

ETERNAL SK 801

Chapter 801: Breakthroughs

“There’s a Deputy Territorial Lord for Howling Moon Mountain,”

The rat said, “The reason why you guys are being exposed is because of the Deputy Territorial Lord, Chan Ruyi.”

“Chan Ruyi?”

Su Zimo murmured slowly and a look of realization filled his eyes, as though he thought of something.

The rat continued, “Lord Chan Ruyi’s true form is an ancient remnant beast, the Mystic Jade Cricket of the Cricket race that rules over the mountainous region within a few thousand kilometers radius of Howling Moon Mountain.”

“The five of you are a large mark and easily recognizable as you travel through the forest. As long as there are crickets, your location will be exposed.”

The spirit tiger and the others were dumbfounded.

Although he had spent a period of time in the Wild Lion Ridge with monkey, he had never heard of such means.

How many crickets were there in the forest?

There were probably innumerable!

This meant that every single move they made had been watched by the enemies the entire time!

“The ordinary cicadas cannot even be considered as spirit demons. However, once they become sentient, they possess the communication method unique to the Cicada race and can relay your location to Lord Chan Ruyi’s side.”

Su Zimo nodded silently.

There was no mistake.

Back when they were hiding in the first cave, Su Zimo already felt something odd when he heard the crickets outside the cave.

He felt that something was amiss, as though they were being spied on, but he could not put his finger to it.

Now, he knew where the problem was.

“What should we do?”

Little Fox was worried.

According to the rat, they had been spied on the entire time and would be discovered no matter where they were – there was nowhere for them to hide!

After all, there were crickets everywhere in the forest.

“The best way is to leave the radius of Howling Moon Mountain temporarily,”

Su Zimo said deeply, “Once we break through from the Core Formation realm and cultivate our Essence Spirits to become fiend demons, we can hide our aura and change our appearances. Those crickets won’t be able to recognize us even if we return here.”

“Brother, you sure are smart. You’re absolutely right,”

The rat complimented him hurriedly.

Qing Qing furrowed her brow. “However, we know nothing about Howling Moon Mountain. If we move without any direction, we’ll be caught by that Chan Ruyi person before we even leave Howling Moon Mountain.”

Su Zimo did not reply and merely turned to look at the rat with a fake smile.

The spirit tiger’s heart stirred and his gaze turned fierce as he said threateningly, “Rat, take us out or... humph!”

The rat broke out in sweat and said hurriedly, “Don’t get worked up, Brother Batian. The reason why I’m here is to present you guys with a map of Howling Moon Mountain.”

The rat threw out a map made of beast hide as it spoke.

However, it did not come personally and half of its body was still hidden in the hole, as though it was ready to escape at any moment, afraid that the spirit tiger might capture it.

Su Zimo picked up the map and gave it a rough glance.

Apart from the terrain, the map even possessed some information about the territories nearby Howling Moon Mountain – this was way too important to them!

With this map, they could easily choose a nearest direction and method to leave Howling Moon Mountain!

Previously, they sprinted eastwards the entire way. If they continued in that direction, they won’t be able to leave Howling Moon Mountain even after half a month!

However, after checking with the map, they could escape from this place within a couple of days if they changed directions and headed to the south!

“Rat, this map isn’t fake, is it?”

The spirit tiger looked askance at the rat and asked, “Why are you so kind as to come such a long distance just to help us?”

Su Zimo was also watching the rat when the spirit tiger asked the question.

The spirit tiger’s worries were not unfounded.

The rat rubbed its palms together and said embarrassedly, "I brought you guys here and I truly feel bad for everything that happened later on. We don't owe one another anything else after I give you this map."

Su Zimo was relieved.

There was no hint of panic in the rat's eyes – it did not seem like it was lying.

"Since that's the case, let's move now!"

Su Zimo could sense that the number of spirit demons gathering were increasing.

They won't be able to escape if this carried on and Chan Ruyi arrived with more fiend demons!

Before departing, Su Zimo turned and looked at the rat. "Won't you be implicated for giving us the map?"

"I'm fine,"

The rat waved it off. "I found this place through my own capabilities as well. As long as you guys don't tell, nobody will know that I gave you the map."

"Farewell, see you again!"

Su Zimo led monkey and the others out of the waterfall and fled into the distance.

"We had better not meet again,"

The rat looked at the direction where Su Zimo's group departed and murmured. It burrowed into the hole and vanished in the blink of an eye.

...

Three days later.

The Black Sand Ridge was also a territory that was side by side to Howling Moon Mountain.

The name of its Territorial Lord was the Black Sand Monster and its true form was unknown. It possessed frightening strength, was bloodthirsty and its territory was much larger than Howling Moon Mountain.

At this moment, Su Zimo's group located a secluded cave at the intersection of Black Sand Ridge and Howling Moon Mountain and settled down temporarily.

Once they were out of the territory of Howling Moon Mountain, they were free from the tracking of the Cricket race.

Su Zimo set up array formations painstakingly in the vicinity of the cave once again for safety precautions.

Monkey, the spirit tiger, Qing Qing and Little Fox were cultivating within and their conditions gradually stabilized. Slowly, they were in perfect conditions for their breakthroughs to the Nascent Soul realm at any moment!

Su Zimo guarded the entrance of the cave motionlessly, trying his best to repress his churning Inner Core and the throbbing Golden Core in his abdomen.

Suddenly, his eyes jerked open and he turned back, sensing something.

The first to break through was monkey!

Monkey's aura had already begun to transform!

A wisp of faint might engulfed downwards.

That was Heaven and Earth powers!

Although it was only a single wisp, it was terrifying enough!

Monkey's flesh split apart and his fur fell off. However, immediately after, new layers of flesh grew atop one another and his entire body became taller and stronger!

The transformation process of a body was extremely painful.

Monkey's body quivered the entire time.

However, he had a proud expression and did not make a single peep of sound!

The aura led the spirit tiger's body to change as well!

"Roar!"

Suddenly, the spirit tiger let out a roar and reverted to his true form. A series of crackling sounds could be heard from within his body as it expanded and his muscles swelled!

"Caw!"

Qing Qing began her breakthrough after the spirit tiger.

Her breakthrough triggered the bloodline of the Bi Fang that was within her body and her body blazed with a light green flame; her aura intensified continuously!

Little Fox was the last to break through.

It was different from monkey, the spirit tiger and Qing Qing.

Little Fox's breakthrough created the least commotion and a pink mist shrouded her body. Steam rose with a faint fragrance that could bewitch one's mind!

Su Zimo watched fixedly with a nervous expression.

A breakthrough of the Core Formation realm to cultivate an Essence Spirit was equivalent to communicating with Heaven and Earth and advancing instantly!

It was a heavenly-defying act that was extremely dangerous!

Throughout history, there had been countless people who died at this stage, be it demons or human cultivators.

If one failed the breakthrough process from the Foundation Establishment realm to the Golden Core realm, their spirit meridians would be snapped and their spirit energies would disperse entirely. However, they had a chance to live as mortals.

But a failure in advancement from the Core Formation realm to the Nascent Soul realm would result in instant death!

An unknown period of time passed.

The auras around monkey, the spirit tiger, Qing Qing and Little Fox gradually stabilized and their furrowed brows became relaxed as well.

A tremendous amount of lifeforce surged from within their bodies!

Su Zimo knew that the four of them had already become fiend demons!

Next, it was his turn.

Chapter 802: Arrival of Danger

After three days, the cultivation realms of monkey and the other three stabilized and they woke up one after another. They experienced Heaven and Earth through the Essence Spirits in their spirit consciousnesses and their eyes were filled with joy and surprise.

With the cultivation of their Essence Spirits, they were completely at the state of inedia and could cultivate by devouring the essence of day and night.

This was equivalent to them tempering their bodies, tendons and bones as well as refining their Essence Spirits using the Heaven and Earth powers – this was a higher level than consuming flesh!

At this point of their cultivation, powerful demon beasts would awaken the lineage memories in their bloodlines.

Their lineage memories may contain cultivation techniques to refine one's spirit or some demonic arts.

The stronger the bloodline, the better the rewards of their lineage memories would be.

For ancient remnant beasts and pure-blooded ferocious beasts, they would have their own unique lineage memories.

Although monkey was already awake, his eyes were squinted, as though he was experiencing something.

The origin of his bloodline was unknown but it was definitely extraordinary!

His bloodshot eyes alone were proof of that.

The spirit tiger was originally a plain demon beast without any lineage memories. Even when he cultivated the Void Thunder Manual later on, he merely underwent a blood marrow swap that improved on his body's fundamental qualities.

But right now, the spirit tiger was clearly in a state where he was receiving lineage memories!

The lineage came from the four tiger claws in the Astral Dragon Sputum Lair!

The four tiger claws were infused into the spirit tiger's body and naturally passed down their lineage memories.

The bloodline of the Bi Fang flowed within Qing Qing's body and she naturally had lineage memories as well.

Little Fox possessed many secret skills from her lineage of the Fox race as well.

Monkey and the other three needed time to digest their current state of being as fresh fiend demons; it wasn't just to comprehend their lineage memories, they had to sense Heaven and Earth using their Essence Spirits as well.

They could finally refine the weapons they obtained from the Astral Dragon Sputum Lair as well.

"First, go and cultivate. We'll guard here,"

Monkey came beside Su Zimo and said,

"Alright,"

Su Zimo did not decline and headed into the depths of the cave. He assumed a lotus position and closed his eyes to gather his qi in peace.

Unknowingly, an odd sensation surged through his heart.

Although his eyes were closed, he seemed like he could 'see' every corner of his body, including his organs and meridians!

It was a mysterious sensation.

It was like the legendary 'Inner Vision'.

Su Zimo could see two gigantic cores that were swiveling slowly!

One of them was in his chest, a blood core with a scarlet glow.

The other was in his abdomen, a Golden Core with a blinding glare.

The auras of the two gigantic cores were starkly different.

At this moment, the power of both cores were at their limits and they vibrated, as though they wanted to break free from their core chambers and surge into the air!

Su Zimo felt a wave of boundless Heaven and Earth powers.

He had never felt that Heaven and Earth were so close to him.

It was as though he could feel the breathing of Heaven and Earth as well as its pulse!

The next moment, Su Zimo saw the layer of 'void'.

The so-called 'void' was the shackles from Heaven and Earth that bound a cultivator.

To cultivate was to go against the heavens and break through the realms to expand one's lifespan – they were breaking free from the shackles implemented on every single living being by Heaven and Earth!

There was an ancient saying in the cultivation world that one could see their spirit as long as they could break through the void.

The breakthrough of the void was actually referring to the breaking free of that shackle!

The two gigantic cores within his body were what he needed to break through and free himself!

Su Zimo no longer repressed himself.

His Inner Core transformed into a streak of blood light and his Golden Core turned into a streak of golden light. Both of them left their core chambers at the same time and surged into the layer of void within his body!

Bang! Bang!

Two gigantic explosions burst forth in the void above his Inner Core and Golden Cores.

Su Zimo shuddered.

The void shuddered as well, but nothing unusual happened to it.

His Inner and Golden Cores fell and hovered in midair momentarily before launching another attack upwards!

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The two cores clashed against the void endlessly and released earthshaking explosions!

The void quivered and finally, ripples appeared one after another.

For ordinary Perfected Beings, they only had a single Golden Core within their body when they broke through the voids and released themselves from the shackles.

However, Su Zimo had two cores!

Not only that, his Inner Core was created through cultivating the Mystic Classic of the Twelve Demon Kings of the Great Wilderness and possessed frightening strength.

His Golden Core contained the essence of the immortal, Buddhist and fiend Daos as well!

No void or shackles could withstand the burst power from these two supreme cores!

This was also the reason why it was relatively simpler for paragons among Perfected Beings to advance to the Nascent Soul realm.

The power of a Golden Core within any Perfected Being that could be referred to as a paragon was definitely superior compared to others.

The stronger the power of one's Golden Core, the easier it was for them to break through the void!

Before long, a series of cracks surfaced on the layer of void and it was on the brink of shattering after the repeated bursts from the Inner and Golden Core!

Everything went smoothly.

However, Su Zimo's expression darkened.

For any other cultivator, the danger of breaking through to the Nascent Soul realm might have been the process of breaking through the voids.

After all, it would be a failure if they could not break through the layer of void and their Golden Cores would rupture internally, leading to their deaths.

However, Su Zimo's situation was different from others!

His danger probably came after his breakthrough of the void!

Su Zimo did not dare to be distracted and focused on breaking through the void barrier wholeheartedly.

"Bang!" Boom! "Bang!"

Finally, a loud explosion echoed after the relentless attacks.

The void shattered!

Instantly, Su Zimo felt a weight lifted from his body, as though an invisible shackle was broken.

His glabella shone with a light spot.

His body was connected to Heaven and Earth and the Niwan Palace had appeared!

Su Zimo caught sight of an incorporeal body of light within the Niwan Palace.

That body of light was his soul!

He would not have been able to see the existence of his soul if he had not broken through the void!

His Inner and Golden Cores charged into the Niwan Palace and a resplendent light filled the entire chamber instantly. It was white all over and reflected the palace within the depths of his glabella flawlessly!

Immediately after was the formation of his Essence Spirit.

The soul was incorporeal and a corporeal object that resembled an infant would be formed after the Golden Core was fused into the soul – that was the Essence Spirit!

Su Zimo took out a Spirit Gathering Fruit from his storage bag and consumed it.

The Spirit Gathering Fruit melted right away in his mouth and a ball of essence qi surged into his Spirit Platform.

With the push of the ball of essence qi, Su Zimo's Inner and Golden Cores pushed his soul at the same time!

Su Zimo's heart skipped a beat and he sensed danger!

There was naturally no issue for any other cultivator once their Golden Core fused with their soul.

However, his body did not merely contain the Golden Core – he had an Inner Core as well!

In other words, the likely outcome if both his Golden and Inner Cores fought for his soul at the same time would be...

Before he could finish that thought, he felt a series of excruciating pains from his soul!

Su Zimo howled in pain and collapsed with his head facing the air. His body trembled uncontrollably as he coiled up with a pale expression.

Monkey and the others were initially refining their weapons at the entrance of the cave. All of them jumped in shock when they heard the commotion.

“Young Master!”

Little Fox yelped with a flustered expression and dashed towards Su Zimo.

“Don’t go!”

Monkey held her back with a grim look on his face. “If he receives any external disturbances at a moment like this, there’s a chance that he might not make it through the tribulation!”

Chapter 803: Eighth Demon King!

Monkey was not wrong – nobody could help Su Zimo at this moment.

His danger came internally.

In other words, it was his choice to make!

If he chose to give up on the Inner Core that he had painstakingly cultivated over the years, his Golden Core could fuse with his soul and create an Essence Spirit smoothly.

However, he was indignant!

This was a cultivation technique imparted to him by Die Yue.

It was also his greatest support that helped him to get to where he was!

The Inner Core embodied special feelings for Su Zimo.

That was the reason why he had never wavered or considered giving up his Inner Core despite the damnations of the world, insults of outsiders and the infamy of being someone from a foreign race.

Similarly, he could form an Essence Spirit if he gave up on his Golden Core and fused the Inner Core with his soul.

However, that would mean that Su Zimo would become a demon fully!

He was unwilling to do that as well!

Under those circumstances where his soul was being fought for by two supreme cores, it was extremely treacherous and his soul could shatter at any moment!

Su Zimo could not be bothered any longer and took out Spirit Gathering Fruits from his storage bag, stuffing them into his mouth mindlessly.

At most, two Spirit Gathering Fruits were required for cultivators to form their Essence Spirits.

There would be no effect even if more were consumed.

However, Su Zimo couldn't care less at the moment and took out all the Spirit Gathering Fruits in his storage bag, stuffing them into his mouth.

He knew that nothing else mattered if he could not get through this ordeal!

The Spirit Gathering Fruits turned into streams of essence qi and surged right into his Spirit Platform.

His Inner and Golden Cores fought even more intensely!

The illusory ball of light in his Spirit Platform was gradually ripped into two by the different powers and Su Zimo almost passed out when the pain seared into the depths of his soul!

The split of his soul caused a swift deterioration in the lifeforce within his body.

Any missing part of his soul would pose a huge problem to his body.

Much less the fact that his soul was ripped into two right now!

Su Zimo's consciousness gradually sank into the endless abyss continuously.

Right then, a spark lit up in the dark abyss!

It was a flower that burned with flames.

It was the Saraca Flower Die Yue left behind for him!

The Saraca Flower blossomed on the Ashoka tree.

The Ashoka tree was one the three sacred trees of Buddhism.

Legend has it that Buddha was enlightened beneath the Ashoka tree.

The robust lifeforce contained within the Saraca Flower was the very thing that allowed Su Zimo's Golden Core to recover completely back then!

Now that his life was hanging on a thread, the Saraca Flower had reappeared!

The Saraca Flower raised his soul and rose continuously, breaking free of the dark abyss.

The petals of the Saraca Flower withered as it blazed.

At the same time, a rich lifeforce was emanated as it burned and repaired the two incomplete parts of the soul!

After a period of time, the Saraca Flower was burned completely and the massive lifeforce it possessed healed the two incomplete parts of the soul completely.

Although the soul was ripped into two, it became two whole souls after the nurturing from the Saraca Flower's lifeforce!

The Inner and Golden Cores fused within.

The two incorporeal light bodies gradually materialized.

Rainbow lights filled the skies above the Spirit Platform and two infants assumed lotus positions. Their features were gradually formed and glowed with a divine light that swiveled around them – they looked exactly the same as Su Zimo!

The form of an infant was the closest to Heaven and Earth.

That was the reason why a fetus was able to ensure the continuity of life even when it was unable to breathe within the sealed space in its mother's womb.

The Nascent Soul realm represented the intent of one returning to their roots.

The two infants sat on each side and upon closer inspection, one would be able to see the differences between the two of them.

The infant on the left had scarlet hair as red as blood. Its face had tough lines and there was a demonic aura around it.

Although it was in the shape of an infant, it gave off a faint sense of authority from its expression!

The infant on the right was filled with black hair and looked much more scholarly and weak.

Its aura was unique as well, with a hint of immortal qi, fiend nature as well as Buddhist light – it was indescribable!

The infant on the left was formed by the Inner Core.

The infant on the right was formed by the Golden Core!

Success!

Although the Saraca Flower had dispersed, Su Zimo had managed to cultivate to the Nascent Soul realm successfully!

Furthermore, there were two infants in his Spirit Platform!

The scarlet-haired infant took the lead and controlled the Spirit Platform to hold the fort of the Niwan Palace. Suddenly, Su Zimo's aura changed and his initially black hair gradually turned into the color of blood.

It was extremely sinister, as though his hair was injected with fresh blood!

Su Zimo's heart skipped a beat.

Tiny scales appeared one after another on the scarlet-haired infant's body and lined its body completely. Two horns popped up on its head and the aura it gave off became extremely frightening!

Along with that, a similar transformation happened on Su Zimo's body!

A single thought was all that was needed for Su Zimo's dragonification!

Thereafter, the scarlet-haired infant retreated to a corner and the black-haired infant assumed a lotus position in the middle of the Spirit Platform.

Within the cave, Su Zimo's scarlet hair gradually recovered and the evil, demonic qi around him earlier on vanished without a trace – he looked like he did not belong to the mortal realm.

Monkey and the other three surrounded Su Zimo and looked at him with dumbfounded expressions.

His methods were way too shocking!

The moment he advanced to the Nascent Soul realm, Su Zimo was able to change his appearance at will and could even alter his aura!

"I'm fine now,"

Gradually, he opened his eyes and smiled at the four faces around him.

The few of them were finally relieved when they heard that.

Su Zimo gave a faint smile. "You guys can continue to cultivate and stabilize your cultivation realms while refining your weapons. There's no need to worry about me."

"Alright!"

Monkey and the others were relieved at the sight of Su Zimo's wellbeing and dispersed to cultivate.

Su Zimo closed his eyes again and joy sparked through his heart in waves!

He had received way too many changes upon his advancement to the Nascent Soul realm!

First off, his lifespan was extended!

At the Nascent Soul realm, the lifespan of a human cultivator became 1,000 years from its original 500 years – that was a full two times!

Also, there was the increase in combat strength.

Once an Essence Spirit was cultivated, one could use it to feel Heaven and Earth and utilize Dharmic powers while releasing various Dharmic arts!

He could also begin to cultivate many other cultivation techniques as well.

For his immortality cultivation, he had two heaven-grade spirit cultivation techniques, the Purple Thunder Manual and the Great Day Rulai Sutra.

For his demonic cultivation, the full content of the eighth and ninth sections of the Mystic Classic of the Twelve Demon Kings of the Great Wilderness, the Yin and Yang Spirit sections, surfaced within his memories!

As Su Zimo had expected, there was an ancient Demon King associated with the contents of the Yin and Yang Spirit sections.

What he did not expect was that the ancient Demon King was a Dragon King!

The eighth Demon King had appeared!

The Yin Spirit section focused on spirit refinement.

Be it the scarlet-haired Yin Spirit or the black-haired Essence Spirit, they were both in the shape of an infant and were extremely fragile. They could not even withstand the elements, let alone sabers and swords.

An Essence Spirit would die with ease the moment it left a body!

That was the reason why be it his immortality or demonic cultivation, Su Zimo's next priority was to refine his spirit!

The Mystic Classic of the Twelve Demon Kings of the Great Wilderness said that the impurities of the Yin Spirit had to be refined so that it could become a pure spirit of Yang without Yin, known as the Yang Spirit.

For immortality cultivation, there was the saying of reverting the spirit to the void and that was the reason why the Void Reversion realm came after the Nascent Soul realm!

Be it the Yang Spirit or the Essence Spirit of the Void Reversion realm, they did not fear the elements and were truly free of the shackles of the physical body, able to roam the outside world with ease.

In fact, they could take over one's body!

Chapter 804: Imminent

There were no records of secret skills or Dharmic arts of the Dragon race that were meant for killing within the Yin Spirit section.

Among them, there was a spirit refinement technique from the Dragon King Desolate Ocean and it described how one should consume the essence of day and night to strengthen their bodies and bloodline!

Under normal circumstances, Su Zimo would encounter great difficulties in cultivating the Yin Spirit section.

Previously, if Die Yue had not guided him by the side, there was no way he could have comprehended the Bones Strengthening, Tendons Transformation and Body Tempering sections within a few short years.

Before she left, she also mentioned that it would be difficult for Su Zimo to continue with his cultivation post her departure.

That was the truth as well.

Later on, for the Organs Refinement section, Su Zimo met with a great bottleneck and was stuck for a long time.

If he had not been awakened in the middle of the night by a freak accident and heard the sound of tigers and leopards, he would not have gotten to where he was today.

The essence and secret of the Organs Refinement section came from ordinary demon beasts like the tiger and leopard.

However, the Yin Spirit section came from a Dragon King!

It was almost impossible for a cultivator to cultivate a spirit refinement technique of a Dragon King!

Even with his deep understanding of the immortal, Buddhist and fiend Daos, it would be difficult for Su Zimo to comprehend the Yin Spirit section.

However, through coincidence, Su Zimo once consumed half a dragon egg, cultivated the Ancient Dragonification Art later on and consumed a dragon's blood for 20 years to cultivate the Illumination Dragon Eye.

The bloodline of the Dragon race was already fully fused into his body!

Right now, Su Zimo could be considered as a half-being from the Dragon race!

It was not difficult for him to understand everything that was stated in the Yin Spirit section.

Furthermore, he would require less effort to cultivate the Yin Spirit section!

Although Die Yue was divinely and her methods were extraordinary, even she might not have expected this outcome all those years ago.

Right now, the scarlet-haired Yin Spirit sat within Su Zimo's Spirit Platform and controlled his body.

Su Zimo waved his hand and a mirror made of water was formed.

Within the mirror, he saw his scarlet hair and a pair of eyes that shone with a demonic glint – he looked extremely evil.

Although he was in the form of a human, there would be no fiend demon that would doubt his identity!

Su Zimo nodded to himself with a satisfied expression.

His current appearance was more suitable for him to roam the Thousand Demon Valley and would save him a lot of trouble.

"Young Master, are you alright?"

Little Fox rushed over and asked concernedly when she saw that Su Zimo was awake.

"I'm fine,"

He gave a gentle smile. "You guys, continue to cultivate. Don't worry about me,"

"Heh, I told you guys that First will definitely be fine!"

The spirit tiger laughed and was relieved.

"Easy to say on hindsight,"

Monkey pouted and walked to the side as he continued to cultivate.

All of them had just formed their Essence Spirits and became fiend demons – there were many things that they had to familiarize themselves with.

They did not only have to be familiar with the changes in their bodies, they also had to refine their weapons.

A rusty, long rod was propped in front of monkey; it towered into the skies and was even taller than him!

The rod was filled with rust and looked extremely common.

However, this rod was discovered back in the Astral Dragon Sputum Lair. Furthermore, even Lin Xuanji seemed like he was stunned when he caught sight of this rod.

There was a simple reason why monkey chose this rod.

When he first caught sight of this rod, he felt a beckoning to it from the unknowns.

Monkey's glabella shone and his spirit consciousness spread out and engulfed the rod. He began to refine it and leave the unique imprint of his spirit consciousness on it.

He intended to refine this rod as his Destiny Dharmic Weapon!

On the other side, the spirit tiger was refining his own Dharmic weapon as well.

The Dharmic weapon he obtained in the Astral Dragon Sputum Lair was none other than the four tiger claws!

Initially, he thought that the four tiger claws had fused and vanished into his body.

It was only after he became a fiend demon that he could sense the existence of the four tiger claws!

The spirit tiger circulated his Essence Spirit and he gripped his fists with trembling arms.

In the gap between his knuckles, a jade-white and almost transparent claw with a chilling aura pierced through his flesh slowly and protruded out!

It was slender, long and sharp, like a dagger!

There were two claws on each knuckle.

Instinctively, the spirit tiger scratched the four claws against one another gently.

Clang!

Sparks flew everywhere!

A metallic sound could be heard the moment the claws made contact!

The spirit tiger's eyes widened as he looked at the four weapons that protruded from his knuckles. He was secretly delighted when he sensed the sharp aura they emanated.

The four claws could definitely be considered as indestructible!

Furthermore, the four Dharmic weapons were fused perfectly with his body and he could use them like a part of his body; he could naturally unleash his combat strength to its greatest potential!

An azure green feather fan hovered in front of Qing Qing.

Through the augmentation of her Essence Spirit, flames burned around the feather fan and refined it continuously – the fan shone with a pure jade green color!

The reason why she chose this fan was because the feathers on it were taken from a Bi Fang!

Half of the bloodline that flowed within Qing Qing's body came from a Bi Fang as well!

There was nobody more suitable than her to use the azure green fan.

Monkey and the other three all had different methods of refining their Dharmic weapons.

Right now, a pitch-black umbrella hovered above Little Fox's head.

She had a grim expression and would look up from time to time to spit out a trail of powder with a faint fragrance. The powder enveloped the pitch-black umbrella and left an imprint of her Essence Spirit.

Crack! Crack! Crack!

Right then, a cracking sound echoed throughout the cave as though something was shattered.

Monkey's heart skipped a beat and he glared at the rod before him with a bright gaze.

The cracking sound came from the rod before him!

After the continuous refinement of his Essence Spirit, something finally happened to the rod before him!

A large piece of rust cracked apart and a blinding, golden light shone from within and spread slowly.

Instantly, the golden light suppressed the auras of the spirit tiger's claws, Qing Qing's azure green fan and Little Fox's pitch-black umbrella!

Even the array formations set up at the cave entrance could barely contain the blinding golden light!

The golden light surged into the skies!

Swoosh!

The piece of rust on the rod finally fell and revealed the golden body of the rod.

The golden light gradually dimmed.

A small word was etched on the spot where the rust fell off... Imminent!

"Imminent, imminent... dominating! What a great name!"

Monkey reared his head in laughter and pulled out the rod in front of him. He danced with it, delighted.

A thousand mile away from here, in the Black Wind Ridge, several hundred demons were crossing through the forest with a mighty force. All the demon beasts in the vicinity had already escaped long ago upon hearing them.

Among the several hundred demons, there were eight muscular bull demons in the middle that lifted a gigantic open-air carriage. They grunted as they advanced steadily.

Around the gigantic carriage were even dozens of low-level fiend demons!

Everyone was circling the center!

On the carriage, there was a pale-faced young man in black robes with intoxicated eyes. He laid down on the knees of a woman wearing a veil with a voluptuous figure.

The woman's ears were sharp; she was clearly not a human.

However, she was extremely beautiful and charming. She held a bunch of grapes that resembled green jade pearls with her left hand and smiled as she fed them to the black-robed young man.

Thereafter, she sipped a mouthful of wine and leaned forward slightly before kissing the black-robed man on the lips. She stuck out her tongue gently and allowed the wine to flow through.

The man had an intoxicated expression as he enjoyed himself, savoring the fragrant aroma of the woman.

All of a sudden!

A golden light appeared in the distant skies and vanished instantly.

"Hmm?"

The black-robed man's eyes opened up and shone brightly – there was no hint of intoxication at all.

He looked over and curled his lips, grabbing the woman on the chest fiercely as he said in a relaxed manner, "Let's go check things out."

Chapter 805: Frightening Spirit Consciousness

Within the cave.

Monkey was excited and gripped Imminent with both hands as he danced in a lively manner.

Afterimages of the rod appeared everywhere in a dizzying manner.

Although the commotion caused by Imminent was significant, Su Zimo did not notice it.

At that moment, he was completely immersed in his cultivation!

After he advanced to the Nascent Soul realm, changes were happening to his flesh, tendons, bones, bloodline and organs!

When he broke through the void and formed his Essence Spirit, it was equivalent to him connecting to Heaven and Earth.

Even without Su Zimo controlling it consciously, his body became stronger and even more frightening under the influence of Dharmic powers!

Of course, this was a process.

Some cultivators may require half a year, several years or even decades.

However, Su Zimo noticed that his transformation process happened at an extremely swift speed!

It was as though a violent cyclone was rippling through his body and he could clearly sense his strength increasing.

He was growing stronger at every second!

This was the terror of his double Essence Spirits!

A single Essence Spirit would bring about Dharmic powers that could augment a cultivator's bloodline and physique.

Two Essence Spirits caused the augmentation to become more obvious and happen faster!

Furthermore, the two Essence Spirits that Su Zimo cultivated were extremely strong to begin with.

At that moment, the scarlet-haired Yin Spirit took the main spot in the middle of the Spirit Platform.

The black-haired Essence Spirit assumed a lotus position in the corner.

Su Zimo discovered that the truly terrifying aspect of having two Essence Spirits was that both of them were able to cultivate at the same time without affecting the other!

At that moment, his scarlet-haired Yin Spirit had begun cultivation on the Yin Spirit section of the Mystic Classic of the Twelve Demon Kings of the Great Wilderness.

The black-haired Essence Spirit in the corner had also begun on the Purple Thunder Manual.

This way, neither of the Essence Spirits would fall off in their cultivation realms.

On the surface, Su Zimo was at the early-stage Nascent Soul realm. However, the power of his Essence Spirits was definitely above an early-stage Nascent Soul!

Furthermore, he had many trump cards up his sleeves; his actual combat strength had far surpassed an early-stage Nascent Soul's!

Now that he was at the Nascent Soul realm, he might even stand a chance if he was up against an early-stage Void Reversion or even some weaker mid-level fiend demons!

"Void Reversion realm!"

Su Zimo murmured softly with a chilling intent.

Dao Being Xuan Yu was at the Void Reversion realm.

Back in the Great Qian Ruins, Dao Being Xuan Yu disregarded his capacity as a Void Reversion and interfered in the fight for the Vermilion Fruit to kill Su Zimo.

Su Zimo's wrist was not only severed, his Inner Core was shattered, his Golden Core was destroyed and his cultivation was completely crippled!

It was also because of Dao Being Xuan Yu that the thirteen cities of Yan Country were slaughtered later on, resulting in the homeless and destitute plight of the citizens of Yan Country.

Because of this, Su Hong was mentally drained and eventually passed away from the ordeal.

In order to save Su Zimo, Little Fox's Fire Blocking Basket, the only thing left behind for her by her mother, was taken away by Dao Being Xuan Yu as well.

Su Zimo remembered everything.

Of course, he also knew very well that even though he had two Essence Spirits, carried the bloodline of the Dragon race in his body and had many trump cards, he was not a match for Dao Being Xuan Yu right now.

However, once he cultivated to mid, late-stage or even perfected Nascent Soul realm, he was confident that he could take on Dao Being Xuan Yu!

Time passed by gradually.

After their initial excitement of refining their weapons, monkey and the others settled down quietly and cultivated properly as well.

Su Zimo slapped his storage bag and took out a seemingly battered lotus seat.

His glabella shone faintly and swept through the old lotus seat. Instantly, it vanished and entered Su Zimo's consciousness!

It was time to refine the Creation Green Lotus!

All of a sudden!

Su Zimo's ears twitched and he frowned.

There seemed to be many demon beasts headed in their direction!

Birds and beasts roamed the Thousand Demon Valley and it was only normal for demon beasts to pass by. Su Zimo was not certain that the demon beasts were coming for them as well.

Furthermore, the demon beasts were clearly from the Black Sand Ridge.

There shouldn't be any feud between them and Black Sand Ridge.

What was the background of these demon beasts?

With that, Su Zimo cast a mysterious energy from his glabella with a single thought and it spread outside like a water ripple!

"Hmm?"

He froze momentarily and was instantly enlightened.

If he was not wrong, that should be the spirit consciousness that came with his cultivation of an Essence Spirit!

If the five senses of the body were sight, sound, smell, taste and sight, the spirit consciousness was a sense of the Essence Spirit!

Although it was only a single sense, it encompassed the uses of the five senses!

Although Su Zimo was blocked by the cave and could not see everything that was going on outside, he could sense everything outside the cave using his spirit consciousness!

His spirit consciousness could even sense an ant crawling beneath the mud within a radius of five kilometers!

It was a mysterious sensation.

Through the sense of his spirit consciousness, Su Zimo could clearly 'see' how the ant looked like and every single hair on its feelers and legs.

The five senses existed innately and could be found even in a mortal.

Because of that, there were many restrictions for the five senses.

For example, a single leaf could block one's vision.

However, the spirit consciousness faced no issues of the sort.

Spirit consciousness resembled flowing water that penetrated every single pore. Even if there was a leaf before one's eyes, the spirit consciousness would wrap around the leaf and could even see every single pattern etched on the back of the leaf!

Although Su Zimo could hear the commotion outside right now, he could not see who were the people who created the commotion.

However, his spirit consciousness could!

Su Zimo spread his spirit consciousness and extended it forward to check.

Five kilometers.

10 kilometers.

25 kilometers...

The radius of Su Zimo's spirit consciousness expanded continuously.

After 50 kilometers, Su Zimo felt that his Essence Spirit was at its limits and his spirit consciousness weakened, unable to extend further!

All of a sudden!

Su Zimo's heart skipped a beat as he realized something; his spirit consciousness almost dissipated due to the shock!

From an ancient book at the bottom of the Dragon Burial Valley, he had once read about some records describing the spirit consciousness.

For ordinary Nascent Souls, the radius of their spirit consciousness was only around five kilometers.

They were already considered powerful if they could extend to a radius of 10 kilometers.

Anybody that could reach 15 kilometers were all considered as paragons.

Rare monster incarnates could reach a radius of 20 or 25 kilometers!

50 kilometers was the spirit consciousness radius of Void Reversions!

At this moment, Su Zimo had only just advanced to the Nascent Soul realm. However, his spirit consciousness could extend to a radius of 50 kilometers – it was comparable to the spirit consciousness of a Void Reversion!

Moreover, this was merely the radius of the scarlet-haired Yin Spirit's spirit consciousness.

The radius of the black-haired Essence Spirit's spirit consciousness was also around 50 kilometers!

If he could fuse the powers of the two Essence Spirits together, he could probably spread his spirit consciousness to a radius of 100 kilometers!

Su Zimo took a deep breath and composed himself slowly.

He had already seen the group of demon beasts with his spirit consciousness!

Through the shroud of his spirit consciousness, Su Zimo could see the appearance of every single demon beast and even their cultivation realms – he could even sense the aura they emanated!

He caught sight of the merry-making black-robed young man seated in the carriage in the middle of the many demon beasts.

The black-robed young man seemed to be shielded by a barrier that Su Zimo's spirit consciousness could not penetrate; he could not see the background of the black-robed young man either.

When Su Zimo's swept past the black-robed young man, the latter seemed to have sensed something. Clarity returned to the black-robed young man's eyes as he glanced over to this side in a seemingly casual manner.

Thereafter, he looked at the woman beside him with an intoxicated gaze and said lustfully, "Beauty, drink! Drink!"

Chapter 806: Young Master of the Black Sand Ridge

The black-robed young man seemed like he was completely immersed in merry-making with the woman beside him.

A moment later, when the spirit consciousness that shrouded him faded like the ebbing of a tide, the black-robed young man suddenly sat upright. Clarity returned to his eyes as he rubbed his chin with a cold expression, murmuring, "Interesting."

"What's wrong, young master?"

The woman's voluptuous body stuck closely onto the black-robed young man. She rubbed against his body gently and asked in a flirting manner with a coquettish tone.

The black-robed young man's lips curled as he said with a fake smile, "Nothing much. Somebody spread his spirit consciousness earlier on and scanned me."

"What a fool!"

The woman harrumphed and said in a pandering manner, "To think that someone would dare to check on our young master in the Black Sand Ridge. Doesn't he know any rules at all?"

"Since this person doesn't know any rules, I can teach them to him,"

The black-robed young man said in a seemingly casual manner. However, there was a killing intent in his tone!

"Protector Shi, Protector Cha!"

"Here!"

Two low-level fiend demons beside the black-robed young man appeared in a flash.

The black-robed young man spread open a map and marked out a location before saying in a deep voice, "Bring some men over quickly and surround this place first. Don't let anyone go!"

"Understood!"

The two protectors brought more than ten fiend demons with them and shuttled through the forest with their movement techniques, charging at full speed.

The black-robed young man sat on his carriage and headed in the direction idly.

An hour later, the black-robed young man's group arrived at the destination in a grand manner while Protectors Shi and Cha rushed to his side.

"Young master, nobody has left this place during this period of time!"

The two protectors exchanged glances – both of them could see the confusion in the other's eyes.

Although they had surrounded the place, it was empty with a few hills. There weren't even any ghosts, let alone people!

The black-robed young man stood up and surveyed his surroundings, frowning as well.

His senses couldn't be wrong!

The golden light and the spirit consciousness that scanned him definitely came from this area – how was there nothing here?

Could that person have slipped off first after realizing something?

That wouldn't make any sense.

The black-robed young man's expression darkened.

He did not express any hostility or killing intent when the unknown spirit consciousness scanned him – could that person have been so cautious to flee right away?

The black-robed young man's glabella shone and he spread his spirit consciousness in a radius of 500 meters. He scanned repeatedly and tried to seek for clues.

Although Protectors Shi and Cha were expressionless as they stood upright with their hands by their side, both of them cursed internally.

They had scanned the area a few times earlier on and there wasn't even an ant around, let alone a person!

A moment later, the black-robed young man retracted his spirit consciousness and looked at the foot of a hill not far away. A mocking look flashed through his eyes as he said in a leisurely manner, "Come on out! Those visual concealment techniques won't work against me!"

There were hundreds of demon beasts gathered in the vicinity. All of them followed the black-robed young man's gaze but they saw nothing, only a barren hill.

All of a sudden!

The hill seemed to have turned into a water screen and ripples appeared.

A few people came out in succession.

One of them was tall with arms longer than his knees. He carried a rusty rod on his shoulders and had a prideful expression, as though he looked down on everything.

One of them was tall, muscular and walked like a hooligan. His gaze revealed a boundless might as though he was the king of all beasts!

The other two were peerlessly beautiful women.

One of them held a fan and had a slender figure that was curvaceous; her long legs were exceptionally striking.

The other one wore a fiery-red dress and looked extremely docile with delicate features. Her eyes sparkled like water and she was ravishing with a flawless complexion.

However, she carried a gigantic pitch-black umbrella in her hands which looked extremely contrasting compared to her demeanor.

Many demon beasts gasped and froze momentarily when they caught sight of the woman with the umbrella.

She was way too beautiful!

She was so beautiful that they lost their minds!

The woman beside the black-robed young man was also an exceptional beauty in the Black Sand Ridge. However, she paled in comparison in front of this young woman.

The black-robed young man's eyes lit up when he caught sight of the two women.

However, the gaze of the woman beside him turned cold!

Right then, another person walked out from the hill.

This person wore green robes and had refined features. However, his hair was the color of blood and he looked extremely demonic!

With his spirit consciousness, the black-robed young man had long determined that the five of them before him were low-level fiend demons.

Furthermore, they seemed like they had only just turned into fiend demons!

Under normal circumstances, five low-level fiend demons would not amount to much within the Black Sand Ridge.

However, the black-robed young man frowned slightly.

For some unknown reason, the five of them were way too calm!

The five of them hid here and had nowhere to run after he saw through their concealment technique. Theoretically, they should be flustered and uneasy instead of being so calm!

The gaze of the black-robed young man eventually settled on the young man with blood-red hair.

Although this person was also a low-level fiend demon, the black-robed young man could not see through him!

His spirit consciousness was blocked by an invisible barrier when it reached this person.

He could not even see what the true form of this person was.

The black-robed young man could roughly tell that this scarlet-haired young man should have been the one who scanned him with the spirit consciousness earlier on!

The group of them were naturally Su Zimo, monkey and the others.

Su Zimo was sizing up the black-robed young man as the latter glared at him.

He could naturally tell that this black-robed young man was the most troublesome to deal with among the hundreds of demon beasts!

The reason why they were not surprised or panicked when they were discovered was because they had no intention to hide to begin with.

Otherwise, Su Zimo would have led everyone else and left before the black-robed young man arrived.

Although they were only in the Thousand Demon Valley for slightly more than ten days, the changes in their bodies were way too great.

All of them were spirit demons when they had just entered the Thousand Demon Valley.

But now, all of them were fiend demons!

At the start, they were hunted down by many demon beasts of Howling Moon Mountain and fled frantically with nowhere to settle down.

But now, they were extremely calm despite the fact that they were surrounded by a group of demons!

The biggest reason why they did not leave was because there was no need to.

Monkey loved to fight. He had just become a fiend demon and refined his Destiny Dharmic Weapon; he was absolutely itching to fight – how could he leave without fighting someone to the end?

The spirit tiger and the others were frustrated after being hunted down as well. Now that there were people who came knocking themselves, there was naturally no way they would cower in fear.

Instead, their eyes shone with excitement and fervor!

“What great weather. It’s been a long time since I’ve exercised!”

The spirit tiger cracked his neck and stretched.

“Audacious!”

Protector Shi’s gaze burned brightly as he hollered, “Who are you guys? Why aren’t you kneeling in the face of the young master of Black Sand Ridge!”

“Pfft, pfft! Young master, huh?”

The spirit tiger pouted his lips in disdain and mocked, “How new. You might as well call me the young master of Black Tiger Ridge!”

“Hmm?”

Protector Shi was a pig that cultivated into a demon and his brains were on the slow side. He froze momentarily when he heard the spirit tiger’s words and his heart skipped a beat as he thought to himself.

‘Black Tiger Ridge? Why have I not heard of this territory before?’

‘Judging from his stance, it’s likely that he comes from a powerful background!’

Chapter 807: Massive Battle

There were many Overlords in Thousand Demon Valley and even more Territorial Lords of varying strength.

Naturally, there were many territories such as Howling Moon Mountain and Black Sand Ridge as well.

Protector Shi was dumb and was merely a pig demon of Black Sand Ridge – it was only logical if he had not heard of some of the territories.

In his confusion, monkey smirked and laughed. “I’m the young master of Black Ape Ridge. Haven’t you heard of me before?”

‘Another one?!’

Protector Shi's heart skipped a beat.

Qing Qing snickered. "I'm the young mistress of Black Crane Ridge."

"I'm from Black Fox Ridge..."

Little Fox mustered her courage and wanted to join in the fun.

However, she was truly way too embarrassed to carry on and did not continue. She merely stuck her tongue out and acted cute.

Su Zimo smiled.

No matter how retarded Protector Shi was, he should be able to tell that monkey and the others were mocking him.

A series of laughter broke out from the crowd of demons around them.

The black-robed young man was expressionless and remained silent.

"How dare you make fun of me? You must have a death wish!"

Protector Shi's face turned purplish and he was enraged. His flesh expanded and his entire figure swelled significantly.

Although he was still in human form, a terrifying pig's head grew on his neck; it had sharp fangs and a torrential demonic aura!

The eyes of the other demon beasts shone with violence and fervor as well – all of them were ready to rip the group of people into shreds with a single command from the black-robed young man!

Suddenly, the black-robed young man said, "I don't care which territory you are from, but I can tell you that this is the Black Sand Ridge! You have to obey the rules of Black Sand Ridge here!"

"Fufu!"

Monkey smirked and revealed two rows of pearly whites. "I don't care what kind of nonsensical rules you have. I was born to break rules!"

"Apart from those two women, the rest of them..."

The black-robed young man paused briefly before uttering coldly, "Kill them!"

"Ha!"

Protector Shi brought out a gigantic iron rake and his rotund, massive body soared into the air. He glared at the spirit tiger furiously and descended with a maddened roar.

He hated the tiger for embarrassing him thoroughly and charged at the latter right away.

"Moo!"

Protector Cha hollered and reverted to his true form – he was a gigantic bull demon!

He raised a pair of sharp horns and panted with steam out of his nostrils. His eyes were locked onto monkey not far away as his hooves dug the ground, creating dust clouds.

“Leave that foxy chick to me!”

The woman beside the black-robed young man and looked at Little Fox with evil intentions. Jealousy could be seen in her eyes as she licked her lips.

The woman’s tongue was extremely long and was forked.

It was a snake woman!

“Don’t harm her,”

The black-robed young man glared at the snake woman and warned, as though he could see through her intentions.

Although the snake woman was indignant, she replied with a smile, “Don’t worry, young master. I’ll discipline this lass properly for you!”

A few fiend demons wanted to fight for credit and charged towards Qing Qing and Su Zimo at the same time.

The black-robed young man laid back on his carriage with an idle expression; it was clear he had no intention of making a move.

Su Zimo followed suit and did not make a move either.

Monkey and the others had just become fiend demons and were raring to fight – this was the best opportunity for them to get used to their newfound strengths as fiend demons.

Su Zimo only had a single target – the black-robed young man!

He could tell that although the black-robed young man did not look old, he was far from simple – there was a high chance that he was a mid-level fiend demon!

On the other side, a huge battle had broken out.

Protector Shi swung his rake heavily and created an arc in midair before smashing down towards the spirit tiger!

The spirit tiger reverted to his true form and moved swiftly in a flash.

Before the rake even landed, the spirit tiger was already in front of Protector Shi’s chest. He reached out with his tiger claws and thrust forward!

Protector Shi was alarmed.

He had not expected the spirit tiger’s counterattack to be this vicious!

If his attack landed, he could smash the spirit tiger’s head, but there was a chance that his life would be in danger as well!

They would have to trade lives!

'It wasn't easy for me to get to the status of a protector. Why should I trade my life with yours?'

At that thought, Protector Shi released a tremendous amount of force and pulled back the momentum of his rake to switch tactics at the last moment. He swept the rake horizontally instead towards the spirit tiger with massive strength!

Clang!

Sparks flew everywhere when the spirit tiger's claws clashed against the rake.

All of a sudden!

Electric currents surged through the spirit tiger's body and cruised through the point of contact between the tiger claws and the rake and entered Protector Shi's body.

"GRAWR!"

Protector Shi released a tragic cry and the pig hair on his body stood upright. He was fuming with black smoke and his flesh was charred!

"Hehe!"

The spirit tiger made use of the momentum to lunge forward and thrust ten claws viciously into Protector Shi's chest!

"Pfft!"

Blood flashed!

The ten claws dug deep into Protector Shi's chest.

Under normal circumstances, this would definitely be a severe injury for any demon beast.

However, the spirit tiger felt his heart sink the moment his claws dug into Protector Shi's chest.

The flesh of this pig demon was way too thick!

Pig demons might not be strong in many things, but they had coarse skin and thick flesh.

The spirit tiger's claws could not even reach the pig demon's organs after piercing in, let alone the latter's vitals!

"Go to hell!"

Protector Shi gave a menacing laugh and suddenly grabbed the spirit tiger's head with both arms.

At the same time, he raised his head and a pair of sharp fangs on his lower jaw protruded upwards and pierced towards the spirit tiger's throat!

The fights between demons were almost all melee combat fights that were the most dangerous and susceptible to instantaneous changes.

A moment ago, the spirit tiger had the upper hand. In the blink of an eye, he was the one in danger!

Before he could withdraw his claws that were dug into the enemy's chest, his body was locked and he had nowhere to escape from the incoming fangs!

All of a sudden!

The spirit tiger's heart skipped a beat and a searing pain tore through the bloodline between the gap in his knuckles!

"Pfft!"

The sound of a sharp weapon tearing through flesh could be heard.

Protector Shi's fangs were inches away from the spirit tiger's throat but they froze on the spot motionlessly.

The spirit tiger broke free of Protector Shi's grip and retreated backwards.

Apart from five sharp claws on his palms, two more sharp daggers protruded from the gaps between his knuckles and they were filled with blood!

These four tiger claws were extended earlier on and pierced into Protector Shi's chest!

Protector Shi's eyes were widened as he lowered his head slowly to look at the blood oozing out of his chest; the lifeforce within his body was draining rapidly as well.

With a thud, he fell onto the ground and no longer breathed.

The spirit tiger's heart raced after his close brush with death. However, there was no fear within his eyes; instead, they became even more fervent!

"Hahahaha!"

He reared his head in laughter. "I don't care if you're a protector, you'll still be slain by me all the same!"

On the other side, Protector Cha's hooves dug furiously as he raised his bull horns with a slumped head. Dust clouds flew everywhere his muscular, mighty body charged past!

Even the ground quaked!

This was one of the demonic arts of the Bull race, the Wild Bull Charge. At its full power and speed, it could even smash mountains!

There was no low-level fiend demon that would dare to take it head-on!

Monkey carried the iron rod on his shoulders and was indifferent towards the incoming bull demon. However, the scarlet glint in his eyes intensified!

Chapter 808: Duels

The gaze of the black-robed young man shifted as he looked at monkey not far away, slightly roused.

Among the protectors of Black Sand Ridge, Protector Cha's strength was only in the mid-tier. However, his Wild Bull Charge was not something that many protectors could confront head-on.

He did not believe that this monkey that had just become a fiend demon could take on Protector Cha's charge!

Bang! Boom! Boom!

The sound of the hooves were like thunder!

Protector Cha sprinted the entire way and his force was at its limits when he closed in to monkey!

"Moo!"

He let out a maddened roar and thrust forward!

"Good timing!"

Finally, monkey moved. He patted the tail-end of Imminent and the entire rod suddenly bounced.

Monkey gripped Imminent with both hands and swung his arms to smash down violently on the incoming bull head at the front!

Imminent streaked through midair and created a series of afterimages!

Bang!

The two demon beasts clashed against one another!

Immediately after, the jarring sound of bones cracking echoed!

Right in front of everyone, Protector Cha's head was smashed into the ground by monkey's rod and brain juices and blood splattered everywhere!

Even his Essence Spirit was destroyed by monkey's rod smash and he died on the spot!

All the demons were in an uproar!

None of them expected two protectors of Black Sand Ridge to die the instant they exchanged blows.

Many demon beasts that were charging forward staggered in their tracks.

Crack! Crack! Crack!

Cracks appeared one after another on Imminent and golden rays of light spilled out.

The black-robed young man squinted his eyes and lamented to himself as he took a clear look, 'This should be the item that caused the momentary gold flash earlier on!'

Initially, only a single piece of rust fell off from monkey's Imminent.

But now, after the terrifying head-on confrontation with Protector Cha, more rust pieces fell off Imminent one after another and revealed the bedazzling golden rod beneath!

Given the way it looked, anyone could tell that it was a rare treasure.

"Monkey demon, don't get cocky now! The two of us will take care of you!"

Before the sentence was finished, two fiend demons charged over. Their bodies were massive but they were extremely agile.

One of them was pitch-black and the other was snow-white – they were both bear demons!

Both of them whipped out sabers that slashed down from the skies as they charged forward!

The two bear demons had chemistry and moved in unison – it was clear that they were specialized in their combo attacks.

The two sabers were not ordinary either with two Dharmic patterns respectively – they were two middle-grade Perfected Lord Dharmic weapons!

“I don’t care if you are bears or heroes, scram!”

Monkey whirled Imminent and smacked the two sabers left and right.

Clang! Clang!

Sparks flew and the clanging sounds from the two sabers echoed!

Even middle-grade Perfected Lord Dharmic weapons could not withstand the power of Imminent!

Monkey’s bloodshot eyes swept across Imminent. When he found that there were no scratches, he could not help but rear his head in laughter, delighted.

“Hahaha! Great, great! What a great treasure! Follow me from now on and I promise you’ll never be covered in dust ever again!”

The two bears were shocked upon losing their Dharmic weapons. The moment they charged forward, they wanted to retreat.

There was no way monkey would accord them that chance.

Along with two tragic cries, two gigantic, swollen bodies were sent flying by monkey’s rod. They were half-dead with their bones and tendons snapped by the time they landed on the ground.

On the other side, the snake woman had already arrived beside Little Fox.

Her eyes were flirtatious and she reached out to Little Fox’s cheeks with her slender fingers as she said in a coquettish manner, “Young lass, your skin sure is smooth. Gosh, I’m envious. Come over and let me have a touch.”

The snake woman’s charming smile was laced with a lethal killing intent!

However, few people could notice it.

In Black Sand Ridge, she was a renowned viper and many fiend demons died in her hands.

She was far superior to Little Fox in terms of cultivation realm.

However, her bewitchment techniques truly did not amount to much compared to Little Fox.

Little Fox retreated half a step back with a calm expression and avoided the snake woman's incoming finger by a hair's breadth.

A faint stench wafted over.

There was a sinisterly green, thin needle between the fingers of the snake woman!

If Little Fox allowed the snake woman to touch her on the cheeks earlier on, her face would have been ruined even if she did not die.

The snake woman's viciousness was chilling!

A furious look flashed through Little Fox's eyes as well as she thrust the pitch-black umbrella in her hands forward like a spear – it was extremely fast and instantaneous!

After a year of training in the ancient battlefield, Little Fox had grown rapidly and was no longer cowardly or weak.

"Fufu, the lass is angry, huh?"

The snake woman jeered and floated in retreat, raising her palm gently.

A green fluid splashed in Little Fox's direction!

The expressions of many fiend demons changed when they caught sight of the green fluid. All of them retreated with wary looks on their faces, afraid that they might be implicated.

The green fluid was the most toxic poison the snake woman possessed!

A single touch would rot one's flesh into pus!

The poison fluid was extremely powerful and could even destroy some Dharmic weapons with a single drop!

Little Fox did not panic or fluster. She opened the pitch-black umbrella in her hands and it shielded her like the firmaments.

The poison of the snake woman splashed onto the umbrella completely!

There was no reaction!

The frightening poison did not create even a single ripple when it splashed onto the umbrella.

It vanished completely like a gigantic rock that fell into the ocean, as though the pitch-black umbrella had consumed it!

The snake woman was secretly alarmed when she caught sight of the pitch-black umbrella not far away.

The pitch-black umbrella resembled an endless abyss and she felt as though her soul was about to be drawn in with a prolonged glance.

The snake woman had a feeling that even she would be devoured whole if she fell into the pitch-black umbrella, let alone her poison.

At the same time, Qing Qing had already begun fighting with a few fiend demons!

She reverted to her true form and her crane cried endlessly. She flapped her wings and shuttled through five fiend demons with her movement technique; it seemed as though she was trying to defend herself desperately.

After all, she had only just become a low-level fiend demon and had not adapted to the power of a fiend demon completely.

Qing Qing's maneuvering space decreased continuously against the combined attacks of the five fiend demons!

"Demoness, surrender! Our young master will definitely take good care of you!"

A fiend demon said lustfully.

All the demons roared into laughter.

Qing Qing's expression was cold and she spat out an intricate-looking feather fan with a single thought. It expanded along with the wind and swelled in midair.

The fan was azure green and seemed like there were thin flames burning on it; the surrounding space was even contorting from the heat!

"Hmm?"

The expressions of the demons changed.

The azure green fan seemed extraordinary and gave off a scorching heat!

"Die!"

Qing Qing's glabella shone and she injected the power of her Essence Spirit into the azure green fan before fanning it in the direction of the five fiend demons!

Swoosh!

A green ball of flames blazed up and engulfed the five fiend demons!

"Ah! Ah! Ah!"

No matter how they struggled, the five fiend demons could not extinguish the flames on their bodies.

In the blink of an eye, all five of them were burned into ashes and the remaining white bones fell piece by piece from midair, fuming with green smoke.

Psst!

The group of demons gasped.

What was that feather fan – how was it so strong?!

In the blink of an eye, a few fiend demons on the side of Black Sand Ridge were dead and they had suffered immense losses!

Black Sand Ridge was losing in the duels of Dharmic powers after the fight broke out!

The expression of the black-robed young man turned grimmer and he finally sat up on his carriage, as though he was prepared to make a move.

All of a sudden!

The black-robed young man sensed something.

Not far away, two gazes were fixed on him in a threatening manner, resembling two sharp swords that were warning him!

Chapter 809: Spirit Consciousness Clash

The black-robed young man turned around and caught sight of Su Zimo who was not far away.

A mocking look flashed through the eyes of the black-robed young man.

Although he could not see through Su Zimo, he could sense that the latter had only just become a low-level fiend demon as well.

To think that a low-level fiend demon would dare to threaten and warn him?!

Killing intent surged within the heart of the black-robed young man. Right when he was about to attack, he saw three fiend demons beside him charge over.

The three fiend demons saw that Su Zimo had refined features and merely stood quietly behind Little Fox and Qing Qing, empty-handed. As such, they thought that he was the easiest to deal with.

“How weak are you to have to hide behind two women? I’ll see how long more you can hide!” A fiend demon gripped an iron spear and hollered.

The blood qi of the fiend demon surged and Dharmic powers rumbled from his spear. He glared at Su Zimo’s face and thrust his spear forward!

Su Zimo remained motionless with his hands behind his back, as though he was scared stiff.

A violent glint flashed through the eyes of the fiend demon and he could not help but smirk.

He could visualize the sight of Su Zimo’s heart penetrated by his spear!

His blood could not help but pump excitedly.

A cold glint closed in rapidly.

Su Zimo did not even blink, as though he had not seen it at all!

Just as the cold glint was less than an inch away from his face, Su Zimo suddenly made a move and grabbed the spear at lightning speed.

His fingers gripped the spear firmly like iron hoops!

The smile on the fiend demon’s face froze.

It was too fast!

He could not even see how or when Su Zimo made his move.

By the time he reacted to it, the spear in his hands could no longer push further.

Not only that, his spear could not budge from Su Zimo's palm no matter how much strength he exerted!

Right then, Su Zimo spoke.

His voice was calm and emotionless.

"Indeed, I'm weak. However, I'm strong enough to kill you!"

Before Su Zimo finished his sentence, his palm went limp and slapped the spear with a coil and a tremble!

The spear swiveled at a high speed!

The fiend demon could not maintain his grip on the spear and let go by instinct.

"Ah!"

He shrieked and the flesh on both his palms were ripped!

Before he could react, an overwhelming burst smashed onto his chest and sent him flying!

His body was repelled uncontrollably as he flew back and zoomed past trees on both sides of him.

Bang!

Finally, he smashed against an ancient tree and his body came to a stop with leaves falling endlessly before him!

Immediately after, he felt a sharp pain spreading from his chest!

Instinctively, he looked down.

There was a long, cold spear stuck in his chest.

It was his own spear!

His chest was pierced by his own spear and blood gushed everywhere!

"How could this be?"

The light in his eyes gradually dimmed and his head slumped down with fresh blood oozing from his mouth.

The black-robed young man narrowed his eyes.

The exchange between the two of them lasted less than a single round and the fiend demon died before it could even react.

However, the black-robed young man saw everything clearly. The spear did not merely pierce the fiend demon, Su Zimo snatched it over and flung in reverse, pinning the fiend demon to an ancient tree with the spear through its chest!

Although the entire process seemed simple, the black-robed young man knew that it required terrifying burst power, immense combat talent and experience as well as fearless courage to be able to react with such ease.

The counterattack would have failed without any of those qualities!

Even if he was the one in the same position, he might not have been able to react the same way.

Before the black-robed young man finished his thought, the two other fiend demons that charged towards Su Zimo arrived.

Bang! Bang!

Su Zimo's figure flashed and he did not advance nor retreat. He cut before the two fiend demons and attacked left and right, punching with a frightening strength!

The two fiend demons were sent flying and by the time they landed on the ground, they were corpses.

It was clean and precise!

The change to Su Zimo's bloodline and body through the two Essence Spirits he gained upon advancing to the Nascent Soul realm was unimaginable!

Although he was only at early-stage Nascent Soul, none of those ordinary low-level fiend demons could pose any trouble to him.

The black-robed young man soared into the air and lunged towards Su Zimo immediately!

Swoosh!

Suddenly, a tremendous energy fluctuation spread from midair.

Heaven and Earth shook with a rampant might and every single fiend demon present felt shudders!

Void Reversion realm!

That was a power that could only be released at the Void Reversion realm!

It was an attack of the spirit consciousnesses!

Be it Nascent Souls or low-level fiend demons, both had already cultivated Essence Spirits.

The existence of an Essence Spirit naturally meant that spirit consciousness would be present.

However, for Nascent Souls and low-level fiend demons, their spirit consciousnesses can only be used for detection purposes and aren't strong enough to launch attacks.

Only Essence Spirits of Void Reversions or mid-level fiend demons are able to materialize and launch attacks!

The black-robed young man, who was the young master of Black Sand Ridge, was a mid-level fiend demon!

An attack from the spirit consciousness was a killing move targeted at one's Essence Spirit and was extremely dangerous!

If one failed to defend against it, their Essence Spirits would be severely damaged and they would die on the spot – even deities wouldn't be able to survive!

The powerful fluctuation of the spirit consciousness spread through the air like clouds with a scorching heat as it rippled towards Su Zimo!

"Hmm?"

Su Zimo's expression changed.

His spirit perception was alarmed and he felt chills before the attack arrived!

The scarlet-haired Yin Spirit that was in the middle of the Spirit Platform was created from the Mystic Classic of the Twelve Demon Kings of the Great Wilderness. Although it was strong, it was only an early-stage Yin Spirit and was not at the level where it could launch a spirit consciousness attack.

It was the same for the black-haired Essence Spirit.

Su Zimo was rather helpless against the spirit consciousness attack of the black-robed young man!

That was the reason why mid-level fiend demons could suppress low-level fiend demons.

Superior Dharmic power was not the only reason – a single spirit consciousness attack could suppress all low-level fiend demons!

Su Zimo had just advanced to the Nascent Soul realm and was unfamiliar with the means of combat at this level – how could he deal with something that was at an even higher level, the Void Reversion realm?

The black-robed young man stood in the air and crossed his arms with a smirk.

To him, that attack alone was enough to kill Su Zimo.

The overwhelming spirit consciousness surged over.

Su Zimo had nowhere to run.

If he allowed the black-robed young man's spirit consciousness to charge into his Spirit Platform, his spirit consciousness would definitely be severely injured!

All of a sudden!

A flash of inspiration crossed Su Zimo's mind.

The scarlet-haired Yin Spirit that was in the middle of the Spirit Platform rose all of a sudden.

The black-haired Essence Spirit that was initially in a corner rose at the same time.

Both Essence Spirits advanced towards one another swiftly and fused together!

Su Zimo's Essence Spirits were each created from a part of his soul to begin with; they naturally faced no difficulties fusing together now.

A brand new Essence Spirit appeared on the Spirit Platform.

The hair of this Essence Spirit was split between red and black and it had a bloodshot left eye and a pitch-black right eye. Although it was in the shape of an infant, it had a cold expression that was unmatched. It gave off an unprecedented dominance that overlooked the rest of the world!

The power of the Essence Spirit exploded with their fusion.

Naturally, the spirit consciousness became incomparably vast and formed an ocean that surged with raging tides in the Spirit Platform!

This brand-new Essence Spirit released a roar from the middle of the Spirit Platform!

Boom!

Su Zimo's glabella shone and released an incomparably frightening spirit consciousness shockwave that smashed violently onto the incoming spirit consciousness!

Chapter 810: Suppression!

Boom!

The two spirit consciousnesses clashed against one another violently and released an earthshaking explosion. Shockwaves rippled layer by layer and spread through the voids!

The ancient trees in the surroundings were snapped when the shockwaves swept past them!

The black-robed young man initially had a relaxed expression with his arms crossed as he awaited Su Zimo's demise; to think that he would meet with such an impact!

Caught off-guard, he was swept away by a tremendous force and flipped a few times in midair, almost falling over.

Su Zimo staggered a few steps in retreat before coming to a stop as well!

Both of them were evenly matched in this spirit consciousness clash!

All the demons were in an uproar!

Be it demonic or human cultivators, everyone had the same knowledge that low-level fiend demons could not release spirit consciousness attacks.

The Essence Spirits of low-level fiend demons were the most fragile.

Once out of the body, they perished with ease when exposed to the elements.

The strength of the spirit consciousness released by a weak Essence Spirit of that level was limited and could not launch attacks!

However, the scene witnessed by the group of demons right now had surpassed their understanding.

The black-robed young man was momentarily stunned with a shocked expression.

How was that possible?

How could the spirit consciousness of a low-level fiend demon be this strong?

He was a mid-level fiend demon!

He was a full major cultivation realm above the other party!

However, this person could match him in a spirit consciousness clash!

In reality, the black-robed young man did not know that Su Zimo's Essence Spirit, body and bloodline had not been completely transformed with Dharmic powers just yet since he had just advanced to the Nascent Soul realm.

In other words, Su Zimo was not even considered a proper early-stage Nascent Soul just yet.

Once Su Zimo's cultivation realm was stabilized after a period of time and he refined both his Essence Spirits using the Yin Spirit section, Purple Thunder Manual and Great Day Rulai Sutra, the black-robed young man would be severely injured with just a single clash of their spirit consciousnesses!

"Interesting,"

The black-robed young man composed himself swiftly after the shock as he glared at Su Zimo with a burning gaze. "Let me see just what secrets your body holds!"

"I don't think you'll be alive to do that!"

Su Zimo sneered and arrived before the black-robed young man in a flash. He reached out with his massive palm and smashed down onto the latter's head!

"You must have a death wish!"

The black-robed young man narrowed his gaze and did not retreat or dodge. Instead, he punched towards Su Zimo's incoming palm.

Right before the fist and palm made contact, the black-robed young man smirked with a delighted expression.

He flipped his palm and a cold glint flashed – a black spike that was three inches long appeared!

The moment the black spike appeared, there was a nauseating stench.

It was laced with poison!

His move was extremely sudden.

The black-robed young man felt that Su Zimo's death was certain!

Even mid-level fiend demons would be doomed if they were struck by his black spike.

Unexpectedly, Su Zimo's expression did not change, as though he had realized it earlier on.

The cicada senses autumn coming before the wind even starts to blow.

Su Zimo had long detected danger through his spirit perception!

The instant the black spike protruded, he switched tactics and flicked his finger instead; his metallic fingernail was the one that smashed against the black spike!

Clang!

The sound of metal clashing could be heard from the clash!

The black-robed young man shuddered and the black spike nearly flew from his grip!

Psst!

What tremendous strength!

The black-robed young man was startled.

The power of that single finger flick almost sent his black spike flying!

If that palm strike had landed, his head might have been split into pieces!

Crack! Crack! Crack!

The black-robed young man was decisive and the sound of tendons and bones stretching echoed from within his body immediately.

Demonic qi surged as he transformed into a scorpion that was the size of a cow in midair!

Finally, the black-robed young man had revealed his true form at this point of the battle.

He was a scorpion that had cultivated into a demon.

This scorpion was pitch-black and covered by a layer of shiny, metallic armor that looked to be invulnerable and tough.

The surface of the armor was even lined with dense, thick fur that was laced with poison so that nobody could attack him!

Of course, the most striking things were a gigantic pair of pincers at the front of the black scorpion that were nearly a third of his size!

The pincers released clanging sounds as they opened and closed!

No matter the physique, anybody would be cut into two if they were caught in those pincers!

Now that the black-robed young man had reverted to his true form, he was at the peak of his combat strength!

“Reveal your true form and let me take a look at what you are, or you won’t get the chance to anymore!”

The black-robed young man glared at Su Zimo and sneered.

Su Zimo reared his head in laughter and wagged his finger. “Why do I even need my true form to kill you?”

“Brazen!”

The black-robed young man was enraged and charged over with his pitch-black, gigantic pincers flailing wildly.

A nauseating stench surged over.

The two pincers danced in midair and chopped down continuously.

However, Su Zimo’s movement technique was agile and the consecutive attacks of the pincers missed completely; the clanging sounds could be heard echoing endlessly.

The pair of pincers could be used interchangeably as scissors or axes!

Despite his failed attacks for a long time, the black-robed young man was neither discouraged nor anxious. He had a cold gaze, as though he was waiting for an opportunity.

After Su Zimo avoided the pair of pincers once again, a dark streak of light flashed in midair!

It arrived instantly!

A nauseating stench surged over.

Some of the demon beasts that were closer felt dizzy and collapsed onto the ground limply after smelling the stench – a dark color gradually spread through their skin!

That was the killing move of the Scorpion race!

Scorpions were laced with poison from head to toe and their tails were the most toxic!

The streak of dark light was the black-robed young man’s tail!

The black-robed young man was scheming and hid his tail from the start; he was only trying to paralyze Su Zimo with his previous attacks.

This was his lethal blow!

However, the black-robed young man could not spot anything unusual on Su Zimo’s face, as though the latter was completely unaffected by the aura of his tail’s poison!

There was no way the black-robed young man could know that Su Zimo cultivated the Mystic Classic of the Twelve Demon Kings of the Great Wilderness, possessed tsunami blood and flowed with the bloodline of the Dragon race within his body – the poisonous gas could not even close in to him with a slight circulation of his blood qi.

Su Zimo could withstand even more toxic poison, let alone the poison of this scorpion tail!

Suddenly, Su Zimo’s gaze focused and he reached out, avoiding the poison sting on the scorpion’s tail by a hair’s breadth and gripping the root of the tail!

The poison sting on the tail was the sharpest part of a scorpion’s body.

Many scorpion demons would refine their own tails as their Destiny Dharmic Weapons.

Su Zimo avoided the poison sting of the tail and gripped the tail at the base. With a jerk of his arm, he caused a tremendous amount of force to surge into the black-robed young man's body.

The strength of the black-robed young man dissipated momentarily and he could not react right away!

Su Zimo did not give him any chance to breathe and gripped the scorpion tail. He swung his arm in a huge arc and slammed the black-robed young man's body violently onto the ground!

Boom!

There was a deafening sound.

A massive crater was formed on the ground as mud and soil flew everywhere!

"Ah... Urgh...!"

Tragic cries sounded from the black-robed young man's mouth.

He felt as though his body had been split apart.

Even his organs have shifted positions!

The black-robed young man coughed blood through the damage to his organs and he was in so much pain that he almost fainted over!

Chapter 811: Essence Spirit Exit

Although the black-robed young man had also been through many battles up till this point of his cultivation, he was the esteemed young master of Black Sand Ridge after all and mostly escaped unscathed.

At the very least, no demon in Black Sand Ridge would be foolish enough to provoke him!

Furthermore, he broke through a few years ago and cultivated to become a mid-level fiend demon. Indeed, his pride was not unwarranted.

Even without the protection of the Black Sand Ridge Territorial Lord, he would have been a somebody in the territories in the area as well.

To think that he would end up in such a tragic state in his first battle as a mid-level fiend demon.

The thing he could not accept was that he was defeated by a low-level fiend demon!

How was that possible?

Although the black-robed young man's bones and tendons were almost snapped and his mind was in a mess, he could not figure it out still.

Even a pure-blooded ferocious beast might not be able to kill him with their major cultivation realm difference.

What was the background of this man?

How could a low-level fiend demon release a spirit consciousness attack?

Countless doubts crossed the proud black-robed young man's mind.

He must be hiding some secrets!

It must either be some rare treasure or a powerful secret skill!

If I can kill him and steal his treasure or secret skill, my strength will definitely explode!

The black-robed young man initially harbored thoughts of retreating. However, his greed took over him with those thoughts.

Riches were gained in treacherous situations!

No matter what, he was a mid-level fiend demon and he could still fight. There might be a chance for him to secure victory despite his disadvantage given his superior cultivation realm!

If he missed this opportunity right now, it would be too difficult to capture these five people if they were to head to other territories in the future.

At that thought, the black-robed young man took a deep breath and consumed some spirit herbs. His glabella shone and he channeled his Essence Spirit, gathering Dharmic power continuously!

“Black Sand Eclipse!”

The black-robed young man roared with bloodshot eyes without even turning back.

Many Black Sand Ridge demon beasts that were initially fighting against monkey and the others were shocked when they heard that. All of them bolted in retreat with wary expressions, wanting nothing more than to get away.

Right as Su Zimo was about to advance and kill the black-robed young man, he felt a wild wind roar in his surroundings as black sand flew towards him!

Instantly, the entire world went dark.

It was as though the sun had been devoured!

Black Sand Eclipse was the ultimate technique that brought the Black Sand Ridge Territorial Lord to fame!

Every single speck of black sand contained the poison of the Scorpion race as well as tremendous Dharmic powers. It was incomparably powerful and would grind away one's skin and bones!

“Hmm?”

Su Zimo's heart skipped a beat.

He could feel sharp pains each time a speck of black sand struck his body; it was not obvious and he could endure it still.

His body had turned even more frightening after his advancement to the Nascent Soul realm. When his blood qi surged, even ordinary Dharmic weapons might not be able to hurt him!

However, eyes were the most fragile and could not withstand the attack of the black sand.

Instinctively, Su Zimo closed his eyes.

The moment he closed his eyes, his heart skipped a beat.

The wild winds gusted and black sand blanketed the skies!

Suddenly, he discovered that the black sand was not only offensive and powerful, it could even isolate his five senses!

Even his spirit perception felt delayed and fuzzy against the envelopment of the black sand.

Although he could still sense danger, he could not determine its exact location!

Although Su Zimo was surprised, the black-robed young man was shocked!

If it was any other mid-level fiend demon, they would have been doomed if they were shrouded by this black sandstorm – most of them would become dried corpses within several dozen breaths.

He had not expected Su Zimo to be able to withstand the attack of Black Sand Eclipse with his bare body!

The black sand washed Su Zimo's body continuously and his green robes were already riddled with holes. However, his skin underneath was completely fine!

The black-robed young man grit his teeth with a sharp gaze and channeled his Essence Spirit continuously to imbue even more Dharmic power.

He believed that Su Zimo had no means of escaping the envelopment of the black sand – no matter what, he was bound to win!

All of a sudden!

A beam of light flashed in the black sand.

The black-robed young man widened his eyes and watched everything in disbelief.

Su Zimo had opened one of his eyes within the black sand!

The light came from his right eye!

It intensified and grew increasingly bright!

It was like a blazing sun!

Although the black sand was strong with boundless Dharmic powers, it could not devour that blazing sun.

It was like the eye of a divine being!

It was cold and authoritative!

"This is..."

The black-robed young man's scalp prickles and he felt chills down his spine as he suddenly shrieked, "Visual technique!"

A bedazzling light column surged through the black sand and tore through the voids, illuminating the world like it was day – light had returned!

Boom!

The light column tore through the black sand instantly and struck the black-robed young man viciously. It tore through the back armor of his scorpion body and penetrated his chest!

However, not much blood flowed out of the massive bowl-sized wound – it was cauterized from the burn.

Illumination Eye, a secret skill of the Dragon race!

Although the black sand was strong, it could no longer block Su Zimo's vision.

Su Zimo located the black-robed young man's position and injured the latter severely with an instantaneous attack!

The black sand dispersed.

This time round, Su Zimo did not accord the black-robed young man any chance to even take a breath. He charged forward in huge strides and stomped onto the back of the black-robed young man heavily!

Snap!

The black armor on his back shattered.

That single stomp crushed the spine of the black-robed young man!

Boom!

Su Zimo leaned in and punched the black-robed young man viciously on the head.

The head exploded and red and white fluid splashed onto the ground.

The black-robed young man was dead!

Su Zimo stood up, frowning slightly.

Although he had killed the black-robed young man with overwhelming means, he felt something odd in his mind, as though something was amiss.

Suddenly!

Su Zimo felt as though someone was peeping on him.

He spun around with a bright gaze and glared in the opposite direction.

In the depths of the forest, a pitch-black scorpion the size of a thumb hovered in midair. It gave off a faint glow and possessed a menacing expression with a venomous gaze.

The pitch-black scorpion looked exactly the same as the black-robed young man who had just died!

He froze momentarily and was instantly enlightened.

The thumb-sized, pitch-black scorpion that glowed softly should be the Essence Spirit of the black-robed young man!

At the Void Reversion realm when one was a mid-level fiend demon, the Essence Spirit could break free from the shackles of the physical body.

It no longer feared the scorching heat nor cyclones and could roam the world freely while crossing boundless distance.

This was the realm where the Essence Spirit was described to be able to exit from one's body.

As long as the Essence Spirit was not dead, a cultivator won't die even if his physical body was destroyed.

Given the opportunity, an Essence Spirit at the Void Reversion realm can even assimilate the body of another person and be reborn in another method!

Of course, no matter who it was, even if they possessed boundless Dharmic powers, they could not assimilate others limitlessly.

Moreover, assimilation was extremely dangerous and there were a lot of restrictions.

Simply put, every person merely had a single assimilation attempt.

Even so, it was a frightening prospect!

It was equivalent to an additional life!

The black-robed young man was impressive as well. When he realized that there was no hope for his physical body, he was decisive and gave up on his body instantly to escape with his Essence Spirit.

This was the first time that Su Zimo had an actual fight with an expert at the level of a mid-level fiend demon. He was unfamiliar with their methods and that was the reason why he made the mistake of allowing the black-robed young man's Essence Spirit to escape.

Chapter 812: Target, Howling Moon Mountain!

The black-robed young man had a vengeful gaze as he looked at Su Zimo. He then turned to leave and vanished into the depths of the forest.

A deep feud was sowed for the destruction of his physical body!

Su Zimo knew that things would definitely not end peacefully after he saw the black-robed young man's gaze.

Right now, the simplest method for Su Zimo was to chase and destroy the black-robed young man's Essence Spirit in order to get rid of future troubles!

However, the black-robed young man was a step earlier and the two of them were too far apart.

Furthermore, this was the Black Sand Ridge and Su Zimo was extremely foreign to this place.

He did not manage to chase far before he lost track of the black-robed young man.

After exiting from the body, the Essence Spirit was no longer bound by the shackles of the physical body and could move thousands of kilometers instantly at an extremely fast speed.

Even if Su Zimo knew where the black-robed young man was, it would be difficult for him to catch up unless he released Blood Escape.

Furthermore, the black-robed young man was the young master of Black Sand Ridge and had a noble status – many fiend demons must have been alerted to the massive battle that broke out here.

If he continued his pursuit, he might find himself embroiled in difficult battles.

After a moment of silence, Su Zimo gave up on his pursuit and retreated.

He was not going to commit the same mistake against another mid-level fiend demon the next time with this experience.

By the time Su Zimo returned, the battle had already ended.

Even as a mid-level fiend demon, the black-robed young man nearly died and he ended up in the tragic state where his physical body was destroyed. When the other demon beasts saw that, they did not linger at all and fled everywhere.

Only corpses were left lying around the forest.

During that short period of time, more than a hundred demon beasts had died!

Monkey, the spirit tiger and Qing Qing were all excited.

Ever since they entered the Thousand Demon Valley, they had been hunted down by the demon beasts of Howling Moon Mountain. Finally, they were able to vent their frustrations that had built up.

Even Little Fox could not conceal the joy in her eyes as she gripped her beloved pitch-black umbrella tightly.

“Great! That was great!”

The spirit tiger grinned and thumped his chest while declaring loudly, “Bloody hell, we’ll see who has the guts to hunt us down from this day forth. Anyone that comes is going to be sent right back by us!”

The five of them exchanged glances and smiled.

All of them knew that they would no longer have to flee for their lives from that moment on!

...

Little Fox put away the pitch-black umbrella in her storage bag and turned to ask, “Young Master, where are we headed to next?”

Demon beasts could utilize Dharmic powers after cultivating Essence Spirits; they could also make use of a storage bag created with Dharmic powers that was extremely convenient.

Of course, some fiend demons would choose to hide their weapons in their bodies, mouths or minds.

The spirit tiger raised his fist and declared loudly, "We should naturally look for a territory and become Territorial Lords ourselves! How great is it to become Territorial Lords where we can rule over thousands of demons and look all awesome!"

"That's right!"

Monkey nodded in agreement.

Every other moment, he had thoughts of being a king.

Qing Qing smiled at the spirit tiger and asked, "Also, when you become a Territorial Lord, there will be a lot of demonesses that will accompany you, right?"

"That's right..."

The spirit tiger fantasized with an intoxicated expression and almost drooled. The moment he spoke, he sensed a killing intent and jerked out of his stupor.

"I mean, no way!"

He said in a self-righteous manner, "I am a decent gentleman that pays no attention the secular desires posed by demonesses,"

The spirit tiger smacked his lips and closed in to Qing Qing with a pandering smile. "All I need is you to accompany me, Qing Qing..."

"Get lost!"

Qing Qing extended her long leg and sent the spirit tiger flying right away.

Little Fox furrowed her brows slightly and said in a soft voice, "However, we've only just broken through and are only low-level fiend demons. We have to be at least mid-level fiend demons in order to be Territorial Lords."

"That means nothing,"

The spirit tiger scurried back from a distance and said, "That black scorpion was a mid-level fiend demon as well but he got his ass handed to him by First. He even had to leave his body behind and escape with his Essence Spirit."

Qing Qing nodded as well. "First should definitely be able to become a Territorial Lord in terms of strength. Even if he can't match the stronger Territorial Lords, he is on par with the weaker ones."

"However, where are we going to find a spare territory?"

Little Fox shook her head. "This is the Thousand Demon Valley and all territories, large or small, must have been occupied by demons a long time ago."

"It's simple,"

A blood glint flashed through monkey's eyes as he smacked his lips. "We'll find a territory and the five of us will attack together to suppress the Territorial Lord. Once that is done, which of the remaining demons will dare to go against us?"

Monkey loved to fight and was always restless.

Even if nobody provoked him, he would ponder about where he could head to for a fight.

“Isn’t it bad if we snatch the territory of others?” Little Fox blinked and asked weakly.

“Foxy, you haven’t lived in the world of demons before,”

The spirit tiger waved it off. “Over here, it’s survival of the fittest and there’s no morals involved. The stronger party will always live on and have a good life!”

Little Fox seemed to be in deep thoughts.

They had not provoked anyone intentionally ever since they entered the Thousand Demon Valley. However, they were bullied twice in succession by others all because they were too weak.

Monkey added, “There’s no use enduring and living an ignoble existence if you want to survive among demons. Everything here has to be fought for with your fists!”

Little Fox nodded. “Alright, I’ll listen to you guys!”

Su Zimo’s mind was decided although he made no comments the entire time.

Be it him, monkey or the spirit tiger, they were not going to bow down to others – they definitely had to occupy a territory of their own!

Qing Qing mulled. “We’re not familiar with this place since we’re new to the Thousand Demon Valley. Which territory should we occupy?”

It was an important question to consider.

If they made the wrong choice and met with a wall, the five of them might pay with their lives even before they oust the current Territorial Lord!

Everyone turned to Su Zimo.

Slowly, he said, “Let’s go to Howling Moon Mountain.”

The eyes of monkey and the spirit tiger lit up.

“That’s right!”

The spirit tiger slapped his head. “I almost forgot about that place! Those bunch of asses from Howling Moon Mountain chased us through mountains, ridges, hills and rivers for dozens of days! We’ve got to make them pay for that!”

Su Zimo took out the map the rat passed them. “The area occupied by Howling Moon Mountain is the smallest in the vicinity. According to logic, it should mean that the Territorial Lord is the weakest.”

“This is it,”

Monkey agreed as well.

The spirit tiger was excited and made a fuss. “Let’s go right now!”

Su Zimo said deeply, "Don't rush it. We'll infiltrate Howling Moon Mountain and continue to cultivate there for a period of time to stabilize our cultivation realms. It would be best if we can find out more about the situation of Howling Moon Mountain before making further plans."

Su Zimo knew that it was not going to be simple to take down a territory.

There were only five of them.

They would face immense difficulties if they tried to do it forcefully.

Furthermore, monkey and the others had already refined their Destiny Dharmic Weapons.

However, he had not had time to refine his Creation Green Lotus.

Once his cultivation realm was stable, his Essence Spirit, body and bloodline received a complete boost through Dharmic powers and he refined the Creation Green Lotus, his strength would definitely grow to the next level!

That way, they would stand a much higher chance of taking down Howling Moon Mountain.

"Go, let's leave this place first,"

Su Zimo pondered for a moment before waving.

This was the territory of Black Sand Ridge and the young master had just received serious injuries and even nearly died; it won't be long before experts came knocking.

Chapter 813: Night Travels

There was almost no peace in Howling Moon Mountain for the past month.

The death of several hundred spirit demons and two of the seven protectors was a major event.

It was said that the demons that died were killed by demons that came from the ancient battlefield.

Furthermore, there were only five of them and they were all spirit demons!

During this period of time, every single demon in Howling Moon Mountain searched for the five of them and almost turned the entire place over but to no avail.

The demons realized that the five of them should have already escaped.

Even if they were hiding in Howling Moon Mountain previously, they must have escaped from fear after they were hunted down on such a massive scale.

Nobody noticed that this day, five fiend demons in human form had swaggered their way into the territory of Howling Moon Mountain.

These five fiend demons were none other than Su Zimo's who were being targeted right now!

"Heh, puny demons of Howling Moon Mountain, Hu Batian is back!" The spirit tiger grinned.

Qing Qing said, "I'm sure the demons of Howling Moon Mountain will never expect us to dare to return."

Su Zimo smiled. "It doesn't matter even if they've expected us to. They can't recognize us,"

A few spirit demons appeared in the vicinity.

However, none of them acted unusually when they saw Su Zimo's group; instead, they avoided the group with respectful expressions.

As the five of them passed through the forest, the sound of crickets echoed. However, all of them looked composed.

Previously, they had nowhere to run because of those seemingly unassuming crickets.

Now, none of those crickets posed any threat to them!

After Su Zimo's group cultivated to become fiend demons, they could take on human forms without any signs of their demon roots.

Although they could already take on human forms at the Golden Core realm, they would exude demonic qi and exhibit certain demon traits.

For example, monkey could not hide his long fur; the spirit tiger had the head of a tiger and the body of a human; Little Fox's tail would pop out from time to time...

Now, even if other fiend demons were here, they would not be able to recognize the five of them, let alone these ordinary crickets.

Only experts that surpassed them in cultivation realm would be able to see through them.

Su Zimo had red hair and the muscles on his face squirmed to readjust themselves; he looked like a completely different person.

"Let's go and find a place to settle down and cultivate for a period of time to stabilize our cultivation realms,"

Su Zimo brought monkey and the others into the depths of the forest and disappeared before long.

...

A month later.

A round moon shone brightly late at night.

The clear moonlight spilled onto the lake surface that resembled a mirror.

The lake water was so clear that its bottom could be seen; it looked like there was a divine dragon that was swimming in the waters.

A gentle breeze blew past and the moonlight rippled. The divine dragon vanished and a figure was reflected.

On a stone slab beside the lake, a scarlet-haired man bathed in the moonlight and devoured Heaven and Earth.

Every breath he took caused his body to echo with the sound of tsunamis.

Rich demonic qi spewed out from his mouth and seemed to take on the shape of a divine dragon in midair. It circled once before it was sucked in by his nose again.

The cycle repeated itself continuously.

The aura around the man became increasingly frightening and he emanated a boundless might.

All the demons in the vicinity had avoided the place a long time ago.

The sound of the crickets had vanished entirely!

The scarlet-haired man was none other than Su Zimo!

They had returned to Howling Moon Mountain and cultivated for a month.

During this period of time, Su Zimo's cultivation realm had stabilized.

The augmentation to his Essence Spirit, bloodline and body using Dharmic power was complete as well.

Right now, Su Zimo was much stronger than he was a month ago!

Even if he met with the young master of Black Sand Ridge's Black Sand Eclipse once again, he could dispel it without using Illumination Eye.

Su Zimo had benefited immensely for the past month.

The scarlet-haired Yin Spirit cultivated the Mystic Classic of the Twelve Demon Kings of the Great Wilderness.

The black-haired Essence Spirit cultivated the Purple Thunder Manual and Great Day Rulai Sutra and was in a great condition.

However, nothing happened to the Creation Green Lotus.

Su Zimo was not discouraged. Legend has it that the Creation Green Lotus was an item of the immortal world that was incomparably strong – it would be unusual if it was repaired that easily.

He took out a stalk of Soul Nourishing Blood Ginseng and consumed it to continue with his cultivation.

The black-haired Essence Spirit sat on the antiquated Creation Green Lotus on the Spirit Platform and a faint halo appeared behind his head that shone with a divine, flawless glow.

From time to time, a purple streak of lightning would clash past with a sizzling sound.

The scarlet-haired Yin Spirit hovered in midair within the spirit consciousness.

As time passed by, the skin of the scarlet-haired Yin Spirit became coarse and eventually, fiery-red scales appeared one after another!

They resembled metal plates that were burned bright red!

The scales resembled those that grew on Su Zimo's body during his dragonification.

However, the scales were created from his spirit consciousness and were embedded on his Essence Spirit.

Right then, something crossed Su Zimo's mind.

There was the saying of reverting the spirit to the void. When cultivated to the Void Reversion realm, the Essence Spirit could exit one's body and roam the world freely, traveling a thousand kilometers in an instant.

Under normal circumstances, neither the Yin Spirit or the Essence Spirit of the Nascent Soul could achieve that.

But now, a bold thought crossed Su Zimo's mind as he sensed the scales on the body of the scarlet-haired Yin Spirit!

With a thought, Su Zimo directed the black-haired Essence Spirit out of the spirit consciousness and the body.

The moment it left his body, the black-haired Essence Spirit shivered.

Although the temperature outside was normal, it was way too cold for the black-haired Essence Spirit to endure.

Pshew!

The black-haired Essence Spirit returned to the spirit consciousness hurriedly and continued to cultivate.

This time round, Su Zimo directed the scarlet-haired Yin Spirit carefully out of the spirit consciousness.

It was alright!

When the scarlet-haired Yin Spirit with scales left the body, it did not feel uncomfortable!

Su Zimo was delighted but he did not dare to be careless.

Be it the Yin Spirit or the Essence Spirit of the Nascent Soul, the true threat they faced were the natural elements of the weather.

The elements were unavoidable if the Essence Spirits wanted to roam the world.

Before that thought was completed, a cold gust of wind blew past.

Su Zimo grit his teeth. However, the scarlet-haired Yin Spirit did not return and stayed outside his body.

The scarlet-haired Yin Spirit remained motionless against the cold wind – it was not damaged at all with the protection of the scales!

Su Zimo was elated.

If he was not wrong, those scales were dragon scales of the spirit consciousness that he had cultivated from the Yin Spirit section!

Gradually, Su Zimo became even bolder.

The scarlet-haired Yin Spirit shuttled through midair at an extremely fast speed and left streaks of red light.

It was roaming the world freely and could cross a thousand kilometers in an instant!

This was originally something that could only be achieved by a Void Reversion's Essence Spirit. However, Su Zimo was able to do it by cultivating the Yin Spirit section of the Mystic Classic of the Twelve Demon Kings of the Great Wilderness!

The scarlet-haired Yin Spirit stood in midair and stared at its own body on the stone slab.

It was looking at itself.

It was a mysterious sensation.

It was even more direct than the introspection of a spirit consciousness!

Furthermore, the scarlet-haired Yin Spirit could roam the world and its detection radius was even wider than the spirit consciousness!

Excited, Su Zimo decided to travel around Howling Moon Mountain at night using the scarlet-haired Yin Spirit.

When an Essence Spirit leaves the body, the spirit consciousness would be left empty. This would mean that the body would become an empty shell without soul or consciousness.

Even if the physical body met with danger, it would not know how to defend or dodge.

Therefore, before leaving with one's Essence Spirit, cultivators would ensure that their bodies were hidden in secluded locations so that their foes could not find them.

However, this was something Su Zimo wasn't worried about.

Even with the departure of his scarlet-haired Yin Spirit, there was another Essence Spirit in his spirit consciousness!

Chapter 814: Essence Spirit Secret Skill

The scarlet-haired Yin Spirit hovered in midair without any weight.

Su Zimo leaped down from the stone slab and walked towards a cave not far away.

The black-haired Essence Spirit controlled his body and hid in the cave temporarily; that could potentially save him from some trouble.

The black-haired Essence Spirit continued to cultivate while the scarlet-haired Yin Spirit vanished in a flash, headed towards the depths of Howling Moon Mountain.

Without the shackles of the physical body, the Essence Spirit was closer connected to Heaven and Earth. It faced significantly less resistance traveling through the air and was extremely fast, moving a thousand kilometers instantly.

In reality, if Su Zimo wanted to explore the territory of Howling Moon Mountain himself, he would require at least three days and nights.

However, with the speed of the scarlet-haired Yin Spirit, he could check out Howling Moon Mountain entirely with a single night!

Shadows of trees passed by him in a fleeting manner.

With the protection of the dragon scales, the scarlet-haired Yin Spirit shuttled through the forest freely and roamed the world with an indescribable freedom!

Su Zimo followed the map in his hands and gradually closed in to the center of Howling Moon Mountain.

That was the resting ground of the Howling Moon Mountain Territorial Lord!

Under normal circumstances, be it the Yin Spirit or a Nascent Soul realm Essence Spirit, neither were strong enough to carry physical objects.

The Yin Spirit could not even lift something as light as a goose feather, let alone this map.

However, with the dragon scales, the scarlet-haired Yin Spirit could lift light objects such as the map of Howling Moon Mountain!

Su Zimo was shocked.

The Mystic Classic of the Twelve Demon Kings of the Great Wilderness was truly strong!

Although the black-haired Essence Spirit cultivated the Purple Thunder Manual and Great Day Rulai Sutra, two top-tier cultivation techniques of the immortal and Buddhist Daos, it could not roam the world, let alone lift physical objects.

However, the Yin Spirit section from the Mystic Classic of the Twelve Demon Kings of the Great Wilderness alone could achieve it!

The Yin Spirit section came from the Ocean Dragon King.

In other words, even the Dragon race of Tianhuang Mainland might not be able to surpass Su Zimo's in terms of their spirit refinement legacy!

Two hours later, Su Zimo was close to the core of Howling Moon Mountain.

In order to avoid detection, the speed of the scarlet-haired Yin Spirit gradually slowed down.

There were evidently more fiend demons around the vicinity.

However, none of the fiend demons noticed Su Zimo's presence!

Firstly, most of them were cultivating and were hardly distracted.

Secondly, the scarlet-haired Yin Spirit was merely the size of a thumb and was extremely fast. Even if somebody caught a momentary glimpse of it, they would have thought that they were seeing things and thought nothing of it.

Thirdly, although Su Zimo had just advanced to the Nascent Soul realm, his scarlet-haired Yin Spirit was already much stronger than the Essence Spirits of other fiend demons since it could roam the world.

With that, it was even more difficult for those fiend demons to notice Su Zimo.

That was also why it was so powerful for the Essence Spirit to be able to leave one's body!

Low-level fiend demons would hardly realize that they were being spied on at the side!

Su Zimo continued advancing and his speed slowed down.

He could clearly feel that there were two fiend demons cultivating at the front not far away. The Dharmic power fluctuation around them was extremely strong and surpassed the other fiend demons!

There were two mid-level fiend demons!

Su Zimo paused in his tracks and hid himself without advancing.

If he was not wrong, the two mid-level fiend demons should be the Howling Moon Territorial Lord, Black Wolf, and his deputy, Chan Ruyi.

The two of them were mid-level fiend demons and could use their Essence Spirits to roam.

Su Zimo hid himself carefully far away, not wanting to alarm the two of them.

All of a sudden!

Black Wolf stood up with an imposing aura. He hollered with a fervent gaze, "Who is there? How dare you spy on Howling Moon Mountain!"

'Not good, I've been discovered!'

Su Zimo was alarmed.

'There's no wonder why he's the Howling Moon Territorial Lord. Indeed, he's capable. To think that he can even sense me despite how far I'm hiding here!'

Su Zimo was prepared to flee the moment the thought crossed his mind.

Since he was exposed, it was useless for him to linger any longer. Instead, he would be in danger and it would be difficult for him to get away.

Right then, a gentle breeze blew and three faint, glowing Essence Spirits flew into the air from the forest not far away.

Initially, Su Zimo wanted to leave. However, he paused in his tracks when he saw that.

To think that there were other Essence Spirits spying in the darkness!

The three Essence Spirits were in the shape of bats. The fact that they could roam to this spot meant that they were Void Reversion Essence Spirits!

One of the Essence Spirits said in an odd manner, "Howling Moon Mountain, you've got some capabilities indeed. To think that you were able to spot us! Humph, we'll pay you a visit another day!"

Before that sentence was completed, the three Essence Spirits sped into the distance and tried to escape in time.

"Where can you run to?"

Black Wolf roared and his glabella shone, releasing a terrifying spirit consciousness that formed a murderous wolf in midair!

The wolf arrived instantly before an Essence Spirit, devouring the latter in a single chomp!

“Black Wolf, you... ah!”

The Essence Spirit could not dodge in time and shrieked before he could complete his sentence.

Su Zimo was secretly alarmed and his heart skipped a beat.

Black Wolf’s attack was a killing move targeted at Essence Spirits – it was even stronger and frightening than a spirit consciousness attack!

Spirit consciousness attacks were the most ordinary offensive means at the Void Reversion realm.

Some mid-level fiend demons or Void Reversions get the chance to cultivate secret skills for their Essence Spirits that could condense their spirit consciousnesses and in turn create attacks that were extremely lethal with concentrated strength!

Secret skills for Essence Spirits were extremely rare and the major sects kept everything to themselves.

In the Yang Spirit section of the Mystic Classic of the Twelve Demon Kings of the Great Wilderness, there was a secret skill from the Desolate Ocean Dragon King for the Essence Spirit.

Unfortunately, the text of the Yang Spirit section was incomprehensible; it seemed like an ancient language from the Dragon race and it was the same for the secret skill.

Of course, Su Zimo had not cultivated to that level and was not qualified to cultivate the Essence Spirit secret skill.

Previously, it was clear that the young master of Black Sand Ridge did not know any Essence Spirit secret skills.

If he had released an Essence Spirit secret skill, Su Zimo might not have been able to defend against it even with the fusion of his Essence Spirits!

Although the bat Essence Spirit was extremely fast, the secret skill of Black Wolf’s Essence Spirit traveled at an even faster speed and devoured the bat Essence Spirit!

The Essence Spirit of a mid-level fiend demon left its body and roamed here. To think that it would die in Black Wolf’s hands without the chance to even return to its body.

“Om!”

Chan Ruyi struck.

A tremendous spirit consciousness gathered and two curved blades appeared in midair all of a sudden, shimmering coldly and thin as cicada wings.

It was another Essence Spirit secret skill!

The two curved blades descended onto another Essence Spirit that was escaping and weaved across one another!

“Pfft!”

The bat Essence Spirit was sliced by the sabers and perished on the spot!

In the blink of an eye, the Essence Spirits of two Void Reversions perished.

Naturally, an Essence Spirit had to face immense danger upon leaving its body.

It was even more dangerous when they were spying on a Territorial Lord!

The two Territorial Lords of Howling Moon Mountain attacked and killed off two Essence Spirits cleanly. However, the third bat Essence Spirit seized the opportunity to flee far away.

“Black Wolf, Chan Ruyi, don’t get cocky now!”

The sound of the bat Essence Spirit echoed from far away. “Howling Moon Mountain is about to be doomed. Let’s see how much longer you can continue to be smug!”

The voice grew increasingly distant and eventually went silent.

Su Zimo hid where he was motionlessly.

If the two Territorial Lords of Howling Moon Mountain noticed him and released their Essence Spirit secret skills, his scarlet-haired Yin Spirit would definitely be severely injured even with the protection of the dragon scales!

Chapter 815: Danger in Howling Moon Mountain

Although the Essence Spirit could roam the world upon leaving the body and travel at a thousand kilometers in an instant, if it was severely injured, it would result in the death of the body – there was no return!

In the blink of an eye, two mid-level fiend demons had perished here!

The three mid-level fiend demons must not have expected the two Territorial Lords of Howling Moon Mountain to discover their presence.

Less than that, they did not expect the two Territorial Lords to be this ruthless and cultivated Essence Spirit secret skills. A single attack from both of them killed off two Essence Spirits!

Su Zimo was secretly alarmed when he witnessed everything.

Thankfully, he came to check things out and understood the situation.

Otherwise, he might have taken a huge loss if he took on the two Territorial Lords!

Although they were all mid-level fiend demons, the strength of the two Territorial Lords of Howling Moon Mountain were far superior to the young master of Black Sand Ridge.

The massive battle ended instantly.

As though they no longer had any mood to cultivate, Black Wolf and Chan Ruyi exchanged glances in silence; there was a hint of worry on their faces.

Su Zimo was puzzled.

Although it was a clear victory, why did it seem like they had lost?

When he recalled the statement left by the mid-level fiend demon, he realized that things might not be as simple as they seemed.

Black Wolf said with a grim expression, "Cyclone Cave can't hold it back any longer. To think that they sent three mid-level fiend demons to spy on us. Thankfully, I noticed their presence or the two of us might be killed if they took the first move!"

"Actually, the Territorial Lord of Cyclone Cave is still cautious of us. Otherwise, he would not have sent people to come and spy on us first," Chan Ruyi deduced.

Black Wolf shook his head. "We can still fight if it's only Cyclone Cave. However, that's not the only threat to Howling Moon Mountain!"

"There's also Black Sand Ridge and Ghastly River," Chan Ruyi continued.

"That's right."

Black Wolf sighed. "Those three territories have their sights on us. I'm afraid Howling Moon Mountain won't be able to get through this ordeal. What I'm most afraid of is if they form an alliance!"

Chan Ruyi remained silent with a heavy heart.

At that point, Su Zimo had already obtained quite a bit of useful information.

When he saw the Territorial Lords in an uneasy mood, he knew that it was a rare opportunity and left carefully and silently, exiting the region soon after.

Not long after Su Zimo left, Black Wolf suddenly frowned and said in a deep voice, "Earlier on, apart from the three of them from Cyclone Cave, there seemed to be someone else was spying on us."

"Ah?"

Chan Ruyi froze for a moment.

Black Wolf continued, "It was an intermittent feeling and I'm not entirely sure either."

"Was it from Black Sand Ridge?" Chan Ruyi asked.

"Not likely,"

Black Wolf shook his head. "In this period of time, the fiend demons of Black Sand Ridge are searching for a group of mysterious strangers. There's no reason for them to head here,"

"I heard about that incident as well. The young master of Black Sand Ridge's physical body was ruined and he almost died,"

Chan Ruyi chuckled. "However, if they're not from Black Sand Ridge, who were they? Could it be...?"

Suddenly, Chan Ruyi froze and looked at Black Wolf instinctively.

Their gazes met in midair and Chan Ruyi's heart skipped a beat. "That person from Ghastly River?"

"It should be,"

Black Wolf nodded. "He's most likely the only one that can sneak beside us stealthily and leave without a trace."

"That's going to be troublesome,"

Chan Ruyi sighed.

...

Su Zimo was already gone and naturally did not know that the two Territorial Lords of Howling Moon Mountain thought of him as somebody else.

At that moment, Su Zimo was in the skies soaring through the clouds as he looked down on the territory of Howling Moon Mountain to survey its terrain and listen in to the surroundings.

All of a sudden!

He froze and slanted his head in midair to listen carefully for a brief moment. Thereafter, his lips curled with a fake smile and a strange look flashed through his eyes.

If he extended his spirit consciousness through the ground beneath him, he could clearly detect that it was not fully solid.

It was interconnected with multiple tunnels to form caves one after another. Demonic qi was rich and everything eventually converged towards a massive palace.

The palace was made of gold and shone brightly with an earthly aura.

There were countless rats scurrying around the palace in a joyful manner.

Some of the rats huffed as they carried wine.

Some of the rats were off killing chicken and cows.

For ordinary wild beasts such as chicken and cow, they were naturally helpless against rat demons with sentience.

It was even more lively in the palace. Some of the rats turned into women that shuttled through the feast to set up fruits and delicacies.

At the front of the palace, a rotund man sat high and above with a sparkling, golden crown on his head.

Although he did not exude any demonic qi, he had shifty eyes and looked extremely sleazy.

Two cute women were on both sides of the rat and they were thumping his back and kneading his thighs – he was thoroughly enjoying life!

"Congratulations, Your Majesty!"

A rat demon at the bottom raised a glass for a toast.

The rat demon was in human form and could stand with both legs. Although he wore human attire as well, there was a long tail behind him.

It was a Golden Core realm spirit demon.

This rat demon said loudly, "Your Majesty, you are the first to cultivate to become a fiend demon among the rat race of Howling Moon Mountain. Our race will definitely flourish in the future!"

"That's right, Your Majesty has an exceptional talent and managed to cultivate into a fiend demon in less than a month upon returning from the ancient battlefield. Amazing!"

Some other rat demons chimed in at the sides.

"Hahahaha!"

The rat at the front of the palace beamed widely such that his eyes could barely be seen. He raised his glass heartily and declared, "Everyone, drink up! Drink to your heart's fill!"

"Pfft, pfft! Rat king, you sure are amazing."

Suddenly, he heard a mocking voice echo within his ears.

Its tone was neither heavy nor light and the fatty with ratty eyes was the only one that heard the voice in the noisy palace.

"Mmm? Who's there?"

The fatty with ratty eyes was shocked.

Somebody managed to close in to him without him realizing it?

The fatty with ratty eyes was expressionless and his glabella shone as he released his spirit consciousness to survey the direction of the voice.

His spirit consciousness surged over and he discovered a figure the size of a thumb in a corner behind him. It had shoulder-length scarlet hair, was lined with scales throughout its body and its appearance could not be seen clearly.

"Psst!"

The Rat King gasped and was shocked. Instantly, he broke out in cold sweat and his wrist trembled so badly that he spilled more than half of the wine in his cup!

Although he did not know who this intruder was, he knew that only a mid-level fiend demon could send an Essence Spirit out of their body!

"Follow me, don't make a fuss,"

The scarlet-haired Essence Spirit's voice was cold and emotionless. In a flash, it vanished into the darkness.

The fatty with ratty eyes grumbled internally.

In Howling Moon Mountain, only the two Territorial Lords could roam with their Essence Spirits.

However, he knew that the Essence Spirits of the two Territorial Lords did not look like this.

In other words, this mid-level fiend demon was not someone from Howling Moon Mountain!

He would most likely die if he followed this man.

However, if he did not, this Essence Spirit was enough to kill him as well!

If he implicated his entire race here because of this, they would die for nothing.

At that thought, the fatty with ratty eyes squeezed out a faint, bitter smile. He pushed away the two women beside him and said with a tragic courage, "Everyone, please continue. I-I'm too drunk to carry on so I'll make a move first!"

Chapter 816: Three Great Territories

The Rat King slumped his head in despair the moment he left the tunnels.

The scarlet-haired Essence Spirit before him flickered faintly but did not go too far. The Rat King did not dare to escape either and could merely follow along, sighing constantly in misery.

Sigh, to think that I would meet with something like this the moment I cultivate to become a fiend demon. The heavens sure are jealous of the talented!

Is this mid-level fiend demon from Cyclone Cave or Black Sand Ridge?

'What a bummer. I'm not even a protector of Howling Moon Mountain, why did it come to look for me?'

The Rat King was uneasy and fearful the entire journey.

After an hour, the scarlet-haired Essence Spirit at the front stopped.

"Go on inside,"

The scarlet-haired Essence Spirit pointed to a cave not far away and said indifferently.

The Rat King felt that the voice sounded familiar.

However, he was completely overwhelmed by fear at that moment and could not think properly.

The cave before him seemed like the gigantic mouth of a desolate, gargantuan beast and he was sending himself into death's gates.

"Hais."

The Rat King sighed again and grit his teeth, entering the cave reluctantly.

The cave was not big and could be seen in its entirety with a mere glance.

Although the light within was dim, the Rat King that was now a fiend demon was almost unaffected.

There were five people in the cave.

They dressed like human cultivators. However, with his sharp senses, the Rat King could vaguely guess that the five of them were fiend demons in human forms!

Among the five of them, some laid down on the ground with one leg crossed against the other lazily, some sat properly while some stood in silence.

For some unknown reason, all of them looked at him with odd gazes.

The Rat King felt his scalp prickle from their gazes and did not know what to do.

Right at the front, a scarlet-haired cultivator sat in a lotus position with his eyes closed. Suddenly, the muscles on the face of the cultivator twitched and his appearance changed significantly.

“Y-Y-You...”

The Rat King’s eyes widened as he looked at everything in disbelief.

The face of the scarlet-haired man was exactly the same as the green-robed man who created a ruckus in Howling Moon Mountain more than a month ago!

The five of them were naturally Su Zimo’s group.

“Y-You guys?”

The Rat King recognized Su Zimo’s group and instantly hopped as he exclaimed, “Are you guys insane? To think you would dare to return!”

“Why wouldn’t we?”

Monkey sneered, “If the five of us are together, we have no fear even if we are barging into a dragon’s pool or tiger’s lair. Howling Moon Mountain is nothing!”

“T-That’s not the case!”

The Rat King waved it off and explained, sweating profusely, “Don’t assume that you can come back and seek revenge now that you’ve broken through and become fiend demons! You have to understand that even among fiend demons, there are different levels!”

“Only mid-level fiend demons can become Territorial Lords! Their Essence Spirits can roam into the world and travel a thousand kilometers in an inst...”

Suddenly, the Rat King’s voice froze.

He witnessed something.

The scarlet-haired Essence Spirit that entered with him transformed into a scarlet streak of light in a flash and flew into Su Zimo’s glabella!

Su Zimo stood up with a humoring smile.

The Rat King’s mouth was agape and his eyeballs popped out!

“H-How is this p-possible! A-Aren’t you...!”

The Rat King wanted to ask how Su Zimo's Essence Spirit could roam when he was a low-level fiend demon.

However, his mind was in a mess at the moment and he could not speak coherently.

"Don't be nervous,"

Su Zimo walked over and patted the Rat King on the shoulder with a gentle smile. "I don't have any ill intentions inviting you here. The conflict that happened in Howling Moon Mountain earlier on was not your fault either,"

"Furthermore, it was all thanks to your map that we were able to leave Howling Moon Mountain later on."

The Rat King heaved a long sigh of relief upon hearing that and plopped down onto the ground; unknowingly, he was already drenched in sweat.

There were many things he did not know about this person before him.

However, he knew that this was somebody who placed a clear distinction between gratitude and hatred – that statement already guaranteed that the Rat King's life would not be harmed!

"Brothers, why have you looked for me?"

When the Rat King composed himself a while later, he took the initiative to ask.

Su Zimo said, "I want to find out about some things from you."

Suddenly, the Rat King revealed a cautious expression as his eyes roved around Su Zimo's group. After a lengthy consideration, he said, "Pardon me for being straightforward, brothers, but the reason why I saved you guys earlier on was out of guilt."

"However, if you wish to make use of me to harm Howling Moon Mountain, I cannot agree to it!"

Su Zimo replied indifferently, "Howling Moon Mountain is facing threats from everywhere and is about to fall. There's no need for us to make a move."

"What do you mean by that?"

The Rat King blinked.

"Black Sand Ridge, Cyclone Cave, Ghastly River!"

Slowly, Su Zimo gave the three names.

The three names belonged to the three territories around Howling Moon Mountain!

The Rat King remained silent but his expression shifted slightly.

Su Zimo said, "You are updated with the news and I'm sure you must already know of the motives those three territories have towards Howling Moon Mountain. If they form an alliance, Howling Moon Mountain will cease to exist!"

Su Zimo obtained most of the information eavesdropping earlier on and was able to come to this conclusion with some slight deduction.

The Rat King sighed gently and gave a bitter smile. "Even without an alliance, if one of those territories attacked, Howling Moon Mountain won't be able to withstand it."

"Tell me, what do you know about the three territories?" Su Zimo asked.

The Rat King replied, "Actually, just by looking at the map, you can tell that the three territories are stronger than Howling Moon Mountain."

He was not wrong. On the map, the area occupied by Howling Moon Mountain was the smallest and was in between the three territories.

The Rat King continued, "There are only two mid-level fiend demons in Howling Moon Mountain, the two Territorial Lords. However, from what I know, there are at least five mid-level fiend demons in Cyclone Cave and Black Sand Ridge!"

"Ghastly River is the most mysterious and nobody knows how many mid-level fiend demons there are. However, it is widely acknowledged that they are the strongest!"

"That's because the Territorial Lord of Ghastly River is a wyrm!"

At that point, the Rat King turned towards Su Zimo's group instinctively.

Unlike what he expected, none of them seemed shocked or taken aback.

Su Zimo and the other four were way too calm, as though they had just heard something extremely ordinary.

"Are the five of them having a delayed reaction?"

The Rat King thought to himself and cleared his throat before elaborating with emphasis, "The wyrm is a pure-blooded ferocious beast that carries a remnant bloodline from the Dragon race within its body. Although slim, it has a chance of cultivating into a True Dragon!"

"Oh,"

The group of five replied expressionlessly.

To begin with, Su Zimo was now half a dragon and would naturally not bother about an existence like the wyrm.

Monkey and the others had fought against the Rakshasa race of the Primordial Nine Races. As such, their perspective on things was not something ordinary demon beasts could compare to.

The Rat King widened his eyes and puffed his cheeks, feeling an inexplicable sense of frustration.

Little Fox was the first to react as she clapped her hands and exclaimed, "Wow! A pure-blooded ferocious beast! Amazing!"

"That's way too fake!"

The Rat King's mouth cramped up and he could not help but roll his eyes.

Chapter 817: Greetings

"Actually, when the previous Territorial Lord of Howling Moon Territorial Lord was around, he could suppress Black Sand Ridge, Cyclone Cave and Ghastly River with his strength,"

The Rat King continued, "However, during an expedition outside, he met with a strong foe and was severely injured. His physical body was destroyed and he managed to return with his Essence Spirit, but he did not live for long thereafter,"

"The current Howling Moon Territorial Lord is the remaining bloodline of the previous Territorial Lord."

"Throughout these years, the reason why Howling Moon Mountain was not overtaken was because Black Sand Ridge, Cyclone Cave and Ghastly River were wary of one another and had their own plans respectively."

Su Zimo nodded.

The three territories were also worried that they might lose out if they were embroiled in battle with Howling Moon Mountain; that was why they had not attacked.

However, if they three territories came to a common understanding, Howling Moon Mountain would be on the brink of destruction!

"Brothers, why have you guys returned?"

The Rat King's eyes darted around as he probed.

The spirit tiger raised his chin and declared proudly. "We've naturally returned to take over the place and replace the current territorial lords!"

'Bullsh*t!'

The Rat King pouted his lips slightly and sneered in his mind.

In his opinion, the spirit tiger was definitely spouting nonsense – they must be dreaming if they thought that a few low-level fiend demons could take over an entire territory.

"You don't believe us?"

Monkey walked over and lifted the Rat King up by the shoulders, smirking.

"I-I do!"

The Rat King shuddered and replied hurriedly with a smile.

Monkey smirked even deeper. "Since you do, help us then. We're lacking in manpower and you do seem like someone who knows what's good for you."

The Rat King lamented internally but could only force himself to reply, "Well... I'm indebted to the previous Territorial Lord and the current Territorial Lord is nice to me as well. I..."

Suddenly, a thought crossed the Rat King's mind. "Brothers, you are actually not at fault for everything that happened previously. I can clarify the matter in front of the Territorial Lord."

"Now that you guys are already fiend demons, given your capabilities, there's definitely a chance for you guys to become protectors of Howling Moon Mountain."

"Alright!"

Suddenly, Su Zimo spoke, "We'll trouble you then."

"Ah, alright!"

The Rat King patted himself on the chest and declared loudly, "Don't worry, everyone, I'll try my best to help you guys plead for mercy. Our Territorial Lord is a wise man and will definitely not be calculative over what happened previously."

Su Zimo nodded. "Alright, you can head back."

The Rat King froze slightly.

They were letting him off just like that?

He had not expected everything to proceed so smoothly.

The Rat King froze for a brief moment but snapped out of it swiftly. He said with cupped fists, "Brothers, please wait here for my favorable reply! I'll return as soon as I can!"

He turned and left the cave, vanishing into the darkness before long.

"First, we're letting him off just like that?"

The spirit tiger scratched his head and said in a deep voice, "This rat seems shifty and dishonest. What if he brings a group of people and encircles us instead?"

Su Zimo replied pensively, "Let's see what their decision will be."

...

10 days later.

Within the cave, Su Zimo who was originally in quiet meditation opened his eyes and a divine flash of light flickered briefly.

Before long, monkey, the spirit tiger and monkey stirred awake from their cultivations as well.

"The rat is back?"

Monkey's ears twitched. "He seems to be the only one."

Su Zimo nodded and rose with a look of relief in his eyes.

Although he did not know what the Territorial Lords thought, he knew that the rat did not backstab them at the very least.

Before long, the Rat King burrowed into the cave and rubbed his palms with a huge grin. “Hehe, thankfully, things worked out well. Brothers, follow me to meet the Territorial Lord!”

“Alright,”

Su Zimo agreed to it.

“Amazing!”

The Rat King praised. “Brothers, don’t think too much about it. After all, the position of a protector is dignified and the Territorial Lord wishes to meet you guys in person before he can make the decision.”

“That’s for sure.”

Su Zimo nodded.

Thereafter, Su Zimo’s group of five left the cave with the Rat King and headed to the center of Howling Moon Mountain.

With the lead of the Rat King, their journey was mostly without obstacles despite some slight dangers. Before long, they arrived at a cave in the center of Howling Moon Mountain.

The spirit tiger and Little Fox were extremely curious and looked all around them the entire journey.

Su Zimo’s expression was calm.

His Essence Spirit roamed to this place 10 days ago so everything was not new to him.

“Brothers, follow me,”

The Rat King led the way into the cave and Su Zimo’s group of five followed close behind to enter.

The moment they entered the cave, their vision lit up.

The cave abode was extremely spacious and gigantic pearls the size of fists were adorned on the walls on all four corners. They shone brightly and looked majestic.

“Pfft!”

The spirit tiger’s eyes lit up and he wished that he could take off all the Night Luminance Beads and keep them for himself.

“Insolent!”

Suddenly, a voice hollered.

Everyone turned towards the voice. Not far away at the front, a black-faced burly man sat in a crude position in the manner. He was expressionless as he gazed at them.

Su Zimo had seen this person before and naturally knew that this was Howling Moon Mountain’s Territorial Lord, Black Wolf.

A lady with a white shawl sat at the bottom left of Black Wolf quietly without raising her head at all. This was Howling Moon Territorial Lord’s Deputy Territorial Lord, Chan Ruyi!

However, neither of them were the ones that hollered earlier on.

A muscular man stood behind Black Wolf.

His eyes resembled bronze bells and he was burly and muscular at more than ten feet tall. Bronze-colored muscles that resembled rocks bulged up one after another on his exposed arms!

The burly man shouted again with a rumbling aura, “Why aren’t you guys heading over to greet the two Territorial Lords?!”

The Rat King said softly in a flustered manner, “That’s the leader of Howling Moon Mountain’s protectors, Bronze Bull and he’s the strongest in combat. Brothers, it’s best not to offend him!”

Monkey had a proud expression and pouted his lips.

Su Zimo’s group of five did not move.

“Hmm?”

Bronze Bull’s gaze froze up and he was angered. Right as he was about to flare up, Black Wolf that sat at the front waved it off.

Bronze Bull panted heavily and endured it for the time being. However, he glared at Su Zimo’s group of five with an unfriendly expression.

The moment Su Zimo’s group of five entered the cave abode, Black Wolf had been sizing them up with a frightening gaze.

He was a mid-level fiend demon and a Territorial Lord – the aura and might of his presence was so powerful that ordinary demon beasts wouldn’t be able to withstand it.

Most of them would kneel on the ground and take the initiative to greet him.

However, he could not see any bit of fear from the faces of the five people before him.

Even though they were up against two Territorial Lords.

Even though they were facing two mid-level fiend demons!

It was especially the case for the scarlet-haired man leading them. This man had a composed expression and calm gaze without any bit of uneasiness and even dared to meet Black Wolf’s gaze!

“Interesting.”

Black Wolf laughed internally.

Even Chan Ruyi raised her head and took a special glance at Su Zimo.

“You dare to come knocking on my doors even after killing two of my protectors? Aren’t you afraid I’ll kill all of you?” A moment later, Black Wolf spoke slowly with a bright gaze. Instantly, the atmosphere turned murderous.

Before Su Zimo could react, the Rat King was the first to be startled and said hurriedly, “Territorial Lord, d-didn’t we agree earlier to let bygones be bygones? Y-You...”

Black Wolf had a cold gaze and said coolly, "I'm reneging on my words. You have an issue with that?"

The Rat King was speechless and sweat rolled down his forehead profusely.

Chapter 818: What Rights Do You Have?!

Instantly, the tension in the cave abode became repressive!

A murderous aura spread.

Bronze Bull twisted his neck and smirked sinisterly at Su Zimo's group; a single order from Black Wolf was all he needed to lunge forward!

Chan Ruyi did not raise her head and said nothing the entire time.

However, unknowingly, two curved sabers as thin as cicada wings had appeared in her hands. They were almost transparent and exuded a frosty aura!

Black Wolf was silent and glared at Su Zimo fixedly.

To his surprise, even after he revealed his clear killing intent, this man was still expressionless the entire time.

His eyes resembled a deep ocean that was totally unmoved!

"Aren't you afraid?"

Black Wolf raised his brow.

Su Zimo merely smiled nonchalantly. "If you wished to kill us, why would you need to lure us here?"

"Alright!"

Suddenly, the killing intent on Black Wolf's face dissipated and he nodded with a faint smile. "Everything aside, the fact that you dare to come to my cave abode, that boldness alone triumphs every other protector of Howling Moon Mountain."

The Rat King was stunned.

Bronze Bull was equally stumped.

Su Zimo was the only one with a calm expression, as though he had expected this.

"I heard about everything that happened previously. Although my fiend demons were in the wrong previously, you still killed many demons and two protectors under my lead,"

Black Wolf said with a deep voice, "You can be a protector of Howling Moon Mountain, but bear in mind that you carry a sin so you will have to give your best in the future!"

"That's for sure!"

Before Su Zimo could reply, the Rat King chimed in with a wide beam.

"Territorial Lord, isn't this a little too hasty?"

Bronze Bull was indignant and glanced askance at Su Zimo's group as he could not help but say, "This man has clearly just broken through and looks so young, how experienced can he be? The status of a protector is extraordinary. No matter what, you've got to test out his skills first!"

"Shall I play with you?"

The moment there was the possibility of a fight, monkey's eyes lit with a scarlet glint as he hopped out right away.

He had only fought the fiend demons of Black Sand Ridge ever since he became a fiend demon. Unsatisfied, there was naturally no way he would let this rare opportunity slip.

"Just a wild monkey like you?"

Bronze Bull laughed wildly. "All of you can come at me together!"

Suddenly, Su Zimo spoke, "Actually, I'm not here to become a protector."

"Huh?"

Black Wolf raised his brow slightly and asked, "What do you want to be?"

Su Zimo's gaze shone brightly as he said in a slow manner, "What I want to be is... Howling Moon Mountain's Territorial Lord!"

The moment he said that, the cave abode went completely silent.

The Rat King's eyes widened with a stricken expression.

'Goodness, has he gone mad?'

'A low-level fiend demon actually wants to challenge a Territorial Lord?'

'It's over, it's over! I'm going to die because of you!'

Chan Ruyi raised her head and looked at Su Zimo seriously for the first time, as though she wanted to see through him.

Black Wolf narrowed his eyes and they shone violently. Although he remained motionless, a dangerous aura exuded from him that was way more frightening than the one earlier on!

This time round, his killing intent was truly triggered!

"Brazen!"

Bronze Bull's eyes widened as he leaped and charged towards Su Zimo with a holler, "How dare you act like a punk before me? Die!"

Su Zimo was motionless against the incoming Bronze Bull.

A shadow darted out from beside him – monkey had already leaped forward.

He raised his fist and his flesh expanded. As though it formed a gigantic seal in midair, he punched towards Bronze Bull's fist violently!

Boom!

There was a deafening sound.

Bronze Bull gave a deep grunt and was actually sent flying.

Monkey staggered a few steps back and shrugged his arm as he reared his head in laughter. "What a great feeling! Once more!"

The Rat King's eyes widened and he nearly bit his tongue.

Bronze Bull was the leader of Howling Moon Mountain's protectors and had the greatest strength – no fiend demon could match him head-on.

To think that this monkey that had just cultivated to a fiend demon was able to take Bronze Bull head-on without being disadvantaged!

Furthermore, the Rat King knew monkey was not the strongest in combat within the group – it was the scarlet-haired man!

"Could that man really be able to..."

A thought crossed the Rat King's mind that startled him.

Immediately after, he denied it himself and lamented internally, 'Impossible! Absolutely impossible! No matter how strong he is in combat, there's no way he can threaten the Territorial Lord!'

Black Wolf did not move and merely watched Su Zimo.

In reality, his spirit consciousness was already spread and was surveying the activity in the radius of five kilometers.

In his opinion, it was impossible for the five low-level fiend demons before him to attempt to overthrow his position as a Territorial Lord – it was a complete joke!

However, there was nothing unusual in the vicinity.

There wasn't even any slight activity!

With a darkened face, Black Wolf asked deeply, "Speak, who sent you!"

In his opinion, Su Zimo's composure was definitely because he had backing that most likely came from Black Sand Ridge, Cyclone Cave or Ghastly River!

"Black Wolf, you're thinking too much,"

Su Zimo smiled with a deep gaze and said idly, as though he had read Black Wolf's thoughts, "I'm not from Black Sand Ridge, Cyclone Cave or even Ghastly River. It's just the five of us brothers here."

Black Wolf grinned as well, revealing a row of sharp, pearly-white fangs. "Interesting. The five of you think that you're enough to overthrow me?"

Su Zimo replied, "Actually, there's no need for you to be hostile towards me."

“Hahahaha!”

As though he had heard the greatest joke in the world, Black Wolf released a thunderous laugh. “You came knocking at my door to provoke me and yet you expect me not to be hostile?!”

Su Zimo nodded and said matter-of-factly, “That’s because, I’m saving and helping you at the same time by becoming the Territorial Lord of Howling Moon Mountain.”

“What do you mean?” Black Wolf retracted his smile and asked expressionlessly.

“Black Sand Ridge, Cyclone Cave and Ghastly River has coveted Howling Moon Mountain for a long time. If they form an alliance, Howling Moon Mountain will be destroyed instantly!”

Su Zimo said indifferently, “From what I know, Cyclone Cave has been itching to make a move. A few days ago, they even sent a few fiend demons to spy but two of them were killed by you.”

“Hmm?”

Black Wolf’s expression changed and his eyes flashed with a hint of disbelief.

Most of the fiend demons of Howling Moon Mountain knew about the matter involving Black Sand Ridge, Cyclone Cave and Ghastly River. However, he and Chan Ruyi were the only ones who knew about what happened that night – how did this man find out?

Instinctively, Black Wolf turned to Chan Ruyi.

In fact, faint suspicions towards Chan Ruyi even surfaced.

Chan Ruyi had a clear gaze and looked back at Black Wolf without avoiding before shaking her head.

Instantly, the doubts in Black Wolf’s heart vanished.

After a moment of silence, he said, “The three territories are forming an alliance to overthrow me and you’re the same. What’s the difference between you guys? Saving me? Helping me? What a joke!”

“Of course it will be different,”

Su Zimo said, “First, I won’t take your life if I become the Territorial Lord of Howling Moon Mountain. Second, Howling Moon Mountain will survive!”

Black Wolf remained silent.

Those two points were indeed important.

He had a deep grudge with the three territories and he would definitely die if they were to form an alliance. Howling Moon Mountain would cease to exist as well, split up by the three territories.

“As for how I’m going to save and help you, that’s even easier to explain,”

Su Zimo smiled. “I’ll become the Territorial Lord of Howling Moon Mountain and will naturally take over the matter of defending against the three territories. All you have to do is assist me.”

“Alright, everything is clear. Right now, there’s only a single question left,”

Slowly, Black Wolf rose with a torrential ferocity as he glared at Su Zimo and sneered, “What rights do you have?!”

Chapter 819: One Versus Two

Boom!

Victory was already decided on the other side of the battlefield accompanied by a loud boom!

Although Bronze Bull had reverted to his true form, monkey pinned him fiercely into the ground by grabbing his horns, creating a huge pit.

Bronze Bull’s face was filled with blood and was smashed into a complete mess, almost fainting.

Monkey had a frightening bloodline and his combat strength was only inferior to Su Zimo and Night Spirit within the seven sworn siblings.

In his berserk state, monkey was even able to take on the Rakshasa race!

He had only just cultivated his Essence Spirit and was at early-stage Nascent Soul realm.

Although Bronze Bull was a late-stage Nascent Soul, a major cultivation realm above monkey, he was not a match for the latter and was defeated in less than a dozen breaths!

Monkey did not kill Bronze Bull and leaped back the moment he secured victory.

Bronze Bull struggled to stand up with a twisted expression as he panted. Demonic qi surged around him and he growled deeply; he was almost out of his mind and wanted to charge forward once more.

“Back down!”

Black Wolf’s voice sounded with a cold authority, “Aren’t you done with making a fool of yourself?!”

Bronze Bull shuddered as though he had just been drenched with a bucket of ice water. Gradually, he sobered up and backed off to the side despite his indignance.

Black Wolf’s gaze was fixed on Su Zimo the entire time as he said slowly with a cold expression.

“Tell me, what rights do you have? The five of you alone aren’t qualified to take on my position!”

“We’re enough,” Su Zimo smiled.

The moment he said that, Su Zimo’s figure flashed and he struck the Territorial Lord of Howling Moon Mountain all of a sudden!

Moreover, he took on two people with his attack and engulfed Black Wolf and Chan Ruyi within!

“Such guts!”

Black Wolf was enraged and felt his vision blur the moment he said those two words. A torrential might gushed towards him in a deafening manner!

The pressure was suffocating!

Although he was a mid-level fiend demon, the envelopment of the power felt slightly unbearable still!

It was too fast!

The two of them were not too far apart to begin with and Su Zimo had already closed in instantly.

In fact, Black Wolf thought that he was hallucinating; he seemed to have heard the sound of tsunamis that shook his mind!

What's this demonic art? It's making me hallucinate!

He turned his gaze and saw Su Zimo circled by blood qi with rumbling demonic qi. However, there were no traces of Dharmic power.

Wait, it's not a hallucination!

The sound of tsunami is real!

In a flash, Black Wolf sobered up and thought of a possibility as he exclaimed, "Tsunami blood!"

Although demons placed emphasis on the cultivation and quality of one's bloodline, only few of them could cultivate to the realm of tsunami blood.

Black Wolf did not have time to take out any weapons and could only prop up his arms in defense.

Bang!

Su Zimo's fist struck the intersection where Black Wolf's arms crossed and the dull sound of defeat echoed.

"Ugh!"

Black Wolf grunted and staggered in retreat – his arms hand gone completely numb!

However, Su Zimo did not retreat at all and even had strength remaining to fight Chan Ruyi!

Black Wolf was shocked!

He was a mid-level fiend demon and a Territorial Lord, a full major cultivation realm higher than this person before him. He had many years more to temper his body using Dharmic powers as well.

Even so, his bloodline and physique could not defend against the charge of this person!

What a terrifying burst power!

On the other side, Chan Ruyi burst in retreat.

Thankfully, she had already withdrawn her Dharmic weapons before this and wielded them in her hands.

Su Zimo charged over and Chan Ruyi's eyes squinted slightly. With a tremble, her curved sabers cut an arc through the air, creating two cold beams that slit towards Su Zimo's wrist instantly.

The speed of the two slashes was extremely fast. Coupled with Su Zimo's overwhelming aura and force, Chan Ruyi believed that even a mid-level fiend demon won't be able to dodge!

'This is for the best. I'll sever one of your wrists to teach you a lesson!'

That was what Chan Ruyi thought.

Unexpectedly, Su Zimo did not dodge at all!

He flicked his finger gently against the two incoming cold beams.

A few fingernails flicked out with a chilling aura and struck the two cold beams precisely like sharp blades!

Clang! Clang!

Sparks flew along with two crisp sounds!

Chan Ruyi whined and her curved sabers were repelled from her hands – her palms had split open!

The Rat King stood at the side and his beady eyes widened in disbelief.

He had considered the possibility that Su Zimo's combat strength would be extraordinary.

However, he had not expected Su Zimo to gain the upper hand even in a one versus two situation!

Black Wolf and Chan Ruyi were mid-level fiend demons after all and regained their composure swiftly, merely flustered for a split second.

Both of their figures retreated at almost the same time!

"Lad, you are strong in melee combat. However, it's not enough if you intend to merely rely on that to overthrow my position as a Territorial Lord!"

Black Wolf's glabella shone and he hollered deeply, "Watch out!"

No matter what, Su Zimo was formidable in melee combat. Because of that, Black Wolf regarded him as a talent and gave a warning out of goodwill, not wanting to kill Su Zimo.

Swoosh!

Two powerful spirit consciousnesses engulfed the entire place with a boundless might!

Only Void Reversions and mid-level fiend demons could release spirit consciousness attacks!

If it was any other low-level fiend demon, their Essence Spirit would have been repressed completely in fright against the pressure of the spirit consciousness such that they would not even be able to release their Dharmic powers.

However, scarlet scales appeared one after another on the body of the scarlet-haired Yin Spirit within Su Zimo's spirit consciousness – he was able to deflect the incoming spirit consciousness!

He was completely unaffected even against the envelopment of the spirit consciousnesses of two Territorial Lords!

"Fufu, there's no need for both of you to show mercy. I won't be taken down by a mere spirit consciousness attack,"

Su Zimo chuckled and dashed towards Black Wolf and Chan Ruyi in huge strides.

Both Black Wolf and Chan Ruyi frowned.

Neither of them wanted to kill Su Zimo; that was why they did not release their Essence Spirit secret skills.

The killing power of Essence Spirit secret skills was extremely terrifying and was something that the Essence Spirit of low-level fiend demons could not defend against!

If they could not defend against it, their Essence Spirits would be destroyed and they would die on the spot!

However, both of them had no other choice!

“Roar!”

In midair, a terrifying spirit consciousness fluctuation burst forward. The tremendous spirit consciousness materialized into a pitch-black murderous wolf that lunged in Su Zimo’s direction with an open mouth!

“Om!”

On the other side, Chan Ruyi’s spirit consciousness split into two in midair and turned into two cold beams that arrived instantly!

The attacks of both Essence Spirits had descended!

Su Zimo slowed down as well with a grim expression.

Those were Essence Spirit secret skills and could not be compared with spirit consciousness attacks. If he handled them the wrong way and his Essence Spirit was damaged, it might leave an injury that could not be healed!

He was a low-level fiend demon at Nascent Soul realm after all – he did not dare to be careless against an attack of this level!

Prior to this, he had only experienced the might of the two Essence Spirit secret skills once from a distance.

However, that experience could not be compared to the current situation where he was directly involved!

Instantly, a thought crossed Su Zimo’s mind. Even if his Essence Spirits were to fuse and release a spirit consciousness attack, it would be difficult for him to defend against these two Essence Spirit secret skills!

Chapter 820: Subdued

If Su Zimo did not understand Black Wolf and Chan Ruyi’s capabilities and received Essence Spirit secret skills from them all of a sudden, he would have been flustered.

However, prior to this, he roamed with his Essence Spirit and witnessed the might of their Essence Spirit secret skills. As such, he had already thought of a way to deal with them.

With a single thought from Su Zimo, rays of golden light extended from his left wrist in a saintly and flawless manner, creating an indestructible barrier around him!

Boom!

Clang! Clang!

In midair, when the black wolf materialized from spirit consciousness and the two curved sabers that were as thin as cicada wings slashed the barrier, a deafening boom echoed!

The golden barrier trembled and a series of ripples appeared.

It managed to defend against the two Essence Spirit secret skills completely!

“This...”

Black Wolf and Chan Ruyi were shocked.

Ordinary Dharmic weapons could defend against Dharmic arts, normal weapons and the burst of various different powers. However, they could not defend against the power of an Essence Spirit.

If one wanted to defend against an Essence Spirit secret skill, they would have to either go head-on with the power of their own Essence Spirit or utilize special Essence Spirit Dharmic weapons.

However, Essence Spirit Dharmic weapons were way too rare and difficult to refine.

Even among the cultivation world, there were few of them and they were even rarer than connate Dharmic weapons, let alone in the world of demons.

Right now, the golden barrier managed to block both Essence Spirit secret skills completely – this meant that their enemy was in possession of an Essence Spirit Dharmic weapon!

Furthermore, the Essence Spirit Dharmic weapon was extremely powerful.

Although he was only at Nascent Soul realm, he was able to use that Essence Spirit Dharmic weapon to defend against their combined attacks!

Both Black Wolf and Chan Ruyi were at a loss.

Indeed, Su Zimo was in possession of an Essence Spirit Dharmic weapon.

This Dharmic weapon was given to him by the old monk at the bottom of the Dragon Burial Valley.

It was one of the treasures that held up the Daming Monastery in the past... the Mingwang Prayer Beads!

Initially, there were six beads for the Mingwang Prayer Beads and they were carried around by the titular disciple of Daming Monastery at the time, Monk Daming.

However, as the sands of time passed, Monk Daming’s demise resulted in the scattering of the Mingwang Prayer Beads. Right now, it was incomplete with only four prayer beads.

Even so, the four Mingwang Prayer Beads were not to be underestimated!

At the Golden Core realm, it was difficult for Su Zimo to control the Mingwang Prayer Beads. He could only wear it on his wrist and use it to block the detection of spirit consciousnesses.

It was only after he cultivated his Essence Spirit that he was able to make use of some of the Mingwang Prayer Beads' power.

Of course, the true power of the Mingwang Prayer Beads would only be unleashed after he advanced to the Void Reversion realm and achieved higher attainments in his cultivation!

Right now, the Mingwang Prayer Beads could only be used by him to defend against Essence Spirits.

However, that was more than enough!

It was sufficient to defend against the Essence Spirit secret skills of the two Territorial Lords!

Instantly, things changed on the battlefield.

The fact that Black Wolf and Chan Ruyi's Essence Spirit secret skills were rendered useless meant that they would have to endure Su Zimo's torrential and suffocating melee combat attacks!

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

There was a series of deafening sounds.

Shadows fluttered in a dizzying manner.

In less than ten breaths, Black Wolf and Chan Ruyi were sent flying as they smashed onto the stone walls behind them heavily, sliding down in a slow manner!

Su Zimo stood opposite them not far away quietly with a clear gaze. His attire was tidy and prim, as though he had not moved at all.

It was a complete defeat!

Black Wolf and Chan Ruyi had pale expressions and felt like their bones were about to split. However, they grit their teeth and did not make any sound!

Both of them looked at Su Zimo with conflicted expressions.

They were both smart and could clearly sense that this man had shown mercy earlier on.

Otherwise, given his capabilities, it would have been extremely to him to kill them off once he had the advantage earlier on!

Suddenly, Black Wolf thought of something that sent his heart racing.

If he had truly reneged on his words earlier and ordered for this man to be killed, he would have been a corpse lying on the ground at this moment!

His mercy towards Su Zimo was in fact mercy for himself!

In truth, Black Wolf was not far off the mark.

Indeed, those were Su Zimo's intentions when he headed here.

They wanted to take over as kings but they did not have much helpers under their liege.

It would naturally be for the best if they could recruit Black Wolf and Chan Ruyi without bloodshed.

Bronze Bull's eyes widened and his jaws nearly fell onto the ground.

He had truly not expected this outcome for the battle!

Two Territorial Lords had actually lost to a low-level fiend demon that had just broken through!

He would not have believed this if he had not seen it personally.

"T-Territorial Lords, are you guys fine?"

Bronze Bull asked warily.

Black Wolf waved it off and stood up. He glared at Su Zimo and said slowly, "I've lost. Indeed, you are qualified to be the Territorial Lord of Howling Moon Mountain,"

"However, I'm only acknowledging your potential!"

Black Wolf emphasized as he continued, "Given your potential, nobody around here should be able to threaten you if you continue cultivating and advance to become a mid-level fiend demon. But the you right now..."

He did not continue.

Chan Ruyi said as well, "It's not enough if you think that you can resolve the crisis of Howling Moon Mountain using the capabilities and Essence Spirit Dharmic weapon you revealed earlier."

"I've got my own plans on how to resolve the crisis of Howling Moon Mountain,"

Su Zimo replied nonchalantly, "All you need to tell me is whether you will submit to me,"

The cave abode went silent.

Black Wolf was undecided and had a hesitant expression.

Anybody that could become Territorial Lords were capable characters. Now that he was suddenly asked to relinquish his position as a Territorial Lord and submit to others, it was definitely a truth he was struggling to accept.

However, Black Wolf knew that he would be in an even worse state if the three territories were to come for them.

Not only would he die, Howling Moon Mountain would cease to exist as well!

That was something he could not accept at all.

At that thought, Black Wolf gripped his fists gently and said in a deep voice, "Since I've lost, I've got no objections. I'm willing to relinquish my position as a Territorial Lord. However, I hope that you will be able to protect Howling Moon Mountain and treat every single demon here well!"

"Territorial Lord!"

Bronze Bull yelled.

Black Wolf waved it off. "I've already decided, there's no need to say more."

"Alright!"

Su Zimo nodded and declared, "From this day forth, there will be another Deputy Territorial Lord in Howling Moon Mountain, Black Wolf! Chan Ruyi will still be the Deputy Territorial Lord and maintain her original status!"

Monkey and the others were excited.

This meant that from this moment forth, the five of them sworn siblings had a territory of their own!

Black Wolf pondered for a moment and asked with cupped fists, "I've yet to know your name, Territorial Lord. Also, what is your true form?"

To be fair, although he had already relinquished his position as a Territorial Lord, Black Wolf still had a tinge of indignance in his heart towards this young man.

However, he felt that he could not read this person either!

Even after their fight, he could not figure out what the true form of this person was!

It was the same for Chan Ruyi!

Su Zimo thought for a moment and said, "You guys can call me Mo from this day forth!"

"Mo?"

Black Wolf and Chan Ruyi murmured softly.

Compared to human cultivators, demons were much more easygoing with their names.

It was extremely common for single character names as well.

There were even many demon beasts such as monkey who could not even be bothered to give themselves a name.

Both of them exchanged glances and could see the confusion in the others' eyes.

Although Su Zimo only replied to one of the questions, Black Wolf and Chan Ruyi were tactful and did not push further.