ETERNAL SK 461

Chapter 461: Resurrection and Regrowth of Flesh!

Hugging the unconscious Demoness Ji into the Human Emperor's Palace, Su Zimo could no longer hold on either and was fainting.

He was too badly injured and had lost too much blood. His flesh and skin were burnt to a crisp and his organs were failing – he had already gone beyond his body's regeneration capabilities.

If he hadn't cultivated the Mystic Classic of the Twelve Demon Kings of the Great Wilderness and possessed shocking vitality, he would have long been dead.

In his daze, Su Zimo suddenly felt his hands get lighter.

A long time later, he finally snapped out of his stupor. Enduring the immense pain, he turned to his side with extreme difficulty.

Demoness Ji who was initially lying in his embrace had disappeared!

Bang!

Before he had time to think, his body shuddered and he collapsed onto the cold, hard ground with a throbbing headache!

Su Zimo struggled to sit up, wanting to look for Demoness Ji. However, he caught sight of a hazy fog that was approaching him from not far away.

The fog billowed and surged over.

Just as it was about to arrive before him, the gray fog condensed into a hazy figure. Although the person's face was old, he was energetic and his eyes had a wise, deep look, as if he had seen through everything in the world.

Su Zimo was stunned on the spot.

He had not imagined that there would be a living being within this ancient palace!

The Human Emperor's Palace was a relic of the ancient era and had been through countless years in the sands of time where endless supreme and mighty figures have been buried.

Time was the scariest thing which even emperors could not defend against.

Who was that old man?

Was he a character from the ancient era or was he a cultivator who had entered the Human Emperor's Palace later on but was trapped here?

Or perhaps, was this old man the legendary Human Emperor?!

Su Zimo did not have the energy to contemplate those questions and neither could he hang on any longer as he collapsed. Gazing at the ceiling, he found his vision blurring.

The old man approached him and suddenly reached out.

Between his fingers was an elixir the size of a longan; it gave off a faint smell of blood.

For some reason, the aura the elixir gave off felt extremely familiar to Su Zimo.

The old man peeled open Su Zimo's mouth and put the elixir inside.

Su Zimo had no strength to resist and the elixir melted in his mouth, sending a spicy warmth down his throat. Upon entering his stomach, it lingered for a moment before suddenly letting out a terrifying burst of energy!

The energy felt like a tidal wave as it surged and cruised through his limbs.

An intense blood qi shot forth, wrapping Su Zimo in it as an extremely rich aura of vitality spewed out. One after another, beams of rainbow lights shot out in a divine manner, nourishing every single bit of his flesh.

His body that was initially defeated was reignited with vitality!

His injuries healed internally and externally as his charcoal black flesh peeled away. Pieces of flesh started regenerating on his bones with endless vitality.

It was a regrowth of his flesh!

This was a miracle almost akin to resurrection.

A numbing sensation prickled through Su Zimo's nerves, almost causing him to go insane.

"Ah!"

Su Zimo could not help but let out a long bellow.

The power within the elixir nourished his broken body like the way dew healed barren land. His dried flesh regrew and the tears on his organs closed, returning to normal.

Su Zimo's vitality was regenerating continuously.

With the help of that energy, his physique's strong regeneration capabilities were awakened once more as his blood qi ran rampant within his body.

Flesh could be seen growing at a visible speed near the wound on his abdomen, forming in pieces before combining together, merely leaving a faint scar.

It was the same for the injury on his left chest.

Although his collarbone was snapped earlier on, it was now piecing back together rapidly!

Some time later, cracks appeared on Su Zimo's charred skin and his scabs fell one after another, revealing jade-smooth skin beneath.

In the blink of an eye, all of his scabs had fallen off without any scars left behind as he emitted a massive wave of vitality.

All his injuries were healed!

That was not all the changes brought about by the elixir.

Not only did the elixir possess a massive vitality essence, it also contained terrifying blood qi and pure spirit energy!

Initially, the spirit sea in Su Zimo's dantian had already dried up.

Right now, spirit energy was gushing in endlessly, forming a sea with massive waves that was even fiercer than before!

Su Zimo's cultivation realm was rising swiftly and he was at the peak of seven meridian Foundation Establishment before long.

He did not even need to guide it.

The spirit sea surged and a series of pure, rich spirit energy pushed against his body's eighth spirit meridian!

Bang! Bang! Bang!

There were a series of loud bangs and almost no time was wasted as the momentum brought him through.

He had unlocked his eighth spirit meridian!

Throughout history, there may have been no other cultivator who managed to unlock their eighth spirit meridian as easily as Su Zimo without the need to even consume a Meridian Unlocking Elixir.

Even after unlocking his eighth spirit meridian, his spirit sea did not calm down and was still roaring furiously!

His cultivation realm was still climbing!

A long time later, it finally came to a stop when he was at the peak of eight meridian Foundation Establishment!

At that moment, Su Zimo was finally certain.

After the eighth spirit meridian, there was definitely a ninth spirit meridian – the legendary Extreme Foundation Establishment!

He was still in possession of a Meridian Unlocking Elixir.

Su Zimo planned to attempt to unlock his ninth spirit meridian after stabilizing down at this current cultivation realm so as to become the second person to reach the Extreme Foundation Establishment realm after the Human Emperor!

At the same time.

The terrifying blood qi in the elixir restructured Su Zimo's body as well.

Crack! Crack! Crack!

A series of crackling sounds echoed from within his body as his tendons and bones rang together. His blood qi climbed and he was surrounded by a thick demonic qi, causing multiple ancient demons to form!

A mysterious glow shone from his seven orifices, turning brighter and brighter!

A moment later.

Su Zimo's body shuddered and his seven orifices shone brightly. His power of blood qi exploded and his skin, flesh, tendons, bones, marrow, organs and orifices synergized with one another, forming a Major Heavenly Cycle.

He had attained greater mastery of the Orifice Clearing section!

All of a sudden!

His eyes jolted wide open and a beam of light that tore through the night shot forth in a bedazzling manner.

Rising upright, Su Zimo felt his blood qi rumble like a tsunami as a rainbow light shone from his organs. His major tendons were firm, his bones were lively and his flesh was flawless. Upon closer inspection, he could even see a mysterious luster cruising through them!

It was as though he had attained a perfect body!

Su Zimo could clearly sense that his body was different and his five senses were even more keen.

Without even opening his eyes, he could hear the sounds of fishes playing in a pond nearby as the image was visualized in his mind.

Meek as a virgin with the burst power of a rabbit, his body was even more coordinated with the fusion of toughness and flexibility. With every single motion of his arm, he could produce limitless power with a rampant might!

"At this point of your cultivation, you would have perfected your technique and cultivated universal sight and hearing. With the help of the spirit perception, you will be able to avoid danger without seeing or smelling it. Be it whether you're moving, sitting, or lying down, your heart will be able to sense and you will be able to defeat your enemies within ten feet with your bare hands!"

Su Zimo could not help but recall the words that Die Yue left him with as he murmured to himself, "I'm here now."

Chapter 462: Mysterious Old Man

Looking at his brand new body, Su Zimo lamented to himself as he experienced the power surging within him, "The Human Emperor's Palace is truly an ancient mythical object. To think that a single elixir from it would possess such wondrous effects!"

At that moment, Su Zimo's appearance had already returned to normal after being washed by the energy of the elixir. With his elegant features, he wore a set of green robes once more.

There was no one else around other than that mysterious old man who had disappeared.

Since his disguise methods were most probably child's play that would be seen through instantly in the eyes of the old man, Su Zimo had no intention of continuing with it.

He looked around and saw that the place was extremely spacious and boundless. Rather than a palace, it seemed like they were in another world.

The air was refreshing and the spirit qi was richer – the environment was even better than the ancient battlefield!

Concerned about Demoness Ji's safety, he sped forward with his spirit wings.

Life was vibrant in that spacious land and it was filled with greenery.

Far away, at the side of a gigantic lake, a white deer was drinking water. It had a pair of wings on its back and its eyes darted around with spirit.

Raising its head, the white deer was not afraid in the slightest bit when it caught sight of Su Zimo. Its ears twitched slightly, as if it was curious.

Su Zimo sped across the surface of the lake.

Thud! Thud!

Gigantic scarlet fishes leaped out of the lake, as if they were startled. Each of them was around eight feet long and was shaped like a carp with a pair of tiny horns on its head.

Each of them looked like they weighed a few kilograms. When they twitched and fell back into the lake, ripples were formed.

"Those are..."

Suddenly, Su Zimo's heart stirred when he caught sight of those gigantic scarlet fishes as he exclaimed, "Henggong Fishes!"

Henggong fishes had succulent flesh and were extremely shiny. Containing extremely few bones, they possessed a massive amount of energy and it was a great tonic to strengthen one's tendons and bones when consumed.

That was definitely a pure-blooded living being of the primordial era and had long gone extinct on Tianhuang Mainland.

"Screech!"

In the skies far away, a clear cry could be heard.

A gigantic bird streaked through the skies; the left half of its body was green and the right half of its body was red.

Focusing his gaze, Su Zimo's was shocked and nearly fell from midair.

That wasn't a gigantic bird, it was a pair of birds!

The ancient manuals back in the sect had a few short sentences describing a bird of the primordial era.

The Biying Bird only had a single eye and wing and the males were green while the females were red. Together, the couple must fly in tandem.

Back when he saw that description, Su Zimo even shook his head and laughed to himself thinking that it was impossible.

How could there be a type of bird in the world that could fly with only a single eye and wing?

Now that he was seeing it for himself, Su Zimo truly experienced how incredible the universe was.

At the same time, a thought flashed through his mind as he spun around and looked at the white deer with wings beside the lake.

Leaping, the white deer spread its wings and flew into the skies. It came to Su Zimo's side and lowered its head, brushing against his arm intimately before flying off.

Bai Ze!

That was an auspicious mythological beast of the primordial era, Bai Ze!

Legend has it that the Bai Ze was snow-white with wings and could speak in human tongue. It understood the emotions of all living beings and could distinguish between all the beings in the world, be it ghosts, gods or any other living beings – this was an auspicious beast that could change one's luck for the better.

"The legends are real..."

Su Zimo muttered softly.

Taking a deep breath of air, he soared into the skies and looked around before shuddering uncontrollably. He stood rooted to the spot as shock filled his eyes!

Countless mythical and different beasts roamed this vast land!

There was a three-legged brutish beast with flames on its leg, a purple chicken with eyes under its wings, a rat that was a hundred kilograms and filled with raging flames, a three-legged golden toad with scales...

The beasts were so incredible that Su Zimo had never heard of them before – he couldn't even name them!

In fact, he even suspected if he had reversed through time and returned to the primordial era.

All of a sudden!

His heart skipped a beat and his gaze froze.

Not far away, an old man stood with his hands behind his back – that was the mysterious old man who fed him the elixir.

Without thinking twice, Su Zimo arrived before the mysterious old man in a flash. Bowing deeply, he said with sincerity, "Thank you for rescuing me, senior. I'm truly immensely grateful."

The mysterious old man merely nodded and stared at Su Zimo with scrutinizing eyes.

At that moment, Su Zimo had countless questions on his mind.

Who was the old man before him? What was that elixir? Was this the Human Emperor's Palace? Why were there so many incredible beasts...

However, those questioned merely fluttered through his mind as he asked, "Senior, may I ask where the girl who entered the Human Emperor's Palace together with me is?"

Expressionlessly, the mysterious old man replied, "She's not here."

"Not here?"

Su Zimo's heart clenched up as he asked hurriedly, "Where is she? We entered the Human Emperor's Palace together! How can she not be here?"

"What are you getting anxious about?"

The mysterious old man rolled his eyes and harrumphed gently "I was merely saying that the lass is not in the same stone chamber as you."

"Stone chamber?"

Su Zimo was confused.

Pointing at his feet, the mysterious old man remarked casually, "The world we are in right now is merely a single stone chamber in the Human Emperor's Palace."

Gradually, Su Zimo's mouth fell open; he was dumbfounded and shock filled his eyes.

This world with skies and stars, possessing boundless land with mountains, lush greenery and countless incredible beasts... was actually just a stone chamber within the Human Emperor's Palace!

What sort of powers were these?

The mysterious old man's next sentence gave Su Zimo an even bigger shock such that he could not snap out of it for a long time.

"There's billions of such stone chambers in the Human Emperor's Palace," The mysterious old man said casually with a calm expression.

Su Zimo: "... "

A long time later, still worried about Demoness Ji, he asked, "How is that girl in pink?"

"Don't worry, she won't die. She'll follow her own destiny," The mysterious old man replied.

Su Zimo only heaved a sigh of relief upon hearing that.

"Heh!"

Suddenly, the mysterious old man sneered, "Young man, you're truly brazen to challenge the rules set by my master! If it wasn't because my mistress was kind enough to speak up for you seeing how pitiful that girl is, she would have died long ago!"

Master, mistress...

Su Zimo blinked and asked in a testing manner, "Senior, the master you're referring to is..."

"Can you get any dumber?"

Frowning, the mysterious old man glared at Su Zimo and said in a deep tone, "Since this is the Human Emperor's Palace, my master is definitely the Human Emperor!"

Su Zimo was shocked.

Needless to say, the mistress should be the Human Emperor's Dao companion!

The mysterious old man glanced at Su Zimo from the side of his eyes and sized up the latter while muttering, "This young man seems dumb. Could master have made a wrong judgment?"

Actually, Su Zimo was not entirely to blame.

Everything that he had seen and experienced after entering the Human Emperor's Palace was way beyond his imagination.

There were things that he could not dare to believe even if he had guessed it.

Furthermore, even now, he wasn't clear of the identity of the old man before him.

Chapter 463: Inheritance

The mysterious old man's statement revealed another important message.

The Human Emperor was alive!

He was an emperor of the ancient era after all. Through the endless years, countless emperors have already died.

To think that the emperor who was lauded as the strongest and most domineering throughout history was still alive!

Could it be that after endless cultivation and breakthroughs, living beings are truly able to extend their lifespans and age with the universe or even reach the realm of eternal indestructibility?

Since the Human Emperor was still alive, what cultivation realm was he at right now?

"Senior Human Emperor, he's... still on Tianhuang Mainland?"

A moment later, Su Zimo composed himself before asking.

"Of course not,"

The mysterious old man waved it off. "Master isn't here either. You don't have to dream about getting to meet him either, you're not qualified yet."

Su Zimo was not ashamed upon hearing that and merely took it in his stride and smiled.

Right after, Su Zimo's heart skipped a beat.

Suddenly, he recalled that before she left, Die Yue said with a chuckle that she was about to return to her world.

Was that the same world as the Human Emperor?

Since there had never been any signs of immortals found on Tianhuang Mainland, did it mean that after attaining immortality, cultivators could pass through the void and travel to another world?

Could that world be filled with countless immortals like Die Yue and the Human Emperor? What sort of a vast and vibrant place was that?

Instantly, countless thoughts filled Su Zimo's mind and he developed a longing interest towards that foreign world.

"Before you, a total of seven people entered the Human Emperor's Palace and each of them received a different inheritance. The inheritance you're about to receive is different from theirs. It can be considered as the true legacy of the Human Emperor."

At that point, the mysterious old man looked deeply at Su Zimo before waving his sleeves gently, causing two objects to float in midair.

It was a piece of paper and a gigantic seal.

The paper was written with endless tiny words – Su Zimo merely swept his eyes across and felt them prickle slightly.

The gigantic seal was squarish and golden throughout. On it, a divine dragon was etched, coiling around it in a life-like manner.

The gigantic golden seal hovered in midair, emanating waves of powerful might, as though it could crush the stars and suppress the entire world!

The mysterious old man remarked, "This is the Coiling Dragon Seal. It's a connate spirit weapon, keep it well."

A connate spirit weapon!

Su Zimo was shocked.

Prior to this, Su Zimo witnessed how terrifying connate spirit weapons were in that battle beneath the Human Emperor's Palace.

The shimmering silver circlet that Hang Qiuyu brought out shattered his supreme-grade spirit weapon instantly.

That was also the reason why Hang Qiuyu managed to survive with a sliver of health after receiving Su Zimo's punch!

Furthermore, Foundation Establishment Cultivators were unable to unleash the full might of connate spirit weapons.

The terrifying burst power of connate spirit weapons could only be released in the hands of Golden Cores!

"Thank you, senior,"

Su Zimo did not reject and took over the Coiling Dragon Seal, injecting spirit energy into it.

Whoosh!

A bright light shone on the Coiling Dragon Seal and Su Zimo seemed like he was holding a blazing sun with an intimidating might!

"Hmm?"

Suddenly, Su Zimo's expression changed and he shuddered as his wrist sank.

It was heavy!

After it was injected with spirit energy, the Coiling Dragon Seal almost caused Su Zimo to embarrass himself as it weighed down on him.

Now that Su Zimo had attained greater mastery of the Orifice Clearing section, his physique had the strength to suppress all other eight meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators without even taking on his demon form!

However, despite that, his body experienced pressure from the Coiling Dragon Seal.

The mysterious old man nodded to himself.

He thought that Su Zimo would definitely embarrass himself since he was unprepared and would be squashed by the Coiling Dragon Seal. The fact that the lad could remain standing without moving had exceeded his expectations.

Clearing away his spirit energy, Su Zimo put the Coiling Dragon Seal away in his storage bag.

That was a great treasure!

Delighted, Su Zimo's gaze shifted towards the page of sutra at the side expectantly.

The mysterious old man pointed to the page and remarked indifferently, "This is a secret skill created by my master in the past. If you manage to master it, you can already fight against Golden Cores at Foundation Establishment realm."

"In fact... you can even challenge Golden Core phenomenons!"

Psst!

Su Zimo's expression changed slightly.

The difference between cultivation realms were divided into minor and major realms. For example, in Foundation Establishment, early-stage, mid-stage, late-stage and perfected were minor realms whereas it was a major realm between Foundation Establishment and Golden Core realm.

There was an insurmountable gap between major realms.

It symbolized one breaking free of the restrictions of the universe and extending their lifespans; the difference in strength was even worlds apart.

But right now, the Human Emperor's secret skill could allow Su Zimo to challenge the strength of Golden Cores even at Foundation Establishment realm!

The mysterious old man's final statement was even more shocking.

"In fact... you can even challenge Golden Core phenomenons!"

Every single cultivator knew that Golden Core phenomenons were the extremes of spirit arts and there were extremely few people who could cultivate them.

The reason why many Foundation Establishment paragons wanted to enter the ancient battlefield so that they could progress in their Foundation Establishment realm was because they wanted to be able to cultivate the strongest Golden Core phenomenons when they form their cores!

Without further description, the mysterious old man's simple statement had already revealed how terrifying that secret skill was!

Sighing gently, the mysterious old man continued, "The conditions required to cultivate this skill are extremely stringent and after my master created it, nobody else managed to learn it. I hope that you'll be able to succeed."

Even though he said that, it was clear that the mysterious old man did not bear much hope through his tone.

Su Zimo received the page of sutra and focused his attention. There were three tiny golden words in the middle of the first row – Ancient Dragonification Manual!

Those three simple words caused a terrifying pressure that was shuddering.

For some reason, Su Zimo felt his body heating up; it was as though an inexplicable power was surging within him!

The mysterious old man's voice sounded once more, "Although you won't be able to transform into a divine dragon after attaining greater mastery of the Ancient Dragonification Manual, you'll be able to conjure the phantom of a divine dragon that possesses the true might of the dragons!"

"Humans are weak and have ordinary bloodlines; they can't be compared against the dragons who are extremely powerful from birth. If you want to cultivate the Ancient Dragonification Manual, you will have to steal the blood qi of the dragon race!"

"The elixir you consumed earlier was a Blood Flesh Elixir made from the flesh of a young dragon."

Instantly, Su Zimo had a look of realization.

That was the reason why he had a sense of familiarity towards the aura given off by the elixir.

Su Zimo's eyes flickered and he frowned in deep thought.

According to the mysterious old man's words, one could only succeed in cultivating the Ancient Dragonification Manual after consuming the blood qi of the dragon race.

He was in a rather unique situation.

A couple of years ago, he had consumed half a dragon!

Although it was not formed yet, that was the egg of a divine dragon after all!

"Hehe."

The mysterious old man chuckled coldly. "Don't look down on the fact that it's a young dragon. You were able to receive such immense benefits just by consuming an elixir made from the flesh of a young dragon. If it was an adult divine dragon, the power of a single drop of its blood would be enough to destroy you, let alone its flesh!"

Su Zimo did not doubt that statement at all.

Back then, after he and Night Spirit consumed that dragon egg, their bodies almost gorged to the point of explosion and it took them a full three years to digest it completely!

Chapter 464: Two Utmost Treasures

"The conditions required to cultivate the Ancient Dragonification Manual are extremely stringent and obtaining the blood qi of the dragon race is merely the beginning. Among the seven people who entered the Human Emperor's Palace before you, there were also some of them with potentials comparable to you. However, they were merely slightly inferior."

The mysterious old man said with a trace of pity, "Tsk, tsk. That Lei kid was rather decent as well. However, it was a pity that he couldn't unlock his ninth spirit meridian, causing him to miss this great opportunity to get the Ancient Dragonification Manual."

At that point, Su Zimo's heart skipped a beat as he recalled Uncle Liang's words.

Legend has it that the secret to the Extreme Foundation Establishment is hidden within the Human Emperor's Palace!

He asked hurriedly, "Senior, may I ask, how does one unlock the ninth spirit meridian and cultivate to the point of Extreme Foundation Establishment?"

Foundation Establishment was an extremely important step in one's path of cultivation and how stable their roots were would decide their future accomplishments!

The mysterious old man replied, "Nine represents the extreme and if one wants to unlock their ninth spirit meridian, their spirit energy would have to be extremely pure without the slightest bit of impurity! I've checked through your spirit energy. It's very pure and that's quite seldom."

Pondering for a moment, Su Zimo remarked, "Senior, up to this point of my cultivation, I've rarely consumed any elixirs and even for those that I consume, they were at perfect-grade. I think it should have something to do with that."

Apart from perfect-grade elixirs, every other grade of elixir possessed impurities.

Long term consumption would result in consolidation of those impurities. Although they would not have a significant impact on a cultivator's combat strength, it would impede the possibility of them unlocking their ninth spirit meridian.

"Elixirs are only part of the equation,"

The mysterious old man shook his head. "In Tianhuang Mainland, there are many sects and factions with rich heritages and immense foundations. It's not rare for them to provide perfect-grade elixirs for the paragons in their sects with the most potentials. However, even while cultivating and absorbing spirit qi, there's no way to avoid the existence of impurities."

"While cultivating?" Su Zimo frowned slightly.

The mysterious old man explained, "Mortals consume food which would turn into feces upon digestion, creating impure qi and filth. Therefore, at a certain point of cultivation, there's a saying of inedia."

Su Zimo nodded.

He had heard about inedia before.

It was said that after entering Nascent Soul realm and cultivating an Essence Spirit, cultivators could live without consuming food and merely take in dew and the essence of the universe to survive, soaring through the skies and riding the clouds.

In fact, they could even scour the world and explore the four oceans and eight desolates with a single thought.

The mysterious old man continued, "Similar to mortal food, spirit qi would inevitably contain impurities upon absorption to one's dantian. That is... unless the person was in possession of an utmost treasure that could help them purify the spirit qi!"

At that point, he gave a meaningful look at Su Zimo's right hand.

Suddenly, Su Zimo gave off a gradual look of realization as he recalled how qi entered his body while he was cultivating his Qi Condensation manual.

Back then, spirit qi entered his body through his right hand.

Before entering the Human Emperor's Palace, the few Sealers said that his right hand was a divine phoenix bone.

If that was true, it would explain many things.

Entering his right hand, spirit qi would be purified by the divine phoenix bone, incinerating all impurities and allowing him to only take in the purest spirit qi.

Back then, he had just mastered Qi Condensation and was able to release a Level 3 Spirit Fire with his right hand immediately.

Now that he thought about it, that was not a true Level 3 Spirit Fire – he merely managed to possess the might and heat of a Level 3 Spirit Fire because of the divine phoenix bone!

Of course, from the beginning till now, Su Zimo had never released the true powers of the divine phoenix bone.

At the battle beneath the Human Emperor's Palace, the terror of the divine phoenix bone had only revealed itself for a brief moment after absorbing the Golden Core's true fire before returning to normal.

The mysterious old man said with a hint of lament, "This divine phoenix bone is one of the rare few utmost treasures in Tianhuang Mainland. The person who changed your fate by attaching your wrist with this divine phoenix bone must have exerted a lot of effort."

At this point, Su Zimo was finally certain that his blood bone palm was the legendary divine phoenix bone!

Previously, he was severely injured after killing the Joyful Sect cultivators in Cang Lang Mountain Range and his right hand was battered.

By the time he woke up, his right hand was already perfectly fine.

In other words, during the few days he fainted, Die Yue had not only helped him to plant a spirit root, she had even reattached his wrist with the divine phoenix bone!

"If you are smart, you should have realized that you must not reveal that divine phoenix bone again after leaving this place. Otherwise, you are definitely bound to die!"

The mysterious old man said with a stern expression, "Even the mighty figures and patriarchs of the human race would be tempted to make a move for the divine phoenix bone!"

Su Zimo nodded.

Thankfully, he changed his appearance and hid his identity beneath the Human Emperor's Palace.

Otherwise, he would definitely be hunted upon reentering Tianhuang Mainland!

A man's talent would often arouse the greed of others.

"There is also an extremely strict requirement for one's spirit root if they want to reach the Extreme Foundation Establishment realm. Regarding that, you have no issue as well,"

After a brief pause, the mysterious old man looked at Su Zimo deeply once more, "There are only that few types of utmost treasures in Tianhuang Mainland. Someone has really spared no expenses in trying to pave your path forward by leaving you with two of them!"

"Ah!"

Su Zimo was shocked.

Before Die Yue left, she had left him three gifts. One of them was his spirit root and now, he knew that the divine phoenix bone was another.

There was still one more unknown gift.

Through the mysterious old man's words, it seemed like the second utmost treasure had something to do with his spirit root.

Su Zimo could not help but ask, "What's the second utmost treasure?"

"Even if I explain it to you, it's no use for you because your cultivation realm isn't there yet. Perhaps one day in the future, you might be able to see it for yourself," The mysterious old man shook his head.

Su Zimo did not press on, feeling slightly disappointed.

The mysterious old man continued, "The Ancient Dragonification Manual expends a lot of one's spirit energy and it can only be released with an Extreme Foundation Establishment. Not only that, the Ancient Dragonification Manual requires a lot from the physique of a cultivator!"

"Although you're only conjuring the phantom of a divine dragon, it still possesses the true might of a dragon. Extremely terrifying, it overrides over all living beings. An ordinary body wouldn't be able to withstand the might of the dragon and even ancient remnant beasts would explode into a blood mist!"

"Since you're someone who does immortality and demonic cultivation together, your physique is alarming and is enough to withstand the Ancient Dragonification Manual!"

Su Zimo was not surprised that the mysterious old man could read his background like a book.

However, what surprised Su Zimo was the mysterious old man's attitude towards the matter.

If the various major sects of Tianhuang Mainland were to know that he was doing immortality and demonic cultivation at the same time, they would definitely regard him as a despicable outcast and kill him.

However, the mysterious old man was indifferent towards the issue.

Waving it off with his hand, the mysterious old man said, "There's less than half a year left. Stay here and cultivate for now. You don't have to force yourself even if you don't succeed."

"Alright."

Su Zimo nodded and strode to the lakeside without hesitation, sitting down to glance through the page of sutra.

Every single word on the sutra possessed a mysterious might. Even with Su Zimo's powerful eyes, he had to take a rest every now and then.

He could only continue reading after closing his eyes for a short break.

When he was thirsty, Su Zimo would drink from the lake. When he was hungry, he would catch a Henggong Fish for food. Other than that, the rest of his time was spent on cultivating the Ancient Dragonification Manual.

Just like that, five months passed in the blink of an eye.

This day, as it was close to the end of the year in the ancient battlefield, the mysterious old man appeared and was about to inform Su Zimo who was at the lakeside.

All of a sudden!

A change happened to Su Zimo's aura!

A terrifying might descended at the lakeside, shocking the masses!

Chapter 465: True Dragon?

"Hmm?"

Sensing something, the mysterious old man looked towards Su Zimo.

Beside the lake, Su Zimo assumed a lotus position with an upright back. His eyes were closed as his black hair swayed without any wind; a terrifying aura was coming forth from within his body, climbing rapidly!

It was as though an ancient power was being awakened!

An extremely long living being appeared in midair, coiling several rounds around Su Zimo upwards. Finally, it stopped in midair and its gigantic head stared in the direction of the mysterious old man.

Dragon race!

Compared to adult dragons which can be thousands of feet long, this could only be considered as a young dragon.

Although it was only a phantom of a young dragon, the aura that it produced was shuddering, as if it could conquer all living beings!

Gradually, green scales appeared on the young dragon's body one after another, shimmering with a cold glint. The bone spikes on its back and its sharp claws were bared while its horns stood gloriously.

The phantom of the green dragon was actually turning corporeal. Even the scales, bones and claws were condensed with flesh, life-like and no different from a true dragon!

"Psst!"

The mysterious old man gasped and his expression changed. Disbelief filled his eyes as he exclaimed, "How is that possible?!"

The Ancient Dragonification Manual was meant to conjure the phantom of a divine dragon by using the blood qi of the dragon race; the shape of a divine dragon could only be made out faintly.

That alone was heavenly-defying.

However, Su Zimo had conjured an actual true dragon!

Even the Human Emperor who created this secret skill was unable to reach this point – how did this Foundation Establishment Cultivator manage it?

Could this young man have achieved a new comprehension of the Ancient Dragonification Manual within a mere six months?

All of a sudden!

Su Zimo's eyes burst wide open with a lightning gaze.

At the same time, the coiling dragon above him opened its eyes as well. Cold and mighty, it could not be ignored!

The man and dragon opened their eyes at the same time!

The moment the dragon opened its eyes, it was as though it had awakened and possessed actual life as it surveyed its surroundings with an overwhelming might.

Given the mysterious old man's cultivation realm, he was composed and felt nothing much as the dragon's eyes swept past him.

However, the incredible beasts in the surroundings sprawled onto the ground motionlessly.

The fishes in the lake went silent, not daring to swim, and the birds in the skies fell one after another fearfully.

Against the dragon's might, all the living beings felt a sense that came from the depths of their souls!

The dragons were one of the strongest living beings back in the primordial era where the thousands of races reigned. It had once ruled over the world above all the thousands of races!

Although Su Zimo was merely a Foundation Establishment Cultivator, with the protection of the dragon, he exuded a dominance that looked down on the world; it was peerless, as though he had control over all divine beings in the universe!

Bang!

Su Zimo swayed a little and the dragon coiling around him dissipated before disappearing gradually.

The immense pressure vanished.

Once again, the incredible beasts went back to play and everything returned to normalcy.

Heaving a sigh of relief, the mysterious old man came before Su Zimo and said, "Since you forcibly released the Ancient Dragonification Manual without your cultivation realm being high enough, you won't be able to sustain it for long. Once you're at Extreme Foundation Establishment, you'll be able to release the secret skill and use it against your foes."

Su Zimo nodded.

He had summoned that small dragon for a couple of seconds but the spirit energy within his body was thoroughly expended and his spirit sea was almost dry!

Right now, he was at the peak of eight meridian Foundation Establishment.

The fact that he was still unable to release the Ancient Dragonification Manual given his immense spirit energy was proof of how terrifying that secret skill was!

The mysterious old man's gaze lingered around Su Zimo, sizing him continuously.

It was only until Su Zimo's hairs stood on end that the mysterious old man asked, "How did you manage to conjure an actual true dragon?"

Hesitating for a moment, Su Zimo shook his head. "I don't know either."

He had a guess in his heart but he wasn't certain.

The fact that he was able to conjure a true dragon might have a lot to do with his consumption of half a dragon egg!

The elixir that the mysterious old man fed him was merely a Blood Flesh Elixir made from the flesh of a dragon. However, he had devoured half of an actual dragon a couple of years ago!

After entering his stomach, the essence and vitality of the dragon race filled every single part of his body.

Cultivating the Ancient Dragonification Manual caused that power within his body to awaken, causing yet another unaccounted change!

"Master truly has good judgment."

The mysterious old man did not press on and merely lamented.

A moment later, he said, "The year is almost up and the lass that entered together with you has left first. It's about time for you to do so as well."

Su Zimo was relieved when he heard that Demoness Ji was fine. Bowing deeply to the mysterious old man, he said, "Thank you for your lifesaving grace and the guidance for the past half year, senior."

He had truly benefited way too much this time round.

He had attained greater mastery of the Mystic Classic of the Twelve Demon Kings of the Great Wilderness and was only a step away from forming an Inner Core!

In terms of cultivation, he was already at the peak of eight meridian Foundation Establishment. As long as he consumed the Meridian Unlocking Elixir and continued cultivating, he would have a chance of unlocking the ninth spirit meridian.

He would be able to cultivate to the legendary Extreme Foundation Establishment realm!

At that point, even without taking on his demon form, he would be able to fight against Golden Cores with the might of the Ancient Dragonification Manual!

The mysterious old man waved it off. "You don't have to thank me. If you're truly able to reach my master's level one day, thank him personally face to face."

"Where do you want to descend? I can send you there."

After pondering for a moment, Su Zimo said, "Xuantian City."

•••

Upon reentering the ancient battlefield, Su Zimo could clearly sense that the place seemed to have gotten more unstable.

It meant that the year was almost up!

Xuantian City was a little empty and quiet without the bustle from before.

Most of the cultivators have already left and only a few remained. They traveled through the city with hurried expressions – it was clear that they were also preparing to leave.

There was already no one at the territory of Elixir Yang Sect.

Su Zimo went straight to Xiaoning's room and caught sight of her handwriting etched on a stone table after looking around.

"Brother, Elixir Yang Sect is located in the Middle Continent of Tianhuang Mainland. Because their teleportation spot is extremely far from Xuantian City, I'll have to make a move with Sister Tang Yu first. Once I cultivate the Longevity Elixir, I'll return to Yan Country to look for big brother. Both Night Spirit and I are fine, don't miss us."

"Regards, Xiaoning."

The writing was scribbled a little hurriedly – it was obvious that Xiaoning truly had no time at the end and had to leave.

Smiling to himself, Su Zimo reached out and gave a simple swipe.

Even though it was a casual move, an entire layer of the stone table's surface was wiped off and the words disappeared completely.

Before leaving Xuantian City, Su Zimo had already instructed Night Spirit to stay by Xiaoning's side and head to Elixir Yang Sect with her.

He had to return to the Great Zhou Dynasty and was unable to stay by Xiaoning's side. As such, the only way he would feel relieved was if Night Spirit was with her.

Now that he knew that Xiaoning was fine, Su Zimo was at ease and did not linger further in the city; he headed straight for the cave abode that Ji Yaoxue and the rest were cultivating in.

Previously, he promised her that he would return for her.

Suddenly, Su Zimo could not help but frown when he recalled a person.

Jun Hao!

Previously, he suspected that there was something wrong with that person but he had no proof.

Before leaving, he even reminded Ji Yaoxue to keep something up her sleeve to guard against that guy.

"I hope Yaoxue's fine."

Su Zimo's eyes flashed with a cold glint and a massive pair of wings spread out behind him. Blood qi burst forth and he sped forward at full speed – his speed was already at its limits!

Chapter 466: Fallout

A steep mountain stood at the borders of the ancient battlefield.

Halfway on the mountain, a man stood in front of the cave abode with his hands behind his back. He was handsome and had a noble aura, but his expression was grim and his eyes flashed with coldness occasionally.

Azure Frost Sect's Jun Hao was the prince of the Great Xia Dynasty.

The reason why he courted Ji Yaoxue painstakingly previously was because he knew about her identity as the princess long ago!

If the two of them could develop further, he could make use of the opportunity and her identity to understand the background of the Great Zhou Dynasty fully!

However, it was a pity that Ji Yaoxue maintained a neutral attitude towards him all these years, similar to how she would treat all the other senior and junior brothers in the sect.

Although Jun Hao was a little frustrated, he was extremely scheming and was in no hurry.

The path of cultivation was long and there were many chances for them to interact since they were in the same sect.

However, it was a pity that a monstrous cultivator appeared in the sect competition, giving him a sense of threat!

When Ji Yaoxue wore that long pale yellow dress and circled around that man, smiling with a bedazzling wink, that scene stabbed Jun Hao's heart like a thorn!

"Su Zimo!"

He gripped his fists slowly and narrowed his gaze.

Ji Yaoxue's attitude towards that man was clearly different from others; even the way she looked at him was enough to make Jun Hao jealous!

After entering the ancient battlefield, his plans were further destroyed when Su Zimo unleashed terrifying methods and suppressed all enemies domineeringly.

Almost all the Great Xia cultivators that entered the ancient battlefield were killed!

The scariest thing was that Su Zimo had already begun suspecting him!

In that period of time, Jun Hao lived his days on thin ice, hiding carefully, afraid to let out a single mistake.

During normal times, that man looked like a scholar with a friendly appearance and calm gaze.

However, Jun Hao knew in his heart that this was a man who was decisive to kill!

As long as he revealed a single mistake, that man would definitely kill him without giving him a chance to explain!

Finally, that day, Su Zimo left.

It was only then that Jun Hao heaved a sigh of relief and felt relaxed.

However, it did not take long for him to be frustrated once more. In fact, he was even seething with hatred!

There were five stone chambers in the cave abode.

Before leaving, Su Zimo had actually set up a formation outside the fifth stone chamber!

Ever since that day, Ji Yaoxue had not stepped out from that stone chamber at all!

No matter how Jun Hao tried to invite her, she would always have excuses to push him away.

At the same time, she did not allow anyone in, including the remaining two guards of the Great Zhou Dynasty.

"Yaoxue, have you started suspecting me as well?"

Jun Hao's gaze flickered. Slowly his expression turned cold as he murmured, "Since that's the case, don't blame me for falling out with you!"

He withdrew a spirit crane from his storage bag and wrote a few words on it. After injecting spirit energy to it, it spread its wings and flew, disappearing into the void instantly.

Turning around, Jun Hao entered the cave abode and walked towards the fifth stone chamber.

He did not walk far when Si Yutang of Iridescent Clouds Palace approached him.

The latter greeted with a smile. "Brother Jun Hao, the year is almost up. When are we leaving?"

After consuming the Meridian Unlocking Elixir, Si Yutang cultivated to six meridian Foundation Establishment.

Jun Hao was at seven meridian Foundation Establishment right now.

With a fake smile, Jun Hao replied, "I'm about to look for Junior Sister Yaoxue to discuss this. Come along."

"Alright."

Si Yutang agreed readily without suspicion.

After passing the long tunnel, they arrived before the fifth stone chamber where the remaining two guards of the Great Zhou Dynasty stood on each side.

Both of them were also at the peak of six meridian Foundation Establishment.

Most of the cultivators at the center of the ancient battlefield were at seven meridian Foundation Establishment and the paragons of super sects were even at eight meridian Foundation Establishment.

However, in reality, most of the cultivators in the ancient battlefield were only at six meridian Foundation Establishment.

"Greetings, fellow Daoists."

The two guards greeted with cupped fists.

Since there were only five of them here, all of them were long familiar with one another.

Jun Hao's gaze was fixated on the stone door as he said loudly with a smile, "Junior Sister Yaoxue, the year is almost up. Let's move today and return to the teleportation spot."

A moment later, an unhurried voice sounded from within the stone chamber.

"Senior Brother Jun, there's no need to hurry. Zimo promised me that he will return. There's no difference waiting for a couple more days!"

Jun Hao's expression froze when he heard that. Lowering his head slightly, his gaze was ghastly and his face was frighteningly dark!

"Wait for him?"

Si Yutang sneered, "That person didn't know what's good for him and ventured deep into the ancient battlefield. Since there's been no news of him for so long, he's definitely dead!"

Ji Yaoxue replied indifferently, "I believe that he won't die and will definitely return."

"Fu..."

Si Yutang stifled a chuckle and shook his head.

He was absolutely sure that Su Zimo was dead after venturing into the depths of the ancient battlefield!

Jun Hao took a deep breath of air. By the time he looked up, he had a smile once more. "Junior Sister, there's only ten odd days left. If that man wanted to return, he would have done so long ago."

"We only need two days to reach the teleportation spot from here. We can still make it even if we move a couple of days later," Ji Yaoxue replied firmly.

"Brother Jun Hao, since she won't leave, let's leave!"

Si Yutang sneered once more, "We can definitely return to the teleportation spot safely given our current cultivation realms."

The smile on Jun Hao's face had vanished as he said slowly with a cold expression, "Yaoxue, I've already given you your last chance. Since you didn't cherish it, don't blame me for not showing mercy on account of us being in the same sect."

The moment he said that, the atmosphere turned strange.

The two guards frowned and looked at Jun Hao in confusion.

Si Yutang was stumped as well.

Things were fine earlier on – why did he suddenly have a change in attitude?

What did it mean by last chance and not showing mercy?

With a cold gaze, Jun Hao glared at the stone door, as though he could see the woman inside, and said word by word, "Yaoxue, you'll be leaving today whether you want to or not. The choice isn't yours!"

"Jun Hao, what do you mean by that!"

Sensing Jun Hao's hostility, one of the guards hollered warily.

Inside the stone chamber, Ji Yaoxue sighed. "You still couldn't hide it after all."

"Since you've already begun to suspect me, there's no need for me to pretend any longer."

Jun Hao admitted readily.

"I was initially skeptical when Zimo reminded me at the start."

Ji Yaoxue shook her head. "However, you've been too anxious for the past half a year, trying to find excuses to either enter or to get me out. At that time, I knew that Zimo's guess was right."

"Indeed, he was the one who spoiled my plans!"

Jun Hao cursed and pointed at the stone chamber, sneering, "Yaoxue, do you think that a few layers of formations laid down by a dead man would be able to protect you?"

"Zimo mentioned that even an eight meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivator would have to take a few days to dispel this formation."

Ji Yaoxue replied, "However, it's a pity that you're at seven meridian Foundation Establishment. Given your strength, there's no way you'll be able to dispel this formation. Jun Hao, give it up. Even if it's something that Zimo left behind, you won't be able to deal with it either!"

Jun Hao was furious upon hearing Yaoxue's words and lost control of his emotions. He snarled as an ugly expression showed on his face and green veins popped from his neck, "Yaoxue, once I break through this stone chamber, I'll let you enjoy for a long time beneath my crotch!"

A series of dull, heavy footsteps sounded, approaching from afar in the tunnel.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The entire cave abode was shaking as dust fell endlessly. Instantly, an aura of death gushed over with a suffocating stench!

Chapter 467: Monster

Although she was behind a formation in the stone chamber, Yaoxue could still sense the repressive pressure that was arriving!

It was as though a supreme monster was rapidly approaching!

Jun Hao's expression was dark and his gaze was cold. "I can't deal with something that Su Zimo left behind? Yaoxue, do you really think that he's the only one with an ace up his sleeve?"

Following Jun Hao's fallout, both parties were on the brink of fighting.

The two Great Zhou guards looked serious and withdrew their spirit weapons one after another, ready to fight.

Si Yutang's eyes were filled with shock. He retreated slowly upon realizing that something was amiss with the situation, wanting to stay out of things and find a chance to escape.

On the one hand, it was the third princess of the Great Zhou Dynasty – he did not dare to offend her.

On the other hand, although it seemed like the other party was a cultivator of Azure Frost Sect, his background did not seem simple.

More importantly, Jun Hao was at seven meridian Foundation Establishment – Si Yutang did not dare offend him.

How unlucky!

He cursed internally.

Jun Hao's gaze shifted towards Si Yutang as he asked murderously with a cold glint in his eyes, "Si Yutang, whose side are you on?"

He was straightforward, leaving Si Yutang with nowhere out at all!

If Si Yutang chose to be on Jun Hao's side, once this matter was exposed, he would definitely be hunted down in the territory of the Great Zhou Dynasty and would be in dire straits!

However, if he chose to be on Ji Yaoxue's side, he would be faced with a fierce battle right away!

Although they had the advantage in numbers, they were all at six meridian Foundation Establishment – they had little chance of winning against Jun Hao who was at seven meridian Foundation Establishment.

Right then, a cultivator walked over from the tunnel; his feet did not touch the ground and he was like a ghost!

Si Yutang was scared out of his wits.

Wearing white robes, that person's face was frightfully pale and his skin was pale. Reeking of death, those listless eyes that resembled dead fishes bulged out in a bloodshot manner, looking extremely terrifying!

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Heavy footsteps approached.

A tall and mighty figure followed right after and arrived. A full ten feet tall, he was silent and wore black robes with a hood that covered his body tightly – this was like a guardian of Hell.

The expressions of the two Great Zhou guards changed slightly as they subconsciously gulped, trying hard to compose themselves.

Against the black-robed cultivator, the two of them seemed like children.

Both of them turned their attention over.

Most of the black-robed cultivator's face was covered by the hood, revealing only his chin such that it was hard to catch his appearance.

Initially, Si Yutang was still hesitant.

However, he made up his mind after the black-robed cultivator appeared and suddenly said, "Senior Brother Jun, I'm definitely on your side."

Jun Hao's eyes flickered with a mocking expression as he nodded. "Very good, at least you can read the situation."

Si Yutang heaved a sigh of relief.

The reason for his decision was because he could sense danger exuding from the black-robed cultivator!

By standing on Jun Hao's side, he was exposing himself to the danger of being hunted by the Great Zhou Dynasty.

However, he would have to die right away if he chose to stand on Ji Yaoxue's side!

Jun Hao had already composed himself. Arriving before the white-robed cultivator, he bowed deeply and respectfully. "Thank you for rushing over, Senior Brother Li. I'm afraid I'll have to depend on you to dispel this formation."

"Yes."

The white-robed cultivator raised his head slightly.

Si Yutang's gaze shimmered and he frowned to himself.

He noticed something odd.

Jun Hao merely greeted the white-robed cultivator and was oblivious to the tall black-robed cultivator at the back.

However, Si Yutang could clearly feel that the black-robed cultivator was scarier!

How could that be?

Turning around, Jun Hao could not conceal the killing intent in his eyes as he glared at the two Great Zhou guards and said coldly, "Si Yutang, it's time for you to shine."

"Alright."

With no other way out, Si Yutang could only abide by Jun Hao.

"Go!"

Slapping his storage bag, Si Yutang hollered softly and summoned a supreme-grade flying sword.

A resplendent glow filled the sword in a bedazzling manner.

The two Great Zhou guards retaliated as well, churning their spirit energies with all their might. Six spirit meridians appeared as they summoned their flying swords to fight against Si Yutang.

Cling! Clang!

The three of their flying swords collided repeatedly in midair, causing sparks to fly.

The guards who were qualified to enter the ancient battlefield were carefully selected from the capital of Great Zhou.

Since the three of them were at six meridian Foundation Establishment, Si Yutang did not have any advantage against the two guards and was instead losing slowly.

"Humph!"

Waving his robes, Jun Hao sent forth a green azure qi that condensed into a gigantic palm in midair.

The temperature on the battlefield dipped instantly!

The two Great Zhou guards were shocked.

Both of them could not deal with the full might of a spirit art released by a seven meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivator!

"Azure Frost Palm?"

Right then, a cold laugh sounded from within the stone chamber.

The stone door opened and Ji Yaoxue strode out. Waving her robes in the same manner, she conjured hand seals and let out an azure frost qi, creating a massive palm.

The two palms collided in midair!

Boom!

Spirit qi dissipated evenly!

"Hmms, seven meridian Foundation Establishment?"

Jun Hao's eyes lit up and he could not help but clap his hands in laughter. "Well, well! To think that you've also unlocked your seventh spirit meridian, Yaoxue! It's no wonder why you're my junior sister."

Ji Yaoxue was wearing the long pale yellow dress. Although she was merely standing there, she exuded an air of nobility that was filled with dominance.

"Princess, hurry back! It's dangerous here!"

One of the Great Zhou guards urged after seeing Ji Yaoxue leave the stone chamber.

"Yaoxue, you're finally willing to come out,"

Jun Hao whipped out a flying sword from his storage bag and shook his head. "However, since you walked out of that stone chamber, you don't have to return anymore!"

"Go!"

The sword tore through the air, turning into a streak of light that arrived instantly.

Ji Yaoxue did not panic at all as she circulated the spirit sea in her dantian with her full might. Her seven meridian spirit energy surged wildly as she similarly brought out a flying sword and fought against Jun Hao."

Since they were both at seven meridian Foundation Establishment and had cultivated in Azure Frost Sect before, they were rather familiar with one another's moves.

In a short period of time, neither could overpower the other.

On the other hand, although the two Great Zhou guards had the advantage against Si Yutang, they could not kill the latter right away either.

The fight between the five of them carried on in that stalemate.

Spirit qi surged furiously on the battlefield and sword qi was merciless, but no victor could be decided.

Jun Hao became increasingly frustrated.

Distracted momentarily, his arm was cut by Ji Yaoxue's flying sword and blood flowed out.

"A bunch of trash!"

The white-robed cultivator that was initially standing at the side was finally getting impatient. Waving his hand gently, he said in a cold manner, "Go and kill those two six meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators and capture that woman alive!"

The black-robed cultivator that was originally standing motionlessly behind him walked forward.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

With each step taken, the cave abode would quake violently in a terrifying manner!

"Roar!"

Charging in the direction of the battlefield, the black-robed cultivator suddenly let out a deafening roar!

Shing!

His black robes were ripped apart, turning into countless pieces of cloth that danced in the air.

The black-robed cultivator revealed his true appearance.

Apart from the white-robed cultivator, everyone else present was shocked and their pupils constricted – their scalps prickled as they felt their hairs stand on ends!

"W-W-What's that monster?!"

One of the Great Zhou guards asked with a trembling voice; his limbs had gone cold.

Even though Jun Hao knew what the black-robed cultivator was right from the start, he was still shocked when he caught sight of his true appearance and nearly lost control of his flying sword.

Chapter 468: Wow... So Amazing?

That was no cultivator.

To be precise, that wasn't a living being.

The monster reeked of a rotting stench and his skin was black. Muscles bulged from his body in distinct pieces, looking as though they were washed with steel liquid.

Long fingernails as sharp as knives shone with a ghastly green color – they were clearly carrying poison!

There were no pupils in his eyes and they were completely white, looking extremely frightening.

When the monster roared, green veins popped up on its necks and face, akin to small little snakes that were crawling on the surface of its skin. It bared a pair of bloodied fangs and its face was shuddering and menacing!

This was a living corpse!

None of them present had witnessed such methods before. Not only was the corpse resurrected, it was controlled by someone and let out such a terrifying aura!

Even though she was the princess of Great Zhou, Ji Yaoxue was also greatly shocked and her face was pale.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The corpse strode in huge steps towards the battlefield.

Sensing that the situation was bad, Jun Hao and Si Yutang had already withdrawn themselves from the battle long ago, afraid that they would be implicated.

"Go!"

One of the Great Zhou guards summoned his flying sword while the other conjured hand seals, producing blazing fireballs that shot at the corpse!

As though it did not see them, the corpse did not slow down at all.

The two Great Zhou guards were slightly relieved when they saw that, thinking to themselves, "At the end of the day, it's just a walking corpse with no brains that doesn't know how to dodge at all."

Clang!

Before they could finish their thoughts, the flying sword had already pierced the corpse's chest. However, the sound of metal clashing echoed!

The flying sword was repelled!

The fireball landed on the corpse and lasted for two breaths before extinguishing.

In the billowing smoke, not only was the corpse fine, it turned even more violent!

The two of them were dumbfounded and their eyes widened.

At the same time.

Ji Yaoxue's flying sword descended. Shining with four bedazzling spirit patterns, its sword qi was cold and it pierced the corpse's head with its sharpness.

Clang!

Another crisp sound rang out accompanied by a chain of sparks – the flying sword was repelled as well!

A faint white scar merely appeared on the corpse's glabella – its skin was not even scratched!

Ji Yaoxue was gravely shocked.

She was at seven meridian Foundation Establishment and she possessed a supreme-grade flying sword. Yet, she could not even scratch the skin of the corpse with her full power!

How was she going to fight this corpse that weapons could not pierce and fire and water could not damage?

Before she could finish her thoughts, the corpse arrived in front of the two Great Zhou guards within a few strides. Reaching out, it crushed both of their heads instantly!

The two guards did not get a second chance to attack at all.

Swash!

Ji Yaoxue summoned her flying sword once more and this time round, they were aimed for the corpse's eyes!

She believed that everything had their weaknesses no matter how strong they were.

Suddenly, the corpse glared at the incoming sword and reached out. He grabbed it and placed it in front of his mouth before spitting a ball of oily green smoke at it.

The moment the smoke touched the blade, the spirit light of the supreme-grade flying sword dimmed!

Ji Yaoxue's expression changed as she lost her connection to the supreme-grade flying sword!

Not good!

She thought to herself. Turning around to retreat back to the stone chamber, a black shadow had already arrived before her.

Swoosh!

An evil gust of wind burst forth, suffocating her.

Ji Yaoxue merely felt her chest turn stuffy and her head spin.

The corpse was filled with poison from head to toe and gave off a rotting stench – any cultivator that breathed in that rotting stench without any precautions would definitely be affected!

The corpse reached out with its massive hands, aiming at Ji Yaoxue's shoulders to capture her alive.

All of a sudden!

The pale yellow dress that she was wearing shone with four bright spirit patterns.

With the obstruction, the corpse failed to grab Ji Yaoxue's shoulder right away.

She jolted to her senses and hurriedly retreated a couple of steps back, entering the stone chamber in a flash before shutting its stone doors.

"Roar!"

The corpse was enraged and roared, slamming violently at the stone doors.

Boom!

While the stone doors shook violently, they did not open.

Buzz!

At the same time, as though it sensed something, a series of formation lights appeared on the ground of the entrance of the stone chamber.

Another formation was activated at the entrance of the stone chamber, engulfing the corpse within!

Sword qi buzzed incessantly.

Sharp sword qi shot forth from within the formation and stabbed the corpse repeatedly from all directions in a resplendent dazzle.

Trapped in the formation, the corpse flung its arms and collided against the sword qi from all around, roaring in endless rage.

Not long after, the skin of the black corpse was already torn against the relentless attacks of the sword qi and it was injured all over, leaking with gooey, sticky blood that was extremely pungent!

"What a terrifying killing formation!"

Jun Hao felt a sense of fear and broke out in cold sweat upon seeing that.

That was clearly a trump card left behind by Su Zimo!

Apart from the defense formation, there was a killing formation around the stone chamber!

Previously, if Jun Hao had attacked forcibly, he would have been caught in the killing formation and would most likely have died after being pierced by the countless swords!

"Su Zimo, you're savage!"

Jun Hao grit her teeth and endless hatred flooded his eyes.

Although the white-robed cultivator felt a little pained looking at the corpse's skin getting damaged by the sword qi, he did not appear to be worried.

While the might of the killing formation was terrifying and might even be able to kill an eight meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivator, it did not manage to hurt the corpse fundamentally and those were merely superficial wounds.

As the filthy blood of the corpse flowed onto the ground, the formation patterns were gradually tainted.

The might of the killing formation was diminishing!

The formation light was also dimming gradually...

Before long, the killing formation was dispelled entirely and the corpse broke free. By now, it had descended into a complete frenzy as it charged at the stone chamber!

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The light of the defensive formation shone repeatedly, withstanding the attacks of the corpse one after another.

With nowhere else to retreat to within the stone chamber, Ji Yaoxue found herself calming down instead.

In her heart, she knew that the power produced by the corpse was not weaker than an eight meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivator. Coupled with its corrosive aura, poison and blood, the formation would not be able to hold out for much longer.

If the formation was dispelled, she would commit suicide right here!

A princess of Great Zhou would definitely not allow herself to be humiliated by others!

. . .

As though it did not know the meaning of fatigue, the corpse fought for an entire day and night without stopping!

The light of the formation had dimmed considerably.

The defensive formation could be broken through at any moment!

The situation was determined and Ji Yaoxue was on the brink of calamity with nowhere to escape!

Si Yutang walked to Jun Hao's side and let out a fawning smile. Sweeping his gaze past the white-robed cultivator, he asked, "Senior Brother Jun, what's the name of that fellow Daoist?"

"You're not qualified to know,"

Jun Hao replied, "All you have to know is that he hails from one of Tianhuang Mainland's super sects and is the strongest paragon of the Foundation Establishment realm!"

"Y-Y-Yes!"

Si Yutang nodded repeatedly with a fearful expression.

"Senior Brother Li's combat strength is unparalleled and he's practically invincible amongst all Foundation Establishment Cultivators! He can suppress all enemies in Tianhuang Mainland and even if the ancient emperors were at Foundation Establishment realm, they might not be a match for Senior Brother Li!"

Jun Hao spilled out songs of praises without any shame or embarrassment.

Although he could tell that Jun Hao was sucking up to him, the white-robed cultivator enjoyed it nevertheless.

After a momentary pause, the white-robed cultivator said, "That's not for sure. The Human Emperor's Palace appeared sometime back and the monster incarnate of Divine Phoenix Island appeared. That man is not to be underestimated."

Jun Hao hurriedly remarked, "You don't have to be humble, Senior Brother Li. I still believe nobody in the Foundation Establishment realm is your match in a one on one battle."

"Yes."

Nodding, the white-robed cultivator declared with pride, "I don't even have to do it myself if it's a one on one battle. This steel corpse that I cultivated is more than enough to kill that monster incarnate of Divine Phoenix Island!"

"Wow... so amazing?"

Suddenly, a voice sounded in everyone's ears, carrying a hint of sarcasm and mockery.

Chapter 469: Test It With Your Life!

"Hmm?"

Both Jun Hao and Si Yutang frowned in confusion.

Although that voice sounded rather familiar, the two of them were not certain.

Rather, that person should have been dead.

Could he have ventured into the depths of the ancient battlefield and yet returned alive?

"Who's there?"

The white-robed cultivator's slightly bulged eyes shifted and his expression turned grim with killing intent.

Right after, his eyes flashed with confusion as well.

That voice did not come from the cave abode. From the sound of it, it seemed like it came from five kilometers away.

That was the confusing portion.

If he was five kilometers away, how could he hear their conversation in the cave abode?

Was his hearing that powerful?

Could omnipresent hearing truly exist in the world?

All of a sudden!

The sound of clothes fluttering sounded, approaching from afar at an extremely fast speed – it was as though it arrived at the cave abode's entrance in the blink of an eye!

"What a swift movement technique!"

The white-robed cultivator's heart skipped a beat as he turned to glare at the tunnel.

It was the same for Jun Hao and Si Yutang – both of them wanted to know if it was that man who had arrived!

Before long, a green figure appeared in the tunnel, striding over with steady footsteps. Although he looked calm, there was an indescribable aura around him!

The intruder had elegant features, looking like a scholar – it was Su Zimo who had rushed over from Xuantian City.

Jun Hao's eyes narrowed with cold killing intent as he declared hatefully, "It's truly you!"

"You're not dead?"

Si Yutang's mouth was slightly agape as he uttered in disbelief.

Su Zimo's expression was calm as he swept his gaze past the two of them without pausing.

Right after, he looked at the mighty corpse that was ramming against the stone chamber and his eyes flashed. Raising his brow, he seemed to have recalled something.

He paused for a brief moment before fixing his gaze on the white-robed cultivator.

After entering the cave abode, Su Zimo did not say anything and merely surveyed his surroundings.

However, for some unknown reason, that simple action of his caused the white-robed cultivator to feel an unprecedented sense of pressure!

Su Zimo's eyes were bright and deep. His gaze was nonchalant and it seemed like he could control everything with a single look!

Even without saying anything, he was exuding a dominance that surpassed everything!

It was an aura that could not be faked.

This was something that was created through the corpses and blood of countless paragons and was revealed subconsciously!

The white-robed cultivator was expressionless but he felt uneasy. Suddenly, he retreated a couple of steps back and shouted softly, "Come back!"

The corpse came to a sudden halt and paused for a moment before taking huge strides towards the white-robed cultivator. It stood beside the latter and glared at Su Zimo murderously.

By now, the wounds inflicted by the killing formation had already formed scabs and were no longer bleeding.

"Senior Brother Li, this is Su Zimo!"

Jun Hao commented hurriedly, "He's the one who injured your battle corpse! The killing formation outside the stone chamber was also set up by him!"

The white-robed cultivator did not say anything and merely glared at Su Zimo with a grim expression.

Indifferently, Su Zimo said, "One of the five heretical doctrines, Corpse Refinement Cult."

After entering the depths of the ancient battlefield, he gained a good understanding of the various factions on Tianhuang Mainland thanks to Tang Yu and the others. As such, he recognized the whiterobed cultivator's background instantly.

Corpse Refinement Cult Cultivators were extremely recognizable as they would always bring along a battle corpse that they refined using their sect's secret skills to fight for them.

Looking at the white-robed cultivator, Su Zimo asked with a fake smile, "Since you were bragging about how strong you were earlier on, why didn't you go take on the monster incarnate of Divine Phoenix Island beneath the Human Emperor's Palace?"

The white-robed cultivator's expression turned terrible.

Naturally, he wanted to fight for the Human Emperor's inheritance when the Human Emperor's Palace appeared as well.

His battle corpse was invincible against weapons and could not be damaged by water or fire. In terms of strength, it was no weaker than eight meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators.

However, Corpse Refinement Cult Cultivators had a fatal weakness.

Compared to their mighty battle corpses, they were not strong. If they lost the protection of their battle corpse, they would most definitely die against eight meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators!

Paragons from all over the place were gathered beneath the Human Emperor's Palace.

Needless to think, it would definitely be an unprecedented battle royale.

There was no way his battle corpse would be able to protect him entirely in that sort of battle royale and it would be hard for him to survive!

After hesitating for a long time, the white-robed cultivator decided to give up on the Human Emperor's Palace.

Later on, it was proven that his decision was the right one as well.

It was said that almost half the paragons who fought in that bloodied battle beneath the Human Emperor's Palace were dead and most of them were crippled – it was extremely tragic!

The white-robed cultivator harrumphed coldly. "It was a battle royale beneath the Human Emperor's Palace. If it was a one on one battle, the monster incarnate of Divine Phoenix Island might not be my match!"

"Oh?"

Su Zimo raised his brow.

"Who are you? What sect are you from?"

The white-robed cultivator asked instead.

Jun Hao explained hurriedly, "Don't worry, Senior Brother Li, this is merely a disciple of a small sect in the Great Zhou Dynasty. He has no backing and he was merely at four meridian Foundation Establishment half a year ago."

Compared to factions such as super sects and the five heretical doctrines, Ethereal Peak could truly only be considered as a small sect.

The white-robed cultivator frowned slightly when he heard Jun Hao's words.

If this guy was at four meridian Foundation Establishment half a year ago, even if he had heavenly-defying cultivation speed and made use of the Meridian Unlocking Elixir, he would only be at seven meridian Foundation Establishment at best.

In the worst case scenario, even if he was at eight meridian Foundation Establishment, so what?

This was someone from a small sect without any backing.

The foundations of small sects were not strong and they had limited secret skills – how strong could this guy be?

Could he have judged wrongly?

Gradually, the white-robed cultivator's expression turned cold as he waved his hand. "Go, check out the skills of this fellow Daoist!"

The corpse acknowledged by roaring with a torrential aura before charing over in huge strides.

Compared to the tall and mighty corpse, Su Zimo could be considered as a thin weakling – it seemed as though he wouldn't even be able to withstand a single push of the corpse's finger!

However, Su Zimo's expression was unchanged and he merely smiled against the incoming corpse.

Clang!

Unknowingly, a blood-colored saber had already appeared in his hands.

The saber trembled with a torrential blood qi!

"Test my skills?"

With a razor-sharp gaze, Su Zimo said coolly, "Test it with your life!"

Boom!

Before his words were finished, Su Zimo had already made a huge stride!

The moment his stride landed, a series of dense cracks appeared on the ground beneath him.

In a split second, the entire place shook and the cave abode quaked violently. Dust filled the place continuously and it seemed like the cave could topple at any moment!

Everyone present felt their hearts skip a beat.

Su Zimo channeled his spirit energy and instantly, the spirit sea in his dantian surged and created terrifying waves!

One after another, spirit meridians shone brightly beneath his green robes as spirit energy surged rampantly.

"Eight meridian Foundation Establishment!"

Jun Hao and Si Yutang were astonished as they exclaimed.

Swoosh!

Su Zimo slashed out and a blood beam expanded, landing on the head of the corpse like a blazing blood sun!

The corpse could not dodge in time and could only tilt its head slightly.

"Pfft!"

Blood Quencher sliced down along the corpse's shoulder and cut downwards heavily!

Its blade let out a jarring sound as it sliced through the muscles and bones, as though it was cutting a metallic object.

Gooey, filthy blood gushed out.

That slash almost cut the corpse into two halves!

Blood Quencher only slowed down in its tracks after cutting into the corpse's chest.

After it was blocked by Blood Quencher, the corpse could barely advance.

Although Su Zimo seemed frail and skinny, a casual slash from him was enough to send forth a shuddering power that even the corpse that was invulnerable against weapons, water and fire could not withstand!

The white-robed cultivator's expression turned paler as his figure swayed for a moment.

Chapter 470: Meat Sludge

In Tianhuang Mainland, be it the nine immortal sects, seven fiend sects or six Buddhist sects, there were extremely few sects that managed to pass on their legacies and remain standing from the ancient era till now.

Among them, countless top factions were drowned in the sands of time, leaving behind nothing but ruins and legends.

Corpse Refinement Cult was one of the rare few super sects that managed to survive from the ancient era till now.

Legend in the cultivation world even has it that the roots of Corpse Refinement Cult can be traced back to the primordial era – the brutish period of time where the thousands of races reigned and humans were weak and enslaved!

There were countless secret skills in Corpse Refinement Cult and within them, there was even an ancient supreme sutra called the Corpse Classic.

The Corpse Classic contained many secret skills; even the descriptions for the method of cultivating a battle corpse alone were plenty.

Battle corpses were also graded by levels: Iron Corpse, Bronze Corpse, Silver Corpse, Golden Corpse...

For Foundation Establishment Cultivators and Golden Cores of Corpse Refinement Cult, they could only refine Iron Corpses.

Bronze Corpses required Corpse Refinement Cult cultivators to be of Nascent Soul realm and to cultivate an Essence Spirit before they could be refined.

For each battle corpses, the deeper the color, the more power they possessed and the stronger they were.

The power of the white-robed cultivator's battle corpse was enough to fight against eight meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators!

Furthermore, the battle corpse was not only invulnerable to weapons, water and fire, it even possessed poison – even eight meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators won't be able to injure the core of the battle corpse.

There was no way the white-robed cultivator would have expected a seemingly delicate cultivator to nearly slice his battle corpse into half with a single casual slash!

How terrifying was that strength?

A trace of panic flickered through the white-robed cultivator's slightly bulged eyes.

Immediately, as though he made some sort of a resolve, the white-robed cultivator conjured hand seals and channeled a secret skill of his sect. Biting his tongue gently, he spat out a mouthful of essence blood that spilled onto the battle corpse's wounds.

"Heal!"

The white-robed cultivator shouted softly.

Instantly, the frightening injury on the battle corpse started healing at a visible speed as greenish black meat grew and intertwined together.

The battle corpse roared with immense ferocity!

At the same time, the aura of the white-robed cultivator turned extremely weak and his gaze dimmed. Swaying to one side, he seemed like he could collapse at any moment.

He slapped his storage bag and took out an elixir before swallowing it. It was only then that he recovered some vitality.

It was clearly a secret skill similar to Blood Escape.

By sacrificing his body's vitality, he repaired the battle corpse's wounds and triggered it to produce even greater combat strength.

The battle corpse reached out with its hands and grabbed Blood Quencher's blade.

Blood Quencher was drowned by the endless filthy blood as it was stuck in the battle corpse's body. Gradually, the light on its blade dimmed.

Harrumphing coldly, Su Zimo withdrew his saber with strength!

The battle corpse chose to let the blade slice its palms than to relinquish its grip. Furthermore, it even lunged forward with the momentum, spitting out a ball of oily green smoke that was extremely nauseating.

"Watch out!"

Ji Yaoxue warned from within the stone chamber.

Earlier on, the corpse's smoke had already destroyed her supreme-grade flying sword!

Not only that, the corpse even opened its mouth and bared its bloody fangs, biting towards Su Zimo's neck like a wild beast!

Su Zimo frowned and released his Blood Quencher before retreating.

It wasn't because he was afraid of the smoke and those fangs – the corpse was truly way too disgusting that Su Zimo did not wish to touch it with his hands.

Su Zimo's retreat revealed an opening in the tunnel momentarily.

The eyes of the white-robed cultivator lit up.

In truth, he had already thought of retreating the moment Su Zimo attacked with the slash earlier on.

While it was meant for the corpse, he knew that he wouldn't be able to survive that attack even if he had ten lives!

When he saw Su Zimo dodge to the side, the white-robed cultivator moved in a flash and sped towards the tunnel since he was unwilling to battle.

Su Zimo's eyes flashed with mockery when he saw that.

Swiping his storage bag, a huge squarish golden seal appeared in his palms.

The connate spirit weapon, Coiling Dragon Seal!

It was extremely easy for Su Zimo to kill this Corpse Refinement Cult cultivator.

As long as he channeled his bloodline and made use of his spirit wings together with Divine Steed Fleeting, he would be able to wrap around the battle corpse and strike that person to death!

However, earlier on, Su Zimo had a thought and recalled this treasure he had just obtained.

He was also curious as to how powerful the legendary connate spirit weapons were, let alone one that was given to him by the Human Emperor.

"Go!"

Tossing the Coiling Dragon Seal upwards, he pointed and a stream of spirit energy was injected into it from his finger.

The Coiling Dragon Seal expanded rapidly and shone with a golden radiance. Hovering in midair like a blazing sun, it was bedazzling and let out a shuddering aura, exuding endless might!

The feral battle corpse suddenly seemed as pathetic as an ant against the Coiling Dragon Seal.

The Coiling Dragon Seal descended rapidly!

Boom!

A loud bang sounded when it rammed against the battle corpse's head.

Crack! Crack! Crack!

Right after, the sound of bones cracking could be heard.

The Coiling Dragon Seal merely paused for a brief moment before continuing down!

With a thud, the battle corpse that was a full ten feet tall was crushed into a pile of foul-smelling meat sludge by the Coiling Dragon Seal, spreading all over the ground without any body left!

The white-robed cultivator was about to rush into the tunnel when a blindingly bright seal crashed down, blocking the exit.

He spun around hurriedly and a pile of meat sludge splattered onto his pale face.

The white-robed cultivator's eyes were widened and his mind went blank, almost shocked silly.

In the cultivation world, anyone who wanted to defeat Corpse Refinement Cult cultivators had to try their best to avoid the battle corpse while attacking the actual cultivator.

That was because the battle corpses were the indestructible weapons of Corpse Refinement Cult cultivators!

Nobody within the same cultivation realm could defeat their battle corpses.

If anyone was embroiled in a battle against their battle corpses and could not get out, they would either end up being killed or exhausted to their deaths.

That was because battle corpses did not know fatigue.

Even if they were completely injured, their strength would not diminish.

However, it was different for cultivators.

Humans had a limit to their stamina.

The white-robed cultivator had cultivated for dozens of years and had been through endless battles against various paragons. However, he had never come across anyone that fought as fiercely as Su Zimo.

Notwithstanding the fact that Su Zimo was fighting the corpse itself, he even almost managed to slice it into two with the first attack.

Right after, he even turned the battle corpse into a pile of meat sludge with the second attack!

Things had ended just like that.

The white-robed cultivator was stunned at the moment.

A deathly silence filled the air.

Initially, Jun Hao and Si Yutang wanted to attack Su Zimo together with the battle corpse. But now, they were rooted silly to the spot, the corners of their eyes twitching and their bodies trembling slightly.

That was a connate spirit weapon!

The two of them could clearly see that the huge golden seal that Su Zimo summoned at the end shone with six spirit patterns – it was obvious that it was a connate spirit weapon!

The deadly poison qi within the battle corpse's flesh was filthy and could destroy weapons and Dharma treasures.

Even Ji Yaoxue's supreme-grade flying sword could not escape the fate of being destroyed.

But now, the light on the golden seal did not diminish at all even when it was tainted by the battle corpse's blood and flesh. In fact, it shone more intensely, exuding the dominance of an emperor that looked down on the world!

A deep look of envy filled Jun Hao's eyes.

I can be as domineering as that if I get my hands on that treasure!

Chapter 471: All Dead

Su Zimo's expression changed slightly.

The might of the Coiling Dragon Seal had exceeded his expectations!

The power that was released was enough to threaten an early-stage Golden Core!

More importantly, an Foundation Establishment Cultivator's dantian was still in the form of a spirit sea and had yet to form a core.

Only Golden Cores could release the true might of connate spirit weapons!

Su Zimo was looking forward to how amazing the Coiling Dragon Seal would be at that time.

There was a squeaking sound.

The stone doors opened and Ji Yaoxue came forth.

Their eyes met.

Su Zimo smiled and nodded, reassuring her.

Instantly, Ji Yaoxue blushed and pursed a smile in return.

Su Zimo beckoned gently and the Coiling Dragon Seal shrank into a small, intricate seal before turning into a streak of light that returned to his storage bag.

Walking slowly to the exit of the tunnel, he pushed down with his ankle and his Blood Quencher returned to his palm.

Throughout the entire process, the white-robed cultivator, Jun Hao and Si Yutang did not dare to move at all and kept quiet out of fear!

Every single action and gaze of Su Zimo caused the three of them to feel immense pressure. Their hearts raced fiercely, as if they could die at any moment.

This was an almost invincible aura!

Their gazes flickered and their minds were bothered by the same thought.

How should they escape!

The Coiling Dragon Seal did not merely suppress a battle corpse, but also the final bit of determination in the three of them to want to retaliate.

The white-robed cultivator was the first to speak. A rare smile was squeezed out of his dreadfully glum face as he cupped his fists. "Fellow Daoist, you are truly strong. I'm very impressed."

"I'm nothing compared to you. You're someone who can even suppress the monster incarnate of Divine Phoenix Island," Su Zimo looked at the white-robed cultivator with a fake smile.

Bearing an awkward expression, the white-robed cultivator forced a chuckle. "You're joking, fellow Daoist. You're the one who's able to suppress the monster incarnate of Divine Phoenix Island with your skills. I'm far inferior."

Su Zimo did not reply and waved his saber. Instantly, Blood Quencher shot forth with a murderous blood beam once more!

Blood Quencher was a perfect spirit weapon that was infused with Su Zimo's blood after all. Although it was tainted by the battle corpse's filthy blood, its sharpness could not be hidden.

Sensing Su Zimo's killing intent, the white-robed cultivator's heart skipped a beat as he remarked hurriedly, "You can't kill me."

"Oh?"

Su Zimo uttered without raising his head.

Composing himself, the white-robed cultivator said in a deep voice, "You should know the status of Corpse Refinement Cult in Tianhuang Mainland. If you kill me, you'll be hunted down by the sect!"

"Ha. Even if I kill you... who would know?"

Su Zimo smiled gently.

The white-robed cultivator was speechless.

On the other hand, Jun Hao and Si Yutang felt a chilling intent!

In other words, what Su Zimo meant was that he was going to kill them all!

After killing the three of them, news of this would never ever be spread!

There was something else that Su Zimo kept to himself.

'Corpse Refinement Cult? I've even killed quite a few paragons from the immortal, fiend and Buddhist sects! You're just one of them!'

Clang!

The blade shuddered and a startling blood beam flashed.

When Su Zimo attacked once more, the gigantic blade seemed extremely agile in his hands; his slash forward caused ripples in the void.

The white-robed cultivator's expression changed starkly.

While that slash did not seem fast, there was an inescapable feeling to it.

For Corpse Refinement Cult cultivators, losing their battle corpses was as good as losing half of their combat strength.

He could not deal with the terrifying saber technique of the Saber Emperor's Sea Calming Manual. A single moment of distraction and he felt his throat go cold followed by a ripping pain!

A red scar appeared on his throat, turning bigger and more defined!

The next moment.

A blood mist spewed out.

"Ee.. "

A strange sound came from the depths of the white-robed cultivator's throat as he let out an indignant expression. Collapsing stiffly forward, his the light in his eyes dimmed without any life.

His throat was slit with a single slash!

After killing the Corpse Refinement Cult cultivator, Su Zimo turned around and walked towards Jun Hao and Si Yutang without hesitation.

"It was the idea of Jun Hao and the others! I-I had no choice as well! That's why I chose the wrong path!"

When he saw that the situation was amiss, Si Yutang knelt on the ground with a thud. His hand was placed seemingly casually on his storage bag as he bawled without a single shred of dignity as a cultivator.

Wiping his snot, Si Yutang said with a quivering voice, "Fellow Daoist Su, p-please give me a chance..."

Si Yutang did not have any bit of pity at all towards a fence sitter like Si Yutang.

Today, this man could kneel down and cry before him in order to survive.

Tomorrow, this man could stab him in the back instead!

Arriving before Si Yutang, Su Zimo looked down and replied indifferently, "At times, once you choose the wrong path, there's no way back."

Si Yutang's final hope was dashed after hearing Su Zimo's reply.

His hand was still on his storage bag.

But now, a dagger with a cold glint had suddenly appeared in his palms.

Si Yutang's sobs came to a stop as his expression darkened. With a venomous gaze, he said coldly, "Since you won't allow me to live, I'll kill you first!"

Grabbing his dagger, Si Yutang stabbed towards Su Zimo's chest!

This was a complete ambush!

However, his thoughts could not escape from Su Zimo's spirit perception.

The moment Si Yutang stood up, Su Zimo's palm descended from above and landed heavily on the former's head.

Piak!

As though it was tofu, Si Yutang's head was splattered and he died on the spot without a single word.

The moment Si Yutang attacked, Jun Hao made up his mind and channeled his spirit energy with all his might as well. In a flash, seven spirit meridians lit up as he charged towards Ji Yaoxue who was at the entrance of the stone chamber.

Right now, she was his only shot at living!

As long as he could hold her hostage, he could talk terms with Su Zimo!

As Jun Hao charged, he realized that Ji Yaoxue was motionless and merely looked at him quietly.

There was a trace of mockery and pity in her eyes.

All of a sudden!

From the side of his eyes, Jun Hao caught sight of a blood light shooting towards him at lightning speed!

It crackled and was shuddering.

The moment Si Yutang attacked, Su Zimo flung out his Blood Quencher.

Jun Hao did not have time to react and merely caught sight of the scarlet flash.

Right after, an immense pain came from beneath his ribs as he was sent flying by a powerful impact!

Clang!

Su Zimo's Blood Quencher cut through Jun Hao and pinned the latter tightly against the stone walls!

The impact was immensely strong and the saber was still shaking after embedding itself in the stone walls!

Jun Hao's eyes and mouth were widened as fresh blood gushed out uncontrollably.

The saber had not only penetrated his body, but also destroyed his organs and cut off his life!

"You..."

Raising his arm with much struggle, Jun Hao pointed at Su Zimo, as if he wanted to say something.

After a momentary pause, his head tilted to the side and he died with opened eyes.

In less than 10 minutes, all three of them were dead!

Chapter 472: Stir on Tianhuang Mainland

"Zimo, you've saved me once more,"

Ji Yaoxue beamed brightly and quipped, "I won't be able to clear my debt to you in this lifetime."

Su Zimo smiled as well. "There's no need to speak of such things between us."

"Eight meridian Foundation Establishment. Seems like you've gotten quite a bit of opportunities in the depths of the ancient battlefield."

"Indeed, I've gotten some."

It had to be said that Su Zimo had truly benefited way too much in this ancient battlefield expedition.

Notwithstanding the inheritances and treasures, his cultivation realm gained through this one year in the ancient battlefield was already enough to make up for dozens of years of cultivation on Tianhuang Mainland!

Suddenly, Ji Yaoxue's expression changed as she asked, "Xiaoning and the others..."

Su Zimo's group had six people when they left. Now that he was the only one who returned, Ji Yaoxue had a bad feeling about things.

"Don't worry,"

Su Zimo waved his hand. "All of them received their own opportunities and joined some older and more powerful sects. In fact, some of them might have already left the Tianhuang North Region."

Xiaoning's Elixir Yang Sect was located far away in the Middle Continent.

Tianhuang Mainland was boundless and vast. If a Foundation Establishment Cultivator wanted to travel from the North Region to the Middle Continent, they would have to be on the road day and night for dozens of years even without resting.

That was also without taking into account the possible dangers they might encounter along the way.

In reality, it was something that was difficult even for Golden Cores too.

Only Nascent Souls could protect themselves well enough to attempt to travel out from the North Region and roam everywhere.

It was likely impossible for the siblings to meet one another in the near future after this separation.

That was the reason why Su Zimo wanted Night Spirit to stay by Xiaoning's side and look after her.

As for little fatty, Leng Rou, Ji Chengtian and Shi Jian, they were worlds apart as well – it was unknown if he would still have the chance to meet them in this lifetime.

At that thought, Su Zimo could not help but feel slightly emotional and wistful.

"Zimo, you're still worried about Blood Crow Palace taking revenge, right?"

Ji Yaoxue was extremely smart and after slight contemplation, she understood why everyone went their separate ways.

Su Zimo had killed the young master of the Blood Crow Palace and even nearly caused the Palace Lord himself to die in the primordial ruins.

The feud between him and them was already irreconcilable.

That day, in the palace, right under the nose of the Emperor of Great Zhou, the Blood Crow King declared that all the disciples of Ethereal Peak would be buried along with the young master – it was obvious how arrogant he was and the amount of backing he had!

While it might be a huge calamity for Su Zimo personally, it was also one for Ethereal Peak.

Everyone else of Ethereal Peak could leave, but not him.

To turn his back and leave after creating such a mess, leaving Ethereal Peak and his eldest brother, Su Hong, in the territory of the Great Zhou Dynasty without any care...

That was something that Su Zimo's heart would not allow.

"Zimo, don't worry. I'll help you plead for mercy with father,"

Worried that Su Zimo might not take her words for real, Ji Yaoxue continued, "If the Blood Crow Palace truly dares to do anything outrageous, the Great Zhou Dynasty will definitely not sit by idly and watch!"

"Yes."

Su Zimo smiled and nodded.

In reality, he knew and could read the situation clearer than anyone.

The attitude of the Emperor of Great Zhou towards the Blood Crow King at the sect competition had already made many things clear.

Even the Great Zhou Dynasty was wary of the Blood Crow Palace's Lord!

Or rather, it was cautious of the Witch race behind it, one of the Primordial Nine Races.

It was almost hopeless to think that the Great Zhou Dynasty would interfere in the matter.

"Yaoxue, prepare yourself. We'll head to the teleportation spot and return to the Great Zhou Dynasty!"

"Alright."

...

With the year in the ancient battlefield about to end, many cultivators were returning to Tianhuang Mainland.

Some were ecstatic while some were worried.

Some cultivators even had a surreal feeling of escaping a great calamity.

They could only heal the trauma in their hearts gradually after returning to their sects in Tianhuang Mainland!

Right after, heavy news started spreading through the super sects of the cultivation world, akin to gigantic boulders tossed into the middle of lakes and creating massive waves!

"After a thousand years, the Saber Emperor's inheritance was obtained by a cultivator and the Saber Mountain Spirit Sea vanished."

"Right, more than a hundred cultivators of Poison Sect were killed by a single person and even Malevolent Earth Sect and Glass Palace were implicated!"

"How savage! Who is he? What sect or faction is he from?"

"I've got no idea. He didn't wear a sect badge. Some say that he's a meek scholar while other say that he looks menacing."

Glass Palace and Malevolent Earth Sect received the news almost instantly and their sect masters were enraged.

Both sects sent out multiple cultivators to scout out news of that cultivator's background and location.

Before the various sects managed to digest that news, an even more shocking piece of news was spread, causing a shock for the super sects and sending a wave across the entire cultivation world!

"The Human Emperor's Palace appeared!"

"The successor of Divine Phoenix Island appeared at the Human Emperor's Palace and fought against all the paragons of the immortal, Buddhist and fiend sects together!"

"The paragons of the immortal, Buddhist and fiend sects worked together? Fufu, Divine Phoenix Island's successor sure is unlucky. He must have died without even a corpse left. Who managed to obtain the Human Emperor's inheritance in the end?"

"That's where you're wrong! He suppressed all the paragons of the immortal, Buddhist and fiend sects singlehandedly and it was an extremely tragic and shocking battle!"

"What? What did you say?!"

"The paragons of Asura Sect, Heaven Asura Sect, Purple Firmament Sect, Chaos Essence Sect, Clear Wind Temple, Illusion Fiend Cult and Formless Monastery are all dead! While the paragons of the other sects managed to survive and escape, some of them had their arms and roots crippled and it would be tough for them to shine in the future."

The elders of the various sects received the news at almost the same time and were in shock and disbelief.

"What about the Sealers?"

"There were more than ten Sealers from the immortal, Buddhist and fiend sects together! Are they all trashes? As Golden Cores, can't any of them kill a single Foundation Establishment Cultivator?"

"Even when five Sealers joined forces, they failed and died with regrets!"

"Psst! Even Sealers failed despite working together?"

"The right hand of Divine Phoenix Island's successor is made from a divine phoenix bone and possess an immense might!"

"He was severely injured together with the fiend sect's Pure Maiden and they entered the Human Emperor's Palace at the same time. Their fates are currently unknown."

The elders went silent when they heard that.

A long time later, someone sighed deeply. "It's a monster incarnate!"

"I don't think it's exaggerated to claim that he's the number one monster incarnate ever since the ancient times."

. . .

At the same time.

In an unknown location in the Middle Continent, an ancient-looking palace stood erected.

A rosy-cheeked old man with a white crown and long robes stood in front of the palace entrance with one hand behind his back. His other hand was in front of him and his fingers were twitching; there was a gray fog that veiled his eyes, making him seem extremely mysterious.

"Old man, have you divined anything?"

Behind the old man was a gray-robed man who was slightly plump and had a pale, beardless fan. Holding a folding fan, he asked anxiously.

If Su Zimo was here, he would have recognized that this was Lin Xuanji whom he had encountered by chance at the primordial ruins.

The old man in front was the storyteller back in the capital of Great Zhou.

A long time later, the haze disappeared from the old man's eyes as he frowned while shaking his head. "It's true that the Human Emperor's Palace appeared. However, I didn't manage to divine any news of that lad... strange."

"Does Divine Phoenix Island truly have such a monster incarnate?"

The two of them exchanged glances, feeling that there was something odd about this.

Sucking his lips, the old man replied, "No matter what, the appearance of the Human Emperor's Palace proves that this is going to be a golden era with countless paragons and monster incarnates created. It's very likely that we'll have a situation similar to the ancient era with multiple emperors arising."

"Of course, with that, there will also be unimaginable trouble! Heh, let's just wait and see."

Chapter 473: Arrival of the Storm

Deep in the night, in the Great Zhou Dynasty.

With a bang, a bedazzling column of light lit up in the depths of the palace. Bursting into the skies, it filled the night skies with a resplendent luminescence, attracting countless glares.

"The geniuses who entered the ancient battlefield have returned."

"That's right. I wonder how many of the 50 managed to survive."

"There should be a third of them at the very least. The geniuses selected by the five major sects aren't weak."

Ethereal Peak's Xuan Yi and Liu Hui, Iridescent Clouds Palace's Perfected Being Cang Lang and many other Golden Cores stood around the column of light expectantly, preparing to await their returning disciples.

If nothing went wrong, these cultivators that returned alive from the ancient battlefield would end up being the supports of their sects in the future.

The Emperor of Great Zhou stood right at the front with a grim expression; a flicker of worry would appear in the depths of his eyes from time to time.

Gradually, two figures appeared in the middle of the column of light.

As time passed by, the two figures became increasingly clear – it was Su Zimo and Ji Yaoxue who had returned.

The emperor heaved a sigh of relief.

He was relieved as long as Ji Yaoxue was fine.

But immediately after, he frowned and thought to himself, "There's only the two of them?"

Although the ancient battlefield was a dangerous place, at least seven people or so managed to return in previous worst case scenarios.

Now that only two of them returned, it was not hard to guess that something big must have happened in the ancient battlefield!

Xuan Yi and Liu Hui did not have smiles on their faces when they saw that Su Zimo was fine.

On the one hand, it was because they were worried about the safety of Ji Chengtian and the others.

On the other hand, while it was a good thing that Su Zimo was alive, it may not have been the best choice for him to return to the Great Zhou Dynasty.

Apart from Ethereal Peak, the Golden Cores of the other sects looked extremely grim as they strode forward with huge frowns.

Perfected Being Yun Shan of Southern Mountains Sect cupped his fists slightly. "Mr. Mo, my disciple, Shi Jian, is a little foolish and isn't the sharpest tool in the shed. Did he meet with any accidents?"

"No, he was selected by one of the five heretical doctrines, Puppet Sect, and left together with them," Su Zimo shook his head.

"Ah, it's good that he's alright! It's his opportunity to be selected by one of the super sects. How rare, how rare!" Perfected Being Yun Shan nodded his head in gratification.

For the sects of the Great Zhou Dynasty, super sects such as the nine immortal sects, seven fiend sects, six Buddhist monasteries, five heretical doctrines and four unorthodox groups were insurmountable mountains!

If a disciple of their sect managed to join them, it would be an enormous feat and those sects could not be any happier.

For example, with their connection to Shi Jian, Southern Mountains Sect would most likely have the massive backing of Puppet Sect in the future!

"What happened in there?"

"Why are you two the only ones who have returned? Where are the others?"

"Liang Mao is my personal disciple and he was the number two of the Talisman Ranking. His strength is decent and he has a careful nature, there's no way he could have died!"

"Mr. Mo, did my disciple manage to obtain any opportunities?"

Many Golden Cores glared at Su Zimo, asking repeatedly with threatening gazes.

Su Zimo frowned with a look of impatience.

"Everyone, please be silent."

Ji Yaoxue stood forward and gestured for silence with both hands. Although she was only a princess, her gesture already possessed the dignity of the royal family!

The crowd instantly went silent.

In an unhurried manner, Ji Yaoxue recounted the events in the ancient battlefield, including Jun Hao's true identity, Jiang Yu's betrayal and Si Yutang's choice...

Everyone was startled and speechless.

Nobody expected that this ancient battlefield expedition would have met with such immense dangers!

Perfected Being Cang Lang's expression was grim as he narrowed his gaze and sneered, "This is only your side of the story. Who knows if you had conspired with Su Zimo to kill my disciple, Si Yutang!"

"Cang Lang, are you suspecting my daughter?"

The emperor turned slightly and glared at Perfected Being Cang Lang expressionlessly.

"Ha, I wouldn't dare to,"

Chuckling, Perfected Being Cang Lang looked at Su Zimo deeply and said in a cold voice, "Lad, don't think that you've got the rights to stand shoulder to shoulder with me just because you know how to refine weapons. The grudges between us will have to be settled sooner or later, wait and see!"

With that, Perfected Being Cang Lang laughed sinisterly and left the hall.

The other cultivators gradually as well after seeing that they wouldn't be able to obtain any news from the two of them.

"Take care,"

Su Zimo bid farewell to Ji Yaoxue.

"You too,"

Ji Yaoxue's head was slightly lowered and her eyes revealed a trace of reluctance.

Su Zimo left the palace together with Liu Hui and Xuan Yi. Along with Nian Qi of Mo Spirit Weapon Workshop, they boarded a spirit vessel and sped in the direction of Ethereal Peak.

A long time after Su Zimo left, Ji Yaoxue was still standing on the spot gazing in the direction he left in, unwilling to leave.

The emperor said softly, "Xue'er, although that man is a rare paragon, it's best for you to not have any contact with him."

Ji Yaoxue's heart sank when she heard the emperor's tone.

"Be it Ethereal Peak or Su Zimo, they are most likely doomed against the impending calamity..."

...

After traveling for more than half a month, the four of them finally returned to Ethereal Peak.

Ever since that battle at Dongling Valley, Su Zimo had left the sect for many years.

Now that he had returned once more, he felt deeply emotional.

Nian Qi was curious and surveyed the place intently.

The four of them stopped instinctively as they arrived at the tall peak in front of the mountain.

Back then, this was where Wen Xuan and Xuan Yi accepted Su Zimo into Ethereal Peak.

The memories were fresh as yesterday.

Liu Hui remarked, "It's a pity that Wen Xuan couldn't wait till you've returned."

"No matter. If Wen Xuan knows of your current achievements in the afterlife, he'll definitely feel comforted as well," Xuan Yi patted Su Zimo on the shoulder encouragingly with a smile.

"Alright, go take a look around the sect and catch up with everyone. Thereafter, go into seclusion as soon as you can,"

Xuan Yi gazed at the distance with a grim expression as he murmured softly, "I've got a premonition that a storm is about to arrive!"

Upon returning to Ethereal Peak, Su Zimo visited the disheveled old man first.

Thereafter, he visited the sect master and recounted some of the events of the ancient battlefield.

In that period of time, little crane came over and chirped repeatedly with extreme joy.

After not seeing one another for many years, the man and beast were not distant at all and got along like before.

Monkey and the spirit tiger had not returned still and their locations and fates were unknown.

Senior crane had already been in seclusion for a year and nothing had happened still.

She was the true pillar of support for Ethereal Peak and if anything happened to her, Ethereal Peak would be destroyed by the impending storm!

Su Zimo took a spin around the sect before heading to seclusion.

Right now, he was already at the peak of eight meridian Foundation Establishment – his aim of entering seclusion was to unlock his ninth spirit meridian and become a nine meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivator.

This was an extremely important step that would affect his cultivation path in the future.

The firmer his foundation, the better the quality of his condensed Golden Core and the stronger the Golden Core phenomenon he would be able to comprehend and obtain!

At Extreme Foundation Establishment realm, Su Zimo's combat strength would also increase in folds! Similarly, he could sense the incoming danger.

The only way to tide through the impending storm was by trying his best to raise his cultivation realm!

Chapter 474: Crisis

Northwest corner of the Great Zhou Dynasty, Black Crow Mountain.

Deep in the forest, in a sinisterly dark area, a bloodstained palace was erected.

This day, a piece of news arrived.

"Master, Su Zimo has returned from the ancient battlefield and has arrived at Ethereal Peak!"

"Alright!"

A blood-robed middle-aged man opened his eyes. They shone with a sinister faint green hue as he said coldly, "I want nothing in the radius of 50 kilometers around Ethereal Peak to remain alive!"

His voice was extremely chilling and spread to every single corner of Black Crow Mountain.

Countless blood crows flew out from Black Crow Mountain, shrieking as they swarmed the skies with their sheer numbers and flew towards Ethereal Peak.

Two days later, Iridescent Clouds Palace.

An order was sent forth that mobilized the sect.

Wage war against Ethereal Peak!

Throughout the years, all the sects in the territory of Great Zhou had harbored coveting thoughts towards Ethereal Peak, Iridescent Clouds Palace included.

Everyone knew that the arrival of the order meant that Iridescent Clouds Palace was absolutely confident!

It was extremely likely that for this battle, a Void Reversion Dao Being, Iridescent Clouds Palace's Founder Master, would appear!

Perfected Being Cang Lang could not help but roar in laughter.

"Su Zimo, oh, Su Zimo. Even if you managed to cultivate and join Ethereal Peak, so what? At the end of the day, you still can't escape death!"

Almost at the same time...

News spread within True Fire Sect that the sect master was leading an army to wage war against Ethereal Peak!

True Fire Sect's elder, Sima Zhi, clenched his fists tightly. He laughed endlessly in a cold manner and sneered, "I've finally waited for this day. Su Zimo, you killed my disciple and shamed me at the sect competition. I'm going to turn you into ashes!"

Not long after, many cultivators of Southern Mountains Sect were mobilized.

Azure Frost Sect.

A few Golden Cores stood together. Among them was Ji Yaoxue's previous master, Perfected Being Yi Ning, who had appeared at the sect competition.

She sighed after hearing the news of everything outside.

Actually, this was a situation that everyone had predicted long ago.

Ever since the death of Ethereal Peak's Founder Master, they were already weakened and their only support was an aging demon beast.

The foundation of Ethereal Peak was stronger than the other four major sects and they had been established for a long time – everyone was coveting the countless treasures and secret skills in their sect!

Prior to this, the reason why the other sects did not dare to act recklessly was because they were wary of the old immortal crane that was at Void Reversion realm.

Each of the five major sects had a Void Reversion expert holding the fort and maintaining the balance.

However, all the Golden Cores and Nascent Souls of the sects knew that once the old immortal crane was at the end of her lifespan, the balance would be broken and that would be the moment of Ethereal Peak's annihilation!

Normally speaking, the other major sects would wait for dozens of years more.

But now, with Blood Crow Palace leading the fight, apart from Iridescent Clouds Palace, True Fire Sect and Southern Mountains Sect, there would be other sects and cultivators coming forth to Ethereal Peak to take advantage of the situation.

It was most likely the same for Perfected Being Yi Ning's Azure Frost Sect.

"Everyone kicks a man who is down,"

She sighed gently.

She could not help but feel regret when she recalled the scholarly green-robed cultivator at the sect competition.

Within ten days, all the sects within the territory of Great Zhou heard about this and moved one after another – their target was Ethereal Peak!

"So what if you're the number one Weapon Refinement Master of Great Zhou? At the end of the day, you're just doing it for all of us!"

"Hehe, notwithstanding the secret skills of Ethereal Peak, there are countless high-grade spirit weapons in Mr. Mo's possession alone!"

Instantly, the world was moving!

...

Ethereal Peak.

Hundreds of Golden Cores stood in Ethereal Palace, most of them discussing in hushed whispers with grim expressions.

Sect Master Ling Yun sat in the middle of everyone – his eyes were closed and he was expressionless.

"Reporting in, sect master!"

A Golden Core strode hastily into the hall and said deeply, "Some blood-eyed crows have suddenly appeared in the forest outside the sect and more are gathering!"

"Got it,"

Sect Master Ling Yun replied indifferently; he did not open his eyes still.

The hearts of many Golden Cores skipped a beat as they thought to themselves, "It's coming!"

At the end of the day, they could not avoid this crisis still.

Initially, this crisis would take another dozens of years to arrive with the backing of the old immortal crane.

However, nobody expected that something would change in this period of time. By some freak accident, Su Zimo was embroiled in an irreconcilable feud with Blood Crow Palace's Lord and that resulted in the situation today.

"It's all Su Zimo's fault. If it wasn't for him, we wouldn't have made enemies with a sect as strong as Blood Crow Palace!" Finally, a Golden Core could not help but bark with a grim expression.

"That's right."

Someone else declared, "Sect master, let's just hand over Su Zimo. Perhaps it might help to quell the anger of Blood Crow Palace."

"That's correct! Why should Ethereal Peak die together for Su Zimo's feud?!"

The voices of dissent were growing louder in the hall and many Golden Cores were moved.

"Bullsh*t!"

The disheveled old man could not help but curse as he blew at his beard with widened eyes. Pointing at the Golden Cores who spoke, he shouted, "How dare you have the cheek to speak of such words!"

"Do you think that we wouldn't have a feud with Blood Crow Palace if Su Zimo wasn't here?"

"Who was the one who killed so many cultivators of our sect in the battle at Dongling Valley?"

"Who was the one who killed Peak Master Wen Xuan?"

The disheveled old man's questioned caused everyone to go silent.

The few Golden Cores who spoke at the start were quiet as well.

Loudly, the disheveled old man hollered, "Everything else aside, if not for Su Zimo, all our disciples at Dongling Valley would have died in the battle!"

"Instead, you guys are talking about his great deed like it was a mistake. Have your consciences been eaten up by dogs?"

The disheveled old man's angry scolding reverberated in the hall deafeningly.

Xuan Yi stood up and said grimly, "Additionally, back at the sect competition, if Su Zimo hadn't held the fort, Ethereal Peak would have been thoroughly shamed and turned into a joke of the cultivation world of Great Zhou."

"Countless people would be disheartened if we hand over a disciple as such!"

"That's enough,"

Opening his eyes, Sect Master Ling Yun said calmly, "Even if Su Zimo did not contribute as he did and was merely an ordinary disciple of Ethereal Peak, there's no way we will cast him out! Ethereal Peak wouldn't have survived till this day if we sacrificed our disciples for the sake of survival. At the same time, I'm not able to do something like that either!"

"Everyone has their ambitions and those who want to leave the sect, do it now. I won't stop you."

Sect Master Ling Yun swept his gaze across the crowd.

Some cultivators cupped their fists and left one after another, but even more chose to stay.

Among the crowd, an outstanding girl with withered, yellow hair stood.

She smiled gently upon seeing everything unfold and her eyes were bright and moving.

Previously, Nian Qi accompanied Su Zimo back to Ethereal Peak and had been listening and observing in secret ever since.

She wandered everywhere and had no home since she was young. As such, it was hard for her to trust people.

Towards such a foreign environment and these new people, she was conflicted and resistant. However, she did not dare to bother Su Zimo since he was in seclusion.

Yet, as time passed by, her impression of this sect gradually changed.

There was a group of lovely cultivators within and there were also righteous people.

At that moment, after she heard the words of Sect Master Ling Yun, Nian Qi made up her mind that she was going to stay in Ethereal Peak from now on, never forsaking it!

Chapter 475: Ignition of the Great Battle

There were more blood crows gathered at the forest outside, circling above Ethereal Peak in an orderly manner. They formed a gigantic black vortex that covered the skies, like thunderclouds that flickered with scarlet glints.

It was extremely pressuring!

Darkness fell on Ethereal Peak and it has been three days since they saw sunlight.

This day, dust billowed from far away followed by a torrential killing intent – the army of cultivators from Blood Crow Palace had arrived!

For the past few years, Blood Crow Palace's influence had been expanding and they took over all the sects in the vicinity and grew at a rapid pace. By now, they were as good as a sixth major sect!

Coupled with the cruel methods of Blood Crow Palace's Lord and his heavenly-defying combat strength, many itinerant cultivators submitted to him one after another.

Blood Crow Palace's current strength had already surpassed the five major sects!

Leaping into the skies, Ethereal Peak's master, Ling Yun, gazed over with a grim expression.

The army from Blood Crow Palace was densely packed and there were ten thousand cultivators.

Among them, there were a hundred Nascent Souls alone and many of them were notorious itinerant cultivators in the cultivation world of Great Zhou.

There were more than a thousand Golden Cores!

The rest of them were Foundation Establishment Cultivators and there were no Qi Refinement Warriors.

Qi Refinement Warriors were almost useless in a clash of this level; any single flying sword, spirit art or even the shockwave of the ensuring fight was more than enough to kill a Qi Refinement Warrior.

A blood-robed middle-aged man stood at the front of Blood Crow Palace's massive army, looking cold with a faint green hue in his eyes – it was Blood Crow Palace's Lord.

The Palace Lord waved his hand and declared icily, "Kill everyone and spare no one!"

At the same time, Ethereal Peak's master, Ling Yun, waved his arm and yelled, "The sect is on the brink of its extinction! People, fight with all your strength and protect the final sanctuary of our sect!"

Everyone from Ethereal Peak knew that there was no other way out for them.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

In the back mountain, stone doors were pushed apart by tremendous forces one after another as dozens of terrifying auras appeared.

Ethereal Peak's Nascent Souls who were in seclusion had appeared one after another as well.

Under the lead of Sect Master Ling Yun, a hundred Nascent Souls and nearly a thousand Golden Cores were mobilized.

In terms of numbers, they were comparable to Blood Crow Palace – their formidable foundation was thoroughly shown!

However, due to the stringent requirement process of Ethereal Peak, there were not many Foundation Establishment Cultivators and they amounted to slightly more than two thousand.

Once the great battle was invoked, their Foundation Establishment Cultivators would definitely be disadvantaged.

Of course, the final outcome of the battle was not decided from the Foundation Establishment battlefield, nor was it decided from the Golden Core and Nascent Soul battlefields.

The ultimate challenge was between the Void Reversion experts!

Caw, caw!

The countless blood crows let out ear-piercing cries, charging towards the Ethereal Peak cultivators like a swarm of locusts – it was startling!

All of a sudden!

A might aura burst forth from within Ethereal Peak followed by a deafening cry!

A figure broke out of seclusion, bearing a head of red hair and exuding a terrifying demonic aura. Although she had an insane might and a sharp gaze, this was a beauty.

"Senior crane!"

"Senior crane has come forth from seclusion!"

A series of cheers sounded from Ethereal Peak and the masses were overjoyed.

The old immortal crane looked at the countless incoming blood crows and her eyes shone brightly. A mysterious shockwave spread out from her glabella as she suddenly opened her mouth and shot out a fiery stream of flames!

Swoosh!

The stream of flames spread out and was hundreds of feet tall, incinerating half the skies.

Countless blood crows were turned into ashes without being able to make a single sound.

"Humph!"

Blood Crow Palace's Lord harrumphed coldly and soared into the air. With a single thought, a blood-colored bone staff appeared in his hands with a skull at its tip, emanating a sinister aura.

"Blood Pattern Curse!"

Waving his blood bone staff, the Palace Lord chanted an unidentifiable incantation and the void surged with a terrifying energy feedback!

Two streams of blood light shot forth from the sockets of the skull.

As though it was alive, the skull opened its mouth and shot out a green streak of light.

The blood and green light fused into a drop of fresh blood!

When the drop of blood arrived above the old immortal crane's head, it suddenly exploded and spread into a series of mysterious patterns. Descending slowly, it engulfed the old immortal crane.

Buzz! Buzz!

The blood patterns formed a blood-colored circle of light that caused smoke to form each time it made contact with the old immortal crane's body.

Eventually, it corroded the old immortal crane's shirt and a series of burn marks appeared on its fair skin beneath.

"Caw!"

The old immortal crane cried and its blood qi burst forth. Instantly, its body and flesh expanded while its bones changed structures as it transformed.

Right in front of everyone, it turned into a massive ferocious bird that was dozens of feet in width, ready to fly with its wings at any moment!

Resembling an immortal crane, the ferocious bird had a smudge of red on its head and its body was green. A thin, dense layer of flame burned on its body, emitting a scorching heat and its beak was red and a full ten feet long!

"Hmm?"

The Blood Crow Palace's Lord's expression changed as he murmured softly, "So, your true form is actually a pure-blooded ferocious bird!"

The old immortal crane soared into the skies and the flames on its body burned brightly, purging away the power of the blood curse. Rising into the clouds with its gigantic body, it looked down at the Palace Lord on the ground with a murderous intent.

"Fufu, you might have been a threat to me at your peak. But now, you're nothing but a beast at the end of your lifespan and is nothing to be feared!"

The Palace Lord sneered and leaped up. In the blink of an eye, he disappeared above the nine heavens into the clouds.

That was a height that even Nascent Souls could not reach!

Although Golden Cores could soar into the skies without the use of any external objects, the truth was that there was a limit to the height they could reach and it was merely about a hundred feet.

There was an incredibly strong Dharmic power between the heaven and earth that restricted cultivators and all living beings immensely!

The higher cultivators flew, the greater the pressure they would have to endure.

With their Essence Spirits, Nascent Souls could greatly resist the restrictions on their bodies set by the heaven and earth and could soar to heights a couple thousand feet high.

More than that, one would be in the clouds and their vision and hearing would suffer. At that place where even Nascent Souls could not reach, only Void Reversions could fight there!

The great battle was invoked beneath Ethereal Peak.

Blood Crow Palace's Lord and the old immortal crane clashed as well, producing shuddering power shockwaves that attracted the attention of a few Void Reversions nearby.

Those Void Reversions came from Iridescent Clouds Palace, True Fire Sect, Southern Mountains Sect and Azure Frost Sect.

The armies of the four major sects were speeding towards Ethereal Peak under the lead of their Void Reversion experts.

"Hmm?"

"That old beast has sure hidden herself well. To think that she's a ferocious beast of the ancient era, a Bi Fang!"

The Bi Fang was a pure-blooded ferocious beast that did not need to consume food and specialized in the Dao of fire.

Legend has it that the Bi Fang carried the bloodline of the phoenix race and was extremely ferocious!

While the Bi Fang looked extremely similar to immortal cranes, their difference was that their head was a full feet wide!

"It's lucky that the Blood Crow Palace's Lord is around. Otherwise, the four of us might have been destroyed by that old beast instead!"

"Yes, the Bi Fang is old now. Furthermore, I heard that the Blood Crow Palace's Lord belongs to one of the nine primordial races. Even if the Bi Fang was at its peak, it might not be a match for this guy."

"Let's go! Let's head over there first to help the Blood Crow Palace's Lord kill that old beast as soon as possible!"

After conversing, the four Void Reversions soared into the skies and vanished in the blink of an eye.

It wouldn't be long before the armies of the other four major sects arrived at Ethereal Peak!

Chapter 476: Fatal Blow

With the fight between the Void Reversions taking place, Nascent Souls from both factions soared into the skies one after another to a height of a few thousand feet tall before breaking out into a battle.

At that height, the fight between the Nascent Souls would not affect the Golden Cores and Foundation Establishment Cultivators.

Every single attack of a Nascent Soul possessed the might of the heaven and earth and it was something that Golden Cores couldn't defend against!

As for Golden Cores, they left the ground and flew a hundred feet into the skies before they started fighting. Countless spirit arts and flying swords streaked and there were even Golden Core phenomenons!

On the ground, Foundation Establishment Cultivators collided intensely like two massive torrents!

Blood Crow Palace did not have the advantage in numbers when it came to Nascent Souls and Golden Cores.

However, they had multiple times the number of Foundation Establishment Cultivators of Ethereal Peak!

The moment the fight began, Ethereal Peak showed signs of defeat on the Foundation Establishment battlefield.

In recent years, most of Ethereal Peak's paragons of the Foundation Establishment realm died in Dongling Valley. The rest, such as Ji Chengtian, Leng Rou and the others, obtained their own opportunities and left the territory of the Great Zhou Dynasty.

The remaining Foundation Establishment Cultivators in the sect had no leader and the strongest among them was only at five meridian Foundation Establishment with a few others at four.

As for the nine thousand odd Foundation Establishment Cultivators on Blood Crow Palace's side, there were two of them at six meridian Foundation Establishment and dozens at five!

In the ancient battlefield, especially at the core regions where battles were plenty, six meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators were common sight and only seven meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators could protect themselves.

However, in the territory of Great Zhou, the environment was not as favorable as the ancient battlefield and it was almost the limit for any cultivator to unlock six spirit meridians!

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The moment the battle began, Ethereal Peak Foundation Establishment Cultivators were already showing signs of defeat.

There was nothing to compensate for the difference in numbers and strength!

The most eye-catching cultivator on the side of Ethereal Peak was an outstanding young girl.

This outstanding young girl was not old and her features were intricate with a straight nose bridge. Her eyes shimmered like diamonds but her hair was withered, yellow and messy without any luster.

This young girl was none other than Nian Qi!

After cultivating for less than two years, she was already at the peak of Foundation Establishment and had already unlocked three spirit meridians!

It was also because of Nian Qi's presence that the Ethereal Peak Foundation Establishment Cultivators were not instantly overwhelmed and defeated.

Controlling her flying sword with one hand, she wielded a saber in the other and charged into the Blood Crow Palace crowd, cleaving left and right.

Initially, back when Nian Qi did not have any spirit qi in her body, she was already able to lift the Mystic Gold Silk Armor which weighed a ton – it could be said that she had an innate godly strength.

Now that she had entered the path of cultivation, her strength had grown even more and she was like a tiger who had obtained wings!

Although she was only at three meridian Foundation Establishment, she could kill four meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators and even face-off against five meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators!

Swinging her saber widely, Nian Qi was completely following Su Zimo's previous style without any complicated movements.

He was overwhelming everything with brute force!

"Pfft!"

Unable to defend against her, a four meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivator was cut into two.

Gradually, the five meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators of Blood Crow Palace surrounding Nian Qi increased and even two six meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators had targeted her!

"Let's join forces and kill that girl first!"

A six meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivator yelled.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

At least 10 five meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators attacked Nian Qi at the same time.

Two six meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators released their spirit arts and flying swords as well, unleashing a flurry of attacks at Nian Qi.

Instantly, Nian Qi descended into danger!

She had already charged into the depths of the Blood Crow Palace faction a long time ago and was far away from the Ethereal Peak faction. Right now, she was like a helpless leaf floating in a raging sea.

Nian Qi did not wish to die.

She wanted to continue staying in Ethereal Peak and following her young master.

However, she knew that in such a situation where everyone could barely fend for themselves, no one could save her.

The only way she could survive was if she fought for herself!

Against the attacks that came from all directions, Nian Qi shivered and channeled blood qi with all her might. Gradually, her eyes turned into a mysterious shade of blue, akin to the color of the deep ocean!

A terrifying aura exuded from within her.

It was as though an ancient power had been awakened.

"Ah!"

Roaring into the skies, Nian Qi let out an ear-piercing shriek!

Her initially wrinkly hair turned silky smooth, swaying on its own and giving off a bright luster.

Although she had nothing beneath her feet, she rose slowly into the air and stood upright! It was like a godly being of the universe with a pair of azure blue eyes and golden dancing hair – her magnificence was outstanding and blinding!

That scene did not cause much of a stir to the Golden Cores and Nascent Souls.

No matter what, Nian Qi was just a Foundation Establishment Cultivator.

While the aura that she suddenly gave off was terrifying and even shuddering, it was not strong enough to threaten the Golden Cores.

However, thousands of feet above the clouds, the expression of Blood Crow Palace's Lord who was embroiled in a battle currently changed.

"Hmm?"

His gaze penetrated the voids and landed on Nian Qi.

"Could it be..."

The Palace Lord's eyes shimmered, as if he had recalled something.

On the battlefield, just as Nian Qi was about to be drowned by the countless spirit arts and weapons, a burst of energy shot forth from within her.

Buzz!

The spirit weapons that were arriving from all directions froze in midair.

Even the spirit arts shook violently before dissipating.

All the Foundation Establishment Cultivators present were shocked when they saw that!

A three meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivator had managed to defend against the full-powered attacks of 10 five meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators and two six meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators!

That scene had already surpassed everyone's knowledge!

It was a three level gap right there!

After a momentary pause, all the spirit weapons flew back in reverse and Nian Qi's gaze gradually dimmed. She turned extremely weak and fell from midair, as though she had lost all her strength.

"Caw, caw!"

The sound of a crane echoed out as a green streak of light shot by, carrying Nian Qi before retreating at an even faster speed.

The one that saved Nian Qi was none other than little crane.

"Hahahaha!"

Right then, a series of laughter broke out from the horizons far away.

"I'm Dao Being Jing Ming of Iridescent Clouds Palace. Greetings, Blood Crow Palace's Lord!"

"I'm Dao Being Liao Yuan of True Fire Sect, here to assist the Palace Lord!"

"I'm Dao Being Lao Yang of Southern Mountains Sect..."

"I'm Dao Being Han Ming of Azure Frost Sect, here to help the Palace Lord kill that old beast!"

Four terrifying auras surged over and climbed thousands of feet into the clouds instantly, surrounding the old immortal crane.

The Ethereal Peak cultivators felt their hearts sink.

The immortal crane was old and it did not have a clear advantage against Blood Crow Palace's Lord. But now, there were four more Void Reversion experts!

Spirit vessels sped over from the horizon with a murderous intent.

Not long after, cultivators of the other four sects arrived!

There were a full two hundred Nascent Souls and two thousand Golden Cores combined from the other four sects!

Together, there were more than ten thousand Foundation Establishment Cultivators!

The insertion of such a massive amount of power into the battlefield was almost a fatal blow for Ethereal Peak!

Initially, Ethereal Peak was holding its ground on the Nascent Soul and Golden Core battlefields.

But now, all four battlefields of Ethereal Peak had fallen into an encirclement and could collapse at any moment to be entirely annihilated!

Almost at the same time, a deafening bang sounded from a cave abode within Ethereal Peak.

A figure had broken out of seclusion!

Chapter 477: Desperate Situation

With the addition of the other four major sects, the situation of the battle changed.

The old immortal crane was fighting one against five and spread its wings, causing gusts of wind to howl and the clouds to shift endlessly. Dharmic powers filled the skies as it roared in anger, fighting with its fullest strength.

Although the old immortal crane was aged, it still had the remaining dominance as a pure-blooded ferocious bird.

Pshew! Pshew! Pshew!

It released a shocking demonic skill and tens of thousands of feathered wings shot forth from its body.

Burning with scarlet flames, each feathered wing was like an apocalyptic spear. Shooting forward fiercely, they tore through the voids and left countless holes!

"Let a Blood Curse Mirror be formed with my blood!"

The Blood Crow Palace's Lord bit his fingertip and flicked out a drop of fresh blood.

Waving his bone staff, he guided that drop of blood and drew an obscure arc in midair.

Chanting an incantation, he created a mirror of blood water swiftly before him!

The flurry of red feathered wings shot over and created blood waves as they collided against the surface of the mirror before their flames wer extinguished.

The other four Void Reversions did not dare to be careless and defended with all their might.

Instantly, Dharmic powers surged and runes appeared, shaking the world as endless light burst forth. The void was illuminated and it seemed as though the firmaments were collapsing.

That demonic technique had expended almost all of the old immortal crane's remaining life essence.

Its gaze dimmed slightly, no longer as sharp as before.

Not far away from Ethereal Peak, an army of cultivators clad in armor appeared in the void. All of them stood upright in midair wielding long spears, looking stoic.

It was an army of Golden Cores!

A carriage was escorted in the middle of the army.

In front of the carriage stood two people, a man and a woman.

The middle-aged man wore yellow robes and frowned deeply. Looking at the great battle above the clouds, he shook his head and sighed. "Xue'er, as you wished, I've brought you here. You can see for yourself now that it's going to be tough for Ethereal Peak to avoid this calamity."

The man and woman were the Emperor of Great Zhou and Ji Yaoxue.

Ji Yaoxue could not help but ask, "Father, why do you refuse to lend them a hand. Our Great Zhou Dynasty clearly has more than one Void Reversion to back us up!"

The emperor shook his head in silence.

Ji Yaoxue continued, "Furthermore, I heard that there's a patriarch in Great Zhou who is still alive and he is a Dharma Characteristic Dao Lord!"

The Dharma Characteristic realm came after the Void Reversion realm.

Those that are in the Void Reversion realm gain the title of Dao Being while those in the Dharma Characteristic realm gain the title of Dao Lord.

After a moment of silence, the emperor said softly, "Xue'er, actually, the patriarch was the one who made the decision to not interfere."

"Why?!"

Ji Yaoxue was in disbelief as she questioned, "As a Dharma Characteristic Dao Lord, can't the patriarch beat a Void Reversion Dao Being? What are you guys scared of?"

"Hais..."

The emperor gave a deep sigh. "If the patriarch comes forth, he can naturally suppress the Blood Crow Palace's Lord. However, the thing is that this guy's background is extremely touchy. He is one of the Primordial Nine Races..."

"So what if he's one of the Primordial Nine Races? Weren't they defeated by the ancient emperors of the human race in the primordial era all the same?" Ji Yaoxue could not understand.

As though he recalled something, a hint of fear flickered through the depths of the emperor's eyes as he shook his head. "The might of the Primordial Nine Races is far beyond what you can imagine!"

"If we really anger the experts of the Primordial Nine Races, notwithstanding the Great Zhou Dynasty, even the entire North Region of Tianhuang Mainland would experience a catastrophe!"

"Back then, the patriarch witnessed and had been through a similar catastrophe personally..."

Pausing for a moment, the emperor did not continue on that topic. "Let's hope that Su Zimo has already left Ethereal Peak."

...

On the other side, two outstanding women with voluptuous figures stood within the ancient forest.

One of them was older but there were no signs of aging on her face. Instead, she gave off a mature and charming aura from head to toe.

The other was dressed in a long pink dress and wore a veil, looking like she was a young girl.

"Auntie Gu, since Su Zimo hasn't shown himself yet, I suppose he must have already left and is no longer at Ethereal Peak," The girl in pink said with joy.

The two of them were the chief steward of Sky Treasure Auction House, Gu Xi, and the Pure Maiden of the fiend sects, Demoness Ji.

"That had better be the case. Given the circumstances, he would die for sure if he appeared!"

Gu Xi's expression was unchanged. "The Blood Crow Palace's Lord is someone from the witch race and they are one of the Primordial Nine Races! The impact left on the cultivation world after that catastrophe 10,000 years ago was way too deep."

Let alone the patriarch of the Great Zhou Dynasty, even those of the immortal, Buddhist and fiend sects would be cautious and not want to provoke the Primordial Nine Races."

Demoness Ji shook her head. "That's not for sure. That senior of the fiend sect definitely fears nothing,"

Pausing for a moment, Demoness Ji tugged at Gu Xi's sleeves and asked, "Auntie Gu, haven't you sent the message yet? What did that senior say?"

"What can he say?"

Gu Xi pouted her lips. "He is cold and merciless. When he heard my message, he didn't even have any reaction mentally. Don't pin your hopes on him."

...

At Ethereal Peak, the battle was intensifying.

On the Nascent Soul battlefield, Sect Master Ling Yun was already at perfected Nascent Soul realm and was a step away from Void Reversion realm. With his terrifying combat strength, he fought at the front and held on bitterly.

It was a complete defeat for the Golden Core and Foundation Establishment battlefields!

Nian Qi was exhausted and frightfully pale. Lying on little crane, it was difficult for her to recover in a short period of time.

The Foundation Establishment Cultivators of Blood Crow Palace and the other four major sects charged over like a relentless torrent, rushing at the Ethereal Peak Foundation Establishment faction repeatedly.

During this period of time, some of the smaller sects and itinerant cultivators of Great Zhou seized the opportunity to take part in the battlefield, ready to take advantage of the situation as well.

Without Nian Qi, the Ethereal Peak Foundation Establishment Cultivators were retreating repeatedly, leaving behind a trail of corpses.

Blood flowed like a river and it was extremely tragic!

The situation on the Golden Core battlefield was even more pressing!

Golden Cores of Ethereal Peak were dying repeatedly.

True Fire Sect's Sima Zhi controlled four flaming flying swords that streaked through the crowd endlessly, leaving streams of scorching sword qi.

"Where's that little b*stard, Su Zimo? Are you still going to continue hiding?" Now that the outcome was set, Sima Zhi roared in laughter gleefully.

Perfected Being Cang Lang controlled his flying sword and his long, narrow eyes shone with a cold glint. "The entire Ethereal Peak will have to die together just for the sake of a Foundation Establishment Cultivator, Su Zimo!"

His remark caused the Ethereal Peak faction which was already getting defeated steadily to turn even messier.

"To hell with you!"

The disheveled old man had a fiery temper and cursed.

However, immediately after, his slight distraction caused him to suffer a gash on the wound from Perfected Being Cang Lang and blood flowed like a stream.

Xuan Yi summoned his Hexagonal Sword Formation and had to give it his best before he could rescue the disheveled old man.

"Fufu, open your eyes properly and take a look,"

Perfected Being Cang Lang pointed at the Foundation Establishment battlefield beneath their feet and sneered, "Ethereal Peak's Foundation Establishment Cultivators are almost completely dead!"

Xuan Yi and the disheveled old man's hearts skipped a beat.

On the ground, Nian Qi's group retreated step after step and were already at the base of the mountain.

Of the two thousand Foundation Establishment Cultivators, there were only a few hundred left battling bitterly right now.

All of the disciples carried injuries and panted heavily – they were almost at their limits.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Right then, ten streaks of dark light shot forward from the back of the mountain, sending forth a shuddering impact.

As the ten dark lights streaked through, a terrifying air current surged and smashed the tiles on the ground. The mud was overturned and ten long ravines were formed!

Fast as lightning, a green-robed cultivator surged over with a murderous intent. Flapping his spirit wings furiously, he wielded a gigantic moon-colored bow and exuded a torrential aura!

Chapter 478: Extreme Foundation Establishment, the Second Human Emperor!

The ten dark lights arrived instantly and shot into the crowd viciously.

Poof! Poof! Poof!

Flashes of blood appeared.

The ten dark lights were so strong that their momentums were still ferocious even after penetrating the bodies of more than ten cultivators – they were unstoppable!

The terrifying power of the dark lights even surged through some of the cultivators after passing through them, causing them to explode with their limbs flying everywhere!

All the Ethereal Peak cultivators witnessed the massive torrent formed by more than 20,000 Foundation Establishment Cultivators stop just because of ten dark lights that were streaking through!

Within the torrent, there were ten lines filled with countless corpses and endless blood!

The cultivators of Blood Crow Palace, the other four major sects and multiple small sects had swarmed over. Coupled with itinerant cultivators from all over the place, they were way too densely packed.

The ten dark lights were extremely lethal.

There were at least a few hundred Foundation Establishment Cultivators who died on the spot!

With more than 20,000 cultivators on the Blood Crow Palace's faction, the few hundred dead Foundation Establishment Cultivators could not be considered as a great amount of damage.

However, it created a trauma within everyone's hearts.

"Su Zimo!"

Someone with a keen eye exclaimed upon recognizing the identity of the green-robed cultivator.

"No wonder the dark lights were so terrifyingly lethal. Hurry, look! The bow in his hand is a perfect spirit weapon!"

"Indeed!"

Many Foundation Establishment Cultivators were jealous and were raring to give it a shot.

They had heard long ago that Su Zimo was the number one Weapon Refinement Master of Great Zhou and the lousiest weapons in his storage bag were supreme-grade spirit weapons. In fact, he even possessed perfect spirit weapons.

The rumors were true!

"Hmm?"

Many Golden Cores turned to look from the Golden Core battlefield.

On the sect competition, Su Zimo had made a name for himself and how could anyone not know or have not heard of the title of the number one Weapon Refinement Master of Great Zhou?

True Fire Sect's Sima Zhi's eyes lit up as he roared in laughter. "Good, good! Su Zimo, you've got guts to appear! I'll have you pay for my disciple's death!"

Perfected Being Cang Lang's long, narrow eyes were locked on Su Zimo. Looking down from above, he sneered, "Su Zimo, so what if you managed to join Ethereal Peak? You still can't escape death!"

"A few years ago, back in Ping Yang Town, I should have killed you together with that beast. No matter how you struggle, you can't fight against the cycle of your fate!"

Su Zimo's gaze was indifferent as he stood on midair and surveyed the surroundings. His gaze seemed to contain an enormous might that could overwhelm and overpower everything!

The Foundation Establishment Cultivators on the side of Blood Crow Palace felt their hearts clench when they met with Su Zimo's eyes.

That person gave off a frightening aura.

That was an aura that was built from endless bloodshed and countless corpses!

In the ancient battlefield, even many paragons of the immortal, Buddhist and fiend cultivation sects died in his hands. Since the strongest cultivators here were only at six meridian Foundation Establishment at best, none of them could withstand Su Zimo's aura!

When he saw the corpses of Ethereal Peak disciples on the ground, Su Zimo's killing intent spewed out of his eyes.

"Die!"

Putting away his Moon Concealment Bow, Su Zimo's sleeves waved and 18 supreme-grade flying swords appeared.

However, all 18 of them disappeared in the blink of an eye, forming ripples in the void, as though fishes were gliding through water.

"Not good!"

"That's Ethereal Peak's secret skill!"

"Everyone, watch out! Argh!"

Someone screamed tragically.

Sword light flashed and a few five meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators died on the spot without any chance to fight back at all!

"Condense!"

A six meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivator crushed multiple protection talismans and released hi sect's secret skill. Right after, he took out a supreme-grade defensive shield used it to block in front of him.

Clang!

The flying sword did not pause at all upon colliding with his supreme-grade shield, causing the latter to explode immediately!

Poof! Poof! Poof!

Against Su Zimo's flying sword, his secret skills and protection talismans were akin to paper and were disintegrated instantly.

A flash of blood appeared and a gigantic head fell down neatly.

A six meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivator was dead!

The Blood Crow Palace faction was in chaos and the expressions of many cultivators changed.

How could that be?

They were both supreme-grade spirit weapons but why did the other party's flying sword destroy the shield immediately?

Unless...

Many cultivators turned over instinctively.

Psst!

In midair, underneath Su Zimo's green robes, spirit meridians shone one after another in a bedazzling matter, wrapping around his body like metal chains.

One, two, three...

Nine spirit meridians!

Was it a hallucination?

Many cultivators rubbed their eyes and looked again before gasping.

Psst!

There were a full nine spirit meridians!

Even eight meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivators would be able to barbarically suppress the entire Foundation Establishment battlefield, let alone a nine meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivator!

As Su Zimo stood on midair, his dantian's spirit sea churned rapidly and rich spirit energy surged through his nine spirit meridians – he was like a god of the universe with a mighty aura!

Many cultivators were aghast.

The Foundation Establishment Cultivators were not the only ones; even the Golden Cores and Nascent Souls were shocked when they saw what waas going on.

In the territory of Great Zhou, it has been a thousand years since there was even an eight meridian Foundation Establishment Cultivator.

As for nine meridian Foundation Establishment...

Ever since the ancient era, there had never been a second person to reach that realm apart from the Human Emperor!

"The legends are true! The ninth spirit meridian can truly be unlocked!"

"Extreme Foundation Establishment... the second Human Emperor!"

A wary look flashed through Perfected Being Cang Lang's eyes followed by a feeling of trepidation.

It was lucky that Ethereal Peak was on the brink of annihilation and Su Zimo wouldn't be able to escape death. Otherwise, if that lad were to grow further, who in the territory of Great Zhou would be able to stop him?

He is the number one Weapon Refinement Master of Great Zhou and now, he's even at the Extreme Foundation Establishment realm.

Once he forms a core, he would definitely develop a phenomenon as well!

Sect Master Ling Yun sighed internally.

Such was the cruelty of fate.

They could only blame the sect for being unlucky. If they had not met with such a calamity, with talents such as Ji Chengtian, Leng Rou and the others, they would definitely rise to be the number one sect of the Great Zhou Dynasty!

As for Su Zimo, his accomplishments would even be more limitless.

In fact, he might even be able to lead Ethereal Peak to become one of the top factions of Tianhuang Mainland!

Alas...

The Blood Crow Palace's Lord narrowed his eyes and his killing intent deepened.

His personal feud with Su Zimo aside, the fact that this lad was at Extreme Foundation Establishment meant that he had to be killed!

A second Human Emperor must not be allowed to appear on Tianhuang Mainland!

The 18 supreme-grade flying swords streaked through the crowd and none of the Foundation Establishment Cultivators could defend at all.

It was a complete massacre!

The massive flood formed by more than 20,000 Foundation Establishment Cultivators was punctured and pushed back by Su Zimo singlehandedly!

Everyone from Ethereal Peak was reinvigorated.

At that moment, Su Zimo flapped his spirit wings and rose into the air – he was actually arriving at the Golden Core battlefield a hundred feet high!

"Zimo, hurry back down!"

The disheveled old man shouted hurriedly when he saw that.

The fight between Foundation Establishment Cultivators would only take place on the ground and no one would soar into the skies a hundred feet high.

Given the chaotic battlefield, the flying swords and spirit arts of Golden Cores carried an absolutely destructive power against Foundation Establishment Cultivators!

To everyone, Su Zimo's move was complete suicide.

"Hahahaha!"

Composing himself, Sima Zhi roared into laughter. "Even if you're at Extreme Foundation Establishment, you're still just a Foundation Establishment Cultivator! Everything is futile before you form a core and you'll never ever be able to experience the power of being at Golden Core realm!"

"It's been a long time since I've experienced the feeling of murdering a talent,"

Perfected Being Cang Lang smiled gently and said coldly, "Su Zimo, thank you for granting me that feeling today!"

Chapter 479: Ancient Dragonification Manual

Swoosh!

Many Foundation Establishment Cultivators and Golden Cores unleashed their attacks towards Su Zimo who was standing in midair.

Instantly, hundreds and thousands of spirit weapons and arts swarmed forward; the void quaked and the entire world dimmed instantly!

The Golden Cores of Ethereal Peak were disadvantaged in numbers after all.

By this point of the battle, Xuan Yi and the others were thoroughly exhausted and he could not even conjure a sword formation.

Embroiled in battle with hundreds of Golden Cores, Xuan Yi and the others could not pull themselves out to assist Su Zimo at all.

Furthermore, even if they could, all of them would most likely die against such intense and terrifying attacks!

All of a sudden!

Su Zimo's black hair swayed without any wind and his eyes shone with a deep glint. Suddenly, a shuddering aura burst forth from within his body!

It was an ancient and vicissitude aura that was awakened.

When the spirit weapons and arts arrived in Su Zimo's vicinity, they slowed down as though they had entered a swamp until finally, they could not advance at all!

Stopped!

The flurry of spirit weapons that shone resplendently as well as the shimmering spirit arts hovered in midair motionlessly.

"Hmm?"

Many cultivators were shocked.

How could that be?

The next moment, an even more shocking scene appeared that caused chills to run down everyone's hearts!

An extremely long illusory figure of a living being appeared around Su Zimo, hovering in midair. Gradually, it materialized as flesh started forming!

The living being was filled with green scales that shimmered coldly. One after another, sharp spikes protruded from its back and its fangs and claws were extremely sharp while its horns stood proudly.

Its eyes were extremely cold and domineering!

"W-W-What's going on?"

"I-Is that a T-True Dragon?!"

Against the gaze of the Azure Dragon, everyone felt like they were as insignificant as ants!

The Foundation Establishment Cultivators on the ground broke out in sweat and suffocated. Unable to withstand that sort of might, they shuddered and almost knelt on the ground to kowtow.

Even the Golden Cores in midair were stricken and frightfully pale.

"What is that?!"

The six Void Reversions above the clouds were shocked.

The Ancient Dragonification Manual was a secret skill unique to the Human Emperor.

Ever since the ancient era, Su Zimo was the second person to cultivate it successfully and by now, almost no one recognized that secret skill.

Even the gaze of Blood Crow Palace's Lord was a little lost.

That Azure Dragon looked familiar but it was much smaller, like a young dragon.

Even so, the Palace Lord felt a sense of trepidation as he recalled that terrifying encounter back in the primordial ruins and a hint of fear flashed past his eyes.

Crack! Crack! Crack!

A series of ear-piercing shrieks rang.

Against the immense pressure, cracks started appearing on the countless spirit weapons that were initially hovering in midair. Suddenly, they shattered, scattering onto the ground like scrap metal!

Only superior and supreme-grade flying swords were able to remain intact!

Countless spirit arts dissipated as well.

The crowd was in an uproar.

How terrifying did his power have to be such that spirit weapons couldn't endure it and shattered on the spot?!

The Azure Dragon was life-like with intact flesh and coiled around Su Zimo's body, spiraling upwards like a variant beast that was guarding him.

As Su Zimo surveyed his surroundings, the gaze of the Azure Dragon above him shifted as well; the man and dragon moved in tandem!

Nobody dared to meet with their gazes at all!

Su Zimo's eyes were like lightning and he suddenly took a deep breath, puffing his chest.

The Azure Dragon coiling around him took a deep breath as well and its body expanded extensively. Raising its chest, a tremendous air current surged and formed a series of cyclone in midair.

There was a slight pause.

Both of them opened their mouths and let out a deafening roar that could break metal and rocks!

"Roar!"

Su Zimo was also letting off a dragon roar!

In that instant, the entire world shook and the weather changed!

Poof! Poof! Poof!

The Foundation Establishment Cultivators closest to Su Zimo were unable to defend and their bodies ruptured, turning into blood mists without corpses!

He was roared to death!

The Foundation Establishment Cultivators that were slightly further also bled from all seven orifices. Their gazes dimmed and they collapsed to the ground, dead.

Right away, thousands of Foundation Establishment Cultivators died!

Right now, Su Zimo was at Extreme Foundation Establishment and he had already attained greater mastery of the Mystic Classic of the Twelve Demon Kings of the Great Wilderness's Orifice Clearing section; his organs and orifices possessed shocking strength.

After releasing the Ancient Dragonification Manual together with Thunderclap Kill, he instantly created an incomparably lethal impact!

There was no way Foundation Establishment Cultivators could endure it as they were shocked to death on the spot!

After the dragon roar, silence ensued.

Corpses were strewn all over the Foundation Establishment battlefield as their blood formed rivers; it was like a scene from Hell.

That single dragon roar crushed the hearts of many Foundation Establishment Cultivators present!

The cultivators that wanted to take advantage of the situation initially fled far away, not daring to turn back.

Although there were still more than 10,000 Foundation Establishment Cultivators from Blood Crow Palace and the other four major sects, none of them dared to advance and retreated instinctively.

Everyone was trying their best to keep their distance from Su Zimo and they shivered with fear in their eyes!

He killed thousands of Foundation Establishment Cultivators with a single roar!

Even the Golden Cores and Nascent Souls present had never witnessed such methods, let alone the Foundation Establishment Cultivators present.

The dragon roar even caused some of the Golden Cores that were facing Su Zimo directly to clutch their ears in pain – their bodies swayed and they nearly fell from midair!

With a murderous intent, Su Zimo glared at Perfected Being Cang Lang and said coldly, "You guys actually think you can kill me with your standards?"

"Go!"

Su Zimo pointed forward.

The Azure Dragon coiling around him soared into the air and let out a torrential aura. Baring its fangs and claws, it rammed three Golden Cores that stood at the front instantly, crushing their bodies entirely!

Golden Cores were dead!

Furthermore, they died in the hands of a Foundation Establishment Cultivator!

In the cultivation world, it was still rather common for cultivators to kill enemies that were minor realms above their levels. However, it was almost impossible for them to do that to enemies who were major realms above their levels.

But right now, everyone witnessed it with their very eyes.

At Extreme Foundation Establishment together with the Ancient Dragonification Manual, Su Zimo now possessed the capabilities to kill Golden Cores!

Another few Golden Cores attacked and released powerful spirit arts, conjuring pairs of heavenly-encompassing palms that wanted to grab the young Azure Dragon.

"Roar!"

The Azure Dragon's body shone brightly and it roared. Charging before the few of them, it opened its gigantic mouth and devoured them. It took a couple of chomps and blood streamed down from the side of its mouth!

"Evil dragon, how dare you act so brazenly!"

Dozens of Golden Cores attacked at the same time. Their terrifying spirit energies created a series of chains that restricted the Azure Dragon.

The Azure Dragon struggled and its body let out shocking strength, crushing the spirit energy chains of the Golden Cores. When it soared into the skies once more, it charged in front of Perfected Being Cang Lang.

"Bang!"

Perfected Being Cang Lang was expressionless and a sky spread out behind him. Filled with resplendent light, it was bedazzling and shot forth countless spirit lights with an alarming aura!

It was a Golden Core phenomenon!

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The Azure Dragon charged at Perfected Being Cang Lang's Golden Core phenomenon repeatedly, letting out shuddering echoes.

A moment later, the Azure Dragon dissipated alongside Perfected Being Cang Lang's Golden Core phenomenon!

The crowd was shocked.

A secret skill released by a Foundation Establishment Cultivator was able to go against a Golden Core phenomenon!

If Su Zimo was at Golden Core realm, that Azure Dragon would be even more terrifying and could very likely devour Perfected Being Cang Lang in a single mouthful!

Chapter 480: Fighting Golden Cores

Perfected Being Cang Lang broke out in cold sweat.

He was at late-stage Golden Core and yet, even after releasing his Golden Core phenomenon, he merely matched a single secret skill released by Su Zimo!

This was the first time that Perfected Being Cang Lang realized that the inexperienced and arrogant scholar of the yesteryears had surpassed his control and expectations.

Back then at the sect competition, Su Zimo merely took advantage of the situation to suppress and shame him using his identity as the number one Weapon Refinement Master of Great Zhou.

But now, this scholar was standing toe to toe with him in a battle!

The difference between the two of them was almost an entire major realm!

In the past, Perfected Being Cang Lang cultivated to six meridian Foundation Establishment before forming his core. He managed to succeed while forming a Golden Core phenomenon of his own.

At that point, he felt that his potential was not inferior to others and at the very least, he was among one of the top few Golden Cores withint he territory of Great Zhou.

But right now, in front of Su Zimo, all his achievements dimmed in comparison.

Perfected Being Cang Lang could not help but admit he made a wrong judgment in that small town back then.

Time could not be reversed and there were no medicine for regrets in the world. Right now, the only way out for him was to use everything he had to try and kill Su Zimo!

"He must not be allowed to continue to grow!"

That was the only thought remaining in Perfected Being Cang Lang's mind.

Suddenly, True Fire Sect's Sima Zhi raised his voice, "This lad has just released his secret skill and it must have taken a toll on his spirit energy. He won't be able to release it a second time."

An Azure Frost Sect Golden Core yelled, "That's right. Everyone, don't panic. There's nothing to fear about this lad!"

Before that person could complete his sentence, his vision turned dark, as though an enormous mountain was shrouding over his head, covering the skies. With a frightening aura, it suddenly collapsed!

More than ten Golden Cores stood beneath the mountain and they attacked one after another, wanting to destroy that mountain peak.

Clang! Clang! Clang!

One after another, the spirit weapons were repelled.

Countless spirit arts clashed against the mountain peak and let out ringing sounds. Yet, they were still unable to slow the speed of its crash!

The Golden Cores were frightfully pale as they tried to flee hurriedly. However, it was a pity that it was too late by then.

Boom!

A deafening noise echoed.

The void shook endlessly.

On the spot, more than ten Golden Cores were crushed and turned into meat sludge, seeping into the mud beneath and could not be differentiated.

"That is..."

"A connate spirit weapon!"

"He actually has a connate spirit weapon!"

A series of exclamations sounded and everyone's gazes landed on that shining golden seal.

That gigantic seal was squarish and golden with a divine dragon etched onto it in a life-like manner – that was the Coiling Dragon Seal that Su Zimo obtained in the Human Emperor's Palace!

Su Zimo beckoned gently and the Coiling Dragon Seal shrank, returning to his palm.

Perfected Being Cang Lang, Sima Zhi and all the other Golden Cores were red with envy. They glared at the small golden seal in Sima Zhi's palm and their breathings got heavier.

After entering Nascent Soul realm, cultivators would be able to make use of Dharmic weapons.

In other words, for Golden Cores, connate spirit weapons were the best weapons they could make use of!

Their combat strength would double at the very least if they had a connate spirit weapon and it would be extremely for them to kill enemies above their levels!

However, connate spirit weapons were way too rare and nobody ever sold those in the free market.

In the territory of Great Zhou, treasures such as connate spirit weapons had not appeared for hundreds of years!

"Seems like you've benefited plenty in the ancient battlefield!"

Perfected Being Cang Lang said coldly, "That's good as well. I'll wait to get my hands on your treasures and secret skills after killing you!"

"The treasures are right in my hands. We'll just have to see if you've got the life to use them!"

Su Zimo sneered and propped up the Coiling Dragon Seal with his left hand. It shone with six spirit patterns in a dazzling manner, as though he was carrying a blazing sun!

He swiped his storage bag with his right hand and a gigantic blood-colored saber appeared in his palm.

Its blade quivered and five blood patterns shone. A blood beam expanded followed by the spreading of a nauseating stench of blood – it was the perfect spirit weapon, Blood Quencher!

"Cang Lang, prepare to die!"

Su Zimo's gaze burned like a torch and he yelled. Propping the seal with his left hand while wielding his saber with his right, he strode widely towards Perfected Being Cang Lang with a murderous aura.

In the face of hundreds of Golden Cores, Su Zimo was advancing instead of retreating!

Xuan Yi and the others exchanged glances as they charged forward together with invigorated expressions, trying to relieve as much of Su Zimo's burden as possible.

"You must have a death wish!"

A Southern Mountains Sect cultivator wielded a long rod and burst forth with his blood qi, aiming for Su Zimo's head.

Splash!

Su Zimo channeled his bloodline and the sound of a tsunami tide echoed.

Swoosh!

He did not even look at the incoming rod and slashed in reverse, meeting the attack with another attack as he released his incomparable Countercurrent stance!

The pupils of the Southern Mountains Sect cultivator constricted and his heart skipped a beat in shock.

His motions slowed down for a moment due to the effect on his mental state by the saber force.

"Pfft!"

Flashes of blood appeared.

That man was cut into two from the middle and his organs and intestines spilled out, giving off a nauseating stench.

Pshew!

A streak of light burst through the void and arrived instantly.

Without turning to look, Su Zimo raised his gigantic seal and repelled the incoming flying sword.

At the same time, he shuddered and slowed down.

Although Xuan Yi and the others held back a portion of the Golden Cores, there were still more than a hundred Golden Cores who attacked Su Zimo at the same time, causing flying swords, spirit arts and talismans to fill the skies with resplendent lights!

Clang! Clang! Clang!

Spinning the gigantic seal with his left hand, Su Zimo released the Sea Calming five stances right his right and took on the incoming flying swords and spirit arts.

Thud! Thud! Thud!

He retreated repeatedly and his organs were immensely shaken, almost shifted out of position even! "Pfft!"

Su Zimo spat out a huge mouthful of blood.

Sima Zhi roared in laughter. "Su Zimo, you're nothing without that secret skill from earlier!"

"Fufu."

Perfected Being Cang Lang sneered, "Even if you can kill early or mid-stage Golden Cores with your connate spirit weapon, you are still a Foundation Establishment Cultivator after all. There's no way you can withstand the might of late-stage or perfected Golden Cores!"

"You really think you can kill me with those skills of yours?"

Perfected Being Cang Lang continued laughing coldly.

Su Zimo was unmoved.

Perfected Being Cang Lang was not wrong.

Even if he was at Extreme Foundation Establishment and had the support of the Coiling Dragon Seal, in terms of strength, he could only match against mid-stage Golden Cores at best and he wouldn't be able to deal with those at late-stage.

In that previous attack, a few perfected Golden Cores had attacked and Su Zimo was injured on the spot, unable to endure it.

However, he was someone who did both immortality and demonic cultivation.

Even without taking on his demon form, Su Zimo's physique and bloodline was still enough to crush all other cultivators of the same realm!

Even perfected Golden Cores would not be able to escape death if Su Zimo closed in on them.

He was invincible in melee combat!

If anyone else had received the injuries he took, it would definitely affect their combat strength.

However, Su Zimo's physique was way too strong and his regeneration capabilities were shocking.

After consuming the Blood Flesh Elixir made of dragon flesh in the Human Emperor's Palace, he attained greater mastery of the Orifice Clearing section and was only a step away from condensing a demon Inner Core.

Within a couple of breaths, Su Zimo's injuries were already mostly recovered.

"Fufufufu!"

Smiling, he stood up and his tendons and bones sounded at the same time. Not only did his aura not drop after getting injured, it was even getting stronger and the glint in his eyes intensified – he was like an ancient demon that wanted to devour people!