

Chapter 381: Saber Mountain Spirit Sea

In truth, Su Zimo was already tempted the moment he heard about the Elixir Pool Sect ruins.

It wasn't purely because of Xiaoning; he had his own needs as well.

The Meridian Unlocking Elixir.

More than that, it was for a perfect-grade Meridian Unlocking Elixir!

After hearing Tang Yu's introduction of Elixir Pool Sect, Su Zimo was even more certain that they would most likely find perfect-grade Meridian Unlocking Elixirs in the Elixir Pool Sect.

Tang Yu said, "Of course, for a sect as large as Elixir Pool Sect, there will definitely be many other treasures. In fact, we might even find gems like connate spirit weapons."

Su Zimo pondered for a moment. "I'll do my best to help Elixir Yang Sect get the ruins. Furthermore, I won't want anything else. However, I ask for a perfect-grade Meridian Unlocking Elixir!"

"Pfft!"

Yan Jun could not help but burst into laughter as he looked at Su Zimo with a mocking gaze. "Perfect Meridian Unlocking Elixir. What a daring demand! Who do you think you are, huh?"

"Who are you?" Su Zimo glared at him.

Proudly, Yan Jun declared, "I'm Yan Jun, a cultivator of Elixir Yang Sect's Battle Hall at seven meridian Foundation Establishment!"

"Also, don't think that you have the right to negotiate terms with Elixir Yang Sect just because you've killed two seven meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators. Su Zimo, let me tell you, without us, you won't even be able to get close to the main hall of Elixir Pool Sect!"

"Yan Jun!"

Tang Yu glared at him and said sternly.

Harrumphing, Yan Jun did not continue, merely crossing his arms and scoffing coldly.

Tang Yu turned to Su Zimo apologetically. "Fellow Daoist Su, it's not that we can't agree to a perfect Meridian Unlocking Elixir, but..."

"But?" Su Zimo asked.

Tang Yu continued, "Elixir Yang Sect is not the only faction that has arrived in Xuantian City for the Elixir Pool Sect ruins. There's also other large sects such as Glass Palace and Malevolent Earth Sect. As for the Meridian Unlocking Elixir, it's better if we don't find a gem like that. If we do, the top cultivators of the other sects are bound to come and contest for it!"

In other words, Tang Yu meant that they would have to face many extremely strong foes if Su Zimo wanted to contest for a perfect Meridian Unlocking Elixir!

After pondering for a slight moment, Tang Yu added, "I'll be blunt here, I'm talking about people like Pei Chunyu of Glass Palace and Xue Yang of Malevolent Earth Sect. For these people, other than connate spirit weapons, other treasures and secret skills aren't worth bothering about."

"They are most likely here for the perfect Meridian Unlocking Elixirs as well!"

The higher the grade of the Meridian Unlocking Elixir, the greater the chances of one unlocking their spirit meridians.

Pei Chunyu and Xue Yang were already at the peak of seven meridian Foundation Establishment. The best chance for them to unlock their eighth spirit meridians would be to consume perfect Meridian Unlocking Elixirs!

This was an opportunity they wouldn't miss.

At the thought of Xue Yang and Pei Chunyu, Su Zimo frowned.

He had exchanged blows with Pei Chunyu before. Although it was only a single blow, he could still sense how terrifying his opponent was.

To be fair, if he had not made use of the blood bone palm, there was a high chance that his arm would have been crippled by Pei Chunyu back then!

Tang Yu said, "Even though you killed two seven meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators, you have to understand that there's a distinction in strength between seven meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators as well. Take me for example, I'm at seven meridian Foundation Establishment as well, but I'm an Elixir Refinement Master. Five of me won't be a match for people like Chai Li and Hu Meng."

"However, even 10 seven meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators the likes of Chai Li and Hu Meng wouldn't be a match for Pei Chunyu or Xue Yang. That's the difference we're talking about!"

Su Zimo remained silent.

He knew that Tang Yu was not wrong – his chances of winning the two of them without the use of his demon form wasn't great.

Uncle Liang remarked as well, "The immortal and fiend sects have a heritage of countless years and they have too many cultivation techniques and secret skills, each of which are extremely strong and can suppress everything."

"Your advantage is in melee combat. Unfortunately, the successor of Glass Palace is also skilled in melee combat and has a physique so strong that only a few of the other sects' successors can match him!"

Tang Yu added, "You took advantage of the situation by making use of thunder to kill Chai Li and Hu Meng. There's an element of luck involved. However, can you guarantee that the skies will be stormy when you go against Pei Chunyu and Xue Yang?"

"In other words, even if you manage to repeat that slash infused with the power of thunder, Pei Chunyu and Xue Yang might be able to deal with it given their strength."

Yan Jun could not help but blurt, "Junior sister, you're overestimating him. He's not even a match for the legacy disciples of Thousand Crane Sect and Puppet Sect, let alone paragons like Pei Chunyu and Xue Yang. Outsiders aside, even I can smash him to a pulp with ease!"

To Yan Jun, the reason why Su Zimo was able to kill Chai Li and Hu Meng 10 days ago was purely due to an opportunistic moment.

If the skies were sunny, he would be able to kill Su Zimo for sure!

Su Zimo could not be bothered to react to Yan Jun's sarcastic remarks.

To him, it wasn't difficult if he wanted to defeat Pei Chunyu and Xue Yang.

After all, he had only just advanced to five meridian Foundation Establishment and of the seven orifices, his mouth and eye orifices were not cleared yet.

Both Pei Chunyu and Xue Yang were already at the peak of seven meridian Foundation Establishment and it was difficult for them to grow stronger.

However, his potential was unlimited!

As long as he had sufficient time, Su Zimo would definitely be able to suppress Pei Chunyu and Xue Yang in terms of strength if he could advance to six, seven meridian Foundation Establishment or clear his seven orifices and attain lesser mastery of the Orifice Clearing section!

Su Zimo asked, "How long do we have till the opening of the Elixir Pool Sect ruins?"

"A month at most!" Tang Yu replied.

A month.

Su Zimo furrowed his brows slightly.

Time was too short.

He had just advanced to five meridian Foundation Establishment. Even in the ancient battlefield, he would not be able to unlock his sixth spirit meridian within a month.

Furthermore, he couldn't clear his mouth and eye orifices within a month as well.

Right then, Uncle Liang seemed to have recalled something. He looked at Su Zimo and suddenly said, "Actually, there's a place in the ancient battlefield that's rather suitable for you. If you manage to succeed, you might be able to stand a chance against Pei Chunyu and Xue Yang."

Tang Yu's heart skipped a beat as she looked at Uncle Liang and asked, "Uncle Liang, are you referring to... that place?"

"Yes."

Uncle Liang nodded and smiled right away. "Forget it, there's no chance of success at all. I was thinking too much."

Tang Yu nodded as well. "If we're talking about that place, the chances are indeed... slim. There's no need for that."

Su Zimo was curious as well when he heard how ambiguous the two of them were and could not help but ask, "Senior, Young Master Tang, what is the place you are referring to?"

Tang Yu did not intend to hide anything and asked instead, "Fellow Daoist, have you heard of the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea?"

"Saber Mountain Spirit Sea?"

Su Zimo frowned, shaking his head.

Ji Chengtian and the others were confused as well. It was obvious that they knew nothing about that name.

"Fufu."

Yan Jun sneered, "Truly bumpkin cultivators. To think that they've never even heard of the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea, how laughable!"

Chapter 382: Legend of the Saber Emperor

Each time cultivators of the Great Zhou Dynasty entered the ancient battlefield, they would only linger around the borders – how could they have heard of the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea?

If it was not because Su Zimo had brought Ji Chengtian and the others to this place, they might never have known about Xuantian City nor would they have the chance to interact with large sects such as Elixir Yang Sect and Glass Palace in their entire lives.

Experiences as such were rare and precious, serving as eyeopeners.

Su Zimo never had any feuds with Yan Jun. However, the latter had been unfriendly to him right from the beginning, shooting sarcastic remarks whenever he had the chance.

As for the exact reason, Su Zimo had a vague guess.

However, this was a cultivator of Elixir Yang Sect's Battle Hall after all and Su Zimo was not bothered since Yan Jun had yet to cross his bottom line.

Tang Yu frowned gently and shot Yan Jun a stern look before saying slowly, "The reason why the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea is so famous is because of an old legend related to it."

Through her tone, it was obvious that the legend was far from simple.

Su Zimo's group looked serious as they sat upright and listened intently.

Tang Yu said slowly, "The legend... of the Saber Emperor!"

The Saber Emperor!

The moment those two words were said, the void trembled, as if a pitch-dark crevasse had been opened up, sending a chilling gust of wind forth!

The mere mention of those words brought forth an indescribable pressure. It was ancient, as though it had crossed through the archaic times with an indestructible intent that was shocking!

Instantly, a killing intent filled the hall.

Everyone felt as if it had become much more difficult to breathe.

It took a long while before the sensation dispersed.

Tang Yu took a deep breath and said, "The emperor represents invincibility, superiority and uniqueness. He is invincible in the way of the saber with no one that can surpass him, hence the title of the Saber Emperor!"

"While the Saber Emperor may not have been the strongest person in Tianhuang Mainland, he was the one and only emperor in the way of the saber among all the saber cultivators!"

Su Zimo understood.

In any given era, there could be many emperors. However, in any particular domain or path, there could only be a single emperor.

That was the definition of emperor – invincible, supreme and unique!

The emperor of the path of immortality was the Immortal Emperor; the emperor of the fiend path was the Fiend Emperor; the emperor of the way of the sword was the Sword Emperor...

Following that line of deduction, those that become emperors must naturally be among the strongest cultivators of Tianhuang Mainland.

"I believe all of you know that the sword reigns supreme in the current Tianhuang Mainland and the most common weapon of choice for immortal cultivators are flying swords. However, back in the ancient era, there were a hundred weapon classes that fought for supremacy. Apart from swords, there were sabers, spears, halberds, axes, bows and many other weapons. The sword had its own way and so did the saber. There was an emperor for every type of weapon."

"However, in the ancient era, the human race was blessed with immense luck and gave birth to countless paragons in Tianhuang Mainland, giving rise to multiple emperors. That was a golden era for us humans and we waged a historic war against the other races known as the ancient war. The war lasted for a long time and countless human experts and ancient mighty figures fell. The emperors were all tainted with blood and it was extremely tragic."

"Although we humans stood victorious after the war, most of the hundred weapon techniques were lost in the ancient battlefield with no future left in sight. The only remaining lineages were the ways of the sword and saber."

Su Zimo and the rest were shocked when they heard that.

They had never heard of these ancient tales and legends. Right now, they were greatly intrigued.

Even though it was only a few short descriptions, everyone could almost envision that magnificent era before their eyes.

In fact, Su Zimo had an urge to go against the tides of time and follow in the footsteps of his predecessors to witness that glorious history.

Tang Yu continued, "The reason why those two heritages could be passed down from the ancient war was naturally attributed to two people, the Sword Emperor and the Saber Emperor. There are way too many legends regarding these two mighty figures. Some described them as mortal enemies, some described them as bosom buddies and there were even some who said that they were neither friends nor foes, merely appreciative of the others' talents..."

"No matter what, the final outcome was that the Saber Emperor went far away and left Tianhuang Mainland. Thereafter, there were no emperors for all the other weapons and only the way of the sword reigned supreme, leading to the current state of the cultivation world."

Su Zimo's group let out a long breath, unable to calm down for a long time.

It was only now that they understood why most of the cultivators in the cultivation world used flying swords instead of flying sabers and other weapons. So, this was the reason.

Tang Yu said, "The legacy that the Sword Emperor left behind back then is the current Sword Sect, one of the nine immortal sects!"

Su Zimo was secretly impressed.

Originally, he thought that super sects such as the nine immortal sects, seven fiend sects and six Buddhist monasteries only earned their title as the strongest factions of Tianhuang Mainland due to their ancient lineage and strong foundations.

But judging from the situation now, all of those sects had shocking backgrounds!

For example, of the nine immortal sects, Sword Sect's Founder Master was the Sword Emperor of the ancient times. In fact, he was someone that influenced the future of the world such that the way of the sword was supreme in the current cultivation world.

After a moment of silence, Su Zimo suddenly asked, "Where did the Saber Emperor go?"

Tang Yu smiled faintly. "He traveled far overseas and found a lone island in the ocean, leaving his legacy there."

Su Zimo's heart skipped a beat as he blurted, "One of the two islands?"

The top factions of Tianhuang Mainland consisted of the nine immortal sects, eight demon races, seven fiend sects, six Buddhist monasteries, five heretical doctrines, four unorthodox groups, three aristocrat families, two islands and one palace.

"That's right."

Tang Yu's eyes flickered with a hint of admiration as she nodded. "The legacy left behind by the Saber Emperor is one of the two islands, Divine Phoenix Island. The successor of Divine Phoenix Island rarely steps foot onto Tianhuang Mainland. However, each time one of them does, they would definitely be unrivaled paragons that are bound to create waves in the cultivation world!"

Su Zimo lamented.

From this perspective, the Saber Emperor did not lose back then.

The legacy left behind by the Sword Emperor is one of the immortal sects and the legacy left behind by the Saber Emperor is one of the two islands. In terms of reputation, status or strength, the island is not weaker than Sword Sect.

“What does the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea have to do with the Saber Emperor then?” Su Zimo asked.

Tang Yu explained, “It’s said that when the Saber Emperor left Tianhuang Mainland, he left behind a legacy, the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea in the ancient battlefield.”

“While the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea truly exists, there has never been any cultivator who has obtained its inheritance for thousands of years. Countless paragons have been produced in this period of time but all of them ended in failure. Gradually, the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea became a legend that no one believed in, until...”

With a slight pause, Tang Yu continued, “Around a thousand years ago, a monstrous cultivator appeared in the ancient battlefield. Although he was not from one of the super sects, he had frightening combat strength and could compete against all the legacy disciples of the various major sects!”

“It was said that the person managed to obtain the Saber Emperor’s in the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea!”

Su Zimo frowned slightly and asked, “The Saber Mountain Spirit Sea still exists after that person obtained the Saber Emperor’s inheritance?”

“I don’t know the exact reasons why, but it indeed still exists.”

Tang Yu nodded. “You’re considered as a saber cultivator as well and the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea is suitable for you and can help your strength grow rapidly. Naturally, there’s a prerequisite... and that is for you to obtain the inheritance of the Saber Emperor.”

Chapter 383: Standing Shoulder to Shoulder With the Emperors

Upon hearing that, Su Zimo had already made up his mind that he wanted to make a trip to the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea.

Even though Su Zimo had made use of sabers up till this point of his cultivation, he knew nothing about saber techniques; he merely relied on the power of his bloodline as well as his physique’s strength to slash widely.

Thankfully, he cultivated the Mystic Classic of the Twelve Demon Kings of the Great Wilderness, making his skin coarse and flesh thick. Agile as an ape, he could pounce like a tiger, sprint like a horse, rise like the wind, land like an arrow and be tough and nimble at the same time.

Coupled with the assistance of his spirit perception, he could evade danger without even seeing it and thus, it was quite rare for him to be disadvantaged.

However, Su Zimo knew very well that if he were to meet a top-notch expert, his opponent would be able to easily find the openings of his saber technique and take him down, even if the latter's strength could not match his!

Therefore, even if there was only a one in a million chance, Su Zimo wanted to head over and give it a shot.

When he saw that Su Zimo was moved, Yan Jun sneered at the side, "There have been countless cultivators who have been to the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea before. Many of them were paragons that were far beyond their contemporaries. However, there has only been a single person who has managed to succeed through the thousands of years. Does a country bumpkin such as yourself who have never even heard of the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea think that you are befitting of receiving the Saber Emperor's inheritance?"

Tang Yu was already displeased at how Yan Jun was targeting Su Zimo repeatedly.

It was only after she noticed that Su Zimo was calm and had no reaction that she became slightly relieved.

"Also, there's one more thing I have to remind you about."

Tang Yu said deeply, "I don't know much about the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea either. After all, there has already been someone who received the Saber Emperor's inheritance a thousand years ago. As such, you might end up making a wasted trip."

"It's alright."

Su Zimo smiled calmly. "The many legends that you've told me about are truly fascinating. In the ancient war, dragons and snakes rose together with the emperors in that golden era. The only regret I have is that I wasn't born back then to stand shoulder to shoulder with those emperors, leaving my name through history!"

The moment he said that, the hall went silent.

Everyone watched with shock and slightly agape mouths.

The verve of this man!

How much verve was required for him to state that he wanted to leave his name through history by standing shoulder to shoulder with those emperors!

The fact that such a statement was said by a Foundation Establishment Cultivator was truly ridiculous and arrogant.

For some unknown reason, Su Zimo was not filled with passion or unparalleled pride when he said those words, merely looking extremely natural.

However, it felt as though the green-robed cultivator before them was truly qualified to stand shoulder to shoulder with those emperors!

Even Yan Jun who had a grudge against Su Zimo could not spout out a single sarcastic remark at this moment.

He wouldn't have dared to repeat Su Zimo's statement personally, worried that bad luck might befall him from the unknowns.

Even for the emperors that have fallen for countless years, their dignities could not be sullied!

Uncle Liang looked at Su Zimo deeply.

Initially, he had underestimated Su Zimo.

However, at that moment, Uncle Liang's previous impression of Su Zimo disappeared entirely!

Su Zimo did not notice the strange expressions of everyone around him, merely immersed in his own emotions. Shaking his head gently, he lamented, "Time is merciless through history. Be it the Sword Emperor or the Saber Emperor, both have already passed on along with those eras, leaving only their legends."

"Since there's no longer a chance to witness the majesty of the Saber Emperor, I might as well head out to the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea. Even if I can't obtain the inheritance, I can relive the glory of the past in the ruins to make up for the regrets in my heart."

Tang Yu nodded. "Since you have already decided, I won't stop you. However, you have to return to Xuantian City within the month to help us contend for the Elixir Pool Sect ruins."

"Alright."

Su Zimo nodded.

Right then, a cultivator of Elixir Yang Sect strode in quickly and greeted with cupped fists. "Young Master, Feng Manman of Thousand Crane Sect requests an audience."

"Sister Manman?"

Tang Yu pondered for a moment and shifted her gaze. It paused on Leng Rou for a brief moment before she nodded. "Invite her in."

She explained to Su Zimo's group. "The four unorthodox groups have a pretty good relationship. Sister Manman is the commander for Thousand Crane Sect's expedition this time round and I've known her for many years."

Right then, a woman in a long white robe strode over. With a curvy and voluptuous figure, her steps were nimble and her black silky hair was tied in a bun, exuding a mature and dignified aura. Her features were exquisite and very beautiful.

On the woman's waist, apart from a storage bag, there was a pink paper crane that was really pretty tied to it.

Tang Yu walked over and smiled. "Sister Manman, come on in."

Feng Manman glanced at Tang Yu and chuckled. "My, why are you still dressed like this? You're no longer young."

"I'm used to it," Tang Yu blinked.

"Xiao Yu, I'm not going to beat around the bush. I'm here for someone," Feng Manman did not waste time with any small talk.

"For her?"

Tang Yu glanced at Leng Rou.

Feng Manman smiled. "I can't keep anything from you."

"Me?"

Leng Rou was slightly stunned.

Feng Manman nodded with a gentle gaze. "I can see your talent in talisman crafting and can't bear to bury it, so I'm here to invite you to join Thousand Crane Sect. What do you think?"

Leng Rou loved crafting talismans and indeed wanted to join Thousand Crane Sect. However, she did not expect the latter to come knocking.

Furthermore, she could tell that this Thousand Crane Sect cultivator was truly sincere.

Right then, another Elixir Yang Sect cultivator headed in and greeted with cupped fists. "Ying Ze of Puppet Sect requests an audience."

One of the five heretical doctrines, Puppet Sect!

"Let him in!"

Tang Yu raised her head.

Not long later, a muscular man strode into the hall wearing linen clothes. He had short hair and looked honest, grinning with cupped fists the moment he entered. "Greetings, fellow Daoists."

Tang Yu whispered to Su Zimo, "This man is Ying Ze, the commander of Puppet Sect for this expedition."

Su Zimo nodded.

"Young Master Tang, I'm here today because I wish to invite someone to join our Puppet Sect. I wonder if that's alright," Ying Ze went straight to the point.

"Oh?"

Tang Yu smiled and asked, "Who is the one who caught your eye?"

Ying Ze pointed to Shi Jian who was drinking tea dully at the side. "Him."

Shi Jian was confused and looked dazed, not understanding how he was chosen.

Ying Ze grinned. "This silly fool is not bad. He suits my taste."

“Hahahaha!”

Little fatty could not help but burst into laughter.

Shi Jian clenched his fists with a darkened expression and emphasized, “I’m not silly, I’m merely honest!”

“Yes,”

Ying Ze nodded and added after a slight pause, “They’re both the same thing.”

Shi Jian: “...”

Little fatty laughed even more merrily.

“Sun Dian of Tomb Sect requests an audience!”

One of the five heretical doctrines, Tomb Sect!

“Let him in!”

Before long, a pale-faced cultivator entered the hall. He had a monkey-like mouth and his eyes darted around, lighting up when they caught sight of little fatty.

Sun Dian blinked repeatedly towards little fatty.

Curious, little fatty leaned over.

The two of them, one fat and the other skinny, ran to a corner and mumbled.

Little fatty nodded repeatedly with burning eyes and smacked his lips like a starving wolf.

When he saw that, Su Zimo smiled gently – he felt happy for Leng Rou and the others.

Su Zimo was not the only one who made a name for himself and was recognized by many other cultivators in that battle on the long street – the other four were as well.

When they made the decision to return to Xuantian City, it was with the understanding that they would meet with a great disaster and die – who would have thought that it would have turned into a great opportunity for them today instead!

Fortune and misfortune were interdependent and it was nothing more than the cycle of karma.

Chapter 384: Hunted by Two Sects

Leng Rou and the others looked towards Su Zimo instinctively.

Although this opportunity was earned by them fighting on the long street, most importantly, it was because of Su Zimo.

If not for Su Zimo, they would have died long before they could even reach Xuantian City.

Su Zimo smiled and nodded.

Be it Thousand Crane Sect or Puppet Sect and Tomb Sect who appeared later on, the people who came were all the commanders of this expedition – the legacy disciples of the various sects.

That alone was enough to tell of their sincerity.

“Since we’re all in Xuantian City, we can meet one another at any time,” Little fatty was thoroughly engrossed in chatting with Sun Dian from Tomb Sect and bid farewell with that remark.

“I’ll be leaving too,”

Shi Jian scratched his head and left the hall behind Ying Ze of Puppet Sect.

Leng Rou nodded to Su Zimo as a form of greeting and left with Feng Manman of Thousand Crane Sect.

Tang Yu looked towards Ji Chengtian and blinked, saying in a playful tone, “Seems like I’ve got to extend my invitation right now or you’ll be poached away by the other sects.”

“If you don’t mind, I’m willing to join Elixir Yang Sect,” Ji Chengtian replied with a smile.

Tang Yu shifted her gaze towards Su Zimo and asked expectantly, “What about you?”

Although Su Zimo agreed to assist Elixir Yang Sect to contend for the Elixir Pool Sect ruins, he did not mention anything about joining the sect.

“I’m different from them.”

Su Zimo shook his head and did not explain further, declining tactfully.

Even though she expected that, Tang Yu could not help but feel disappointed when she heard his reply.

Su Zimo cupped his fists. “There’s no time to waste. I’ll head out to the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea right now and try to return earlier.”

“Be careful,”

Tang Yu reminded.

Turning around, Su Zimo disappeared before everyone’s eyes swiftly.

...

This was the first time that Su Zimo had shown his face in Xuantian City after that battle on the long street 10 days ago. Instantly, he attracted countless stares.

Some were in awe, some in envy, some curious...

“Did you see that? That scholarly green-robed cultivator is Su Zimo!”

“Oh, that’s him? I thought he was going to have multiple limbs and heads!”

There were cultivators in Xuantian City who hadn’t seen Su Zimo before. However, there were few who have not heard of his name.

Walking on the long street, Su Zimo could hear discussions coming from a few streets away with a mere twitch of his ears.

He was not bothered about such stuff.

However, before he walked far, his heart skipped a beat.

He sensed a fleeting killing intent from those strange gazes!

Was it a survivor of the Four Mounted Bandits?

Or...

The trees wanted silence but the wind did not stop.

To think that someone would be harboring designs on him even after that bloody battle on the long street!

Su Zimo maintained his composure and sneered in his heart, walking towards the east gate of Xuantian City.

The killing intent followed him the entire time.

Not long after he exited the city, Su Zimo sensed another killing intent on top of the first!

He was neither fast nor slow in his speed.

About two hours later, Su Zimo was already far from Xuantian City and his surroundings were empty with no one around.

Right then, the sound of clothes flapping could be heard from behind.

Su Zimo stopped in his tracks and turned around.

In the distant horizon, two figures were flying through the air at an extremely fast speed with a murderous aura.

Narrowing his gaze, he focused on the sect badges around their waists and scoffed coldly while muttering softly, "It's indeed them!"

In the bloody battle on the long street, Su Zimo killed two seven meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators. Although it was because he took advantage of the circumstances, ordinary cultivators wouldn't dare to provoke him either.

Furthermore, he had the backing of Elixir Yang Sect.

However, there were two sects in Xuantian City who had sufficient strength and reason to cause trouble for him.

Glass Palace of the immortal sects and Malevolent Earth Sect of the fiend sects!

He had rejected Pei Chunyu and Xue Yang and embarrassed them in front of everyone the other day.

Given their status, there was no way they were going to let things go.

Naturally, Glass Palace and Malevolent Earth Sect could not strike when Su Zimo was in Elixir Yang Sect.

However, cultivators of the two sects chased after him the moment he was out of the city!

Both Glass Palace and Malevolent Earth Sect had only sent a single person each. This was clear proof of how strong these two were.

In reality, if Tang Yu was here, she would have been able to recognize the two of them.

The cultivator from Glass Palace was Liu Yun and the one from Malevolent Earth Sect was Di Xing. At seven meridian Foundation Establishment, both of them were the right-hand men of Pei Chunyu and Xue Yang and possessed terrifying strength!

In the blink of an eye, Liu Yun and Di Xing had already arrived in front of him. They stood in midair on their flying swords, looking down at Su Zimo from left and right.

“Fufu.”

Liu Yun chuckled lightly with a mocking gaze. “Su Zimo, why aren’t you running?”

“Are you prepared to surrender since you know there’s no way you can run?” Di Xing’s gaze was ice cold.

Su Zimo smiled.

If he activated his bloodline and deployed Divine Steed Fleeting at full speed, these two wouldn’t be able to catch up to him!

The two of them descended slowly from midair, maintaining a fixed distance and were cautious of one another.

Liu Yun was the first to speak as he pointed to Su Zimo and said to Di Xing, “Fellow Daoist, let’s put it bluntly. The moment this man is dead, we’ll split the treasures in his storage bag evenly.”

“No problem,” Di Xing nodded.

Rolling his eyes, Liu Yun continued, “I want the long blood-red saber in his possession.

“If that’s the case, I’ll take the gigantic moon-white bow,” Di Xing replied.

The two of them were referring to the perfect spirit weapon, Blood Quencher, and the quasi-concrete spirit weapon, Moon Concealment Bow.

Neither of them took Su Zimo seriously and were already discussing how they should split his belongings.

Su Zimo’s eyes flashed with mockery as he shook his head slightly.

Immortals and fiends were different.

Since the ancient times, the duty of an immortal has always been to exterminate demons and slay fiends.

But now, what difference did the immortal sect cultivator before him have with those of the fiend sects?

“What are you guys doing?”

Su Zimo asked indifferently.

“Oh, I almost forgot about you. Senior Brother Pei has a message for you.”

Turning around, Liu Yun let out a creepy smile and said slowly, “Anyone I wish to kill will definitely die!”

Di Xing’s gaze was cold as he said maliciously, “Allowing you a chance to be Senior Brother Xue’s guard was an honor for you. Since you don’t want it, prepare to die.”

“Fufu.”

Su Zimo laughed and asked, “Why didn’t Pei Chunyu and Xue Yang come themselves if they wanted my life?”

“There’s no need to use a sledgehammer just to crack a nut!” Di Xing’s expression was filled with disdain.

Liu Yun sneered, “Why does Senior Brother Pei have to deal with a nobody like you personally?”

“HAHAHA!”

Su Zimo laughed into the skies.

His laughter was deafening, shaking the void like a great bell.

Liu Yun and Di Xing felt a slight stinging pain in their ears!

Suddenly, Su Zimo stopped laughing. His eyes were bright and filled with killing intent as he shouted, “The likes of you two actually think that you can have my life?”

“Su Zimo, you’re too arrogant! You think that you are fit to challenge me just because you’ve killed people like Hu Meng and Chai Li?”

As a disciple of Glass Palace, Liu Yun was fearless as he took a deep breath and channeled spirit energy. Instantly, seven spirit meridians shone beneath his robes and rumbled furiously with a mighty aura.

“There’s no need to say anything else. Die!”

Su Zimo strode forward and whipped out Blood Quencher with a back hand. The blood beam expanded and enveloped Liu Yun and Di Xing.

Chapter 385: Troublesome

Whoosh!

Su Zimo channeled his bloodline and his bones and tendons sounded together, rumbling with the sound of tsunami alongside thunder cracking!

Five spirit lights shone on Blood Quencher and burst forth into a blinding radiance, akin to a blazing blood-colored sun. It shot through the void with a sharp edge!

The power of that slash was extremely strong and it was fast. Any other ordinary cultivator, even if they were at seven meridian Foundation Establishment, would have been shocked.

However, Liu Yun and Di Xing were unimpressed and they even had mocking expressions.

“Let the body be like glass, transparent inside out and cleansed of impurities, turning indestructible!”

Liu Yun stood on the spot and chanted the mantra. Each time he said a single word, his body’s aura would change slightly.

Until the end, Liu Yun’s muscles seemed like they were veiled with a mysterious luster, bright as glass and without flaws and impurities!

At the same time, Liu Yun’s arms shone with four spirit lights.

It was a pair of braces, a supreme-grade spirit weapon!

Glass Palace specialized in body tempering and if one cultivated the sect’s secret manual, the Glass Heart Sutra to its max, their body, eyes and heart would be like glass. They would be indestructible, flawless, undying, immensely strong and could fight against ferocious beasts with their bare hands!

Therefore, cultivators of Glass Palace mostly used weapons such as gloves or bracers.

Although bracers were rarely seen nowadays, they were one of the hundred weapon classes back in the ancient era and were not to be underestimated.

Bracers were extremely flexible and when equipped on one’s arms, could be used both defensively and offensively, allowing one use their arms like their fingers.

Swiftly, Liu Yun neither retreated nor dodged. He buckled his knees slightly, shifting his center of gravity downwards as he propped up his arms to receive the incoming Blood Quencher.

Clang!

The sound of metal clashing rang.

Liu Yun’s figure turned shorter as his feet sank deep into the ground. However, he was not pushed backwards nor did his expression change.

As for Blood Quencher, it rebounded highly against the tremendous force.

Su Zimo narrowed his eyes and his heart skipped a beat.

On the surface, this was an even exchange.

But in reality, he took the initiative and his Blood Quencher was a grade higher than Liu Yun’s bracers!

Yet, he did not gain any advantage despite such circumstances!

“This is a tough nut to crack!”

Su Zimo realized that he might not be able to kill this person quickly and could not help but shift his gaze towards Di Xing who was not far away.

After that slash, Su Zimo used the remaining momentum of Blood Quencher as it was repelled to redirect towards Di Xing of Malevolent Earth Sect at the side. The blood beam was blinding with a nauseating smell!

A few years ago, deep underground, Su Zimo dealt with some of the fiend heirs before and had some understanding towards the fiend sects.

Among the fiend sects, Overlord Palace was the strongest in body tempering followed by Zenith Sect; the physique of Malevolent Earth Sect's fiend heir was not strong.

Su Zimo wanted to make use of a ferocious burst attack to kill Di Xing first before dealing wholeheartedly with Liu Yun later on.

“Hehe!”

As though he had sensed Su Zimo's killing intent long ago, Di Xing let out an odd chuckle and seven spirit meridians shone on his body. Spirit energy surged as he opened his mouth, spitting out a black smoke that gushed in an illusory and malefic manner!

Although he had yet to clear his eye orifices, Su Zimo's vision was extremely strong due to his daily cultivation of the Mystic Classic of the Twelve Demon Kings of the Great Wilderness.

But now, he felt his vision go black against the black fog. In that moment of daze, he lost track of Di Xing.

Blood Quencher seemed to have entered a quagmire in this mass of malefic energy and could barely be moved.

The malefic energy enveloped and corroded the blade, causing its spirit light to dim while the blood beam on the blade showed signs of weakening.

“Humph!”

Su Zimo harrumphed and held Blood Quencher horizontally across his chest. Channeling his bloodline, a ball of blazing lightning appeared in his palm and he swiped it across Blood Quencher.

The power of thunder was the most masculine and could purge off evil – it was the most effective against such malefic energy.

With a series of crackling sounds, the malefic energy around Blood Quencher was completely purged by the ball of lightning in Su Zimo's palm!

Five spirit patterns shone on the blade once more as it regained its luster.

“Lightning!”

Di Xing's eyes flashed with caution.

In reality, the smoke that he had spat out was far from simple – it was one of Malevolent Earth Sect's secret skills, Spirit Devouring Malefice!

The Spirit Devouring Malefice was extremely strong and was used to corrode spirit weapons.

Any spirit weapon that was tainted by the Spirit Devouring Malefice would have its spirit qi sucked away. Left unpurged, even its spirit patterns would be erased, rendering the spirit weapons almost useless.

Swoosh!

Liu Yun charged over from the side with his bloodline rumbling like lead mercury. A fierce wind blew behind him as he swung his arms and smashed down.

Su Zimo took a wrong step and twisted his body to slash in reverse.

Clang!

Sparks flew everywhere.

In a flash, Su Zimo's body swayed as he made use of the energy from that blow's rebound and crossed his legs, unleashing Divine Steed Fleeting to charge at Divine Steed Fleeting who was not far away with a furious killing intent!

Di Xing was different from Liu Yun.

His physique was average and he was not strong in melee combat – Su Zimo would be able to kill him as long as he could get close.

Seemingly seeing through Su Zimo's intentions, Di Xing smirked coldly.

“Go!”

Suddenly, he threw out the bone spear in his arms and it hovered in midair. A pitch-black smoke surged out from his fingertip, entering the spear.

The ten-jointed bone spear shone brightly with spirit light and four spirit patterns.

Di Xing's fingers shifted continuously as he conjured a hand seal while shouting, “Go!”

The moment he said that, the ten-jointed bone spear broke apart and turned into ten bone spikes. Each of them were shrouded with malefic energy as they shot towards Su Zimo at lightning speed.

Su Zimo had just deployed Divine Steed Fleeting when his mind flashed with a warning.

In a dizzying moment, he was welcomed by ten bone spikes.

The spikes shone coldly and were extremely sharp. These were not weaker than normal sharp weapons and holes would definitely appear on one's body if they found their mark.

The scariest thing was that the ten bone spikes were extremely precise and sealed off all of Su Zimo's escape routes!

Eight bone spikes occupied eight different directions.

The remaining two bone spikes sealed the upwards and downwards directions.

All ten directions were completely sealed!

Right then, it would be difficult for Su Zimo to avoid the bone spikes even if he made use of Anaconda Swath!

“What a brilliant technique!”

Su Zimo was secretly shocked.

Ethereal Sword, one of Ethereal Peak's three secret skills, was a weapon technique as well and consisted of three levels.

However, compared to the weapon technique of Malevolent Earth Sect, Ethereal Sword was clearly a class weaker.

Ever since he started cultivating, Su Zimo had fought countless battles. However, this was the first time that a cultivator could seal off his movements with just a weapon technique!

Now that he thought about it, it was truly way too lucky that he was able to kill the Malevolent Earth Sect fiend heir back then.

The presence of the ancient spirit lock formation disabled at least half of the Malevolent Earth Sect fiend heir's powers.

Everything else aside, if the fiend heir could use this weapon technique back then, he would have been invincible.

In that flash, Su Zimo did not have time to think as he swung Blood Quencher while channeling his bloodline. He roared loudly, slashing against an incoming bone spike by making use of his immense burst power.

Clang!

The bone spike was sent flying and a gap appeared.

Di Xing was not far away!

Su Zimo's eyes lit up. Just as he was about to charge through the gap, the air behind, above, below and on his sides vibrated immensely!

The other nine bone spikes descended, leaving Su Zimo no chance at all!

Even though Di Xing was not far away, Su Zimo had no choice but to deal with the nine bone spikes.

No matter how fast he was, he could not match the speed of the bone spikes.

Chapter 386: Contracting Tendons and Bones

Clang! Clang! Clang!

Su Zimo swung Blood Quencher and repelled three bone spikes consecutively.

Right after, he made use of his spirit perception and passed through the gap of two bone spikes extremely closely!

With a swoosh, a pair of spirit wings appeared behind his back and suddenly, Su Zimo soared into the air and evaded the remaining four bone spikes.

The entire process seemed very slow upon narration but in fact, it occurred in the split of a moment.

Any slight delay would have riddled Su Zimo's body with holes!

Su Zimo was internally shocked by how he had to unleash multiple trump cards just to barely evade the wave of attacks from Di Xing's bone spear.

Taking a deep breath, Su Zimo was about to charge forward and shorten the distance between him and Di Xing when a cold light flashed by his eyes followed by an incoming wave of malefic energy.

The bone spike that he had first repelled was now approaching him once more!

The sequence was perfect and Su Zimo did not have any breathing room at all!

With the use of his spirit wings, Su Zimo hovered in midair and reared his head; his body was almost parallel to the ground.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

A series of piercing sounds could be heard.

The previous nine bone spikes had returned and sealed his path once more.

Out of exasperation, Su Zimo could only swing Blood Quencher and fight head-on!

Clang! Clang! Clang! Clang!

He had just soared into the skies but was forced to descend onto the ground after the consecutive furious attacks of the bone spikes.

It was only now that Su Zimo understood why Tang Yu and the others had always thought that he was not a match for Pei Chunyu and Xue Yang.

Even after he displayed unparalleled strength in that bloody battle on the long street, or killed two seven meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators singlehandedly, no one thought highly of him.

The two men before him had already given him an answer.

This was the strength of the disciples that belonged to the top factions of Tianhuang Mainland!

“Skynet Fist!”

Liu Yun's voice sounded.

The spirit qi in the void behind Su Zimo fluctuated wildly – this was a sign of the condensation of spirit arts.

The changes of the void alone was enough to tell of how frightening Skynet Fist was!

Not far away, Liu Yun conjured a hand seal and punched towards Su Zimo through the void.

A fist that was conjured from spirit energy materialized and was crystal clear. It shot out, punching towards the spot where Su Zimo landed.

Boom!

Su Zimo had just landed on the ground when he heard an explosion.

Without looking, he could already feel a gigantic fist coming towards his body with a terrifying might as it caused the surrounding air to explode!

Liu Yun had arrived!

After Skynet Fist, Liu Yun's body flashed and he charged forward. Swinging his arms, his bracers shone brightly and smashed towards Su Zimo's head.

There was no wonder why Liu Yun was a disciple of an immortal sect – his timing was impeccable!

Right as Skynet Fist descended, he had arrived while unleashing a killing move!

Danger!

The current situation was much more dangerous than 10 days ago on that long street!

Su Zimo was already having too much trouble dealing with the ten bone spikes before him and now, Liu Yun, who was terrifyingly strong in melee combat, was striking from the back – a single misstep and Su Zimo would die on the spot!

Liu Yun and Di Xing's eyes shone excitedly.

To them, Su Zimo was already a dead man with nowhere to run!

Even Pei Chunyu and Xue Yang might not be able to escape unscathed against such an attack.

However, what puzzled the two of them was that they couldn't spot a single trace of panic on Su Zimo's face.

Those eyes were calm as water with slight ripples of killing intent.

All of a sudden!

Su Zimo did something that Liu Yun and Di Xing could not understand at all.

He put away his Blood Quencher.

Before the two of them could think about why Su Zimo did that, the latter had already struck!

“Fiend Suppression Seal!”

Su Zimo's left hand flickered and he connected his middle finger and thumb, conjuring a hand seal while chanting a mental sutra.

Boom!

A golden palm descended from the sky in a blinding manner. Tearing through the firmament, the patterns on the palm were clearly visible as it slammed towards the Skynet Fist with an apocalyptic might!

The palm and fist collided, creating a deafening bang in midair.

The spirit qi in the void turned chaotic instantly.

A massive wave of energy shot out from the collision as a core, spreading towards the surrounding in a golden light as spirit energy dissipated.

Su Zimo's arms were already starting to feel numb after clashing with Di Xing repeatedly earlier on.

If not for his powerful bloodline that surged like a tidal wave, he would not be able to lift his arms now, let alone have the strength to retaliate!

Right then, Liu Yun's fist flew over.

"Good move!"

Su Zimo narrowed his gaze and punched in reverse!

His right hand was the indestructible blood bone palm.

One side was an accumulated attack while the other side was a forced counterattack. Despite knowing that he had the disadvantage in strength, Su Zimo could only ensure that his right hand would not be crippled by the other party's punch!

Bang!

The fist and arm collided.

Liu Yun's bracers struck Su Zimo's fist. However, instead of bones cracking, a dull sound of defeat was heard.

Su Zimo's right hand was bloodied but his bones were intact, merely suffering wounds on his flesh.

Huh? His palm isn't crippled?

Liu Yun's pupils constricted.

'The other party merely suffered injuries on the flesh after taking a supreme-grade spirit weapon head-on with his body. In fact, his bones weren't even cracked?!'

As expected, Su Zimo's strength was not enough for that clash and his body stumbled backwards towards the ten incoming bone spikes!

"Fufu, he's going to die in my hands still..."

Di Xing sneered. However, he stopped before he could finish.

Under their watchful gazes, Su Zimo was about to be pierced by the ten bone spikes when his bones and tendons sounded at the same time. They shifted and suddenly contracted into a bundle, making him the size of a small child!

Psst!

The two of them gasped.

Liu Yun was even more shocked.

How was that possible?

Because Glass Palace specialized in body tempering, he knew very well that it was extremely difficult for a person to achieve what Su Zimo just did!

That was the art of Tendons Transformation, a point where even the tendons and bones have been cultivated to the extreme!

In fact, a person could change their appearance with this.

Only a Nascent Soul with an Essence Spirit could distinguish between the person's true appearance.

Even Pei Chunyu of Glass Palace could not achieve this, let alone him!

After his body shrank, a few bone spikes that should have pierced Su Zimo missed instantly.

Despite that, Su Zimo could not avoid all of the bone spikes.

His miniature frame twisted in midair and contorted into an unimaginable arc, shuttling through a few bone spikes!

Poof!

Flashes of blood appeared.

A bone spike brushed by Su Zimo's chest, leaving a wound.

Although he did not manage to avoid all the bone spikes, Su Zimo managed to escape from a fatal situation with his unparalleled use of Tendons Transformation!

Crackle!

In front of the two of them, Su Zimo's bones and tendons sounded and that child expanded right away, turning to his original body once more.

Chapter 387: Kill!

Di Xing's gaze was dark as he glared at the wound on Su Zimo's chest.

Although that wound wasn't deep, the weapons of Malevolent Earth Sect were all basked and tempered in malefic energy. The moment they injure anyone, malefic energy would surge into the smallest of wounds.

Those that were lightly affected would not be able to channel their spirit energy efficiently and their combat strength would weaken. If they did not purge it in time, it might even destroy their foundation and cripple their chances at future cultivation!

Those that were severely affected would have their hearts enveloped by the malefic energy, severing their meridians and killing them on the spot!

Right in front of Di Xing, the wound on Su Zimo's chest flashed with streaks of lightning, purging the malefic energy entirely.

Su Zimo stood where he was and glared at Liu Yun and Di Xing coldly. The killing intent in his eyes intensified and his aura was changing as well.

“Hehe.”

Di Xing laughed menacingly. “Su Zimo, surrender! That tendons transformation of yours is only going to work the first time. Next time, I’ll be prepared and you’ll be shredded to pieces even if you turn into a baby!”

“Su Zimo, I’m going to give you a chance,”

Suddenly, Liu Yun’s eyes shone and he said, “As long as you’re willing to hand over your body tempering technique, I’ll let you off. Furthermore, I’ll be on your side and kill Di Xing. How does that sound?”

“Fufufufu!”

Su Zimo burst into laughter as he twisted his neck while his eyes shone with a demonic glint. “You guys really think you’ve won?”

The moment he said that, a sinister wind gusted without warning.

Looking at Su Zimo with his sinister expression not far away, Liu Yun and Di Xing felt an unprecedented sense of fear!

Why am I feeling this way?

The two of them exchanged glances with grim expressions.

“You want my body tempering technique?”

Su Zimo licked his lips with a ferocious glint in his eyes. Grinning, he shouted, “That depends on whether you can remain alive to learn it!”

Boom!

A muffled sound rang out from within Su Zimo’s body, as though some seal had been released and an ancient demon had been summoned – it was terrifying!

Although they had been fighting for a short time, Su Zimo had already realized that he wouldn’t be able to defeat the two of them if he continued fighting with his current strength.

Since there was nobody else at this place, he could kill them in his demon form without anybody knowing!

Su Zimo’s power of blood qi erupted and his body expanded. Demonic qi shrouded his body as his pupils turned pitch-black, appearing imperceptibly in the scarlet demonic qi.

“It’s a demon!”

Liu Yun and Di Xing were shocked.

No, how is it possible?

The moment they saw that dense demonic aura, the two of them thought that Su Zimo was a demon. However, they were puzzled on second thought.

There was no way demons could take on human form before they formed an Inner Core.

How was that possible?

Furthermore, Su Zimo had clearly unlocked the eight meridians that only humans possessed – how could he be a demon?

Everything before them was completely unexplainable.

In truth, even Nascent Souls or Void Reversions would not be able to explain this, let alone the two of them.

Typically, humans and demons had different paths. Their languages were different, as were their body structures, cultivation techniques and methods.

Even tigers and leopards that were the closest to the demon race had different cultivation techniques, let alone humans and demons.

The cultivation techniques, bloodlines and everything else were different between the two races!

If Su Zimo was a human, what about the demonic qi that was coming from him?

The richness of that demonic qi was no weaker than pure-blooded ferocious beasts!

In Liu Yun and Di Xing's moment of daze, Su Zimo shifted and arrived before Liu Yun in the blink of an eye.

A series of afterimages appeared behind Su Zimo, lasting for a long time!

“Ah!”

Liu Yun's expression changed and his heart nearly exploded.

Su Zimo was too imposing and terrifying!

Lunging over with that asphyxiating aura, he was even more feral than the ferocious beasts of the ancient era with his surging blood qi and cold killing intent!

Liu Yun did not have time to contemplate and activated his bloodline, churning spirit energy furiously as his bracers shone with a bedazzling spirit light.

“I don't care what sort of a monster you are, just die!”

Liu Yun hollered and channeled his energy to the max. The veins on his neck popped out as he swung his arms, smashing violently down on Su Zimo's head!

That was no arm.

With the augmentation of Glass Palace's secret skill, his arm was veiled with a layer of luster. With the support of a supreme-grade spirit weapon on top of it, that was a steel whip as thick as an arm!

Su Zimo did not dodge nor retreat. His eyes shone brightly with a violent glint as he extended his arm and welcomed the strike.

With a thunk, Su Zimo's arm swung out, resembling an elephant's trunk that was limp and weak.

The moment the two arms made contact, Su Zimo's arm coiled and trembled!

The mysterious luster on Liu Yun's hand dissipated instantly.

Crack! Crack! Crack!

Even with the protection of his bracers, Liu Yun's arm was contorted with the bones inside shattered. All the bone fragments pierced out from his flesh in a bloodied, horrific manner.

"Ah!"

Liu Yun shrieked tragically as color drained from his face.

After taking on demon form, Su Zimo's strength had not only increased from the burst of his blood qi, he had even unleashed a killing move of the Mystic Classic of the Twelve Demon Kings of the Great Wilderness!

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

A gust of wind blew behind Su Zimo's head, producing a vague stinging pain.

He did not have to see to know that Di Xing must have attacked!

"Heh!"

With a sneer, Su Zimo rushed up without stopping at all after crippling Liu Yun's arm.

Liu Yun grit his teeth and cold sweat poured from his head.

As long as he could block Su Zimo for a moment, Di Xing's ten bone spikes would descend before long and trap Su Zimo within! At that time, he would be able to escape.

As a final gambit, Liu Yun punched out once again.

Su Zimo's strength was not the only thing that increased after he took on his demon form – his speed increased as well!

Instead of slowing down, Su Zimo hastened and his body curled into a spiral ball. His knee seemed to be in a kneeling position and it barely dodged Liu Yun's punch.

As though he was propping up an immortal peach with his hands, Su Zimo arrived in front of Liu Yun and suddenly pushed both palms upwards against Liu Yun's chin!

Snap!

Instantly, Liu Yun's head was tossed back, his jaw smashed and his throat snapped on the spot – he was no longer breathing!

Di Xing gasped when he saw that.

Nobody could have imagined that a seven meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivator from Glass Palace that was known for their immense physiques would die in a single round of melee combat!

A cold light tore through the air as ten bone spikes chased relentlessly.

Initially, they should have landed on Su Zimo's back. However, Su Zimo's body fell flat to the ground and he slithered forward, like an anaconda in the grass as he charged towards Di Xing.

This time round, he evaded nine bone spikes completely!

Poof! Poof! Poof!

The nine bone spikes pierced Liu Yun's body instead!

The remaining bone spike was about to strike Su Zimo's head when the latter stretched out his right hand and allowed it to pierce his palm instead!

It could not pierce through!

A supreme-grade spirit weapon's spike could not pierce through Su Zimo's right hand!

In Di Xing's moment of daze, his vision blurred and a tall figure stood up from the ground, obstructing his view.

It was too fast!

Anyone within ten feet would die instantly!

Di Xing felt his heart sink.

The next moment, a grisly red demonic qi rumbled and engulfed Di Xing within it.

Chapter 388: Immortal Ruin!

A moment later, the grisly red demonic qi dissipated, revealing two figures.

Di Xing's eyes were widened with fright as five bloodied holes appeared at the top of his head, streaming with blood – he was already dead.

With a shrug, Su Zimo's tendons and bones sounded and that gigantic body of his reverted to normal instantly.

After changing into a fresh set of green robes, Su Zimo picked up the storage bags on the waists of the two men. He compared them before speeding forward.

The Saber Mountain Spirit Sea was about two to three days away from Xuantian City on foot.

Along the way, Su Zimo checked out Liu Yu and Di Xing's storage bags.

Initially, he thought that it would be best if he could discover the weapon technique of Malevolent Earth Sect that could wield those ten bone spikes.

He could cultivate it and use it on his flying swords!

That way, he would not only be able to conjure sword formations, but also burst forth with immense killing power with that weapon technique!

To his disappointment, he found nothing worthwhile in their storage bags.

However, Su Zimo could understand the logic behind it.

The weapon technique of Malevolent Earth Sect was definitely a secret skill – there was no way it would be put in a storage bag casually.

It was the same for Ethereal Peak's three secret skills. Even Golden Cores were not allowed to carry the secret skills with them, let alone Su Zimo and the others.

Even though he managed to kill disciples of the super sects, Malevolent Earth Sect and Glass Palace, in this battle, Su Zimo had been self-reflecting.

While he had been through countless battles ever since he started cultivating, he had rarely fought with disciples of these super sects.

The only time was deep underground.

One against five, Su Zimo even managed to defeat five fiend heirs of the fiend sects.

That battle created a false impression for him that even fiend sects were merely of that standard!

In that case, there was nothing to fear about immortal sects and Buddhist monasteries.

Furthermore, in recent years, Su Zimo never had the taste of failure within his same level and had even managed to kill opponents above his level.

In his battle knowledge, he felt that he could make use of his movement techniques to shorten the distance between his opponents and kill them even if their cultivation realms were higher than his!

However, this battle awakened Su Zimo and humbled him.

Truly powerful opponents could restrict his movements and actions just by making use of brilliant weapon techniques. In fact, they can force him to have nowhere to hide, let alone get close!

Di Xing's ten bone spikes were swift, strong and had sharp angles. Their attacks were fluid as water with no delays between them.

Su Zimo could barely deal with it, let alone get close to kill his opponents.

That was precisely the terrifying and powerful aspect of Qi Refinement Cultivators.

Most cultivators were indeed weak in physique and would die if demon beasts closed in to them – that was a fact.

However, cultivators could make use of various spirit arts and weapons to restrict a demon beast's movements!

Body tempered cultivators and Qi Refinement Cultivators had their own advantages and flaws.

The stronger of the two would depend on which side had the stronger advantage.

Take the battle earlier for example, Su Zimo could not deal with the attacks of the ten bone spikes merely by activating his bloodline.

However, after he took on demon form and burst with his blood qi, his strength and speed was raised by a level, magnifying his advantage as a body tempered cultivator and allowing him to close in and kill his opponent!

Di Xing and Liu Yu were enough to cause trouble for Su Zimo. If he was dealing with Pei Chunyu and Xue Yang, things would be even more difficult.

Furthermore, Glass Palace and Malevolent Earth Sect were only a part of the immortal and fiend sects.

There were a total of nine immortal sects, seven fiend sects and six Buddhist monasteries. All of those ancient sects had firm foundations and countless secret skills. What sort of methods would their legacy disciples possess and how terrifying would they be?

Despite knowing that, Su Zimo's eyes had no trace of worry. Instead, they shone with a fervent gleam.

On the surface, he had ventured deep into the ancient battlefield for a perfect Meridian Unlocking Elixir.

However, deep in his heart, Su Zimo wanted to witness the disciples of these super sects!

He wanted to battle!

He wanted to battle through the world!

Deep in his bones, there was a pride that did not allow him to be weaker than others!

...

Thanks to his strong stamina and physique, Su Zimo traveled day and night without resting.

Even in the night, he didn't have any scruples. By emitting his immense demonic qi while traveling, few demon beasts dared to approach him.

Two days later, Su Zimo slowed down gradually and looked at the distant horizon with deep shock in his eyes.

He had never seen the legendary Saber Mountain Spirit Sea before.

However, the moment he arrived at this place, he already knew that the mountain and sea before him was the exact location.

Before he even arrived, Su Zimo could hear the rumbling of the sea gushing and invigorating one's mind.

The damp aura blew at his face.

The aura was not merely damp air... it was damp spirit qi that was rich and pure!

"Could the boundless sea before me be made up of spirit qi entirely?"

Su Zimo could not help but feel shocked when that thought crossed his mind.

Right then, the sound of clothes flapping through the air rang. A few cultivators arrived and their conversation attracted Su Zimo.

“The Saber Mountain Spirit Sea is the sacred grounds for saber cultivators like us. Even if we can’t obtain the inheritance of the Saber Emperor, we have to pay it a visit.”

“It’s said that in the ancient times, before the Saber Emperor left Tianhuang Mainland, he used his supreme Dharmic powers and absorbed the spirit qi and minerals within 5,000 kilometers, forming a mountain and sea. It was because he did not want the way of the saber to be lost in Tianhuang Mainland that he created this immortal ruin, the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea.”

“That’s amazing!”

Someone exclaimed.

Su Zimo was shocked as well.

What sort of prowess was it for someone to amass qi and minerals to form a sea and mountain with the flip of a hand?

It was comparable to carrying a mountain burning the skies for rain to form an ocean!

The most frightening thing was that this spirit sea was created countless years ago back in the ancient era.

The sands of time erased countless major sects of the ancient era, leaving no trace behind. However, this ruin was still intact without any signs of drying up!

If the legend was true, the Saber Emperor might have already surpassed the level of a cultivator.

There has always been a saying in the cultivation world that at the end of the road, one would become the legendary immortal of the ethereal voids, growing old with unfailling ears and eyes.

However, nobody could give a definite answer as to whether or not there were truly immortals.

But to Su Zimo, even the immortal methods of the legends were nothing much.

Now that he was here, the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea brought a greater impact for Su Zimo!

There were countless dark reefs near the shore. For some reason, the reefs were covered with marks of sharp weapons, etched in a shocking manner.

The tides roared furiously with a majestic aura, crashing onto the shores and creating snow-like waves.

On the horizon of the sea was a mountain that towered into the clouds.

The shape of that mountain resembled a long saber that was stabbed into the sea. With a slender and precipitous blade, its handle was hidden in the clouds, barely visible.

This was the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea!

Chapter 389: Indeed, You Have Come

The sword reigned supreme in Tianhuang Mainland and there were extremely few pure saber cultivators, much less in the ancient battlefield.

Although the ruin was left behind by the Saber Emperor, there were not many cultivators gathered here; merely a few thousand people gathered along the coastline.

The strange thing was that most of the cultivators stood far away from the shore, seemingly afraid of the spirit sea as they pointed in hushed discussions.

Because he had limited knowledge of the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea, Su Zimo came beside the crowd and listened intently.

“The methods of the Saber Emperor are extraordinary to be able to condense qi into a sea. I’m sure the benefits of cultivating in this spirit sea must be immense,” In the crowd, a skinny cultivator murmured deeply with bright eyes.

“Fufu.”

“How ignorant.”

The moment he said that, the crowd started mocking him.

The person who first spoke blushed and craned his neck, refuting, “What did I say wrongly?”

“The spirit qi within the spirit sea is extremely rich and pure. However, it possesses boundless saber qi and is extremely sharp. You will have to receive the baptism of the saber qi the moment you enter the spirit sea!”

“With your tiny frame, you will most likely explode a few steps into the spirit sea!”

“Hehe, there have been countless elites who have been buried in this spirit sea throughout history. You can try entering if you’re not afraid of death.”

Su Zimo was enlightened.

This was the reason why there were marks of sharp weapons on the reefs.

It was because the spirit sea contained endless saber qi and cultivators with weak physiques could not handle it at all!

If they stood too close to the shore, one might not be able to escape if a huge wave crashed and engulfed them within.

A cultivator said in a deep voice, “This is a test left behind by the Saber Emperor. One will have to cross the spirit sea and ascend the saber mountain if they want to obtain his inheritance!”

Su Zimo looked into the distance – the saber mountain stood erect at the end of the spirit sea, truly far away and unreachable.

“That’s easy,”

The skinny cultivator pointed to the saber mountain and declared proudly, “We can just ride on our flying swords. Even though the saber mountain is far away, there’s no way we wouldn’t be able to reach it before nightfall!”

“Hahahaha!”

The crowd laughed once more.

Someone shook his head. "If the test left behind by the Saber Emperor was so simple, there wouldn't only have been a single person who received his inheritance from the ancient era till now, right?"

Before he finished, a cultivator arrived from far away, looking excited.

Summoning a spirit saber from his storage bag, that person leaped onto it and channeled spirit energy before shouting softly, "Go!"

Pshew!

He turned into a streak of light and crossed the spirit sea, flying towards the saber mountain.

Most of the cultivators in the crowd had mocking expressions and smirked coldly, as if waiting to see a joke.

Su Zimo knew that things were probably not so simple.

Before he could complete his thought, the person froze in midair above the spirit sea and paused for a moment before falling in.

No matter how that person struggled to channel spirit energy in midair, it was useless.

He was swallowed by a wave before he even fell into the spirit sea.

"Ah...!!!"

He floated on the spirit sea and let out an occasional scream before vanishing after a brief moment.

The surface of the water was stained with blood that was gradually washed away by the surging waves.

The skinny cultivator who first declared that he wanted to ride his flying sword across the spirit sea turned pale as sweat poured down from his forehead while he breathed hurriedly.

Su Zimo was secretly shocked as well.

The spirit sea was truly out to kill!

That explains why nobody has tried to cross the spirit sea despite thousands of cultivators standing here.

A cultivator at the side explained, "Flying is forbidden in the skies above the spirit sea. Even if you manage to enter it, you will still fall into the water.

"You're only asking for trouble trying to come up with tricks in the face of an emperor," Someone else sneered.

The skinny cultivator composed himself and asked again after a brief moment, "In that case, only disciples of body tempering super sects such as Glass Palace and Overlord Palace can cross the spirit sea?"

"It doesn't matter what sect you are from,"

Another cultivator explained, "Only saber cultivators are qualified to cross the spirit sea. Any other cultivator will be minced to death by the saber qi if they try to cross it forcefully!"

"That's right. I heard that in the past, a paragon from Sword Sect tried to cross the spirit sea to challenge the Saber Emperor's authority. Before he was even 100 meters in, he was sliced apart by the saber qi and buried within the spirit sea."

With that, Su Zimo had a rough understanding towards the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea.

First, one could not fly over.

Second, one had to be a saber cultivator.

Third, only those with a physique strong enough to withstand the baptism of the saber qi can cross the spirit sea and pass the Saber Emperor's test.

In that case, he might truly be able to give it a shot.

Right then, Su Zimo's gaze shifted towards a dark black reef by the shore.

A man in blood-colored robes sat there with a long saber placed horizontally across his knees. His eyes were shut and his drenched black hair swayed casually, covering his face.

Of the thousands of cultivators, this man was the only one who dared to sit on a reef by the shore regardless of the waves. Even though his clothes were long drenched, he seemed oblivious to the fact.

There were more than ten corpses behind this person, some of them had clearly just died not long ago.

When he looked at the person's back view, Su Zimo felt like he had seen this man somewhere before but could not recall where.

After pondering for a moment, he looked at a cultivator beside him and asked softly, "Who's the blood-robed cultivator?"

"That's a savage character,"

The cultivator whispered warily, "Do you see those corpses behind him? Those were cultivators who wanted to cross the spirit sea. However, they chose to start too close to him and were killed by him!"

"Just because of that?"

Su Zimo furrowed his brows slightly.

If that was the only reason why this man went on a massacre, he was definitely not just savage.

The cultivator pursed his lips and said, "Zenith Sect's fiend heir doesn't need reasons to kill."

It's him!

Su Zimo's heart skipped a beat.

The cultivator at the side continued, "There's a high chance he's going to cross the spirit sea and obtain the inheritance. I heard that the cultivator who managed to obtain the Saber Emperor's inheritance 1,000 years ago was from Zenith Sect as well."

All of a sudden!

The blood-robed cultivator who was seated on the reef with his eyes shut stood up and turned around slowly, looking in Su Zimo's direction.

A top-tier expert as such would definitely sense something if someone was staring at him for a long time.

Furthermore, at that moment, Su Zimo's mental state fluctuated slightly and there was even a hint of hostility in his eyes.

When he saw the person's face, Su Zimo no longer had any doubts.

The blood-robed cultivator was the fiend heir of Zenith Sect that he had fought underground back then!

"Fufufufu..."

The blood-robed cultivator laughed and stared at Su Zimo. His eyes were bright and burned with excitement as he said slowly, "Indeed, you have come! I've been waiting for a long time!"

Chapter 390: Crossing the Spirit Sea

The moment he said that, the saber hovering in front of the cultivator buzzed loudly, emitting an extremely intense killing intent that sent shivers down one's spine.

The group of cultivators who were originally standing beside Su Zimo dispersed in shock.

The blood-robed cultivator's name was Bai Yu.

"Back then, after the few of us escaped by chance, we thought that you were buried beneath!"

Bai Yu's gaze was burning as he stuck out his grisly red tongue, revealing a set of pearly whites and a sinister smile. "However, when I heard that Demoness Ji survived, I guessed instantly that you must have too!"

Su Zimo did not move and asked with a calm expression, "You knew that I was coming?"

"Haha!"

Bai Yu replied delightedly, "Given your potential and methods, there's no doubt you will enter the ancient battlefield. Furthermore, since you used sabers, you are a saber cultivator and will definitely come to the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea."

The competition for the position of the fiend heir was extremely intense in the fiend sects.

Almost all the fiend heirs got to their positions by trampling on countless corpses – none of them were common folks.

It was especially so for Zenith Sect.

For a sect that established its roots through killing, the competition between fellow disciples was even more cruel!

As the fiend heir of Zenith Sect, there was no way he could swallow the indignance of losing to an unknown cultivator underground back then.

“Seems like the two of them have a deep feud?”

“What is the background of that man? How is he still alive and well despite having a feud with the fiend heir of Zenith Sect?”

Far away, the cultivators discussed in groups.

Bai Yu’s gaze darted past Su Zimo’s waist and he could not help but scoff coldly when he did not catch sight of a sect badge. “I don’t care what your background is, today, I’m going to take your life to establish my Dao formation!”

“I’m afraid you’re going to be disappointed,”

Su Zimo replied indifferently, “If I can defeat you once, I can definitely defeat you again!”

The moment he said that, the crowd fell into an uproar.

“That man managed to defeat the fiend heir of Zenith Sect?”

“What’s his background?”

“Do you need to ask? He’s definitely a paragon from one of the nine immortal sects!”

Clang! Clang!

Without a second word, Su Zimo took out Blood Quencher from his storage bag. His spirit energy churned and the saber shone brightly like a frightening blood sun.

A perfect five patterns with a torrential blood qi!

The blood stench emitted by Bai Yu was extremely similar to Bai Yu’s aura!

“Good saber, good saber!”

Bai Yu’s eyes lit up and he burst into laughter. “That saber was practically custom-made for me!”

“You think you’re worthy of it?”

Su Zimo replied indifferently.

Blood Quencher was refined by him personally. Right when he was about to fail, he infused his bloodline to condense the fifth spirit pattern, completing it.

Su Zimo’s bloodline was used to cultivate the Mystic Classic of the Twelve Demon Kings of the Great Wilderness and the Void Thunder Manual and it possessed essence of the dragon race!

Apart from him, there was no one in this world that was worthy of wielding it!

Deploying Divine Steed Fleeting, Su Zimo lunged forward before releasing Plow Heaven Stride. He landed on a reef in front of Bai Yu and stopped.

Boom!

The reef exploded!

Blood Quencher descended from the sky and its blood beam exploded, engulfing Bai Yu within it.

“Huh? He’s only at five meridian Foundation Establishment?”

“A five meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivator is actually challenging the fiend heir of Zenith Sect?”

“How did he manage to survive to this point with his low cultivation realm?”

A wave of shock and astonishment could be heard from the crowd.

Clang!

Bai Yu did not retreat nor dodge. He propped up his supreme-grade saber with both arms and retaliated with a backhand slash!

The sound of metal clashing overwhelmed the crowd’s exclamations while silencing all their previous doubts.

Seven spirit meridians shone beneath Bai Yu’s blood robes as spirit energy gushed, emanating a thick blood stench and almost materializing his killing intent.

However, Bai Yu did not have any advantage against Su Zimo’s slash!

“Such terrifying melee combat strength!”

“That person’s bloodline... I seem to be hearing the sound of a tsunami in it.”

“You must have heard wrongly. That must be the sound of the spirit sea.”

“Tsunami blood... how could someone have cultivated their bloodline to that level?”

Bai Yu’s eyes flashed with a cold killing intent.

Loosening his grip, Bai Yu’s saber left his hand and revolved around Blood Quencher’s blade, aiming straight for Su Zimo’s face!

That attack was extremely strange and had surpassed Su Zimo’s knowledge and expectation.

Shocked, Su Zimo retreated hurriedly.

Shing!

Although he managed to dodge it in time, a cut was still made on his robes in front of his chest.

His chest felt a chill and a slight sting!

Bai Yu scoffed coldly and did not bother to fight head-on with Su Zimo. Striding forward, he gripped his saber once more and his figure flashed. The next moment, he slashed down at Su Zimo’s ribs with his saber’s blade pointing up!

Su Zimo frowned.

Bai Yu's saber technique was extremely lethal.

However, the angles in which the blade came from were way too sharp and difficult to deal with.

Su Zimo retreated once more.

In the past, Su Zimo merely had to make use of his terrifying bloodline as well as his perfect spirit weapon, Blood Quencher, to cleave down in simple moves and that was enough to take down his opponents.

However, in the past few days, he realized his weakness after exchanging blows with disciples of Tianhuang Mainland's top factions.

He did not know any saber techniques at all and was full of openings. The moment he attacked, his opponents would locate his openings and deal him a fatal strike!

Bai Yu did not have to fight head-on and could force Su Zimo to retreat just by relying on his superior saber technique.

Su Zimo did not even dare to retaliate with his saber.

If he did, it would be a mistake!

His openings would only be magnified and his situation would become much more dangerous!

Bai Yu's attacks were relentless and came in a flurry.

Every single slash was a killing move with a murderous intent, causing blood stench to surge everywhere!

If he was careless, Su Zimo could die on the spot.

With the help of his spirit perception, Su Zimo managed to avoid a number of dangerous situations.

Back then, underground, Su Zimo was able to fight against five men and even kill a fiend heir.

But now, without the ancient spirit lock formation, the fiend heir of Zenith Sect could fight at his maximum strength and suppress Su Zimo completely with the help of his precise and sinister saber techniques.

Even so, there was still no trace of panic in Su Zimo's eyes.

It was simple for him if he wanted to break free of the current predicament.

He could take on his demon form and burst forth with his blood qi.

At that time, Su Zimo's strength and speed would be raised to another level and he could fight at melee range no matter the type of saber technique he had to face.

However, there were many people around. If he were to take on demon form, he would most likely be an outcast in the ancient battlefield and Tianhuang Mainland from now on.

The second option he had was to cross the spirit sea!

As he thought about it, Su Zimo already had a plan in mind. With a long howl, he retreated and dashed towards the spirit sea.

“What!”

“That man wants to cross the spirit sea?”

“Does he have a death wish?”

Now that he was worked up, there was no way Bai Yu was going to let Su Zimo off as he hollered, “There’s nowhere for you to run!”

One after another, the two of them appeared above the spirit sea in an instant.

Su Zimo took a deep breath of air and skipped on the waves with light treads. Sprinting towards the saber mountain, he was 5 kilometers away in the blink of an eye!

Bai Yu bit his long saber with his mouth and sprawled like a water strider that was floating on the water. Gliding with his limbs, his speed was not slower than Su Zimo’s!

Chapter 391: Unwavering

The spirit sea was definitely not a blessed place in the eyes of everyone.

This was a place where countless elites and paragons have been consumed. Right now, there were few cultivators who dared to attempt it.

Su Zimo and Bai Yu’s rush into the spirit sea one after another caused a commotion.

Initially, the water surface merely surged with waves. However, after the two of them entered, the spirit sea seemed to have been agitated and turned tumultuous!

Gigantic waves over a hundred thousand feet tall were formed, crashing down with tremendous auras.

Su Zimo and Bai Yu froze at the same time, looking at the towering wave before them with stunned expressions.

This was the power of heaven and earth and was impossible for humans to resist!

In the face of the raging wave, Su Zimo and Bai Yu appeared tiny and insignificant.

Bang! Boom! Boom!

The massive wave crashed and absorbed the two of them into the sea!

Even Golden Cores would find it hard to resist such power. Before he was sucked in, Su Zimo hurriedly took a deep breath of air and held it.

In the blink of an eye, the two of them were devoured.

Now that he truly entered the spirit sea, Su Zimo experienced the saber qi that those cultivators were talking about.

Every single drop of seawater possessed an infinitely sharp intent, slicing at his body from all directions like a blade.

Even with his powerful body, he could feel slight waves of pain!

Su Zimo was secretly shocked.

If any ordinary cultivator were absorbed by the spirit sea, they would most likely be torn into pieces within ten breaths.

All of a sudden!

Su Zimo's mind flashed with a warning as the water current behind him fluctuated unusually – it was as though an extremely sharp object was cutting through the waves towards him.

It's Bai Yu!

Even after entering the spirit sea, Bai Yu did not give up on hunting down Su Zimo.

Su Zimo exerted all his force and leaped like a water dragon, resurfacing above the water. He tread on the water and continued sprinting towards the saber mountain.

Bai Yu was hot on his heels.

In front of them, the waves rumbled louder and louder. The ocean spray was like a white line between the sky and the sea, resembling a massive army charging at them with ferocious momentum!

In the blink of an eye, Su Zimo and Bai Yu were swallowed by the wave once more.

They resurfaced time and again only to be eaten up by the waves repeatedly.

Under the baptism of the endless saber qi, even Su Zimo was feeling pressured.

The deeper into the spirit sea, the more terrifying the power of the waves became.

The sea howled relentlessly and the waves surged, as if they could not calm down unless they ate Su Zimo and Bai Yu!

The two of them slowed down.

The distance between the two of them increased as well.

In terms of physique, Bai Yu could not match Su Zimo's after all.

By now, Bai Yu was already feeling a little exhausted and dizzy.

The longer they were in the spirit sea, the more saber qi they would accumulate within their body.

Once the limit it could endure was reached, the body would be shredded up by the endless saber qi, causing the flesh, tendons, bones and organs to be cut up!

Bai Yu could already sense the saber qi of the spirit sea invading his organs!

With a leap, he appeared on the surface of the sea and took a deep breath of air; there was a faint taste of salt at the bottom of his throat..

I can't chase anymore!

Bai Yu's heart skipped a beat.

He would still have a chance if he were to return to shore right now.

If he truly entered the depths of the spirit sea, it would be too late even if he wanted to retreat at that time!

His eyes were filled with hatred as he looked at Su Zimo who was still floating in the spirit sea.

He was indignant that he could not get to kill Su Zimo personally.

However, to him, Su Zimo would definitely die if the latter continued to advance.

That was because the waves of the deep sea would only turn more ferocious and the saber qi would be even sharper!

At that thought, Bai Yu scoffed coldly and turned for the shore. As for Su Zimo, he was getting further and further from the shore...

Su Zimo did not bother about what Bai Yu did.

In the spirit sea, given Bai Yu's physique, there was no way the latter could catch up to him!

Su Zimo's attention was entirely focused on how he should deal with the waves crashing from all directions, on how he should pass the test to reach the saber mountain!

After arriving on the shore, Bai Yu's face was pale as he assumed a lotus position right away to channel his bloodline so as to purge away the saber qi in his body.

...

A long time later.

Thousands of cultivators stood at the shore and watched the tiny figure. All of them were shocked with agape mouths.

Four hours had passed and that man was still struggling through the spirit sea.

This was an outcome that none of them had expected.

At this moment, even though Su Zimo appeared tiny, none of them viewed him as a pathetic being!

His unyielding will moved everyone.

It was the same for the path of cultivation as well. If one did not have a will and determination as such, how could they reach the very end?

"Could he truly be able to obtain the Saber Emperor's inheritance?"

"I don't think so. Throughout history, only one person has succeeded. This person... can't do it!"

"By the looks of it, I don't think he can hold out for much longer."

Many cultivators discussed softly.

Suddenly, Bai Yu opened his eyes and let out a long breath, adding a tinge of redness back to his face.

He had finally expelled all the saber qi in his body after four hours of cultivation.

However, during this period of time, Su Zimo was still advancing against the tide, fighting against the surging waves and the sharp saber qi!

I don't believe that you'll be able to reach the saber mountain!

Bai Yu glared ahead coldly and mumbled with grit teeth.

Right then, another torrential wave surfaced on the sea far away, crashing heavily onto the figure.

The figure shuddered and disappeared into the sea once more.

This was a sight that the cultivators were numb and used to.

Not long later, that figure would resurface once more.

15 minutes passed and nothing happened.

After an hour, it was the same – the person seemed to have disappeared.

The joy in Bai Yu's eyes intensified.

After two hours, the crowd was finally certain that the scholarly green-robed cultivator had perished in the spirit sea.

"Sigh, it's a little regrettable. If that person had a high cultivation realm, he might have truly passed the test."

"That's right, he was only at five meridian Foundation Establishment. With that potential, his future accomplishments are limitless."

The two cultivators spoke in a regretful tone.

When he heard that, Bai Yu who was on a reef at the front looked grim and killing intent surged within him. With a flash, he arrived before the two cultivators and cut twice without saying anything.

Poof! Poof!

Flashes of blood appeared.

The two slashes were extremely fast. Coupled with the fact that the two cultivators were totally unprepared, their necks were sliced by Bai Yu instantly and blood sprayed everywhere as they died on the shore with eyes widened in regret!

The Dao of Zenith Sect was to kill. If one wanted to kill, they killed, regardless of reason or explanation.

The remaining cultivators were shocked and dispersed hurriedly, running as far as they could from Bai Yu.

Bai Yu looked calm even after killing two people, as if he had done something perfectly normal. Returning to a reef, he continued cultivating with closed eyes.

No one else knew.

At the bottom of the spirit sea, a figure was walking forth, step by step. Stepping on the sand at the bottom of the sea, he wielded a blood-colored saber in his left hand. Although he was already covered with wounds, he continued forging ahead!

The bottom of the spirit sea was dark and cold. Yet, those eyes shone with a bright light that was unwavering like a mountain!

Chapter 392: Breakthrough!

It was getting increasingly difficult to travel on the surface of the sea.

The power of the waves was too strong and Su Zimo's body was already breaking apart from the relentless impacts – his organs were already shaking violently!

He would definitely die if he continued that way.

As such, Su Zimo could only take a deep breath of air and sink to the bottom of the sea.

The bottom of the sea was filled with white bones.

Those were the elites that have died in the spirit sea over countless years. Stepping on their bones, Su Zimo advanced slowly.

The bottom of the sea was much calmer compared to the surface without any shocking or turbulent waves. However, there was the undercurrent!

Deep in the sea, Su Zimo had to endure even more pressure with the endless saber qi alongside going against the current.

There were countless times when he was pushed back by the undercurrent. However, each time, he got back up and continued advancing.

As time passed by, the saber qi within Su Zimo's body was already at his limit!

Wounds appeared on his flesh, blood vessels, tendons, bones and organs as the sharp saber qi crisscrossed. Su Zimo's skin had already split open and blood was oozing out.

There were spiderweb-like cracks all over Su Zimo's body and it looked horrifying!

He grunted and stopped in his tracks.

If this continued, his life force would be completely destroyed by the saber qi!

Su Zimo sat on the ground and burst forth with his power of blood qi.

He was not worried about his demonic cultivation being exposed now that he was at the bottom of the sea.

The sound of tsunami, rumbling thunder, tigers and leopards as well as an odd sound that was rather familiar emanated out from his body in a terrifying manner!

Dragon's roar!

A thought flashed through Su Zimo's mind.

This fourth sound was the dragon's roar that he had heard back in the primordial ruins. It possessed a vastness, majesty and solemnity that came from the primordial era!

The half a dragon's egg that Su Zimo ate left an irremovable mark in his body.

At the same time, he began to circulate the mental technique of the Mystic Classic of the Twelve Demon Kings of the Great Wilderness.

If he wanted to survive, he would first have to suppress the saber qi within him!

From the initial Body Tempering section, he carried on with Tendons Transformation, Bones Strengthening, Marrow Cleansing, Organs Refinement and finally ended at Orifice Clearing.

Su Zimo chanted the six sutras internally and circulated their mantras mentally, cycling them continuously within his body.

A Wild Bovine Demon King appeared behind Su Zimo. Plowing through the heavens, its horns were sharp as spears as it raised its head furiously, threatening to tear the firmaments apart!

After a slight delay, another phantom appeared. This time round, it was a massive Bear Demon that stood upright and howled into the skies.

Right after, an anaconda circled around with cold eyes.

A towering Ape Demon stood with bloodshot eyes, roaring in an untamed manner as it pounded its chest and stomped its feet. The dull thuds produced sounded like a god drumming from the heavens.

On his back, a Divine Steed with bone spikes galloped over, cracking the voids everywhere its hooves landed in a frightening manner.

Right after, the phantoms of the white tiger and spirit leopard appeared, baring their menacing fangs as they lunged over.

Billions of lightning bolts coiled around Su Zimo's body blindingly.

In that sea of lightning, the phantoms of countless demon kings appeared, howling into the skies with endless might as they fought against the saber qi within Su Zimo's body!

In front of everyone, the surface of the sea that had returned to normalcy suddenly started surging once more with torrential waves without any warning at all!

It was as though a terrifying life form of the ancient era was awakening at the bottom of the sea!

"Could that man be alive?"

"I-It can't be, right?"

The cultivators were filled with doubt.

Bai Yu's eyes flashed with suspicion.

...

Deep in the sea.

Saber qi streaked rampantly, leaving wounds both inside and outside Su Zimo's body.

His bloodline rumbled and wounds were healed to normal the moment they oozed with traces of blood.

Destruction and repair... destruction and repair!

The cycle continued.

Intense pain stimulated Su Zimo's nerves.

However, his gaze was only burning brighter!

Su Zimo's blood, flesh, tendons, bones, meridians and organs underwent a transformation once more under the cycle – it wouldn't be long before his mouth orifice would be cleared as well!

Whether or not he obtained the Saber Emperor's inheritance, this was not a trip in vain.

There was no way he would be able to clear his mouth orifice within a month without pressure as such!

A long time later, Su Zimo's body shuddered and he suddenly opened his mouth, letting out a howl!

Given the terrifying pressure of his surroundings, seawater would gush in the moment he opened his mouth – doing it was simply courting death.

However, as he howled, the phantoms of the demon kings behind him howled at the same time.

A tremendous sound wave was released, causing endless ripples and forced back the seawater around him!

His mouth orifice was cleared!

At this point of his cultivation, of the seven orifices, his eye orifices were the only ones yet to be cleared.

After howling, the seawater drowned Su Zimo in an even more turbulent manner, crashing repeatedly. As though it was provoked, the saber qi turned even wilder!

Crack! Crack! Crack!

The phantom of the demon kings dispersed.

The next moment, an even more terrifying aura appeared.

Behind Su Zimo, a blood-colored butterfly appeared. It seemed illusory and surreal with two crescent moons imprinted on its wings.

Instantly, the seawater calmed down, frozen solid as though it was shocked by the aura!

The blood-colored butterfly flapped its wings gently and the saber qi within Su Zimo's body was suppressed, going silent instantly!

With that, the blood-colored butterfly disappeared, as though it had never appeared to begin with.

Now that the saber qi was no longer aggressive, all that remained within Su Zimo's body was the purest spirit energy!

It was as vast as the sea!

The spirit energy within Su Zimo's dantian was increasing rapidly.

He had just advanced to five meridian Foundation Establishment. But right now, his fifth spirit meridian was completely filled with pure and rich spirit energy!

As spirit energy surged, his sixth spirit meridian started to appear faintly.

A long time later, there was a loud boom!

The sixth spirit meridian was unlocked beneath his green robes!

Six meridian Foundation Establishment!

Su Zimo was stunned.

He had broken through in both his immortality and demonic cultivation. Although he was now at the bottom of the sea, the pressure he was experiencing decreased greatly.

Su Zimo continued advancing against the currents.

Before long, the spirit sea changed once more.

As though an invisible pair of hands had reached into the spirit sea to stir it forcefully, a gigantic vortex was formed, affecting the entire sea!

Su Zimo was sucked into it and merely felt the world spin; his entire body was contorted by the power of the vortex and felt like it was about to explode!

His tendons and bones sounded at the same time as his organs shifted positions.

Hurriedly, Su Zimo released his blood qi to contain the injuries within his body. He channeled the Mystic Classic of the Twelve Demon Kings of the Great Wilderness and his head shone with five mysterious glows – of the seven orifices, only his eye orifices were dim without light!

If he had not broken through earlier on, Su Zimo would have been shredded after being sucked in by the vortex!

The change in the spirit sea attracted countless stares once more.

The vortex was way too terrifying, resembling a black hole that threatened to devour the entire universe.

“How could this be?”

“I heard from my master that a thousand years ago, a similar phenomenon appeared after the cultivator who obtained the Saber Emperor’s inheritance entered the spirit sea.”

“You mean to say...”

“Look! There seems to be someone inside the vortex!”

On the reef, Bai Yu’s expression turned extremely terrible.

Chapter 393: Sea Calming Manual

Initially, Su Zimo was already experiencing pressure from the water resistance at the bottom of the sea.

That pressure was the reason why he was able to clear his mouth orifice, one of the seven orifices.

After he was sucked into the vortex, Su Zimo experienced even greater pressure and with no other choice, he could only channel the Mystic Classic of the Twelve Demon Kings of the Great Wilderness furiously to deal with it.

Flesh and blood expansion, twitching of tendons, trembling of bones, swapping of blood in the marrow, refinement of the five organs and clearing of the seven orifices!

Under the stimulation of the vortex, endless demonic qi rushed towards his head, striking the eye orifices again and again...

After a long time, Su Zimo, who was trapped uncontrollably within the vortex, opened his eyes suddenly and two divine lights burst forth, illuminating the entire dark sea!

All seven of his orifices were cleared!

His skin, flesh, tendons, bones, marrow, organs and orifices entered a synthetic relationship, forming a Major Heavenly Cycle within his body and attaining lesser mastery of the Orifice Clearing section!

Although the vortex was still present, Su Zimo was rooted to the spot. He did not budge no matter how the seawater washed, spun and twisted around him!

Now that his seven orifices were cleared, the feeling of dizziness vanished instantly.

In a moment of emotion, Su Zimo could not help but roar into the skies.

His roar was so high-pitched that it pierced through metal and cracked rocks. In fact, it overwhelmed the surging sound of the sea!

The cultivators who were standing at the shore could not help but shiver with shocked expressions when they heard the howl – they no longer had any doubts.

“That man is still alive!”

“Is he... going to be the second person to obtain the Saber Emperor’s inheritance?”

The fiend heir of Zenith Sect, Bai Yu, sat on the reef, looking grim in silence.

“Look!”

Suddenly, someone yelled and pointed to the depths of the spirit sea.

Everyone looked over and saw that the vortex that resembled a black hole was moving slowly towards the saber mountain, as if it was being pushed by some unknown force!

“What’s going on?”

Everyone was confused and could not understand what was happening.

If any cultivator could fly above the spirit sea and look down at that moment, they would be greeted with a shocking sight!

In the middle of the vortex, a green-robed cultivator was striding casually at the bottom of the sea. Hands behind his back, his eyes were bright and he was surrounded by demonic qi.

Each step he took pushed the vortex forward a little bit!

The entire spirit sea was being moved by him!

Time passed by slowly.

In the blink of an eye, a day and night had passed.

By now, the vortex had arrived at the foot of the saber mountain and in front of everyone, a black dot figure walked out from the spirit sea towards the mountain.

He had passed!

After a thousand years, there was another cultivator who passed the Saber Emperor’s test and was about to obtain the latter’s inheritance!

At the shore, many cultivators were dumbstruck and their eyes flashed with a hint of jealousy.

Bai Yu narrowed his eyes and his gaze shimmered.

Nobody knew that the shock in his heart was even greater right now!

It was because he had heard that a thousand years ago, the senior from Zenith Sect who obtained the Saber Emperor’s inheritance was completely exhausted by the time he crossed the spirit sea.

He had to rest for seven days to recover his energy before ascending the mountain.

But right now, this man before him actually had the energy to ascend the mountain right after crossing the spirit sea!

He has to die!

Closing his eyes, Bai Yu thought to himself.

He knew slightly more about the Saber Emperor’s inheritance than the other cultivators.

It was said that the Saber Emperor left two secret arts at the top of the mountain.

One of them was a secret mental technique and was already obtained by the senior from Zenith Sect.

It was said that the other one was a saber technique with five stances.

In other words, the inheritance that Su Zimo was about to acquire was the five stances.

The more profound a saber technique was, the harder it would be to grasp it. Furthermore, there were different levels of mastery to the saber technique as well.

Bai Yu believed that even if Su Zimo managed to learn the five stances in the short term, he would not be able to master the essence of it.

“Since his cultivation realm is still low and he isn’t familiar with the saber technique yet, now is the best chance to kill him!”

Taking a deep breath of air, Bai Yu assumed a lotus position. He planned on waiting by the shore to kill Su Zimo the moment the latter returned with the inheritance!

...

Mountain peak.

It was empty and desolate with a single stone tablet.

The stone tablet was etched with a vivid painting.

It was a burly man baring his chest uninhibitedly as he sat alone by the seaside. With a saber laid horizontally across his knees, he held a jar of wine in his left hand and watched the sea wistfully with a hint of worry.

Although he had never seen the Saber Emperor in person, Su Zimo knew the moment he saw the painting that the burly man was the Saber Emperor!

Walking forward, Su Zimo stroked the stone tablet gently with his palm. The coarse surface of the stone tablet related to him the signs of time passing by.

Suddenly, Su Zimo froze on the spot.

A thought surged into his mind.

“Somebody else has finally arrived here after a thousand years, sigh.”

That sigh was one of gratification and emotion, but mostly of relief.

“The ancient war destroyed the Dao of the hundred weapons, leaving the sword to reign supreme. I am about to cross far beyond the South Sea and I don’t wish for the way of the saber to be lost in Tianhuang Mainland. As such, I’ve left behind my inheritance. There are two manuals here that await those with affinity.”

Su Zimo knew that this was only a remnant thought left behind by the Saber Emperor.

“The first manual, the Tidal Manual, is a secret mental technique that has already been imparted to that person a thousand years ago.”

“The second manual, the Sea Calming Manual, is a saber technique with five stances. Today, I shall impart it to you.”

Suddenly, the voice vanished and an image appeared before Su Zimo’s eyes.

The burly man stood on the saber mountain, holding the saber casually as he leaped into the spirit sea. His eyes shone brightly and the wistfulness in his eyes was gone, replaced with a sharp glint as he charged against the current and slashed forward!

Swoosh!

The seawater split to the sides, creating a blank area!

Whipping the saber to cut the water!

At the same time, the Saber Emperor’s voice sounded, “First stance of the Sea Calming Manual, Countercurrent.”

After Countercurrent, the Saber Emperor waved the saber and circled around his body. Instantly, the seawater stirred up huge waves that splashed in all directions!

“Second stance of the Sea Calming Manual, Raging Tides.”

Immediately after, the Saber Emperor retracted his saber and slashed forward once more.

The angle of this slash was unique, as if it was striking thin air as it twisted and spun.

As the slash landed, the spirit sea started spinning, forming a gigantic vortex as though it was pulled by something!

“Third stance of the Sea Calming Manual, Vortex.”

Upon seeing this, Su Zimo suddenly had an epiphany.

He had experienced those stances personally in the process of crossing the spirit sea.

Crossing the spirit sea was not just a test, but also an inheritance on its own!

“Fourth stance of the Sea Calming Manual, Ripple.”

“Fifth stance of the Sea Calming Manual, Sea Calming.”

In the blink of an eye, all five stances were performed.

The Saber Emperor’s voice continued ringing, “Although there are only five stances to the Sea Calming Manual, my life’s knowledge has been infused in them. It’s the great Dao of the saber created by simplifying everything and returning to the basics. If you are able to comprehend the first four stances, that will be enough for you to roam freely in the cultivation world.”

“If you can comprehend the final stance... even the world will be your oyster!”

Chapter 394: Imminent Danger

“In the Dao of the hundred weapons, be it the sword or the saber, there are three levels of mastery to them, form, force and intent.”

The Saber Emperor’s voice continued sounding, “By form, it means the stance of the saber techniques. This is the most superficial of the mastery levels and as long as a cultivator is willing to practice diligently, they will be able to attain proficiency and utilize it naturally.”

“Force is the second level and is rather abstract. It could be understood as the force of the qi, aura or sound and it’s not something that everyone can achieve. Some people spend their entire lives without understanding the meaning behind the idea of force.”

“At the level of force, the might of your saber technique will be even mightier, reaching a whole new tier of mastery!”

“The third level is intent. Similar to sword intent, the saber has saber intent as well. Simply put, this is the realm of one’s intent and it’s formless and ethereal. A single slash can contain the might of the universe! The obscurity of the intent realm can only be understood after one cultivates their Essence Spirit.”

One had to be at Nascent Soul realm at the very least if they wanted to achieve the third level of mastery. For now, Su Zimo did not have to think about that at all.

Right now, all he had to do was master the first two levels of cultivating saber techniques.

Whipping out Blood Quencher, Su Zimo recalled the five stances performed by the Saber Emperor and began practicing on the mountain peak.

As the Saber Emperor had said, even though there were only five simple stances, executing a perfect version of even one of them was extremely difficult!

At the same time, Su Zimo finally understood why the Saber Emperor had to lay down a test as such.

The Sea Calming Manual’s requirement on one’s physique was way too high!

Although Countercurrent was a starting move, a person’s arm would explode if their physique was not strong enough!

Even after lesser mastery of the Orifice Clearing section, Su Zimo could only use it while channeling his bloodline.

That single slash required every single muscle on his body to move!

Of course, that was not the only difficulty to executing a perfect version of the stance.

There must not be any deviations to the degree of his motions, the timing and angle of his slash as well as the strength used. Any single mistake and the saber technique would not be able to be executed.

Su Zimo practiced repeatedly.

Fortunately, he had experienced Countercurrent, Raging Tides, Vortex and Ripple personally while crossing the spirit sea and they were comparatively simpler to understand.

After ten days of not resting and sleeping, Su Zimo could finally manage to perform the first four stances.

Although he was not entirely familiar with the first four moves, a little inexperienced in fact, he had still succeeded.

However, during this period of time, no matter how Su Zimo adjusted, recalled and practiced, he could not perform the final stance, Sea Calming.

Although it was a simple slash, Su Zimo could not do it no matter what.

He was not discouraged. According to the Saber Emperor, Sea Calming was the essence of the Sea Calming Manual and the world would be one's oyster if they could comprehend it!

What sort of a level was that?

It was most likely beyond everything that Su Zimo knew.

In that ten days, apart from Su Zimo, there was also a burly man on the peak, watching Su Zimo practice silently without saying a single word.

After ten days, when he saw that Su Zimo was able to perform the first four stances of the saber technique completely, a look of comfort finally flashed through the burly man's eyes.

"Very good, you are very good."

The Saber Emperor nodded and his voice gradually dimmed. At the same time, his figure faded rapidly and disappeared from the world.

Retracting his saber, Su Zimo bowed deeply in the direction where the figure of the Saber Emperor disappeared.

The next moment, the saber mountain collapsed and the spirit sea evaporated.

Standing on thin air, Su Zimo felt a sense of sadness fill him.

After imparting the Tidal and Sea Calming Manual, the final traces of that supreme paragon of the ancient era had disappeared from Tianhuang Mainland as well.

On the shore, many cultivators looked at the scene unfold with shock and remained silent for a long time.

The Saber Mountain Spirit Sea disappeared before their very eyes at a visible speed!

The saber mountain crumbled into rubble and the spirit sea dried up, with spirit qi returning to nature.

From this day forth, the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea no longer existed in Tianhuang Mainland!

It was fortuitous that everyone managed to witness it.

Descending on the ground, Su Zimo fell into deep thought, pondering about the second level stated by the Saber Emperor, force!

Under normal circumstances, there was no need for Su Zimo to try and comprehend the second level since he was still very amateurish with the first four stances and had yet to achieve the first level.

However, he felt a sense of déjà vu towards the comprehension of force.

Back when he was studying in Ping Yang Town, Su Zimo often practiced calligraphy.

In calligraphy, there was a saying of the nine forces, relating to the movement of the brush tips and the way of writing.

The nine forces were about mastering the landing, reverse, hiding of the tip, protecting the body, weakening the stroke, raising the brush, the ending stroke and the horizontal finish. Even without the guidance of a master, one can arrive at the sweet spot of calligraphy as long as they practiced diligently.

In reality, the forces mentioned by the Saber Emperor as well as the nine forces of calligraphy were rather similar.

In the world, there were many theories that were interconnected.

That was also what the common saying in the cultivation world, all things come together, meant.

Under normal circumstances, ordinary cultivators wouldn't be able to comprehend the meaning of force, much less attempt at that level, without first familiarizing themselves with their saber techniques.

However, Su Zimo was a scholar before entering the cultivation world and had studied the nine forces of calligraphy before.

The concept of force was not one that Su Zimo was foreign with.

Therefore, he attempted to comprehend the meaning of force before he was familiar with the saber techniques of the Sea Calming Manual, trying to grasp at something.

Closing his eyes, Su Zimo entered an indescribable state of bliss.

This was an extremely rare state of enlightenment.

He would definitely gain something the moment he awakened!

After the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea vanished, Su Zimo had already attracted everyone's attention.

When he entered the enlightenment state, everyone was in an uproar.

Entering that state right now was definitely trouble rather than blessing for Su Zimo!

There was no one around Su Zimo to protect him and any external stimulation could disrupt his enlightenment process, putting his efforts to vain!

Furthermore, that was secondary.

The most important thing was that someone was out to take his life!

Since the heavens want you to die, you can't blame me!

Bai Yu smiled sinisterly and in a flash, pulled out a cold gleaming saber from his storage bag, speeding towards Su Zimo.

When he approached, Bai Yu slashed horizontally.

That slash was not fast nor was it strong. Furthermore, it did not have any killing intent at all.

Bai Yu was worried of alarming Su Zimo who was in his enlightenment state, changing the current situation.

He wanted to kill in stealth!

Su Zimo's eyes were still tightly shut, as if he had not realized that danger was knocking right on his door!

At the sight of that, many cultivators shook their heads and sighed.

Initially, Su Zimo was the envy of many after obtaining the Saber Emperor's inheritance.

However, who would have thought that he would die in the blink of an eye – at the end of the day, fate had played a trick on him.

Bai Yu smirked in glee when he saw that the blade was about to slice Su Zimo's throat.

“You're still going to die in my hands even if you've obtained the Saber Emperor's inheritance!”

Bai Yu sneered.

Just as the blade was about to cut Su Zimo's throat, the latter's figure suddenly retreated without warning and narrowly avoided that fatal strike!

“Hmm?”

Narrowing his gaze, Bai Yu's expression changed.

Chapter 395: Countercurrent Force!

Bai Yu could clearly see that the blade had already cut off the hair on Su Zimo's skin. A slight inch forward was all that was required to slice the latter's throat.

However, the attack had still missed.

It was a mere centimeter gap!

The strangest thing was that Su Zimo had not opened his eyes throughout the entire process.

It was as though he had dodged the attack subconsciously!

With a lowered head, Su Zimo resembled a meditating old monk, immersed in his own world and totally oblivious to his surroundings.

“Still trying to gain enlightenment?”

Bai Yu sneered and no longer concealed the killing intent in his heart. Channeling his bloodline, his spirit saber buzzed and trembled, cutting towards Su Zimo with full force as it shimmered brightly with spirit light!

The attack was extremely fast and was almost instant!

Swash!

Su Zimo's expression was unchanged and his body fluttered like a willow catkin, evading that murderous attack from Bai Yu with his eyes still closed!

"Hmm?"

Bai Yu frowned.

He truly could not comprehend Su Zimo's current state.

Su Zimo's eyes were closed and could not see the trajectory of the saber.

Even if he was making use of his hearing to judge the wind, there was no way he would be able to dodge the attack as such. However, for some reason, he avoided it again.

If the first time was a coincidence, the consecutive two attacks...

"Dodge? Let's see how long more you can manage to dodge!"

Bai Yu strode forward and his saber trembled, giving off the faint stench of blood and enveloping Su Zimo within it.

Swoosh, swoosh, swoosh!

Bai Yu struck consecutively, unleashing Zenith Saber, his sect's secret skill. The slashes were relentless, fatal and came at sinister angles!

Despite the circumstances, Su Zimo did not open his eyes and continued retreating.

However, as time passed by, the available space for Su Zimo to dodge diminished and he was gradually shrouded by Bai Yu's saber technique with nowhere to run!

All the cultivators watching were puzzled by the fight.

To be exact, it wasn't a fight. After all, one party was dodging right from the start without attacking at all.

"That person sure has guts. To think that he's still trying to get enlightened at a time like this! He really has a death wish!"

"His eyes are clearly closed, but it seems as though he can sense danger. It's as though he's got some divine sense!"

"How did he do it?"

To everyone, it seemed as if Su Zimo had keen senses that allowed him to dodge with ease.

In truth, Su Zimo was currently in a pseudo state of slumber.

The moment Bai Yu attacked him, his spirit perception had already warned him and he could have awakened completely from his state of enlightenment.

However, this was an extremely rare opportunity.

Su Zimo could sense that he was just a little bit away from understanding the secret of force!

Therefore, Su Zimo forcefully ignored the disruptions of the outside world, dodging subconsciously with his sharp spirit perception while wholeheartedly focusing on his enlightenment.

It was an extremely dangerous decision and one that was overly mad.

Any single mistake and he would be dead on the spot. By then, whether or not he was enlightened would no longer have any meaning.

The reason why he could hold out for so long against the attacks of Zenith Sect's heir was because he had cleared his seven orifices and attained lesser mastery of the Orifice Clearing section, resulting in an increase of his strength and speed.

However, he was bound to fall if this carried on.

Bai Yu's saber techniques turned increasingly lethal as the blood stench of his blade increased. Su Zimo's available space to retreat shrank repeatedly and he was now only moving around an extremely limited radius.

It was a highly dangerous situation!

However, he had yet to comprehend the secret behind force.

He had to make a decision!

All of a sudden!

A thought flashed through Su Zimo's mind.

Bai Yu's attacks resembled the undercurrent at the bottom of the sea, surging forward wave after wave relentlessly.

Su Zimo recalled the difficulty he had advancing at the bottom of the sea against the undercurrent and suddenly, thoughts of realization entered his mind.

Countercurrent stance.

The secret of the stance was mostly in the word 'counter'.

What was counter?

The fact that cultivators wanted to abandon their mortal bodies to become immortal and break free from the constraints of the universe... that was counter!

Counter meant not retreating and fighting furiously forward!

Su Zimo's entire journey had been one of countering!

Back in Ping Yang Town, his knees refused to buckle and his spine refused to bend against Perfected Being Cang Lang's bullying... that was his counter!

Countering meant an immensely fearless aura!

In truth, everything that happened in Ping Yang Town back then could not be hidden from Die Yue's senses.

Back then, if Su Zimo had chosen to kneel and submit...

Die Yue would have killed Perfected Being Cang Lang on the spot, ending her karma with Su Zimo before leaving.

However, the 'counter' that Su Zimo made was the reason why he received Die Yue's acknowledgment and changed his fate!

One could only change their fates by countering the heavens!

One could only obtain the rights to change their fates if they dared to counter even the heavens!

Those who obeyed the will of the heavens would become mortals while those who countered it would become immortals.

Countering meant not bowing down, not retreating, not fearing, not buckling. It was an invincible march of courage and strength forward!

The Countercurrent stance could counter the situation!

At that moment, Su Zimo no longer had anywhere to run or hide.

When he saw that, Bai Yu's eyes shone with a frenzied glint as he laughed menacingly. "Nowhere left to hide, eh? Now, die!"

Swoosh!

The saber in Bai Yu's hands slashed forward with multiple afterimages and blood qi spread, filling the skies with the stench of blood!

All of a sudden!

Su Zimo's eyes jerked open.

His eyes were clear and bright, like crystals deep in the sea that shone with a mysterious luster.

There was no trace of fear nor panic in them.

When he saw those eyes, a sense of uneasiness flashed through Bai Yu's heart.

Unknowingly, perhaps when Su Zimo opened his eyes, a blood-colored saber had appeared in his hands.

Its blade was gigantic and shone with five spirit lights in a bedazzling manner!

"Countercurrent!"

Su Zimo said calmly and waved casually.

Swoosh!

As Blood Quencher moved, there was a sound of tides surging in a reverse current coming from its blade!

Initially, Bai Yu had the advantage with his domineering momentum. However, the situation between them was instantly reversed with Su Zimo's slash!

A torrential force crushed forward like a surging tide alongside Blood Quencher!

All the afterimages from Bai Yu's saber disappeared instantly.

The blood stench emitted from his saber was washed away completely by the invisible tide as well.

Against that massive force, Bai Yu's saber technique appeared simple and weak!

"Saber force!"

Bai Yu's eyes widened in shock.

How was that possible?

He joined Zenith Sect when he was five years old and had been practicing with a saber since then.

After being immersed in the way of the saber for dozens of years, he had merely reached the peak of the first level of mastery of the saber and had not managed to reach the secret of force yet.

However, the person before him had comprehended the meaning of saber force after cultivating for a mere ten days!

In the face of the saber force, all saber techniques were merely in form no matter how precise they were.

The two sabers collided.

Clang!

Bai Yu's body shuddered and his face turned incomparably pale. Spitting out a mouthful of blood, he flew away limply and his gaze dimmed.

Psst!

The cultivators watching were dumbstruck!

A single slash!

Bai Yu's initial advantage was gone after Su Zimo opened his eyes and within a single slash, he was the one that was sent flying and severely injured!

Chapter 396: Change in Xuantian City

The difference was too great.

Initially, Bai Yu's only advantage was in his saber technique.

But now, after Su Zimo comprehended the Countercurrent force, Bai Yu's advantage was non-existent.

Furthermore, Su Zimo's strength had increased significantly after attaining lesser mastery of the Orifice Clearing section. Right now, he was crushing Bai Yu completely.

Even though it was just a single slash, he had already injured Bai Yu severely!

With a cold gaze, Su Zimo flashed forward and raised his saber, chasing after Bai Yu!

Bai Yu's face was ghastly pale with fear. Looking at Su Zimo who was charging over, his eyes flashed with determination as he bit his tongue gently, spitting out a stream of essence blood.

Dong! Dong! Dong!

Bai Yu's chest heaved up and his heart pounded furiously.

With every single pound, new blood would course through his limbs.

On the surface of the blood burned a thin layer of flames that possessed endless energy!

"Blood Escape?"

Su Zimo narrowed his eyes.

He knew the best about the secret skill used by Bai Yu.

In that ancient coffin underground, Su Zimo obtained the Blood Refinement Fiend Sutra and this secret skill was recorded in it.

Back then, during the battle at Dongling Valley, Su Zimo also relied on Blood Escape to escape, ending up in the capital of Great Zhou by chance and avoiding his disaster.

Once released, Blood Escape would burn up a third of the body's bloodline in exchange for a momentary speed burst, allowing one to escape hundreds of kilometers away!

Pshew!

Bai Yu turned into a streak of blood and sped off into the distance. In the blink of an eye, he had already fled a thousand feet away!

It was too fast!

Back then, Su Zimo even managed to shrug off Golden Cores with the speed he gained by using Blood Escape.

Right now, Su Zimo had two options if he wanted to chase Bai Yu.

First, turn into his demon form and unleash his blood qi!

Second, unleash Blood Escape as well in pursuit.

After considering carefully, he found neither options feasible.

The first option would bring him too much trouble since there were thousands of cultivators around.

The second option was not worth it.

After a slight delay, Su Zimo gave up on hunting Bai Yu and put away his Blood Quencher, pulling out a gigantic moon-white bow from his storage bag.

The fact that he did not continue chasing did not mean that Su Zimo was going to let Bai Yu off.

He bent the bow and loaded an arrow.

Five spirit lights shone in Su Zimo's embrace, as if he was hugging a full moon.

Swoosh!

A sharp arrow tore through the air.

It was a heart-piercing arrow!

Given Su Zimo's arm strength, coupled with the quasi-concrete spirit weapon, Moon Concealment Bow, the arrow shot out at lightning speed, piercing towards Bai Yu's back.

Bai Yu, who was in Blood Escape, sensed something and crushed a protection talisman.

Boom!

The arrow exploded with a loud bang after striking the protection talisman.

Bai Yu's body shuddered and he coughed out blood once more, staggering and nearly falling.

Laughing into the skies, Su Zimo declared loudly, "Alright, you're lucky since you've managed to dodge that arrow. I'll spare your life today. Also, it's all thanks to your help that I'm able to comprehend the Countercurrent force."

If it wasn't for Bai Yu's relentless attacks that forced Su Zimo to have nowhere to retreat, he might not have been able to gain enlightenment on the force that could counter that desperate situation.

Bai Yu paused slightly and turned to look at Su Zimo with a hateful gaze.

Sensing Bai Yu's gaze, Su Zimo smiled faintly. "You had better hide yourself in the ancient battlefield from now on. Don't let me see you again or you won't even get the chance to release Blood Escape the next time we meet!"

Gritting his teeth hatefully, Bai Yu roared and turned forward to continue sprinting. That speck of blood in the air disappeared from everyone's sights before long.

In reality, Bai Yu was most likely doomed even without Su Zimo chasing him.

The sequela of Blood Escape was rather terrifying.

Be it humans or demons, burning up a third of their bloodlines would cause them to turn extremely weak.

Dangers lurked everywhere in the ancient battlefield.

Unless Bai Yu manages to find an absolutely safe place before Blood Escape ends, he would be dead without a doubt!

Putting away the Moon Concealment Bow, Su Zimo left leisurely in front of everyone's shocked gazes.

He had received immense gains for this trip.

Right now, the only things left to do was to familiarize himself with the five stances and comprehend the force of the other four stances.

Every stance corresponded to a different force.

Naturally, the intents were different as well.

Taking a deep breath of air, Su Zimo compared against the map and sped towards Xuantian City.

I've only left the city for ten-some days. I hope nothing has changed.

That was what Su Zimo hoped.

...

North of Xuantian City.

Back Hall of Elixir Yang Sect.

It was a hubbub of noise, with cultivators berating occasionally in a seemingly furious tone. There were even the roars of spirit beasts mixed in and it was shocking!

In a corner of the back hall, a woman was leaning to the side. She had a petite frame, her face was pale, her lips were purple and her eyes were tightly shut – it was unknown if she was alive.

That was Su Xiaoning!

In front of Xiaoning was a tall and strong demon beast with pitch-black scales all over its body. It resembled a wolf and a tiger with extremely sharp claws and teeth as it surveyed the surrounding with its pitch-black eyes in hostility!

That was none other than Night Spirit.

Night Spirit stood in front of Xiaoning and its tail swayed gently with traces of blood shimmering at its tip!

Not far in front of Night Spirit, a corpse laid on the floor with Elixir Yang Sect's badge on his waist. There was a bloodied hole in his glabella with warm blood oozing out of it.

It was clear that the person was just killed by Night Spirit not long ago.

Yan Jun stood opposite Night Spirit along with a group of Elixir Yang Sect disciples, all of them looking furious and agitated.

"D*mned beast, you truly don't know what's good for you, just like your master!" Yan Jun scolded coldly.

A cultivator shouted, “Beast, how dare you kill a disciple of Elixir Yang Sect! You’ll pay for his life with yours!”

The other cultivators pointed at Night Spirit and scolded as well. Although each of them wielded their flying swords, none of them dared attack recklessly.

Everyone had witnessed the way the cultivator from earlier died.

He was killed by Night Spirit before he could even take out his flying sword!

Sensing the hostility from everyone present, Night Spirit’s gaze was cold as it opened its mouth slightly, letting out a chilling growl from the depths of its throat!

Given Night Spirit’s violent character, it should be engaged in a massacre right now instead of enduring the scoldings and humiliation of these cultivators.

There were multiple times when Night Spirit lowered its body, entering a stance prepared to pounce. However, it swallowed everything back inside!

It turned back and glanced at Su Xiaoning from time to time, worried about her safety. In fact, there was a trace of worry and guilt in its eyes.

Night Spirit patrolled around Xiaoning.

From that angle, it could block against any incoming threats!

Right then, an Elixir Yang Sect disciple came beside Yan Jun and said deeply, “Senior Brother Yan, let’s ignore that Su Zimo and join hands to kill this demon beast! No matter how strong this beast is, there’s no way it can defend against so many of us, right?”

“That’s right!”

Another cultivator nodded. “We can’t let Junior Brother Pu die just like that! Everyone, let’s work together to kill this beast as revenge for Junior Brother Pu!”

With a darkened expression, Yan Jun pondered for a moment. Suddenly, he raised his palm and said coldly, “Everyone, prepare...”

Chapter 397: Good Kill!

“Hold on!”

A figure strode in swiftly from outside the door. Although she wore mens’ clothes, her eyes resembled a painting and her features were delicate – that was none other than the commander of Elixir Yang Sect, Tang Yu.

Sweeping her gaze, she frowned when she saw the dead Elixir Yang Sect disciple on the floor.

When she finally caught sight of Xiaoning, her expression changed starkly as she yelped, “Purple Corpse Corrosion Poison!”

Uncle Liang nodded with a grim expression. “Her face is pale and her lips are purplish. That’s right, it should be one of Poison Sect’s Seven Lethals, the Purple Corpse Corrosion Poison!”

Tang Yu was initially in seclusion cultivation but only found out that something big had happened after she was summoned urgently.

She heard from her fellow disciples that Xiaoning was met with an attack on the long street at the city's north. Although the attacker was killed by Night Spirit on the spot, Xiaoning was inflicted by the poison.

"To think that it's Poison Sect!"

Tang Yu's face darkened with a terrible expression.

Right now, the north side of Xuantian City was watched over by Elixir Yang Sect and Thousand Crane Sect. As such, Tang Yu was initially puzzled as to who would attack so brazenly in the city's north.

She did not expect that it would be one of the five heretical doctrines, Poison Sect!

Although Poison Sect disciples were not strong in head-on combat, many factions and cultivators were unwilling to be enemies with them.

Poison Sect had Seven Lethals.

Every single Lethal was extremely fatal and one would die upon touch!

Furthermore, Poison Sect disciples were extremely cunning and ruthless. They specialized in hidden weapons and were very stealthy.

It was way too simple if Poison Sect disciples wanted to kill anyone.

A casual contact while eating, drinking or even breathing...

Every common action could cause one their lives!

Even for Foundation Establishment Cultivators, if they were careless, they could be poisoned by the Qi Refinement Warriors of Poison Sect and die unexpectedly – these were not uncommon examples.

Most cultivators would run far away if they caught sight of Poison Sect disciple since they did not want to be enemies or befriend the latter.

Tang Yu did not understand why Su Xiaoning would be targeted by disciples of Poison Sect.

Any cultivator that could release the Purple Corpse Corrosion Poison definitely held a high status in Poison Sect!

Why would Poison Sect send such a disciple to kill an Elixir Refinement Master at late-stage Foundation Establishment personally?

Right then, Uncle Liang exclaimed softly, "That's strange. Given the toxic nature of the Purple Corpse Corrosion Poison, this girl should have already turned into a puddle of blood. Why is her corpse still intact without any signs of corroding?"

Anyone who was inflicted by the Purple Corpse Corrosion Poison would die within ten breaths. Their bodies would corrode, turning them into a puddle of blood and even immortals would have difficulty saving them.

Furthermore, the blood would also contain a rich amount of the Purple Corpse Corrosion Poison and anyone tainted by it would die as well!

Tang Yu looked at Xiaoning for a while, deep in thought.

She's still alive?

It might have been an illusion, but the paleness of Xiaoning's face and her purple lips seemed to have faded a little.

How is that possible?

Tang Yu had some understanding of the Purple Corpse Corrosion Poison. Even eight meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators would most likely die if they were tainted by the poison, let alone a late-stage Foundation Establishment Cultivator like Xiaoning!

That was also the terrifying aspect of Poison Sect!

"What's going on?"

Pointing at the corpse on the floor, Uncle Liang turned around and asked.

A cultivator stood forth and pointed at Night Spirit who was standing not far away, declaring hatefully, "Junior Brother Pu wanted to check on Su Xiaoning's condition out of goodwill upon seeing that the latter was poisoned. However, this beast killed him straight away!"

Tang Yu frowned.

That statement didn't sound like a big deal. To begin with, Night Spirit was a demon beast. It was highly likely that it might be triggered after its owner was injured and turn feral, attacking anyone wildly.

However, Tang Yu felt that something was amiss.

With a stern expression, Yan Jun shouted, "Uncle Liang, Junior Sister, Elixir Yang Sect is one of the four unorthodox groups! How can we let our disciples be killed wantonly, especially by a beast? Since it killed a fellow disciple of ours, it'll have to pay with its life!"

Pausing for a moment, Yan Jun continued, "That's Su Zimo's beast. Since his beast got into trouble, he can't escape responsibility after returning as well!"

"That's right, we've got to take revenge for Junior Brother Pu!"

"Kill that beast!"

"Kill it!"

Everyone from Elixir Yang Sect chanted agitatedly.

The development of the events have gone far beyond Tang Yu's control.

No matter what, Su Zimo's group were still outsiders.

If she sided with Night Spirit, she wouldn't be able to convince the masses and quell their bloodthirst. Instead, it might lead to internal bloodshed within the sect!

Biting her lip gently, Tang Yu frowned and felt flustered. For a moment, she did not know how she should handle this.

Uncle Liang sighed internally when he saw this.

Tang Yu was a talent of Elixir Yang Sect's younger generation. Brilliant and smart, there were few things that could be hidden from her.

However, she lacked decisiveness and dominance.

There was no way for her to control the situation without those things!

Suddenly, a figure appeared in Uncle Liang's mind.

"That man truly is..."

Uncle Liang could not continue.

It was difficult for him to give an accurate evaluation of that person.

Although he looked like a meek and demure scholar on the surface, he exuded an air of dominance deep from his spine! With sharp methods, he was decisive to kill!

Everything else aside, that particular trait alone would rank him as the top ten of the younger generation!

Suddenly, a voice sounded from outside the Main Hall.

"Who do you guys want to kill?"

The voice was calm, neither loud nor soft. However, it suppressed the chaos in the Main Hall.

Tang Yu shuddered and turned around with a flicker of joy in her eyes.

An elegant green-robed cultivator strode in. The moment he entered the Back Hall, he swept a look with his lightning-cold gaze and the place went quiet instantly!

It was a mighty aura. Although it was indescribable, it could suppress everything!

Su Zimo had returned!

The moment they saw him, everyone recalled the sight from the bloody battle on the long street and their courage weakened unconsciously.

Everyone's gaze was on Su Zimo.

Uncle Liang could make out a hint of fear and awe in the eyes of the disciples.

"Hmm?"

After entering the Back Hall and witnessing Xiaoning's weak state, Su Zimo's eyes flashed coldly and killing intent surged!

Tang Yu whispered, "Fellow Daoist Su, I was careless and did not send any sect disciples to watch over Xiaoning. I truly hadn't expected that she would be attacked by someone from Poison Sect."

Su Zimo shook his head in silence with a dark expression.

This matter was not Tang Yu's fault. If Xiaoning could be poisoned even with Night Spirit guarding her, nothing would have changed even if Elixir Yang Sect disciples were assigned to accompany her.

Although Tang Yu could not ascertain if Xiaoning was alive, Su Zimo had already cleared his seven orifices and could clearly hear a faint heartbeat coming from Xiaoning's chest.

Furthermore, her heartbeat was growing increasingly stronger!

In other words, Xiaoning's condition was turning for the better!

Su Zimo turned and walked to Xiaoning's side. He had barely taken a few steps when Yan Jun blocked his path in a flash, sneering provocatively.

"Su Zimo, you had better stop with that attitude!"

Yan Jun shouted, "It's true that your sister is dead but that was done by Poison Sect! It has nothing to do with us! However, all of us witnessed your beast killing our fellow disciple. Regarding that, you have to be accountable to Elixir Yang Sect!"

"Is that so?"

Expressionlessly, Su Zimo nodded. "Good kill!"

"What did you say?" Yan Jun's eyes were widened.

"Get lost!"

"You... "

Before Yan Jun could complete his sentence, Su Zimo reached out and slapped Yan Jun with his backhand. Instantly, Yan Jun was sent flying and landed in a corner, fainted.

The place fell into an uproar!

Chapter 398: Night Spirit's Blood

"Su Zimo, what are you doing?!"

"Audacious!"

"How arrogant!"

Many Elixir Yang Sect disciples shouted emotionally.

No matter what, Yan Jun was a disciple of the sect's Battle Hall and Tang Yu was the only one who was above him in status. He was not somebody that an outsider like Su Zimo could compare to!

Tang Yu could clearly see that although Yan Jun's cheeks were swollen, he had merely fainted and did not sustain any severe injuries.

Given Su Zimo's strength, if he truly wanted to kill in that distance, Yan Jun's head would have been smashed by that single slap!

In other words, Su Zimo had already shown mercy.

Taking a deep breath of air, Tang Yu declared, "Silence!"

"Young Master, he's only an outsider! How can he act so brazenly in our territory!"

"That's right! He would have been killed by Glass Palace and Malevolent Earth Sect long ago if not for the protection of Elixir Yang Sect!"

"Fufu, Glass Palace and Malevolent Earth Sect are not the only ones. These two siblings seem like they've even offended Poison Sect!"

In the crowd, voices of dissent against Su Zimo continued sounding incessantly.

"Shut up!"

With a dark gaze, Uncle Liang suddenly shouted.

Although he was old with white hair and beard, his eyes were still bright and exuded a sense of authority. The chaotic place quietened gradually.

All the Elixir Yang Sect disciples knew very well about the background of the old man before them.

It was possible that they might protest against Tang Yu's decisions.

However, even if the masses disagreed with the old man, the most they would do would be to grumble a little internally.

Tang Yu said deeply, "This matter will definitely be accounted for in a bit. Everyone, please quieten down."

After a brief pause, Tang Yu called back Su Zimo and frowned, "Xiaoning is afflicted with the Purple Corpse Corrosion Poison, one of the Seven Lethals of Poison Sect. Be careful, the poison is extremely toxic and it's easy for you to get tainted if you are careless."

Su Zimo nodded and walked to Xiaoning's side.

"Growl."

Night Spirit slumped its head and let out a deep growl, feeling a little guilty.

Su Zimo patted Night Spirit on the head while shaking his own. "It's not your fault."

If it was an ordinary assassination attempt, there was no way it would have gotten past Night Spirit. However, Poison Sect cultivators were way too scheming and there was no way to guard against them.

In that short while, Xiaoning's expression had gotten much better. In fact, her cheeks were now redder and her heartbeat was getting stronger – her condition was improving.

Uncle Liang was amazed when he saw that.

The Seven Lethals of Poison Sect could not be cured by any cultivators outside the sect!

Throughout his life, Uncle Liang had never heard of anyone who had survived against the Purple Corpse Corrosion Poison.

Furthermore, by the looks of it, the Purple Corpse Corrosion Poison seemed to be disappearing bit by bit from within Xiaoning's body!

The purple color on Xiaoning's lips was fading and there were merely a few drops of blood left on it.

Although there were only a few drops of blood, Su Zimo could sense an extremely powerful energy!

That was definitely not Xiaoning's blood!

Su Zimo swept his gaze and looked at Night Spirit's wrist where there was a deep gash that had yet to fully recover.

"No wonder."

Back when they just entered the ancient battlefield, Night Spirit had already displayed the terror of its bloodline where it could ignore the poison of the Blood Centipede and was immune to it.

The reason why the Purple Corpse Corrosion Poison was being purged from Xiaoning's body should be because she drank Night Spirit's blood.

"That's not right either,"

Su Zimo thought again. The Purple Corpse Corrosion Poison was extremely toxic and would activate within ten breaths.

Although Night Spirit's blood could purge the poison from Xiaoning's body, it required a relatively longer time – how did Xiaoning manage to survive in between that period?

After clearing his seven orifices, Su Zimo's five senses turned even sharper!

Now that he was closer, he could vaguely sense a warmth emanating from Xiaoning's chest along with a faint medicinal scent.

That's it!

Su Zimo was enlightened.

The mysterious Elixir Furnace that Xiaoning possessed was still kept at her chest area.

If he was not wrong, that warmth and medicinal scent should be emitted by the Elixir Furnace.

The Elixir Furnace was also the reason why Xiaoning's heart artery was preserved until it could take in Night Spirit's blood to purge away the poison within.

Su Zimo finally heaved a long breath and calmed down after ensuring that Xiaoning was alright.

Turning around, he glared at the corpse on the ground.

The bloodied hole on the glabella of the corpse was clear evidence that Night Spirit did it.

"You want an explanation? Sure, I'll give you an explanation,"

Surveying his surroundings, Su Zimo said indifferently, "Night Spirit won't harm anyone for no reason. If that person is dead, it must be because he crossed Night Spirit's bottom line."

"Bullshit!"

An Elixir Yang Sect cultivator with a long face hollered, "Junior Brother Pu was trying to head forward and check out of goodwill. However, your beast killed him without any reason at all! We saw it for ourselves and you're still trying to deny it?!"

Su Zimo smiled and glared at that guy sharply with a cold gaze, replying with a deep intent, "It was true that he came forward to check things out. However, we don't know whether it was out of goodwill."

"What do you mean by that!"

A hint of panic flashed through that person's eyes.

Su Zimo turned towards Tang Yu and asked, "Young Master Tang, you mentioned that the Purple Corpse Corrosion Poison is extremely toxic and contagious, right?"

"That's right."

Tang Yu nodded and her eyes flashed, as if she had thought of something.

"Even you would be afraid of going forward casually, am I right?" Su Zimo continued asking.

"Yes."

Tang Yu admitted with a nod.

Indeed, she did not dare to get close after realizing that Xiaoning was inflicted with the Purple Corpse Corrosion Poison. It was not because she was cold blooded, it was merely logic.

Suddenly, Tang Yu's heart jolted and she realized what was wrong.

She murmured softly, "Why would Junior Brother Pu be the first to head up and check something that even I wouldn't dare to?"

Uncle Liang nodded in silence.

Tang Yu continued, "Most importantly, there's no antidote available for the Purple Corpse Corrosion Poison. There's no reason for Junior Brother Pu to head forward at all."

Many Elixir Yang Sect cultivators came to their senses when they heard that.

They wouldn't have gone forward if it was them in that position.

Furthermore, what was the point of risking their lives to head forward and check when they wouldn't be able to do anything about the poison either?

Tang Yu's gaze turned cold as she glared at the corpse on the floor without saying anything more.

Su Zimo's gaze flashed like lightning towards the long-faced cultivator and said slowly, "I'm guessing that the reason why the person went forward to check wasn't because Xiaoning was poisoned. It was because Xiaoning didn't die from the poison!"

The long-faced cultivator's expression changed slightly as his eyes flickered; he did not dare to meet with Su Zimo's gaze.

Squinting his eyes, Su Zimo said word by word, "That person's killing intent appeared after finding out that Xiaoning wasn't dead and that was why he was killed by Night Spirit!"

"Fellow Daoist, am I right?" Su Zimo was intimidating.

The long-faced cultivator forced a laugh. "H-How would I know?"

Walking slowly towards the long-faced cultivator, Su Zimo asked with a sinisterly dark gaze, "What are you afraid of?"

"I'm not..."

"In this short period of time, your heart has been racing and your breathing turned hurried. You're clearly panicking. Also... I sensed your killing intent towards me a moment ago!"

By the time he was finished speaking, Su Zimo had already arrived in front of the long-faced cultivator.

The person's face was frightfully pale as he stumbled backwards instinctively. Even the other cultivators could tell that he was looking guilty.

Chapter 399: Go and Die Then!

The long-faced cultivator had not expected that Su Zimo would possess a spirit perception and had extremely keen senses towards something such as killing intent that was immaterial!

It was logical that the other cultivators would feel hostile towards Su Zimo.

However, the long-faced cultivator felt a killing intent!

Uncle Liang sighed. "Xi Yushan, come clean and you might still have a chance to live."

The long-faced cultivator named Xi Yushan was thoroughly panicked. He realized that his fellow sect mates that were standing beside him a moment ago had backed off, looking at him warily.

Gulping, Xi Yushan looked towards Su Zimo instinctively.

Su Zimo's gaze was sharp as a knife, emitting a piercing glint with occasional flashes of lightning. It was unusually sharp and instantly penetrated the last line of defense in Xi Yushan's heart.

This was the invisible power of his gaze.

This was a level that Su Zimo achieved after clearing his eye orifices and tempering them with demonic qi.

In the mortal world, some hardened killers would often let out savage gazes such that ordinary people would feel fear upon meeting with their eyes.

The eyes were interlinked with one's guts.

Therefore, in a fight between two people, one might lose his courage if he was intimidated by the latter's gaze, revealing openings.

In the pugilistic world, among postnatal and connate experts, there was a saying that one had to cultivate their eyes before cultivating their guts and that technique was known as the gaze technique.

In the cultivation world, techniques that could cultivate one's eyes were all secret skills!

The Bewitching Eye from the Pure Maiden Sect of the fiend sects and the Enraged Vajra Gaze of the Buddhist monasteries were renowned supreme Dharmic techniques.

Demoness Ji rarely had to dirty her hands personally to kill; it was normal for her opponents to commit suicide after receiving a single gaze from her.

Before clearing his seven orifices, Su Zimo did even dare to look at Demoness Ji straight in the eyes casually.

That was also why Su Zimo had headaches each time he saw Demoness Ji and tried to avoid her as much as possible.

“Speak!”

Su Zimo took a step forward, his eyes sparkling like lightning as he shouted.

He added a small portion of Thunderclap Kill into saying that word.

Coupled with the fact that Su Zimo had already cleared his mouth orifice, that word exploded like thunder in Xi Yushan's ears.

Xi Yushan was already extremely rattled by Su Zimo's gaze. Now that he was shouted at, he almost broke down as he knelt on the ground with a thud and a frightfully pale face.

“I was wrong! I was wrong!”

With a quivering voice, Xi Yushan spoke, “Du Kai of Poison Sect used the Life Severing Powder on me and Junior Brother Pu and he's the only one with the antidote! We had no choice either!”

Du Kai of Poison Sect!

Tang Yu frowned slightly and explained to Su Zimo, “Du Kai is the commander of Poison Sect's current expedition. At seven meridian Foundation Establishment, his mastery in poison is deep and he's a savage person.”

Su Zimo was expressionless and nodded.

When he saw that everyone ignored him, Xi Yushan turned even more fearful and said hurriedly, “Furthermore, I haven't done anything that betrayed the sect or harmed our fellow disciples! Du Kai was merely targeting Su Zimo's group and said that he'll give us the antidote as long as can kill one of them.”

By that point, most of the doubts that everyone had were answered.

The Elixir Yang Sect cultivator that was killed by Night Spirit was also inflicted by the Life Severing Powder of Poison Sect – that explained his actions earlier.

Uncle Liang laughed coldly. "You've already betrayed the sect by waiting until now to tell us everything! I'm afraid that you probably won't hesitate either if Du Kai asked you to kill your fellow sect mates in exchange for the antidote."

Many Elixir Yang Sect disciples felt their hearts skip a beat and lingering fear.

"No, I won't!"

Xi Yushan was frantic and shook his head repeatedly.

Tang Yu said with regret in her face, "Junior Brother Xi, you know that the Life Severing Powder isn't one of Poison Sect's Seven Lethals. Although we don't have the antidote, we can ensure you won't lose your life until we return to the sect. Given the capabilities of our sect's seniors, they will be able to help you remove the Life Severing Powder with ease. But you..."

"I was wrong! I know that now!"

Xi Yushan begged continuously.

Tang Yu frowned in reluctance when she saw his wretched state.

Uncle Liang sighed internally.

Tang Yu still lacked the determination to kill at the end of the day.

No sect would spare someone like Xi Yushan easily!

Just as Uncle Liang was about to step forth and make the decision to kill Xi Yushan on the spot for Tang Yu, Su Zimo's voice sounded darkly, "Since you're so afraid of death..."

"Go and die then!"

Suddenly, Su Zimo raised his leg and kicked Xi Yushan heavily against the chest.

Snap!

Xi Yushan was sent flying and slammed against the wall completely before sliding down with a trail of blood.

His entire chest was sunk in as his eyes glazed over. With a tilt of his head to the side, he was dead on the spot!

The cultivators watching were dumbfounded.

Tang Yu opened her mouth, as if she wanted to say something. However, in the end, she merely sighed without saying anything.

"Yes..."

Right then, in the corner, Xiaoning, who was initially sleeping let out a drowsy sound.

Su Zimo hurried over and squatted down. He placed his palm against Xiaoning's forehead before asking gently, "Xiaoning, how are you feeling?"

“Brother?”

Xiaoning opened her eyes slightly and could not see what was before her clearly yet, merely replying instinctively due to the familiarity of the voice.

“It’s me.”

Su Zimo gripped Xiaoning’s hand.

A familiar warmth surged into her heart and instantly, Xiaoning felt much more awake. She tried her best to open her eyes and her lips twitched as she smiled. “Brother, you’re back? I’m fine, don’t worry.”

Su Zimo found himself smiling uncontrollably when he saw Xiaoning’s smile. Pushing her fringe away endearingly, he asked with a slightly reproachful tone, “Why were you so careless?”

Xiaoning stuck out her tongue and blinked multiple times.

Coming towards them, Tang Yu took out a jade bottle. “This is a Great Essence Nourishing Elixir. Let Xiaoning consume it. Her body has just only purged away the poison and is still weak.”

“Thank you so much.”

Su Zimo nodded and received the jade bottle before pouring out an elixir the size of a fingernail and feeding it to Xiaoning.

There was still something on Tang Yu’s mind as she could not help but ask, “Fellow Daoist Su, did you guys have any feuds with Poison Sect?”

Standing up, Su Zimo could not help but recall the Poison Sect cultivator he killed in the Golden Core’s cave abode back at the borders of the ancient battlefield.

“If you kill me, all of you will have to die on the ancient battlefield!”

Those were the last words of the Poison Sect cultivator.

Su Zimo did not hide anything and nodded. “I killed a Poison Sect cultivator previously.”

“No wonder.”

Enlightened, Tang Yu said deeply, “Poison Sect cultivators are sinister and vengeful. Any cultivator that’s able to use the Purple Corpse Corrosion Poison must have a high position within the sect. That person has most likely arrived at the city’s north to poison all of you to death. It’s just a pity...”

In truth, Tang Yu’s guess was rather close.

The Poison Sect cultivator’s name was Lu Ang and he was also at seven meridian Foundation Establishment. He was sent here to poison Su Zimo’s group to death but he ended up coming across Night Spirit.

The Purple Corpse Corrosion Poison was completely useless when used on Night Spirit!

Lu Ang could not even survive a single round before he was killed by Night Spirit on the spot!

Chapter 400: Meet Yama!

Su Zimo asked, "Why haven't I seen anyone from Poison Sect previously?"

"Poison Sect only entered Xuantian City a few days ago. I reckon it should be for the Elixir Pool Sect ruins as well."

Tang Yu looked at Su Zimo and said, "Although they only have slightly over a hundred people for this expedition, all Poison Sect cultivators are filled with poison and they specialize in killing opponents above their levels. Even super sects such as Glass Palace and Malevolent Earth Sect don't want to provoke them."

In reality, Tang Yu's statement was a reminder for Su Zimo to not offend Poison Sect lest he attract trouble and get himself killed.

Su Zimo smiled but did not say anything.

Upon seeing that Su Zimo did not seem to have taken anything in, Tang Yu continued, "Actually, Poison Sect was the one who suffered an immense loss this time round. Not only did they lose a strong cultivator of the sect, Xiaoning is completely fine. I'm sure that they must be feeling cautious after that failure. In the coming period, as long as we strengthen our defenses, Poison Sect will not dare to attack us rashly."

After a slight pause, Tang Yu added, "Furthermore, even if you go and kill a few Poison Sect cultivators and return safely, so what?"

"It's only for a moment of pleasure. Instead, you form a deep grudge with them that cannot be resolved. Thereafter, you will have to live life fearing that they might take revenge at any moment. It's not worth it."

"Yes."

Su Zimo nodded after pondering for a moment. "You are right."

Tang Yu finally heaved a sigh of relief after Su Zimo replied. She relaxed and revealed a bright smile.

A glint flashed across Su Zimo's eyes as he asked, "What are the Seven Lethals of Poison Sect?"

"Poison Sect's Seven Lethals refer to the seven most powerful hidden weapons or poisons of Poison Sect. For Qi Refinement Warriors and Foundation Establishment Cultivators of Poison Sect, they can only make use of two of the Seven Lethals, the Heart Seeking Spike and the Purple Corpse Corrosion Poison."

"The Purple Corpse Corrosion Poison is a purplish-green powder and anyone who touches it will most likely di—"

Glancing at Su Xiaoning at the side, Tang Yu suddenly stopped speaking.

There was someone in front of them that managed to survive against the Purple Corpse Corrosion Poison!

Tang Yu knew that Su Xiaoning must have some sort of a secret on her body. However, she was smart and chose not to ask about it.

"Heart Seeking Spike?"

Su Zimo asked reminiscently, "Is it a blue colored spike that is as thin as a cow's hair?"

"That's right!"

Tang Yu nodded. "The terrifying part of the Heart Seeking Spike is not the poison coated on the needle, but itself."

"Itself?" Su Zimo furrowed his brows slightly.

Tang Yu explained, "The Heart Seeking Spike is thin as a cow's hair. After entering one's body, it would flow along with the bloodstream until it ruptures the heart! It's useless even if one purges away the poison on the needle, the Heart Seeking Spike will still find its target and kill it."

Su Zimo nodded.

That explained why he felt his heart skip a beat when he was faced with that blue needle the other day.

The feeling did not come from the poison on the Heart Seeking Spike, but the needle itself.

In that short while, Su Xiaoning had fallen asleep. With a flushed face and steadied breathing, she was looking better.

"Young Master Tang, help me take care of Xiaoning. I'll go out for a walk."

"Alright."

Tang Yu nodded and did not think much about it, merely reminding Su Zimo to not wander far and be careful.

It was noon when Su Zimo left Elixir Yang Sect.

Standing at a street corner at the city's north, Su Zimo raised his head and looked at the sun expressionlessly. Instead of fearing the blinding sunlight, his eyes revealed coldness in them.

"Poison Sect."

Su Zimo spat out two words.

He walked south along the long street of Xuantian City.

...

The south of the city was originally guarded by two of the five heretical doctrines, Puppet Sect and Tomb Sect.

A few days ago, Poison Sect entered Xuantian City and forcefully took over a part of the city's south territory.

Originally, this place was green and filled with weeds growing rampantly. However, within a few short days after Poison Sect settled down, the grass had all withered and died!

The entire place turned sinister and desolate and even insects and ants disappeared, as if there were no signs of life apart from those of Poison Sect.

This noon, a green-robed cultivator arrived. He looked elegant and scholarly, walking with one hand behind his back.

“Eh? That guy seems a little familiar?”

“I think he’s the one from the bloody battle on the long street. Su Zimo, was it?”

“Yes, that’s him!”

“Strange. What is he doing at Poison Sect’s territory?”

Far away, some cultivators noticed Su Zimo.

After all, he was the only person in the territory of Poison Sect and he was strikingly obvious with his green robes that did not match the attire of Poison Sect.

Before long, in front of everyone’s watchful eyes, Su Zimo arrived before the residence of Poison Sect.

Two Poison Sect cultivators whose faces looked pale and yellow stood on each side of the door. They stared at Su Zimo who was approaching with disdain in their eyes.

To them, Su Zimo looked extremely weak and did not seem like a threat.

Furthermore, Su Zimo was not wearing a sect badge on his waist. In other words, this was not somebody from a super sect.

“What are you doing here?”

The Poison Sect cultivator on the left asked with a raised brow.

Smiling gently, Su Zimo pointed to the residence and asked instead, “This is Poison Sect, right?”

“So what if it is?” The other cultivator sneered.

Without replying, Su Zimo asked again, “Is Du Kai here?”

“Insolent!”

“You must have a death wish!”

The Poison Sect cultivators were enraged and shouted.

The cultivator on the left hollered coldly, “The name of Senior Brother Du isn’t something the likes of you can casually call out!”

The other cultivator added with a dark, sinister gaze, “Punk, you had better give me a reason not to kill you. Otherwise, I’ll let you meet Yama[1] in a moment!”

“Yama?”

Su Zimo grinned. “Why wait a moment? I’ll send you guys to meet him right away!”

Taking a step forward, Su Zimo suddenly extended his palm and swung it in reverse.

With a thud, his arm whipped out like the trunk of a mystic elephant and smashed heavily against the head of the cultivator on the right!

The person's brain juices splattered and he died on the spot without uttering a single word!

The cultivator on the left was flabbergasted – he had not expected Su Zimo to try and kill them in Poison Sect's territory.

“You...”

He had just said a single word when Su Zimo had already closed in. Without saying anything, Su Zimo pushed him palm down on the person's head and exerted strength!

Poof!

The person's head was shoved inside his chest with his neck snapped; he was dead before his body even collapsed onto the ground.

Indifferent even after killing two people, Su Zimo entered Poison Sect's residence with a calm expression.

The cultivators that were watching from afar had agape mouths – they had yet to react to what just happened.

After a brief moment, there was an uproar!

Something is happening!

Those three words were the only things left in the minds of those cultivators.

They did not know what grudge Su Zimo had with Poison Sect.

However, they knew that something shocking was about to happen in Xuantian City once more!

Exchanging glances, the cultivators deployed movement techniques and scattered everywhere.

Before long, the entire Xuantian City was about to find out about this!

[1] King of Hell. It's easier to think of him as the Chinese counterpart to Hades.