

Ancient ST 1171

Chapter 1171 - Dark Current, Taking the Heavenly Secrets Pill, Forging the Big Dipper Sword

Qing Shui would never have thought that she had such an identity—Demon Lord. It was an existence which seemed to be very distant from him but yet appeared right before his eyes. Moreover, they had once gotten very close skinship, albeit it a wrong one.

She wasn't from Western Oxhe Continent. Then she was from one of the other three continents? Was it Soaring Dragon Continent, Dancing Phoenix Continent or the Haohan Continent?

Earlier, he had summoned his courage to speak up and knew that he had no hope. In her eyes, he was as insignificant as an ant. However, back when they were in the five continents, she didn't kill him. This showed that she wasn't one who would kill the innocent.

Humans would not be together with ants. In this vast and dangerous world, Qing Shui could clearly understand this feeling. She had a very high status and her world wasn't one which he could come into contact with or withstand at the moment. Therefore, she had said that they didn't belong in the same world and it would be impossible for their paths to cross.

He also recalled the old turtle's sigh back at the crystal palace. It could be because it had already expected this conclusion back then and even had treated Qing Shui as a sacrifice to save the lady in the crystal coffin.

However, Qing Shui didn't hate the old turtle. Dangers and opportunities go hand in hand and it was also from that encounter that his Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal had leveled up and his abilities had soared. Therefore, all in all, he hadn't lost anything. On the contrary, it could be said that he had gained a lot from that encounter.

He felt that he was softhearted. It could be because he was a more emotional person, because they'd had sex or because he had wanted to use his heart to melt her cold expressions...

Qing Shui had even thought of being a pillar of support for her. It was a pity that he wasn't capable of that currently. All in all, it still boiled down to his cultivation. She was the owner of the Palace, she was the Demon Lord. What kind of cultivation would he need to be able to reach her level? How long would it take?

Right now, she as well as Demon Lord Palace's level shouldn't be lower than that of a Grade Four Dynasty. This was still considered a conservative estimation!

How terrifying was that level? Qing Shui rubbed his head, not wanting to think anymore. It was useless to think too much into it. Right now, it was more important for him to make good use of time to work hard in his cultivation!

"Qing Shui..."

Qing Shui turned to look at Yan Jinyu and saw the worry in her eyes. He smiled and shook his head, "It's nothing. We've met once and it seems that I don't know as much about her as you do."

"Alright, Qing Shui, I don't know what happened between the two of you. But at least for these few years, there's nothing you can do. Listen to me, be down-to-earth in your training and there might be a

chance in the future. Sister trusts that you're capable of it," Yan Jinyu smiled and said. She was very clever and although she didn't know what had happened between them, at least she felt that Qing Shui cared a lot about that lady.

"Thank you. Thank you for consoling me, Sister!" Qing Shui shook his head and smiled. However, he did feel happy to hear what Yan Jinyu had said. At least, this lady truly meant well for him and the things she said were very pleasant and effective. It was exactly what he had thought.

"Let's go. We'll find an inn to stay at and then hurry on our way back tomorrow. Sister will treat you to some wine but you'll have to be the one to bring out the wine..." Yan Jinyu broke into a laugh.

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Qing Shui wasn't interested in checking out the place and thus Yan Jinyu lost interest in doing so either. When Qing Shui went to meet that lady earlier, he had already thrown away his bamboo hat and thus he decided not to wear it anymore.

Yang Clan Inn!

This was considered quite a high quality inn, at least by appearance. Qing Shui thought of how the area was called Yang City, so the Yang Clan Inn must come from a strong background.

"Yang Clan is the strongest clan in this area and Yang Clan Inn is one of the businesses under them. This was not the only one. There were quite a number of Yang Clan Inns in the area and all of them belonged to Yang Clan," Yan Jinyu smiled and said as she entered with Qing Shui.

Practically all aristocratic clans would have their own high quality inns. This was because one would be able to get news the fastest in such places. With many people and loose tongues gossiping around, they would be able to get a lot of information.

The inn took up a very large space. Based on the standards from Qing Shui's previous life, it wouldn't be considered an inn anymore. It was far too big. There was the main hall and private rooms. It had a length of 1,000 meters and a width of several hundred meters. The traffic before the entrance was high and the fragrances of the wine and food which flooded out were quite tempting.

A waitress went up to greet them the moment they had entered. Qing Shui and Yan Jinyu were there to stay and to have their meals. They got their meals sent right to their room. The room they got was on the highest story and it was very costly. However, Qing Shui had no financial worries at the moment.

The room was very spacious and there were two bedrooms and one hall. The room was designed with two stories, with the bedrooms on the higher story and the hall on the lower. Every level of this inn was very high, so there was no problem with designing two stories for each room.

It didn't take the waitress long to serve their food. Qing Shui and Yan Jinyu ate in the hall and although the food didn't taste as good as if they were to cook with their own spices, it would get pretty boring if one had to eat the same thing often. It was just like if a person were to eat meat often, they would find vegetables tasty when they ate them occasionally.

Halfway through their meals, the sound of door knocks rang out. Seeing that Yan Jinyu was also stunned, Qing Shui stood up and said smiling, "It might be the waiters from the inn!"

Qing Shui opened the door to find a handsome guy. He appeared to be slightly younger than middle-age and from his dress, it was clear that he wasn't one of the waiters in the inn.

"You are?" Qing Shui asked.

"Is Miss Jinyu here?" the man smiled and asked but didn't answer Qing Shui.

Qing Shui could even tell that there was a hint of disdain and arrogance in the guy's eyes toward him. Qing Shui shook his head. He didn't care about these things but still asked again, "Who are you?"

"I'm Yang Yicun !"

Qing Shui almost burst out laughing. He had heard of Yang Dingtian and Qiu Qianchi but he hadn't expected this person's name to be Yang Yicun. It was probably from the saying 'an inch of time is worth an inch of gold ' or served as a reminder for him to constantly take each second precious. However, the impact it created when paired with this surname was just too hilarious.

"Qing Shui, who is that?" Yan Jinyu's voice rang out.

"Oh, he said that he's called Yang Yicun..."

By then, Yan Jinyu had already walked up next to Qing Shui.

"Miss Jinyu, I heard from my subordinates that you'd come. Why didn't you tell me in advance?" When Yang Yicun saw Yan Jinyu, he smiled and said.

After saying that, he clapped his hands and several waitresses walked out, holding dishes filled with steaming hot delicacies.

"Young Master Yang, we've already eaten. There's no need for these." Yan Jinyu shook her head and stopped the waitresses who were about to enter.

"Oh, is that so? Then you guys can head back!" Yang Yicun waved his hand casually and said.

"We're only passing by and will be leaving very soon. Therefore, we won't be troubling Young Master Yang," Yan Jinyu said in a polite tone.

"It's a rare opportunity that Miss Jinyu has come to Yang City. Why not let me bring you to have a look around the area in the afternoon? Otherwise, if Yan City's city lord were to know that I've been a poor host, he'll definitely blame me." From the beginning to the end, Yan Jinyu didn't even take a look in Qing Shui's direction.

Qing Shui knew that this man didn't think much of him. Could it be that it was because he didn't let him enter earlier?

"Maybe next time. I'm tired and would like to rest for today," Yan Jinyu said calmly.

"If that's the case, then Miss Jinyu, please rest well. I'll come visit at a later time!" With that, he smiled and nodded and then turned to leave.

Qing Shui looked at Yang Yicun's departing figure and felt a little strange. It was because he had seen Yang Yicun's weird gaze when he had turned to leave. Qing Shui turned toward Yan Jinyu, "Sister, in the future, you must be on your guard around this person."

"Mmm, I know. He looks egotistical, ignorant and arrogant but these are just the facade he puts up. He's trying to hide something." Yan Jinyu smiled.

"Oh, so Sister knows about it!"

"Yang Clan is a restless bunch. He wishes to gain control of the outer city. When that happens, he'll be able to enter the inner city and wait for a chance to strike."

Since Qing Shui knew that Yan Jinyu was already on her guard around this person, it was enough. Closing the room's door, they continued with the meal they were still in the middle of earlier.

Since there were no plans for the afternoon, Qing Shui headed upstairs, preparing to enter the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal.

Yan Jinyu went up as well. There were two bedrooms on the upper story, but they were a distance away from each other. There was also a small living room there which separated the bedrooms. The bedrooms were not side-by-side.

Qing Shui called out a demonic beast to be on guard. Right now, there were not many people who could be of a threat to Yan Jinyu. Qing Shui told her not to go out and if she were to go out, for her to call him along.

Upon entering the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, Qing Shui couldn't wait but took out a Heavenly Secrets Pill and ate it. The Heavenly Secrets Pill was snow white and translucent. It was the size of one's thumb and upon consumption, it gave of a fragrant and refreshing feeling. Very soon, a warm feeling rose and rapidly flowed through his entire body. It was a very relaxing and enjoyable feeling.

He had initially thought that he would need to go through a period of torment, however, it turned out to be quite enjoyable. Very quickly, a powerful energy rose within him and his physical strength increased by one nimbus.

This medicinal pill was very gentle but its effect was tremendous. The area of alchemy was very powerful but it was a pity that Qing Shui lacked alchemy recipes and medicinal herbs. Moreover, his own medicine seemed to be for his consumption as his cultivation grew and was especially suited for himself. Most importantly, the medicinal herbs were hard to come by.

It was just like how the alchemy recipe for this Heavenly Secrets Pill should be very precious as well and the medicinal herbs would definitely not be ordinary. However, if he were given both the alchemy recipe and the medicinal herbs, Qing Shui had confidence that he would be able to refine them.

With an additional one nimbus of strength increase to his physical strength, Qing Shui now had a strength of 11 nimbus. The prowess of his Nine Continents Mountain was now getting close to the lowest grade State Masters and his spirit energy had also gone through some changes. However, right now, Qing Shui felt that there was a need for him to reforge his Big Dipper Sword.

Since it was already decided, Qing Shui put it into action. Every little increase to his strength was something. Although everything around them seemed very peaceful, there seemed to be a dark current that was coming soon.

Qing Shui first melted the Greencloud Stone and that useless Greencloud Sword, both given by Yan Jinyu, with his primordial flames. He then worked on the Big Dipper Sword.

Right now, just by using his Hexa-color Rainbow Art of Forging, Qing Shui would also be able to increase the prowess of the Big Dipper Sword. However, he wanted to add in the Greencloud Stone since it could increase his spirit energy. Right now, the Big Dipper Sword no longer provided an increase to his spirit energy.

The Greencloud Stone could increase one's spirit energy. There was also the Five-Colored Stone and other materials in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal which he could add in, including Golden Extract Essence, Violet Jade and Thunder Rock!

After completing his preparations, Qing Shui went into full concentration for the forging of his Big Dipper Sword. With the experience he had from previous tries, this time around, he was relatively familiar with the process. There wasn't much Greencloud Stone left to begin with but with that smelted Greencloud Sword, it was just enough.

However, during the forging process this time around, Qing Shui felt something strange with the Big Dipper Sword. It was because despite having so much Greencloud Stone added to the Big Dipper Sword, it didn't go through any changes. It was like a black hole.

However, Qing Shui felt that in the end there was only the feeling that it was saturated. He then added the Golden Extract Essence, 10,000 Years Coldsteel, Violet Jade and Thunder Rock, before he started the hammering and tempering process. This was a crucial process to forging arts, to bring out the impurities and let the remaining essence completely merge together and form a smooth flow.

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Yicun is written in Chinese with the characters representing one inch. The character 'Yang' can represent many things, including the male genitals.

Yang Dingtian: The characters for Dingtian means holding up the heavens and can be inferred to as being upright. Qiu Qianchi: The words from Qianchi represents 1,000 feet. Qiu, although a different character, sounds the same as the qiu representing beg.

Literal translation for the Chinese saying. An English equivalent to it is 'time is money'.

Chapter 1172 - Sword Completed, The Powers of A Grade One State Master, Turbulent Undercurrents

Hammering and tempering was a process that required meticulous handling of the finest details. This time around, Qing Shui wanted to once again enter the State of No Conscious but it was a pity that this time around, his mind was absolutely clear. He could even count the number of strikes he made with the Thousand Hammer Technique Clearly.

Very quickly, he broke through 10,000 hammers but there was still no change to the Big Dipper Sword. Qing Shui liked it this way as well. When it finally reached 13,000 hammers, the six-colored glow finally appeared, extremely brilliant. It even had a slight rustic glow to it.

There was originally a gemstone embedded into one of the seven indentations on the sword's handle. However, it was a pity that it had been depleted previously and was left empty. Qing Shui hadn't found a suitable gemstone to embed into it at a later time. It could be due to the quality of the gemstones. Primarily, it was because there were no high-quality gemstones. Otherwise, the prowess of the Big Dipper Sword would be even greater. He didn't wish to waste his time on low quality gemstones since the embedding process was troublesome as well.

Right now, Qing Shui looked at the Big Dipper Sword he was holding, feeling satisfied with its attributes.

Big Dipper Sword: Formed from the convergence of unique silver sand of the Heaven and Earth, the materials were then forged into a sword by a skilled blacksmith. The sword has the ability to unleash a lethal damage power as well.

The Big Dipper Sword could also increase the user's power by five times, double spirit energy attacks and increase the speed and attack speed by 20%. There would be 20% chance of doubling the attack damage for each attack, decreasing 20% of the damage received and reduce 20% of the user's energy depletion. The user would also have a chance to receive an unexpected surprise from the sword.

Qing Shui smiled. Right now, the Big Dipper Sword was only incomparable to the Four Elements Greencloud Sword in terms of the enhancement it provided for the user's spirit energy. In all, it was still considered very powerful and what he needed to do next was to engrave Seal Formations.

The process of engraving the Seal Formations was very smooth as well. It didn't further increase the weapon's attributes and there was only a 10% chance for it to gain the effects of either the Gloom Covering Skies and Earth, Fly Sand Rolling Stones, Fire Snakes Frenzied Dance or Soaring Dragon Sea Quake.

Right now, Qing Shui had an exhilarated feeling. When he held the Big Dipper Sword, his physical strength was at 11 nimbus, his seven-colored pellet increases his physical strength by 720%, allowing his physical strength to reach 1,600 nimbus. If he were to attack with his Nine Continents Mountain, it would be with a strength of 3,200 nimbus and was considered to have reached the lowest grade State Master level.

His spirit energy seemed to have become more powerful. The Big Dipper Sword had doubled the prowess of his spirit energy attacks and they were now at 4,300 nimbus.

All these numbers were just in principle, but he would still need to test them out to be sure. It shouldn't be wrong. He slowly channeled his Violet Gold Divine Force gradually into the Big Dipper Sword, causing a surging force to feedback from the sword to his body.

Rise!

Qing Shui used the Roaming Dragon Steps, following the flow of the Nine Palace positioning in the air, flashing as he moved from one position to the next, lashing out with his Big Dipper Sword each time. An explosive and shattering power shot out, leaving a faint smell of destruction in the air.

The damage was doubled!

Earlier, when he attacked, he succeeded in attaining the 20% chance, unleashing the prowess of a grade one State Master. However, usually, his usual attacks would only be half of what he had just unleashed. Despite this, Qing Shui was quite satisfied with it.

Wood Vines!

The tip of the Big Dipper Sword fluctuated with a tremendous force and a large spread of huge demonic vines appeared in the distance. It was the same in size as before. They were about 1,000 meters long, had the thickness of an adult's upper thigh and there were over ten of them. The violet colored demonic vines had many sharp barbed spikes which were half a foot long. Their appearance would send shivers down one's spine.

Although there were no changes to their size, the speed at which they spread out and their vitality were much stronger than before. They were also more sturdy and had a higher level of endurance.

The explosive and damaging impacts made Qing Shui feel that they were much stronger than physical attacks. Right now, even the Nine Continents Mountain's attacking prowess wasn't their match. However, Qing Shui felt that in the future, the Nine Continents Mountain would definitely be more powerful.

Right now, he had finally reached the level of a grade one State Master and he heaved a sigh of relief in his heart. They were going to enter the inner city soon and by then, the people there would have increasingly high level of cultivation and if he wasn't strong enough, he wouldn't be able to speak up.

By the time he came out, the sky had already turned slightly dark. The staff from the inn had already served their food!

While they were having their meals, in another pavilion, Yang Yicun was chatting with a few other men.

"Young Master Yang, you must think through this carefully. Yan Jinyu is Yan Clan's young miss. It's said that she even has a Master from Heaven Secrets Academy backing her up. You need to think through it carefully before you decide to lay your hands on her," a handsome man in white clothes frowned and said to Yang Yicun.

"Yan Clan is going to fall soon anyway. As for Heaven Secrets Academy, there's no need to worry. A teacher in Heaven Secrets Academy is of no concern. Moreover, we aren't going to kill her. We're just going to use her to scare Yan Clan a little. Her father dotes on her a lot. Basically, we can definitely kill her dad just by threatening him with her." Untamed flames continued to throb in his eyes.

"Young Master Yang, come out with it. Which clan is Yang Clan working together with? Leng Clan? Rong Clan?" The guy in white clothes looked at Yang Yicun and asked calmly.

"Brother Wu, even if you hadn't asked, I'd tell you. I know that you'd have guessed something. It's just that this time around, the ones we're working with are the Yu Clan." Yang Yicun squinted his eyes slightly.

"You've really gotten Yu Clan to work with you?" The man whose surname was Wu looked at Yang Yicun in astonishment.

“Of course. Otherwise, how could I dare to touch Yan Jinyu? How is it, Brother Wu? Yan Jinyu is of top quality. Are you interested?” A hint of maniacal greed flashed on Yang Yicun’s face.

This was definitely a great temptation. Lust was something which could make one lose their rationality. However, at a time like this, especially when it was a lady like Yan Jinyu, one would really be willing to die for it. Moreover, they weren’t thinking of the possibility of dying.

“Then are we going to work together with Yu Clan? Or are we going to take action first?” The man whose surname was Wu swallowed and spoke with difficulty. Right now, his heart was very conflicted.

Wu Clan was also considered a great aristocratic clan in the area and was slightly worse off than Yang Clan. Moreover, their clans were very close and Yang Yicun and Wu Meng were close as real brothers.

It was just that this time around, laying hands on Yan Jinyu was just Yang Yicun’s own plan. He wanted to take action first since it had already been decided for them to go against Yan Clan. This was why he had decided on laying his hands on Yan Jinyu. If Yang Clan and Yu Clan failed to defeat Yan Clan, there was only death waiting for him. If it really were to come down to that, laying his hands on Yan Jinyu this time around would have satisfied one of his wishes. If Yang Clan and Yu Clan were to win, then it would be even better.

Therefore, after much consideration, he made up his mind. He knew that Wu Meng would definitely support him since he was an intelligent person. Since Yang Yicun had already shared his plans with him, Wu Meng would have no option but to not agree.

“Young Master Yang, of course I’ll go along with you. It’s just that Yan Jinyu is a State Master level cultivator. If we were to let her escape, then we’d have alerted the enemies.” Wu Meng was both excited and worried.

“You don’t have to worry about this. Although we’re not her match, two seniors from my clan will join in the action. When the time comes, we’ll cripple her of her cultivation. Brother Wu, why don’t you bring along two from your clan as well? This will add additional insurance to our plan,” Yang Yicun smiled and said to Wu Meng.

“Alright. Shall we let our elders in the family know about this?” After a long hesitation Wu Long asked softly.

“Why do we have to let them know? We just need to do a clean job. The reason I’m approaching you is because Wu Clan is involved in this as well. Don’t you know? You’re a clever person. Is there a need to make it clear to you on whether we should lay our hands on Yan Jinyu?” Yang Yicun wore an expression a gambler would wear.

Wu Meng knew that as well. It was just that the branch he belonged to wasn’t the main branch of Wu Clan. He wasn’t that daring nor was he as crazy as Yang Yicun. He knew that the important thing wasn’t whether they were going to touch Yan Jinyu but whether they would be able to bring demise to Yan Clan.

“Then we’ll take action tonight. Failure will not be allowed!” Yang Yicun’s gaze shot out a glow that was like that of a venomous snake’s.

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After having their dinner, seeing that it was still early, Yan Jinyu smiled and said, "Qing Shui, the night market here is quite good. Let's go and take a look!"

"Alright!"

Qing Shui answered without hesitation. He had gotten much stronger and his spirit energy could reach over 4,300 nimbus. Moreover, he had his Nine Palace Steps and Sacred Jade Divine Stone Ring. If any accidents were to occur, he'd be able to handle the situation.

The two of them cleaned up and headed out of Yang Clan Inn.

The streets were bright as day and the traffic along the roads was about the same as it was in the day. The huge and clean-looking moon in the sky was especially bright and pure, shining down its light and it seemed to even let one feel purified.

Qing Shui looked at Yan Jinyu who was next to him. In such an environment, she seemed to appear even more beautiful. Her snow-white skin was translucent and if he didn't come to this world, he wouldn't have been able to see such skin.

Yan Jinyu saw that Qing Shui was looking at her and she didn't know what to feel. She waved her hand before Qing Shui. Qing Shui regained his senses and said, "Sister is so beautiful."

When he said this, it was very natural. His eyes appeared very clear as well and there was no hint of greed or lust in his eyes. It was just a feeling of pure admiration. There were already many great beauties around him and he really didn't wish to get himself involved with other women. Therefore, he didn't have any expectations with this sister. Otherwise, he wouldn't have become sworn siblings with her back then.

Yan Jinyu really liked Qing Shui's clear looking eyes.

She, who was dignified and quiet, had seen too many gazes men had cast on her. No matter how well they tried to conceal themselves, she could clearly feel the lust behind their modest gazes. She didn't like those gazes.

Therefore, she felt that Qing Shui's gaze was very nice and warm. She also liked his clear and handsome eyes as well as that light violet mark on his forehead. It gave him a lethal attractiveness. Men could also appear very attractive to women.

Every time a thought like this appeared, Yan Jinyu would feel flustered. That feeling was very strange. Back when she had first seen Qing Shui at the Firecloud Blacksmith Store, she already felt a faint cordial feeling from him. She hadn't felt this way before and that was the first time. She liked that feeling and thus had grabbed Qing Shui to become sworn siblings with her.

Standing next to this guy, walking together with him through the crowd, occasionally talking... This feeling was very strange. She hadn't felt this way before. If this guy hadn't become sworn siblings with her, would she be able to be next to him so naturally? Would they be so close together?

Suddenly, Qing Shui looked toward Yan Jinyu and noticed that she was also looking at him. It was because both of them felt that a spiritual sense had locked onto them again. He smiled and said, "Come, let's bring them for a walk around the streets first!"

Yan Jinyu smiled and nodded. Although this man wasn't as strong as her, she felt that when she was next to him, she would feel at ease. This feeling came from deep within and she felt as if he would be able to protect her.

Chapter 1173 - Five Elements Divine Refining Technique, Bloodthirsty Demonic Vines, Qing Shui Demonstrating His Prowess

Just like that, Qing Shui brought his great beauty around with him to look at the night scenery. Compared to the scenes in the day, the places seemed to be more beautiful at night. Of course, Qing Shui was also paying heed to those few spiritual senses that were locked onto them.

Qing Shui purposely looked for places where there were more people. Although the crowd wouldn't stop them from taking action, they would definitely hesitate. For example, if he were to shout something like 'assassins targeting Yan Clan's Young Miss', they'd definitely panic.

When midnight came, he would be able to use the Nine Continents Steps and when that happened, even if those people were extremely capable, there would be nothing they could do. However, right now, that was still slightly more than two hours away.

Therefore, Qing Shui planned to wait until it was after 1 a.m. before he checked them out and saw if he could get any information. In the worst case scenario, they could just escape. In the blink of an eye, they would be able to reach the inner city and in half a day, they'd probably be able to reach Yan Clan.

"Qing Shui, I'm a bit worried whether anything has happened at home," after they had walked for a while, Yan Jinyu said.

"We'll head back after 1 a.m. Right now, we'll have to settle this first and see if we can get a hold of any information. It might be beneficial for Yan Clan," Qing Shui gave it some thought and said.

"Then let's bring them to a secluded place right now? I feel that these few spiritual senses are in no way weaker than mine. How are we going to fight?" Yan Jinyu smiled bitterly and said. She was wearing her bamboo hat but Qing Shui could still sense her tension.

"We'll give it a try. In the worst case scenario, we can make our escape with the rings. There won't be any problems." A hint of battle flames twinkled in Qing Shui's eyes. He had grown a lot stronger and although the opponents had powerful spiritual senses, he still wanted to attempt to fight against them.

Yan Jinyu thought about it for very long and in the end, seemed to speak with great difficulty, "I'm worried for you!"

Qing Shui smiled. "There's no need to worry about me. Although my cultivation might not be strong, I'm quite good at protecting myself. I can help you as well. Alright, let's go and see who those people are."

The two of them followed the crowd and headed for a more secluded spot and then flew toward the distance, where there was a small-scaled mountain range. Qing Shui and Yan Jinyu traveled at great speed, but they felt that those spiritual senses were also rapidly accelerating.

On the top of a mountain, Qing Shui and Yan Jinyu were in midair, staring at the approaching spiritual senses. When they got close, they saw that there were four old men and two young men. One of them

was wearing a bamboo hat but Qing Shui could recognize him at first glance. His spiritual sense was very sharp.

“Yang Yicun, your name isn’t the only thing which is special. Even your body shape is as well. You can take off that bamboo hat!” Qing Shui smiled and said directly before turning toward the elderly men.

The few spiritual senses from earlier belonged to these few elderly men. Qing Yun sensed that they should be on par with Yan Jinyu when she was holding the Four Elements Greencloud Sword. There was nothing strange for the great clans in Yan City’s outer city to have cultivators of such a level. It seemed that Yang Yicun held quite a significant position in the clan.

When Qing Shui saw this, he seemed to have sensed something. If Yang Clan had nothing planned against Yan Clan, Yang Yicun wouldn’t dare to do something like this. It seemed that Yan Clan really was in danger this time.

Yang Yicun gradually took off his bamboo hat and looked at Qing Shui with a predatory look, “Lad, why are you getting yourself involved in this? Could it be that you’re interested in Miss Yan as well? Do you think you’re deserving of her?”

“Aren’t you guys afraid that my father will wipe out your Yang Clan?” Yan Jinyu asked calmly, not directing her gaze toward anyone in particular.

“Hahaha, Miss Yan, do you still think that you’ll be able to leave today? No ladies whom I, Young Master Yang, have set my eyes on, are able to escape. As for your father, he can’t even save himself now. Yan Clan will disappear very soon.” When Yang Yicun said this, he sounded very proud. It was a craziness that would burst out after suppression.

All along, Yang Clan had to be very careful around Yan Clan and every year, they would have to pay quite a lot of money and treasures as tribute. It was because Yan Clan was the owner of Yan City and all great clans would have to pay tribute to them while Yan Clan would have to pay to the royal family.

“Do you think just Yang Clan alone would be able to go against our Yan Clan? Even if there were three Yan Clans, you wouldn’t be a match for our Yan Clan. Stop your wishful thinking,” Yan Jinyu continued calmly.

“There’s no need for you to try to agitate me. Of course, it’s not just Yang Clan alone. You only need to remember that your clan will be gone very soon,” Yang Yicun spoke with disdain.

“There’s no need to agitate you. If I were to capture you, I don’t believe that you won’t say a single word,” Qing Shui looked at Yang Yicun and said, smiling.

“Lad, the likes of you? You’re better off thinking how you can die faster today!” Yang Yicun grinned and looked at Qing Shui, his eyes filled with malice and ridicule.

The three old men stood in a triangular formation, surrounding Qing Shui and Yan Jinyu. The last elder stood before Yan Jinyu, seeming to be protecting him while prepared to handle any exigencies.

“Sister, later on, there’s no need to feel tense. I’ll protect you. They don’t wish to harm your life for now. We’ll kill one of them first. There’s no need to worry about me.” Qing Shui instructed.

“You must be careful!” Yan Jinyu had already brought out her Four Elements Greencloud Sword and had even activated her Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation.

Qing Shui, on the other hand, had taken out his Big Dipper Sword while holding a coldsteel bead with his other hand.

Right now, the aura Yan Jinyu was exuding caused the three elders to be a little taken aback. Next, with three loud roars, the three old men also activated their Demonic Beast Armor Manifestations.

Roar!

Qing Shui also activated his Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation but it didn't cause much surprise. Qing Shui was able to conceal his abilities well and even those old men didn't think much of Qing Shui's cultivation but knew that it wasn't bad either. They could sense his abilities but it just wasn't accurate. However, they wouldn't expect that.

Qing Shui took one step and dashed toward one of the elders, concurrently letting out a huge bellow, “Do it!”

Nine Palace Steps!

Although Qing Shui wasn't very strong, he had the advantage in his footwork and the amazing aspect of the Nine Palace.

He headed right for one of the elders while Yan Jinyu swung her Four Elements Greencloud Sword and dashed toward another elder on the other side.

The remaining elder wanted to take action but with Qing Shui's spiritual sense, the Nine Continents Mountain instantly appeared and tried to crash abruptly toward the old man, its speed quick as lightning.

The Nine Continents Mountain's attacking prowess was slightly over 3,200 nimbus but its speed was very fast, causing its prowess to increase by a little as well.

Although the old man was astonished, he returned the attack with his longsword!

Ding!

Surprisingly, the old man retreated a step and the Nine Continents Mountain was also stopped in its tracks. However, it smashed down once again.

Qing Shui made use of the Nine Palace positioning and managed to barely hold back the other old man. He then shook the tip of his sword!

Tidal Cloud Waves Seal!

Instantly, a huge spread of ocean appeared around him. Both himself and the old man were in the water. There were waves all around them.

Roaming Dragon Steps!

Amidst the waves, Qing Shui combined his Roaming Dragon Steps and the Nine Palace Steps. Although he was weaker, he managed to gain the upper hand. He lifted up his hand!

Surging Waves Roaring Seas!

Monstrous Wave!

The water in the ocean immediately expanded and terrifying black whirlpools appeared around them. Right now, Qing Shui's Tidal Cloud Waves Seal had the strongest prowess.

However, at this moment, the other elder had freed himself from the Nine Continents Mountain and was dashing toward Yan Jinyu.

Emperor's Qi!

Nine Palace Steps, Great Reversal!

Qing Shui ignored the old man who had been forced to be on the defense to save himself in the water and then exchanged positions with one of the two old men who were attacking Yan Jinyu together!

His Emperor's Qi managed to weaken the strength of these old men by 20%. The fourth old man was standing slightly further away and wasn't affected. The Emperor's Qi could be used on multiple targets.

The sudden change caused the old man who was in the midst of a fight with Yan Jinyu to be stunned. Even Yan Jinyu was stunned as well, but she immediately regained her composure. At this time, Qing Shui controlled the Nine Continents Mountain to attack from behind while he raised one of his hands.

Tidal Cloud Waves Seal, Water Entanglement!

Reduce speed, reduce reaction speed!

The old man swayed for a moment and with the changes to the surroundings and the weakening effect from the Emperor's Qi, he was almost instantly pierced by Yan Jinyu in the chest with her sword. Next, the Nine Continents Mountain came smashing into him from the back. By the time he was sent flying, he had already died.

From the beginning to the end, all this had happened in the time it took for only two blinks!

The other two old men looked over with pale countenances. The old man who had died had already landed on the mountain peak below them, causing a deep sound to ring out as he landed. The sound was especially clear in such a quiet night sky.

"Young man, we've underestimated you." The old man who hadn't taken any action till now spoke. He then turned to look at Yang Yicun, whose face had turned pale.

Yan Jinyu looked at Qing Shui in surprise. This man had already given her far too many surprises. Although he wasn't strong, he could move about with great ease. He had even managed to hold back a person and seemed to have gotten the upper hand. It seemed that he had still concealed his abilities or that she hadn't seen through him thoroughly.

Qing Shui waved his hand to call out the Thunderous Beast.

“Old man, a prodigal son like this is not worth you losing your life for.” Qing Shui looked at the old man calmly.

“Young man, you seem to specialize in spirit energy. You shouldn’t have used your full powers yet, right?” The old man who was standing in front of Yang Yicun seemed to still be extremely calm when he said this.

“Alright, today, I’ll show you my spirit energy!”

With that, Qing Shui stopped his hand and pointed out with his Big Dipper Sword!

Buddha Form Reveal, Buddha’s True Eyes!

Violet Lightning Strike!

Violet Lightning Strike!

The Thunderous Beast let out two rapid streams of Violet Lightning Strike, stunning the two old men who had been weakened by the Emperor’s Qi on the spot. Almost concurrently, a series of strong tremors appeared below the two old men.

“Damn it!” The old man waved his hand and sent a huge palm to grab the two old men.

However, it was already too late. The violet bloodthirsty demonic vines had spurted out crazily, entangling the two old men in thick vines. The sharp barbed spikes that were one foot long flashed with a bloodthirsty cold gleam, twisted and entangled crazily.

Nothing could be seen from the outside, nor were there any sounds coming from inside. There was only the swooshing sounds of the moving vines. There wasn’t even a single drop of blood leaking out. The blood must have been absorbed by the bloodthirsty demonic vines!

The huge palm grabbed onto the bloodthirsty demonic vines and broke one off. However, it seemed to quickly disappeared as if it had been electrocuted. When the bloodthirsty demonic vines disappeared, so did everything else. There was nothing left of the two old men.

Qing Shui called back the Thunderous Beast. Right now, there was only the last old man left, together with Yang Yicun and the other man dressed in white clothes.

The old man was really stunned. In just a short moment, two State Master level cultivators who had a strength of about 6,000 nimbus were destroyed just like that. What the old man didn’t know was that the two of them had been weakened by Qing Shui’s Emperor’s Qi to be left with only about 4,500 nimbus of strength. Moreover, they were also paralyzed and both their spirit energy and body resistance were weakened. Qing Shui’s spirit energy attacks could reach 4,300 nimbus and the bloodthirsty demonic vines were very terrifying as well. Even a person with a strength of 6,000 nimbus would have to be skinned even if they didn’t die from the entanglement.

Chapter 1174 - Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation’s Second Form, Within the Nine Palace, He Was the King!

The Wood Vines from the Five Elements Divine Refining Technique was the best skill which Qing Shui was cultivating. It had the strongest defense and posed the greatest threat.

Of course, the Tidal Cloud Waves Seal's Monstrous Wave was also very powerful but it wasn't as fast as the Wood Vines nor was the control as good. This spirit energy battle technique seemed to have a life of its own. This was the most amazing part of it.

Right now, Yan Jinyu felt as if she had never known Qing Shui before...

From the appearance and disappearance of the old men, the time taken was the time for a few breaths. They weren't as easy to deal with as chopping up vegetables!

Yan Jinyu was overwhelmed with joy and surprise. She felt that when she was with this young man, she would feel at ease for some reason. It seemed that her senses were still quite good. Meeting Qing Shui could be considered a lucky encounter for her.

The eyes of the man dressed in white, Wu Clan's Young Master, were filled with astonishment. He couldn't believe that the few old men from his clan and from Yang Clan had died so quickly. What level of cultivation was required to be able to kill the few of them within the time for a few breaths?

He couldn't help but feel a cold chill, let out a shout and want to make his escape. The old man next to Yang Yicun let out a cold snort and said, "Trash!"

With a wave of the old man's hand, half the head of Wu Clan's Young Master had become a bloody mess. The latter died just like that without able to let out a single grunt.

The old man looked viciously at Qing Shui, his gaze like that of a venomous snake. A faint hint of red light in his eyes gathered to become a formless sword shadow and with a flash, shot out toward Qing Shui.

Spirit energy, Bloodsword of Will!

Qing Shui didn't dare to be careless. He circulated the Heart of Roc and the nebula in his consciousness gathered together, turning a majestic spirit energy into a five element wall shield, blocking before him.

A ripple scattered out before Qing Shui and disappeared into nothingness.

Qing Shui's abilities caused the old man to be shocked. It was because the old man was also very proud of his battle techniques using spirit energy. The Bloodsword of Will from earlier was considered a move that even ordinary grade two State Masters might not be able to receive so easily. Of course, that was if they weren't State Masters who specialized in spirit energy.

If the old man were to know that Qing Shui's spirit energy had reached a strength of about 4,300 nimbus and he could neglect 70% of the spirit energy attacks, he might just cough up blood.

"Young man, you do have some capability. I'm surprised. But you will still die!"

The old man said this and slowly took out his weapon. It was a green colored staff engraved with some strange and old 符文s. The images on it formed a small, gorgeous green snake. What was amazing was that the snake's head seemed to be no different than one that was alive. It was like the head of a real snake. It was about the size of a fist but exuded a cold and eerie feeling. The entire staff seemed to be extremely strange, exuding a strong and cold killing intent.

Seeing that the old man had taken out his weapon, Yang Yicun glared at Qing Shui, "Lad, if you get down on your knees, kowtow to me 300 times and cripple your own cultivation, I can spare you your life!"

Yang Yicun was now harboring great hatred for Qing Shui. Wu Meng was dead and so were two powerful State Masters from Wu Clan. His clan had also lost one State Master. They were talking about a State Master level cultivator. If his clan were to hear of this, he would definitely be in great trouble. The more he thought about it, the angrier he felt. If it wasn't because he was scared of Qing Shui, he would have torn Qing Shui into pieces like he did to other people in the past.

Yan Jinyu continued to remain calm and wasn't unsettled by the situation. Qing Shui had only seen her slightly surprised expression before. Right now, she continued to appear graceful and peaceful, just like how she was when he first met her. However, she would occasionally look in his direction.

When Qing Shui saw that the old man excelled in spirit energy, he calmed down. However, a cultivator whose cultivation had reached the level of a grade two State Master was definitely not to be underestimated. Even if his spirit energy was powerful, he could be even stronger physically.

Qing Shui looked at the old man and knew that he'd definitely take action!

Very quickly the skies seemed to have solidified and the old man made his move. That staff smashed toward Qing Shui without any fancy moves. What that terrified Qing Shui was that he didn't know how he should dodge this simple attack.

Qing Shui wore a grim expression. The old man did have his own tricks up his sleeves. This attack, with traces of heavenly dao, was something which only grade two State Masters could accomplish.

Yan Jinyu and the old men from earlier were only at Peak Grade One State Master and were close to attaining the level of Grade Two State Master. However, they were still Grade One State Masters after all, unlike this old man who was truly a Grade Two State Master.

Qing Shui had initially thought that the old man excelled in spirit energy and should be slightly weaker in terms of physical martial arts. He now knew that he was wrong. The old man was in no way weaker with his martial arts and the reason he had attacked with his spirit energy from earlier was because regardless if the opponent was strong or weak, they would tend to be slightly weaker in defense against spirit energy and in their abilities to withstand spirit energy.

The old man had initially thought that the Bloodsword of Will would be able to deal Qing Shui a serious blow, but he hadn't expected the latter to be able to neutralize it with great ease!

Nine Continents Mountain!

Controlling with his mind, the Nine Continents Mountain blocked the old man directly!

Ding!

With a crisp sound, the Nine Continents Mountain was blown away and Qing Shui managed to dodge the attack.

The old man grabbed his staff and swung it again!

Qing Shui was stunned.

A battle armor that appeared to be material, formed on the old man. While it appeared to be thick and heavy, Qing Shui felt that it was definitely very light. That was because it moved like water and air.

Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation!

This was the second form of the Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation. Only a Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation which had entered the mature phase would truly take on the form of armor. The next form after this would be a true armor formed from origin Qi. It's said that at that level, it wouldn't be much weaker than actual legendary grade armor.

This made Qing Shui feel baffled. Logically, the Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation should first take the form of armor before gradually and eventually taking the form of a demonic beast. However, in this world, the Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation mostly first appeared as the beast form, before eventually taking the form of armor or a battle skirt, but they would still have a connection to the beast form of the Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation. The additional increase in strength and defense would be directly related to the demonic beast the Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation had presented when in the beast form.

The old man's Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation was definitely very strong. However, although the increase in strength when it had taken the form of battle armor might not be higher than when the beast form was in the mature phase, the defense provided would definitely be a lot stronger, both in terms of physical defense and spirit energy defense.

The old man's earlier attack made Qing Shui feel that he had felt a lot of things. The reason he could dodge the earlier blow was a powerful feeling. It was just like how an ordinary person would feel that they would never be able to jump up a height of several meters.

A light breeze appeared under the old man's feet with a faint glow. His spiritual sense locked onto Qing Shui. Qing Shui knew that the old man was going to attack Qing Shui aggressively from now on.

Emperor's Qi!

The powerful Emperor's Qi weakened 20% of the old man's strength, causing the old man's countenance to change. The gaze he used on Qing Shui was very strange and complicated. This was too domineering. The old man had never seen such a powerful weakening technique. Moreover, he had made several attempts but still wasn't able to negate its impact.

Shadowless Steps!

With a flash, the old man seemed to have disappeared. Qing Shui felt a tight feeling on his scalp as he stepped out with his Roaming Dragon Steps.

Nine Palace Setup!

Qing Shui sent out his spiritual sense and their surroundings entered the Nine Palace. He reached out his hand and grabbed Yan Jinyu, who was next to him. He hadn't expected the old man's speed to be so fast.

Within the Nine Palace, he was the King!

Although this wasn't the first time Yan Jinyu had her hand held by Qing Shui, she still felt a little anxious. She knew that Qing Shui was doing this for her own safety, but she felt that she was in a totally passive position right now.

Once the Nine Palace Setup was formed, Qing Shui immediately felt that the old man's speed had reduced by a lot. Within the Nine Palace, the old man's advantages were all gone. Qing Shui wasn't afraid to compete with him in terms of speed. Within the Nine Palace, if the gap in abilities between him and his opponent wasn't overly heaven-defying, he would have the ability to protect himself.

From the old man's perspective, Qing Shui's speed when he had Yan Jinyu with him was much faster than himself. This caused him to almost fall over from shock. His Shadowless Steps was something he was the most proud of. The old man took great pride in his spirit energy and his Dragon Staff Technique. However, the one thing he was the proudest of was still his speed. He hadn't expected to lose this greatest advantage before a young man, especially when the latter was bringing another person along as he moved. This was equivalent to blatantly giving him a slap in the face.

Seal of Xuantian!

Qing Shui raised his Big Dipper Sword!

A huge silver platform appeared in the sky above the old man, deploying a tremendous stagnating force on the old man.

First Level of Xuantian Seal!

Lowering the target's speed and reaction, causing the target's speed to be heavily affected!

Clear Heart Art!

The old man swung the gorgeous green staff in his hand, causing a milky white colored holy glow to spread down from the top. With a wave of his palm, a huge green-colored python was called forth and it smashed against the silver platform on top.

Boom!

The silver platform disappeared. The old man looked at Qing Shui. Right now, fury was already rising within him. He was weakened and his speed had been reduced a second time in addition when the initial weakening impact had already caused his speed to be lowered. This made him feel that it was unfair.

Ferocious Snake Leaving the Cave!

The old man's body brought along a series of afterimages as he dashed toward Qing Shui. With gesture of his staff, a huge green snake dashed out toward Qing Shui. The green snake had a hideous head and a huge body. It brought along a green-colored glow with it, exuded a stench that would make one feel giddy and moved in a z-shaped motion toward Qing Shui.

On the other hand, the old man came over from another side, blocking Qing Shui's route of escape.

Golden Sword!

A golden sword image smashed out toward the green snake!

Nine Continents Mountain!

Using his consciousness to control the Nine Continents Mountain, Qing Shui kept on smashing the Nine Continents Mountain against the snake!

The prowess of the Five Elements Divine Refining Technique was its instant explosive force. The Wood Vines was the only one which required a little time.

Primordial Flame Whip!

Qing Shui's Big Dipper Sword spewed out the primordial flame whip and lashed out toward the old man who was dashing toward him.

The old man didn't reduce his speed. It seemed that the primordial flame whip didn't have too great an impact when it struck the old man's body.

The old man excelled in spirit energy to begin with, his Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation had reached the second form and his defense had increased a lot. Even his head was being protected by the Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation. Right now, the old man looked like an old turtle.

Qing Shui was baffled. How was he going to fight?

That green snake had already been smashed into smithereens and he now controlled the Nine Continents Mountain to smash toward the old man.

However, it was a pity that due to their difference in abilities, he could only cause the old man to pause momentarily at times.

It was no wonder the old man was proud of himself. Even if the three old men from earlier were to combine their powers, they wouldn't even have half the powers of this old man. Even four people of the previous three's level wouldn't be a match for this one. Was this the difference between a Peak Grade One State Master and a Grade Two State Master?

After so many repetitions of the same attacks, the old man had a feeling of helplessness. It was because he realized that he couldn't get near Qing Shui. He would always be just a little bit away. To cultivators, speed was the most important thing and absolute speed would allow one to attack and defend as they wished.

This was how it was for Qing Shui now. Yan Jinyu was pulled by him and had to experience the terrifying speed he was going through. She had even forgotten that they were in a battle and would occasionally look seriously at Qing Shui.

Golden Sword!

Golden Sword!

Descending Heavens Talisman!

Wood Vines!

...

Qing Shui continued to attack relentlessly, paralyzing the old man. Right now, he could only engage in a war of attrition!

Chapter 1175 - Seventh Waves of the “Nine Waves Great Golden Buddha Palm”, City Lord Manor

Lion King’s Imprint!

Nine Waves Great Golden Buddha Palm!

An astonishing power surged out from the tip of the Big Dipper Sword. That power had surpassed Qing Shui’s expectation. A thought came to his mind as he carefully looked at the Nine Waves Great Golden Buddha Palm which he was launching.

Although he was already mentally prepared, he was still shocked when he saw it!

It was because, in that instant, what Qing Shui had sent out toward the old man was seven huge golden Buddha hand prints. Moreover, the seven golden Buddha hand prints formed a shape that was like a huge lotus flower, covering up the old man.

Confinement!

His Nine Waves Great Golden Buddha Palm had attained a breakthrough unexpectedly...

The old man was confined just like that. Of course Qing Shui wouldn’t go easy on him and swung the Big Dipper Sword once again.

Wood Vines, bloodthirsty demonic vines!

The huge wood vines rose up, entangling the old man. However, it wasn’t able to break through the old man’s Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation immediately. Qing Shui let go of Yan Jinyu.

Yan Jinyu could only barely be considered a Grade Two State Master or rather, it was because of the enhancement she received from the weapon that she was one step away from attaining Grade Two State Master. However, she was incomparable to this old man who excelled in speed and was a true blue Grade Two State Master.

The Wood Vines continued to entangle and attack relentless. From this battle, Qing Shui had also gained a new and more accurate understanding of his powers. Moreover, the prowess of the seventh wave of the Nine Waves Great Golden Buddha Palm had an increment of more than tenfold compared to when it was only at the sixth wave. To think that it could actually confine the old man...

It seemed like the seventh wave was also a crucial point, just like the Ancient Strengthening Technique’s seventh layer. This belong to the higher stage in the later phase and would provide a tremendous qualitative increase to one’s strength.

“Lad, you won’t be able to get through my Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation. By doing this, you’re expending a lot of your spirit energy and when it has completely dried up, it’ll be time for you to die!” The old man bellowed out while he was trapped in the bloodthirsty demonic vines.

“I shall see how long your Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation can last!”

Tidal Cloud Waves Seal!

Qing Shui raised his hand and the area around the bloodthirsty demonic vines became like a piece of ocean with huge whirlpools and fluctuating waves. Qing Shui raised his hands again.

Monstrous Wave!

Many black holes, black whirlpools, exuded a terrifying engulfing prowess!

Water brings growth to wood!

The appearance of the Tidal Cloud Waves Seal caused the bloodthirsty demonic vines to have become even more powerful. They continued to twist about, entangle and lash out. Qing Shui's control of his spirit energy was considered quite powerful.

The old man continued to shout, as if attempting to agitate Qing Shui, making the latter anxious so that he would have the opportunity to make his escape.

Yan Jinyu watched from the side as the old man was tangled up by the bloodthirsty demonic vines. Even if she wanted to attack, there was nothing she could do. She could only watch from the side, not knowing how to describe the overwhelming astonishment she was feeling.

Pfft!

Suddenly, the bloodthirsty demonic vines exuded a powerful aura and brilliant violet light. There was a blood red glow in the violet light. The old man let out a terrible cry and after a strange series of sounds rang out, there was nothing but silence.

The Big Dipper Sword's 20% chance of doubling the attacking prowess had appeared. The doubling of attacking prowess included spirit energy attacks. Under the confinement of the Nine Waves Great Golden Buddha Palm, the bloodthirsty demonic vines' had their attacking prowess doubled and they managed to breakthrough the old man's Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation. With his Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation broken through, the old man wasn't worth a mention. Qing Shui was very clear how scary the bloodthirsty demonic vines were.

Clearing out the Nine Palace positioning, Qing Shui picked up the weapon and the interspatial silk sachet the old man had dropped. The interspatial silk sachet was a high quality one and hadn't been destroyed by the bloodthirsty demonic vines.

At that moment, Yang Yicun was slowly moving back.

"There's no way you can escape. Come back!" Qing Shui reached out his hand and a huge water current entangled Yang Yicun. With a shake, Yang Yicun was brought right next to Qing Shui.

Yang Yicun's face was extremely pale and he looked as if he was about to burst into tears. He had lived a luxurious life since he was young, getting whatever he wanted. His talent wasn't bad either but the only thing was that he had yet to encounter any setbacks before. It was the first time he had encountered such a situation and even the two powerful Elders who had doted on him the most had died. He knew that he was doomed. However, he was scared of death or rather the terror before death itself.

Death wasn't scary but the process leading to death and the fear one had toward death was what that was scary!

"Speak up! Which other clans are working together with you to deal with Yan Clan. If you lie, I'll let you have a taste of what that old man earlier went through. It should be very comfortable to get entangled by the demonic vines." Qing Shui smiled and looked at Yang Yicun.

"I'll talk, I'll talk!" Yang Yicun quickly said. At the mention of the bloodthirsty demonic vines, his face had turned even more pale.

"Miss Yan has an idea what's going on and will be able to tell if you lie. If we feel that you're not speaking the truth, I'll put you through the demonic vines. Moreover, there's still Soul Search. You've heard about that, right?" Qing Shui's calm words sounded like the most terrifying words in Yang Yicun's mind.

"It's Yu Clan, it's Yu Clan..." Yang Yicun shouted!

Yan Jinyu shuddered, "To think that it's Yu Clan. It's no wonder Yang Clan dares to take action."

"Are there any other aristocratic clans taking part?" Qing Shui put aside Yu Clan and asked Yang Yicun.

"I don't know, I really don't know. Don't kill me, I don't wish to die..." Yang Yicun broke into tears, with snot flowing out from his nose.

Back in Yang Clan Inn, Qing Shui had experienced first hand how cold this guy's gaze could be. He was of quite a decent level of cultivation too. It was a pity that Qing Shui detested people like him. It was because Yang Yicun wasn't a guy who knew when to yield and when not to. He was a person who would be arrogant when he had the upper hand and was like a coward when he didn't.

Yang Yicun died. People like him couldn't be left alive. For some people, it wasn't that their lives would be spared as long as they didn't resist. Qing Shui only let him die a faster death. He then took a look a look at the scene and then toward Yan Jinyu, saying, "Let's go. People will be coming very soon."

"Mmmm!"

Qing Shui called out the Golden Scaled Dragon Elephant and left the place with Yan Jinyu. There was still some time before the second day arrived. Seeing that Yan Jinyu was not herself, he asked, "Is Yu Clan very powerful?"

Yan Jinyu let out a sigh, "Yu Clan is very powerful. Everyone knows that Yu Clan is very mysterious but usually don't have many interactions with others. To others, they are more like a secluded aristocratic clan. I hadn't expected them to set their eyes on Yan City."

"Can Yan Clan not win against Yu Clan?" Qing Shui felt that Yan Clan shouldn't be simple either. After all, they could stand at the top of Yan City for many years.

Although for the past few years, their development had been slow, they should still have strong foundations.

"I'm not sure. Our clan is also very wary of the Yu Clan. Most important, they shouldn't have gotten to know that the Yu Clan is intending to take action against the Yan Clan. We must rush to bring news back

to them before they take action so that we can do the necessary preparation.” Yan Jinyu seemed a little anxious, seeming as if she couldn’t wait to return to Yan Clan immediately.

“Don’t worry, we’ve asked earlier. Yu Clan hasn’t taken action against Yan Clan yet. We’ll be able to arrive at Yan Clan first thing in the morning tomorrow,” Qing Shui assured her.

Very soon, the next day was here. Calling back his demonic beast, Qing Shui used the Nine Continents Steps!

After eight consecutive times, they arrived in Yan City’s inner city. Although it was still nighttime, the inner city seemed to be even brighter. Compared to the outer city, it was more prosperous, the population was more dense and the buildings here were especially big and tall. Big buildings had several tens of stories and were majestic like castles.

The city had an even more rustic feeling and large sized demonic beasts would fly past in the air every now and then. Those auras shocked Qing Shui. The place had a lot of hidden talents and the strong factions were even more concentrated here.

Although they had arrived at the inner city, they were still a distance away from the City Lord Manor. Yan Jinyu called out her own demonic beast, the Xuantian Wind Crane. It was a very good mount but its battle prowess was ordinary.

The Xuantian Wind Crane moved at its greatest speed toward the City Lord Manor. Qing Shui didn’t say a word on the way but just closed his eyes and rested. He was actually sensing his Nine Waves Great Golden Buddha Palm.

Earlier, before he had attained a breakthrough to the seventh wave, what he hit out would all be struck out in a row. Right now, the prowess of the seventh wave had not only increased by a lot, it could also change positions.

The seventh wave of the Nine Waves Great Golden Buddha Palm was strongest in term of its confinement powers. Of course, its damaging prowess was quite good as well. However, he didn’t know why the old man ended up being confined back then. Since it was a rare opportunity, he followed up to kill with his Wood Vines.

Therefore, Qing Shui planned on entering the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal to cultivate his Nine Waves Great Golden Buddha Palm after they had arrived at the inner city. This, combined with his Wood Vines, would be a good ultimate technique.

The appearance of the second form of the Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation caused Qing Shui to feel pressured. If it was a Peak Grade Two State Master, Qing Shui would probably be unable to do anything even if the opponent stood there and did nothing.

Power. This was power. Before absolute power, everything else was weak and useless. However, Qing Shui still had hope. The Heaven Secrets Pill Yan Jinyu had given him could increase his abilities by a lot.

City Lord Manor!

This was also where Yan Clan was located. When the sky was just starting to lighten, they could already see the manor from afar. The City Lord Manor took up a very big plot of land, with a length and width of

not less than ten Li. There were many tall pavilion buildings, arenas, artificial mountains, lakes and even rivers...

The Xuantian Wind Crane landed at the entrance to the City Lord Manor. This was a regulation. After keeping the Xuantian Wind Crane, Yan Jinyu headed into the manor with Qing Shui.

“Young Miss!”

The two rows of guards greeted Yan Jinyu respectfully when they saw her.

Yan Jinyu waved her hand and led Qing Shui to the hall which wasn't far away. These people stationed at the City Lord Manor's entrance were all very strong. Most of the time, the people who would come would be either married ladies or kids. The arenas and martial halls and other things were located at the backyard.

Quite a number of people passed through the City Lord Manor's courtyard. Most of them were servants. It was still early after all. There were also people who were cultivating. Yan Jinyu led Qing Shui directly to the hall.

If Yan Jinyu hadn't been mistaken, her father should be cultivating in the main hall!

Four middle-aged men stood at the entrance to the hall.

“Young Miss!”

“Is father in?” Yan Jinyu asked directly.

“The clan's head is in! He said that when you returned, you can enter directly!” a capable looking middle-aged man quickly said.

“This person cannot enter!” Another man stopped Qing Shui.

“He's not an outsider. Alright, I have something to discuss with father,” Yan Jinyu didn't show her anger but just said calmly.

With that, she grabbed Qing Shui's sleeve and entered!

The main hall was the greatest hall in the City Lord Manor. In the front hall, there were documents as well many tables and chairs. It should be the place where the clan would hold meetings. Usually, the City Lord could also deal with some work here.

Yan Jinyu brought Qing Shui in. This main hall was made from Metallic Crystal Stones and was especially sturdy. Most training chambers would tend to be made from such materials.

Upon entering deeper, Qing Shui realized that it was much bigger in here than it was outside. This place was a training ground. It was empty, tall and wide. Right now, he could see that there was a man standing in the distance. Qing Shui had only seen him after sensing him. It was because that person was exuding a profound essence.

Chapter 1176 - State Master's Lifespan, Yan Clan, Yan Dingtian

The aura on that person was very profound and from afar, he seemed to be standing there like a tall block of mountain, one that couldn't be surpassed. The moment Qing Shui and Yan Jinyu walked in, the man gradually turned.

He was a mature and handsome man, even more mature than the past Canghai. He seemed to be older as well. Qing Shui wasn't surprised that he could have children like Yan Jinyu and Yan Yangzhao.

However, Qing Shui couldn't guess his age. His aura was stable as a mountain, his expression calm as water. Qing Shui couldn't sense his cultivation. But this was normal. This man was Yan Clan's clan head, Yan City's City Lord. Qing Shui really couldn't guess how strong he was.

Qing Shui felt that he shouldn't be very young, regardless if Yan Jinyu and Yan Yangzhao were his eldest children. In the four continents, a person with this cultivation would be considered young even if he was over 200 years old. They would be able to maintain their youth for a very long period of time.

State Master level... Even the lowest grade State Master would have a lifespan of 1,500 years; Grade Two State Master 2,000 years; and Grade Three State Master seemed to be even longer. However, Qing Shui wasn't sure how long to be exact.

"Father!" Yan Jinyu ran over happily and hugged the mature and calm man. That feeling of yearning made Qing Shui think of Luan luan, Yuchang and his other kids. He missed them as well.

It was then when the man broke into a happy smile which was warm like the spring's breeze. Compared to Canghai, this man was a mature man whom ladies would be fatally attracted to. Regardless whether it was mature ladies or young ladies or even men, all of them would take a few more looks and say a few more words. Of course, men wouldn't like him but would like his charm. It'd be like the fans from Qing Shui's previous life, where there would be men and women alike.

"Lass, who is this? Aren't you going to introduce him to me?" the man looked toward Qing Shui and nodded as a greeting.

"He is called Qing Shui and is my sworn brother. If it wasn't for him this time around, your daughter wouldn't be able to see you anymore." Yan Jinyu spoke happily at the start but ended in a worried tone. She was worried about Yan Clan now.

"Oh."

Yan Dingtian looked at Qing Shui with great interest. Toward the sworn sibling his daughter had made, he was more surprised. It was because his daughter had almost no friends of the opposite sex. She hadn't gotten close to any men even at her age. This made him a little worried. After knowing that his daughter was normal, he let her do as he wished. After all, life was very long and there was plenty of time.

He looked at Qing Shui and noticed that his cultivation was mediocre but there was an obscured power in his body. He knew that Qing Shui's actual strength should be a little stronger. However, he realized that he wasn't sure how much stronger Qing Shui was.

"Who's the one who dares to lay their hands on my precious daughter? I'll go kill him myself." When Yan Dingtian said this, he was still very calm but an abrupt and sharp aura extended out toward the surroundings. There even seemed to be a layer of explosive waves in the air, creating a strange sound.

“Outer city’s Yang Clan. However, they’re already working together with inner city’s Yu Clan, preparing to take actions against Yan Clan. Father, you’ll have to make preparation soon,” Yan Jinyu quickly said.

“Yu Clan?” Yan Dingtian looked at Yan Jinyu, stunned.

“That’s right, father. You must believe what your daughter says and hasten to make preparations. As for whether there are any other clans taking part in this, I’m not sure,” Yan Jinyu looked at Yan Dingtian and said.

“Alright, I understand.”

The man smiled and said that before he turned to Qing Shui, “You’re Qing Shui? Thank you for saving my daughter. Since you’ve become sworn siblings with the lass, then just treat this as your own home. This is an emergency. When the matter is over, I’ll ready a feast to thank you.” Yan Dingtian smiled and walked up to Qing Shui, reaching out his hand as he spoke.

“Uncle, there’s no need to stand on ceremony. We’ll leave you to your work!” Qing Shui reached out his hand and shook the man’s hand.

The man didn’t try to test his cultivation. He just stood up and left. Before he left, he turned to Yan Jinyu and said, smiling, “Lass, be a good host to Qing Shui.”

“Father, you should hurry,” Yan Jinyu smiled and said but her expression still reflected a hint of worry.

“There’s no need to worry. Although Uncle is a little taken aback, he isn’t anxious yet. It goes to show that things aren’t as bad as expected,” Qing Shui reassured Yan Jinyu.

“Come, let me bring you to look for a room. It’s about time to have our meal as well!” When Yan Jinyu heard Qing Shui’s words and saw that Qing Shui was here, she unknowingly felt at ease. Moreover, she had already informed her father and she believed that he’d be able to make the necessary preparations.

The room Yan Jinyu got for Qing Shui was right next to her pavilion building, However, although the two of them were back-to-back, they didn’t share a common door nor were they connected internally.

Qing Shui wasn’t really worried. He had the feeling that since Yan Clan could stay at the top of Yan City for so many years, keeping themselves deeply rooted here, even the second or third most influential forces or even if more people were to work together, they wouldn’t fall. It was just like how even if Yan City were to collaborate with the other few major cities, they’d definitely be unable to harm the Great Yu Dynasty’s royals.

Therefore, Qing Shui wasn’t worried. He even felt that everything would unknowingly settle down eventually. He was planning to stay here for a few days and then find a location to set up his Firecloud Blacksmith Store. He wanted to get a reputation for himself.

Yan Yangzhao must have gone to attend to some matters. Otherwise, if he were to know that Qing Shui was here, he’d definitely come and see him!

Yan Jinyu brought Qing Shui to the building. Everything inside was brand new and everything required was prepared. The room looked very warming and comfortable. The only thing was that it seemed to be a little feminine. However, that was normal. After all, that place was right next to Yan Jinyu’s.

...

Yan Dingtian left Yan Clan and flew toward the direction out the back. There were no changes to his expression, except that it was a little grim. There was a small mountain range not far from Yan Dingtian and the vegetation was very dense on the mountain.

The plants covered the entire mountain peak and not even a road could be seen. The environment was especially beautiful. Yan Dingtian came to a scenic valley. This valley was neither big nor was it too small. There was a big lake in the middle which had water that was so clear that you could see the bottom. There were various fish in the water.

Occasionally, a flock of birds would come to drink water. There were no large-scaled demonic beasts here. At most, there would only be some small-scaled wild beasts which would appear.

There was a pavilion next to the lake as well as on the lake. There were quite a number of old men here, those who were past their prime. Some of them were fishing, some of them were playing chess, some of them were drinking tea...

Yan Dingtian landed in the valley and walked over. The moment he came over, some of the old men looked in his direction. They continued to do what they were doing but would nod at Yan Dingtian, indicating that he could enter.

The walls on the valleys were filled with stone houses. Yan Dingtian bowed in all four directions before heading for one of the stone houses.

"It's Dingtian right? Come in!"

An old-sounding voice rang out. It sounded very amiable but ordinary, as if it was from the most ordinary old man.

"Grandfather!"

Yan Dingtian walked in and bowed to greet the old man.

The stone house wasn't big but it looked very rustic and impressive. It seemed to be able to let one feel that the luxurious room was something very vulgar. A tall old man with a good build stood in the room.

The room was very simple. There was a stone table in the middle and the old man was standing before it, writing something with a brush.

"Come and have a look to see how these few words look." The old man seemed to be in a good mood today as he spoke to Yan Dingtian.

On the big piece of beast parchment, the words 'Awe-Inspiring Righteousness' were written!

The words were written with great force and exuded a powerful aura. Just from the words alone, one could tell the old man's character.

"It's written in bold and vigorous strokes, exuding a feeling of great righteousness. It seemed that Grandfather has attained yet another breakthrough in calligraphy," Yan Dingtian smiled and said.

“Hahaha, this is what you say every time. Alright, there’s no reason that you’d come here if nothing was up. Has something happened?” The old man led Yan Dingtian to another room.

This room wasn’t big. There was a stone table with a small stove in it. Tea was being boiled on the stove and a faint fragrance filled up the entire room.

The old man took out two small porcelain cups and Yan Dingtian quickly filled the two cups to 70% full and then said, smiling, “Grandfather, Yu Clan is thinking of laying their hands on us.”

“Yu Clan... Haha, I knew that they wouldn’t be content. They must think that our Yan Clan hasn’t had any developments for all these years and that they would be able to wipe us out. However, in this fight, even if our Yan Clan were to win, we’ll still suffer from great casualties. This is the most important thing.” The old man picked up the tea cup, took a sip and spoke slowly.

“Jinyu came back today. To think that Yang Clan are in cahoots with Yu Clan. Yang Clan tried to lay their hands on Jinyu but four Elders from Yang Clan and Wu Clan were killed by Jinyu.”

“The lass’ cultivation has increased?” The old man asked.

“The lass said that a young man had saved her and the four Elders were also killed by him. He’s Jinyu’s sworn brother...”

“Oh, it seems that this young man isn’t simple. I know that lass’ character well. People she thinks well off, especially a young man... This should be the first after so many years.” The old man seemed to be very happy and didn’t seem to care much about the matters concerning Yu Clan.

“I’m was worried about the matters with Yu Clan and thus only briefly observed him. This young man is very concealed and should have some unique abilities,” Yan Dingtian gave it some thought before saying.

“Mmm, we’ll just leave it to fate. The lass is very headstrong and blessed with great fortune in her life. She’s of age now and we can just leave her alone. If she needs anything, just satisfy her wishes.” The old man’s smile grew increasingly amiable.

“Alright. Grandfather, then what about Yu Clan?”

“Haha, I’ll make a trip to Yu Clan. They aren’t fools. Upon knowing of our abilities, they’ll naturally not dare to take action recklessly. We know what they’re thinking of as well but it’s hard to get them to stop. Moreover, we still have Dingyi who’s a member of the royalty and there’s nothing we need to be concerned about.” The old man gave it some thought as well.

“Grandfather, although Dingyi is a member of the royalty, Yu Clan also has someone who is a member of royalty. This time around, they’ve planned this out for very well and they probably won’t stop so easily,” Yan Dingtian gave it some thought and said.

“There’s no worry. I’ll propose to have a Junior Competition. The losers will leave Yan City.” The old man said calmly.

A Junior Competition was a competition between the young forces in a clan. It decided which clan would become more powerful in the future. Therefore, a powerful young force in the clan would guarantee the clan to become powerful in the future. Of course, the clan would also do their utmost to protect the

clan's outstanding young members, to the extent that they'd let a State Master level cultivator protect them.

"That's good as well. It'll be good if we can settle this with a few rounds of the Junior Competition. Sigh, this is really a period of great trouble. Yan Clan has already suffered a lot from Scarlet Flame Region and other matters. I wonder if they'll agree to this," Yan Dingtian said bitterly.

Chapter 1177 - Junior Competition, Yan Jinyu's Siblings, Clan Legacy

"Don't worry, if he doesn't even dare to compete in this, how could they possibly dare to fight for Yan City with us? Although old men like us from both clans are a form of security, great clans value the future of their clans more and the legacy amongst the younger generation." The old man smiled and said with certainty.

"There's a few youngsters in Yu Clan who are especially outstanding. I wonder if fighting a Junior Competition will be advantageous to us." Yan Dingtian was still a little worried.

"After you head back, go have a discussion with the others about this and select the people who will be taking part. This isn't the first time we're doing this with others. Yan Clan's younger generation is still quite strong." The old man didn't seem to be very concerned.

"Alright Grandfather. I'll head back and see to the necessary preparations."

"Go on. I'll make a trip to Yu Clan."

...

By the time Yan Jinyu got Qing Shui his accommodation, the sun had already risen. After they had some food, Yan Jinyu told Qing Shui to get some rest and headed out.

Qing Shui was very bored. He was still thinking about the Nine Waves Great Golden Buddha Palm. Therefore, he entered the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal directly. He wanted to familiarize himself with the control of this powerful battle technique.

Qing Shui had also put aside the Vajra Frenzied Devilish Rod Technique recently. His cultivation had increased a lot recently and the prowess of this battle technique should also have increased by a lot. This was considered one of the more powerful battle techniques that he could perform.

Standing in midair in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, Qing Shui raised his arm, creating a series of golden Buddha palm prints. Seven giant golden Buddha palm prints appeared in the air as if they were physical hands, as if they were a line of production, glimmering in golden light. Fluorescent light flowed through it with an indescribable sense of astonishment.

A majestic and dignified aura was exuded. There was also an indestructible power which was strong and domineering but yet benevolent and gentle. They seemed to strangely combine together perfectly.

Qing Shui moved his hand and streams of thoughts appeared in his mind and he followed his heart. The formed lotus shape could confine and he struck out the impactful attack in a straight line. The seven palms joined as one coming down from the top, attacking with the force that could blot out the skies with just the lift of a hand. The prowess was extremely domineering.

Qing Shui performed the seven waves of the Great Golden Buddha Palm excitedly in midair. It felt very good and his mastery increased, bringing up the prowess increasingly as well. Practice makes perfect. An increase in the level of a skill could increase the prowess by a lot.

Nine Continents Mountain!

Qing Shui called out the Nine Continents Mountain and controlled it together. Heart follows intent, seven palms as one, blotting out the skies!

Go!

Qing Shui landed the extremely domineering palm onto the Nine Continents Mountain. In that instant, Qing Shui felt that the prowess of the Nine Continents Mountain once again became extremely terrifying and was now beyond Qing Shui's imagination.

"I wonder if the impact of the Nine Continents Mountain, combined with this "One Hand Cover Sky" will be able to breakthrough the second form of the Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation of that Yang Clan's old man?" Qing Shui wondered if he could use this method to settle the battle if he were to once again meet someone of that level.

Qing Shui then controlled the lotus-shaped seven waves of the Great Golden Buddha Palm, controlled the Nine Continents Mountain with his mind, while he attempted to try to create another seven waves of the Great Golden Buddha Palm with his other hand.

One Hand Cover Sky!

What made Qing Shui happy was that his spirit energy was sufficient. Although he was lacking in fluency in his control, it wasn't very hard. He now knew that he had gotten himself another killer move or two. His prowess had soared.

Qing Shui then performed the Diamond Buddha Devil Staff. Right now, he was only able to perform up to the fourth staff.

Diamond Buddha Devil Staff, Fourth Staff, Five Soaring Waves!

However, its prowess was even more powerful than before. It was as if he could turn the sea over with just one staff attack.

Time passed as he cultivated and his abilities were starting to stabilize and slowly raise. Although Qing Shui personally felt that it was slow, outsiders would definitely find it terrifying if they were to see it for themselves. Of course, one reason was also because he had the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. Even if a person's aptitude wasn't fantastic, if they were to have a treasure like the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, they'd be able to stand at the very top. Moreover, Qing Shui had inherited the legacy of the Ancient Strengthening Technique.

When Qing Shui came out, it was about afternoon. When he walked out from the door, he saw that Yan Yangzhao had came back and was chatting with Yan Jinyu at the pavilion downstairs.

When Yan Yangzhao saw Qing Shui, he appeared especially excited, "Younger Brother, you're finally here. I hadn't expected that you got along so well with my young sister. It's good that we're all one family now."

“Brother, when did you come back? I was cultivating earlier and hadn’t heard that you guys had come back.” Qing Shui knew that they must have looked for him earlier but hadn’t called out. However, he could still tell.

“I’ve only just come back. Come, father has readied a feast. We need to thank you for saving Jinyu.” Yan Jinyu grabbed Qing Shui and headed off while Yan Jinyu smiled and followed after.

“Sister Yan, is there a solution for the matter with Yu Clan?” Qing Shui gave it some thought and asked. Although he didn’t concern himself in other people’s family matters, he knew about this and if he were to ask, it would just show his concern.

“Father said that it’s likely that we’ll have a Junior Competition to decide on the problems between both clans,” Yan Yangzhao said as they walked.

“Junior Competition? What’s that?” Qing Shui asked, puzzled.

“There’ll be a competition between the younger generation of Yu Clan and Yan Clan. There’ll be nine rounds in total. The losing side will swear on the royal family that they’ll retreat into seclusion, not come out for 1,000 years and not participate in the fights in the world.” Yan Yangzhao smiled and said.

Qing Shui was stunned. He found such promises strange. However, Qing Shui felt that compared to the oaths people from his previously life that threatened to get themselves struck by lightning and such, this was more effective. It was because their promise would spread throughout Yan City’s inner city and even possibly to the royal family. If it was sworn in the name of the royal family, it would be out of respect to the royal family. However, if one didn’t keep to their promise after losing, it would be a blatant contempt toward the royal family. Since they were weaker than the royal family, no one would dare to go against their words like this.

“This oath is good. Has it been decided when it’ll be? Right, will the two of you be participating?” Qing Shui smiled and said.

“The time hasn’t been decided. Jinyu will definitely participate. The younger generation cannot exceed 100 years old. I’ll probably not participate. The weapon you forged for Jinyu is very powerful. In the past, I was still showing off before her but now I’m being ridiculed by her all the time,” Yan Yangzhao smiled and said.

“The realm the cultivator is at is very important and so is one’s strength. Although the weapon is very important, it doesn’t mean that a powerful weapon will be able to change the results of the battle every single time.” Qing Shui recalled that old man’s terrifying speed, battle technique, experience and the realm he was at. All these had given Qing Shui a deeper understanding toward cultivation.

It was the same for Yan Jinyu as well. Therefore, she fully agreed with what Qing Shui was saying. Qing Shui could kill that old man, but he wasn’t as strong as her. Therefore, she felt that it was due to Qing Shui’s own comprehension and experience.

“That’s right, that’s right. Father tells me that all the time as well. However, I just can’t stand that temptation.” Yan Yangzhao smiled awkwardly.

When they reached the main hall, the place where Qing Shui had come to the first time, the feast was already prepared. There were not many people. There was Yan Dingtian and a charming mature lady who was a little like Yan Jinyu standing next to him. It should be Yan Jinyu's mother.

Other than that, there were six other youngsters, four men and two ladies. All of them appeared to be very outstanding. The men had an imposing aura on them as well. Most importantly, the aura these people exuded were all even stronger than Yan Yangzhao.

Yan Yangzhao was one step away to become a Grade One State Master but these people were above the level of a Grade One State Master. This the aristocrat inheritance from aristocratic clans. They shouldn't be very young. People who were in their 70s or 80s were still definitely still considered to be extremely young in the Western Oxhe Continent.

Qing Shui was now used to it as well. He was going to turn 40 soon. In the nine continents, even when he was back in the five continents, people tended to neglect age as well. After all, even ordinary people had a lifespan of around 150 years old. Those who led a longer lives could live to an age of close to 200 years.

In the world where there was strong spiritual qi of heaven and earth, people had long lifespans and strong vitality. Therefore, they appeared young and full of vigor.

The two ladies were about the same age as Yan Jinyu and were extremely outstanding both in terms of their appearances and dispositions. One of them was wearing emerald green clothes while the other was in fiery red clothes. The lady in fiery red clothes seemed to be younger. She had exquisite features, bright eyes and a beautiful nose. She looked at Qing Shui with a curious smile.

"Qing Shui, come, come. I'll introduce you. These are all my children. Qing Shui isn't an outsider either. He is Jinyu's sworn younger brother. In the future, we'll all be family," Yan Dingtian smiled, walked over, grabbed Qing Shui's hand and said.

The others didn't seem to find this strange, as if they had heard of this earlier. A tall and handsome mature man smiled and said to Qing Shui. "I'm Yan Yangchi, the eldest amongst the siblings. If you don't mind, you can call me Eldest Brother like Jinyu and the others."

"Eldest Brother Yan, I've often heard Sister Yan talk about you. I finally have the chance to meet you in person." Qing Shui smiled and said.

"Qing Shui, I'm Yan Yangchen. If you don't mind, you can call me 2nd Brother. Of course, I'll be happy if you address me as Yan Yangchen as well. I can tell that your cultivation is good. We can have some exchange another time. I didn't expect that you'll be able to defeat a Grade Two State Master." A rough-looking guy said very forthrightly. He was the most rough amongst all of them and should have the most straightforward personality.

"Hello, 2nd Brother. I like personality like yours the most. I hope that when the time comes, you'll go easy on me." Qing Shui reached out his hand and shook it with the man as he said happily.

"2nd Brother, can you show some restraint? At least look for him for a spar after knowing him for a few days. You always want to spar with people when you just meet them," Yan Jinyu said speechlessly.

Yan Jinyu wasn't old but was considered the more calm ones out of them.

“Qing Shui, I’m Yan Yueyin. I’m older than Jinyu. Do you want to call me elder sister? My name is very useful around in Yan City.” The mature and charming lady in emerald green clothes smiled as she put out her white and beautiful hand.

Qing Shui smiled and shook it. “Sister Yueyin is as beautiful as what Sister Yan has sad. If I were to encounter any problems, I’ll definitely come to ask for your help.”

...

The lady in red clothes seemed to be slightly younger than Qing Shui and was called Yan Huoyun. Although her name was strange, she was very warm and welcoming. She gladly called Qing Shui Elder Brother Qing Shui.

The beautiful married lady was Yan Jinyu’s and Yan Yangzhao’s mother. The other two men were called Yan Long and Yan Leng. Yan Long was still ok but Yan Leng was a bit cold and unsociable. However, he still politely greeted Qing Shui. It was just that his smile was a little stiff.

“Brother Qing Shui, don’t think too much of it. This is how my brother is like. The number of times he has smiled can be counted. He has only smiled because he’s happy to meet you. Usually, there aren’t many people who can make him smile. Even his fiancée doesn’t get such treatment,” Yan Huoyun smiled and explained to Qing Shui.

“Oh, I’m flattered!”

“Since we all know each other, come, everyone, take a seat. Today we’re welcoming Qing Shui and expressing our thanks to him,” Yan Dingtian once again said.

Qing Shui joined the others and took his seat. These should be Yan Dingtian’s more outstanding children.

Chapter 1178 - Hurricane Dragon-boned Rock, Assassin’s Sword

These were Yan Dingtian’s children who were more outstanding. Qing Shui didn’t need to guess to know that Yan Dingtian didn’t only have these children, not the fact that he wouldn’t just have this one wife. There must be a reason why these people were here together today.

Qing Shui sat between Yan Jinyu and Yan Yangzhao. The others had wanted him to sit at the head of the table but Qing Shui knew that it wasn’t appropriate and they didn’t insist.

Yan Yangchi was Yan Dingtian’s oldest child and he was also the strongest. At least, even though Qing Shui couldn’t tell what his exact strength was at, he knew that this guy was definitely very strong.

There was also Yan Yueyin. This lady’s fluctuating aura was very special. Qing Shui thought of what she had said earlier, that her name was very useful around the place. It seemed that she should be very powerful.

“Qing Shui, you’ve treated Jinyu too well. Even I am jealous of her weapon.” Yan Yueyin sat opposite Qing Shui and smiled, saying.

Qing Shui knew that something like this would be brought up sooner or later but it was just that since they had just got to know each other, they shouldn’t bring it up too soon.

"I don't have the necessary materials. If Sister Yueyin has them, I'll be able to forge one for you very quickly. However, I don't know if you'd be satisfied with it. The one that Sister Yan has is largely due to luck as well," Qing Shui smiled and said.

"Haha, I was just teasing you. If I really were to need a weapon, I won't stand on ceremony with you. Sister Jinyu is too stingy. Earlier when I had seen that weapon, she refused to tell me who had made it. It was Yangzhao who guessed it." Yan Yueyin smiled charmingly and teasingly.

"Since everyone is treating me like family, there's no need to stand on ceremony. I only have this little ability. If it can be of use, there's no need to stand on ceremony with me." Qing Shui wasn't against things like this and it was very normal. If there were no accidents, these were things which would happen sooner or later.

"Qing Shui, I'm a straightforward person and I won't stand on ceremony with you. I'm not satisfied with my current weapons and armor and will get your help later. For the upcoming competition, I'll have to be a little shameless and approach you, even if it's for the sake of my reputation," Yan Yangchen smiled and said.

"2nd Brother, you've always been very thick-skinned," Yan Huoyun let out a crisp smile and said.

Yan Huoyun's words caused everyone to break into laughter. Even Qing Shui also smiled and said, "I like 2nd Brother's straightforwardness. Don't worry, leave this to me. I'll definitely let you feel satisfied."

Everyone then chatted over the meal. They were all youngsters and had common topics to talk about. Most of the time, Yan Dingtian and his beautiful wife would just watch from the side.

"Father, have the participants for the upcoming competition been decided?" About halfway into their meal, Yan Jinyu looked toward Yan Dingtian and asked, smiling.

"More or less, but we haven't decided all of them. There'll be Yangchi, Yangchen, Yueyin, Leng'er and you. As for the rest, they'll be chosen from amongst your cousins." Yan Yueyin smiled and said.

"Let me participate as well!" It was then did Yan Yangzhao spoke up.,

"Yangzhao, you should focus on your cultivation. The matter this time around is of utmost important. Otherwise, I'd have let you get a chance to spar. Both sides will be going all out and will be fighting a life and death battle." When Yan Dingtian said this, it was with a heavy tone.

Yan Dingtian's words caused everyone to fall sullen. These were his most outstanding children and Yu Clan was a great clan as well. Since they dared to challenge Yan Clan, they must definitely have confidence in their powers. If something were to happen to any of these children, it would deal a huge blow to him as well.

They say that people won't be able to grow and rise to great heights if they weren't put through obstacles. However, when the time really came, no father would be too willing to let his children go through all that.

"Uncle, I'll be setting up a blacksmith store near Yan Clan these few days. Please get Sister Yan to inform me on the day of the competition." Qing Shui smiled and said to Yan Dingtian.

“Qing Shui, you’ve saved Jinyu but I’ve yet to thank you. Since you’re a blacksmith, you can have these.” Yan Dingtian took out an interspatial silk sachet and handed it to Qing Shui.

“I can’t accept that. We’re all family and moreover, I don’t wish for anything to taint our relationship as siblings between Sister Yan and myself.” Qing Shui smiled and rejected Yan Dingtian’s kind intentions.

“Alright, then treat them as a meeting gift from me. That should be fine, right?” Yan Dingtian broke into a warm and gentle smile. He liked this lad a lot, who was neither arrogant nor hot-headed and was very rational. It was no wonder that he could get along with the lass.

After a slight hesitation, Qing Shui smiled and received it, “Then I’ll thank uncle for this!”

“Right, let Jinyu bring you to help you to set up your blacksmith store,” Yan Dingtian said to Qing Shui and Yan Jinyu.

“Let me do it! Qing Shui had promised me previously that if he were to come to inner city, he’ll leave everything to me,” Yan Yangzhao quickly said.

...

Although Qing Shui brought up the matter with the blacksmith store, he knew that it would still need to take a few days. After the feast ended, Qing Shui took a look at the ingredients Yan Dingtian gave him and was very taken aback. There were high quality otherworldly meteorite, 10,000 Years metallic essence, Thunder Rock...

“2nd Brother, what kind of weapons do you use and what elements does your martial arts belong to? I’ll take a look to see what kind of weapons and armor are more suitable,” Qing Shui looked at Yan Yangchen and said. Yan Dingtian and his wife had already left.

“I use a hammer, one that’s like this. I cultivate earth element martial techniques.” Yan Yangchen quickly brought out his own hammers.

There were a pair of battle hammers and each of them was bigger than the person himself. They were grey colored and looked extremely heavy. In all, this weapon was still considered quite powerful. Qing Shui sensed it a little and understood why Yan Yangchen had wanted them replaced. Although this Mountain Splitting Hammer was considered decent, it only increased the user’s strength by threefold. The other attributes were mediocre as well.

The others didn’t get Qing Shui’s help to forge. However, Yan Leng hesitated for very long before he spoke unnaturally, “Qing Shui, can you help me forge a weapon? I’ll trade it for something...”

“Brother Leng, why are you standing on ceremony with me? I’m not fit to be your brother?” Qing Shui knew that this was how unsociable people were. Unless they were forced to a certain level, they wouldn’t ask for someone else’s help.

“That’s not it. Then I shan’t stand on ceremony. I hope that you can help me forge a lighter sword that has high agility. It’ll be best if it can penetrate armor. You can just forge one to your capability. I cultivate wind element martial techniques and focus on speed and flow. I’ll have to trouble you for this. I have suitable materials here.” Yan Leng said politely.

“Alright. Can I have a look at Brother Leng’s previous weapon?”

"I forgot about that. It's like this." Yan Leng took out a weapon that was similar to a long dagger from his sleeves. The sword had a width of two fingers and length of close to two feet.

"I'll do my best to satisfy Brother Leng." Qing Shui smiled and promised.

"Alright, Qing Shui, do you have things you need to take care of? If you tell me, I might be able to help you." Just then, Yan Yueyin smiled and said.

"You're really going to help me?" Qing Shui smiled and asked.

"Of course. This is the first time sister so willingly helps someone. Tell me and I'll see if I can help you with it," Yan Yueyin smiled and said.

"I really do have something to do. This is the reason I'm setting up a blacksmith store as well. I'm looking for someone. She's my wife but it's just that I don't know where she is now." Qing Shui took out Di Chen's portrait.

"Your wife is really pretty. How long has it been since you've seen her? Are you sure that she's in Great Yu Dynasty?" Yan Yueyin threw a glance toward Yan Yueyin from the corner of her eyes as she said this.

"I don't know. It has been five years since she had come to Western Oxhe Continent. I don't know where she is either. She had to come to the Great Yu Dynasty first. If it's convenient, I'll trouble Sister Yueyin to help me keep a lookout." Qing Shui smiled. He actually didn't hold much hope for this and was just saying this out of courtesy.

"Qing Shui, can you leave this portrait with me first? I'll help you to ask around." Yan Yueyin gave it some thought and said.

"Alright!"

This portrait was one which Qing Shui had drawn himself. It wasn't one of the portraits of beauty.

That night, Qing Shui hammered away in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. Even if the weapons were ready, he wouldn't give them immediately. Good weapons weren't forged so quickly. Although the one he had given to Yan Jinyu was too fast.

The hammer that Qing Shui forged for Yan Yangchen was a pair of huge World Demolitions. This hammer wouldn't lose out even when compared with the Thunder God. It could be said that due to the powerful forging abilities, the hammer's prowess was even greater. Qing Shui's memory of those weapons in his consciousness wasn't very accurate. It was just like how the Big Dipper Sword was no weaker when compared to the Mystical Connection Divine Sword and the Four Elements Greencloud Sword. It meant that it was all related to one's forging abilities and the materials used.

Although this was the first time Qing Shui had tried to forge a hammer, it was very smooth-sailing. He had even engraved the Seal Formations as well, the same ones he had engraved on the Four Elements Greencloud Sword. The battle armor was heavier and more bulky and the Seal Formation he used for it was the Divine Shield Seal Formation. Other than that, he also forged a few pairs of boots, engraving the Gale Seal Formation onto them. He had also forged armor and battle skirts for Yan Jinyu. Of course, he would also be giving them to the other participants of the competition since he couldn't be seen to be biased. Therefore, he had them prepared earlier.

The attributes for the World Demolition were slightly inferior to the Big Dipper Sword. The increment in spirit energy attacks was only 50% but the other attributes were about the same as the Four Elements Greencloud Sword. Moreover, there was also a 20% increment to speed and attacking speed.

These were very important. Usually, earth element martial technique would tend to lose out in terms of speed. This additional 20% increment could make up for a lot of the difference. Moreover, with an additional pair of boots, his strength would probably increase by a lot and even more so, his battle prowess.

When Qing Shui was forging Yan Leng's weapon, Qing Shui used the materials Yan Leng had given him. One of the raw material was very good, the Hurricane Dragon-boned Rock.

This was a rare material and when added, it could greatly increase agility and spirit energy.

There weren't many materials but the forging process was very smooth. Moreover, he added in the Celestial Stone and the success rate had increased to become 100%.

When the weapon was completed, Qing Shui was very satisfied with the attributes.

Hurricane Dragon-boned Sword: Increase user's strength by five fold, spirit energy by one fold and has a 20% chance of doubling the prowess of attacks, including for spirit energy attacks. The user's movement and attacking speed would be increased by twofold and there's a 20% chance of further doubling the user's attacking and movement speed. The user's depletion would also be reduced by 20%.

Armor penetration. There's a 10% chance of penetrating through the opponent's defense to a certain degree, including physical defense, battle armor and Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation. The degree of penetration was related to the user's abilities as well as the opponent's abilities.

This was a weapon intended for assassins and could be considered a powerful weapon. When used together with a pair of boots, the prowess would be very terrifying. Even Yan Yangchi or Yan Yueyin might not be able to win against Yan Leng then.

In one-on-one fights, assassins are the most terrifying!

Chapter 1179 - Date of the Competition, Opening of the Blacksmith Store, Reputation Spread Far and Wide

After doing everything, it was about time for him to head out. He'd give them to them in a few days time. He could say that those were things he had made previously. Although he must say that the weapons were just made, the armor and other things could be said to have been stock he had left aside in the past.

Of course, they might not ask, since everyone had their own secrets. Even if they were to ask, he wouldn't say anything. This was why clever people would know what they should ask and what they shouldn't. There were some things that you won't get to know just from asking.

It was about time that he was able to eat the second Heavenly Secrets Pill. This was a huge favorable opportunity Yan Jinyu had given to him. She definitely wouldn't have expected that he would be able to finish all ten Heavenly Secrets Pills within 40 days and allow his strength to double. For others, the

strength increment brought by ten Heavenly Secrets Pills weren't considered a lot but for Qing Shui, it was a monstrous existence, at least, for the current phase he was at.

Doubled... His physical strength had doubled. Moreover, with the cultivation he had been doing of late, it was even more. This wasn't something that the additional increment brought by weapons could compare against.

Strength, one's physical strength was the most important. This was something that was closely related to the unleashing of their prowess in battle techniques and control of their mind. Weapons, armor and the temporary effects medicinal pills brought were just plain increment of overall strength and would pale in comparison. For these, unless one had gotten used to it over time, the initial effect wouldn't be good. This was especially so when there was a large increment, such as when taking medicinal pills to boost strength tremendously, while it was terrifying, the individual's control wouldn't be perfect. The person would only be able to unleash 70-80% of the actual prowess in such a situation. However, when the increase was in the individual's physical strength and mastery, there would be times when he would be able to unleash 120% of the prowess.

The next morning, Qing Shui came out very early and casually went about with his morning practice in the courtyard. They had agreed to take a look at the blacksmith store today. He forged another huge signboard which still had the words 'Firecloud Blacksmith Store' written on it.

He hoped that he would be able to hang it up today!

For breakfast, other than Yan Dingtian and his wife, the others had all come, even Yan Leng. However, Yan Leng continued to not like to talk much.

The group of them went to the "business district", which wasn't far away. That place was the most prosperous area, in the entire Yan City. After all, this area was where Yan Clan was located.

When he saw the blacksmith store they had gotten for him, Qing Shui was still a little taken aback. He knew that the one which Yan Clan would prepare for him would definitely be very good. He just hadn't expected it to be this good.

It was splendid and majestic looking, taking up a huge land space and was very grand. The violet golden glazed tiles exuded an indescribable dignified aura. In the vicinity, this was considered the building that would stand out the most. Many people would turn to have a look when they passed by. There was a large manor behind the main hall. In this prosperous area, this manor would have a sky high price.

"Qing Shui, are you happy with this place?" Yan Jinyu smiled and asked.

"I am but is it too good? Actually, just a small place will do," Qing Shui smiled and said. What he said was the truth. The blacksmith store was only for appearances.

However, this was good as well, since it'd be better able to spread his reputation far and wide. When the reputation was there, chances of Di Chen hearing about it would be higher and thus, he wasn't against it.

Moreover, this was given to him by Yan Clan. There would probably be no one who would come and create trouble here. Moreover, in another month, he would undergo tremendous progress in his

strength. When that time were to come, unless it was some great clan, otherwise, with his State Master level strength, he should be respected.

Everything here was brand new and all he needed to do was to move in. Upon entering, he noticed that the forging platform, forging stove, weapon racks and many other things were all brand new.

“Sister Yan, thank you guys for the trouble.”

Qing Shui smiled and said to them and then took out the signboard he had readied previously. He floated up and hung it up above the huge door. Thank goodness his signboard was large enough and it was very suitable.

“Firecloud Blacksmith Store? Qing Shui, this name seems very strange?” Yan Yueyin looked at Qing Shui curiously. What she heard yesterday that the reason he was opening a blacksmith store was so that he could look for his wife.

“Haha, I come from the five continents. Back there, I have another wife by the name of Huoyun Liu-Li. Her family manages a blacksmith store with this name,” Qing Shui gave it some thought before saying this.

“Seems like the wife you’re looking for also knows about this Firecloud Blacksmith Store. It’s really hard to tell that you already have a few wives,” Yan Yueyin teased.

“I really do have quite a few. It’s a sin for men to be too outstanding.” Qing Shui smiled and then went around to check out the place.

“Oh, I give you an inch and you ask for a mile.” Yan Yueyin smiled charmingly.

Yan Jinyu didn’t think much about it and just looked around with the others, smiling. They didn’t ask about the five continents. It seemed that they knew that Qing Shui was a “foreigner”.

“Qing Shui, when are you going to open the store?” Yan Yangchi asked as he looked around.

“Maybe tomorrow. Shall we have a drink here today?” Qing Shui smiled and asked. There were tables here ready. In the courtyard, there was a stone table and a pavilion. Everything was readily and conveniently available.

The others weren’t against this idea and went to take a look in the courtyard. There were several pavilion buildings here and Qing Shui entered the nearest one. Even the interior decorations were luxurious and were all brand new.

“Eldest Brother, when do you think the competition will be?” Yan Yangchen’s voice was comparatively louder.

“If it’s fast, maybe half a month; if it’s slow, it will probably be two months later. Just wait for it. We should be able to get some news in three days,” Yan Yangchi smiled and said.

“Mmm, it’s better for it to be slower. It’ll be good if it can be after Brother Qing Shui is able to forge my weapon for me. I’ll have a higher chance of winning then. Oh, right. Brother Qing Shui, shall we have a spar?” Yan Yangchen asked excitedly.

“2nd Brother, I’ll spar with you. Brother Qing Shui still has to forge weapons.” Yan Leng looked at Yan Yangchen and said seriously.

“Uh, we often spar. Forget it, it’s boring.” Yan Yangchen grinned.

“2nd Brother has never beaten Brother Leng before,” Yan Huoyun smiled and said.

“What does a kid like you know? 2nd Brother is just being broadminded and letting him win. Fearing that it’ll affect his desire to advance, I can only bear with the humiliation,” Yan Yangchen quickly defended himself.

Everyone else laughed, so did Qing Shui. “Shall we wait until I have completed forging the weapons and other stuff for 2nd Brother before we have a spar?”

“Alright, alright. Little Leng, wait till my weapon is forged then we have another spar. This time around, elder brother won’t give way to you,” Yan Yangchen laughed and said.

Qing Shui had a good impression of this straightforward and funny 2nd Brother. Amongst the siblings, he was able to get along with everyone.

Yan Leng was very calm. It seemed that this wasn’t the first time something like this had happened. Moreover, he seemed to like these two. There was a rare hint of warmth on his face.

There was a ready supply of wine and the kitchen tools were complete as well. In addition, Qing Shui had his Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal as well. Everything was quickly prepared. Yan Yueyin, Yan Huoyun and the others had their eyes wide-agape in disbelief to see Qing Shui getting everything prepared.

It wasn’t strange for cultivators to cook since they would often have to cook for themselves when they travel outside. What they were astonished about was that Qing Shui could actually do it so well and with such great familiarity. Most importantly, they were already greatly astonished just from the fragrances coming from the dishes alone.

They were as astonished as Yan Jinyu was back then or even more so. However, everyone was full of praise for him and said that in the future, they were going to let Qing Shui help to improve the quality of their meals at a later time. They would even be willing to him out with odd jobs here.

Very quickly, another two days passed by and Qing Shui’s Firecloud Blacksmith Store was open for business. He didn’t have much to do here but the reputation of the Firecloud Blacksmith Store spread out with rapid speed.

The swords that Qing Shui put up for sale were those ordinary swords he had made when he was practicing to forge the Four Elements Greencloud Sword. They all brought a threefold increase to one’s strength and there were also Seal Formations engraved on them.

There were diamonds amongst the forging materials Yan Dingtian had gifted to him. Although there weren’t many, it was sufficient. Qing Shui only added a little into a few of the swords, raising the quality of the weapons by a lot. It was made from tempered metallic essence to begin with and now that diamond was added, it was considered quite good.

These few weapons were the ones which spread Firecloud Blacksmith Store's reputation very quickly. The weapons which Qing Shui had put up were actually a little weak. Powerful cultivators wouldn't fancy the materials they were made from, while low grade cultivators won't have the use for it nor would they be able to afford them. Qing Shui wrote that they could only be traded for forging materials.

The traffic flow was great. There were people who came from aristocratic clans or even powerful experts patronizing. Many of them wanted Qing Shui to help them forge their weapons but were all rejected.

It was because there was a written sign stating that the requests he had received of late had reached the limit and he would not be accepting any requests temporarily.

Because of Yan Clan, no one dared to do anything to Qing Shui either. Moreover, the power of a powerful blacksmith was huge. Therefore, Qing Shui's status soared rapidly without him knowing. People who met him would have to address him as Master.

This was the effect that Qing Shui wanted. These people were the aristocratic clans and the people and information he would come into contact with were things that what he could have access to would be comparable to.

Today, Yan Yangchi and the others came again.

Qing Shui just closed the shop.

"Brother Qing Shui, is my weapon ready? The time for the competition is already set and I want to get used to my weapon and battle techniques." Yan Yangchen rubbed his palms together, appearing to be a little anxious.

"It's ready. When is the competition going to be held? I'll go show my support then." Qing Shui smiled and asked as he handed him the pair of World Demolitions as well as his battle armor and battle boots.

"Exactly one month from now." Yan Yangchen said as he received the items in great anticipation. He first picked up the double hammers and sensed them, his eyes wide-agape as he shouted out excitedly.

"2nd Brother, you're exaggerating!" Yan Huoyun said, dissatisfied.

Yan Yangchen seemed to not care for these. He then put on the battle armor and let out another shout. Lastly, he put on the battle boots and then looked at Yan Leng, stunned, "Come, come, let's have another spar."

After Yan Yangchen put on these, the aura he exuded as well as the profound runes on his weapons, battle armor and boots caused many people to be stunned. His strength had increased by more than a little. The powerful aura caused everyone to be taken aback.

Yan Leng looked at Yan Yangchen in a daze and seemed to be going to agree when Qing Shui said, "Brother Leng, your speed won't be faster than him now. Why don't you put on these first before you compete with 2nd Brother?"

Qing Shui smiled and handed Yan Leng his share. When Yan Leng received the items, his expression which had never changed before started to twitch uncontrollably. It was with excitement. He looked at Qing Shui gratefully and said, smiling, "Thank you!"

It seemed that there were a lot of emotions placed into these two words. Qing Shui shook his head and said, smiling, "Since we're brothers, there's no need to stand on ceremony."

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Chapter 1180 - One Month, Road to State Master Level, Qing Shui's Formidable Power

"Second brother, let's learn from each other and swap pointers. Be at ease, I will go easy on you." Yan Leng seldom used such a relaxed tone to speak with others. It almost sounded like he was telling a joke.

Yan Yangchen sucked on his lips, "Let's fight, bring it on! You don't have to go easy."

The others started to laugh without saying much. The two of them vacated into the sky.

"We should go watch!" Yan Yangchi said with a smile.

Nobody had any objections. All of them soared high into the sky to follow them. Higher and higher into the open sky, that place is the best for battle. Even if there was a bustling city down below, there was no fear of destruction.

Yan Yangchen held the pair of giant World Demolition Battle Hammers, they almost blocked his entire back. A tall burly man, coupled with heavy armor, was just like a god of war.

On the contrary, Yan Leng's body was long and slender. The body armor he wore was not heavy armor. Only the important body parts were covered with thicker material. The other areas followed the shape of his body. He looked as though he was well tempered. The Blast Dragon Bone Blade emitted a cold killing intent.

"Second brother, show your hand, otherwise you will be forced to be reactive." Yan Leng nodded at Yan Yangchen.

Yan Yangchen did not take it with a grain of salt. He directly cast Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation. Though his strength had become more powerful, his Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation had not reached second form, it was just like a giant pangolin beast silhouette.

Yan Leng cast Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation at the same time, causing Qing Shui to widen his eyes. It was a Fox Beast silhouette. Though the size was not big, it carried the aura of quick-witted Spiritual Qi. His speed should have increased drastically, the only thing he was not certain of was the effect it had on his strength.

For martial art techniques, if they were the same level then their difference was small. With defense, they would lose speed and attack, with speed, they would lose defense and attack

Giant Spirit Divine Hammer!

Yan Yangchen raised the pair of Battle Hammers together, causing a huge force to suddenly rise. He seemed to be possessed by a giant Spirit God,

Mountain Shattering Tiger Strike!

Yan Yangchen's body moved with absurd speed, striking with one hammer without any fancy movements. This strike was the simplest, causing Qing Shui to laugh. It was like his sword technique foundation, this was the most effective way to deal with speed.

Yan Leng was stunned for a bit. He was probably shocked at Yan Yangchen's speed. Quickly dodging out of the way, side-stepping two steps, the small blade lightly touched the World Demolition Battle Hammer, allowing Yan Leng to move with increased speed.

Ferocious Snake Leaving the Cave!

Yan Yangchen's figure suddenly advanced, another giant hammer swooped down in a blur aimed directly at Yan Leng.

If it was a contest of power, Yan Leng was not comparable to Yan Yangchen. However, Yan Leng was all about speed. Right now, Yan Yangchen's speed was increased, causing Yan Leng to be flustered.

As if Yan Yangchen was releasing a burden, there were massive releases of Fire Snake Frenzied Dance and Soaring Dragon Sea Quake. However, Yan Leng seemed to always dodge just in time. He finally realized how scary Yan Leng's speed was.

Qing Shui and the others could tell that Yan Yangchen was familiar with weaponry, tempered with actual combat experience. On the other hand, Yan Leng was also tempered, but he was skilled in speed and dodging, with some occasional attacks.

Watching the battle unfold before them, the others were regretful. Originally, they had watched Yan Yangchen and Yan Leng ask Qing Shui to smith some weapons, the others were too ill-at-ease to ask. They knew that crafting a good weapon required large amounts of time. Especially now, they were too embarrassed to open their mouths. However, it was not set in stone whether they would ask, since they had witnessed this fight.

The majority of the time, Yan Yangchen was attacking and Yan Leng was resisting. However, in the process of defending, Fire Snake Frenzied Dance could be seen, forcing Yan Yangchen to back up.

This was the power of Talisman Formations, even during times of resistance it could severely damage the opponent. Had Yan Yangchen's speed not increased, combined with his unique stepping technique, it would have been difficult to dodge. Even though this was the case, he still suffered light injuries.

"Stop, stop, I am already satisfied," Yan Yangchen yelled. He had already been lightly injured by Fire Snakes Frenzied Dance.

Yan Yangchen jumped directly to Qing Shui's side, giving him a bear hug, "Thanks to brother Qing Shui, in this contest, I have the utmost confidence."

Yan Leng acted differently from Yan Yangchen but still thanked Qing Shui seriously. In his fight with Yan Yangchen, he did not fully utilize his strength nor did he fully utilize his speed.

The others were naturally aware of Yan Yangchen's might when he had his whip, plus other weapons' additional effects. Moreover, Yan Yangchen's speed had increased several times. On the flip side, they did not discover much from Yan Leng, but they could tell that if Yan Leng had been serious it would have been frightening.

Several people landed at the Firecloud Blacksmith Store. Yan Huoyun pouted and said, "Older brother Qing Shui, I have called you older brother for a while now, how come I haven't gotten any greeting presents?"

Qing Shui looked at Yan Huoyun and laughed. This petite little girl was charming in her own way. She was the youngest of the Yan Jinyu siblings, but she was also the most spoiled amongst them. Regardless if it was her parents, older brother, older sister or cousins, all of them spoiled her.

Qing Shui took out a battle dress and snow white boots, the power was like that of battle boots but the appearance was more like what a young woman would wear.

"How can I forget about you, in this place only you refer to me as older brother," Qing Shui said while handing them over.

"Like I said, brother Qing Shui is the best," Yan Huoyun said joyously. Her petite face carried spirituality.

"You should cultivate abilities within the Flame of Five Elements category! I'll make your weapon later, let me make sets for those who are in the competition first." Qing Shui knew he could not get out of doing this, moreover, crafting extra equipment was not much work.

Yan Jinyu and Yan Yueyin would receive a set each. After he gave them their equipment, Qing Shui could sense that Yan Jinyu let out a sigh of relief. It almost felt like a misperception, so he did not put too much thought into it. Once Qing Shui knew Yan Jinyu was joining the competition, he had already decided to craft her a full set of equipment.

After Yan Yangchi received Qing Shui's crafted armor and boots, he said while laughing, "Brother Qing Shui, I don't have a need for weapons. This time our Yan Clan's chances of victory has increased quite a bit."

"I wanted to contribute to the best of my abilities. Yan Clan is a large Aristocrat Clan. I know that Uncle would have prepared equipment for all of you. These are things I wanted to craft as a blacksmith in support of all of you."

"You are our brother, what nonsense are you talking about being a blacksmith or not. Though our father supports us, he can only support us with one piece of equipment that matches what you have provided. It may not even match up to the quality of what you provided. There are stronger ones at home but their quantities are very limited. Those are mostly in the hands of the VIPs. Legendary equipment was also rare, so what you have provided us is already top-tier!"

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There was one month until the competition, thus, the next day they all entered secluded cultivation. All of them were hoping that they could breakthrough in the short amount of time, since the competition was dangerous. Moreover, they were not just putting their lives on their line, this would also affect the future of their clan.

They had entered seclusion. Qing Shui had nothing to do. He decided to head towards Firecloud Blacksmith Store. He did not take any orders. The store had several weapons and armor. He only allowed for item exchange but not sales.

At night, Qing Shui continued to cultivate diligently. Qing Shui followed the values where given enough time, hard work compensated for one's limited abilities and practice made perfect. Everything would pale in the passage of time.

As Qing Shui became calm, he thought of Di Chen and that woman that was regarded as the Demon Lord. Seldom, would he think of Yan Zhongyue. Qing Shui guessed that he was in the four continents, but he was uncertain whether he was in Western Oxhe Continent.

He would think of a way to find this man. Regardless of what it took, he would make that man appear in front of his mother. This was something that man owed to his mother.

He would not accept any excuses!

Because he was still alive!

He would also think of his family. As cliché as it sounded, longing was a type of disease. It was not wrong, since longing could develop into illness. Longing could also overburden the mind and then the body. Thus, Qing Shui would try to control himself by not overthinking it. He used his cultivation regiment to remove his longing. With the passage of time, he got more used to it.

Through time, people could endure any torture!

Qing Shui looked at the Scarlet Flame Metallic Essence that he had not used much of. This was a gift from Yan Dingtian. It was a product within Scarlet Flame Region, which was regarded as a precious material. It was a Fire Element high quality crafting material.

Yan Huoyun's strength was not too strong. It was just about the level of Yu Ruyan. The Yan Clan Inheritance was formidable but it still required the person to have talent, comprehension, personal destiny and temperament.

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A month quickly passed by. The day after tomorrow would mark the end of the one month time frame. The matter of Yan Clan and Yu Clan's Youth Competition had already created an uproar in the surrounding area. Many powerful forces gathered in Yan City hoping to witness the strength of the Yan Clan and Yu Clan's younger generation.

On this night, Qing Shui consumed the ninth Heaven's Mystery Pellet within the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. In addition to the time Qing Shui spent cultivating, with only one Heaven's Mystery Pellet remaining, Qing Shui's physical strength had already reached 20 nimbus.

Feeling his own strength, Qing Shui was ecstatic. The formidable strength from using the Big Dipper Sword reached almost 3,000 nimbus. Moreover, Nine Continents Mountain had reached a frightening 6,000 nimbus. The scariest thing was spirit energy. Due to the effect of Big Dipper Sword, Qing Shui's spirit energy attack reached 7,800 nimbus... ..

Spirit energy required the assistance of Buddha Form Reveal and Buddha's True Eyes to achieve the same strength!

He had already thought of this when Yan Jinyu first gave him the Heaven's Mystery Pellet but actually possessing this strength had left him overly excited.

With Qing Shui's current strength, he felt that if he was matched against a second-grade State Master he would have the power for one battle. At this moment, Qing Shui felt that he was getting a bit over confident.

The nebula within his sea of consciousness expanded several times. The boundless spirit energy left Qing Shui feeling satisfied. In this very moment, Qing Shui finally felt like he had entered the State Master Realm.

It was a spiritual type of feeling!

He felt that he was finally a real State Master, Grade Two State Master!

The sky was brightening. Two days from now would be day of their competition. They should be coming out of secluded cultivation today.