

Y Master 1741

Chapter 1741 After the Great Battle

The grand battle concluded with Ye Fan's mighty defeat of the Ancient Immortal. This was something no one had anticipated before.

Everyone was discussing every thrilling moment of the battle, as if it was not Ye Fan who defeated the Ancient Immortal, but themselves.

Ye Fan didn't linger much, and naturally, he didn't know Elder Lin's evaluation of his domain.

In the Emperor City, the vice president of the Imperial Academy, Old Monster Zhou, arranged a new residence for Ye Fan. The environment was elegant, and the courtyard was very spacious, more than enough for him alone.

Fortunately, there were no ordinary people residing in the Emperor City, so many courtyards were vacant, used for the cultivation of the academy's disciples.

"Ye Zi, let's drink together later!"

Before Ye Fan left, Kou Wenjie and the Great Demon enthusiastically invited him.

Ye Fan naturally agreed with a smile. Upon returning to his residence, he washed briefly, changed into clean clothes, and headed towards the only tavern in the Emperor City — the Dian Feng Pavilion.

Along the way, Ye Fan encountered many Imperial Academy students and teachers. Each person's gaze towards him was very complex, with envy, jealousy, admiration, and praise all mixed.

Narrow-minded disciples of the academy naturally wouldn't want Ye Fan to be so dominant. This signified that the Immortal Academy would turn the tables and overshadow the Imperial Academy.

Of course, such people were a minority. Many could see the broader picture. In these troubled times, the strong rise of a young expert like Ye Fan was more beneficial than harmful for all humanity.

Ascending to the fifth floor of the Dian Feng Pavilion, a mountain breeze blew, invigorating the spirit. Gazing at the distant mountains and flowing rivers gave a refreshing sense of looking far into the distance.

"Brother Ye, you're late, you'll have to drink a forfeit bowl!" Wen TaDou greeted with a smile.

"A forfeit of one bowl isn't enough, at least three bowls."

Kou Wenjie also came up. They had arrived early and were waiting for Ye Fan, with all the food and drinks already served.

"Three bowls are too easy for him, it must be three hundred bowls!" The Great Demon joined in the instigation, laughing joyously.

"Three hundred bowls still isn't enough, at least three hundred jars." The Ancient Prince Yue Haoyu also joined in.

This gathering, except for the Gu family pair, had all the top ten chosen young experts present, just to celebrate Ye Fan's success.

"Spare me, please!"

Ye Fan laughed heartily and came to the Eight Immortals table by the window. He casually found a seat, poured three bowls of wine, and drank them in one go.

"Good! Refreshing! Fill them up, fill them up!"

The Great Demon laughed, lifted a wine jar, and poured another bowl for Ye Fan. Only then did everyone take their seats.

"Brother Ye, congratulations on successfully breaking through the barrier and entering the Lord Realm. I drink first in your honor!"

Kou Wenjie, with his leopard head and round eyes, raised a bowl of wine and drank it all, wiping the wine stains from the corner of his mouth with his sleeve and laughing heartily.

"Brother Ye Fan, congratulations on giving that Ancient kid a good beating, letting out some of our pent-up frustration."

Everyone kept toasting, and Ye Fan was straightforward, accepting all comers. He clinked glasses with them one after another, drinking eighteen large bowls of strong liquor in one breath.

"Satisfying!"

Everyone put down their wine bowls, not using chopsticks, and tore apart and devoured various delicacies with their hands, their mouths dripping with oil.

This drinking session was extremely enjoyable. Everyone was a cultivator of high cultivation, except for Wen TaDou who was flushed from drinking, everyone else seemed unaffected.

"Brother Ye, what are your plans next?"

After the banquet, Kou Wenjie, familiar as ever, put his arm around Ye Fan's shoulder and asked.

"I plan to go into a short retreat to stabilize my realm, then see the situation. If there's time, I'll test my combat power in the trial arena. If not, then forget it," Ye Fan said.

"That's good; we also need to go into retreat, otherwise we'll be surpassed by you, this newcomer." The Great Demon laughed.

Back at his residence, Ye Fan went straight into retreat, carefully comprehending the various traits of the Lord Realm and the power of the domain.

The Lord Realm and the Divine Power Realm are two completely different concepts; only by breaking through that barrier can one truly understand them.

"No wonder so many cultivators throughout history have been stuck at the Lord Realm barrier. It really makes sense."

Ye Fan sighed.

After reaching the Lord Realm, controlling the elements of heaven and earth becomes more effortless. In the eyes of a strong person in the Lord Realm, this world is composed of various elements and energies. As long as one can control the power of elements, they can form their own domain.

Many people choose a single element as their divine skill in the Divine Power Realm. Naturally, when comprehending the essence and laws of the elements, they also only comprehend the laws of one element.

It's like the Water Domain, Fire Domain, Wind Domain, etc. Like the Ancient Immortal, who comprehended the laws of two elements and formed the Wind and Fire Domain, such individuals are as rare as a phoenix feather and unicorn horn.

Moreover, the laws of the two elements must not conflict. Otherwise, comprehending the Fire Element Law first and then the Water Element Law would certainly lead to a disastrous explosion.

Ye Fan, however, comprehended the essence and laws of eight elements, meaning he mastered eight elements, forming a subtle balance within his body.

The eight elements nearly encompass all elemental powers between heaven and earth, forming a unique domain power when released.

The eight elements are like eight worlds, mutually generating and restraining each other, forming an incomparably solid whole.

Once the domain is expanded, unless someone possesses power vastly exceeding his, no one can break his domain—it's an absolute defensive domain.

However, what frustrates Ye Fan is that he cannot utilize the domain's power to attack enemies, it can only be used for self-defense, like an unbreakable turtle shell that no one can breach.

"This is fine too, after all, others' domains are futile to me; as long as I can get close, I can rip the enemy apart using sheer physical combat."

Ye Fan comforted himself.

If others knew his thoughts now, they would strangle him, typical of getting a bargain and being smug about it. Such an absolute defensive domain is something others wish for but cannot obtain, yet he is still dissatisfied.

During the time Ye Fan was secluded, Kou Wenjie and the seven, including two great Emperor's sons, also chose seclusion, wishing to perceive the law of a second element, as being able to perceive the law of a second element means a gigantic enhancement for their power.

However, obviously, that is unrealistic; even understanding the elemental law of oneself to the extreme can also enhance power.

The war with the Demon Clan is almost imminent; time does not permit them to waste anymore, they can only desperately enhance their power.

Meanwhile, Ancient Immortal directly chose seclusion upon his return, leaving Gu Xiao with nowhere to vent; frustrated, he also entered seclusion for cultivation.

Even the disciples of the Imperial Academy, spurred by Ye Fan, were gritting their teeth in secluded cultivation, desperately enhancing their strength.

For a time, a strong wave of cultivation formed throughout the Emperor's Secret Realm, leaving the Imperial Academy teachers emotional.

For many years, although the Emperor's Secret Realm is the most suitable Holy Land for cultivators, rarely did the disciples who came to the Secret Realm for cultivation strive like this.

As a result, the old teachers of the Emperor's Secret Realm were busy constantly, with disciples continually requesting trials or competitions.

The one-year period was drawing closer.

On this day, Ye Fan emerged from seclusion, arrived at the small pond in the courtyard, and jumped in with his clothes, taking a bath.

These days, he continuously cultivated and felt inspiration, solidifying his Early Lord Realm extremely well and becoming more adept at the use of domains.

Every time he exhibited domain power, he could see a Bagua Diagram formed by elemental runes appear around him.

The Bagua Diagram slowly rotated, forming a unique domain; within this domain, he was a god, the master of everything!

What frustrated him was, apart from the Thunder Element Rune shining brilliantly, the other runes were very dim, like the light of a firefly.

Ye Fan knew this was because his understanding of other elemental laws was not profound enough, but there was no solution, it could only be gradual. He believed that one day, the other seven elemental runes would shine as brilliantly as the Thunder Element Rune.

At that time, he might reach the Lord Realm Peak, ready to step into another realm—the Venerable Realm.

On shore, operating skills to dry his clothes, Ye Fan walked out of the small courtyard, effortlessly heading towards the Trial Arena area!

Along the way, Ye Fan saw many Imperial Academy disciples hurrying; some, like him, were heading to the trial ground, while others were just returning, bloodied, apparently seriously wounded.

This wasn't surprising, as the Demon Clan, Xuan Beasts, and human-shaped creatures activated by Array Patterns were all in peak condition, though unable to advance, their combat awareness and instinct remained, making them very difficult to deal with.

Most of these Imperial Academy disciples could overlook prejudices, actively greeting Ye Fan, to which Ye Fan replied with a smile.

Through this period of cultivation and experience, his mind had expanded greatly, the so-called major forces had little segmentation to him now.

Though internal strife among humans was continuous, facing battles between races, humans remained united, even those pessimistic about the battles between humans and the Demon Clan were a minority.

"Why are you here again?"

Seeing Ye Fan appear before him, the old man watching over the trial ground jumped up from his recliner instead of pretending to sleep.

"Senior, I wish to test my combat power at the trial ground, please open it for me."

Ye Fan remained very polite, leaving the old man with no excuse to refuse.

After pondering for a moment, the old man overseeing the trial ground said, "Alright, since you are already in the Early Lord Realm, I'll make an exception and open the Great Trial Arena for you. I will personally supervise; go ahead, at the corridor's end, Tianzihao Trial Ground!"

Ye Fan scratched his head, not thinking much, nor realizing what nerve the old man overseeing the trial ground had; he cupped his hands and walked down the corridor.

He was unaware that during his last trial, he astonished a crowd; his powerful combat power left many Imperial Academy teachers, used to large scenes, dumbfounded.

At this moment, seeing him arrive, many old teachers revealed strange expressions; some even followed without disciples undergoing trials.

"What? A Tianzihao Trial Ground? What mischief is Guo Songlin up to?"

Seeing Ye Fan directly arrive at the Tianzihao Trial Ground's door at the corridor's end, many old teachers at the Imperial Academy gasped.

Chapter 1742 Tianzihao Trial Ground

The Tianzihao Trial Ground is the strongest among all the trial grounds, a mixed-type trial ground where Xuan Beasts, the Demon Clan, and human-shaped creatures of all strengths gather.

It can be said that the Tianzihao Trial Ground is the most dangerous of all, and generally, it is absolutely not open to outsiders.

Seeing that Ye Fan actually came to the Tianzihao Trial Ground, the old Imperial Academy teachers guarding the trial ground were all stunned, speculating what Guo Songlin, who oversees all trial grounds, was up to.

They admitted that Ye Fan was indeed very powerful, but in the Tianzihao Trial Ground, he might encounter all kinds of dangers. Could he successfully endure it?

The Tianzihao Trial Ground looks no different from other trial grounds on the outside, all having that kind of Light Gate, emitting bursts of murderous aura from within.

After the old man guarding the Tianzihao Trial Ground opened the Light Gate, Ye Fan stepped into the trial ground without hesitation.

"Wow!"

Almost all the idle old teachers in the corridor came to the entrance of the Tianzihao Trial Ground, using a special Spiritual Artifact to monitor everything within the trial ground.

"Buzz!"

A light flickered, the array patterns were fully activated, and the entire trial ground was filled with the howling of apes and tigers, permeated with a primordial aura.

Ye Fan roamed the entire trial ground, his divine consciousness scanning every disturbance within a hundred miles, nothing escaping his perception.

Soon, Ye Fan discovered a strong member of the Demon Clan, dressed in green clothes, looking no different from the Human Race, yet exuding strong demon energy.

"Peak of Early Lord Realm!"

Ye Fan immediately assessed the strength of this Demon strong person and then stood in place, waiting for the opponent's arrival.

Even at the peak of the early stage, it posed no threat to him. However, since he encountered it, he might as well strike it down.

"This kid is too arrogant, actually waiting for that Demon strong person at the peak of the Early Lord Realm to arrive." A teacher sighed at this scene.

"It's not arrogance; it's confidence, strong confidence." The Goat Beard elder sighed.

He knew Ye Fan's true combat power best, even before breaking through to the Lord Realm, he could kill Demon strong people and human-shaped creatures at the early-stage Lord Realm.

Not to mention, now he had broken through the barrier of the Lord Realm, successfully advancing to the initial strong stage of the Lord Realm, even the Emperor's Son, Ancient Immortal at the Mid-Stage of Lord Realm was not his opponent, let alone these Demon strong people at the peak of Early Lord Realm.

As if to confirm his thoughts, when the Demon strong person arrived in front of Ye Fan, the battle broke out without surprise.

This Demon strong person at the early Lord Realm didn't take Ye Fan seriously at all; in his retained remnants, he always insisted that the Human Race was weak, under the same realm, the Human Race could never be a match for the Demon Clan.

So, he ended tragically, not even moving before being blown up by Ye Fan's punch, turning into a remnant and disappearing between heaven and earth.

"Uh...A Demon strong person at the peak of Early Lord Realm was actually killed in an instant?"

"That was a Demon strong person capable of exerting Peak Combat Power, who would dare to claim victory in the same realm?"

"This kid is simply non-human, absolutely comparable to the young Great Emperor."

"..."

For a moment, there was a commotion outside the trial ground, with many old teachers dumbfounded by Ye Fan's wild punch.

Although they witnessed Ye Fan defeat the Ancient Immortal's battle, they were shocked by Ye Fan's domain, having little impression of Ye Fan's combat power displayed in that battle.

At this moment, just one punch!

A Demon strong person activated by the array patterns was easily killed like that, how many people can achieve such a result and combat power?

Afterward, Ye Fan successively encountered several Demon strong people, all possessing cultivation at the Early Lord Realm, without any suspense, all were shattered by a punch in his hands.

In the process of battling these Demon strong people, Ye Fan's understanding of the Xuandi Fist deepened, the Nine Heavens Xuan Emperor indeed proved himself a Great Emperor under the most improbable circumstances, his talent truly stunning for the ages.

After integrating the martial arts of previous Great Emperors, the unique Xuandi Fist created by the Nine Heavens Xuan Emperor possessed unparalleled might, and if cultivated to the extreme, it was possible to strike across the Three Thousand Worlds.

Thus, Ye Fan longed even more for the style of the Ancient Emperors. To what realm did they ultimately reach?

Without a doubt, emperors of all eras reached the limits that humans could achieve, overlooking the Nine Heavens and Ten Earths, any strong person was but an ant in their eyes.

The Demon strong people killed by Ye Fan hailed from various species within the Demon Clan, even though just a wisp of remnant activated by array patterns, they were extremely powerful, ordinary human cultivators at the Early Lord Realm couldn't easily defeat them.

This is the wealth left to the Human Race by the Great Emperors, through which battles and the remnants activated by array patterns can learn about the comprehensive strength and attack techniques of the Demon Clan.

Many demons have their innate divine abilities, with endless attacking means, very difficult to deal with.

However, before Ye Fan's Absolute Defense Eight Phase World Domain, their attacks were all in vain, unable to breach his domain.

Meanwhile, Ye Fan could close in quickly, relying on a stronger body and strength than the Demon Clan, using hand-to-hand combat to crush them.

Seeing Ye Fan overpower and kill those Demon strong people with unmatched force, everyone outside the trial ground was numbed.

It was numbness to an extreme shock, even though Ye Fan showed formidable strength, they were no longer surprised, instead thinking it was a matter of course.

During this period, other disciples of the Imperial Academy were also undergoing trials in various arenas. Some successful or unsuccessful disciples came out of the trial arenas and saw many veteran teachers gathered at the Tianzihao Trial Ground, prompting them to join in the excitement.

After all, they had only heard about the Tianzihao Trial Ground; no one had actually been inside, nor did they know how dangerous it truly was within.

As time passed, more and more people gathered outside the Tianzihao Trial Ground. Through secret techniques, they could clearly see Ye Fan's every move inside the trial ground.

At this moment, Ye Fan was walking on this land filled with a primordial aura. His expression was calm and resolute, without the slightest ripple, completely disappointing those Imperial Academy disciples who hoped to discern some clues from his face.

"It seems quite ordinary, nothing particularly special. Why open the Tianzihao Trial Ground just for him?" Many disciples of the Imperial Academy were puzzled.

"Watch carefully and learn from him. This is called remaining calm and composed, able to face any powerful opponent." A veteran teacher of the Imperial Academy snorted coldly and said.

As he spoke, all the disciples of the Imperial Academy stopped talking and stared intently at Ye Fan in the trial ground, wanting to see how he would perform.

"Roar..."

Just then, a deafening roar came through the light gate, causing not a few Imperial Academy disciples to have their blood churn, their vision blur, and ears ring.

"Peak of Mid-Stage Lord Realm?"

Many were shocked, including those veteran teachers, who did not expect the array patterns to activate such a formidable creature.

From the roar, it was easy to judge that this was undoubtedly an outstanding figure among the Demon Clan, rarely meeting an equal even in the Mid-Stage Lord Realm.

Ye Fan just broke through to the Early Lord Realm; can he really defeat this demon strongman at the peak of Mid-Stage Lord Realm?

Before Ye Fan could see the demon strongman, who sent out the provocative roar, the veteran teachers and disciples of the Imperial Academy outside had already witnessed it.

This was a very ordinary-looking middle-aged man, with a delicate appearance, without any characteristics of the Demon Clan, looking no different from the Human Race. However, he was surrounded by overwhelming demon energy.

"This is..."

A veteran teacher could not help but suck in a breath of cold air.

"The direct offspring of the Silver Winged Eagle King from ancient times, the Silver Winged Little Eagle King!"

The old man with the goat beard inadvertently revealed the identity of this demon strongman.

The Silver Winged Eagles are also royals among the entire Demon Clan, with astounding innate divine abilities and noble bloodlines, on par with the Silver Moon Wolf King family of the Bai Yan wolves.

Moreover, the Silver Winged Eagle family harbors intense hostility towards the Human Race. During the Nine Heavens Xuan Emperor's subjugation of the Demon Clan, the Silver Winged Eagle family lost two generations of strongmen.

The Silver Winged Little Eagle King was one such member, his indestructible residual thought was utilized by the Nine Heavens Xuan Emperor, activated by array patterns, allowing him to possess peak combat power for a short time, retaining some innate divine abilities.

It can be said that at the same realm, it is almost impossible for Human Race strongpeople to defeat the Silver Winged Eagle Clan, let alone the direct offspring of one generation's demon king, the Silver Winged Eagle King.

For a time, everyone was worried for Ye Fan. Even at the same realm, victory would be unlikely, let alone the full gap of a small realm between Ye Fan and the Silver Winged Little Eagle King?

Although it is only a mere difference of a small realm, everyone knows that the higher a cultivator's realm, the greater the difference between each small realm, making it nearly impossible to defy the odds and defeat an immortal.

Ye Fan was undoubtedly a prodigy. Upon successfully undergoing tribulation and stepping into the Early Lord Realm, he fiercely defeated the Ancient Emperor's direct offspring, who had comprehended a second elemental law, forming a Wind and Fire Domain.

However, regarding constitution, the Silver Winged Little Eagle King was no less than the Ancient Immortal, and with being activated by array patterns, the Silver Winged Little Eagle King did not fear death, able to fight with full force, posing a greater threat to Ye Fan than the Ancient Immortal.

On the verdant earth, Ye Fan walked leisurely, having also heard the roar just now, but he paid it no mind.

Suddenly, he paused, standing quietly there, gazing at the end of the earth. On the lush horizon, a small black dot was rapidly approaching.

"It's coming!"

Ye Fan thought to himself, from the aura it was easy to tell that this was the strongest opponent he had encountered since entering the trial ground.

"This is good too. Since it's a trial, naturally, it's best to choose a strong opponent. Those before were too weak!"

Ye Fan stood his ground, waiting for the arrival of his opponent.

At the end of the horizon, the small black dot moved incredibly fast, seeming to traverse space. Soon it became clear that it was a very sturdy figure.

He did not touch the ground with his feet, did not shake his shoulders, floated three feet above the ground, stepping through the void, approaching with the wind.

In just an instant, the person had nearly arrived, his figure and appearance clearly visible. Though his steps were not quick, he possessed extreme speed, with each step seeming to disappear from one spot and quickly appear in front, manifesting the secret technique of traversing space, proving that this person was extremely unusual.

Ye Fan looked up and down at the other party, noticing he seemed about twenty-two or twenty-three years old, dressed in green, with a delicate appearance, showing no signs of belonging to the Demon Clan.

However, his eyes were extremely sharp, giving off a strong sense of oppression, even a bit of aggressiveness, clearly indicating that he was a very domineering person.

No, he was a very domineering demon!

Chapter 1743 Silver Winged Little Eagle King

On the vast expanse of the earth, mountains rolled and forests were verdant, with Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi dense like water, surrounded by the cries of apes and the roars of tigers, presenting a scene of wilderness.

On a plain, Ye Fan stood quietly, his clothes fluttering in the mountain wind, straight like a spear deeply embedded in the ground.

In the distance, a handsome young man came stepping through the air, as if traversing space, with a few flashes he arrived not far from Ye Fan.

"Swish!"

The handsome youth suddenly stopped, his eyes erupting with a strong radiance, like two sharp swords scanning Ye Fan up and down.

"Who are you?"

The handsome youth seemed to have not spoken for a long time, his voice was very harsh, as if two rusty metals were rubbing violently, extremely grating.

"Ye Fan!"

Though Ye Fan was puzzled, he calmly reported his name.

This trial ground indeed differed wholly from other trial grounds, there were even some beings with consciousness capable of interaction, which greatly surprised him.

"What's your name? From which clan of the Demon Clan?"

Ye Fan was very curious, the handsome youth before him had no features of the Demon Clan, if not for the powerful demon energy emanating from him, he could be mistaken for one of the Human Race.

"Silver Winged Little Eagle King!"

The handsome youth revealed his name, naturally, indicating which clan he belonged to in the Demon Clan.

He is clearly from the Imperial Family of the Demon Clan, an outstanding member of the Silver Winged Eagle Clan. Judging by the aura, the Silver Winged Little Eagle King before him is certainly a descendant of the Demon King and likely a scion of the legendary Silver Winged Eagle King.

"Kill!"

The Silver Winged Little Eagle King wasted no words, despite being a mere remnant thought, he could still sense the deathly aura of a strong Demon Clan member on Ye Fan, directly launching a punch at Ye Fan's chest.

The fierce Punch Ray was dazzling, although the Silver Winged Little Eagle King appeared harmless, his strike was extremely ruthless, his fist resembling a burning sun.

"Bang!"

Ye Fan swung his golden fist, confronting head-on, their fists clashed, emitting a loud noise as if thunder erupted from a clear sky.

Peak of Mid Lord Realm!

From the single strike, Ye Fan immediately discerned the opponent's realm and combat power, his heart couldn't help but tremble, the Tianzihao Trial Ground was indeed extraordinary, even possessing Demon Clan members of the Peak of Mid Lord Realm.

"Boom!"

Ye Fan and the Silver Winged Little Eagle King simultaneously flew backward, the first strike ended evenly, neither could prevail over the other.

"That kid named Ye finally encounters a match, there's a good show to watch."

Outside the trial ground, a group of Imperial Academy's old teachers became excited as if invigorated, their eyes glaring like fighting cocks, fixing on Ye Fan and the Silver Winged Little Eagle King.

The Imperial Academy disciples were shocked, thinking that if they were in Ye Fan's place against the Silver Winged Little Eagle King at peak strength, they wouldn't be able to endure even one move.

Ye Fan's ability to defeat the descendants of Ancient Emperors and Ancient Immortals wasn't by luck, he indeed possessed formidable strength, as evidenced by just one strike.

In the trial ground, Ye Fan flew backward for dozens of feet before landing steadily, his blood surged, it was the first time since entering the Lord Realm that he was flung back in a direct collision.

The Silver Winged Little Eagle King fared no better, flying backward the same distance, but upon landing, he had to retreat seven or eight steps to stabilize, slightly weaker than Ye Fan.

However, Ye Fan was far from careless, the handsome youth Silver Winged Little Eagle King before him was unusual, exuding a dangerous aura, not inferior to that of the Ancient Immortal, perhaps even stronger.

Suddenly, a loud eagle cry pierced the skies, followed by the Silver Winged Little Eagle King's azure garments exploding, revealing the tight-fitting silver clothes within, radiating brilliantly.

The Silver Winged Little Eagle King emitted a strong silver radiance, then his body transformed, arms turning into eagle claws, dark and shiny with nails over a foot long, covered in silver feathers, sprouting a pair of silver wings on his back, resembling a birdman.

In his true form, the Silver Winged Little Eagle King's strength skyrocketed, truly exerting the power of the Peak of Mid Lord Realm, with azure wind elemental runes flashing on his forehead.

"Hurricane Domain!"

The Silver Winged Little Eagle King thundered, instantly unleashing his domain, covering an area within a hundred meters, the raging hurricane destroying everything, even stones were ground to powder.

Ye Fan had long anticipated him using his domain, as for Lord Realm experts, the domain was their best means of attack, while Divine Skills and martial arts were secondary.

"Buzz!"

As Silver Winged Little Eagle King activated the Hurricane Domain, Ye Fan also unfolded his domain, the forces of the two domains clashed, erupting with destructive power.

The trial ground was suffused with an apocalyptic aura, causing all creatures to feel soul-deep fear and trembling.

"Roar..."

The surrounding forests descended into chaos, various Xuan Beasts and weaker Demon Clan members fled, fearing being swept into this annihilating battle.

"Bang bang bang..."

One after another hurricanes crashed fiercely against Ye Fan's Eight Phase World Domain, bursting with dazzling light, yet unable to breach his domain.

But Ye Fan was not at ease, maintaining such a domain was highly consuming of Divine Power, coupled with constantly resisting Silver Winged Little Eagle King's hurricane attacks, it rapidly depleted his Divine Power.

The Hurricane Domain and Eight Phase World Domain clashed continuously, emanating destructive aura, the intense light blinded those outside the trial ground to the unfolding events.

However, those old teachers, being experienced, easily discerned the fierce domain battle from the fluctuations, feeling tense.

They all knew that stance battling in the domain was extremely perilous, any slight error could lead to defeat and death.

"What kind of domain is this, how can it be so powerful?"

After continuously attacking hundreds of times without breaking through Ye Fan's domain, the Silver Winged Little Eagle King was shocked and stopped to ask.

"The dead have no need to know so much!"

Ye Fan calmed his surging blood and said coldly.

"Hahaha..."

The Silver Winged Little Eagle King laughed loudly: "Do you think you are a young Great Emperor? How dare you utter such wild words, not to mention you are just an ant who has just reached the early Lord Realm, even if you were in the same realm as me, I could easily kill you. Don't forget, at the same realm, your Human Race is no match for our Demon Clan!"

"Is that so? Then today, I'll be the one to break this rule!"

Ye Fan's eyes shone brightly, shooting out two dragon-shaped Divine Lights, filled with battle intent that soared to the heavens.

"Buzz!"

As soon as the words fell, Ye Fan raised his right hand and faced the Silver Winged Little Eagle King not far away, a black giant hand suddenly appeared and slammed the Silver Winged Little Eagle King into the ground.

Immortal Stele Scattering Hand!

The characteristic of the Immortal Stele Scattering Hand is that it is silent and invisible; before it appears, no one can sense it, and when they realize something is wrong, it's already too late.

Bang!

With a loud explosion, the Silver Winged Little Eagle King was directly slammed into the ground by Ye Fan's Immortal Stele Scattering Hand.

Ever since cultivating the Immortal Stele Scattering Hand, Ye Fan discovered that as his strength increased, the power of the Immortal Stele Scattering Hand also grew.

How much strength one has is how much power can be unleashed, this is the most amazing aspect of the Immortal Stele Scattering Hand, different from any other martial arts.

"Ah..."

The Silver Winged Little Eagle King's silver hair stood on end, and his eyes seemed to spew fire, he forcefully thrust his hands into the black hand, tearing it open and leaping out from inside.

"I never thought you had such a secret technique, but you still have to die—you've angered me!"

The Silver Winged Little Eagle King's whole body trembled, and his silver feathers fell off, floating behind him, vaguely forming a mysterious formation.

"Divine Eagle Sword Formation!"

The Silver Winged Little Eagle King roared, and the silver feathers behind him all transformed into killing swords, each one resonating with a clang, exuding dazzling sword radiance, sharp and breathtaking.

Everywhere you look, there are divine swords gleaming with silver light, filled with killing intent, making one's heart tremble.

"Phoenix Dance Divine Sword, annihilate all living things, slay!"

This is the innate divine ability of the Silver Winged Eagle Clan, terrifying and difficult to resist; at the same realm, not many can withstand such an indiscriminate sword formation attack.

Especially since the Silver Winged Little Eagle King not only perfected the Divine Eagle Sword Formation but also supplemented it with his divine skill, the power of the wind element.

The combination of the two is not simply one plus one equals two, its power is exponentially multiplied, each sword possesses terrifying attack power.

With his roar, all the silver lights glittered, like divine swords forged of pure silver essence, shooting towards Ye Fan.

Countless sword rays attacked, splitting the heavens and the earth, engulfing Ye Fan, this is a chilling offensive, once the sword formation is unleashed, nothing can withstand it.

"Sss, sss, sss..."

Each silver sword ray was as thick as a barrel, incredibly sharp, like silver snakes piercing through the sky, invincible, as if capable of piercing the firmament!

"Clang, clang, clang, clang..."

Ye Fan deployed the Eight Phase World Domain, closely protecting himself, swinging his golden fists, every movement was a move of Xuandi Fist, pushing across the Three Thousand Worlds, with each punch he could shatter a killing sword.

"Kill!"

Ye Fan used the Eight Phase World Domain for protection, Xuandi Fist wide open and powerful, directly facing the sword formation, charging towards the Silver Winged Little Eagle King in the sky.

This was a gripping scene, countless silver killing swords slashing through heaven and earth, intimidating, yet Ye Fan wielded the Xuandi Fist, breaking every killing sword with one punch, charging against the sword formation towards the Silver Winged Little Eagle King.

"Hiss~"

Outside the trial arena, the disciples of the Imperial Academy felt chills on their spines, constantly shivering, even though they knew the attack wouldn't reach them, they still felt the terrifying killing intent, the sword rays piercing through heaven and earth, with infinite killing intent, making them feel cold all over, as if plunged into an ice cellar.

Being outside the arena felt like this, let alone being within the Sword Forest. It's hard to imagine what kind of intense killing intent Ye Fan was enduring.

However—

In the face of such intense killing intent, Ye Fan still surged upwards, charging against countless killing swords towards the Silver Winged Little Eagle King, fiercely unstoppable.

"Bang, bang, bang..."

Ye Fan was wide open and powerful, like a War God, his whole body radiating Infinite Holy Light, striking so fiercely that even the sky trembled.

He punched his way through, even though thousands of swords slashed at him, they couldn't stop him at all.

The overwhelming killing swords were all shattered by him, nothing could stop his steps, this is the unyielding defense of the Eight Phase World Domain and the power of the Fifth Level of the Nine Heavens Profound Body!

Chapter 1744 Shocking Emperor City

Even Ye Fan himself didn't know how powerful the combination of the Nine Heavens Profound Body and the Absolute Defense of the Eight Phase World Domain would be.

His body was nearly invincible. Unless it was a strong person who possessed the Emperor Bloodline and had used some secret technique to refine their body, no one could surpass him in body strength.

Especially during this Heavenly Tribulation, he once again used the tribulation to refine his body. At this moment, his body strength was already approaching the Sixth Layer of the Nine Heavens Profound Body.

Now, all his bones had completely turned golden, and only the Thunder Power flowing through his meridians was still purple. It could be said he had already achieved a Golden Body.

Under the Absolute Defense of the Eight Phase World Domain, the Silver Winged Little Eagle King's Divine Eagle Sword Formation couldn't harm him at all. Instead, he destroyed the sword formation with each punch, breaking through to the front.

Once Ye Fan closed in, even though the Silver Winged Little Eagle King was a descendant of the Demon Clan's Imperial Family and bore the bloodline of the Ancient Divine Bird Kunpeng, he was no match in terms of body strength.

"Divine Eagle Dragon Technique!"

Seeing Ye Fan about to charge forward, the Silver Winged Little Eagle King could no longer keep his secret. His gaze turned cold; he shouted fiercely and unleashed the Silver Winged Eagle Clan's Forbidden Secret Technique.

Even though he hadn't reached the Venerable Realm, the Silver Winged Little Eagle King forcibly used the secret technique to stimulate his clan's Forbidden Secret Technique!

"Swish!"

The silver wings behind the Silver Winged Little Eagle King slashed fiercely at Ye Fan, cutting like a Heavenly Blade, thunderously striking the Eight Phase World Domain, directly sending Ye Fan flying.

However, such a ferocious strike still couldn't completely cut open Ye Fan's domain; it merely accelerated the rotation speed of the Eight Runes.

Stabilizing his stance, a trace of blood trickled from the corner of Ye Fan's mouth. The wing slash of the Silver Winged Little Eagle King was terrifying, wounding him even without breaking the domain.

"Boom!"

A terrifying aura spread from the Silver Winged Little Eagle King, as if silver-cyan flames were burning on his body.

Silver-cyan flames blazed on his body, surrounding him with hundreds of silver Divine Swords, protecting him in the center. Behind him, a blurry image of a silver Divine Eagle fighting a True Dragon appeared.

"Silver Winged Eagle Clan's Talent Secret Technique, Divine Eagle Dragon Map?"

"Quickly stop this battle, Ye Fan is an elite of our Human Race, he must not fall!"

Seeing this, many old teachers outside the Trial Arena of the Imperial Academy were astounded. They knew how terrifying the Silver Winged Eagle Clan's Forbidden Secret Technique was, able to kill cultivators across realms. Could Ye Fan withstand it?

"No worries, this little guy with the surname Ye has an extraordinary domain; I believe he can withstand the Dragon Fighting Map."

The voice of an older elder came through the corridor; though he was outside the Trial Arena, he could still keep an eye on Ye Fan's every move.

Ye Fan even defeated the Ancient Emperor's progeny, the Ancient Immortal. It's believed he can triumph over the Silver Winged Little Eagle King, and even if not, he should be more than capable of self-defense.

The Divine Eagle Dragon Technique is the Silver Winged Eagle Clan's Talent Secret Technique, also a Forbidden Secret Technique. Once formed into a map, it is terrifying, known as a killing divine technique. Anyone covered by the Dragon Fighting Map almost inevitably faces death.

This is a unique domain, belonging to the Talent Domain, unrelated to the Elemental Law, yet its power exceeds even that.

At this moment, the Silver Winged Little Eagle King resembled a War God, enveloped with silver Holy Light, with the Dragon Fighting Map appearing behind him, charging at Ye Fan like the sky.

"Human race ant, forcing me to use the Dragon Fighting Technique, even in death you are worthy of pride!" The Silver Winged Little Eagle King seemed to have come alive, his emotions visibly fluctuating.

Ye Fan silently admired, the means of the Emperor truly grasped the creation of heaven and earth, mysterious beyond comprehension. Evidently, the Silver Winged Little Eagle King had been dead for countless millennia, yet under the activation of the great formation, he could still display such a demeanor, almost identical to when alive.

"Want to kill me? It's not that easy!"

After his admiration, Ye Fan shouted loudly, launching the Chasing Star Step, streaked like Flowing Light towards the Silver Winged Little Eagle King, raising his fist to strike.

The Chasing Star Step is the fastest in the world. In a blink of an eye, it appeared before the Silver Winged Little Eagle King, giving him no time to think.

Seeing the golden fist enlarging before his eyes, the Silver Winged Little Eagle King had no choice but to raise his fist in response.

"Bang!"

With a loud crash, the Silver Winged Little Eagle King was sent flying by Ye Fan's punch, his blood and Qi in chaos, all five fingers shattered.

"Ah..."

The Silver Winged Little Eagle King roared, his eyes turning silver, resembling Bai Yan wolf, and then the Dragon Fighting Map behind him shone brightly. A silver-winged Divine Eagle flew out of the map, assaulting Ye Fan, followed closely by a True Dragon.

This was the true power of the Divine Eagle Dragon Map: a terrifying aura, supreme oppression, inspiring shuddering fear, as if compelling one to kneel.

"It truly is the Divine Eagle Dragon Technique. Ye Fan might not hold out; should the array patterns be quickly withdrawn?" An old teacher worriedly observed the scene, suggesting to Elder Guo Songlin.

"No rush, no rush, let's see where his limits lie. Since it's the Trial Arena, naturally it's meant to test his strongest skills." Guo Songlin replied with a smile.

The others collectively rolled their eyes; was this still a trial? It was a life-and-death struggle, with the slightest mishap potentially leading to death.

Ye Fan is a rare genius of the Human Race. Even if he defeated the Ancient Emperor's progeny and fell in the Trial Arena, the loss to the Human Race would be immense, and the Demon Clan aware of this might laugh their heads off.

However, as Guo Songlin is the elder responsible for the entire Trial Arena, and is of a higher rank than them, no one dared go against his wishes, instead nervously watching the situation in the arena, prepared to intervene in the battle even at the risk of punishment.

"Swoosh!"

The Silver Wing God Hawk was the first to lunge at Ye Fan, its iron claws gleaming with silver light aiming fiercely at Ye Fan's face.

Meanwhile, the True Dragon breathed out Dragon Breath, then its sturdy body wrapped around Ye Fan, as if trying to strangle him.

"Break!"

Ye Fan's eyes shot out a light that overpowers the world, his hands divided and directly grasped the claws of the Silver Wing God Hawk. With a swift move, he tore the Silver Wing God Hawk apart.

The Silver Wing God Hawk let out a mournful cry, turned into a clear energy and disappeared from Ye Fan's hands, returning to the Dragon Fighting Map, never to emerge again.

The True Dragon also smoothly wrapped around Ye Fan, shaking its body, squeezing inward repeatedly, trying to strangle Ye Fan.

"Open for me!"

Ye Fan roared, his Holy Embryo manifested behind him, the Eight Phase World Domain expanded abruptly, forcibly pushing the True Dragon's body open.

Immediately, Ye Fan's Holy Embryo reached out, grabbed the True Dragon, as if tying knots, directly tied it into seven or eight dead knots and tossed it aside.

Following this, Ye Fan and the Holy Embryo acted together, employing Xuandi Fist, a flurry of punches, blasting the Silver Winged Little Eagle King apart.

Until the Silver Winged Little Eagle King transformed into a clear energy and dissipated in the Trial Arena, the crowd outside finally returned to their senses, looking at each other in disbelief at the scene before them.

That was the Imperial Family of the Demon Clan, the child of the Silver Winged Eagle Clan's old king. Even after death, under the activation of Array Patterns, it could demonstrate its Peak Combat Power of the past, yet Ye Fan, with a barrage of chaotic punches akin to beating a master, crushed it?

"He is truly strong!"

After a long silence, an elder teacher exclaimed.

His words elicited unanimous agreement from the crowd; Ye Fan gave them a feeling of being unfathomable, the greater the pressure, the greater the combat power he unleashed, seemingly without limit.

Through this theatrical battle, Ye Fan also gained a clear understanding of his own strength. Although he is still in the Early Lord Realm, there is virtually no one below Mid-Stage of Lord Realm who can defeat him.

"I must report this news to the vice dean."

An elder teacher couldn't sit still, stood up, and walked towards Emperor City.

Some disciples from the Imperial Academy who had undergone trials also followed him back to Emperor City, bringing Ye Fan's brilliant battle situation to Emperor City.

Soon, the news of Ye Fan defeating the Demon King's son from the Demon Clan spread like a whirlwind throughout the entire Emperor's Secret Realm.

Quickly, everyone knew about Ye Fan's trial in Tianzihao Trial Ground and his successful kill of the Silver Winged Eagle Clan's old king's direct descendant, Silver Winged Little Eagle King.

The entire Emperor's Secret Realm was in an uproar; there were those who didn't believe, those who envied, and those who were jealous—everyone was talking about this matter.

"Great Emperor, Ye Zi is truly a freak, he even slaughtered the Demon King's son, absolutely ferocious!"

Upon receiving the news, Kou Wenjie's first reaction was disbelief, but after understanding the details of the battle, he was dumbfounded and could only express such awe.

"Indeed, Brother Ye Fan is too strong. He's only in the Early Lord Realm! How can anyone live?" The Great Demon, upon receiving the news, was also astonished.

Subsequently, others too came to know about Ye Fan's glorious achievements in the Trial Arena. Their initial reactions were similar to Kou Wenjie's, not believing, but after hearing detailed and determined recounts, they had no choice but to believe.

Everyone was stunned; that was the Demon King's direct descendant, with Demon King's blood flowing in his veins. Even in death, under the activation of Array Patterns, it could still demonstrate Peak Combat Power, yet it was easily slaughtered by Ye Fan...

"What does that count for? The Ancient Immortal was also a Great Emperor's direct descendant, with Great Emperor's blood flowing within, yet defeated just the same!"

Li Yu'er remarked foolishly, completely oblivious to the troubled looks on Yue Haoyu and Yue Hui's faces beside him.

Meanwhile, the news also reached the ears of Gu Xiao and Gu Xian.

"Little ancestor, if this Ye brat continues to develop, not only will the younger generation be unmatched against him, but even elder strong people will find it tough to suppress him. What should we do?"

Gu Xiao, worried and distressed, spoke to Gu Xian who had just emerged, recovering from wounds not long ago.

"What do you want to say?"

Gu Xian's eyes flashed with a vicious and cruel light. This defeat seriously affected his Dao heart, with a Heart Demon already forming within.

"I mean, little ancestor, you should speak up, request the clan to dispatch a Saint Lord Level strong person, to secretly eliminate that brat. Otherwise, once he grows up, our entire Gu Family may be hard-pressed to escape his reckoning—rather than sit and wait for death, it's better to take the initiative and nip the danger in the bud!"

Gu Xiao's eyes flashed with a hint of fierceness as he spoke through clenched teeth.

"I will consider your suggestion."

Gu Xian nodded, knowing well that after so much transpired, the Gu Family and Ye Fan were already locked in a death struggle, and once Ye Fan matures, it could bring calamitous disaster to the Gu Family!

Chapter 1745 The Grand Finale

"The one-year deadline has arrived. All ten young warriors, hurry to the Emperor City Square for an important announcement!"

Just as Gu Xiao and Gu Xian were conspiring on how to secretly mobilize clan's Saint Lord Level strong people to eliminate Ye Fan, a resounding voice rang in their ears, startling them into looking outside.

Seeing no one spying, they relaxed and exchanged a knowing smile as they walked towards the square.

Others also received the notification, knowing the one-year deadline was near. Nobody went into seclusion; instead, they meditated, cultivating their mental realm. Upon receiving the notification, they all headed to the city square.

Meanwhile.

In the trial arena, Ye Fan was enjoying the scenery—since defeating the Silver Winged Little Eagle King, he hadn't encountered any evenly matched opponents. The strength of many demon clan or human-shaped creatures was not strong, and he easily dealt with them.

Hmm?

Suddenly, Ye Fan's keen spiritual sense predicted danger, causing his spirit to jolt as he looked towards the direction of the danger.

Beside a nearby pond, a human-shaped creature covered in green scales exuding a thick death aura was leisurely walking towards him.

"Very strong!"

Ye Fan felt uneasy. He realized that this human-shaped creature's strength was at least at the Mid-Stage of Lord Realm. Though he didn't know its means of attack, there was no doubt this would be a formidable opponent.

"Woo woo..."

The creature emitted waves of deathly sound. Though it hadn't reached Ye Fan yet, the attack had already begun.

However, for Ye Fan, this deathly sound was ineffective. His divine soul was much more powerful than ordinary cultivators, and since he practiced the Divine Soul Resonance Sound Wave Technique himself, the deathly sound had no impact on him.

Ye Fan didn't take it lightly; instead, he focused completely on the front.

One step, two steps, three steps...

Closer...

Even closer!

Ye Fan could clearly sense the death aura emanating from the opponent. Though they didn't cultivate divine power, the death Qi within them operated along certain routes, akin to a human's divine power.

"Boom!"

The human-shaped creature suddenly erupted with intense killing intent, rolling towards Ye Fan like a tangible force.

Ye Fan's war intent spiked immediately, his eyes shooting out two beams of gun light, divine power surging within him like a sea, thunder power enveloping his entire body.

"Swish!"

The Thunder Emperor Spear appeared in Ye Fan's hand. Against such death creatures, the Xuandi Fist wouldn't suffice anymore. While the Xuandi Fist was powerful and could kill these bizarre death creatures, it was too draining, not as convenient as thunder power.

Thunder power is the most pure and powerful force in the universe, particularly effective against any sinister creatures. It's the best choice to deal with this full-of-death Qi human-shaped creature.

"Rumbling~"

The next moment, before Ye Fan could make a move, intense waves suddenly swept through the entire trial arena.

Following that, the powerful human-shaped creature in front of Ye Fan suddenly disintegrated, vanishing without a trace, leaving not a single breath of demon clan or human-shaped creature in the trial arena.

"What happened?"

Ye Fan looked confused.

"Ye Fan, the one-year period has come. The vice headmaster has commanded you to gather in the city square for an important announcement."

As if to respond to Ye Fan, an elderly voice suddenly sounded in his ear.

"Has the one-year period already passed?"

Ye Fan felt regretful; if only he had one more hour, he might have had the chance to spar with this human-shaped creature.

As if sensing Ye Fan's thoughts, Elder Guo Songlin, who was in charge of the trial arena, spoke again beside Ye Fan's ear with a calm voice: "Don't regret it. After this decisive battle with the demon clan is over, if the human race prevails and gains some time of peace, you and others will embark on Xing Kong Gu Road to seek the opportunity for Proving Dao.

Before that, you'll have the chance to come here for trials, and by then, you'll surely have chances to fight the human-shaped creatures, adding some more combat experience for you to face them in the future!"

"Xing Kong Gu Road? Can humans really enter the cosmos with their bodies?"

Ye Fan was deeply shocked.

Coming from Earth, he was well aware of what the cosmic means to humans, especially ordinary people.

The cosmos lacks an atmosphere, gravity, oxygen, nothing at all, completely a vacuum with no supplies, a forbidden zone for ordinary human life.

Humans from Earth had long broken through the atmosphere to the universe, but can only survive inside spacecraft; going out requires a spacesuit, or death is imminent.

However—

In this world, such technology hasn't developed at all, so how can one enter the cosmos?

"Of course, once one's cultivation reaches a certain level, they can survive freely in the starry sky. Otherwise, if a war breaks out with so many strong people in this world, the entire world would be devastated. Once reaching the Venerable Realm, if a life-and-death battle occurs, it generally has to be fought in the starry sky."

Guo Songlin Elder's voice rang out again, briefly introducing Ye Fan to the matters regarding the Xing Kong Gu Road.

In this world, there is a mysterious place known only to the Immortal Academy and the Imperial Academy, a jointly managed area, and that is where the entrance to the Xing Kong Gu Road is located.

Since ancient times, many have embarked upon this bloodstained ancient road, the strongest trial path left by ancient Great Emperors for their descendants.

Pass through, and there might be a chance to prove Dao and become an Emperor!

Fail, and perish!!

Countless heavenly prides once courageously set foot on this road filled with blood and bones to compete for that singular chance to prove Dao.

However—

Only a few returned from this road, most perished outside the domain, dying in the depths of the starry sky.

The Xing Kong Gu Road opens periodically, even during the eras of Great Emperors. Though no one could prove Dao under their supreme pressure, alternative ways to prove Dao are possible.

"Can the Xing Kong Gu Road really enter the starry sky?"

Ye Fan was filled with yearning for the Xing Kong Gu Road. Though it is a path for the strong, paved with blood and bone, it is where all strong people aspire to go.

With this thought in mind, Ye Fan left the Trial Arena, and at the entrance, he deeply bowed to Guo Songlin Elder, who lay on a recliner, covering his face with a book from beast skin.

He believed that the Xing Kong Gu Road must be a highly confidential message, and Guo Songlin revealing it to him in advance surely indicated trust in his ability to go to the Xing Kong Gu Road for trials. It's a great trust.

Bidding farewell to Guo Songlin Elder, Ye Fan flew towards Emperor City. Behind him, Guo Songlin Elder put down his book, watched Ye Fan's departing back, and smiled with gratification.

He believes Ye Fan will certainly be able to step onto the Xing Kong Gu Road, hailed as the most powerful trial path in history. Whether he can eventually surpass all heroes and prove Dao over the corpses of countless heavenly prides depends on Ye Fan's fate.

...

Soon, Ye Fan entered Emperor City, traversing an ancient cobblestone path through a residential area, arriving at the square in the center of Emperor City.

At this moment, everyone else was already gathered, standing in the square and waiting for Vice-Dean Old Monster Zhou to announce the so-called important matter.

"Everyone's waiting for you; hurry up!"

Kou Wenjie greeted Ye Fan with a smile, then invited him to stand beside him.

As for Ancient Immortal and Gu Xiao, the two stood alone, not blending in with anyone. Evidently, they were completely isolated by the other seven.

They didn't mind this situation, instead, they seemed disdainful of mingling with the crowd, revealing an air of self-admiration.

Seeing Ye Fan also arrived, Old Monster Zhou on the stone platform cleared his throat, glanced at everyone, and said: "You are all heavenly prides, the elites and hope of the young Human generation. Through observing you this past year, I now announce the order of appearance for the confrontation with the Demon Clan."

Upon hearing this matter, everyone perked up, listening intently, fearful of missing every word. Because the arrangement of the order for the decisive battle against the Demon Clan is tantamount to a recognition of their prowess!

Who doesn't want to be valued?

Who doesn't want to be the one who can decide the fate of the world?

Though the words are this way, even if Old Monster Zhou doesn't say, they already have a rough guess in their hearts about where each will be ranked.

In terms of strength, Ye Fan should undoubtedly be the one to appear as the finale, although his realm is only at the Early Lord Realm, his actual combat power is second to none.

And the first to appear should be Gu Family's strongest heir, Gu Xiao, who is the weakest among these ten.

While everyone was filled with speculation, the Imperial Academy's Vice-Dean Old Monster Zhou began announcing the order of appearance for the competition.

"This time in the competition with the Demon Clan, the order of appearance is: Gu Xiao, Li Yu'er, Kou Wenjie, Yu chanzi, Great Demon, Wen TaDou, Yue Hui, Yue Haoyu, Ancient Immortal, Ye Fan!"

After announcing, Old Monster Zhou swept his gaze over everyone and said: "Anyone with any objections can speak up. If reasonable and convincing, changes can be made."

For a moment, all ten were silent.

Ye Fan hadn't expected to be the final contestant, and Wen TaDou hadn't expected himself to be placed first among the Three Great Emperor's Sons.

"I object, why is Wen TaDou after me?" Great Demon broke the silence, speaking up.

"Very simple, Wen TaDou's attack methods are unique, able to catch the opponent off guard and increase our Human Race's chances of victory. Your combat methods are certainly well-understood by the Demon Clan, who might have developed targeted ways to counter them. Therefore, Wen TaDou is arranged as a surprise soldier, any more opinions?"

After Old Monster Zhou's explanation, everyone agreed.

Indeed, Wen TaDou may seem like a weak, frail scholar, but his actual combat power is frighteningly strong, coupled with his bizarre methods, he indeed has the potential to unexpectedly defeat opponents.

At first, even Ye Fan was almost defeated by his strange attack methods; if it wasn't for Ye Fan also possessing Wen Qi, during the Yuehua Dynasty's spar, Wen TaDou would have been the first.

Although Ancient Immortal and Gu Xiao said nothing, a glint of fierce ruthlessness flashed in their eyes!

Chapter 1746 Return to the Immortal Academy

After Old Monster Lu, the assistant dean of the Imperial Academy, announced the decision, he sent everyone away from the Emperor's Secret Realm.

Ye Fan bid farewell to Kou Wenjie and the others, then used the Imperial Academy's Transmission Array Platform to return to the Immortal Academy.

Upon learning of Ye Fan's return, the entire Immortal Academy erupted in excitement!

From the top echelons of the academy to the disciples, all came spontaneously to the Immortal Stele Square, forming a huge crowd even more grand than when the Saint of the Di Clan visited.

"Ye Fan!"

"Ye Fan!"

"Ye Fan!"

"..."

When Ye Fan appeared at the Immortal Stele Square, thousands of disciples shouted his name, welcoming him like a hero returning in triumph.

The deafening sound echoed in the sky for a long time, and some lovestruck female students even shamelessly shouted "Ye Fan, I love you."

Looking at the faces full of vigor, some familiar, some strange, and listening to the cheers, Ye Fan felt a surge of pride and a touch of warmth.

Somehow, this competitive Immortal Academy had become his second home in the Xuan Realm!

Controlling his emotions, Ye Fan greeted everyone while making his way towards the Immortal Stele, where the dean and the assistant dean, as well as the Law Enforcement Elder, were located.

Since he had returned, he naturally had to report some of his experiences at the Imperial Academy to the dean, and he also wanted to learn more about the Xing Kong Gu Road from the dean.

"Brother Ye, congratulations!"

"Our Immortal Academy finally has something to be proud of."

"Brother Ye, you are the pride of our Immortal Academy!"

"Brother Ye Fan, I really admire you..."

The crowd automatically parted to open a path for Ye Fan leading to the Immortal Stele's platform, and along the way, many people expressed their congratulations and admiration for him, making Ye Fan feel spread too thin.

Fortunately, he had some experience dealing with such situations, so he wasn't flustered.

He smiled, waved, and humbly walked towards the Immortal Stele's platform.

Seeing his demeanor, the Immortal Academy Director Old Immortal, the assistant dean Old Fox, and the Law Enforcement Elder Lan Yingfei all secretly nodded in satisfaction.

Soon, Ye Fan reached the stone platform in front of the Immortal Stele, bowing politely to the academy's high echelon, thanking them for nurturing him.

"Ye Fan, well done. We've already heard about your accomplishments in the Emperor's Secret Realm, and you've brought honor to our Immortal Academy!" Old Fox laughed cunningly, his smile filled with shrewdness and slyness.

"Ye Fan, keep up the good work!"

Lan Yingfei stepped forward, patted him on the shoulder, his smile full of pride and encouragement.

"Cultivation requires a balance between relaxation and tension. Since Ye Fan has just returned, let him relax by catching up with his friends." Old Immortal smiled and said, "Ye Fan, I give you a day to get together well with your friends and brothers. Come to my place tonight, I have something to discuss with you."

"Thank you, dean!"

Ye Fan bowed again, thinking, even if you didn't call me, I would have come to see you anyway, to inquire about Xing Kong Gu Road.

With the dean personally speaking, others naturally dispersed, leaving Immortal Stele Square calm and quiet, except Hu Fei and those with close ties to Ye Fan.

"Ye Zi, you've been gone for a year, we missed you terribly!"

Hu Fei was the first to step forward, punching Ye Fan's shoulder, then giving him a big bear hug.

Ye Fan was filled with emotion; this is what brotherhood is—always thinking of each other no matter how long they are apart. Didn't he miss them while he was in the Emperor's Secret Realm?

However, his feeling of warmth was quickly interrupted by the sound of Barbarian Shi Ye.

"Ye Zi, don't listen to his nonsense. He wasn't missing you, he was missing your barbecue. Several times while drinking, he complained that without your grilled meats, drinking lost its fun."

"Are you deliberately undermining me?"

Hu Fei's eyes widened in anger, ready to roll up his sleeves but realizing he wasn't a match for Shi Ye, he reluctantly backed down.

"Xiao Fan, you're finally back!"

Yaling stepped forward with a smile to greet him, while the others exchanged knowing, ambiguous smiles.

"You guys are itching for a beating, wanting me to help crack your bones?"

Seeing the suggestive looks, Yaling instantly understood their meaning, feeling a slight pang in her heart. She then raised her eyebrows, adopting the air of a big sister.

Except for Yue Chuan and Wu Jingtian, no one present was her match. During the year Ye Fan was absent, she had abused them frequently, causing them to shiver reflexively and put away their smiles.

"Brother Ye Fan, welcome back!"

Unexpectedly, Ling Ziyuan, the Holy Maiden from Purple Smoke Pavilion, hadn't left. She timidly walked over to congratulate him after Ye Fan and Hu Fei had exchanged pleasantries.

"Thank you!"

Ye Fan didn't expect Ling Ziyuan to stay, as she wasn't as familiar with him as Yaling, Hu Fei, and Shi Ye, but he still appeared very enthusiastic.

"Ye, enough with the idle talk. We've been missing your grilled meat desperately. You must make up for it today. Let's go outside the academy to grill some meat!"

Sikong Po laughed as he walked over, speaking the minds of the crowd.

Indeed, Ye Fan's grilled meat was exceptional. Even the chefs at the Immortal Restaurant tried to replicate it, but could never achieve that unique flavor, eventually giving up in frustration.

"Yes, yes, yes, today we must drink to our heart's content!" Hu Fei shouted, his voice like a wolf's howl.

"Who the hell is imitating me?"

At that moment, an enormous Bai Yan wolf, as massive as a bull, darted over from afar, its eyes glaring like bells.

"Ow~"

The instant the Bai Yan wolf saw Ye Fan, it froze briefly, then with a howl, charged at him, its large paws firing sharp beams.

"You damn wolf, is this how you welcome me?"

Ye Fan laughed and cursed, delivering a palm strike to nullify the Bai Yan wolf's attack.

"Kid, you came back from the Emperor's Secret Realm. What good gifts did you bring me? Hurry up and hand them over."

The Bai Yan wolf rested a big paw on Ye Fan's shoulder and after a long howl, shamelessly asked for a gift.

"Get down first, you damn wolf. What have you been eating all year? You're so big now, are you trying to crush me?" Ye Fan pulled the Bai Yan wolf's big paw off his shoulder.

"To celebrate Ye's return, we must drink heartily today." Han Sandong laughed.

The group grandly exited the academy gate and headed towards the nearby mountains.

With their skills, hunting Xuan Beasts was a breeze. Soon, the fragrance of meat wafted through the mountains.

"Brother Ye, you were gone for over a year, we've missed you greatly! Come, have a drink!" Ancient Saint Gu Hao raised his glass to Ye Fan.

"The Demon Clan will soon emerge. Our peaceful days are numbered. If the Demon Clan breaks their promise and launches a massive attack on our Human Race's territory, war will be inevitable." Sikong Po drank a glass of wine, playing with his glass and lamenting.

"Is it really like this? Does the Demon Clan have no credibility? I remember they once produced a Demon Emperor, equivalent to a Human Great Emperor." Ling Ziyuan sipped lightly, placing down her glass and asked.

"Who can say for sure? Let's hope the Demon Clan sticks to their word!" Sikong Po seemed quite despondent.

Strictly speaking, their generation hadn't experienced cruel conflicts, living in an era of peace.

However, peace was soon to be disrupted; the influence of the Nine Heavens Xuan Emperor had vanished, no longer suppressing cultivators, ensuring someone would prove Dao again.

How could the Demon Clan miss this unique opportunity for proving Dao?

Moreover, according to various Great Emperors' predictions, the Immortal Path would open in this generation, the chance for immortality would emerge, naturally prompting the Demon Clan not to remain silent.

The agreement between the Nine Heavens Xuan Emperor and the Demon Clan was that upon his influence fading, the Demon Clan could emerge after several years to vie for the sole opportunity to prove Dao and the chance for immortality with the Human Race.

Although the Demon Clan had broken their promise and emerged once before, they were ultimately pushed back by the Human Race, leading to severe losses for both sides in that war.

Since then, the Demon Clan had been honest, but now their official emergence was imminent, even the air was filled with tension.

The feast continued until sunset in the West Mountain, the grilled meat consumed amounted to over a thousand pounds, with three hundred pounds devoured by the Bai Yan wolf.

Many were drunk, speaking incoherently as they gradually dispersed.

Ye Fan, however, was fine thanks to his special physique, plus he needed to go to the dean for lessons and report that evening, so the group didn't persuade him excessively.

Although Ling Ziyuan always drank little, she seemed to have drunk too much, her pretty face flushed, like a ripe apple.

"Little Brother Fan, come with me to the Qu Baoge Pavilion Headquarters tomorrow. My grandfather wants to meet you!" As they departed, Yaling suddenly proposed to Ye Fan.

"Alright, it's been so long, I haven't had a chance to thank the Pavilion Master personally, I should make a trip."

Ye Fan nodded, curious about the reason the Qu Baoge Pavilion Master was summoning him.

Chapter 1747 Blessings and Disasters Are Hard to Predict

After bidding farewell to everyone, Ye Fan went alone to the residence of the Old Bastard.

Whether it was due to the dean's orders or some other reason, the strong people guarding the Forbidden Zone seemed not to see Ye Fan, allowing him to pass through a small bamboo grove and enter the small valley where the Old Bastard usually secluded himself.

It was still that familiar thatched cottage, still the barren Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi. Ye Fan doubted, living in such an environment, whether it had any effect on the Old Bastard's cultivation.

Arriving in front of the small thatched house, Ye Fan found no lights inside, only the moonlight scattered on the ground, illuminating this unremarkable little house.

In the grass, the buzzing of insects occasionally echoed, adding a bit of tranquility to the night.

At this moment, Ye Fan's mental realm was incredibly calm. All thoughts of battles, of working hard to enhance his strength, of Proving Dao, and even the matters of finding his mother or resurrecting Su Liuli became blurred in this instant.

Ye Fan's body and mind became fully integrated into the tranquil night, as if becoming one with Heaven and Earth, one with nature.

At this moment, his eyes seemed to brighten, finding joy in everything he looked at; every blade of grass and tree was conveying to him the wonders and secret techniques of life.

After a long time, a low voice sounded in his ear, breaking the unity of heaven and man.

"Good boy, with a little guidance, you can enter the Unity of Heaven and Man realm, and your future is boundless."

"Junior Ye Fan, pays respects to Senior!"

Ye Fan was not at all frustrated by the disruption of his mental realm and respectfully saluted the Old Bastard.

He felt that calling the Old Bastard the dean seemed disrespectful, as he was far more than just the dean of an Immortal Academy. His mental realm and cultivation were at the Quasi-Emperor level, so calling him Senior was most appropriate.

"No need for excessive courtesy. You felt that mental realm just now, didn't you? That's the Unity of Heaven and Man realm. Only by breaking through the shackles and reaching the Quasi-Emperor Realm can you truly sense it. The reason I broke your mental realm just now is because your strength isn't there yet, and having such a mental realm too early is not beneficial for you."

The Old Bastard walked past Ye Fan with his hands behind his back and arrived at a pond, standing silently.

Ye Fan followed, knowing that the Old Bastard had something to say to him. Before the Old Bastard spoke, he kept silent no matter how many questions he had.

After a long pause, the Old Bastard finally spoke, "I am already aware of your experiences in the Emperor's Secret Realm. You did very well. I want to know, what is your view on the Demon Clan?"

Hmm?

Ye Fan was taken aback. Standing as the principal of the Immortal Academy, one of the Human Race's strongest foundations, asking his view on the Demon Clan and not about their imminent emergence — what did this mean?

Ye Fan's mind raced, trying to comprehend the Old Bastard's intent but to no avail. So he could only muster the courage to speak his opinion.

"I believe, whether the Human Race or the Demon Clan, both are indispensable parts of this world. Their existence is justified. Since throughout the ages, Great Emperors have not exterminated the Demon Clan

entirely, it indicates their necessary existence. But I don't know whether the Demon Clan's existence is a whetstone for the Human Race or a latent threat?"

At this, Ye Fan glanced at the Old Bastard, who encouraged him to continue speaking, putting him at ease a bit as he continued, "For the Human Race, the Demon Clan is a significant threat, undeniably. The Demon Clan is very powerful, but it is precisely because of this power that the Human Race is forced to remain in perpetual readiness for battle. The Human Race's development is intertwined with the threat of the Demon Clan. The saying 'born in adversity, perish in comfort' perfectly encapsulates this."

"Your insights are unique and quite valid. Indeed, 'born in adversity, perish in comfort!' This is indeed part of the reason the Human Race hasn't eliminated the Demon Clan; your guess is spot on."

The Old Bastard's eyes flashed with admiration. He hadn't anticipated Ye Fan having such foresight, seeing through phenomena to grasp the essence.

Indeed, the wars between the Human Race and the Demon Clan have been the driving force behind the Human Race's advancements. Without the threat of the Demon Clan, whether the Human Race would strive as hard is uncertain.

If the Demon Clan had no value, the Human Race's Great Emperors would have eradicated them long ago, leaving no room for their continued existence.

At this, the Old Bastard sighed, saying, "Actually, there is another reason, and that is the Demon Clan is our ally, a friend."

"Ally?"

Ye Fan was stunned. With the Demon Clan emerging, the Human Race was as if encountering a formidable enemy, quickly selecting top strong people of the older, middle, and newer generations to counter the incoming Demon Clan. If the Demon Clan were allies, then why?

"Indeed, an ally, as incredible as it sounds. 'Not of our race, their hearts are different,' right? But historically, the Demon Clan has allied with the Human Race multiple times to confront formidable foes, and this is a crucial reason the Great Emperors spared them."

The Old Bastard spoke shockingly.

In a flash, a spark of inspiration struck Ye Fan, leading him to the matter's core, blurting out, "Is it because of the Humanoid creatures?"

The Old Bastard nodded in appreciation, saying, "Correct, it's precisely the Humanoid creatures. One doesn't know where they are from, wholly filled with death aura, yet in appearance, nearly identical to us Humans. These creatures live for slaughter, with all life forms as their hunt targets."

"During the dark upheavals of the past, it was the Humanoid creatures causing chaos. Every time they stirred trouble, the Demon Clan and the Human Race united to fight strong foes."

"Where exactly did these Humanoid creatures come from? Are they an original life form of this world?" Ye Fan asked.

"No, they come from the stars. No one knows which star they hail from, but they are extremely destructive and aggressive, taking pleasure in slaughter, absorbing the death aura to strengthen themselves."

"One could say such life forms are the common enemy of all life, including the Human Race and the Demon Clan. However, after successive Great Emperors' eradications, Humanoid creatures have become scarce, almost extinct, but it doesn't exclude their resurgence."

"In times without a Great Emperor, the emergence of Humanoid creatures would be a calamity for any life form. Hence, the Human Race and the Demon Clan have both a competitive relationship and an alliance."

The old bastard finished his long speech, took a deep breath, and then fell silent. He wanted to give Ye Fan time to digest everything he had just said.

"Senior, do you know that if your remarks were to spread, what kind of serious consequences it would cause?" Ye Fan said half-jokingly.

"The consequences don't matter. Have you thought clearly about how you should handle things when facing the Demon Clan?" the old bastard asked.

"Forgive others when possible, right? What else can I do?" Ye Fan replied.

"Not at all!"

The old bastard shook his head like a rattle, saying, "You must go all out to kill the young generation of strong people in the Demon Clan, otherwise the position of the Human Race will be threatened and may very likely be enslaved by the Demon Clan, which is not what you want to see, right?"

"Is it that serious?"

"It is indeed that serious."

The old and the young stared at each other for a while and then laughed simultaneously.

After laughing, Ye Fan said solemnly, "Senior, I've heard in the Emperor's Secret Realm that if we defeat the Demon Clan this time and gain some peace, we will embark on the Xing Kong Gu Road. What exactly is the Xing Kong Gu Road?"

The old bastard pondered for a moment, then said, "It's time you knew, the Xing Kong Gu Road is the secret of our world. In a very hidden place, there is a portal that leads directly to the depths of the stars. Great Emperors of past generations have traveled this ancient road..."

As the old bastard narrated, Ye Fan gained new insights into the Xing Kong Gu Road.

It is a dangerous road, also known as the toughest trial road. Whoever can make it to the end and successfully return alive leaves a significant mark in the history long river.

This road was opened by the sage predecessors of Taigu after countless generations of effort, and it is filled with dangers. It is a huge treasure left by ancestors for their offspring.

That night, Ye Fan discussed a lot with the old bastard, regarding cultivation, the Xing Kong Gu Road, and Ye Fan's Eight Phase World Domain.

Upon learning that Ye Fan had formed such a unique domain, the old bastard was also greatly shocked!

At the same time, he predicted that such a domain is a blessing for Ye Fan, but also a curse.

The blessing is because Ye Fan is breaking new ground in history, having fully comprehended all elemental laws in the Early Lord Realm, which can be described as miraculous.

The curse is that among the Eight Elements Laws, except for the Thunder Element, which doesn't need special comprehension, the other seven require continuous comprehension to gradually advance.

In other words, Ye Fan wants to rapidly advance in the Lord Realm, which is practically impossible and is very time-consuming and labor-intensive.

However—

If Ye Fan can overcome this challenge and forge his unique path, his future achievements will be boundless, even potentially greater than those of the Nine Heavens Xuan Emperor.

This is what people often say: fortune rests within a misfortune, a misfortune lies within fortune, true fortunes and misfortunes are unpredictable.

Overnight, Ye Fan benefited greatly, obtaining many cultivation techniques from the old bastard, allowing him to avoid many detours.

Until the Moon set in the west and the Golden Crow rose in the east, Ye Fan bid farewell to the old bastard and left this Forbidden Zone, heading towards the Dong Mansion where Yaling was secluded.

He remembered Yaling's Dong Mansion was in the Heavenly District, not far from the Dragon Tower, and was quite close to his original Dong Mansion in the Heavenly District.

However—

When he found it, he discovered that Yaling was not there; her Dong Mansion was taken over by a young cultivator.

After some inquiry, he found out that Yaling's Dong Mansion had long been relocated, currently situated near the Dragon Tower, adjacent to the Dong Mansions of the elders of the Immortal Academy.

"Little Fan brother, you've come?"

Just as Ye Fan was about to head over, Yaling's voice sounded nearby; she was walking over.

At this moment, Yaling wore a goose-yellow long dress, with her jet-black hair casually tied up with a wooden hairpin, appearing simple and elegant, with a unique charm.

"Sister Yaling looks so beautiful today!" Ye Fan said with a smile.

"Stop the flattery, what's the use of being beautiful? Anyway, you don't fancy your sister!"

Yaling gave Ye Fan a sideways glance, feeling delighted in her heart, then led him towards the direction of the Transmission Array Platform at the academy, "Come on, let sister take you to the Qu Baoge Pavilion Headquarters!"

Chapter 1748 Encountering the Sloppy Elder Again

The headquarters of the Treasure Pavilion is located in Tenglong State of the Central Domain, one of the nine major states of the Central Domain.

Tenglong State boasts majestic mountains and rivers, with breathtaking scenery and an abundance of Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi. The mountain ranges resemble soaring dragons, emitting a rich Dragon Energy, making it an ideal Holy Land for cultivators!

However—

Tenglong State does not have any large powers like a Holy Land, only some small sects that all rely on the protection of one superpower.

The Treasure Pavilion!

As one of the two forces larger than the Di Clan and the Holy Land, the Treasure Pavilion holds a vital position in the entire Tenglong State and throughout the Central Domain.

The Three Great Dynasties also do not underestimate such a powerful force.

However, the Treasure Pavilion has no ambitions and poses no threat to any power, ensuring its smooth survival and expansion.

Qianyuan City is an unremarkable small city in Tenglong State, with a population of less than 100,000 and very few cultivators, appearing particularly desolate.

"Sister Yaling, where exactly is the headquarters of the Treasure Pavilion?"

Walking on the stone-paved street, Ye Fan asked Yaling beside him in confusion.

He had expected to appear directly at the headquarters of the Treasure Pavilion after traversing the void from the Immortal Academy, but unexpectedly ended up in this bumble city, which explains his confusion.

By common logic, a grand force like the Treasure Pavilion should have a headquarters as magnificent as the Di Clan and the Holy Land. Why would it be in such a dilapidated city?

"Be patient, will you? We'll be there soon!"

Yaling said, "Do you think our Treasure Pavilion flaunts itself like other Holy Lands?"

After being reproached by Yaling, Ye Fan became completely docile, following silently, no longer asking questions.

Soon, the two left the city, soaring into the air, flying southwestward, with mountains and lands retreating beneath their feet constantly.

"Roar~"

From time to time, Ye Fan could hear the cries of apes, the roars of tigers, and the bellows of various Xuan Beasts. Most of Tenglong State is uninhabited primitive forest, with human settlements like stars in the sky, insignificant compared to the entire Tenglong State.

Four hours later, they had flown over 10,000 miles and finally stopped at a Soaring Dragon Land.

Ye Fan used the Dragon Seeking Skill to observe and found this place to be indeed extraordinary, with nine Dragon Veins converging here, truly a Holy Land of Jiu Long Pilgrimage.

Even during the day, the area was enveloped in a layer of smoke and purple haze. Even an ordinary person could live for one to two hundred years in such an environment without issue.

This region spans several hundred miles, but in the vast Tenglong State, it is no more than a drop in the ocean, completely inconspicuous.

Ye Fan sighed, this land is overwhelmingly vast, so incomparable to Earth, like a myth.

There is a not-very-high hill where the heads of the nine Dragon Veins converge, resembling a dragon pearl. However, without the Dragon Seeking Skill, nothing abnormal could be seen even at close range.

In front of the hill, Yaling took out a simple Jade Pendant inscribed with the characters 'Yaling', carved by the old Pavilion Master of Treasure Pavilion, sealed within with a unique mark of the Treasure Pavilion.

Wow!

As Yaling raised the Jade Pendant, a flash of light swept over, and the scene before them transformed, bringing them into a foreign space.

The mountains stood magnificent and steep, the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi misted like clouds, making Ye Fan feel as if he had arrived in the Immortal Realm.

Spiritual Springs gurgled through the mountains, strange flowers and Yao Grass ran rampant, and birds and beasts were unperturbed by humans.

Amidst this landscape, an enormous ancient city rose from the ground, blending seamlessly with nature, teeming with spiritual essence, filled with supreme Dragon Energy.

"Could this be... a space created by an Ancient Supreme Strongman?"

Ye Fan was astonished, the Treasure Pavilion certainly has grand scale; such a headquarters is impossible for ordinary people to find, let alone enter.

"Who goes there?"

From a beautiful mountain peak ahead came a shout.

"It's me, Yaling!"

Yaling answered solemnly after collecting her smile.

Several figures flew down from the peak, landing in front of them. Each had exceptional cultivation, akin to disciples from a Holy Land outside.

"Ah, it's the young lady." One of them checked the Jade Pendant and allowed the two to proceed.

"Sister Yaling, the rules here are so strict? Even you, the future Pavilion Master, need to be checked?" Ye Fan teased Yaling with a laugh.

"This is to prevent anyone else from sneaking in. Even for me, without a Jade Pendant, I wouldn't be able to pass." Yaling said earnestly.

Ye Fan was speechless; the Treasure Pavilion's security measures were thorough enough, even requiring the Pavilion Master to check the Jade Pendant. If it were lost, wouldn't that spell trouble?

This space constitutes its own world, extremely vast. The further they walked, the more beautiful the scenery became, with stunning landscapes at every turn.

On the mountain peaks, before the waterfalls, amidst the pavilions, palaces, and towers, Ancient Vines and ancient trees, strange flowers and herbs dotted everywhere.

"Little lass, you've been away for a while. Are you still adapting outside?"

Ye Fan and Yaling encountered various seniors who joked and bantered along the way, to which Yaling responded with utmost respect, a stark contrast to her demeanor in the academy.

Entering the ancient city, Yaling directly led Ye Fan to the reception hall.

News of their arrival had already been reported, so they encountered no obstacles on the way and soon reached the reception hall.

Ye Fan glanced around the reception hall; it was grand, quaint, and elegant, with every piece of furniture exuding the essence of Time, each bearing histories of several thousand, even tens of thousands of years.

At the center of the reception hall sat a middle-aged man dressed simply; despite the absence of rich apparel, he naturally emanated the aura of a leader.

"Grandfather, I've brought the person you wanted."

Yaling, pulling Ye Fan with her, stepped into the reception hall and addressed the middle-aged man.

"Ye Fan, this is my grandfather, Yayun Peak, the current Pavilion Master of the Treasure Pavilion." Yaling introduced Ye Fan.

"Hello, old master!"

Ye Fan's manners were impeccable, leaving no room for criticism.

"Very good, indeed a hero emerges from youth. It seems Yaling's judgment back then was very accurate; she saw your tremendous potential. Sit down!"

Treasure Pavilion Master Yayun Peak shot two profound beams of light from his eyes as he assessed Ye Fan and said with a smile.

"May I ask what instructions the old master has for me?"

Ye Fan sat down graciously at his designated spot, asking curiously.

Hmm?

Yaling's eyes also brightened; she didn't know why her grandfather insisted on bringing Ye Fan back to meet him.

Logically, even if Ye Fan is outstanding, without reaching a certain level of strength, he wouldn't attract her grandfather's attention.

"This time there are two main reasons for your visit. The first isn't because I want to see you, but because two seniors want to meet you. I'm merely a messenger." Yayun Peak said self-deprecatingly.

"Uh..."

Ye Fan was taken aback; to be addressed as 'seniors' by the Pavilion Master of Treasure Pavilion must mean they are no ordinary individuals. Who could it be?

He didn't think he knew any formidable seniors.

Old Bastard?

Impossible!

If Old Bastard wanted to see him, he would have said so directly without needing Treasure Pavilion to relay the message.

Moreover, before coming here, he had already seen Old Bastard, and everything had been discussed; there was no need for redundancy.

"And what is the second matter?" Ye Fan asked.

He didn't ask who wanted to see him; since Yayun Peak wasn't saying, there must be a reason. If he could tell, he would do so without being prompted.

"As for the second matter..."

Yayun Peak pondered for a moment and said, "Take care of the first matter first, and we'll discuss the second once it's handled."

"Alright!"

Ye Fan was genuinely curious about who wanted to use a power like Treasure Pavilion to meet him.

"Follow me; I'll take you to see them."

Yayun Peak stood up, glanced at Yaling, and said, "Ling, you should go see your parents; they miss you dearly."

"Understood, Grandpa."

Yaling was very compliant in front of her grandfather, agreeing promptly before giving Ye Fan a look and heading out.

Ye Fan followed Yayun Peak out of the reception room and into a grand hall, which was spacious and empty.

Standing in the hall, Yayun Peak's expression was solemn as he waved his hands, sketching a mystical rune in the void, then shouted, "Open!"

Gradually, a portal appeared in the void, shrouded in white mist, obscuring what lay inside.

Ye Fan was utterly amazed by this mysterious technique; this wasn't the outside world but a separate realm, a space carved out by an Ancient Supreme. To open a new space within such a realm was simply unbelievable.

"Enter!"

Yayun Peak said indifferently, "This space is the true foundation of Treasure Pavilion. Two seniors await you inside!"

"Whoo~"

Ye Fan regained his composure from his shock, took a deep breath, and stepped into the portal without hesitation.

After a brief spell of disorientation, Ye Fan's view cleared; it was a very small space, covering only a few hundred miles, insignificant compared to the one outside.

"Little fellow, over here!"

As Ye Fan was stunned, a familiar and old voice sounded in his ear.

Hmm?

Ye Fan followed the voice, and saw a Sloppy Elder, comparable to Jigong, sitting on a stone drum beneath a sturdy pine tree, beckoning him with the aroma of wine wafting in the breeze.

"Old master, is it you?"

Ye Fan's heart trembled violently.

He recognized the Sloppy Elder before him.

Back then, when he was cornered by Qing Family Ancestor, it was the Sloppy Elder who rescued him, repelled Qing Daoyuan, and told him about various matters concerning the Southern Domain Genius Competition; subsequently, he repeatedly aided him in transforming peril into safety...

This debt of gratitude Ye Fan had never forgotten; meeting him now was especially moving.

"Come have a drink with me!"

The Sloppy Elder gestured to Ye Fan with a large chicken leg in one hand and a bowl of wine in the other.

On the stone table before him were peanuts, roasted chicken, and various pub foods scattered about, the entire table was a mess.

Across from the Sloppy Elder was another wine bowl, half-filled with liquor, clear evidence that he had been drinking with someone, though the drinking companion was not present.

"Xiao Fan..."

Just as Ye Fan reached the pine tree, an old voice behind him spoke, and an elder in a coarse long gown walked over.

Chapter 1749 My Surname Is Ye!

Ye Fan turned around and saw that the other person was actually the Ling Family Ancestor, his face immediately turned dark, and he directly looked away, pretending not to see.

"Sigh..."

Ling Family Ancestor Ling Yunzhi sighed seeing Ye Fan's reaction.

"Thank you for your help a few times, Senior. I'll toast to you!"

Ye Fan took out a wine bowl by himself, filled it to the brim with wine, raised it in a gesture to the Sloppy Elder, and downed it in one go.

At this moment, the Ling Family Ancestor was sitting nearby, but it was as if he didn't see him at all. Not to mention paying respects, he didn't even greet him, directly treating him as if he didn't exist.

"You are from the Xuanwu Sect, and the Xuanwu Sect is a subordinate sect of my Treasure Pavilion, so you are naturally one of us too. It's only right to help you, no need to thank me."

The Sloppy Elder also noticed Ling Yunzhi's awkwardness but didn't pay him any mind, instead, he said to Ye Fan: "If I wanted you to thank me, would I have waited until now? Come, come, have a few drinks with me."

He said a few drinks, but the table was full of wine bowls, and they were large ones. The wine was of excellent quality, its fragrance penetrated the seal even if it was sealed well with clay, exuding a rich wine aroma.

After drinking eighteen bowls in a row, Ye Fan finally put down the wine bowl, picked a peanut and tossed it into his mouth, while munching he said: "Senior, you have quite the taste. But inviting me here this time, isn't just for me to keep you company drinking, is it? Whatever the issue is, just say it."

The Sloppy Elder glanced at Ling Yunzhi who was left waiting awkwardly, and then looked at Ye Fan, only then did he say hesitantly: "It wasn't me who called you this time, but him. I don't know the specific matter, you two talk it out yourselves, I'll go get some more snacks."

With that, the Sloppy Elder hugged a wine jar and staggered out of the space with shaky steps.

Once the Sloppy Elder left, only Ye Fan and the Ling Family Ancestor were left. Ye Fan opened a jar of wine without a word and started drinking and eating by himself, giving Ling Yunzhi no face at all.

Seeing this, Ling Yunzhi sighed inwardly, this was the bitter fruit from the seeds the Ling Family sowed before, tasting the bitterness themselves. No wonder Ye Fan was so cold to him.

However, in his view, the fact that Ye Fan did not immediately leave in a huff was a good sign; he believed that with his efforts, he could surely persuade Ye Fan to change his mind.

Thinking of this, Ling Yunzhi took a deep breath, softened his voice, and said, "Xiao Fan, I know you have grievances against us, the Ling family..."

"Hold it right there, old man, hold it!"

Ye Fan gave Ling Yunzhi a cold glance and said: "It's your Ling family, don't say ours— I have nothing to do with the Ling family, and I have no grievances against them either. Wanting to reclaim the Emperor Weapon and Cultivation Technique, martial arts that belonged to my own family is normal. I would do the same in your position."

Listening to Ye Fan's ruthless words, Ling Yunzhi for the first time had his confidence shaken on whether he could persuade Ye Fan to return to the Ling family.

However, he did not give up, but waited quietly for Ye Fan to finish speaking before he said: "Regarding the past actions of the Ling family, I represent the entire Ling family to apologize to you, don't rush to refuse."

Seeing that Ye Fan was about to refuse his apology, Ling Yunzhi hurriedly said: "From now on, the Ling family will never again covet the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown, and any resources within the family will be at your disposal. How about it?"

"It's not without conditions, is it? For the Ling family's dignified Di Clan to bow its head to a little cultivator with no power background? Do you think I'm a child, easy to deceive?"

Ye Fan's voice was icy cold, with no room for negotiation.

"Of course, the premise of all this is that you are willing to return to the Ling family! Child, stop wandering outside, no matter how bad home is, it's still home!"

Ling Yunzhi began playing the family card, trying to persuade Ye Fan to return to the family with a sense of belonging.

"Do you think I need the Ling family's resources? Even with my own power, I can reach the pinnacle!"

Ye Fan's voice was full of boundless pride and determination.

"This..."

Ling Yunzhi didn't expect Ye Fan to be so confident, and it seemed that his resentment against the Ling family had lasted a long time.

After thinking for a long time, Ling Yunzhi finally gritted his teeth and said: "Then you say, what is required for you to return to the family? Name your terms, as long as they're not too harsh, I can agree to them."

Ling Yunzhi, having made this decision, went through a fierce mental battle, as he felt he couldn't give up on such a good talent like Ye Fan.

From his deeds since his debut, it's clear that Ye Fan is full of potential, favored by heaven with astonishing luck, and is likely to prove the Dao in the future.

A clan with two Emperors, such a temptation is fatal to any Di Clan, he couldn't give it up!

"It's not impossible for me to return to the Ling family," Ye Fan said in a deep voice, "but my demands are harsh, I'm afraid you wouldn't agree."

"What demands?"

Ling Yunzhi was secretly pleased, as it was easier to deal with conditions than to see Ye Fan completely indifferent, as there'd be no hope otherwise.

"Very simple. Those who forced my mother to marry into the Gu Family and those who pursued her, both the perpetrators and the masterminds must pay the price, depending on the severity of their actions. The mildest is expulsion from the Ling family, never to claim being a Ling family member again, and the most severe is execution—can you do it?!"

Ye Fan's eyes were sharp with a decisive aura of slaughter, leaving no room for bargaining.

"Uh..."

Ling Yunzhi was momentarily stunned.

From Ye Fan's voice, he heard the deep hatred and murderous intent in Ye Fan's heart, and it seemed like a violent storm was brewing before his eyes.

If pursued, half of the Ling family might face execution. He had learned the details of the incident from the Ling Family Ancestor back in the day.

According to Ye Fan's demands, if all those who persecuted his mother were to be driven out or executed, the entire branch of the Ling Family's Saint and Ling Gu would have to face the same fate.

The price is too great!

Ling Yunzhi was caught in a dilemma.

Give up on Ye Fan?

He couldn't bear it!

But if he wanted Ye Fan to return to the family, he would likely have to comply with Ye Fan's conditions.

It should be known that even without the Ling family, Ye Fan had garnered the attention of the Immortal Academy and the Treasure Pavilion. His path to the Emperor Road seemed inevitable in the future.

After much deliberation, Ling Yunzhi still felt the price was too great and slowly shook his head, saying, "Change your condition; this one is too harsh. I can't possibly execute or exile most of the Ling family."

"Then there's nothing more to discuss. Please, leave!"

Ye Fan drank a bowl of wine, put down the bowl, and coldly issued an order for him to leave.

"Xiao Fan, think it over. With the family to support you, your future path will be smooth sailing, and no one will dare to move against you again..."

"No need to say more, Senior Ling. I regard you as my senior, so don't make me say unpleasant things. That would be bad for everyone." Ye Fan cut off Ling Yunzhi's words bluntly.

Now he didn't even call him the old man, directly calling him Senior Ling, showing that he absolutely wouldn't compromise. Continuing further was useless, unless it could be done as he asked; otherwise, there was no need to talk.

"Xiao Fan..."

Ling Yunzhi wanted to say something more, but Ye Fan interrupted him again.

"My surname is Ye, call me Ye Fan!"

"Alright, Ye Fan, although your surname isn't Ling, your mother, Ling Yun, is part of the Ling family after all, and you can't deny that Ling blood flows within you. Don't you care in the slightest about family ties? Come back, I guarantee on behalf of the family that those who once persecuted your mother will be punished; they will surely make your mother satisfied."

Ling Yunzhi persistently played the family card, hoping to move Ye Fan emotionally and make him relent.

"Does the Ling family still have the face to bring up my mother? Where is my mother now? You find her, as long as my mother says a word for me to return to the family, I will do so without a second thought!"

Speaking of his mother, Ye Fan became quite agitated. He stood up suddenly and said with murderous intent, "How did the Ling family treat my mother back then?"

For the Emperor Weapon, for the so-called strength of the family, they disregarded my mother's objections and forcibly married her off to the Gu family. This is what the Ling family did. Since they did such a thing back then, they should bear the consequences of it."

"Back then, my mother was driven to a dead end by your Ling family, almost killed by you. Did you think about today at that time?"

"And now you think a few words will make me return to the family? On what basis? What has this family given me? Since the Ling family learned of my existence, they have repeatedly sent people to kill me. If not for my luck, Ye Fan would now be a pile of bones. Would you still want me to return to the family then?"

Ye Fan's words left Ling Yunzhi speechless, stunned, unable to refute because it was all true.

"No matter what you say, Ling blood flows in your veins. You can't deny that, can you? I think, if your mother knew, she would also want you to return to the family. After all, returning to the family has only benefits and no harm for you."

Ling Yunzhi was still making the final effort.

He could not decide; it was impossible to agree to Ye Fan's demands, yet he had to persuade Ye Fan to return to the family. Otherwise, once Ye Fan grew up and ultimately proved Dao, the Ling family would become the biggest laughingstock, ridiculed by all cultivators.

"Senior Ling, I hope you understand one thing: the blood flowing in me is my mother's, not the Ling family's. My mother was already exiled from the Ling family back then, so my mother is my mother, and the Ling family is the Ling family; they are two different things."

Ye Fan said word by word, "I still say this: if you want me to return to the family, those who persecuted my mother and the masterminds behind it must pay the price! Furthermore, I am adding another condition: the family must hold the grandest ceremony to invite my mother back to the family. Otherwise, I will not return to that so-called family!"

"Xiao Fan, you know that's impossible. I can't execute or exile all the pillars of the entire Ling family just for you."

Ling Yunzhi was a bit depressed but still patiently continued to persuade, "I hope you can reconsider. Whenever you see the light, you can come directly to the Ling family to find me. The gates of the Ling family are always open for you!"

"Please, go ahead. I won't see you off!"

Ye Fan coldly issued the order to leave.

"Sigh..."

Seeing Ye Fan's decisive expression, Ling Yunzhi let out a long sigh and turned to leave this small space.

Chapter 1750 Surpassing the Great Emperor

After Ling Yunzhi left, Ye Fan grabbed the wine jar and took a hefty swig, calming his tumultuous emotions.

Initially, he was very happy to see the Sloppy Elder, but the conversation with Ling Yunzhi completely ruined his good mood.

"What happened? Did the discussion fall through?"

While Ye Fan was sitting alone under the pine tree drinking in silence, the Sloppy Elder returned. With a wave of his sleeve, he whisked away the peanut shells and chicken bones on the stone table to the distance, then brought out a pile of Xuan Beast Meat, sat across from Ye Fan, and asked with a smile.

"Yes."

Ye Fan nodded. He didn't want to mention a single word of what had just happened. Instead, he tore off a piece of Xuan Beast Meat and started munching, his eating manner rivaling the Sloppy Elder's.

"Come, have a drink!"

The Sloppy Elder raised a bowl of wine, gestured to Ye Fan, drank it dry, and wiped the wine stains from the corner of his mouth with his greasy sleeve before saying, "Enjoy the wine today, who cares about misery and worries tomorrow."

Ye Fan deeply resonated with this phrase, and they drank seven to eight bowls of wine in succession, then slowed down to chat while drinking.

"The first time I saw your competition in Tianyuan State years ago, I felt your potential was infinite, and you were likely to step onto the Emperor Road in the future. But I didn't expect your growth to be so rapid; in just four short years, you've reached the Lord Realm!"

Besides, you are the first of the younger generation in the Five Domains while at the Peak of the Divine Power Realm, which was beyond everyone's expectations. Now you've even broken through the Lord Realm barrier; even the Ancient Emperor's progeny lost to you, simply unbelievable!"

As the Sloppy Elder spoke these words, he could not help but express his admiration. Back in Tianyuan State, Ye Fan was still very weak, not ranked among the young generation at all, but now he has become the first of the younger generation in the Five Domains; people probably wouldn't believe it if told.

Even the Great Emperor in their youth was no match, even less so, since Ye Fan cultivated only for four years and won in terms of time over those Great Emperors.

Of course, saying such words is somewhat blasphemous; each Great Emperor is unique, they sever the Heavenly Road, prove the Dao alone, and awe All Heavens and Myriads of Worlds.

Although Ye Fan's talent is decent, compared to the Great Emperor, he seems somewhat inferior, as he hasn't grown to that step yet.

In this world, the lack of geniuses is least; every era will witness countless geniuses emerging, but those who could prove Dao remain extremely rare.

Hence, the Cultivation World still values talent and comprehension, simply put, focusing on future potential; a rapid early surge is futile and doesn't match the steady footsteps through the ranks.

Ye Fan naturally understood this truth, so he cultivated each realm to the utmost limit, building exceptionally firm foundations.

Listening to the Sloppy Elder talk about past events, Ye Fan also felt sentimental. Before coming to this world, he thought that the Peak of Gang Qi Realm was the end for Cultivators.

However—

It was only upon arriving in this world that he realized the Gang Qi Realm was merely the beginning; all these years, each step he took was steady, accumulating thickly and releasing thinly.

"Old man, if it wasn't for your timely rescue back then, I would already be a pile of bones now. Thank you for saving my life back then, I salute you!"

Ye Fan raised his wine bowl, overwhelmed with gratitude; if the Sloppy Elder hadn't driven away Qing Daoyuan, he would have been in danger, though not to the extent of dying, but his Emperor Weapon would have been exposed prematurely.

The number of empty wine jars on the ground kept increasing; the two drank over ten jars of aged fine brew, even with Ye Fan's cultivation, he was slightly tipsy.

Ordinary people cannot drink this fine wine; even some Loose Cultivators struggle to obtain such fine wine.

This fine wine is brought out by Saint Lord Level strong people only when entertaining various heroic figures; it is easily Jadescent Nectar.

"Little fellow, I heard you comprehended the essence and laws of eight elements, forming an incredibly powerful realm akin to Absolute Defense, is that true?" The Sloppy Elder asked, squinting.

"True!"

Ye Fan nodded, then said, "However, I wouldn't call it Absolute Defense; if someone is much stronger than me, or uses some secret technique to unleash a strong attack power, they can break through."

"That's already remarkable; others' realms are often singular ones, easy to counteract with others' Domain Powers. Come, show it to me and broaden my horizons."

The Sloppy Elder said, "Living this long, I have never seen anyone fully comprehend the essence and laws of eight elements!"

Ye Fan nodded, stood up, moved to nearby open space, then with a thought, eight elemental runes instantly appeared, forming an Eight Phase World Domain, slowly rotating around him.

Swoosh!

The Sloppy Elder attempted to flick out a Finger Wind, immediately consumed by the Eight Phase World, failing to touch Ye Fan.

"Hmm, very impressive!"

The Sloppy Elder continued increasing the force, flicking out a Finger Beam, the Eight Phase World whirled intensely, once again obliterating the Finger Beam into nothingness.

"Truly extraordinary!"

The sloppy elder said with a touch of emotion, "My Finger Beam can easily pierce through the domain of mid-stage Lord Realm cultivators, yet it cannot affect your domain at all. How fascinating and peculiar!"

As he spoke, the sloppy elder increased the output of his divine power. The blazing Finger Beam, like a Heavenly Sword, directly pierced a small hole in Ye Fan's domain and passed by him.

"Remarkable, remarkable, its defense is comparable to a late-stage to peak Lord Realm domain. In the same realm, I believe no one can break through your domain, not even those higher by a small realm. To breach your domain, one would need a secret technique or possess the strength of a peak Lord Realm."

The sloppy elder shook his head in admiration, "Your domain can be considered a groundbreaking achievement, unprecedented before and unrivaled thereafter."

After Ye Fan withdrew his domain, he continued, "However, although your domain is strong, it's not easy to improve. It will be much harder than other Lord Realm cultivators because you must comprehend the essence and laws of the eight elements simultaneously."

"In the future, your path will be difficult, but once you succeed, you will create a legend. As long as nothing unexpected happens, you will inevitably prove Dao and become an Emperor, with combat power surpassing the Great Emperors of history, becoming the Emperor among Emperors!"

The sloppy elder vaguely felt that Ye Fan's ability to form such a unique domain was related to his innovative approach of condensing a Holy Embryo based on himself.

Since ancient times, countless people have tried to condense a Human-shaped Holy Embryo, but all have failed without exception, regardless of their incredible talent or extraordinary gifts; none succeeded in condensing it.

Ye Fan, somehow succeeded in condensing a Human-shaped Holy Embryo, leading to the emergence of this powerful Holy Embryo unparalleled before and after.

The reason Ye Fan could form such a unique domain might also be closely linked to the Human-shaped Holy Embryo.

Even Ye Fan himself didn't understand why he formed such a domain, but he knew it might be related to his divine skills.

The Element Immunity Divine Power allows immunity to any element; naturally, when breaking through to the Lord Realm, one needs to comprehend the essence and laws of all elements.

As for why this domain formed, he guessed it might be due to subconscious influence during his coma.

These eight elemental runes arranged in a Ba Gua shape are definitely related to the scattered thoughts from his master Chu Xuanji.

Chu Xuanji was quite a generalist back in the day, involved in various aspects, and naturally explored the theories and cultures of both Buddhism and Taoism.

Especially as a Huaxia person, he naturally had a fondness for native Taoism, which centers around the philosophy: Wuji gives birth to Tai Chi, Tai Chi gives birth to Two Elements, Two Elements give birth to Four Symbols, and Four Symbols give birth to Ba Gua.

From a young age, Ye Fan memorized the various arrangements and hexagrams of the Five Elements and Ba Gua, though he did not pursue this direction further; otherwise, he would not have become a Divine Doctor but a scam artist.

Ye Fan didn't respond to the sloppy elder's commendation; the Great Emperor was still too distant from him, proving Dao was merely a mirage; who knows when he could prove Dao?

What he currently yearns for is not proving Dao but reaching the Quasi-Emperor Realm in the shortest possible time.

Because he needs Quasi-Emperor Realm strength to search for the Xuanwu Immortal Medicine in the supreme Immortal Ridge within the Forbidden Zone of Life, as Immortal Elixir Essence is required to refine the Soul Gathering Pill, and he has no other option.

"I don't dare to hope to surpass the Great Emperors of the past; right now, I only wish to reach the Quasi-Emperor Realm as soon as possible so I can venture to supreme Immortal Ridge to gather Xuanwu Immortal Medicine and refine the legendary Soul Gathering Pill."

Hearing Ye Fan's words, the sloppy elder fell silent. He had secretly followed Ye Fan for a long time and knew something about Ye Fan's desire to refine the Soul Gathering Pill.

The Soul Gathering Pill can revive the dead and gather scattered souls, a defying act of heaven, and is extremely difficult to refine.

He knew that in Ye Fan's heart, there was always a woman, leaving no room for any other; he couldn't help but sigh quietly.

"Haha, originally Yunfeng wanted to betroth Ling to you, but since you are already deeply attached to that girl and still love her deeply, let's put this matter on hold for now and not mention it."

The sloppy elder said, half jokingly and half seriously.

Hmm?

Ye Fan's heart stirred, realizing the sloppy elder genuinely wished to betroth Yaling to him.

To be fair, Ye Fan didn't dislike Yaling; in fact, he quite liked her. This girl was smart, capable, dared to love and hate, and knew when to advance or retreat, making her a rare companion.

However, he knew he couldn't accept this affection; the shadow of Su Liuli lingered deep inside his heart.

A woman who would sacrifice her life for you deserves his own life-long love; he couldn't forget, couldn't betray.

Even though he knew reviving Su Liuli was nearly impossible, he would never give up!

This was his obsession and his drive for cultivation!!