

## Apocalypse 146

### Chapter 146

The Burrowing Demon Python is one of the hardest demon beasts to deal with at the level of Foundation Establishment.

“Sword cultivator, how did you find me?” the Burrowing Demon Python hissed out a venomous mist, angrily asked.

“Being companions with demons isn’t a good thing, the longer you do, the more your consciousness falls, why don’t you become a spirit beast instead, senior?” Gu Qing Shan advised it.

The Burrowing Demon Python circled around Gu Qing Shan, hissing: “I also wanted to be a spirit beast, but sadly, being spirit beast means I won’t have human flesh to eat”

Gu Qing Shan glanced unexpectedly at the camp behind, because he didn’t feel anything.

How strange, why is no one coming out despite such a huge commotion?

Before he could think clearly, the Burrowing Demon Python has already attacked.

As it spits out venom all over, Gu Qing Shan couldn’t help but retreated backwards.

As the Burrowing Demon Python pursued him without letting go, the two of them moved further and further away from the camp.

Seeing that, Gu Qing Shan slightly shifted his body and blinked back to the camp gate.

“Sly sword cultivator!” Burrowing Demon Python hissed in a low voice.

——Fuu!

A sky-high flame emits from inside the camp.

Not good! Gu Qing Shan’s expression changed, wanting to return, but the Burrowing Demon Python had attacked him again.

Having similar cultivation, the Burrowing Demon Python’s poison isn’t something he could ignore.

Gu Qing Shan had to deal with him first.

Phantoms were forming on sword, ready to unleash a strong attack at any moment.

But very strangely, Burrowing Demon Python was circling around him, getting ready to strike, but it always kept a certain distance and doesn’t really attack.

Gu Qing Shan was estimating the distance between them ——even Ground Shrink won’t be able to cover this distance.

Staying so far away, so it wants to buy time?

Gu Qing Shan understood clearly, slashing to push it back and immediately made for the camp.

Seeing so, the Burrowing Demon Python slithered forward and spit out another cloud of venom, wanting to stop Gu Qing Shan in his tracks.

It wants to stall me here, not letting me to come back to reinforce them!

Gu Qing Shan has confirmed so.

He took out the Night Rain and instantly activated his Skills.

Shifting Flurry!

Shifting Flurry!

Shifting Flurry!

30 arrows turned into grey shadows, attacking the Burrowing Demon Python.

The Burrowing Demon Python didn't expect him to be able to attack from range so it wasn't able to react in time and got pierced by all of them.

Gu Qing Shan's hands didn't stop, he unloaded a full quiver in a single breath.

Being shot into a porcupine, the Burrowing Demon Python didn't dare to rush forward anymore.

Fine, this sword cultivator is too strong, I don't gain anything risking my life fighting him, the mission is done anyways.

It's not too late to deal with the sword cultivator when there's only himself left in this bunch.

Thinking so, the Burrowing Demon Python silently slithered away.

Gu Qing Shan rushed into the camp, instantly recognizing two more Burrowing Demon Python in the small camp.

Zhang Fang was blocking for the female cultivators, bloodied all over.

His Xiao Qi Chaplain armor was still relatively unscathed, but a few venomous spikes has pierced through the gaps in the armor there the blood was seeping out.

Bai Hai Dong was lying on the ground, coughing up blood.

Gu Qing Shan gritted his teeth and angrily roared: "Die!"

He suddenly disappeared and showed up again next to a Burrowing Demon Python, the Earth sword pointing straight at its head.

The Earth sword and himself combined into one, turning into a silver crescent moon.

Slash!

The Burrowing Demon Python's head was lopped off, its long body convulsing, thrashing about.

The other Burrowing Demon Python opened its mouth, wanted to spit out venom, but Gu Qing Shan was able to take advantage of that, shot a Demon Slaying Arrow into its mouth and blew up its head.

After the two pythons died, Gu Qing Shan didn't even bother to look at them, rushing to where Zhang Fang was.

Tapping his Inventory Bag, Gu Qing Shan quickly took out a pill and put it in Zhang Fang's mouth.

"It's an antidote pill, swallow it quickly!" he said.

Zhang Fang pushed his hand away, saying: "It's too late, the venom has already seeped into my circulation system"

"I did my best to hold out until you returned, now she doesn't have to die"

He turned around, looking at Liu Qing Yan softly, sighing: "Hah, but I would've preferred to survive as well"

Saying so, his head slowly lowered, his body stiffen and no longer moved.

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His spirit energy wave is also extinguished.

Liu Qing Yan stared at him at a loss, her tears were silently streaming down.

The other female cultivators were crying loudly.

Gu Qing Shan turned Bai Hai Dong over, shouted: "Where is Li Chu Chen?"

"We didn't see him" Bai Hai Dong breathed heavily as he replied.

Gu Qing Shan scanned him with his inner sight, then put a pill in his mouth.

"Where did these two Burrowing Demon Python come from?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"From the camp's front" Liu Qing Yan wiped her tears as she replied.

The front?

Hearing that, Gu Qing Shan's body almost froze.

He was on look-out at the camp's back, while Li Chu Chen was at the front.

"Wasn't there an alarm formation and defensive formation? You guys couldn't prepare for it at all?"

"The formations failed again, just like how it did back in Water Valley Camp" Liu Qing Yan answered, still crying.

Gu Qing Shan walked up, carefully examined the camp's formation plates.

The plates are very finely damaged, this type of damage isn't significant enough to notice, but was perfectly able to make the formations inside fail.

Gu Qing Shan took out some new plates, once again arranging the layers of formation.

"I've put the formations up again, everyone stays where you are, no one touches them, I'll kill anyone who does!"

Saying so, he rushed at the front of the camp.

The front was an open area with perfect vision all around.

Gu Qing Shan gave Li Chu Chen this place to guard because of how easy it is to defend.

Walking forward, Gu Qing Shan took a look around.

The plants here weren't at all damaged, there weren't even any venomous fumes remaining in the air.

Using inner sight to scan around, he could tell there wasn't any spirit energy dissipating.

——there was no fighting here at all!

That means, Li Chu Chen did nothing and ran.

Gu Qing Shan just stood there in shock, speechless.

From afar, Li Chu Chen was running back.

"I got lured away" Li Chu Chen breathed heavily, asking: "What's the situation?"

"Zhang Fang is dead" Gu Qing Shan answered.

"What!" Li Chu Chen made a surprised expression.

"Go and say goodbye to him" Gu Qing Shan sighed.

"Hah, that type of monster is too strong, getting hit just a bit and you'll die, how could he have been so careless" Li Chu Chen shook his head in regret.

He quickly went back inside the camp together with Gu Qing Shan.

Entering the camp, the two of them stood by Zhang Fang's corpse.

Li Chu Chen sighed, about to say something.

But Gu Qing Shan had already pulled out his sword, stabbing through his chest.

——within 5 steps, if any sword cultivator were to suddenly attack, very few who are the same realm as them will be able to block.

Not to mention a sword cultivator at Gu Qing Shan's level.

Li Chu Chen opened his eyes wide, touching the sword through his chest and fell down.

"Why...did you...?" he asked.

Gu Qing Shan's expression didn't change a single bit: "I'm a Xiao Qi, you're a Yu Wu. I ordered you to guard the front of the camp, yet you left on your own"

"During a march, disobeying orders is directly harming everyone else, according to military law, you must be executed"

"Pay for your sins"

Saying so, Gu Qing Shan lopped off his head.

The corpse fell straight down.

Gu Qing Shan doesn't mind the group's fearful eyes, searching the headless body, he took out a few spirit beast bags.

Taking them, his face was very conflicted.

"All of you wait here, I'm going to search for clues outside"

He then left.

## **Chapter 147**

"Wait, I'll come too" Liu Qing Yan gritted her teeth, staggering to stand up.

Gu Qing Shan turned around, seeing the pain in her eyes, very sincerely said: "You can't, I forbid it. Stay right there and heal your wounds"

Not minding the disappointed look in her eyes, he went outside the camp alone, stopping at an empty area.

Taking a spirit beast bag, Gu Qing Shan infused it with spirit energy.

A red, flaming fox appeared.

"You're ——" seeing a stranger, the fox immediately started to speak.

"Li Chu Chen violated military laws, he's been executed. Right now I'm looking for his accomplice, you don't seem to be it, so please go back inside the spirit beast bag" Gu Qing Shan said.

Hearing that, the fox's eyes rolled, saying: "If he's dead, then I'll be going back to Spirit Beast sect myself"

"No, you're a spirit beast, you can't run away on your own"

Gu Qing Shan continued: "I will use the fastest method possible to bring your spirit beast bag back to a cultivator of Spirit Beast sect, so please go back inside"

The fox ignored him, turning around to run, saying: "I'll go by myself, always having to stay inside the spirit beast bag is really——"

A cold gleam, the fox suddenly jumped, but was caught up by it and cut into a mist of blood.

Gu Qing Shan threw the spirit beast bag away.

He then let out all the other spirit beasts in the other bags.

A blue-eyes white tiger, together with a few non-fighter spirit beasts, all looking at Gu Qing Shan.

"What happened?" the blue-eyes white tiger asked.

"It's nothing, I'm looking for the camp's attack culprit, which spirit beasts were originally inside these bag?" Gu Qing Shan looked at them and asked.

He was still holding a few spirit beast bags, but they were all empty.

“You’ll have to ask our master, we all stayed inside our spirit beast bags so we don’t know if he took in any new spirit beasts”

After saying so, the blue-eyes white tiger looked at the fox’s corpse.

It was evaluating Gu Qing Shan, then exchanged looks with the other spirit beasts.

“Come, go back to your spirit beast bags” Gu Qing Shan couldn’t get anything out of them, so he told them straight.

All the spirit beast was silent, and went back to their respective spirit beast bags.

Bai Hai Dong and the female cultivators were staying at the camp, still a bit disorientated. But saw Gu Qing Shan quickly returning.

Gu Qing Shan said heavily: “Everyone keeps resting, we’ll resume the march in the morning”

Nothing eventful happened on the second day.

As they carefully moved, they quickly made to the camp by noon.

When they arrived, they found the camp to already be full of people.

Very quickly, two guard cultivators came up, bringing them to the General’s tent.

In the tent, a General looked at Gu Qing Shan’s group’s orders, then at their badges.

The General was wearing a blue Daoist robe, hasn’t even put on his armor.

“You are Gu Qing Shan?” the General frowned looking at him.

“I am” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“Do you know who I am?”

“Looking at your outfit, you must be from Blue Clouds Pass”

The General leaned back in his chair, looking at him full of motives.

“I am Blue Cloud Pass’ Wu Xing Wen, responsible for this camp’s rewards and punishment” he said.

“Ah? That means you’re a Ding Yuan General, correct?” Gu Qing Shan asked back, seeming to not understand his intention.

General ranks are split into four, from lowest to highest, namely: You Ji, Ding Yuan, Yong Zhen, Shen Wei.

Before, Gong Sun Zhi was a Ding Yuan General, while Ning Yue Xi wearing the golden armor was a You Ji General.

The only Yong Zhen General that humanity has, unfortunately fell during the last campaign, so the highest ranking officer available at the moment are Ding Yuan Generals.

“Gu Qing Shan, I remember you seemed to have done quite a good job at the semester examination” Wu Xing Wen stared at him and continued.

“Indeed, I killed one of your people, so what do you want to say?” Gu Qing Shan was impatient.

If you want to show off then do so, simply trying to scare people without anything solid, you think I’m a newbie that doesn’t know the world?

Wu Xing Wen got angry, slapping the table and shouted: “Your original number doesn’t match the amount that arrived at the camp, what is the cause of your delay!?”

Delay?

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During a march, if he got pinned with a “delay” tag, he’ll definitely get punished.

Gu Qing Shan coldly laughed, not having any intention to receive it.

He said: “We don’t have any delays”

“Then where are the numbers?” Wu Xing Wen pursued.

“They died”

“How did they die?”

“One of them was KIA by demon beasts, another was executed by me due to military law”

Wu Xing Wen swung his hand, ordered: “Men, come. Heart Appraisal”

Heart Appraisal is a very important part of military questioning.

If cultivators are out battling demons, whenever a cultivator kills another, no matter who it is, they must receive Heart Appraisal.

If the killed party really did violate military laws, then there’s no problem, you even get Military Merit for it.

But if the killing was done because of personal grudge, purposefully murder or out of selfishness, then you’ll pay with your own life.

Very quickly, a cultivator came and sat across from Gu Qing Shan>

His eyes were unnaturally bright, almost like he was looking at your very core.

“Speak, I’ll determine if it’s the truth for not” the other cultivator said nonchalantly.

Gu Qing Shan understood that he has a God’s Chosen Skill to determine lies and truth, so he recounted the situation in detail.

When the cultivator questioned further, Gu Qing Shan easily answered each one.

Finally, he nodded, reporting to Wu Xing Wen: “It’s all truth”

Wu Xing Wen looked at the cultivator in disappointment and stayed silent.

The cultivator then turned around, saying again: “He’s not telling any lies”

Wu Xing Wen reluctantly spoke: "That idiotic brat called Li Chu Chen, what was he thinking that he would harm his own people?"

He frowned very deeply, carrying an expression of confusion and tiredness.

He was already no longer thinking about making things hard for Gu Qing Shan. After all, he's still Bai Hua Fairy's disciple, if the opportunity arises he doesn't mind taking it, but if he can't then there's no need to force it.

What he's more interested right now is actual business.

Wu Xing Wen muttered: "Just what is going on at the frontline lately, so many camps have formation plate failures, even marching had failure, it couldn't all be because of traitors?"

If that's the case, then humanity is already in chaos.

The decisive battle is in two days.

But if the situation is true, even without the battle, as soon as this news is confirmed, the entire human alliance would collapse on its own.

This was supposed to be preparation for a once-and-for-all decisive battle, but with a situation like this, would it be appropriate to battle?

Gu Qing Shan stayed silent and didn't interfere.

Wu Xing Wen took Gu Qing Shan's badge, pointing at it with his hand and reluctantly said: "You caught a traitor, saved your fellow men, 10 Military Merits"

Saying so, he threw the badge back.

Taking it, Gu Qing Shan scanned it with his inner sight to see his total Military Merit reaching 115.

He needs 180 Merit to rank up to "Zhen Wei Chaplain", so he's 65 Military Merit away.

"Go, guide them to where they need to be"

Wu Xing Wen decided to just not look at him anymore, waving his hand to 2 cultivators on his side to guide them away.

One of them guided them.

Wu Xing Wen stayed silent, then suddenly sighed.

"Senior brother, what's wrong?" a guard cultivator asked him in a low voice.

Everyone else has already left, so there were only people from Blue Clouds Pass in this tent.

Wu Xing Wen shook his head, still a bit unwilling.

He sighed, saying: "Poor him, youngest brother only joined last year, but now he's already gone"

All the cultivators exchanged looks and went silent.



They were all well aware, the General was talking about Lee Chang An, after offending Gu Qing Shan at the semester examination, the one who got beheaded.

## Chapter 148

On another side.

Gu Qing Shan and everyone followed the guard cultivator outside.

As they walked, the guard cultivator asked: "Which sects are you from?"

"Bai Hua sect"

"Yao Guang sect"

"Heaven's Limit sect"

The guard cultivator turned around, looked at the Xiao Qi Chaplain armor Gu Qing Shan wore and said: "Ah, so you're the famous Sword 15 of Bai Hua sect"

His face was a bit less cold than before, thinking a bit before saying: "At this place we only have you that's in Bai Hua sect, there aren't any from Heaven's Limit sect as well, but there are a few Yao Guang sect cultivators that came just yesterday"

"Is there someone here called Leng Tian Xing?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"Leng Tian Xing? He's here" the guard cultivator said, "want me to guide you?"

"We still have some wounded here, please help arrange a place for them to rest and recover first" Gu Qing Shan quickly said.

The guard cultivator nodded and brought them to a place where cultivators were gathering.

At this place, the ground was soaked in smelly black blood, many cultivators were wounded all over, quite a few were receiving treatment, but even more were left groaning and moaning in pain.

Looking around, it was a scene of complete carnage and chaos.

Seeing that, Gu Qing Shan frowned, then clasped his hand to the guard cultivator, asking: "Can you help find a better place for them? The girls were all hurt really badly, not to mention very mentally shaken on the march here, so if they are placed here, it would be hard for them to even meditate properly"

Saying so, he secretly handed a few spirit stones to him.

"There's no need for that, what's with you, hah!"

The guard cultivator refused for the sake of refusal, but when it was pushed back by Gu Qing Shan again, he swiftly pocketed it.

After thinking a bit more, he still showed a reluctant face, saying: "The camp is already quite full of people, so it's a bit ——"

Gu Qing Shan then took out a communication talisman, saying: "This is mine, in the future, you can take this talisman as my invitation for you to be a guest at our Bai Hua sect"

An invitation to Bai Hua sect.

The guard cultivator would not be able to get anything other benefits better than this out of him.

Looking at the female cultivators, he indeed saw that their clothes were stained with blood, their faces haggard, barely able to stand up straight, dragging their feet while supporting each other.

One of the thinner girls were even shaking.

Under these conditions, they certainly couldn't be left here, otherwise if they fall to demonic possession, it would be very troublesome.

The guard cultivator couldn't help but nod.

He thought for a bit, then said: "Hm, these are wounds from killing demons for the good of mankind, certain they do need some better conditions. I do remember one place, come with me"

The group followed the guard cultivator through the camp, going towards a corner at the East of the camp.

This place was relatively clean, and since it's a secluded place, loud noises wouldn't travel here easily, making for a peaceful place to rest and recover.

Feeling around with his inner sight, he noticed there was a spirit funnel formation at one corner, providing ample spirit energy.

Seeing that, the female cultivators group was very satisfied.

Gu Qing Shan thanked the guard cultivator.

He then looked at the girls, saying gently: "You girls rest here first, don't think about other matters, recover to your peak conditions first then we'll talk more"

"Thank you, senior brother Gu"

The girls all looked at him, thinking about the frightening journey before, they couldn't help but feel gratitude.

Wang Ning Xiang gave him an active communication talisman.

Gu Qing Shan took it and infused it with spirit energy, hearing Ning Yue Xi's voice: "You girls tell him to contact me after everything is done"

Giving it back to Wang Ning Xiang, Gu Qing Shan said: "Ok, I got it, I'll contact her now"

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Gu Qing Shan nodded at the girls, walked outside with Bai Hai Dong and left with the guard cultivator.

On the way, he took out a communication talisman, frowned and use inner sight to record something inside.

On the talisman was a small Orchid insignia.

All the girls only need a glance to recognize it was Ning Yue Xi's communication talisman.

Looking at how serious Gu Qing Shan was acting, they imagine he's talking about something extremely important.

——he clearly risked his life to rescue everyone from the horde of demons, as well as protecting them all the way here, but not only did he not take all the credit, he wasn't acting all prideful about it either.

Thinking back at the rest of the male cultivators in the sect, whenever they could do anything to help Ning Yue Xi, they all gloated about it for at least half a month, as if that got them so much closer to the Saintess or something.

Wang Ning Xiang put her head on Liu Qing Yan's shoulder, staring at the manly back that's leaving, she sighed, then started again.

"What's with you?" Zhang Cui Wei and Dong Xue asked her together.

All the sisters here have a very close relationship with each other, hearing her sighed, they all asked with interest.

"I've always thought that the best part about the Saintess is her cultivation talents" Wang Ning Xiang said, 'but now I can see that's not the case"

"Then what is it?" Dong Xue asked.

"It's her discerning eyes" Wang Ning Xiang answered vaguely.

...

Gu Qing Shan and Bai Hai Dong were walking on the camp road, following the guard cultivator to meet Leng Tian Xing.

"Stop!"

Suddenly, a cultivator jumped out to block their way.

This was a young male cultivator; his eyes were bloodshot almost like he just cried.

Glaring at Gu Qing Shan, he shouted: "Were you the one that killed Li Chu Chen?"

Gu Qing Shan evaluated him a bit, seeing that he held a beast tamer's whip in hand and hung 4-5 spirit beast bags on his waist, he instantly knew where he came from.

"I did" Gu Qing Shan nodded.

"You fucking bastard ——" just as the male cultivator wanted to pounce on him, the guard cultivator already held him back.

"What are you doing?" the guard cultivator strictly asked.

"Who gave him the right to kill my big brother!" the male cultivator shouted, "I'll get revenge for my big brother!"

The guard cultivator glared sharply, about to take out a communication talisman.

Right at that moment, a group of cultivators came running, both young and old, holding the male cultivator back.

A cultivator that looked like an Elder came, bowed to the guard cultivator and said: “No need to use the talisman, no need to, he still young, this is only the first time he went out so he doesn’t understand matters in the camp”

The guard cultivator recognized the man to be an elder of Spirit Beast sect, putting away the communication talisman and spoke in a low voice: “Watch him well! If he doesn’t follow the rules of the camp and gets caught by a General, no one can save him”

The elder smiled to pass it off, then looked at Gu Qing Shan.

“Brat, which sect are you from? What a cruel thing you did” he spoke without a specific tone in his voice.

Hearing that, Gu Qing Shan frowned.

“You don’t need to care about which sect I’m from” Gu Qing Shan slowly spoke, “your sect’s disciple was a coward, so afraid of death that he ran away on his own when he was stationed guard the camp, leading to the death of a Xiao Qi Chaplain, if we were just a bit unfortunate, the 5 wounded female cultivators would have also died right there”

“That’s why I followed military law and killed him, everything had already passed the Heart Appraisal, confirming that there was no problem”

He stared at the other party: “He was a deserter, so I killed him. Questioning me like this, you mean to take advantage of being stronger to frighten me?”

Hearing that, all the cultivators that gathered to watch all nodded in agreement, a few even yelled out supporting Gu Qing Shan.

The worst thing to do in the military is abandoning your comrade, so everyone unanimously looks down on cowards.

## **Chapter 149**

Hearing Gu Qing Shan explain everything, all the cultivators would only think of what he did as correct.

The elder saw that he was only at Foundation Establishment realm, thinking that he would scare him with a few threats, but Gu Qing Shan only needed a single sentence to rouse everyone up.

He couldn’t do anything but scoff, bringing the disciples back to their tent.

“Brat, if the mountain doesn’t move the road will”

Letting out his Rejuvenation spirit pressure, he turned and walked without saying anything else.

After all the Spirit Beast sect people left, Bai Hai Dong looked at Gu Qing Shan, worried and whispered: “You have to keep an eye out for them”

The guard cultivator also advised him, a bit out of character: “People from Spirit Beast sect are known to hold a grudge, you need to be careful”

“No need to worry” saying so, Gu Qing Shan left this behind him.

The guard cultivator then brought the two of them to a large tent.

After saying their goodbyes with the guard cultivator, they walked into the tent to see Leng Tian Xing.

Leng Tian Xing was wearing a Zhao Wu Chaplain armor set, solemnly saying something.

All the cultivators were standing around him, very seriously listening to his orders.

Looking around, Gu Qing Shan saw that there was even a Golden Core late stage cultivator within that group.

The Golden Core late stage cultivator was only wearing a Ren Yong Chaplain armor set, nodding respectfully as he listened to Leng Tian Xing’s orders.

In the army, a cultivator’s cultivation can only be used as reference for taking on missions, while the ones that are in charge would definitely always be the one with the highest ranking.

The cultivator with the highest ranking might not necessarily be the strongest, but they’re definitely the one that understands the demons most as well as how to fight them, how to be in charge of the battlefield and have the most experience fighting on the battlefield.

Just like how Gu Qing Shan beheaded Li Chu Chen once he violated military law, but after receiving the Heart Appraisal, he didn’t need to take any responsibility and even got rewarded Military Merit for it.

And thus, during the time of war, military ranking is the highest authority, period.

As they entered the tent, the other cultivators all turned to look.

“Hai Dong ——ah? Qing Shan? Why are you here?” Leng Tian Xing smiled.

He stepped forward, patting Gu Qing Shan’s shoulder then introduced him to the cultivators of Yao Guang sect.

They all gladly chatted.

After Bai Hai Dong told everyone about what they went through, everyone sighed deeply.

“Why are you here?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“Not that different from you, the formation plates malfunctioned, the demons attacked at the opportune moment and the camp couldn’t hold” Leng Tian Xing replied.

Everyone exchanged looks and stayed silent.

If anyone were to outright say the implications of this, no one would be able to relax anymore.

Facing the overwhelming forces of the demons, the only reason why humanity is able to fend them off at all is thanks to the evolution of thousands of years of cultivator civilization ——the 6 arts.

Formations are the basis for all human defensive systems, if any problems were to occur during the war, it would become a devastating blow for humanity as a whole.

And it's not a simple blow to their defenses, but to their mentality itself.

Just what caused the formation plates to malfunction?

The demons were all outside, blocked out by the formations, so how did they manage to sabotage the plates?

Could it be traitors?

But how could there be so many traitors?

The more deeply you think about it, the more shaken your mentality will be.

Gu Qing Shan stayed silent, then suddenly laughed: "We've not had the time to talk properly for quite a while, how about going outside for a bit?"

Leng Tian Xing rubbed his chin: "Very well, just when I was thinking to go get some fresh air"

The two of them left the camp, walking along the desolate barren countryside.

It was now already dawn, the morning sun warmed their bodies.

"About this, what do you think?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"A bit unbelievable" Leng Tian Xing answered.

"I think many people have the same thought as you right now"

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"That's right, if things continue like this and we can't find the reason, there's no way we'll be able to proceed with the decisive battle"

Leng Tian Xing then suddenly asked: "What do you think about this?"

Gu Qing Shan squints his eyes, picking up a few blades of grass as he stared at the rising sun: "The weather today seems to be good, how about you and I look for an excuse to move out once?"

Leng Tian Xing said: "Ah? That's what you thinking?"

Gu Qing Shan smiled and replied: "I don't know too many people, and you're a Golden Core realm cultivator as well as a Zhao Wu Chaplain, who else would I look for help with but you?"

Leng Tian Xing replied: "Since you're the one asking, of course I wouldn't have any problems"

The two of them returned to the camp, looking at the list of missions posted outside the Generals' tent.

What's posted here are a few common military missions.

Unless there are newcomers, or an urgent mission comes up, Generals usually won't pick out specific members for missions.

In any other cases, aside from secret missions, all available military missions will be posted here for cultivators to choose.

This situation will continue all the way until the campaign officially starts.

At that time, the Generals will recollect all the missions and give them out appropriately according to rankings.

“How about this?” Leng Tian Xing pointed at one of the more recent mission plates.

Gu Qing Shan used his inner sight to scan it.

“Requires 2 cultivators to move North and look for the demons’ presence, return when you reach Han Yu Pass. Note: 3 Military Merit”

Gu Qing Shan thought a bit, then couldn’t help but silently praise him.

Leng Tian Xing is truly a person good at reading others, this mission’s content is relatively tame, the range of freedom is wide, and the amount of Military Merit given isn’t even eye-catching.

Gu Qing Shan answered: “I think it’ll do”

They removed the plate and brought it to the secretary desk to register their leave.

After registering them for the mission, the cultivator manning the desk reminded them: “Try and return quickly, the main army force will be arranged tomorrow to prepare for the upcoming battle —if you’re late, be ready to be greeted by military law”

“Relax, we aren’t deserters” Leng Tian Xing smiled and said.

After the cultivator looked at their respective armors, his expression loosened and signed his name on the registration.

After he confirmed it with his signature, the two of them has officially received the mission.

Gu Qing Shan and Leng Tian Xing thanked the cultivator and left.

“Let’s go back to my Yao Guang sect’s tent first, I need to tell them about this otherwise they would be worried for nothing when they can’t find me” Leng Tian Xing said.

Since this is necessary, Gu Qing Shan nodded and said: “That’s fine, I’ll prepare our meal for the night before we leave”

After returning to the Yao Guang sect’s tent, they told everyone about it.

Although the group was surprised, the two of them were respectively a Zhao Wu Chaplain and Xiao Qi Chaplain, at least a step higher than anyone here, so if they wanted to take on an individual mission, no one can really say anything.

Bai Hai Dong also knew Gu Qing Shan a bit, so when he heard about there being a mission, he was kind of tempted, since the mission wasn’t particularly hard, and he’ll get some Military Merit from it.

Looking at Gu Qing Shan, he said: “Sword 15, how about I go with you as well”

Gu Qing Shan smiled and replied: “This mission is only for two people, if you’re going, your senior brother won’t be able to”

Bai Hai Dong looked at Leng Tian Xing and was about to speak: “Senior brother ——”

Leng Tian Xing cut him off, saying: "You're no good for it, I'll go"

"Why am I no good?" Bai Hai Dong asked.

"Compare yourself and me, who's more suitable?" Leng Tian Xing thumped his Zhao Wu Chaplain armor set and said.

"But then, Sword 15 ———he's able to ———" Bai Hai Dong was still unconvinced.

"This is Sword 15's mission, you can't match me, are you saying you can match him? Or do you want to take his mission?"

"I-I don't mean to take from him..."

Bai Hai Dong who was shot down with just a few sentences, sighed in disappointment and stepped aside.

## **Chapter 150**

After breakfast, Gu Qing Shan and Leng Tian Xing split from the group at Yao Guang sect and left the camp.

They were moving very quickly, flying on their way.

"Han Yu Pass, I remembered it only fell about 2 days ago" Leng Tian Xing recalled.

"Hm, there's probably a lot of demons rampaging in there right now" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"Now, can you tell me what we're really going to do?" Leng Tian Xing said.

"Can't fool you" Gu Qing Shan smiled and said, "we'll be taking a look at a few destroyed camps, then finally go to Han Yu Pass"

"The destroyed camps?"

Leng Tian Xing opened his mouth, about to say there's nothing there to look at, but held himself back.

"That's right, we'll go there a bit to try and find some clues" Gu Qing Shan answered.

"Most of it are broken walls, even the corpses have all been eaten by the demons already" Leng Tian Xing said.

"We'll still need to take a look" Gu Qing Shan smiled as he said.

As they flew, they crossed over mountains, hills, forest and finally slowed down at a lake area.

"Water Valley Camp? This was your original mission objective right?" asked Leng Tian Xing as he looked at Gu Qing Shan.

"That's right, so we'll have to be a bit careful and slowly move closer" Gu Qing Shan replied.

They both took out their weapons, Gu Qing Shan was holding the Earth sword, while Leng Tian Xing held a jade fan and silently sneaked closer and closer to the Water Valley Camp.



The inside of the camp was a mess, besides from blood there was also a muddy smell mixed with the foul stench of demons.

After the demons finished with this place, they had already left for the next area.

Unless high-ranking demons specifically order so, demons as a whole don't know the meaning of "protecting an area", they only know how to kill and eat humans. Because of that, wherever there are humans, they will always attack with such strength and vigor.

Under normal circumstances, the high-ranking demons' main job is to herd them to where there are human camps to attack.

They very carefully entered the camp.

Leng Tian Xing pinched his nose and frowned, saying: "If it weren't for you, I wouldn't have even come close to this place"

Gu Qing Shan suddenly recalled how he was at Shen Wu world. Leng Tian Xing would rather die in battle than to smear himself with the Rotting Eater Demon's eye flesh, and was noticed.

This guy has a really severe case of germaphobia.

He apologized: "I'll be finished here very quickly; you only need to stand guard"

Hearing that he only needed to stand guard, Leng Tian Xing silently breathed out in relief.

But Gu Qing Shan didn't at all mind the piles of rotten corpses, broken bones and bloodied clothing on the ground, he dived down close to the ground looking for something with reckless abandon.

Leng Tian Xing silently admired his attitude, because he himself wouldn't even spare a second to do that.

After half an hour, Gu Qing Shan finally returned to where Leng Tian Xing is.

"Wash this for me"

Leng Tian Xing frowned a bit, but waved his jade fan to create a big bubble of water in the air.

After washing his hands, Gu Qing Shan also used the water to wash his armor.

He was holding a few broken formation plates like they were treasures of some sort.

"Formation plates? Did you look around to find all the malfunctioned formation plates?" Leng Tian Xing asked.

"That's right, I was thinking there might be some clues on them" Gu Qing Shan answered.

"Before, when the first few camps fell, a few Generals and skilled formation users have already checked them, but still didn't find who did it" Leng Tian Xing said.

Gu Qing Shan answered: "I still want to try"

"Fine then, I hope you can really find something, at that time, I'll also get to share a bit of your Military Merit" Leng Tian Xing commented.

This was encouragement.

If it was anyone else, they'd definitely say that a Xiao Qi wishing to find something that even the Generals couldn't would not only be overconfident, but also hubris.

Leng Tian Xing didn't say anything about him thinking too highly of himself, and even encouraged him, at least showing that he considers Gu Qing Shan a real friend.

Gu Qing Shan smiled and replied: "No worries, if I really do get some Military Merit from this, I won't forget your help"

After washing and cleaning the plates carefully, he stowed them away.

"Let's go to the next camp"

"Very well"

They both left quickly.

Rushing on the way, they reached their next destination a long while after.

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And then again and again, they spent the entire night travelling from camp to camp and collected many broken formation plates.

After a whole night of not sparing any stamina or spirit energy moving on the way, they were both quite tired already.

They looked for a place to hide, ate their rations and concealed their presence.

Gu Qing Shan took out all the broken formation plates, dumping them on the ground before him.

Then started to examine one very carefully.

Leng Tian Xing finally couldn't take it anymore and said: "All these formation plates have already been checked, even the formation users couldn't find anything"

"What they see and what I see are different" Gu Qing Shan replied as he checked them one after the other.

"Ah? How is it different?" Leng Tian Xing asked full of interest.

"They were looking at the formation plates, while I'm not" Gu Qing Shan replied.

He took a broken formation plate, looked at it, then shook his head and put it back down.

For a while, that's all he did, pick one up, looked at it, then put it down.

"Fine" Leng Tian Xing sighed, "I just hope you really get something out of this"

"Hm. Hm?"

His tone went slightly up, Gu Qing Shan held one of the plates very carefully, not putting it down.

He was handling it so carefully like it was some sort of rare treasure.

“What is it?” Leng Tian Xing asked.

“Nothing” Gu Qing Shan replied.

He was staring at the War God UI.

On it, [War God Skills] was flashing a line of text.

[Hard Spike Wind Claws, not a human Skill, unable to learn]

He stared at those words for a long time but said nothing.

A bit later, they started to move again.

“Now we’ll use spirit beasts to move instead of going on foot” Gu Qing Shan said.

“Hm?” Leng Tian Xing was a bit surprised, “but spirit beasts can’t fly too high”

“Then we only need to fly a bit lower, right now we’re a bit exhausted so we need to save a bit of stamina, if a fight breaks out then we’ll have the strength to deal with it” Gu Qing Shan said without changing his expression.

“Fine then”

Leng Tian Xing didn’t notice Gu Qing Shan’s expression. He only thought what he said makes sense so he agreed.

They tapped their spirit beast bags and let out their respective spirit beast.

Gu Qing Shan’s was the same Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane, while Leng Tian Xing’s was a giant moth beast.

Looking at the moth’s ice blue color, he instantly recognized it as a spirit beast that awakened a Water element root, after being tamed by humanity, it became a fighter-type mount.

“A spirit beast at Foundation Establishment last stage?” Gu Qing Shan smiled and asked.

“That’s right, just look at you, still at Foundation Establishment early stage, you aren’t even a match for my spirit beast yet, so try and cultivate more” Leng Tian Xing teased him.

They both got on their spirit beast and flew towards the next camp.

A while later.

Chao Shan Camp.

Gu Qing Shan stood at the top of the mountain and had their spirit beast go back to their bags.

They looked down.

“Seems like there’s someone inside” Gu Qing Shan squints his eyes.

“There’s someone? Impossible” Leng Tian Xing also looked out at Chao Shan Camp.

It was a bit too far away for his sight to see properly.

“I can also let out an investigation-type spirit beast” Leng Tian Xing said as he was about to tap another spirit beast bag.

But Gu Qing Shan caught his hand.

“No, the situation seems to be quite dangerous right now, let’s not use spirit beast and go in by ourselves” Gu Qing Shan said.

They slowly stepped towards the camp.

And then, they both stopped at the same time.

## **Chapter 151**

Leng Tian Xing looked ahead, muttering: “What is that?”

Gu Qing Shan on the other hand, became extremely tense, gritting his teeth and tightened his expression.

There was a black shadow floating in the middle of the abandoned camp.

On the littered, broken white bones on the ground, occasionally appeared a long black “string” made of light, something seems to be writhing inside those “strings”.

Then the black strings flew up, sucked into the body of the shadow.

At a glance, the black shadow even looks like a person.

But if you examine carefully, it looks like innumerable people flattened to the thickness of paper, layered on top of each other.

The black shadow then let out a human-sounding voice, its tone was extremely joyful.

『So many...』

『More!』

『WE WANT MORE!』

The voice sounded like over hundreds of thousands of people, men and women, old and young speaking at the same time.

Hearing such a voice, Leng Tian Xing felt goosebumps all over.

“I can’t believe it would appear now...” Gu Qing Shan silently muttered.

Then he pulled Leng Tian Xing back, retreating very slowly.

Leng Tian Xing looked back at him, seeing Gu Qing Shan’s tense expression, together with the layer of cold sweat on his forehead.

With how experienced Leng Tian Xing is, he’s able to immediately judge the situation from Gu Qing Shan’s reaction.

———Gu Qing Shan seems to know about this strange demonic thing, and from his heavy expression, it's an extremely strong demon!

Recognizing that, Leng Tian Xing also slowly retreated backwards with Gu Qing Shan.

After they retreated around 5 feet, Gu Qing Shan suddenly let out a thunderous roar.

“USE ——EVERY——-THING!”

Gu Qing Shan had already started to swing the Earth sword before he finished speaking.

The Earth sword was covered in a dense layer of lightning arcs, then covered again with a blinding layer of sword phantoms.

The Secret Art was [Crescent Slash], but he is using 120% of his power, turning it into a blinding sun instead!

In the darkness, countless sword phantoms broke up, illuminating the entire camp area like it was daytime.

The Earth sword drew a fierce arc, striking behind the two of them.

Not too early, not too late, as soon as the black shadow appeared behind the two of them, it was immediately slashed by the sword arc.

Using his Lightning spirit energy, Gu Qing Shan activated [Seven Shackles]!

The shadow immediately got suspended in mid-air.

A second later, millions of voices screeched in pain from the black shadow.

The sound was like an invisible giant sledge hammer, knocking both Gu Qing Shan and Leng Tian Xing backwards, coughing blood.

The shadow took it very badly.

Not only did Gu Qing Shan use a full power Secret Art, he also added the power of [Seven Shackles] into it.

Lightning naturally has a Smiting Evil property, so it does 30% more damage to demons.

Although it's hard to tell if the strike heavily wounded the shadow or not, but it's definitely in intense pain and discomfort.

Leng Tian Xing who endured the writhing pain from his soul vessel, barely completed his hand seals.

As soon as Gu Qing Shan shouted, he also knew the situation has changed, requiring both their maximum efforts.

So he instantly began casting his spell.

He trusts Gu Qing Shan to buy him enough time to cast this Elemental Secret Art.

During their escape from Shen Wu world, fighting through the sea of demons together, they've already gotten a sense of coordination.

Sure enough, when the shadow wanted to attack, Gu Qing Shan had already taken the initiative, very briefly stunning it in place.

Leng Tian Xing shouted loudly: "Die!"

He pointed his hand seals at the shadow and triggered it at full power.

Elemental Secret Art, [All Things Fade]!

This is a technique that can only be unleashed after reaching the peak of 3rd stage of Water Element, and it's being unleashed by Leng Tian Xing through straining himself to the limit.

A transparent giant sphere of white permafrost formed in mid-air, trapping the black shadow inside.

From the time that Gu Qing Shan attacked, to when he attacked only took a total of 2 seconds.

It was this level of coordination and reaction that saved their lives.

In the first second, Gu Qing Shan struck the shadow that suddenly appeared.

After one second, it escaped from the Lightning [Seven Shackles], screeched at the same time that Leng Tian Xing unleashed his spell.

The screeching sound of the shadow stopped.

It was frozen solid inside the giant sphere of permafrost, unable to move.

As time passed, a layer of frost started to appear on the shadow as its entire body turned white.

Leng Tian Xing nodded satisfyingly at his masterpiece, about to say something, only to hear Gu Qing Shan shout again.

"Run!"

As soon as Gu Qing Shan shouted that, he ran.

Leng Tian Xing was still confused, but got pulled away by Gu Qing Shan, the two of them turned into streaks of light flying back where they came from.

This time he's a bit annoyed.

———I just used an Elemental Secret Art that's above my level you know? With this spell, any Golden Core cultivators that gets hit will die without a doubt you know? Do you have such little faith in me?

Leng Tian Xing was just about to explain how strong this spell was, when he heard a small cracking sound behind him.

Cr-crack!

The sphere of permafrost already had a crack as thin as a piece of string.

And then, more and more cracks appeared, spreading at a rapid speed.

Leng Tian Xing felt a chill on his back, it was only now that he understood how frightening this demon is.

Although they're both called demons, the type that's met more often are actually demon beasts.

Actual demons are very rare, and each species has a different type of incomprehensible power.

And this demon is very much out of his range of knowledge.

Leng Tian Xing doesn't complain anymore and used all his power to run, even passing Gu Qing Shan.

As the two of them ran for their lives, after only a few dozen feet, a loud explosion rang from behind them.

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So quick!

Leng Tian Xing's expression changed.

While Gu Qing Shan had already jumped high into the air, he turned around while holding the Night Rain.

Swish-Swish-Swish!

Three black streaks of shadow flew, then disappeared in the blink of an eye.

They were the 3 remaining Demon Slaying Arrows he had!

[Sharpshooter]!

[Rapid Fire]!

[Riding Wind]!

[Bombardment]!

He used all his available Skills on those three shots.

Gu Qing Shan fell down, rolled on the ground, tried his best to stand up but couldn't.

Using [Bombardment] even once was already going above his level, and yet he used it three times in a row. Not to mention he just used a Secret Art and his Lightning thaumaturgy a few seconds ago, overexerting himself like that made him temporarily unable to move.

Seeing that, Leng Tian Xing quickly hoisted him up, carried on his back and ran for their lives.

When the 3 Demon Slaying Arrows were about to hit it, the shadow had only just broken out of the ice sphere, even the frost on its body has not fully receded.

And all 3 arrows hit their mark!

Countless screams of horror and anger was raised once more.

As the Demon Slaying Arrows burrowed into the shadow's chest, its terrifying speed was suddenly lost.

Wails of death and pain were heard from the shadow.

As the Demon Slaying Arrows burrowed a little deeper a bit at a time, numerous human-shaped shadows appeared and dissipated.

The 3 Demon Slaying Arrows created a stalemate with the shadow.

About a dozen breath later, all 3 Demon Slaying Arrows turned to dust, blown away by the wind.

The shadow had also become much thinner, staggering as if it's about to collapse.

Countless crying voices of different ages and gender spread around, becoming louder and louder.

The shadow slowly moved forward, like it was looking for the enemy.

But after only a bit, it seems to stop searching and began to let out incoherent noises.

It seems to be communicating with something else somewhere.

On the other side.

Gu Qing Shan was still on Leng Tian Xing's back, took out a pill and swallowed it.

"Ask whatever you want" seeing Leng Tian Xing's face that wanted to ask something but still hesitant, he said.

"Just now" Leng Tian Xing was still flying at full speed, asked while breathing heavily, "I saw you shot 3 Demon Slaying Arrows, but still couldn't kill it?"

"I couldn't" Gu Qing Shan answered: "It's true body is made up of countless souls, there's at least 10,000 in there. You and I can't possibly kill it right now"

"It doesn't seem to be chasing us" Leng Tian Xing commented.

"Because it's body isn't suitable for long distance pursuit, and it doesn't need to" Gu Qing Shan answered.

"Why is that?"

"Because it can control the demon army to pursue us instead"

Gu Qing Shan sighed, then continued: "This is what it means to be a real demon, unlike those demon beasts whose minds are barely sentient"

Saying so, Gu Qing Shan went silent, beginning to circulate his spirit energy to absorb the pill's power.

Things are becoming more and more like what he was afraid of.

But this demon appearing at this point in time was a bit unexpected.

Tianma are divided into invisible and visible Tianma. (1)

Invisible Tianma needs to consume human souls to grow, while visible Tianma only trap the souls and use them as its source of life force.

That thing just now was a newly born visible Tianma.



From its state just now, he guesses that it has only entrapped about 10,000 souls, and was still in the process of collecting more.

Because if a visible Tianma entraps 100,000 souls, it'll evolve into a visible King Tianma.

And if it does, there's no way that Gu Qing Shan and Leng Tian Xing would be able to get away.

From his experience in the past life, the only thing that counters the Tianma's characteristics is the Dalani of Buddhists.

Using any other type of spells and techniques would take a lot more effort for much lesser results.

Because they are sentient, they can read the memories of every soul they trap and thus knows about humanity's war arrangements like the back of their hand.

The fact that visible Tianma has entered the battlefield means that the demon army has already made its preparations

Preparations for a decisive battle.

This is completely incomprehensible.

Clearly, humans are the ones that started to prepare for the counter attack first, the one that was supposed to take the initiative in the decisive battle, but it turns out demons have also done the same.

Didn't they already turn their attention to invading Reality?

So where did their main force for this invasion come from?

The most important thing is, all they were doing is scouting out a few abandoned camps, why did they just happen to run into it now?

Gu Qing Shan's mind moved quickly back and forth, then finally arrived at that frightening possibility that he didn't want to admit the most.

"What do we do now?" Leng Tian Xing was still breathing heavily.

"You're a Zhao Wu Chaplain, you can decide for yourself you know, no need to ask permission from a Xiao Qi Chaplain like me" Gu Qing Shan was busy thinking so he just replied.

"It's like I don't know how to command when I'm going with you" Leng Tian Xing seriously thought about it, then answered.

"Then we should stop first" Gu Qing Shan said.

Leng Tian Xing stopped his feet.

"I have something I need to get done" Gu Qing Shan said.

Leng Tian Xing understood what he meant and asked: "Alone?"

"That's right, so your role right now is very heavy, you have to go by yourself to finish the mission" Gu Qing Shan answered.

“That’s not really that heavy, the mission itself is quite simple” Leng Tian Xing answered.

“And also” Gu Qing Shan thought for a bit, then said: “Your spirit beast, can I borrow it for a bit?”

“That’s no problem as well, you and I are sworn comrades, back in Shen Wu world, if it weren’t for you, I would’ve already died”

Leng Tian Xing took off the spirit beast on his back and gave it to Gu Qing Shan.

Note:

(1) The “ma” in Tianma means demon. It could also mean “mystic”, thus the reason why it was said several chapters ago that a beast can be a spirit beast or a demon beast depending on their will.

## **Chapter 152**

Leng Tian Xing looked at Gu Qing Shan and said very seriously: “Not to mention, when we attempted the Bai Hua lists, it was thanks to your help that the Saint agreed to help me and remove the damn spider”

Gu Qing Shan laughed, saying: “There’s no need to remember it so clearly you know?”

“I’ll leave first then; we’ll talk with communication talisman when we need to” Leng Tian Xing curtly agreed.

“Ok, be careful” Gu Qing Shan said.

“I’m a Golden Core cultivator, there won’t be any problems, but you, on the other hand”

Leng Tian Xing hesitated for a bit: “You’re only a Foundation Establishment early stage, moving alone in the countryside, will you be alright?”

“Don’t worry” Gu Qing Shan said with conviction.

“Fine, then I’ll go now, we’ll talk more after the mission is done” Leng Tian Xing said.

Saying so, he dashed towards a certain direction without hesitation.

After he left, Gu Qing Shan tapped his Inventory Bag and took out a communication talisman.

He slowly and clearly reported something into the talisman for a while before letting it go.

Bai Hua Immortal country.

Bai Hua Palace.

Bai Hua Fairy was sitting on her ten thousand flower throne, looking at the two people below.

“Is it really that serious?” She asked.

“That’s right, many camps had problems at the same time, quite a few couldn’t even muster retaliation” Xuanyuan Tianzun answered.

“I remember your soul reading technique was quite potent” Bai Hua Fairy said.

“I did silently find and read a few suspicious people’s souls, but found that they were all innocent” Xuanyuan Tianzun replied with an extremely serious expression.

“Monk, your Buddhist thaumaturgy is able to read people’s inner thoughts, did you not do anything?” Bai Hua Fairy questioned further.

“Amitabha, this humble monk also paid attention to over 10 people, but did not find anything as well” The Great Monk of Sorrow sighed, saying: “This humble monk thinks that, if this is to continue, the frontline will very quickly collapse”

“That’s why we must arrive at the frontline, to give everyone something to be assured about” Xuanyuan Tianzun said.

Bai Hua Fairy thought for a bit, then answered: “Then we can only do that”

Hearing her agree to move, they were both glad.

Bai Hua Fairy is known to not hesitate after she’s decided on something.

Standing up from her throne, she said: “Let’s go now”

The other two Saints also nodded.

As the 3 Saints were about to leave, a flaming talisman flew into Bai Hua Palace, arrived and floated right before the ten thousand flowers throne.

Bai Hua Fairy’s expression shifted a bit, taking the flaming talisman in her hand. As she took the communication talisman, her inner sight read the message inside.

While doing so, Bai Hua Fairy stood still.

After a bit, her expression changed to deep contemplation, and slowly sat back down on her throne.

“What is it?” Xuanyuan Tianzun spoke in a low voice.

Bai Hua Fairy still didn’t answer, thinking hard about something.

Both Xuanyuan Tianzun and the Great Monk of Sorrow found this to be unexpected.

Bai Hua Fairy is one of the strongest cultivators in this world, even if the news said that the frontline has collapsed, she still wouldn’t make that expression.

Then what exactly happened?

Then suddenly, Bai Hua Fairy put her bare feet on the Immortal Jade flower petals, leaning backwards on her throne, showing an expression of surprise and disbelief ———her expression is similar to that of a young girl who doesn’t have much life experience hearing about some strange things really far away.

“Let’s delay our trip, we’ll wait for a bit longer” she said.

Wait?

The fire in people’s heart is already burning so brightly that humanity’s frontline could collapse at any time if they don’t immediately appear.

The flame battle is also about to ignite, originally, it was supposed to be done by tonight, but from the looks of it, it might just be delayed indefinitely.

Xuanyuan Tianzun and the Great Monk of Sorrow exchanged looks, wanting to say something.

But Bai Hua Fairy had already raised her hand and softly stopped them.

“Trust me, there’s a reason for this, the two of you wouldn’t want to miss this either, just stay here and wait with me” she said.

“Does it have something to do with the frontline?” Xuanyuan Tianzun asked.

“Yes”

“Is it about the matter with the traitors?” the Great Monk of Sorrow asked.

“Yes”

Both their expressions changed.

Bai Hua Fairy slowly spoke: “This news is extremely important to us, so we have to wait”

As she said this, her face showed a smile ever so slightly.

Like she was extremely surprised and proud of something at the same time.

...

Gu Qing Shan looked for a secluded place, hid the two spirit beast bags away very carefully before arranging several layers of formation around himself.

Thinking a bit, he took out a few more pills, ate them then sat down to circulate his spirit energy until it returned to being full.

There were quite a few demon beasts patrolling here and there, but since Gu Qing Shan picked a decent place to hide, not to mention all the formations were carefully picked out and made by Qin Xiao Lou. They worked perfectly as intended, so he was able to escape the demon beast patrols.

Sitting down, he appeared to not be the least bit worried about being discovered by the demon army.

From Foundation Establishment early to last stage, since he broke through in succession, his entire body was feeling uncomfortable from the excessive increase of spirit energy

Fortunately, after that hard battle just now, he’s feeling much better.

Gu Qing Shan was very pleased with this unexpected harvest ———his body feeling like this means it’s rapidly adapting to his new cultivation.

Gu Qing Shan silently checked himself and found Qin Xiao Lou’s presence concealment technique to be extremely good, just as he said.

During the battle just now, he had used all the spirit energy he had, but his spirit energy waves was still only around Foundation Establishment early stage.

Even someone like Leng Tian Xing got fooled.

He can't help but admit, even though Qin Xiao Lou is a mess a battle, he's a genius with anything that doesn't have anything to do with battle.

Feeling around, Gu Qing Shan his body has regained its peak performance.

He then clenched his fist tight and hit himself right in the chest as hard as he could.

Since he used all his body, the attack immediately wounded him.

"Hak!"

He spits out a stream of blood, painting his Xiao Qi Chaplain armor set red.

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If anyone were to see this, they would think he went crazy.

The situation is already so dangerous yet he actually harmed himself further, if it's not crazy then what is it?

But Gu Qing Shan didn't mind it, wiped the blood from his mouth, used the presence concealment technique to adjust hit spirit energy wave to be even weaker.

After all that, Gu Qing Shan took out a spirit beast bag.

Leng Tian Xing's spirit beast bag.

He infused spirit energy inside and opened it.

The ice blue giant moth appeared in front of him.

"Where's Leng Tian Xing?" the moth asked in human language.

"He just left to finish the mission, since I'm wounded so badly, he left you here to protect me" Gu Qing Shan said.

"Wounded badly?" the moth uses its inner sight to scan Gu Qing Shan.

That wasn't a lie, the young man before it really is wounded quite badly, his spirit energy wave is like a candle flickering in the wind, possibly blown out at any time.

"When is Leng Tian Xing coming back?" the giant moth asked.

"2 days" Gu Qing Shan answered.

Then the giant moth nodded and said: "Then you just focus on recovery, I'll guard you"

"That's great, I'll have to trouble you"

After Gu Qing Shan said so, he couldn't help but spit out some more blood.

His hand trembled to take out a pill, but missed his mouth quite a few times.

It took all he had to control his trembling hand and put that pill in his mouth.

Gu Qing Shan then closed his eyes, started to circulate his spirit energy.

The giant moth hovered on one side, silently watching him.

Time slowly passed.

Gu Qing Shan's breathing calmed down as his body entered a silent state.

This was deep meditation.

Deep meditation is an immersive state of cultivation, as your entire body enters a trance, you're able to feel the laws of the world better, as well as triggering the body's potential to its limit, very suitable for recovery.

The only weakness is that a person in deep meditation cannot feel anything happening around them.

Without any warning, the air inside the formation became cold.

The moth's wings started to gather frost and turned into two sharp blades of ice.

Suddenly, it flapped its wings strongly, shooting the two chilling blades of ice spinning towards Gu Qing Shan.

But Gu Qing Shan was still in a state of deep meditation.

The giant moth let out a joyous cry.

It could already see the scene of him falling into a pool of blood.

Its mission is finally complete!

The blades of ice passed through Gu Qing Shan's body, but no blood spilled.

It was only an afterimage.

Not good!

The giant moth couldn't react in time, only feeling intense pain on its body.

A sword had pierced through its chest from behind its back.

— — — why was it like this, he was clearly sitting there, how did he suddenly disappear?

— — — why is it that before, he was clearly so wounded that he was barely able to stabilize himself at Foundation Establishment, yet right now, his spirit energy wave feels almost as strong as my own?!

The giant moth was deeply confused.

But it wasn't able to think anymore.

Because the attack wasn't over and the man behind its back spoke.

"So it really was you that leaked our location"

A thunderous impact was heard inside the formation.

A while later.

Gu Qing Shan put his sword away, thinking deeply.

He tapped his Inventory Bag and threw all the broken formation plates away.

Since there's a better way to find out the truth now, he doesn't need to waste his time with these things anymore.

He put away all the formations arranged before, then flew away.

After flying full speed for about half an hour, Gu Qing Shan stopped.

He once again arranged the formations, once again set up a small camp.

When he finished, Gu Qing Shan took out another spirit beast bag.

This was his own spirit beast bag.

Infusing it with spirit energy, the spirit beast bag opened.

The Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane appeared in front of him.

"Ah? Where's your friend?" Flamecloud Chasing Sky Crane looked around and asked.

"He has something else to do" Gu Qing Shan's tone was weak.

His presence concealment technique once again showed its worth.

"What's wrong with you?" Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane felt that something was wrong, looked back to check on Gu Qing Shan.

Only to see Gu Qing Shan's feeble form, his entire body was bloodied, the spirit energy he emitted was chaotic and weak.

"I'm hurt quite badly, I don't know if I could move too far" Gu Qing Shan spoke weakly.

He took out a formation plate and quickly arranged an alarm formation.

A few breaths later, a Wind Spirit formation was successfully arranged.

"You also know how to arrange formations?" Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane stared at him and asked.

"I do, I'm actually a Grandmaster formation user. I know about a dozen more formations, but I'm too hurt right now to be able to make them" Gu Qing Shan sighed deeply in regret.

"So you let me out to watch over you?" Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane asked.

"That's right, please be on the look-out for me" Gu Qing Shan randomly put his sword in front of himself and said.

Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane looked at the sword in front of him, then suddenly said: "You seem to be hurt really badly. You can't go on like this. How about I bring you back to camp?"

## **Chapter 153**

“You’re saying you’ll bring me back? To the camp?” Gu Qing Shan looked up in surprise.

Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane flapped its wings, confirming: “That’s right, let me bring you back, don’t worry, since I’m your spirit beast, I’ll make sure that you come back safely”

“Very well” Gu Qing Shan contemplated for a bit, then nodded.

He tried his best to stand up, barely able to throw himself onto the crane.

“Sit tight” Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane advised him as it spreads both wings and flew high up.

On its wings, two flaming clouds appeared, drawing two red lines in the sky, extremely pleasing to the eye.

Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane flew very fast, passed through numerous mountains and rivers in the blink of an eye.

With this speed, they only need a few hours to reach the camp.

“Aren’t we flying too high up?” Gu Qing Shan looked down and asked with a weak voice.

“There’s no problem, with my speed, no demon will be able to catch up, not to mention, the quicker we return, the quicker you can get fixed up” Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane explained.

“Fine” Gu Qing Shan said, “then please fly as stable as possible”

“Just go to sleep for a bit, we’ll reach there when you wake up” Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane nodded in agreement and slightly slowed down, flying more stably.

A few minutes later.

Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane was flying higher and higher, while Gu Qing Shan had already closed his eyes, seemingly unaware of this.

In just a few dozen seconds, the Flamecloud Chasing Sky Crane had already reached so high that Gu Qing Shan’s protective light already couldn’t fight back against the cold.

“Aren’t we flying too high?” Gu Qing Shan finally opened his eyes, looked around and once again asked.

Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane this time didn’t answer him, instead focused on flying higher.

“Too high, it’s too cold” Gu Qing Shan shivered as he spoke.

“It won’t matter how cold it is” Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane finally replied, “because you’re going to die”

Saying so, it suddenly turned its body and Gu Qing Shan rolled off.

Human cultivators need to reach at least Golden Core realm to fly and be able to control an airship.

Being a Foundation Establishment early stage cultivator, dropping down from this height, Gu Qing Shan will die without a doubt.

“What are you doing, catch me quickly!” Gu Qing Shan loudly shouted.



In the sky, the screaming wind covered Gu Qing Shan as his body turned into a blurred figure, free-falling.

Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane on the other hand, didn't immediately leave after dropping him and instead followed his descent.

Its eyes had a mocking look, while its voice had already changed.

『Humans, so weak, yet so delectable』

This was obviously not Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane's voice, but a clear and ringing female voice.

“Who are you?” Gu Qing Shan shouted in horror: “My Shifu is a Saint, you dare treat me like this, she'll flay you piece by piece, skin you alive, capture and torture your soul for eternity!”

Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane showed fright in its eyes, but was quickly replaced by cruelty and triumph.

『Tomorrow will be the decisive battle, nevermind you, even your Shifu isn't going to live much ——』

While it was talking without hiding anything, strong spirit energy waves suddenly spread in the air.

The spirit energy wave seems to come from that brat, but it's probably only for show.

Because it clearly felt like Foundation Establishment late stage spirit energy density, only one step below itself at Golden Core early stage.

But the brat is clearly very heavily wounded, he couldn't even pick up his sword before.

——even if the brat was hiding his strength, Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane wasn't the least bit afraid.

Because this was the sky, this was its home ground.

Even other flying-type beasts couldn't catch up to it, what's a human cultivator going to do?

In the blink of an eye, Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane felt its vision blurred, then the free-falling figure disappeared, there was only the open sky and earth left.

“Not good!”

It spreads its wings, about to flee.

Then an intense pain came together with a numbing sensation all over its body.

Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane was twitching non-stop; it couldn't even flap its wings.

Its entire body was shocked; it is unable to control its body at all!

It couldn't even circulate spirit energy inside its beast core.

One second passed very quick.

A white crescent sword slash illuminated the sky.

This was a strike that gathered all of Gu Qing Shan's spirit energy

The long crane neck was severed from its body, then millions of extremely fine threads made of sword qi started moving about in the air.

In just a few seconds, the countless threads of sword qi had chopped up the beast so finely it couldn't be recognized anymore.

Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane's corpse was turned into a mass of blood mist, soaking the air red, then was blown away by the fierce wind.

The sky returned to its natural bluish hue. It was as if the battle just now never happened and is nothing more than a dream.

A single second.

A Golden Core realm spirit beast, killed in such a ridiculous way.

At the same time, War God UI showed a notification.

[You have perfectly completed two assassinations, killing targets that are stronger than yourself. Please try your best to complete three perfect assassinations and earn the corresponding title]

Hm? There's also something like that?

Gu Qing Shan looked at it in surprise.

War God title is a very useful thing to have, just now, to kill the two spirit beast, he was using the title Skill of [Xiao Qi Chaplain] ———[Quick Attack].

You should know, a cultivator's method of attack is simply using overwhelming speed and power to kill their opponent.

Gu Qing Shan's sword was already fast, but that speed was buffed even further with the title's Skill, making for very terrifying fighting strength.

Both battles ended without the giant moth or Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane being able to dodge the very first full power strike.

Gu Qing Shan checked his Soul Points.

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After killing a Foundation Establishment peak giant moth and a Golden Core early stage Flame-cloud Chasing Sky Crane, together with what he got from killing the two Burrowing Demon Pythons, his current Soul Points reached 300!

Checking the cool down period for using Soul Points to comprehend cultivation scriptures, it's already half-done.

War God UI's style is the exact same as before, always encouraging the user to enter battle with stronger and stronger foes.

But now there's something more important at hand, Gu Qing Shan have to put this off for another time.

Stowing away his sword, Gu Qing Shan could already draw a conclusion to his investigation.

Since things have reached this point, he made the choice very decisively.

——it's time to begin the preparations for the upcoming decisive battle.

Clasping his hand into a speaker-like shape, he shouted: "Come save me quick!"

His voice transmitted very far despite the screaming wind.

Over a few hundred feet away, a silently drifting cloud was suddenly parted by a golden light.

The golden light turned into a figure and quickly appeared in front of him.

As it stopped, the golden figure turns out to be a graceful girl wearing golden armor.

Heaven's Limit sect's Saintess, a You Ji General of the Humanity Cultivation Alliance army, Ning Yue Xi.

She caught Gu Qing Shan, followed his fall for a little bit more before slowly lifting him up.

"What happened just now? Why did you kill your mount so suddenly?" she frowned and asked.

"I'll explain later, right now there's something urgent I must do"

Saying so, Gu Qing Shan took out a communication talisman and reported everything from start to finish.

As she listened to what he said, Ning Yue Xi's eyes opened wider and wider, extremely shocked.

After finishing his report, Gu Qing Shan let the talisman turned into a flame and flew away.

He already understood just about everything.

The biggest lost campaign for humanity in the past life is just about to happen.

Before everything happened the way it did, nobody could even expect something like that.

It wasn't until the decisive battle started, when demons and humans were in the middle of their biggest campaign, that "that" happened.

The spirit beasts betrayed them.

To be serious, the demons had already prepared this since before the game began. The plan has already been hatched since the cultivation world was still at peace.

But it wasn't until 7 years into the Apocalypse that the demons suddenly enacted that plan in a carefully calculated battle.

All the spirit beast turned around and attacked humanity.

At first, the situation was the same as what's happening with humanity's camps.

All the camps' formations started to malfunction, yet they found no traitors, driving morale downward, everyone felt uneasy and the Generals didn't know what to do.

Then, when the campaign reached its most pivotal moments, the spirit beast that were originally companions of humanity against the demons, turned their heads and attacked humanity from behind.

Gu Qing Shan can still feel his heart beating fast whenever he recalled the devastation at the time.

One of the 3 Saints, Xuanyuan Tianzun, died in this battle.

Even the players couldn't escape from the betrayal of the spirit beasts.

The spirit beasts that were accepted by the System as mounts, as summoned beasts all suddenly turned to attack the players.

You can imagine the shocked expressions of players at that time.

Being caught off-guard, the army couldn't mount any sort of useful resistance, human corpses littered the battlefields after that great battle, humanity as a whole was dealt a devastating blow and had to retreat backwards 3000 miles.

Originally, the demons only had the slightest edge over humanity, meaning there was still a bit of a chance for humanity to win.

But from this campaign onwards, humanity entered a state of prolonging the inevitable, all the way until the end.

Gu Qing Shan sighed.

This time, having the chance to redo everything, having known the truth, he couldn't possibly let history repeat itself.

Not to mention, since it's only the opening act right now, there's still time for him to do something.

———for example, taking this chance to hatch a scheme and repay the grudge from the past life.

Holding Gu Qing Shan, Ning Yue Xi tapped her Inventory Bag and took out an airship.

On the airship, Ning Yue Xi couldn't help but want to touch her spirit beast bag, but was stopped by Gu Qing Shan.

"It's not time yet" he said.

Hearing so, Ning Yue Xi looked at him and put her hand down.

"Is it true?"

"Hm, very true"

Ning Yue Xi breathed in deeply, then said: "If it's really true, then it's too dangerous"

"It's dangerous, but it's also a chance" Gu Qing Shan smiled.

"The risks are too high, one wrong step and the situation will become irreversible" Ning Yue Xi sighed sorrowfully.

“That’s what war is, small and scattered battles don’t mean anything, it has to be the final battle for it to matter” Gu Qing Shan said.

Ning Yue Xi scoffed at him: “You’re just a Xiao Qi Chaplain and you want to teach me about war?”

She lifted her chin up proudly and straightened her posture on purpose to let Gu Qing Shan see her golden armor.

This intricate golden set of armor is a symbol of status for You Ji Generals.

Gu Qing Shan couldn’t help but stare at her.

“Your figure really is beautiful...” he spoke with a “I have to admit...” tone.

And Ning Yue Xi’s face instantly flushed.

She looked outside the airship and reminded herself that this place is too high, if she threw him out he might die.

## **Chapter 154**

Gu Qing Shan noticed the change in her mood, quickly changing the topic: “What have you been up to lately?”

“About to breakthrough”

“Ah, so you’re about to breakthrough. Hm, how nice” Gu Qing Shan said, then realized in surprise.

He looked at Ning Yue Xi as if there was something on her face.

“You ——weren’t you at Rejuvenation realm complete circle?” He hesitantly asked.

“That’s right”

“Then ——“

“Yep”

“But you’re only a bit over 20!”

“Hmph!”

Ning Yue Xi returned to normal, proudly lifting her chin up again.

Gu Qing Shan felt a storm welling up from inside himself.

No wonder the first Destiny Quest that War God UI announced was to save Ning Yue Xi.

What did the Quest description say at the time?

Gu Qing Shan quickly turned on the completed Quest menu and looked at it again.

[Quest description: Gong Sun Zhi and Ning Yue Xi were two people whose deaths were buried deep in the flow of history, if you can change their fate, you can change the entire flow of history itself]

After reading through the description again, Gu Qing Shan sighed.

Sure enough, Ning Yue Xi doesn't betray the War God UI's evaluation, she's already inching into the realm of Ascended at such a young age.

In the history of humanity, geniuses are a dime a dozen, but people as brilliant as her can be counted with a single hand.

Such talents can only belong to the beloved child of destiny itself, once she escaped from the birdcage trial of life and death, she's metamorphosing, turning into a true legend.

Could she possibly become the 4th Saint of humanity?

This world's history is truly being changed.

Then...

Gu Qing Shan contemplated for a bit, then decided.

He tapped his Inventory Bag and took out a flower that emitted a light scent.

"It's been a while since we last met, so this flower is a gift from me to you"

"What would a flower be good for? I don't need such a thing" Saying so, Ning Yue Xi took the flower.

This is the highest quality Dragon's Tear Flower, extremely good for nurturing one's soul vessel, not to mention having an elegant smell that lasts for a very long time. Once put into water, even if it's cut off, it would still live on for at least a few years.

"Giving you a flower would of course be to flatter you" Gu Qing Shan said very seriously.

"You're a Saint's disciple, and you still need to flatter me?" Ning Yue Xi lightly laughed.

Gu Qing Shan raised his eyebrows, saying: "What, you don't like people to flatter you? Then how about you flatter me instead?"

Ning Yue Xi looked at him from top to bottom, just like how Gu Qing Shan looked at her before.

She laughed as he shook her head: "Tsk, ts, ts, Foundation Establishment..."

This series of "tsk" instantly removed any semblance of fighting spirit Gu Qing Shan had before.

Being able to get back at him once, Ning Yue Xi was in a really good mood.

"If you don't need it then fine" Gu Qing Shan hand moved to take back the flower.

"Who said I didn't need it?" Ning Yue Xi quickly dodged his hand and hid the flower behind her back.

"Fine, fine, whatever you say" Gu Qing Shan mumbled.

Ning Yue Xi then ignored him and enjoyed the Dragon's Tear Flower, lightly smelled it and smiled triumphantly.

Carrying Gu Qing Shan on her airship, they landed right after leaving the countryside area a few minutes later.

Flying for a long time will surely draw the demon's attention, so it's better to just run on the ground.  
After they left.

A mystical figure appeared in the air.

The figure was transparent and extremely flat at the same time, almost like a drawing of someone.

The alluring female figure flashed a captivating smile and beauty, before suddenly disappearing in the air.

『Military camp...』

A soft, light voice became almost unintelligible as the figure disappeared.

When Gu Qing Shan returned to the camp, it was already twilight.

Sending out a communication talisman, Leng Tian Xing also arrive shortly after.

Leng Tian Xing looked at Ning Yue Xi in surprised, then looked back and Gu Qing Shan and seemed to have realized something.

But Leng Tian Xing's expression showed no change, only lightly greeting Ning Yue Xi.

———Leng Tian Xing is a sly fox among men, but he understands boundaries.

"How's the mission?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"It's done, now we only need to turn it in, any later and we'll receive a good shouting at" Leng Tian Xing answered.

The 3 of them returned to the camp together, heading for the General's tent.

...

Bai Hua Palace.

A flame talisman flew in, caught by Bai Hua Fairy.

After scanning it with her inner sight, Bai Hua Fairy suddenly laughed.

"Interesting, how very interesting!"

Her expression was that of a girl that became curious and excited because she saw something new.

Xuanyuan Tianzun and the Great Monk of Sorrow stood up, solemnly stared at her.

"Fairy, the decisive battle is already tomorrow, just what could've made you become so relaxed?" Xuanyuan Tianzun's tone became slightly strict.

He has never spoken to Xie Dao Ling like this ever before, truthfully, he was a bit angry.

Two of the strongest people in the world had to wait for an entire hour without an apparent reason, only to hear "how very interesting".

Even the Great Monk of Sorrow couldn't hold his calm expression anymore.

Looking at them Bai Hua Fairy understood.

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"Fine then, since the decisive battle is tomorrow, I'll share with you the information I just received" she smiled brightly and said.

"Then do tell" both the Saints said.

A while later.

All 3 Saints had different expressions on their faces.

The Great Monk of Sorrow clapped his hand and exclaimed: "Such fortune, such fortune, it's very fortunate that we found out about this, otherwise it would have been very devastating"

Xuanyuan Tianzun asked: "Is this information accurate? We absolutely cannot make a mistake with this type of thing"

Bai Hua Fairy answered: "My disciple has never been a fraud, not to mention something that's as important as this"

"Then we must leave right now, head to the frontline to exterminate the hidden threat" Xuanyuan Tianzun suggested.

"Wait a bit" Bai Hua Fairy smiled as she said, "Tianzun doesn't need to be in such a rush. Regarding this, my disciple has given us a suggestion. I found it to be extremely fitting as a military tactic, I think we should try it"

Her expression showed a soft smile, her tone both calm and elegant, obviously she was in a very good mood.

"Military tactic... that is..." Xuanyuan Tianzun muttered.

The fact that he's able to collect intelligence to this extent is a great thing, but how can something as important as military tactics be deciding on the spot like this?

But when he listened as Bai Hua fairy explains, Xuanyuan Tianzun's mouth opened wide, almost unable to close.

About half an hour later, the 3 Saints finished their discussion and flew out from Bai Hua Palace.

...

The camp.

After Leng Tian Xing and Gu Qing Shan turned in their mission, Ding Yuan General Wu Xing Wen stopped and had them brought to his tent.

Wu Xing Wen lightly coughed, asking: "Gu Qing Shan, before you arrived at the camp, did you not execute a person called Li Chu Chen?"



— — —aren't you a bit annoying right now? Why are you still hung up about that? Gu Qing Shan glanced at him and replied: "You already know about it"

"Then why did you kill him?" Wu Xing Wen asked.

"He disobeyed orders and deserted his post" Gu Qing Shan answered.

Wu Xing Wen looked at him and burst out laughing.

Laughing very triumphantly.

"But that can't be right, there's some others that reported differently" saying so, he swung his hand.

A few people walked into the General's tent.

They were people from Spirit Beast sect.

"Murderer!" Li Chu Chen's little brother shouted.

Gu Qing Shan squinted his eyes.

Spirit Beast sect's elder stopped the angry disciples and bowed to greet Wu Xing Wen.

He said: "General, we've found evidence, we can prove that what Gu Qing Shan did was getting revenge, arbitrarily killing his comrades"

"Very well, bring out your evidence, this General guarantees you will receive your justice" Wu Xing Wen leaned on his chair and declared.

Spirit Beast sect's elder put down five spirit beast bags on the ground one by one.

"These are Li Chu Chen's remaining spirit beast bags, we received them from the deceased cultivators' belonging tent" he said.

"I brought them there" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"That's why karma is coming back for you" Li Chu Chen's little brother gritted his teeth and said.

Spirit Beast sect's elder glared angrily at Gu Qing Shan, and opened the 5 spirit beast bags.

5 different spirit beasts jumped out.

They started to tell a different story to the cultivators around.

From what they said, Gu Qing Shan had been out for Li Chu Chen from the very start, but since Li Chu Chen didn't butter up and satisfy his demands, even ruining Gu Qing Shan's matter, he thoroughly offended Gu Qing Shan.

At the end, Ding Yuan General Wu Xing Wen stopped their story, saying: "Because of that, you mean Gu Qing Shan was getting revenge on Li Chu Chen?"

The 5 spirit beast nodded.

Wu Xing Wen swung his hand and ordered: "Bring in Bai Hai Dong, bring in the 5 female cultivators"

When they arrived, Wu Xing Wen ordered to have them go through Heart Appraisal as well.

But the results were the exact same as what Gu Qing Shan got earlier.

Looking at them, then at the spirit beasts, Wu Xing Wen was a bit troubled.

Cultivators can be tested with Heart Appraisal.

But spirit beasts are different, their soul vessels are different, so Heart Appraisal doesn't work on them.

At this moment, the leader of the spirit beasts, the blue-eyes white tiger spoke: "All of you are humans, what you saw and what we saw are different, we are able to notice how Li Chu Chen got treated with disdain and contempt, while you did not"

"That's why your Heart Appraisals are like that, you simply don't know just what kind of person Gu Qing Shan really is"

"But the results are the same, Gu Qing Shan wanted to get revenge on Li Chu Chen, when he found the chance to, he did, with the excuse of him not following orders" it concluded.

"Bullshit!"

"A bunch of lies!"

"That is completely not true"

Bai Hai Dong and the 5 female cultivators all loudly refuted.

It was now that Spirit Beast sect's elder stepped out and suggested: "Then, how about we do a Soul Reading?"

Hearing that, the entire tent went silent.

Soul Reading is a very difficult spell to do, it inherently dangerous to do, and can easily harm the soul vessel of the one being read permanently.

"I agree! That way, the truth can be found immediately" Wu Xing Wen tapped his table in agreement.

A Bai Hua sect disciple receiving a Soul Reading, this has a very deep hidden meaning.

Even if Gu Qing Shan gets proven innocent later, the fact remains that he is someone who went under suspicion of harming a comrade, serious enough to have to go through Soul Reading.

Once you've received a Soul Reading once, you'll then be forever marked as someone who's been under suspicion.

No matter what, Gu Qing Shan's reputation would be tarnished forever, everyone will look at him with eyes of suspicion.

From then on, Bai Hua sect disciples would never be able to be seen in the light of day again, nevermind regarded as highly as Blue Clouds Pass does.

Gu Qing Shan doesn't even look at Spirit Beast sect's elder, only stared directly at Wu Xing Wen: "Soul Reading? You sure wracked your brain for that one"

"I know Soul Reading, let me do it" Spirit Beast sect's Elder pulled up his sleeves, looking ready.

But Ning Yue Xi stepped out and stopped him.

“Saintess, what do you mean by this? The General already agreed” Spirit Beast sect’s Elder didn’t expect to be stopped and asked.

“You can’t use Soul Reading” Ning Yue Xi replied: “You lot are holding onto him so much; don’t you think you’re being unreasonable?”

“Unreasonable? Spirit beasts don’t lie, he must have killed by brother for personal reasons!” the young cultivator couldn’t keep calm and shouted.

Note: The reasoning behind Soul Reading is dumb af. If anything, being Soul Read and turning out innocent means that he was being framed, why would there be a reason to be suspicious of him?

### **Chapter 155**

The whole crowd of Spirit Beast sect people were emotional, cursing, berating Gu Qing Shan nonstop, as if the truth has already been determined and Gu Qing Shan really was the murderer that framed his subordinate on purpose.

Ning Yue Xi glanced at the spirit beasts, then at Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan shook his head.

Ning Yue Xi had no choice but to endure.

Gu Qing Shan looked at the Spirit Beast sect bunch, then at Wu Xing Wen who was smiling from ear to ear and sighed.

“I have to say, you lot picked a really good time to do this” he said with a slight unwilling tone.

Seeing him like that Ning Yue Xi stepped out and declared: “I also know how to do Soul Reading, I’ll do it”

“You can’t” Wu Xing Wen said, “you’re clearly on his side, this General forbids it!”

Ning Yue Xi glanced at him, her expression became blank, slowly spoke: “General Wu, I know you’re a person of Blue Clouds Pass, I also know you’re one of three Ding Yuan Generals of our army, one rank higher than I. But seeing how you do things, after the battle, I promise you, I will challenge you to a battle. Life and death”

With how Ning Yue Xi normally acts, to make her say that means she’s truly angry.

“Don’t do that, I’ll just accept to be Soul Read” Gu Qing Shan hold Ning Yue Xi back and said: “But I need an impartial party to do it, not Spirit Beast sect’s Elder”

All the guard cultivators around nodded.

This is natural, if Ning Yue Xi can’t do it then of course they can’t let the Elder do it either.

“Hmph, then who will it be?” Spirit Beast sect’s Elder scoffed.

“My Shifu” Gu Qing Shan answered.

Ning Yue Xi's anger instantly went down by half ———this guy, still as shameless as always.

Spirit Beast sect's Elder laughed loudly, declaring: "Your Shifu? If it's your Shifu, of course they would favor you, how could the General possibly accept that!"

But after he said so, he suddenly noticed everyone except Spirit Beast sect's people were looking at him in pity.

"No one in this entire cultivation world would ever doubt my Shifu's words, wouldn't you say so, General Wu?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

Wu Xing Wen stayed silent, but couldn't help but nodded.

He knows his boundaries.

No matter how unwillingly, he must stop right here.

If Gu Qing Shan is scared and accepted to be Soul Read, he can only blame himself for being too weak-willed.

After all, everything is done according to military law, even Gu Qing Shan himself has already agreed, no one has to take responsibility, even Bai Hua Fairy herself couldn't do anything but blame her disciple for being too soft.

But since Gu Qing Shan isn't scared and is insistent that he did the right thing, not to mention using Bai Hua Fairy's name like this, then there's nothing else he could do.

Nevermind Wu Xing Wen, even Xuanyuan Tianzun wouldn't dare touch a single hair on Gu Qing Shan right now.

Otherwise, if Bai Hua Fairy really got angry, no matter what General you are, no matter what military law there is, she'll directly take your life.

"Hm, then tell me, just who is your Shifu?" Spirit Beast sect's Elder suddenly realized something wasn't right and asked right away.

Ning Yue Xi suddenly broke into laughter, then answered: "Bai Hua Saint"

The Spirit Beast sect's Elder's face changed.

Looking around at the guard cultivators in the tent, he realized they were all people of Blue Clouds Pass.

Those that he glanced at, a few lowered their heads, a few only smiled coldly at him.

Spirit Beast sect's Elder glared at Wu Xing Wen, his face went grim.

"You tricked me" he said to Wu Xing Wen.

"No wonder you placed all of us at a remote place. No wonder you declared so strongly that no matter which sect's disciple it was; you'd still take our side" Spirit Beast sect's Elder spoke in a heavy tone.

"Bullshit!" Wu Xing Wen slapped the table as he stood up, angrily declared: "You were the one that wanted to sue him for arbitrarily killing your sect's disciple!"

He answered very seriously: "This General is a Ding Yuan General, besides from the Saints themselves, everyone in the entire Alliance army has to follow my orders, and you dare to speak ill of me?"

"But you never told me that his Shifu is Bai Hua Saint herself!" Spirit Beast sect's Elder angrily refuted.

Wu Xing Wen couldn't take that to his face, loudly declared: "You're Spirit Beast sect's Elder and yet you didn't even know that before suing, scram! Get out of here!"

Spirit Beast sect's Elder calmed himself down, then suddenly turned and clasped his fist at Gu Qing Shan: "Our eyes were hidden, we've really offended you, please have it in yourself to forgive us"

Gu Qing Shan smiled and replied: "No worries, he didn't mean to harm you, rather he wanted to harm me"

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Spirit Beast sect's Elder didn't expect that answer, looked up to find his expression completely calm, not a single bit angry or annoyed at them, instead it was something else.

Spirit Beast sect's Elder nodded at him in gratitude and brought the rest of Spirit Beast sect away.

The only one who was still unwilling to let it go was Li Chu Chen's brother.

"He's depending on his Shifu to get away from his crime..." he muttered, but quickly got grabbed by the others and lead away.

"Such ridiculousness, Gu Qing Shan, you've been wronged" Wu Xing Wen sighed, pretending to not know anything.

Gu Qing Shan smiled and replied: "It's all fine"

He stared at Wu Xing Wen, and Wu Xing Wen stared at him.

Then Gu Qing Shan suddenly asked: "General Wu, you're the eldest disciple in Blue Clouds Pass correct?"

"I indeed am" Wu Xing Wen replied.

The eldest disciple of a sect is usually responsible for keeping harmony in the sect, becoming a role model and making sure everyone else is in line.

Gu Qing Shan nodded and said: "Now I know why Lee Chang An became how he was"

"How brave, you really think this General won't punish you for badmouthing?" Wu Xing Wen pretended to be angry, clenching his fist.

"You can try, let's see if your Shifu will protect you, or my Shifu will directly take your life" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Wu Xing Wen stayed silent, gritting his teeth.

No one said anything, only silently understood that their grudge is now officially made.

Gu Qing Shan turned around to leave.

Wu Xing Wen looked at Gu Qing Shan's figure leaving, his eyes were still a bit confused.

He was thinking about the truth of the matter.

Because under normal circumstances, spirit beasts don't lie.

Having used Bai Hua Fairy's name, no one would dare mention anything about Soul Reading Gu Qing Shan again.

But that also means that the truth of the matter is undetermined, Gu Qing Shan might really have framed Li Chu Chen.

However, at this point in time, there's not a single person that would dare to trial Gu Qing Shan further ———even military law doesn't allow one to keep holding a Saint's disciple under constant suspicion.

If the truth of the matter isn't yet determined, and they've both already ripped off any sort of respectful façade ———

"First brother?" one of the other cultivators asked him in a low voice.

"Hm, since both Spirit Beast sect and the spirit beasts has given their confirmation, even if the Saint asks about it later, we'll just have them take the blame, no need to fear"

Saying so, Wu Xing Wen thought about it a bit more, then silently ordered other disciples of Blue Clouds Pass.

All of them nodded in confirmation.

Afternoon.

Gu Qing Shan's group visited the female cultivators of Heaven's Limit sect to check on them.

After leaving their rest area, Gu Qing Shan suddenly noticed other cultivators were giving him a strange look.

"Is that him?"

"It's him"

"Lowlife"

"Shameless"

"Using official reason to get back for a personal grudge"

Everyone was whispering loudly like they didn't mind him hearing.

While many Blue Clouds Pass cultivators were walking around the camp, adding extra details to what happened in the trial and spreading it around.

Leng Tian Xing couldn't stand it and wanted to stop them, but Gu Qing Shan held him back.

"It's fine, if you show up, the rumors would only get wilder" he said.

"I know those spirit beasts are loyal to their master, but they shouldn't use such a method to badmouth you" Leng Tian Xing still didn't know the truth of the matter and sighed.

Gu Qing Shan and Ning Yue Xi exchanged looks, but said nothing.

When night fell, the entire camp had already known about what happened in the morning.

Bai Hua Saint's disciple, Gu Qing Shan, treated a Spirit Beast sect's disciple with disdain, then framed and killed him.

All the cultivators in the group were fooled by Gu Qing Shan, only the spirit beasts noticed his behavior.

## **Chapter 156**

Their reasoning was that, when spirit beasts and humans live together for a long time, they gain a special type of telepathy between them, this is also the reason why the entire cultivator world believe spirit beasts to be loyal friends.

Not to mention, these spirit beasts dared to expose the Saint's disciple right after their master died, seen as loyal and sincere.

All cultivators from Blue Clouds Pass were running around actively spreading rumors, while Spirit Beast sect's cultivators stayed absolutely silent and refused to say anything.

They understood that they've become a sacrifice in the fight between the Saints' disciples.

For their own protection, the best action is non-action.

But the 5 spirit beasts from before were still staying in the camp ———Ding Yuan General Wu Xing Wen ordered Spirit Beast sect to not recover them and leave them there as evidence.

That way, more and more cultivators started to believe this rumor.

This matter was brewing up larger, slowly but surely.

A few female cultivators even openly gave the spirit beasts some pills and herbs.

They were using this type of silent action to show who they supported in this matter.

Many cultivators were staring at Gu Qing Shan with both silent disdain and contempt.

"Hmph" Ning Yue Xi had never received such cold treatment before, she gritted her teeth and wanted to say something.

"Don't get too excited, their sights aren't directed at you" Gu Qing Shan held her back.

"But they can't direct it at you either, that's not fair to you" Ning Yue Xi calmly replied.

"I don't care about such vague fairness" Gu Qing Shan replied, "the only thing we need to do right now is be patient and wait"

Night.

The main army has gathered; the battle was about to begin.

All three Ding Yuan Generals has gathered in one place.

Ding Yuan General Gong Sun Zhi, Ding Yuan General Wu Xing Wen, Ding Yuan General Ming Hui Monk.

Wu Xing Wen is the eldest disciple of Blue Clouds Pass, while Ming Hui Monk is the first seat of Spirit Leaf Temple. They are both great cultivators and disciples of Xuanyuan Tianzun and the Great Monk of Sorrow respectively, so of course they're capable of leading great numbers.

Gong Sun Zhi on the other hand, is a true hard worker. Many of humanity's formations currently in use were created by him, a few of the battles they won so far was also due to his contributions. As one of the three Ding Yuan Generals of humanity, he's someone that's greatly admired through his own efforts.

For some unknown reason, the matter that happened this morning spread with extreme speed across all the armies, even reaching Gong Sun Zhi's ears.

Gong Sun Zhi frowned as he heard the rumors, shaking his head.

Ming Hui Monk only chanted Amitabha, not giving anymore commentary.

Even though rumors spread that someone was falsely executed by a Saint's disciple, everyone still did what they need to do.

The only party involved that's staying completely silent is Spirit Beast sect.

"How did you manage to offend Bai Hua sect's Sword 15?" one Elder asked.

"I got tricked by Wu Xing Wen" the Elder from before sighed as he answered, "the report he showed me did not have Bai Hua sect's Gu Qing Shan name on it"

Seeing the sorrowful look of everyone, he gritted his teeth: "Right now, we must remain silent to make sure nothing bigger happens. In the future, if Bai Hua Saint wants to investigate further, even if she wants to do a Soul Reading, I will be the only one that talks about everything from the start, to ensure our sect's survival"

"But the spirit beasts..."

"Hah, I also don't know what happened with them"

"Could it possibly be true...?"

...

On another side, the three Ding Yuan Generals stood on three different podiums, giving out orders and arranging formations.

Wu Xing Wen stood on one of the podiums giving out orders to each person.

"Spirit Beast sect Wang Zhao Wu!"

"Here"

"You're responsible for frontline alert!"

"Roger!"

"Floating Clouds sect Zhang Zhen Wei!"

"Here"

"You're responsible for the left side spell squad"

"Roger!"



...

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“Yao Guang sect Leng Tian Xing!”

“Here”

“You’re responsible for vanguard spell squad”

“Roger!”

“You Ji General Ning Yue Xi”

“Here”

“You’re responsible for the Vanguard and both wings’ command”

“Roger!”

Wu Xing Wen went on and on, then finally said: “The 5 remaining sects form groups of 2 each, responsible for the transport of pills, formation plates and other types of military resources”

As they looked back, the only remaining sects are Bai Hua sect, Spirit Flame Palace, Origin Sword sect, Fu Shui Mountain sect and Cloud Gate sect.

Spirit Flame Palace, Origin Sword sect, Fu Shui Mountain sect and Cloud Gate sect all had around 10 people each, immediately formed rows of two as they heard the orders.

The only one left that’s alone is Bai Hua sect Gu Qing Shan.

“What’s going on, there’s still one person left, why are you not in a group yet?” Wu Xing Wen loudly and purposefully questioned.

“Your order was to form groups of two, we’ve all formed a group sir” one cultivator from Spirit Flame sect shrugged.

“Why don’t you include one more?” Wu Xing Wen said.

“We don’t need someone who kills their comrade” a cultivator from Origin Sword sect muttered.

The entire scene went silent.

Everyone looked at Gu Qing Shan coldly, even people from the groups of other Generals looked over.

Gu Qing Shan stood there alone, without anyone with him.

“Haha, suits him right”

“Such a person who pretends to be so noble yet uses official reasons to take care of personal grudge, who needs him”

“So what if he is a Saint’s disciple? If it weren’t for the spirit beasts, we would all be fooled as well”

“Just leave him, let him fend for himself”

The voice of discussions was getting louder and louder, almost becoming a torrent.

Wu Xing Wen smirked and only looked at the scene.

“That’s enough!” a voice called out.

Looking below, you could see a cultivator running towards him.

He stood next to Gu Qing Shan, loudly shouted: “What murderer, did you see it for yourself!?”

“What a bunch of lies!”

“Ever since we arrived this morning, over a dozen people from Blue Clouds Pass did nothing but ran around badmouthing our Bai Hua sect haven’t they? Are your eyes just for decoration?”

“This is blatant framing!”

Qin Xiao Lou voice rang all around.

He paced around with extreme annoyance, then pointed at Wu Xing Wen: “You’re a Ding Yuan General, yet you let your own sect members go around spreading lies before the battle against your own! How do you live with yourself!?”

“How dare you!” Wu Xing Wen suddenly stood up, “you’re a simple Yu Wu Chaplain, and you dare to openly question this General!?”

“This matter is something everyone here knows about, everyone spreads it because it is justice that deserves to be spread, what does it have to do with this General!”

“You——”

Qin Xiao Lou was miffed, but looked up to see him wearing a Ding Yuan General armor set, as well as dozens of Blue Clouds Pass cultivators standing behind him, their spirit energy pressure combining.

Qin Xiao Lou turned around, wanted to pull Gu Qing Shan away.

“Junior brother, let us leave, we’ll go to General Sun Zhi, no need to stay here and endure this nonsense”

“Stop!” Wu Xing Wen shouted.

“What do you want now? We can’t speak up against you, but you can’t stop us from leaving” Qin Xiao Lou shouted back.

“Gu Qing Shan is a Xiao Qi Chaplain under my jurisdiction, he can’t just leave with you like that” Wu Xing Wen lifted his face and declared.

“What did you say he was?”

“A Xiao Qi Chaplain under my jurisdiction”

“Hmph, so you also know that he’s a Xiao Qi Chaplain, I’ve never heard about any Xiao Qi Chaplain having to go transport supplies ——and you still say you’re not prejudiced against our Bai Hua sect!”

Wu Xing Wen coldly laughed: “So what if he has to transport supplies. You’re a Zhen Wei Chaplain yourself, do you go out to fight? Can you even go out and fight?”

“Yo-you, that’s...” Qin Xiao Lou was unbearably mad, but unable to say anything back.

Gu Qing Shan pulled him towards himself, held down his shoulder and spoke very seriously: “Senior brother, calm down and listen to me”

Qin Xiao Lou looked back at him with bloodshot eyes.

Gu Qing Shan calmly and slowly spoke: "You and I are both Bai Hua Saint's disciples, the path we walk is the path to heaven. As long as we know we did nothing wrong and walk on the path of righteousness, who needs to care about others' opinion?"

"Not to mention, anyone that lives in this world has to go through some sort of trouble eventually. Facing unkind words and cold eyes, this is nothing but a normal occurrence"

"—because in the end, there will be a day when we will be able to make everyone stay silent, unable to speak up to us even once, just like our Shifu"

## **Chapter 157**

Wu Xing Wen laughed, then asked in a loud voice: "Path of righteousness? How laughable, and I suppose your actions of bullying the weak is also righteous?"

The crowds became rowdy again.

This was the very first time a Ding Yuan General openly confirmed Gu Qing Shan's crimes, meaning it could very well be the truth.

Gu Qing Shan calmly replied: "As a General of humanity, yet you're openly bad mouthing another in front of everyone else, that is what you call bullying the weak"

"You dare!" Wu Xing Wen pointed at Gu Qing Shan, about to say something else.

"Do you really want to die? I'm no match for you right now, but I can easily ask Shifu to take your pathetic life" Gu Qing Shan squints his eyes and said.

"Trust me, I'm not joking right now, I'm being very sincere" he continued.

Wu Xing Wen unconsciously retracted his hand, shrinking slightly in fear.

If Gu Qing Shan keeps up his attitude and really does something like that, with Bai Hua Fairy's personality, she might really take his life.

Wu Xing Wen begrudgingly: "Aren't you just depending on your Shifu to openly ignore military authority?"

"The decisive battle is already upon us, and you still dare to threaten this General, do you not think that you're cruel and selfish!?"

Gu Qing Shan's face remains blank as paper, emphasizing each and every word: "If you say anything else, I'll gladly ask Shifu to take your life right now"

He took out a communication talisman, holding it in hand.

Infusing his spirit energy, the communication talisman lit up.

Wu Xing Wen stared at him, opened his mouth, but doesn't speak a word.

He really doesn't dare to say anything.

Originally, this would have been within limits, just enough that he can't lift his head to look at anyone, not having the face to ask the Saint for help.

*This brat, he's obviously the same as what the spirit beasts said, abuse his power to bully others, killing Li Chu Chen for his own gain. Yet how could he act so self-important about it?*

*Looking at him, he's clearly not holding any anger in at all, does he not fear that this matter will reach the Saint's ears? Does he think the Saint would vouch for his character?*

*—this little piece of shit!*

*This fucker doesn't only have the worst reputation, he even dared to make me unable to back down, this... this...*

Wu Xing Wen was gritting his teeth so hard from anger it even started to bleed.

His body wrapped inside the armor was even shaking a little bit, unable to contain some sort of emotion welling up.

Around, everyone else was the same, looking at Gu Qing Shan in stifled anger, no one dared to speak a single word.

Gu Qing Shan then suddenly sighed and said: "I'm actually quite confused right now"

"Why so?" Qin Xiao Lou followed up with him.

Before, he got blocked unable to say anything to Wu Xing Wen. Who could've known just a few words from junior brother would block Wu Xing Wen as well, you can't imagine the pleasure from that.

"Being a General, he keeps using these underhanded methods behind someone else's back, yet when faced with direct confrontation, he's so deathly afraid of death"

"Ahahahahaha!" Qin Xiao Lou loudly laughed like it was the funniest thing ever.

Gu Qing Shan had a strange look in his eyes, looking at Wu Xing Wen.

Even when he got isolated, Gu Qing Shan's expression was still calm as water, yet he's looking a bit worried right now.

"Stop here, don't say anything more" Gong Sun Zhi walked to them.

"Old Wu, I need you to do me a favor" he clasped his fist and said.

"Speak" Wu Xing Wen said with a grim face.

"I won't butt in to your business, just give Gu Qing Shan to me, I'll arrange for him myself" Gong Sun Zhi replied.

As he heard that, Wu Xing Wen was a bit hesitant.

*Should I or should I not accept this?*

*In the previous campaign, apparently Gong Sun Zhi was saved thanks to Gu Qing Shan asking for help from Bai Hua Saint.*

*If that's the case, wouldn't this be the same as letting him go?*

*But the decisive battle is already upon us, if I keep holding on to this ———that's not right, I do want Gu Qing Shan's reputation to be totally ruined, but why would I in this crucial time...*

A thought rose from Wu Xing Wen's mind, in the midst of his confusion, he felt an overwhelming rage welling up in his chest.

Resentment, anger, grievance, killing intent, all sorts of negative emotions blew up at once, rushing to his head.

A voice was heard inside him.

*That's right, I've already prepared everything after this, I can't just let him go!  
The next step is to make sure he dies while on the march!*

As soon as he had that thought, all the other worries he had were instantly swept away.

Wu Xing Wen looked at Gong Sun Zhi, then again at Gu Qing Shan, smiling.

"I'm sorry, General Sun Zhi, he's a soldier under my jurisdiction, since I've already given the orders, I can't rescind it"

"Not to mention, I can't just shuffle around men arbitrarily like this"

"Such a.... hm, let's just say I think you shouldn't poison your troops with someone like him"

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His tone was very gentle, shrugging, as if this was something that couldn't be helped.

"Then what about me?"

In the air, a female voice suddenly rang out.

All cultivators lifted their heads to see, Bai Hua Fairy was standing there, together with Xuanyuan Tianzun and the Great Monk of Sorrow on her left and right.

"We solemnly welcome the Saint!"

All cultivators saluted.

Bai Hua Fairy's eyes were cold, looking at Wu Xing Wen with a blank expression, asking: "I ask you, I want to direct Gu Qing Shan away from your jurisdiction, do you accept or not?"

Immense spirit pressure emitted from her body, even blowing the clouds in the sky away.

Boom!

Being hit with such overwhelming spirit pressure, the army of almost a hundred thousand cultivators were made to kneel.

"What's wrong? Speak!" Bai Hua Fairy's tone was light, but the spirit pressure she emits began to grow with every passing second.

Bai Hua Fairy Xie Dao Ling was exceptionally angry.

Originally while on the way, she was still satisfied that her disciple was able to discover such a terrifying secret.

This matter can actually affect whether or not they win this battle.

The other Saints were also shaken to no end, showing just how unbelievable the truth of the matter was.

Bai Hua Fairy was smiling brightly, thinking about negotiating her disciple's military ranking again after this was done.

Then as the 3 Saints made it to the frontline, they found Gu Qing Shan was being singled out by everyone and made to transport supplies ———and he was even singled out from that!

They also saw how Gong Sun Zhi went to ask for him, and was rejected by Wu Xing Wen.

How experienced are the 3 Saints of humanity? They instantly noticed.

———this was him being openly antagonized.

And because of that, Xie Dao Ling wouldn't endure it.

Facing Bai Hua Fairy, Wu Xing Wen felt every other emotion he had before gone without a trace.

It was like the emotions themselves were afraid of Bai Hua Fairy and went into hiding.

Feeling Bai Hua Fairy's rage, Wu Xing Wen quickly saluted and said: "As the Saint ordered, of course I will comply"

"How well spoken, so my disciple is a poison now is he?" Bai Hua Fairy slowly spoke, "And you even assigned my disciple for supplies transportation duty, such a great Ding Yuan General you are"

Bai Hua Fairy has never said such words ever before.

She has always been someone that doesn't bother with official Military. But the fact that she's speaking out right now shows just how angry she was.

Wu Xing Wen's heart sank, quickly looked at Xuanyuan Tianzun and beg for help: "Shifu..."

Xuanyuan Tianzun frowned.

*Just what happened here? We're already about to battle, what the heck are you holding on to her disciple for?*

*Could it be, he really did something unforgivable, and still dared to make a Ding Yuan General unable to back down in front of everybody?*

*If that's the case, then even if he has to offend Xie Dao Ling, he must speak out for his disciple!*

Xuanyuan Tianzun cleared his throat and asked: "What happened?"

Wu Xing Wen told the entire story from start to finish, adding some extra details.

*Unexpectedly convenient!*

An extremely strange thought formed in his mind.

*After this, Shifu might permanent cut ties with Bai Hua Fairy...*

“You’re saying that, you received testimony from people of Spirit Beast sect and their spirit beasts, feeling that he’s in the wrong?” Xuanyuan Tianzun’s fighting spirit that he was gathering before suddenly stopped, a strange look showed on his face.

“Amitabha”

The Great Monk of Sorrow suddenly chanted Buddha, but stay silent.

His eyes first looked at Gu Qing Shan, then slowly at Wu Xing Wen.

No one noticed how he was already silently making hand seals in his baggy monk robe.

### **Chapter 158**

He’s obviously the one that’s in the right, both justice and the heart of the people were on his side, even if Bai Hua Fairy is angry, his Shifu should be able to defend him.

Not to mention, being someone whose sight doesn’t allow for evil, the Great Monk of Sorrow would have also been on his side.

No matter how strong Bai Hua Fairy herself is, one person against two Saints, she must hold her anger down.

At that point, he can keep up his appearance of justice and partiality in front of everyone, even Bai Hua Fairy couldn’t touch him in front of the 2 Saints.

This would also damage Bai Hua sect’s reputation, getting back for the humiliation they faced in the semester examination.

From then on, Gu Qing Shan’s reputation would also drop without stopping, there would be no more ridiculous title like Sword 15.

One strike, three dead!

But who could’ve known, when the 3 Saints arrived, not only did his Shifu not defend his actions, but even the Great Monk of Sorrow spoke up.

*Just why is that?*

Wu Xing Wen felt his mind was boggled, as if there was some sort of wall blocking him from the truth in his head.

“Qin Xiao Lou, you can go back to your original post. Gu Qing Shan, you come with me” Bai Hua Fairy waved her hands, lifting Gu Qing Shan up to the clouds, standing behind her.

“Yes, Shifu” Qin Xiao Lou very gladly returned, even glaring at Wu Xing Wen on his way back.

“This matter, shall stop here temporarily” Bai Hua Fairy held herself back and spoke after a long silence.

“That’s right, there’s something more important for us to do right now. The matter of your disciple, we all shall do him justice tonight” Xuanyuan Tianzun also softly soothed her anger.

Wu Xing Wen couldn't help but feel fear from hearing that.

And there was nothing he could do to save the situation at this point.

The Great Monk of Sorrow looked around at the cultivators below, softly spoke: "Amitabha, to look for the traitor, this Saint has created a differentiating spell, everyone please leave your weapons, Inventory Bags and spirit beast bags outside, go into the General's tent as you're called, this Saint shall use the might of Buddha to fish out our traitors"

"After the traitors have been removed, we shall move out to the Demon Clouds River for our decisive battle with the demons!"

"Yes!"

All cultivators loudly agreed.

Since the Great Monk of Sorrow has a method to deal with the problem, there won't be any more problems.

At this point, Bai Hua Fairy took Gu Qing Shan into the tent first, while Xuanyuan Tianzun looked at the army, first declaring: "The three Ding Yuan Generals shall enter first"

As Wu Xing Wen hears this, he was a bit hesitant and glanced towards the other two Ding Yuan Generals.

Both Gong Sun Zhi and Ming Hui Monk had already started to walk into the tent behind Xuanyuan Tianzun.

Wu Xing Wen was a bit confused with himself and laughed in deprecation.

*What's wrong with me? Why would I be afraid to go in?*

Wu Xing Wen shook his head and also entered the General's tent.

Seeing Wu Xing Wen go inside, the Great Monk of Sorrow who has been silently watching him breathed out silently, almost seemed relieved.

"Can still be saved..."

He muttered with a voice so low no none could hear, then entered the General's tent as well.

A few moments later, the three Ding Yuan Generals left the tent.

Very naturally, they greeted their subordinates and arranged the cultivators of each sect to enter the tent in an organized manner.

One by one, the cultivators lined up and entered the tent.

But the line was moving very quickly, too quickly, almost like it was only done for show.

Thus, the strange scene continued in the camp.

A cultivator would enter the tent without knowing anything, then quickly left.



While the cultivators were lined up and waiting, a few of the smarter ones all arrived at the same conclusion.

——the 3 Saints are doing this for show.

They're doing this on purpose in order to calm down everyone's nerves before the battle.

"How is it?"

"How did the Saints figure out how to find the traitor?"

"What kind of spell was it?"

A few cultivators who hasn't entered the tent yet grabbed the ones who just left and asked full of curiosity.

"It's a Buddhistic Secret, you'll know when you go inside"

All the cultivators who left all answered vaguely, being secretive.

It was when every cultivator had gone in and out of the tent once that the Saints once again came out.

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Seeing their faces, even they looked a bit tired.

But very strangely, not even a single person has been singled out as a traitor yet.

Yet the Great Monk of Sorrow didn't speak a single word about it.

The entire army was silent, not even a single person opened their mouth to ask who the traitor was and ruin the solemnity of this scene.

In absolute silence, the 3 Saints started talking.

"We're moving out?" Xuanyuan Tianzun asked.

"We're moving out, whether we win or lose all depends on this" Bai Hua Fairy answered.

"Amitabha, may the bodhisattva bless us humanity" the Great Monk of Sorrow exclaimed.

Demon Clouds River.

This was an endless river just outside the Demon Palace.

The original name of this place was Clouds River, but when demons descended from the outer realms, its name was changed to be Demon Clouds River.

The legends say that many years ago, when the Demon Palace came to this world, to not let any beings of this world notice, demons from the outer realm had casted a secret ritual on this river to quarantine it.

Thin clouds and mist that never dissipate fills the air above the river, birds cannot fly there, and fishes cannot live.

There were only a few mountains filled with greenery in the river, almost like it was some sort of heavenly place.

If you didn't know, you'd never think this was a place that demons have invaded to live.

Behind this Demon Clouds River is the Demon Palace.

It's called that, but in reality, it looks more like a temple.

This temple was forged from solid durable black metal, there's not even a gap in the giant construct, only a single large gate that opens outward.

From afar, when looking inside, you'll see a slender feminine figure on the altar.

Due to the constraint of eyesight, all anyone could see is the thin Hagoromo coat she wore, but not her face or expression.

No one knows for sure just who the person being worshipped on the altar was.

And there hasn't been anyone that can actually enter the altar to find out.

Before, when Gong Sun Zhi and Ning Yue Xi returned from Shen Wu world, it was because they wanted to investigate it that they were found out and pursued by the demons.

On one side of Demon Clouds River.

All sorts of strange and weird demons were lined up in army formations.

They were screaming, screeching, impatiently waiting for their orders, already itching to enter humanity's frontline and start the massacre.

Standing not very far from where they were came the human army.

Almost a hundred thousand cultivators just stood there in silence and glared at the demons.

Within every group was a giant defensive formation and an attack formation ready to be deployed, all the cultivators had already held their weapons.

They were also waiting for their order.

It was as if the heaven and earth itself knows about this day, because the sun refused to show.

High in the sky were thick, black clouds that covered the entire battlefield, leaving the ground chilly despite the heat of battle.

As the two armies faced off, the war drums were about to sound.

Suddenly, 13 figures appeared from the middle of Demon Clouds River, slowly rose up with overwhelming pressure between the two armies.

A tall old man wearing a large white robe stood out.

His hair and beard was white, tied into a Daoist knot, wearing a large white coat, even his skin was sickly white. Deep crack-like wrinkles protruded from the sides of his eyes, as he smiled, the fierce and cruel vertical white irises also showed itself.

This was one who inherited the Divine Beast White Tiger's bloodline, having reached the realm of Saints over hundreds of years ago, the strongest of the Beast Saints, Venerable Xin.

Venerable Xin clasped his hands behind his back, laughing loudly: "This old man is already here, why haven't the 3 Saints showed up yet?"

When he started to speak, the 12 other figures finally descended behind him in silence, respectfully stood there.

Even in the demon army, as the demons heard his voice, they all stood still and went silent, stifled any and every sound they could make.

A cloud flew up from humanity's camp, slowly flew up and ascended across where Venerable Xin stood.

The 3 Saints of humanity has arrived.

## **Chapter 159**

This scheme has been brewing for such a long time, at least a few dozens years before even the Demon Lord descended.

But right now, the Demon Lord had already left for another world, making him take over the battle in this world.

All the outer realm demons had already gone with the Demon Lord to some other world to enjoy their spoils of victory.

Yet they didn't allow him and his people here to come with and share even the tiniest bit.

How deplorable!

The war has already reached the stage where he's at the end of his rope, having no other choice but to risk it all.

The red-faced Daoist is Xuanyuan Tianzun, as long as he's fooled, his plan is already half-done.

Bai Hua Fairy's strength is formidable, but she's normally very lazy and doesn't bother with scheming too much.

And the Great Monk of Sorrow is even easier, as long as the other 2 Saints agree on something, the Great Monk of Sorrow will always silently accept and help out.

Because of that, the most important part of this plan is to convince Xuanyuan Tianzun.

He must succeed with the next step of the plan, otherwise, when the Demon Lord comes back, his life is as good as forfeit.

After thinking that much, all of Venerable Xin's hesitation was swept away.

“Amitabha, fellow Dao seeker Xin, long time no see” the Great Monk of Sorrow greeted him first.

Venerable Xin responded: “No need for small talk, I just want to ask, do you want to fight this battle for real?”

“Which time was it not real?” Bai Hua Fairy scoffed.

Venerable Xin looked at her and smiled: “Xie Dao Ling, no need to be so serious”

Xie Dao Ling also stared back at him, saying: “If you lot aren’t willing to be serious, then get your tails off this world, go and find the next world with those outer realm demons”

Venerable Xin sighed: “Now if it only that simple. We all must ensure the safety of our home first before being able to move on with our paths”

“Then we have nothing to talk about, a battle will have to happen regardless” as soon as Xuanyuan Tianzun finished speaking, he was already holding a talisman in his hand.

The talisman let out a glowing light, seeming to only need Xuanyuan Tianzun to swing his hand to activate the powerful spell within.

“Don’t be hasty” Venerable Xin raised his hand and stopped him.

“What, do you want to surrender?” Xuanyuan Tianzun asked without any expectations.

“Our side have over a dozen, your side only have three, if there’s ever a surrender, it will be you” a Beast Saint couldn’t endure and berated.

Venerable Xin glared back at him, shutting up that Beast Saint.

Venerable Xin spoke: “If we were to fight seriously, whether it’s us or you, someone will have to die here”

“Both you and I know the monumental amount of hardship and effort we had to go through in order to reach this realm of Saints, no one would really want to risk all that in a battle, do they?”

His tone was calm and sincere, making everyone couldn’t help but empathize with him.

“Not to mention” seeing no one spoke up, Venerable Xin was deeply satisfied and continued: “Just like how you don’t want human cultivators to die meaninglessly, I also don’t want our demon beast subordinates to die on this battlefield”

“Then what do you want?” Xie Dao Ling asked.

“How about we make a bet, we won’t risk our lives, we’ll only use the results to determine win and loss” Venerable Xin smiled and said.

“What happens if we win? And what happens if we lose?” Xuanyuan Tianzun asked.

“If you win, we will immediately surrender, swearing on our demon hearts to be your servants from now on” Venerable Xin said.

“That’s fair, then what if we lose?” Xuanyuan Tianzun asked further.

“Then the three Saints must leave this world, giving up this land to us” Venerable Xin smiled.

Xie Dao Ling suddenly spoke: “Before the outer realm demons came here, both humans and beasts were able to coexist for over thousands of years, why is it that we can’t stand each other anymore?”

Venerable Xin thought about the old days, then sighed: “Different wants create different paths”

“That’s not it” Xie Dao Ling watched him closely and declared: “There must be something in it for you, something so valuable that you can’t refuse, that you’d be willing to become dogs for the outer realm demons to get”

“Then how about this” Venerable Xin thought about it and answered: “If you win, we won’t just swear to become your servants, we’ll also tell you that secret”

The three Saints exchanged looks and fell into silence.

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They were obviously using inner sight to discuss how to deal with this.

Seeing that, Venerable Xin didn’t rush them and patiently waited.

After a while.

Xuanyuan Tianzun asked: “How do you want to bet?”

The white-robed old man was extremely joyful inside, but his face remained calm and spoke: “Very simple, our two sides will enter battle, 10 attacks is the limit. The side is more wounded loses”

“1-one-1?” Xie Dao Ling asked.

“That’s not possible” Venerable Xin clasped his fist and spoke, “no single person on our side is able to take on the three Saints of humanity on their own. Let us loosen it a bit, 2-on-1”

Beasts increase their cultivation quite easily, but their strength doesn’t match their realm, even 2-on-1 is very hard for the Beast Saint to win against a Saint of humanity.

With 10 attacks, it’s very difficult for any side to kill the other, not to mention there are also others watching from outside.

Seeing that the rules are fair, they only needed to think about it a bit to feel tempted.

“However, if you lose, will you follow us so easily?” Bai Hua Fairy asked again.

“Both you and I are Saints, what would going back on our words do besides making a joke out of ourselves?” Venerable Xin replied.

“Very well, then we’ll bet” Bai Hua Fairy accepted.

The other two Saints also nodded their head.

Venerable Xin was a bit surprised looking at Xie Dao Ling, feeling that she was a bit too easygoing today.

*But no matter, what I have to do has not changed...*

“Very well, fighting here would be too easy to harm our subordinates, please follow me” the white-robed Venerable Xin swung his sleeves and headed towards Demon Clouds River.

The three Saints thought for a bit, then followed.

This area is between the two armies, so if the Saints fight here, there might really be casualties.

Seeing they all went at the same time, Venerable Xin smirked.

The main point isn't what conditions are given, it's not even whether or not they accepted the bet. The true main point is to have the three Saints cross Demon Clouds River at the same time.

As long as all three Saints enter Demon Clouds River, whatever happens next isn't up to them!

Venerable Xin was feeling extremely glad.

The three Saints will all die here without a doubt, unless they break open Space and escape into the Chaotic Space Current.

But if they do that, it'll be very hard for them to return, also posing no threat to him.

The rest of humanity will be as good as done after this.

*The entire world shall become my spoils of war, when the Demon Lord knows about this, I'll definitely be praised.*

*And those outer realm demons that dared to look down on me shall all become my subordinates, with me holding their lives in my hand.*

The white-robed old man was so emotional that he had to try his best to calm himself down and maintain his stable flight.

The dozen Beast Saints followed behind the three Saints of humanity, stopping as soon as they were above Demon Clouds River.

“Stop, here will be fine” the white-robed old man looked around and seems to arbitrarily picked a spot.

Everyone stopped their flight.

“Then we shall begin” he rubbed his hand, “10 attacks will be the limit, let's try our best to not harm each other too much”

“Who will go first?” Xuanyuan Tianzun clasped his hand behind his back, flying between the two sides.

“I think we'd better just have all three fights at once” the white-robed old man smiled mysteriously and pointed at six Beast Saints.

At his cue, the six Beast Saints all went out at the same time, flying towards Xuanyuan Tianzun.

Six Beast Saints is enough to overwhelm and immediately kill Xuanyuan Tianzun.

As the Great Monk of Sorrow and Bai Hua Fairy felt something wasn't right, they instantly flew up and stood beside Xuanyuan Tianzun.

*Very good, everything is going according to plan,* the white-robed old man silently said to himself.

