

Y Master 451

Chapter 451 Golden Cicada Shelling, More Danger than Fortune

Five minutes rolled on.

In the study of a villa adorned with traditional Thai style in the Bangkok Suburbs,

Ye Wenhao sat at his desk, unusually puffing on a cigarette, inhaling deeply without pause.

As smoke swirled around him, his brow furrowed with a hint of worry between his eyes, and an inexplicable sense of unease weighed on his heart.

Although Ye Wenhao knew that as long as no evidence of Ye Fan killing the heads of the Dark Council, Giant Axe Organization, and Yakuza Southeast Asia Special Zone was found, the circulated news wouldn't significantly affect him or Ye Fan,

And although Ye Wenhao, being an Innate Great Perfection Stage Martial Artist with the power to slay a Half-step Gang Qi Realm Martial Artist, had a far superior mental fortitude to ordinary people;

But...

At this moment, he simply couldn't shake the anxiety in his heart, which is why he resorted to smoking so rarely.

"Buzz~"

Just as Ye Wenhao snuffed out the cigarette, the mobile phone on his desk suddenly vibrated, breaking the study's silence.

Hmm?

A jolt went through Ye Wenhao's heart, and he promptly picked up to see that it was a call from Yan Lei, the head of the Yanhuang Organization Southeast Asia Office.

"Director Yan," Ye Wenhao answered the call, speaking up first.

"Special Chief, there's trouble!" Yan Lei quickly responded, his voice urgent and panicked.

"What happened?"

Shocked by Yan Lei's abnormal tone, Ye Wenhao first froze, then asked in a deep voice.

"I just received news that emissaries from the Dark Council, Giant Axe Organization, and Yakuza have infiltrated Southeast Asia and are currently at the Tiger Gang headquarters mansion," Yan Lei spoke

swiftly. "Moreover, according to reliable information, among the people these three forces sent, there is a half-step Gang Qi realm master!"

"What... what?!" Ye Wenhao, astounded by Yan Lei's words, stood up sharply, withholding his breath as he asked, "Is the information reliable?"

"Reliable!"

Yan Lei gave a definite reply, then added, "I'm going to the mansion right now to keep them under surveillance, preventing any further disruption to our efforts to restore order to the Underworld. However... I'm worried they might become desperate, so I'd like you to come with me."

"Alright!"

Ye Wenhao responded rapidly, ending the call.

Far from being upset over the abrupt end of the call, Yan Lei on the other line actually showed a smile of triumph.

Meanwhile, Ye Wenhao immediately dialed Ye Fan's number, his expression extremely tense!

Tense, because he knew that Ye Fan had previously gone alone to the Tiger Gang headquarters mansion!

Tense, also because he knew that Ye Fan's killing of Hunter, touted as invincible among those in the Innate Great Perfection Realm, was due to Hunter's underestimation, caught off guard by Ye Fan—if Ye Fan were to confront a fully prepared Hunter, his chances of victory were slim!

Consequently, if Ye Fan encountered the Half-step Gang Qi realm master mentioned by Yan Lei, he would undoubtedly be doomed!

"I'm sorry, the number you have dialed is temporarily unavailable."

Soon, the pleasant voice of the operator came through the receiver, but to Ye Wenhao's ears, it was like a demonic chant from hell, shock sending his heart into his throat while worry filled his features.

Beyond worried, Ye Wenhao didn't linger. With a bound, he flashed out of the main villa building.

At the same time.

Inside the courtyard of the villa where Taihu resided, at the Tiger Gang headquarters mansion,

Liu Chuanjun of the Yakuza, Rock of the Giant Axe Organization, and Zorro of the Dark Council stood with their hands behind their backs, while Taihu's bodyguards, Nawa and Su Ke, watched from afar, timid as mice before cats, not daring to even take a deep breath.

"It's said that this whore's bastard is only a Level 7 warrior, but he possesses the strength to slay warriors of Level 8, and even Hunter, who was unbeatable among Level 8 warriors, died by his hand—I am quite curious how he managed that?"

Under the veil of night, Zorro with his brown eyes turned to Liu Chuanjun and Rock, saying, "Gentlemen, to satisfy my curiosity, shall I be the one to send him to hell?"

"Okay."

Rock spoke a single, indifferent word as assent.

Compared to Rock, Liu Chuanjun, known as Japan's first ninja and most likely to become the 'Ninja God' in the Martial Arts World, was even colder, simply nodding in silence.

Hmm?

As Zorro was about to step into the villa, just when the others agreed, he suddenly found the scenery before him change dramatically—the brightly lit villa vanished, the surroundings black as pitch, making it impossible to see his own hands.

Not only Zorro, but Liu Chuanjun and Rock were also aware of this change.

Even Nawa and Su Ke, both only at Level 7 strength, noticed it too!

"Witchcraft?" After a brief stunned moment, Zorro chuckled coldly, his battle intent erupting, his aura surging, "Break for me!"

As Zorro roared, a column of blood Qi that contained his Martial Arts Will burst forth from the top of his head, stealthily aiming at the dark curtain ahead, intending to shatter the Enchanting Soul Array laid by Ye Fan!

Expectations were high, but reality was a hard pill to swallow.

The blood Qi carrying Zorro's Martial Arts Will entered the dark curtain but didn't shatter Ye Fan's Enchanting Soul Array. Instead, it dissipated into thin air.

This outcome left Zorro dumbfounded, his face a mask of incredulity!

In his mind, although he had only recently stepped into the 'Half-step War God' realm (Half-step Gang Qi realm), he was a legitimate Half-step War God realm Martial Artist with strong will and powerful Blood Qi, and there was no reason why he couldn't break through a Level 7 Magician (Wizard)'s soul enchanting formation!

Not only Zorro himself, but also Rock and Liu Chuan standing beside him were taken aback.

"This formation is no simple matter, the Array Eye must be made of special materials or even a Magic Artifact," Zorro said, narrowing his eyes as he uncovered the secret.

As the words fell, he opened his mouth and spat out a drop of essence blood, while simultaneously swinging his right hand abruptly.

"Swoosh—"

A sound of air tearing apart rose as a stream of Gang Qi picked up the Essence Blood spit out by the ninja and shot it into the darkness ahead.

Whoosh—

The next moment.

The illusion vanished, and the brightly lit villa reappeared in the sights of Liu Chuanjun, Rock, and Zorro.

"Hmph!"

Zorro, feeling that he had lost face, snorted coldly and with a flash of his figure, he dashed towards the main villa building first, as fast as lightning.

Rock and Liu Chuanjun did not move.

Because... in their view, with Zorro's strength, killing Ye Fan, who only had the power of a Level 7 warrior, was without a doubt a simple task!

In an instant, Zorro entered the main building of the villa and, through Spiritual Sense, detected Taihu's presence, quickly rushing into the study.

Hm?

Upon entering the study, Zorro found that Ye Fan was not there; only Taihu was present.

"Where is that son of a bitch raised by a bitch?"

Seemingly realizing that he had been played, Zorro grew angry and grabbed Taihu by the collar of his shirt, lifting him up as if he was picking up a chicken.

"Escaped... escaped..." Taihu, scared to the point of tremors, replied with a quivering voice.

"Escaped? How did he escape?" Zorro asked incredulously.

"He... he spat out a mouthful of fresh blood, used Witchcraft to set up the Enchanting Soul Array, and then jumped out of the window to escape," Taihu said, recalling Ye Fan's actions with a full load of nervousness.

"FUCK!"

Zorro immediately realized that Ye Fan had used his Life-bound Essence Blood as the Array Eye to enhance the Enchanting Soul Array, hence why he could not break through the Formation in time and gained time to escape.

At the same time, he also knew that neither he, Liu Chuanjun, nor Rock had sensed Ye Fan's presence, most likely because Ye Fan had Hunter's Ghost Ring, which perfectly concealed his presence.

With all this in mind, Zorro's eyes blazed with furious fire, and in an instant, he crushed Taihu's throat, then tossed Taihu aside like garbage.

After killing Taihu, some of Zorro's anger dissipated. He then took out a ring identical to the Ghost Ring Ye Fan had obtained from Hunter, sneered coldly, "You son of a bitch, do you think you can escape just by using the Ghost Ring to hide your presence? Heh, you wouldn't even have dreamed that there is actually a pair of Ghost Rings, and if the owners are close in distance, they can sense each other!"

As his words fell, Zorro's consciousness stirred, he injected Gang Qi into the Ghost Ring, and then with a single act of his consciousness, he sensed Ye Fan's direction.

"I want to see where you can run to?"

Having sensed Ye Fan's location, Zorro sneered and with a leap, jumped out of the window and floated down into the courtyard.

"Is it over?"

In the courtyard, Rock and Liu Chuanjun, seeing Zorro coming out alone, thought that Zorro had resolved the battle and couldn't help but feel it was a bit too easy.

"No, that son of a bitch escaped." Zorro said in a huff, "But, I know which way he ran!"

Without wasting words, Zorro's figure moved, transforming into a phantom and rapidly pursuing Ye Fan.

Hearing Zorro's words and looking at his departing figure, Rock asked, "Should we follow?"

Without responding, Liu Chuanjun's figure flashed and he disappeared, his speed noticeably faster than Zorro's.

"As expected of the best Shinobi of the Ninja Hall, so prudent in his actions."

Seeing this, Rock inwardly sighed with profound respect for Liu Chuanjun's cautiousness, and with a flick of his feet, he chased after Liu Chuanjun and Zorro.

Meanwhile, Ye Fan, who had narrowly escaped with the help of the Enchanting Soul Array, was initially speeding towards the western wall. Suddenly, he sensed Zorro and the others rapidly approaching him!

Swish!

This discovery caused Ye Fan's complexion to change drastically, he was shocked: I'm using the Ghostly Gourd and the Ghost Ring to hide my presence, they shouldn't be able to detect me!

Without an answer, Ye Fan once again felt shrouded in a sense of danger. He pushed his speed to the limit, shooting toward the estate's wall like an arrow.

"Swoosh—"

Quickly, Ye Fan reached the wall, and with a leap, he jumped three or four meters, easily overcoming the wall, and then dove into the forest outside the villa, running wildly like a Spiritual Monkey.

"You son of a bitch, even though I am surprised by your methods and speed, you can't escape!"

Meanwhile, Zorro chased after Ye Fan unrelentingly, guided by the sensation from the Ghost Ring. His speed was exceedingly fast and the distance between them continued to shrink...and shrink!

In addition, Liu Chuanjun and Rock also pursued closely behind Zorro, as if they wanted to see Zorro twist off Ye Fan's head with their very own eyes!

With three masters in pursuit, Ye Fan's chances of survival were slim!

Chapter 452 A Matter of Life and Death, Breaking the Shackles

"What should I do?"

Ye Fan pushed his speed to the limits, darting through the forest, constantly changing directions only to find that his pursuer stubbornly followed behind, the distance between them steadily closing, leaving him as anxious as an ant on a hot pan.

His anxiety stemmed from the knowledge that defeating a Half-step Gang Qi realm master with his own skills was a daunting task, let alone escaping with his life.

Being hunted by three Half-step Gang Qi realm masters only had one outcome: death!

Suddenly, before Ye Fan could figure out a solution, he noticed a faint glow emanating from the Ghost Ring on his right hand.

"Could it be because the enemy can sense the Ghost Ring?"

Seeing this, Ye Fan had a thought, and without hesitation, he withdrew his Telekinesis from the Ghost Ring.

Hmm?

As Ye Fan ceased activating the Ghost Ring, the other Ghost Ring in Zorro's possession immediately lost its connection, although it could still sense Ye Fan's aura.

"It seems he has figured out that I was using the Ghost Ring to lock onto his position. However, he certainly doesn't realize that there are a pair of Ghost Rings, and I can continue to use its feature to sense and lock onto his location!"

With this realization, Zorro sneered inwardly, also noting that Liu Chuanjun and Rock were still following behind him, maintaining a distance.

"These two bastards, do they think I am incapable of killing a mere Level 7 Cultivator?"

Zorro cursed under his breath, then had another thought: No! Previously in the mansion, they were okay with me taking action, but now they are closely following, likely because they think that bastard driven by a Magic Artifact earlier was using it to operate a Formation, wanting to seize the Magic Artifact!

With this thought, Zorro suddenly stopped, turned, and looked at Liu Chuanjun and Rock.

"What's wrong?"

Upon seeing this, Liu Chuanjun, and Rock simultaneously halted, with Rock stepping forward and asking in a deep voice.

"I can't sense that kid's aura anymore." Zorro deliberately furrowed his brows, displaying an annoyed expression, "Can you sense him?"

Without responding, Rock and Liu Chuanjun shook their heads in unison.

"How were you sensing his aura before? Why can't you sense it now?" Liu Chuanjun coldly stared at Zorro and pointedly asked.

"I practiced a special martial art specifically for sensing auras. Although he escaped while we were breaking the formation, I could sense his aura. Now, he must have realized we are pursuing him, so he's concealed his aura," Zorro explained.

"Oh?" Rock responded, somewhat puzzled, "How did he conceal his aura?"

"Hunter has a Mid-level Magic Artifact, the Ghost Ring, which, when activated, can conceal one's aura. I suspect that scum fostered by a bitch used the Ghost Ring,"

Zorro analytically posed, while internally he understood that Ye Fan must have other Magic Artifacts; otherwise, it wouldn't be possible to still hide his aura after the connection between the Ghost Rings was lost.

Upon hearing about the Mid-level Magical Artifact, both Liu Chuanjun and Rock's eyes lit up.

Although both were powerful in their own right and held prominent positions within their respective organizations, they were not yet at the level to disregard a Mid-level Magical Artifact.

"So what should we do?"

While tempted, Rock also understood that the immediate priority was to pinpoint Ye Fan's location before considering the act of killing Ye Fan and seizing the Magical Artifact.

Liu Chuanjun said nothing, just coldly staring at Zorro, waiting for his response.

"Since we promised to cooperate with Chen Feilian, we must kill this bastard raised by a bitch, otherwise it's a minor issue to break our word to Chen Feilian, but a major one to lose face—if that bastard raised by a bitch successfully escapes, the three of us might as well not bother mingling in the future, better to just buy a block of tofu and smash ourselves dead with it!" Zorro spoke coldly.

Hearing Zorro's words, Rock and Liu Chuanjun remained silent.

Because, what Zorro said was exactly what they were thinking.

They might not care about the benefits garnered from cooperating with Chen Feilian, but they cared about their reputations!

"My personal opinion is, that bastard raised by a bitch is not fast enough, he won't have gotten too far in such a short time. If the three of us split up and move in three different directions, we can definitely catch him!" Seeing that Rock and Liu Chuanjun remained silent, Zorro made a suggestion.

"Okay."

Rock pondered briefly, then agreed.

"Shoo—"

Liu Chuanjun said nothing further, directly dashing forward, not only agreeing to Zorro's suggestion with his actions but also choosing to chase after Ye Fan from the west.

And the west, that was the direction Ye Fan was running!

"This bastard!"

Seeing Liu Chuanjun making the first move, Zorro's face darkened, cursing inwardly in frustration—he had originally planned to pursue Ye Fan from the west himself!

"I'll head south."

Rock, unaware of Zorro's irritation and unable to guess his thoughts, chose a direction at random.

Zorro, with a grim expression, nodded, then turned to head north, secretly injecting more Telekinesis into the Ghost Ring, fully activating it and immediately increasing its sensing range.

Hmm?

Upon sensing, Zorro suddenly discovered that Ye Fan had changed his escape route, now veering from west to north!

"Praise the Lord!"

This discovery brought joy to Zorro's heart, and he immediately pushed his speed to the fullest, chasing after Ye Fan once again.

...

"Could one of the three of them possess a magical artifact similar to the Ghost Ring?"

In the forest to the northwest, Ye Fan continued to weave through the trees, his mind filled with doubts.

Since he stopped using the Ghost Ring, he could only sense Liu Chuanjun and Rock's presence and was unable to sense Zorro's presence.

Beyond that, he clearly detected Liu Chuanjun's and Rock's presence in two different directions, which bred suspicion that the other presence's owner might be using a sensory type magical artifact like the Ghost Ring to lock onto his location.

"If the opponent's artifact functions like the Ghost Ring, then even using the Ghostly Gourd wouldn't allow me to mask my presence!" Amid his suspicions, Ye Fan thought of the worst outcome.

This outcome made Ye Fan realize the crisis had not yet passed, so he continued moving at high speed while remaining highly vigilant.

Like many villas, the Tiger Gang's headquarters was built against the mountain, lush with green trees that stretched down to the road at the mountain's base.

A moment later, just as Ye Fan saw the road leading down the mountain ahead, he suddenly heard a swooshing sound coming from behind.

Although the sound was faint, it clearly reached his ears!

Danger!

Though he didn't detect a Martial Artist's presence behind him, Ye Fan's years of living in the mountains allowed him to instantly judge that it was the sound of someone moving through the forest.

This realization tightened his heart, yet he did not blindly flee but instead dove into a dense patch of grass ahead.

Ye Fan did this partly as a gamble, betting that the other party had not pinpointed his location and just coincidentally intersected with his escape route.

If that truly was the case, hiding in the grass would be safer than running blindly.

After all, blind running would make noise and could lead to being discovered by the opponent!

Furthermore, if the opponent indeed possessed an artifact like the Ghost Ring, capable of determining his location, then given the opponent's speed, it would only be a matter of time before he caught up, making further fleeing pointless.

"Why aren't you running?"

Just as Ye Fan hid in the dense grass, Zorro, via the Ghost Ring, had a clear lock on Ye Fan's presence, feeling somewhat surprised.

"Could this bastard have heard the commotion and hidden himself?" Following his surprise, a guess surged in Zorro's mind.

"Yes!"

"It must be so!"

"Because, this bastard doesn't know I can pinpoint his presence!"

Soon, Zorro believed his own guess and couldn't help but laugh, a gleam of deep anticipation in his eyes, "The leader once said that the Ghost Rings are naturally a pair and gaining a new function when used together—what could that function be?"

At this moment, Ye Fan was already as good as dead in Zorro's eyes.

Of all this, Ye Fan knew nothing.

Now, he concealed his presence, remaining motionless in the grass, using Fetal Breathing to blend perfectly into the surroundings.

Beyond that, he pricked up his ears, attentively listening to the sounds of the enemy moving through the forest, estimating his distance from the enemy, while firmly watching the enemy's approaching direction through the gaps in the grass.

Gradually, as the swooshing sounds became clearer, Zorro, clad in black, appeared in Ye Fan's line of sight, walking toward the patch of grass where Ye Fan was hidden.

Seeing this scene, Ye Fan's heart jumped to his throat, his body tensed, ready to fight at any moment.

"Are you going to come out and die yourself, or shall I assist you?"

Zorro stopped thirty meters away from Ye Fan, his gaze sharp as a knife, focusing on Ye Fan's hiding spot, and chuckled coldly.

Without answering, from within the grass, Ye Fan's expression was more grave than ever—through Zorro's gaze and words, Ye Fan could confirm that his presence had not been discovered by chance but had been definitely locked onto by Zorro!

"There's an old saying in Huaxia, 'no tears until the coffin is in sight.' It seems you want me to help you!"

Seeing Ye Fan unmoved, Zorro's smile deepened, and as he spoke, he took steps toward Ye Fan.

Thud! Thud! Thud!

Perhaps to put pressure on Ye Fan, Zorro deliberately made a lot of noise with each steady, powerful step, creating an earth-shattering sensation that sent a horrifying killing intent rolling toward Ye Fan like a tide.

In that instant, Ye Fan felt enveloped by the aura of death, cold sweat pouring from his pores, instantly soaking his clothes.

"With my current strength, I simply cannot fight against a Half-step Gang Qi realm master, am I going to die here today?"

A fearful thought surged in Ye Fan's mind, feeling as if he faced Death itself coming to claim him, despite his rock-solid will, he still felt an unprecedented terror.

"No!"

"I promised Ruoshui to help her eliminate Nanqinghong! I promised my master to win the Qing bang tournament and avenge him! I also vowed to help my father reach the peak of power—I cannot die here!"

After the fear, a defiant roar burst from Ye Fan's heart, his eyes flashing with firm resolve, "Fight, let me see just how powerful a Half-step Gang Qi realm master really is!"

Whoosh!

As Ye Fan unleashed his defiant roar internally, the fear inside him instantly vanished without a trace!

At this moment.

He broke the shackles of fear, his will becoming exceptionally strong, indomitable!

Chapter 453 One Move, Deciding Life and Death!

In the direst of straits, Ye Fan solidified his Martial Arts Will, his soul cleansed anew. A robust self-confidence sprang forth in his heart, accompanied by a fearsome War Intent.

Never had his War Intent and desire to survive been so overwhelming as at this very moment!

As his War Intent surged, he calmed down.

Yes!

At this critical moment of life and death, he suddenly became composed.

His mind highly focused, Mind Power weirdly fused with the surging War Intent and steadfast Martial Arts Will, continually compressing... and compressing until it fully converged into a point, accumulating within the Mind Power Seed like a volcano ready to erupt.

Hmm?

Why was his War Intent so terrifying?

Suddenly sensing the terrifying War Intent erupting from Ye Fan, Zorro was taken aback and subconsciously halted his steps.

Why??

Just then!

Moved by a thought, Ye Fan's brow shone with golden light, and the perfectly blended and condensed Mind Power shot from his brow, silently aiming for Zorro.

Mind Power Attack!

In this critical moment, instead of responding with Martial Arts or Flying Knife Assassination, Ye Fan initiated a Mind Power Attack!

This strike came without sound, without any disturbance, silent and deadly, akin to the ultimate stab of an ancient assassin, destined to impale its target!

This strike was the strongest Mind Power Attack Ye Fan had used since he began cultivation!

One move, deciding life and death!

"Danger!"

The instant Ye Fan triggered the Mind Power Attack, Zorro felt a terrifying Aura of Death enveloping him, causing his soul to shudder uncontrollably.

The next moment.

Before Zorro could react, the terrible Mind Power imbued with Ye Fan's War Intent and Martial Arts Will stealthily entered Zorro's Yintang point, directly targeting his soul (Consciousness)!

Spiritual power attack?!

Zorro's face abruptly changed, then quickly he fortified his will, mobilizing the Power to guard his soul.

However—

Just as Zorro's Power madly rushed toward his Consciousness, the condensed Mind Power struck like a battering ram, swiftly impacting his soul.

Upon impact, the Mind Power, fused with War Intent and Martial Arts Will and further condensed, exploded like a cannonball hitting its target!

Faced with the terrifying spiritual power attack, Zorro's Martial Arts Will shattered as if a mountain was blasted by artillery, completely shaken!

Immediately, the condensed Mind Power exploded into an invisible storm within Zorro's soul, wreaking havoc and causing destruction!

Without the protection of Martial Arts Will and resistance from the Power, Zorro's soul was severely damaged by the Mind Power storm.

An indescribable, intense pain emerged deep within Zorro's soul, causing his body to tremble violently, his face turning ashen, and even...his consciousness briefly blanked out, completely losing control over his body!

"Swoosh—"

Just then, a piercing sound of tearing air suddenly echoed!

A sharp Xuanye Flying Knife swiftly flew from Ye Fan's sleeve, transforming into a streak of white light, whistling towards Zorro's throat!

Faced with Ye Fan's lethal assassination, Zorro abruptly came to his senses, yet because his soul had been heavily injured, he lost control over his body and Power in that instant, standing there like a live target, motionless.

"Puchi—"

The flying knife pierced through, blood spurted out.

The sharp Xuanye Flying Knife instantly penetrated Zorro's throat, hot blood furiously spewing from the bloody hole, a rush of air entering Zorro's body.

Zorro's body jerked violently, his pupils dilated, his expression turning into one of extreme terror!

Amidst the terror, he widened his eyes, staring in horror at the bush where Ye Fan was hiding, as if asking: how is this possible?

"No!!"

Zorro let out a wail in his heart, subconsciously trying to cover the wound to stop the blood loss and the entry of air, but it was all in vain as his hands quickly turned red with blood, his body swaying like grass in the field.

"Bang—"

Seconds later, Zorro collapsed to the ground, blood foaming from his mouth, his body beginning to convulse violently, his complexion deathly pale.

At this moment, his expression was no longer brimming with confidence or somber as before, but filled with fear—

The fear of death!

Amidst the fear, there was also a strong sense of unwillingness.

Clearly... he was reluctant to die at the hands of a Level 7 Cultivator, whom he regarded as nothing more than an ant!

However—

No matter how unwilling, he could not change the outcome.

Moments later, Zorro's body stopped twitching, his limbs lay rigidly on the ground, motionless.

Under the night sky, his eyes were wide open, a look of unresolved death on his face, as if asking the heavens: why was a Level 7 Cultivator's spiritual power attack so strong?

It worked!

Seeing this scene, Ye Fan's hanging heart quietly fell, and he was thrilled.

After the thrill, Ye Fan suddenly realized that his consciousness was listless and then felt as if tens of thousands of insects were biting him, causing unbearable pain.

"This is bad, Mind Power is severely overdrawn!"

The sudden pain instantly scattered the joy in Ye Fan's heart, his facial muscles twisted, his expression extremely painful, yet his mind was as clear as a mirror.

Just now, when he was driven into a desperate situation, fueled by a terrifying desire to survive and overflowing war intent, he took a wild chance and mysteriously fused Mind Power with war intent and Martial Arts Will into one point, ultimately unleashing an incredible power and severely injuring Zorro's soul!

Although Ye Fan didn't know how he had perfectly merged Mind Power, war intent, and Martial Arts Will at that time, he knew that his actions were in essence the same as the "Forbidden Technique" strictly prohibited by the Cultivation World.

The so-called Forbidden Technique, as the name implies, refers to the secret technique strictly prohibited from use—cultivators can momentarily stimulate the body's potential through a special method, enhance strength, and unleash extremely terrifying energy.

Years ago, there was a news report about a sixty-year-old grandmother who, in order to save her grandson, forcibly lifted a truck weighing several tons; this was actually the activation of the body's potential under special circumstances, akin to the cultivator's Forbidden Technique.

Although temporarily activating the body's potential can unleash extremely terrifying energy, it has severe side effects—the grandmother died on the spot after lifting the truck to save her grandson, essentially having used up all her life's energy in advance, thus reaching the end of her life.

And for cultivators, using Forbidden Technique to stimulate the body's potential not only might stop them from further advancing on their cultivation path, but most of them regress in strength, and some

even completely use up their potential, just like that grandmother, defeating their opponent only to die from the burst of power!

Moreover, primarily, some cultivators who use 'Forbidden Technique' to kill their enemies might completely lose their minds and become cold-blooded killing machines, indiscriminately slaughtering the innocent.

Because of all this, this type of technique for gaining powerful combat strength within a short period is despised by cultivators and is also strictly prohibited by both the righteous sects and the Yanhuang Organization in the Cultivation World.

Although Ye Fan was not familiar with 'Forbidden Technique', he had inadvertently achieved a similar effect in his desperate strike, which caused terrible side effects—damaging his own soul (consciousness)!

As pain struck, Ye Fan clenched his teeth tightly and tried to resist with his strong will, only to find the pain in the depths of his soul becoming more severe, sweat pouring down like rain, and even his consciousness was starting to blur.

At this moment, Ye Fan was extremely anxious!

He was well aware that if he truly passed out, he might forever be in a coma, becoming a vegetative state.

In this critical moment, the mysterious Crimson Golden Crown suddenly emerged outside Ye Fan's consciousness, a faint pattern of the Crimson Golden Crown appearing on Ye Fan's head, looking quite eerie.

Crimson Golden Crown!

Noticing the appearance of the Crimson Golden Crown, Ye Fan was very excited!

Initially, when he was injured in consciousness by Lu Wen, the person in charge of the Yanhuang Organization East Sea Branch at Dong hai Soaring Manor, it was the Crimson Golden Crown that helped him heal, and it even made his consciousness stronger and improved the quality of his Mind Power!

At this moment, after experiencing the side effects of a 'Forbidden Technique', the Crimson Golden Crown appeared again...

This made him subconsciously believe that the Crimson Golden Crown was going to help repair his consciousness!

Just as Ye Fan had guessed, upon the appearance of the Crimson Golden Crown, golden light flickered, and streams of pure Mind Power Essence flowed from the crown into Ye Fan's consciousness, nourishing his injured consciousness.

As the Mind Power Essence entered his consciousness, Ye Fan noticed that the pain was getting weaker and eventually disappeared completely.

In addition, his previously depleted Mind Power almost instantly recovered within a few seconds, and the amount was even greater than before!

This meant that after just undergoing life-and-death training and a strike similar to a "Forbidden Technique," Ye Fan's magic cultivation had advanced further, expanding the capacity of the Mind Power Seed, increasing the quantity of Mind Power, and his cultivation in magic had been enhanced!

At the same time, Ye Fan discovered that after helping him repair his consciousness, the mysterious crimson golden crown became a bit duller in color, and then it vanished immediately.

Hmm?

Noticing the change in the crimson golden crown and recalling that its color deepened after each absorption of Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi, Ye Fan faintly felt that the crimson golden crown could grow stronger by absorbing Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi and would become weaker when it returned Mind Power to him!

Upon thinking this, an odd thought suddenly emerged in Ye Fan's mind, "Could it be... Could it be that the crimson golden crown can cultivate and grow just like cultivators?"

There was no answer.

For Ye Fan, the crimson golden crown was overly mysterious and profound, entirely beyond his understanding of magic artifacts and even the cultivation world.

"Phew~"

Several seconds later, Ye Fan took a deep breath, shook his head, and stopped thinking about the crimson golden crown. He stood up and walked out of the bushes, quickly making his way to Zorro's corpse.

Ghost Ring?

At just a glance, Ye Fan saw the ring on Zorro's hand, which was almost identical to the Ghost Ring he had obtained from Hunter!

"No wonder he could lock onto my aura, so he also wore a Ghost Ring!"

Ye Fan thought to himself, and without any hesitation, he took the Ghost Ring off Zorro's hand. He then searched Zorro's body and found a Plant Essence, a bottle of golden sore medicine, and a Nirvana Pill, which he collected all at once.

"Since the crimson golden crown can absorb Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi, then it can certainly absorb the essence of Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi from the Plant Essence, and moreover... it's very likely not limited to absorbing only three like cultivators!"

As he pocketed the Plant Essence, an idea struck Ye Fan, "If the crimson golden crown absorbed a large amount of Heaven and Earth Essence from the Plant Essence, I wonder what it would become?"

As the thought emerged, Ye Fan felt tempted to try. But considering that two half-step Gang Qi realm strong people were still after him, he had to give up on the idea. He stored the Plant Essence and elixirs, then put on the Ghost Ring.

Just then, something unexpected happened!

The two Ghost Rings connected like two magnets, and then... they burst into blinding light!

"What's going on?"

Ye Fan was shocked and immediately checked.

Chapter 454 Bluffing

Under Ye Fan's gaze, the two Ghost Rings were enveloped in a black glow and gradually overlaid upon each other, indistinguishable from one another, like a pair of lovers embracing after a long separation, never to part again.

"Uh..."

Witnessing this magical scene, even Ye Fan, who was a Magician and had some knowledge of Artifact Refining, couldn't help but be greatly astonished.

What Ye Fan didn't know was that the Magician who had crafted the Ghost Rings had once been the most talented Artifact Refiner in the European Union, capable of crafting Mid-level Magical Artifacts at a young age.

Just when everyone thought that this Magician could become the most outstanding Artifact Refiner in the history of the Cultivation World, he fell in love with a girl. Unfortunately, the girl met with a tragic fate, and he was subsequently consumed by sorrow and died in depression.

And... the Ghost Ring was the last Magic Artifact he ever crafted.

While crafting the Netherworld Ring, he perfectly fused his yearning for his beloved into it, deliberately making a pair, symbolizing being together as a couple.

Moreover, to more realistically portray his 'love affair' with the ghost of the girl, he set an ingenious Formation in both rings, so that when the two rings encountered each other, they would attract one another and eventually merge into a single Magic Artifact.

And the merged Magic Artifact was of a standard worthy of being called a High-level Magical Artifact, the most perfect creation he had fashioned in his lifetime!

Although Ye Fan was unaware of the origin of the Ghost Rings, upon seeing the two rings overlap and fuse, he immediately activated his Mind Power to probe into the rings, endeavoring to understand the truth.

Hmm?

Upon examining them, Ye Fan's expression changed once more!

Since killing Hunter and obtaining the Ghost Ring, Ye Fan had spent the past few days studying it extensively and had become as familiar with its internal structure as the back of his hand.

Previously, there were two Formations in the Ghost Ring he had acquired. One was an Earth Element Formation, which was used to sense the Qi of Martial Artists during their cultivation, and the other was a Fire Attribute Formation.

But now, at this moment, after the perfect fusion of the two Ghost Rings, the previous Fire Attribute Formation had disappeared!

In its place was a Formation composed of both Fire and Water Element Formations!

According to the laws of nature, when hot air rises and cool, low-temperature air flows in horizontally, the rising air becomes heavy as it cools and descends, while the earth's warmer surface again heats the air, causing it to rise. This circulation of air creates wind.

As a high-level Magical Artifact, the Black Iron Fist set also contains a Formation made of both water and fire attributes. When the Formation is activated, it can double the user's attack speed!

"The Black Iron Fist set can increase attack speed, but what about the Ghost Rings?" Ye Fan asked himself silently before immediately activating the Formation.

"Whoosh—"

Upon activation of the Formation, a stream of air shot out from the ring and autonomously floated under Ye Fan's feet.

"Could it be for increasing movement speed?"

With joy in his heart, Ye Fan propelled himself forward with a burst of power, shooting out like an arrow.

"To actually double the movement speed—this is simply incredible!" After experimenting, Ye Fan found that his movement speed had doubled and he was ecstatic.

Because his progress in Martial Arts Cultivation had been slow, Ye Fan now relied mainly on Magic Cultivation for combat, making the speed of his movement techniques especially crucial!

Now, with the Ghost Rings doubling his movement speed, it was like receiving much-needed aid—this would greatly enhance his combat strength and his ability to escape!

For example, his previous speed could barely match an average Innate Great Perfection strong person, but now even when compared to invincible entities among Innate Great Perfection cultivators, he was no less inferior!

With this in mind, if he were to encounter another Innate Great Perfection Stage Martial Artist like Hunter, even in a head-on fight, he could ensure his invincibility!

But... if he were to face a Half-step Gang Qi realm master, he still wouldn't have the capital to fight face-to-face, even someone like Zorro who had just stepped into the Half-step Gang Qi realm—his ability to kill Zorro just now was purely a fortunate coincidence that allowed him to enter that mysterious state and release a blow akin to a 'Forbidden Technique,' unleashing unprecedented power!

Realizing all this and remembering that two stronger Half-step Gang Qi realm masters were still pursuing him, the excitement on Ye Fan's face immediately disappeared without a trace as he quickly calmed himself down, and using the sensing function of the Ghost Rings, he checked the positions of the other two Half-step Gang Qi realm masters!

"Why is there only one aura?"

Upon sensing, Ye Fan found only one aura rapidly approaching his location, while the other could no longer be detected.

Danger!

In that instant, just as Ye Fan was puzzled, he suddenly heard a faint noise coming from behind, and a chill of impending death enveloped his heart!

"Whoosh—"

As danger closed in, Ye Fan's Consciousness flickered and he activated the Ghost Ring. Simultaneously, with a burst of power at his feet, he turned into a Phantom, shooting forward.

"Zzz—"

In the span of a breath, Ye Fan had cleared a distance of ten meters, while the spot he had been at was cleaved by an Eastern Blade. The fierce blade wind split the air open and swept across the ground, leaving a deep gash.

Hmm?

Apparently not expecting Ye Fan to dodge his surprise attack, Liu Chuanjun, Japan's most outstanding upper ninja, showed a flicker of surprise in his eyes, which quickly turned into astonishment—he saw Zorro's corpse!

Zorro was dead?

As he looked at Zorro's body, Liu Chuanjun's heart was hit by a tidal wave of shock!

The reason he was able to locate Ye Fan was that he had sensed the qi released during the battle between Ye Fan and Zorro a moment ago.

After Zorro was killed by Ye Fan, his presence completely vanished; Liu Chuanjun subconsciously assumed Zorro had used a magic artifact to conceal his presence.

After all, that's what Zorro had done before!

As for the possibility of Zorro being killed by Ye Fan...

He absolutely hadn't considered such a possibility!

Because, whether it was from the intelligence provided by Chen Feilian or the Yakuza's own investigations, Ye Fan was just a Level 7 Cultivator who could, through Dual Cultivation of Magic and Martial Arts, possess the strength to kill a Level 8 Cultivator, even invincible among those in Level 8 Cultivation!

Yet, the Half-step Gang Qi realm (like the War God, Ninja God), and Level 8 were two entirely different concepts, with the latter almost having no chance of victory!

While Liu Chuanjun was still in shock, Ye Fan didn't blindly flee but instead stopped in his tracks.

The reason he did this was because he knew that even with the speed boost from the Ghost Ring, in terms of speed he couldn't compare with Liu Chuanjun—who had an even stronger presence than Zorro—and if Liu Chuanjun was determined to chase him, he wouldn't stand a chance of escaping!

Besides that, he had noticed the change in Liu Chuanjun's expression, fully aware that Zorro's death had brought an unimaginable shock to Liu Chuanjun.

Therefore, he believed that Liu Chuanjun, shocked as he was and without probing his true capabilities, definitely wouldn't dare to make another move rashly.

As if to confirm Ye Fan's judgment, Liu Chuanjun sheathed his blade and looked at Ye Fan with full skepticism, "Did you kill Zorro?"

"Besides me, it seems there's no one else here, right?"

After killing Zorro just a moment ago, Ye Fan's spiritual cultivation had reached a higher realm. Now, facing Liu Chuanjun, he felt no fear in his heart; on the contrary, to intimidate Liu Chuanjun he even showed a disdainful smile.

"You're just a Level 7 Cultivator, how could you possibly kill Zorro?"

Liu Chuanjun's expression was indifferent as he probed tentatively, "Could it be that you have a high-level magical artifact with lethal power?"

"We have a saying in Huaxia, 'either the fish dies or the net splits.' You might be a bit stronger than Zorro, but if I were to fight you to the death, even if you could kill me, I would take you down with me!"

Ye Fan continued to bluff, answering the question indirectly. Through sensing, he knew that Liu Chuanjun was the strongest among the three and, being a ninja specialized in assassination, if he truly fought with him, he would be walking a path leading to certain death!

"Is that so?"

Liu Chuanjun's gaze turned icy as if trying to see right through Ye Fan.

"If you don't believe it, you're welcome to try."

Ye Fan met Liu Chuanjun's gaze fearlessly. Contrarily, he took the offensive, giving off the impression he was ready for a desperate fight, radiating an intense, pressuring aura.

Perceiving the arrogance in Ye Fan's words and the fearlessness on his face, Liu Chuanjun dared not strike rashly. He merely watched Ye Fan in silence, weighing the truthfulness of Ye Fan's words while waiting for Rock to arrive.

In his opinion, even if Ye Fan had the strength to kill Zorro, with his and Rock's abilities, if they joined forces to kill Ye Fan, it would result in certain death for Ye Fan!

"Are you waiting for backup?"

Seeing this, Ye Fan's heart was like a clear mirror, and he let out a cold laugh.

Without replying, Liu Chuanjun just stared coldly at Ye Fan.

"Don't push me!"

Ye Fan deliberately showed a furious demeanor. Then, seeing Liu Chuanjun still didn't dare to make a move, he knew his bluff had worked to intimidate Liu Chuanjun, so without wasting more words, he sprung off the ground and rapidly left.

Hmm?

Watching Ye Fan's retreating figure, Liu Chuanjun noticed that Ye Fan's speed was not inferior to the invincible ones among Level 8 Martial Artists. His pupils abruptly contracted, believing a bit more in what Ye Fan had said earlier.

Even so, he didn't plan to let Ye Fan escape. Like a ghost, he silently followed.

However—

Because he feared Ye Fan's readiness to fight to the death, Liu Chuanjun didn't dare to use his full speed, instead maintaining a thirty-meter distance from Ye Fan at all times.

Meanwhile, he stopped using the ninjutsu to conceal his presence, deliberately exposing his own presence to guide Rock.

Realizing that Liu Chuanjun was persistently following him and had even released his presence, Ye Fan understood his intent but was helpless. Although he could intimidate Liu Chuanjun into not acting recklessly with his bluffs, he couldn't make Liu Chuanjun back off!

"The only plan now is to keep fleeing along the road."

While running, Ye Fan reached the downhill road and knew the only hope was to encounter a car before the other person arrived and somehow hitch a ride to escape.

Otherwise, once the other Half-step Gang Qi realm master arrived and his bluff was called out, he was doomed without a doubt!

Chapter 455 A Ray of Hope

The night was like water, and the evening breeze brushed the branches and leaves in the forest, causing them to sway left and right, producing a ceaseless rustling sound.

In the woods, the swiftly moving figure of Rock suddenly came to a halt.

Under the cover of night, he widened his eyes, staring in disbelief at what lay ahead!

What came into Rock's view was the corpse of Zorro.

Zorro lay motionless ahead, his eyes wide open in a death stare, a horrifying wound on his throat, not to mention his body completely drenched in blood. Even the weeds beneath him were stained with blood, a truly miserable sight.

"Could it be that Zorro was killed by that guy named Ye Fan?"

Although Rock was sure that Zorro was dead, he still found it hard to believe that Ye Fan, merely a Level 7 Cultivator, could kill Zorro, who was in the Half-step War God realm—this completely violated the laws of the Cultivation World!

However—

Even with a thousand doubts, logic told Rock that it was definitely Ye Fan who had killed Zorro.

Because, just like Liu Chuanjun, he had clearly sensed the aura of the two when Zorro and Ye Fan were fighting, knowing they had exchanged blows.

This was also the reason he changed his route and chased in this direction!

While reluctantly accepting the reality of Zorro's death at the hands of Ye Fan, the thought emerged in Rock's mind: "Could it be that Liu Chuanjun couldn't take down that guy named Ye Fan, so he deliberately released his aura, wanting to lure me here to join forces with him?"

"It must be so!"

As the thought emerged, Rock instinctively came up with an answer, but was immediately filled with doubts, "Killing Zorro, able to contend with Liu Chuanjun... Is that guy really just a Level 7 Cultivator?"

Rock didn't know the answer, but... he believed that Ye Fan's strength couldn't possibly surpass Liu Chuanjun's; otherwise, Liu Chuanjun wouldn't dare to follow Ye Fan but would have fled at the first opportunity!

Realizing this, Rock's feet flickered, and he swiftly chased after Ye Fan and Liu Chuanjun.

Because Ye Fan chose to escape via the highway, the straight-line distance between Rock and the two of them wasn't very far, only a few hundred meters.

And wisely, Rock did not choose to follow along the winding road but jumped down the steep slope, and within less than a minute, he saw Ye Fan and Liu Chuanjun.

At the same time, Ye Fan also sensed Rock's rapidly approaching aura, and judging from the movement of Rock's aura, realized that Rock was chasing down the steep slope.

This discovery caused his brow to furrow even tighter, and his expression once again became serious!

He had chosen to escape along the highway in hopes of encountering a car, then stopping it to flee by car, but to his dismay, he hadn't encountered any passing cars.

Seeing Rock quickly closing in, Ye Fan made a decisive decision, abandoning his previous escape plan and, just like Rock, started frantically sprinting toward the base of the mountain.

Seeing this, Liu Chuanjun immediately changed his route as well, following like a shadow, unrelentingly.

As before, Liu Chuanjun did not push his speed to the limit, always maintaining a distance of thirty meters from Ye Fan.

Conversely, Rock was sprinting at full speed after the two.

For a moment, the three of them chased each other, with Rock, leveraging his speed advantage, steadily closing the distance between himself, Ye Fan, and Liu Chuanjun... even further!

"What should I do?"

As the situation once again became dangerous, Ye Fan, although not as panic-stricken as before, was still somewhat nervous.

"Should I suddenly strike, using the Xuan Ye Flying Blade to assassinate the person behind?"

A bold idea surfaced in Ye Fan's mind, but he immediately denied it.

He could tell from the aura that Liu Chuanjun was the strongest among them, even not weaker than Wenhao, who had killed Wudang Sect's Great Elder Murong Gu on that day!

And Murong Gu was one of those who could enter the Gang Qi realm at any moment, almost invincible in the Half-step Gang Qi realm!

With his strength, unless he could, like when he killed Zorro, fortuitously enter that state and launch a Forbidden Technique-like strike using Mind Power to harm Liu Chuanjun's soul, thereby taking advantage of the brief moment of blank consciousness in Liu Chuanjun to execute the Flying Knife assassination...

Otherwise, there was no way he could kill Liu Chuanjun, not even touch a single hair on him!

And once he failed to kill Liu Chuanjun and exposed his strength, Liu Chuanjun would no longer hesitate and would strike to kill!

"Crack—"

After discarding the idea of taking a risky shot, Ye Fan leaped again, landing back on the mountain road, the asphalt ground unable to withstand the terrifying force, instantly cracking and debris flying everywhere.

"Crack—"

Almost at the same time, Rock also landed on the mountain road.

Seeing this, Ye Fan, knowing he could no longer continue to flee, simply stopped, stabilizing his stance.

Although Ye Fan had stopped, Rock did not rashly attack him but kept moving forward a few meters, blocking Ye Fan's escape route.

Clearly... he had a deep wariness of Ye Fan!

After all, Ye Fan had just killed Zorro, and even made Liu Chuanjun hesitant to act alone!

Not only Zorro, but Liu Chuanjun, who had been relentlessly pursuing, also did not take the opportunity to strike directly but stopped on the steep slope above the road, looking down at Ye Fan from a high position.

Seeing this, a thought flashed in Ye Fan's mind, subtly capturing a sliver of opportunity: both Rock and Liu Chuanjun were wary of him, and they did not come from the same force, not of one mind—neither wanted to take the initiative to attack!

With this thought in mind, Ye Fan sneered coldly, "Hey, a Half-step Ninja God and a Half-step War God, actually joining hands to chase down a mere Level 7 Cultivator—aren't you afraid of being ridiculed if this gets out?"

"Hmph, kid, you were able to kill Zorro and still claim to be a Level 7 Cultivator?"

Rock snorted coldly, then rushed to ask Liu Chuanjun who stood on the steep slope, "Liu Chuanjun, how did this guy kill Zorro?"

"Since you're so curious, why not try it out and see?"

Without waiting for Liu Chuanjun's response, Ye Fan looked at Rock with a mocking face, feigning strength once again.

As a half-step War God realm powerhouse, not only was Rock's status distinguished in the Giant Axe Organization, but he was also renowned in the global Underworld; never had he been mocked and humiliated like he was at this moment.

"You..."

Rock was so angered that his face changed color, and he glared at Ye Fan, wishing he could tear Ye Fan apart immediately, but seeing Ye Fan's fearless demeanor, he dared not strike. Instead, his fear deepened.

"His real strength should be close to an invincible existence among Level 8 Cultivators."

Liu Chuanjun looked at Ye Fan with cold eyes and slowly said, "He managed to kill Zorro probably because he possesses a High-level Magical Artifact with extremely strong attack power, and moreover... it is very likely a Mind Power Attack artifact!"

Upon hearing Liu Chuanjun's words by his ear, Ye Fan could not help but inwardly marvel at Liu Chuanjun's keen insight and judgment, yet he remained unfazed outwardly.

Upon hearing the words 'High-level Magical Artifact,' Rock's eyes suddenly lit up!

Although he was a half-step War God realm powerhouse with a distinguished status in the Giant Axe Organization, he had not yet obtained a High-level Magical Artifact!

In the blink of an eye, Rock's trepidation plummeted, and he looked at Ye Fan as greedily as a lustful man beholding a naked noblewoman, feeling a strong impulse to strike.

"Rock, if you strike him first, the High-level Magical Artifact on his body is yours!" Seeing Rock tempted, Liu Chuanjun spoke again.

Upon hearing this, Ye Fan immediately guessed Liu Chuanjun's intention and retorted with a cold laugh, "Using my High-level Magical Artifact as bait to lure you into a fierce battle with me, while you take the opportunity to strike a good calculation indeed!"

"Liu Chuanjun, aren't you too scheming?"

As Ye Fan had deduced, Rock and Liu Chuanjun were not united, simply cooperating temporarily. Hearing Ye Fan's words and seeing Ye Fan ready to stake it all, Rock's greed vanished entirely, and he glared at Liu Chuanjun displeasedly.

"I haven't finished my words. I just wanted to make an agreement with you before making a move, to prevent you from saying afterward that I, Liu Chuanjun, deceived you. Besides that High-level Magical Artifact, he also has the Ghost Ring obtained from Hunter, and he might even have scavenged some treasures from Zorro!"

Liu Chuanjun gave an evasive answer, "If you're too scared to strike first, then that High-level Magical Artifact is mine, and the other treasures are yours, how about that?"

This time,

Rock didn't rush to reply but instead cast his gaze back on Ye Fan, his face showing hesitation.

"Truly despicable!"

Ye Fan cursed Liu Chuanjun in his heart for his cunning but outwardly mocked with a raging smile,
"Come on, little devil, you strike first—I'd rather drag you to Hell with me than deal with this big lug!"

Swish!

Amidst the sound of Ye Fan's defiant words, Rock couldn't help but look toward Liu Chuanjun, seemingly waiting to see his reaction.

Liu Chuanjun squinted and stared intensely at Ye Fan, as if weighing whether to risk it for greater riches.

For a moment, the situation became a stalemate.

"Hum~"

Just then, the roaring sound of a car engine suddenly came from the foot of the mountain.

The vehicle, bearing the Southeast Asia Special Zone 1 license, roared like a crazed steel beast, arriving at the foot of the mountain.

In the car, Ye Wenhao was personally driving with a more solemn expression than ever before.

Suddenly, as the vehicle was about to enter the mountain road leading up the mountain, Ye Wenhao slowed down slightly, steered single-handedly, freed one hand to pick up his phone, and dialed Ye Fan's number again.

On his way there, he had already dialed it many times. Each time it connected, but Ye Fan never answered.

"Sorry, the number you have dialed is currently not answered."

Just like before, this time too, no one answered Ye Fan's phone.

This result made Ye Wenhao's eyebrows furrow even more tightly, then he violently stomped on the brake!

"Screech~"

In an instant, the sound of the car tires fiercely rubbing against the ground erupted, breaking the calm at the foot of the mountain.

The car left a clear trail of tire marks on the ground at the entrance to the winding mountain road, where Ye Wenhao opened the door, jumped out of the car, and then dashed into the woods!

At this moment,

he made the decision to abandon the vehicle and proceed on foot!

Anxious to save someone.

With his strength, climbing up the mountain slope on foot was faster than driving up!

Chapter 456 Father and Son Join Forces to Fight the Enemy Together Part One

At the moment Ye Wenhao slammed on the brakes urgently, Ye Fan, along with Liu Chuanjun and Rock, all heard the noise.

In addition, due to their position being less than a kilometer away from the bottom of the mountain in a straight line, they could all sense Ye Wenhao's presence.

"It's father!"

Ye Fan instantly recognized that it was his father Ye Wenhao's voice, causing his complexion to change slightly!

Huh?

Liu Chuanjun had been keenly sensing Ye Wenhao's breath, trying to gauge Ye Wenhao's strength, when he suddenly noticed the change in Ye Fan's expression and had a hunch about something.

"Rock, if nothing goes wrong, the person coming is this kid's father, Ye Wenhao!"

Liu Chuanjun informed Rock, yet his gaze remained on Ye Fan, attempting to confirm his guess through Ye Fan's facial expressions.

Ye Wenhao?!

Rock's face couldn't help but change slightly when he heard this name.

As a half-step War God realm strong man and a prominent figure in the Giant Axe Organization, he had long heard of Ye Wenhao's great reputation, knew that Ye Wenhao was one of Huaxia's most representative red descendants, and was also aware that Ye Wenhao had once ranked first on the Qing bang!

Before undertaking the mission to enter the Southeast Asia Special Zone, he had also carefully looked into Ye Wenhao's information and learned about Ye Wenhao's feat of killing the Wudang Grand Elder Murong Gu!

Beyond that, he remembered distinctly according to the deal with Chen Feilian, that after killing Ye Fan, he, Zorro, and Liu Chuanjun were supposed to join forces and cripple Ye Wenhao's Kung Fu!

Now, not only was Ye Fan safe and sound, but Zorro had died and Ye Wenhao had suddenly arrived...

This was definitely not good news for him and Liu Chuanjun!

"Rock, I trust you are aware of the incident where Ye Wenhao killed a half-step War God realm fighter with the strength of a Level 8 Warrior."

Seeing Rock's facial expression change and the tension it revealed, Liu Chuanjun cautioned, "If we don't take action to kill this kid now, we might miss our chance!"

Rock raised his eyebrows and said nothing, which was as good as agreeing with Liu Chuanjun.

Even, in his view, if Ye Wenhao and Ye Fan were to join forces, he and Liu Chuanjun would likely be at a disadvantage!

"Liu Chuanjun, you are stronger than me, you have better chances of killing this kid, and it would save time as well, so you make the first move," Rock proposed, understanding the situation.

"Fine, but as I said before, that high-level magical artifact on this kid is mine!"

Seemingly discerning that Rock was hesitant to take the lead, Liu Chuanjun gritted his teeth and agreed.

Firstly, as Rock said, his strength was somewhat stronger, and he should make the first move; secondly, as a Japanese cultivator inheriting the spirit of the Samurai from ancient assassins and having an outstanding Martial Arts Will among cultivators in the same realm, and finally, being one of the most promising cultivators in Japan who could potentially become the next Ninja God, his Martial Arts Will was extremely resolute.

If he chose to retreat fearing the risks, it would leave a shadow in his heart, shaking his Martial Arts Will, which could adversely affect his future cultivation and potentially preclude him from ever entering the Ninja God realm!

This was something he truly did not want to see!

Therefore, he would rather face the risk of both sides being injured and Rock gaining an advantage to make the first move against Ye Fan, aiming to kill him, therefore clearing his own path.

This is bad!

Watching Liu Chuanjun and Rock reach an agreement, Ye Fan's heart sank, his body tensed up, his mind highly concentrated, quickly contemplating a countermeasure.

However—

This time.

Liu Chuanjun did not give Ye Fan a chance!

Just as Ye Fan was contemplating his response, Liu Chuanjun leaped forward, his hands gripping the sword, using the momentum of his descent, and he slashed down with full force at Ye Fan!

—Slashing!

When Liu Chuanjun made a move, it was the slashing technique that was extremely well-known in Japan's Cultivation World.

"Zi~"

"Whoosh! Whoosh!"

As Liu Chuanjun's blade slashed through, the air was instantly split open, and where the blade passed, the air exploded and the blade wind howled, with a tremendous momentum as if it could split even a mountain peak!

Facing Liu Chuanjun's terrifying slash, Ye Fan felt as if he had been dragged into an isolated world, surrounded by blade shadows, unable to dodge no matter how he tried, doomed to become a soul under Liu Chuanjun's blade!

It was just a slash, but Liu Chuanjun had already shaken Ye Fan's consciousness, imposing immense pressure on Ye Fan!

To Ye Fan, although he was only a cultivator in the Innate Great Success realm, his magic cultivation was not weaker than that of an Innate Peak stage magician. Additionally, with his dual cultivation of magic and martial arts complementing each other, his consciousness was far stronger than that of an Innate Peak stage magician.

Furthermore, since dispelling his mental block and undergoing several life and death trials, with the help of the mysterious Crimson Golden Crown, his spiritual actions had reached a new realm, making his consciousness so strong that even compared to an Innate Great Perfection Cultivator, he was not inferior!

And... because magicians cultivate the spirit while martial artists cultivate the body, a magician's consciousness is far stronger than that of a martial artist of the same realm—even comparable to the consciousness strength of martial artists two realms higher!

In such a situation, even comparing consciousness strength alone, Ye Fan was not at all inferior to a half-step Gang Qi realm martial artist!

"My heart is as firm as a rock!"

Then, faced with the intimidation of Liu Chuanjun's slash, Ye Fan quickly steadied his consciousness, concentrated his mind power, and shouted in his mind.

As he shouted, the intimidation dispersed!

Following Ye Fan's shout, the deterrence brought by Liu Chuanjun's slash vanished completely.

Immediately after, without any delay, Ye Fan activated the Ghost Ring while harnessing his power to violently retreat!

"Clang!"

Liu Chuanjun's Eastern Blade turned into a streak of white light, striking the phantom left by Ye Fan's rapid retreat, and then it smashed into the asphalt road, carving out a deep gash and sending sparks flying.

When Liu Chuanjun's slash missed, Rock took advantage of the moment Ye Fan dodged, appearing behind Ye Fan like a ghost, his right fist swinging out fiercely!

"Whoosh!"

As Rock punched, a stream of Gang Qi shot out from his fist like a laser from a gun, blasting toward Ye Fan's head!

Ye Fan had anticipated that Rock would seize this opportunity to launch a sneak attack and had prepared his defenses. Amid his rapid retreat, his body slipped like a slippery eel, suddenly changing direction and flashing to the side!

"Snap! Snap! Snap!"

The Gang Qi from Rock's punch whistled past Ye Fan's body. Wherever the Gang Qi passed, the air seemed to burst, and the sound of air exploding was incessant.

Ye Fan felt his face scorch as if seared by fierce fire, bringing a burning pain, but fortunately, he wasn't injured, though it was extremely perilous.

"Bastard!"

Seeing Ye Fan narrowly dodge Rock's sneak attack, Liu Chuanjun cursed in anger.

With his strength, he could naturally tell that Rock's punch just now wasn't with full force but was rather circumspect, ready to retract his fist at any time to avoid Ye Fan's counterattack.

Indeed, that was the case.

Because Ye Fan had killed Zorro and shown previous arrogance and desperation, Rock harbored deep wariness towards Ye Fan. Unlike Liu Chuanjun, who broke the spiritual shackles aiming to kill Ye Fan with one strike, Rock, as Liu Chuanjun pointed out, always had a way out planned during his attack to avoid being injured by Ye Fan's counter.

Not only did Liu Chuanjun see this, but Ye Fan was also crystal clear about it. Hearing Liu Chuanjun speak up, Ye Fan deliberately sneered, "Liu Chuan, don't just talk about him. Are you not also holding back your full strength?"

"Hey, kid, although I don't know how you killed Zorro, from our brief exchange just now, I can tell that you don't have the strength to kill both of us. Otherwise, you could have taken advantage of Rock's hesitation to strike and killed Rock!" Liu Chuanjun stared coldly at Ye Fan, speaking darkly, though he wasn't entirely sure of it.

"If I had struck to kill him, I would likely be dead under your blade by now, right?"

Ye Fan, unfazed, coldly responded, "You seemed to take the initiative to strike but held back, not wanting to fight me desperately, hoping instead to use him as cannon fodder. Why mask it with such pretense?"

"Liu Chuanjun, if you pull any more tricks, I'm out. You can handle him alone!"

Rock wasn't a fool. He had already suspected that Liu Chuanjun hadn't given his all, and hearing Ye Fan say this, he immediately felt calculated by Liu Chuanjun.

"Rock, this kid is just bluffing us. Don't fall for his tricks!"

Upon hearing this, Liu Chuanjun sharply shouted, then sensing Ye Wenhao's rapidly approaching presence, yelled, "This time, I will strike with all my strength, and you must too, or we truly won't have another chance!"

Rock remained silent, seemingly waiting for Liu Chuanjun to make a real move.

"To your death!"

Seeing this, Liu Chuanjun no longer wasted words, and with a fierce shout, his momentum surged, and his intent to fight blazed.

With the shout, his figure moved!

"Snap! Snap!"

Liu Chuanjun powered up from his feet, stepping on the ground in succession, using the rebound force to leap into the air, both hands gripping the blade, thrusting toward Ye Fan.

—Thrust!

This thrust, with the renowned Eastern Blade technique, was a lethal strike aimed at killing Ye Fan—Liu Chuanjun now held nothing back. His entire being merged perfectly with the Eastern Blade in his hands, attaining the swordsman's dream of unity with the blade, like an ancient assassin's deadly blow, intent on slaying his target!

In the air, he maximized his speed to an extent where one couldn't clearly see his figure, only the flickering white light of the blade, like a shooting star passing through.

At that moment, he was the blade, and the blade was him, indistinguishable from each other.

"Swoosh!"

Facing Liu Chuanjun's full-powered strike, Ye Fan's mind moved, and a Xuan Ye Flying Blade, under the control of mind power, broke out from his sleeve, turning into a streak of white light, swiftly shooting toward Liu Chuanjun.

"Hmph!"

Liu Chuanjun snorted coldly, changing his thrust to a slash, chopping directly at the oncoming Xuan Ye Flying Blade with terrifying force that sent the flying knife whirling away.

Although he did that, Ye Fan's flying knife assassination directly broke Liu Chuanjun's unity with his blade, slowing down Liu Chuanjun's speed and winning Ye Fan a chance to dodge.

However—

Without waiting for Ye Fan to escape, Rock flashed his figure and appeared behind Ye Fan like a ghost again, his palm striking toward the back of Ye Fan's head.

This time.

Rock held nothing back, striking with all his might, intent on killing Ye Fan!

"You're seeking death!!"

Just then.

A furious shout suddenly resounded through the heavens.

A figure, like a War God descending from the sky, punched toward Rock's back heart!

In the nick of time, Ye Wenhao arrived just in time!

Chapter 457 Father and Son Join Forces to Kill the Enemy

Spiritual Sense detected the sneak attack from behind by Ye Wenhao, and Rock's face changed as he quickly withdrew his palm and sidestepped.

Because Ye Wenhao had once killed Murong Gu, Rock was more wary of Ye Wenhao than he was of Ye Fan.

Even though he was certain that his previous palm strike could have killed Ye Fan, he couldn't avoid Ye Wenhao's sneak attack from behind and might very well end up accompanying Ye Fan in death!

Whoosh!

As Rock was fearing a mutual destruction with Ye Fan, Liu Chuanjun, hindered by Ye Fan's Flying Knife assassination attempt, seized the moment Ye Fan was stunned by Rock's punch to launch a second attack. Seeing Ye Wenhao appear, he did not retract his blade but instead gripped it with both hands and slashed down at Ye Fan's head once more!

This slash was still a slashing strike, but compared to Liu Chuanjun's first strike, the momentum, strength, and speed were all significantly greater—Liu Chuanjun was not holding back anymore!

"Huff!"

As the blade slashed down, Ye Fan didn't choose to dodge but stood motionless on the spot.

He didn't dodge, not because he had no chance—at the instant Liu Chuanjun struck, he had a split-second opportunity to evade.

He didn't dodge because he knew that his father, in an effort to save him, had struck Rock with all his might and might not be able to recover his form in time. If he dodged, Liu Chuanjun's blade would fall on his father!

This was something he absolutely did not want to see!

"Be careful!!"

In critical moments, Ye Wenhao's eyes turned blood red as he roared loudly, trying to warn Ye Fan in this way.

"Swoosh—"

In response to Ye Wenhao was the sound of slicing through the air.

The swooshing sound rang out again, the second Xuanye Flying Blade shot out from the sleeve, racing towards Liu Chuanjun's throat!

Having lost the chance to dodge, Ye Fan once again manipulated the Xuanye Flying Blade, not attempting to clash head-on with Liu Chuanjun's full-force slash but resolving to kill Liu Chuanjun and go down together!

"Clang!"

As the Flying Knife stabbed towards him, Liu Chuanjun, realizing that Ye Fan intended mutual destruction, cursed Ye Fan's ferocity while swinging his right hand, sweeping his blade to send the Xuanye Flying Blade flying.

Whoosh!

Just then, Ye Wenhao reached behind Ye Fan, changing his punch to a grab, snatched Ye Fan's clothing, and swiftly swept to the side.

"Thwack—"

Having lost the chance to kill Ye Fan, Liu Chuan landed lightly, his feet creating two impressions in the ground, face turning ashen with frustration, and the corner of his mouth twitching.

Obviously... he knew that he had lost the best opportunity to kill Ye Fan!

Hereafter, killing Ye Fan with the combined forces of Ye Wenhao and Ye Fan's father would become very difficult!

On one hand, Ye Wenhao and Ye Fan's father's combined strength was not much less than his alliance with Rock, but what was more important was that Ye Wenhao and Ye Fan's father were united, even willing to die for each other, whereas his alliance with Rock was one of convenience, each wishing the other would die to their benefit!

The comparison between the two was starkly different!

"Are you alright?"

Although he managed to save Ye Fan in the crisis, Ye Wenhao still looked at Ye Fan with a face full of concern.

"It's fine."

Ye Fan smiled and shook his head, trying to put Ye Wenhao at ease.

Looking at Ye Fan's indifferent smile, Ye Wenhao only felt a pain in his heart!

Although he didn't know how his son had managed to hold on until now when being hunted down by three Half-step Gang Qi realm masters, he was certain that his son had definitely gone through life-threatening dangers and had narrowly escaped death numerous times!

"Today, all of you are going to die!!"

Realizing this, Ye Wenhao shifted his gaze away from Ye Fan, his eyes turning red as he stared at Liu Chuanjun and Rock.

As soon as the words fell, Ye Wenhao's consciousness moved, and he spurred his Power. The Power Seed in his Dantian started to spin wildly as if following commands, and streams of Power emerged from the Power Seed, then flowed out of the Dantian and quickly circulated along the route of the Grand Circulation.

Crack!

Noting the murderous look in Ye Wenhao's eyes and sensing that he was ready to fight to the death, Rock felt an inexplicable tremor in his heart and began to have thoughts of backing away.

"That kid has just been bluffing; his actual strength in head-on combat is not even comparable to the invincible among Level 8 Cultivators. It's just his Flying Knife Assassination that's a bit tricky!"

As if discerning Rock's thoughts, Liu Chuanjun, who had previously broken the Spiritual Shackles, frowned and reminded, "With your strength, if you go all out, you're bound to kill him within five moves!"

"You'll take on Ye Wenhao?" Rock asked, a thought crossing his mind, guessing at Liu Chuanjun's intention, but not daring to confirm it.

"Hmm."

Liu Chuanjun nodded, saying, "I'll hold Ye Wenhao off first. Once you kill the kid, we'll join forces against Ye Wenhao!"

"Okay!"

After a moment of contemplation, Rock agreed to Liu Chuanjun's proposal.

Clearly, he too had seen through Ye Fan's bluffing; with his own strength, it was certain that he could kill Ye Fan without any suspense. His only concern was Ye Wenhao.

Now that Liu Chuanjun was there to entangle Ye Wenhao, he no longer had any danger to worry about.

"Snap!"

Just as Liu Chuanjun and Rock reached an agreement again, Ye Wenhao took a step forward, standing like a mountain in front of Ye Fan, and said, "Xiao Fan, step back and leave this to me!"

"Dad, I want to fight with you!"

Ye Fan shook his head and also stepped forward, standing beside Ye Wenhao, ready to share life and death with his father.

"Kid, you had your Uncle Rock here fooled pretty badly just now, but this time, Uncle Rock is definitely not going to give you any chance!" Seeing Ye Fan preparing to fight alongside Ye Wenhao, Rock sneered, looking at Ye Fan as though he were already a dead man.

"Ye Wenhao, I've heard that you once killed a Half-step Ninja God realm master with the strength of a Level 8 Cultivator. Today, I really want to see how you managed to do that!"

As soon as Rock finished speaking, Liu Chuanjun also spoke, simultaneously boosting his own momentum and War Intent, ready to bring out his strongest strength for a fight against Ye Wenhao.

"I said, today all of you are going to die!"

Seeing that Ye Fan was determined to fight with him, Ye Wenhao stopped insisting and continued to crazily stimulate the Power within his body, covertly transforming it into Blood Qi, which climbed higher and higher.

"Why has his Blood Qi suddenly become so strong? And why is it still getting stronger??" Rock was shocked to notice the changes in Ye Wenhao's Blood Qi.

Hmm?

Liu Chuanjun furrowed his brows, puzzled, but he faintly sensed a whiff of danger.

Ye Fan thought of the life-and-death battle between Ye Wenhao and Murong Gu, his heart clear as a mirror.

"Burn the Blood Qi, connect with heaven and earth!"

The next moment.

Before Liu Chuanjun and Rock could act, Ye Wenhao's blood within his body boiled over completely, and he suddenly roared towards the sky, as if to scatter the clouds above.

With his roar, Ye Wenhao's Blood Qi burst out from the top of his head towards the sky, forming a bridge that connected with the firmament.

In an instant, the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi surged!

Amidst the incredulous expressions of Liu Chuanjun and Rock, strands of Fire Essence Qi were bizarrely stripped away, merging into that stream of Blood Qi.

Not good!

Sensing this scene, Liu Chuanjun and Rock's expressions changed simultaneously, horror filling their hearts, their souls even trembling slightly.

After their shock, Liu Chuanjun and Rock almost simultaneously had the thought of backing away.

"Burning Nine Heavens!"

However—

Before the two could turn their thoughts into action, an earth-shattering roar suddenly exploded!

With the roar, a figure moved!

Ye Wenhao's figure flashed, turning into a streak of blood shadow, shooting towards Liu Chuanjun at extreme speed, so fast that no sound was made.

"Sword Slash Waterfall!"

Facing Ye Wenhao's proactive attack, Liu Chuanjun immediately shook off the thought of retreating, his hands moving, swinging his blade to meet Ye Wenhao's oncoming assault!

This slash was the most powerful strike Liu Chuanjun could deliver.

In those years, to master this slash, he had secluded himself in Hokkaido for ten years, swinging his blade beneath a waterfall every day.

A decade of practice for a single slash.

After ten years of seclusion, with this slash, he could split the cascading waterfall, thereby naming it 'Sword Slash Waterfall'.

During the past few years, with 'Sword Slash Waterfall,' he swept through the Japan Cultivation World beneath the Ninja God Realm, earning himself the title of 'No enemy under the God of Ninjas.'

Today, he wielded this slash once again.

"Die!!"

Faced with Liu Chuanjun's overpoweringly tyrannical slash, Ye Wenhao pressed on relentlessly, a furious roar escaping his mouth as his right fist, like a cannonball being fired, blasted out!

"Is this guy crazy, pitting his fist against a sharp blade?"

Spiritual Sense detecting this scene, Rock, who had quietly retreated, widened his eyes, thinking Ye Wenhao had gone mad.

Mad??

As Ye Wenhao punched out, the stream of Blood Qi in the air, infused with a great amount of Fire Essence Qi, seemed to be drawn in an instant, gathering on his right fist like a scorching sun!

"Clang!"

The clash of blade and fist sent a muffled sound ringing out.

Liu Chuanjun's Eastern Blade seemed to have hit the hardest substance in the world, unable to advance an inch!

"How... How is this possible?"

Rock was completely stunned by this scene!

Even Rock was so astounded, what about Liu Chuanjun himself?

"How... What's going on??"

Liu Chuanjun was greatly alarmed, his eyes wide, staring fixedly at Ye Wenhao who had withstood his blade with just a fist, even beginning to suspect that he was hallucinating!

A hallucination??

"Crack—"

The answer to Liu Chuanjun was a crisp snap.

The blade broke!!

Amid the ghostly expressions of Rock and Liu Chuanjun, the blade that could slice through iron like mud broke into two pieces. And... Ye Wenhao's right fist, flickering with red light, like a burning cannonball, rocketed towards Liu Chuanjun's head!

"Bang—"

With a single punch, the head burst!

Hot blood gushed out like a fountain from the severed connection between Liu Chuanjun's head and body, blooming into a vivid spray of blood in midair.

"Sizzle~"

Immediately thereafter, a sound akin to meat being roasted rang out, Liu Chuanjun's face charred black, and the splattered blood evaporated into a mist of blood.

Time seemed to stop.

The scene appeared to freeze.

Rock was dumbfounded.

Ye Fan was still shocked.

Ye Wenhao stood tall, his gaze sweeping towards Rock, his voice like rolling thunder.

"Come over, and face your death!!"

Chapter 458 Father and Son Join Forces to Kill the Enemy - Part 2

Clang!

Ye Wenhao's roar rang in his ears, and Rock's heart jumped violently, his face filled with panic!

As a Half-step War God realm master, Rock had been cultivating since childhood, encountered numerous fights, and witnessed plenty of martial arts techniques, but... never had he seen a technique that could compare with Ye Wenhao's punch just now!

If he hadn't seen it with his own eyes, he would never believe that such a mysterious and domineering martial arts technique existed in this world—it could directly connect with heaven and earth, merge with Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi, and erupt with combat power far beyond his own strength!

"Whoosh—"

After the panic, Rock didn't say another word and started running like a defeated soldier, fleeing the battlefield.

In his opinion, Liu Chuanjun was stronger than him, yet he was killed in a second by Ye Wenhao's move, so staying would only lead him down a path to death!

"Swoosh—"

Just as Rock's figure flickered, Ye Fan's consciousness moved, and a Xuanye Flying Blade whistled out from his sleeve, shooting rapidly toward Rock's front to block his escape.

Swish!

Frightened by the incoming Flying Knife Assassination, Rock's face turned pale, his steps faltered, and his speed slowed. Then, without stopping, he tried to flee to the side.

"Hmph!"

At the same time, Ye Wenhao snorted coldly, carrying the might of his previous punch, he dashed toward Rock with speed much faster than normal, not inferior to Rock at all.

"Dad, don't use Burning Nine Heavens anymore!"

Sensing Ye Wenhao's move, Ye Fan immediately called out a reminder. He was well aware that although Ye Wenhao's Burning Nine Heavens was domineering and powerful, it used Essence of Power converted to Blood Qi, then burned Blood Qi to connect with Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi, consuming a great deal of Essence of Power.

Initially, after Ye Wenhao killed Murong Gu with a punch from Burning Nine Heavens, his Essence of Power was severely depleted.

And since Essence of Power is obtained through repeated cultivation and transformation, it is extremely difficult to recover once spent.

"Okay!"

Hearing Ye Fan's reminder, Ye Wenhao also knew that with his own strength, if he worked with his son, even without using Burning Nine Heavens, they could still kill Rock.

Not using that move anymore?!

Rock had been terrified by Ye Wenhao's Burning Nine Heavens, and upon hearing Ye Fan's words, he faintly felt that Ye Wenhao's technique, though powerful, might have side effects and couldn't be used lightly. He couldn't help but breathe a sigh of relief.

At the same time, perceiving Ye Wenhao chasing relentlessly behind him, Rock knew he had to strike back at Ye Wenhao to escape successfully.

Realizing this, Rock abruptly stopped, twisted his waist, and raised his right foot, its instep taut like a whip, lashing out at the oncoming Ye Wenhao.

—Thomas Spinning Kick!

This move was the rather famous Western martial arts technique, the Thomas Spinning Kick. The power of the move was average, but it could easily catch the opponent by surprise and was hard to defend against.

Faced with Rock's sudden strike, Ye Wenhao seemed to have been prepared all along. He didn't dodge or parry, but instead, his right fist swung fiercely, meeting the kick head-on!

"Smack!"

As he punched out, the air burst, and a terrible Evil Yin Qi emerged from Ye Wenhao, making him look like a Demon God from Hell.

The Xuansha Fist killing move, Qi Rushes to the Sky!

Sixth Layer, fifty-four times power!!

"Boom—"

Between the sparks of electric flint, Ye Wenhao's fist struck Rock's foot, reminiscent of two mountains colliding, with a momentum that was startling.

Immediately, a surge of Gang Qi burst forth from Rock's foot, roaring into Ye Wenhao's fist.

Ye Wenhao's punch, containing fifty-four times power, erupted like a volcanic explosion!

Crackle and pop!

The Gang Qi and Power clashed and neutralized each other, producing a sound similar to frying beans.

"Snap—"

Ye Wenhao was jolted back a step, and the ground beneath his feet instantly collapsed.

"Crack—"

It wasn't easy for Rock either; his body shook, and the ground under his feet couldn't withstand the force, shattering and revealing a dense network of cracks.

They were evenly matched!

This time, even without using Burning Nine Heavens, Ye Wenhao was almost on par with Rock.

This outcome caused Rock's face to suddenly change, his eyes filled with shock: How... how can he be so strong?

Strong??

Earlier, Ye Fan had judged Rock's strength to be weaker than Liu Chuanjun's through his aura, far inferior to the Wudang Grand Elder Murong Gu, whom Ye Wenhao had killed with a single punch. Therefore, he felt that Ye Wenhao, leveraging the might of the Burning Nine Heavens move he had just used and striking while the iron was hot, could merely employ Qi Rushes to the Sky to contend with Rock.

Now, seeing the result confirming his judgement, Ye Fan breathed a sigh of relief, and then with a thought, a flash of golden light twinkled between his brows, sending an invisible Mind Power Attack silently towards Rock.

"Hiss~"

After a brief moment of shock, Rock took in a cold breath, completely losing his fighting courage and wanting to flee again.

But—

Before Rock could take a step, that invisible Mind Power attack entered through the Yintang point between his brows. Under Ye Fan's control, it headed straight for Rock's Consciousness (Soul)!

Spiritual power attack?!

Rock was greatly alarmed and quickly steadied his Consciousness, mobilizing his Gang Qi for protection.

"Snap—"

Seizing the opportunity, Ye Wenhao stepped forward and threw another punch towards Rock's heart.

"Bastard!"

Sensing Ye Wenhao's attack, Rock cursed inwardly; he had no choice but to abandon the idea of using Gang Qi to protect his Consciousness. Instead, he hastily redirected his Power to his right hand to meet the punch with a palm.

"Bang—"

Fist met palm, and a muffled thud sounded once more.

This time, Ye Wenhao didn't budge an inch.

Because Rock was distracted by Ye Fan's spiritual power attack and made a hasty move, even with the advantage of the palm over the fist, he was still forced by Ye Wenhao's punch to step back, feeling his internal Blood Qi churning.

Then, without waiting for Rock to stabilize his internal Blood Qi, Ye Fan's Mind Power Attack silently struck Rock's Soul.

Since he hadn't entered that miraculous state, Ye Fan's strike was much weaker compared to the one he had used against Zorro.

Even so, this stealthy blow still caused Rock's Martial Arts Will to waver, sending his Soul into tremors.

Soul trembling unstably, Rock had no choice but to abandon stabilizing his blood Qi and instead focused on steadying his soul with his own will.

Just at this moment!

Ye Wenhao did not pause, pressing his advantage with another punch, seemingly determined to beat Rock to death alive!

"FUCK!"

Because the distance was too short and Ye Wenhao's punch was too fast, Rock had no chance to dodge. He roared angrily in his heart and had to abandon the idea of solidifying his Soul Defense Line, swinging his palm to meet the attack once again.

This time, his soul trembled, his Mind Power scattered, and the Gang Qi he channeled was far less than before.

Before, he had mustered only 80% of his full-strength Gang Qi due to the hasty defense, which resulted in him being forced to step back by Ye Wenhao's punch, his internal blood Qi tumbling. What would happen this time?

Fist meeting palm, the Power contained in Ye Wenhao's fist, after negating the Gang Qi flowing from Rock's palm, did not stop but blasted into Rock's hand!

"Crack—"

The terrifying counterforce directly shattered Rock's wrist and arm.

Rock's body shook violently, his internal organs were all injured as if he was a soccer ball that had been kicked, and he was sent flying backwards.

As he flew through the air, blood trickled from the corners of his mouth, and his complexion was pale as paper, clearly suffering from severe injuries.

"Whoosh—"

Strike you when you're down, that's when I'll take your life!

Just as Rock was sent flying, Ye Fan's Consciousness moved again, and the Xuanye Flying Blade that had previously missed and fallen to the ground leaped up, whistling towards the back of Rock's heart!

Danger!

Rock was shocked and, despite his injuries, urged Gang Qi to his waist. Then, with a fierce twist of his waist, he performed a backward somersault in mid-air.

"Whoosh!"

The Xuanye Flying Blade nearly grazed Rock's back as it passed, its sharp blade wind felt like a chill wind on Rock's body, causing his hair to stand on end.

"Pfft—"

Rock narrowly avoided the Flying Knife Assassination, but the movement aggravated his injury, his body shook, and he opened his mouth to spit out a mist of blood as he plummeted downward.

"Whoosh!"

Below, Ye Wenhao had reached the spot unknowingly, his right fist blasting upward towards Rock.

Still with Qi Rushes to the Sky, fifty-four times Power!

"No!!"

Because he clearly sensed the extent of his injuries, Rock knew he was at the end of his strength and utterly unable to contend with Ye Wenhao's punch. A roar of unwillingness echoed in his heart, his eyes filled with despair!

In his despair, Rock completely disregarded his injuries, used the momentum of his fall, and with his uninjured left hand clenched into a fist, he struck with full force at Ye Wenhao, making a last desperate struggle!

"Bang—"

"Crack—"

After the muffled sound, the noise of bones breaking could be heard.

Rock's left hand's fingers, wrist, and arm were instantly shattered by the blast, his flesh blurred, and his internal organs were all damaged by the shock, blood flowing ceaselessly from his seven orifices.

Beyond that, he was blasted by the recoil force such that his body shot directly into the sky like a rocket.

"Whoosh—"

Just then, the sound of cutting through the air rose again.

The Xuanye Flying Blade turned into a streak of white light, howling towards Rock's throat, the timing impeccable.

"Pfft—"

The flying knife penetrated, blood spraying forth.

A strike to the throat!

Rock died on the spot, his body like a kite with its string cut, rapidly falling under the pull of gravity before crashing heavily onto the road, like a dead dog.

"Whew~"

Seeing this scene, both Ye Fan and Ye Wenhao let out a sigh of relief. Ye Fan was first to rush to Ye Wenhao's side and asked worriedly, "Dad, are you alright?"

"It's nothing, just used up some Essence of Power; I'll replenish it later." Ye Wenhao said so, his expression a bit weary.

Ye Fan remained silent, feeling upset.

He knew that Ye Wenhao had not yet replenished the Essence of Power he had exhausted last time when he killed Murong Gu. Just now, he had used the Burning Nine Heavens again, consuming a large amount of Essence of Power. Probably, there was less than half of the Essence of Power left in the Power Seed, which wouldn't be easy to replenish.

"I received news that three Half-step Gang Qi realm masters were after you, and now two are dead. Where's the third?" Ye Wenhao, seeming to notice what was on Ye Fan's mind, changed the topic and asked.

"I killed him."

Ye Fan replied truthfully, but without pride or triumph for killing a Half-step Gang Qi realm master, only looking at Ye Wenhao with concern.

"Huh..."

Initially, Ye Wenhao believed that his son surviving the joint pursuit of three Half-step Gang Qi realm masters was a miracle. At this moment, hearing his son's words, he was stunned on the spot.

"Dad, Chen Feilian has also come to Southeast Asia; we must leave this place as soon as possible!"

Ye Fan, aware that his actions nearly overturned the laws of the Cultivation World, did not elaborate further but remembered the information he got from Taihu and promptly reminded him.

Chen Feilian?!

Startled by this name, Ye Wenhao's pupils dilated suddenly.

"Father and son united, their strength breaks gold, Chief Ye's prestige remains undiminished from the past,"

The next moment.

Before Ye Wenhao could speak, a mocking voice sounded.

With the words, the person appeared.

Chen Feilian emerged from the grass in front!

Chapter 459 Father's Love Is As Steadfast As a Mountain, A Battle to Decide Life or Death! (Part 1)

Whoosh!

Hearing Chen Feilian's words by his ear and looking at Chen Feilian's solitary figure, both Ye Wenhao and Ye Fan changed their expressions simultaneously.

Among them, Ye Wenhao only raised an eyebrow, while Ye Fan's face was filled with gravity!

According to the information he received, Chen Feilian was also a half-step Gang Qi realm master, and was very likely to be an invincible presence within that half-step Gang Qi realm!

In his view, the only way to kill Chen Feilian was by having his father use the Burning Nine Heavens again!

Once his father did that, however, he would exhaust all of his Essence of Power and his Power Seed might even shatter, rendering him a complete invalid.

It was exactly this worry that made Ye Fan apprehensive earlier that Chen Feilian would be the mantis stalking the cicada, unaware of the oriole behind; hence, he proposed leaving.

At this moment, seeing Chen Feilian emerge from the nearby underbrush, he realized that Chen Feilian had arrived earlier, but hid in the underbrush all along, watching coldly as he and his father killed Liu Chuanjun and Rock.

Under such circumstances, Chen Feilian daring to show up so boldly was enough proof that he didn't fear his father's Burning Nine Heavens at all and completely disregarded both him and his father!

"Chen Feilian, could it be that you wish to kill both my son and me?" As Ye Fan's face grew tense, Ye Wenhao stared at Chen Feilian with a gaze sharp as a knife and asked coldly.

"Why not?"

Chen Feilian retorted with a sneer, never once looking at Ye Fan as if his presence was of little consequence in his heart.

"Even if you have the capability, haven't you considered the consequences?"

Ye Wenhao said solemnly, "I can assure you that if you kill us both, the Yanhuang Organization will stop at nothing to eliminate you and your father, and eradicate the entire Qinghong Organization!"

"Heh... Ye Wenhao, is that a threat? Or do you think I'm an idiot?"

Chen Feilian laughed disdainfully, saying, "You should be more aware than I am that even if the news of your deaths gets out, the Yanhuang Organization won't possibly eradicate the entire Qinghong Organization, they might not even dare to clash with my father to the death, at most they'll relentlessly pursue the chief culprit – me."

This time, Ye Wenhao fell silent.

As the strongest contender to become the future helmsman of Huaxia, both his IQ and EQ were top-notch, and he naturally knew there was truth in Chen Feilian's words.

If he and Ye Fan were to die here, the Yanhuang Organization would certainly need to execute Chen Feilian to answer to the Ye Family, but whether they would go head-to-head with Chen Daozang and the entire Qinghong Organization was another story—both Chen Daozang's personal strength and the overall power of the Qinghong Organization were formidable, even if the Yanhuang Organization could kill Chen Daozang, eradication of Qinghong Organization would come at a huge cost!

That cost, Huaxia couldn't afford, and the high-ranking officials would not consent to it!

After all, as the path of cultivation flourished anew, cultivators' power in today's society had grown stronger and stronger, and the Yanhuang Organization was the force guarding Huaxia. Should this force vanish, Huaxia would face unforeseeable consequences!

"But on the other hand, even if I killed you both, I could entirely let the Dark Council, Yakuza, and Giant Axe Organization take the blame," said Chen Feilian, with a confident smile, noting that Ye Wenhao was silent. "I believe there would be many in the Huaxia upper echelons who would like to do just that. In fact, even the Yanhuang Organization might make such a choice, don't you think?"

As Chen Feilian's words echoed in their ears and Ye Wenhao looked at Chen Feilian's confident manner, he was at a loss for words and his frown deepened.

Meanwhile, Ye Fan was on high alert, ready to strike at any moment.

Clearly... he could tell that should he and his father die here, it would be an excellent scenario for Chen Feilian—eliminating an enemy and framing the three major underground forces.

Chen Feilian was resolute in making his move!

"Ye Wenhao, my father once said that that vile person taught you a martial arts technique, claiming it to be the strongest in this world," Chen Feilian spoke as he no longer concealed his aura, his whole being as sharp as an unsheathed treasure sword. "Just now, although I witnessed you using that martial arts technique and indirectly experienced its power, I still harbored doubts—come on, show me how strong that vile person's martial arts technique is, why it's said to surpass my father's own 'Shadowless Yin Demon Slash' and earn the title of the strongest in the world!"

"Swoosh—"

In response to Chen Feilian was the sound of something cutting through air.

Seeing Chen Feilian not only insult his mother with words but also forcing his father to use Burning Nine Heavens, anger surged in Ye Fan's heart. With a thought, he activated the Xuanye Flying Blade to assassinate Chen Feilian, intending to catch him off guard with this counterattack and then seize the opportunity to escape with his father!

Because... judging by Chen Feilian's displayed arrogance, Ye Fan faintly felt that even if his father used the martial arts technique Burning Nine Heavens, he still might not be able to kill Chen Feilian!

"Rice grain pearls, also emit radiance!"

Facing Ye Fan's sneak attack, Chen Feilian scoffed with disdain and swung his hand in response.

"Whoosh—"

A surge of Gang Qi shot forth, forming a barrier to intercept the rapidly approaching Xuanye Flying Blade.

Whoosh!

The Xuanye Flying Blade struck the Gang Qi but couldn't advance further by even half an inch.

"Be careful!"

Seeing this, Ye Wenhao yelled a warning.

"Back at you!"

Chen Feilian sneered coldly, waving his hand again as the Gang Qi, carrying the Xuanye Flying Blade, turned into a streak of white light shooting towards Ye Fan.

Ye Fan was horrified and quickly activated the Ghost Ring, swiftly sidestepping with a flicker, moving aside.

"Whoosh!"

The Gang Qi, along with the Xuanye Flying Blade, shot past where Ye Fan had just been standing, piercing through his afterimage, then hit the stone wall along the roadside.

"Crash—" "Clang!"

A muffled sound followed as the wall cracked like it had been blasted with explosives, and the Xuanye Flying Blade went straight into one of the cracks, with such a powerful force it was, indeed, rare to see.

"Xiao Fan, his strength is almost at the Gang Qi Realm, your attacks are practically ineffective against him."

Seeing this scene, Ye Wenhao's expression also became somewhat solemn as he warned, "Leave immediately, I will deal with him!"

Clang!

Ye Fan's heart shuddered upon hearing Ye Wenhao's reminder.

Originally, he had speculated that even if his father used Burning Nine Heavens, he might not be able to kill Chen Feilian. Now, he was certain of it!

If it weren't for this, Ye Wenhao wouldn't have asked him to leave!!

"Dad, I'm not going!"

While his heart was in turmoil, Ye Fan replied with a determined look on his face.

"Be obedient, go quickly!"

Ye Wenhao spoke again, his tone was stricter than ever before, more so, it was solemn. If Chen Feilian was merely infinitely close to the Gang Qi realm, he wouldn't have asked Ye Fan to leave immediately. However, Chen Feilian was Chen Daozang's son, having fully inherited Chen Daozang's martial arts, and was certain to know Chen Daozang's unique 'Shadowless Yin Demon Slash,' and it was highly likely that he had already mastered its fire control!

Ye Fan remained unmoved, seemingly determined to live or die with Ye Wenhao!

"This touching father-son drama is really moving."

Seeing this, Chen Feilian continued to boost his momentum while sneering, "Bastard, I originally thought that killing trash like you would dirty my hands, so I arranged for the three major forces to send people to kill you. Now that those three useless trash are dead, I guess I'll reluctantly be the one to send you off first!"

As his words fell, Chen Feilian's right hand swung five times in rapid succession, as fast as lightning, making it almost impossible for Ye Fan to see clearly.

"Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!"

Five beams of Gang Qi shot out from Chen Feilian's right hand almost simultaneously, aimed at Ye Fan, with four targeting his front, back, left, and right, and one aimed at Ye Fan himself, making escape impossible!

Swish!

Sensing all this, Ye Wenhao's face paled dramatically, and he desperately wanted to make a move to save him, but it was already too late.

"Swoosh—"

In this critical moment, Ye Fan remained calm and immediately summoned a Xuanye Flying Blade to meet the Gang Qi coming towards him.

"Snap! Snap! Snap! Snap!"

Between the sparks and lightning, four bursts of explosions rang out as the stone walls around Ye Fan were hit, shattering and sending stones flying everywhere.

At the same time, the Xuanye Flying Blade hit the Gang Qi aimed at Ye Fan dead center.

"Clang!"

With a crisp ring, the Xuanye Flying Blade was deflected to the side, while the Gang Qi slowed down a bit but continued towards Ye Fan.

Taking this chance, Ye Fan's body flickered, turning into a Phantom, and dodged to the side, narrowly escaping the fatal strike, but it was a cold sweat-inducing close call—if he had been even a bit slower in his reaction, he would have certainly been hit by Chen Feilian's Gang Qi, and with its power, he would have been gravely wounded if not killed!

"Xiao Fan, run!"

Ye Wenhao was also frightened, and after seeing Ye Fan escape death, he shouted anxiously at Ye Fan once more.

Hearing Ye Wenhao's words again, Ye Fan was filled with frustration, and clenched his fists involuntarily!

However—

Despite his frustration, he eventually heeded Ye Wenhao's words, gritted his teeth, and quickly retreated.

From Chen Feilian's attack, he knew Chen Feilian's strength was completely beyond his imagination. Staying would not only hinder Ye Wenhao but would become a liability to his father!

"Hu—"

Perceiving that Ye Fan had left, Ye Wenhao breathed a sigh of relief, only to find that Ye Fan hadn't actually fled, but merely retreated a hundred meters.

At this discovery, Ye Wenhao first paused, then his mouth opened as he intended to yell at Ye Fan again, but he then realized Ye Fan's intentions and knew that his son was determined to live or die with him, and he found himself unable to voice the words.

"Ye Wenhao, even if that bastard flees now, I can still catch up to him."

At that moment, Chen Feilian's momentum peaked, his War Intent boiling over, and he was enveloped by a dense Evil Yin Qi, like a Demon God descending to the mortal realm, "So, don't waste your breath, just prepare to die peacefully!"

"If you want to kill my son, you'll have to step over my dead body!"

Ye Wenhao responded, no longer paying attention to Ye Fan, instead focusing on Chen Feilian. His eyes were frighteningly red with a mad glint in them as if he faced an irreconcilable nemesis; even in death, he intended to drag his enemy down with him!

As the words ended, Ye Wenhao steeled his heart and fully activated the Power Seed, seemingly unconcerned with the prospect of it shattering!

Worry? It was either his death or mine!

This battle.

He was willing to risk a lifetime of cultivation, sacrificing the rest of his life!

All to ensure his son lived.

Chapter 460 Father's Love Is As Steadfast As a Mountain, A Battle to Decide Life or Death! (Part 2)

As the Power Seed was stimulated, streams of Essence of Power surged within Ye Wenhao, transforming into Blood Qi, enshrouding him in a pale red halo of Blood Qi.

Perhaps it was due to confidence in his own strength, or maybe he wanted to truly witness Ye Wenhao's full-power strike, Chen Feilian did not intervene upon sensing Ye Wenhao's change, merely watching quietly.

Watching, watching, Chen Feilian's brow involuntarily raised.

In front of him, Ye Wenhao's Blood Qi became increasingly dense, the halo enveloping his body grew clearer, and his momentum soared ever higher, as if boundless!

"Burn Blood Qi, connect with Heaven and Earth!"

Thereupon, as the Essence of Power from the Power Seed spewed forth in full, Ye Wenhao let out a roar towards the heavens, his body's Blood Qi furiously erupted from his crown, forming a pillar of red light shooting towards the sky!

Primordial Qi surged, changing the very colors of Heaven and Earth!

The surrounding Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi, as if summoned, rapidly gathered above Ye Wenhao's head, with streams of Fire Essence Qi separating from the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi and joining together.

"Puchi—"

Soon after, when all Blood Qi transformed from the Essence of Power completely merged with the Fire Essence Qi, Ye Wenhao spat out a mouthful of Life-bound Essence Blood.

Whoosh!

Seeing this, Chen Feilian's expression finally changed.

The Life-bound Essence Blood is the essence of a person's blood and plays an extremely important role in the body. The quantity often corresponds to the strength and weakness of one's Life Force, once lost it is very difficult to recover.

Back in the day, Ye Fan used nine drops of his Life-bound Essence Blood to set up the 'Nine Star Gathering Spirit Array' to repair Situ Ruoshui's Consciousness, causing a phenomenon that made Chu Ji very heartbroken.

And now, Ye Wenhao directly spat out a mouthful, far exceeding nine drops.

The Life-bound Essence Blood sprayed out by Ye Wenhao rapidly integrated into the red light pillar, turning into strands of Blood Qi, making the color of the pillar even more vivid.

"Is he planning to use the burning of his Life-bound Essence Blood, overdrawing his life, to launch the strongest strike?"

Perceiving this scene through his Spiritual Sense, Chen Feilian's heart stirred, immediately guessing Ye Wenhao's intent behind his actions.

"Puchi—"

At that moment, Ye Wenhao spat out a second mouthful of Life-bound Essence Blood, seemingly careless about the consumption of his Life-bound Essence Blood.

Indeed, that was the case.

Because he saw Chen Feilian was infinitely close to being a Gang Qi Realm strong person and knew well that Chen Feilian was likely to have mastered the 'Shadowless Yin Demon Slash' martial arts technique to perfection, Ye Wenhao understood he had only one chance to strike.

If he could not severely injure or kill Chen Feilian with one strike, then what awaited him was death!

Beyond that, Ye Fan would also die at Chen Feilian's hands!

This was something he absolutely did not want to see!

Thus, after consuming all the Essence of Power, he spared no effort to burn his Life-bound Essence Blood to increase the power of this strike.

At this moment, his heart was filled with the resolve to kill Chen Feilian; his face etched with determination, as if not even the heavens collapsing could change his decision.

After spewing out two mouthfuls of Life-bound Essence Blood, Ye Wenhao's momentum rose to a terrifying level, akin to a War God descending to the mortal world, invincible, and Chen Feilian sensed a dangerous aura!

That's right...

Even though Chen Feilian possessed strength infinitely close to that of a Gang Qi Realm strong person, and had perfected the 'Shadowless Yin Demon Slash', but... facing Ye Wenhao at this moment, for the first time in his life, he sensed danger!

That sense of danger told him that the power of Ye Wenhao's strike would far exceed the one that had killed Liu Chuanjun.

That sense of danger told him that if he let Ye Wenhao burn his Life-bound Essence Blood desperately, he might very well be severely injured or even killed by Ye Wenhao's strike.

"Ye Wenhao, you're ruthless!"

With this thought flashing in his mind, Chen Feilian let out a cold shout.

As his voice fell, he moved!

Under the night sky, Chen Feilian seemed to use the Instant Teleportation Technique, suddenly appearing in front of Ye Wenhao, transforming his hand into a blade, his Hand Blade chopping down towards Ye Wenhao's head!

—Shadowless Yin Demon Slash, Fifth Level!

Sensing Ye Wenhao's determination to fight to the death, Chen Feilian dared not be negligent, and his first move was his strongest strike!

As the Hand Blade chopped down, Gang Qi burst forth, like a sword light.

A vast surge of Evil Yin Qi descended from the heavens, merging with the Evil Yin Qi around Chen Feilian's body, rapidly integrating into the Gang Qi, rolling with yin energy, like a sword slash from a Demon King, terrifying to the extreme!

"Burning Nine Heavens!"

Facing the whistling Gang Qi, Ye Wenhao did not dodge or flinch, but threw a punch to meet it head-on.

Whoosh—

As he threw his punch, the pillar of light infused with Ye Wenhao's Blood Qi and Fire Essence Qi descended from the sky, rapidly accumulating on his fist, enveloping it, searing hot.

"Bang—"

A muffled sound echoed, and Ye Wenhao's fist, aglow with red light, hit the formidable sword-like Gang Qi head-on, dispersing it with a single punch. The Evil Yin Qi within it, like steam upon magma, gradually faded into nothingness, unable to penetrate Ye Wenhao's body at all.

However—

Just when about one-fifth of the vast Evil Yin Qi had evaporated, a second strand of Gang Qi shot out from Chen Feilian's Hand Blade, once more forming a sword-like edge, sweeping toward Ye Wenhao.

"Swoosh, swoosh, swoosh..."

In an instant, the Gang Qi and Evil Yin Qi that Ye Wenhao had dispersed as if summoned, rapidly merged into the second wave of Gang Qi, making the sword-like edge of Gang Qi even more intense, as if tangible.

"Bang—"

Ye Wenhao continued his unrelenting assault, once again striking the sword-like blend of Gang Qi and Evil Yin Qi.

This time.

The power of the sword-like edge was equivalent to twice before, the second level of the 'Shadowless Yin Demon Slash', equaling twenty times the power of Chen Feilian's ordinary strike without using martial arts techniques!

Despite this, the sword light was still shattered by a punch from Ye Wenhao, and the Evil Yin Qi was vaporized once again.

Hmm?

Noticing this, Chen Feilian felt a slight shock in his heart, and from his Hand Blade, he shot out the third blast of Gang Qi!

Just like before, after the third blast of Gang Qi was released, it quickly absorbed the previous Gang Qi and Evil Yin Qi, forming another sword light and sweeping towards Ye Wenhao's fist.

The power escalated!

This blast of Gang Qi, having absorbed the previous Gang Qi and Evil Yin Qi, was equivalent to thirty times the strength of Chen Feilian's normal attack without the use of martial arts. Not just any Innate Great Perfection cultivator, but even an invincible being in the Half-step Gang Qi realm would be instantly killed by this strike!

However—

To Chen Feilian's astonishment, the third blast of Gang Qi was still shattered by Ye Wenhao's fist!

Even...

The fourth blast of Gang Qi ended up the same!!

"How... How is this possible??"

This outcome greatly alarmed Chen Feilian, and at the same time, he shot out the fifth blast of Gang Qi from his Hand Blade!

The Shadowless Yin Demon Slash's fifth level consisted of five blasts of Gang Qi, one after another, eventually combining them into a terrifying force.

This was the last blast of Gang Qi released from Chen Feilian's Hand Blade. After merging with the previous Gang Qi and Evil Yin Qi, it could produce a force fifty times stronger than his normal strike

without martial arts, slightly stronger than a full-force blow from a cultivator at the Gang Qi Introduction Realm!

"Bang—"

The next moment.

Just as the front and back five blasts of Gang Qi had completely merged, forming a terrifying power, Ye Wenhao's fist, flashing with red light, arrived like the wind, like two mountains violently colliding.

"Hiss~"

After the collision, the Evil Yin Qi within the Gang Qi met the red light on Ye Wenhao's fist, and like water poured into magma, it was instantly vaporized.

The sword light formed by the five consecutive blasts of Gang Qi didn't disperse, instead violently chopping down on the red light!

Crackling!

In an instant, the red light on Ye Wenhao's fist clashed several times with the sword light, and the surrounding air burst open, creating a vacuum zone where they fought.

"Crack—"

After the sound of the explosion, the red light and sword light vanished almost simultaneously, Chen Feilian's wrist and arm broke piece by piece, hanging limply, his internal organs were all shaken, showing tiny fractures, and he flew backward like a struck baseball.

"Pfft—"

In the air, Chen Feilian spat out a mist of blood, his complexion pale as paper.

In contrast, Ye Wenhao didn't fly backward but stood in place, the asphalt under his feet exploded, and his feet sank into it, his body trembling slightly like he was electrocuted, with his right hand completely stiff in midair.

Like Chen Feilian, Ye Wenhao's internal organs were also shaken, and he felt a sweet taste in his throat, wanting to vomit blood, but forcibly swallowed it back!

This swallow evidently aggravated Ye Wenhao's internal injury. Not only did his face turn pallid, but his hair also turned completely white in a moment, as if he had aged twenty years overnight.

"Dad!!"

From afar, Ye Fan saw his father's hair turn white instantly, his heart leapt to his throat, and he bellowed as he dashed towards Ye Wenhao.

"Whoosh—"

As he ran, Ye Fan's Consciousness stirred, and the Xuanye Flying Blade burst from his sleeve, whistling as it shot at Chen Feilian, who had yet to land.

"Hmph!"

In mid-air, the severely wounded Chen Feilian sensed the Flying Knife Assassination coming, and with a cold snort, he swung his left hand, and a blast of Gang Qi shot out, knocking the flying knife away.

"Pfft—"

After striking back, Chen Feilian's injuries worsened, and he spat out another mouthful of fresh blood. He then immediately took a precious Nirvana Pill from his chest and stuffed it into his mouth.

"Dad... Dad, how are you?"

Seeing this scene, Ye Fan knew that even with Chen Feilian heavily injured, he was not someone he could kill, so he stopped and rushed to Ye Wenhao's side at once, holding onto Ye Wenhao and asking with deep concern.

"Clap—"

The answer to Ye Fan was a muffled sound. Chen Feilian's body fell into the grass by the roadside, his gaze locked on Ye Wenhao, his face filled with astonishment!

It seemed as though he couldn't believe that the martial art 'Burning Nine Heavens' was so powerful that it allowed Ye Wenhao, who only had the strength of Innate Great Perfection, to severely wound him—a person comparable to a cultivator at the Gang Qi Introduction Realm!

What shocked him even more was that after the clash, he was the one sent flying, while Ye Wenhao stood still on the spot!

This small detail was enough evidence that, in the exchange just now, Ye Wenhao had a clear upper hand!!

In the grass, sensing that Ye Wenhao's murderous intent had not diminished, Chen Feilian dared not take any more risks and roared resentfully, "Ye Wenhao, this martial art is wasted in the hands of a trash like you! If my father had acquired it, with his strength, he would have already swept through the entire Cultivation World!"

"Clap—"

Without response, Ye Wenhao took a step forward with his legs.

A very small step.

But it scared Chen Feilian into a panic, and he disappeared without a trace in the blink of an eye!