

Y Master 961

Chapter 961 Successfully Passing the Test (Repaying Owed - 21)

The Big Teeth of the Golden Tooth Beast not only has astonishing defense power, its attack power is even more terrifying. It understands beast techniques, and its ability to compress Gang Qi is more proficient than Ye Fan's.

After unleashing his strongest combat power, Big Teeth seemed to transform into a primordial giant beast, exuding a terrifying aura as it bared its fangs and brandished its claws, lunging at Ye Fan!

Ye Fan gritted his teeth, instantly igniting his Gang Qi. He knew that if he didn't unleash his strongest combat power and fight desperately, being defeated by this high-level War God realm mutant beast, Big Teeth, would only take a moment.

With his Gang Qi ignited, Ye Fan's war intent was high; with a look of determination as if prepared for death, he decided to fight desperately. Even if he perished in battle, he wanted to pass this trial.

Because Ye Fan knew that within the Sky Tower there were restrictions, cultivators who were attempting to pass would not truly die. In the instant before death, they would be ejected, preserving at least their lives.

Because he had no worries about the future, Ye Fan finally forced out his potential, using the Nine Heavens Profound Body to unleash the Domineering Fist, a combination that could be described as complementing each other perfectly.

The Domineering Fist seemed to be custom-made for the Nine Heavens Profound Body, capable of bringing the characteristics of the Nine Heavens Profound Body to the extreme!

"Kill!"

Ye Fan seemed to return to the scene of the battle with the overlord among the mid-stage War God realm mutant beasts, fighting with no regard for his safety, with a style of mutual destruction!

"Kid, are you playing with your life?"

Big Teeth was startled. Although it also had an Immortal Body, it was frightened by Ye Fan's crazy attack.

However, its strength was indeed too strong; it swiped a claw at Ye Fan, the solid Gang Qi Beast Claw aimed at Ye Fan's head.

Ye Fan's body turned into a lightning bolt, directly charging at Big Teeth; he wanted to engage Big Teeth in close combat.

A punch aimed at Big Teeth's nose—on any mutant beast, the nose and eyes are the weak spots. Ye Fan didn't choose to attack the eyes because they are the most fragile, and are instinctively protected by any creature, making them difficult to hit!

"Humph!"

Big Teeth let out a cold snort, its nose spouting two streams of Gang Qi, meeting Ye Fan's fist. With his burning Gang Qi, Ye Fan's combat power doubled, and coupled with Gang Qi compression, his attack power had reached an extremely terrifying level.

With a "boom," the Gang Qi spouted from Big Teeth's nose was smashed apart, the remaining force hitting its nose heavily.

Simultaneously, Big Teeth's beast claw also hit Ye Fan's shoulder, directly smacking him flying.

Ao...

Big Teeth let out a miserable cry, tears and snot streaming down, its vision blurring. Even though it was a high-level War God realm mutant beast, it couldn't withstand its nose being struck.

Meanwhile, Ye Fan's one side of his body was almost paralyzed, his left shoulder seemed to be shattered, a severe pain forcing out a cold sweat on his body.

As his blood and Qi circulated, Ye Fan's injuries quickly healed more than half, and he gritted his teeth against the pain, once more charging at Big Teeth. Simultaneously, he used the third style of the Flying Sword Skill, "Flowing Light", to direct a flying knife to attack Big Teeth again.

"Madman, absolute madman!"

Big Teeth looked at Ye Fan with the expression of looking at a lunatic. In its eyes, Ye Fan was simply crazy, fighting completely disregarding his own safety—what else could it be but madness?

Ye Fan didn't have the time to listen to what it was saying. The burning Gang Qi, after compression, was like a ticking time bomb, with no telling when it would explode.

Compressing Gang Qi was a technical skill; if not compressed enough, the explosive power wasn't strong. But if compressed too much, it could cause an explosion inside the body, which would spell bad luck for oneself.

Ordinary people wouldn't dare to play too dangerously, but Ye Fan had no such worry because his spiritual power was simply too strong, allowing him to control the compression of Gang Qi perfectly at the critical point of explosion, yet not causing an explosion within his body.

Close combat was advantageous for Ye Fan; his physique was inherently tougher than that of mutant beasts. If not for Big Teeth's astonishing defense, Ye Fan could have broken through its defense and delivered a fatal blow long ago.

Even so, Big Teeth was made extremely embarrassed and passive by Ye Fan's desperate fighting style.

With a step, Ye Fan leaped up and surprisingly somersaulted onto Big Teeth's back, raining down a barrage of iron fists on Big Teeth's Taiyang points and vital spots.

"You're pushing it too far, huh? Dare to ride on my back, believe it or not, I can kill you?"

Big Teeth was extremely embarrassed. It initially thought Ye Fan was definitely not its match; otherwise, it wouldn't have pointed out things to Ye Fan the first time. But never in its wildest dreams did it expect that on the second attempt, Ye Fan had made such great progress that he could fight it to a standstill.

What drove it the most crazy was that Ye Fan seemed to have sized him up, riding on its neck, wildly pounding on it. This was a serious trampling on the dignity of a strong beast like it!

Big Teeth directly used its horns to shoot out Glazed Light, aiming to petrify Ye Fan.

But Ye Fan had been prepared for its Glazed Light attack. Through previous observations, Ye Fan had discovered that once Big Teeth was about to launch a Glazed Light attack, its pair of black horns would turn dark golden, a precursor to it releasing Glazed Light.

Armed with this secret, Ye Fan certainly wouldn't let it succeed. In the instant Big Teeth's horns turned dark golden, Ye Fan's iron fists arrived, fiercely smashing onto the horns.

Bang!

With a loud noise, even though wearing the Black Iron Fist set, Ye Fan felt his fists stung from the shock. However, Big Teeth seemed worse off; the Glazed Light was released but missed the target and shot off to the side.

Big Teeth felt as though its pair of horns was almost broken by Ye Fan, with a heart-piercing pain. It directly laid down, rolled over, trying to throw Ye Fan off its back.

If Ye Fan continued staying on its back, it would be in a passive position, unable to launch a counterattack effectively.

Ye Fan also knew it was impossible to continuously ride on Big Teeth's back pounding. He delivered two solid punches, then jumped off just as he was about to be crushed under Big Teeth.

This wild assault left Big Teeth dazed and confused. Although its power was immense, it couldn't withstand the pounding blows of Ye Fan's iron fists.

After rolling on the ground, Big Teeth got up, its eyes practically shooting fire. Never could it have imagined that the human cultivator it originally looked down upon had erupted with such powerful attack power.

"You've successfully angered me, so I won't hold back anymore. Although I can't kill you, I can make you taste the feeling of death!"

With a gasp and a gasp, Big Teeth lifted its claws, simultaneously unleashing its Beast Techniques. A pair of Beast Claws formed by compressed Gang Qi slammed fiercely towards Ye Fan.

Fast!

The speed was simply too fast!

Ye Fan hadn't had time to react before he was hit, his whole body nearly falling apart, slammed directly against the wall.

At that moment, Ye Fan, enduring the severe pain, manipulated his Flying Knife with his mind to stab at Big Teeth's ear.

Big Teeth hadn't expected Ye Fan to counterattack while being hit with all its might. Startled, it barely shifted its head, dodging the vulnerable spot on its ear, letting the Flying Knife scrape past its cheek.

Swish!

The Flying Knife scraped across the scale armor on Big Teeth's cheek, leaving a deep white mark, sparking a trail of sparks, as if hitting a stone.

Phew!

Ye Fan's entire body boiled with energy and blood, his War Intent reaching its peak. His Pure Yang Body allowed his recovery ability to reach an astounding level.

Within his body, there were muffled thunders like flashes of lightning. Dislocated bones instantly healed, making him appear like a God Demon, with eyes emitting a solid beam of light a foot long.

"Yi! You kid have something strange about you, your recovery is astonishing!"

Big Teeth originally thought Ye Fan would have no combat ability after taking its blow, but unexpectedly, he recovered instantly as if nothing happened.

"Hehe, let's see how long you can last!"

Big Teeth was shocked by Ye Fan's recovery and determination, but it didn't believe Ye Fan stood a chance against it.

After all, their strength levels differed greatly, and desperation couldn't fill the gap.

Ignoring the burning pain on its cheek, Big Teeth raised its Beast Claw and struck toward Ye Fan's Punch Ray again.

Boom!

With a loud explosion, the Punch Ray and Beast Techniques collided, producing an earth-shattering sound. If not for the mysterious Sky Tower's strong Forbidden protection, their battle would have turned it into dust.

At this point, Ye Fan deeply felt the power of the High-level War God realm Mutant Beast. Although he was burning Gang Qi, his Combat Power soared, it still was difficult to defeat it.

At this moment, a crazy thought suddenly appeared in Ye Fan's mind—he decided to burn the Mind Power Essence!

Deciding immediately, Ye Fan started burning his Mind Power Essence, instantly causing his aura to surge again, becoming especially terrifying, his eyes turning from golden to red, even the pupils turned red, looking particularly frightening.

Big Teeth keenly sensed something different about Ye Fan, watching him with full vigilance, without making a rash move.

"Ah..."

With a mighty shout, Ye Fan once again utilized the technique of compressing Gang Qi to unleash the Azure Sky Overlord Blood, while controlling the Flying Knife, still shooting towards Big Teeth's brow with Flowing Light!

This time, the sword light on the Xuanye Flying Blade became much shorter and more illusory, seemingly losing power, but Big Teeth felt an extreme danger from this strike and unhesitatingly spewed a puff of Gang Qi, while its twin horns shot out Glazed Light to intercept the Flying Knife.

At the same time, Big Teeth lifted its Beast Claw, shooting out five black rays towards Ye Fan's Punch Ray.

Boom...

With a loud explosion, the black rays shot by Big Teeth collided with Ye Fan's Punch Ray, both turning into scattered Gang Qi.

However, the Gang Qi it spewed and the Glazed Light shot by its twin horns couldn't reach Ye Fan's Flying Knife!

Because, at that moment, Ye Fan controlled the Flying Knife to pause briefly in the air.

It was this small pause that rendered all of Big Teeth's intercepts ineffective. After shooting out Glazed Light, Ye Fan controlled the Xuanye Flying Blade, piercing it hard into its brow at a speed surpassing light!

Although the sword light had become shorter and dimmer, its power had doubled, with Big Teeth's natural scale armor and Protective Gang Qi unable to resist.

Ye Fan's Flying Knife firmly nailed into Big Teeth's brow, the fierce sword light instantly severing its vitality.

"Unexpectedly..."

Big Teeth only said three words before crashing onto the ground, completely losing its vitality, transforming into a white light disappearing from the spot, becoming an engraving on the wall.

"Slaying a High-level War God realm Mutant Beast, congratulations, you have passed the third layer's trial, please proceed to the fourth layer!"

An ancient voice timely sounded in Ye Fan's ears, marking his passage of the third layer's trial.

Chapter 962 Overcoming Yourself

Ye Fan did not directly ascend to the fourth layer, but instead sat cross-legged in the hall of the third layer, took out a mutant beast core, and absorbed its energy to quickly replenish the depleted Gang Qi in his body.

His recent energy expenditure had been enormous. He needed to rest and recover his strength, ensuring that his spiritual energy returned to its optimal state before challenging the unknown fourth layer.

An hour later, Ye Fan opened his eyes, stood up, and stepped towards the staircase to the fourth layer, feeling a profound sense of awe in his heart.

This Sky Tower is truly the ultimate trial!

Because only those at the Early-Stage War God Realm are allowed to enter the Holy Land, while cultivators at the Mid-level War God Realm are mercilessly kept outside.

However, once Early-Stage War God Realm cultivators enter the forbidden land, they can grow stronger through combat and cultivation, progressing to the Mid-level War God Realm without being expelled by the rules.

But the trials of this Sky Tower are simply too outrageous, with a high-level War God realm mutant beast appearing on the third layer. The fourth layer will undoubtedly be even more challenging; what could it be?

No answer.

Before Ye Fan could figure it out, he stepped onto the stairs leading to the fourth layer.

Soon, Ye Fan reached the entrance of the fourth layer and, without hesitation, stepped in.

Just like the third layer, the fourth layer became vacant once Ye Fan entered.

Ye Fan remained unfazed, patiently waiting for the trial to appear, while habitually scanning the surrounding walls for any clues. After all, the trials on the lower three layers were marked by engravings on the walls.

However—

This time, Ye Fan was disappointed. The surrounding walls were bare, with nothing.

What's going on?

Could it be that the fourth layer has no trials at all?

Ye Fan questioned himself silently, then immediately dismissed the thought.

Since the Sky Tower has five layers, there must be five trials!

Therefore, Ye Fan dared not be careless, standing in place for a while longer, yet no mutant beast appeared.

Pa!

With no trial appearing for so long, Ye Fan decided to stop waiting and headed directly to the staircase to the final layer.

Hmm?

Just as Ye Fan set foot on the stairs to the fifth layer, he suddenly sensed a massive danger closing in on him.

At that moment, Ye Fan didn't have time to turn back; he swiftly moved his feet, his figure flashing sideways to dodge.

Whoosh—

Simultaneously, a sharp whistling sound echoed as a Xuanye Flying Blade enveloped in fierce blade energy shot from behind him toward the staircase, only to be deflected by the staircase's forbidden restriction.

Xuanye Flying Blade?!

Seeing the Xuanye Flying Blade, Ye Fan felt a tremendous shock.

The Xuanye Flying Blade was his exclusive hidden weapon, and yet it appeared here.

Moreover, from the power of that recent Flying Knife Assassination, it was clear that this was definitely the third move of the Flying Sword Skill, 'Flowing Light,' and even at his full strength, he could not unleash such a fierce strike!

Before he could recover from his shock, Ye Fan once again sensed danger descending as a blazing Punch Ray fiercely aimed at his chest.

"This..."

Ye Fan was completely dumbfounded. Wasn't this the second move of the Domineering Fist, Azure Sky Overlord Blood? Could it be that the fourth layer of the Sky Tower hid a formidable foe with abilities identical to his?

Without time to ponder, Ye Fan directly punched countering it, instantly compressing Gang Qi, and collided with his same Domineering Fist's Azure Sky Overlord Blood and Punch Ray.

Boom!

With a loud boom, the entire Sky Tower suddenly shook; Ye Fan felt his fist force was not even on the same level as his opponent's and was directly destroyed by the enemy's Punch Ray.

The powerful countershock force dislocated his wrist in an instant, sending him flying backward.

Bam!

Not far behind him was the wall of the Sky Tower; Ye Fan crashed hard into it, and a gentle force dissolved the impact, letting him slide down from the wall.

At that moment, Ye Fan finally saw what attacked him, unleashing a storm of shock in his heart.

He saw that where he had been standing moments before, an exact replica of himself had appeared, without the slightest difference, even in clothing.

"Have I seen a ghost?"

Ye Fan was intensely shocked, his face filled with astonishment. How could another self appear?

However, Ye Fan quickly realized something was amiss, as the opponent's aura was far stronger, their eyes an overwhelming gold.

The other "Ye Fan" before him had surging blood and Qi, with Protective Gang Qi almost forming armor, utterly impossible to penetrate!

By now, Ye Fan gradually understood what the fourth layer's trial was all about.

The Sky Tower, through mysterious rules, had simulated and created another self.

And he needed to overcome himself to pass this layer's trial!

"Hoo~"

Slowly standing up, Ye Fan took a deep breath, forcing himself to calm down. Facing a doppelgänger of himself, he had no chances of winning.

But if he didn't try, how could he be content with failure?

In an instant, Ye Fan unleashed his most powerful attack, Gang Qi and Mind Power burning simultaneously, his eyes turning a terrifying crimson.

Rumble~

With a punch, the surrounding Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi instantly integrated into the Punch Ray, aiming at the other self not far ahead!

At the same time, Ye Fan propelled the Xuanye Flying Blade with his Mind Power, thrusting it out with a foot-long blade light, trying to catch his opponent off guard.

However—

The other Ye Fan opposite him seemed like a mirror image, simultaneously igniting his Gang Qi and Mind Power, launching an attack almost identical to his own!

Boom!

Their punch rays met in mid-air, bursting into dazzling fireworks-like splendor, while their flying blades collided as well.

The collision of punch rays sent a terrifying shock through Ye Fan, causing his inner Qi and blood to churn, and he was knocked backwards, crashing into the wall behind him.

Hua!

Ye Fan felt a sweetness in his throat, as if his internal Qi and blood were rebelling. A sharp Gang Qi surged towards his heart meridian, forcing him to spit out blood to neutralize the destructive force attacking his heart.

"Die!"

The other Ye Fan spoke for the first time since appearing, as a Xuanye Flying Blade with a foot-long blade light crossed space, suddenly appearing close to Ye Fan, shooting towards his forehead.

Absolute kill!

Facing this deathly strike from another version of himself, Ye Fan dared not be careless. He forcibly endured the discomfort, instinctively tilting his head to avoid the flying blade assassination.

But it was a narrow escape—the flying blade grazed past his ear, not breaking through his Protective Aura, but he could almost feel the chilling stimulus of the blade on his skin, making his hair stand on end.

At the cost of a mouthful of blood, Ye Fan averted the danger of death, knowing that continuing to fight would only result in his defeat, for his opponent possessed every skill he did.

Moreover... most importantly, it's impossible for him to maintain the burning of Gang Qi and Mind Power for long, as the damage to his body would be too great to bear unless absolutely necessary.

However—

The opponent seemed to be able to maintain that state indefinitely, making it nearly impossible to defeat this clone created by the Sky Tower!

In the second and third layers, Ye Fan had nearly exhausted all his ultimate skills. Yet, not knowing how, the Sky Tower cloned all his abilities onto this entity before him, creating another self.

"Kill!"

No matter what the truth was, Ye Fan would never choose to exit before exhaustion. He would rather be ejected by the Sky Tower than leave on his own.

Gritting his teeth, Ye Fan abandoned the flying blade assassination, moving swiftly towards his other self, unleashing the Azure Sky Overlord Blood from the Domineering Fist with both fists.

He was determined to engage in a life-for-life battle with this version of himself through close combat.

The clone 'Ye Fan' wasn't intimidated in the slightest, eyes glinting with disdain, charging towards Ye Fan to engage in melee combat!

"Bam!"

Ye Fan's fist slammed into the clone's shoulder, while he took a hit to the abdomen, making his internal organs feel disordered.

"Puh!"

Ye Fan shuddered all over, his Protective Aura dimmed, and his internal Qi and blood churned uncontrollably.

Hu!

Simultaneously, the clone's assault didn't wane; instead, the clone seized the opportunity, launching another punch directly at Ye Fan's chest.

"Crack—"

A cracking sound echoed as bones broke, violent Gang Qi erupted, shattering Ye Fan's Protective Aura and sending him flying again.

"Boom—"

With a dull thud, Ye Fan's ribs fractured, his chest caved in, and his muscles, tendons, veins, and internal organs suffered severe injuries and nearly lost combat capability.

Whistle—

Just then, the piercing sound of air being sliced resounded once more.

A Xuanye Flying Blade, carrying a strong blade light, came howling towards him!

"Such a complete defeat!"

Ye Fan smiled bitterly in his heart, and then everything went black as he lost consciousness completely.

Before long, Ye Fan regained consciousness and found himself outside the Sky Tower. His whole body felt disassembled, aching in every part, and his Qi Vortex had diminished significantly—the aftereffect of burning Gang Qi.

Although Ye Fan woke up, he merely opened his eyes briefly before closing them again, letting his body recover naturally.

At the same time, he carefully reviewed the combat process with the clone Ye Fan, analyzing the reasons for his crushing defeat.

After going over all the details in his mind, Ye Fan realized that the peculiar aspect of this Sky Tower lay in its ability to perfectly clone all the powers he displayed onto another self on this fourth layer.

This clone possessed all his abilities and strengths but was devoid of his weaknesses, making it nearly perfect.

He himself couldn't remain in the state of burning Gang Qi and Mind Power for long, only able to unleash powerful attacks for a brief duration.

On the other hand, the cloned self didn't have this issue and could keep the strength and speed from his peak state constantly!

Thus, there was no chance of winning, not even the ability to protect himself, since the opponent knew his every move and could instantly counter any strategy he deployed.

As he pondered this, the symptoms from burning Gang Qi and Mind Power Essence dissipated. Opening his eyes again, he found that Su Liuli and Chu Ji were not around the Sky Tower and knew they had gone to slay mutant beasts.

"Looks like it's time for closed-door training again!"

Ye Fan's mind was as clear as a mirror. To defeat the flawless version of himself, raising his realm and gaining combat experience was futile. Only by comprehending new martial arts skills could change be possible.

Because...

As long as he understood new martial arts skills, without performing them, the cloned version of himself would never know them!

Chapter 963 Closed Cultivation Together (Makeup 22)

This battle gave Ye Fan a clear understanding of his own strength and also made him feel the difficulty of the fourth level test even more.

Overcoming oneself is not something that everyone can achieve, especially when this virtual version of oneself is almost perfect, with almost no flaws.

Because of all this, Ye Fan understood that if he continued to fight the fourth level's version of himself with his current strength, the final result would inevitably be his own defeat, making it impossible to pass the test.

To defeat the version of himself created by the Sky Tower, he must have absolute techniques unknown to the Sky Tower; otherwise, the outcome will not change.

After figuring this out, Ye Fan stood up straight, stretched his muscles and bones, and his whole body's bones emitted a series of crackling sounds, followed by a long howl that echoed through the valley.

"Is the little brat out?"

Chu Su and his companion, who were hunting mutant beasts in the distance, exchanged a glance, quickly dealt with the mutant beast in front of them, extracted a beast core the size of a chicken egg from the mutant beast's body, and headed towards the Sky Tower.

From far away, the two of them saw Ye Fan standing with his hands behind his back at the entrance of the Sky Tower, standing upright in front of the Sky Tower, staring blankly at the top floor of the Sky Tower.

"Kid, did you clear the level?"

Chu Ji quickly approached Ye Fan, looked him up and down with excitement, and asked.

Su Liuli, though silent, was also full of expectation.

Ye Fan gave a wry smile, how could it be that easy?

If the Sky Tower were so easy to clear, it would have been cleared long ago, so why would it be his turn?

"Ye Fan, what's going on? Which level of the test did you pass?"

Su Liuli, discerning the situation, knew that Ye Fan had not cleared it, so she tactfully asked what kind of test Ye Fan encountered.

"I encountered myself..." Ye Fan said with a wry smile.

"Encountered yourself?"

Chu Su and his companion were utterly confused, what does that mean? Could it be that there is another existence exactly like Ye Fan?

"The Sky Tower copied a version of me through special rules, with the same strength and martial arts skills as me, but with more combat experience and almost no flaws, and it can indefinitely burn Gang Qi and Mind Power Essence!"

Ye Fan briefly explained the situation he encountered on the fourth level, leaving both women dumbfounded.

How can you even fight this?

The opponent knows all of one's absolute techniques, has the same physique, and the most fatal thing is that the opponent can indefinitely burn Gang Qi and Mind Power without fearing repercussions, maintaining a strong offensive and defensive capability, while the one undergoing the test cannot always stay at the strongest peak.

"Then how can you pass the test? Is the designer of this Sky Tower a maniac? If he has the ability, let him try to defeat himself?"

Chu Ji vented her anger on the person who designed the Sky Tower, as such a test was clearly not meant for anyone to pass.

"That's right, if the fourth level's version of oneself is truly as strong as oneself, there might still be a chance to pass relying on a strong Martial Arts Will, but this virtual self is stronger than the one undergoing the test, which is somewhat unreasonable." Su Liuli also nodded, agreeing that the Sky Tower's fourth level test was indeed too difficult.

"No matter how difficult it is, I must pass the test, not only to obtain that final mysterious reward but also to become stronger myself — it's a rare form of training!"

Ye Fan ended the discussion with a single sentence, and then said, "But before that, I need a long period of seclusion to improve my strength, so I can have hopes of passing the fourth level test."

"Alright, we have accumulated enough beast cores, combined with the previous savings, it should be enough for you to reach the mid-stage War God Realm."

Chu Ji put away her teasing demeanor and said seriously. During these days, she and Su Liuli had been tirelessly hunting mutant beasts day and night, gaining a lot.

Ye Fan shook his head and said, "I'm not worried about the beast cores now. My concern is, once I break through to the mid-stage War God Realm, the Sky Tower will surely sense it and correspondingly enhance the strength of that other version of me on the fourth level. In that case, it would be like stealing a chicken only to end up losing the rice."

Hearing Ye Fan say this, the two women fell silent too, realizing that if that were the case, Ye Fan indeed could not break through too early.

"You don't need to worry either. If it doesn't work the first time, there's a second time. If it doesn't work the second time, there's a third time. I refuse to believe there are obstacles in this world that can't be overcome."

Ye Fan's confident demeanor infected the two women. Su Liuli said, "To wish you early success in passing the test, I've decided to prepare a good meal today, and then you can rest well before going into seclusion."

Chu Ji's eyes lit up, and she quietly gave Su Liuli a thumbs-up. Being naturally smart, she immediately understood Su Liuli's intention.

The so-called good meal naturally means having Ye Fan personally cook. Last time, when Ye Fan went into secluded cultivation, they had to prepare their own food, barely filling their stomachs, let alone enjoying anything delicious.

This time, since Ye Fan will be entering a long period of cultivation, in the coming days, she and Su Liuli will probably be forced to cook for themselves again.

Under such circumstances, having Ye Fan cook a meal to reward herself and Su Liuli is of course acceptable, especially since she and Su Liuli have been hunting mutant beasts day and night, collecting beast cores for him to help break through.

Judging by this alone, having a good meal is definitely well deserved.

Ye Fan naturally had no objections; given the uncertainty of how long this cultivation would take, he definitely needed to eat and drink enough to prepare.

Soon, Ye Fan, who had extensive experience in wilderness survival, quickly found a type of large leaf nearby. Using these leaves that emanated a fresh fragrance with no strange odor, he weaved a pot and tried filling it with water, finding that it didn't leak at all.

Su Liuli exclaimed in admiration. As the second young lady of Hu Hang Su Family, when had she ever seen such skills? Even while cultivating with Bodhi Wu Yin, she hadn't seen this.

Then, Ye Fan ventured into the nearby bamboo forest, finding some bamboo fungus and mushrooms, along with two strains of Spiritual Medicine.

Using telekinesis to control the flying knife, Ye Fan slew two grouse and walked out of the woods carrying them.

Chu Ji, having undergone wilderness survival training at least once, lend a hand beside him, while Su Liuli could only squat and watch.

Soon, with Chu Ji's help, the task of plucking and gutting the two grouse was completed.

Ye Fan stuffed the grouse cavities with herbs and some other seasonings, including some crushed salt mineral powder.

Then, he wrapped them in leaves, coated them with a layer of yellow clay, setting them aside. He filled the leaf-woven pot with water, added bamboo fungus and mushrooms, with some special seasonings, preparing to make a delicious bamboo fungus mushroom soup.

Once everything was ready, Ye Fan gathered some dry firewood and started two fires by the stream, using stones to support the pot over one of the fires.

"Ye Fan, won't the pot get burned?"

Su Liuli couldn't believe her eyes, questioning how a pot made from leaves could cook soup.

Without answering, Ye Fan tended to the pot while tossing the two wrapped grouse into the other fire. This method of preparing beggar's chicken was the most common and effective in wilderness survival.

When Chu Xuanji trained Ye Fan, it was extremely harsh. Ye Fan had to undergo wilderness training at a young age, thus his knowledge in this area was solid.

Reliving those times, Ye Fan's nose tingled; he thought of Chu Xuanji. Despite the long search without any traces, in his heart, he still held onto hope, wishing his master was alive—just alive would be enough.

Soon, the water in the leaf-woven pot boiled, emitting an enticing natural fragrance, blending into the essence of nature.

Ye Fan crafted three bamboo tubes from Buddha's Belly Bamboo, for holding the soup. As for the beggar's chicken, it could be eaten directly by tearing it apart.

"Wow, this soup is delicious! No way, I want all of it, you drink less and save some for me!"

Su Liuli cautiously tasted a sip, her eyes instantly gleaming; even when dining at five-star hotels at Hu Hang, she had never tasted such delicacy.

Ye Fan and Chu Ji exchanged a smile and retrieved the beggar's chicken from the fire, breaking the yellow clay, releasing a refreshing aroma of the meat.

"Mine, mine, both chicken legs are mine."

At this moment, Su Liuli seemed to return to the past, resuming her role as the second young lady of the Su family, eating and occupying food, holding a bamboo tube with soup in her left hand, and grabbing a fragrant chicken leg in her right hand, devouring with oil all over her mouth.

Chu Ji also seemed to let go of her sorrow, joining in the feast, grabbing a piece of plump chicken breast and taking a big bite.

The meal concluded amidst joyful grabbing, and Ye Fan washed his hands by the stream, then spoke with the two women before heading straight into the Sky Tower.

After all, the beast cores had been sufficiently accumulated, and the two women decided to join Ye Fan in secluded cultivation, exploring the knack of compressing Gang Qi and striking it out.

The result of compressed Gang Qi Ye Fan exhibited last time left them astonished. If they also grasped this method, their combat effectiveness would improve significantly, making it easier to deal with mutant beasts.

Moreover, Chu Ji decided to use this chance at secluded cultivation to strive for a breakthrough to the Mid-stage War God Realm!

Chapter 964 Surging Rainbow (Making up the arrears 23)

The Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi within the Sky Tower is not inferior to the outside, it's even more concentrated, as if the entire Forbidden Land's Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi is converging here.

Ye Fan, Su Liuli, and Chu Ji each sat cross-legged on the ground of the first floor of the Sky Tower, focusing their eyes on their noses, and their noses on their hearts, entering a state of meditation.

At this moment, Ye Fan's Martial Arts Cultivation had reached the Great Perfection Realm of the Early-Stage War God Realm, making it impossible for him to improve further unless he broke through to the Mid-level War God Realm.

Ye Fan abandoned Martial Arts Cultivation and focused exclusively on the cultivation of Magic, where the emphasis is on Mind Power cultivation, demanding extremely high levels of Mind Power from the cultivator.

Whoosh!

Whoosh!

Whoosh!

...

On the quiet first floor of the Sky Tower, the sound of something slicing through the air kept ringing out, as Ye Fan used Mind Power to manipulate the Xuanye Flying Blade, constantly performing the third style of the Flying Sword Skill, 'Flowing Light'.

To avoid disturbing Su Liuli and Chu Ji during their closed-door cultivation, he found a corner and set up a Soundproof Array.

The Sky Tower is governed by mysterious rules and Forbidden itself; although 'Flowing Light' is powerful, it cannot cause any damage to the Sky Tower.

By performing Flowing Light, gaining insights into the Flying Sword Skill, and enhancing the quality of mental energy; absorbing Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi, replenishing the consumption of mental energy, forming a perfect cycle between the two.

Time flies by, and in the blink of an eye, several days have passed. Ye Fan had cultivated his Mind Power to a very strong degree and began to comprehend the fourth style of the Flying Sword Skill—Surging Rainbow!

The Flying Sword Skill from the Xuan Realm can be considered top-grade among the Manipulation Stream of magicians, though whether it is top-grade in the Xuan Realm, Ye Fan wouldn't know.

However, on Earth, magician cultivation often centers around the Illusion Realm, with cultivators improving their Magic Cultivation to create stronger Illusion Realms, killing silently.

Yet, few magicians attempt the Manipulation Stream because it lacks powerful magic or widely circulated Secret Techniques.

The decision to avoid difficult tasks and choose easier ones is something everyone tends to do, and these magicians do not believe they could independently create a Manipulation Stream's Absolute Technique.

In truth, Ye Fan also lacks this capability as his Flying Sword Skill also originates from the Xuan Realm, but to him, the Manipulation Stream suits him better than the commonplace Illusion Technique Stream.

The third style of the Flying Sword Skill, Flowing Light, uses Mind Power to control the Flying Knife, taking a head within a hundred meters, and the absorbed Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi integrating into the technique, unleashing powerful destructive power.

Whereas the fourth style, "Surging Rainbow," improves upon the third style to make its power even stronger; when the Flying Sword strikes, the Surging Rainbow moves!

The entire Secret Technique of the Flying Sword Skill resides within Ye Fan's mind, and he slowly comprehends the various complexities of the fourth style, unconsciously reciting the Secret Technique aloud.

"When the sword strikes, Surging Rainbow follows, moving the winds and clouds! Across the Nine Heavens, like a Serpent Dragon! Flowing Light passes, Surging Rainbow emerges! Sword strikes a hundred steps, slaying fierce dragons..."

As his voice continues, a golden light gradually radiates from Ye Fan's brow, and upon inner observation, Ye Fan finds his mental energy vortex growing more radiant and solid, marking an advancement in his Magic Cultivation.

The days spent cultivating were not in vain, Ye Fan's Magic Cultivation had improved significantly compared to before, though actually executing the fourth style "Surging Rainbow" of the Flying Sword Skill remains difficult.

Ye Fan was not in a hurry, continuously reciting the Secret Technique of the fourth style of the Flying Sword Skill, deepening his understanding and insights, as if possessed.

Simultaneously, Su Liuli was also cultivating, having already reached the Mid-stage War God Realm, her Gang Qi was compressed a lot compared to before, accumulating experience in compressing Gang Qi yet still failing to find the right approach.

Repeatedly exploring and failing, Su Liuli did not lose heart, firmly believing that if Ye Fan could do it, she could certainly do it too.

As time passed, Su Liuli compressed Gang Qi more smoothly, whereas before she couldn't grasp the proper degree of compression!

Ye Fan repeatedly warned against causing Gang Qi to explode within the body, as this would drastically harm the cultivator, potentially causing irreparable harm.

Because of this warning, Su Liuli was very cautious during every attempt, but inadequate compression led to Gang Qi lacking explosive power once unleashed, naturally diminishing its power.

Fortunately, using only a tenth of the Gang Qi for testing each time, and after nearly depleting Gang Qi, she would cultivate to replenish the lost Gang Qi, then continue testing.

After countless tests, Su Liuli finally mastered the critical point in Gang Qi compression.

But that's still insufficient, as enemies would not give you time to use your Ultimate Skill in battle; thus, to effectively apply compressed Gang Qi in real combat, she must be able to compress Gang Qi to the critical point and instantly unleash it.

Gradually, Su Liuli mastered the method for rapid Gang Qi compression, though this technique could only be practiced by herself and couldn't be taught to anyone else, otherwise Ye Fan would not have let them comprehend it themselves.

Everyone's Gang Qi is different, and the critical point for compression varies too. Randomly imparting experience could lead to errors, causing Gang Qi to explode within the body, resulting in harm to others.

As Su Liuli fully mastered the knack for transitioning Gang Qi compression, Ye Fan suddenly opened his eyes, gold light shot from them, followed by a Flying Knife appearing in front of him, trembling gently.

"Go!"

Ye Fan gave a soft shout, and the Flying Knife transformed into Flowing Light, instantly striking the wall ahead. The wall of the Sky Tower seemed to manifest a layer of ripples, absorbing all the furious sword light completely without damaging the wall.

"Still not possible..."

Ye Fan sighed lightly, his thoughts moved and he retrieved the Flying Knife; what he executed was still the third style, Flowing Light, of the Flying Sword Skill, still far away from achieving Surging Rainbow.

"Ye Fan, don't worry, we have plenty of time to stay here. Once you pass the test, we will find a way out, and it's not too late."

Su Liuli walked up to him and comforted him, proactively kissing his forehead as a gesture of encouragement.

Before Ye Fan could react, Su Liuli had already withdrawn from the Sky Tower with a flushed face; her overall strength had improved significantly during this period of secluded training.

"Haha..."

Ye Fan touched the spot where he was kissed, smiled, and once again immersed himself in contemplation. He refused to believe that, having understood the Secret Technique of the Fourth Form, he couldn't execute the Ultimate Skill of Surging Rainbow!

"Ah! Liu Li, you've come out of seclusion?"

Chu Ji emerged from the Sky Tower first after a period of closed practice. Upon seeing Su Liuli walk out from the tower, she hurriedly approached her.

"Yes, Auntie, I've completely mastered the technique of Gang Qi compression, but I'm sorry, I can't tell you. You have to comprehend it yourself."

Su Liuli smiled, her face still blushing, appearing extraordinarily alluring.

Chu Ji nodded and said, "It's okay. I believe that if you can do it, I certainly can too. You must have your reasons for not telling me, don't need to explain, I understand."

After speaking, Chu Ji took out some meticulously cleaned mountain fruits and said, "Liu Li, I don't have the skills of your little sweetheart, so I could only pick some wild fruits to get by. Don't be picky, just make do and eat them!"

Upon hearing this, Su Liuli's blush became more pronounced, almost as if droplets might fall. She shyly said, "I don't know how to roast meat either, so I'll have to wait for Ye Fan to emerge from seclusion for us to enjoy a feast."

Saying that, Su Liuli unabashedly picked up a mountain fruit and started munching on it. During this period, she had been away from food and drink, leaving her stomach empty.

After munching on several mountain fruits, Su Liuli stopped and decided to test her progress by hunting mutant beasts.

Meanwhile, Chu Ji re-entered the Sky Tower to continue cultivating and comprehending the mysteries of Gang Qi compression.

At the same time, Ye Fan continued to explore and contemplate the various mysteries of "Surging Rainbow." Despite seemingly understanding it, he couldn't truly execute it, constantly ending up with the third form of Flowing Light!

Surging Rainbow is a fortified version of Flowing Light, with more power and a wider attack range. But what truly constitutes Surging Rainbow?

Ye Fan pondered deeply but remained clueless. However, his Mind Power made significant progress during this period of cultivation, with the mental energy vortex between his brows glowing like a radiant sun, exuding vitality!

"What's going wrong?"

He didn't know how long had passed, and Ye Fan still had no idea, almost overturning his original understanding entirely.

He felt that continuing like this was probably unproductive. Even though he had fully grasped the Secret Technique of Surging Rainbow, he still couldn't execute the Ultimate Skill due to some unexplained aspect.

Ye Fan decided to exit seclusion and take a walk. Just endlessly contemplating wasn't the solution; maybe he could gain inspiration from nature.

With the idea in mind, Ye Fan stood up and looked outside the Sky Tower, only to see Su Liuli standing inside the tower door with torrential rain falling outside!

Hmm?

Ye Fan was stunned. Ever since he entered the Trial Holy Land, it had scarcely rained here, making today's rain a rare sight.

It seemed hopeless to gain insights, so Ye Fan opted to rest his mind and directly walked to the doorway, standing alongside Su Liuli, watching the waterfall-like rain curtain outside.

Su Liuli was very smart and did not inquire about Ye Fan's progress, instead leaning her body against him, using this manner to encourage Ye Fan.

Ye Fan naturally embraced her, his eyes without focus, gazing blankly at the rain curtain outside. His heart seemed slightly touched, but couldn't grasp the feeling fully.

The rain came quickly and left quickly. A quarter-hour later, as the rain subsided, Ye Fan walked out of the tower, standing on the mountain top looking into the distance.

Suddenly—

He saw a rainbow appear on the horizon, like a colorful bridge, beautifully spectacular.

"Rainbow after rain!"

A lightning-like inspiration flashed in Ye Fan's mind, instantly comprehending and understanding the true meaning of the Flying Sword Skill Fourth Form "Surging Rainbow!"

Rain, connects heaven and earth.

Rainbow, stretches across the sky!

So that's how it is...

Ye Fan revealed a smile of Sudden Enlightenment!

Chapter 965 Curtain Falls

Time flies, months pass like a shuttle, and in the blink of an eye, six months have passed, leaving all those waiting for Ye Fan's return with their hopes completely dashed.

In half a year, so many things can happen. If Ye Fan and the others were still alive, they should have found a way out by now.

It now seems that Xu Wudao and Anton were telling the truth, that except for the two of them, everyone who entered the Forbidden Land has died, without exception.

For the past six months, Xu Wudao and Anton have lived in constant anxiety, fearing that Ye Fan's trio might come out of the Forbidden Land, which would expose their lies to the world.

If that were to happen, they not only couldn't share in the rewards from the Hidden God List competition, but might end up disgraced and punished — Yan Jue would definitely not spare them!

Yet, it seems fate is assisting them; six months have passed, and Ye Fan, Su Liuli, and Chu Ji still haven't emerged from the Forbidden Land.

"Sigh..."

At the Yanhuang Organization headquarters, Yan gazed at the northern sky, sighed heavily, then suppressed the sorrow in his heart, adjusted his expression, and prepared to convene the War God Alliance Hierarch meeting to distribute six million Essence Stones as agreed upon six months ago to Xu Wudao and Anton.

Six million Essence Stones!

This is a fortune large enough to make anyone envious!

Even as heirs to ancient forces, Xu Wudao and Anton are irresistibly tempted by such wealth.

This is the reason Xu Wudao chose to spread rumors at the risk of punishment!

During the meeting, hearing Yan announce the distribution of six million Essence Stones to Xu Wudao and Anton, Zorn, Shijia Mo Ye, Rodriguez, and Essenfake felt very complex.

If their heirs hadn't died, some of these Essence Stones would undoubtedly have gone to their families. But now, they can only watch as these stones fall into the pockets of the Xu Family and the Luoke Family.

The only comfort they have is knowing that Ye Fan, who killed their heirs, has ultimately failed to emerge alive from the Forbidden Land, which indirectly avenges them.

After the rewards were decided, Xu Tianqi and Mei Luo dared not be careless and dispatched strong people from their clans to the War God Alliance headquarters to collect the Essence Stones.

The Hidden God List competition, at this point, has truly come to a close, with the news of reward distribution spread rapidly throughout the global cultivation world.

"I really didn't expect the result to be like this!"

"Ye Fan, once in the limelight and hailed as the most hopeful candidate to win the Hidden God List competition, died in the Forbidden Land; what a pity."

"Yes! Had he not died, neither Xu Wudao nor Anton could be his competitors — he would definitely become the future leader in the human cultivation world!!"

Some neutral cultivators expressed their views, believing Xu Wudao and Anton were not truly Ye Fan's match, but merely lucky.

These comments were immediately refuted by staunch supporters of Xu Wudao and Anton, who believed that being alive is the ultimate truth, no matter how talented one might be.

Ye Fan was powerful, but a deceased genius remains useless; he has become a thing of the past.

When the news reached the Jiang Family, Jiang Ying suddenly stood up from her chair and said gloomily, "Ye Fan, Ye Fan, has it come to this for you? It's a pity I couldn't witness your miserable end personally."

With her great enemy avenged, Jiang Ying felt both happy and lost; although Ye Fan's death avenged her great enmity, her own cultivation had been crippled by Ye Fan, and she now must live as an ordinary person.

For someone proud and once possessing great power, this disparity grieves her more than death.

Jiang Yurong naturally understood her feelings but didn't know how to comfort her, merely sighed lightly, feeling the great burden in her heart about Ye Fan and Chu Xuanji's deaths had finally been lifted.

Chu Xuanji's power was lost and posed no further threat, which she didn't mind, but Ye Fan's rapid growth was too fast. If he hadn't died, within a few years, he could have indeed contended against her.

At that point, it would likely become a disaster for the entire Jiang Family, so no one was happier about Ye Fan's death than she!

"The arrogant Ye Fan, ruthless and unjust, deserved this death as heavenly punishment!"

Jiang Yurong publicly claimed, without mentioning the teamwork of several youth geniuses against him in the Holy Land, intentionally misrepresenting and maligning Ye Fan.

If anyone wanted Ye Fan dead most within the Forbidden Land, it would undoubtedly be Jiang Yurong, given their deep-seated enmity with Ye Fan, naturally preferring his demise.

Even though the Jiang Family has declined, they remain one of the ancient families in Hua Xia's cultivation world since ancient times, with some influence; her voice soon spread through the cultivation world.

Unsurprisingly, her comments resonated with some of Ye Fan's enemies.

Including the Ross family, the Elfa Tribe, the Huang Jin Family, and the Tianzhu Buddhist Sect!

Ye Fan annihilated their most outstanding heirs, a feud beyond reconciliation, even though Ye Fan died in the Forbidden Land, they zealously criticized and defamed him.

For a time, rumors spread throughout the cultivation world, claiming Ye Fan was ruthless, killing the Six Great Geniuses to monopolize the Hidden God List rewards.

Of course, not all cultivators were fooled; many who attended the Hidden God List competition or learned the truth at Bei Hai Canyon knew the true story.

Yet—

Even so, no one spoke up for Ye Fan.

Because Ye Fan is already dead, in the future cultivation world, Xu Wudao and Anton will undoubtedly shine brightly, and they haven't had close ties with Ye Fan, so there's no need to risk offending Xu Wudao and Anton to defend Ye Fan.

Moreover, it's evident that the Six Great Ancient Forces are involved secretly, and they wouldn't foolishly contradict the long-standing Six Great Ancient Forces!

The competition results naturally reached Chen Daozang's ears, and upon learning both Ye Fan and Chu Xuanji died in the Forbidden Land, Chen Daozang revealed a cruel smile.

Though Xue Chou died in the Holy Land, he was merely a pawn, an adopted son; losing Xue Chou in exchange for Ye Fan and Chu Xuanji's deaths seemed worthwhile to him.

...

Lv Family Ancestral Land.

"Damn it, that old witch! Utterly shameless, clearly it was those six bastards who wanted to kill Ye Zi, but in her mouth, it turned into Ye Fan intentionally killing them, completely reversing right and wrong!"

Jiang Yurong's words reached Lv Zhan's ears, and he immediately couldn't sit still, jumped up, and cursed angrily.

"Brother Lv, save your breath; there's no point in arguing with that old witch; when a dog bites you, can you bite it back?" Xiao Selang advised beside him.

Ever since learning Ye Fan died in the Forbidden Land, he emerged from seclusion, travelling from Tian Shan Sword Sect directly to the Lv Family to confirm the situation with Lv Zhan.

Not only him, but Wu Zi and Ye Hei also came, none of them believed Ye Fan truly perished in the Forbidden Land, hence seeking out Lv Zhan for answers.

Hearing his grandson's words, Lv Yuan sighed and said, "Actually, I also don't believe Ye Fan truly died in the Forbidden Land, but six months have passed. If he encountered no issues, he should have emerged long ago. Now, having not surfaced, the situation is likely unfavorable."

"Grandfather, I absolutely refuse to believe Ye Fan died in the Forbidden Land. Don't forget, Ye Fan is profoundly skilled at creating miracles; I trust he definitely won't die this time either!"

Lv Zhan looked at his grandfather, speaking with strong conviction.

Lv Yuan's heart was moved; Lv Zhan was right, Ye Fan was adept at producing miracles, countless times when people thought he couldn't recover, yet he always managed to surprise them.

"What do you want to say? Just say it directly." Lv Yuan knew his treasured grandson had more to express, so he encouraged him to speak.

Lv Zhan glanced at Xiao Selang and Wu Zi, Ye Hei, resolutely saying, "I wish to go to Bei Hai Canyon with them. If Ye Fan truly hasn't died, once he emerges, we can meet him."

Lv Yuan paused, surprised his grandson was more firmly convinced of Ye Fan's survival than himself, pondered for a moment, then said, "Today's cultivation world is full of uncertainty, where strength is paramount. I have no objection to you heading to Bei Hai Canyon, but don't neglect cultivation; even if Ye Fan has truly died, you must transform your sorrow into strength and cultivate diligently."

"Rest assured, we won't slack in cultivation; the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi in Bei Hai Canyon is comparable to our Lv Family Ancestral Land, making cultivation there twice as effective."

With those words, Lv Zhan stopped wasting time, directly leading Xiao Selang, Ye Hei, and Wu Zi away from the Lv Family Ancestral Land, heading to Bei Hai Canyon.

Meanwhile.

Dark Council headquarters.

"Ye Fan, did you really die?"

Olivia gazed at the eastern horizon, lost in thought, "You must live because I'm still waiting for you to repay the favor you owe me..."

Chapter 966 Killing 'Oneself' (Repaid 24)

Some are joyful while others are sorrowful.

After returning from the Bei Hai Canyon, Xu Wudao and Anton became the most dazzling, highly sought-after prodigies, known by everyone in the cultivation world.

A total of six million Essence Stones were divided between the two of them, each obtaining three million, evoking envy among the younger generation of cultivators.

Regarding this outcome, Xu Wudao felt immensely elated and secretly thankful for his own cleverness!

Because the forbidden land was fraught with dangers, and when he and Anton left, the ancient altar was destroyed. He believed that Ye Fan and the others would find it difficult to leave the forbidden land alive. Therefore, he planned to spread rumors and swindle Essence Stones, never expecting that his lies would become reality!

He and Anton became the biggest winners of the Hidden God List competition!

Three million Essence Stones were enough to support his breakthrough to the High-level War God Realm. With the support of his clan, he would firmly hold a place in the future cultivation world, possibly even becoming a leading figure among all human cultivators!

Anton shared a similar thought. After narrowly escaping the forbidden land, he supported Xu Wudao's statement, risking being discovered primarily due to the lure of the generous rewards.

Now with the rewards in hand, Anton was full of ambition. Without Ye Fan obstructing him, he was confident that he would shine brightly in the future cultivation world.

The Hidden God List competition had come to a complete end, but instead of settling down, the cultivation world surged with storms.

Meanwhile, in the forbidden land.

Ye Fan was unaware that he had already become a 'dead man'.

He prepared to ascend to the fourth level of the Sky Tower to battle another version of himself.

After arduously secluding himself for a long time, Ye Fan still couldn't grasp the essence of the fourth form of the Flying Sword Skill, "Surging Rainbow." However, the rainbow after the rain gave him unexpected inspiration, and in a moment of sudden enlightenment, he comprehended the true intent of Surging Rainbow.

This wasn't merely luck. Without the previous seclusion and contemplation, even if he saw the rainbow after the rain, he couldn't have achieved sudden enlightenment.

Thus it is said, every gain and loss is predestined by heaven, and no effort is wasted, losing at the Eastern outskirts only to gain in the Mulberry Gate!

With sudden enlightenment, Ye Fan instantly connected everything in his mind. With a thought, a flying knife shot straight into the sky, the sword light that was originally over a meter long disappeared, replaced by a one-foot long, seven-colored blade light.

Although the sword light became shorter, Ye Fan knew that its power had already multiplied. Indeed, the fourth form, Surging Rainbow, was powerful!

The palm-sized flying knife flew straight to the sky, like a sentient spiritual creature, soaring towards the rainbow!

Of course, he definitely couldn't use the flying knife to cut through the rainbow; the distance between them was too vast, and Ye Fan's Mind Power couldn't achieve such a long attack radius!

After a round of soaring across the sky, Ye Fan directed his mind, and the flying knife, with an unstoppable force, roared towards a small mountain peak.

Boom——

With a loud noise, the fierce sword light directly sheared off the top of the mountain, and all the debris instantly turned to dust.

"This... it's too powerful, isn't it?"

Chu Ji nearly bit her tongue, looking at the sheared mountain peak with a face full of shock.

She knew of Ye Fan's Flying Knife Assassination, even the most powerful Flowing Light couldn't cause such an effect. This time, the sword light almost disappeared, but its lethality surged.

Not only Chu Ji, but even Su Liuli was incredibly shocked.

Although she had also broken through to the Mid-level War God Realm and stabilized her cultivation, even deploying the 'Bodhi Tree' comparable to an Ancient Heavenly Technique, her combat power couldn't compare to Ye Fan's.

After verifying the power of "Surging Rainbow," Ye Fan finally felt relieved. His figure flashed as he headed directly to the fourth level of the Sky Tower.

Returning to the fourth level, Ye Fan calmed his consciousness, appearing calm and collected, his eyes deep like the vast starry sky, shining with the light of wisdom!

Soon, the simulated 'Ye Fan' created by the Sky Tower also appeared. This time, he did not attack stealthily but manifested a hundred meters in front of Ye Fan.

"You're here again? Go ahead, defeat me, and you pass the challenge, otherwise, the result will not change!"

The simulated Ye Fan spoke coldly, seemingly confident in his victory.

Ye Fan wasn't the least bit angered; he knew the figure standing in front of him was nearly flawless, almost perfect.

His only chance was the fourth form of the "Flying Sword Skill," 'Surging Rainbow.'

Moreover, he was well aware that he had only one opportunity to use Surging Rainbow, and it had to be a one-hit kill!

If he failed to achieve a one-hit kill, the Sky Tower, through its mysterious rules, would allow the replica of himself to also perform 'Surging Rainbow.'

In that case, he would have no chance of victory!

The wind blew in from the window beside them, ruffling Ye Fan's clothes, and a breath of fresh air diffused some of the tense atmosphere before the great battle.

Ye Fan stood facing the window, fixing his gaze on the virtual version of himself, ready to act only if his opponent did, deciding not to make the first move.

The virtual Ye Fan seemed to understand his thoughts, a mocking smile played at his lips, arms crossed over his chest, standing with legs slightly apart, exuding the aura of a deep abyss or a towering mountain, with no intention of making the first move as well.

The two stood in confrontation, neither daring to relax in the slightest, for such would lead to the other's relentless attack.

A few minutes later, Ye Fan inwardly lamented. The opponent seemed full of flaws, but in reality, left him with an inexplicable feeling of being unable to strike. The arms crossed at the chest seemed to obscure all possible attacking angles.

The strong wind blew from the window, fiercely whipping against his eyes.

Though given Ye Fan's current cultivation, he could stand unmoving in the wind for a whole day and night without issue, he was at a disadvantage after all.

Under such circumstances, it was meaningless to continue waiting, and prolonged delay was detrimental. Ye Fan decided to take action.

His gaze turned cold as he slowly threw a punch, seemingly without any lethal force.

Yet——

The virtual Ye Fan standing across from him expressed a soft "eh," the disdain on his face vanished, replaced by a solemn expression.

In his eyes, Ye Fan's punch was far from simple; though it appeared as slow as a snail, it unpredictably shifted forward and backward, left and right, creating a feeling of elusiveness!

Between experts exchanging blows, how can there be room for error in judgment?

Even the slightest mistake can ultimately lead to total defeat. The virtual Ye Fan dared not be careless. With a sharp cry, his aura surged, and his eyes instantly turned a ghastly white, as his Gang Qi and Mind Power simultaneously ignited.

Whoosh!

At this moment, the virtual Ye Fan unleashed his strongest combat power state without any reservation, launching a lightning-fast punch towards Ye Fan's chest!

Attacking the slow with speed, he couldn't unravel Ye Fan's peculiar punch, so he could only opt for a head-on collision, forcing Ye Fan to compete on strength.

This was his cleverness; as a virtual creation, this Ye Fan possessed Ye Fan's most powerful combat power and all martial arts, and could maintain his peak strength for a long time. Overwhelming with force was the best choice.

Ye Fan had no choice but to simultaneously ignite Gang Qi and Mind Power. The punch that was initially as slow as a snail suddenly became as fast as lightning, colliding with the virtual self's fist!

Boom!

A loud noise erupted from between the two, both recoiling almost simultaneously. This attack was evenly matched; neither gained any advantage!

Swift battle and quick resolution!

Ye Fan knew, ultimately, he was different from his virtual self. He could maintain strong power for a long time without any weakening, whereas he did not have this advantage!

"Kill!"

With a furious shout, Ye Fan suddenly took the initiative, striking a distant punch. The punch brought with it the sound of the wind, and almost all the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi within the fourth floor was drawn into his Punch Ray.

The virtual Ye Fan also unleashed an Azure Sky Overlord Blood, but the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi had already been drained by Ye Fan's punch. Despite the rapid replenishment, it was insufficient, only attracting a small portion into the Punch Ray.

Boom!

With another explosive sound, Ye Fan retreated three steps, stopping only when pressed against the wall behind him, his vitality churning, his face blooming with two patches of red.

The virtual Ye Fan, however, was lifted off the ground, smashing into the window behind him, blocked by a magical barrier-like thing.

With success in hand, Ye Fan ignored his turbulent vitality and rushed again, using the same method to unleash another Azure Sky Overlord Blood.

At the same time, his mind moved, and a Xuanyue Flying Blade, trailing a long blade light, shot towards the virtual Ye Fan's Dantian.

"Hmph!"

The virtual Ye Fan coldly snorted, also launching a punch, still at peak combat power, seemingly unaffected by the prior hit.

He simultaneously activated a flying knife, using Flowing Light against Flowing Light, colliding it with Ye Fan's flying knife.

At the same time, he suddenly activated another flying knife, using Magic Power to shoot towards Ye Fan's brow.

Ye Fan was greatly shocked, never expecting, after hard battling a Domineering Fist, that this virtual self would still have such powerful combat strength, and employed two flying knives for assassination, truly unbelievable.

Clang!

Ye Fan sidestepped to evade the second flying knife assassination, while accelerating his rush towards the opponent!

Azure Sky Overlord Blood was intensely domineering, a punch that absorbed all the surrounding Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi into the Punch Ray. Whoever strikes first has a certain advantage; after all, the density of Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi within the fourth floor, regardless of how full, is limited.

Boom...

Their Punch Rays collided once again. Ye Fan seized the opportunity, eyes bursting with intense light; two beams of golden light struck like lightning into the virtual Ye Fan's eyes, launching a Mind Attack!

Ye Fan didn't expect the Mind Attack to cause significant harm to the opponent; just causing a moment of daze was enough!

In a duel between experts, life and death can be decided in an instant, allowing no lapse in mental focus!

He knew the virtual self had little difference from himself; his Martial Arts Will was strong, as was the virtual self's.

One could say the virtual Ye Fan was exactly Ye Fan himself, with no discrepancies, even down to intelligence accuracy.

The virtual Ye Fan also launched a Mind Attack, but the timing was already a half beat slower, struck by Ye Fan's Mind into his consciousness!

Boom!

The virtual Ye Fan only felt as if his consciousness had exploded, involuntarily becoming momentarily dazed!

Whizz—

Just at this moment, the sharp piercing sound of breaking air rang out!

Ye Fan's long-held trump card finally appeared.

A flying knife, bearing a foot-long Seven-Colored Blade Light, swiftly nailed into the virtual Ye Fan's brow, piercing through the Protective Aura; even the handle was half buried, demonstrating the power!

"What is this martial art..."

The virtual Ye Fan's eyes bulged, looking at Ye Fan in disbelief, until now not understanding why he suddenly lost to Ye Fan.

"Flying Sword Skill—Fourth Form—Surging Rainbow!" Ye Fan provided the answer.

Boom—

With those words, the virtual Ye Fan's body exploded, dissipating entirely.

Clap! Clap! Clap!

Ye Fan strode towards the staircase leading to the fifth floor of the Sky Tower, ready to face the final challenge!

Chapter 967 Passing the Test (Make up for 25 Missing)

After the virtual Ye Fan shattered, it instantly transformed into countless white light dots surging towards Ye Fan.

Before Ye Fan could react, the light dots had already merged into his body, instantly replenishing his consumed Gang Qi and Mind Power.

In an instant, Ye Fan felt as if he'd taken a supreme tonic, his whole being invigorated, exuding a powerful aura.

"This...?"

Ye Fan was shocked, unexpectedly discovering that this virtual self had such an effect, but defeating oneself was by no means easy?

Ye Fan believed that most people could never gain this benefit, because defeating oneself was too difficult.

Even though he had comprehended the fourth style of 'Surging Rainbow' from the Flying Sword Skill, if he hadn't chosen to endure, bide his time, and finally use his trump card, the outcome could have been quite uncertain.

"Hehe... Young man, congratulations on defeating yourself. Over the years, you're the first person to achieve this, passing the fourth layer's trial!" Just as Ye Fan's spiritual energy reached its peak state, that aged voice once again rang in his ear.

"Senior, what kind of existence are you exactly?"

Ye Fan didn't expect that aged voice to answer; he asked mainly because the Sky Tower was too miraculous, and that aged voice seemed meticulously designed, like a high-level instrument!

"You need not know these things yet. If you wish to know who I am, pass the fifth layer's trial first!"

After saying this, that aged voice fell completely silent.

Ye Fan knew there was no use asking more, perhaps that voice was merely a wisp of intent left by an ancient master, unable to last long or communicate further.

Thinking of this, Ye Fan took a deep breath and walked towards the fifth layer, the stairs beneath his feet emitting a sore-inducing sound, as if they might collapse at any moment.

Soon, Ye Fan arrived at the fifth layer, habitually scanning around, wanting to know in advance what the most mysterious and difficult fifth layer's trial was.

At this sight, Ye Fan gasped in astonishment; the walls were densely covered with carvings of powerful mutant beasts, each exuding a murderous aura.

Thud!

Ye Fan's heart trembled slightly.

The Sky Tower's third layer had High-level War God-level mutant beasts, the fifth layer likely does too.

If so many High-level War God-level mutant beasts appeared at the same time, even if he instantly broke through to the High-level War God Realm, he would be torn apart by these beasts effortlessly.

"Hmm? No, no mutant beast has appeared!"

After watching for a while, Ye Fan suddenly noticed that these mutant beasts didn't manifest from the walls, leaving him puzzled about what this fifth layer's trial was.

The unknown is the most terrifying; although Ye Fan had considerable confidence in his own strength, he also knew the Sky Tower's power.

The fourth layer was about defeating oneself, so the fifth layer's trial would only be more difficult, certainly not easier.

At that moment, Ye Fan suddenly spotted a stone table not far ahead; on the table lay a Jade Box, palm-sized, but emanating a radiance, clearly no ordinary item.

It seems the object in this Jade Box is the reward after passing the trial, but what it is remains uncertain.

Thinking this, Ye Fan couldn't help but walk towards the box, his nerves highly tense, constantly on guard, fearing danger might suddenly strike.

Yet—

Even as Ye Fan approached the stone table, no crisis loomed, as if there wasn't any trial; passing the fourth layer's test seemed to grant direct access to claim the reward.

Just as Ye Fan reached out for the Jade Box...

A sudden change occurred!

The Jade Box emitted a soft glow, completely enveloping him.

Ye Fan felt as if he was plunged into a milky-white ocean, his mind sank for a moment, then instantly regained clarity!

With consciousness restored, Ye Fan found himself not in the Sky Tower, but atop a mountain peak, the air thick with a pungent smell of blood.

"Roar..."

A mutant beast's roar jolted him awake, the surroundings filled with the clamoring of battle cries as a massive beast tide launched a fierce assault on the human cultivators!

"Ah! Ah!"

The human cultivators were forced to fight back desperately, their screams never-ending, yet they couldn't withstand the beast's slaughter; corpses were everywhere, the scene exceptionally tragic as if hell on earth.

"Ye Fan, what should we do? We can't hold on any longer."

While Ye Fan was stunned, a familiar voice reached his ears; it was Su Liuli, covered in blood, her energy very weak.

"Xiao Fan, the beast tide is too fierce, our casualties are overwhelming, we simply can't withstand the beast tide's attack; at this rate, everyone will die fighting, what should we do?"

Lv Yuan wielded the Fangtian Halberd, looking as if he had just been fished out of a blood pool, his wounds turning outwards, appearing extremely grievous.

"How can this be?"

In this scenario, a mission materialized in Ye Fan's mind: no matter what, they must hold back the beast tide, even if it requires great sacrifice, they must repel the beast tide, otherwise, if these mutant beasts break through into the ordinary world, it will be an apocalyptic disaster.

"Hold back, no matter what, we must hold back; otherwise, humanity will cease to exist, and the world will return to its primordial state!"

Ye Fan nearly shouted these words; all over the world, cultivators were resisting the beast tide of mutant beasts, the sacrifices were immense.

Every moment, human cultivators fell prey to the fangs and claws of the mutant beasts; nourished by the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi, these mutant beasts became exceptionally powerful, even Yan joined the battle, fending off more than a dozen High-level War God-level mutant beasts alone.

At this moment, everyone put aside their prejudices and hatred, aligning their efforts to fend off wave after wave of fierce beast tides!

"Splash!"

More than a dozen High-level War God realm Mutant Beasts launched a simultaneous attack, using beast techniques to violently explode Yan in mid-air, blood staining the battlefield!

Meanwhile, other parts of the world were also frequently reporting bad news. Human cultivators were severely outmatched by mutant beasts in both quality and quantity, with cities and nations falling continuously, and a large number of civilians becoming blood food for the mutant beasts.

In just a short month, aside from the strong people led by Ye Fan who were still struggling to hold on, the whole world was engulfed in the beast tide.

At this time, the alliance army of human cultivators led by Ye Fan was essentially trapped, surrounded by the rolling beast tide on a mountain top.

"Ye Zi, I'll leave the rest to you all, today I'm reclaiming my position!"

Lv Zhan fought fiercely, a black big spear transforming into a myriad of spear shadows, battling desperately with a massive mutant leopard beast.

However, the power disparity was too great, coupled with numerous mutant beasts launching beast technique sneak attacks from the side, Lv Zhan exhausted his strength and died in battle, swiftly torn into pieces and trampled underfoot by the mutant beasts!

"Zhan'er!"

Lv Yuan let out a tragic cry, his eyes bloodshot with rage, wielding a Fangtian Halberd like a lethal judge's pen, stabbing mutant beasts to death one after another.

But there were too many mutant beasts, completely overwhelming, with a pile of mutant beast corpses accumulating around Lv Yuan, but in such intense combat, there was no time to rest, and even a War God couldn't hold out.

In an unguarded moment, Lv Yuan was struck mid-air by a mutant eagle beast, its talons forcibly gouging out both of his eyeballs!

The intense pain coupled with blindness soon caused Lv Yuan to be overwhelmed by the beast tide, another human strong person perishing in the beast tide!

The people around him fell one after another. Ye Fan's eyes were bloodshot with rage, desperately burning his Gang Qi Essence and Mind Power Essence, unleashing formidable combat power.

A massive number of mutant beasts fell at his hands, soon followed by even more mutant beasts filling the gaps, the killing was endless. From his vantage point, dense beast tides surged in from all directions!

"Ye Fan! If there's a next life, I'll still be your woman..."

At that moment, Ye Fan heard Su Liuli's tragic cry. She exhausted her strength and died in battle, instantly crushed into pulp by stepping mutant beasts!

Ye Fan was furious with grief but couldn't reach her, as the mutant beasts attacking grew increasingly strong, forcing him to focus his consciousness to cope.

However—

It was all in vain, the mutant beasts had already taken over the world, humans became prey for mutant beasts, the outcome was destined and killing more mutant beasts couldn't change it.

Relatives, friends, enemies, were swallowed by the beast tide one by one in front of him, sacrificing their lives for all of humanity.

Even if it was like hitting against a stone with an egg, he wouldn't hesitate, the tragic scene stimulating Ye Fan to perform exceptionally, striking down a High-level War God realm Mutant Beast into pieces in one blow.

The Xuanye Flying Blade was like a machine harvesting mutant beast lives, with one rotation taking away the lives of a swath of mutant beasts, their bodies accumulating like mountains.

Human and mutant beast blood mingled, flowing down from the slopes like streams, converging into a blood-colored river, emitting a scorching bloody scent.

Ye Fan was already numb, having no idea how many mutant beasts he had slaughtered, only knowing to kill, and kill again, with his whole body's Gang Qi and Mind Power almost all burned!

Suddenly, Ye Fan felt dizzy, unable to manipulate the Flying Knife Assassination, his movements slowed, striving to throw a punch, striking and killing a Top-level War God-level Mutant Beast in front of him, while he himself was exhausted.

"I did my best!"

In the moment before losing consciousness, Ye Fan murmured this sentence, only to see darkness and fell backward onto the ground, his breath ceased!

However, Ye Fan experienced a peculiar sensation, feeling that he was dead, but his soul remained, helplessly watching the alliance army of human cultivators being annihilated.

"No! It's not true, I don't believe it, this definitely isn't true..."

Ye Fan roared and shouted in his heart, the scene before him feeling unreal.

The mutant beasts were too powerful, while in the future, they might indeed reach this level, right now it absolutely shouldn't be.

"My heart is steadfast as a rock, eliminating falsehoods and retaining truth, breaking illusions!"

Ye Fan gained sudden insight, guarding a spot of clarity on his Spirit Platform, repeatedly telling himself, this was all an illusion, impossible to happen.

Gradually, Ye Fan regained consciousness, his body cold and rigid, unable to open his eyes initially, yet he clearly knew he wasn't dead.

"Break illusion! Open up!!"

Ye Fan shouted in his heart, trembling all over, regaining sensation in his body, his eyes slowly opened, still standing in front of the stone table on the fifth layer of the Sky Tower, unchanged.

"That was close! Almost fell into the trap!"

Ye Fan wiped the cold sweat from his forehead, looking at the Jade Box in front of him, muttering to himself.

"Breaking illusions and retaining truth, your Martial Arts Will is incredibly strong. Congratulations, you have passed the final trial of the Sky Tower and can receive a mysterious reward!"

At that moment, the old voice came to Ye Fan's ears, followed by an elderly man, so ancient in appearance his age couldn't be discerned, appearing in front of Ye Fan.

"The difficulty of the fifth layer trial of the Sky Tower is abnormally high, the reward shouldn't be bad, right?"

Ye Fan calmed his emotions, pondering thoughtfully.

Chapter 968 Rewards

"Young man, congratulations. After so many years, you are the first to pass the old man's trial of the Sky Tower. You can now receive your reward."

The old man, whose age was indiscernible, smiled warmly at Ye Fan. His face was like dried orange peel, and his hair and eyebrows had all fallen out. Even his scalp was covered in wrinkles.

"Who are you?"

Ye Fan knew that the hunched, corpse-like elder in front of him was the master who constructed this Sky Tower, and he asked respectfully.

"It doesn't matter, does it? Time has been so long, I have forgotten my own name. Besides, I am not the true body, only a spiritual imprint left behind. I do not know much."

The old man did not reveal too much about himself. Instead, he pointed to the jade box on the stone table in front of Ye Fan and said, "The reward is in the jade box, open it and have a look!"

Ye Fan hesitated as he looked at the jade box. It was this very box that had caused him to fall into an illusion realm earlier, almost trapping him indefinitely.

Ye Fan had no doubt that if his Martial Arts Will weren't strong, he might have become lost forever, never to awaken again.

"Haha!"

Seeing Ye Fan's hesitation, the old man couldn't help but chuckle and said, "Rest assured, the material used for this jade box is Mystical Divine Jade, sourced from an Outer Heaven Meteorite. It's the only one on Earth. As long as you withstand its first attack, Mystical Divine Jade will no longer harm you."

This was the first time Ye Fan heard of such a divine jade, but he chose to trust the old man's words because he had already passed the trial, and the old man had no reason to harm him!

Reaching for the jade box, Ye Fan found it very simple, with no mechanisms or hidden locks, yet it was exquisitely crafted. The lid and the box fit perfectly together; one couldn't find the seams unless looked closely.

Encouraged by the old man's gaze, Ye Fan slowly opened the box to see a pill inside, resembling a red agate, about the size of a longan. It was crystal clear, with a mist swirling within, faintly visible!

"What is this?"

Ye Fan was puzzled. He had never seen this type of elixir pill before, nor had he read anything about it even in ancient books. He couldn't identify it at all.

"You don't recognize this pill?"

The old man seemed very curious. Judging by his expression, the pill was very famous, and Ye Fan shouldn't have been unfamiliar with it.

Ye Fan shook his head. He truly had never seen this type of pill, nor had he encountered any descriptions or introductions about it in any ancient texts.

"No wonder you're so calm. If you knew the name of this pill, you probably wouldn't remain so composed."

The old man smiled lightly and said, "This pill was very famous during the time when my true body was alive. It's called the Creation Pill! It derives its name from its ability to seize the creation of heaven and earth. Imagine how extraordinary it is!"

Creation Pill?

Ye Fan truly had never heard of such a pill, so he remained silent, waiting for the old man to explain its miraculous effects.

Seeing Ye Fan's eager expression, the old man no longer kept him in suspense and explained the Creation Pill's effects.

Finally, he said, "Time is short; this pill cannot be exposed to the air for too long, or its efficacy will be greatly reduced. Quickly, take it!"

Through the old man's explanation, Ye Fan realized just how miraculous and precious the Creation Pill was. He understood what the so-called mysterious benefits entailed.

The Creation Pill captures the creation of heaven and earth, making it extremely difficult to refine. Not only are the materials hard to find, but the success rate is pitifully low. Even if one was lucky enough to gather all the materials necessary to refine a Creation Pill, it's extremely difficult to succeed.

In essence, the effect of the Creation Pill is life evolution, enhancing physique, allowing the one who takes the pill to undergo rebirth, washing marrow and removing hair, achieving Nirvana Rebirth!

Its effect is akin to an ordinary person suddenly becoming a martial arts genius with nearly unimaginable results!

Martial Artist cultivation is inherently a slow process of altering one's physique. With the increase in power, absorbing Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi refines oneself, expelling impurities from the body, thereby granting Martial Artists abilities far beyond ordinary people.

The Creation Pill's effects are similar to this, only the process is compressed to the point where consuming just one pill achieves this transformation.

If a Martial Artist takes it, the effect is even better, as Martial Artists are already gradually changing their physique, evolving to a higher life level.

The rarest part is that no matter what level a person is, the Creation Pill is always effective, elevating one's life level. The stronger the person, the greater the benefit from taking it.

Ye Fan never anticipated that the so-called mysterious place would be so miraculous. This kind of pill, if placed outside, would undoubtedly lead to major forces fighting over it and might even result in chaos across the entire Cultivation World!

Just as Ye Fan was about to take it, a question suddenly arose in his mind. He looked up at the old man and asked, "After all these years, hasn't the Creation Pill lost its potency? I didn't even smell any elixir fragrance? Usually, high-quality pills exude a pervasive elixir fragrance."

"Nonsense!"

The old man was furious. It had been difficult to find someone whose strength, mind, and will were all strong enough, yet this person doubted whether the Creation Pill might have lost its potency. This immediately made his liver fire up.

If he were not merely a spiritual imprint, he would have wanted to snatch the Creation Pill from Ye Fan's hand and take it himself.

"Please don't be angry, sir. Anger hurts your body. I will take it, I will take it, alright?"

Ye Fan gave a bitter smile, angering the elder into turning his face away, adopting a "see no evil, hear no evil" attitude.

Is there any justice in this world?

This kind of elixir pill was something that even the great powers of the Ancient Times would break their heads fighting over. Now he was being forced to take it, looking as if he was eating poison rather than a Supreme Treasure Medicine.

Ye Fan held the dragon-eye-sized elixir pill, examining it closely before putting it into his mouth, looking just like he was taking medicine.

The moment the elixir pill entered his mouth and touched his saliva, it instantly transformed into a sweet spring, flowing down his throat, and a refreshing fragrance emanated from his mouth!

Hmm?

Could it really have not lost its effectiveness?

Ye Fan was overjoyed, hurriedly closing his mouth for fear of losing a bit of the elixir taste!

As the cool liquid slid down his throat, Ye Fan could clearly feel its movement throughout his body!

Suddenly, Ye Fan felt the coolness gather in his dantian, congregating in the gang qi vortex.

Abruptly, the coolness in the dantian turned into a blazing heat, spreading uncontrollably to his limbs and bones.

An inspiration struck Ye Fan, and he directly sat cross-legged, gritting his teeth through a pain akin to needle pricks. Since achieving small success with the Nine Heavens Profound Body, this was the first time he had felt such acupuncture-like pain. It was as if steel needles were fiercely piercing through his muscles, bones, and even soul!

Sweat instantaneously gushed from every pore on Ye Fan's body, and he clenched his teeth, enduring the pain as if being sliced by a thousand knives!

Under such circumstances, Ye Fan mysteriously entered a state of inward sight, seeing his bones, meridians, muscles, and internal organs undergoing transformation.

The Creation Pill could allow the evolution of the life level of the consumer. Of course, this evolution was not without cost; the consumer first had to withstand the Creation Pill's alterations to the body's various functions!

Originally, Ye Fan thought his body was strong enough, but under the transformation of the Creation Pill, he discovered that there were still many impurities in his body!

In the time it takes to make a cup of tea, the sweat on Ye Fan's body had turned bright red, like blood, transforming him into a blood-drenched person!

However, Ye Fan's face was calm, as if he was not in pain at all, resembling an old monk in meditation!

Having endured the most arduous initial stage, Ye Fan now felt itchy all over, as if every cell was brimming with explosive power.

Ye Fan's body underwent unimaginable changes; his bones began to exhibit a faint Liu Li hue, emanating multicolored rays!

His internal organs, muscles, and blood all turned a faint golden color, as if golden water was coursing through his body. His old skin peeled off in an entire layer like that of a snake!

An hour passed, and Ye Fan completed the entire rebirth process, achieving Nirvana Rebirth, even the mental energy vortex at his brow becoming purer and stronger!

The elder had disappeared at some point, leaving Ye Fan alone sitting cross-legged on the fifth floor of the tower.

With a long howl, Ye Fan stood up, his body leaving a residual image in place before he appeared outside the Sky Tower in an instant, his speed ghost-like!

Rumble...

At that moment, the entire Forbidden Land began to shake violently as if an earthquake had struck. The howls of apes and roars of tigers echoed throughout the place, with countless mutant beasts in panic, not knowing what was happening!

"Ye Fan? You passed??"

At this time, Su Liuli and Chu Ji also noticed Ye Fan, asking him with faces full of surprise.

"Yes, I passed the trial."

Ye Fan nodded, smilingly answering them, then said, "However, it seems the situation is not good; the entire Holy Land seems like it's going to collapse."

"What should we do then?"

Chu Ji and Su Liuli were immediately flustered. Ye Fan had barely managed to pass, obtaining mysterious benefits, only to have the entire Golden Land about to collapse as soon as he came out. Was the heavens against them?

Just as Ye Fan was about to answer, an aurora suddenly appeared in the sky, quickly enveloping all three of them, and at that moment, the entire Forbidden Land began to collapse on a large scale.

In an instant, Ye Fan, Su Liuli, and Chu Ji appeared on an ancient altar, with massive amounts of Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi madly surging around them.

Eight towering steles stood around the altar, each inscribed with a mysterious symbol, all now fully lit.

At the very moment the entire Forbidden Land was on the brink of destruction, the altar shone brightly, and Ye Fan and the others felt a constriction before losing consciousness.

Chapter 969 Settling Both New and Old Scores! (Makeup for - 26)

"Rumble..."

A series of earth-shattering muffled sounds came from the void. Although Ye Fan had already walked out of the Forbidden Land, he could still feel that intense tremor.

The ground beneath his feet seemed to be continually shaking, the distant snow summit couldn't withstand such a massive shock, causing significant amounts of snow to collapse, triggering a chain reaction, ultimately leading to an unprecedented scale of avalanche.

Lv Zhan and others had arrived in Bei Hai Canyon two days ago.

Without the Strange Stone in the hands of Yan and the other Six Great Families, they were completely unable to reopen the Trial Holy Land, and could only search around the vicinity.

Bei Hai Canyon itself was an uninhabited place, aside from this Hidden God List competition, it was nearly a desolate area forbidden for strangers.

The four of them continued searching for two days without any results, not a soul was found, let alone encountering a powerful mutant beast.

After all, although the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi outside was gradually becoming denser, it still required a gradual process, the same was true for those mutant beasts, they needed time to gradually mutate and grow.

Ordinary beasts didn't even catch their attention, even the strongest bears and wild boars acted as docile as little white rabbits when they saw them.

This day, while Lv Zhan and others were searching for Ye Fan with a last-ditch effort mentality, they suddenly felt a series of thunderous sounds rolling in from the void!

Lv Zhan was stunned, his face suddenly changed, and he shouted loudly, "Not good! Everybody quickly climb up the mountain, an avalanche is about to happen."

Xiao Selang also let out a wild howl, quickly rushing towards a nearby mountain! Living in Mount Tian, he knew all too well the horror of an avalanche, that powerful force of nature was absolutely beyond human resistance.

Although Ye Hei and Wu Zi both didn't understand how terrifying an avalanche could be, seeing the reactions of Lv Zhan and Xiao Selang, they knew it was extremely dangerous.

"Why would an avalanche occur out of the blue?"

While desperately dashing towards a nearby mountain, Lv Zhan asked Xiao Selang.

He knew that Xiao Selang, living in the perpetually snowy Mount Tian, understood avalanches better than he did.

"I don't know, but I can be certain that the sound in the void just now must be due to some change in the Holy Land; otherwise, it's absolutely impossible to have such a huge momentum!"

Xiao Selang was also explaining to Lv Zhan as he ran, using all his strength, almost as if powered by every ounce of energy he had.

Ye Hei and Wu Zi were also desperately following behind them, terrified of being buried beneath the avalanche if they ran too slowly, which was no joke.

"Rumble..."

Soon, the avalanche occurred behind Lv Zhan and the others, swaths of mountainsides slowly slid downwards, accelerating due to gravity, giving off a sound akin to thousands of horses galloping.

Cold wind carrying snow froth blew towards the four, almost blowing them off their feet!

This showed how powerful this fierce wind was!

At this moment, Ye Hei suddenly pointed excitedly towards another mountain top in the distance, his finger trembling violently as if afflicted with Parkinson's syndrome.

"You... you... look, isn't that Ye Fan??"

"Swish!!"

The three reflexively looked in the direction Ye Hei was pointing, and on the white mountain top, they saw Ye Fan in Blood Clothes and Su Liuli, and Chu Ji standing with arms behind their backs, watching the overwhelming avalanche in the distance.

"Ye Zi..."

Lv Zhan mustered his strength and shouted loudly. At this point, he wasn't afraid of causing an avalanche, after all, it had already occurred, so more of his shouts wouldn't matter.

"Ye Fan, we're here!!"

Xiao Selang and Wu Zi also shouted excitedly, their sound waves rolling into Ye Fan's ears. Ye Fan was focused on watching the magnificent natural scene of the avalanche, and suddenly hearing Lv Zhan's voice, he sharply turned around, looking in the direction of the sound, and saw the four of them!

Their gazes collided mid-air, intertwining, and a warm feeling filled their hearts, with a hot-blooded enthusiasm surging in their bodies.

"Wait, we'll come over right now!"

Ye Fan roared lowly, though in the howling cold wind, it transmitted steadily into the ears of the four.

After saying that, Ye Fan held Su Liuli and Chu Ji's hands, moved his consciousness, and activated Gang Qi, infusing it into the Golden Feather Wings.

Swish!

The Golden Feather Wings unfurled, and with a point of his foot on the ground, Ye Fan flew directly over, leaving a trail of gold in his wake!

A moment later, Ye Fan and the two arrived at the mountain top where Lv Zhan and the others were, officially joining together.

Ye Fan released Su Liuli and Chu Ji's hands and said to Lv Zhan and the others, "Wait for me a moment, I'll be right back!"

Then, without waiting for their reply, Ye Fan unfolded the Golden Feather Wings once again, flew towards a distant mountain peak, and in the blink of an eye, turned into a small golden dot, vanishing from everyone's sight.

Lv Zhan and the others exchanged looks, not knowing what Ye Fan was doing. After finally meeting up with each other, he left without saying a word, what's going on?

"Don't look at me, I don't know either!"

Su Liuli shook her head hastily as everyone turned their eyes to her, with a puzzled expression.

Chu Ji also frowned, he was fine just now, who knows what's gotten into him? Did he just discover something?

Half an hour later, Ye Fan still hadn't returned, and everyone gradually became a bit impatient. He said he'd come back shortly, but now it's been half an hour and he's still not back.

"Let's wait a little longer. He has the Golden Feather Wings, and there aren't any powerful mutant beasts here, so he won't encounter danger. Perhaps he's gone to take care of some matters, and once he's done, he'll return. Since he asked us to wait here, let's just wait for now."

Chu Ji comforted everyone, facing the cold wind and looking towards the direction where Ye Fan disappeared. She firmly believed that Ye Fan wouldn't leave them for no reason.

After waiting for a while longer, Ye Fan finally flew back from the distance. The bloodstains on his body had disappeared, and he seemed completely refreshed. The skin exposed was radiating a healthy glow!

Seeing Ye Fan like this, everyone was relieved. It turned out that Ye Fan cared about his image, so he went to take a bath and wash his clothes!

Only Su Liuli felt a keen sense that something was different about Ye Fan, but she couldn't pinpoint exactly what it was; it was merely a pure feeling.

At this time, the avalanche stopped, and the world was silent, with only the howling wind raging between heaven and earth!

"Is this the Huang Jin Family's heirloom, the Golden Feather Wings? Did you take out Andre?"

Lv Zhan was a knowledgeable person. Seeing the Golden Feather Wings behind Ye Fan, he immediately recognized them and realized that Ye Fan must have killed Andre, the successor of the Huang Jin Family; otherwise, the Golden Feather Wings would never have fallen into his hands.

"Hmm..."

Ye Fan nodded and briefly recounted what had happened in the Forbidden Land to everyone.

Everyone was astonished, not expecting so many things to have occurred in the Forbidden Land, especially Ye Fan passing the trial of the Sky Tower and receiving mysterious benefits, which made everyone yearning.

"Ye Zi, quickly tell us what benefit you actually received!"

Lv Zhan spoke everyone's mind. Even Chu Ji and Su Liuli looked at Ye Fan expectantly, as they also did not know what unexpected benefits Ye Fan had received in the Sky Tower.

"A Creation Pill!" Ye Fan answered.

"Creation Pill??"

Everyone had puzzled expressions; none of them had heard of such an elixir pill.

"The so-called Creation Pill..."

Seeing this, Ye Fan did not hide it and explained the effects of the Creation Pill.

"I really didn't expect there to be such a precious elixir pill in the world. Ye Zi, you've truly struck it rich this time. According to what you said, if this Creation Pill were to be placed in the outside world, it would definitely cause chaos in the Cultivation World!"

Lv Zhan had a look of envy. This kind of precious elixir pill wasn't even recorded in Ancient Books and must exist in the most ancient Cultivation World.

Hearing Lv Zhan's words, Su Liuli, Chu Ji, Ye Hei, Xiao Selang, and Wu Zi all nodded in agreement. In their view, the Creation Pill was simply too defying of natural order.

"By the way, while we were in the Forbidden Land, did anything significant happen outside? Did Anton and Xu Wudao come out?"

Ye Fan asked the four people, eager to know what had happened outside during his trials, and most importantly, whether Xu Wudao and Anton had come out.

"Those two bastards came out half a year ago!"

Lv Zhan responded angrily, "After they came out, they said you and Master Chu had died in the Forbidden Land!"

Hmm?

Upon hearing this, Ye Fan was first stunned, and then considering that Chu Xuanji might have indeed perished in the Forbidden Land, his expression turned a bit somber.

"By the way, Ye Fan, what about Master Chu?"

Seeing the change in Ye Fan's expression, Lv Zhan realized something but hesitated before asking.

"Master may have died in the Forbidden Land, and is currently missing."

Ye Fan sighed, then adjusted his expression and changed the topic, "Did Xu Wudao and Anton do this to deceive the Hidden God List's rewards?"

"Yes! The day after they came out, the Xu Family proposed to divide six million Essence Stones with the Luoke Family. Finally, Master Yan convened a War God Alliance meeting and decided to postpone the division for half a year. In that time frame, if neither you nor Andre appeared, the six million Essence Stones would be given to Xu Wudao and Anton..." Lv Zhan nodded in response.

"How much time has passed now?" Ye Fan asked.

"Half a year has just passed, and Xu Wudao and Anton have obtained those six million Essence Stones!!" Lv Zhan said through gritted teeth.

"Those two little bastards are simply too hateful!" Chu Ji also seethed with anger.

"No matter, since I've come out, no one can take away the rewards that belong to me!" Ye Fan said with squinted eyes.

"Ye Zi, apart from those two scoundrels Xu Wudao and Anton spreading rumors and tricking the Essence Stones, that old witch from the Jiang Family is no good either..." After listening, Lv Zhan proceeded to recount how Jiang Yurong had slandered Ye Fan.

"Heh, that old thing made a bet before the Hidden God List competition that if I could come out alive from the Holy Land, she would kill herself in public!"

Ye Fan narrowed his eyes, with two piercingly cold rays shooting out, "It seems I need to settle old and new scores with her together!"

After speaking, Ye Fan took a deep breath, put away his fierce aura, and turned to Lv Zhan, "Brother Lv, I need you to spread a message for me to the outside world."

"What message?"

"In ten days, I'll be visiting the Jiang Family to take Jiang Yurong's head!!"

Ye Fan's killing intent was awe-inspiring, his voice icy cold.

Chapter 970 Battle Challenge!

"Uh..."

Stunned by Ye Fan's words, Lv Zhan, Xiao Selang, Ye Hei, and Wu Zi were all dumbfounded!

That's right...

At this moment, the four were all shocked!

Jiang Yurong, one of the Jiang family's ancestors, is not only a high-level War God but has also been in that realm for a long time. Although there's no sign of her breaking through to the top-level War God, she's considered a master in that realm.

In such a situation, Ye Fan intends to kill Jiang Yurong at the mid-level War God realm, which would be a very difficult task.

After all, the higher a cultivator's realm, the harder it becomes to challenge someone above their level, especially to kill them!

"Ye Zi, you have to think carefully about this. The Old Witch Jiang is a high-level War God cultivator with exceptionally strong power. Don't act on impulse!"

"Yes, Ye Fan, as long as there's life, there's hope. A gentleman takes revenge even after ten years. There's no need to engage with her in a rash battle."

Lv Zhan and Xiao Selang advised Ye Fan, aware of how terrifying the strength of high-level War God cultivators is.

Ye Fan currently only has magic cultivation at the mid-level War God realm, and his martial arts cultivation has not yet broken through. Facing Jiang Yurong, the outcome isn't optimistic; it's not something mere courage can make up for.

"They're right!"

Chu Ji said worriedly, "Xiao Fan, I know you feel indignant, but acting with reckless courage is inadvisable. Even if you want revenge, you have to plan carefully!"

"Don't worry, since I've made this decision, I have some confidence. Have you ever seen me fight a battle I wasn't confident in?" Ye Fan replied confidently.

In the past half year, his martial arts cultivation has reached the peak of the early-stage War God realm and can break through to mid-stage at any time.

In addition, he mastered the skill of compressing Gang Qi and the "Flying Sword Skill", and has consumed a Creation Pill to transform his body, greatly improving his overall combat power since entering the Forbidden Land.

"Since you say so, it seems there's little problem — words like 'demon' can't even describe you now!" Lv Zhan said with a bitter smile.

Xiao Selang, Ye Hei, and Wu Zi nodded in agreement, though they said nothing.

Because Ye Fan needs to go into closed-door training, everyone had to stay in Bei Hai Canyon for ten days.

Before Ye Fan went into seclusion, Ye Hei volunteered to go kill mutant beasts to prepare a big meal.

Half an hour later, Ye Hei returned with a large snow sheep on his shoulder. This creature resembling a goat is native to the snowy mountains — a type of mutant beast, though relatively weak.

With its snow-white form, the snow sheep has great camouflage in the snowy mountains, and combined with its swift speed, it's generally hard to catch. However, its meat is delicious and considered excellent cooking material.

Ye Hei, an expert with the blade, makes quick work of skinning and gutting, tasks he performs in no time.

After dividing the delicate meat into numerous small pieces, Lv Zhan skewered them with his black spear and began roasting them over the campfire!

Lv Zhan has spent a long time in the secular world; though his culinary skills can't match Ye Fan's, they're not bad.

The fire's flames licked the succulent snow sheep meat, soon wafting a mouth-watering aroma that made everyone's mouths water!

Lv Zhan's control of the heat is such that it reached the level of a first-class chef's standard; the tender meat was roasted to a golden brown, dripping with fragrant oil.

Once the roast was done, Ye Fan didn't stand on ceremony and selected the two best pieces for Su Liuli and Chu Ji.

These days, they spent their time in battle, mainly surviving on wild fruits, never having enjoyed a good meal.

Once Su Liuli and Chu Ji started eating, Ye Fan and the others began to devour the roast meat.

After finishing the roast, Ye Fan took the beast cores he accumulated in the Forbidden Land and went to a corner of the canyon to meditate in seclusion, aiming for a breakthrough to mid-level War God realm.

The next day, the entire cultivation world was once again shaken!

This tremor was even more shocking than when Xu Wudao and Anton shared the rewards last time.

The reason is that the Lv Family where Lv Zhan belongs, the Tian Shan Sword Sect where Xiao Selang belongs, and the Sects where Wu Zi and Ye Hei belong, all spread the following news simultaneously:

"Ye Fan, along with Su Liuli and Chu Ji, did not die in the Forbidden Land but came out alive. In ten days, Ye Fan will go to the Jiang family to take Jiang Yurong's head!!!"

The news stirred up waves like a bomb dropped into the calm cultivation world, making the entire cultivation world boil over.

No one expected that half a year later, Ye Fan would bring Su Liuli and Chu Ji out alive from the Forbidden Land.

Even more unexpected was that Ye Fan would challenge the high-level War God Jiang Yurong the moment he appeared!

The news of Ye Fan coming out of the Forbidden Land alive first reached Xu Wudao's ears.

Upon hearing this news, Xu Wudao was so furious that he sent the reporting servant flying with a slap.

Half a year had passed, and he assumed Ye Fan and the others must have died in the Forbidden Land, never considering that Ye Fan could still be alive!

Ye Fan is alive...

The gigantic lie he and Anton spread had collapsed on its own!

In that case, the rewards from the Hidden God List competition must be split with Ye Fan and Su Liuli, with Ye Fan taking the largest share!

Spitting out the fat meat already swallowed is a painful thing for anyone, and it's naturally the same for Xu Wudao.

In a small building in the inner court of the Xu Family, Xu Wudao stood with a sullen face, his arms behind his back, and cold light shooting from his eyes.

At this moment, he really wanted to send the strong people in the family to kill Ye Fan in one fell swoop and eliminate the problem once and for all—if Ye Fan and the other two died, even if others were dissatisfied, no one would dare say anything in the face of the powerful Xu Family.

However, this thought only flickered in his mind, as he knew it was impossible to achieve.

Ye Fan has Yan behind him!

Ye Fan is the beloved disciple of Chu Xuanji, and now that Chu Xuanji has died, Yan would never allow any further mishaps with Ye Fan.

If Ye Fan had indeed died in the Forbidden Land, it would have been over, but since he hadn't, Yan would certainly prevent anyone from plotting against Ye Fan!

This was evident from the protection Yan gave Ye Fan before the Hidden God List competition.

Like Xu Wudao, Anton also understood this truth and immediately felt as if he were sitting on a bed of nails. Back then, for the substantial Essence Stone reward, he collaborated with Xu Wudao to lie, claiming everyone died in the Forbidden Land.

It was due to this reason that he and Xu Wudao divided the rewards from the Hidden God List competition.

Now that Ye Fan and Su Liuli have appeared, they not only have to give out the Essence Stones they already claimed, but might also face Yan's wrath, something he doesn't wish to see.

However, he has no way out. At the center of controversy, the eyes of cultivators worldwide are all focused on Ye Fan. At this moment, no matter anyone's actions, they cannot escape the public's scrutiny; he doesn't want to become the target of scorn.

Most shaken, naturally, is Ginger Yurong, the person involved—shocked greatly upon receiving news that Ye Fan didn't die!

After the shock, Ginger Yurong flew into a rage!

In her view, Ye Fan coming to the Xu Family to take her head was blatantly disregarding her and the entire Ginger Family—intolerable!

"Great-grandmother, if that beast surnamed Ye dares to come, you must tear him to pieces and avenge me!"

When Ginger Yurong was in a fit of rage, Ginger Ying immediately found Ginger Yurong, asking her to kill Ye Fan and avenge her.

It was because of Ye Fan that she went from being a favored daughter of heaven to a complete waste; this feud, she must avenge at all costs.

She understood that without any excuse, not even her grandmother dared to break the rules and kill Ye Fan arbitrarily.

Now, with Ye Fan publicly declaring he would take Ginger Yurong's head, she saw a chance for revenge!

In her eyes, Ye Fan was courting death!

"Ying'er, rest assured. If that brat dares to come, great-grandmother will make sure he doesn't return!"

Ginger Yurong caressed Ginger Ying's hair, sneering coldly, her eyes gleaming with icy light.

Ginger Ying was the most talented descendant for cultivation in the Ginger Family in recent years, and Ye Fan crippled her cultivation with no chance for recovery, effectively cutting off the Ginger Family's legacy; this grudge, she had never forgotten!

She even wanted to assassinate Ye Fan initially, but under Yan's intimidation, she only dared to hold the thought in her heart.

This time, with Ye Fan challenging her directly, even if she killed Ye Fan, it wouldn't be seen as bullying but rather Ye Fan seeking death himself.

In this way, even Yan couldn't do anything to her!

As for losing to Ye Fan...

Ginger Yurong never considered it!

After all, half a year ago, Ye Fan was just an Early-Stage War God cultivator. In just half a year, it's impossible to break through to High-level War God Realm—strength needs long-term, arduous cultivation to gradually improve; quick success is impossible; there are no shortcuts in cultivation, and power enhancement has no shortcuts to follow.

In her view, as long as Ye Fan hasn't broken through to the High-level War God Realm, with her cultivation, killing Ye Fan is as easy as slaughtering chickens and dogs!