INVINCIBLE 541

Chapter 541: Query

Five hundred and sixty-three God Realm demonic beasts!

If the family disciples watching outside knew about this, they would probably be scared stiff on the spot.

How many God Realm demonic beast existed on the Deepwood Star? Probably half of them were killed by Huang Xiaolong.

"But, this is still not enough." Huang Xiaolong muttered to himself as he put away the demonic beast's core.

These five hundred and sixty-three pieces of beast core were insufficient for him to advance to peak half-step God Realm. He estimated he'd need at least another thousand beast cores.

'Looks like I need to figure out another way after leaving this place.' Huang Xiaolong felt somewhat depressed. At the same time, his consciousness submerged into the token.

Thirty million?

'En, I'll be able to surpass that amount today.'

Huang Xiaolong leaped up, swinging the Blades of Asura in his hands. Multiple blade lights gathered into a ferocious wind cyclone, carrying a skyful of beast cores rotating at high speed.

From the beginning, Huang Xiaolong had only used his Blades of Asura to attack, combined with his Wings of Demon. Up until now, he had yet to summon the twin dragon martial spirits and soul transform.

Neither did he use the Godly Xumi Art.

Even so, it was sufficient for Huang Xiaolong to win the first place.

When the curtain was about to fall on day nine, the scoreboard exploded in a bright light, rivaling the sun, piercing ten thousand zhang to the heavens. The crystal stone shook with vigor as the crowd watched with stupefied expressions. The person who everyone acknowledged to be this round of assessment's number one was actually relegated to second place!!

And the board leader was no longer Gudu Leng.

First place, Huang Xiaolong!

These two words at the very top of the scoreboard emitted a blinding radiance.

The moment Huang Xiaolong took over the scoreboard, the entire square quaked as the crowd erupted in a tremendous uproar.

"He really did it, he took first place!"

"What kind of a freak is this Huang Xiaolong exactly?!"

"Even Gudu Leng was overtaken by him!"

Concealed deep in the void, Li Zhiqun and Su Haodong both wore astounded expressions.

"Maybe this is temporary? There is still a day's time, Gudu Leng could still snatch the top place back!" Su Haodong said. But, would Gudu Leng truly have any hope of regaining the top spot?

What he witnessed was Huang Xiaolong pulling further away from Gudu Leng in a short time, widening the distance between them.

Thirty thousand, one hundred thousand, one million!

One hour later, Gudu Leng's points were already ten million behind Huang Xiaolong, and the gap between them only grew wider.

On the Cloudsea Mainland, within a certain space inside Gudu City, the giant body of an old man sat atop an immense altar. This old man's eyes were completely cloudy white, including his pupils.

The old man's white-colored eyes glimmered with a golden light, muttering to himself, "There's actually someone that could overtake Leng'er points! I'm curious to know which unique physique this person possesses!"

This old man was none other than Gudu Leng's family ancestor, Gudu Batian.

Just like Gudu Batian, other super forces' family ancestors were guessing Huang Xiaolong's real talent and strength. On the other hand, Elder Zhang Tianchuan who was overseeing this time's assessment reported the matter on the scene to the institute's upper level with haste.

In general proceedings, an overseer like Zhang Tianchuan was not required to make any reports until after the assessment ended, but in this situation where Gudu Leng was actually surpassed by another person for more than an hour, and the difference only grew wider as time passed, prompted him to do so.

Who was Gudu Leng?

A genius that even their Black Warrior Institute's Principal wanted to receive as a personal disciple, but now, there was a possibility that someone that was even more of a monstrous genius had appeared, what did this represent?

On the Black Warrior World surface, inside the Black Warrior Institute compound, Institute Principal Feng Yang was shocked listening to the report: "What?! Gudu Leng was overtaken!"

"It is so, Principal." A Grand Elder affirmed. "This was reported by Zhang Tianchuan moments ago, it is a kid name Huang Xiaolong, but... according to them, during the aptitude test, his strength was only within the 2000 points range."

Institute Principal Feng Yang gradually calmed down, a light flickered in his eyes.

"Principal, this Huang Xiaolong, how do you see him?" That Grand Elder hesitated.

"Monitor him." Institute Principal Feng Yang spoke in a solemn tone, "Send someone to investigate this Huang Xiaolong's background."

"Yes, Principal."

While various forces lingered in shock, on Deepwood Star, Huang Xiaolong was standing above a vast expanse of sea, slaughtering ghostly creatures.

The sea water was a pure black, with an endless number of ghostly creatures emerging from the bottom of the sea.

Circulating the true essence energy in his dantian, the true essence fire spread out from Huang Xiaolong's body, transforming the immediate several hundred li area around him into a sea of fire.

Huang Xiaolong proceeded forward, and in his trail, all the new ghost creatures that just emerged from the sea was instantly burned to ashes, releasing their souls in the air. Seeing this, he displayed the Blood Deed Pact, opened his mouth and inhaled deeply. In less than a breath's time, numerous ghost creatures' souls were sucked into Huang Xiaolong's body, directly refined.

As for the God Realm ghost creatures, Huang Xiaolong captured and sealed their souls before throwing them into the Linglong Treasure Pagoda.

By this point, Huang Xiaolong no longer bothered with the points on the scoreboard. If there was a change in position, the token would quiver as an indication, letting him know.

Back on the square, the various forces' experts and disciples continued to stare dumbly at the crystal stone in the air as Huang Xiaolong's points flew up again as if gaining a second wind. Although Gudu Leng's points were also shooting up in a mad dash, it looked like a futile effort as the distance widened. At one point, it passed 130 million points in difference.

Jiang Shaoze in third place looked even more pitiful with over 600 million points between him and Gudu Leng. It would be more merciful not to mention Wang Biaoyuan.

Above the ghost sea, Huang Xiaolong had just killed a mid-First Order God Realm, sealing its soul and putting it away inside the Linglong Treasure Pagoda when the airspace on the whole Deepwood Star shook like waves. In the blink of an eye, all the disciples re-appeared on the Hall of Heroes square.

Ten days had passed.

The assessment finally came to an end, and all the surviving students were sent out of the Deepwood Star.

Ten days ago, there were more than eighty million disciples, but after coming out, an approximate of only fifty million disciples remained, the others were turned into food for the demonic beasts, monsters, and demons.

When Huang Xiaolong appeared, all eyes zoomed onto him, whether it was disciples of the Black Warrior Institute or other families' disciples, participants or part of the spectating crowd. All their attention fell on Huang Xiaolong's body.

The look in their eyes was as if they were looking at a terrifying monster. Envy, hate, jealousy, shock, fear, all rolled into one.

At the end of the assessment, Huang Xiaolong's final score surpassed 3.5 billion points! This was a figure that made people go crazy! A figure that conjured up a bloody picture, a figure that made it hard to imagine or believe.

Killing a half-step God Realm demonic beasts brought 800 points, an early-First Order God Realm was 10,000 points, and a mid-First Order God Realm was merely worth 50,000 points. How many half-step God Realm and peak half-step God Realm demonic beasts did one have to kill in order to reach that staggering figure?

The previous first place winner didn't even reach 2 billion points.

Gudu Leng's score was equally astonishing, but it paled in comparison to Huang Xiaolong's. Gudu Leng's points slightly exceeded 2.8 billion points.

Whereas Jiang Shaoze at third place collected over 1 billion points.

"You're Huang Xiaolong?" At one point, Wang Biaoyuan stood in front of Huang Xiaolong, in a slightly condescending bearing.

"Right." Huang Xiaolong replied indifferently.

"If I'm not wrong, you're just a half-step God Realm, right? I'm very curious, a half-step God Realm like you, how did you manage to accumulate more than 3.5 billion points?!" Wang Biaoyuan questioned.

He ranking dropped to the fourth place. Failing to enter the top three made his mood extremely bad.

Chapter 542: Anyone Else Wants to Come Up?

Many people in the square had the same query as Wang Biaoyuan in their hearts.

The gazes watching Huang Xiaolong fluctuated slightly. That's right ah, this Huang Xiaolong was just a half-step God Realm. How did a half-step God Realm achieve 3.5 billion points?! Strong as a half-step God Realm was, there was no way their strength could reach such a terrifying point!

Jiang Shaoze, Xu Shaoqing, Jiang Wei, Li Mingxuan, He Xiu, Yang Shiqi, Su Meiyi, Zhu Haixiang, and all other geniuses that participated in the assessment had the same doubt and disbelief.

In truth, even Gudu Leng found it hard to accept the result just like that.

He himself was a God Realm ah, acknowledged as Gufu Family's strongest genius! His talent was highly praised by their Gudu Family Ancestor.

Yet, he was actually defeated by a half-step God Realm warrior!

Huang Xiaolong's expression remained aloof as he spoke, "How I achieved 3.5 billion points is not something I need to explain to you." With that said, he turned around and walked toward the new disciple gathering area.

"Courting death!" When Wang Biaoyuan saw Huang Xiaolong turn around, ignoring him, fury exploded in his eyes and he bellowed, "Immovable Wisdom King's Godking Fist![1]" Hurling a fist at Huang Xiaolong. The air exploded from the sudden pressure.

Wang Biaoyuan's punch gave the surrounding genius disciples an illusion that the surrounding air was like a large bubble about to pop.

Amidst shocked exclamations and gasps, everyone backpedaled or fled sideways to safety.

"This is the Wang Family's divine rank battle kill that is not passed to outsiders, Immovable Wisdom King's Godking Fist!"

"It is said that when one cultivates this skill to a certain stage, it can kill the enemy with just one punch. Moreover, even in death, that person will not move, standing immovable for ten thousand years!"

Shock filled the square.

Everyone's attention was focused on Huang Xiaolong as they watched Wang Biaoyuan's Immovable Wisdom King's Godking Fist about to strike the young man's back. Each of them wanted to know how Huang Xiaolong would respond to Wang Biaoyuan's fist.

The Black Warrior Institute Elder Zhang Tianchuan was about to step forward to break the fight when a voice sounded in his ears, halting his action.

Before the fist was about to land, Huang Xiaolong suddenly turned around, his right palm extended out, wrapping over Wang Biaoyuan's fist. The air blast sounds immediately died down, the chaotic airflow returned to normal.

And the surroundings were dead quiet.

The spectating crowd was dumbfounded. 'This... actually works?!'

Not far away, Gudu Leng's pupils needled watching this, an unnoticeable black light flitted passed, but inwardly, he was shocked. In that split second, a myriad of possibilities ran through his mind except for the result he was seeing.

Jiang Shaoze, Xu Shaoqing, and the rest were equally astounded.

With a slight push from Huang Xiaolong's right hand, Wang Biaoyuan felt his body involuntarily stagger backward, being pushed dozens of meters back before he managed to regain his balance. Wang Biaoyuan's face flushed beet red with fury as he stared at Huang Xiaolong: "You!" Without another word, a golden light burst out from his body, preparing to attack again.

"Others cannot interfere?" Huang Xiaolong remained stoic, cold gaze fell on the nearby Wang Family disciples.

Wang Biaoyuan looked at the Wang Family disciples around, barking, "This is a fight between me and him, no one is allowed to interfere!" His body once again burst out in a golden light as if a layer of golden qi enshrouded over his skin. A palpitating energy surged violently from Wang Biaoyuan's body.

"Indestructible Vajra Physique!"

"Wang Biaoyuan has awakened his Indestructible Vajra Physique potential when he advanced to God Realm. The Indestructible Vajra Physique is very powerful, its defense is even scarier. At Wang Biaoyuan's current strength, even a late-First Order God Realm cannot break past his defense!"

Seeing Wang Biaoyuan display his Indestructible Vajra Physique, the square was astir with excitement.

When Wang Biaoyuan displayed his Indestructible Vajra Physique, Gudu Leng's cold expression was slightly tinged with a hint of sullenness. Admittedly, a Wang Biaoyuan applying the power of his Indestructible Vajra Physique was a strong enemy.

Huang Xiaolong observed Wang Biaoyuan for a moment with a calm demeanor. Since someone came knocking on his doorstep, he might as well 'reveal' a small portion of his strength, let the Black Warrior Institute have a good look.

Wang Biaoyuan attempted to attack him in public, yet no one from the Black Warrior Institute tried to stop him. Huang Xiaolong knew this was because the Black Warrior Institute also wanted to know the level of his strength, or more accurately said, they were suspicious of his 3.5 billion points?

By this point, Wang Biaoyuan had raised his momentum to the peak.

"You're not using the sword?" Huang Xiaolong's gaze fell on the ancient sword hanging around Wang Biaoyuan's waist. He could tell that this Wang Biaoyuan was a sword cultivator, one with proficient skills.

Wang Biaoyuan's eyes were frosty, "Against you, I don't need to use a sword."

Huang Xiaolong shrugged his shoulders at Wang Biaoyuan's retort, since it is so, then he wouldn't be polite.

"Nine-Nine Chained Punches! [2]" Wang Biaoyuan made a sudden lunge forward, both fists struck out with a killing intent. When his fists struck out, consecutive images of golden fists flew out, moving up and down, left and right, making it hard for anyone to predict their trajectory.

Huang Xiaolong harrumphed, dashing forward instead of maneuvering to dodge the attack, extending both his fists.

"Doesn't this Huang Xiaolong know that Wang Biaoyuan's Indestructible Vajra Physique fists are as hard as a demi divine artifact?! He still dares to fight head-on with Wang Biaoyuan with his fists!"

"It seems like this Huang Xiaolong's fists are about to be wasted!"

Heads shook in pity as they watched.

A cold smirk crept up Wang Biaoyuan's face watching Huang Xiaolong trying to counter his attack in the same manner, but a cruel light flickered in the depth of his eyes.

In a split second, four fists collided, and a thunderous explosion trailed behind.

The smirk on Wang Biaoyuan's face stiffened as his muscles tensed, the cruel light in his eyes was replaced with an unknown trepidation.

He looked at Huang Xiaolong, but just as he was about to speak, a flood of horrifying power crashed against his whole person.

A sharp pain traveled from his fists, so strong that he couldn't resist letting out an anguished scream. Wang Biaoyuan was sent flying back, repelled by the powerful force.

Huang Xiaolong's eyes narrowed with aggression. In a flicker, he appeared in the path of Wang Biaoyuan's flying figure.

"Stop!" Wang Biaoyuan's scream brought the Wang Family disciples and guards back to their senses. Four silhouettes rushed out, attacking Huang Xiaolong.

"Scram!" Huang Xiaolong's voice reverberated like thunder, slapping a single palm at the four attackers. The four people's actions froze in midair for less than a second before falling to the ground like meteors, crashing into the square at an even faster speed.

Huang Xiaolong's expression remained unchanged as he added another palm strike on Wang Biaoyuan's back.

Poof!

Blood flew out like arrows. Wang Biaoyuan was sent flying higher into the sky, his screams sounded weaker and further away, disappearing into the layers of cloud.

Gently, Huang Xiaolong feet touched the square ground once again, standing amidst a thick silence from all four directions.

The crowd sucked in a cold breath looking at the four Wang Family guards that were slapped to the ground by Huang Xiaolong, lying on the ground with half a breath left.

These four Wang Family guards were all late-First Order God Realm!

Late-First Order God Realm!

Done in with a single palm!

Seconds later, Wang Biaoyuan's scream was heard again from the sky above, falling back down at high speed.

A booming crash resounded when his body hit the ground. Spider line cracks zig-zagged on the square surface.

When everyone finally laid their eyes on Wang Biaoyuan, to their horror, they discovered that little flesh remained on Wang Biaoyuan's Indestructible Vajra Physique arms, and there was a glaring handprint that seemed to protrude slightly on his chest all the way from his back.

The crowd was dumbfounded, was this the Indestructible Vajra Physique that rivaled a demi divine artifact? If they did not witness the fight from the beginning, they'd have thought it was a paper tiger!

Gudu Leng looked at Wang Biaoyuan, lying there as if he was going to faint into oblivion anytime, his face muscle slightly twitched. Brutal, too damn brutal!

'Is he still human?!' His larynx shifted as he observed Huang Xiaolong.

Huang Xiaolong's eyes swept over Gudu Leng, Jiang Shaoze, Xu Shaoqing, and the others. The message in his eyes to them was clear—Is there anyone else that would like to come up and question my strength?

1. Coined as The Immovable One, the Wisdom King is one of the Five Wisdom Kings, the one that guards the center. The Five Wisdom Kings guard the four directions and center, protectors of the Five Wisdom Buddhas. (relates to his Indestructible Vajra Physique) Pic & Source

2. Nine nine - a simple way of saying 9x9. In regards to the attack move, it gives the impression of 81 consecutive punches.

Chapter 543: About Thirty Years?

Detecting the provocation in Huang Xiaolong's gaze, an unpleasant expression shadowed Jiang Shaoze, Xu Shaoqing, Zhu Haixiang, and other top geniuses' faces, yet no one dared to step out in contrary, including Gudu Leng.

Even Wang Biaoyuan, who activated the Indestructible Vajra Physique, was turned into a mere paper tiger in front of this person. If they walked out, wouldn't they be pummeled into a pig head?!

The crowd fell into a prolonged heavy silence when an abrupt angry shout cut across the square as a figure leaped out from the Wang Family's midst, attacking Huang Xiaolong. A Wang Family master.

A Third Order God Realm warrior.

His action was too fast, it did not occur to anyone that a Wang Family master would try to assassinate Huang Xiaolong.

"Insolent!"

Just when that Wang Family master was about to slap his palm down on Huang Xiaolong, a fleeting sword light glinted and disappeared. The Wang Family expert howled in pain, clutching his hand as he retreated, looking fearfully at Black Warrior Institute's Elder Zhang Tianchuan.

It was Elder Zhang Tianchuan who attacked earlier.

Everyone could see that all five fingers of that Wang Family master were cleanly cut off.

Zhang Tianchuan glared coldly at the Wang Family group, emphasizing each word: "This is Cloudsea Mainland, this is Black Warrior City! This time, take severing your five fingers as punishment, but next time, it will be your life!"

Huang Xiaolong had proven his strength.

Thus, he was the Black Warrior Institute's first place holder for this assessment. If Huang Xiaolong was killed in the Black Warrior City, wouldn't that turn the entire Black Warrior Institute into the century's biggest joke?

A genius like Huang Xiaolong was a rare sight in a hundred thousand years that would surely rise to become the Black Warrior Institute's precious treasure in the future, of course the Black Warrior Institute needed to safeguard him. In fact, crucial measures should be taken to safeguard him!

Clutching his wounded hand, that Wang Family master had no choice but to swallow his anger, similarly of the other Wang Family masters.

In this matter, they were at fault.

Both Huang Xiaolong and Wang Biaoyuan had determined that no one was allowed to interfere, but the Wang Family made a sneak attack after Wang Biaoyuan lost.

Zhang Tianchuan's frosty gaze scanned the crowd before turning toward Huang Xiaolong with a bedazzling smile, "Junior brother Huang, are you alright?" That tone, that manner, they completely floored the crowd.

Zhang Tianchuan was an Elder of Black Warrior Institute ah, a person of high status in the whole Black Tortoise Galaxy, did he need to show a new disciple so much courtesy? Then again, recalling Huang Xiaolong's terrifying talent and strength, they could only accept it.

Relying on the talent and strength that Huang Xiaolong had 'showed', Elder Zhang Tianchuan's courtesy and smile became a natural matter of course.

Huang Xiaolong looked at Zhang Tianchuan's dazzling smile with a slight flattered feeling, politely answering, "Elder Zhang, I'm unharmed."

Zhang Tianchuan nodded with a big smile, but his sharp eyes were fixed on Huang Xiaolong. That gaze sent goosebumps down Huang Xiaolong's neck.

Subsequently, Zhang Tianchuan officially announced the top ten name list. As for the eleventh to the one hundredth place, Zhang Tianchuan merely ordered someone else to announce the rest of the list to the public.

After the top ten places were announced, it was the prize giving ceremony.

Only the top ten places had any rewards. The prizes for the second to the tenth place were given out by Elder Zhan Tianchuan, but when it came to Huang Xiaolong's turn, his prize was given out by Grand Elder Bao Xinrui.

From this, the difference in treatment between the first, second, third place and the rest was obvious.

On the stage, Huang Xiaolong received a spatial ring from Grand Elder Bao Xinrui which contained ten million Xuanwu coins, one thousand Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellet, one thousand saint grade spirit stones, and one divine rank battle skill.

When Huang Xiaolong received his reward from Grand Elder Bao Xinrui, the Grand Elder observed the young man in front of him, his old wrinkly face was full of smiles, nodding with appreciation, "You, are very good."

Very good!

This short statement drew envious and jealous glares from the surrounding geniuses.

Bao Xinrui was recognized as the strongest person under the Highgod Realm in the entire Black Tortoise Galaxy, never had anyone heard him praising any juniors.

Then, before the envious and jealous gazes subside, Bao Xinrui spoke again, "The Institute Principal wants to see you, do you have time?"

Everyone was dazed, dumbfounded; the Institute Principal wanted to see Huang Xiaolong?!

Even Huang Xiaolong did not expect the Black Warrior Institute Principal would want to meet him. Still, it was good news to him if the Black Warrior Institute Principal wanted to see him, therefore he had no reason to refuse. Moreover, he wasn't so dumb as to refuse.

Seeing Huang Xiaolong agree, Bao Xinrui started the square's transmission array, disappearing before everyone's sight together with Huang Xiaolong.

After the two silhouettes disappeared vanishing from their vision, a great commotion swept through the crowd.

"The Black Warrior Institute's Principal wants to see Huang Xiaolong, what do you think this is about?"

"Huang Xiaolong's talent is astonishing, maybe the Institute Principal wants to give him more rewards, or, who knows, maybe he even wants to take Huang Xiaolong as his personal disciple!"

"What? Take Huang Xiaolong as a personal disciple? Cannot be, right? Doesn't that mean that Huang Xiaolong reached the sky in a single bound?"

The discussions in the square grew lively.

Some guessed that the Institute Principal was of a mind to receive Huang Xiaolong as a personal disciple due to his talent that was higher than Gudu Leng's, but there were those who disagreed with this view, for it had been more than twenty thousand years since the Institute Principal last took in a personal disciple.

Rumors circulated.

On the other side, following behind Bao Xinrui, Huang Xiaolong saw a colorful blur enter his vision and he had arrived in another enormous square.

Lining the perimeter of the square were building structures that seemed to have no end, exuding an ancient aura of the vicissitudes of time, aged by the passing of years.

"This is our Black Tortoise World surface's North Star Square." Bao Xinrui explained. "If you want to go to the Cloudsea Mainland in the future, you can be transported directly into the Black Warrior City with the transmission array on this North Star Square."

This was the Black Tortoise World!

Huang Xiaolong inhaled deeply, taking in the rich spiritual energy into his body. The spiritual energy here was very pure, twice as pure as the spiritual energy in the Martial Spirit World. Its purity level actually surprised Huang Xiaolong! The purer the spiritual energy, the more importance it had to a cultivator's practice.

Bao Xinrui led Huang Xiaolong out from North Star Square, flying toward the center region of the Black Tortoise World.

Following behind Bao Xinrui, Huang Xiaolong watched as they flew over one city after another, palaces after palaces, each one more prosperous than the one before. In some places, Black Warrior Institute disciples could be seen laying out array formations. In some mountainous areas, the earth was excavated to build new cities.

While Bao Xinrui and Huang Xiaolong were on their way to the center region of the Black Tortoise World, inside a large city within the center region, Grand Elder Chan Yu was reporting to Institute Principal Feng Yang, "Principal, we've investigated Huang Xiaolong's background, he's a disciple of our Black Tortoise Galaxy's Martial Spirit World."

The day before, when Huang Xiaolong's points surpassed Gudu Leng's points, the Black Warrior Institute Principal ordered people to investigate Huang Xiaolong's background. Based on the institute's forces, investigating a person's background was no difficult matter.

When the Institute Principal heard that Huang Xiaolong was indeed a native of the Black Tortoise Galaxy, he breathed out in relief. He had been worried that Huang Xiaolong might be a disciple cultivated by other galaxies' super forces, but now these worries were vanquished.

"Martial Spirit World?" Black Warrior Institute Principal mused over the said world surface, saying, "Since that Great Fiendgod War, the Martial Spirit World's overall strength dropped rock bottom, falling out from the galaxy's top ten thousand world ranking. It's unexpected that such a talented young man would come out from there now."

There were more than one hundred and twenty thousand world surfaces in the entire Black Tortoise Galaxy, he couldn't possibly remember all of them. However, he did have some impression on the Martial Spirit World.

Grand Elder Chan Yu's mouth moved as if he wanted to speak but hesitated.

"What is it?" Institute Principal Feng Yang noticed his strange manner and asked, "Is there a problem with Huang Xiaolong?"

Grand Elder Chan Yu's did not carry the usual confidence as he spoke, "That Huang Xiaolong was born in the Martial Spirit World a little over thirty years ago."

A little over thirty years? For a brief moment, Institute Principal Feng Yang's brain failed to make the connection, but when he finally realized what Grand Elder Chan Yu was trying to say, Feng Yang sucked in a sharp cold breath, "Yo-you're saying, that Huang Xiaolong, cultivating until up now only took about thirty years?!"

Chapter 544: Apprenticeship

Watching the Institute Principal's stunned and bewildered expression, Grand Elder Chan Yu nodded in all seriousness, "It is so, Principal, that Huang Xiaolong is merely thirty-something years old!"

When he found out the result of the investigation, his reaction was no less dramatic! This simply made the terms like 'monstrous genius' or 'peerless talent' insufficient to describe Huang Xiaolong.

Gudu Leng was hailed as Gudu Family's strongest genius in history, but Gudu Leng had spent more than one hundred and fifty years in cultivation.

Whereas that Huang Xiaolong merely cultivated for approximately thirty years or so! Given the same amount of time, to what extent could Huang Xiaolong's power grow?!

At the time Chan Yu received this information, even he, someone who never uttered an uncouth word couldn't help spitting out, "I'll be damned, what kind of freak is he?!"

This freak monster's mother also had to be a horrifying lady to actually give birth to such a super freaky unrivaled monster!

The Black Warrior Institute Principal took a deep breath to calm himself, recovering from his shock. Even so, the glimmering light in his eyes belied the excitement in his heart.

At first, he still had some nagging doubt, but now, he absolutely had to receive Huang Xiaolong as his disciple! A personal disciple! Whatever the price!

Afterwards, the Black Warrior Institute Principal Feng Yang asked a few more questions related to Huang Xiaolong, but... the more he asked, the more stunned he became.

Grand Elder Chan Yu conducted a detailed investigation on Huang Xiaolong, ranging from the time Huang Xiaolong started cultivating to how much time he took to step into Saint realm, how long Huang Xiaolong spent to advance from Saint realm to high-level Saint realm, etc.

The more Institute Principal Feng Yang heard, the more engrossed he became, it was at this time that a disciple came knocking to report that Grand Elder Bao Xinrui had brought Huang Xiaolong over and were both waiting in the outer hall.

Only then did Feng Yang curb his questions, hurrying the disciple to bring Grand Elder Bao Xinrui and Huang Xiaolong in.

Huang Xiaolong respectfully walked behind Bao Xinrui into the main hall. Inside, sitting in the head seat was a middle-aged man in a golden brocade robe, with fair skin and eyes profound like the galaxy, a deep vast aura could be felt from his person. This man was likely the Black Warrior Institute's Principal. And beside the Institute Principal stood a black-haired elder, perhaps a certain Grand Elder of the institute.

But Huang Xiaolong keenly sensed the moment he stepped into the main hall that the way the Institute Principal and the Grand Elder looked at him seemed a little... strange. Similar to how Elder Zhang Tianchuan stared at him in the Hall of Heroes square, it truly made him uncomfortable.

"Greetings, Principal." Entering the main hall, Bao Xinrui saluted to the middle-aged man.

Huang Xiaolong also hurried to perform a respectful salute.

The Black Warrior Institute Principal Feng Yang excused both people's greetings. He rose from his seat and approached Huang Xiaolong with a radiant smile, "You're Huang Xiaolong?"

The smile sent Huang Xiaolong into a momentary daze before he replied, "Yes, Institute Principal."

"Are you willing to worship me as your Master?" Next came Institute Principal Feng Yang's thunderclap question.

The spacious main hall went strangely quiet of all a sudden.

Grand Elder Bao Xinrui was dumbfounded on the spot, Huang Xiaolong fared no better: This... this was too direct!

Only Grand Elder Chan Yu standing at the side did not feel surprised.

"You, are unwilling?" Failing to hear Huang Xiaolong's answer after waiting for some time, Institute Principal Feng Yang became slightly anxious, half probing for an answer.

"No, Institute Principal, this, I..." This was so unexpected that Huang Xiaolong didn't know how to answer.

In fact, on the way here, Huang Xiaolong had thought of this possibility, but when the Black Warrior Institute Principal Feng Yang broached the subject of receiving him as a disciple in such direct manner, it still felt too sudden.

Then, Institute Principal broke out in laughter, "There are a lot of benefits being my disciple, for example; you get one hundred saint grade spirit stones as allowance, one hundred Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellets, and moreover, you can look at all the rare and precious techniques inside the Black Warrior Treasury at any time. If you have any cultivation problems, you can come ask me any time."

Institute Principal Feng Yang listed a number of benefits that made the Grand Elder dumbstruck at the side as he listened. Why did it feel like the Principal was afraid that Huang Xiaolong might refuse him?! That he was using these benefits to bait Huang Xiaolong?!

Were his eyes deceiving him?

Hearing the things coming out from the Institute Principal's mouth, Huang Xiaolong felt a tad speechless, but he took a deep breath, and performed a respectful bow toward Feng Yang, saying: "Disciple Huang Xiaolong greets Master!"

Huang Xiaolong had given the matter a great deal of thought before arriving, there were only benefits to worshipping the Black Warrior Institute Principal as his Master.

First of all, it was the cultivation resources. Just like what the Institute Principal said, every month he would receive one hundred saint grade spirit stones, one hundred Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellets, and the most tempting of all were the techniques inside the institute's treasury that were open to his perusal!

This was a resource that no other Black Warrior Institute disciple could enjoy, not even if one climbed all the way to the status of an elite disciple.

Huang Xiaolong was aware that only the Grand Elders, Vice-Principal, and the Institute Principal had the authority to enter the institute's treasury as they wished. All these benefits were good, but the most important of all was the identity of the Black Warrior Institute Principal's personal disciple. An identity that would conveniently make things easier for Huang Xiaolong when moving around in the Black Tortoise Galaxy.

Previously in the Hall of Heroes square, he gravely wounded Wang Biaoyuan, and Wang Biaoyuan was a top talent that the Wang Family cultivated. In the coming days, the Wang Family would definitely find ways to settle this score, but with the identity of the Black Warrior Institute Principal's personal disciple, the Wang Family could only swallow this loss.

In this assessment, Huang Xiaolong had shown great promising talent, he believed there would definitely be big families or super forces that would like to kill him in the cradle. Thus, he had to borrow the Institute Principal's reputation to shield him.

Not to mention, the Star Sword Sect and the Ying Family that he was worried about in the past were no longer an issue.

When Institute Principal Feng Yang saw that Huang Xiaolong was willing to worship him as Master, he laughed heartily in happiness. He stepped forward, pulling Huang Xiaolong up, "Excellent, excellent!" His laughter shook the hall.

Both Grand Elder Chan Yu and Bao Xinrui cupped their hands, congratulating Principal Feng Yang: "Congratulations Principal for receiving an outstanding disciple!" Both elderly were sincerely happy that the Principal was able to receive Huang Xiaolong as his personal disciple.

With Huang Xiaolong's talent, it wasn't hard to imagine that in a few thousand years' time there would be an additional Highgod Realm master to Black Warrior Institute's name. What made Huang Xiaolong even rarer was the fact that he did not belong to any super forces in the Black Tortoise Galaxy. Such talent, such clean background was undeniably many times more ideal than Gudu Leng.

Feng Yang couldn't stop smiling looking at Huang Xiaolong, "You're the fourth disciple Master has received. Master doesn't have many good things, so Master will give you this Mulberry Sword[1] as an apprenticeship present." With that said, he took out a wooden sword and gave it to Huang Xiaolong.

The wooden sword was neither long nor short, it was no different from an ordinary wooden sword appearance-wise but Huang Xiaolong knew that this wooden sword was anything but.

Watching this on the side, both Grand Elder Chan Yu and Bao Xinrui were stunned by the fact that the Principal was willing to part with the wooden sword, gifting it to Huang Xiaolong. This was the Principal's most treasured sword, he kept it by his side at all times for the last ten thousand years, maybe even longer. He was reluctant to give it to his eldest disciple, so neither of them expected the Principal to give it to his newly received fourth disciple, Huang Xiaolong.

This was proof of how much the Principal cherished his youngest disciple.

Huang Xiaolong received the Mulberry Sword, giving his thanks, "Thank you, Master."

After Huang Xiaolong took the Mulberry Sword, Feng Yang joyfully went on, "This Mulberry Sword is imprinted with a set of sword skills I created from enlightenment. After you refine this Mulberry Sword, practice the Mulberry Sword Technique!" Then, his head looked over at Grand Elder Chan Yu, "Make an announcement to the galaxy, I've taken Huang Xiaolong as my disciple, the ceremony will be held one month later. All families' Patriarchs and Sovereigns are invited to bear witness!"

As the Black Warrior Institute's Principal, him receiving a disciple was a big event. The entire Black Tortoise Galaxy's big event, of course it couldn't be considered done with the slapdash just now. The worship ceremony had to be conducted on a grand scale.

1. Mulberry Sword (sāngmù jiàn) - The 'sang' refers to the same Fusang tree (aka mulberry tree) of another legend/novel where the three-legged crow perched on, growing in a land where there are ten suns.

Chapter 545: You Already Refined All of Them?!

Very soon, news of the Black Warrior Institute's Principal receiving Huang Xiaolong as a personal disciple spread out, sending great waves in the galaxy. At the same time, Huang Xiaolong's final score in the new disciple assessment was also spread out.

Some were shocked, some felt envious, and others were jealous.

Of course, most people felt that Huang Xiaolong ascended to great heights in a single bound, akin to a poor country bumpkin that suddenly befriended the emperor of an empire.

However, when the super forces' ancestors found out that Huang Xiaolong had merely cultivated for no more than thirty years, their momentary daze turned into strong envy toward the Black Warrior Institute Principal for receiving such a heaven-defying 'treasure.'

Whereas the Wang Family that was still harboring a grudge against Huang Xiaolong could only give up on any ill intentions.

"Ancestor, are we really going to forget this matter?!" Within a certain space, Wang Biaoyuan's face displayed great unwillingness. But, just as the words left his mouth, he was sent flying by the Wang Family Ancestor with a sweep of palm.

Holding the side of his face as he climbed up from the ground, Wang Biaoyuan was stunned with disbelief as he looked at his Ancestor. As far as his memories go, his Ancestor had never hit him.

The Wang Family Ancestor's eyes were cold glancing at him, "The Wang Family's face has been shamed by you! If you have the ability, go defeat Huang Xiaolong fair and square. Roll back to your place, and go into closed-door practice!"

About the same time the news of the Black Warrior Institute Principal receiving Huang Xiaolong as a personal disciple spread out, another piece of news also spread—Wang Biaoyuan was beaten to a pulp by Huang Xiaolong in the Hall of Heroes square, turning the Wang Family into a laughing stock in the eyes of other prominent families.

A God Realm master, one that had the legendary Indestructible Vajra Physique was beaten like a dog by a half-step God Realm, if this wasn't a joke, then what was?

The schadenfreude from the other families caused the Wang Family Ancestors to lose a lot of face.

Wang Biaoyuan dared not make another sound seeing that his Ancestor was really upset, squirming away as quickly as possible.

"Huang Xiaolong!" Every time he recalled the scene of himself being pummeled by Huang Xiaolong in the Hall of Heroes' square, Wang Biaoyuan's eyes gleamed with venomous vengeance. This matter, he would absolutely not let this humiliation slide.

Defeat Huang Xiaolong fair and square? In that case, he will defeat Huang Xiaolong fair and square!

New disciples were subjected to competition assessment every three years, and at that time, new disciples were allowed to challenge each other.

"Huang Xiaolong, three years later, I will defeat you in front of the Black Warrior Institute Principal and the entire institute's disciples and Elders!" Wang Biaoyuan sneered, he would let his Ancestor and the whole galaxy understand that Huang Xiaolong was nothing before him!

A soft light flashed in his hands, revealing a treasure map.

This treasure map was something he got three months ago. As long as he could find the pure metal essence indicated on the map, within three years' time, breaking into Second Order God Realm or even mid or late-Second Order God Realm was highly possible!

It was no wonder that Wang Biaoyuan had confidence in defeating Huang Xiaolong. This pure metal essence was comparable to the innate spiritual embryo treasure that Huang Xiaolong found previously. On top of that, Wang Biaoyuan's Indestructible Vajra Physique was of the metal element. After refining this pure metal essence, his Indestructible Vajra Physique would be enhanced to an unimaginable degree.

While everyone was immersed in the shocking news of the Black Warrior Institute Principal receiving Huang Xiaolong as a personal disciple, the star of the moment was cultivating inside a large palace-like manor in the center region.

This manor belonged to the Institute Principal, a compound spanning thousands of li, and the spiritual energy here was several times denser and purer compared to other places.

Sitting cross-legged inside the Xumi Temple, Huang Xiaolong took out the Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellets he was rewarded, opened his mouth and swallowed a hundred pellets in one go.

If Gudu Leng, Wang Biaoyuan, Jiang Shaoze and the others saw this scene, they'd jump up in fright.

One of this Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellet contained extremely potent energy, an average disciple required at least one month to fully refine and absorb the effects of a single pellet. Even geniuses of Gudu Leng and Jiang Shaoze's caliber only dared to take two or three pellets at once, but Huang Xiaolong actually swallowed one hundred pellets in one go!

The instant the one hundred Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellets entered his body, Huang Xiaolong immediately felt flows of pure cold energy gather into an energy tide, rushing to every corner of his body.

Neither panicking nor hurrying, Huang Xiaolong ran the Asura Tactics, steadily refining these tides of energy and absorbing them.

Several hours later, he fully refined the effects of one hundred Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellets. Stopping to check his body's condition, he immediately felt that his True Dragon Physique had grown more powerful and his soul grew noticeably stronger.

"You kid is a genuine strange creature that has never existed before!" Dragon Emperor Ao Taiyi couldn't resist voicing out after seeing Huang Xiaolong refine one hundred pellets in one sitting.

During his time, even he didn't dare to swallow one hundred Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellets at once, moreover, refining them all in a mere five hours.

Even if one eats rice, it wouldn't digest so quickly. This kid was literally treating the Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellets as snacks!

"Old Dragon, what do you think about my Master's strength?" Huang Xiaolong asked. The 'Master' Huang Xiaolong was referring to was, of course, the Black Warrior Institute's Principal.

Dragon Emperor Ao Taiyi slightly paused before answering, "Very strong. Even at my peak strength, I may not be your Master's opponent!"

May not be? That means there was a fighting chance. Just from this, one could imagine how strong Dragon Emperor Ao Taiyi was in his time, after all, the Black Warrior Institute Principal Feng Yang was the current strongest person in Black Tortoise Galaxy.

One hour later, Huang Xiaolong continued swallowing one hundred Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellets.

Like this, three days passed peacefully while Huang Xiaolong finished refining all one thousand pellets that he got from the first place reward.

One thousand Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellets refined in just three days' time!

Dragon Emperor Ao Taiyi was already numb being rendered speechless.

An average disciple refined one pellet every month, twelve pellets in a year, taking a century to refine one thousand and two hundred pellets, and two centuries' time to refine over three thousand pellets!

After he was done with the Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellets, Huang Xiaolong began refining the six hundred and eighty-nine God Realm beast cores that he harvested from the Deepwood Star, starting from the lower early First Order God Realm. This time as well he refined them in a batch of one hundred.

After that, it was the souls of the ghost creatures he killed, and this didn't take long, for he only had a little over a hundred of these sealed souls.

Despite having yet to reach peak half-step God Realm, his strength took a great leap compared to the time before he entered the Deepwood Star.

Exiting the manor, Huang Xiaolong decided to take a stroll outside. There was still two weeks' time before the grand apprenticeship ceremony, taking advantage of this window, he wanted to take a look at the Black Tortoise World.

As coincidence goes, he ran into Institute Principal Feng Yang just as he was going out.

"Master." Huang Xiaolong stepped forward in greeting.

Institute Principal Feng Yang's face was filled with mirth as he nodded, saying, "How are you progressing with refining the Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellets? Although they're high-grade divine spirit pellets that can strengthen your physical body and cleanse your soul, you still cannot consume too many at once."

It happened many times in the past where some new disciples overestimated their talents and swallowed fifteen pellets in one sitting. In the end, the potent energy was too much for them, nearly causing their bodies to blow up and die.

Hearing this, both Huang Xiaolong and Dragon Emperor Ao Taiyi had an awkward sheepish expression on their faces.

"What's wrong?" Noticing the oddity on Huang Xiaolong's face, he asked with concern.

"Erm, those Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellets, I've already finished refining them." Huang Xiaolong's brain churned rapidly, and decided to answer honestly.

"What?! Y-You're saying that one thousand Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellets, all of them, you refined all of them?! In fifteen days?!" Institute Principal Feng Yang looked at his newly received personal disciple with a dumbfounded expression.

"En, yes." Huang Xiaolong nodded. Originally, he wanted to say that those pellets were finished in three days, but decided against it. After all, it might be too overwhelmingly shocking.

Chapter 546: Reckless Act

Watching Huang Xiaolong nod his head, Institute Principal Feng Yang's nerves twitched slightly despite his high shock tolerance.

One thousand Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellets in fifteen days! Thinking of this number, Feng Yang felt a bout of dizziness.

It took Feng Yang a while to gradually calm down, his eyes sparkling as he stared at Huang Xiaolong, this new disciple of his. At this very moment, he finally realized the monstrous level of his youngest disciple.

Feng Yang's face beamed with happiness, chiding Huang Xiaolong with humor, "You kid, thankfully my shock tolerance is above average. If it was anyone else, you'd have frightened to them death! However, with your consumption speed, regardless which super forces in the galaxy, I'm afraid they'd be reduced to beggars by you."

As Feng Yang was saying this, he took out a spatial ring, "There's twenty thousand Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellet inside here, I'll give you all of it."

Accepting the spatial ring, Huang Xiaolong said, "Thank you, Master."

Then, Feng Yang gave Huang Xiaolong's body a quick check, and after he made sure there was nothing wrong, he breathed out in relief. Of course, Huang Xiaolong's True Dragon Physique was hidden deeply, not even Feng Yang was able to see through it.

When Feng Yang heard that Huang Xiaolong was planning to go out for a stroll, he said matter-of-factly, "I'll tell Zhang Tianchuan to bring you around."

Huang Xiaolong hastily waved his hand, insisting that it wasn't necessary. That would be too conspicuous, he preferred not having other disciples pointing and whispering about him the entire way.

Since Huang Xiaolong insisted that it was not necessary, Feng Yang dropped the subject and told his disciple about certain restricted areas of the Black Tortoise World, reminding Huang Xiaolong to pay attention not to get close. These areas were dangerous even for high-level God Realm masters.

Huang Xiaolong committed them to memory one by one before leaving the manor.

Watching Huang Xiaolong's disappearing figure, Feng Yang nodded to himself with a faint smile, this disciple's talent far surpassed his estimation. Being able to receive such as disciple before he ascended to the Divine World gave him immense gratification.

As for Huang Xiaolong, after leaving the manor, he casually toured the city, taking in the sights.

The Black Tortoise World was roughly the same size as the Cloudsea Mainland. And the whole Black Tortoise World was the Black Warrior Institute. As the Black Tortoise Galaxy's top academic institute, as well as the top super force, it had a strict hierarchy. New disciples like Huang Xiaolong who had just passed the selection assessment merely held the status of an institute's outer disciple.

Above the outer disciples were the inner disciples, next were the elite disciples. Going further up were the institute's Elders, Grand Elders, Institute Vice-Principal, and the Institute Principal at the top.

Therefore, sidelining Huang Xiaolong's identity as the personal disciple of the Institute Principal, he was one of the bottom rung outer disciples. In the Black Warrior Institute, outer disciples had neither status nor identity.

Other than Huang Xiaolong's batch of new disciples, there were many more disciples from previous years that had yet to be promoted as inner disciples, hence, the Black Warrior Institute's outer disciples had accumulated to a staggering several hundred thousand in number.

Flying in the air, one of the things Huang Xiaolong noticed the most was the large number of outer disciples in white robes.

A while later, Huang Xiaolong made his way toward the Supreme Harmony Hall.

Although Huang Xiaoling won the first place in the assessment and had received the promised rewards, he had yet to receive his outer disciple identity slip and robe. This Hall of Supreme Harmony was the place where disciples came to collect their identity token and robes, as well as the place where tasks were given out.

Soon, Huang Xiaolong could see a grand building nestled amongst a long mountain range from afar, built in the middle of a mountain about a hundred zhang from the ground.

A few minutes later, Huang Xiaolong descended in the open square in front of the Supreme Harmony Hall. In the square, other than outer disciples, a large number of inner disciples were present, even some elite disciples could be seen flying over some distance away.

Because Huang Xiaolong had yet to collect his outer disciple robe, he was still wearing the Beast God robe he had on long ago, hence, the moment he appeared in the square, his presence was eye-catching.

Ignoring the stares directed at him, Huang Xiaolong calmly walked into the Supreme Harmony Hall.

"He should be one of the new disciples that passed through assessment, coming to collect his identity token and robe."

"A disciple that has just passed through assessment is acting so arrogant? He must have gotten used to being arrogant outside, suffering from the illusion that he's a remarkable genius!"

"It seems this punk has to be taught a lesson, so that he's aware of reality, a half-step God Realm's existence in the Black Warrior Institute is nothing but mud under our feet!"

Some disciples immediately felt Huang Xiaolong unpleasant to their eyes watching the indifferent aloof expression on his face.

In general, the new disciples that had passed through the assessment would quiver with apprehension facing the old disciples and inner disciples, careful and cautious, not daring to even fart in front of them, which one of them behaved like Huang Xiaolong, ignoring them as if they were invisible?

Almost immediately, an old-time outer disciple strode over to Huang Xiaolong.

"It's Senior brother Lin Sen! Senior Brother Lin Sen is close to breaking into the God Realm. Within the outer disciples, his strength ranked within top ten. Ha, this new disciple is in for it!"

"Wait and see how this new disciple is going to cry for mommy in a while!"

The surrounding disciples moved closer in anticipation of a good show.

In the Black Warrior World, the Black Warrior Institute did not restrict disciples at the same level from dueling as long as no deaths occurred. This was also the main reason why this Lin Sen dared to make a move on Huang Xiaolong.

Huang Xiaolong was just about to step into the Supreme Harmony Hall when a tall, brawny young man approached him in a less than friendly manner. This young man's arms were muscular and thick. Stopping in front of Huang Xiaolong, the young man raised his arm and swung a punch at Huang Xiaolong without a single word.

The force exuded by the fist was powerful and compact. Cutting through the air, it sounded like sharp friction between metal.

In the last two weeks, Huang Xiaolong did take the time to familiarize himself with Black Warrior Institute's battle skills, thus he recognized the battle skill this young man was displaying: a battle skill named Dynamic Fist. This battle skill was quite barbaric in nature. Upon reaching major completion, one punch could easily crumble a great mountain, snap steel kernel, and shatter a jade heart. Huang Xiaolong stood still, waiting for the young man's fist to arrive in front of him. Then, he lifted his palm and executed a swift strike. This palm strike opened a space rift, air blasted from the force and the ground tremored.

Fear exploded in the old outer disciple Lin Sen's eyes. He instinctively wanted to retreat, yet to his dismay, he discovered that he couldn't move. He could only watch wide-eyed as Huang Xiaolong's palm hit his body.

Pa! A sharp crisp sound rang out.

Lin Sen was sent flying with a single palm strike from Huang Xiaolong, his chest blasted open, crashing into a far corner of the square like a dead dog. In the next second, Lin Sen's body rolled out of the square, falling down the hundred zhang mountain height.

Lin Sen's miserable screams echoed in the air. The gathered disciples were stunned; this, really was this term's new disciple?!

Huang Xiaolong didn't even spare a backward glance as he entered the Supreme Harmony Hall. The disciples standing at the entrance waiting to watch a good show retreated rapidly like the tide, opening a wide berth for Huang Xiaolong.

After he stepped into the hall, a dark red-haired young man blocked Huang Xiaolong's path with an arm, his expression frosty, "Little punk, do you know who you just hit?"

The dark red-haired young man was dressed in a red brocade robe, proof of his inner disciple status. A late-First Order God Realm.

"Don't know." Huang Xiaolong remained indifferent, "Even if I know, so what?"

The dark red-haired young man's expression turned sullen in an instant; a new disciple still dared to act so arrogantly before an inner disciple!

That was literally a reckless act!

Chapter 547: The Grand Apprenticeship Ceremony

The garnet haired young man's eyes were icy-cold glaring at Huang Xiaolong, "Little punk, do you really think passing the new disciple assessment means that no one dares to take your life? Let me wake you up, every year, the number of Black Warrior Institute outer disciples who lose their lives outside performing various tasks isn't small."

This was a naked threat.

There were fatal risks everytime the Black Warrior Institute's outer disciples went out to perform tasks, and in general, the institute wouldn't employ resources to investigate the cause of death of an outer disciple.

"Is that so?" Huang Xiaolong retorted with a cold sneer, "Then, could it be that you don't know that quite a number of Black Warrior Institute's inner disciples also lose their lives while performing tasks outside."

"You!" A sharp glint exploded in the garnet haired young man's eyes, murderous intent roared in his heart. But he didn't make any move, for inner disciples were forbidden from attacking outer disciples. This was one of the Black Warrior Institute's strict rules which he dared not violate, thus he forcefully suppressed the urge to kill the punk in front of him.

"Little punk, in two months' time, all new disciples are required to perform a task outside, I'll see how long you can keep your arrogance." The look in his eyes grew increasingly frosty.

The underlying meaning of his words was that two months later when Huang Xiaolong went out to perform his task, he would deal with Huang Xiaolong. However, the support behind him had to be substantially powerful seeing that he dared to say that in public.

Throwing that sentence to Huang Xiaolong, the garnet haired young man snorted and walked away.

Huang Xiaolong did not stop him

"I can feel a flaming ice energy coming from this young man, he's probably a Lin Family's core disciple." Dragon Emperor Ao Taiyi added, "Only the core members of the Lin Family who practiced their Lin Family's secret technique, the Flameice Cardinal Technique, can emit this kind of energy."

The Lin Family was one of Black Tortoise Galaxy's super forces. In the past, perhaps Huang Xiaolong would have spared some thoughts on the matter, but things were different now.

'Still, I must break through to God Realm at the earliest possible.' Huang Xiaolong thought to himself. At his current strength, he was considered unrivaled against Second Order God Realm and below, however, if he ran into an enemy above Second Order God Realm, he would be caught in a sticky situation. Regardless of time and place, one's own strength was the most crucial.

Of course, Huang Xiaolong wasn't so naive as to assume that the sole identity of a personal disciple of the Black Warrior Institute's Principal would enable him to walk sideways in the galaxy.

A short while later, Huang Xiaolong received both his disciple identity token and robe from the Supreme Harmony Hall. Leaving the Supreme Harmony Hall, Huang Xiaolong went straight back to Feng Yang's manor instead of loitering in the streets.

In the Black Warrior Institute, outer disciples were not allocated their personal yard. Usually, four disciples shared a room, which was an inconvenience for Huang Xiaolong to cultivate. Therefore, for the time being, Huang Xiaolong stuck to living in Feng Yang's manor so he could cultivate without disturbance.

He planned to move out once he was promoted to an inner disciple, where each inner disciple was given their personal courtyard. Even though his Master Feng Yang did not mind it, Huang Xiaolong preferred being less dependent on his Master.

After Huang Xiaolong walked into Feng Yang's palace-like manor, in the distance, an inner disciple came out from the shadows with a shocked expression staring in the direction where Huang Xiaolong's silhouette disappeared. It was a long time later before he recovered, quickly turning away.

Some time later, the same inner disciple arrived at a courtyard, reporting to the garnet haired young man who wanted to deal with Huang Xiaolong what he saw.

The garnet haired young man, Lin Jun, was stunned at what he heard, "Are you sure that punk entered the Institute Principal's manor?!"

"Yes, Senior brother Lin Jun." That inner disciple inquired, "Do you think that could be ...?!"

"Huang Xiaolong!" Lin Jun's expression darkened; a new disciple able to enter and leave the Institute Principal's manor as he pleased, even a blind person could discern this new disciple's identity.

No wonder a new disciple dared to show such arrogance! Not even putting an inner disciple like him in his eyes!

"Senior brother Lin Jun, I think we should just forget about this matter." That inner disciple carefully persuaded.

A light flickered in Lin Jun's eyes, he waved a hand at the disciple saying, "You're excused for now."

That disciple acknowledged softly and backed out from the courtyard.

Lin Jun remained where he was with his hands behind his back. Forget about it? Unfortunately, his heart was unwilling to let things slide!

As for Huang Xiaolong, after returning to Feng Yang's manor, he continued to cultivate by taking the Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellets He planned to refine all twenty thousand pellets that Feng Yang had given him earlier within half a month, refining everything before the apprenticeship ceremony.

To refine all twenty thousand pellets in half a month's time, on an average count, he'd need to refine over one thousand three hundred pellets daily.

Sitting in a meditative pose inside the Xumi Temple, his mouth opened and inhaled more than two hundred Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellets into his body. Circulating the Treasure Dragon Protective Shield Art, the formation diagram inside his body appeared, releasing abundant amount of true dragon essence energy.

Two hundred pellets' medicinal energy rushed into the diagram formation like a raging river and was instantly disintegrated, becoming part of Huang Xiaolong's body.

Huang Xiaolong had noticed this when he was refining the first one thousand Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellet that he received as reward. This Treasure Dragon Protective Shield Art's diagram formation was able to increase Huang Xiaolong's energy refining speed. This was the reason Huang Xiaolong was confident that he could refine all twenty thousand pellets in half a month's time.

Still, Huang Xiaolong dared not refine too many at one time.

His True Dragon Physique had reached minor completion, refining two hundred pellets at one time was already the limit of what Huang Xiaolong could endure.

Time flowed.

Each time, Huang Xiaolong would refine the pellets in batches of two hundred.

Half a month later, inside the Xumi Temple, Huang Xiaolong opened his eyes, breathing out turbid qi from his mouth, coming to a stand on his feet.

After half a month of tedious refining, he finally finished the twenty thousand Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellets. Twenty thousand pellets later, Huang Xiaolong's battle qi, true essence energy, and True Dragon Physique saw a great leap in strength, even his soul gained a significant level of clarity. If the news of Huang Xiaolong refining twenty thousand Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellets was made known, a large number of people would be frightened to death.

Feng Yang was struck dizzy when he found out that Huang Xiaolong had refined all one thousand Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellets in fifteen days, but now the number had increased by twenty times...

Huang Xiaolong exited from the Xumi Temple. At this time, the sun was rising on the horizon, but the whole Black Tortoise World was already bustling, for today was the Black Warrior Institute Principal's apprenticeship grand ceremony.

The Black Tortoise Galaxy's numerous masters arrived in the Black Tortoise World through transmission arrays from different parts of the galaxy.

The whole Black Tortoise World was in a convivial atmosphere, every city was decked out in colorful lanterns and streamers. Above the airspace of each city, flowers of every color glowed brightly as they spun.

Group after group of Black Warrior Institute disciples lead guests from every family toward the institute's central grand hall, where the apprenticeship ceremony would be conducted.

By the time Huang Xiaolong came out from the Xumi Temple, Institute Principal Feng Yang was already in the grand hall, greeting the guests that arrived from all over the galaxy. Before that, he had instructed Elder Zhang Tianchuan to wait for Huang Xiaolong to come out from closed-door practice and lead him over to the grand hall.

On the way, Zhang Tianchuan explained in detail to Huang Xiaolong the steps involved in the apprenticeship ceremony and what he needed to pay attention to. The apprenticeship ceremony involved many complicated steps, and Huang Xiaolong committed each of them to memory.

When Zhang Tianchuan led Huang Xiaolong into the grand hall, the many high expert guests present almost immediately turned their attention toward him.

On this day, in the entire Black Tortoise Galaxy, Huang Xiaolong was the center of attention, not only because he was about to become the Black Warrior Institute Principal's personal disciple, but also due to the talent and strength he displayed during the new disciple selection assessment that had shocked everyone, including some super forces' Ancestors that had gone into seclusion for many years.

That was why many Highgod Realm Ancestors were also present at this grand apprenticeship ceremony, something that had never happened in the past apprenticeship ceremonies of the Institute Principal.

Chapter 548: Ancestor Gudu

Being the focus of so many high experts, any average people would be so nervous that they might start walking backward. However, Huang Xiaolong's body quivered slightly with a small burst of Buddhism energy as he walked into the grand hall with a calm expression.

Noticing the Buddhism energy emitted from Huang Xiaolong's body, the many high experts present showed various expressions.

There was still time before the apprenticeship ceremony began when Huang Xiaolong arrived. Institute Principal Feng Yang dragged his youngest disciple around the grand hall, introducing him to various Ancestors and Patriarchs of different super forces and families.

Other than Institute Principal Feng Yang, representatives from the other twenty-one super forces from the Black Tortoise Galaxy had arrived, which included both Ancestors and Patriarchs.

Among the other twenty-one super forces, seventeen Ancestors came to attend the ceremony. This scene made the other experts present astonished, each of these Ancestor level characters hardly ever appeared in public.

When the introduction came to the Gudu Family's Ancestor, Gudu Batian, he laughed heartily with Institute Principal Feng Yang, "Feng Yang, this disciple of yours really makes me envious. He has only cultivated for thirty years! I estimate he'll breakthrough to God Realm in ten years, in that case, he only took forty years of cultivation to reach the God Realm, this is shattering the entire Black Tortoise Galaxy's record ah!"

Some family Patriarchs, sect Sovereigns, and elders did not know beforehand that Huang Xiaolong merely had thirty years of cultivation experience. Hearing Ancestor Gudu Batian talk about it now, great waves of shock swept through the grand hall.

In the millions of years of the Black Tortoise Galaxy's history, the person who broke through into the God Realm in the shortest time was one of Jiang Family's Ancestors, Jiang Shaohuang, achieving that feat in eighty years.

Whereas this Huang Xiaolong only needed forty years!

Just moments ago, these Patriarchs and Sect Sovereigns assumed that Huang Xiaolong's talent was higher than Gudu Leng's, but never did they imagine that Huang Xiaolong's talent was this monstrous!

Institute Principal Feng Yang joined in the laughter as he said to Ancestor Gudu Batian, "Even though this disciple of mine managed to reach half-step God Realm in thirty years of cultivation, who really knows when he will reach peak half-step God Realm. As for God Realm, it's still too early to say. It is Ancestor Gudu's great-great-grandson Gudu Leng that makes people envious. Rumors say that he has comprehended the Gudu Family's supreme secret technique, the Solitary God's Infinitude up to the ninety-ninth destruction layer!"

The guests who heard this were once again shocked.

Gudu Family's Solitary God's Infinitude!

This was a supreme technique created by the Gudu Family's first Ancestor, with a total of three hundred layers. According to rumors, at the one-hundredth layer, its power was earth-shaking, enabling the cultivator to produce Godforce!

Moreover, it was said that after achieving the hundredth layer, even if one died, they could be reborn!

Rumor has it, other than the first Gudu Ancestor, no one else was able to cultivate the secret technique until the one hundredth layer. No one expected Gudu Leng to have already reached the ninety-ninth step at his age!

With Gudu Leng's talent, it was absolute that he would be able to achieve the hundredth layer.

Ancestor Gudu Batian chuckled with satisfaction, "Leng'er has only achieved the ninety-ninth layer so far, whether he can reach the one hundredth layer is hard to say." Then he looked at Huang Xiaolong, "Little Huang kid, you must work hard in the coming three years. Three years later, there will be a new disciple assessment. My family's Leng'er will be challenging you at that time, he's very sulky that you snatched the first place this time."

Huang Xiaolong saluted in a manner that was neither haughty nor humble, answering, "Sure, three years later, I will accept Brother Gudu Leng's challenge."

Feng Yang continued to introduce Huang Xiaolong to other super forces' Ancestors and Patriarchs, and to forces that were in a good relationship with the Black Warrior Institute.

While this was going on, these Ancestors and Patriarchs were extremely courteous. After the relevant guests had been greeted, Feng Yang introduced Huang Xiaolong to his three other disciples.

His eldest Senior-Apprentice Brother was named Liu Yun. He had a gentle outward appearance, wellmannered, looking no more than thirty-something in age. Definitely a good looking man. The second disciple, Chen Yang, was taciturn by nature. The third disciple was called Qi Wen, and was also Huang Xiaolong's Third Senior-Apprentice Sister, a beauty with a pair of spirited eyes that seemed to speak.

Previously, all three of them were out to perform tasks and had just returned. This was Huang Xiaolong's first time meeting them.

As the hour inched closer, Patriarchs, sect Sovereigns, and other guests continued to arrive at the grand hall.

For the apprenticeship ceremony, Institute Principal Feng Yang only invited the super forces as well as the first ranked forces, so the guests who made their way here were the super forces' Ancestors, or the first ranked forces' Patriarchs and experts.

"Windland World, Lu Family's Patriarch arrives, congratulatory gift, a pair of Yin Yang Fish!"

"Nine Windings World, Wu Family's Ancestor arrives, congratulatory gift, a piece of Divine World's Night Astral Stone."

The voice of the Black Warrior Institute Elder in charge of receiving guests rang sonorously through the hall.

Huang Xiaolong's heart skipped a beat every time he heard the names of the gifts. These Patriarchs and Ancestors' congratulatory gifts were each rare and precious treasure even by the standard of large auction houses.

Two hours later, the apprenticeship ceremony began.

Due to Zhang Tianchuan's detailed explanation earlier, Huang Xiaolong managed to get through the apprenticeship ceremony without making any mistakes. Everything went well during the ceremony.

At the end of the ceremony, Huang Xiaolong respectfully performed three kowtows to Feng Yang and greeted 'Master' as he served a cup of spiritual tea. Feng Yang was all smiles as he received the cup of tea. Taking a sip from it, he said, "Good, good, good disciple, quickly rise!"

He even personally stood up to help Huang Xiaolong up.

This little action was duly noted by all guests present with shock in their eyes. Just from this, they could clearly see how much the Institute Principal cherished Huang Xiaolong.

No one noticed the ray of jealousy flitting across the eyes of Feng Yang's second disciple.

With that, the apprentice ceremony came to an end. Feng Yang invited all the guests to the banquet tables, where Ancestors and Patriarchs raised their wine cups in endless congratulatory toasts, lively chatter filled every corner of the hall that lasted until dusk. Only then did the guests bid farewell and took their leave from the Black Tortoise World.

Feng Yang and Huang Xiaolong returned to Feng Yang's manor, and excused his other three disciples back to their own courtyards.

Arriving at the manor, Feng Yang called Huang Xiaolong to his side, giving him a spatial ring, "These are the congratulatory gifts from the Ancestors and Patriarchs that came today."

Congratulatory gifts from the Ancestors and Patriarchs!

Surprised, Huang Xiaolong looked at the spatial ring. Just as he wanted to refuse, his Master threw his head back and laughed, "Silly kid, keep it, as Master is giving them to you, I do not lack these things."

Huang Xiaolong could only obey.

Watching Huang Xiaolong put away the spatial ring, Feng Yang added, "From what Ancestor Gudu said today in the grand hall, it seems like he's very confident that Gudu Leng would be able to practice the Solitary God's Infinitude to the hundredth layer within three years' time. At that time, Gudu Leng will definitely be a threat." His voice contained concern toward Huang Xiaolong.

Huang Xiaolong reassured Feng Yang, "Master, rest assured, your disciple will work hard to break through to God Realm within these three years."

Feng Yang nodded, "Other than Gudu Leng, you must also be careful of that Wang Biaoyuan. I received news that the kid found a piece of pure metal essence and he's in closed-door practice, refining it this very moment. Three years later, he too will most likely challenge you."

As for Huang Xiaolong's reassurance that he will work hard to break through to God Realm within three years, Feng Yang did not pay it any attention. Although he acknowledged Huang Xiaolong's excellent talent, from his perspective, breaking through from half-step God Realm to peak half-step God Realm then to God Realm in just three years was impossible.

Chapter 549: New Disciple Task

Huang Xiaolong did not expect that Wang Biaoyuan was lucky enough to come across a piece of pure metal essence, but despite knowing that, Huang Xiaolong threw the matter to the back of his mind.

Institute Principal Feng Yang went on, "The twenty thousand Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellets I gave you are enough to last you one year, when you've finished them, Master will give you more."

Huang Xiaolong nodded yes, the image of obedience.

Following that, Feng Yang imparted some cultivation knowledge to Huang Xiaolong. By the time Huang Xiaolong returned to his yard, one hour had passed.

Watching Huang Xiaolong's leaving silhouette, Feng Yang smiled shaking his head, he was aware that this disciple of his put neither Gudu Leng nor Wang Biaoyuan in his eyes. Then again, given his disciple's monstrous talent, this much arrogance was nothing.

Back in his yard, Huang Xiaolong opened the seal on the spatial ring containing today's congratulatory gifts. Looking into the spatial ring, Huang Xiaolong was instantly dumbfounded. Every inch inside the ring was stuff to the brim with precious treasures, lustrous precious divine pellets, shining elixirs that were hundreds of thousands of years old!

Huang Xiaolong was bedazzled at the sight, gulping nervously.

If the items inside the spatial ring were taken out to auction, it'd be like striking it filthy rich overnight, becoming the galaxy's wealthiest nouveau riche.

His spiritual sense swept inside the space, a small cluster of golden pellets in a corner caught his interest. Taking out one of the golden pellets, a bright aureate light glowed from the golden pellet as it sat quietly in his palm.

"This is an ancient Grandmist Desire Golden Pill!" Dragon Emperor Ao Taiyi exclaimed in astonishment. "It's good stuff ah! Even during the ancient times, this Grandmist Desire Golden Pill was hard to come by, one of these is several times better than refining a God Realm beast core. I didn't expect there to be people who would be willing to take this out!"

Grandmist Desire Golden Pill! Huang Xiaolong's eyes instantly brightened. He had heard of this Grandmist Desire Golden Pills, where Gods of ancient times gathered hundreds of one hundred thousand years old medicinal herbs and refined them using innate fire.

He immediately entered the Xumi Temple, sitting in a cross-legged position. His mouth opened and inhaled ten golden pellets into his body. Muffled popping sounds could be heard coming from the insides of Huang Xiaolong's body.

A few hours later, Huang Xiaolong finally refined all ten Grandmist Desire Golden Pills. His body felt lighter and comfortable, something he did not feel when refining the Black Warrior Greater Strength Pellets.

Inside the spatial ring, there was a little over thirty Grandmist Desire Golden Pills. In one sitting, Huang Xiaolong had refined thirty pellets, keeping the remaining few for his family.

He spent the next one month inside the Xumi Temple, either refining divine pellets or one hundred thousand years old elixirs received from the congratulatory gifts. Although not all the divine pellets were

on par with the Grandmist Desire Golden Pills, they were still rare and precious medicinal pellets in the galaxy. In this one month, his strength rose steadily, bringing him infinitely closer to peak half-step God Realm. Signs of an imminent breakthrough became more apparent as time passed.

In the course of one month, eldest Senior-Apprentice Brother Liu Yun and Third-Apprentice Sister Qi Wen had visited him a few times, and he was able to get along amiably with both of them.

His Eldest Senior-Apprentice Brother Liu Yun had a gentle personality, whereas Third Senior-Apprentice Sister was generous and considerate, they both looked after this Junior Apprentice-Brother in their own way. They appeared at his doorstep every other week, offering cultivation advice to Huang Xiaolong.

Both of them had been disciples of the Institute Principal for more than twenty thousand years and were high experts of Tenth Order God Realm and above. Thus, Huang Xiaolong greatly benefited from their guidance.

However, never once did his Second Senior-Apprentice Brother appeared.

On this day, Dragon Emperor Ao Taiyi was talking to Huang Xiaolong, "Two months after passing the new disciple selection assessment, there will be an outdoor task delegated to all new disciples, and that's tomorrow. You should join together with the other new disciples."

Huang Xiaolong nodded. As the Institute Principal's personal disciple, he could decline to participate in this new disciple outdoor task, however, he preferred not to stand out due to special treatment. Other than that, participating in the new disciple task would be beneficial to his cultivation.

From his understanding, most new disciple tasks were hunting demonic beasts, bandits, or ghostly creatures. Making a short calculation in his head, Huang Xiaolong estimated that he'd be able to advance to peak half-step God Realm with another one hundred First Order God Realm beast cores or a hundred souls of First Order God Realm ghost creatures.

The night passed.

On the next morning, Huang Xiaolong went to inform the Institute Principal before making his way out from the manor, arriving at the Supreme Harmony Hall a short while later.

By the time Huang Xiaolong arrived, most of the new disciples were already assembled at the square. With a quick scan around, he quickly spotted both Gudu Leng and Jiang Shaoze. Honestly, he was surprised seeing them both here, for he never expected they too would participate in this new disciple task. Based on these two people's identities, they needn't participate if they weren't interested.

As time passed, more and more new disciples arrived at the square.

"It's Wang Biaoyuan!"

Someone suddenly shouted.

Huang Xiaolong's gaze trailed behind the crowd's, falling onto a figure flying at breakneck speed from afar, whistling through the wind, leaving a tail of golden flames behind him. This person was none other than Wang Biaoyuan.

In seconds, Wang Biaoyuan already arrived in front of the crowd of new disciples as he descended to the square. When his feet touched the pavement, it felt like a thousand catties of heavy metal falling down, one could feel the ground shaking underneath their feet. As his feet touched the ground, Wang Biaoyuan shot a cold gaze in Huang Xiaolong's direction before looking away without a word.

Huang Xiaolong noticed that Wang Biaoyuan's temperament could barely be considered as having grown more steady, with his aura better controlled, different from the arrogant tyrant exuding a sharp aura two months ago. It seems like the other side's strength had enhanced a large degree from refining the pure metal essence.

This was also another person Huang Xiaolong did not expect to show up and participate in the new disciple task.

In general, refining treasures such as the pure metal essence was better done without interruptions in between until it was fully refined. Stopping in between could greatly reduce its benefits.

It didn't take long for all the one hundred new disciples to assemble. When all were present, Elder Zhang Tianchuan finally appeared in front of them. He was overseeing this round of new disciples tasks.

Standing at the front of the square, Zhang Tianchuan's eyes swept over these new faces, stopping a second longer on Huang Xiaolong with a slight nod and faint smile.

"I'll be overseeing this round's new disciple task. Later on, we'll be heading to the Undead World to hunt ghost creatures." Zhang Tianchuan continued, "After we arrive in the Undead World, everyone should pay attention to their safety, the ghost creatures there are not the same as the ones on the Deepwood Star. These ghost creatures in the Undead World possess tremendous recovery power, making it that much harder to kill them."

Zhang Tianchuan reminded everyone things they needed to pay attention to during the task. Of course, there were rewards for any tasks taken, including this one. However, only for the top three places.

Huang Xiaolong memorized everything Zhang Tianchuan reminded them to take note of. Since Zhang Tianchuan took the trouble to remind them, remembering it was better than not knowing.

A short while later, Zhang Tianchuan led the group to the transmission array on the North Star Square and started it up. A flash of light appeared, and after feeling as if the universe flipped upside down, they arrived at a bleak and barren desert.

Surveying their surroundings, the barren desert seemed to have no edge, dry sand skittered across the dunes. Above the veil of sand, high in the sky, were pools of black energy that emitted a foul rancid stench and death aura.

"This is the Undead World." Zhang Tianchuan's voice sounded in everyone's ears, "I hope all of you have remembered what I've said. We'll assemble at this transmission array in one month's time. Now, go and perform your task accordingly!"

Just as Zhang Tianchuan's voice fell, Gudu Leng, Wang Biaoyuan, Jiang Shaoze, Xu Shaoqing, and the rest disappeared from the scene in a flicker.

Chapter 550: Refining Innate Spiritual Embryo

As Gudu Leng, Wang Biaoyuan, and the others' silhouettes disappeared from the transmission array location, Huang Xiaolong too made his move.

Huang Xiaolong was actually nonchalant about taking first place on this new disciples' task. For him, the most important now was advancing to peak half-step God Realm. With the innate spiritual embryo, as long as he could reach peak half-step God Realm, breaking through to God Realm was an easy matter.

Three days later, Huang Xiaolong hovered in the air above a valley, a deep frown etched on his forehead.

In the last three days, the majority of the ghost creatures he came across were either half-step God Realm or peak half-step God Realm. The number of God Realm ghost creatures were too low to meet Huang Xiaolong's expectations. In three days, he only managed to kill no more than twenty-something.

The average wasn't even ten a day, which depressed Huang Xiaolong.

If things continued to move at this rate, he'd be wasting ten days before he could advance to peak halfstep God Realm.

"Ten days." Huang Xiaolong muttered.

The duration of the new disciples' task was one month, minus the ten days needed to achieve peak halfstep God Realm, only twenty days remained.

'It seems I can only break through to God Realm when I return.' Refining the innate spiritual embryo to break through to God Realm was not something that could be done in ten days or half a month. Hence, he had no other choice but to wait upon returning to the institute before refining the innate spiritual embryo.

Ten days passed by in the blink of an eye.

Hands bent like claws, Huang Xiaolong crushed the God Realm ghost creature attacking him. His mouth opened and inhaled, swallowing the ghost creature's soul into his body, and ran the Blood Deed Pact to refine its soul.

Just as Huang Xiaolong finished refining the soul of his latest kill, his body suddenly shuddered. A low crisp noise sounded inside his body, followed by a surging current of energy exploding in his body.

Joy flooded his heart—peak half-step God Realm! Finally, he was at peak half-step God Realm!

A while later, Huang Xiaolong suppressed the joy in his heart, taking out the new disciple task token. In the last ten days, he did not pay any attention to the points recorded, therefore he had no idea what was his current ranking was.

"Seventh place, 683.21 million points." When a ray of his consciousness submerged into the little token, a message appeared in his mind.

'Seventh place, still not too bad.' Huang Xiaolong thought.

He had been focusing on hunting God Realm ghost creatures, making moves occasionally when he came across half-step and peak half-step God Realms. Even so, being able to rank seventh place was better

than he had expected. His worst assumption was that someone might have kicked him out of the top ten.

Currently, Gudu Leng reigned first place, however, this time Wang Biaoyuan was holding firm at the second place, whereas Jiang Shaoze was third.

Now that he had achieved his main objective of peak half-step God Realm, it was time to go all out.

Huang Xiaolong leaped out, the true essence energy in his dantian spun, creating a layer of true essence fire on the surface of his skin that continued to expand, spreading out. The true essence fire transformed his immediate surroundings into a sea of fire, incinerating every ghost creature caught in its vivid flames.

Against these ghost creatures, the most effective method was his true essence fire, causing Huang Xiaolong to put away his Asura Sword Skill or other battle skills for that matter.

The passage of time flowed by, and half a month passed.

Huang Xiaolong, who was initially at the seventh place began to catch up at rapid speed, like a déjà vu of the disciple selection assessment, taking over the first place. Gudu Leng fell to second place. Ten days prior, Gudu Leng, Wang Biaoyuan, Jiang Shaoze, and the others were secretly gleeful at Huang Xiaolong's less than ideal ranking, no one expected that within half a month, this person would pull the same trick he did during the assessment, overtaking them one by one until he stood at the top spot.

In the subsequent days, there was no suspense. Regardless of how Gudu Leng tried to narrow the difference in points, it only grew wider and further away until the allocated time of one month passed and they were required to assemble at the transmission array.

As expected, the first place once again went to Huang Xiaolong.

When Zhang Tianchuan led the disciples back to the Black Tortoise World through the transmission array, Wang Biaoyuan and Jiang Shaoze didn't look too good.

Wang Biaoyuan especially. He had followed the treasure map and found the pure metal essence and had been in closed-door practice for two months before this in order to refine the pure metal essence and he greatly benefitted, seeing a huge increase in his strength. Wang Biaoyuan's sole motivation in participating in the new disciples' task was to suppress Huang Xiaolong's limelight a little, but who knew that the points difference this time was even larger than the last!

Zhang Tianchuan brought everyone back to the Supreme Harmony Hall where he gave out the rewards for the top three places.

Wang Biaoyuan watched with a gloomy expression as Huang Xiaolong went up to receive the first place reward. 'Punk, enjoy this while it lasts! Wait till the next new disciple's assessment, let's see if you can still act this arrogant!'

While passing the rewards to Huang Xiaolong, Zhang Tianchuan spoke some courteous and amiable words. Barely half an hour later, Zhang Tianchuan dispersed the disciples from the square.

Leaving the Supreme Harmony Hall, Huang Xiaolong made a beeline back to his Master's manor and dove inside the Xumi Temple.

Inside the Xumi Temple, Huang Xiaolong was flushed with excitement gazing at the innate spiritual embryo at the center of the Ten Buddha Formation, his heart raced.

Finally, the time had come to refine this innate spiritual embryo. Every day, he could only look but couldn't eat, his heart had been itching, long waiting for this day to arrive.

"Little rascal, don't forget, this innate spiritual embryo has formed its own intelligence, you must be very careful when you refine it later." Dragon Emperor Ao Taiyi's voice reminded Huang Xiaolong, "If you fail, its consciousness will seize your body instead."

Dragon Emperor Ao Taiyi was unable to help Huang Xiaolong during refining, everything depended on Huang Xiaolong himself. Hence, Dragon Emperor Ao Taiyi spoke to remind him of the risk.

Huang Xiaolong nodded, calming his excitement and looking dignified. Taking a deep breath to calm his emotions, he approached the innate spiritual embryo, sitting cross-legged across from it.

When his emotions were like the surface of a still lake, Huang Xiaolong began to run the Asura Tactics, unsealing the embryo's energy bit by bit.

A brief moment passed and Huang Xiaolong opened his mouth, inhaling deeply. In that immediate instant, the terrifying amount of spiritual energy contained inside the embryo rushed out like a tsunami into his body.

Even his True Dragon Physique trembled with the sudden rush of energy from the innate spiritual embryo, causing prickling pain all over, which shocked Huang Xiaolong.

Since he started to cultivate the Treasure Dragon Protective Shield Art, forming that diagram formation within his body, regardless of how many divine pellets or beast cores he refined at one time, pain was the furthest thing.

Yet, this innate spiritual embryo's spiritual energy was actually pushing his True Dragon Physique close to the limit?!

Huang Xiaolong quickly focused, running the Asura Tactics cycle after cycle as throbbing pain shot through him while he continued to absorb the horrifying amount of spiritual energy.

Again and again.

It was only several hours later that the pain eased. Despite that, Huang Xiaolong dared not relax one second, nor make any mistakes, for he keenly felt that the embryo's awareness resistance had been growing stronger, fiercer. If it weren't for Dragon Emperor Ao Taiyi's powerful seal, it would have probably flown out from the jade stone.

One day later, not only did the embryo's struggles not lessen, it was even more violent. The fiercer it struggled, the faster the violent spiritual energy flowed into Huang Xiaolong, surpassing the Treasure Dragon Protective Shield Art's current absorbing capacity.

Cracks started to appear on Huang Xiaolong's True Dragon Physique.