

Chapter 541: 1.1 Million Military Merits

The Iron Lady's eyes were shining like two bright, cold stars. She looked down at the blood on her hands. Smiling coldly, she said, "You indeed live up to being number one on the Heaven Board. You react fast."

"You are very strong and able, too."

As Zhang Ruochen felt around his neck for blood stains, the expression in his eyes gradually turned cold.

The speed by which the Iron Lady struck was alarming and ruthless. Every single move of hers could kill.

Confrontation with such enemies demanded caution. Any form of negligence could result in a terrible death.

The Orange Star Emissary who was standing behind Zhang Ruochen warned him, saying, "The Iron Lady is ranked the number 10 killer of the Blood Cloud Tower. Once, she assassinated a superior who had reached the Fifth Change in the Fish-Dragon Realm. She successfully completed the assassination mission. However, she was also seriously injured during that mission. Her opponent almost shattered her bones."

"A Half-Saint from the Blood Cloud Tower set her bones back using a silver-molybdenum-iron alloy. Her new body is even more powerful than before.

"About half of her body is made of silver, molybdenum, and iron."

Zhang Ruochen nodded his head in realization. No wonder the Iron Lady had not felt any pain when he pierced her with his sword.

Such a half-man, half-metal killer was not easy to tackle.

The Iron Lady gave the Orange Star Emissary an icy look and said, "Orange Star Emissary, you have betrayed the Black Market. This is unforgivable. All the evil warriors will be after your life once you return to Kunlun's Field. Your subordination to Zhang Ruochen has ruined your future."

"The Orange Star Emissary let out a scornful laugh and said, "Iron Lady, you have a strong body and a reasonable level of cultivation. However, it would not be difficult for me to kill you."

"What bold words! How befitting for someone who used to be a Star Emissary."

The Iron Lady snorted and placed the Auspicious Vase into the metallic groove at her waist. She parted her feet slowly, and she started to shuffle her metal combat boots against the floor, producing tiny sparks from the warship fragments.

She held her iron hands together tightly and said, "Orange Star Emissary, if it were in the past I would have refrained from confronting you because of your status. But now, I'll be rewarded if I cut off your head and bring it back to the Black Market. It'll be much better for me to kill you than to kill ten saints."

“Really? A star emissary will remain a star emissary, and a killer will be a killer forever. You will die a tragic death if you come to grips with me.”

The Orange Star emissary shook her head and smiled. She had quietly begun to harness her Qi and all her fingers began to emit icy cold Qi.

Two powerful blasts of Qi rushed towards each other and collided in the space between the two opponents.

“Swosh!”

In the next instant, the Iron Lady and the Orange Star Emissary simultaneously pushed their feet off the ground. They looked like two shadows shot up into the air, and they began fighting fiercely.

“Bang!”

Like lightning, the two women attacked each other with a dozen moves.

Ao Xinyan, who was standing on the debris of the warship, pulled out the Bishui Dragon Pattern Sword while watching the two women fighting in the air. Then she said, “Group Leader, would you like me to give Orange Star a hand?”

“No. She can’t become one of the Seven Star emissaries of the Black Market if she can’t even overpower the Iron Lady,” said Zhang Ruochen.

The Orange Star Emissary had just reached the Second Change in the Fish-Dragon Realm, therefore she had not accumulated enough depth, nor had she practiced any Ghost Level martial techniques. Zhang Ruochen, however, had full confidence in her.

Shouldn’t a star emissary, carefully selected among thousands of candidates, and painstakingly nurtured by the saints, be capable of this?

Zhang Ruochen raised his voice and said, “Orange Star Emissary, I will reward you richly if you manage to kill the Iron Lady and to retrieve my Auspicious Vase for me.”

“Thank you,” said the Orange Star Emissary with a smile.

That the Orange Emissary was still able to answer Zhang Ruochen in this manner, while confronting an evil superior like the Iron Lady, showed that she was able to tackle her opponent effortlessly.

“Clomp, Clomp!”

Suddenly a subtle sound of running water could be heard from afar.

Zhang Ruochen shifted his vision to look behind him, and he saw seven humanoid fish approaching them.

Three of them, flying in mid-air, were like three circles of sunlight. They emitted a light so strong that it hurt the eye.

The remaining four humanoid fish were swimming in the water.

“Since the Iron Lady has appeared, the other evil masters must be close by. They may ambush us anytime, so be on your guard while I deal with the humanoid fish.”

After Zhang Ruochen gave instructions to Ao Xinyan and Huang Yanchen, he grabbed the Ancient Abyss Sword and jumped off what was left of the warship. He headed towards the seven humanoid fish walking on water.

Standing up to seven humanoid fish on his own was indeed a great challenge.

However, instead of feeling or looking fearful, Zhang Ruochen was very excited.

To him, these were not merely seven humanoid fish, but also a chance to earn many military merits.

Four humanoid fish of the Fourth Change in the Fish-Dragon Realm and three humanoid fish of the Third Change in the Fish-Dragon Realm amounted to a total of 1.1 million military merits.

Zhang Ruochen’s primary goal was to reach the Ultimate Realm of the Heaven Realm.

He was closer to achieving this goal than ever.

Zhang Ruochen would certainly not tackle the seven humanoid fish at close range. He would have no chance of defeating them if he did that.

After all, the humanoid fish was extremely skillful in defense and impossible to kill by spiritual power alone. Unless it was attacked at its most vulnerable spot, even a holy weapon like the Ancient Abyss Sword could not kill it.

“Swoosh!”

Zhang Ruochen tossed out the Dragon Lock Chain while the closest humanoid fish was still over 300 meters away.

Under the stimulation of its inscription, the Dragon Lock Chain gradually expanded to the thickness of a human waist. It emitted sparks of lightning and fire and wrapped itself around the left fin of the first humanoid fish flying through the air.

This humanoid fish had the power of the Fourth Change in the Fish-Dragon Realm.

The moment its fin was entangled in the Dragon Lock Chain, it stretched both fins with an explosion of powerful force, pulling the Dragon Lock Chain taut.

“Crash!”

How could Zhang Ruochen defend himself against this humanoid fish that had attained the Fourth Change in the Fish-Dragon Realm?

Zhang Ruochen felt a powerful pull from the Dragon Lock Chain, dragging him through the air towards the humanoid fish.

The humanoid fish stretched out its claws from the bottom of its abdomen. The three claws, all razor-sharp hooks, were aimed at Zhang Ruochen’s abdomen.

Zhang Ruochen somersaulted through the air and went over the claws.

Simultaneously, he thrust his sword forward and struck the left eye of the humanoid fish.

“Pffff!”

The Ancient Abyss Sword pierced the humanoid fish’s eyeball through to its head. Powerful sword Qi exploded from the sword, and the humanoid fish’s head turned into a bloody mess.

In a flash, Zhang Ruochen retrieved his sword and flew over the humanoid fish’s head.

“Swoosh!”

The dead body of the humanoid fish fell into the sea.

“Swoosh!”

Without any further delay, Zhang Ruochen cast out the Dragon Lock Chain once more towards another humanoid fish of the Third Change in the Fish-Dragon Realm.

Before this humanoid fish could dodge, the chain had already wound around it twenty times.

Because its wings were chained tightly all around, it was unable to continue flying, and it started to go down.

“Swoosh swoosh!”

Two golden Holy Swords flew out from the Storage Ring and pierced both of its eyeballs through to its body.

In passing through the humanoid fish, the two Holy Swords eviscerated all of its blood vessels and organs.

Zhang Ruochen was able to annihilate two humanoid fish consecutively and rapidly because he had found their weakness.

The weakness of the humanoid fish was its eyes.

Of course, another crucial point was that the humanoid fish was relatively low in its intelligence.

Although the humanoid fish and the redcloud python were both level five savage beasts, the humanoid fish’s intelligence was far inferior.

“Waah!”

After the tragic death of the two humanoid fish, the five remaining humanoid fish became furious. They flew towards Zhang Ruochen, surrounded him, and started launching crazy attacks at him.

“Bang! Bang!”

The Dragon Pearl started to emit dazzling light that encircled Zhang Ruochen to protect him.

At the same time, six golden Holy Swords were suspended in six locations surrounding Zhang Ruochen. The six Holy Swords, under the control of the Heart of the Sword, attacked the five humanoid fish continuously.

“Space Vortex.”

When Zhang Ruochen found an opportunity to utilize his space power, he harnessed the power into his fingertips and then struck out at one of the humanoid fish.

A two meter space vortex tore open the air in front of his fingers as it struck the humanoid fish on the head.

The scales on its head were smashed into pieces, and its skull was broken in half.

Yet another humanoid fish descended into the sea.

Standing in the mist, not far from the battlefield, were two Evil Warriors in black robes. They were none other than Huo Wuji and Huo Guang.

Huo Wuji watched the battle between Zhang Ruochen and the humanoid fish from afar, and he said in a hoarse voice, “Zhang Ruochen is using space power. Whenever he mobilizes that power, the tip of his fingers emit intense space fluctuations.”

Huo Guang said, “There’s a hidden secret in Zhang Ruochen’s body. If we could take him down and force him to reveal his secret regarding space power, we wouldn’t need to submit to the Green Robed Emissary ever again in all that we do.”

Huo Wuji nodded. He clenched his fists, and said, “If I could lay my hands on the Dragon Pearl in Zhang Ruochen’s body, perhaps I might be able to break through to Half-Saint Realm in the remaining days of my life.”

” Grandpa, should we get to work?”

Huo Guang held his six foot Silver-Bone Bow in his hand and looked towards the battlefield in the distance, itching to make his move.

Huo Wuji threw a glance at him and said, “Now is not the best time. It may seem that Zhang Ruochen is strong and mighty because he managed to kill four out of seven humanoid fish. However, he must have exhausted a huge amount of Genuine Qi by utilizing the Holy Weapon and Space Power.

“What’s more, Zhang Ruochen also used several Holy Weapons simultaneously. Going like this, it will take all the Genuine Qi in his body to kill all seven humanoid fish.”

Huo Guang’s eyes lit up with sudden realization. He smiled and said, “Grandpa, do you mean we wait until Zhang Ruochen kills all the beasts and exhausts most of his Genuine Qi before we attack?”

Huo Wuji looked like he had a card up his sleeve. He said with a smile, “He is like the mantis that stalks the cicada, unaware of the oriole behind. It will be a piece of cake to take down Zhang Ruochen.”

Huo Guang shifted his gaze towards Huang Yanchen and Ao Xinyan.

However, Huo Guang only glanced at them and immediately withdrew his gaze. He did not think much of them as they were just two maidens, unworthy of mention.

Chapter 542: Yesterday’s Old Department

It took Zhang Ruochen fifteen minutes to annihilate the last four humanoid fishes.

Huang Yanchen dashed forward and joined Zhang Ruochen to collect the scales, feathers, beast tendons, and the fire spirit beads of the humanoid fishes.

“It is no surprise that you are number one Heaven Board. Witnessing you defeat seven humanoid fishes made me realize that you truly are admirable.”

It was a voice of an old man that sounded out from of the mist.

Huang Yanchen turned to the direction of the voice and asked, “Who is that?”

Huo Wuji and Huo Guang walked out from the fog.

Both of them were Fish-dragon Realm monks. They are capable of communicating with Heaven and Earth Spiritual Qi with their Internal Qi, which allowed them to have feather light bodies and the capability of standing on water without using any martial technique.

“So it’s you,” said Huang Yanchen.

Zhang Ruochen was calm and composed as if he had known all along that Huo Wuji and Huo Guang were hiding in the dark. He winked at Huang Yanchen, letting her know that she should continue collecting treasures from the dead humanoid fishes.

“Stop.”

Huo Guang glared at Huang Yanchen and reprimanded her, “The treasures found on the seven humanoid fishes belong to us now.”

Huang Yanchen felt anger rising in her and was about to summon the Holy Sword to slaughter Huo Guang.

Zhang Ruochen stopped Huang Yanchen. He turned to Huo Guang and said, “That’s against the rules! I was the one who killed the humanoid fishes. Why should I let you take the treasures?”

Huo Guang laughed and said, “Simply because we are stronger than you.”

Zhang Ruochen held himself back from laughing out loud. He said, “If I’m not wrong, you have only achieved the Third Change in the Fish-dragon Realm. Believe it or not, if I can kill seven humanoid fishes, I can also kill you.”

“Ha ha!”

Huo Guang gave a laugh, but he turned somber and said, “What good is it for you to continue putting up an act? Don’t think that I don’t know that you have exhausted all of your Genuine Qi. What’s left of you is an empty shell. I could knock you down with a single punch.”

Huo Guang stared intently at Zhang Ruochen, hoping to catch a hint of the panic in his expression.

To his disappointment, Zhang Ruochen appeared rather calm and composed. He nodded and said, “You’re right. The Genuine Qi in me had been exhausted from the battle.”

Huo Guang said, "In that case, hand over the treasures you are carrying to us and reveal the secret of the Space Power to me. Perhaps I will grant you an easy death."

"What an arrogant fellow."

Huang Yanchen could not hold back anymore. She garnered a strong wind power which rushed out of her body to form a ten meters long shadow dragon.

"Roar!"

The sound of the wind turned into a dragon's roar.

Displaying her skills of the Shadow of the Royal Wind Dragon, Huang Yanchen dashed forward and thrust her sword towards Huo Guang. The sword hit Huo Guang in between his eyebrows.

Huo Guang's expression changed slightly, and he struck out the Silver-bone Bow to defend himself against Huang Yanchen's sword.

However, the moment it touched the sword's edge, the Silver-bone Bow broke into pieces.

"Holy Sword!"

Huo Guang's expression changed slightly, and he struck out the Silver-bone Bow to defend himself against Huang Yanchen's sword.

Since when did a weapon like the Holy Sword become so ubiquitous?

He was terrified and kept retreating.

Seeing that Huang Yanchen was about to pierce her sword into Huo Guang's forehead, Huo Wuji who was standing behind bellowed, "How dare you."

"How dare you."

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Huo Wuji only blurted two words, but those words turned into a series of echoes.

Each sound he made overlapped with one another, and together they condensed into a human-shaped sound wave.

The human-shaped sound wave was translucent. It quickly dashed towards Huang Ruochen and punched him.

Huo Wuji used an Inferior Class Ghost Level sound wave martial technique, known as the Scream of Death.

This martial technique can transform the human voice into sound waves that can manifest itself as various forms.

The most basic form was to condense sound waves into a human form.

"Bang!"

As Huang Yanchen blocked the attack, she collided with the human-shaped shadow of sound waves. The impact of the strong force caused her to fall behind Zhang Ruochen.

Huo Wuji looked surprised as he sized up Huang Yanchen and said, "You surprised me by having a high level of cultivation at such a young age. However, you still won't be able to match my power. Run for your life so you may still live."

"Really? I don't think so."

Huang Yanchen refused to admit defeat. She lifted her combat sword and attacked again.

"Senior sister apprentice Yanchen, please go collect the treasures from the bodies of the humanoid fish while I deal with them!" said Zhang Ruochen.

Huang Yanchen was aware that Zhang Ruochen was powerful enough to crush Huo Wuji and Huo Guang easily.

So Huang Yanchen put down her Holy Sword, stared coldly at the two evil cultivators across her and said to Zhang Ruochen with a low voice, "Be careful, those two are very powerful."

Zhang Ruochen nodded his head.

Huo Wuji frowned and coldly said, "Zhang Ruochen, even at your prime, you may not be able to stand up to me. You have already exhausted a great amount of Genuine Qi. Don't you think you are over confident?"

Zhang Ruochen smiled, held out a hand, and made a gesture of invitation. He said, "If I win, I was confident; if I lose, then I was conceited."

"Don't tell me he still has some remarkable trump card?"

A bad feeling arose inside Huo Wuji.

Naturally, having lived for over a hundred years, an elder like him did not get easily intimidated by Zhang Ruochen.

Huo Wuji lifted his arms and held them in front of his chest. He garnered Genuine Qi from within his body and focused it at his abdomen before he let out the Scream of Death again.

"Kill!"

He opened his mouth and let out another murderous sound wave.

The sound wave condensed to form an armored seven-meter-tall warrior. He carried a magical hooked knife in his hand and dashed towards Zhang Ruochen while screaming.

At the back of the sound wave warrior, the sea water tossed and turned as it moved forward in waves.

Zhang Ruochen stood on the surface of the water, his white robe flapping noisily from the strong wind.

Despite that, his expression remained as calm as a millpond.

"Swoosh!"

With a wave of his hand, his lightning knife flew out and shattered the sound wave warrior into pieces.

Zhang Ruochen dashed forward to face Huo Wuji. He struck again with his lightning knife.

Huo Wuji crossed his arms over his chest to block the attack.

“Poof!”

The lightning knife went through Huo Wuji’s Celestial Body Shield and struck his arms, sending him flying through the air.

Huo Wuji fell and landed thirty-three meters away. His hands were smoldering, having been charred by the heat of the thunderbolt. More seriously, the lightning knife left a deep wound on his wrists that they were almost detached from the hand.

“Whoosh!”

Another lightning knife flew towards Huo Wuji and was about to hit his neck.

Huo Wuji swiftly dodged by bending his knees. He said with a trembling voice, “I admit defeat!”

Under Zhang Ruochen’s command, the lightning knife stopped and hovered above Huo Wuji, sparkling with a purple glow.

Huo Guang who was standing on the side witnessed how his grandfather bowed in defeat after merely three moves from Zhang Ruochen.

He was terrified and hurriedly kneeled down, hoping Zhang Ruochen would spare his life.

Even his grandfather was no match for Zhang Ruochen; he would definitely not be able to stand up to Zhang Ruochen.

Zhang Ruochen said, “Why are you admitting defeat so quickly?”

Huo Wuji took a deep breath and hideously smiled. He said, “You are a Master of Spiritual Power. I am not ashamed to have fallen into your hands. You may do whatever you like with me.”

Huo Guang finally realized what was going on. Zhang Ruochen was not only a great martial arts monk but also a great Master of Spiritual Power.

Even if Zhang Ruochen’s Genuine Qi gets depleted, he could still kill them using his Spiritual Power.

“I won’t kill you; Neither will I let you off.”

As Zhang Ruochen released his grip, the lightning sword transformed into tiny sparks that eventually dissipated.

Huo Wuji looked up and said, “What do you mean?”

Zhang Ruochen said, “Both of you have a reasonable level of capability. Why don’t you go into the Scroll World and help me build cities and caves?”

Zhang Ruochen did not give them much time to consider their options and sent them directly into the Scroll World. He handed them over to Blackie to be slaves in the Scroll World.

Anyone who enters into the Scroll World would not be able to revolt, even if he were a master of the Fish-dragon Realm.

The Orange Star Emissary beat the Iron Lady and obtained the Auspicious Vase. He flew back to return it to Zhang Ruochen and said, "Sir, Huo Wuji and Huo Guang are useless trash. To keep them under your wings would be wasting Spiritual Qi in the Scroll World.

As Zhang Ruochen took over the bottle, he smiled and said, "Not all Black Market Evil Warriors are evil. Even though the Saint Huo Villa is now obsolete, Huo Wuji and Huo Guang were once disciples of Saint Huo Villa. However, as far as I know, a great Saint was once born from Saint Huo Villa."

The Orange Star Emissary was a little surprised that Zhang Ruochen was aware of the Saint Huo Villa. She said, "Sir, are you referring to Huo Qingyuan, the previous manager of Saint Huo Villa?"

Zhang Ruochen nodded and said, "Huo Qingyuan, also known as Saint King Qingyuan was a powerful commander who served Emperor Ming. He followed Emperor Ming, fought countless battles, and concurred many lands."

"Unfortunately, after the collapse of the Sacred Central Empire, Saint Huo Villa was implicated. Under the siege of the imperial court army, many of its top masters were annihilated and wounded. They had no other choice but to escape by joining the Black Market."

"Since Huo Qingyuan was the predecessor of Huo Wuji and Huang Guang, I will spare their lives."

When he was reborn eight hundred years later, Zhang Ruochen read many history books and learned about the fate of Saint Huo Villa.

Orange Star Emissary had a sudden realization. Her expression changed drastically and said, "As far as I know, eight hundred years ago, Ming Di, one of the Nine Emperors, had an only son whose name was also Zhang Ruochen. You ... and he ... "

Chapter 543: Bloody Trench

"How did you know about that period of history?"

Zhang Ruochen was surprised and stared at Orange Star Emissary. Zhang Ruochen did not expect that she was this knowledgeable.

After all, it's been 800 years, and that was a long time ago. Aside from people who were particularly concerned about that period of history, no one knew that Emperor Ming's son was named Zhang Ruochen. Especially because he wasn't an esteemed master, just a 24-year-old young genius.

Zhang Ruochen's surprised expression confirmed Orange Star Emissary's suspicions. She immediately said, "Do you have a connection with the Sacred Crown Prince 800 years ago?"

The Sacred Crown Prince she was referring to was Zhang Ruochen—the Crown Prince of Emperor Ming.

At first, Orange Star Emissary could not believe that Zhang Ruochen had anything to do with the man 800 years ago.

However, when she thought of Zhang Ruochen's ability to control space, she started to have an inkling. What if he was the man from 800 years ago?

If Zhang Ruochen was indeed the man from 800 years ago, she will be loyal to him no matter what.

Particularly because Orange Star Emissary's family members were once courtiers of the Sacred Central Empire.

Her ancestors were once the Third Ducal Ministers in the whole Sacred Central Empire. They had the power to lead 10,000 people and only be below one.

However, her family suffered similar misfortune like Saint Huo Villa, so her family had no choice but to hide in the Black Market.

Zhang Ruochen couldn't give away his secret to Orange Star Emissary and said, "How would that be possible? I just happen to have the same name as him."

After saying this, Zhang Ruochen leaped forward and returned to the debris of the warship.

Orange Star Emissary was disappointed. She shook her head lightly and sighed, "The Sacred Central Empire was destroyed. My great-grandfather is the only one who still remembers the Sacred Central Empire, how could I consider him as the Sacred Crown Prince."

"No, back then, Sacred Crown Prince was first on the Heaven Board, and now, Zhang Ruochen ranks first on the Heaven Board too."

"What a coincidence! Both of them placed first on the Heaven Board."

"Also, when Huo Wuji and Huo Guang were about to kill Zhang Ruochen and take his treasures, Zhang Ruochen retaliated with resentment which is not the way he usually does things."

Orange Star Emissary turned around and then stared at Zhang Ruochen intensely, and a strong doubt slowly rose within her, "Maybe there is a hidden connection between Zhang Ruochen and the Sacred Crown Prince 800 years ago."

Thus, Orange Star Emissary was determined to know Zhang Ruochen's real identity.

The Warship Debris continued to move forward, but Zhang Ruochen had an unsettling feeling in his heart. He thought, "As one of the descendants from old Sacred Central Empire, Orange Star Emissary will doubt my identity. If those who are related to the empire are still alive, they will doubt me as well. Chi Yao, did you know that I am back?"

Zhang Ruochen knew that there would be more severe challenges and dangerous situations coming towards him.

Regardless, he has to break through to the Fish-dragon Realm as soon as possible.

Only when he reaches the Fish-dragon Realm, can he gain self-preservation ability. Otherwise, Chi Yao will dispatch his superiors to capture him, and he would have no power to fight back.

"The Fish-dragon Realm!"

With a stern look, Zhang Ruochen squeezed his fingers tightly, rattling the joints of his hands.

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The Warship Debris sailed on the ocean for seven days.

Throughout the seven days, Zhang Ruochen and his three men encountered attacks from different numbers of humanoid fish and redcloud pythons, and survived more than ten fierce battles.

In one battle, despite their strength, they spent a whole day fighting 70 humanoid fishes.

Of course, Zhang Ruochen also made significant achievements. Over the past seven days, he had accumulated millions of military merits, even approaching the Ultimate Realm of the Heaven Realm.

In fact, Zhang Ruochen couldn't even count the total number of his military merits because he had killed so many savage beasts and indigens in the Primitive World.

However, the Chord of Gods has not appeared which meant that his military merits had not reached 30 million points yet.

They had to keep fighting.

Instead of enhancing his cultivation, Zhang Ruochen significantly improved his combat skills, as well as sacrificed his youth to become more sophisticated, cold, and restrained during the past few months in the Xuanwu Primitive World.

Orange Star Emissary, sitting on the Warship Debris, folded her hands together. Her robe slipped, and some of her skin was exposed; her skin glittered in the dark and became translucent like jade, emitting bright moonlight. The moonlight formed a white circle and enveloped her body.

Looking from a distance, that circle of white moonlight looked like a moon floating on the sea surface.

After refining six Dragon Pearls, her cultivation finally broke through again, and she achieved the Third Change in the Fish-dragon Realm—Bone Refining to Jade.

In addition to Orange Star Emissary, Huang Yanchen's cultivation had also improved considerably.

After breaking through the Fish-dragon Realm, Huang Yanchen abandoned the old exercises and started practicing the Xuanwu Sutra.

Huang Yanchen had wholly refined Xuanwu Qi and practiced the third stage of Xuanwu Sutra. Although she was still far from the Third Change in the Fish-dragon Realm, she became much more powerful than before.

Standing beside her, Zhang Ruochen asked, "Senior Sister, how do you feel?"

Practicing Xuanwu Sutra had made Huang Yanchen have a weak interaction with Xuanwu.

Huang Yanchen opened her eyes, looked at the sea surface covered with white fog and said, "The reaction is still very weak, but I am sure that we are moving in the right direction."

Thanks to Huang Yanchen's sensing ability, Zhang Ruochen, and the other men did not lose their way and were gradually approaching the Xuanwu Heritage Place.

“Leader, look, why is the seawater turning red?” Ao Xinyan said.

It wasn't only the seawater that was turning to red, but also the fog on the sea surface.

“It seems like we have almost reached the Bloody Trench,” Zhang Ruochen said.

Zhang Ruochen smiled, walked over, looked into the water and said, “It is said that the over 3,333-meter-deep Bloody Trench is the deepest sea area in Xixuan Sea. It is known as the Bloody Trench because of its bloody fountain, a fountain that continuously pours out blood, turning the surrounding seawater within hundreds of miles turn into the same color as blood, at a great depth of the trench.”

Ao Xinyan said surprisingly, “The same color as blood?”

Zhang Ruochen smiled and said, “That's right.”

As the Warship Debris continued moving forward, the seawater started turning into a brighter red. At the end of the trip, the seawater turned into blood plasma, and emitted a strong fishy smell.

Bones of the dead, including the bones of humans and savage beasts, floated on the surface of the water.

“Gaaa!”

A group of strange black birds stepped on the bones. They had sharp teeth and used them to devour the rotten meat on the bones while shouting a shrill cry that sounded like a crying ghost.

The sea, the air, everything had an atmosphere of death.

The place was like a Genie Blood Sea. There were no signs of life.

“Swoosh!”

The Warship Debris swept across the water, creating a wave.

With a sword in his hand, Zhang Ruochen at the front of the Warship Debris. He looked at the scene of death on the sea surface and said, “It's too quiet! So many soldiers of the Primitive World had entered this sea area. Why is no one here?”

Huang Yanchen stared at the bones and said, “Perhaps... did they all die?”

Huang Yanchen's words turned the atmosphere darker, and everyone stopped talking.

Not long after, they found a Half-saint Warship on the sea surface.

However, the warship had been damaged and was turned sideways on the sea surface. It seems like it would sink any time soon.

On the front of the warship, there was a big hole that looked like a ten-meter-long paw print. The breach caused seawater to enter the warship continuously.

Zhang Ruochen stood at the bottom of the paw print, looked at it for a moment and said, “The atmosphere of death is too strong! Even a Half-saint Warship could not resist its attack. I don't know what kind of creature could have caused such terrible damage.”

“Swoosh!”

Zhang Ruochen gently tiptoed, took off and flew to the top of the Half-saint Warship. He landed on the railing and found that the warship was full of corpses.

All of the Primitive World soldiers did not survive.

Following behind Zhuang Ruochen, Huang Yanchen, Ao Xinyan, and Orange Star Emissary boarded the warship. Seeing this scene in front of them, they all were shocked and their heartbeats increased.

“The sea of the Bloody Trench is indeed a place of murder. Even the Half-saint Warship could not escape misfortune in this trench,” Orange Star Emissary said.

Zhang Ruochen said, “The blood on their bodies is not dry yet which means that it hasn’t been long before they died. It’s best that we leave here as soon as possible in case the horrible creatures’ returns. We would be in trouble if we were to meet it.”

The fact that all Primitive World soldiers on the warship died was frightening. Zhang Ruochen and his three comrades did not dare stay there for a long time.

They left the scene and continued to move on. Six hours later, they met the other Primitive World soldiers on the sea.

The soldiers were attacked by powerful enemies on their way to the Bloody Trench but were lucky enough to have had survived the attacks.

The crowd of soldiers gathered together, and the number of people started to increase. In the end, more than 600 people gathered.

Zhang Ruochen asked, “Thousands of you set off from Holy Turtle Island. Did only a few of you survive?”

A First Change level Primitive World soldier of the Fish-Dragon Realm sighed, “Our Half-saint Warship was attacked by the Black Skeleton Flood-dragons led by Lord of Flood-dragon. Although most of the soldiers on the warship escaped successfully, our warship was taken away by Lord of Flood Dragon.”

Another soldier of Primitive World said, “Our encounter was worse. We met a monster with flames covering its body. It sunk a Half-saint Warship and killed countless soldiers. If I didn’t escape quickly, I would have died on the warship.”

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Everyone was sharing their own experiences. After listening for a long time, Zhang Ruochen finally understood one thing:

Four Half-saint Warships set off from Holy Turtle Island. Three of them had sunk or been damaged, while one was taken away by the Black Skeleton Flood-dragons.

The Xuanwu Heritage had not been seen, and most of the Primitive World soldiers have died.

Chapter 544: The Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King

With indifference in his eyes, Zhang Ruochen frowned and said, "King Jinhuang led the way in the front, so he should have already entered into this sea area. So, why didn't I see him?"

"Right! If King Jinhuang had been there, we would haven't suffered such great losses."

"Perhaps King Jinhuang had already suffered misfortune."

All the people were pessimistic. They were no longer in the frame of mind to seek the Xuanwu Heritage, they only wished they could get out of this sea area alive.

A 10-meter-long warship fragment was sailing quickly from the other direction.

Standing on the warship fragment, Green-robed Emissary and four older evil masters waded into the crowd. They did not stop until they were in front of Zhang Ruochen.

Green-robed Emissary sneered and said, "Perhaps your King Jinhuang has entered the Xuanwu Heritage place and is taking the Xuanwu Heritage. How could he consider your life and death? Humph!"

Looking at Green-robed Emissary, Zhang Ruochen discovered that a layer of pale golden light was flowing on the surface of his skin, shining like metal.

It could be concluded that he had broken through to the Second Change in the Fish-dragon Realm and actualized Skin Refining to Gold.

However, he was not able to control the expansive power inside his body after the breakthrough, so his skin sent out golden rays.

Those monks at the Second Change in the Fish-dragon Realm who had practiced for a long time were able to handle them freely. They could constrict the golden rays in their bodies.

Green-robed Emissary and those evil masters looked ferocious and hostile.

They gradually dispersed to form a half-ring of encirclement and approached Zhang Ruochen.

Since King Jinhuang and the Seventh-Level soldiers of the Primitive World were not present, everything was in disorder and everyone was jittery. All their thoughts concentrated on how to leave the Bloody Trench, so nobody cared about the laws and regulations of the Ministry of War.

How could Green-robed Emissary miss this opportunity?

Zhang Ruochen said with a spurious smile, "What are you doing? Are you trying to start a fight here?"

Green-robed Emissary said with a smile, "Why can't we fight here? Zhang Ruochen, are your military merits already almost 30,000,000 points?"

Zhang Ruochen said, "Do you want to kill me before I reach the Ultimate Realm?"

"Yes."

Zhang Ruochen shook his head and said, "Don't you want to know where Iron Lady, Huo Wuji, and Huo Guang have gone?"

"You killed them?"

Zhang Ruochen shook his head and said, "I didn't kill them, but I can assure you that you won't see them again."

Green-robed Emissary remained calm and said, "Are you trying to scare me? Today, I must fight with you to see your capabilities."

As he put his palms together and then separated them slowly, a ball of green fire came out between his 10 fingers.

With a woosh, the three-meter-long Roaring Flame Hammer flew out of the green fire.

At the top of the hammer, a huge skull was enveloped by the fire, which looked like a torch. The fire from the hammer burned up, sending out tough Saint Power.

"Swoosh!"

As Orange Star Emissary swung her arms, the Dragon Lock Chain flew across 33 meters and hit Green-robed Emissary on his chest.

Green-robed Emissary went backward and escaped the attack of the Dragon Lock Chain.

"Snap!"

With a loud Qi explosion, the Dragon Lock Chain hit in the void space, shaking the Heaven and Earth Spiritual Qi.

After Orange Star Emissary killed Iron Lady, Zhang Ruochen gave the Dragon Lock Chain back to her.

Green-robed Emissary gnashed his teeth in hatred and said coldly, "Orange Star Emissary, it seems that you've completely betrayed the Black Market. In that case, I won't show you any mercy. Today, I'll eliminate you together."

All four of the old Evil Warriors behind Green-robed Emissary were top-class masters.

Among them, there were two elders who had reached the Sixth Change in the Fish-dragon Realm.

The Genuine Qi inside their bodies gushed out of their pores and diffused all around, manifesting as two giant savage beasts—a dragon and a tiger.

The two elders were brothers and few people knew their real names. However, they had a very resounding title: "Dragon and Tiger Evils".

It was said that if they collaborated, they were strong enough to fight against superiors at the Seventh Change in the Fish-dragon Realm without failure.

Even though Orange Star Emissary had broken through to the Third Change in the Fish-dragon Realm, she looked dignified and was heavily guarded when confronting the Dragon and Tiger Evils alone.

Just then, Zhang Ruochen sensed something and looked into the distance.

"Swoosh!"

His Sky Eyes emerged from between his eyebrows. He saw a warship approaching, as giant as a lofty mountain.

The sea fog obscured his vision.

However, his Sky Eyes could still see the area beyond 15 km.

Zhang Ruochen's facial expression altered slightly. He stared at Huang Yanchen, Ao Xinyan, and Orange Star Emissary and said, "A Half-Saint class warship is sailing toward us. Let's get out of here quickly!"

Upon hearing this, all the people were startled.

Of the four Half-Saint class warships, three had been damaged and the last one was taken away by the Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King.

Needless to say, it had to be the Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King!

As an indigenous dominator of the Xixuan Sea, the Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King was comparable to a Half-Saint. Almost all the soldiers of the Primitive World had heard of him.

Without any hesitation, all the soldiers of the Primitive World present began to run away.

"Extraterritorial humans, you can't escape now!"

The Half-Saint warship could be faintly seen in the fog. It was blocking the route in front of everyone.

The water gurgled.

Many giant redcloud pythons came over and encircled the entire sea area. With their heads above the water, they uttered ear-splitting roars.

Being close together and numerous, the redcloud pythons could be seen everywhere.

"Boom!"

A Flood Dragon Tribe Commander at the Sixth Change in the Fish-dragon Realm suddenly jumped out of the water with its jaws wide open. It bit a Primitive World soldier's body in two.

It contracted its throat and swallowed half of the body.

All the Primitive World soldiers around him were scared and immediately escaped far away.

The scales, on the Flood Dragon Tribe Commander's head, gradually retracted into the skin. Then, a woman's head appeared. She burped and said happily, "Extraterritorial humans taste delicious. Regrettably, I've eaten 29 men, so I couldn't eat another bite now."

Among the Primitive World soldiers, a relatively young soldier pointed at the Flood Dragon Tribe Commander and said in dismay, "That is who ate Wang Jing and Lu Qingyao."

The Flood Dragon Tribe Commander laughed loudly and ran over to him as quick as a flash. It devoured the young soldier directly.

Encircled by Flood Dragons, all the soldiers fell into despair because they could not find a way out.

And once they were in despair, even those who were determined would break down, panic, and even cry bitterly.

Even the evil masters of the Black Market were pale and could not help retreating.

Zhang Ruochen remained calm and stared at the Half-Saint class warship not far away. He saw a tall figure standing on the ship.

He knew instinctually that this figure was really the most horrible enemy.

The figure was 2.4 meters tall and wore red armor. He looked very strong and impressed people with his arrogance.

He had a bony face, deep eyes, and a high nose. Above his head, a scarlet flower was suspended, and like a magic lantern, it sent out brilliant rays.

Although he had constricted his aura, Zhang Ruochen could still sense that some destructive force was likely to lie inside him.

And once it broke out, that force would be powerful enough to kill everyone present.

"He must be the dominator of the Xixuan Sea, the Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King, a Sixth Level Savage Beast," Zhang Ruochen thought.

With his hands behind his back, the Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King looked over the Primitive World soldiers and exposed a slight smile on his face. At that moment, he felt as if he was a god who controlled the fate of all living beings.

His voice ran through the entire sea area. "Extraterritorial humans, you should be sentenced to death because you came to the Xixuan Sea and invaded our territory. However, I'm different from you. I won't drive away and exterminate everyone. I can spare your lives."

Upon hearing this, those Primitive World soldiers who were in despair suddenly had a glimmer of hope for their survival.

Was the king really willing to set them free?

They knew that it was quite impossible, but they were still full of expectation.

The Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King looked at them with contempt and mockery. *"How naive human beings are! They really think that I'll let them go,"* he thought. Then, he continued, "Below you is the unfathomable Bloody Trench. Meanwhile, the Xuanwu Heritage place is there. Now, your only way to survive is to dive into the Bloody Trench. If you're lucky enough, you may get the Xuanwu Heritage."

Green-robed Emissary sneered and said, "Well said. You just want us to help you open a path by losing our lives. Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King, do you also want to obtain the Xuanwu Heritage?"

"Shut up!"

The king glared at Green-robed Emissary with Saint Power gushing out of his pupils, which condensed into two light columns.

Green-robed Emissary immediately screamed. His eyeballs ruptured, with blood shedding constantly from his eye sockets.

The Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King reached a hand out across the void space to take away the Holy Weapon, “Roaring Flame Hammer”, in Green-robed Emissary’s hands.

The king grasped the handle of the hammer and released a ball of holy flame from his palms to refine the Vessel Spirit inside the war hammer.

He nodded and said with a sigh, “You are just a man at the Second Change in the Fish-dragon Realm, so you don’t deserve a Holy Weapon. I’ll take care of it for you.”

“Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King, you’ve insulted me beyond my limit.”

Green-robed Emissary endured the pain and roared with anger.

With the green flames inside him, he clenched his fists, leaped into the sky, and threw a punch at the Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King.

“Thump!”

As the king waved his arms, a cloud of Qi poured out and struck Green-robed Emissary, who was beaten into a mass of bloody mist, with his bones broken into a fine powder.

With just a wave of his hand, the king had turned an emissary into flying ashes, and it was as easy as killing an ant.

The Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King sneered and said sarcastically, “Today, I only want to insult you, extraterritorial humans. Who dares to defy me? You are just a bunch of ants, so you should feel greatly honored to have a chance to open a path for me. Now, is there still anyone who isn’t willing to enter the Bloody Trench?”

Chapter 545: Counterattack

With a rustling sound, Green-robed Emissary’s ashes scattered on the sea.

In the blink of an eye, a top-class evil superior had disappeared from the world and was turned into ashes.

Seeing this, all the present soldiers of the Primitive World were startled. They lowered their heads and shivered with cold. They did not dare to breathe too loudly, for fear that they would become the Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King’s next target.

“Green-robed Emissary carried an imperial edict with him as an amulet. Unexpectedly, it still was unable to ward off the king’s attack. Thus, it is obvious that the Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King has awesome power.”

Orange Star Emissary raised her head and looked up at the Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King. Her cold and proud face turned a little pale.

With strong Spiritual Power and sparkling eyes, Zhang Ruochen could see more clearly than Orange Star Emissary.

When the king launched his attacks, a circle of holy light had indeed emerged from Green-robed Emissary. The light flashed for a moment and blocked off the king's first attack.

However, the Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King continuously launched dozens of attacks in a flash and pierced through the circle of holy light. As a result, Green-robed Emissary was killed.

The king acted so quickly that nobody noticed that he had attacked a dozen times. Aside from a wave of his hand, none of the people could see his movements clearly before Green-robed Emissary broke up into fine powder.

Green-robed Emissary must have used the imperial edict, so it did not have much Saint Power remaining.

Even though Green-robed Emissary was no match for the Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King, he could escape easily by virtue of the imperial edict.

Zhang Ruochen also had an imperial edict.

When Sword Saint Xuanji had accepted him as a disciple, he injected Saint Power into the imperial edict.

Zhang Ruochen had not yet used the power of the imperial edict.

Sword Saint Xuanji was the second headmaster of Saint Academy. In the entire Eastern Region, his strength was at the top level. He was conferred as "One of the Three Great Sword Saints of the Eastern Region". Thus, it could be seen that he enjoyed a very exalted status.

The imperial edict issued by him was naturally powerful.

With the imperial edict, Zhang Ruochen did not fear the Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King at all.

As long as he wanted to leave, no Half-Saint could hold him.

Zhang Ruochen had never used it before because its power would be reduced a little after it was used once. Therefore, he would not use it unless it was a critical situation.

Even though he had an imperial edict, Zhang Ruochen did not plan to leave right now. He was thinking about how to kill the Flood Dragon Tribe and break through to the Ultimate Realm of the Heaven Realm. And it would be best if he could get the Xuanwu Heritage.

When the Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King mobilized his beast soul, an invisible soul force burst out and spread in all directions, exerting itself on each soldier of the Primitive World.

He used the soul force to break the will of the soldiers and melt their consciousness. By doing so, he would enslave all the people.

A Sixth-level elder soldier of the Primitive World took a step forward and snorted. "Even if I die, I won't work for a beast."

"You unappreciative old thing."

“Puff!”

The Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King sneered and slapped the elder on his head across the void space.

With a crack, the elder’s body collapsed and became a mass of broken bones and chunks of meat.

“Who else?” the king asked hoarsely.

His strong soul force finally broke the will of the soldiers. They did not dare to resist but dove into the sea and entered the Bloody Trench.

Flying above the sea, five Flood Dragon Tribe Commanders turned into human-headed Flood Dragons and burst into laughter.

Among them, one commander with a female head said in derision, “Extraterritorial humans thought that they stood high above the masses. But actually, they are timid and overcautious creatures. Our king just released a soul force and scared them like a group of turtles. Thus, they obediently lead the way for us.”

Upon hearing this, Huang Yanchen could not bear it anymore. She looked serious and took a step forward, attempting to grapple with the commander.

Zhang Ruochen quickly stretched a hand out across her shoulder and dragged her back.

“Zhang Ruochen, let me go!” Huang Yanchen shouted coldly.

He shook his head and said, “Why should you go and court death?”

“I would rather die than obey the indigenous savage beasts.” Huang Yanchen stared at Zhang Ruochen with a pair of royal blue eyes. She said, “Zhang Ruochen, we are soldiers of the Primitive World, so we shouldn’t be afraid of death, right?”

“Senior sister apprentice, you are too impulsive!”

Zhang Ruochen shook his head and said with sound transmission, “We were supposed to seek the Xuanwu Heritage. Why should we not forbear temporarily and go to the Bloody Trench first? What if we really obtain the Xuanwu Heritage?”

Huang Yanchen said, “Forbear? I can’t bear it! Even if we obtain the Xuanwu Heritage, we will still not be able to defeat the Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King. In that case, we will still help him achieve his aim.”

“That’s not necessarily true.”

Zhang Ruochen shook his head as though he had already found countermeasures. He stopped her retort and said firmly, “Senior sister apprentice, you must listen to me this time. Go into the Bloody Trench with me rather than court death.”

With a stern look, he grasped her arms and dragged her into the water. They dove into the sea along with those soldiers of the Primitive World.

“Swoosh!”

Zhang Ruochen released his Celestial Bodyshield to form a Qi shield with a diameter of 3.3 meters. The Qi shield pushed the seawater away and sank slowly.

Huang Yanchen casually struggled but could not shake off his hands. She did not resist again but dove into the water as he requested.

Ao Xinyan and Orange Star Emissary also released their Celestial Bodysields and followed them.

The Bloody Trench was bottomless.

The seawater was biting cold. Moreover, the water pressure became stronger as one dove deeper. The soldiers' Celestial Bodysields deformed under the pressure.

When they dove to a depth of 1,000 meters under the sea, some soldiers at the Initial Stage and the Mid Stage of the Heaven Realm could not withstand the water pressure and wanted to return to the surface.

However, the five Flood Dragon Tribe Commanders followed them. When they saw someone trying to return to the surface, they would immediately rush forward and devour him.

A commander with an iron ring on his head sneered and said, "Keep diving. Those who dare to retreat will die. Haha!"

Just now, more than 20 soldiers with relatively poor martial cultivations had been eaten by him.

Zhang Ruochen looked stern but was simmering with rage inside. He gritted his teeth and restrained himself with difficulty.

For a war between two worlds, there was no right or wrong—only victory or defeat.

When he saw fellow Kunlun's Field soldiers being eaten alive by those Flood Dragons and unable to resist, he was really aggrieved and furious.

"Just wait a little longer," Zhang Ruochen told himself.

Among the five Flood-dragon Tribe Commanders, two had reached the Sixth Change in the Fish-dragon Realm, while the other three had even reached the Seventh Change in the Fish-dragon Realm.

Besides, a large group of redcloud pythons followed behind them, like an army of the Flood-dragon Tribe. Therefore, hundreds of soldiers of the Primitive World had to force themselves to continue diving to the bottom of the trench.

When they dove to a depth of 5,000 meters below sea level, even the soldiers at the Dawn State of the Heaven Realm could not withstand the water pressure.

Their chests and abdomens fell inward and their eyeballs bulged out. Then, with a bang, their bodies exploded and became a mass of blood.

The Flood-dragon Tribe army did not care whether those Primitive World soldiers lived or died. Instead, they whipped those soldiers at the front and forced them to keep moving.

At a depth of 10,000 meters below sea level, all the Heaven Realm soldiers had died except for Zhang Ruochen. Some died due to the strong water pressure, while others were eaten by the Flood-dragon Tribe Commanders.

Zhang Ruochen released the Space Domain, which could help him withstand water pressure, so he was able to survive.

Seeing those soldiers of the Primitive World die helplessly, Zhang Ruochen turned ghastly pale. He clenched his hands, with strong malice brewing in his eyes.

He had been enduring it silently.

He knew this was not the time.

Even if he was unwilling to do so, he could only endure it.

At a depth of 15,000 meters below the sea, even the monks in the Fish-dragon Realm were struggling to resist. Their powers were minimized under the pressure. Because of that, it was hard for them to even move their arms, let alone fight.

They found themselves in total darkness, unable to see any light.

Just then, Zhang Ruochen suddenly stopped.

Huang Yanchen looked at Zhang Ruochen, saying, "Zhang Ruochen, how can you stop..."

She had just now discovered that Zhang Ruochen's eyes were bloodshot and swollen and blue veins stood out on his face.

She did not know the anger that was inside him. She thought that he had stopped because he could not withstand the strong water pressure. Thus, she immediately rushed forward and wanted to help him.

He shook his head gently and calmed down, saying, "Senior sister apprentice, go to the bottom of the trench first. Don't worry about me."

"Why did you stop? Go, keep diving."

The commander with an iron ring on his head growled. He brandished a 33-meter-long Flood Dragon Tendon Whip and whipped Zhang Ruochen and Huang Yanchen.

"Swoosh!"

The whip sliced through the water and formed a burst of arcuate strength.

The commander was originally at the Sixth Change in the Fish-dragon Realm. However, he could not unleash his strength as a warrior of the Heaven Realm under the strong water pressure.

"We're at 15,000 meters below sea level. Even if the Half-Saints come here, they could only unleash the strength of a warrior in the Fish-dragon Realm. It's time to make the Flood Dragon Tribe pay."

This was what he had been waiting for.

He turned around, quickly reached out a hand to grasp the whip, and grabbed it with a hard yank.

"Isn't that enough? Maybe it's my turn now."

Zhang Ruochen grabbed the whip and swung his arm. Then, the commander's face was hit heavily.

“Crack!”

A big bloody scar was left on his face. His skin was split open and his nose was broken into two pieces.

Huang Yanchen was slightly surprised because she was completely puzzled by his behavior. Why did he suddenly attack the commander?

Ao Xinyan and Orange Star Emissary also stopped. Seeing this, they were also startled.

The redcloud pythons were numerous and strong enough. Especially the five Flood Dragon Tribe Commanders, all of them had reached at least the Sixth Change in the Fish-dragon Realm. Wasn't Zhang Ruochen courting death when he turned against them?

Chapter 546: Fighting alone against the Flood-dragon Tribe

Ao Xinyan was worried, so she went upstream. Despite the danger, she was ready to fight together with Zhang Ruochen. She said, “Group Leader, even if we have to fight it out to the end and die together, it's not a big deal.”

“Zhang Ruochen can't stand it any longer, huh?”

The four evil masters of the black market looked upward, gloating.

All the soldiers of Primitive World thought Zhang Ruochen was asking for death by turning against the Flood-dragon Tribe.

“ROAR!”

The Flood-dragon Tribe Commander bellowed with rage and shook its head. Its head became swollen with red scales and turned into a large head once again.

It stretched its two claws out to Zhang Ruochen's head, growling, “Extraterritorial human, you little bastard! How dare you hit me with a Flood-dragon Tendon Whip? I will tear you to pieces.”

Zhang Ruochen snorted and said, “So what?”

“SNAP!”

Zhang Ruochen whipped the Flood-dragon Tribe Commander again on the crest of its head.

The Flood-dragon Tribe Commander stretched out a claw to fend off the Flood-dragon Tendon Whip. But the strength of the whip was so powerful that even after the whip circled its claw, it still struck the commander right on its crest.

The Flood-dragon Tribe Commander let out another cry and stepped back.

Seeing this, everyone was shocked and confused.

Zhang Ruochen's cultivation was only at the Completion stage of the Heaven Realm. How was he able to make the Flood-dragon Tribe Commander at the Sixth Change of the Fish-dragon Realm lick dust?

This was very weird!

“How did Group Leader’s strength become so powerful?” Ao Xinyan was confused.

The Orange Star Emissary pondered. She finally realized and said, “It is not that he had become more powerful, but it is us that have become weaker!”

“Our cultivation and strength had been suppressed by the water pressure. Zhang Ruochen, however, is able to control space, so he was not affected at all. If I’m not mistaken, Zhang Ruochen has been restraining himself because he was waiting for this moment to come.”

Ao Xinyan and Huang Yanchen finally understood what was going on.

The Flood-dragon Tribe Commander charged at Zhang Ruochen with two sharp claws attacking him from different directions at the same time.

“You are too slow!”

“SWOOSH!”

Zhang Ruochen rushed upward through the gap between its claws and landed on the head of that Flood-dragon Tribe Commander.

Zhang Ruochen grabbed its crest with his left hand and pulled out the Ancient Abyss Sword with his right. He pulled out the long sword with grace, sank his wrist, and stabbed the commander straight on the head.

“PFFFF!”

The sword tip pushed through the thick scales and into the skull of the Flood-dragon Tribe Commander.

Zhang Ruochen drew the sword horizontally, circled the Commander’s head and then cut it off.

Zhang Ruochen executed the whole set of movements neatly.

The redcloud pythons were shocked to see a human killing a Flood-dragon Tribe Commander. They rushed forward and surrounded Zhang Ruochen.

“ROAR!”

The four Flood-dragon Tribe Commanders stood in four directions, howling deafeningly together with the tribe.

It looked like a group of dragons dancing wildly.

They weren’t real dragons, but the scene was still quite terrifying to see.

Zhang Ruochen was standing alone with his sword in his hand at the center of the Flood-dragon Tribe. His long black hair was floating in the water like seaweed. He looked handsome yet fearless. With his cold eyes and sharp look, he shouted, “Kill!”

“SWOOSH!”

He turned into a shadow and rushed forward, falling beside a redcloud python. He stretched out his sword, penetrated it into the python’s abdomen, and then pushed his sword.

With a piercing sound, the redcloud python's abdomen cracked and its body was chopped in half.

The redcloud python was actually extremely fast, but once they fought at fifteen thousand meters below sea level, it became too difficult for the redcloud python to escape Zhang Ruochen's attacks.

At that point, the speed of a redcloud python at the Third Change in the Fish-dragon Realm is as slow as that of a warrior at the Initial Stage of the Earth Realm.

Within ten minutes, Zhang Ruochen killed seventeen redcloud pythons, leaving their huge corpses to sink toward the seafloor.

"SWISH!"

Two Flood-dragon Tribe Commanders at the Seventh Change in the Fish-dragon Realm rushed forward together to stop Zhang Ruochen from killing more.

One of them collected its strength. It was emitting lightning from its claws to shock Zhang Ruochen.

This Flood-dragon Tribe Commander was a tough one. It was capable of applying the thunderbolt power and burst forth powerful attacks under such circumstances.

If the battle were in the water, Zhang Ruochen would definitely lose.

"SWISH!"

Zhang Ruochen pushed his arms forward, applying the Sword Defending Technique with the Ancient Abyss Sword flying out at the same time.

"POOF!"

The Ancient Abyss Sword flew through the lightning and broke through the claw of the Flood-dragon Tribe Commander, penetrating into its abdomen.

When the Ancient Abyss Sword flew back, the body of the Flood-dragon Tribe Commander was split in half.

At this moment, there was a strong fluctuation of power coming from above.

"Did The Black Skeleton Flood-dragon King stop holding back?"

Zhang Ruochen looked up. He could feel that the Black Skeleton Flood-dragon King had rushed into the sea and was coming down.

The Black Skeleton Flood-dragon King was a Sixth Level Savage Beast, comparable to a Half-Saint.

Its strength was a hundred times greater than that of the strongest Flood-dragon Tribe Commander.

Even if the water pressure could suppress its power, Zhang Ruochen could not rival it.

The only hope is for Zhang Ruochen to break through the Ultimate Realm of the Heaven Realm.

Come on! Come on! Come on!

Zhang Ruochen had almost 30,000,000 military merits. He could reach the Ultimate Realm of the Heaven Realm at any minute.

What Zhang Ruochen can do now is to race against time. He was supposed to get all the military merits he needed before the Black Skeleton Flood-dragon King arrived.

“SWISH!”

Zhang Ruochen started multitasking. On one hand, he regulated the Ancient Abyss Sword to attack the other flood dragon at the Seventh Change in the Fish-dragon Realm.

At the same time, he rushed to the other Flood-dragon Tribe Commander at the Sixth Change in the Fish-dragon Realm and struck out a Dragon and Elephant Prajna Palm to attack its head.

That Flood-dragon Tribe Commander was about to escape, but Zhang Ruochen caught it and crushed it under his feet.

“Divine Dragon’s Steal, the sixth movement of Dragon and Elephant Palm.”

Zhang Ruochen’s palm emitted dozens of lightning rays and fell on the top of its head.

The Flood-dragon Tribe Commander let out a cry, and bloody breaches appeared on its head.

Zhang Ruochen struck out a dozen palms in a row and finally pierced through its head. The Flood-dragon Tribe Commander was dead, with its white brains gushing out and water rushing into its body.

Meanwhile, the Flood-dragon Tribe Commander at the Seventh Change in the Fish-dragon Realm was split into nine pieces by the Ancient Abyss Sword.

Four of the five Flood-dragon Tribe Commanders had been killed. The only one left was a Flood-dragon Tribe Commander at the Sixth Change in the Fish-dragon Realm.

The Flood-dragon Tribe Commander was too frightened to fight against Zhang Ruochen, so he immediately fled upward.

“Where do you think you’re going?”

Zhang Ruochen stepped out of the water and ran after it.

The reward for killing a Flood-dragon Tribe Commander at the Sixth Change of the Fish-dragon Realm was 400,000 military merits. With this, Zhang Ruochen would be able to have over 30,000,000 military merits and thus obtain the Chord of Gods.

“You are only human! How dare you slaughter the Flood-dragon Tribe?”, it was the voice of the Black Skeleton Flood-dragon King.

At 15,000 kilometers below sea level, it was pitch dark.

Suddenly, a holy light shined down.

It was like a shooting star falling from the sky at night.

The white holy light condensed into a huge handprint, falling toward Zhang Ruochen’s head.

Zhang Ruochen knew that the Black Skeleton Flood-dragon King had arrived.

He remained calm and struck out the Ancient Abyss Sword. The sword flew off in an arc, avoided the holy light handprint of the Black Skeleton Flood-dragon King and aimed towards the Flood-dragon Tribe Commander.

At the same time, Zhang Ruochen regulated all his Genuine Qi and gathered it to the palm of his hand. He then struck out twelve handprints in a row, breaking out a twelve-fold attack to defend himself.

It was the fifth palm of the Dragon and Elephant Prajna Palm, Nine-folds of the Elephant Power.

The Dragon and Elephant Prajna Palm had reached the Superior class martial technique of the Spiritual Stage. Thus the power of this palm has increased and could turn into a 12-fold attack, which could be known as "Twelvefold Force of Elephant Palm."

A warrior in the Completion of Heaven Realm fighting against a Sixth Level Savage Beast was entirely unheard of.

However, it had become a reality.

"Zhang Ruochen... this, this is..."

A soldier of Primitive World at the Second Change in the Fish-dragon Realm could hardly believe his eyes. He couldn't describe what he was feeling inside.

There was no doubt that Zhang Ruochen would be killed.

"BAM!"

Zhang Ruochen's handprint collided with the Holy Light Handprint above with a thud. A circular wave spread out, sending redcloud pythons and soldiers of Primitive World flying.

"PUFF!"

Despite the protection of the Dragon Pearl, Zhang Ruochen still suffered a heavy blow from the attack and spat a mouthful of blood.

He was hit so badly by the handprint that he fell downward. He fell for more than 1,000 meters before regaining his stability. Then, he spat out another mouthful of blood.

Despite the water pressure, the strength of the Black Skeleton Flood-dragon King was powerful enough to defeat Zhang Ruochen.

However, Zhang Ruochen's ability of withstanding attacks was also remarkable.

A desperate cry of a python was heard in the distance.

The Ancient Abyss Sword finally hit the body of the Flood-dragon Tribe Commander and killed it.

All of a sudden, Zhang Ruochen felt a mysterious power fluctuation between heaven and earth as if the gate of the divine world had opened.

Could it be...

Could it be that his military merits had finally reached 30,000,000 and that he finally broke through the boundary of the Ultimate Realm?

Zhang Ruochen's face brightened.

At this very moment, the Spiritual Blood of all the indigens of Primitive Worlds, that is, Xuanwu Primitive World, Wood Spirit Primitive World, and Five Elements Primitive World, were gathered from the earth, the seawater, and the air. All converged above the Nine Heavens.

Under the guidance of a vast and unpredictable power, a magnificent sacrificial ceremony in the void space of the different Primitive Worlds, finally began!

Chapter 547: Chord of Gods in the Ultimate Realm

Myriad Chaos Mountain suspended in a large chaotic dark space, like a mountain-shaped planet enveloped by a mass of air.

Numerous warriors gathered under the stone Heaven Board today, including young talents and elder superiors. Among them, some were very ambitious; some were very beautiful; and some had even stepped onto the Holy Road and become Half-Saints.

However, they all fell into silence now as they looked hard at the stone tablet.

Beside Zhang Ruochen's name, the number representing military merits was increasing quickly from 26,000,000, 27,000,000 ...

Every time his military merits increased, their eyes twitched involuntarily.

Everyone held their breath, nervous about breaking through the Ultimate Realm of the Heaven Realm by themselves. They all wondered if Zhang Ruochen would succeed.

Throughout history, many peerless conquerors had suffered misfortunes and murders, before finally becoming skeletons in the Battlefield of Primitive World, when they tried to reach the Ultimate Realm of the Heaven Realm.

Would Zhang Ruochen be next?

Even renowned Half-Saints and Saints from the Saint Academy gathered under the stone tablet.

"SWOOSH!"

Suddenly, the number beside Zhang Ruochen's name surpassed 30,000,000.

It caused a major sensation in the Myriad Chaos Mountain. More than half of the soldiers from the Primitive World cheered.

The birth of a conqueror of the Ultimate Realm of the Heaven Realm was the pride of mankind.

Of course, some people were unhappy due to jealousy or hatred. Especially the Black Market Evil Warriors who were against the Martial Market Bank; they fell silent.

In a floating palace, a War Saint from the Ministry of War laughed. "Congratulation to you, Master. Our youngest junior fellow apprentice has broken through to the Ultimate Realm of the Heaven Realm and become the second genius in 100 years."

It was Sword Saint Xuanji's eldest disciple. He had reached the Saint Realm and was a High-level Commander in Chief in the Ministry of War, dominating the Myriad Chaos Mountain.

Sword Saint Xuanji smiled heartily. It was extremely gratifying to have such an excellent disciple like Zhang Ruochen.

He regarded Zhang Ruochen as his last disciple. He would not have come personally to the Myriad Chaos Mountain for just anyone.

"Now that this is over, Ling Shu, I hope you will go to the Xuanwu Primitive World and bring back your youngest junior fellow apprentice. Just in case evil masters from the Black Market try to create difficulties," Sword Saint Xuanji said.

"Yes, Master."

Demi-saint Lingshu hurried to the ferry and left for the Xuanwu Primitive World.

Sword Saint Xuanji looked at the stone tablet Heaven Board in the distance with a gratified smile on his face. "Sacrifice should begin soon!"

The hundreds of meters high stone tablet suddenly glittered with a harsh white light.

Strands of light merged together and formed into a thick light column. It thrust up, striking through the heaven and earth barrier.

"Boom!"

The whole space seemed to shake slightly.

At the end of the column, the dark space sent out ripples like circles of water. A looming gate of light appeared.

At this moment, a mighty and sacred force descended on the Myriad Chaos Mountain, as if the gate to the divine world had opened.

The Heaven Board Vessel Spirit stood at the top of the stone tablet and said loudly, "Sacrifice Power has opened the gate of the divine world. Gods will descend on the Battlefield of the Primitive World."

The stone tablet seemed to turn into an altar, connecting the divine world with the Myriad Chaos Mountain.

Beneath the tablet, monks kneeled devoutly on the ground and looked up to the sky in awe, not daring to have evil thoughts.

Such a sacrifice was rarely seen once in a hundred years.

The last time had been at least 60 years ago. Empress Chi Yao had led 30,000 courtiers and 8,000 barons and killed hundreds of millions of indigenous to worship gods with their blood. They had burned incense to pray for the human warriors in the Battlefield of the Primitive World.

All the Spiritual Blood of the indigenous Zhang Ruochen had killed rose from up the Xuanwu Primitive World, the Wood Spirit Primitive World, and the Five Elements Primitive World. It went through space channels and converged at the stone tablet.

It gushed over into the gate of light.

“Boom!”

Behind the gate, specks of light fell down and converged into a river that flew toward the Xuanwu Primitive World.

Zhang Ruochen stood at the bottom of the sea with his eyes closed. He felt the power inside him expanding rapidly; his body was like a universe. Suddenly, the Genuine Qi inside broke a barrier and turned into a light column, rushing up from his head.

The light column passed through the sea and went all the way up to the sky, piercing through the atmosphere of the Xuanwu Primitive World.

The river of shimmering lights rotated around the light column and condensed into illusory images of oddly shaped gods. Some had three heads and six arms; some were human-bodied and snake-tailed; some were like Buddha; some were like Taoists.

A divine voice could be heard faintly over the Xixuan Sea.

Golden light flowed down from the clouds and dropped into the sea. A 5,000 kilometers wide area of the sea became golden.

Such a vast anomaly scared the Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King. He looked down with sharp eyes and saw God’s Shadows with strong auras rotating around Zhang Ruochen.

Even though the king was comparable to a Half-Saint, he still shivered in awe and fear when he saw the God’s Shadows. If he dared to strike against Zhang Ruochen at this time, he would probably be killed in an instant.

“Is this... Is this the Chord of Gods?”

All the surviving Red Cloud pythons and soldiers of the Primitive World were stunned.

“Ch-ch!”

The shadows were enveloped by bubbles that flew toward Zhang Ruochen and blended with his body.

Each time a shadow integrated with his body, Zhang Ruochen became a little stronger.

“BOOM!”

Once he had integrated with all the God’s Shadows, he finally broke through the Completion of Heaven Realm and reached a new realm, the Ultimate Realm of the Heaven Realm.

For the Yellow Realm, the Black Realm, and the Earth Realm, the Chord of Gods was realized when one reached the Ultimate Realm.

But for the Heaven Realm, the Chord of Gods had to be realized first before one could reach the Ultimate Realm.

In the sea, wisps of Spiritual Qi gathered around Zhang Ruochen and formed a vortex of Spiritual Qi. It shot continuously toward the Sacred Mark between his eyebrows and entered into his Qi pool.

As he broke through to the Ultimate Realm, the gods' illusory images disappeared.

The Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King heaved a deep sigh, feeling that the sacred force that kept him still had dispersed.

The king regained his momentum and the expression in his eyes changed. "Unexpectedly, you are able to bring about the Chord of Gods. In this case, I must kill you."

"I'm afraid it's not that easy to kill me," Zhang Ruochen replied.

After assimilating all the God's Shadows, Zhang Ruochen had recovered from injuries. He had not only improved his cultivation, but also enhanced his Spiritual Power and Martial Soul.

"You're so unscrupulous! You may have brought about the Chord of Gods, but you are still just a warrior of the Heaven Realm."

The king shook his body and lurched toward Zhang Ruochen at lightning speed, hitting him on the head.

He threw his palm. The palm and back of his hand grew scales. His five fingers extended as sharp as long spears, transforming into huge flood dragon claws.

Zhang Ruochen felt that he was full of power; his blood and Genuine Qi were boiling. He looked up and shouted, "Good!"

Now that he'd broken through to a new realm, he really wanted to fight. Even though the other party was a Half-Saint.

He grasped the hilt of the Ancient Abyss Sword and held it above his head, releasing his Martial Soul and mobilizing Heaven and Earth Spiritual Qi.

Heaven and Earth Spiritual Qi converged and flew into the blade through his palm.

After bringing about the fourth Chord of Gods, Zhang Ruochen's Martial Soul had improved considerably. He was as strong as a monk at the Ninth Change of the Fish-dragon Realm. Certainly he was able to mobilize the Heaven and Earth Spiritual Qi for his own use.

The inscriptions of the Ancient Abyss Sword were activated by Spiritual Qi. The sword Qi became denser and denser.

"BANG!"

His momentum continued to increase and surge upward. He held his sword with both hands and slashed at the king, colliding with his claw.

Even in the water, the sword edge sparked against the Flood Dragon's scales.

Zhang Ruochen's arms hurt. His five internal organs and six hollow organs shook violently, and he sank down uncontrollably more than 100 meters before he regained his center of gravity and stood still.

The king shook slightly.

Zhang Ruochen was still at a disadvantage here; he lagged far behind the Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King.

However, it was much better than before. At least, he did not hurt so badly this time. After all, he had been seriously wounded and almost died from just a casual strike last time.

This time, he was already able to fight with the king again. Last time, he hadn't been able to strike back at all.

The king noticed a small cut in the center of his palm.

How could a man from the Heaven Realm break through his defense?

The king looked cold. Murderous intent crept into his voice. "How could your strength improve so fast?"

"If you're afraid, you can run away now."

Zhang Ruochen took out the Auspicious Vase and swallowed a mouthful of Wood Spirit Blood.

The Blood of Wood Spirit generated a cool and refreshing potency. It surged into his internal organs, meridians, and blood vessels. Soon, he had recovered from his injuries again.

"You're an uppity junior. Do you really think you can fight with me with your poor strength?"

The Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King reached out his palm. Holy light flickered in the center.

The cut from the Ancient Abyss Sword vanished.

He swooped down and attacked Zhang Ruochen once again.

Zhang Ruochen faced the battle without fear.

Chapter 548: Fighting a Half-Saint

"Bang! Bang!"

They separated again after a dozen movements.

"The Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King is a Sixth Level Savage Beast. Even if I reach the Ultimate Realm of the Heaven Realm, I will still be no match for him."

Blood streamed out of his mouth.

Zhang Ruochen decided to change tactics. He would first lead the king deeper into the sea. Then, as the water pressure became stronger, the king's power would grow weaker.

Thinking about this, he immediately turned around and dived into the sea.

“Want to escape? Can you run away?”

The king looked derisively at Zhang Ruochen. His feet turned into a red flood dragon tail, which he waved back and forth at an incredible speed. In an instant, he was about ten meters behind Zhang Ruochen.

He took out the Roaring Flame Hammer and mobilized its inscriptions with Holy Qi.

The Roaring Flame Hammer was a Hundred Inscription Weapon, and it used to be the Green-Robed Emissary’s. After the Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King killed him, he claimed the hammer as his own.

“Crack!”

The king waved his arm and threw the hammer at Zhang Ruochen’s back.

The hammer moved with great power, quickly pushing the waves into a huge arc and approaching Zhang Ruochen’s back.

“So fast!”

Zhang Ruochen looked back and was surprised. He immediately teleported through space with a shudder and disappeared under the hammer.

He reappeared 100 meters away.

The king snorted and stared at Zhang Ruochen with some surprise. He asked, “Can you mobilize the power of space?”

As a Sixth Level Savage Beast, the Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King had a vivid sense of space. Even a subtle space fluctuation could not hide from him.

The dragon king discovered Zhang Ruochen spatial abilities and immediately understood what was going on. He said to himself, “I see. No wonder that a man of the Heaven Realm can contend with me.”

“Since he can control space, the water pressure will not affect him. If he goes on diving, I will be at more and more of a disadvantage.”

As a figured it out, the king gradually became serious. He began to pay attention to his “weak” opponent.

“Damn! That extraterritorial man can move through space, so I can’t catch up with him under the sea.”

The king caught up with Zhang Ruochen three times in a row, but every time Zhang Ruochen successfully teleported away.

After diving 3,000 meters into the sea, the king could feel that he had become a little weaker.

Suddenly, the king stared at a Primitive World soldier of the Fifth Change in the Fish-Dragon Realm near him. He smiled as an idea formed.

The king stopped swimming after Zhang Ruochen and moved sideways. He grabbed the soldier by his neck, looked down at Zhang Ruochen, and said hoarsely, "Believe it or not, I will kill him now if you keep running."

Zhang Ruochen stopped and looked up. He frowned and said, "Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King, you are a dominator after all. How can you threaten a man of the Heaven Realm in this way? Aren't you afraid of being ridiculed by your sons and grandsons?"

The king sneered and said, "As long as I can kill you, the way is not important."

The king had captured an evil warrior of the Black Market named Wang Hanwu.

Normally, Wang Hanwu was an evil, powerful warrior, feared by many. But in front of the king, he was like a lamb for slaughter.

Wang Hanwu had witnessed the king killing the Green-Robed Emissary, so he was very scared of the king.

Trembling all over, he gave up his dignity and immediately implored, "Zhang Ruochen, I was wrong before. I should not deal falsely with you. Since we are both human beings, you must save me."

Zhang Ruochen looked at Wang Hanwu scornfully.

If Wang Hanwu was a little bit tougher, then Zhang Ruochen would have saved him in admiration of his courage.

But now, Zhang Ruochen was extremely disappointed. He said coldly, "Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King, do you hear it as well? He is my enemy. Do you think I will save him? If you help me kill him, I will be really grateful to you."

"Really? I'll kill him!"

"Crack!"

With a snort, the king clenched his fingers, broke Wang Hanwu's neck, and threw away his body.

Actually, Zhang Ruochen had just been provoking the king by saying that. He had actually wanted to preserve Wang Hanwu's life.

After all, it was a human life. How could he bear to see him killed at the hands of some non-human beast?

The king was cruel and bloodthirsty beyond expectation. Even though the king knew that Wang Hanwu was Zhang Ruochen's enemy, he still killed him. It was clear that the king did not play by the rules.

Was he smart enough to see through Zhang Ruochen's mind?

Although he had not changed the result, Zhang Ruochen had actually showed extreme patience and magnanimity toward his enemy Wang Hanwu. Nevertheless, he was not going to fight with the king for the likes of Wang Hanwu.

The king smiled and said, "Little boy, I'm going to kill all the human soldiers now and see how long you can stand it."

As the king of the Flood Dragon Tribe, he was naturally intelligent.

Having fought with extraterritorial humans for many years, he knew that man's greatest weakness was his human nature.

Since this boy was human, if he started killing the soldiers of the Primitive World, the boy would probably be enraged.

Unless Zhang Ruochen was inhuman.

Zhang Ruochen looked serious as he watched the king rush to the other soldier. He ran after him. He said, "Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King, you can kill as many soldiers as you like, but for every soldier you kill, I will kill ten redcloud pythons in revenge."

The king smiled and watched Zhang Ruochen catch up with him. He said, "Really? Since it is so, let's see who is more heartless and cruel!"

The king overtook a soldier who wanted to escape and hit his left shoulder.

With just a touch, the soldier's bones dissolved into a fine powder and his body collapsed.

"Space Vortex."

Zhang Ruochen came up with the king and waved his hand. Then, a ten meter vortex opened, stretching toward the king's back.

The king knew that Zhang Ruochen could control space, so he had taken the necessary precautions.

With a "swoosh", the king ducked under the Space Vortex, successfully avoiding Zhang Ruochen's attack.

"Furious Flood Dragon Rising to the Sky."

The king became a human-shaped flood dragon about 30 meters long. He thrust up and hit Zhang Ruochen's chest.

"Divine Dragon's Robbery."

Zhang Ruochen's two palms condensed power. He simultaneously threw them out and formed a 33 meter Divine Dragon's illusory image.

"Boom!"

The Lord of the Flood Dragons collided with the dragon shadow.

The king swept his claws to shatter the dragon shadow. He continued to rush forward to hit Zhang Ruochen.

The huge flood dragon head knocked him into the air hundreds of meters away.

Zhang Ruochen felt an intense pain in his chest and shed blood between his ribs. All his internal organs appeared to be broken into pieces, making him extremely uncomfortable.

“He is indeed... a sixth level savage beast. I am still far behind him. Unless I can break through into the Fish-Dragon Realm, he will kill me within ten movements.”

Zhang Ruochen clapped one hand to his chest, took out the Auspicious Vase with the other hand, and drank a mouthful of Blood of Wood Spirit.

Based on his current realm, it was neither difficult nor easy for him to break through into the Fish-Dragon Realm.

When he broke through into a new realm, he would become very fragile. Therefore, he definitely could never be disturbed.

Obviously, he was unable to break through into a new realm during the current situation.

“What should I do?”

The king changed into a human being again. He walked to Zhang Ruochen step by step and said with a laugh, “Little boy, you are nothing short of being great! Unexpectedly, you can survive after I attacked you vigorously.”

Looking at the king who was approaching, Zhang Ruochen took out the Sacred Prime Tree from his Qi Sea and squeezed it, saying, “Blackie, should you come out to help me?”

“Swoosh!”

A black light spot flew out of the scroll.

The light spot gradually grew larger, and it finally turned into a half-meter-high fat, black cat.

Blackie looked like he had just woken up. He stretched himself and glanced at the king.

Having felt the king’s huge aura, Blackie was startled, and his sleepiness vanished. He took two steps back and exclaimed, “Zhang Ruochen, are you kidding me? How dare you to fight against a redcloud python Sixth Level Savage Beast?”

“Of course not!”

Zhang Ruochen handed the Yin Yang Wooden Graph to Blackie and said, “Help me hold him off for a while. I’m going to break through into the Fish-Dragon Realm.”

Blackie held the Yin Yang Wooden Graph, opened his round eyes wide, and shook his head like a rattle-drum. He said, “Are kidding me?! I am no match for him.”

“Don’t worry. I will activate Space Domain and the Sword Defending Technique to help you. But you must guarantee that nothing will touch my body,” Zhang Ruochen said seriously.

Actually, Zhang Ruochen could enter the Scroll World to break through into the Fish-Dragon Realm. In that case, Blackie could not withstand the king at all without the help of Space Domain.

Only when he and Blackie tried their best to hold the king off could Huang Yanchen, Ao Xinyan, the Orange Star Emissary, and the soldiers of the Primitive World escape to the bottom of the sea and avoid the king's slaughter.

Suddenly, a golden light spot appeared in the distance, as if something were moving toward them.

"Amitabha!"

A loud voice sounded above the black sea.

Chapter 549: Eight Arrays of Demon Slaying and Ember Kylin

The water of the Bloody Trench was originally blood red. But due to there being no light under the sea, it appeared to be pitch black.

"Swoosh!"

The golden light spot in the distance was getting closer and eventually formed into a figure.

It was a monk glowing in a golden light. He was stalwart and walked with steady steps. With a blade box behind his back, he walked slowly as if he had walked under the sea for thousands of years.

"It's the monk again."

Zhang Ruochen looked over and smiled bitterly.

He was Monk Lidi of the Brahma Sect.

Monk Lidi impressed people with an indestructible body, which seemed to be cast in gold. White Sanskrit was faintly visible on his skin.

Every step he took, a mass of Buddha spirit condensed beneath his feet and turned into a three-foot-long Golden Lotus.

Monk Lidi took seven steps and left seven Golden Lotuses.

Looking up at the seven Golden Lotuses, they appeared to be seven brilliant stars. Adhering to some mysterious path, they were suspended in the black sea and reflected the surrounding water into golden red.

Monk Lidi stared at Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King, clasped his hands, and said, "Amitabha! Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King, you should not come here. You'd better return to the place where you came from."

The king never expected that a monk would suddenly appear at this moment.

He carefully looked at the monk and sensed a strange power. It seemed to be either strong or weak, creating an erratic feeling.

It was the first time for Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King to meet such a weird man.

He was on alert but behaved aggressively. He snorted and said, "The Bloody Trench is our redcloud python tribe's territory. I can come and go as I please. Who dares to dictate to me?"

Monk Lidi shook his head and said with a sigh, "Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King, you misunderstand me. This poor monk is asking you to leave here for your own good. The Bloody Trench is not auspicious. It is extremely dangerous and full of death traps for you. If you don't leave immediately, I'm afraid that you will die at the bottom of the trench."

"If you don't leave, you will die in the Bloody Trench."

The words were ear-piercing.

Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King thought that he could deal with any situation in the Bloody Trench. Therefore, he did not take the monk's words seriously.

Instead, the king even thought that the monk's words were threatening him thoroughly and warning him.

Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King looked coldly as he said, "What an extremely arrogant monk! Do you think you can kill me?"

"You misunderstand me! You misunderstand me! This poor monk never kills anything." Monk Lidi forced a friendly smile and spoke kindly.

Zhang Ruochen laughed and thought, *"This monk really does not kill anything but he is a jinx. If he says who dies, that person will die. He is indeed a disaster."*

He wondered if it would be accurate this time.

Monk Lidi looked strong, ugly, and ferocious like a butcher. The original friendly and gentle smile appeared to be a little hideous on his face.

Looking at his grim smile, Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King felt even more that the monk was really arrogant. After all, he was the Lord of the Flood Dragons, a Sixth Level Savage Beast. How did a man dare to threaten him?

The king certainly could not bear it.

"Monk, I want to witness your ability."

Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King transformed his feet into a 100-foot-long red tail. He violently wagged his tail in the water and stirred up a vortex of waves. He rushed forward and arrived in front of Monk Lidi instantly.

His hands struck forward and turned into a pair of over-30-foot-long claws.

Threads of fire gushed out from the claw scales, glowing brightly. The sea hundreds of feet around was boiling.

He violently attacked with his claws, which were covered by water and fire.

Obviously, he displayed his real skill this time. The power that broke out from this strike was a little bit stronger than what had erupted the last time that he fought Zhang Ruochen.

Thus, it was clear that Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King thought that Monk Lidi was indeed a formidable enemy who was more threatening than Zhang Ruochen.

The king did not know Monk Lidi's cultivation but Zhang Ruochen knew it very well. Monk Lidi had just reached the First Change in the Fish-dragon Realm.

Monk Lidi could not control space, so the water pressure would suppress him to a large extent.

In that case, it was impossible for a monk at the First Change in the Fish-dragon Realm to fend off the attack of a Half-Saint.

Even though he had integrated with Buddhist Emperor's golden body and been thoroughly remolded, Monk Lidi could not unleash all the power of the golden body.

With such a huge disparity in cultivation, was Monk Lidi able to withstand Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King's attack?

The monk always haunted Zhang Ruochen, but he had never harmed him. Therefore, when the king launched his attacks, Zhang Ruochen was worried about him.

Monk Lidi heaved a sigh. Originally, he had wanted to persuade the king into retreating. But beyond his expectations, he led him to a bigger misunderstanding.

At this time, he was not allowed to explain but could only meet the battle head-on.

He put his hands together and formed a Magic Handprint. The seven Golden Lotus beneath his feet immediately formed a pattern. Each lotus was a node of the pattern and turned into a golden Buddha shadow.

"Eight Arrays of Demon Slaying."

The Seven Buddha shadows plus Monk Lidi made eight figures in total. They seemed to be interconnected and they formed a Battle Formation.

The Eight Arrays of Demon Slaying was a kind of Combined Attack. Only when eight Buddha masters practiced at the same time could its power be exerted.

However, Monk Lidi used Buddha Spirit to condense into seven Golden Lotus, replacing the other seven people.

He alone displayed the Eight Arrays of Demon Slaying.

He struck out one palm. At the same time, the other seven Buddha shadows also did the same.

The two forces collided with each other and suddenly formed a storm of Genuine Qi. Monk Lidi and the seven Buddha shadows were beaten backward 1,000 feet.

Monk Lidi was repelled by the king, but he was not injured. Although the king's claws hit his body, his skin was not broken at all.

“Awesome!” Zhang Ruochen said with some surprise.

At the First Change in the Fish-dragon Realm, Monk Lidi was able to resist the king’s strike unscathed. Once this result was spread around Kunlun’s Field, he would set the world on fire.

Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King was also amazed and withdrew his claws. He transformed them into human hands but felt his 10 fingers begin to ache.

Just now, his claws had obviously struck Monk Lidi. However, they were unable to hurt him, as if they had hit against metal.

It was so incredible.

The king looked at Monk Lidi and squinted his eyes. “I get it! Your bodily strength is far beyond your cultivation realm, known as the Realm of Flesh Becoming Holy. But you still do not know how to exert this fleshly power. Otherwise, you could slap me to death right now.”

Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King was certainly the king of savage beasts, who had lived for thousands of years. He was experienced and knowledgeable, so with just a glimpse, he saw through Monk Lidi’s secret.

However, he did not know what Monk Lidi had integrated with was Buddhist Emperor’s golden body.

Monk Lidi smiled with modesty and said, “This poor monk has not practiced long, so my cultivation is not profound. Meanwhile, my control over power remains in the foundation stage, so I cannot compare with you.”

Seeing Monk Lidi’s grim smile, the king got furious and began to condense power again.

Since this monk had reached the Realm of Flesh Becoming Holy, he would spare no effort to seize this body.

If he could eat this body and refine it, his strength would probably greatly improve. Perhaps he would reach the medium level or even the superior level of a Sixth Level Savage Beast.

Zhang Ruochen knew clearly that Monk Lidi alone could not defeat the king. Therefore, he swam toward him without hesitation. He stood behind the king and waved his sword sideways. “Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King, don’t forget about me.”

Originally, Blackie had hidden in the distance. Suddenly, he exclaimed, “Zhang Ruochen, I just sensed a formidable power rapidly approaching us from above.”

Zhang Ruochen, Monk Lidi, and Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King simultaneously discovered the aura.

Looking up, the king saw a scarlet blaze covering the entire sea area above his head and the whole Bloody Trench seemed to blaze up.

As the sea temperature increased rapidly, the sea was as hot as lava. Even the redcloud python at the Third Change in the Fish-dragon Realm could not withstand such a high temperature. It screamed as if it was being boiled by the sea.

“Damn, that is... Ember Kylin...”

The king changed his facial expression and ignored Zhang Ruochen and Monk Lidi. Giving a long whistle, he restored himself to his true body. He became a Huge Flood Dragon 1,000 feet long and rushed toward the bottom of the trench.

Ember Kylin had evolved from humanoid fish, and was a medium-level Sixth Level Savage Beast.

The king was just an inferior-level Sixth Level Savage Beast. When seeing the Ember Kylin, he could only escape to the bottom of the trench, hoping to avoid a disaster.

“Hurry up!”

Zhang Ruochen grasped Blackie and immediately displayed Space Moving, then rushed toward the bottom of the trench.

Monk Lidi had already reached the Realm of Flesh Becoming Holy, so he was much faster than Zhang Ruochen and passed right by him.

Space Moving did not need to consume time. Every time he displayed Space Moving, Zhang Ruochen could only move 500 feet at most. Then, he needed a momentary pause to condense space power again. By doing so, he could continue to display the next Space Moving.

So because of this, Zhang Ruochen’s speed was at a disadvantage on a long journey.

“Ouch!”

An earsplitting Kylin’s roar resounded.

The thick sea water above was pushed away by a mass of rolling fire clouds and it ran downward hastily.

By looking carefully, a winged Kylin could be seen in the center of the mass of fire clouds. It was chasing after Zhang Ruochen and getting closer and closer to him.

Chapter 550: The Iron Pillar Under the Sea

The Ember Kylin had a huge body, which was 700 feet long after unfolding its wings. It burned with roaring flames, which seemed to change the seawater into lava.

“Hehe!”

The Ember Kylin caught up with the Primitive World soldiers and redcloud pythons so fast they could not even run away. Without being able to even utter a heartrending cry, they caught fire and were instantly turned into flying ashes.

A moment later, the Ember Kylin nearly overtook Zhang Ruochen, getting closer and closer. It was about to catch hold of him.

Zhang Ruochen touched the Storage Ring and took out the imperial edict issued by Elder Xuanji.

“Swoosh!”

He mobilized his Genuine Qi and injected it into the imperial edict.

It gave off wisps of white Holy Qi, which flew around Zhang Ruochen and condensed into Elder Xuanji's illusory image, emitting a formidable sacred Qi.

Elder Xuanji's illusory image was about 30 feet high and glowing with white light. It overlapped Zhang Ruochen's body.

Seeing Elder Xuanji's illusory image, the Ember Kylin felt a formidable aura fluctuation. It stopped for a while and looked scared.

The imperial edict's appearance was like the presence of a Saint, which was able to overawe all living beings and force them to kneel down and kowtow.

However, each imperial edict represented a different power.

In order to experience Zhang Ruochen, Elder Xuanji only put the power of speed into the imperial edict. When encountering danger that could not be resisted, Zhang Ruochen could immediately escape 10,000 miles away as long as he injected Genuine Qi into the imperial edict.

If he wanted to, Elder Xuanji could certainly give Zhang Ruochen an imperial edict that had Saint power. In that case, it would do only harm to Zhang Ruochen and no good at all.

Once someone possessed a strong external force, they would no longer practice hard.

"Swoosh!"

With the aid of the Holy Qi of the imperial edict, Zhang Ruochen seemed to be helped by the gods. He turned into a ray of white light and rushed into the bottom of the trench, escaping the Ember Kylin's attacks.

In the next moment, Zhang Ruochen arrived at the bottom ahead of Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King and Monk Lidi. He fell on a hard slate under the sea.

Theoretically, the water temperature down on the bottom should be very low.

However, the water at the bottom of the Bloody Trench was very hot. Standing in this water was like standing in a frying pan. Only when a monk at the Second Change in the Fish-dragon Realm realized "Skin Refining to Gold" could he withstand this temperature.

Perhaps Huang Shenyi could come here with the aid of some treasure.

According to Zhang Ruochen's orders, Huang Yanchen, Ao Xinyan, and Orange Star Emissary had already reached the bottom of the trench. Thus, they did not die from the Ember Kylin's fire.

Watching Zhang Ruochen fall down, they immediately went over and joined him.

Zhang Ruochen asked, "Have you found the Xuanwu Heritage place?"

Huang Yanchen looked solemn and said, "We are on the back of Xuanwu's corpse now."

A moment ago, Zhang Ruochen had not had enough time to observe the bottom of the sea because he was busy running for his life. But upon hearing Huang Yanchen's words, he began to look at his surroundings carefully.

An Iron Pillar with a 30-foot diameter stood not far away from him. Like a Sea-calming Needle, it was inserted into the stones under the sea, soaring thousands of feet high.

Nobody knew how much this huge Iron Pillar might have weighed.

And nobody knew how long this Iron Pillar had been soaking in the water. Its surface was already rusty.

Strange prints could be seen on the Iron Pillar through the rust—some prints were like bones, some were like ferocious ghosts, and some were like evil flowers.

Zhang Ruochen walked over and touched the Iron Pillar. In an instant, a formidable power entered his body through his fingers.

“Woo!”

All of a sudden, hundreds of millions of screams of undead evil spirits resounded and many bloody images emerged in his mind. Like a mass of black ink, the power of abundant evil Qi began to corrode his Martial Soul.

Just then, the mark of the gods on his Qi Sea shone and drove the awful evil Qi out, as if the light had smashed through the gloom.

He seemed to have received a jolt of electricity, and he immediately withdrew his fingers and took two steps back. With a look of surprise on his face, he said, “What horrible Death Qi this is! Thanks to the mark of the gods, I did not become a senseless monster.”

A little while ago, he felt as if he had been dragged into an evil world by this Iron Pillar.

There were white-boned creatures as large as lofty mountains. A blood-red eye was flying in the sky. Black ghosts flew out from the abyss and turned into a strange black cloud mass.

That world was like the hell from the legends.

Huang Yanchen looked confused, unconsciously walked next to the Iron Pillar, and slowly reached out her hands.

“Don’t touch it. It is an evil weapon.”

Zhang Ruochen grasped her waist and pulled her away from it.

Huang Yanchen immediately came to her senses and her eyes lit up again. She said in great fear, “That Iron Pillar can influence my mind. What on earth is it?”

Zhang Ruochen shook his head gently.

“Hehe!”

Blackie stretched out his claws and scratched off some rust on the Iron Pillar, revealing three golden marks.

Being free from the influence of the evil force, he said, “This is a weapon.” Then, he continued, “It doesn’t seem to come from Kunlun’s Field.”

“How can you tell?” Orange Star Emissary asked.

Blackie stared at Orange Star Emissary and said fluidly, “Because the forging method is different. The weapons of Kunlun’s Field are based on inscriptions. However, this Iron Pillar has no inscription.”

Blackie pressed his claws on the Iron Pillar and mobilized all his strength, hoping to pull it out.

No matter how much power he used, the Iron Pillar remained motionless.

“My goodness, even a Half-Saint can’t pick it up.” Blackie withdrew his claws and slipped backward two steps, hurriedly taking two breaths.

“Bang!”

Zhang Ruochen ran his Genuine Qi into his legs. He stomped downward, shattering the thick stone layer.

Stones fell down in succession. Inside the stone layer, Xuanwu’s shell finally appeared.

Xuanwu was so colossal that just its shell was several miles long. If it were standing on the ground, it would look like a mountain.

When the stone layer on the outside of its body completely shattered, everyone could see that the Iron Pillar pierced through its body from its back, nailing Xuanwu to the bottom of the trench.

Actually, the blood spring of the Bloody Trench had been formed by this—the blood flew out of Xuanwu’s body and dyed the seawater within hundreds of miles red.

Everyone was shocked by the image in front of them and they were unable to speak for a long time.

Zhang Ruochen frowned and said, “It is indeed not a Pureblood Xuanwu of the ancient mythical beasts but a ‘Cyan Fire Xuanwu’, which is Xuanwu’s offspring. According to its bulky body and the aura that it sends forth, I think that it could tear up a Saint if it were alive.”

“Who on earth could have killed such a strong Cyan Fire Xuanwu?”

Blackie said, “It must be the Iron Pillar’s master.”

Zhang Ruochen said, “Xuanwu’s back is its most defensive area, but the Iron Pillar was able to pierce through its body from its back. Thus, it’s obvious that the Iron Pillar’s master is remarkably strong.

“You mentioned that the Iron Pillar was forged in a different way from the refining method of Kunlun’s Field. As far as I know, the refining methods of all the major Primitive Worlds are very similar to that of Kunlun’s Field, without too much difference.

“Then, which Primitive World does the Iron Pillar’s master come from?”

“The Iron Pillar’s master can kill a Cyan Fire Xuanwu, indicating that he is absolutely a formidable superior. Aside from Kunlun’s Field, other superior-class Primitive Worlds are unlikely to give birth to such a superior.”

Zhang Ruochen had a bad feeling. He always felt that the evil world that emerged in his mind before could possibly exist, and the Iron Pillar’s master might come from there.

If so, was there a big world as powerful as Kunlun's Field in the vast universe? Perhaps that world was even more powerful and horrible than Kunlun's Field.

The monk from that world had already come to the surroundings of Kunlun's Field. However, the monks from Kunlun's Field had not discovered their world.

In a flash, countless ideas emerged in his mind. The more he thought about it, the more horrified Zhang Ruochen got. He became chilled, as if he had fallen into an ice cellar.

"It must be my random thoughts. There are so many Primitive Worlds around Kunlun's Field, so it is very normal to give birth to a small evil world."

"This Xuanwu has already been dead for many years. If there was a big world that was more powerful than Kunlun's Field, it should have invaded Kunlun's Field on a large scale. We couldn't have missed their traces."

Zhang Ruochen tried to convince himself and calm himself down.

Fire came down from overhead and the sea became burning hot before he was able to think about it further.

The Ember Kylin had chased after Black Skeleton Flood Dragon King and Monk Lidi, and was rushing down hurriedly.

Having sensed the great power from above, Huang Yanchen, Ao Xinyan, and Orange Star Emissary all changed their facial expressions. They almost kneeled down as if they were being suppressed by nine lofty mountains.

They could not bear the Half-Saint Class power.

"Let's hide inside Xuanwu's body first," Zhang Ruochen said.

Zhang Ruochen was able to perceive that the Xuanwu Inheritance was inside of this Xuanwu.

There were only two entrances to Xuanwu's body, which were its eyes.

Xuanwu's eyeballs had already been corroded, revealing only two 10-foot-high black holes. Through the holes, one could go inside the body, far-reaching and bottomless.

Like a colorful waterfall, wisps of Xuanwu Qi poured out of its eyes and flew into the sea, vanishing from sight.

Standing in its left eye, Zhang Ruochen looked down. He looked at the Iron Pillar that had pierced through Xuanwu's body and exited out of its abdomen and was inserted into the underground lava.

Below Xuanwu's body was a boiling red lava lake. As if they had been stimulated, humanoid fish rushed out of the lava and attacked Zhang Ruochen and the others.