more superior, being revealed at this moment.

"Poof!"

Blood gushed, Gu Xiao's elongated body was split in two, bringing a large blood rain, flying out, causing many in Ancient Emperor Family's hearts to almost stop beating.

"How is this possible? Ancient Emperor overlooks Taigu, presses all heavens, their constitution invincible, pushes against Three Thousand Realms, reverses Six Paths of reincarnation, omnipotent!"

"Gu Xiao's bloodline returns to ancestry, talent and comprehension comparable to Emperor's son, akin to young Ancient Emperor reborn, yet how is it such a terrifying sight before our eyes?"

Gu Family couldn't believe the scene before them, Ye Fan couldn't possibly be this powerful, he was merely a disciple from a small sect, even if both had Emperor Bloodlines, with such disparity in cultivation resources, how could he fight Gu Xiao to a standstill?

Moreover, Ye Fan's realm is lower than Gu Xiao!!

"Gu Xiao was split into two by someone alive..."

As Gu Family was shocked, other watching crowds were directly boiling, all amazed by Ye Fan's strong body.

Only Ling Haotian had twitching lips, full of bitterness, back at the sparring competition in Immortal Academy, Ye Fan did the same, defeating him all the way with a mutual destructive style!

Now, Ye Fan fights this way again, doesn't he fear the depletion of Primordial, causing total death?

"Bang!"

Suddenly, Ye Fan's body exploded, centered on the chest, where Gu Xiao once punched through, now utterly collapsing, purple-gold blood spilling everywhere, alarming sight.

"What?"

People exclaimed, both were destroyed, this was too brutal, mutual destruction.

However, Gu Xiao felt hot-faced, earlier he boasted before Ling Haotian, saying he could kill Ye Fan within three moves, but now, after who knows how many moves, not only failing to kill Ye Fan, but ending mutual destruction!

"Ah!"

Gu Xiao roared to the sky, shouted: "Ancient Emperor Bloodline, immortal!"

As his roar locked, Gu Xiao's body shot blood rays, forming a reincarnation disc between the two halves, the disc rotated, emitted infinite immortal light, the two halves quickly unified.

He was instantly resurrected!

Chapter 1630 - Overwhelming Victory

The Immortal Reincarnation Disk is one of the Ancient Emperor Secret Techniques.

Harnessing the great power of heaven and earth, using one's own bloodline and primordial source as a guide, it reshapes oneself, achieving immortality, reigning over the world, unbroken by all tribulations.

Witnessing Gu Xiao perform this secret technique, many people drew in a sharp breath. How to fight against this?

With Gu Xiao's bloodline returning to its ancestral state, comparable to the Ancient Emperor, and possessing such a secret technique, he is fundamentally unbeatable.

On the other side, Ye Fan is also activating the Phoenix Nirvana Technique, coupled with his own Pure Yang Qi to quickly revive!

Lightning flickered, purple-colored blood reversed its flow, each piece of flesh returned, merging together, Ye Fan's body fused and became whole again.

"Boom!"

Divine Light spread out, bursting from Ye Fan's pores, once again forming a flawless body, the purple-gold Blood Qi filling the skies, returning to peak condition, astonishing the spectators as well.

Hu Fei and Shi Ye, among others, remained unfazed. After the previous event with Ling Haotian, they already knew that Ye Fan possessed an immortal secret technique, and there was no need to worry about him.

Neither of them were harmed, instantly reviving, and their War Intent was soaring, their entire bodies blossoming with Infinite Divine Light, almost engulfing the heavens!

"Ye, you really caught me off guard!" Gu Xiao squinted his eyes, somewhat surprised, and spoke coldly.

"You didn't surprise me at all!" Ye Fan responded coldly.

"In my domain, I am the sovereign!"

After the previous battle, Gu Xiao already knew that Ye Fan did not lack in Combat Power compared to him, possibly even stronger. Out of options, he could only suppress Ye Fan with realm, directly deploying his Domain Power!

"Lord Realm, the strongest descendant of the Gu Family has already stepped into the Lord Realm. How will Ye Fan handle this?"

"Among the young generation of prodigies, he is likely the first to step into the Lord Realm. Looking at his mastery over Domain Power, it's clear that it wasn't like Ling Haotian who broke through during battle—his realm has long been stabilized!"

Seeing Gu Xiao deploying his domain, it once again sparked exclamations on-site.

Simultaneously, Domain Power instantly enveloped Ye Fan within it, Gu Xiao laughed wildly: "Below the Lord Realm, they're all ants, although I couldn't defeat you in the same realm, killing you is sufficient, you are ultimately a tragedy!"

"Is that so?"

Ye Fan's voice was icy, then he exerted effort to spread Divine Light, resisting Gu Xiao's Domain Power.

"Next, I will show you exactly how vast the gap between us truly is!"

Gu Xiao sneered, mobilizing the power of his domain, attacking Ye Fan with both positive and negative forces simultaneously, almost tearing him apart!

"Swish!"

Ye Fan utilized the Chasing Star Step, moving with difficulty within Gu Xiao's domain, advancing instead of retreating.

Under the watchful eyes of all, he resisted the power of the domain, step by step approached Gu Xiao, then threw a punch, as if piercing through all heavens and myriads of worlds, the Punch Ray crashed heavily onto Gu Xiao!

"Boom!"

A loud sound echoed, both were forced back a hundred feet, once again wounded.

"I really didn't expect that within my domain, you could still hurt me, but this is the last time!"

Gu Xiao didn't want to delay any longer, though stronger than his opponent by two Xiao realms, the result of mutual wounding embarrassed him!

"Swish!"

A flash of light appeared in Gu Xiao's hand, revealing a small azure-colored furnace the size of a fist, emanating an ancient aura, very similar to the Azure Gold Furnace!

"Strike!"

Gu Xiao shouted, the small azure furnace expanded robustly with the wind, in the blink of an eye it grew larger, shining azure light, fiercely crashing toward Ye Fan.

If hit, even Ye Fan's Nine Heavens Profound Body cultivated to the Fifth Level couldn't withstand it, Gu Xiao aimed to fulfill his quest in one move, almost pouring his Divine Power into this strike!

"Suppress!"

Ye Fan let out a roar, unleashing the first Heavenly Sound from the Divine Soul Resonance Sound Wave Technique, directly shaking Gu Xiao's Divine Soul, like being struck by lightning, causing a moment of daze, weakening his control over the azure furnace considerably!

Whoosh!

At the same time, Ye Fan activated the Soldier Control Technique, attempting to seize control of the azure furnace, accelerating it even faster toward Gu Xiao's brow!

Simultaneously exhibiting the Divine Soul Resonance Sound Wave Technique and Soldier Control Technique demanded extremely high strength from Ye Fan's Divine Soul. Fortunately, he possessed Soul Flames, continuously training his Divine Soul, and after condensing into the Heavenly Tao Seal, several Tao Marks of heavenly dao were inscribed on his Divine Soul, greatly enhancing power; otherwise, he might not succeed!

"Ah..."

Gu Xiao cried out, experiencing splitting headache, shouted to finally remove the influence of the suppression character's Heavenly Sound on himself, fully controlling the azure furnace, once again attacking Ye Fan.

Ye Fan sighed inwardly, conscious that his Soldier Control Technique lacked fire control, otherwise he could definitely impact the attack direction of the azure furnace.

"Boom!"

On the other side, Gu Xiao directly burned his Divine Power, unwilling to allow any more mishaps, shocked by Ye Fan's secret technique.

The Ancient Emperor, one of the oldest four Great Emperors, left behind numerous secret techniques.

Though the Gu Family hasn't produced another Great Emperor for many years, its foundation remains immensely strong, not to be underestimated by any force.

The clan's generations of strong people, many exceptionally talented, created numerous secret techniques, each extraordinarily powerful!

"Within the domain, I am God. As long as you remain within my domain, you'll never defeat me, and I'll kill you as easily as slaughtering a chicken!"

Gu Xiao, like a Demon God, with flying black hair, eyes shot out Killing Light, coldly observing Ye Fan and said.

"If in the same realm, I'd kill you like crushing a bug, even within your domain, I can still kill you!"

Ye Fan responded aggressively, with blood Qi boiling, like an abyss sea, a dragon-shaped Blood Qi soared, piercing through Gu Xiao's domain!

"Boom!"

The epic battle resumed, Ye Fan frantically charging within Gu Xiao's domain, unable to be imprisoned by Domain Power, fierce confrontation began, they transformed into two streaks of lightning, destroying mountains and rivers, leaving desolation behind.

The mountains seemed like paper, weak and vulnerable to blows, they battled from one region to another, as if recreating heaven and earth, destroying old order, emitting whole mountain ranges, shattered heaven by Divine Light above.

Their battle was widespread, affecting everyone's hearts, people advancing, following behind with tense attention. This confrontation had persisted for several hours, passing through thousands of rounds.

The divine light was dazzling, the Punch Ray was earth-shattering, and every strike had immense power, making many feel despair. Among the same generation, probably only the Emperor's son could contend with them?

Ling Haotian felt bitter all over. Originally, he thought he was already very strong, but compared to these two, there was still a gap.

At this moment, he also understood that during the sparring match at the Immortal Academy, Ye Fan had already shown mercy. If he had displayed such combat power at that time, he would have lost long ago!

"Zheng!"

A light hum pierced through all the light and sound, and from Gu Xiao's brow emerged a divine sword about an inch long, dazzlingly bright and resounding.

"What is that? Is it a Divine Soul Secret Treasure?"

The young prodigies were shocked, as they sensed a strong power. The divine sword hadn't even released its strength yet, but its sword wave had already destroyed endless mountains and lands.

All around, countless mountains turned into dust, transforming into a desert, never to return, and the killing intent made this place devoid of life, becoming a barren land.

"It's not a Secret Treasure; it's a secret technique left by the Ancient Emperor—Divine Soul Killing Sword, specialized in killing Divine Souls!"

A middle-aged cultivator from the Ancient Emperor Family spoke coldly, full of confidence.

This was not a Secret Treasure but a shape formed by materializing the Divine Soul into a killing sword, yet its essence was still the Divine Soul, but marked with the Dao Mark of the Heavenly Dao. Its destructive power was terrifying throughout history, hence it was called the Divine Soul Killing Sword.

"Chi!"

The Divine Soul Killing Sword pierced through the void, shooting directly at Ye Fan's brow. Even though Ye Fan tried hard to dodge, it still pierced his shoulder, scattering a spray of purple blood!

"Only you know Divine Soul secret techniques?!"

Ye Fan shouted, and with a flash of light between his brows, a Heavenly Tao Seal rushed out, growing larger in the wind, shimmering with tens of thousands of rays of light to suppress Gu Xiao.

"Wha... What?"

Gu Xiao was shocked, his consciousness greatly shaken, not expecting Ye Fan to also possess such a secret technique.

"Dang!"

The Divine Soul Killing Sword swiftly returned, breaking through the boundaries of time and space, fiercely colliding with the Heavenly Tao Seal, skewing it slightly, avoiding the outcome of Gu Xiao being suppressed.

"Really didn't expect that Ye Fan also has such a secret technique?"

"Look at his Divine Soul condensed seal, it seems to have Heavenly Dao's Dao Mark circulating, it's absolutely terrifying!"

"If it weren't for Gu Xiao suppressing Ye Fan in terms of realm, he might have already lost with regret now!"

Exclamations arose again, almost no one expected that Ye Fan also had such a secret technique. Clearly, this Heavenly secret technique was not left by the Nine Heavens Xuan Emperor, because the Ling Family members wouldn't know it, and it didn't seem to be left by the Thunder Venerable Master.

Thus, it appears that Ye Fan indeed had great fortune, having obtained such an inheritance, such that the Divine Soul condensed seal could almost suppress all Divine Souls!

"Suppress!"

Ye Fan shouted, the first Heavenly Sound of the Divine Soul Resonance Sound Wave Technique echoed again, the intense sound wave spreading like water, crashing onto the Divine Soul Killing Sword.

"Ah..."

Gu Xiao let out a scream, his Divine Soul suffered a tremendous impact, and the Domain Power couldn't be maintained, immediately he was controlled by Ye Fan with the Soldier Control Technique, swishing towards his own brow to pierce!

"No..."

The Gu Family people were horrified, shouting in unison, fearing that Gu Xiao would be wiped out by his own Divine Soul Killing Sword—they were well aware of the power of the Divine Soul Killing Sword, even Gu Xiao couldn't withstand it!

Once harmed, even the Immortal Reincarnation Disk of the Ancient Emperor couldn't save him, it was almost certain death, even if he could somehow survive, his belief in Proving Dao would shatter, and his future would be ruined in this life!

Whoosh!

The Gu Family's Saint Master directly sacrificed the Azure Gold Furnace, emitting a huge suction like a black hole, pulling Gu Xiao into it, almost pulling Ye Fan into the Azure Gold Furnace as well.

If Ye Fan were pulled into the Azure Gold Furnace, even if he survived, he'd shed a layer of skin. Fortunately, at the crucial moment, the Old Immortal shook the Nine Heavens Mystic Crown, emitting a wisp of Emperor Weapon's might, isolating the breath of the Azure Gold Furnace and saving Ye Fan.

"Heh, wasn't it meant to be a life or death decision?"

Seeing the Gu Family's Saint Master save Gu Xiao at the crucial moment, Ye Fan mocked.

"Whelp, you...?"

The face of the Gu Family's Saint Master changed, glaring angrily at Ye Fan, terrifying aura surging, instantly putting immense pressure on Ye Fan, making him immobile.

"What? After reneging, you still want to bully the young with the old?"

The Immortal Academy Director Old Immortal let out a cold snort, helping Ye Fan withstand the pressure, coldly staring at the Gu Family's Saint Master.

"Humph!"

The Gu Family's Saint Master knew he was in the wrong, plus feared the strength of the Old Immortal, so he snorted coldly, saying nothing more.

"Really didn't expect, the strongest successor of the Ancient Emperor Family, Gu Xiao, also lost. There's probably no one in the younger generation who is Ye Fan's opponent anymore!"

"Indeed, in my opinion, Ye Fan is already invincible among the younger generation!"

Then, such voices came out on site.

Those who previously thought Gu Xiao would definitely win looked extremely unpleasant, especially those who undermined Ye Fan before the battle to ingratiate themselves with Gu Xiao, wishing they could find a spatial rift to crawl into!

Originally, they thought Gu Xiao had atavistic bloodlines, possessing a physique no less than the Ancient Emperor when he was young, and with a realm two levels higher than Ye Fan, he could easily kill Ye Fan to establish prestige.

However—

The result was that Gu Xiao lost, and lost very thoroughly!

Even, if it weren't for the Gu Family's Saint Master breaking the previous agreement and saving him, today next year would be Gu Xiao's death anniversary!