

Y Master 2011

Chapter 2011: The King of Boasting (Merry Christmas)

Treasure Pavilion Headquarters!

The majestic ancient architecture tells the vicissitudes of time, with every foundation stone holding untold stories.

After learning about the decision of the Gu Family, Yaling was extremely worried, anxiously rushing to the headquarters to meet her grandfather, hoping to ask him to protect Ye Fan.

She firmly believed that Ye Fan was definitely not a spy for the Demon Clan!

"Foolish girl!"

The Old Pavilion Master, Yayun Peak, smiled and said, "Of course I know Xiao Fan is not from the Demon Clan, but have you thought about it? He is no ordinary person; he is destined to walk the most ruthless Emperor Road and strive for the Emperor Realm. Perhaps these are trials from heaven to test him."

The rise of every Great Emperor is accompanied by endless battles and slaughter, with countless Heavenly Prides forging their glory with blood and bones.

Rising from adversity, stepping on the corpses of his opponents to ascend, proving the ultimate Dao!

The current predicaments are undoubtedly the best honing stone for Ye Fan!

Whether he can shine brightly, carving a Supreme path out of adversity, or fall, this is the path he must take.

"But it's almost a death trap! Can he really resolve this crisis?" Yaling remained deeply worried.

Originally, Ye Fan was already world-renowned and alone on the Human Clan's Ancient Star Path, and the situation turned even more difficult when the Gu Family gathered a group of older strong people to invade the Star Path. His situation would become even more dangerous, and he could fall at any moment.

"Silly girl, don't worry!"

Yayun Peak stroked his beard and laughed, "Didn't he already break the deadly situation created by the Five Venerable Saints? Moreover, in one battle, he killed five Venerable Saints. I believe he will not fall, but will indeed rise forcefully out of adversity."

Speaking of this, Yayun Peak changed his tone and continued, "If he can't overcome this tribulation, then he is not qualified to prove Dao and become Emperor. This is also the opinion of the Old Bastards from the Immortal Academy, so they have not made a statement or intervened. They precisely want to use this opportunity to temper him."

"Of course, if a Quasi-Emperor Level expert intervenes, they will certainly not stand by. The road to proving Dao is arduous, and without an invincible heart, it is impossible to stand out among many Heavenly Prides."

Hearing her grandfather's analysis, Yaling gradually calmed down.

She walked to the window, gazing into the vast starry sky, her eyes gradually becoming determined, shining with bright brilliance.

"I believe you will create a new myth, and I will wait for your... glorious return!" Yaling murmured to herself.

In the depths of the distant Starry Ancient Road, on a desolate Ancient Star, Ye Fan, sitting cross-legged on the mountain peak, seemed to sense something, suddenly opening his eyes, shooting out two astonishing dragon-shaped Divine Radiances, piercing the sky.

After leaving the Tenth Ancient City, he had traversed one dead star domain after another, crossed Xing River several times before arriving on this desolate Ancient Star.

Before descending on this Ancient Star, Ye Fan used the Dragon Seeking Skill and detected that despite the barren appearance, the Ancient Star had two stunning dragon veins.

It was these two stunning dragon veins that attracted him to descend on this Ancient Star.

After some investigation, Ye Fan delved deep into the dragon veins underground, eventually finding over a dozen drops of Dragon Essence at the dragon's head position.

These two stunning dragon veins, one yin and one yang, one death and one life, gave birth to extremely rare Yin Yang Dragon Essence.

After obtaining these Dragon Essences, Ye Fan set up a Formation at a mountain peak, hiding his aura and completely refining the dozen or so drops of Dragon Essence.

In his Dantian, the Life and Death Tai Chi Diagram became increasingly mysterious, and Ye Fan vaguely felt on the verge of a breakthrough.

Of course, it wasn't a breakthrough in realm, even though he was already at the Lord Realm Peak, but he unexpectedly found that his Venerable Level barrier was exceptionally solid, not something easily broken through.

However, after refining the Yin Yang Dragon Essence, he felt his physique had reached a critical point, and the Nine Heavens Profound Body was about to break through to the Sixth Layer.

This was a pleasant surprise!

The last breakthrough of the Nine Heavens Profound Body to the Fifth Level was completed during a Heavenly Tribulation. After so many years of accumulation, it was finally about to break through.

After the ecstatic moment, Ye Fan gradually calmed down.

He realized that after the events of the Human Clan's Tenth City, proving his innocence had become even more challenging.

Although Zheng Wuji and Baili Han were dead, the intense Death Aura had been dispersed by the massive force when Pang Shitong broke through.

Moreover, there had been no other witnesses at that time, unable to prove his innocence.

Five Venerable Saint Level experts were killed by his hand, including one law enforcer from the Starry Ancient Road. Would people believe his words?

"Difficult, difficult, difficult!"

Ye Fan shook his head, both angry and helpless, as the situation developed beyond his control but was powerless to prevent.

"Crack, crack!"

Using the Human Face Feng Shui Technique, with a burst of cracking bones, Ye Fan transformed into another appearance, seeming very ordinary and unremarkable.

If he wanted to prove his innocence, he couldn't stop; he had to find the other people of the Demon Clan as soon as possible.

The starry sky lay barren and desolate!

After changing his appearance and demeanor, Ye Fan set off once more, proceeding along the Ancient Star Path opened by ancient people, heading towards the Eleventh City of the Human Clan.

"Puff!"

Blood sprayed, as a starry sky mutant beast the size of a small mountain had its head blown apart by Ye Fan's fist, dying a violent death!

This was an ordinary starry sky mutant beast equivalent to the Mid-Stage of the Lord Realm of the Human Race, considered quite strong in the starry sky.

Unfortunately, it encountered Ye Fan and was destined to become food!

"Boom!"

On the Starry Ancient Road, a blaze of True Fire burned, a crimson jade-like Big Furnace hanging in the flames, inside of which was stewing the meat of the starry sky mutant beast.

Water was easy to handle. Now Ye Fan had fully comprehended the laws of the Water Element, easily gathering water molecules from the void to condense into the purest Spiritual Spring.

In no time, a startling aroma spread out, with the meat of the exotic beast in the Big Furnace becoming crystalline, exuding a rich Life Essence Energy.

"Mmm, so fragrant, so fragrant!"

A teasing voice came, and a round fatty darted over from the distance, followed by three young individuals with different demeanors, their eyes glinting with light.

Clearly, they were attracted by the scent, pursuing the aroma of stew to arrive here.

"Brother, would you mind sharing some with us?"

The big guy's eyes were fixed on the large crimson jade-like chunks of meat in the big furnace, saliva almost forming a river.

"Meeting is fate, my friends, please help yourselves and enjoy!"

Ye Fan was very generous. He had been traveling alone on this Xing Kong Gu Road for a long time, and having someone to chat with was certainly welcome.

Besides, he also wanted to learn about the latest happenings from these people.

"Bang!"

The big guy took out jar after jar of fine wine, placed them by his side, snatched a piece of prime meat from the big furnace, and eagerly began devouring it, oil flowing down his mouth.

"Brother, you are truly a straightforward person, just to my taste, let's have a few drinks together."

Fatty Du threw a jar of wine to Ye Fan, and then lifted another jar, broke the seal, and started guzzling down in whale-sized gulps.

Ye Fan also downed a big mouthful of wine with gusto, the five of them drinking joyfully around the big furnace!

The meat of a star sky profound beast weighed tens of thousands of catties, enough for the five to feast to their heart's content.

Gradually, Ye Fan became familiar with them and learned that the ball-like chubby guy was named Du Kui, and the other three were his teammates.

The four of them formed a hunting team, venturing out on Xing Kong Gu Road, specializing in hunting star sky profound beasts.

As for competing for the final path of proving Dao, they hadn't even considered it.

They were self-aware, knowing that their talent and strength couldn't compete with the emperor's sons or some demons.

"I'm content if I can reach the late-stage of the Venerable Realm," said a young man named Liu Yufeng.

The dining table is the best place for building connections!

This is true on Earth, in the Xuan Realm, and on Xing Kong Gu Road too!

After a big round of eating and drinking, Ye Fan quickly became good friends with them, with nothing left unsaid.

However, he also discovered that Fatty Du could really boast, making up stories from thin air.

The other three seemed to be used to it, or perhaps brainwashed by him, as they all admired him exceedingly.

"Brother Chu, meeting you is like meeting an old friend, I, Fatty, have an unreasonable request, and I hope Brother Chu can agree."

After eating and drinking, Fatty Du seriously invited Ye Fan to join their hunting team, to fight the tigers and share the meat together.

He truly felt it was a shame to have not met Ye Fan earlier, with Ye Fan's straightforward character and extraordinary conversation matching well with them, such a companion is hard to find on Xing Kong Gu Road.

"Alright!"

Ye Fan readily agreed, it's easier to stay hidden when with them, rather than being alone.

"Awesome!"

Fatty Du laughed heartily, "United, our brothers are as strong as metal, we'll make a name for ourselves on Xing Kong Gu Road!"

After saying this, he pondered for a while, furrowing his brow, "What should we name our group? It must be impressive and unforgettable..."

"How about 'Five Dragons Raising the Sky'?" Liu Yufeng suggested.

"Get out of here, what a lousy name, so unbearably tacky!" Fatty Du responded.

"How about 'Five Star God of Slaughter'?" Another young man suggested.

"The further your thought reaches, the further you should scam!"

"..."

Liu Yufeng and the other two racked their brains, thinking of countless names, yet none were satisfactory, leaving Fatty Du quite troubled.

"Hey, Brother Chu, do you have any good suggestions?" Fatty Du, with brows knitted into a character, suddenly asked Ye Fan, who was tidying up the big furnace, for advice.

"Nope!"

Ye Fan decisively answered.

This kind of tedious thing, he could not care less.

"Look at Brother Chu Ping here, he doesn't know and admits it, unlike you guys, coming up with such lousy names, embarrassing, truly embarrassing!" Fatty Du criticized.

Chu Ping was Ye Fan's alias!

Chu, a surname borrowed from his aunt Chu Ji, plain and simple.

Liu Yufeng and the other two were silently complaining, this damn fatty, even though Chu Ping said nothing, he could still take it as a chance to put them down.

In the end, it was Fatty Du himself who came up with a corny as hell name: Five Elements Heavenly Generals!

"It's no better than Five Star God of Slaughter!" Liu Yufeng and the other two quietly complained.

Under Fatty Du's lead, the five set off with grandeur!

"Fatty, we better be cautious not to bump into that Ye's God of Slaughter."

Liu Yufeng warned Fatty Du anxiously.

Little did he know, Ye Fan was right beside them, having become their companion!

"Tch! Look at your cowardice!"

Fatty Du said with disdain, "What's there to fear about Ye's? This isn't bragging, back when I first entered Xing Kong Gu Road, I met him, back then Ye was no match for me, I settled him with three fists and two kicks, he ultimately recognized me as his boss, stuck with me for half a year, and later I had to kick him away because I found he wasn't improving. He cried and begged me to keep him, but who am I, Fatty Du? I can't keep a subordinate who doesn't progress, I drove him away, he always irked me!"

Liu Yufeng and the other two were dumbfounded, completely dazzled by Fatty Du's tale.

This guy is an exaggerated storyteller, isn't he?

Chapter 2012: Eleventh City

Fatty Du's spit flew everywhere as he recounted his "glorious history" to Ye Fan and the others.

Listening to him ridicule himself so fiercely, Ye Fan couldn't help but smile wryly.

He could only sigh, "There's no most shameless, only more shameless!"

That guy is indeed quite a character!

However, it must be said, although Fatty Du loves boasting, his strength isn't weak.

Ye Fan hid his true combat power, appearing very modestly, similar to Liu Yufeng and the other three.

Moreover, among the five, only he was at the realm of Lord Realm Peak, so he naturally became the leader.

Along the way, Fatty Du showed a speed and power not matching his size, easily slaughtering any star sky profound beast that blocked their path.

Ye Fan and the four others didn't need to take action, they just watched as Fatty Du rampaged, few star sky profound beasts could withstand more than a hundred moves from him.

"Here, here, this beast core is of the light attribute, very rare. Zhou Xiong, you've comprehended the Light Element Principle, so this beast core goes to you," Fatty Du grinned widely after killing a light exotic beast, personally extracting the beast core and handing it to Zhou Xiong.

He was very generous, sharing much of the spoils from the star sky profound beasts they killed on the way with Ye Fan and the others, only keeping what he needed for himself.

Zhou Xiong and Liu Yufeng were naturally very grateful, and their own strength was indeed not as strong as Fatty Du's, they showed admiration towards him.

They were self-aware, knowing they couldn't compete on the Emperor Road, having a strong and generous leader wasn't half bad.

"Thank you, Boss Du!" Zhou Xiong took the beast core, excitedly thanking Fatty Du.

"Thank what?" Fatty Du waved his hand and said boldly, "As long as you stick with me, there's plenty of benefits, and there's absolutely no danger. I, Du Kui, would never shortchange my brothers."

"Boss Du, so mighty!"

"No doubt, from now on, I, Zhao Haichao, will follow Boss Du."

"With Boss Du's strength, it's unlikely that those so-called Divine Princes, Xiao Peng Emperor, Ba Cangtian, Martial Immortal could even match him."

The three couldn't compare to Fatty Du in strength nor had they seen other strong people in action, they had walked this far very steadily and safely, constantly flattering and praising Fatty Du.

If it were the average person, they would likely be furious.

Who are Xiao Peng Emperor, Ba Cangtian, Martial Immortal? They're known as the strongest on the Xing Kong Gu Road, the strongest contenders on the Emperor Road.

Xiao Peng Emperor once roared a shout that killed a Lord Realm Peak strong person, dominantly!

Ba Cangtian was even more fierce, he wiped out an entire Ancient Star of Life alone, almost breaking the Ancient Star Path.

Martial Immortal was a genius without rival, swept three thousand miles unhindered, leaving trial participants speechless on that segment of the Ancient Star Path.

Despite Fatty Du's decent strength, he's no match for those demons. Any one of them could easily crush him.

But Fatty Du loves to hear compliments the most, listening to their praise made his eyes squint into slits, almost losing sight of where he was.

Compliments cost nothing, so the three spared no expense in doling out praise, a torrent of flattery made Fatty Du feel exceedingly comfortable, opening all 36,000 pores, lost in pleasure, floating like an immortal.

"Boss Du truly is heroic, one day you might Prove Dao and become Emperor, pressuring the Nine Heavens and Ten Earths. Just don't forget about us brothers then!"

Ye Fan found it amusing, thinking this Fatty Du extremely interesting, he chimed in agreement.

"Of course! If I become Emperor, you'll all be my protectors."

Fatty Du seemed caught in vanity due to their relentless flattery, naturally agreeing.

After continuous crossovers, ten days later, they finally arrived at the Human Clan's Ancient Starry Path Eleventh City!

From afar, Ye Fan saw a magnificent giant city nestled in the starry sky, nourished by the watery starlight.

The city gate was grand and ancient, dozens of zhang high, like a fierce beast crouched in the starry sky with an open mouth, waiting to devour everyone.

The city walls meander like a dragon, stretching for tens of thousands of miles, vast and majestic.

As they approached, they could see the mottled marks on the city walls, some left by beast claws, while most were traces left by various weapons, proof of how many brutal battles this ancient city had endured.

The city gates wide open, entry unblocked!

The five arrived at the gate, seeing many trialists mounted on strong beasts entering and exiting, some even riding Saint-level holy beasts at the Venerable Realm, radiating terrifying pressure.

"Move!"

An arrogant trial participant rode a mixed-blood Qilin Beast, crushing the void like a roaring steel torrent.

"Pah!"

After that person moved away, Fatty Du spit a mouthful of thick phlegm, muttering under his breath, "Who does he think he is? Fatty Du, I won't stoop to his level, otherwise, I'd show him Fatty Du's might."

Ye Fan and the others were speechless, the audacity of this Fatty was truly thick!

Finally, it's time to enter the city!

Ye Fan felt nostalgic, somewhat worried his identity would be exposed.

The trialists come from different Star Domains, unknown secret techniques held by them, there's no guarantee someone wouldn't be able to see through his changes.

But anyway, they must enter the city to gather some of the latest information to make an accurate judgment.

The Eleventh Ancient City is much smaller in scale than the Tenth Ancient City, but it's still very vast. The bluestone slabs on the street are extremely smooth, all polished by the countless footsteps of people.

The atmosphere in the Ancient City is quite lively, with pedestrians filling the streets, including locals and trialists, and the air is rich with a mixed fragrance.

On both sides of the street, shops stand closely together, with the aroma of wine and meat drifting in the air, causing Fatty Du to sniff continually, making his stomach growl with hunger.

Soon, they settled in a fairly decent inn. Fatty Du was generous and got each of them a separate small courtyard, complete with rock gardens and flowing water, offering a pleasant environment.

"Brother Chu, let's go out for a drink!"

Ye Fan had just settled down and didn't have a moment to catch his breath when Fatty Du's voice came from outside the courtyard, inviting him for a drink.

Ye Fan, of course, wouldn't refuse. He quickly changed his clothes and, along with Fatty Du and four others, arrived at a bustling tavern.

The tavern was quite popular, and Ye Fan and the others had to wait for a while before getting a table.

"What would you like to have, gentlemen?"

As soon as they sat down, a waiter came over, and efficiently wiped the already-clean table once more.

"Bring out the best you've got, and stop only when I say so," Fatty Du exclaimed with bravado.

"Got it, sir!" The waiter tossed the towel over his shoulder and quickly left.

Soon after, he returned carrying a large teapot, filled their cups, placed the teapot in the center of the table, and turned away to attend to other duties.

The tavern was filled with other diners, mostly young trialists, naturally gathering to discuss matters related to the Xing Kong Gu Road.

"Have you heard? A genius has been killed again recently, and the place is filled with heavy death Qi. It's obvious that it was that magic clan spy with the surname Ye again!"

"That damned magic clan spy, why doesn't he just die?"

"The one who died was still a child! Barely in his twenties and already at the Lord Realm Peak! If he hadn't died, his future would have been limitless."

Very soon, Ye Fan heard such news. Many people were discussing how a young strong person from another Star Domain had been killed, and the scene of the death was appalling.

Without a doubt, it must have been done by those young strong people from the Demon Clan, like Tu Sihai and the others.

However, all the blame was being pinned on his head. Almost everyone believed it was him, making Ye Fan smile bitterly in his heart.

After some time listening, Ye Fan realized the trouble he was in. Now, almost the entire universe believed he was the magic clan spy, ruthless and cunning.

The strong people from the Xuan Realm did not come forward to clear his name, not even the old bastards from the Immortal Academy made any statements, seemingly acknowledging the claims that he was a magic clan spy.

Moreover, even the Treasure Pavilion remained silent. All these indications were unintentionally confirming everyone's suspicions.

"Have you heard? The Xuan Realm, led by the Gu Family, has summoned ten old Saint Lord Level experts to enter the Xing Kong Gu Road, vowing to kill the magic clan spy with the surname Ye. It's going to be lively now."

A young, scholarly-looking trialist at a table near Ye Fan said to the others.

"I've heard too, the one with the surname Ye is not going to escape this time. Unless he hides forever, he will surely be killed, without a shred of doubt."

The people around chimed in, as if they could finally breathe a sigh of relief, showing how much pressure the magic clan spy Ye Fan exerted on them.

Hearing these conversations made Ye Fan smile bitterly, this was truly adding insult to injury, being attacked from the front and back.

He absolutely must not expose his whereabouts now, for once caught, it would surely mean a dead end!

He no longer had the Emperor Weapon, making it impossible to rely on it to sweep through the heroes; everything depended solely on himself.

As the food and wine arrived, under Fatty Du's invitation, the five of them began to drink and chat.

Ye Fan paid attention to the conversations around him, gathering quite a bit of useful information.

The Eleventh City did not have any trial arenas or opportunities; it was merely a transfer point created because trialists needed a place to rest.

Once they had rested enough, they could set off at any time to the next checkpoint, however, they needed the City Lord to issue a Token to prove they had departed from the Eleventh City and had passed through here.

The tavern was loud and bustling, causing Fatty Du to involuntarily raise his voice when he spoke.

Just as he was vividly recounting his "glorious past" amid flying spittle, a chaotic sound of footsteps came from the staircase.

Soon, several young trialists ascended to the tavern.

They naturally glanced over the crowd, and their gaze landed on the boastful Fatty Du.

With his ball-like figure, Fatty Du stood out among the crowd, making it impossible to go unnoticed.

Seeing Fatty Du, their expressions changed, and they quickly approached him.

"Fatty, I can't believe you're still alive!" One of the young men said mockingly.

"Which bastard is spewing such nonsense? It reeks!"

Fatty Du plugged his ears and squinted, exuding a faint killing intent.

"Hmph!"

The leading young man snorted coldly, "I've been searching high and low for you. Fatty Du, let's see where you run this time?"

"Run? You're kidding, why would I run?" Fatty Du flipped his eyelids and said coldly.

Chapter 2013: Brimming with Confidence

This damned fatty is really brazen!

This was Ye Fan's sigh after learning about the enmity between both parties!

It turns out, shortly after entering the Human Clan's Ancient Star Path, right after leaving the Human Clan's First City, this group found some divine materials left behind by ancient people on a shattered ancient star.

Those divine materials were extremely beneficial for both cultivation and refining into holy weapons.

However, these divine materials were sealed within the core of the earth, with eighteen powerful seals, which were very difficult to break.

The group exerted tremendous effort and finally broke the seals layer by layer, and the divine materials' aura became more intense.

Just as they broke the last seal and were about to obtain the divine materials, Fatty Du barged in, gave them a thorough scolding without a word, and beat them black and blue.

Finally, amidst their murderous gazes, he easily took the divine materials away.

The group was so frustrated they almost went mad. After all their hard work, they ended up doing all the hard labor for nothing, making it easy for this damned fatty and becoming unpaid laborers.

What drove them insane was that each of them was stronger than Fatty Du, but since they had expended so much divine power breaking the seals, they couldn't even display a tenth of their original strength.

Moreover, Fatty Du had sneakily approached without a sound, and by the time they reacted, it was already too late.

"This guy is so shameless!" Ye Fan sighed.

On the Xing Kong Gu Road, things like snatching opportunities and killing to seize treasures were common, but it was the first time he had heard of someone doing it so boldly.

However, Fatty Du still had some conscience. After snatching the divine materials, he didn't kill them all but swaggered off, leaving them with an incredibly arrogant back view.

The group was enraged, nearly exploding with anger but helpless, watching him leave.

Later, after the group recovered some divine power, they swore through gritted teeth that they would definitely drag this damned fatty out and skin him alive.

Their resentment reached the heavens, showing just how despicable Fatty Du was.

"Damned fatty, you're so inconsiderate."

"How could you do this? We worked so hard to break the seals, and you just picked the peaches halfway."

"Return the divine materials to us immediately, or we'll go to war."

In the tavern, the group cursed loudly, saliva flying everywhere, and their eyes reddened with agitation.

"You should be grateful it was me, Fatty Ye; if it were someone else, would you still be alive?"

Fatty Du, calm and unruffled, effortlessly blocked their retorts, leaving them fuming with anger.

Ye Fan watched coldly and discovered that the young leader was already at the Half-step Venerable Realm, with formidable strength.

If a fight broke out, although Fatty Du and his group were strong, they were absolutely no match for these people.

However, Fatty Du was unconcerned. He knew well that private fights in the Ancient City were strictly forbidden, and upon discovery, severe punishment would follow.

Below the tavern, a team of indifferent soldiers patrolled, ready to rush in to prevent any fighting.

These soldiers were also trialists but failed in the Emperor Road struggle and stayed to help the City Lord guard the Ancient City.

As failures on the Emperor Road, they inevitably harbored resentment in their hearts, and were very hostile towards these trialists, not hesitating to strike if given a chance.

The group also knew very well that they absolutely couldn't make a move in the Ancient City and could only vent verbally.

However, Fatty Du was unyielding, and blaming and insulting him had no effect, making them feel incredibly stifled.

"Damned fatty, you've got guts!"

The leading young man gritted his teeth and said, "I'm giving you two choices: either return the divine materials and kowtow to apologize, or stay in the city honestly, never to leave."

"Trying to scare me?" Fatty Du disdainfully said, "I wasn't brought up to be scared, and your threats are too green."

"You just wait!"

The leading young man, his face turning blue, included Ye Fan and the other four in his harsh words, and left with the others in tow.

He couldn't stay! If he stayed any longer, he felt he would either be angered to death or lose his mind and kill this damned fatty.

Neither outcome was good. If he killed Fatty Du just for a momentary satisfaction, he too would undoubtedly be executed for breaking city rules. That was not the result he wanted.

"Boss, what do we do?"

Liu Yufeng and the other three approached Fatty Du, asking with worried looks.

Although their strength wasn't great, they had keen eyes. That leading young man earlier faintly exuded holy might, certainly not someone to provoke easily.

Now, even they had been targeted, making them feel the road ahead was bleak, with the possibility of falling if they weren't careful.

"Don't worry, I got this!"

Fatty Du's eyes flashed with a fierce gleam as he coldly said, "If we ignore them, it's fine, but if they dare to push their luck, I'll make them understand why the flowers are so red!"

"Boss, are you confident?" Zhou Xiong felt that Fatty Du was not very reliable and couldn't help but confirm.

"What are you saying? Of course I'm confident. What, don't trust me?" Fatty Du glared, his nose no longer just a nose, and his face no longer just a face as he spoke.

"I wouldn't dare, I'm just afraid you'll suffer. If you're confident, then that's great." Zhou Xiong hurriedly explained with a smile.

Although Fatty Du spoke with great confidence, Ye Fan still felt he was boasting. If they truly encountered the opponents, they would undoubtedly suffer.

However, Ye Fan did not expose him—perhaps he really had some ace in the hole. The universe was vast, with all sorts of strange martial arts and secret techniques cropping up, who could say Fatty Du hadn't mastered some mighty secret techniques?

After this brief interlude, they continued drinking and chatting, and only dispersed after everyone had drunk a good amount and the table was left in disarray.

Fatty Du shivered with heartache because the meal cost three catties of top-grade spirit stones, definitely a lavish feast.

Back at the residence, Ye Fan took a shower, sat cross-legged on the bed, and continued to operate the Life and Death Mysterious Technique!

This was his independently created cultivation technique; although still incomplete, it had already demonstrated tremendous power. Once gradually perfected, it would surely rival any Emperor Technique.

He originally thought of visiting the Treasure Pavilion to learn about Tu Sihai and the others' news but ultimately did not go.

Now many knew of his close relationship with the Treasure Pavilion, and if he rashly visited, it would be easy for others to target him. Once exposed, not only would he be in danger, but the Treasure Pavilion would also be implicated.

A night passed without events!

The next morning, a star like a fireball rose, shedding golden light, waking the entire Ancient City.

Pedestrians began to appear on the streets. Ye Fan stood tall, pushed open the window, and exhaled the stale air from his chest, instantly feeling refreshed.

Tired from the journey, they rested for a day in this quiet and peaceful Ancient City.

This day, Ye Fan did not cultivate but roamed around a nearby low mountain in the city.

The Ancient City was grand; having a mountain within it was not surprising, with lush vegetation and Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi misting like fog.

Ye Fan walked in the forest, quietly listening to the rustling leaves in the wind, the water gurgling, and streams murmuring, gaining inspiration from the Natural Dao.

After consecutive fierce battles, he completely relaxed at this moment, letting his body and mind merge with nature, as if becoming one with the universe.

It was a baptism and sublimation of the Mental Realm!

Strength and Mental Realm are closely related; without the corresponding Mental Realm, even if the realm is reached, the combat power displayed will be discounted, lacking that smooth flowing feeling.

The next day, Fatty Du gathered the four and suggested setting off quickly to seek opportunities ahead.

"Boss, I think we should wait a bit longer. If we get ambushed by those guys on the way, it will be miserable," Zhou Xiong said worriedly.

"I also think we should wait a bit longer; those guys won't let it go easily, they will definitely retaliate," Zhao Haichao agreed.

"Trust me; if they dare cause trouble, I guarantee they'll regret being born!" Fatty Du sneered viciously, his face filled with killing intent.

Earlier, he refrained from killing, not because he was unable, but out of guilt for intercepting their rewards at the last moment.

However, if they persistently haunt him, Fatty Du is definitely not kind-hearted; he won't hesitate to act when needed.

Ye Fan was curious to know what trump card Fatty Du might have, giving him such confidence.

But annoyingly, Fatty Du was good at being secretive, stubbornly refusing to reveal anything, only assuring them that everything was under control and that Ye Fan and the others needn't intervene.

Since he said so, to refuse further would seem cowardly, thus Liu Yufeng and the others stayed silent.

Anyone who could tread this road surely wasn't easy; they all had backbone.

Having decided to set off, they headed straight to the City Lord Mansion.

Leaving the city was simple, but entering the next level required a token issued by the City Lord, akin to a transit document and road guide.

The City Lord Mansion was in the city's center, grand and magnificent, easy to find.

However, on the way to the City Lord Mansion, Ye Fan and his group received bad news.

The City Lord lived an unrestrained life, acting solely on personal whim; for more than half the year he'd be absent from the city, off wandering other Ancient Cities.

Tokens were only issued by him; no one else was authorized—often a large number of trialists gathered here, waiting for this unreliable City Lord to return.

Fortunately, Ye Fan and his group's luck was good; the City Lord had just returned last night and was currently in the mansion, having yet to make an announcement.

Smoothly, after stating their intentions, the City Lord didn't question anything and directly gave each of them a jade token bearing his mark, verifying Ye Fan and the others had been to the Eleventh City.

Once they received the jade tokens, the five wasted no time and left the mansion, heading for the city gate.

Leaving the Ancient City, Ye Fan and the group followed the path indicated by the Heavenly Stele, advancing into the depths of the Star Domain.

A few hours later, they found the Transmission Altar on a small Ancient Star.

After embedding the Spirit Stones, the five ascended the altar and traversed the Void.

Chapter 2014: Top-Grade Sacred Weapon

"Puh!"

Blood splattered, scale armor flew!

A Sky-piercing beast lay dead, its head half blown by a punch from Fatty Du.

After two crossings, they arrived at a desolate Star Domain, just as they emerged from the Void Channel, they were attacked by the Sky-piercing beast.

Fatty Du was exceptionally brave, directly confronting it and engaging in battle!

"Boom!"

The battle erupted, shaking the entire sky, with one strike from the Sky-piercing beast, a meteor exploded like fireworks.

The four of Ye Fan hid far enough away to avoid being affected.

After an hour of fierce battle, this Star Domain was nearly destroyed.

Eventually, the Sky-piercing beast was killed by Fatty Du.

Blood splashed, as if a rain of blood fell in the starry sky.

In the starry sky, the corpse of the Sky-piercing beast sprawled, stretching a hundred meters long, its body iron-gray, scales one to two meters long, shining with metallic luster.

"Swish!"

Fatty Du gestured, capturing the beast core of the Sky-piercing beast, tossed it to Liu Yufeng, saying, "Earth attribute beast core, suitable for you, keep it."

"Thanks, boss!"

Liu Yufeng grinned widely, happily collecting the beast core that emitted a rich earth element attribute.

With this beast core, his inspiration for the elemental rules and essence of earth element would become even more advanced, the benefits are self-evident.

"Sky-piercing beast? A good thing!"

"Thanks for giving us this opportunity, you guys are truly generous!"

Just as they were about to collect the corpse of the Sky-piercing beast, a mocking voice rang in their ears.

A few young men appeared in Ye Fan and their sight, precisely those they had encountered earlier at the tavern in the Eleventh City.

The group moved quickly, arriving in front of them in a blink, vaguely forming a siege, encircling them.

These young men were all very strong, although they had not made a move, each emitted a powerful aura.

Especially the young man leading them, who exuded a faint Holy Might!

A Half-step Venerable Realm, he could already emit a trace of Saint Lord level pressure.

They looked at Ye Fan and the others like prey, high and mighty, their eyes filled with ridicule and disdain.

"Gulp!"

Zhou Xiong and others' hearts sank, feeling something bad was about to happen.

What they feared most was being blocked by these people on the road, and indeed they were blocked here.

It seemed like a battle was inevitable! The three faces showed worry.

The leading young man was a Lord Realm Peak, Half-step Venerable Realm strong person, who could absolutely rank within the top five hundred on the entire Xing Kong Gu Road, simply not someone they could contend with.

"What do you want?"

Fatty Du put away his playful smile, looking serious.

"What do I want? Hahaha..."

The leading young man laughed, "Simple, hand over everything you have, then kneel and apologize, I might consider letting you go, otherwise..."

He deliberately paused, then continued, "You understand the consequences."

"You guys are so blind to choose to be with him, it's simply tragic." His gaze swept over Ye Fan and the others, speaking coldly.

"You bastard!"

Fatty Du erupted in anger, though he liked to brag, he was absolutely loyal to friends.

Along the way, he had already regarded Ye Fan and the others as brothers to live and die with.

He could tolerate someone belittling himself, but absolutely could not tolerate someone speaking ill of his brothers in front of him.

This was his inverse scale, touching it would bring wrath!

"Ignorant!"

The leading young man snorted coldly, sent a palm forward, instantly absorbing the Essence Qi.

Fatty Du's face changed drastically, hastily meeting it with a punch, his whole body's Essence Blood surging like an ocean, the fiery Punch Ray burning the void.

"Boom!"

Their fists collided, bursting into blinding Divine Radiance, like a blazing sun exploding, the aura of destruction spread.

"Puh..."

Fatty Du retreated, his face drastically changed, spitting a mouthful of blood, dispelling the sharp killing intent piercing his heart.

Liu Yufeng and others were all startled, knowing Fatty Du's strength clearly, absolutely the strongest of the five.

However, now he was injured by a single strike, needing to spit blood to dispel the killing intent, showing how strong the leading young man was.

Du Kui was also very shocked, having already stood at the Absolute Peak of Lord Realm, just one step away from breaking the Venerable Level barrier, stepping into the Saint Lord Level Venerable Realm.

But truly facing a Half-step Venerable Realm young man, he realized, the difference of half a step was a world apart.

The leading young man had only taken half a step more than him, but had already touched the threshold of Venerable Realm, able to exert a trace of Holy Might.

"My previous promise still stands, hand over everything you have, kneel and apologize, I can still let you go." The leading young man said with a sarcastic expression.

"I'm still saying, screw you." Fatty Du wiped the blood from the corner of his mouth, coldly saying.

"I've given you the chance, but you didn't seize it, so don't blame me."

The young man let out a sinister laugh, his entire aura surged, with a trace of holy might spreading out as he directed a powerful Iron Fist towards Fatty Du.

Fatty Du understood the danger, focused and vigilant, let out a long howl, with his essence blood erupting like a volcano, penetrating the sky, and his eyes shooting out a chilling divine light.

He countered with a punch, condensing myriad killing moves into one strike, his pudgy fist enshrouded with heaven and earth Tao markings and law divine chains.

"Boom!"

The two collided like two stars, unleashing a destructive aura, their bodies igniting, radiating countless rays of light.

"Bang!"

Fatty Du was again knocked away, spilling a trail of blood, his whole demeanor dimming, clearly he had suffered a serious injury.

"This braggart..."

Ye Fan shook his head, utterly speechless at Fatty Du.

He was so boastful before, inflated with confidence like an overinflated balloon, and now? The balloon deflated, didn't it?

Ye Fan was ready to intervene, because if he didn't, Fatty Du might be tortured to a wreck.

This damned fatty might love to brag, but he wasn't bad at heart, and was quite bold and righteous, so there was no way Ye Fan would stand by and do nothing.

Especially along the journey, Fatty Du had taken good care of him, noting Ye Fan was just at the late-stage Lord Realm, often not letting him take action.

Even when dividing the beast cores, he intentionally favored Ye Fan, giving him more beast cores... though Ye Fan didn't really need them.

"You all go to hell too!"

Just as Ye Fan was about to make a move, the remaining adversaries approached with sinister smiles, each exuding unrestrained killing intent.

To them, Ye Fan and his companions were mere prey, not worthy of any serious consideration.

In their eyes, anyone traveling with the fat man wouldn't be much stronger.

Especially since Ye Fan and his three companions were all at the late-stage Lord Realm, none reaching the Lord Realm Peak.

In contrast, they were all at Lord Realm Peak and capable of challenging above their level.

Killing Ye Fan and his companions posed no challenge to them, any one of them could easily take down the four.

"You all are forcing me to act!"

Seeing this, Fatty Du's eyes reddened, he shouted fiercely, "Since you fools seek death, don't blame me for being ruthless."

With those words, Fatty Du's aura changed, becoming as sharp as an unsheathed sword, brimming with killing intent!

"Buzz!"

A Purple Gold Divine Bell appeared above his head, emanating intense holy might, revealing itself as a top-grade sacred weapon.

"What?"

"Not good!"

Sensing the top-grade sacred weapon above Fatty Du's head, everyone was stunned, those several people cried out in disbelief.

The leading young strongman was also shocked, never expecting this damned fatty to possess a top-grade sacred weapon.

Judging by the holy might oscillating from the Purple Gold Divine Bell, it's clearly a sacred weapon refined by a Supreme Holy Master.

The fury of a Saint Lord, countless corpses, rivers of blood!

That's no empty threat—verified by countless people, a Supreme Holy Master could easily slaughter many Lord Realm cultivators.

The Venerable Realm is a watershed, blocking many cultivators from ever entering it; the sacred weapons they refine are naturally very powerful.

Especially top-grade sacred weapons refined by a Supreme Holy Master, forged through countless trials, which have developed their own artifact spirit and a conscious will.

This kind of sacred weapon, once activated, can absolutely sweep away all cultivators below the Venerable Realm; even early-stage Saint Lords might not withstand it.

In that moment, their faces turned green.

In the face of a top-grade sacred weapon, they felt fear from the depths of their divine soul; Fatty Du's cultivation was similar to theirs, but once fully activated, it could annihilate them effortlessly.

At that moment, they truly felt the threat of death.

"Did you think I'm a sick cat when the tiger doesn't roar?"

Fatty Du struggled to activate the Purple Gold Divine Bell, causing the top-grade sacred weapon to fully awaken, exuding a powerful intimidation.

"Run!"

Feeling as if they'd swallowed a fly, the few wanted to escape, knowing they had no chance against a top-grade sacred weapon.

"Run? Did I say you could run?"

Fatty Du roared, using all his divine power to activate the top-grade sacred weapon, launching a terrifying strike.

"Buzz!"

The Purple Gold Divine Bell emitted slight tremors, sending visible sound waves that instantly caught up with them.

"Puff, puff, puff..."

Soft sounds echoed, as all under the bell waves had no chance to resist, directly disintegrated into blood mist, their divine souls shattered as well.

"Damned bell, nearly drained me dry!"

Collecting the Purple Gold Divine Bell, Fatty Du cursed through gritted teeth, while taking a few elixir pills to recover his divine power.

Although those people's bodies dissolved into blood mist, some items remained, including beast cores and other treasures.

Slightly recovering his divine power, Fatty Du excitedly approached Ye Fan and said, "You guys are great—didn't abandon me in that situation. You're all great! Just split these spoils and give me a few pills to quickly recover my divine power."

"Boss, is that appropriate?" Zhou Xiong asked.

"Yeah, boss, we didn't do much, so how could we have the nerve to take more treasures?" Zhao Haichao added.

"It's perfectly fine, you are my little brothers, naturally, I must protect you. How could I be your boss if I monopolized all the benefits? Enough with the nonsense, divide it quickly so we can keep moving," Fatty Du declared grandly, exuding the aura of a tyrant.

"You might not live to take them! Better let me keep them safe for you!"

Just then, a sinister voice echoed, like an elusive evil ghost...

Chapter 2015: Rushing Headlong Into Danger

The cold voice was eerie, as if it came from the Nine Netherworld, making everyone particularly uncomfortable.

"Who? Get the hell out here!" Fatty Du shouted angrily, vigilantly scanning his surroundings.

He was bolstering his own courage, because there was a twinge of trepidation in his heart, sending chills out from his bones!

Evidently, this person had been nearby, witnessing the entire battle process.

To dare to reveal himself at this moment unquestionably indicated a profound confidence in his own strength.

The Top-Grade Sacred Weapon, the Purple Gold Divine Bell, carried immense deterrence.

A wave from the bell, and anything with form would be shattered into dust.

Unfortunately, now he was utterly incapable of wielding this Big Killer once more, only able to bluff, hoping to scare the adversary away.

"Hehehehe..."

A chilling, owl-like laughter resonated from the Void, as a sturdy, young man emerged from the twisting space not far away, his eyes shooting out silvery-white light.

This person's appearance was extraordinarily sinister, his pale features like those carved from marble, exuding a strangely compelling allure.

Upon seeing him, Ye Fan's heart trembled fiercely, his eyes instantly narrowed, and an overwhelming anger erupted uncontrollably.

This sinister young man was none other than Su Po, ranked eighth among the top ten of the Demon Clan.

He was insidious and ruthless, his methods cruel and vicious; during the initial trials, anyone grouped with him ended up either dead or crippled.

Especially considering his inherent hatred towards the Human Race, it's likely he was behind the recent human trialist massacre.

At this moment, Ye Fan desperately wanted to act recklessly, to capture him and clear his own name.

However, he knew that to capture Su Po alive was nearly impossible, and if he failed, their likeliest choice would be to self-destruct, leaving no traces behind.

Qi Motian was just like that, in a mere moment of laxity, not only did he self-destruct, but he also dragged several human trialists with him, shattering Ye's hope of clearing his name.

Learning from the past, he wasn't willing to have a second instance of such an event occur.

For a moment, he hesitated, unsure of what to do.

While he hesitated, the Demon Clan genius Su Po made his move...

He moved like a specter, silently, delivering a palm strike amidst gusting sinister winds.

Fatty Du shivered all over, feeling the threat, and at the critical moment, he summoned the Purple Gold Divine Bell to block in front of him!

"Pa!"

Su Po's seemingly unremarkable palm left a clear print on the Purple Gold Divine Bell, nearly sending it flying.

"Bang!"

He struck again, ghost-like and elusive, traversing through the Void, each palm strike accompanied by a piercing ghostly wail, extremely lethal.

Fatty Du was utterly terrified, desperately energizing the Purple Gold Divine Bell, casting out a sound wave to slash at him.

The power of the sound wave was immense, capable of shattering even the Void, virtually unstoppable, invincible.

Even though he had exhausted too much Divine Power, unable to fully replicate the terrifying power from before, it was still not something a human body could withstand.

At this moment, Fatty Du was nearly gambling everything he had, unwilling to let anyone pluck the fruits of his labor partway.

"Buzz!"

A surge of dense Death Energy surged forth, a pitch-black skull appeared, emitting a faint Demon Light, effortlessly neutralizing the sound wave.

"Show whatever you got, don't say I didn't give you a chance!"

Su Po was very composed, a tinge of disdain at the corner of his mouth, speaking calmly, not paying any heed to Fatty Du and the others.

Likewise, he also ignored Ye Fan!

Because at this moment, Ye Fan still hadn't revealed his real appearance, looking quite ordinary, just like any regular person seen in cities across Xing Kong Gu Road, without any distinctive features.

"Death Energy?"

Fatty Du exclaimed in disbelief, his small eyes widening instantly.

Zhou Xiong and the others were also shaken to their cores, having detected the surge of Death Energy, their hearts instantly cloaked in an ominous shadow.

"You, you, you are Ye Fan?"

The four were terrified to the extreme, petrified, absolutely not expecting to encounter the killing madman, the Demon Clan spy Ye Fan here, it filled them with despair.

"You're not that dumb after all!"

Su Po smiled slightly, revealing his pale teeth, confirming their suspicion.

"Correct, I am Ye Fan, is this answer satisfactory?"

Fatty Du and the others were silent, each looking ashen.

According to some previous rumors, the Demon Clan spy Ye Fan wouldn't strike easily, but once he did, it was a dead lock, up until now, no one had left alive from him.

Encountering him now, it was almost a death sentence, Ye Fan would never allow them to leave alive.

"Alright! Take this satisfactory answer to your deaths!" Su Po said coldly: "Rest assured, after you die, I'll leave my mark, letting those foolish investigators know you died by my hand, otherwise, wouldn't I have killed you in vain? Labor should yield reward."

"Ye, today I'll show you what it means for the Human Race to not be humiliated!" Fatty Du roared, his body swelling rapidly like an inflated ball, erupting into raging flames.

At this moment, he was burning his Divine Power, preparing to fight to the death!

"Well said, boss, count us in!"

Inspired by Fatty Du, Zhou Xiong and the others also began burning their Divine Power, willing to deal a heavy blow to the enemy even at the cost of their lives.

Chapter 2016: Courting Death (Part 2)

Of course, if they could fight to mutual destruction, both sides suffering, or even perishing together, that would be the best result.

To rid the Human Clan's Ancient Star Path of this menace, they would not hesitate, even if they knew it meant death, they would go willingly.

Only Ye Fan did not move, still standing in place, deep eyes flickering with light.

"Brother Chu, we'll hold him down, you hurry and go," Fatty Du shouted, urging Ye Fan to escape quickly.

At this moment, he did not think of his own safety at all; in his heart, his brother was more important than his own life.

These words warmed Ye Fan's heart; on the cold Ancient Road of Stars, having a friend willing to die for him was enough.

"Go?" Su Po sneered, "None of you will leave today, all shall become my nourishment!"

"Are you sure?"

Ye Fan's voice was colder than his, like profound ice that hasn't melted in ten thousand years.

After Fatty Du spoke the words, "We'll hold him down, you hurry and go," he had completely regarded this boastful, slightly vain dead fatty as a true brother, with whom he could share life and death.

He shook his hand, casting out a ray of Mystic Light that disappeared into the sky, then stepped forward as if crossing space to stand in front of Fatty Du and the others.

"All of you step back, leave him to me, don't waste your divine power," Ye Fan said calmly.

"Leave him to you?"

The four of Fatty Du were completely dumbfounded, what was this situation?

In their impression, Chu Ping was just an ordinary late-stage Lord Realm cultivator, of mediocre strength, not even stronger than them, and now to single-handedly take on this demonic spy Ye Fan, wasn't this seeking death?

However, they were also very moved, able to stand out at this moment and not choose to flee, was definitely a brother who would stand by till the end.

"Brother Chu, you..." Fatty Du wanted to say, since you are unwilling to escape alone, then as brothers, we'll fight side by side, even if we die in battle, we'll have each other on the Netherworld path.

However, before he could finish, Ye Fan stopped him, saying calmly, "There's no need to say anything, quickly extinguish your burning divine power."

"Boy, I admire your courage, since you're so eager to die, I'll fulfill your wish."

Su Po sneered, commanding the pitch-black skull, unleashing a beam of death light, directly shooting towards Ye Fan's forehead.

"Boom!"

Ye Fan punched out, the blazing Punch Ray like a golden sun, lighting up the entire sky, directly smashing the death beam.

To conceal his identity, he purposely did not use Death Energy, only the divine power wrapped in Thunder Power.

Thunder Power is the nemesis of all Death Aura, though Ye Fan used it very subtly, and evolved it into martial arts through the Eternal Slaughter Emperor's Ten Thousand Transformation Saint Technique, it still possessed incredible power.

"Boom!"

At this moment, Ye Fan no longer concealed his killing intent, the fierce intent like a raging sea storm, swept across the starry sky.

"Kill!"

Ye Fan shouted with an authoritative tone, evolving Domineering Fist with the Ten Thousand Transformation Saint Technique, an invincible domineering energy emanated from him, making him appear like an ancient overlord atop the pinnacle, full of dominance.

"Swoosh!"

Movement beneath Ye Fan's feet revealed a mysterious and blurred pattern, he rushed through the barrier of space like a beam of light, instantly appearing before Su Po, punching towards him.

Though Domineering Fist was merely a martial art from Earth, after being evolved by Ye Fan with the Eternal Slaughter Emperor's Ten Thousand Transformation Saint Technique, it turned the ordinary into the miraculous.

At this moment, he seemed like the absolute overlord of this world, overlooking the Nine Heavens and Ten Earths, unmatched by anyone.

"Bang!"

The golden fist struck hard on the pitch-black skull, carrying unparalleled dominance, Ye Fan's punch forcefully cracked this Demon Artifact capable of withstanding a Top-Grade Sacred Weapon, a thin crack appeared on the skull.

Su Po was greatly shocked, this was a Demon Weapon bestowed upon him by his Master, Mo Dongtian, crafted from the skull of a supreme Human Holy Master, though not yet perfected, it was incredibly sturdy, not to mention a human fist, even a sacred weapon of the same rank might not necessarily crack it.

And now, an ordinary human cultivator managed this, how could he not be shocked?

"Bang!"

Ye Fan's second punch hurled out, without showy tricks, only an indomitable Iron Fist, struck heavily on the skull, causing it to tremble continuously.

"Crack!"

This time the sound was louder, a clear Big Rift formed, and the calabash-sized skull was nearly shattered, exuding a terrifying Death Aura.

"Clang!"

Ye Fan's black hair danced, the third punch struck, the power upset from the golden fist was shocking, directly smashing the pitch-black skull.

"No..."

Su Po's expression changed drastically, taking a significant hit, this Demon Weapon was extremely precious, after obtaining it he had treated it as his secret treasure for sacrificial refinement, his divine soul deeply immersed within, now he spat fresh blood from his mouth.

Fatty Du and the others were dumbfounded, they never thought Ye Fan could be so fierce, even managing to smash such a terrifying Demon Weapon, how immense would one's physical strength have to be to achieve this!

"Boom!"

Ye Fan gave him no respite, evolving Domineering Fist with the Ten Thousand Transformation Saint Technique, piercing the firmament, possessing an aura of none besides me, and reverence for myself alone.

"Bang!"

Su Po resisted in every way, unleashing all kinds of martial arts and secret techniques, but before Ye Fan's overpowering and unparalleled Fist Intent, it was all in vain.

"Bang!"

His arms exploded first, turning into a mist of blood, then his torso under Ye Fan's fist turned into Blood Mud, directly bursting apart.

"Roar..."

Su Po howled in terror, he realized his Death Aura couldn't trouble the opponent at all, he couldn't even keep his final head intact.

"Bang!"

The head exploded, blood splashing, yet without any Human Race blood aura, only an extremely terrifying Death Aura, as if forming a death Domain.

"Ah..."

Su Po screamed in terror, his divine soul burst from the shattered head, transforming into a Flowing Light, fleeing into the distance.

He knew, he had failed, utterly failed, defeated by a Human strong person he couldn't fathom.

"Want to run? Without my permission, you think you can escape?" Ye Fan snorted coldly, flicking out an inconspicuous Earth Pot with a wave of his hand.

However, at the sight of this Earth Pot, Su Po's face turned green.

Of course, if he still had a face.

This terrifying Earth Pot was renowned in the Demon World, known as the Curse Jar, forged with the flesh and blood of a peerless strong person, capable of sealing a person's divine soul, it was impossible for him not to recognize it.

Seeing the Curse Jar, he completely understood Ye Fan's identity, unfortunately, it was already too late!

The Curse Jar emitted a terrifying suction, instantly attaching his divine soul to the jar's surface, forming a unique symbol.

Upon closer inspection, the inconspicuous Earth Pot was already densely covered with many tadpole-like symbols.

Each symbol represented a divine soul sealed upon the jar.

This was an extremely tragic fate, sealed on the jar's surface, like descending into Purgatory, never to find release, not even capable of self-implosion.

Su Po never dreamed that one day he would encounter such a fate...

Chapter 2017: Unseeing the True Face of Mount Lu

The Curse Jar is extremely mysterious!

Even in the Demon World, it is a forbidden existence.

Legend has it that it is cast from the flesh and blood of a Human Clan Quasi-Emperor Ninth Layer Heaven strong person, containing unfathomable power.

Until now, no Demon Clan has been able to understand all the functions of this Demon Can.

However, one of the most known functions is to imprison people's Divine Souls, whether they are from the Demon Clan or Human Race, once killed, their Divine Soul is imprisoned on the canister.

Su Po would rather die than be imprisoned on this terrifying Curse Jar.

Unfortunately, by the time he realized, it was already beyond his control.

In his intense resentment and unwillingness, his Divine Soul was completely suppressed and couldn't even self-detonate, only to endure the pain of Curse Fire burning his Divine Soul.

Under the starry sky, broken bones and flesh floated in the air.

Among these broken bones and flesh, there were also some Death Cores and an ancient bone mirror!

As for the dark skull Demon Weapon, it had already been smashed by Ye Fan, with shattered fragments emanating terrifying Death Aura.

The scene was silent!

Fatty Du and the other four were completely stunned, shocked by the absolute combat power Ye Fan exhibited.

This Demon Clan young strong person who calls himself Ye Fan is extraordinarily powerful? Even top-grade sacred weapons couldn't handle him.

Yet, in front of Ye Fan, he became a weakling, unable to even resist, directly blown to pieces by Ye Fan's overpowering strike.

Such combat power makes them feel left behind, sighing in admiration!

After a brief shock, Fatty Du was the first to react, excitedly saying to Ye Fan, "Brother Chu Ping, thank you for saving my life, Fatty Du was blind to recognize the Great Emperor earlier, sorry about that."

He truly thanked Ye Fan!

If it wasn't for Ye Fan's powerful intervention, he would now be a corpse lying in the stars!

No way to repay the life-saving grace!

Fatty Du promptly stated that henceforth, the hunting squad would follow Ye Fan's lead, with him as the team captain.

After Fatty Du spoke, Zhou Xiong and the other three also came to their senses, expressing their gratitude toward Ye Fan, admiration showing in their expressions.

At this moment, their gaze toward Ye Fan had changed!

Previously, Ye Fan seemed quite ordinary, hardly making any moves, though they treated him like a brother, there was still some slight contempt in their hearts.

Only because Ye Fan cooked well, benefiting them greatly, did they say nothing.

Yet deep down, they somewhat looked down on Ye Fan, thinking he was just a support personnel in this hunting squad.

But now, Ye Fan had made them understand through action what a true strong person is!

When Ye Fan made his move, he seemed like a ruler of the universe, emanating an awe-inspiring dominator aura.

At that moment, he was the protagonist of the world, like a Great Emperor overlooking the Nine Heavens and Ten Earths, oppressing all beings.

"From now on, Brother Chu Ping is the captain of our hunting squad, everyone welcome!"

Fatty Du spoke, taking the lead in clapping, the other three also followed, looking at him admiringly.

At this moment, Ye Fan was a god in their hearts, their backbone, spiritual leader!

"Captain, you are still the captain, strength doesn't represent everything!" Ye Fan said sincerely.

He knew very well that he wasn't suited to be a captain, but Fatty Du was very suitable, with a heart of ancient morality, standing by friends.

Such a person has cohesion, able to bring everyone's hearts together, something he's not skilled at.

Moreover, the path he walks is destined to be different from these people, even as captain it wouldn't last long!

For a team, the most important is the leader's charisma, even if his strength is lacking, as long as there's charisma, it's enough.

"Boss, don't refuse!" Liu Yufeng said, sincerely.

"Boss, from now on you're the captain, don't hold grudges against us for past offenses!" Zhou Xiong said jokingly, with a mischievous grin.

Zhao Haichao, being taciturn and not good with words, said nothing at this moment, but his gaze toward Ye Fan was filled with admiration.

Respecting the strong, is an eternal truth throughout the Xing Kong Gu Road, or even the entire Cultivation World.

"No, Fatty is more suitable as captain, I am truly unsuitable to be the boss." Ye Fan refused, firmly declining the captain role.

However, he did distribute the spoils of the battle, dividing all Divine Materials and treasures except for Su Po's Demon Crystals and Bone Mirror equally among Zhou Xiong and the others.

The Bone Mirror is a top-grade demon artifact, but it requires the Power of Death to activate, which makes it useless and harmful to them.

These Demon Crystals are the same way. Ordinary cultivators are highly resistant to Death Aura and cannot use them.

However, he is different. He possesses Life and Death Qi, and Death Aura not only doesn't affect him but becomes a source of his cultivation.

"Could it be that the man named Ye really isn't a demon spy, and as he claims, a demon spy has indeed infiltrated the Ancient Star Path?"

It was only at this moment that Fatty Du and his companions snapped back to reality, exchanging glances!

Evidently, this strange-looking young man is definitely not Ye Fan, who once stirred up an endless storm on the Ancient Star Path. Their powers are too disparate.

Not long ago, Ye Fan forcefully killed the City Lord of the Human Race's Tenth City and Ancient Star Path's Law Enforcer Pang Shitong, along with four other Saint Lord-level strongmen.

If he really were Ye Fan, then no matter how powerful Chu Ping was, he couldn't have killed him easily!

More importantly, this strange-looking young man has not even demonstrated significant strength, almost entirely defenseless, easily crushed like picking flowers and pulling weeds, directly blasted apart by Ye Fan.

If he really were Ye Fan, let alone Chu Ping, even if the five of them combined, they might not survive here, and the combat power showcased wouldn't be this little.

Now they have completely assumed Chu Ping to be Ye Fan's true name, and even if Ye Fan now confessed to being Ye Fan, they probably wouldn't believe it.

"I think the man named Ye must be a demon spy, without a doubt. The Divine Race and Demon Clan have both confirmed that he harbors Death Aura, and there can be no mistake," Zhao Haichao said seriously.

"It's true, I also believe that the man named Ye must be a demon spy, but apart from him, there should be other demon spies infiltrating the Ancient Star Path concurrently. The one Brother Chu killed is one of them," Zhou Xiong added.

"Very likely, this time Brother Chu indeed made a significant contribution to the Human Race's Ancient Star Path and deserves a reward."

Liu Yufeng echoed, and the three of them all believed Ye Fan to be a demon spy, though merely one of many demon spies.

He exposed himself but successfully concealed other demon spies, which is undoubtedly a clever tactic.

Attracting everyone's attention to himself allows other demon spies to act unrestrainedly.

As long as he remains undetected or un-killed, the entire Ancient Star Path will never truly be peaceful.

In fact, the entire Ancient Star Path is in upheaval, and many outstanding trialists are gearing up, eager to kill Ye Fan to demonstrate their strength.

Unconsciously, Ye Fan became a benchmark indicating whether trialists are qualified to advance to the Godless Path; only by defeating or killing him can one be deemed the strongest.

In response to the three's speculations and doubts, Ye Fan did not explain but secretly decided to prove his innocence only after killing all remaining demon geniuses, otherwise even revealing battle footage wouldn't be helpful, but might instead allow some to misconstrue his intentions.

Before the battle, he released a beam of Mystic Light, launching a Spirit Jade capable of recording into the air to meticulously document the development process.

This Spirit Jade will serve as a powerful tool to clear his name in the future.

After the great battle, everyone was tense and exhausted, especially Fatty Du, who was nearly fainted.

After Ye Fan collected the Bone Mirror and other items left by Su Po, the five immediately departed this Star Domain, proceeding along the path indicated by the Heavenly Stele.

An hour later, they arrived at a vast land, an Ancient Land of Life, a small world opened by supreme strong people during Ancient Times.

In this Ancient Land of Life, apart from lacking humans, mountains, rivers, forests, grasslands, birds, and beasts are all present.

They landed in a valley, and soon flames rose within it, and Sky-piercing Beasts over a hundred meters long became delicious treats for the group, with slabs of meat emitting an enticing aroma under the licking flames.

"This meat is too tough, too hard to chew!" Zhou Xiong commented as he ate, his mouth smeared with oil, causing everyone to be speechless.

Fatty Du brought out numerous jars of fine wine, and the five drank heartily.

This was almost their routine life; every few days they indulged like this, eating until their bodies brimmed with Essence Qi, almost to the point of explosion.

Undoubtedly, this luxurious feast greatly benefits everyone's physique, especially after the intense battle, Fatty Du desperately needed Life Essence Energy to replenish energy.

While everyone was enjoying the feast, Ye Fan suddenly sensed something, detecting an unusual fluctuation from the Bone Mirror he had collected.

"Swish!"

A flash of brilliance emerged from his palm, and the pale Bone Mirror appeared in his hand, emitting light akin to divine splendor.

Meanwhile, the sealed Su Po within the Curse Jar also sensed the fluctuation from the Bone Mirror used for communication and relay among brothers, instantly becoming anxious.

Initially, to prevent the exposure of their identities and implicate others, Mo Dongtian imposed extremely oppressive Forbidden Seals on the Bone Mirror, ensuring if they died, the mirror would self-destruct, undeterred even by Quasi-Emperor-level strong men.

Thus guaranteeing even if some were killed, the Bone Mirror wouldn't fall into others' hands.

However, despite all calculations, they hadn't anticipated Ye Fan possessing the Curse Jar, and instead of killing Su Po, he had completely restrained his Divine Soul.

Now, since he hadn't died, the Bone Mirror naturally wouldn't self-destruct, allowing Ye Fan to master the movements of others through it, enabling accurate assassination.

"Attention all brothers, according to the information I received, the Human Race has an Elder of Heavenly Secrets and Divine Calculations who calculated unprecedented fortune at the Eighteenth City; currently, young talents from the Human Race and Demon Clan are rushing to the Eighteenth City, even some trialists traveling far away have turned back."

"I order everyone to mix within Human Race trialists, infiltrate the Eighteenth City, and seize the opportunity to assassinate promising future Emperor candidates with great potential from the Human Race and Demon Clan, creating chaos, inducing fear, preventing them from obtaining this great fortune..."

Chapter 2018: Moving at the Rumor of Opportunity

The fluctuations use the language of the Demon Clan completely. Apart from Ye Fan, even if others obtain it, they can't decipher the transmitted message, let alone reply.

After learning this news, Ye Fan's mind moved, his gaze emitting a strange light, and he sent a wave into the Bone Mirror. The content contained only two words: "Received!"

He decided to head to the Human Clan's Eighteen Cities to compete for divine opportunity and meet the remaining prodigies of the Demon Clan.

"Brother Chu, what's this Ghost Mirror used for?"

Zhou Xiong leaned closer, curiously looking at the irregularly shaped Bone Mirror in Ye Fan's hand and asked.

"I'm not sure, maybe it's used to tidy up one's appearance!" Ye Fan said with a smile.

"Pff!"

Zhou Xiong sprayed out a mouthful of liquor, nearly choking himself.

He laughed loudly and said, "Brother, you are truly humorous."

In the morning, the mist drifted, carrying a moist fragrance, and the morning dew sparkled in five colors under the light of dawn.

Ye Fan and his companions left this Ancient Land of Life and set out once again on their journey!

Even though this Ancient Land of Life was filled with Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi, there weren't strong Xuan Beasts nor many Heavenly Materials and Earthly Treasures.

Clearly, it was swept clean by the trialists who passed before. They had nothing to linger for.

The Emperor Road competes for supremacy, the strong people are on the road!

The Elder of Heavenly Secrets and Divine Calculations predicted the news of an unparalleled divine opportunity in Eighteen Cities that quickly spread along the Star Road, prompting countless trialists to embark on a journey to try their luck at Eighteen Cities.

Even some Supreme Level strong people who had long passed the Eighteen Cities turned back swiftly, intensifying the pressure among many trialists.

For a time, the Xing Kong Gu Road was abuzz with discussions about the unparalleled divine opportunity in Eighteen Cities.

The City Lords of Eighteen Cities suddenly felt an increase in pressure, wondering what troubles these unruly trialists gathered at Eighteen Cities would stir.

These trialists come from different Star Domains, each a hero in their own right. Expecting them to patiently wait for an opportunity is nearly impossible.

The most important thing is that the Demon Clan spy Ye Fan has not been captured, and his combat power at this moment is absolutely capable of challenging several Supreme Level strong people deep within Xing Kong Gu Road.

If he were to infiltrate this Ancient City, it would undoubtedly be a great disaster!

Because of this, nearly all the Law Enforcers along the Xing Kong Gu Road have arrived, many of whom are elder strong people at the Peak of Venerable Realm, dominating Xing Kong Gu Road.

These elders exude an aura of murderous intent, intimidating the entire Xing Kong Gu Road.

The young generation of strong people, except for the likes of Xiao Peng Emperor, had almost no power to resist when facing them.

Ye Fan killed a Law Enforcer, which infuriated this group of old folks, feeling exceptionally disgraced.

They believe that Ye Fan is challenging the authority of Law Enforcers, and stern punishment must be administered as a warning to others.

"Eighteen Cities..."

The Divine Prince of the Demon Clan stood arrogantly among the stars, his hair exquisite and elite, his body cloaked in Divine Light, complementing him as if a Divine is descending to dust.

Not far behind him was the Nine-tailed Fox maiden and a group of followers!

They are undoubtedly a force that cannot be ignored on Xing Kong Gu Road!

Without mentioning others, just the Divine Prince's Identity can intimidate many.

Being the child of the Ancient Emperor, how many are there in the entire universe?

Having inherited the bloodline of Great Emperor or Ancient Emperor, they are undoubtedly one of the strongest contenders in the Emperor Road competition.

"Let's go, we'll head to Eighteen Cities too!"

After speaking, the Divine Prince performed the Divine Light Escape, enveloping all the followers in the Divine Light Escape, vanishing instantly into the vast starry sky.

Having Divine Light Escape has this advantage: it allows free traversal between any city on Xing Kong Gu Road without restrictions.

This is also a privilege left to them by the Ancient Emperor and Great Emperor to their offspring!

Other trialists wishing for the Divine Light Escape must make a significant contribution to the Human Clan's Ancient Star Path to possibly be rewarded.

"Interesting!"

On an Ancient Star of Life, the Moon Emperor's child Yue Haoyu stood quietly, his eyes piercing through the void.

"Now many are rushing to Eighteen Cities, what kind of unparalleled opportunity will appear there?"

Behind Yue Haoyu, Wen TaDou shook his head rhythmically, assuming a scholarly pose and lamenting.

Years of battle and countless bloody struggles have slightly diminished his literary demeanor, adding a sharp and decisive aura.

However, his strength is evidently stronger. As Emperor Wen's successor, the rich Wen Qi is the foundation of his power.

Therefore, aside from battles, he occasionally would rhythmically recite some good sentences.

His words and pen strike, his words immediate law, driven by the will of Heaven and Earth; this is the frightening aspect of Wen TaDou.

"Uncertain, but I know of the Elder of Heavenly Secrets and Divine Calculations. It's said he has devoted his life to studying celestial matters, claiming to predict all under heaven, his words always come true." Yue Haoyu said calmly.

"Then Eighteen Cities indeed have unparalleled opportunity? Perhaps we should also join the fun. I think Brother Ye Fan shouldn't miss this opportunity; perhaps we might meet him in the city."

The Great Demon swaggered over, biting on a straw, exhibiting a reckless demeanor, entirely lacking any coldness?

Of course, only Wen TaDou, Li Yu'er, Yue Haoyu, Yue Chuan, and a few others could see this roguish side of him.

When he faced his old rival Yu chanzi, he quickly assumed a deadpan, icy face.

Fortunately, Yu chanzi's temperament is excellent, unaffected, leaving him frustrated without recourse.

After countless life-and-death battles, the two of them actually had long realized that in the end, they must unite to achieve the strongest state.

But before that, they were constantly bickering, each wanting to absorb the other's consciousness and dominate with their own.

It was for this reason that they desperately trained their Divine Sense, strengthening it so that when the fusion came, they would have more power to compete for the dominant consciousness.

"No matter how much you train, it's useless. In the end, the fusion will inevitably be dominated by my consciousness. You'll only passively merge because I focus on Divine Sense while you major in the body; we're on two extremes."

From time to time, the Great Demon would present this theory to undermine Yu chanzi and boost his own superiority.

But Yu chanzi didn't pay him any mind, wholeheartedly roasting the game in his hands, not even deeming a response warranted, leaving the Great Demon feeling like he was punching the air, completely off-target.

"Let's go too!" said Yue Chuan with a calm demeanor.

Through the battles over the years, he had grown even steadier, embodying the demeanor of a Human Emperor in his every move.

Having eaten, the six of them boarded the Divine Light Escape, heading towards the deeper parts of the Eighteen Cities along the Xing Kong Gu Road.

"The Eighteen Cities will have an unparalleled opportunity, and the Demon Clan will definitely sneak in to fish in troubled waters. We should go too and do our part for the Human Race."

At the Divine Race's ruins, Tongtong gazed at the starry sky and said peacefully, her whole body enveloped in a layer of Divine Light, like a Nine Heavens Holy Woman.

"Indeed, that Ye surely won't miss this opportunity." Jiang Kuang's War Intent soared to the skies, his whole being like a divine spear piercing the heavens, exuding a terrifying aura.

"Jiang Kuang, I've told you countless times, Ye Fan is not a spy of the Demon Clan. Can't you curb your prejudice against him?"

Tongtong frowned, "Now that the dark tide can appear at any time, if our Human Race continues fighting internally like this, it will only hurt our friends and delight our enemies. Haven't you thought of that?"

"I..." Jiang Kuang was unwilling, but he dared not retort against Tongtong and could only keep silent.

He had always wanted to defeat Ye Fan and erase the shame Ye Fan had caused him.

"Let's go to the Eighteen Cities!"

Tongtong sighed, knowing that it would take time for Jiang Kuang to change his deep-seated prejudice against Ye Fan.

"The Eighteen Cities? Such an unparalleled opportunity can only be mine."

On a mountain rich in Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi, a young man, as imposing as a Demon God, stood up, gazing at the endless starry sky, and spoke calmly.

His black hair flew like a waterfall, his whole body glowed with treasurable light, his deep eyes, the whole person like a sharp Killing Sword exuding a terrifying aura.

In the vicinity of the mountain where he stood, not even a Wild Beast was present, eerily quiet, with only the rustle of the wind blowing through the leaves.

"I, Jiang Sheng, am destined to Prove Dao. No one can stop my steps!" The young man, like a Demon God, was Overpowering Nine Heavens and Ten Earths.

"I want everyone to know that our Jiang Sheng Star is stronger than Linxian Ancient Star!"

He spoke calmly, his tone indifferent, yet his words moved the Nine Heavens, causing the entire realm to tremble.

Jiang Sheng Star and Linxian Ancient Star are mortal enemies; the two Ancient Stars of Life have been at odds since antiquity, a hatred that's been passed down through countless years, irreconcilable.

Jiang Sheng Star has also birthed a Great Emperor, and he is an Emperor's son; in terms of bloodline, martial arts, and secret technique, he's no less than Yue Haoyu.

However, they have always been very restrained, avoiding meetings before the final battle, as they fear each other; without absolute certainty, they don't even dare fight.

But the other trialists from the Xuan Realm and Jiang Sheng Star battled fiercely; whenever they met, it inevitably ended in cataclysmic battles.

The news of the unprecedented opportunity in the Eighteen Cities spread widely, affecting almost every corner of the Xing Kong Gu Road.

Countless people embarked on a journey, heading towards the Eighteen Cities, competing for this still-unknown opportunity.

After a starry journey of over ten days, Ye Fan and his four companions crossed several times, finally arriving at the twelfth city of the Human Clan's Ancient Star Path.

The Ancient Cities on the Xing Kong Gu Road varied in size, but without exception, all floated in the cosmos, exuding a holy brilliance.

The Twelfth City was the same, with its heavy gates and mottled walls, and squads of soldiers exuding murderous intent, no different from the other Ancient Cities.

The Ancient City was filled with the vicissitudes of Time, its streets polished smooth by the tread of countless travelers.

Walking on the broad streets, one could imagine the ancient times when Great Emperors once stood again to fight and seize opportunities!

The five of them found an inn to stay at, washing away the dust of their journey, and ate something simple.

"I want to try my luck at the Eighteen Cities!" Ye Fan said to Fatty Du as they ate.

"What?"

The others were surprised; the Eighteen Cities were now in chaos, and lacking strength, going there equated to seeking death.

Thousands of trialists competing for a single opportunity — wouldn't it mean snatching bones out of a pool of blood?

"I want to try my luck at the Eighteen Cities," Ye Fan reiterated.

"Alright, you go on!"

Fatty Du pondered for a moment, then said, "With your strength, you might have a slim chance at competing. We won't wade into these troubled waters."

He was self-aware, understanding that among so many strong people gathering in the Eighteen Cities, including supreme-level strong people like Xiao Peng Emperor and the Emperor's son, they would merely be cannon fodder, perhaps unable to seize an opportunity and likely to die in the melee.

For the sake of their lives, Fatty Du and the other four decisively decided to part ways with Ye Fan.

They knew clearly that Ye Fan was on an invincible Emperor Road and naturally would not back down at this time.

As for them, being able to break through to the Venerable Realm and become a Saint Lord level strong person was satisfying enough.

At least, a Saint Lord level strong person on their home star could dominate one side and become a hegemon of their domain.

For them, the Emperor Road was too cruel; it was not one they could tread upon!

Chapter 2019: The Great Wind Rises

Countless years of war have left many of the Ancient Stars of Life ravaged, turning them into wastelands!

On an ancient star shrouded in Death Qi, white bones cover the ground, devoid of any life, filled only with a thick Death Aura.

This is a dead world, without any brilliant colors, only the dimmest twilight. The ground's white bones have piled to unknown heights, and bone powder spreads everywhere.

No one knows just how many perished to create this dreadful scene.

On the peak of a White Bone Mountain, wrapped in bands of black fog, a towering demonic figure is exhaling and inhaling the Death Qi.

"You sure know how to choose a place!"

An aged voice suddenly breaks the silence, causing the towering demonic figure to startle, its eyes shooting out two beams of Death Light, piercing through the void.

"Who is there? Show yourself!"

The towering demonic figure restrains its Demonic Qi, revealing a pale face. It is none other than the Demon Clan's top genius, Tu Sihai!

"Don't be nervous, I do not wish to kill you, otherwise you would already be a corpse."

The aged voice remains unseen, its tone very elusive and unpredictable.

"What teachings does Senior have for me?"

Tu Sihai, understanding, respectfully salutes the void and speaks in the ancient language of the Demon Clan.

"You guessed it!"

The aged voice expresses surprise, responding to him in the same ancient Demon Clan language.

Then, a ripple forms in the void, and an elder with a withered body appears before the White Bone Mountain, surrounded by black bands of fog, hiding his true visage.

"It's been so many years, yet I never thought I would see a fellow tribe member!"

The withered elder speaks, filled with endless sentiment.

"Senior, you..."

Tu Sihai is shocked; he never imagined there would be a Demon Clan elder present on the Human Clan's Ancient Star Path. It's too incredible.

How has he endured all these years?

"You did not expect this, did you?" Seemingly reading his thoughts, the withered elder smiles as he speaks.

"Indeed!" Tu Sihai admits forthrightly.

In the presence of this Demon Clan elder, he feels that he has no secrets, as though he's been completely exposed.

"I entered the Ancient Star Path during the last era..."

The elder narrates his experiences over the years to Tu Sihai, and then inquires about their plan.

Since the news of the Demon Clan on the Star Road emerged, he has been paying attention, and finally, using the unique Aura and Secret Technique of the Demon Clan, he locked onto Tu Sihai and the others.

As for Ye Fan, he has watched him too, but since Ye Fan is at the forefront and his whereabouts mysterious, seeing him recklessly could expose his identity.

Thus, after much thought, he decided to find Tu Sihai to understand the situation and assist them at a critical moment.

No matter how long he has hidden on the Human Clan's Ancient Star Path, at his core he remains Demon Clan; this is something that cannot change.

Those not of our race are sure to have different hearts!

This saying applies perfectly to him.

"Our plan is, taking advantage of this extraordinary opportunity, to infiltrate the Eighteen Cities, and launch surprise assaults on talented humans and demons who show promise in Proving Dao or possess great potential, thus creating chaos and making everyone paranoid, preventing them from seizing this great opportunity..."

Tu Sihai reveals his plan completely to the Demon Clan elder, holding nothing back.

He believes his plan is flawless; among such a number of human trialists, competition and assassination are inevitable, it's impossible for suspicion to fall on them.

Even if there was suspicion, as long as they don't expose their Demon Clan identity, at most it becomes unfair competition, and the law enforcers on the Human Clan's Ancient Star Path can't just kill them outright.

"Hmm! The plan is good."

The withered elder nods, his eyes emitting two cold-blue beams like ghost fire.

"Thank you, Senior, for your praise!" Tu Sihai says humbly, feeling a small sense of joy.

However, before he can fully indulge in his excitement, the withered elder douses it with cold water, bringing him back to reality.

"The plan is good, but it's missing one fatal point, and that is... the Divine Race!"

The withered elder speaks without reservation: "Have you considered that, once detected by the Divine Race seeing the Death Qi within you, what will you do?"

"Your Fake Qi Blood Secret Technique may deceive most human strong people, but it cannot deceive the Divine Race. They can sense your Death Qi through special bloodline fluctuations. If you encounter them, you will surely be exposed, and then, your only path will be death!"

These words turn Tu Sihai's face pale, a cold sweat breaking out instantly.

He knows very well that this Demon Clan elder is right; Fake Qi Blood may deceive most humans and demons, but it cannot fool the Divine Race.

The Divine Race's physique is special, highly sensitive to the Death Qi; merely approaching them will surely reveal the vast Death Qi within them.

This really is a fatal oversight; without the elder's reminder, they might face total annihilation within the Human Clan's Eighteen Cities.

"Then what should we do now? Please, Senior, show us the way!" Terrified, Tu Sihai seeks advice from the withered elder.

"Humph!"

The withered elder snorted coldly, saying, "Not only can they sense our death aura, but we can also sense the divine aura on them. I will set out immediately to clear obstacles for you all!"

To cover for Tu Sihai and others, he decided to expose himself and personally take action to assassinate the members of the Divine Race on Xing Kong Gu Road.

"Thank you, senior!" Tu Sihai bowed deeply, expressing his gratitude!

"No need to be so formal, now is the time of chaos in the Eighteen Cities, go as quickly as you can. Kill a few more young elites from the Human Race and Demon Clan, and that will be enough repayment for me."

The withered elder waved his hand, his figure flickered, merging into the void, disappearing from the deathly planet!

"Roar..."

Tu Sihai let out a roar, collapsing countless white bone peaks, and then his figure flickered and disappeared from the spot, heading towards the Eighteen Cities.

At the same time...

On the desolate Xing Kong Gu Road, a group of iron cavalry roared past, like a torrent of steel, shattering the void!

This was a troop of holy beasts, each incredibly formidable, radiating terrifying holy might!

However, on their backs sat elders, dressed in cold iron battle armor, shimmering with a chilling cold light!

Though there were only ten of them, they were like a torrent and a hurricane, shaking the entire Xing Kong Gu Road!

Where these ten traveled, even the City Lords guarding the heroic passes of Xing Kong Gu Road had to personally come out to greet them, showing how esteemed their identity was.

Ten strong people at the Saint Lord Level, and some of them were even at the Supreme Holy Master level; how could this not shock people?

"Who are these people?"

After they had gone far, some trialists asked in amazement!

Soon, their identity was revealed, instantly igniting the entire Xing Kong Gu Road!

These ten strong people at the Saint Lord level all came from Linxian Ancient Star with a very clear purpose: to kill the Demon Clan spy Ye Fan and restore peace to Xing Kong Gu Road!

"That Demon Clan spy with the surname Ye is doomed this time!"

"Ten Saint Lords moving together, an unprecedented deadly trap."

People discussed fervently, believing that Ye Fan was absolutely doomed this time. If discovered, he would die for sure, with no chance of escape.

Throughout history, a few people on Xing Kong Gu Road had encountered such dangerous situations and managed to break out of them.

Later, their names shook the universe, standing at the pinnacle of the entire universe, overlooking the ten thousand clans!

"That little bastard will surely head to the Eighteen Cities to compete for opportunities; we will wait for him there!"

The leading elder spoke, his gaze grim, his expression cold, radiating a strong holy might!

"We think the same; we rely on Elder Gu to make the decisions!"

The other nine Saint Lord level strong people chimed in, showing a humble and subservient demeanor.

"Alright then, let's head to the Eighteen Cities!"

The leading elder's eyes shot out two sharp holy lights, tearing through the sky, spurring the Qilin Beast beneath him to trample the firmament like a torrent of steel, charging along the Xing Kong Gu Road.

This person was precisely the Supreme Elder of the Gu Family, and the other nine Saint Lord level strongmen were all Supreme Elder-level strong people from various clans, Holy Lands, and the Wu Shang Sect.

Upon entering the Xing Kong Gu Road, they immediately headed to the Human Clan's First City and, with the Acting City Lord's assistance, quickly made their way towards the Eighteen Cities.

The First City does not have the Divine Light Escape, and even if it did, it would not be given to them!

The Gu Family does have a Divine Light Escape, but it was given to the Ancient Immortal, and they have no right to use it!

However, they didn't care. With their strength, there was no one on Xing Kong Gu Road who could stop their steps.

The holy might radiated, and some Star Sky Profound Beasts fled from afar, not daring to face them at all!

A group of strong people at the Saint Lord level, among whom there were even Supreme Holy Master-level beings, these Star Sky Profound Beasts could not possibly confront such a group of Saints unless they reached the Quasi-Emperor Realm.

However, on the Xing Kong Gu Road, a mutant beast reaching the Quasi-Emperor Realm had never appeared, and even if there was such an invincible being on some ancient star of life, they would never leave so easily.

"We must hurry more!"

The Supreme Elder of the Gu Family said, "The Elder of Heavenly Secrets and Divine Calculations has calculated that the unparalleled opportunity in the Eighteen Cities will appear within three months, and we must get there before it appears, or it will be of no use."

"That's right, this time we must completely slay that brat Ye to root out future troubles!" The Supreme Elder of the Li Family's face was ferocious, his voice filled with venomous malice.

His great-grandson Li Tianfeng was nearly crippled by Ye Fan, which left him in a perpetual decline, almost severing the Li Family's lineage, and his hatred towards Ye Fan was as immense as a raging river.

"Spies of the Demon Clan deserve death by everyone!"

"For the Xing Kong Gu Road of the Human Race, slay this beast!"

"..."

The others also chimed in, their successors had all suffered from Ye Fan's blows, and even several Holy Sons from Holy Lands and the Wu Shang Sect had been auctioned by Ye Fan before; such humiliation could not be let go!

Suddenly, the entire Xing Kong Gu Road was boiling...

Chapter 2020: Ambushing the Divine Race

After staying in the twelfth Ancient City for three days, Ye Fan bid farewell to Fatty Du and others, setting off alone on his journey!

His time was limited, and he couldn't afford to waste it here.

On the entire Xing Kong Gu Road, countless trialists were converging towards the eighteen cities, unwilling to miss this unparalleled opportunity!

Time flew by, and half a month elapsed in the blink of an eye!

In this half-month, Ye Fan experienced more than a dozen fierce battles, facing both Star Sky Profound Beasts and trialists who had set foot on the Xing Kong Gu Road.

The Xing Kong Gu Road was extremely dangerous, and many people traveled in groups, making it extremely rare for someone to journey alone like him!

However, all the cultivators who attempted to ambush him were forcefully subdued by him.

Ye Fan didn't kill them but instead plundered the Spirit Stones and Treasure Medicines from them.

Having spent so much time with Bai Yan wolf, he had become quite adept at plundering others' treasures, leaving the cultivators who ambushed him in tears.

In the end, Ye Fan subdued a Saint-level Lion Beast that had reached the Venerable Realm, using it as his mount, shattering the void, and rushing towards the eighteen cities.

Alone, with a blood-colored spear, he intimidated a stretch of the Xing Kong Gu Road, becoming a legend!

Passing through the Seventeen Heroic Passes, Ye Fan didn't pause at all, nor did he enter any city, but continued directly along the Xing Kong Gu Road.

After crossing the void several times via altars, Ye Fan descended onto an Ancient Star of Life!

This was a barren Ancient Star of Life, where the great path was distant and the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi was so thin it was shocking, causing him some discomfort even after descending upon it.

Along his journey, Ye Fan had seen many Ancient Lands of Life, but true Life Stars were rare indeed.

The conditions on this Ancient Star of Life were harsh, despite the lush grass, it was almost unsuitable for cultivation.

Ye Fan soared through the air, causing many indigenous people to consider him an immortal, bowing down in worship, making him feel a mix of amusement and frustration.

In fact, it was the same on Earth; weren't cultivators capable of flying regarded as immortals by ordinary people as well?

Here, he seemed to see a reflection of Earth, stirring emotions in his heart.

Finally, he landed in a city of human habitation, communicating with the local indigenous residents through consciousness, obtaining a piece of news that shocked him.

Not long ago, a goddess led a group of immortals past them, heading towards the Primordial Mountain.

From the description of the indigenous resident, Ye Fan was almost certain that the goddess must be Divine Lady Tongtong of the Divine Race.

What brought her here?

However, Ye Fan didn't plan to meet her, as besides her, Jiang Kuang and others were also accompanying her.

"Is there something in the depths of the mountain that's attracting them?" Ye Fan asked patiently.

Soon, he learned from the native's mouth that in the endless Primordial Mountain, there seemed to be a flicker of Divine Light, as if some divine object was about to be unearthed.

"That's their opportunity, what does it have to do with me?" Ye Fan murmured to himself.

Just as he was about to leave, he suddenly sensed a terrifying wave of Death Aura emanating from the depths of the Primordial Mountain, causing his expression to change instantly.

"Swish!"

His figure flashed, disappearing in front of the native, startling the native who hurriedly prostrated on the ground in devout worship.

At this moment, Ye Fan pushed the Chasing Star Step to the extreme, stepping out, the world turned upside down, and in one flash he crossed thousands of feet as if traversing space.

Soon, he sensed a surge of Death Aura, mixed with a Divine Aura.

There was no doubt, Tongtong and the others had encountered trouble.

The intensely thick fluctuating Death Aura indicated that the strong person of the Demon Clan they were facing was incredibly powerful.

Ye Fan's guess was correct!

In the depths of the distant Primordial Mountain, Divine Lady Tongtong and Jiang Kuang were desperately joining forces to resist an emaciated elder enveloped in Death Demon Energy.

Around their battlefield, several skeletons lay strewn, devoid of flesh and blood, appearing extremely tragic and terrifying.

"Hehehehe..."

The emaciated elder sneered, his voice like a night owl's, piercingly harsh.

His withered hands were pitch black, resembling bird claws, with nails two inches long, glimmering with a ghostly blue light.

"Swoosh, swoosh..."

Every strike from the emaciated elder was incredibly fierce, with his pair of ghost claws shooting beams of death light, forcing Jiang Kuang and Tongtong to retreat repeatedly.

The other Divine Race Heavenly Prides who had been with them were all killed by the emaciated elder, their flesh melted away, leaving only the Divine Bones behind, dying in a pitiful manner.

They never thought they would encounter an old demon head, an absolute giant of the Demon Clan, on this barren Ancient Star of Life.

Despite Jiang Kuang having the bloodline of a War God flowing in him, his combat power unrivaled, he was still no match for the emaciated elder.

"Ah..."

Jiang Kuang roared continuously, unleashing various martial arts and secret techniques in quick succession, complementing Tongtong to barely withstand the emaciated elder's storm-like onslaught.

"Tongtong, you go first!"

Jiang Kuang shouted loudly, his momentum suddenly changing, as if a War God had resurrected, his black hair flying, his entire body enveloped in intense Divine Light, resisting the emaciated elder's attack with bare hands. Although he was continuously spitting blood, he did not take a single step back.

"Leave? None of you will leave today, heaven decrees your doom!" the emaciated elder cackled, each strike forcing Jiang Kuang to spit more blood.

Around them, many mountain ranges were shattered, and terrifying fissures crisscrossed the earth like a web.

"Swoosh!"

The withered old man threw a punch, and a blazing beam of death light pierced through a large mountain, causing countless flying birds and beasts to suffer as their lives were corroded by the terrifying death aura.

Rumble...

Moments later, the mountain shattered with a loud crash, sending up a cloud of dust, as if it was the end of the world.

"You must leave, you can't stop him."

Tongtong said anxiously, while unleashing strands of Divine Power to help Jiang Kuang resist the erosion of the Power of Death.

Their Divine Race was very sensitive to the aura of death, and the death aura inflicted tremendous damage on them.

Although the Divine Aura had the ability to purify the death aura, it was only relative; when the death aura was too dense, it instead became detrimental to them.

The previous young strong people of the Divine Race had been too careless, their flesh and blood corroded by the Power of Death, even their Divine Souls were eroded.

This was because they were too complacent; on the Xing Kong Gu Road of the Human Race, hardly anyone would attack them, which inadvertently made them lower their guard.

This withered old man of the Demon Clan had strength at the Peak of the Venerable Realm, equivalent to a Supreme Holy Master level of strong people, whom they simply couldn't confront.

Being able to hold on until now was already a miracle!

"Tongtong, I've never asked you for anything in my life, now I'm begging you, go quickly!"

Jiang Kuang went wild, decisively burning his Life Origin, elevating his combat power to the extreme, a golden spear with phoenix wings shot out dazzling Divine Radiance.

He roared with tears, in this life, Tongtong was the Goddess in his heart, but Tongtong always treated him coldly, which made him very heartbroken.

Now, at the critical moment of life and death, he abandoned everything completely, his Consciousness ascending to another realm, and his Essence Qi and spiritual energy reaching a high unity, launching a stunning strike, forcing the withered old man a small step back.

"No..."

Tongtong wept, something seemed to pierce her heart deeply.

At this moment, Ye Fan no longer held clarity in her mind, although Jiang Kuang was tragic, he was heroically brave, using his life to earn her a chance to escape.

"I said, none of you can leave, today you all stay here!"

The withered old man was surprised, but didn't take it to heart, in his view, killing the two was just a matter of time.

This was a barren Ancient Star of Life, with no strong people, let alone any cultivator who could threaten him.

Moreover, due to this Ancient Star of Life having high and distant roads, with thin Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi, it was not suitable for cultivation, so no other cultivators would descend.

Now, most people's attention was focused on the Eighteen Cities, and no one would notice here.

As long as he killed these two only Divine Race strong people, then no one could threaten Tu Sihai and the others.

Meanwhile, his Identity would remain secret, no one would know any of this, it would ultimately become an unsolved case.

On the Xing Kong Gu Road, there were too many such unsolved cases, impossible to investigate clearly.

So, by all means they had to be left here.

"Wuwu..."

The withered old man transformed ghostly claw shadows, emitting a wailing cry, forcing Jiang Kuang and Tongtong to fight desperately to resist.

"Poof!"

Soon after, Tongtong spat blood, her fresh blood staining the front of her clothes red, her face turning pale!

"Ahhhh..."

Jiang Kuang, like a crazed War God, flames surged all over his body, unleashing his combat power to the extreme, continuously spitting blood, and stubbornly fighting the withered old man.

"Let's fight it out with you!"

Seeing no hope of escape, Tongtong also despaired, decisively burned her Divine Power, her combat power rapidly soaring, releasing rays of Divine Radiance, continually dissolving the death aura of the withered old man.

However, this withered old man was like a grave, his death aura vast and endless, it was impossible to exhaust his death aura in a short time.

"Die for me!"

Gradually, the withered old man also became impatient, decisively using his assassin's weapon, unleashing fierce Death Martial Technique, severely wounding Jiang Kuang in one move.

"Poof!"

Jiang Kuang was knocked flying backward, his face pale as paper, his whole Divine Light collapsing, his chest caving in, spitting blood mixed with shattered internal organs.

"Jiang Kuang..."

Tongtong let out a cry of grief, her Life Origin also burned, her combat power rising again, desperately shielding Jiang Kuang behind her, not retreating a single step.

"I never thought I, Jiang Kuang, would die here..." Jiang Kuang smiled bitterly.

"Boom!"

Suddenly, a loud tremor shook the entire mountain range, rocks rolled, and leaves whirled wildly.

Ye Fan appeared on the horizon, directly smashing down with a Mountain and River Seal, a verdant mountain crossed the sky, directly crashing towards the withered old man.

"Boom!"

The withered old man struck out with a palm, directly splitting the Mountain and River Seal in half, but he was also shaken back three steps, a ripple spreading through his mind.

"Who are you?" The withered old man's color changed, angrily shouting.

"The one who will kill you!"

Ye Fan appeared in the battlefield like a streak of Flowing Light, his gaze deep, purple hair disheveled, with an imposing presence as if a mountain or a peak.