

God Emperor 201

Chapter 201: One Hundred Qi-Directing Swords

The broadsword techniques in the Superior Class of the Spiritual Stage, even just a single move, should not be underestimated.

“The Sacred Sword Skill” was a sword technique that was only in the low-class of the Spiritual, and was far inferior to the Suiyue broadsword technique used by Iron Hunchback both in power and variety.

Zhang Ruochen had just practiced the “Sacred Sword Skill”. At this moment, he certainly could not block Iron Hunchback’s attack by using it.

When Iron Hunchback chopped his knife downward, suddenly, in the 300 meters around Zhang Ruochen, all the swords were affected by an invisible Sword Comprehension and were continuously shaking.

“What’s going on?” Everyone was shocked.

The evil warriors held their swords with both hands, but their swords still flew toward Zhang Ruochen and then revolved around him.

“Swish!”

Almost 100 swords flew above Zhang Ruochen’s head and whirled around like they were serving their master.

Even Lin Ningshan’s sword was out of her control and it flew out as well.

“This is... the Flying Sword... Only the legendary Heart Integrated into Sword can do that.” Lin Ningshan stared incredibly at the mysterious teenager as if she was looking at a monster.

Had he reached the Heart Integrated into Sword Realm?

Once you reached that level, you could obtain the “Heart of the Sword”. By using it, you could move 100, or 1,000, even 10,000 swords.

Even in the Heaven Realm, no one could obtain the “Heart of the Sword” and reach the Heart Integrated into Sword Realm.

Only Half-Saints could reach that Realm.

A teenager did it. How surprising was that?

If Lin Ningshan did not see it with her own eyes, she would have never believed it.

“The talented Seventh Prince has just reached the Peak of the Sword Following the Mind. But he has achieved the Heart Integrated into Sword Realm. If this gets out, I’m afraid the throne of the top genius in the 36 commanderies of Omen Ridge must be someone else’s.”

Lin Ningshan knew clearly that, even if she exposed this, no one would believe her.

Iron Hunchback saw the swords flying all over the sky and he was also shocked. Involuntarily, his knife slowly moved a little.

At that very moment, Zhang Ruochen spat a word out from his mouth: “Wham!”

He pointed his fingers forward. 102 swords moved as if they were being guided, merged to form a sword river, and quickly rushed toward Iron Hunchback.

The knife and swords clashed together, making a “Ping!” sound.

Ultimately, the broadsword technique in the Superior Class of the Spiritual Stage that Iron Hunchback unleashed was utterly defeated by those swords. Three of the swords penetrated into Iron Hunchback’s body. He flew backward and was badly injured.

How could a broadsword technique in the Superior Class of the Spiritual Stage compete with a Heart Integrated into Sword warrior?

“He hasn’t died!” Zhang Ruochen was surprised, and could not help but admire Iron Hunchback’s martial cultivation.

If it was another warrior in the Final State of the Earth Realm that had been attacked by Zhang Ruochen, he would have been repeatedly stabbed with dozens of bleeding holes in his body and died in a pool of blood.

Although Iron Hunchback was stabbed by three swords, they avoided the vital organs, so it was not fatal.

“How old is he? How has he reached the Heart Integrated into Sword Realm?”

Iron Hunchback looked at Zhang Ruochen again, like he was seeing a ghost. He roared desperately, “Prepare for battle!”

Almost all of the Black Tiger Hall masters in Earth Blaze City came to Lingyue Town. Although Zhang Ruochen had killed a group of them, there were still a lot of evil warriors who had not yet come to fight.

Iron Hunchback issued the command and 108 men soon rushed out and set up the Combined Attack again.

“Swish!”

Strands of the Inscription of Array were shot into the sky and formed a giant glowing ball with a diameter of 100 meters that trapped Zhang Ruochen and Iron Hunchback inside the array.

All of those Inscriptions of Array converged at Iron Hunchback.

Iron Hunchback’s strength was getting more powerful, and the Golden Knife in his hand was getting brighter. His clothes totally bulged as if they were full of wind.

With the help of the Combined Attack, Iron Hunchback was, at the moment, not like a warrior who was in the Final State of the Earth Realm. It was like he had reached the Completion of the Earth Realm.

“The complete Combined Attack set plus a master in the Earth Realm—the power together is totally different.” Zhang Ruochen frowned and finally felt the pressure.

After all, there was a big disparity between Zhang Ruochen’s and Iron Hunchback’s Martial Arts Realms. Even if it was only a one-on-one fight, it was not easy. So, Zhang Ruochen did not have to expose the Sword Comprehension power of the Heart Integrated into Sword to defeat Iron Hunchback.

Iron Hunchback now obtained the power of the array, so he became stronger and his power increased to a new height.

“Bam!”

Iron Hunchback chopped with his knife, left a giant knife shadow more than 10 meters long, and was going to hit Zhang Ruochen’s head.

Zhang Ruochen pinched his forefinger and middle finger together, transferred the Heart of the Sword in the Qi sea, and controlled those 100 swords again.

He pointed his finger at Iron Hunchback and all of the swords rushed out at the same time.

“Boom!”

The giant knife shadow was shattered by the 100 swords and turned into Genuine Qi.

Zhang Ruochen also suffered. He felt like there was a blow on his chest from a hammer, and his internal organs shook violently. He backed off three steps and discharged that power.

That was the last time that Zhang Ruochen retreated.

“The array must be broken first, then Iron Hunchback can be defeated.”

Zhang Ruochen took a sweeping look and saw a weak part of the array.

He waved his arms and the 100 swords attacked that weak part at the same time.

“Hah! You think you can break it like that?”

Iron Hunchback took some effort to have the upper hand as he certainly did not want Zhang Ruochen to break the array. He flew out immediately and went to chop down the 100 swords with his knife.

Iron Hunchback’s broadsword technique was indeed incredible. With only one move, he smashed all 100 swords.

“Breaking your Combined Attack is as easy as pie!” Zhang Ruochen said.

Iron Hunchback smiled coldly. “I control the Combined Attack and its power has been greatly increased. Do you still want to break it? Do you believe that I can kill you in the array within 10 movements?”

“I don’t!”

Zhang Ruochen had three ways to break the array.

The easiest way was to utilize the fast speed of the Shadow of the Royal Wind Dragon and avoid the attack from Iron Hunchback. In other words, to delay.

A long time ago, those evil warriors who fortified the array could not hold it, and the array was broken. However, Zhang Ruochen did not want to use that method. He wanted to end it quickly.

“A Hundred to Fire.”

Zhang Ruochen’s Genuine Qi dashed out and turned into Spiritual Fire, covering the surrounding space like a sea of fire.

The temperature in the air was rising higher and higher.

With his cultivation, Iron Hunchback certainly was not afraid of the Spiritual Fire.

The evil warriors in the Yellow Realm and the Black Realm could not stand the Spiritual Fire at all.

“Who the hell is this guy? At first, he makes 30 Meters of Flying Snow and causes the freezing cold. Now he brings the Boundless Flame. He wants to burn us to death here, doesn’t he?”

“My clothes are on fire... Ahh...”

“My face... Hall Owner, help!”

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Although the warriors in the Yellow Realm had Genuine Qi to protect them, it was very weak. They could not stand the Spiritual Fire. Soon, their clothes were on fire, and their hair and skin were lit by the Spiritual Fire as well.

A moment later, 100 warriors in the Yellow Realm escaped in all directions and tried a variety of ways to put out the Spiritual Fire.

The Combined Attack was broken instantly.

“Damn it!”

Iron Hunchback saw that nothing much could be done about it now. He immediately flew onto the back of the Scud Tiger and wanted to escape.

The Scud Tiger opened his arms and flew into the air.

Iron Hunchback was relieved a little as he had finally escaped. He thought, “That internal student from the School of the Martial Market is indeed incredible. I wonder where he comes from. I have to go back to Earth Blaze City. Only masters from different forces can defeat him.”

Suddenly, there was a voice behind Iron Hunchback.

“Iron Hunchback, you still want to run away?”

When did that young man wearing the metal mask stand behind Iron Hunchback on the back of the Scud Tiger?

“Pfff!”

Iron Hunchback was about to stand up. Suddenly, his neck hurt and his head flew, and he saw his own headless body.

“That is... my body...” That was the last thought that emerged in Iron Hunchback’s head.

The owner of Black Tiger Hall was famous for his violence, and was just killed by Zhang Ruochen.

Zhang Ruochen caught Iron Hunchback’s head and put it away. “The Black Tiger Hall owner’s head is worth at least 1,000 merits.”

Wiping out a branch of the black market was worth 1,000 merits.

Killing the owner of Black Tiger Hall was much more significant than wiping out a branch of the black market.

Certainly, exterminating a big branch like Earth Blaze City was different. 10 black market branches combined were equivalent to one Earth Blaze City.

Earth Blaze City was the largest black market in the southeast Yunwu Commandery. If it was exterminated, it would definitely be a heavy loss to the black market.

Of course, if Zhang Ruochen wanted to wipe out Earth Blaze City by himself, that would be quite difficult.

“Since Iron Hunchback has died, you are free. You can go anywhere you want!”

Zhang Ruochen patted the Scud Tiger’s head lightly and applied the Shadow of the Royal Wind Dragon. He flew down from the Scud Tiger’s back, stopped in the air nine times, and dropped to the ground safe and sound.

“Awoo!”

The Scud Tiger roared in the clouds, like it was thankful that Zhang Ruochen had spared its life.

Then it flapped its wings, flew away, and vanished at the other end of the sky.

Although Zhang Ruochen had let the Scud Tiger go, that did not mean that he would do the same with the evil warriors of Black Tiger Hall.

He should kill those that deserved to die.

Seeing that Zhang Ruochen had killed Iron Hunchback, the heretics of Black Tiger Hall were very scared. No one dared to be Zhang Ruochen’s enemy.

“Your Excellency, spare us! From today on, we will never do anything for the black market!”

“As long as you spare us, we’ll do anything you want us to do.”

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They all knelt on the ground, continuously kowtowing and begging for mercy in a flood of tears.

The number of people that Zhang Ruochen had killed today was much larger than all the combined people that he had killed before. He did not want to kill anymore. However, if he let them go, that also seemed to be a disaster.

With a few exceptions, almost all of the warriors in the black market were the most evil ones. Zhang Ruochen could not believe that they would turn over a new leaf.

So how should he deal with them?

Lin Ningshan came forward and said with cruelty in her eyes, "You can't spare them. If you do, lots of common people in the Yunwu Commandery will be killed by them. Kill them! Kill them all!"

Zhang Ruochen looked at Lin Ningshan and said with bright eyes, "Then, they are at your disposal."

After that, he added, "You can also bring their heads back to Yuntai Suzerain."

Zhang Ruochen did not intentionally give those evil warriors' heads to Lin Ningshan. It was indeed because he really did not want to kill anymore.

Killing was not a good thing to be happy about.

Since Lin Ningshan liked to kill, he would leave it to her.

Zhang Ruochen went far away toward Earth Blaze City.

"If you must kill someone, you should kill the truly evil powerhouses."

If he could wipe out Earth Blaze City, he should be able to get a lot of practice resources and a large amount of merit.

Chapter 202: Sheep to the Slaughter

Screams rose one after another behind Zhang Ruochen. He looked back at Lin Ningshan, who showed no mercy as expected. She killed almost all the warriors of the Black Tiger Hall.

She didn't have a killer instinct, but she could exchange an evil warrior's head for practice resources in Yuntai Suzerain. Practice resources were definitely something she needed.

Zhang Ruochen shook his head slightly while mounting the back of the Snowflake Eagle. He rode it and flew into the sky.

Lin Ningshan lifted her head and watched the mysterious teenager standing on the back of the Snowflake Eagle. Her gaze held both adoration and admiration.

Compared to the Seventh Prince, she thought that this teenager wearing metal moved her more. He was full of mystery, elegance, power, and surprise. She could find no flaws in him.

"Ningshan, who is that man?" Lin Chenyu hurried over. He had lost an arm, but the broken Meridians around his arm had been sealed, and it was no longer bleeding.

Lin Ningshan shook her head. She said, "I don't know who he is. I only know that he is an Internal student at the School of the Martial Market."

Lin Chenyu was shocked at the mangled corpses everywhere. "Did he kill all those evil warriors of the Black Tiger Hall?" he asked.

Lin Ningshan nodded his head. He said, "He didn't take the heads of warriors who were at lower realms. He left them to me."

Lin Chenyu said, "He isn't the type to be satisfied with the evil warriors at lower realms. There is a message from the owner of the Yuntai Suzerain that he has finished his self-refining. He will be back at Yunwu District soon."

"The Seventh Prince has finished his self-refining?" Lin Ningshan was a bit shocked.

Lin Chenyu nodded and said, "In three days, Master will be here in the Earth Blaze City. With his skill, he will definitely be able to wipe out the Earth Blaze City. We can also get some resources too."

Lin Ningshan stared at the departing Snowflake Eagle. He said, "I'm afraid by the time the Seventh Prince is here, Zhang Rouchen will have already destroyed it."

"Even a legendary warrior at the Heaven Realm dares not guarantee that he will be able to wipe out the Earth Blaze City. He only has the strength of an Internal Student of the School of the Martial Market. Without the help of other Internal Students, he will not even faze the city." Lin Ningshan smiled coldly.

After seeing Zhang Rouchen's strength, Lin Ningshan disagreed with Lin Chenyu. "Brother, what should we do now? Should we go back to Yunwu City or wait here for the Seventh Prince?" he asked.

Lin Chenyu thought for a moment and replied, "Don't you have confidence in him? Let's go to the Earth Blaze City. I want to see for myself how powerful he is."

Earth Blaze City was a giant market, not a secret organization. It had great influence in the southeast of Yunwu District. Lots of warriors shopped there for practice resources.

So, any warrior could lead Zhang Rouchen to the Earth Blaze City.

There was a lake 25 kilometers away, which was covered by fog all the year round. Visibility was extremely low; often less than a dozen meters. Passengers were regularly lost in the lake and discovered later as floating corpses.

It was said that Earth Blaze City was in the lake. However, only the black market ships knew the foggy way to the Earth Blaze City.

Zhang Rouchen told the Snowflake Eagle to wait for him in the woods. He walked towards the fog-hidden lake alone and arrived at a busy lakeside pier.

16 huge ships were docked at the pier. The 10 biggest ships were all equipped with the big flags of the Black Tiger Hall.

Those 10 ships were obviously used to pick up the owner of the Black Tiger Hall. Unfortunately for them, the sailors did not know that he had already been killed by Zhang Rouchen.

The boatmen watched Zhang Ruochen appear on the pier. He guessed accurately from the hostility in their eyes that they were actually disguised warriors of the black market. Some of them walked toward Zhang Ruochen.

An grizzled man of about 60 years took a look at Zhang Ruochen and said, "Sir, where are you going?" "Earth Blaze City!" Zhang Ruochen said.

One-by-one, the warriors loosened their weapons as they became more alert.

The old man smiled calmly. "The gate of the Earth Blaze City closed two weeks ago, and it won't be opened to the public."

A smile crept onto Zhang Ruochen's face. He asked, "Is the Earth Blaze City going on guard against masters from the School of the Martial Market?"

One of the warriors began to smile. "I think you are a student from the School of the Martial Market. Young man, you'd better tell me who you are. Otherwise, you will die here, never mind going to the Earth Blaze City."

Zhang Ruochen's eyes narrowed. He took out a token. "I'm from the imperial court, and I'm going to buy some practice resources in the Earth Blaze City."

Zhang Ruochen had not intended to just barge into the Earth Blaze City. After all, he did not know its current strength. He decided not to expose his identity as a student of the School of the Martial Market. Instead, he used his imperial court identity.

That old man's eyes brightened as he looked at Zhang Ruochen's token. "A Golden Dragon Token! Are you a descendant of the royal family in Yunwu District?"

Zhang Ruochen put away the token and said, "Yes."

"Since you are from the Royal Family, why are there no royal guards or attendants with you?" The old man was puzzled.

On the surface, the black market and the official power were enemies. But many people from the imperial court went to the black market to buy practice resources secretly.

After all, they wanted to practice, too. Some of the unique practice resources could only be bought on the black market.

Also, some people in the imperial court had acquired treasures with an unknown origin. They could only sell them on the black market. The black market dealers had countless ties with officials in the imperial court.

It was perfectly ordinary for people from the Royal Family went to buy practice resources from the black market.

But it was definitely strange for Zhang Ruochen to keep such a low profile. Usually, the masters from the Royal Family were escorted by a crowd of servants and royal guards. Naturally, the old guard was suspicious.

Zhang Ruochen said, "If I had brought a large number of royal guards and servants, would I be allowed to go to Earth Blaze City?"

"Certainly not," the old man said. "Things have changed now. Two weeks ago, the mayor personally ordered that warriors who want to get in the Earth Blaze City must be checked strictly, especially those who come from the imperial court. The number of people entering the city each day must not be over ten."

Zhang Ruochen said with a smile, "It seems that the Earth Blaze City guards against the imperial court heavily."

The old man said directly, "At any other time, Earth Blaze City certainly wouldn't care about the imperial court. However, the School of the Martial Market has been fighting with the black market. The army of the imperial court is likely to join in. Earth Blaze City has to take more precautions."

Zhang Ruochen spread his hands and said, "You see that I'm alone, can I enter the Earth Blaze City?"

"Of course."

Zhang Ruochen was just a teenager, so the old man had no idea that he posed a threat to Earth Blaze City. If the City held one of the imperial family, the imperial army would think twice before attacking.

"But if you want to enter Earth Blaze City, you have to pay the ship fee." The old man narrowed his eyes. He continued, "And, don't blame me for not warning you. Earth Blaze City is in chaos. It is very tumultuous and dangerous. If a man from the royal family goes there alone, he could be slaughtered like a sheep!"

"No worries!"

Zhang Ruochen grabbed a handful of silver coins at random, generously put them in the old man's hand, and said, "Now give me a ride to the Earth Blaze City."

The boatmen watched him stash his money bag.

Their eyes brightened, and some even began to fill with murderous intent.

As he accepted the silver coins, the old man changed his attitude greatly. He bowed to Zhang Ruochen with a flattering smile. "Master, please board this boat. I'll take you to Earth Blaze City personally."

Zhang Ruochen boarded the little boat.

That elder in blue stood in the front of the boat and rowed the oars. Ripples spread across the surface of the water. The little boat soon entered the white fog and disappeared.

"He must have grabbed at least 30 coins! He is definitely a fat sheep."

"Some playboy from the Royal Family, daring to come to Earth Blaze City alone. Is he really so unfamiliar with the concept of death?"

"It's a pity that Old He gets him first. Damn."

"It's too good for the old man. After this, Old He may add tens of thousands to his wealth."

“I think it’s more than that.”

The disguised warriors stared enviously as the little boat sailed away.

That teenage punk from the Royal Family would definitely be killed by Old He and turn up as just another corpse in the foggy lake.

Chapter 203: The Red Spider Vessel

Zhang Ruochen sat on the little boat with his legs crossed, looked at the smoky lake, and asked, “How should I address you?”

The elder in blue who was rowing the boat stared at Zhang Ruochen with a smile and said, “My surname is He. Everyone calls me Old He.”

“Are you very familiar with Earth Blaze City, Old He?” Zhang Ruochen asked.

The elder in blue said with a smile, “I have been running this boat in this Fog-hidden Lake my whole life. I do business with people who come and go in Earth Blaze City. So, how can I not be?”

Zhang Ruochen nodded his head and said, “You boat owners must belong to some guild, don’t you?”

The elder in blue said, “You are a man of great insight. Our Greenlake Union may be nothing in the entire Yunwu Commandery, but we control the import and export hub of the entire Earth Blaze City. There are six piers and 530 ships. In Earth Blaze City, our Greenlake Union is the biggest, except for the Rosefinch Tower, the Hades Department, the Black Tiger Hall, and the Poisonous Spider Club.”

Zhang Ruochen continued by asking, “Does the Hades Department have a branch in Earth Blaze City also?”

The elder in blue thought that Zhang Ruochen wanted to hire a killer in the Hades Department, so he did not think much and said, “Omen Ridge and the Poisonous Spider Club are big powers in the Black Market. Their powers are not limited to Earth Blaze City, or even to the Yunwu Commandery. It is said that the business of the Hades Department and the Poisonous Spider Club has spread to all the 36 commanderies in Omen Ridge.”

The Black Market was a special market that was composed of various small organizations and specialized in the underground transactions that could not see the light of day.

People will always have a dark side, so the Black Market will exist forever.

But, the forces in the Black Market were classified into different levels.

For example, the Hades Department and the Poisonous Spider Club were spread all over the 36 commanderies of Omen Ridge and belonged to the highest level.

The power of the Rosefinch Tower covered the Nine Western Prefectures and belonged to the second level.

The power of the Black Tiger Hall covered the Yunwu Commandery and belonged to the third level.

The power of the Greenlake Union was only limited to Earth Blaze City, so it belonged to the fourth level.

Of course, there were branches of the Hades Department and the Poisonous Spider Club in Earth Blaze City. The Greenlake Union's headquarters was there.

However powerful the dragon was, it was not necessarily a match for the local snake.

"Splash!"

Suddenly, the sound of battle drums in the distance floated across the surface of the water.

The drumbeat continued to thump and was getting louder and louder. The massive sound shook the water into waves.

A moment later, a steel red ship, more than 200 meters long, sailed toward them at a very fast speed from the distance. It raised the waves up dozens of meters and made a "Swoosh!" sound. This momentum was imbued with the Spirit Conquering Mountains and Rivers.

It was indeed like a moving city of iron and steel.

On the giant vessel stood warriors in purple coats and black trousers. They were all in high spirits and not ordinary warriors. With long black spears in their hands and sharp eyes, they were much stronger than those rabble from the Black Tiger Hall.

"The Red Spider Vessel!"

The elder in blue changed his countenance and moved his Genuine Qi instantly. He quickly rowed the boat backward.

Zhang Ruochen saw the elder's panicked expression and asked curiously, "Who the hell are they? As far as I know, even the Imperial Court of the Yunwu Commandery doesn't have a warship that large."

That warship was indeed powerful. Its body was carved with numberless Inscriptions of Array. As you could imagine, if the Vessel-defending Formation was activated, the unparalleled power that it displayed would not be much less than the Defender Array's.

The elder in blue said, "The Imperial Court of the Yunwu Commandery isn't able to build the Red Spider Vessel. It belongs to the Poisonous Spider Club. There are only two of them in the Yunwu Commandery. The power of the Red Spider Vessel is greater than a level nine Genuine Martial Arm's.

"30 years ago, the last Commandery Prince Zhang Xianyi of the Yunwu Commandery carried the level nine Genuine Martial Arm, Iron Halberd. He personally led 10,000 troops and fought against a warrior in the Heaven Realm from the Poisonous Spider Club in the Yunjiang water area.

"In the end, Zhang Xianyi suffered a sensational defeat and the whole army was wiped out. He was injured badly too, and went back to Yunwu City. He died in the palace a mere half year later. The power of the Red Spider Vessel is unstoppable, even against a warrior in the Heaven Realm. You can see how terrifying its fighting capacity is."

Zhang Xianyi was the Yunwu Commandery Prince's father and also Zhang Ruochen's grandfather. 30 years ago, he was a legendary warrior in the Heaven Realm.

If he had not died, he might have been the superior in the Yunwu Commandery now.

Zhang Ruochen stared at that magnificent warship. On the deck stood many giant savage beasts. There were Fire Tigers with blazing bodies, and Ice Armed Lions glowing with blue light.

At the same time, slaves in shabby clothes stood on the deck. There were so many of them with their arms and legs tied with iron chains. There were giant men, also beautiful and weak women, and some lower-grade slaves.

War slaves and women slaves and servants... The different slaves were put into different areas.

The elder in blue said, "Those are the slaves that the Poisonous Spider Club are transporting to Earth Blaze City, and they will be sent to the small branches of the Black Market in the southeast of the Yunwu Commandery in different batches. Some will become war servants of big families, and some will be playthings on the beds of rich people. Those unattractive lower-grade slaves who haven't practiced Genuine Qi will be sold to the mine to work as miners."

Zhang Ruochen looked in another direction, which was the wing room on the Red Spider Vessel. There was a powerful smell coming out of it, which made Zhang Ruochen feel that it was very dangerous.

Zhang Ruochen said reflectively, "It seems that an important figure in the Poisonous Spider Club has come to Earth Blaze City. Now the city is becoming even busier. I'm curious about who else will come too."

The elder in blue said, "I guess that the important figure of the Poisonous Spider Club is coming here because of the four students from the School of the Martial Market. It is said that one of the students is quite special and will sell for a high price."

Zhang Ruochen was a little curious and asked, "What's special about him?"

The elder in blue smiled a bit and stopped talking.

Zhang Ruochen grabbed a handful of silver coins and put them in the old man's hands.

The elder in blue took the silver coins, smiled, and said, "It is said that the internal student is a princess from a superior class commandery. She is not only pretty, but her cultivation is also very high. When she was captured, she was locked up in the Poisonous Spider Club. They won't let her go easily and it has been reported to the high-level figures."

Zhang Ruochen's expression was slightly puzzled. In the entire School of the Martial Market, only Huang Yanchen could be counted as a princess of a superior class commandery.

If the elder in blue was telling the truth, then it would definitely be her.

But, how could this be?

Because Zhang Ruochen was wearing a metal mask, the elder in blue could not see Zhang Ruochen's facial expressions, and he said, "If the Poisonous Spider Club controls that princess, then they control a

huge source of money. They are not worried that the School of the Martial Market and that superior class commandery won't compromise."

Zhang Ruochen let out a deep breath and sighed in his mind. The Poisonous Spider Club was a power player in the Black Market and would not be afraid of the School of the Martial Market and the Qianshui Commandery at all.

Of course, if Huang Yanchen was imprisoned by the Poisonous Spider Club, they would not hurt her for the time being. After all, the Poisonous Spider Club was a business group. If they controlled a princess of a superior class commandery, it meant that they possessed very precious cargo.

No matter how high the price was, the Qianshui Commandery Prince would accept it.

"That really is bad news. I hope it's just a rumor." Zhang Ruochen sighed.

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At this moment, on the Red Spider Vessel, senior figures of the Poisonous Spider Club were gathering and discussing the princess of the superior class commandery.

An old man in purple clothes said with a smile, "I never imagined that Princess Yanchen of the Qianshui Commandery would be caught in Earth Blaze City. She is very valuable. The Qianshui Commandery Prince should pay 100 million silver coins."

"100 million silver coins? Elder Xue, you look down on the Qianshui Commandery too much. Even if we want one billion silver coins, the Qianshui Commandery Prince will agree." Hua Minggong smiled.

Hua Minggong was the chief director of the Yunwu Commandery in the Poisonous Spider Club. His cultivation reached the Heaven Realm and was much more powerful than Iron Hunchback, the owner of the Black Tiger Hall. He was among the top three in the Black Market in the entire Yunwu Commandery.

Hua Minggong said, "Both the Qianshui Commandery and the Yunwu Commandery will be ruthlessly blackmailed."

On the table sat a young man in a golden robe. He had a sharp machete and said with an evil smile, "It is said that Commandery Princess Yanchen is engaged to the Ninth Prince of the Yunwu Commandery and is extremely beautiful. I really want to meet her right now."

Hua Minggong looked at the young man and said seriously, "Qingshan, if you want other women, I'll give you as many as you want. But this is the Commandery Princess Yanchen. You can never touch her. "She will bring massive wealth to our Poisonous Spider Club. If you ruin this, I won't forgive you."

Hua Qingshan was the only son of Hua Minggong and very gifted. His cultivation was more powerful than many of the older Martial Arts masters. However, he had a hobby, which was women.

Hua Minggong knew very well about his son's natural instincts, so he had to tell him the importance of this.

If something happened to Commandery Princess Yanchen, it would irritate the Qianshui Commandery Prince, rather than allow them to exchange vast amounts of wealth with him. It would be a great disaster for the Poisonous Spider Club.

“I know!” Hua Qingshan had an evil smile.

He thought that his father was overcautious. The Poisonous Spider Club was a big power in the Black Market and protected by it. Even if they offended the Qianshui Commandery, would they wipe out the Poisonous Spider Club?

Chapter 204: The Soul-Absorbing Eye

After the Red Spider Vessel passed, the lake surface gradually quieted down.

The elder in blue let out a long sigh. “Since the big names in the Tarantula Chamber of Commerce have come to Earth Blaze City, the students of the School of the Martial Market won’t dare to come here.”

“Get up!” Zhang Ruochen said.

The Red Spider Vessel was quite something, but it would not scare the students of the School of the Martial Market. At least, Zhang Ruochen was not scared at all.

He would still go to Earth Blaze City.

The elder in blue glanced at Zhang Ruochen and gave him a meaningful smile. He walked to the center of the little boat and poured a cup of hot tea for Zhang Ruochen, then said, “The water’s freezing and the wind’s chilly. Please drink this tea to warm up.”

Just when he poured the tea, the elder in blue twisted his finger and dropped some white powder into the cup from his fingertip.

In fact, Zhang Ruochen had seen his little trick when he was pouring the tea. He smiled and replied, “I’m neither thirsty nor cold. Why don’t you drink it yourself?”

The expression on the elder in blue’s face didn’t change. With the same smile, he replied, “In that case, I’ll leave the tea here. You could drink it when you feel thirsty.”

He put the cup down in front of Zhang Ruochen and turned around to go back to paddle the boat.

“I said,” Zhang Ruochen began, “that you should drink it. Are you deaf?”

The elder in blue stopped. With a sharp malice in his eyes, he laughed harshly, “Boy, you’ve got sharp eyes. You’ve caught me!”

“CLASH!”

He whipped around and swept his arm to shoot thirteen 17 centimeter-long golden needles at Zhang Ruochen. They flew fast with a rush of wind.

Each golden needle was a first level Genuine Martial Weapon. An Ice Series Inscription on the surface connected its head and tail. Once activated by Genuine Qi, the outburst was ten times more powerful than a normal Golden Needle.

Zhang Ruochen still sat at the stern, legs crossed, without a trace of nervousness.

“WHOOSH...”

The thirteen Golden Needles flew towards Zhang Ruochen, only to be blocked by his Genuine Qi shield only a foot away from him. They stopped immediately and hung suspended in the air.

“A Genuine Qi shield! You’re a warrior of the Earth Realm?”

The elder in blue’s expression changed to dismay. He realized that had messed with the wrong guy, so he climbed on the edge of the boat to hurl himself into the lake to flee.

“Waaa!”

With a wave of his arm, Zhang Ruochen sent the Golden Needles flying backward to attack the elder in blue.

PHHFF!

The elder in blue was perforated by the Golden Needles. With a horrible scream, he fell into the lake. Soon, the lake was blood red, and a dead body surfaced.

Zhang Ruochen sighed lightly and rose up to pour his Genuine Qi to the little boat.

“Swish!”

The little boat shot to the Red Spider Vessel’s direction like an arrow, heading towards the far side of Fog-Hidden Lake.

15 minutes later, as the mist covering the lake faded, the outline of an island appeared in front of Zhang Ruochen.

Earth Blaze City at last.

The island was surrounded by hundreds of meters high cliffs and guarded by arrays. Normal people were unable to sneak into Earth Blaze City. They could only enter from the front door in the south of the island.

Zhang Ruochen did not risk rushing into Earth Blaze City. Instead, he docked the little boat at the front door in the south and bribed the guards with some silver coins. Then, he entered the city without any difficulty.

The Red Spider Vessel was also docked there. The warriors of Tarantula Chamber of Commerce were escorting slaves from the huge ship and taking them into Earth Blaze City.

“Hurry up. Or I’ll beat you to death.”

A warrior in purple roared, with a lightning long whip in his hand.

“Snap!”

The whip struck a sturdy-looking slave, splitting the skin on his back and spraying his neighbors with blood.

Hua Qingshan walked down from the Red Spider Vessel with his hands behind his back. He smiled evilly. "You'd better be careful. That slave is a warrior in the Completion of the Black Realm, so he is worth a lot. You can't afford to pay for the loss if you kill him."

"Yes, sir." The warrior in purple kneeled down at once, shaking with cold sweat.

The man standing in front of him was not only the young master of Tarantula Chamber of Commerce but also one of the seven top masters of the black market. He was definitely someone among the 36 commanderies of the Omen Ridge.

The kneeling man was just a captain of the guard of the Tarantula Chamber of Commerce, and he could not risk offending Hua Qingshan.

Hua Qingshan was satisfied by the terrified reaction of the captain. With a smile, he nodded, "Where is that District Princess Yanchen being held? Show me."

The captain answered awkwardly, "Boss's orders—no one gets near Princess Yanchen without his permission."

"Haha!"

"Does that include me?"

The captain clenched his teeth. "Sir, please don't make our job hard. We're just following orders."

"Fine. I won't make it hard for you." Hua Qingshan smiled. "Raise your head," he said.

"I dare not." The captain's head remained down.

"I command you to raise your head!" Hua Qingshan's voice became sharp and cold.

The captain was so afraid of Hua Qingshan that he lifted his head.

A strange smile clouded Hua Qingshan's face, and some green lines began to appear in his eyes. Soon, his eyes turned totally green. They glowed with an uncanny light. He ordered, "Take me to see Princess Yanchen."

"Yes!"

The captain's eyes glazed over. He stood up and headed to Earth Blaze City like a puppet.

"An Internal student of The School of the Martial Market, Princess of Qianshui District...I'm intrigued! Hehe!" Hua Qingshan said to himself as he followed the captain.

After they both left, Zhang Ruochen walked out from an alley. He said to himself, "He is such a powerful warrior that he's already practiced the Soul-Absorbing Eye Successfully!"

The Soul-Absorbing Eye was a quite profound martial technique in the Superior class of the Spiritual Stage. It was very hard to practice and its power was unpredictable. Few people could manage it.

As far as Zhang Ruochen could recall, only warriors of the Heaven Realm with the help of very powerful Martial Soul could practice the Soul-Absorbing Eye successfully.

But Zhang Ruochen could tell that Hua Qingshan's martial cultivation was not of the Heaven Realm. It showed that his talent was super high. Especially his Spiritual Power; it must be over level 25.

Only strong Spiritual Power could control the Soul-absorbing Eye.

In the black market, half of the heretics who could use the Soul-Absorbing Eye were infamous seducers. No woman could resist its power.

At the same time, they had to absorb Yin Qi from women to consolidate their Martial Souls, in case the Soul-Absorbing Eye backfired.

"I can use this chance to find senior sister apprentice Huang."

Zhang Ruochen released the power of the Space Domain to twist the space around him. Instantly, he disappeared into thin air.

With Zhang Ruochen's current cultivation, only a warrior of the Heaven Realm could see through the cloak of his Space Domain's invisibility.

Despite the young leader of Poisonous Spider's strength, Zhang Ruochen had to follow him. After all, Huang Yanchen was his fiancée now.

He had to rescue Huang Yanchen even if the cost was his life.

After applying his camouflage, Zhang Ruochen followed Hua Qingshan stealthily to the Earth Blaze City branch of Tarantula Chamber of Commerce.

The guard captain led the way to a courtyard protected by the Inscription of Array. He waved his hand slightly and the captain stood down.

Two maids kneeled down immediately to greet Hua Qingshan. "Greetings, young master," they said.

Hua Qingshan asked, "Is Commandery Princess Yanchen held inside?"

"As per your orders the medicinal water has been prepared." Two of the maids spoke in unison.

Hua Qingshan waved with a smile. "You can both stand down. I don't require your service here," he informed them.

"Young master, save...me..."

The maids were both masters of Martial Arts with cultivations of the Earth Realm. They were no weaklings. The Tarantula Chamber of Commerce had given them the responsibility of guarding Princess Yanchen.

They were about to continue their protest, but when they met Hua Qingshan's eyes, they suddenly turned dumb. They bowed to him and said, "As you wish."

Then they left.

Hua Qingshan shook his head and smirked as he walked into the courtyard.

The moment he was inside, he stopped and let out a hollow laugh. "Still hiding? Come out!"

Zhang Ruochen, who was 50 steps away, was shocked. He stopped immediately, wondering if Hua Qingshan was aware of his presence.

Just before Zhang Ruochen could attack, two sounds of the wind whistle rang out.

“Whew! Whew!”

Two figures flew out of the shadows like lightning. They rushed into the courtyard and stood on opposite sides of Hua Qingshan.

They both wore the Internal Student robes of the School of the Martial Market and their skill levels were high. One carried a blade, and the other hefted a long spear.

“Haha! It was fast for the internal students to get Earth Blaze City. Interesting. What’re your names?” Hua Qingshan seemed calm. He looked askance at them.

“Zuo Sheng!” the one with a long spear said. He stood with pride and his cultivation was in the Dawn State of the Earth Realm.

Hua Qingshan shook his head, “Didn’t ring a bell. Although I once heard of a person called Zuo Lengxuan whose martial cultivation seemed fine.”

“He’s my cousin.” Zuo Sheng said.

Hua Qingshan laughed, “Another guy from House Zuo of District. Your cousin has a lot more skill than you.”

The other student with the blade, who was short and thin with thick black eyebrows, glanced at Zuo Sheng and shouted, “Enough small talk! Shall we rescue her first?”

Hua Qingshan turned to him and laughed, “What’s your name, then?”

“Listen carefully, man. The name’s Chang Qiqi.”

After that, the short one rushed to Hua Qingshan with three steps. Each step was in the air without touching the ground. He held his blade with both hands and cleave at Hua Qingshan.

Although short and thin, Chang Qiqi attacked with incredible power. His blade thrummed with the sounds of wind and thunder and released 4 bolts of purple lightning. Combined with the Qiqi’s knife energy, the attack threatened to split Hua Qingshan’s skull.

Chapter 205: The Desperate Ambush

Chang Qiqi was in the Medium State of the Earth Realm. He was a two uniquenesses genius who could hold his own against a warrior in the Completion of the Earth Realm.

His broadsword technique was very powerful and courageous, like being guarded by the god of lightning.

Hua Qingshan smiled coldly with one hand behind him and the other stretching out quickly. He flipped on the back of the blade, making a sharp metal sound.

“BANG!”

Rings of power ripples spread out on the Chang Qiqi’s sword.

The blade shook fiercely, nearly breaking Chang Qiqi’s fingers.

Chang Qiqi stepped to his right and retreated for over ten feet. After coming to a stop, his eyes grew large as he stared at Hua Qingshan. He said, “I didn’t know such a strong warrior was among the young generation of the black market. Are you Hua Qingshan, the Young Lord of Poisonous Spider?”

“Haha! You’re rather good at recognizing people!” called Hua Qingshan.

Chang Qiqi’s face was drawn. He said disconsolately, “What bad luck to meet you!”

Zuo Sheng’s face also turned pale. He didn’t expect the man in front of him to be the famous Young Lord of Poisonous Spider.

Although the Young Lord of Poisonous Spider was only in the Final State of the Earth Realm, he was not much weaker than the warriors on the Earth Board.

Everyone expected the Young Lord of Poisonous Spider to earn a place on the Earth Board as soon as he reached the Completion of the Earth Realm.

Although Chang Qiqi and Zuo Sheng were both masters in the Internal Academy, it was hard for them to even block the Young Lord of Poisonous Spider’s three movements.

Chang Qiqi and Zuo Sheng exchanged a look and immediately ran away in two directions.

“Do you really think you can get away since you are here?” Hua Qingshan sneered and took out a one foot three inches machete.

She unleashed the Genuine Qi from her fingertip and attacked Zi Qian’s sword.

The machete glowed like an asteroid and flew from Hua Qingshan’s hand. It curved through the air and came right towards Zuo Sheng.

Zuo Sheng was a master in the Dawn State of the Earth Realm. His skill had enabled him to quickly put 20 yards between himself and Hua Qingshan. He had almost left the court, when—

“Shunk!”

The head of the guard had been tear apart from the body and blood clashed to three meters high from the neck.

With a loud noise, the body and the head fell on the ground at the same time.

The machete boomeranged through the air and back to Hua Qingshan’s hand.

SWOOSH

Hua Qingshan hurled out his machete again, this time aiming for Chang Qiqi’s neck.

Seeing Zuo Sheng being slaughtered, Chang Qiqi made a strange cry. He suddenly turned around, jumped up and struck with his blade.

“BAM!”

Chang Qiqi’s blade blew the machete off far away, but he was blown into the air by the strong wallop as well. After falling on the ground, he started to run to the distance again.

“Not bad,” Hua Qingshan conceded. He summoned the machete, performed the physical technique, and chased after Chang Qiqi.

“The Young Lord of Poisonous Spider is indeed powerful. Perhaps even ten Iron Hunchbacks are no match for him.”

After Hua Qingshan left, Zhang Ruochen strolled into the courtyard. Soon, he saw a pavilion covered by the Inscription of Array. He looked up and saw Huang Yanchen standing on the second floor.

Of course, Huang Yanchen had been watching the battle. She had wanted to rush out and help her classmates, but whenever she tried to get out of the pavilion numerous arrays appeared to hold her back.

But whenever she tried to get out, close and numerous arrays would appear in the boundary of the pavilion, making the power of thunderbolts that forced her back.

“Damn it!”

It grieved Huang Yanchen to see Zuo Sheng’s decapitation. After all, he was killed trying to save her.

Of course, she also knew that with her martial cultivation, she would not have been able to block even one of Hua Qingshan’s techniques even if she had been able to join the fight.

“There are indeed too many masters in the black market. I underestimated them before!”

Huang Yanchen was the most favored one among all the commandery princesses, because she has the prettiest face and the highest talent. But she had never thought that she would become a prisoner one day.

She knew very well the reason why the Evil Warriors in the black market didn’t harm her until now. It was all because she was the Qianshui District Princess.

Huang Yanchen began to feel morose and dejected. Duanmu Xingling and Zhang Ruochen had warned her in from the very first that the black market and the Moon Worship Demonic Sect were not ordinary evil forces, but she didn’t pay attention. She thought that with the help of her martial cultivation and some survival skills, even the martial arts legends in the Heaven Realm could not imprison her.

Just because she was too arrogant, she was plotted by the Tarantula Chamber of Commerce and became a prisoner.

The return of Hua Qingshan carrying his bloody machete interrupted her thoughts. He looked angry.

Standing straight, Huang Yanchen looked down at him, beautiful eyes flashing cold rage. She asked, “Have you killed Chang Qiqi?”

“He can’t fight very well, but he’s rather good at running away. He escaped!”

Hua Qingshan looked up at Princess Yanchen and was stunned by her beauty. He laughed and said, "How beautiful! I've heard that District Princess Yanchen has the beauty of a goddess and the grace of an angel. Today, I can see that your beauty in fact exceeds your reputation!"

Hua Qingshan stepped forward, passed right through the Inscription of Array, and walked up to the second floor.

DONG, DONG...

The sound of footsteps came from the stairs.

Huang Yanchen's eyes grew wide and her lips grew tight. She stared closely at the stairway.

She still had much training to finish before she could hope to fight Hua Qingshan.

What could I do right now?

Hua Qingshan's footsteps came closer and closer.

Huang Yanchen performed Shadow of the Royal Wind Dragon and turned herself into a shadow. She formed a shadow sword with her hand and pointed it at Hua Qingshan.

Hua Qingshan stood firmly at where he was, without the intention of fighting back, and he sneered, "Your Highness, you're too weak. Maybe you can fight with me two years later."

Hua Qingshan acted later but arrived earlier. He punched towards Huang Yanchen, and Huang Yanchen was blown away by the wind even his palm reached her.

BANG!

Huang Yanchen crashed through the door and fell on the ground.

Huang Yanchen felt that all of her meridians was broken and she lost all her strength. With blood on the corner of her mouth, she turned around and glanced at Hua Qingshan.

How could he be so powerful?

Huang Yanchen had never suffered such a disastrous defeat before when facing a young warrior.

Although Hua Qingshan was one of the seven young masters in the black market, he was actually about 30 years old. So he was not really that young. Huang Yanchen was only 20 herself, so of course he could defeat her.

Of course, the higher one's martial cultivation was, the slower his senility speed would be. Hua Qingshan still looked like a 20-year-old young man.

Hua Qingshan walked inside and looked at Huang Yanchen on the ground, just a lamb to be slaughtered. He laughed and said, "District Princess Yanchen, you're indeed as arrogant and stubborn as the rumor has. But I like girls like you. Because I believe that no matter how haughty you are, when you meet me, you'll become passionate. As for your pride, I can eliminate it with violence. When you get hurt, you won't be arrogant anymore, right? Haha!"

“How dare you!” Huang Yanchen gnashed her teeth in anger, trying to get up from the ground. But the moment she made a move, she felt a sense of extreme pain which almost tore her body up.

“Argh!”

Huang Yanchen spat out a mouthful of blood. Her beautiful face became even paler, looking like a piece of white paper.

Hua Qingshan sat on a chair and said calmly, “Your Highness, please don’t struggle, or you’ll hurt yourself even more. You were hit by my Heart-Breaking Palm just now. If you try to transfer your Genuine Qi with force, you’ll face severe consequences. If you’re lucky, you’ll lose all your cultivation. If not, your meridians will break, your heart will smash, and you’ll die miserably.

“I have been practicing the Heart-Breaking Palm for five whole years. Maybe only three people in the entire Internal Academy can block it.”

A heroic look suddenly appeared on Huang Yanchen’s face. She was about to transfer the Genuine Qi by force and fight desperately with Hua Qingshan.

Suddenly, a person appeared in this room without anyone’s notice.

It was a young man in white with a metal mask on his face.

“CLASH!”

With the speed of lightning, he slashed towards Hua Qingshan with a broken sword in his hand.

They were already very close to each other, and the masked man was extremely fast. The broken sword was at Hua Qingshan’s neck in a heart beat.

When the mysterious young man appeared, Hua Qingshan was also slightly astonished. It was almost impossible for someone to get near him without his notice at all.

Although Hua Qingshan was shocked, he was quick in reaction. When the sword came, he immediately leaned backward and escaped from that slash dangerously.

“Tch!”

But he did not lean quite far enough. The cold Sword Breath made a shallow cut on his neck.

The Sword Breath was so cold that the upper part of Hua Qingshan’s body was covered by a sheet of white frost.

Zhang Ruochen sighed secretly. He was only that close to killing Hua Qingshan.

Although Zhang Ruochen’s attack had not ended Hua Qingshan, it had provided a diversion. Zhang Ruochen did not stop to think. He grabbed Huang Yanchen with one hand and rushed out of the pavilion.

If Zhang Ruochen could not kill a master like Hua Qingshan with an ambush, a second attack would fair no better.

With Zhang Ruochen’s cultivation at the moment, he could only choose to flee.

Hua Qingshan was also startled. The opponent was too fast and he had nearly been killed.

It was the first time that he felt death was so close. Besides, the opponent was only a young man.

“CLAP! CLAP!”

Hua Qingshan shook off the ice on his body and hummed coldly, “You can’t escape!”

As Zhang Ruochen dashed out of the gate with Huang Yanchen in his arms, Hua Qingshan began to give chase. The older man was faster.

“CLASH!”

The sword flashed.

Hua Qingshan took out his machete and flung it with all of the strength he could muster. The machete curved out past Zhang Ruochen and Huang Yanchen and sped back. It was headed right for Zhang Ruochen.

If Zhang Ruochen blocked it, he would be chased up by Hua Qingshan.

If Zhang Ruochen did not block it, he would lose his head.

Zhang Ruochen had to stop and block. With an easy slash, he poked the machete away.

“Boom!”

The force on the machete was still powerful. Zhang Ruochen’s arm tingled from the shock, so he stepped a bit backward.

Now, he finally realized why Zuo Sheng would be killed with only one slash. Common people could never stand the power on the machete.

What was more, the machete didn’t fly in a straight line. Rather, no one could predict its direction.

If Zhang Ruochen had not learned the Heart Integrated Sword technique, he would never have been able to defend the machete either.

Other warriors in the Earth Realm might be killed without even seeing the machete’s flight path.

“Zhang Ruochen, you’re no match for him. Put me down, and I’ll block his path. Only in this way can you survive.” Huang Yanchen’s voice sounded cold but weak. She stared at Zhang Ruochen coldly with her beautiful eyes.

Zhang Ruochen asked, “How did you know it was me?”

“Why can’t I? You’re only wearing a mask! You idiot!” Huang Yanchen rolled her eyes and tried to get away from Zhang Ruochen. She wanted to risk her life to fight with Hua Qingshan and earn Zhang Ruochen some time to escape.

Huang Yanchen understood that if Zhang Ruochen tried to take her with him, neither of them would escape.

Chapter 206: Escape the Siege

“You can only leave the Poisonous Spider Lair with the permission of the Poisonous Spider Lord.”

Hua Qingshan sneered coldly and activated all his Genuine Qi. He was covered in a shroud of purple gas, and then he stretched out his hand to attack.

“Heart-breaking Palm!”

Zhang Ruochen’s eyes went sharp and he activated his Blood Meridian Power.

A Divine-Stage Blood Wave of nine meters in diameter formed under his feet. Zhang Ruochen raised a blood pillar and wrapped himself in the center.

“Bang!”

Nine blood swords appeared to spin around Zhang Ruochen. The sharp ends aligned to point downwards.

Zhang Ruochen flicked one finger, and the nine swords merged to attack Hua Qingshan.

“Bam!”

The Sword Breath and the Palm Strike crashed together.

The powerful collision sent Zhang Ruochen and Huang Yanchen flying backward. Their bodies smashed through the banister and fell off the roof to the ground.

Hua Qingshan’s palm had been pierced by the great Sword Breath. His whole hand would have been damaged if he had not activated the Blood Meridian power to block some of the Sword Breath’s onslaught.

“Blood-condensed Nine Swords”

Hua Qingshan stared at his bleeding hand with wild eyes. He was outraged. He chased the fleeing Zhang Ruochen and Huang Yanchen, then pulled up with a sneer. “There’s an Imprisoning Formation Inscription around the building. It’s easier in than out. You two can’t escape!”

Huang Yanchen knew better than anybody else about the power of the Imprisoning Formation Inscription. She warned her protector. “Zhang Ruochen, the Imprisoning Formation Inscription is quite powerful. We may get serious injuries if we take the hard way.”

Hua Qingshan supposed that Zhang Ruochen had no way to break the array and escape, so he didn’t worry at all. He laughed with ease. “Her Majesty was right,” he said. “Only warriors of the Heaven Realm could break the Imprisoning Formation Inscription. Boy, since you could block my Heart-Breaking Palm, you must have some talent. I’ll consider sparing your life if you’re willing to surrender and be my slave.”

Zhang Ruochen held Huang Yanchen’s slender waist with one hand, with the Ancient Abyss Sword in the other. He squinted at Hua Qingshan and asked, “Is there another way?”

“Of course!”

Hua Qingshan chuckled. "First, hand over District Princess Yanchen. Then, kneel down and kowtow to me three times, and then destroy your cultivation willingly. In that case, I'll let you live."

"What if I choose a third option?" Zhang Ruochen said.

"There's no third option," Hua Qingshan remarked sullenly.

"Let me show you my third option."

Zhang Ruochen approached the Imprisoning Formation Inscription with an intricate and unique dance of footwork.

Huang Yanchen's expression changed. She grasped Zhang Ruochen's chest with her snow-white fingers and asked, "Are you crazy?"

"You must not understand death or danger if you are actually trying to break the Imprisoning Formation Inscription." Hua Qingshan sneered cruelly. He thought that Zhang Ruochen was asking for death.

Right in front of the Imprisoning Formation Inscription, Zhang Ruochen suddenly waved his arm. The space in front of him split with a sound like a tearing seam.

He had opened a foot-long crack in space.

A strong whirlwind formed automatically around the opening and began to absorb everything near it, including the air, the stones, and the inscriptions.

In only a moment, the crack had absorbed a large area of array inscriptions around it and formed a small portal.

Space cracks only appeared for a moment and then disappeared immediately.

"SWISH!"

Zhang Ruochen's calculations were quite accurate. He never slowed as he grabbed Princess Huang Yanchen and pulled her through the portal.

"What?!"

Hua Qingshan's exploded with anger. He could not figure out what method Zhang Ruochen had just used to open a rift in space.

"What martial technique has he practiced?"

Hua Qingshan just shocked for a short while and immediately recovered from it. He moved as quick as a flash and rushed out through the tactical formation cavity to chase Zhang Ruochen.

Zhang Ruochen heard the sound of the wind behind him. He was a little surprised. "He's quite quick," he told Huang Yanchen.

Hua Qingshan's speed was indeed amazing, topping at 160 m/s. In the blink of an eye, he was not far behind Zhang Ruochen.

It was almost impossible to run away from a master such as Hua Qingshan.

With his current martial cultivation, and even though Zhang Ruochen had practiced Shadow of the Royal Wind Dragon, his fastest speed was only 110m/s. Hua Qingshan was just too fast.

Zhang Ruochen heard the sound of fast steps from the front. The royal guards of the Poisonous Spider Chamber had heard the commotion and come running. Almost a hundred of warriors surrounded Zhang Ruochen and Huang Yanchen.

At least 50 royal guards drew sinister black bows to aim Armor-Piercing Arrows at Zhang Ruochen.

Dozens of other royal guards blocked all the exits of the Poisonous Spider Chamber, wielding long spears.

In front of the royal guards stood two stout masters of the Earth Realm. It was none other than the maids that were guarding Huang Yanchen before.

“Stop fighting, boy! You have no way to escape. You will never escape from Earth Blaze City, even if you manage to escape from the Poisonous Spider Chamber.” Hua Qingshan laughed.

“Fire!”

One of the maids of the Earth Realm ordered as soon as she saw Zhang Ruochen coming.

Dozens of the Armor-Piercing Arrows whistled as they flew at Zhang Ruochen like a hailstorm.

Even warriors of the Earth Realm with their Genuine Qi shields were unable to block the explosive force of the Armor-Piercing Arrow.

It seemed that Zhang Ruochen would die here, pierced by a myriad of arrows. Mysteriously, all the arrows flying at him changed directions. They rotated around Zhang Ruochen and flew at Hua Qingshan, who was still chasing him.

Hua Qingshan watched changed the arrows, and his eyes narrowed, “That boy does have something. Maybe he has the power to control the space?”

Dozens of Armor-Piercing Arrows held Hua Qingshan up for a moment.

Unchecked, Zhang Ruochen crashed into the formation of guards and sent a dozen or so flying.

“Say your prayers!” screamed one maid of the Earth Realm as she launched an attack on Zhang Ruochen.

Her arm was thicker than Zhang Ruochen’s thigh. Her palm emitted silver light and it seemed like her body was made of silver.

Her power formed a black tornado that hammered down at Zhang Ruochen’s head.

“SHUNK!”

Zhang Ruochen cleaved at her with his sword to break the palm technique.

His Sword Breath split the maid’s head open, spilling a plume of blood into the air.

Her attack stopped immediately, as her dead body hit the ground with a heavy “whump.”

Zhang Ruochen took out a Thunder Pearl and poured his Genuine Qi into it, then threw it to the royal guards.

“Bam!”

The Thunder Pearl exploded with a flash like lightning. It roasted dozens of the warriors at the same time. They all fell to the ground charred and dead.

Zhang Ruochen and Huang Yanchen were long gone by the time the lightning disappeared.

“They can’t escape! Find them!”

Hua Qingshan’s face darkened and he took the lead in chasing Zhang Ruochen and Huang Yanchen. Moments later, he was out of the Poisonous Spider Chamber.

Outside the Poisonous Spider Club, he could find no trace of them.

Hua Qingshan looked around, but he found no sign of them. “How can this be?”

“Young master, there’s no one.”

“Young master, it seems like they disappeared into thin air. They just vanished.”

...

The warriors of the Poisonous Spider Chamber all came back to report to Hua Qingshan.

Hua Qingshan clenched his fingers and said heartlessly, “There’s no way they could escape Earth Blaze City. Close Earth Blaze City now. Only entering is allowed. Don’t let anything out, even a fly.”

Huang Yanchen was the princess of Qianshui Commandery, so the Poisonous Spider Club could trade her for massive practicing resources. She was a rare commodity worth hoarding to corner the market.

Now that she had been rescued, it was a great loss to the Poisonous Spider Chamber.

Hua Qingshan would be punished heavily if he could not bring Huang Yanchen back.

Hua Qingshan said, “Send everyone out. They must be found even if you have to turn every stone.”

Hua Qingshan did not notice, 100 meters distant, a tiny black cat swaggering away with a crystal on its neck.

Zhang Ruochen and Huang Yanchen had entered the internal space of the Space-Time Ruby as soon as they escaped the Poisonous Spider Chamber. Then, Zhang Ruochen sent Blackie out to carry the ruby away.

After all, Blackie was just a cat, and no one would pay attention to it.

Zhang Ruochen bent his voice into his Genuine Qi and sent it out to instruct Blackie. “Go to the city gate as quickly as you can. Try to escape Earth Blaze City before it’s closed.”

Blackie looked at the closed gate far away, only to see Inscription Arrays covering the whole gate. He replied, “I’m afraid we’re too late. We can’t escape.”

Chang Qiqi had been using his small stature to hide in an alley not far from Blackie. He looked at the closed gate, and cursed in a low voice, "I'm screwed!"

"Mew!"

A black cat stood near Chang Qiqi's feet and stretched out its big head to stare at the far away city gate, then sighed, too.

Chang Qiqi's eyes brightened. He reached out one hand to seize the little cat and rubbed the cat's belly. He laughed, "Picked a cat in Earth Blaze City. Amazing!"

Chang Qiqi kept petting the cat. It was soft and warm.

Blackie widened his eyes. He was very dissatisfied that Chang Qiqi was touching him so much. It felt so obscene.

"I think I should hide in the Rosefinch Tower for now and hope that the warriors of the School will come as soon as possible." Chang Qiqi put Blackie in his pocket, then lowered his body to run to downtown Earth Blaze City like a shadow.

Huang Yanchen looked around with curiosity in the Space-Time Ruby. She was quite sure that she was not in the Spatial Ring, because it was never so stable and it never had so much Spiritual Qi.

It could only mean one thing: Zhang Ruochen had a real space treasure with him and they were now inside it.

"Zhang Ruochen, who are you indeed?" Despite her injury, Huang Yanchen stared at the boy in front of her with doubt in her beautiful, royal blue eyes.

Huang Yanchen had thought that she knew Zhang Ruochen quite well, but after she saw Zhang Ruochen battling Hua Qingshan today, she found out that she had only known a tiny part of him.

How many more secrets did he have?

Zhang Ruochen took off the metal mask to reveal his handsome face, and then he took out a jade bottle. He removed a pill and handed it to Huang Yanchen, "Heal your wound first!"

"I'm fine...Tell me who you are first...Why did you rescue me?" A trace of blood came out of Huang Yanchen's mouth, but she was still very stubborn. She pushed Zhang Ruochen's hand away, stared at him, and bit her lip.

How could a prince of an inferior district have so many incredible tricks? He could even control space!

She refused to believe that Zhang Ruochen only had one identity.

Chapter 207: The Space Power

Zhang Ruochen took back the remedy pills and sat cross-legged opposite Commandery Princess Yanchen. He stared at her. She was arrogant but straight-forward and frank.

After meditating for a moment, Zhang Ruochen said to her, "I have had some adventures, found treasures and gained exercise books. But I don't have any other identities, nor did I deliberately approach you. I am the Ninth Prince of Yunwu Commandery. Even if you investigate me you will find nothing except that I am the Ninth Prince."

To Zhang Ruochen, his identity as Emperor Ming's son in his previous lifetime had faded.

Seeing Zhang Ruochen's so unperturbed, Huang Yanchen started to calm down. She rolled her eyes at him and asked, "How many secrets did you end up hiding from me?"

Zhang Ruochen smiled and said, "Everybody in the world, including you, has unspoken secrets. Why do you ask me to tell you my secrets when you hide your own?"

Huang Yanchen curled her lips and couldn't reconcile herself to stop asking questions, "Have you practiced martial techniques that could control space?"

"No comment," said Zhang Ruochen.

Zhang Ruochen had been forced to wield the power of Space Domain. He wouldn't have escaped from Hua Qingshan's grip otherwise, given his current cultivation.

Of course, at that time he had worn a mask so that Hua Qingshan wouldn't know who he was.

Now nobody knew he could control space except Huang Yanchen.

She gazed at him coldly and ground her teeth ceaselessly, "Don't be so mean! I won't let you teach me."

"Even if I teach you, you won't be able to learn!"

Zhang Ruochen stopped talking to Huang Yanchen. He began to study the 12 elixir bottles placed in order on the ground. They had all been refined by Blackie and filled with pills. Blackie had left them in the internal space of the Time and Space Spinel.

He lifted the lid of one bottle and a cold icy gas escaped. The ground beneath the center of the elixir bottle quickly turned to ice.

"Icing Meridian Pill!"

He put the lid back on the bottle and lifted another one to check inside.

Six of them were filled with Icing Meridian Pills. Two contained Wind Meridian Pills, three bottles were filled with Fire Meridian Pills and one held Electric Meridian Pills.

Each had eight pills inside.

As he held it in his hand, Zhang Ruochen could hear the sound of thunderbolts, even though its lid was shut.

"I didn't know that Blackie successfully refined the Electric Meridian Pill. I underestimated him," Zhang Ruochen thought, smiling.

But where did he collect the raw materials?

Suddenly, Duanmu Xingling came to his mind.

It made sense that Duanmu Xingling would have bought the materials for Blackie and supported him. She knew he had the ability to refine the Icing Meridian Pill.

“You mean all these pills were made by that animal?” Huang Yanchen was shocked. She couldn’t believe it.

Zhang Ruochen replied honestly, “Yes, he did.”

He took out the remedy pill again and passed it to Huang Yanchen. She accepted it without reluctance this time. But she frowned slightly when she saw that it was merely a third-class remedy pill.

If her Storage Ring containing many fourth-class remedy pills hadn’t been taken away, she wouldn’t have had any interest in this third-class pill.

However, her Storage Ring had been taken away after getting caught. She had no choice but to take the third-class pill with contempt.

Huang Yanchen felt a surge of heartache when she thought of her Storage Ring. She had hidden practice resources worth millions of silver coins. Moreover, the Storage Ring itself was an invaluable treasure.treasure.

Taking her current injury and taking four products to heal the medicine, it only takes half a day to heal the injury.

But with the third-class pill, it would take at least three days.

After swallowing the pill, she started to wield the Genuine Qi in her body, refine the pill and heal her injuries.

As for Zhang Ruochen, he had no need to take remedy pills for his injuries as they were not serious. In addition, he could change the condition of his injuries by using his Genuine Qi.

The Tarantula Chamber of Commerce must be looking for them. The safest place to hide was in the internal space of the Time and Space Spinel. If they were to leave, they might be found by the Tarantula Chamber of Commerce. After all, the Earth Blaze City was a territory of the black market.

“Masters of the School of the Martial Market and Qianshui Commandery are likely to rush to the Earth Blaze City shortly. Even the Yunwu Commandery will send strong men to handle the Tarantula Chamber of Commerce. Now senior sister apprentice Huang is my fiancée, and it is putting a strain on the friendship between Yunwu Commandery and Qianshui Commandery. If an accident were to happen to senior sister apprentice Huang, the Qianshui Commandery Prince would surely blame the Yunwu Commandery Prince.”

“If senior sister apprentice Huang had still been imprisoned in the Tarantula Chamber of Commerce, none would have dared to act rashly. However, I rescued her. Will the Tarantula Chamber of Commerce withstand the siege of masters from all sides now that they’ve lost their bargaining chip?”

Therefore, Zhang Ruochen should do nothing except wait patiently. Somebody would handle the Tarantula Chamber of Commerce.

“I can take this opportunity to enhance my cultivation.”

Zhang Ruochen knew very clearly that martial cultivation was his biggest weakness at the moment.

Although the martial cultivation of the Initial Stage of the Earth Realm was much greater than that of other young warriors, there was still a huge gap to the Ten Prodigies of the Omen Ridge and the Seven Young Masters of the Black Market.

With one hand holding the bottle of Electric Meridian Pills, and the other holding the Fire Meridian Pill, Zhang Ruochen pondered for a moment. Finally, he opened the elixir bottle of Fire Meridian Pills and put the other one on the ground.

When he opened the bottle, a plume of red flame escaped from inside.

CHH!

He poured out a Fire Meridian Pill, placing it in the palm of his hand. The surface of the pill burned, and it emitted a boiling heat.

In the Internal Academy, a single Fire Meridian Pill was worth 200 merits.

It might be double on the outside, at least 400,000 silver coins. Average princes and princesses could not even buy them in large quantities.

Zhang Ruochen chose the Fire Meridian Pill rather than the Electric Meridian Pill because he was practicing the third level of Scripture of Emperor Ming’s Empyrean, “Tai Qing Spiritual Fire Sky”.

The Fire Meridian Pill could help him advance his cultivation.

He took a Fire Meridian Pill. It felt like a mass of flames in his body. His skin turned completely crimson and looked like red-hot iron.

...

Earth Blaze City, Tarantula Chamber of Commerce.

When Hua Minggong was informed that Huang Yanchen had been rescued by others, he became very angry and felt an urge to kill Hua Qingshan.

BAM!

Hua Minggong’s palm shattered a ten-meter-high rockery into pieces off in the distance. His hair stood on end and he said wrathfully, “If you were not my one and only son, I would destroy you right now. I warned you not to touch Commandery Princess Yanchen, but you didn’t listen. This time you caused a great deal of trouble and now even I can’t protect you.”

The Tarantula Chamber of Commerce’s force influenced all of the Omen Ridge’s 36 commanderies. In the Tarantula Chamber of Commerce there were 36 chief directors. Hua Minggong was merely one in the Yunwu Commandery.

Originally, he had intended to make a contribution to the Tarantula Chamber of Commerce by capturing Commandery Princess Yanchen. He could even bargain with the Qianshui Commandery Prince in order to tap into the black market of Qianshui Commandery.

However it had failed to succeed, which put the Tarantula Chamber of Commerce into an absolutely passive dilemma.

The news had spread that Commandery Princess Yanchen had been rescued. Now, the School of the Martial Market, Qianshui Commandery, and Yunwu Commandery would definitely seek revenge on the Tarantula Chamber of Commerce.

Hua Qingshan seemed relaxed and did not fear his father at all because he knew that his father would never hurt him.

Hua Qingshan said, "I never expected that a mysterious teenage master who could control space power would rescue her."

Hua Minggong calmed down and asked, "Are you sure he could control space power?"

"Of course," Hua Qingshan replied.

Hua Minggong frowned. He didn't believe anybody in the world could control space power. "Space power has always been just a legend. In history, only two or three legendary figures could wield it. And they had the ability to rule countries and were even venerated by Saints."

Hua Qingshan smiled, took a jade ring out and handed it to Hua Minggong. "Father, if you do not believe me, look at this ring."

Hua Minggong's face changed. Taking the jade ring, he input his Genuine Qi into it and found the internal space immediately.

"This...is...Space Treasure..." Even though he had already been a Heaven Realm strength, Hua Minggong was greatly shocked.

Hua Qingshan said, "I found it on the Commandery Princess Yanchen. Now do you believe that the young man could control space power?"

Hua Minggong's eyes lit up. "If we tell this news to the chairman, he will let us make up for our mistake. An amazing person who can control space power is more valuable than Commandery Princess Yanchen."

Hua Qingshan revealed a sardonic smile and said lowly, "Father, why do we have to report it to the chairman?"

"What do you mean?" asked Hua Minggong.

Standing up, Hua Qingshan said, "The cultivation of that juvenile was moderate, at most the Dawn State of the Earth Realm. If we can catch him and interrogate him about the space power secret, we can learn how to control space power. After that, why should we remain loyal to the chairman when we could become chairmen ourselves?"

Hua Minggong also had some emotions and said: "But we do not know the true identity of that mysterious teenager.

"Yes, it will!"

Hua Qingshan smiled, staring at the jade space ring and said, "Since the mysterious teenager presented this precious ring to Commandery Princess Yanchen, he must have a very uncommon relationship with her. Maybe he is a student at the School of the Martial Market as well."

"Very few students of the Internal Academy of the School of the Martial Market could match me. We can eliminate many of them."

"There are even fewer students who have a good relationship with Commandery Princess Yanchen. Additionally, the Earth Realm warriors who are under 20 years old are further less. It will be easy to find him using these three criterias."

Chapter 208: Zhang Tiangui, The Seventh Prince

Hua Minggong nodded his head and said, "I'll have someone to check. I must know the identity of the mysterious teenager who has the ability to control the power of space."

Hua Minggong looked at Hua Qingshan with appreciation in his eyes.

Although Hua Qingshan was a bit of a rebel, Hua Minggong was quite satisfied that his only son was not only extremely talented, but also extraordinary intelligent.

For those incredible prodigies, weren't they all rebels?

In the black market, no one could truly be a hero if he was not sinister and rebellious enough.

"He has become quite a celebrity among the thirty-six commanderies in the Omen Ridge, despite the fact that he is no older than thirty now. He can definitely be counted as a top prodigy among the younger generation. Some day when his cultivation reaches the Heaven Realm, he will be a legendary figure in Martial Arts." Hua Minggong thought to himself, with his previous anger flung to the four winds.

All of a sudden, Hua Minggong said with a serious look on his face, "Quickly search for Commandery Princess Yanchen and that mysterious teenager. If we can't find them within three days, we will leave for Yunwu City and make a new plan."

Hua Qingshan hummed coldly and said, "We have the Red Spider Vessel. Even if masters from Qianshui Commandery, the School of the Martial Market and Yunwu Commandery come here, we will not fear them."

"The reason why the black market got its name is that we can hide in the dark so that the power of the School of the Martial Market and the official power cannot beat us. But now the Earth Blaze City has exposed itself, which will certainly render it a target attacked by all parties. When Qianshui Commandery is involved, even the Red Spider Vessel cannot protect us." said Hua Minggong.

Despite of his arrogance, Hua Qingshan knew how to judge the situation. Thus he nodded his head and said, "Alright! We should spare no efforts to find them in three days. If we can't find them, we must go back to Yunwu City then."

Hua Minggong said, "Yunwu City is the final battle stage. Top masters from both the School of the Martial Market and Moon Worship Demonic Sect will gather there. If we go back to Yunwu City, the Moon Worship Demonic Sect will naturally share our burdens."

In the following three days, the Tarantula Chamber of Commerce sent out all its warriors to search for Zhang Ruochen and Huang Yanchen in the Earth Blaze City. But they found nothing.

On the other hand, the news came that Yunwu Commandery Prince had dispatched eighty thousand soldiers led by Wan Chengchong, the head of the troops, to the Earth Blaze City. It looked as if they were going to invade the city.

Ordered by the Elders of the School, the first master among the Internal Academy of the School of the Martial Market, Si Xingkong, also left the Devil Martial City and reached Yunwu Commandery with the Half-saint's Blood Book. The destination of his travels was the Earth Blaze City as well.

Si Xingkong was a master on the list of the Earth Board. As a representative of the younger generation, his power ranked first in the thirty-six commanderies of the Omen Ridge. He had even managed to kill warriors in the Heaven Realm. This time, since he brought the Half-saint's Blood Book, it looked as though he meant to use it to repress the Red Spider Vessel.

Although he had the reputation as the top prodigy in the thirty-six commanderies of the Omen Ridge, the Seventh Prince of Yunwu Commandery Zhang Tiangui, was still too young to be able to match Si Xingkong in strength.

Meanwhile, two legends of martial arts in the Heaven Realm from Qianshui Commandery also came to the Earth Blaze City with nine-class Genuine Martial Arms.

Threatened by all these parties, Hua Minggong and Hua Qingshan had to flee from the Earth Blaze City with the Red Spider Vessel.

...

In the forest, a troop of generals and soldiers in armor rode their horses to the lakeside of the Fog-hidden Lake.

The leaves had all fallen and the flying birds disappeared in the winter days. The only sound that could be heard was that from those heavy iron heels.

Wan Chengchong, waering red armor, rode on a armored beast 10 meters high. He gazed across the fog filled lake with thunder in his eyes and awed all with his presence.

"General, the Red Spider Vessel has driven out of the Fog-hidden Lake. It looks like Hua Minggong wants to flee. Should we chase after them or not?" A spirited soldier reported.

Wan Chengchong shook his head and said, "What Hua Minggong is driving is the Red Spider Vessel. We if they want to run away we will be unable to stop them. However, as the School of the Martial Market

and Qianshui Commandery are both rushing to finish him, it will, of course, not be easy for him to get away.”

“Then what’s our purpose for coming to the Earth Blaze City?” The soldier asked.

Wan Chengchong replied, “Now that Hua Minggong has fled, other parties from the black market will escape from the Earth Blaze City as well. Our mission is to catch the heretics from the black markets in the Earth Blaze City in one fell swoop. None of them can escape our grasp. That is the only way the Commandery Prince can satisfy the Qianshui Commandery. Or if Commandery Princess Yanchen is caught by the black market in the territory of Yunwu Commandery, we cannot shoulder this responsibility.”

“I see,” replied Han Qiu.

Wan Chengchong said with a solemn look, “What I wish now is that Commandery Princess Yanchen is still safe. I cannot bear to think about the consequences.”

“Hasn’t Commandery Princess Yanchen already been saved by someone?” The soldier asked.

Wan Chengchong glared at him and said, “Who has personally seen that? It is only when Commandery Princess Yanchen is found that we can make sure she is free from danger.”

BOOM!

A soldier who had reached the Black Realm by horse stopped about thirty meters away. He leapt off the horse, went to Wan Chengchong and got down on one knee. “Commander, the Seventh Prince has arrived.” he reported.

“The Seventh Prince?”

With seriousness in his eyes, Wan Chengchong said, “Hasn’t the Seventh Prince secluding himself for refining in the Yuntai Suzerain? Why did he come here so suddenly? Where is he now?”

“Lingyue Town.” The soldier answered.

“Everything here is up to you now. Any heretics from the black market of the Earth Blaze City who escape from the Fog-hidden Lake should be killed without exception.” there was a grim look on Wan Chengchong’s face. Even though he did not know the reason why the Seventh Prince had suddenly come back, he must go and greet him at once.

Wan Chengchong came to the Lingyue Town and saw the Seventh Prince very quickly.

Zhang Tiangui, the Seventh Prince, stood at the entrance of the town with his hands crossed behind him. He looked about twenty years old. Wearing a purple robe, he had bright eyes with graceful eyebrows and a tall and straight figure.

Even such a casual stance could have great presence.

The soldiers around him could hardly bear the pressure from him. All of them kneeled on the ground and feared to rise their heads.

“No wonder he is the top prodigy among the thirty six commanderies in the Omen Ridge. Even I feel a bit pressured around him. How has he been able to reach such a high level within such a short period of time?” Wan Chengchong stared at Zhang Tiangui from a distance, and then went to his side. He greeted Zhang Tiangui with left palm on right fist and said, “Greetings, Seventh Prince.”

Zhang Tiangui immediately greeted him as well. He held up Wan Chengchong’s hands and smiled warmly at him, “Uncle Wan, you’re a legend of martial arts in the Heaven Realm. And you’re also my father’s man. My father will certainly never forgive me when I get back to Yunwu City if he finds out you knelt in front of me.”

Wan Chengchong stood up and looked again at Zhang Tiangui, only to find that he was already ten steps away from him. He was a bit astonished and said, “With his present martial cultivation, the Seventh Prince can even be enrolled into the Earth Board.”

All those powerful warriors on the Earth Board had the strength to fight against the legends of martial arts in the Heaven Realm. One must know that Zhang Tiangui was just over twenty years old. It would be breaking news if he entered into the Earth Board at such a young age.

Zhang Tiangui laughed and said, “Indeed I’ve entered into the Earth Board. But I still have a long way to go compared with Uncle Wan.”

“Why have you come to Lingyue Town, Seventh Prince?” Wan Chengchong asked seriously.

Zhang Tiangui answered, “I heard that the fiancée of my ninth brother was caught in Lingyue Town by the heretics from the black market and imprisoned in the Earth Blaze City. I was quite worried. So I ended my seclusion and came here to help my ninth brother save his fiancée. However, when I reached Lingyue Town, I heard that the Commandery Princess Yanchen had already been saved by someone else. How fortunate!”

“The heretics from the black market are arrogant enough that they dared to imprison the fiancée of prince. If we don’t beat them severely, how can the Royal Family keep their dignity? Uncle Wan, you must catch those evil warriors this time and avenge my ninth brother. If you ever need me, I will follow your orders.”

Wan Chengchong knew clearly that the Seventh Prince didn’t have a good relationship with the Ninth Prince at all. How could he end his secluding only for the purpose of saving the Commandery Princess Yanchen?

Suddenly, Zhang Tiangui said, “Next month will be the Ceremony of Worship. It is said that my dad is going to designate the Prince on it. Do you know something about it, Uncle Wan?”

Wan Chengchong realized the reason why Zhang Tiangui returned to Yunwu Commandery. His aim was the title of the Prince.

Top geniuses like Zhang Tiangui would by no means stay in Yunwu Commandery in the future.

Nevertheless, the title of Crown Prince of Yunwu Commandery was important, as the Crown Prince could succeed the Baron of Yunwu Commandery.

Even if the Commandery Prince was an inferior-class or a medium-class , or even a superior-class, they could only get their identities from a Baron of Empress Chi Yao of the First Central Empire.

Once they got their identities as a Baron, a lot of advantages would be given to them. And much more convenience in the practice of martial arts would be provided for them.

Therefore, what Zhang Tiangui really cared about was the title of Baron, instead of the position as Yunwu Commandery Prince.

Had things been as they were before, the Crown Prince of Yunwu Commandery would no doubt be Zhang Tiangui.

But there suddenly came the Ninth Prince, Zhang Ruochen, who was even supported by Qianshui Commandery. Then it's hard to say who would get the title of the Prince in the end!

Did Zhang Tiangui come to the Earth Blaze City so urgently only to save Commandery Princess Yanchen?

"Of course not!"

If Wan Chengchong guessed it correctly, Zhang Tiangui came here actually to assassinate Commandery Princess Yanchen.

If Commandery Princess Yanchen died, Zhang Ruochen would naturally lose the support from Qianshui Commandery. At that time, how could he contend for the title of Crown Prince?

"The Commandery Prince is going to designate the Crown Prince? I didn't hear about that." Wan Chengchong shook his head and said, "The Black Market, Moon Worship Demonic Sect and the School of the Martial Market are now bothering the Yunwu Commandery. All the Commandery Prince's efforts are concentrated on solving the problem. He can't designate the Crown Prince at such a time."

"I was just asking out of curiosity, why are you so nervous?"

Zhang Tiangui smiled and said, "Now that Commandery Princess Yanchen has been rescued, I'm just wondering where she is now and whether she is safe or not."

"We're not sure. Probably she is still trapped in the Earth Blaze City." Wan Chengchong said.

"We're not sure. She is probably still trapped in the Earth Blaze City." Wan Chengchong said.

Zhang Tiangui farewelled Wan Chengchong with left palm on right fist, then he left Lingyue Town towards the direction of Fog-hidden Lake with two junior fellow apprentices from Yuntai Suzerain.

Chapter 209: Junior Brother Chen

Zhang Tiangui's smile disappeared as he left Lingyue Town. Stopping, he turned to the two junior fellow apprentices behind him and asked, "Lin Chenyu and Lin Ningshan are both in Earth Blaze City. Did they find out who rescued Commandery Princess Yanchen?"

The two apprentices behind Zhang Tiangui were Shen Feng and Luo Cheng. They were both strong warriors of the Yuntai Suzerain. They ranked in the top 20 among the internal students of the suzerain.

In Yuntai, Shen Feng and Long Cheng had always served Zhang Tiangui. They had rushed to Yunwu Commandery this time just to help Zhang Tiangui.

Shen Feng replied, "I heard that junior sister apprentice Lin saw the mysterious youth and that he is an internal student of the Martial Market School. He killed the Chief of the Black Tiger Hall, Iron Hunchback, with impunity."

A puzzled expression surfaced on Zhang Tiangui's face, and he seemed to be talking to himself. "For a person of the Internal Academy of the Martial Market School to be able to easily kill Iron Hunchback, he must be ranked in the top 50. Other than Luo Shuihan, no other person in the top 50 is younger than 20. How could there suddenly be a young martial arts master? Unless..."

Both the Martial Market School and the Yuntai Suzerain were in Devil Martial City. Young trainees there had many opportunities to challenge each other.

Zhang Tiangui naturally knew all of the masters in the Martial Market School.

"Perhaps you already have someone in mind?" Shen Feng asked.

The trace of a smile emerged on Zhang Tiangui's face. "Six months ago," he said, "I heard that my ninth brother had gained the power to become first on the Profound Board. Even Xun Guihai lost to him. If his cultivation has broken into the Earth Realm, then he has become even more powerful. Combined with some other tricks, he definitely has a chance of killing Iron Hunchback."

Shen Feng furrowed his brows and laughed coldly. "If it was him, then you have little to worry about. He has only been practicing martial arts for two years, and he did not stay long enough in the Black Realm. He rushed to break into the Earth Realm, and now, his foundations are not solid. He won't be able to continue."

Zhang Tiangui replied, "I activated a Sacred Mark when I was three, and I've been practicing for 18 years to be where I am now. His eagerness to catch up has ruined his future and placed him on a road to self-destruction."

Luo Cheng asked, "Then what should we do now? Are we really going to Earth Blaze City?"

Zhang Tiangui replied, "We'll split up to take three different paths. I am going to Earth Blaze City, while you two each take one of the two most-traveled roads to Yunwu City. Whether you run into my ninth brother or Commandery Princess Yanchen, have no mercy and kill them. If possible, frame the black market for it. Do not let others know that you are doing my bidding."

"Understood."

Shen Feng and Luo Cheng bowed to Zhang Tiangui, mounted their steeds, and departed in different directions.

"Has my weak and sickly ninth brother really become a prodigy of the Martial Arts?"

Zhang Tiangui smiled slightly while he broke off a branch and threw it into the lake.

With a whoosh, he jumped up and gently landed on the floating branch. He used his Genuine Qi to ride the branch towards Earth Blaze City.

...

Three days passed in the outside world, while nine days passed in the internal space of the Time and Space Spinel.

During the nine days, Zhang Ruochen had refined and consumed eight Fire Meridian Pills. His body was like a flaming furnace and his skin was as red as a crystal.

Particularly at his glabella. A group of flame-shaped marks appeared between his eyebrows and pulsed with light.

After consuming eight Fire Meridian Pills, Zhang Ruochen's cultivation had improved greatly. He had now reached the peak of the Initial Stage of the Earth Realm. Although he had not yet broken into the Mid Stage, he was very close.

Zhang Ruochen had already reached a very high level in both the Realm of Sword Technique and Spiritual Power, so his starting point was much higher than other warriors. As long as he continued to have sufficient practice resources, he would keep improving naturally.

Huang Yanchen had completely recovered six days ago. This injury had actually helped to improve her cultivation greatly. After she consumed the Wind Meridian Pill from Zhang Ruochen, her cultivation suddenly broke through to the Advanced Stage of the Earth Realm.

Once Huang Yanchen had reached the Advanced Stage, she once again became cold, proud, and aloof. It seemed as if she had regained her royal attitude.

"No wonder junior sister apprentice Duanmu was able to break through so quickly. She knew that the cat was able to create Ice, Fire, and Wind Meridian Pills. Why did you tell her and not me?" Huang Yanchen was obviously slightly jealous. After all, she and Zhang Ruochen were engaged, so he should be closer to her than Duanmu Xingling.

Zhang Ruochen replied calmly, "I didn't tell her, she figured it out on her own. What, are you angry at senior sister apprentice Duanmu?"

"How could that be? It's only a few pills, not some priceless treasure." Huang Yanchen squeezed the elixir bottle in her hands and said coldly, "I'll be sure to return these eight Wind Meridian Pills to you once we return to school. Also..."

Huang Yanchen paused and looked uncomfortable, "This time...thank you..."

"We are both students of the Martial Market School, we should be helping each other," Zhang Ruochen replied.

Huang Yanchen nodded, "Don't worry, since you saved me this time, I'll be sure to return the favor. Of course, I think it's all the same whether or not I return the favor. After all, you are my fiancé; you have to save me."

Zhang Ruochen was very aware of Huang Yanchen's personality, and so he did not want to quibble needlessly with her. "It's already been three days," he said. "I think the masters from the Tarantula Chamber of Commerce should have left Earth Blaze City. We can leave right now."

“Three days? Hasn’t it already been nine days?”

Huang Yanchen’s eyebrows pulled together slightly, and she stared at Zhang Ruochen wondering if he had sustained a head wound during his fight against Hua Qingshan.

Zhang Ruochen knew he wouldn’t be able to fool Huang Yanchen. “Time passes differently in the Time and Space Spinel. Three days pass in its Internal Space, for every one day that passes outside,” he explained.

“What?”

Huang Yanchen was very shocked. She examined her surroundings and spoke after a while, “I stayed at the Completion of the Black Realm for three years, and junior sister apprentice Duanmu stayed for two years, yet you only stayed for half a year. When I saw that you had broken into the Earth Realm, I wanted to scold you. I didn’t think you had such an incredible treasure. If I had known earlier, I could have borrowed it from you and I wouldn’t have needed to waste so much time.”

Zhang Ruochen replied, “Why should I lend such a treasure to you?”

“If you don’t lend your treasure to me, then I’m going to shout it to the hills. When everyone knows about it, then not even the Yunwu Commandery Prince will be able to save you.” Huang Yanchen glanced at Zhang Ruochen. A gleeful smile spread across her beautiful face.

“What if you never had an opportunity to announce it?” Zhang Ruochen stared at Huang Yanchen and revealed a small smile.

Huang Yanchen’s face shifted slightly and she backed up a step. “You would kill me to keep me quiet?”

Even though she had broken into the Advanced Stage of the Earth Realm, it would be difficult for her to escape if Zhang Ruochen wanted to kill her. Particularly because, in the Internal Space of the Time and Space Spinel, there was nowhere she could hide.

Zhang Ruochen stared at her and didn’t say anything.

After a moment, Zhang Ruochen smiled and said, “I was just messing with you, I trust you not to tell anyone. Besides, even if you were to say something, you couldn’t stop me. Since I control the power of space, it is easy for me to protect my life.”

Huang Yanchen ground her teeth. She was very angry. Zhang Ruochen had truly, if briefly, scared her just then.

“Rest assured, I know how to keep a secret. I won’t say a word to anyone about it. But you should be careful of Chen Xier. Although she is my cousin, she is willing to use any means to achieve her end. If she discovers your secret, I suspect she won’t let you go so easily,” Huang Yanchen warned.

Zhang Ruochen would never have revealed the secret of the Time and Space Spinel and his power over space with anyone other than Huang Yanchen.

This was because he could see through Huang Yanchen and he understood her personality. She had a temper and she was a very straight-forward person. Although she seemed aloof and distant, she would not act against Zhang Ruochen behind his back.

All of his other friends, even Duanmu Xingling and Chen Xier, gave Zhang Ruochen the feeling they were shrouded in mist.

Zhang Ruochen could not be sure how they would react if he revealed his secret to them.

Of course, friends were still friends. For the time being, Zhang Ruochen was still very willing to be friends with Duanmu Xingling and Chen Xier.

...

Yunwu Commandery's army opened fire on Earth Blaze City, enveloping the entire city in the flames of war.

All the members of the black market in Earth Blaze City escaped by boat.

Chang Qiqi, an Internal student of the Martial Market, took the opportunity to escape towards Yunwu City with Blackie.

"Even though I didn't get any merit points on this trip to Earth Blaze City, I managed to pick up a cat." Chang Qiqi rode a spotted leopard with one of her hands wrapped around Blackie. He squeezed him gently and a smile broke out on his face.

Blackie rolled his eyes and didn't bother to acknowledge him.

The last three days with Chang Qiqi were more than enough for Blackie to become accustomed to his vulgar laugh.

"Waaa!"

Suddenly, the crystal around Blackie's neck began to give off a bright white light. The white light grew brighter and brighter, until Chang Qiqi closed his eyes from the pain.

When Chang Qiqi opened his eyes again, he found two people standing in front of him.

Chang Qiqi did not connect the white light to the appearance of the two people. He could not imagine the crystal was big enough to conceal two people.

He stared and joyfully cried, "Junior sister apprentice Huang, when did you escape Earth Blaze City?"

Huang Yanchen stood tall. Her figure was graceful and she appeared to be cool and unruffled. "I left Earth Blaze City three days ago," she replied. "Junior brother apprentice Chang, thank you for coming to rescue me three days ago from the Tarantula Chamber of Commerce."

Chang Qiqi sighed. "Hua Qingshan was too powerful; I was no match for him."

Suddenly, Chang Qiqi looked towards the youth in the metal mask standing next to Huang Yanchen. He face looked confused, and he asked, "Did this junior fellow apprentice rescue you from the Tarantula Chamber of Commerce?"

Zhang Ruochen did not deny it, and he said, "Greetings, brother."

Chang Qiqi seemed very interested in Zhang Ruochen. "What is your name, junior fellow apprentice? How come I haven't seen you before the Martial Market School?"

Zhang Ruochen and Huang Yanchen had already discussed how they would answer, so he calmly replied, "There are always some students that aren't seen at the Martial Market School."

Chang Qiqi became even more excited. "I have long heard that the golden-robed elders at the Martial Market School sometimes take secret disciples. Are you perhaps one of them?" he asked.

Huang Yanchen warned coldly, "Junior Brother Chen is a secret disciple of the Hall Master of the silver-robed elder. I suggest you be more polite, brother Chang."

"Chen Ruo" was the alias Zhang Ruochen and Huang Yanchen had decided on earlier.

Chang Qiqi gushed. "To be a match for Hua Qingshan at such a young age, no wonder Junior Brother Chen is a disciple of Master Lei. You were also able to rescue junior sister apprentice Huang from the Tarantula Chamber of Commerce. You must be ranked in the top 10 in the Internal Academy, right?"

Zhang Ruochen looked towards Blackie and said, "Thank you for looking after Blackie these last few days. We were in a hurry to leave Earth Blaze City after the battle with the Tarantula Chamber of Commerce and the Evil Warrior. We had to leave him behind."

"Ah, this cat belongs to you?"

Zhang Ruochen nodded.

Chang Qiqi was reluctant to hand over Blackie. He patted Blackie's tummy a few times before finally returning him to Zhang Ruochen.

Chapter 210: Figure in Black

Zhang Ruochen pulled Huang Yanchen to the side. "Senior sister apprentice Huang, will Master Lei be angry at me for pretending to be his secret disciple?" he asked her in a low voice.

"He shouldn't be."

Huang Yanchen continued, "Perhaps you are not aware, but Master Lei looks upon you very favorably. It was he who gave the order for you to receive the privileges of a student of the Earth Board, and he has directed large amounts of practice resources to you. This matter caused quite the uproar in the Internal Academy."

Zhang Ruochen did not understand. "I've never even met Master Lei, why does he look out for me so much?" he asked.

Huang Yanchen replied, "Master Lei is the head of the silver-robed elders. Although he is not a golden-robed elder, he holds great power. He is even more powerful than some of the golden-robed elders. He must recognize your potential and want to have you as a disciple. If you were to become his disciple, then you would gain a very powerful backer, and very few people in Omen Ridge would dare to bother you."

“Of course, you shouldn’t count your chickens before they’re hatched. Master Lei also said that if you could not become one of the top 10 in the Internal Academy within a year, then your Earth Board privileges would be canceled.”

“I have never cared about that.” Zhang Ruochen smiled. “Although it is good to receive the privileges of the Earth Board, it has also put a target on my back. I have become someone everyone wants to challenge.”

Huang Yanchen replied, “Perhaps Master Lei is testing you. Although you are very powerful in your current cultivation, you are still very young. Compared to the top 10 students in the Internal Academy, you still have far to go.”

“If you can become one of the top 10 within a year, then Master Lei may personally accept you as a disciple. He might even ensure your entry to the Saint Academy.”

“Fate is the master of us all! The way of Martial Arts is to take one step at a time. How should I know what level I will be at in a year?” Zhang Ruochen smiled.

Chang Qiqi approached Zhang Ruochen and Huang Yanchen. His face grew suspicious as he noticed their proximity. As he entered earshot, he called, “Junior sister apprentice Huang, junior brother Chen, what are you talking about?”

Zhang Ruochen turned around, smiled, and said, “We are discussing the recent situation in the Yunwu Commandery.”

Zhang Ruochen saw the suspicion in Chang Qiqi’s eyes and instantly understood. He immediately moved a few steps to distance himself from Huang Yanchen.

He realized that his current identity was that of Chen Ruo, a secret disciple of the Hall Master of the silver robed elders, while Huang Yanchen’s identity was that of Zhang Ruochen’s fiancée. It would not do to be so close to Huang Yanchen.

Chang Qiqi looked to be only about 1.6 meters. He had dark skin with an aquiline nose and bushy, black eyebrows. His eyes were narrow slits, and he carried an ancient bronze sword on his back. Everything about him was compact and lean.

A playful smile hovered on his face, and he said, “I am better informed than you about the current situation in the Yunwu Commandery. A month ago, the Martial Market School joined with the Martial Market Bank. With the additional strength of the official channels of the Yunwu Commandery, we managed to soundly defeat the black market and the Moon Worship Demonic Sect. 30 of the branches were destroyed and tens of thousands of Evil Warriors were killed. It was a blood bath.”

“All of the heretics escaped towards Yunwu City, except for a few of the most hidden branches.”

“I suspect that the final battle will be at Yunwu City.”

Zhang Ruochen furrowed his brows, “The Martial Market School and the Martial Market Bank struck too hard. The black market and the Moon Worship Demonic Sect are bound to retaliate. Evil Warriors from the surrounding commanderies are sure to come to their aid. It’s going to be chaos. I wonder if the Yunwu City army will be able to control it.”

Chang Qiqi smiled, "We are only in charge of defeating the warriors of the black market and the Moon Worship Demonic Sect. As for the situation in Yunwu City, well, that is for the royal family to worry about."

The black market, Martial Market School, Moon Worship Demonic Sec, and even the Yuntai Suzerain have all intervened. Yunwu City must be turned upside down right now. No matter how many masters the royal palace has, they will struggle to keep the peace.

Zhang Ruochen continued to worry about his relatives in Yunwu City.

"I must go to Yunwu City right away," Zhang Ruochen said.

Zhang Ruochen had only just finished speaking when the leaves rustled in the treetops. A black shadow flashed by at an incredible speed.

A single dead leaf floated down.

"Who goes there?"

Zhang Ruochen's eyes sharpened. His hand flashed out and caught the leaf between two fingers.

Spiritual Fire Genuine Qi flowed out of his body and enveloped the leaf.

He snapped his fingers and the flaming leaf spun and flew outwards. With a boom, it snapped off a tree branch as big around as a bowl.

The black shadow flew out from behind the tree and jumped 10 meters to the top of another tree.

The man wore a black robe and mask, and he was tall and slender with eyes like torches. He was certainly a master of Martial Arts.

"Haha! You are so naïve! Did you really think you could make it to Yunwu City?" The black robed warrior laughed.

"Who are you?" Zhang Ruochen asked.

"Your doom," said the man in black .

Chang Qiqi rolled his eyes and replied, "Tch! Anyone can boast. We are three students of the Internal Academy, do you think you can kill us? Maybe if you are a legendary warrior from the Heaven Realm, but I doubt you are that strong."

"So what if you are students of the Internal Academy? Over the years, we of the black market have killed plenty you guys," the black robed figure retorted disdainfully.

"You're from the black market?" Zhang Ruochen's eyes flickered with skepticism.

The man hid his face behind a mask, but from his voice, it was clear that he couldn't be older than 30. When did such a powerful young warrior join the black market?

"That's right," the black-clad figure replied clearly.

Zhang Ruochen continued to question him. "Which faction do you belong to?"

“What does it matter? You’ll be dead soon, anyway.”

He immersed his Genuine Qi into his voice and executed a sound wave martial technique, Mysterious Sound.

The air rippled like water from the pressure as wave after wave rushed towards Zhang Ruochen’s group.

At the moment the sound wave was released, all the birds in a 3 meter radius died and fell from their trees.

“Crack!”

The sound waves shattered a dead tree beside Zhang Ruochen.

Even at Zhang Ruochen’s current cultivation, he could feel his blood roiling and his ear drums pounding from the sound wave attack. The sound waves in the air were like sharp knives poking his skin.

Huang Yanchen’s face turned pale, and she retreated under the attack of the sound waves. She appeared to have already been injured.

Huang Yanchen had already reached the Advanced Stage of the Earth Realm, yet she was still unable to withstand the sound waves. If she had been a warrior with a lower cultivation, then she would have suffered heavier injuries.

Chang Qiqi had the highest martial cultivation of any of them. He had already reached the Medium State of the Earth Realm, and he was also a level two prodigy. His training was extensive, and he could defend against the sound wave attack of the black robed figure.

“Bring it on.”

Chang Qiqi rushed forward. The sword on his back flew out of its scabbard and landed in his hands. He raised his sword with both hands and carved out a 10 meter long sword blast.

The blast split the sound waves and sliced towards the man in black.

“Boom!”

Chang Qiqi’s attack knocked down a dozen of the big trees nearby and cleared out a wide swathe of forest.

The black-clad warrior once again leaped in the air. He gently alighted on the top of a tree like a big raven and laughed. “You live up to being the 41st warrior of the Internal Academy. Your broadsword technique is not bad.”

“A normal warrior at the Completion of the Earth Realm can only reach a speed of 120 meters per second, but he just reached at least 140 meters per second. He is no amateur. Junior sister apprentice Huang and junior brother Chen, you two leave first. I’ll take this guy on.” Chang Qiqi said, his expression serious. He hefted his broadsword and stared determinedly at the black-robed figure.

“Let’s get out of here!” Zhang Ruochen yelled.

Zhang Ruochen could see that the man in black was obviously very powerful. Even if they worked together, they might not be strong enough.

Huang Yanchen was a little worried. "Will elder brother Chang be able to take him on?"

"No."

Zhang Ruochen continued, "But we are his target. He is not after elder brother Chang."

"How do you know he wants us?" Huang Yanchen asked. She stared curiously at Zhang Ruochen.

"Let's leave first. Then we'll talk."

Zhang Ruochen glanced back and saw that Chang Qiqi had begun to battle the black-clad man. "Don't worry about elder brother Chang. Even Qing Huashan was not able to kill him. Elder brother Chang has shown he is very good at protecting himself."

Without wasting any more time, Zhang Ruochen and Huang Yanchen both executed Shadow of the Wind Dragon and escaped as quickly as possible. In no time, they were hundreds of kilometers away.

Only two blurry shadows could be seen as they raced along the mountain trails.

"Zhang Ruochen, what is happening? How did you know that person came for us?" Huang Yanchen asked again.

"Because he is not an evil warrior of the black market."

Zhang Ruochen continued, "He didn't ask for elder brother Chang's name, but he already knew his ranking at the Internal Academy. Don't you think that's strange?"

Huang Yanchen realized Zhang Ruochen was right. "It is very strange. It seems that he knows elder brother Chang. Could it be...is the man in black a student at the Martial Market School?"

"Not only students in the Martial Market School know of elder brother Chang."

Zhang Ruochen went on, "There are countless suzerains within the Devil Martial City. Any of them could have met elder brother Chang. We cannot determine this warrior's identity yet, but since he named himself as an evil warrior of the black market, then his mission must be more than just killing three Internal students of the Martial Market School."

Huang Yanchen replied, "You and elder brother Chang are not particularly special. It is unlikely that people are aiming to specifically kill you. I suspect he must have come for me."

"Perhaps!"

They continued to travel quickly, moving at more than 100 meters per second. They didn't dare to rest at all.

When night came, they were already over 300 kilometers away. Only they could have moved at such speeds. If it had been other warriors of the Earth Realm, they would probably have been exhausted by now.

After dark, Zhang Ruochen and Huang Yanchen rested briefly in a mountain spirit temple to restore some of their Genuine Qi.

Zhang Ruochen stood in front of the entrance to the temple and watched night fall with serious eyes.

The air was cold and dark clouds hid the sky. It looked as if a giant storm was brewing.

After Huang Yanchen replenished her Genuine Qi, she also walked out and said, as she saw Zhang Ruochen's expression, "That man in black won't be able to catch up so quickly. Besides, even if he did, we should be able to put up a fight given our strength. Ah, I forgot, you can't use your space power on a whim."

Zhang Ruochen shook his head, "I have a bad feeling. Tonight won't be peaceful, perhaps a great enemy will appear. A power prevents us from returning to Yunwu City. Who could it be?"

"You have abnormal Spiritual Powers. Do you sense something?" Huang Yanchen asked.

She knew that people with great Spiritual Powers could sometimes foresee things to come. Coincidentally, Zhang Ruochen's Spiritual Power was freakishly strong.