

Y Master 1811

Chapter 1811 - Successful Kill!

Repeated defeat in battle was a huge blow to Ye Fan, but at the same time, it was also an important tempering and setback.

If you don't go through wind and rain, how can you see the rainbow? A life without setbacks is incomplete!

Ever since he came to this world, Ye Fan couldn't say he'd never failed, but no one had ever defeated him while at the same realm.

Never!

And the appearance of the young Emperor Sha was a heavy blow to the head, making him understand that there is always a higher sky, always someone stronger than you.

This setback was absolutely timely for him; otherwise, once he stepped onto the Xing Kong Gu Road, who knew how terrifying the enemies he would encounter might be? In that situation, would they show mercy like the young Emperor Sha?

The answer was clear: no!

It had to be known that on every Ancient Star of Life, there would be peak experts of the younger generation; cross-realm combat was not something only he could do—others could do it as well.

Even in this world, the Ancient Prince of the Yuehua Dynasty, Yue Haoyu, and the Emperor's son of the Human Emperor, Yue Chuan, both had the strength and capital to battle across realms.

They were not much weaker than Ye Fan, and in some aspects they were even stronger—for example, in terms of bloodline. As the direct descendants of Great Emperors, they naturally inherited the finest bloodlines of the Ancient Emperors.

This Emperor's Law fused into their bloodline was their strongest Primordial source. Although he had never fought them, Ye Fan knew very well that once Yue Haoyu and Yue Chuan went all out, they would definitely not be much weaker than an Ancient Immortal. It was very likely they would fight to mutual destruction, or even perish together.

No matter how powerful a young Great Emperor was, he was still bound by the constraints of his realm; it was impossible to span several realms to fight a great war.

Therefore, Ye Fan felt that he still had hope; he just hadn't yet found the weaknesses and flaws of the young Emperor Sha.

After once again reconstructing his body, Ye Fan decisively charged forward. Immortal Stele Scattering Hand and Xuandi Fist blasted out one after another, shattering a region of the heavens as he arduously battled the young Emperor Sha!

"Boom!"

The young Emperor Sha formed Seals with both hands, and an azure Big Furnace appeared above Ye Fan's head, emitting a wisp of Emperor's Might as it suppressed down toward him.

"Buzz!"

Instantly, a black Big Seal shot up from above Ye Fan's head, burning with Divine Soul Flames as it resisted the azure furnace.

"Me! @# ¥%..."

Ye Fan even had the urge to curse his mother. The young Emperor Sha had actually used the Ten Thousand Transformation Saint Technique to evolve the Azure Gold Furnace, the Emperor Weapon of the Qing Family—how the hell was he supposed to fight that?

"Boom!"

The Azure Gold Furnace fell, directly smashing Ye Fan's Heavenly Tao Seal condensed from his Divine Soul back down, and with a loud bang, shattered his body once again.

"Swoosh!"

Not far away, Ye Fan once more reformed his true body, his whole body radiating golden light. His blood was completely boiling, and two dragon shaped Divine Light beams shot out from his eyes, his War Intent surging.

If he couldn't even defeat the young Emperor Sha, then what right did he have to step onto the Emperor Road in this era and compete with the geniuses from the various Ancient Stars in the Star Domain?

This time, Ye Fan didn't strike immediately, but silently pondered. There was no doubt that what the young Emperor Sha had just used was precisely the Ten Thousand Transformation Saint Technique, evolving the Emperor Weapon of the Qing Family, and even bringing forth a wisp of Emperor's Might.

The Ten Thousand Transformation Saint Technique could evolve any kind of Attack and Conquest Technique; previously, Ye Fan had been defeated several times by this very Holy Technique.

At this moment, inspired by the young Emperor Sha, he also began to try using the Ten Thousand Transformation Saint Technique to evolve the strongest Attack and Conquest Technique.

As his hands moved, a vast aura spread out. Ye Fan's movements were very slow, as if he were delayed in some viscous liquid, but that terrifying aura grew stronger and stronger.

"Buzz!"

For the first time, the young Emperor Sha felt uneasy. His expression solemn, he took the initiative to attack. The Heavenly Weapon traced an arc with its treasure sword and slashed toward Ye Fan's head.

"Boom!"

At the same time, an irregular black fragment appeared above Ye Fan's head, emanating an ancient aura. At the same time, he burned his Holy Embryo and Divine Soul.

"Buzz!"

Beside him, the corpses of the Divine Race and Human-shaped creatures suddenly appeared: the Goddess with a severed arm, the headless Divine General, and the mutilated Human-shaped creatures.

The sacred and the dead—two completely different terrifying auras—erupted instantly, sweeping across the entire underground palace.

After burning his Holy Embryo and Divine Soul, Ye Fan abruptly boosted his Combat Power several times over!

Between his hands, a black Stele gradually emerged, coiled with a True Dragon. A huge Ancient-style Immortal character shone brilliantly upon it.

"Dang!"

With a loud clang, the young Emperor Sha's Heavenly Weapon treasure sword chopped viciously onto that irregular black fragment above Ye Fan's head, unleashing a terrifying aura of Destruction.

The entire underground palace seemed about to return to the beginning. Chaotic Energy churned, time itself appeared to freeze, and space grew disordered, a testament to the power of that strike.

However—

Other than his ears ringing, Ye Fan was actually completely unscathed. That seemingly inconspicuous shard forcibly blocked the Heavenly Weapon treasure sword's strike, making Bai Yan wolf, watching from the side, almost have his eyeballs pop out onto the floor!

Whoosh!

Next, Ye Fan gripped the Stele with both hands and cleanly and neatly slapped it toward the young Emperor Sha, like swatting a fly. The Stele radiated a terrifying aura, directly sending the young Emperor Sha flying a thousand zhang away.

"Nice one, Ye, put in a bit more effort and take this blockhead out!"

Bai Yan wolf shouted at the top of his lungs, actually calling the young Emperor Sha, formed from a wisp of Essence Qi, a blockhead. Throughout all ages, he was probably the first.

Without needing it to say anything, Ye Fan naturally refused to let the matter go; he vented all the pent-up resentment from when his body had been shattered by the young Emperor Sha in one go, manifesting his Holy Embryo Dharma Form, hoisting up a stele a hundred zhang tall, and chasing after the young Emperor Sha for a frenzied beating.

Probably not even the Eternal Slaughter Emperor had expected that Ye Fan would comprehend his supreme art, the Ten Thousand Transformation Saint Technique, so quickly and even put it to use, evolving that Immortal Stele which towered at the center of the Immortal Secret Realm.

After all, this place was too close to the Immortal Stele. Even if it was a small space he had opened up, it was still within the Immortal Secret Realm.

Ye Fan had only thought of evolving the Immortal Stele to attack his opponent on a sudden flash of inspiration, but he had not expected it to be so effective. This Immortal Stele seemed to truly possess some mysterious power; under Ye Fan's urging, the "Immortal" character on the stele radiated boundless Immortal Light, suppressing the young Emperor Sha completely.

"Bang!"

Ye Fan strode forward, unfolding Chasing Star Step, swift as a streak of Flowing Light, brandishing the Immortal Stele evolved from the Ten Thousand Transformation Saint Technique, and unleashed another mad barrage upon the young Emperor Sha. With one blow, he blasted the young Emperor Sha a thousand zhang away.

At this moment, under several layers of stacked Combat Power, Ye Fan displayed an invincible bearing, like a young Heavenly Emperor, overlooking all living beings.

Purple Thunder Power coiled around the Immortal Stele; every strike was like Ten Thousand Tribulation Thunders descending, pounding the young Emperor Sha until he was drenched in blood, his bones and flesh nearly shattered.

The young Emperor Sha likewise possessed all kinds of secret techniques, constantly regenerating, struggling with all his might, his Heavenly Weapon treasure sword cleaving across the heavens, severing the Void.

However—

Ye Fan seemed to be everywhere at once. Though the Immortal Stele in his hand was gradually becoming indistinct, that blood-dripping "Immortal" character grew ever more dazzling, emitting a terrifying aura.

"Bang!"

Ye Fan charged on, unstoppable; the hundred-zhang Immortal Stele in his hands was like swinging a stalk of straw, whipping the young Emperor Sha to the east, slapping him to the west, completely venting the suffocating gloom of his successive defeats.

"Die for me!"

Ye Fan roared madly; the Immortal Stele in his hands descended from the heavens, slamming the young Emperor Sha to the ground in one go, directly pounding him into a pulp of flesh.

"Swoosh!"

A single drop of Essence Blood flew out from the young Emperor Sha, and in an instant reconstituted his true body a thousand zhang away. His hands traced through the air as a terrifying aura spread out from his palms.

A massive Big Seal slowly manifested, as though billions of living beings had to prostrate in worship, radiating a terrifying Emperor's Might—this was the Human Emperor Seal of the Human Emperor.

Yet another Emperor Weapon; in the application of the Ten Thousand Transformation Saint Technique, the young Emperor Sha was even more proficient than he, and had actually evolved the legendary Human Emperor Seal.

Whoosh!

Ye Fan swung the Immortal Stele, smashing it viciously toward the young Emperor Sha!

He was dead set on achieving a decisive victory in this battle, to completely slay the young Emperor Sha. Otherwise, the next time he wanted to kill him, it would likely be even harder.

This chance was too rare and must not be missed. Even as he burned his Divine Soul and Holy Embryo, Ye Fan could not hold on for too long, so he had to fight a quick battle and settle it swiftly.

As the Immortal Stele and the Human Emperor Seal collided, Ye Fan's incomparably tyrannical Physical Strength finally came into play. Both hands gripping the stele, he forced the young Emperor Sha into a desperate melee with pure physical combat.

"Boom!"

The Immortal Stele and the Human Emperor Seal slammed into each other, suddenly erupting with intense radiance that directly drowned the two of them, as an aura of opening heaven and splitting earth spread outward.

The Immortal Stele and the Human Emperor Seal vanished simultaneously.

However—

The "Immortal" character on the stele still did not disappear. Like a fragment of the Heavenly Dao, it descended to suppress, directly pinning the young Emperor Sha beneath it.

"Roar..."

The young Emperor Sha let out a sound for the first time. With both hands uplifted, he slowly pushed the "Immortal" character up, as though supporting the sky itself.

"Swoosh!"

Ye Fan leaped directly onto the "Immortal" character, unleashing all his strength and forcibly pressing the character down. Meanwhile, his own Divine Power was being consumed at an alarming rate; the Holy Embryo Illusion was nearly gone, and even the Main God Embryo was on the verge of no longer being able to hold out.

"Hold on, I must hold on!"

Ye Fan was drenched in sweat, clenching his teeth as he endured. He knew that if he missed this opportunity, killing the young Emperor Sha would be nearly impossible.

In the end, before it vanished, the "Immortal" character completely suppressed the young Emperor Sha. The terrifying Immortal Light utterly ground away a wisp of Essence Qi belonging to the young Emperor Sha.

"Boom!"

The young Emperor Sha turned into specks of light-rain, scattering within the underground palace, finally returning to the body of the Emperor Sha within the Coffin.

"Buzz!"

In the Void, an octagonal portal suddenly appeared, just like Ye Fan's Eight Phase World Domain. Inside the portal was a vast white expanse, no one knew where it led.

"I finally succeeded!"

Ye Fan almost collapsed to the ground. He hastily extinguished the flames of Divine Soul and Holy Embryo; otherwise, if they continued to burn past the critical limit, it would be impossible to pull them back. He could only burn his Holy Embryo and Divine Soul to ash and be utterly annihilated.

Paying no heed to fatigue, Ye Fan took Bai Yan wolf in hand and stepped forward in one stride, entering the Light Gate and vanishing from this underground palace.

"He actually used only a single year? Could it be... he is the one we've been waiting for?!"

At the same time, the Eternal Slaughter Emperor, who had been lying quietly in the Coffin, abruptly opened his eyes, muttering to himself in disbelief.

Chapter 1812 - Leaving the Immortal Tomb

In the void, time seemed to be in chaos, sometimes stagnant, sometimes swiftly passing.

Ye Fan wasn't traversing the void for the first time; he was naturally very familiar with this feeling. He just didn't expect that after coming out of the Emperor Sha's Tomb, he still needed to traverse the void.

After an unknown passage of time, Ye Fan's eyes lit up as the space split open. He and the Bai Yan wolf took a step forward, immediately feeling a familiar aura wash over them.

The Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi was as misty as water. A man and a wolf stood on a slightly elevated mound, gazing far into the distance. Around them, clouds and mist rolled like they were in an immortal realm.

"Is this..."

Ye Fan was startled; this was indeed the most dangerous taboo place in the entire Immortal Secret Realm—the Immortal Tomb!

The so-called Immortal Tomb was actually the tomb of the Eternal Slaughter Emperor—a fact even the Old Bastard might not know.

"Caw..."

The sound of crows reached him, and Ye Fan suddenly noticed a long-dead old tree not far from where he stood. A few crows perched on dried branches, constantly cawing, which added to the desolate and terrifying atmosphere.

Beneath Ye Fan's feet, a stone path twisted downward. On both sides of the stone path, withered grasses grew wildly over a meter high. Among the grass, a skinny hundred-foot snake slithered through.

The entire mound was filled with an ominous atmosphere, prompting the Bai Yan wolf to shudder uncontrollably. It nudged Ye Fan with its large head, saying fearfully, "Let's leave here quickly before the old ghost inside changes its mind!"

Ye Fan nodded; his experiences in the Emperor Sha's Tomb were painful and frustrating, ones he did not wish to recall. Although he ultimately defeated the young Emperor Sha with the Ten Thousand Transformation Saint Technique, the agony of repeatedly having his body shattered was something he surely did not want to reminisce.

Nonetheless, Ye Fan gained much from this battle. Not only did he enhance his understanding and mastery of martial arts like Xuandi Fist and Immortal Stele Scattering Hand, and secret techniques such as the Eight Phase World Domain, but he also began comprehending the strongest deadly techniques of Emperor Sha—the Ten Thousand Transformation Saint Technique!

This would become another trump card for him!

Ye Fan felt his advantages growing stronger, which even provided him some self-protection if he set foot on the most challenging trial path of the Xing Kong Gu Road in the future.

Ye Fan and the Bai Yan wolf descended the twisted stone path from the mound and continued for several dozen miles, eventually leaving the area shrouded in clouds and mist.

At this moment, Ye Fan stepped onto an array pattern, and with a "whoosh," he vanished from his original spot, taking the Bai Yan wolf with him.

When they reappeared, they had reached the outer edge of the Immortal Tomb, where hidden dangers lurked behind them, as if retreating a step would instantly reduce them to blood and pus from the soaring killing intent.

"Ow..."

The Bai Yan wolf cried out in alarm, frantically leaping and sprinting into the distance. The fur on its snow-white tail melted swiftly like frost under the blazing sun, leaving only a bare tip, which looked particularly comical.

"Damn Emperor Sha, wretched old ghost, he clearly promised to let us out, but he's playing tricks! My beautiful tail... It's gone just like that!"

The Bai Yan wolf cursed repeatedly, discovering that the missing fur couldn't regrow, not even with its powerful divine skills, leaving it heartbroken.

"Silence!" Ye Fan said, "We have already escaped Emperor Sha's Tomb, which is a tremendous stroke of luck. You should be content with this."

"Moreover, now that we are in the Immortal Secret Realm, it would be better if not many people know about Emperor Sha's Tomb. Let that secret remain a secret forever!"

Reason told Ye Fan that Emperor Sha's burial site should remain unknown to many.

As Ye Fan and the Bai Yan wolf approached the forbidden area's exit, several elder teachers from the Immortal Academy, situated at the distant edge of the forbidden zone, were utterly shocked.

"Humanoid creatures emerged from the forbidden land?"

One elderly teacher spoke with a trembling voice.

From their location, they could see some sights within the boundaries of the forbidden zone. Under the moonlight, albeit dimly, they saw one humanoid creature emanating golden light, a hallmark of a powerful humanoid creature, naturally alarming them.

"Quickly report to the dean, humanoid creatures have appeared from the forbidden zone within the secret realm!" Another teacher, also visibly shocked, exclaimed.

They had been in this secret realm for decades and had never encountered such bizarre happenings. Although they knew the mound in the northeast corner of the secret realm was a forbidden area, it had remained peaceful all this time. As long as it wasn't provoked, it was merely an ordinary place.

However, recently, anomalies frequently occurred in this forbidden area, and now humanoid creatures walked out of it, naturally shocking them.

"Wait, why do I see a dog following that humanoid creature? Isn't it said that humanoid creatures are enemies of all beings? How is there a dog with it?"

A younger teacher, sharply observant, pointed out the Bai Yan wolf behind Ye Fan, saying in shock.

"Where are your eyes? Is that a dog? That's a wolf!" retorted another older teacher.

"Have you ever seen a white wolf?" the younger teacher retorted confidently.

"This shows your ignorance."

The older teacher responded with an air of guiding youth, saying, "Do you know what the Silver Moon Wolf Clan is? Among the Xuan Beast and the Demon Clan, the Silver Moon Wolf Clan is absolutely a royal lineage—their pelts are indeed white."

"So, should we report this or not? For centuries, no one has ever returned alive after entering the Forbidden Land, and no one from our Immortal Secret Realm would recklessly enter this Forbidden Land either," the young teacher, after being reprimanded, said instinctively.

"Let's wait and see. I feel it's more like a real Human rather than a Human-shaped creature. Otherwise, it couldn't coexist peacefully with any other creature, as their Death Aura is unbearable for others."

Meanwhile, Ye Fan and the Bai Yan wolf had gradually reached the edge of the Forbidden Land. They also saw several old teachers from the Immortal Academy standing at the edge, and they were instantly overjoyed.

Since stepping onto the ancient altar, they had not seen any living Human. After wandering in the vast Star Domain for several months and being trapped in this barren Emperor Sha's Tomb for nearly a year, how could they not be extremely excited upon suddenly seeing familiar people?

"Swish!"

Ye Fan used the Chasing Star Step, swift as a lightning bolt, shrinking the ground to inches, rushing towards the old teachers, while the Bai Yan wolf was not to be outdone, also using the Chasing Star Step.

Unfortunately, its Chasing Star Step was somewhat awkward. Although equally fast, this ancient matchless fast movement technique created by Humans was not suitable for creatures that walk on four legs.

After some modification, it managed not to tumble and eat dirt each time it stopped, but it was still not faster than Ye Fan.

The two figures, one after the other, dashed out of the edge of the Forbidden Land and came to the old teachers of the Immortal Academy.

Seeing that it was actually Ye Fan walking out from the Forbidden Land, the old teachers were completely stunned. They never imagined that Ye Fan, who had disappeared from the Emperor's Secret Realm, would appear here...

The two Secret Realms were separated by one large domain, millions of miles apart. Ordinary Lord Realm cultivators, even by flying, would take decades to return.

Yet—

Now, Ye Fan appeared alive in front of them, how could it not shock them immensely.

"Ye... Ye Fan?" An old teacher stammered, asking Ye Fan for confirmation, afraid he was seeing an illusion since Ye Fan came out from the Forbidden Land.

"Senior, it's me!"

Ye Fan nodded, feeling extraordinarily excited.

Who could understand the ecstasy after wandering in the endless Star Domain for months from a desolate Ancient Star devoid of life, and experiencing inhumane conditions afterward?

"Heavens, it really is you!"

The young teacher rushed forward, touching Ye Fan all over to confirm he wasn't hallucinating.

Then, puzzled, he asked, "Wasn't it said you were sent lost from the ancient altar in the Trial Arena of the Emperor's Secret Realm? How did you end up here?"

This statement made everyone present look at him, all eager to know what happened during his disappearance.

According to Elder Lin of the Imperial Academy, the ancient altar Ye Fan had stepped on was a frontline Ancient Star leading into the starry sky, a military transit for the Human Race to resist the Human-shaped creatures.

Elder Lin's words should be correct. During the previous dark turmoil, the Human Race had indeed sent elites to the frontline Ancient Star to block the army of Human-shaped creatures outside the Linxian Ancient Star, preventing greater losses to the Human Race.

In that sense, Ye Fan should have entered the depths of the starry sky. So how did he suddenly appear in the Forbidden Land of the Immortal Secret Realm?

"It's a long story!"

Ye Fan smiled wryly, fearing that no one would believe it if he told his experience.

"No need to explain now, just get us some food, I'm starving, no idea what meat tastes like anymore," said the Bai Yan wolf, interrupting Ye Fan and addressing the teachers from the Immortal Academy.

"Yes, yes, eat first, rest a bit, then we'll talk,"

The young teacher suddenly realized, understanding that Ye Fan's experiences during this time were not pleasant.

It was obvious, being transported to the Human Race's frontline Ancient Star to resist the Human-shaped creatures, not even able to return, God knows what he went through.

Soon, Ye Fan and the Bai Yan wolf were settled in a very ordinary inn in the Immortal Secret Realm, with exquisite dishes served one after another like flowing water.

The Bai Yan wolf's eyes shone green, wolfing down the food ravenously, gulping down jars of fine wine.

Ye Fan also had a hearty meal. During the years in Emperor Sha's underground palace, he had hardly eaten anything, solely relying on Heaven Grade Spirit Stones to sustain life.

Finally able to come out, he naturally wanted to indulge in a feast to satisfy his five viscera temple.

After eating and drinking to his heart's content, Ye Fan repeatedly checked his words to make sure there were no loopholes before he began to recount his "experience."

Chapter 1813 - A Year and a Half

"You truly are blessed with great fortune; ordinary cultivators, even those of the Venerable realm, may not be able to find their way back in the vast star domain!"

"You're favored by the heavens; to be able to return even in such circumstances is a miracle among miracles. If not for some celestial destiny, you might have become a skeleton wandering the star domain forever."

After listening to Ye Fan's narration, all the teachers from the Immortal Academy present were completely stunned. They never imagined that Ye Fan had such an extraordinary and fantastic experience.

Of course, Ye Fan did hold back a little while speaking. At the very least, he didn't mention his experience in the Immortal Tomb, which is Emperor Sha's Palace.

Because he didn't want more people to know that the Immortal Tomb was actually the burial ground of the Human Emperor, nor did he want anyone to disturb Emperor Sha's slumber.

This is a secret; it is one now and might be one in the future. At least the Nine Heavens Xuan Emperor never revealed this secret, so as his descendant, he certainly couldn't reveal it either.

However, he also concocted a reasonable explanation.

According to his story, he was directly transmitted from the ancient altar in the Trial Arena of the Emperor's Secret Realm to the boundless starry sky. Then, one transmission array platform after another kept transmitting him unidirectionally until he landed on an ancient star called Luan Gu.

This part of Ye Fan's experience was entirely truthful, all the way until he obtained the Undead Holy Gold, and then decided with Bai Yan wolf to venture into the star domain to find the faint road of return. Indeed, this was his true experience.

Until he spoke of encountering the grinding force of rules in the star domain, and then seeking refuge in the virtual space of the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown.

All of this was true, except Ye Fan extended the duration of his wandering in the star domain a bit.

Later, Ye Fan said that he and Bai Yan wolf landed on a very small ancient star, intending to explore whether there were rare metals or spirit stone veins on this star. As a result, they found a broken transmission array platform on this ancient star.

After Bai Yan wolf's arduous restoration and a few modifications, they could finally traverse the void. However, an accident occurred while traversing the void; it collapsed. If not for the protection of the Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown, an Emperor Weapon, they would have perished in the collapse.

When they emerged from the virtual space again, they found themselves near the Immortal Tomb in the Immortal Secret Realm.

Then, under the Emperor Weapon's protection and Bai Yan wolf's tough deciphering, after overcoming the tribulations of nine deaths and one life, they finally walked out from near the Immortal Tomb. It could be said it was by sheer luck.

Ye Fan's words were a mix of truth and lies, and the truth was half-concealed. So much so that the teachers from the Immortal Academy present were almost knocked off their feet out of astonishment. It was too bizarre, too eerie, too thrilling...

Any slight mistake in this would mean they could never return to the Immortal Secret Realm, and they would eventually be lost in the vast universe.

Finally, Ye Fan and Bai Yan wolf used the transmission array platform in the Immortal Secret Realm to return to the Immortal Academy.

When Ye Fan appeared at the Immortal Academy, the entire academy was completely shocked!

From the dean Old Immortal and the vice dean Old Fox, to the law enforcement elder Lan Yingfei, down to those chopping wood, lighting fires, carrying water, or guarding doors—everyone was shocked.

Earlier, when in the Immortal Secret Realm, a few old teachers whispered among themselves and unanimously decided not to inform the Old Immortal about Ye Fan's return to give them a surprise.

When Ye Fan appeared on the academy path, no one dared to believe it was true.

"You little brat, roll over here immediately!"

Upon learning of Ye Fan's return, the Old Immortal could hardly believe his ears. Then, extending his divine consciousness, he immediately sensed Ye Fan's presence and shouted loudly, shaking the entire academy.

Ye Fan rubbed his nose, smiled awkwardly at the Immortal Academy disciples surrounding him, and headed directly to the Forbidden Land where Old Immortal resided.

In the eyes of all the Immortal Academy disciples, including some teachers, the small valley where Old Immortal resided was an absolute forbidden land. Without permission, no one was allowed to take even a step inside.

However, for Ye Fan, it was not a forbidden land. He could go there whenever he wanted.

Of course, he usually didn't want to go to Old Immortal's secluded place, mainly because the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi there was much sparser than in other places.

"Oh my gosh, wasn't he lost by the ancient altar's transmission in the Emperor's Secret Realm? When did he come back?"

"You're asking me, so who should I ask? Because of this matter, our dean almost fought with the imperial academy's dean. It must be true. I really don't know how he came back."

After Ye Fan left, many disciples of the Immortal Academy started discussing. The matter of Ye Fan being lost by the ancient altar's transmission was informed to the Old Immortal of the Immortal Academy by Seng Dao Yan of the imperial academy shortly after he crossed the void on the altar.

Instantly, if not the entire cultivation world, at least the entire Immortal Academy and the imperial academy were fully aware.

Originally, everyone thought Ye Fan would disappear from this world forever, but to their surprise, he returned safe and sound in just over a year.

Being able to survive in the starry sky is, in itself, a testament to one's strength. Without unrivaled strength, without being able to draw energy from the vast universe to sustain oneself, humans simply cannot survive in the vast star domain, let alone find the way back and return on their own.

Everyone was curious about how Ye Fan returned, but given the current situation, it seemed impossible to learn the truth from his lips.

"Swish!"

Everyone focused their gaze on Bai Yan wolf. They all knew it was very close with Ye Fan, and they were transmitted together.

Now they couldn't rush to the place where the Old Bastard was residing to question Ye Fan about what happened, so naturally, they targeted him.

"Want to know what happened? One Heaven Grade Spirit Stone per person, and I'll tell you everything."

Bai Yan wolf opened its mouth wide, directly asking these Immortal Academy disciples for Heaven Grade Spirit Stones.

"Why don't you just rob us? A Heaven Grade Spirit Stone, do you know how precious one is?" a disciple of the Immortal Academy said through gritted teeth.

The Immortal Academy is different from the Imperial Academy, where even the lowest disciples are descendants of the Holy Land, and some are Saint Heirs and the strongest inheritors of the Di Clan.

Most disciples of the Immortal Academy are not descendants of any Holy Land; some are even quite poor. Don't mention Heaven Grade Spirit Stones, they can't even produce a single top-grade spirit stone.

"A bunch of paupers, can't even produce a Heaven Grade Spirit Stone, let alone Immortal Gold."

Bai Yan wolf took out a thumb-sized Heaven Grade Spirit Stone, its light dazzling, suspended in mid-air without falling to the dust.

Then...

"Crunch," it was eaten like a candy, stunning several Immortal Academy disciples whose jaws dropped.

This sly wolf was so wealthy that it simply crunched a Heaven Grade Spirit Stone?

In the serene valley where the Old Bastard resided, Ye Fan recounted the events to the old teachers from the Immortal Secret Realm again, hearing which, the Old Bastard was incessantly astonished.

It was indeed an extraordinary and twisted fate; to return was sheer luck to the extreme. If Ye Fan hadn't had great fortune, he might never have returned, ending up as a drifting dry corpse in the cosmos.

"You must keep this strictly confidential, understand? The matters of the Immortal Secret Realm must not be disclosed at all. If anyone asks, say you discovered a damaged Array Platform on an ancient planet, and that you returned by sheer luck after Bai Yan wolf repaired and corrected it. Tell everyone this, including Seng Dao Yan and Elder Lin from the Immortal Academy, okay?" the Old Bastard said sternly.

"Mm, I understand!"

Ye Fan nodded. This was precisely what he intended, although the Old Bastard could never have guessed that a considerable portion of what he recounted had already been altered.

The Immortal Secret Realm is the highest secret of the Immortal Academy, absolutely not allowed to leak even a bit. Even the old teachers in the Immortal Secret Realm were strictly assessed and chosen to be sent there.

Once in the Immortal Secret Realm, they would spend their entire life there. Most of these old teachers are meticulously trained by the Immortal Academy and have absolute loyalty to it.

"How long have I been away?"

After describing his experiences, Ye Fan asked the Old Bastard.

He was very concerned about this matter because he knew before leaving that the Xing Kong Gu Road would open in six months, and he feared that after wandering the universe, he had already missed the chance to tread the Xing Kong Gu Road in his lifetime.

"It's been a year and a half!"

The Old Bastard sighed, "Many things have happened during your year and a half disappearance..."

From the Old Bastard's narration, Ye Fan gradually learned that he had left this world for a year and a half.

A year ago, the Xing Kong Gu Road opened, and a group of young elites, including the Emperor's son Yue Chuan and Emperor Yue's son Yue Haoyu, had embarked on this strongest trial path to hone themselves.

Meanwhile, the younger generation of the Demon Clan also came out completely, with many young elites from royal and imperial families also stepping onto the Xing Kong Gu Road. Yet, many young demon strong people remained in this world.

These young Demon Clan strong people are extremely arrogant, constantly challenging the young generation of the Human Race, relying on their superior strength in the same realm to kill many young human cultivators.

This year was a dismal year for the human cultivation world, blood-soaked with human cultivators constantly being challenged and slain by the Demon Clan.

Though the Demon Clan's youth lost in the match, it does not indicate that the human cultivators are overall stronger than the Demon Clan—the victory was solely dependent on Ye Fan suppressing the Demon Clan's youth!

The Demon Clan boasts formidable bodies and powerful bloodlines, especially in hand-to-hand combat, they can overpower human cultivators. In the same realm, human cultivators are generally not a match for the Demon Clan.

These young demon kings exploited this point, challenging young human cultivators at will, insulting the entire Human Race during times when the older generation couldn't intervene.

"It's too much bullying!"

Ye Fan smashed the stone table in front of him into powder, coldly saying.

Chapter 1814 - Dragon's Inverse Scale

Under the shadow of those human-shaped creatures, Ye Fan really didn't want to fall out completely with the Demon Clan; for the future of the Human Race, he was even willing to set aside the hatred of the Xuanwu Sect being wiped out.

However—

These little demons had gone way too far, relying on their powerful bodies and local advantages to repeatedly provoke the dignity of the Human Race. Did they really think there was no one left among the Human Race's younger generation?

"Getting worked up won't solve the problem. Right now the Demon Clan's spearhead is clearly aimed at you. In that last match, you alone killed several of their young kings. Of course they're not willing to accept that. Doing this is probably just to force you to show yourself."

The Old Bastard said worriedly, "The Demon Clan now is not the same as during the last matches. The Demon Emperor's own son has appeared, shouting that he will kill you under his palm and make you his Blood Food! The young generation of the Demon Clan challenging Human cultivators everywhere is likely at his instigation."

"The Demon Prince? Is he that strong?"

Ye Fan said with some disdain. He had been able to defeat an Ancient Prince like the Ancient Immortal, let alone a Demon Prince. As long as the opponent wasn't too ridiculously strong, he was confident he could kill him under his palm.

"Very strong, extremely strong. Although he's only at the Late-Stage Lord Realm, even Lord Realm Peak strong people of the older generation may not be his match."

The Old Bastard still had a very accurate grasp of the Demon Clan's situation.

As a Quasi-Emperor, the strength of a Lord Realm little demon—just by taking a distant look he could roughly gauge it, so his assessment was fairly objective.

"Late-stage Lord Realm, huh..."

Ye Fan's eyes flickered with the light of battle lust. He had even slain the Emperor Sha in his youth—would he still fear a mere Demon Prince?

After that, they talked for a long time. The Old Bastard told Ye Fan a lot about this Demon Prince who had only recently appeared, including some of his Divine Skills and Forbidden Techniques.

In history, that Demon Emperor was incredibly powerful. As his Direct Lineage son, this Demon Prince's strength naturally could not be underestimated.

After coming out from the Old Bastard's secluded little valley, Ye Fan immediately saw Hu Fei, Shi Ye, and the others waiting outside.

Seeing him come out, they immediately walked up, but no one spoke first; the atmosphere was somewhat heavy.

"What's wrong? Why are all of you pulling such long faces, don't you welcome me back?"

Ye Fan found it strange, then suddenly noticed that present were only Hu Fei, Shi Ye, Sikong Po, and Han Sandong. There was no sign of the Ancient Saint Gu Hao and Yaling and the others.

"Of course not." Hu Fei forced a smile and said, "Let's talk outside."

"What happened? What's going on?"

Ye Fan keenly sensed that something was off, especially with Hu Fei—this guy was the textbook happy-go-lucky type who forgot everything in three minutes. With that expression, it was obvious something had happened, and not something small. Someone had very likely died.

"Don't ask yet. Once we get outside, we'll naturally tell you!" Sikong Po said the same.

Ye Fan was helpless and had no choice but to follow them out of the Immortal Academy to a small, picturesque valley where sunlight filtered through the leaves, scattering bright patches of light on the ground.

"Can you tell me now?"

Ye Fan couldn't hold back from asking again. From everyone's expressions he could tell that something bad had definitely happened.

"This... ai..."

Hu Fei opened his mouth, but in the end said nothing, only letting out a heavy sigh.

"What on earth happened? Are you trying to worry me to death?" Ye Fan looked at Hu Fei, then at Shi Ye, his gaze moving back and forth over the four of them.

"Let me say it." Sikong Po sighed and said, "Ye Zi, you'd better be mentally prepared..."

Ye Fan's heart suddenly sank. It seemed his premonition had come true. Had someone really died in battle?

"Brother Gu Hao was challenged by a Two-star Demon a month ago. He used every means he had, but was still no match and died in battle at Little River Ridge." Sikong Po said, face full of grief.

He and Gu Hao had been as close as brothers. Although Gu Hao was the Ancient Saint of the Ancient Sacred Land and he was the strongest successor of the Sikong Family, the two of them were particularly aligned in interests and hobbies.

Gu Hao's death hit him extremely hard. If he didn't know he was no match and that challenging the Demon Clan would just be throwing his life away for nothing, he would long since have been unable to hold back from making a move on those beasts wearing human skin.

"Also, our Fourth Brother Wenren Jing died in battle too. His Divine Soul was shattered by a Three star Demon. He died miserably!" Han Sandong said hoarsely, choking up.

"What? Gu Hao is dead, Wenren Jing is dead too—what the hell is going on?" Ye Fan was completely shocked. A blaze of fury surged up, impossible to suppress, and his eyes nearly turned red.

The Ancient Saint Gu Hao had helped him back when he was still very weak. Ye Fan had always kept that in his heart.

And Wenren Jing, always with his hair in a wild tangle like a Wild Man—in the Immortal Mansion Secret Realm, he had fought side by side with Ye Fan, passed Tribulation together with him, and slaughtered human-shaped creatures shoulder to shoulder.

Later, they had even entered the Ancient Mine together. They could truly be called brothers who had shared life and death. And yet he had died at the hands of the Demon Clan.

This could be endured—what couldn't be endured?

"Right, besides that, Sister Yaling, Miss Zi Yan, and Princess Yue Bai were also ambushed by the Demon Clan's younger generation and were badly injured. They're currently in seclusion healing and don't yet know that you've returned." Shi Ye said in his muffled, deep voice.

"On top of that, those beasts even said you're a turtle hiding in its shell, that once you learned the Demon Emperor's son had appeared and was looking to give you grief, you hid away, afraid of being challenged."

Sikong Po said angrily, "Those beasts clearly want to avenge the grudge from back on the Holy War Platform by the Yuan Su river bank, when you cut down their young Demon Clan kings one after another!"

"Yeah! A lot of young demons who've come out are saying that if the Demon Prince had appeared back then, he would have easily abused you to death. Those dog-bred pieces of trash!" Hu Fei said furiously.

"Who stepped on the Xing Kong Gu Road last time it opened?"

Ye Fan took a deep breath, changing the subject. He was really afraid he wouldn't be able to suppress the anger in his heart and would go straight to the Demon Clan to seek a life-and-death battle with that so-called Demon Prince.

"The Ancient Prince Yue Haoyu of the Yuehua Dynasty, the Emperor's Son Yue Chuan of the Human Emperor, the Clumsy Fist Inheritor Li Yu'er and Emperor Wen's successor Wen TaDou, the Buddha Yu chanzi, and the Demon Sect Young Master Great Demon—they all went in." Sikong Po said to Ye Fan.

"Oh, right, that bastard Ancient Immortal didn't go."

Mentioning this, Hu Fei's anger flared up again. He said hatefully, "While you were gone, he was the strongest among the Human Race's younger generation. With the Demon Clan's challenges and slaughter spilling everywhere, everyone thought he would represent the Human Race's younger generation and fight a battle with the Demon Prince. Unexpectedly, not only did that brat not make a move on the Demon Prince, the two of them even started calling each other brothers. It's a disgrace to his old man the Ancient Emperor's name."

"No matter what, the Ancient Emperor is still a Great Emperor venerated by the Ten Thousand Clans. How did he end up with such a ball-less coward for a son?" Shi Ye scratched his messy hair, face full of bafflement.

During the time Ye Fan had been away, he too had been challenged by the Demon Clan. But he had shattered a Two-star Demon with a single swing of his club, and only then did the Demon Clan restrain themselves a bit.

Even Sikong Po and Hu Fei had been challenged by young strong people of the Demon Clan. After bitter battles, they had ultimately won, but they didn't have the strength to kill their opponents and avenge their fallen brothers.

Because of this, the older generation strong people of the Treasure Pavilion and Purple Smoke Pavilion were furious. The top Emperor of the Yuehua Dynasty was even more ruthless, saying that if the Demon Clan dared to act so wantonly again, then even if it triggered a great decisive battle between the two races, they would wipe out every last young Demon Clan member involved at any cost.

"When the Emperor of a long-inherited, peerless Dynasty that possesses an Emperor Weapon personally speaks, it did make the Demon Clan's younger generation behave themselves for a while. Now they're no longer challenging disciples from long-inherited Holy Lands and Gu Families, but instead have turned their blades on elites from smaller forces and Loose Cultivators."

"Some disciples of our Immortal Academy were ambushed by the Demon Clan while out tempering themselves. Several disciples died. Yaling and Miss Zi Yan were ambushed by those beasts while they were outside as well. If Yaling hadn't been carrying a life-saving supreme treasure, she probably would have already..."

"Damn it!"

Ye Fan clenched his fists so tightly that his nails dug into his flesh. Drops of golden blood fell one after another onto the grass at his feet.

"Since they take hunting Human cultivators as their fun, then I can do the same. It was one thing when I didn't know, but now that I do, there is absolutely no way this matter ends just like that!"

"Revenge must be planned long-term. Before that, shouldn't you go see Sister Yaling and Miss Zi Yan first? If they knew you were safely back, they'd be overjoyed!" Sikong Po kindly reminded Ye Fan.

"Fine, let those beasts live one more day then. Starting tomorrow, it will be the beginning of their nightmare! I'll kill until they're scared out of their wits!"

Ye Fan's voice wasn't loud, but it rolled across everyone's hearts like a thunderclap.

Everyone present knew that Ye Fan was truly enraged. A dragon has its reverse scale—touch it and you die!

This time, the Demon Clan had touched Ye Fan's reverse scale!

So they had to pay the price—a terrible price!

Chapter 1815 - Ye Fan Strikes

In an ancient city hidden in the dense mountains and forests of the Southern East Domain, a group of demon clan cultivators were noisily drinking.

A dozen or so empty wine jars lay beside their table, which was in disarray. Seven or eight young demon clan elites drank so much their tongues were thick, yet they still continued calling for more wine from the shopkeeper.

On the side, an elderly man from the human race, looking troubled, said to a few young demon cultivators, "Gentlemen, the small tavern has run out of wine, you've drunk it all."

"What? It's gone? You old geezer, why run a wine tavern if there's no wine? Hurry and bring us more wine, or I'll pull apart your old bones for seasoning!"

A young demon cultivator viciously grabbed the old man's collar, directly throwing him out the window of the second floor, then stuck his head out and said, "If you don't see wine in front of us within thirty minutes, you know the consequences yourself!"

"Grandfather..."

A tender voice rang out, and a four or five-year-old boy rushed out from the room with clumsy steps, desperately shaking the old man's arm, saying, "Grandfather, please wake up quickly..."

"Hey, little boy, quickly get your grandfather to bring us wine, or I'll tear down your tavern!" The young demon cultivator who threw the old man down glared at the young boy.

"You are all bad people, you stay in our tavern, eat our food, drink our wine, and don't even pay, yet you beat people." The little boy said sniffing.

Many people gathered around, but none opened their mouth to speak up for the grandfather and grandson.

They were all ordinary people without any cultivation, unable to provoke these demon clan cultivators, only able to swallow their grievances.

"Little brat, why so much talk? Hurry and fetch the wine!"

Though spoken by a child without restraint, even drunk, the young demon cultivator felt a bit embarrassed.

Indeed, ever since arriving at this ancient city, they had driven out all the human cultivators, and those who refused were directly challenged and killed.

Nowadays, this little ancient city had completely fallen into the hands of this group of young demon cultivators. They ate, drank, and lived in this small tavern every day, but never paid a single penny.

"Just wait, someone from our human race will come and defeat you, stand up for us!" A middle-aged man in the crowd said loudly, looking sullen.

"Hahaha..."

The young demon cultivator laughed wildly: "Your human race is just a bunch of lowly ants, how can you compare to us? Who among your younger generation can defeat us?"

"Ye Fan can. During the dual race competition back then, Ye Fan single-handedly blocked your demon clan's ten young kings. He will surely avenge us!"

The middle-aged man who had experience in the cultivation world said, recalling Ye Fan's glorious battle.

"Him? He's just a cowardly turtle. Knowing our demon emperor's son has emerged, he immediately hid and hasn't shown his face since. Don't count on him."

"Exactly, our demon prince emerged this time just to kill him, but unfortunately, he's lost in the vast star domain and won't return in his lifetime, what can you rely on now?"

"Precisely, even your human prince is called brother by our demon prince. Your human race has reigned supreme on this world long enough, isn't it time our demon clan ruled this world?"

A group of young demon cultivators on the second floor spoke unabashedly, sparing no effort to mock and ridicule the human race.

In their eyes, Ye Fan was transmitted to the vast star domain by an ancient altar, never to return, and two of the three great emperors' progeny had already embarked on the Xing Kong Gu Road, posing no threat to them.

The only one with some threat, the Emperor's son, was their friend, and in their view, the human race, especially the younger generation, truly had no hope left!

"Do we humans truly have no hope?"

Many people voiced such sentiments.

These were but mere snapshots of numerous occurrences on the vast and boundless earth, similar events were playing out in other cities.

Many cultivators faced challenges from the demon clan's younger generation, with many dying bloody deaths, unwilling and resentful.

Undeniably, at equivalent realms, humans are generally inferior to the demon clan. They are physically strong and possess innate divine abilities.

While human cultivators only have endless potential, potential does not equate to power.

Generally speaking, humans are not opponents to demon cultivators of the same realm, an undeniable fact.

"These beasts are too arrogant!"

"Damn it, I wish I could personally tear these beasts apart!"

Many young human cultivators held a grudge, harboring anger, wanting to eliminate these arrogant demons who disregarded human cultivators.

However—

Their strength was insufficient, even if they acted they would only add another death, making no difference to the overall situation.

The elder strong were also furious, as many young cultivators who died were their disciples, their relatives.

Yet, constrained by prior agreements, they couldn't act arbitrarily, having to swallow their fury even as it burned their eyes red.

At this moment, many people thought of Ye Fan, because during the great battle of the younger generation on the Holy War Platform, Ye Fan fought in such a formidable manner that the young generation of the Demon Clan dared not step onto the platform, even forcing the Quasi-Demon Emperor Chi Lin to admit defeat!

In their view, if the younger generation of the Human Race could deliver a crushing blow to these arrogant beasts, it could only be Ye Fan!

The entire Cultivation World was shrouded in gloom, bloodshed and chaos, with constant news of Human cultivators being slain by strong people from the Demon Clan, throwing ordinary human folks into a panic.

This generation of ordinary people has never experienced the dark turbulence, and naturally, they don't know that the carnage now pales in comparison to the past, hundreds or thousands of times more severe.

The entire Cultivation World was enveloped in a shadow of doom, with the young Demon Clan being too powerful for the current Human Race's younger generation to overcome.

And on the second day after Ye Fan's return, without anyone noticing, he quietly left Immortal Academy.

The Human Face Feng Shui Technique allows him to change his form, appearance, and even his aura at will. If he doesn't want to be recognized, I'm afraid even a Saint Lord Level strong person might not be able to spot him in a crowd.

Changqing State is a vast continent in Southern East Domain, so expansive that even a cultivator flying wouldn't necessarily be able to cross it in three months.

Changqing State is mainly composed of forests and rivers, a continent full of vitality, though there are also areas of gobi and deserts. Every state has its unique terrains and landforms.

Ye Fan ran swiftly amidst the towering mountains, faster than flying. He was practicing the Chasing Star Step.

It's been three days since he left Immortal Academy, and he has been looking for traces of Demon Clan cultivators, and this time, Bai Yan wolf didn't follow.

Before Ye Fan left, Bai Yan wolf gave him a hundred and eight small flags to store in the Virtual Space.

These hundred and eight flags form a Killing Array, which, once deployed according to the positions taught by Bai Yan wolf, can trap opponents directly within the array.

At noon, Ye Fan casually caught a grouse and wrapped it in yellow mud by the creek, making himself a beggar's chicken to enjoy.

Although he has reached the point where he doesn't need food, the habits formed over many years aren't easily changed.

Especially when it comes to cravings, cultivation itself is extremely austere; eating a little to replenish energy during cultivation downtime is permissible.

After gulping down a grouse, Ye Fan washed away the grease from his hands in the creek, when suddenly, he heard distant sounds of fighting.

"Whoosh!"

Ye Fan left a shadow in place, sprinting towards the direction of the sound in a manner akin to shrinking the earth beneath him.

He vaguely heard some noises that seemed to be from the Demon Clan just now.

Traveling dozens of miles was just a blink of an eye for him, and soon Ye Fan saw a group of seven or eight young Demon Clan cultivators chasing down an Early Lord Realm human cultivator.

At this moment, the human cultivator was bleeding all over, his aura was chaotic, relying solely on an instinct for survival to escape.

And behind him, seven or eight young Demon Clan cultivators were laughing and relentlessly pursuing, occasionally wielding Spiritual Treasure to slash at him.

These young Demon Clan cultivators were only at the Peak of Divine Power Realm, not even considered as Great Demons, merely little demons.

"Ssshhh ssshhh!"

Without a word, Ye Fan flicked his fingers repeatedly, beams of golden Finger Beams pierced through the brows of the three little demons at the forefront.

The three little demons didn't even have time to grunt before they dropped dead, frightening the remaining four little demons into halting abruptly.

"Who are you?"

One little demon saw Ye Fan was merely at Early Lord Realm and immediately relaxed, shouting loudly.

"The one who kills you!"

Ye Fan unemotionally approached the human cultivator, supporting him while channeling a robust amount of Pure Yang Qi into him, helping to heal his injuries.

"With you alone? You're courting death!"

One little demon, unaware of the impending danger, directly summoned his Spiritual Treasure to slash at Ye Fan, unleashing a Sword Radiance several meters long fiercely towards Ye Fan.

"Bang!"

Ye Fan flicked his finger again, a flash of Golden Light, the little demon's Spiritual Treasure fractured into chunks, turning into a pile of scrap copper and rusted iron.

"Hiss..."

This scene shocked the remaining three, making them gasp and look at Ye Fan with eyes filled with terror!

Chapter 1816 - Demon Clan Stronghold

"Who exactly are you?"

A few little demons pursuing the human cultivator wore expressions as if they had seen a ghost, terrified beyond measure.

From the aura emanating from Ye Fan, he seemed like nothing more than an early Lord Realm cultivator, almost indistinguishable from the human cultivator they were chasing.

However—

With a mere raise of his hand, Ye Fan had slain three of their companions, whose powers were comparable to theirs.

To them, the human cultivator before them, being able to effortlessly kill their companions, could easily kill them too.

Especially the little demon whose Spiritual Treasure was crushed with a single finger by Ye Fan, now appeared deathly pale, completely losing their previous arrogance, wilted like an eggplant struck by frost.

"I am Ye Fan, the one you're looking for!"

Ye Fan was filled with an intense killing aura, like a Killing God, looking down at the little demons in front of him.

"Boom!"

The little demons' minds were instantly hit as if by thunder, leaving them stunned, their minds blank, with only one thought—escape!

A person's name is like the shadow of a tree.

Though they hadn't seen Ye Fan, they had heard of his renown, single-handedly resisting the ten young kings of the Demon Clan. Such combat power meant that not even a Three-star Demon could guarantee a retreat unscathed.

The injured human cultivator was also shocked!

He hadn't expected that the person who descended from the skies to rescue him would be the hero of the Human Race, moved to tears in excitement.

"Hero Ye, you must stand up for us humans!" he called out excitedly.

"Reveal your base, and I might consider giving you a swift end, otherwise I will make you suffer interminably, unable to live, unable to die!" Ye Fan said coldly.

His words to the severely injured human cultivator were nothing short of heavenly music.

But to the little demons, it was as though the Death God had rung the Funeral Bell, their faces turning ghostly pale.

"We won't say a thing; you're already a dead man. Even if you dare to appear, the Heavenly Prince will kill you," one of the little demons said fiercely, but with hidden fear.

"Whoosh!"

Ignoring the little demon's bluster, Ye Fan pointed a finger, and a golden gleam instantly pierced through the little demon's heart.

"Ah..."

The little demon let out a world-shaking scream, blood spurting out. No matter how he tried to wield his Divine Power, he couldn't mend his damaged heart, but he couldn't die, nor could he even faint, only enduring it while rolling and screaming.

"Swish!"

The scene before them made the remaining three little demons turn ashen-faced, trembling like shaking chaff.

"My patience is limited; whoever speaks first will be granted a swift end. Do not force me to use the Soul Searching Technique!"

Ye Fan's voice sounded like a devil's whisper in the ears of the three little demons, completely breaking their psychological defenses.

"Run!"

One little demon shouted out, throwing his Spiritual Treasure at Ye Fan, promptly fleeing the way he came; the other two quickly fled in different directions.

They calculated well, splitting into three directions, Ye Fan could only pursue one, the other two could escape successfully.

As for who was unlucky enough to be pursued by Ye Fan, it would depend on their luck.

As long as one of them survived to spread the news of Ye Fan's appearance, their mission would be considered complete, and the Heavenly Prince would definitely avenge them.

But unfortunately, they encountered Ye Fan. Their well-laid plans were useless before absolute strength.

"Whoosh!"

Ye Fan didn't even bother to pursue them, instead, his brow split open, a golden light burst forth directly into the sea of consciousness of the three little demons.

"Ah..."

All three little demons hugged their heads, painfully rolling on the ground, unable to bear the agony of their Divine Souls being burned.

The Demon Clan cultivators' bodies were indeed much stronger than humans, but correspondingly, their Divine Souls were weak.

This was the Heavenly Dao's way; with every gain, there must be a loss. While possessing strong bodies and powerful bloodlines, they lacked powerful Divine Souls.

Facing the burning Divine Soul Flames of Ye Fan, they had no chance to resist; the pain affecting their Divine Souls was far more unbearable than bodily pain.

Moreover, with the Divine Soul Flames directly roasting their Divine Souls, they couldn't even faint, only enduring such inhuman pain while fully conscious.

It didn't take three minutes before one little demon couldn't withstand it anymore, and wailed, "I'll say, please... please give me a swift end!"

"Speak."

Ye Fan remained completely unmoved. Thinking of the deaths of Wenren Jing and the Ancient Saint, his hatred for the Demon Clan reached a boiling point.

"Northern Domain, Yunxuan City is a dwelling place for our Demon Clan!" the little demon stammered, revealing a location.

Upon hearing this, Ye Fan's brows slightly furrowed. He coldly said, "We're now in the Southern Domain, yet you're telling me about the Northern Domain. Clearly, you're playing with me. I think you want to endure a month of pain and then slowly die, right?"

With that, Ye Fan acted directly, sending a series of finger beams into the little demon's body. It was the Broken Vein Cutting Finger, a technique he hadn't used in a long time.

This martial arts from Earth was equally effective on the cultivators of this world. The last time he used it was in the primordial forest outside the Immortal Secret Realm against Jiang Molin and others.

Once the Broken Vein Cutting Finger was used, the meridians reversed, hundreds of veins snapped, and the whole body felt like it was crawling with ants—numbness, itchiness, pain... all kinds of sensations emerged at once. Even an iron-body King Kong or copper-cast Arhat couldn't withstand this torture.

Coupled with the scorching Divine Soul Flames, this little demon completely broke down, answering every question without restraint, just begging for a quick death.

For him, death was definitely a relief!

Upon learning that there was a Demon Clan gathering spot not far from here, Ye Fan replicated the method on three others, using the Broken Vein Cutting Finger on them as well, then summoned a Spiritual Treasure, sealed them inside.

These little demons would wait for seven days and nights before dying!

Though such actions might seem cruel, Ye Fan felt no such misgivings.

On the one hand, he was filled with anger and hatred towards the Demon Clan, and on the other, these little demons had just been attacking a human cultivator. If he hadn't shown up in time, that human cultivator would have already been dead.

"Our base is in Qingyang Ancient City!"

A day later, one of the little demons, unable to endure the living death sensation, revealed the Demon Clan's base to Ye Fan.

Ye Fan gave the little demon a quick death, then bid farewell to the human cultivator, heading to Qingyang Ancient City alone.

Qingyang Ancient City was an unremarkable ancient city in Changqing State, located very close to the Southern Domain.

Although it was said to be close, it was actually separated by millions of miles. Without a Transmission Array Platform, an ordinary cultivator relying on flight might not traverse such a vast region in even a dozen years.

And this ancient city was an ancient settlement occupied by the Demon Clan, said to have existed for untold millennia, having survived several dark turmoils without being destroyed.

The reason was its location in a nearly sealed environment, surrounded by vast mountains. Besides local cultivators, very few from afar visited this ancient city.

Before the Demon Clan occupied this ancient city, the people here lived in an environment akin to a paradise, with endless resources in the surrounding mountains—including beasts, Xuan Beasts, herbs, Spiritual Medicine, timber, and stone.

Near this ancient city was also a small spirit stone mine, producing some Spirit Stone each year, as well as a Gambling Stone Workshop for cultivators to gamble on stones.

However, all this changed with the Demon Clan's appearance a year and a half ago, and the cultivators in the entire ancient city were nearly massacred, with only those human cultivators who surrendered allowed to survive.

After walking through the vast mountains for three days, Ye Fan finally saw the weathered ancient city hidden among the trees.

The city walls were mottled, and some parts had collapsed. Atop the grand city gate tower were carved three ancient, simple large characters: "Qingyang City."

Even from a distance, Ye Fan could feel the heavy historical aura of this ancient city.

On the official road outside the ancient city, Ye Fan saw occasional pedestrians in twos and threes, all without any cultivation, at most ordinary people with strong bodies coming in and out.

These ordinary people were either carrying herb baskets or shouldering game, evidently the lowest-tier residents of the city.

Ye Fan frowned. With ordinary people mingling in the city, if he acted rashly, he might harm the innocent.

After pondering for a moment, Ye Fan decisively decided to disguise himself as a hunter, enter the city to scout the situation, and figure out the Demon Clan's gathering spot before making plans.

Becoming an ordinary hunter was simple for Ye Fan, who slightly operated the Human Face Feng Shui Technique from the Dragon Seeking Formulas to change his appearance, even altering his demeanor.

With this, not to mention those demons who had never met him, even Bai Yan Wolf might not recognize him.

After a circuit through the forest, Ye Fan quickly reaped a reward, slaying a more than three hundred-pound wild boar. Covered in blood, he dragged a pig's hind leg, slowly emerging from the forest.

"Wow... Little brother, you're really lucky to have hunted such a big wild boar."

A young hunter exclaimed in surprise, watching Ye Fan drag the fat wild boar out of the forest.

"Just luck!"

Ye Fan mimicked Shi Ye's appearance, scratching his head naively.

"Let me help you carry it back. Such a big one—must be three or four hundred pounds, right?" The young hunter, very enthusiastic, acted as a familiar stranger.

"How can I trouble you?" Ye Fan did not refuse, and the two found a stick, tied up the boar, and headed towards Qingyang Ancient City, one in front, one behind.

As they walked, Ye Fan chatted casually with the young hunter, quickly grasping the distribution of the Demon Clan in the ancient city, forming a rough plan in his mind.

He planned to wipe out the Demon Clan's base in one fell swoop!

Chapter 1817 - Driving Calamity and Suffering Away

Ye Fan learned from the young hunter that after occupying this Ancient City, the Demon Clan did not wipe out the Humans completely—they also knew that draining the pond to catch the fish wouldn't work.

The Demon Clan mainly gathered in the City Lord Mansion inside the city, because the City Lord Mansion had the best location in the whole Qingyang Ancient City, nourished by Earth Vein Dragon Qi, and the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi was relatively denser there.

Because the environment in the Demon Clan's Holy Land was still like that of the pre-Taigu era, many Demon Clan cultivators were somewhat unaccustomed to the outside world after emerging.

After all, compared with before Taigu, the current Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi was much thinner. To suddenly leave an environment where Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi was abundant and misty like water, and come to such a barren place, it was only natural that they were not used to it.

Of course, there were also Demon Clan garrisons in other places, but their numbers were very small, at most only seven or eight individuals.

The little demon that had been killed by Ye Fan lived on the fringes of the City Lord Mansion; they were not yet qualified to move into the City Lord Mansion itself.

Under the rule of the Demon Clan, the people here lived in extreme hardship—the Demon Clan simply did not allow the people here to hunt Xuan Beast.

As they spoke, the two of them arrived in front of the city lord's mansion. Ye Fan sized up this City Lord Mansion and found that it was smaller than the other City Lord Mansions.

After glancing a few times, Ye Fan already had a plan in his heart.

"Brother Chu, are you going to sell this wild boar to Butcher Zhang?" the young hunter asked casually.

"I don't even know who I should sell it to. You decide. I've really relied on your help along the way. After we sell it, I'll treat you to some wine." Ye Fan said heartily. His current name was Chu Fan.

"Leave it to me, don't worry. Butcher Zhang may be a bit stingy, but he doesn't cheat on weight or quality. His reputation is pretty good."

As they chatted, the two of them carried the wild boar into a small alley. At the end of the alley was a large courtyard. A burly Great Han with a face full of beard was squatting by the door smoking, the sparks on the pipe glowing and dimming.

"Carry it in!"

Seeing business come his way, Butcher Zhang knocked his pipe against the Stone next to him, tucked it into his waistband, and led Ye Fan and the other man into the courtyard.

Ye Fan took a look around and saw two big cauldrons in the courtyard, with some young helpers chopping firewood and tending the fire. They all seemed to be non-Cultivator.

The deal was quickly concluded. Ye Fan left the wild boar there, then walked out of the courtyard with the young hunter and casually went into a tavern.

They ordered a few side dishes and two pots of wine, and as they drank and chatted, under Ye Fan's deliberate probing, he learned quite a bit of useful information.

In this Ancient City, besides the young Demon Clan elites and some little demon, there was also an old Demon Clan strong people of the Venerable Realm sitting in town.

The Human cultivator in this Ancient City who dared to resist had almost all been killed off. Those whose strength was insufficient but who were unwilling to bow their heads to the Demon Clan had all chosen to leave this Ancient City.

The ones who remained were all Human cultivator without backbone or pride. Seeing the Demon Clan in the ascendancy, they directly defected and surrendered, becoming the Demon Clan's servant and running dogs.

It could be said that the people in this Ancient City were practically living in a sea of misery. Many wanted to flee, but had no power to do so and could only swallow their anger.

"Uncle, give me something to eat, I'm hungry."

Just then, Ye Fan suddenly saw a small, filthy hand stretch in through the window. A four- or five-year-old child, his face covered in grime, stared at him with pleading eyes, bright pupils flickering with hunger and innocence.

"Here, eat."

Pity stirred in Ye Fan's heart. He took the two big steamed buns from the plate in front of him and handed them to the little boy.

"Thank you, Uncle!"

The little boy bowed to Ye Fan, but didn't immediately eat the buns in his hands. Instead, he turned and ran toward the base of a nearby wall.

Ye Fan saw that at the base of that wall lay an old man on his last legs, his body stained with blood, both legs clearly broken, his whole body filthy.

The little boy ran to the old man's side, squatted down, and said, "Grandpa, eat, big steamed buns!"

The old man strained to open his cloudy eyes, a loving light shining out. He gently shook his head and said, "Good child, you eat. Grandpa isn't hungry..."

As he spoke, the old man clearly swallowed a mouthful of saliva, his Adam's apple making a faint gulping sound. Though the sound was very soft, it couldn't escape Ye Fan's ears.

"Alas, what a pair of pitiful souls." The young hunter had clearly seen this scene as well and shook his head.

"What's going on?"

Ye Fan looked at the young hunter in confusion.

Aiding in an emergency but not curing lifelong poverty—Ye Fan understood that his own strength was limited. There were far too many pitiful people in this world; he couldn't possibly help them all.

"The old man's surname is Lv. He used to run a restaurant. Before those damned bastards occupied this place, the grandfather and grandson lived a decent life. They couldn't be called rich, but they had no worries about food and clothing. Ever since those beasts came, they went to his restaurant every day to eat and drink for free. A few days ago, because Old Lu's stock of wine had been completely drunk up, one of those beasts threw him straight from the second floor, breaking his legs. The restaurant was also torn down. From then on, the two of them had no home to return to and could only wander the streets, becoming beggars!" the young hunter said.

"These beasts!"

Ye Fan narrowed his eyes, murderous intent surging in his heart. He wished he could storm the City Lord Mansion and kill right now, but in the end he forced himself to endure.

"Ai..."

The young hunter let out a long sigh and said, "We're people who've been abandoned already. Those cultivators from the great powers only know how to protect their own interests—who's going to protect the interests of us common folk?"

"Kid, take some food over to that old man and boy. Put it on my tab."

Seeing that the old man only ate a single bun after the little boy repeatedly urged him, Ye Fan immediately called to the waiter in the tavern.

"Master, you can save them for a moment, but can you save them for a lifetime? If those Demon Clan people find out, even our tavern won't be safe. They don't allow anyone to give that grandfather and grandson any food at all. You already went against their orders just now."

"What damn orders?"

Ye Fan flared up on the spot. These Demon Clan cultivators had no bottom line at all—laying their hands on ordinary people, they were worse than animals.

Ye Fan directly had all the dishes on the table packed up, then walked to the old man, set down the packed food, and placed his palm on the old man's Dantian. A warm current instantly poured into him.

This was Pure Yang Qi of Life Origin. It could not only help cultivators recover from injuries faster, but also influence the vitality of ordinary people.

"Thank you, benefactor!"

The old man was not someone who didn't know good from bad. Just from the stream of Qi Ye Fan sent into his body, he could tell that Ye Fan was definitely a cultivator.

After speaking, the old man turned to the little boy and said, "Child, quick, quickly thank your benefactor!"

The little boy obediently knelt on the ground and kowtowed three times with loud thuds to Ye Fan, muttering, "Thank you, benefactor, thank you, benefactor..."

Ye Fan hurriedly helped him up and, while he was at it, examined the boy's body to see if he could undergo cultivation. If he could cultivate, Ye Fan would take him away when he left, entrust him to someone, and never let him suffer like this again.

However—

Ye Fan was disappointed. This little boy's physique was far too ordinary—so ordinary it couldn't be any more ordinary. He was simply not suited for cultivation; there was no trace of Qi in his body.

Even an ordinary person should have an extremely faint stream of Qi, the source of a person's life, yet in him Ye Fan couldn't sense even the slightest current.

In the end, Ye Fan took them to an inn, booked a room for them, had them eat something and take a bath, then opened another room for himself next door.

He told the waiter to buy a set of clothes for the grandfather and grandson, so that after they finished bathing they could change. Ye Fan then sat cross-legged on the bed and cultivated silently, preparing to adjust himself to his peak state.

The battle tonight was destined to be extremely brutal!

He had to ensure that he faced this tough fight in his best condition.

In this Ancient City there were several hundred Demon Clan members in total, among them forty to fifty young elites whose cultivation had all reached the level of One-star Demon or Two-star Demon; there were even Three star Demons present.

On top of that, there was an old Demon Clan monster sitting in command here. If he couldn't trap these people, it would be very hard to slaughter them all.

In his view, since the Demon Clan used the pretext of a "challenge" to recklessly butcher Human cultivators, he would repay them in their own coin—he would also use a "challenge" to slaughter every Demon Clan cultivator in this city.

Only if he hurt them badly enough would they truly behave themselves. Otherwise, at this rate, war would erupt sooner or later.

"Knock knock knock..."

Just as Ye Fan was pondering strategy and tactics, his door was suddenly knocked. Ye Fan waved his hand, the door opened, and the little boy in his new clothes hopped in, saying to Ye Fan, "Uncle, look, aren't my clothes pretty?"

"They're pretty."

Ye Fan praised from the heart. The little boy actually looked very sweet—big eyes, long eyelashes, cheeks flushed red like ripe apples.

"Bao'er, don't disturb our benefactor's rest, hurry back!" Through the door, Ye Fan heard the old man calling from the other room.

"Bao'er knows!" the boy answered, then waved to Ye Fan and said, "Goodbye, Uncle!"

"Don't worry, child. After tonight, disaster and suffering will stay far away from you."

Watching little Bao'er's departing back, Ye Fan muttered to himself, his eyes filled with dense killing intent.

Chapter 1818 - Going Big

As night fell, all was silent, and the sky seemed to be inked black.

A shadow flew out from Ye Fan's window, merging with the endless darkness like a ghost.

"Crack!"

A clap of thunder resounded in the sky, and lightning tore through the darkness. In an instant, a torrential downpour ensued, shrouding the entire Ancient City in a curtain of rain.

The sound of the rain masked all other noises; Ye Fan, like a ghost, swiftly traversed the city, quickly arriving at a place where little demons from the Demon Clan gathered.

"Swoosh!"

Ye Fan flicked his wrist, directly throwing out one hundred and eight large banners, forming an array that isolated this place from the outside world.

"Who?"

"Ah..."

"Puff!"

Soon after, Ye Fan entered the array, and before long, faint screams of agony echoed from within. If one didn't listen carefully, they wouldn't notice, as the sound was completely drowned out by the rain.

Quickly, Ye Fan walked out, retrieving the one hundred and eight large banners. A smell of blood seemed to linger in the rain, but it was quickly washed away by the heavy rain, and no one noticed anything unusual here.

Shortly after, Ye Fan arrived at another Demon Clan settlement, where several young elites of the Demon Clan were gathered. Their strength ranged from Early Lord Realm to Mid-stage, known as one-star and two-star Demons by the Demon Clan.

Such a level of power, in such a small city, would undoubtedly be seen as immortal-like figures in the eyes of ordinary people.

However—

When Ye Fan cast out one hundred and eight large banners, their fate was already sealed—death!

Without any surprises, Ye Fan, like a Killing God, claimed the lives of more than a dozen young Demon Clan warriors in the name of a challenge, leaving none alive.

Trapped within the array devised by Bai Yan wolf, the Demon Clan couldn't even cross the void if they wanted to.

This was specifically prepared for Ye Fan by Bai Yan wolf. Besides the one hundred and eight large banners that could obscure the heavenly secrets and isolate energies, Ye Fan's virtual space held an even more formidable killing array.

Originally, Ye Fan didn't intend to bring it, but under Bai Yan wolf's insistence, he did. According to Bai Yan wolf, this was an extremely powerful killing array adapted from the killing array of the Eternal Slaughter Emperor. It could absorb Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi to operate independently, its transformations endless and its killing intent overwhelming. Without its guidance, no one could hope to escape from this killing array unscathed, not even Saint Lord Level strong people.

An array capable of trapping Saint Lord Level strong people was undoubtedly extraordinary, so Ye Fan could only carry it; he also feared the older generation of Demon Clan strong people might disregard agreements and attack him.

Currently, Elder Xuan was still asleep, and the Emperor Weapon Nine Heavens Mysterious Crown couldn't be used, leaving only passive defense, which was not his style.

With this killing array, even if the older generation of Demon Clan strong people wanted to breach an agreement and attack him with extermination in mind, he now had the ability and means to fight back.

The one hundred and eight large banners obscured celestial secrets; no information could be transmitted out, let alone crossing the void.

An hour later, all Demon Clan strongholds in the Ancient City, except for the City Lord Mansion, were eradicated by Ye Fan alone.

At this moment, he walked like a Death God on earth, his body exuding a sharp killing intent and a dense death aura.

He now resembled a standard human-shaped creature; except for lacking scales, his death aura was denser than theirs.

He was aware of this; with each person he killed, the death aura around him grew thicker. Although a lot was absorbed by the black sphere in his Dantian, after slaying hundreds, the accumulated death aura was still extremely dense.

Silently, Ye Fan arrived above the City Lord Mansion; he dared not extend his Divine Sense to probe how many young elites of the Demon Clan were within, nor did he know where the older generation Demon Clan strong who presided here was located.

To avenge his fallen brothers and keep disaster and suffering away from the ordinary people of the Ancient City, Ye Fan gritted his teeth, deciding to make a grand move!

"Clatter!"

The one hundred and eight large banners stood in the void, fluttering in the wind; even in the pouring rain, they weren't affected in the slightest, completely isolating the City Lord Mansion from the outside world.

"Boom!"

Ye Fan struck down with a palm, a faint stele appearing within his massive black hand, fiercely creating a large hole in the roof of the largest building in the City Lord Mansion.

"Who goes there?"

A stern shout rang out as figures quickly soared; hundreds of young Demon Clan elites swiftly surrounded him, their eyes all shooting vicious glances.

"What junior dare disturb the Ancestor's meditation? End yourself now, lest you force the Ancestor to take action personally. Then, even dying will be hard for you."

A voice like a night owl's echoed from the breached City Lord Mansion below, excessively sinister, making one feel uneasy upon hearing it.

"My name is Ye Fan; today I challenge you under your own rules—winner leaves, loser dies!" Ye Fan shouted loudly.

"Ye Fan?"

The voice's owner was clearly taken aback; everyone knew Ye Fan had been transmitted to the Star Domain and could never return in this lifetime. How could another Ye Fan appear?

Crack!

The other young Demon Clan elites also had their hearts shaken; Ye Fan had left too deep an impression on them. Even if they didn't participate in that competition, they knew that Ye Fan had successively slain the young kings of their Demon Clan, even defeating the strongest heir of the Imperial Family.

It was precisely that battle that forced the Demon Clan to remain dormant; had Ye Fan not single-handedly stopped them, the world's structure would have undergone a huge upheaval by now.

Even He Feng was defeated; besides perhaps the newly emerged Demon Emperor's offspring, who else could be his match?

"Hahaha..."

One of the young Demon Clan elites laughed maniacally, saying, "I don't care if you're the real Ye Fan; even if you're an imposter, you're doomed to die today."

"That's right, this is truly, a road to Heaven you don't take, a No Gate to Hell you enter on your own, by this time next year, it'll be your anniversary."

"Please, Ancestor, take action and kill this scoundrel!"

A little demon in the Divine Power Realm said to the older generation strong people of the Demon Clan below.

"This is the best whetstone for you all, you should make the move. Even if he's impersonating Ye Fan, he must have some skills to dare to charge in here single-handedly, he's truly eaten a leopard's gall."

The Demon Clan elder didn't appear, obviously intending for Ye Fan to be a whetstone for their younger generation.

As for Ye Fan sealing this place with a hundred and eight banners, he didn't take it seriously at all, believing that this young man was doomed to die today.

Challenging hundreds of Demon Clan's younger generation alone, it's sheer arrogance, does he really think the Demon Clan plays by the same rules, fighting one-on-one?

"All of you, come at me together!"

Ye Fan also knew that these Demon Clan cultivators would never give him a fair chance to fight, so he didn't bother ridiculing or sarcastically commenting on it.

"What an arrogant kid, I'll kill you!"

A Two-star Demon with a fiery temper couldn't hold back any longer upon hearing Ye Fan's words.

"I'll kill him myself, no one is allowed to interfere, or don't blame me for causing trouble later." The Two-star Demon, burly with hair falling over his shoulders, eyes like lamps, and muscular build, said.

Clearly, he had considerable influence among the young elites of the Demon Clan within the City Lord Mansion. With his statement, others who wanted to act also stopped.

"You're not up to it! Send someone stronger!"

Ye Fan shook his head, glanced at the Two-star Demon with contempt, and said coldly.

Putting aside racial prejudices, Ye Fan actually respected this opponent quite a lot. Being able to maintain such arrogance in an absolutely advantageous situation shows he's someone who disdains ganging up.

"Take my axe!"

The Two-star Demon was furious, with a flash of light in his hand, a Mountain Opening Axe appeared, which he fiercely swung toward Ye Fan's head.

This was a purely melee-type demon, though his exact species was unknown, he undoubtedly possessed great strength. Such heavy weapons like the Mountain Opening Axe couldn't be wielded without absolute power.

"Buzz!"

Ye Fan swung his arm, his golden fist like a small sun, crashing fiercely against the Mountain Opening Axe. The axe rapidly cracked visibly and ultimately fell to the ground as a heap of scrap metal.

"Hiss..."

The young cultivators of the Demon Clan in the City Lord Mansion couldn't help but gasp, punching Yuan Ren's Mountain Opening Axe to pieces, what terrifying body and strength must this be?

Whoosh!

Immediately, Ye Fan didn't stop, moving underfoot, breaking the spatial limits as if through shattered void, appearing right in front of Yuan Ren, punching straight through his over two-meter-tall body, his fist piercing from the back, spraying blood across the sky.

"Boom!"

Yuan Ren shouted, his body exploded, his Divine Soul screeched attempting to escape, but was grabbed by Ye Fan and directly obliterated.

"This..."

"Kill!"

"Avenge Yuan Ren!"

Amidst the shouts, a large group of young strong Demon Clan members charged at Ye Fan together, Spiritual Treasures flying everywhere, Holy Light tearing through space.

"Today, none of you will leave here alive!"

Ye Fan roared, stretched his body, unfolding the Eight Phase World Domain, unaffected by Ten Thousand Techniques. The Xuandi Fist pierced the universe, blazing punch rays reaping lives like the scythe of Death.

"Boom!"

An endless Death Aura erupted from Ye Fan, something he unintentionally absorbed on the Luan Gu Ancient Star, unbeknownst even to himself.

"What is this?"

"Such dense Death Aura!"

"..."

Everyone was stunned, including Ye Fan himself. Even he could not have anticipated that after slaughtering seventy to eighty Demon Clan elites, his body's Death Aura would erupt.

Gray Death Aura spread like mist, infiltrating the young Demon Clan members, destroying their vitality.

At this moment, Ye Fan noticed the black and white spheres within him seemed to grow larger, maintaining balance as they quickly pursued and whirled.

"Ah..."

Continuously, youthful Demon Clan members met untimely deaths, especially those little demons below the Lord Realm, who were even more vulnerable.

This scene frightened the Demon Clan elder in the City Lord Mansion who had yet to appear, looking up at Ye Fan in shock, muttering, "Human... Human-shaped creature!?"

Chapter 1819 - Leave No One Alive!

Human-shaped creatures are the common enemy of all life. The Demon Clan is no exception.

These beings that know only slaughter absorb the Death Aura released when all kinds of living beings die to cultivate and survive. You could say they are demons among demons, the nightmare of all life.

The dense Death Aura is precisely their most iconic means of attack. If this truly was a human-shaped creature, then it would practically be a catastrophe descending.

Human-shaped creatures usually don't appear alone. Once they appear, it's in large groups.

To any living being, human-shaped creatures are synonymous with disaster. In the last dark turmoil, not only did the Human Race suffer heavy losses, even the Demon Clan suffered just as grievously.

This is a calamity shared by all life in this world, and also a taboo deep in their memories that they're least willing to mention.

Yet at this moment, Ye Fan discovered that the Death Aura had no effect on him at all, and could even be used by him, while this Death Aura possessed extremely powerful lethality toward any creature.

Why be polite then?

He had come this time to go on a slaughtering spree anyway, so he directly tried to urge the Death Aura to launch an attack.

Xuandi Fist combined with Death Aura, and the killing power instantly doubled. Hundreds of Demon Clan elites dropped from the sky like dumplings, continuously falling and smashing into meat paste.

Even with the Demon Clan's powerful bodies, if they fell from high altitude without the defense of Divine Power, they simply couldn't withstand it.

"Stop!"

Seeing the younger generation of the Demon Clan dying one after another, that Demon Clan old-generation strong one could no longer sit still. With a furious shout, he directly threw a punch at Ye Fan.

"Swoosh!"

At the critical instant, Ye Fan unleashed the Chasing Star Step, leaving behind an afterimage where he'd been, dodging this lethal blow.

"This old geezer really is going for genocide."

Cursing as he moved, Ye Fan took out an Array Platform for a Killing Array from the Virtual Space. This had been painstakingly inscribed by Bai Yan wolf, its power extremely strong and very easy to set up.

"Swish swish swish..."

Ye Fan threw out one Array Platform after another, instantly setting up a Killing Array around that Demon Clan old-generation strong one, trapping him within the Killing Array.

"Hmph! A mere Formation, you think it can stop this old man?"

The Demon Clan elder revealed his true form: an old man looking to be in his sixties, eyes like golden lamps, his hands hanging past his knees. He looked more like a Big Monkey than a person.

"Break for me!"

The Demon Clan elder snorted coldly. Spreading his arms, he tried to forcefully break the formation and charge out. However, a strand of Killing Light suddenly appeared, directly blasting his sleeve into ash. If he hadn't withdrawn his hand fast enough, it would've been more than just the sleeve.

This Killing Array had been arranged by Bai Yan wolf with reference to the Eternal Slaughter Emperor's arrays. Although its own strength was still a bit lacking in Fire Control, it wasn't something this Demon Clan elder could easily crack.

Seeing this, Ye Fan was immediately at ease. Outside the array, he went on a mad slaughter, cutting down large numbers of the Demon Clan's young elites.

"Aaaaahhhh..."

Many Demon Clan cultivators fell into despair and began fleeing in all directions, hoping to break out. As long as they could charge out of the City Lord Mansion, then the sky would be high and the birds could fly, the sea would be wide and the fish could leap.

No matter how strong Ye Fan was, as long as they escaped and dove into the deep mountains and forests, they didn't believe he could still find them.

Their fantasies were rich; reality was bony!

Their hope was quickly shattered—the entire City Lord Mansion had already been sealed. Before Ye Fan put away the one hundred and eight flags, no one was getting in or out.

In the sky, torrential rain still poured, washing away the thick stench of blood. Every time Ye Fan struck, blood splattered. One punch, and even the Demon Clan's tough bodies couldn't withstand it, their bodies directly smashed apart.

Death itself wasn't frightening. For many Demon Clan desperadoes, they did not fear death, but the tragic scenes before their eyes still stunned them.

No one had expected that Ye Fan had actually sealed this place. They couldn't even traverse the Void to escape.

Not to mention, the Array Platforms for traversing the Void weren't something they could possess. At this moment, many young Demon Clan cultivators were utterly in despair.

At this moment, they finally tasted the kind of despair and helplessness the Human Race had felt when being hunted by them. Their hearts were filled with terror, living in constant dread.

That feeling of waiting for death was even more tormenting than death itself. In their eyes, Ye Fan was a Demon, a cold-blooded Demon.

After slaughtering hundreds of Demon Clan cultivators, he showed not the slightest mercy or hesitation. His eyes remained firm and icy cold. Was this how a normal Human should behave?

Weren't Humans supposed to be extremely weak? Why was this young Human from the Human Race so strong?

C-could he really be Ye Fan?

"Bang!"

Ye Fan threw a punch, and a Two-star Demon was directly smashed to pieces, its Divine Soul also completely erased by the Death Energy.

Another wisp of Death Aura floated out and was directly absorbed by Ye Fan. This scene made many young demons mentally collapse.

"Hold on a little longer, I'll break the formation soon. When I get out, I'll rip out his Life Soul and let him suffer Purgatory's torment for all eternity!"

That old demon kept roaring within the Killing Array.

Every step he took within the Killing Array required him to pay a heavy price. Even for him, having reached the Venerable Realm, it was becoming hard to bear.

But he couldn't give up. Otherwise, if he was erased by a single Killing Array, that would be utter humiliation!

He had no idea this array had been inscribed by Bai Yan wolf with reference to the Eternal Slaughter Emperor's Killing Array. To die under the joint work of a Great Emperor and an Array Patterns grandmaster would practically be supreme glory.

"Pff!"

With the final strike, Ye Fan bathed in the torrential rain, slaughtered all the young generation of the Demon Clan in the entire City Lord Mansion, and the downpour washed the blood and gore from his body.

In this battle, not only did he butcher so many demons, he also reaped a huge harvest—demons also carried Spirit Stones, Spiritual Medicine and the like, and Ye Fan swept them all up in one big haul, leaving nothing behind.

"Old bastard, let me send you on your way!"

After looting the spoils, Ye Fan took a step forward and walked into the Killing Array, following the mnemonic that Bai Yan wolf had taught him, avoiding the Killing Light within the array and rapidly closing in on that demon elder.

"You little bastard, you slaughtered the young elite generation of my Demon Clan. Today, you must die!!"

The demon elder knew that all the demons outside were dead; otherwise Ye Fan would never have had the time to enter the Killing Array.

"Must die? I remember when Humans and demons sparred, the young Demon geniuses all said the same thing. In the end, they all died." Ye Fan replied coldly.

"You... you're really Ye Fan? How did you come back from the starry sky?" The demon elder's face was full of shock. Someone who could talk like this could only be Ye Fan.

"The Eternal Slaughter Emperor brought me back."

Ye Fan hadn't intended to answer him, but then he thought, the demons are riding high right now; if they find out the Eternal Slaughter Emperor is still alive, what will they do?

"If you're going to lie, at least make it believable. Why don't you say the Nine Heavens Xuan Emperor sent you back?"

The Big Monkey said coldly, "The Eternal Slaughter Emperor was a Great Emperor of the Chaotic Ancient Period, it's been over a million years since then, and you actually say he sent you back—ridiculous!"

"You're about to laugh your last."

Ye Fan didn't want to waste time. Even though the rain was pouring down, time was still slipping away; dawn was almost breaking, and he wanted to finish this fight before daylight.

"Lightning Summoning Tribulation!"

Ye Fan roared, stomped his foot, and a field of Thunder instantly appeared in the sky, which Ye Fan drew down with Array Patterns to strike at that demon elder.

"Brat, this isn't over between us!"

The demon elder was blasted up and down by the Thunder, jumping around like a live monkey.

If not for the constraints of the Killing Array, how could he be so pathetic?

However—

There is no "if" in this world.

Ye Fan used the Killing Array to trap the demon elder, never engaging in close combat at all, simply stirring the array to hack at the demon elder again and again. The demon elder's liver almost exploded

from rage, yet he was utterly helpless—he couldn't get anywhere near Ye Fan, and the Punch Rays he threw out were all dissolved by the Killing Array into nothing.

"You little bastard surnamed Ye, isn't your body supposed to be very strong? If you've got the guts, brawl with me hand-to-hand, I'll only use one hand!"

The demon elder was hacked by the Killing Array into a miserable mess, not a single intact spot on his body, and he roared in fury again and again.

"You eat too much Xuan Beast Meat? Stuffed yourself stupid? You want to fistfight me? And you can actually say that out loud? If you and I were in the same realm, I could slap you to death with one hand. You're some old fossil in the Venerable Realm, a whole Great Realm above me, and you want to brawl with me?!"

"Boom!"

As his words fell, Ye Fan controlled the Killing Array, gathering hundreds of strands of Killing Light into one beam, blasting it viciously onto the demon elder's body and directly shattering his body.

"Ah..."

The demon elder let out a miserable scream, then was reborn not far away, his gaze vicious and gloomy, wishing he could skin Ye Fan alive and eat him.

"I want to see how many times you can be reborn. In this Killing Array, I can kill you ten thousand times!"

Ye Fan went all in, controlling the Killing Array again and again to hack at the demon elder.

In the end, Ye Fan concentrated the power of the Killing Array, then drew on the Earth Vein Dragon Qi, and borrowed the Thunder from the sky. The three-pronged assault blasted the demon elder into flying ash.

"You little bastard surnamed Ye, don't get cocky. Your life won't last much longer either..." the demon elder roared unwillingly.

"You don't need to worry about that."

Ye Fan snorted coldly, dispelled the Killing Array, and put the Array Platform into the Virtual Space.

Just then, a transparent figure suddenly shot out of a drop of Essence Blood—it was that demon elder. He had used a drop of Essence Blood to escape a certain death!

Once Ye Fan had put away the Killing Array, he appeared immediately and fled outward.

At this moment, he had only a frail Divine Soul left, nowhere near a match for Ye Fan. All he could do was run first and think later.

"I've been waiting for you."

Ye Fan snorted coldly, the space between his brows splitting open, and the Heavenly Tao Seal condensed from his Divine Soul shot out in an instant, slamming hard into that transparent demon elder.

"Awooo..."

The demon elder let out a shrill scream as his Divine Soul was completely annihilated!

That day.

Ye Fan returned in domineering fashion, single-handedly bathing Qingyang City's Demon Clan in blood, and beheaded an old demon in the Venerable Realm.

The Xuan Realm was shaken!

Chapter 1820 - At the Eye of the Storm

Before the battle of Qingyang Ancient City, almost everyone knew that Ye Fan had been teleported by an ancient Transmission Array Platform in a secret realm at the Imperial Academy to somewhere outside the Star Domain and was believed to never return.

However—

Now, not only has Ye Fan returned, but upon his appearance, he accomplished a sensational act in the Xuan Realm: single-handedly challenging a Demon Clan-occupied ancient city, eliminating the young generation of the Demon Clan within, without causing any harm to ordinary people.

"What? How is that possible? Ye actually killed the Demon Clan's elder generation strong people?"

"Those were strong people of the Venerable Realm! Though not comparable to the Saints of various Holy Lands, they definitely possessed the capabilities of a Supreme Elder. How did he do it?"

When the news first spread, almost no one believed it; it was too exaggerated and terrifying.

Even though people knew Ye Fan stood out amongst the Demon Clan's ten young kings in the human versus demon competition, effectively turning the tides with his prowess.

However—

Facing hundreds of young demons, along with an elder generation strong people at the Venerable Realm, such a line-up would be difficult for even a Supreme Elder from a Holy Land to silently annihilate.

However, Ye Fan accomplished it, how could it not shock the world?

In the following days, Qingyang Ancient City welcomed batches of cultivators, numerous practitioners came here to verify.

The dilapidated City Lord Mansion, the scattered corpses, the lingering scent of blood in the air all told of the bloody battles that once transpired here.

"Trace the origin backward!"

Among them, a cultivator exhibited Great Divine Power, restoring the scene of a rainy night, albeit blurred, yet people could still see Ye Fan's magnificent display of prowess.

"The Human Race is saved!"

This was the shared sentiment among many cultivators upon witnessing this, Ye Fan defended the dignity of human cultivators.

Some local factions that once targeted Ye Fan remained silent, quietly humbled, not because they didn't want to speak, but because they didn't know what to say.

When humans were oppressed by the Demon Clan, they did nothing, yet it was Ye Fan, whom they once targeted, who stood up, defended the human race's dignity, leaving them speechless.

The news shook the Demon Clan as well, as over the past year and a half, they had been prospering, not giving human cultivators any heed.

However, Ye Fan proved with his actions that the human race is still untouchable!

"This is outrageous!"

In a secret location where the Demon Clan gathered, a burly young man, shrouded in Holy Light, shattered the purple jade table in front of him with a palm, coldly said, "He's seeking death!"

"Heavenly Prince, what are your plans?"

A solemn Demon Clan elder stood by, asking with hands lowered.

"Kill!"

The Heavenly Prince coldly said, "This time, force him out, slay him in one strike—you quickly investigate where young human cultivators gather, and I will challenge them one by one until Ye steps out voluntarily!"

"Understood, old servant will prepare immediately."

The Demon Clan elder responded and retreated quietly.

The Demon Clan Heavenly Prince was enraged, Ye Fan single-handedly and silently exterminated all Demon Clan in Qingyang Ancient City, even the stationed elder generation strong people couldn't escape, he vowed to repay blood with blood, an eye for an eye, lifting swords against human cultivators!

...

"Boom!"

One day later, the Demon Clan Heavenly Prince, leading hundreds of Great Demons, charged across with iron cavalry, obliterating a human-populated town into ruins, numerous ordinary people and cultivators met their demise simply for being on the Heavenly Prince's list.

Ye Fan's eradication of a Demon Clan stronghold completely infuriated the arrogant Heavenly Prince, who vented his anger on innocent people, determined to draw Ye Fan out to slay him.

"Don't blame me, blame Ye Fan of your human race, all of this is his doing!" the Heavenly Prince said to the surviving human cultivators.

"In the past, I didn't consider you ants worth noticing, but today my wrath demands corpses piling in the Southern Domain, blood staining the rivers!"

"Boom!"

The entire Southern Domain descended into chaos, as the Heavenly Prince and hundreds of Great Demons slaughtered indiscriminately, leveling several human sects, painting the ground with blood, dismembered limbs flying, sects razed to the ground.

They stormed into the heart of the Southern Domain, unafraid of inciting the collective anger of the human race, massacring unrestrainedly, destroying over ten sects in bloody conquest.

All of this was because those sects were on his slaughter list; upon arriving at each sect, the Heavenly Prince and the Great Demons unsheathed blades, splitting the mountain gates immediately.

Blood stained the sky, sadly these sects were blood washed simply for being on the Heavenly Prince's list, countless young cultivators slaughtered, corpses strewn, hauntingly disturbing.

Resentment soared in the Southern Domain, yet many dared not speak their anger, the Heavenly Prince's legion was too overpowering, though ten sects were destroyed, not a single person dared to stand up.

"We are challenging, not slaughtering! Is there a rule forbidding challenges?"

Heavenly Prince sat on his mount, looking down at the dying young cultivator with a condescending attitude.

"Beasts, all of you are beasts, you won't die a good death!"

The young cultivator's eyes were bleeding, his body covered in wounds, clearly on the verge of death.

"Courting death!"

Heavenly Prince snorted coldly, stabbing the young cultivator to the ground with a spear, then flicking the spear shaft to shatter the corpse.

A few drops of fresh blood splashed onto his face, and Heavenly Prince smiled grimly as he licked them with his tongue, saying coldly, "The taste of human flesh and blood, familiar..."

Within a single day, Devil Clan Emperor led hundreds of Great Demons under the guise of a challenge, destroying more than a dozen human sects, massacring countless human cultivators, shocking the Five Domains.

"These shameless beasts, they're utterly rampant, even killing ordinary people, it's utterly inhumane!"

"In the past year and a half, how many young cultivators from our Human Race have died at their hands, and this time they even want to kill ordinary people."

"Beastly conduct, outrageous!"

Many human cultivators stepped out to express their opinions, although they were powerless against the Devil Clan Emperor, it didn't prevent them from denouncing him.

However—

Meanwhile, there were some dissenting voices emerging, these self-proclaimed Defenders did not blame Heavenly Prince for his murderous rampage against human cultivators and ordinary people, but instead blamed Ye Fan for appearing, and for destroying a demon clan stronghold.

They claimed that it was Ye Fan's aggressive actions that led to this tragedy, denouncing him, believing that it was Ye Fan's presence that provoked Heavenly Prince, and caused this, making him responsible for the downfall of these sects.

"Of all people to provoke, why provoke the Devil Clan Emperor? Are they someone you can easily provoke?"

"Now he's famous, yet Heavenly Prince is enraged at ordinary cultivators, why doesn't he step out?"

"Mere bravery, humans should coexist peacefully with the demon clan, not fight each other to death, when will this all end?"

These so-called Defenders feared Heavenly Prince's tyranny, turning a blind eye to Heavenly Prince and other strong people of the demon clan killing human cultivators under the guise of challenges.

But when Ye Fan made a move, they all jumped out, blaming him for wiping out the demon clan's gathering place.

In their view, all these consequences were caused by Ye Fan's reckless actions, violating the basic principle of peaceful coexistence between humans and the demon clan, suggesting he should commit suicide to apologize.

For a time, public opinion was in uproar, voices of all kinds were heard, some supported Ye Fan, believing he earned dignity for humans.

While others, the so-called Defenders, from a Saint's perspective, accused Ye Fan's actions of bringing disaster upon human cultivators.

Suddenly, Ye Fan found himself at the center of public criticism, with various voices, and the statements of the so-called Defenders were acknowledged by some cultivators.

With some instigation, public opinion gradually turned against Ye Fan, with increasing accusations, and some sanctimonious Defenders demanded Ye Fan atone by presenting himself, leaving Heavenly Prince to handle him and soothe his wrath.

"Ye Fan is a hero of the human race!"

At this moment, both the Treasure Pavilion and Spirit Manor, two transcendent forces, simultaneously spoke out in support of Ye Fan, asserting he did nothing wrong and need not apologize.

The demon clan, under the guise of a challenge, slaughtered our human cultivators beforehand, clearly never intending to coexist peacefully with us, but rather seeking to eradicate the human Tao lineage, and this time even indiscriminately slaughtering, crossing the human race's bottom line.

These two transcendent forces speaking out made the voices of the so-called Defenders suddenly quieten, though it didn't completely vanish, still lobbying around, forcing Ye Fan to reveal himself.

"Ye Fan did nothing wrong!"

Shortly after Spirit Manor and Treasure Pavilion spoke, Immortal Academy and Imperial Academy also claimed Ye Fan was a hero to the human race, arguing that without him standing up to the demon clan's young generation's kings, the demon clan would already be out in full force, and the human race's position would be forfeit, dignity robbed.

This time, Ye Fan's action was to defend the dignity of the human race, vindicating human cultivators, and anyone further disputing would be considered an enemy of the entire human race, deserving punishment.

Immortal Academy and Imperial Academy are undoubtedly transcendent large forces, not a bit inferior to the Di Clan, even suggesting they might surpass Di Clan.

The four transcendent forces speaking in unison silenced the so-called Defenders completely, leaving them dejected and shutting their mouths quietly.

"Ye Fan, one month later, Chi Yue Ridge, decide victory or defeat, life or death!"

With human public opinion settled, Heavenly Prince issued a challenge to Ye Fan from afar.

Heavenly Prince's challenge rapidly spread across the Five Domains, everyone awaited Ye Fan's response.

Facing the challenge, Ye Fan quickly responded.

Only four brief words.

"Send you on your way!"