

Noble Ruler 1531

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No matter what, Elder Bo Yan was also an important existence in the academy. When the director wasn't around these few years, he was always the one handling the matters in the academy, no matter big or small.

Even if he didn't have any credit, his hard work should still be considered. Besides, before this, he had always fulfilled his responsibilities.

It was really overboard for Yi Wenzhuo to harshly reprimand him without asking anything.

As though he had long expected this scene, Elder Bo Yan looked calm. He politely bowed and said calmly, "We're all happy that the vice-director is back. I'm useless and can't do this properly. I've disappointed you."

Even though he said this, his expression wasn't humble at all as if he didn't panic or wasn't anxious because of Yi Wenzhuo's scolding.

"But don't worry. We've already stabilized the situation, and we're trying our best to solve the matter. We definitely won't allow the matter to blow up."

Yi Wenzhuo hated this expression of Bo Yan's the most. He is just an extremely normal elder in the academy, yet he looks as if his status is even more distinguished than mine—the vice-director.

"That's easier said than done." Yi Wenzhuo coldly snorted. "All these years, Million Wine Mountain has never been like this. Why did this suddenly happen now?!"

With a cold expression, he took a step forward and went close to Elder Bo Yan. "It would be fine if it's other people. Bo Yan, you should know how serious this matter is, right?!"

Elder Bo Yan looked down slightly, and his attitude was the same. "I naturally know, so I didn't dare to take this lightly or shirk my responsibility. After this matter ends, you can punish me as you wish."

The meaning behind Bo Yan's words was that everyone was busy solving the problem and that it wasn't the time to point fingers.

Yi Wenzhuo was upset by his rebuttal. "What else do you have to say? The coldness in the fountain has leaked outside. The situation is urgent, and we must immediately activate the 'Heaven-Locking Formation!' Seal up Million Wine Mountain!"

Everyone was shocked when he said this.

Shock even flashed across Jun Jiuqing's eyes.

"You mustn't do this!" Hearing this, Elder Bo Yan finally had a change in expression. "Yue'er is still in the fountain. Once the formation is activated, she will definitely be suppressed within!"

The Heaven-Locking formation was a top Xuan formation, and it had a very strong ability to kill or harm people! By then, she wouldn't be able to come out!

"What time is it now? How can we care about this?!" Yi Wenzhuo seemed very frustrated. "Bo Yan, be clear! Is a student more important, or the entire Ling Xiao Academy!"

"Before I came, I already understood everything that happened in Ling Xiao Academy. Shangguan Yue is the girl from back then... She still knows how to cause trouble as usual! She caused so much trouble in the past, but the director protected her, and we couldn't do anything about it. However... she has made a huge mistake this time!"

As Yi Wenzhuo spoke, he pointed at Million Wine Mountain. "Without me saying, you should also know how her red-tailed phoenix broke through to become a red-gold heavenly phoenix, right?! She has now gone in out of guilt. Why are you still hesitating? If she has made a mistake, she should accept the punishment!"

Elder Bo Yan clenched his teeth and tried his best to calm himself down. "Vice-director, we're not sure if Yue'er's red-gold heavenly phoenix really has something to do with the fountain. How can you come to this conclusion so casually? Besides, even if it's really so, there are still other solutions! After all, she's a student in the academy, Senior Shangguan's descendant, and the Sky-Cloud Empire's princess consort. How can you treat her life so lightly?!"

"You haven't been in the academy these few years and don't understand many things—"

"I wouldn't dare to say anything else, but if the director was here, he would definitely agree with me!" Yi Wenzhuo suddenly sneered. "Bo Yan, who do you think caused the director to disappear?"

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Elder Bo Yan was stumped, and struggle flashed across his eyes.

Quite a few elders knitted their brows and looked over doubtfully. What? Hearing what Yi Wenzhuo said, was the director's departure back then really related to Girlie?

"Vice-director, this matter doesn't have a conclusion, and everything is just a conjecture. You don't have evidence, yet you concluded this so casually. I'm afraid it's not appropriate, right?" Elder Bo Yan clenched his hands slowly in his sleeves. "Not only will Yue'er's reputation be damaged once word gets out, even the director's name will also be implicated. So... you must be careful with your words!"

"Evidence?" Yi Wenzhuo squinted his eyes and suddenly smiled, clearly disregarding his words. "It's such an obvious matter. What evidence do I need?"

"Before the girl came back, the academy was peaceful. But ever since she came, the academy erupted into chaos. It's a total mess! How much has the director done to clean up her mess? Even until she wanted to leave, the troubles didn't stop!"

"If this matter really has nothing to do with her, then how do you explain the director's disappearance after she left the academy? These few years, there was no news of her or the director! They didn't even send a letter back in between! He thinks very highly of the academy. If it's not because of something or someone he cared more about, how could he just leave and not come back once in the past few years?"

And that Shangguan Yue was the disciple he doted on the most!

As Yi Wenzhuo spoke, he suddenly lowered his body slightly and leaned over. He stared at Elder Bo Yan closely and lowered his voice. "Besides, when he handed the academy to you, did he really not tell you anything?"

Yi Wenzhuo said this with gritted teeth. That was because he was also in the academy back then, but the director passed the power of the academy to Elder Bo Yan, directly passing over the vice-director!

This was akin to publicly slapping him! This was also the incident that greatly agitated Yi Wenzhuo, causing him to directly leave the academy. During the few years after that, he didn't care or ask about what happened to the academy.

Anyway, he had no power to control the academy, so why should he be worried? If it weren't because he heard that Ling Xiao Academy got into trouble again and again, in addition to Jun Jiuqing inviting him back, he wouldn't be willing to come back either.

The veins on the back of Elder Bo Yan's hands popped up, but he still looked calm. Then, he lightly said, "The director just told me to take good care of the academy. He didn't say anything else other than that."

Yi Wenzhuo felt disdain and didn't believe him either as he looked up, took two steps back, and widened the distance between him and Elder Bo Yan. He then flicked his clothes as if he wanted to flick away something dirty.

Elder Bo Yan acted as if he didn't see it at all. "Since he said so, you should do it. If you don't activate the Heaven-Locking Formation, do you... have other ways to completely solve the problem in Million Wine Mountain?"

Yi Wenzhuo sneered, and his eyes were filled with mockery. Not to mention Bo Yan... Even if all the elders in the academy work together, they couldn't possibly handle the current situation! If the director comes back, we might have a tinge of hope. However, who knows where he is now?

"Since this matter happened when we were taking care of the academy, we should take full responsibility for this. If something happens, I will be responsible." Elder Bo Yan had always been soft-tempered and calm, but only people who knew him knew that his bones were tough. If not so, the director wouldn't be able to rest assured in passing the entire academy to him.

"You—" Yi Wenzhuo didn't expect Elder Bo Yan to go against him at this time. "Then, we have to see if you can bear the responsibility!"

"If he can't bear it alone, then... What if I'm included?" At the side, Elder Meng suddenly spoke lightly.

Yi Wenzhuo was shocked. "Elder Meng? You..."

Elder Meng's seniority was high, and he had an extraordinary status in the academy. Even he had to respectfully call him 'Elder Meng.' Hence, although Yi Wenzhuo was frustrated at this point, he didn't dare to go against Elder Meng directly.

"Elder Meng, you also want to let them do whatever they want ridiculously? Just because of a girl—"

"Hah." Elder Meng didn't seem to have the patience to hear Yi Wenzhuo talk and shrugged his shoulders. "I even helped the girl guard her God Realm for a few years. Because of this, I didn't leave

Fengmin Mountain the entire time. Wenzhuo, according to what you said, I'm being even more ridiculous?"

Yi Wenzhuo was stumped. He could scold Elder Bo Yan, but he couldn't talk back to Elder Meng.

"Anyway, you haven't paid much attention to the academy matters for the past few years. Now that you've let go of it, just let them handle it." Although Elder Meng was smiling, his words were very rude.

Yi Wenzhuo's face darkened, but he could only suppress his anger. "...Yes."

Just spoil those people! When things develop to a state they can't handle, I'll see if they can be so righteous!

...

The surroundings fell silent again.

The originally nervous atmosphere became even colder and stiffer because of Yi Wenzhuo's return.

Jun Jiuqing glanced at Million Wine Mountain, and coldness flashed across his eyes. Then, he looked up slightly at Rong Xiu in mid-air.

At this point, the golden barrier around Rong Xiu had already faded away. His expression was calm and nonchalant.

Jun Jiuqing used his will to speak. A mosquito-like voice gently floated into Rong Xiu's ears. "That's how you protect her?"

Upon hearing this, Rong Xiu finally retracted his gaze and looked over.

The two men exchanged glances. At that moment, it seemed like sparks flew, and the murderous intent was everywhere!

Rong Xiu squinted His eyes slightly.

Jun Jiuqing's thin lips curled up into a cold smile. "From the beginning till now, you indeed haven't made any improvements at all. Originally, I thought that with the previous experiment, you would definitely learn your lesson. But now, it seems like I've overestimated you."

Even I knew to think of all sorts of methods to stop her from coming back. As a result, I even specifically took Chu Ning away and placed him somewhere that was miles away from Ling Xiao Academy. I did all of that because I didn't want her to come back again. What a pity... Not only did she come back... but she has even recalled all the matters from before! The return of her God Realm is the best evidence!

As Jun Jiuqing spoke, he coldly glanced below.

Million Wine Mountain was about to explode... The golden barrier couldn't even last for long!

Chu Liuyue, who was within, would be the first to be hit!

If something still happens to her this time, I don't believe that Rong Xiu has the ability to help her reincarnate again!

These words were critical.

Jun Jiuqing thought that Rong Xiu would rage, but it didn't happen.

The latter just paused for a moment as if he was thinking deeply about his words. Then, he smiled slightly.

A clear and low voice clearly entered Jun Jiuqing's ears. "She's my woman. Whatever she wants to do, I'll just accompany her."

At most, she'll reincarnate.

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If she wanted to murder someone, he would pass her the knife. If she wanted to take revenge, he would let her plan it.

She wanted to come back, and he once thought of stopping her, but he couldn't win against her slight smile. He finally compromised and agreed.

During the entire way, she had experienced too much. He saw all of it, and his heart ached.

Back then, he risked half his life just for her to come back safely. If she was stubborn and was going to make the same choice, then he would do the same. Anyway, he still had half his life left to give her.

Rong Xiu's tone was nonchalant and righteous.

Jun Jiuqing furrowed his brows tightly.

These words that were filled with the intent of declaring his sovereignty made him very uncomfortable. However, what was even more unacceptable was how calm and confident Rong Xiu looked even when he made the same choice.

He's only doing this because she loves him!

No matter if it were in the past or present, he was always one step late. Being late by a step, he regretted it his entire life.

That was because he knew her too well. Once she settled on someone, she would never regret it or change her decision.

Even starting over again, she still made the same choices—she still chose Rong Xiu. She still chose to enter the fountain in Million Wine Mountain.

"Jiuqing, Jiuqing?"

Yi Wenzhuo's voice pulled Jun Jiuqing back from his thoughts, and he recovered his senses. "Master?"

"What are you thinking about in a daze?" Yi Wenzhuo looked at him strangely. During this period of time, Jun Jiuqing goes into a daze from time to time as if he were reminiscing about something. I've asked him a few times, but he didn't say anything.

Jun Jiuqing lowered his head and had a respectful attitude. "Nothing much. I was just thinking that this type of situation has never happened in Million Wine Mountain before. Now that it suddenly exploded, it won't be that simple to suppress it."

Yi Wenzhuo's expression recovered a little. "I think so too. You need to know that the more you drag, the more dangerous it is! It's a pity—"

It's a pity that I no longer have too much say in the academy now.

Elder Bo Yan and the others seemed to respect him, but they didn't care about him at all. Elder Meng need not be mentioned as he was clearly on the opposite side.

In this sort of situation, the minority couldn't find the crowd, so they could only look on from the side.

Elder Bo Yan and the rest stared at Million Wine Mountain with much focus as if they didn't care about the conversation between the mentor and disciple.

Anger surged up Yi Wenzhuo's chest. He took a few deep breaths and suppressed it with much difficulty. "Let's just watch on! Coincidentally, you've just broken through to become a true god and have your own God Realm. I've taught you many times not to be proud and arrogant."

He knitted his brows and said with much meaning, "You mustn't be like some people who think that they're invincible after having some slight results. In the end, you will suffer greatly."

Jun Jiuqing nodded lightly, lowered his eyes, and hid the emotions in them.

...

Below Million Wine Mountain, Chu Liuyue was holding the Chi Xiao Sword as she chipped away at the rock at the fountain's bottom.

Compared to the first time she was here, many changes had taken place.

The fountain water became cold from warm, and it was chilling to the bones. Even Chu Liuyue—who had broken through to become a true god—found it hard to handle.

After staying here for some time, even her four limbs started to become numb and cold, and her movements were stiffer. The scariest thing was that the coldness seemed to gradually freeze her bodily force.

Chu Liuyue already couldn't quite remember how long she had stayed here, but she could clearly feel the circulation speed of the force in her limbs decreasing bit by bit.

Tsing!

Tsing!

Chu Liuyue clenched her teeth and urged her force to circulate, trying her best to warm her body as she wielded the Chi Xiao Sword.

It was a pity that the rock at the bottom of the fountain was very hard. She tried countless times and only left a few faint marks on it.

Actually, this was already very shocking. After all, many lightning bolts had landed on it, but it was still smooth and clean.

The Chi Xiao Sword was a supreme Yuan instrument. Additionally, Chu Liuyue's current capabilities weren't like before, so she could forcefully leave a few marks on it. If not, she wouldn't even be able to leave a mark at all.

"Hu..." At some point, Chu Liuyue finally stopped and rubbed her aching shoulders.

It was really rare for her to reach this step, given her current abilities.

That piece of rock still didn't move.

Chu Liuyue knitted her brows. This item is indeed strange. It is nearly impossible to carve a sealing Xuan formation on its surface. I... probably have to think of another way.

Chu Liuyue looked up at the frozen layer of water.

Probably because of the fire blocking it, the middle of the ice layer—which was the opening Chu Liuyue had made—still hadn't frozen over. However, the pattern on it could still be clearly seen.

Even though it couldn't be completed, one could see a rough outline.

Suddenly, the surrounding water ripples came over.

A small vortex appeared on the above water surface. There were a few shards of ice left behind when Chu Liuyue opened up the ice layer, and they all silently gathered over.

Chu Liuyue furrowed her brows. Following this, she saw the lines carved on the thick ice flowing with the motion!

They dropped off from the ice layer and gathered at a position below the ice layer.

One line, two lines.

Very quickly, those lines intertwined again! It seemed like they were forming that strange pattern!

Dong dong!

Low knocks suddenly sounded from her feet.

Chu Liuyue's heart turned cold slightly, and she immediately looked down.

She saw the very thick rock at the bottom vibrating suddenly with this sound! It was as if something was about to shoot out from within!

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Chu Liuyue stared at it closely, and her entire heart beat intensely!

Dong dong!

The knocking sound was urgent and powerful, and it seemed like it contained a strange and peculiar rhythm.

Chu Liuyue's ears seemed to be whirring with the blood, and gradually, they even started to hurt. There seemed to be someone holding an ax and crazily knocking it against her forehead, wanting to struggle free from it!

Her blood circulated, and the pain became increasingly intense!

"Caw!" Suddenly, a clear shriek was heard!

Chu Liuyue was shocked and finally recovered her senses!

Her body trembled slightly. She belatedly discovered the scene that flashed across her mind because she actually got intoxicated by the strange knocks.

Just a little more—

Chu Liuyue knitted her brows tightly and had lingering fears. Her mentality had always been very strong, and she would rarely be lured by such methods. However, she almost fell into the trap in such a short amount of time. This showed how strong the other party was!

If Tuan Zi didn't wake me up in time, I really can't guess what the consequences would've been. Chu Liuyue held her breath in and calmed down her wildly beating heart.

Dong dong!

When she listened again, that sound was no different from ordinary knocks.

Chu Liuyue no longer had the panic.

Ka!

Suddenly, a soft shatter was heard.

Chu Liuyue felt that it wasn't good!

She looked over and indeed saw a crack on the bottom rock!

That crack was about an inch long, and it was very faint and small, but this caused Chu Liuyue to be taken aback when she saw it!

A sinisterly cold aura rapidly spread around!

The coldness immediately wrapped around Chu Liuyue.

A chill unwittingly ran down her spine, and she immediately urged the force in her body. A red-golden fire then rapidly spread from her palm, instantly covering her entire body.

When the fire was separated by the terrifying coldness, Chu Liuyue then looked down.

A thin layer of frost had formed on the crack, but that frost was bloody! It seemed like broken shards of a brilliant red ruby and, at the same time, frozen blood droplets. They were iridescent yet strange.

Very quickly, a second crack appeared at the side. Its surface was also similarly covered in bloody frost.

An intense bloody smell spread across the area.

As the water in the fountain wasn't real water but liquid composed of Heaven and Earth Force, Chu Liuyue could breathe normally here.

That bloody smell wafted toward the tip of her nose.

Her heart suddenly skipped a beat!

I mustn't let this item break! This thought rapidly flashed across Chu Liuyue's mind.

She clenched her teeth, wielded the sword, and suddenly hacked at the rock!

Instantly, the bloody frost flew everywhere! But the next moment, those cubical pieces of blood droplets quickly returned to their original spot and gathered again.

Whoosh—

A sharp sound was heard.

The Chi Xiao Sword scratched a long mark on the rock. However, this mark was much lighter and smaller than the cracks inside the rock.

Chu Liuyue clenched her teeth. If I want to prevent the item from coming out, I have to rely on strong force to suppress it from the outside. This is also the reason why the elders have continuously guided lightning bolts here for so many years.

It's a pity that Tuan Zi has absorbed quite a bit of the lightning bolts from the fountain, which resulted in the current situation. If I want to salvage the situation now, the only way is to carve a Xuan formation to suppress the force!

However, it was indeed very difficult for her to execute the Xuan formations with her current abilities. Hence, she wanted to use the Chi Xiao Sword to forcefully carve the Xuan formation on the surface.

It was a pity that a treasure as distinguished as the Chi Xiao Sword also paled in comparison to the rock. Before a quarter of the Xuan formation was carved out, the rock cracked from the inside!

At this point, time seemed to pass extremely slowly.

The cracks on the rock became increasingly numerous. Every crack was covered in the strange, bloody frost.

Gradually, they formed a familiar pattern—exactly the same as the one on the ice surface!

Chu Liuyue already couldn't remember how many times she had swung the sword. Every single time, she tried her best.

Tsing!

Finally, the tip of the sword hit the rock. It rebounded, and the sword body shook.

The blade silently broke and cracked!

The fresh red blood flowed out and froze before it even landed.

In no time, Chu Liuyue's hands were covered in a thin layer of frost. The coldness rapidly entered her body from her wound and started infiltrating her limbs!

Chu Liuyue narrowed her eyes and instinctively wanted to retreat! However, it was too late!

Invisibly, there seemed to be a sharp claw that forcefully barged into her body with terrifying speed and sensitivity. Additionally, it started to furiously claw at her every Yuan meridian!

The excruciating pain spread all over her body!

In her surroundings, that red-golden fire also started to extinguish at an observable speed!

Very quickly, Chu Liuyue's body was completely immersed in the chilling fountain water! The bloody frost on her hand started spreading in all directions.

In no time, frost wrapped her arms, shoulders, and even her neck.

Chu Liuyue forcefully raised her hands, wanting to wield the Chi Xiao Sword. But at this point, her hands seemed to have lost control and became stiffer than ever.

At some moment, she weakly loosened her grip.

The Chi Xiao Sword fell silently and drew light ripples on the fountain water. Finally, it landed on the bottom rock.

The coldness surged up, and the bloody frost completely froze the Chi Xiao Sword.

Chu Liuyue felt that her face was already cold. She knew that the coldness had already spread to her face.

That familiar yet strange aura caused her heart to tremble slightly. It was a pity that this force was too strong. Any struggle or resistance seemed weak.

Intense bloody water gradually spread across the clear and deep fountain water. It wasn't the bloody water that spread around but the bloody frost that gathered from the most extreme depths.

Chu Liuyue's consciousness gradually became blurred.

The coldness spread all around and wrapped around her heavily. Her eyelids started to become very heavy.

Cold, lethargic...

The surroundings were silent in this fountain. It seemed like all the sounds had been absorbed, and it was scarily quiet.

Ripples moved in the water.

Chu Liuyue's surroundings had been completely covered by the bloody frost. At first glance, she seemed like an intricately carved sculpture composed of crystal-clear blood jade.

Ka.

The last crack finally appeared!

A complete pattern appeared on the rock! The next moment, the terrifying coldness instantly surged up like the floodgates were opened and instantly exploded!

Rumble!

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Boom!

This sound was earth-shattering! The entire Million Wine Mountain shook violently!

At that moment, the mountain rocks rolled down as the winds howled crazily!

The countless strands of sword aura that originally surrounded Million Wine Mountain dissipated instantly!

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Even the golden barrier outside had shattered! It instantly turned into countless golden sparks and disappeared into the night.

The violent strength spread toward the surroundings!

The terrifying commotion immediately caused the crowd waiting outside Million Wine Mountain to have a change in expression!

"Oh no! That item can't be suppressed anymore!" Elder Bo Yan was so shocked that he lost his voice.

The next moment, the crowd saw the red current abruptly rush out from the top of Million Wine Mountain, coloring the night sky an extremely intense color as it went straight for the horizon!

From afar, it seemed like a volcano exploding! But what was different was that a volcano contained heat while this fountain water was cold and chilling to the bones!

The fountain water spat out and rushed toward all directions! Wherever it passed, large parts of bloody frost immediately appeared!

The entire Million Wine Mountain was instantly covered in a shocking bright red! The more terrifying thing was that it kept spreading outward!

The closer mountain peaks were already affected!

...

"Bo Yan, is this what you want to see?!" Yi Wenzhuo suddenly asked the difficult question harshly.

Elder Bo Yan clenched his teeth tightly. "Everyone, listen—immediately seal Million Wine Mountain together!"

Once he said this, the few elders took action in unison.

Holy force of multiple colors gathered from the surroundings and headed toward the sky above Million Wine Mountain! But before the holy force could gather, the ferocious coldness stopped it.

The crowd was stunned.

The people who could stand here were minimally true gods, and they were quite powerful. But facing this coldness, they immediately fell into the lower hand!

Very quickly, the giant Million Wine Mountain was almost covered in the bloody frost. Additionally, the tall mountains at the side were also affected.

Wherever it passed, the blood spread as frost covered it, eliminating all signs of vitality.

Some trees and plants were originally lush, but they wilted and froze in the blink of an eye.

Yi Wenzhuo coldly snorted. "Previously, I said that you must activate the Heaven-Locking Formation, yet you didn't listen! What should we do now?"

Anyone could tell that if they let this sinister coldness spread everywhere, the entire academy would be swallowed in no time!

"Bo Yan, if Ling Xiao Academy is really ruined in your hands... Even if you die a hundred times, it won't be enough to make up for it! That's all I'm saying. You can think of what we should do."

Anyway, I'm not the director, and the management power isn't in my hands. No matter if Ling Xiao Academy survives or not, it has nothing to do with me in the end!

Elder Bo Yan stared at Million Wine Mountain—which was covered in frost—and felt like a mess. He originally still had a tinge of hope, but now... Things had already ended up in this state. If he didn't take action in time, he would really implicate the entire academy, just like Yi Wenzhuo had said.

The key was that this thing was way more formidable than he had previously thought!

In actual fact, although Elder Bo Yan and the others knew that a gigantic and dangerous secret was hidden under this fountain, they weren't clear about what exactly it was. Over the past millions of years, the directors and elders in the academy took care of Million Wine Mountain gingerly and meticulously. This had already become a tradition and an unspoken rule.

Because it had never displayed any abnormalities, they didn't think further and only treated this as part of their duties. However, they never expected such a horrifying strength to be hidden underneath!

If we don't activate the Heaven-Locking Formation, we really won't be able to deal with the current situation. However... Yue'er is still inside!

Feeling very conflicted, Elder Bo Yan clenched his fists tightly, and his veins popped up. The next moment, he suddenly turned around and gazed at Elder Meng with the last hint of hope. "Elder Meng, do you have any way—"

Elder Bo Yan didn't finish his question. When he saw the equally solemn and stern expression on Elder Meng's face, he already knew that they had no other way.

The surroundings instantly fell silent. Only the sounds of the frozen trees that kept falling below and the frozen rocks that kept cracking came repeatedly.

Even if they didn't look over, it wasn't hard to hear how chaotic the current Million Wine Mountain and the other mountains were.

"Bo Yan, we have to quickly make a decision!" Not far away, an elder couldn't help but urge with a face filled with worry. "We still need some time to activate the Heaven-Locking Formation!"

If this is delayed, the situation will be even more uncontrollable!

Elder Bo Yan knitted his brows tightly, clenching his fists so tight that they cracked.

Elder Meng suddenly closed his eyes. "Bo Yan, activate the Heaven-Locking Formation!"

"Elder Meng?" Elder Bo Yan opened his mouth and wanted to say something more. But after seeing Elder Meng's face that had instantly turned much older, his remaining words got stuck in his throat.

With that, he couldn't say anything.

It was even harder for Elder Meng to make such a decision.

In order to help her guard the God Realm, he would rather not take a single step out of Fengmin Mountain. Based on this alone, it was enough to see how much Elder Meng doted on the girl.

If something really happened to her, how could Elder Meng feel good? But between the academy and her, he would definitely choose to protect the school.

Elder Bo Yan held his breath in, raised his arm, and immediately swung it down heavily! "Activate the Heaven-Locking Formation!"

The moment the crowd heard this, their vision blurred as two figures went straight for Million Wine Mountain!

"Senior Shangguan!"

"Rong Xiu!"

When the crowd saw the two figures, they were taken aback.

Previously, they had already learned how terrifying the coldness was. It was just the coldness spreading outside, yet it was already so terrifying. The source—the fountain—would be even more dangerous!

If they go down now, won't they be seeking death?!

However, those two figures still rushed down without hesitation!

Shangguan Jing was extremely fast.

The coldness was so harsh that it almost scratched his face! But at this point, he couldn't care about it anymore.

The deeper down they went, the greater the resistance!

His speed gradually decreased, and even his force gradually flowed slower! This caused Shangguan Jing to be even more shocked. I'm a legendary warrior, and it is already hard for me to resist this force, let alone Yue'er!

Suddenly, a golden light flashed across his eyes.

A figure rushed toward the fountain at even greater speeds than him!

"Rong Xiu!" Shangguan Jing's heart skipped a beat, and a thought quickly flashed across his mind. Rong Xiu is a true god warrior. How is he even faster than me?

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But before Shangguan Jing could think about this question clearly, he saw Rong Xiu whip his sleeves! The next moment, a ball of golden fire suddenly rushed up!

Feeling the impact of the force, Shangguan Jing's body instantly retreated!

At this moment, many silver lines suddenly appeared in the surroundings of Million Wine Mountain. These lines intersected, overlapped, and shone with extremely bright light in the night sky.

Whoosh!

At this moment, a thumb-sized line suddenly flew across Shangguan Jing's eyes!

His heart skipped a beat, and he instinctively raised his hand to stop it!

The sharp aura flashed across, and the silver lines silently cut his sleeves!

When Shangguan Jing saw the damaged sleeve drop down and then countless silver lines pierce through it before crushing it, a chill suddenly ran down his spine!

That was so close! If Rong Xiu didn't help in time, I would be the one pierced by these lines!

"Senior Shangguan, the Heaven-Locking Formation is extremely dangerous. Once it is activated, countless attacks will be executed! You should come back as quickly as possible!" yelled Elder Hua Feng anxiously.

The moment they activated the Heaven-Locking Formation, they saw Shangguan Jing and Rong Xiu rush down together.

These two people were really too fast, so much so that they couldn't even say a word to stop them!

Once the Heaven-Locking Formation was completely activated, the people inside would be on the verge of death!

When Shangguan Jing heard this shout, he instantly understood.

Below, increasingly more silver lines rapidly appeared around Million Wine Mountain. Looking down from above, they all intersected with a shocking aura!

He didn't doubt Elder Hua Feng's words at all. He also instantly understood why Elder Bo Yan refused to activate this Heaven-Locking Formation earlier—once such a terrifying top Xuan formation was activated, its power couldn't be controlled at all!

His gaze was deep as he gazed at the fountain.

Countless silver lines intersected and almost completely covered that fountain.

They couldn't see Rong Xiu, or Yue'er. They could only forcefully see the 'fountain water' spouting out forcefully.

Under the dark night sky, it was hard to see the color of the fountain clearly. But under the light of the countless silver lines, one could faintly see the vague, cold, blood-red light in the fountain.

Whoosh!

Another silver line closely flew across his surroundings!

Shangguan Jing clenched his teeth. His figure flashed, and he rapidly retreated!

...

"If you had long known of this, why did you do that earlier? You wasted so much time for no reason." Seeing the gigantic Heaven-Locking Formation that slowly formed, Yi Wenzhuo stood with his hands behind his back and had a cold smile on his face. "You have to know that after dragging it for so long, even the surrounding mountains have been implicated."

Nobody spoke. Almost all the elders were trying their best to work with Elder Bo Yan and urge the Heaven-Locking Formation.

This large formation was crafted and left behind by the academy's first director and the many elders. Hence, it needed many strong warriors to activate it.

At this point, even Elder Meng had inserted his force.

Seeing that nobody cared about him, Yi Wenzhuo felt upset. But thinking that they were all activating the Heaven-Locking Formation now and had no time to care about anything else, he thought that it was normal and suppressed his anger again.

Standing behind him, Jun Jiuqing looked down intensely. His gaze was dark and complicated, causing one to be unable to guess what happened.

...

This night was a sleepless one for all the students and elders in Ling Xiao Academy, even if all the students had already listened to the elders' instructions and returned to their own residence. However, how could they not notice such a huge commotion in Million Wine Mountain?

Detecting the terrifying energy vortex, the students started to gather on the respective mountains. Their gazes all turned toward Million Wine Mountain.

Below the ink-black night, only Million Wine Mountain was bright.

The countless silver lines intersected in the surroundings, and they quickly enveloped Million Wine Mountain.

Even if that light wasn't considered bright, it was extremely eye-catching on this dark night and illuminated half the sky. At the same time, it allowed the crowd to forcefully see that Million Wine Mountain and the surrounding peaks were covered by a layer of bloody frost.

The many elders in the academy gathered together in mid-air and took action!

One had to know that to be a Ling Xiao Academy elder, they had to be strong and reputable warriors in the entire God Residence Realm. Any one of them was an expert, and at this time, they actually worked together to activate a large formation that dealt with Million Wine Mountain's danger!

"I wonder what secret is hidden below Million Wine Mountain. It's actually so dangerous..."

"No wonder the academy elders have always cared about Million Wine Mountain. It turns out... Si... We actually frequently went to Million Wine Mountain in the past..."

"The Xuan formation is so powerful. It should be able to solve the trouble on Million Wine Mountain, right? But... is Shangguan Yue still inside?"

"Oh, I don't think I saw her come out! Um..."

With such a formation, who could come out in one piece from the inside? This time, Shangguan Yue would probably meet her demise!

...

Time seemed to pass extremely slowly.

About 15 minutes later, the Heaven-Locking Formation was finally activated completely! The gigantic and complicated Xuan formation wrapped the entire Million Wine Mountain!

Strong!

Holy!

Stern!

Murderous!

After a temporary silence, the Heaven-Locking Formation silently turned around.

A silver line flew past! Following this, the crowd saw that Million Wine Mountain suddenly split open from the middle!

[Chapter 1537](#)

The bald Million Wine Mountain was split open! From afar, the silver line was considered rather thin and soft. But when it floated over so lightly, it became the sharpest weapon in the world!

It easily shaved off half the mountain!

The people standing close could see the tidy mark on the mid-mountain!

Almost everyone was stunned, rooted to the ground as they were shocked by the scene before them. It was to the point that their eyes were wide open and mouths agape.

This even included the elders that were trying their best to activate the Heaven-Locking Formation.

"T-this... is the Heaven-Locking Formation's power?" After a while, Elder Hua Feng couldn't help but mutter softly as his eyes were filled with shock.

They couldn't be blamed for being so shocked. Ever since this Heaven-Locking Formation was crafted and left behind back then, it had never been activated.

Every year, the director would personally bring along some elders to undergo some maintenance, but they hadn't seen the true abilities of this Heaven-Locking Formation—until now...

One had to know that for normal true gods... Even though they couldn't move mountains and fill the seas, they could still destroy a few mountain peaks.

The reason why they were so shocked that the Heaven-Locking Formation split Million Wine Mountain was that it was different from ordinary mountains! That was because this mountain was sculpted personally by the first director and his people with precious volcanic stones a million years ago.

During the few hundred years when the academy was first established, Million Wine Mountain had always been bald, and nobody was allowed to go near it.

It was only when time passed that Million Wine Mountain finally became its current state through generations of repair and nurture. On the surface, it was the same as the other mountains, but its rocks were much tougher!

If not, with so many lightning bolts striking in the past tens of thousands of years, an average mountain peak would've been leveled to the ground. How could it still maintain its original appearance so easily?

Yet at this point, this mountain was actually easily split open by that Heaven-Locking Formation! How could one not be surprised?

However, the more shocking thing was at the back. With the middle of the mountain as the boundary, the entire Million Wine Mountain was split into two.

The upper portion was cut into layers by the Heaven-Locking Formation. Every layer it went up, it would be a certain distance away from the bottom.

The heights of these levels that were cut out were completely different! Very quickly, the upper portion of the Million Wine Mountain showed a unique spiral shape!

The mountain body shown on the outside was light-gray in color. When the light shone on it, one could see light being reflected in a scale-like form.

The pieces were tight and tidy. At one glance, they seemed like the scales of a fiend.

These volcanic rocks were very precious, and one rock was usually the size of a fist. In the God Residence Realm, it could be sold for a decent price.

The entire Million Wine Mountain was made from this! This showed that the academy had spent a lot of money on it!

The more Elder Bo Yan and the rest saw, the more stunned they were.

Million Wine Mountain was costly to make. During the past tens of thousands of years, the academy elders and directors had poured in a lot of their hard work and effort.

But the more this was so, the more it proved how shocking the item being suppressed was!

Looking at the flickering Heaven-Locking Formation and feeling the terrifying suppression on the surface, even the elders present were secretly shocked.

In such a situation, even if they were the ones who went down, they might not come back alive. The only thing that comforted them was that after the Heaven-Locking Formation was activated, the strange coldness that surged out of the fountain didn't continue spreading toward the surroundings.

Additionally, as Million Wine Mountain was cut into such a state, the bloody frost that originally covered it had broken and caused many cracks.

It seemed like signs of it being re-sealed. However... Rong Xiu and Yue'er were still downstairs!

Shangguan Jing's eyes were overwhelmed with shock.

He stood with his hands behind his back. He gradually tightened his fists as his bodily aura became colder and more dangerous.

Even he didn't dare to forcefully barge into this Heaven-Locking Formation. Hence, the only thing he could do now was wait!

Wait for Yue'er and Rong Xiu to come back! Shangguan Jing took a deep breath in and tried his best to calm himself down. Other than this, there is no other possibility!

...

Plop!

Rong Xiu charged into the fountain without hesitation.

The fountain water kept spouting out—it instantly swallowed his figure.

The golden light surrounding him shone faintly.

The fountain wasn't deep, so he quickly saw a familiar figure. Chu Liuyue was quietly floating in the water and seemed very close to the bottom of the fountain.

Detecting the intense coldness on her, Rong Xiu was shocked and rapidly approached her. At this point, he then saw that a layer of thick bloody frost had formed on Chu Liuyue's body!

The horrifying coldness kept oozing out of the crack on the rock at the bottom. Most of it gathered in the fountain and spouted out next.

A small part flowed toward Chu Liuyue. In a short amount of time, the frost on her body seemed to increase in thickness.

Rong Xiu reached out to hug her, but before his hand could touch her body, there seemed to be countless sharp flying daggers approaching him rapidly!

He knitted his brows.

Bang!

A ball of golden light was instantly illuminated on his fingertip!

The scorching temperature caused the surrounding water current to make 'zz zz' sounds. Then, he walked forward determinedly and meticulously held her hands.

It was cold to the touch, and the coldness seemed to directly travel to his heart from his palms!

Harsh murderous intent flashed across the bottom of Rong Xiu's eyes! The golden fire in his hands suddenly exploded again, but his movements were still very careful. He was terrified that if he used too much force, he would harm Chu Liuyue, who was in front of him.

Her entire body was frozen now, and she almost became a giant popsicle.

Rong Xiu didn't dare to be at ease or take it lightly.

The golden fire quickly followed Chu Liuyue's hand and spread toward the surroundings.

The thick blood-red frost started to show signs of melting. Finally, after a while, half her hand was free from that ice layer.

Rong Xiu went forward and held her thin fingers. His palm was burning hot, which increasingly showed how icy her entire body was.

Rong Xiu leaned in more closely. At this point, the two of them were facing each other, and he finally saw her appearance clearly.

Below the ice layer, her eyes were tightly shut, her lips were pale, and her brows were tightly knitted.

She always held her emotions in. For her to make such an expression, it showed that she had suffered quite a bit of torture when she was frozen by this frost.

Rong Xiu carefully felt for her hand. Suddenly, his movements stopped, and he looked over.

With this look, he then saw that the wound on her hand was already open, and it looked badly mangled.

The sinister coldness seemed to have entered her body from here. At this point, the frozen frost had melted a little.

Chu Liuyue's wrist was revealed.

Rong Xiu put his fingers on it, split out a portion of force, and checked her inner condition.

The force froze. In the Yuan meridian, it was blocked by the coldness.

In comparison, half her body was already damaged!

Rong Xiu's eyes turned sharp. The ultimate black color filled his eyes in a sinister and harsh manner.

[Chapter 1538](#)

At this point, Chu Liuyue's hand suddenly trembled.

Rong Xiu's gaze flickered as he returned to his senses and looked at her. At that moment, the darkness in his eyes had completely dissipated.

The usual gentleness and quietness, which only appeared in front of her, filled his eyes again.

She didn't open her eyes, and it seemed like she hadn't woken up yet. However, Rong Xiu was very confident that her consciousness should be gradually recovering.

But at this point, she was in this helpless state—she was frozen and couldn't move.

"Yue'er." Rong Xiu held her hands tightly and interlocked her fingers, digging into her palm, bit by bit. It seemed as if this could warm her up.

His voice was low and melodious with a hint of undetectable hoarseness. It was as if he were trying his best to suppress something.

"Yue'er, wake up." Chu Liuyue didn't remember how long she had been in a coma. Ever since the coldness entered her body and gradually froze it, her consciousness also seemed to blur.

She seemed to be floating in a pure white space with no borders, and she had no direction either. It seemed like no matter where she went, she couldn't leave this place.

She felt that something was amiss and wanted to leave this strange state as soon as possible. However, there vaguely seemed to be countless pairs of invisible hands continuously holding her back and dragging her back to the spot time and time again.

Just when she was exhausted and wanted to give up, a familiar voice suddenly floated over from a distant time and space.

Rong Xiu! Chu Liuyue woke up almost immediately! She started to try again, attempting to allow her consciousness to be rid of this restraint. But her eyelids were very heavy, and her entire body was enveloped in an indescribable, sourish coldness.

She never knew that she would be stumped by an extremely simple action of opening her eyes one day. However, Rong Xiu's calls kept entering her ears from time to time, causing her to wake up and be clear.

After some time, she finally saw a golden spark in the pure white space.

...

The golden spark had spread to Chu Liuyue's body, and it burned brightly.

The bloody frost continuously melted. Her hands finally seemed to have a bit of warmth.

Rong Xiu's gaze turned and landed on the golden fire. Then, he knitted his brows tightly.

The powers of this coldness... had long exceeded his previous predictions.

Although this golden fire could cause the bloody frost to melt, it took a lot of effort. During this short period of time, quite a bit of his inner body force had been used up, but he had only saved one of her hands.

If he wanted to get rid of all the frost in her entire body, he would probably have to use all of his force. However, the cold kept surging upward, and it would take the upper hand sooner or later.

But with this torture, he didn't know how much time they had to spend here.

If the coldness stays in her body for too long, it will cause severe damage to her body. She has just broken through to become a true god and summoned her God Realm. If her physical body is damaged now, then her future Holy Body... Thinking of this, coldness flashed across Rong Xiu's eyes.

Finally, he moved his long arm and hugged her! At the same time, a black fire exuded from his other hand!

The two black and golden fires intertwined tightly, and his aura strengthened instantly!

A totem faintly appeared between Rong Xu's brows!

...

Crack!

A crisp shatter was suddenly heard!

Rong Xiu looked over to the source of the sound and suddenly realized that a long crack had appeared on the rock at the side! The strange thing was that this crack looked like someone had used an extremely sharp blade to cut right across it!

Clean-cut and straight!

Then, a faint silver light flowed out from within. Finally, that cracked form a silver line.

An indescribable suppression exuded from within!

Rong Xiu knitted his brows. This is... the Heaven-Locking Formation!

As if wanting to confirm Rong Xiu's guess, a second crack and a third crack quickly appeared on the rocks at the side! In no time, this small space was completely surrounded by the lines of the Xuan formation!

These lines looked the same as they did outside—they had clean cuts and were very regular, yet they were filled with murderous energy!

When the lightning bolts landed, they just made faint marks on this rock! But the moment this Heaven-Locking Formation was activated, the rock was cut silently!

Rong Xiu surveyed his surroundings.

These lines started to approach the two of them.

Clearly, in order to suppress the item below, the Heaven-Locking Formation was going to directly destroy the entire Million Wine Mountain—including everything inside!

Suddenly, his chest tightened. His heart faltered slightly as he gazed at the person in his arms.

More than half of her body was still frozen, but at this point, the frost had half-melted from her shoulders, and her arms were finally free.

She raised her hands and almost instinctively approached Rong Xiu.

One of her hands was tightly held by Rong Xiu while she raised the other one with much difficulty and tightly grabbed the clothes on her chest, dragging them down.

Almost instantly, Rong Xiu understood what she meant.

He looked down slightly.

The Chi Xiao Sword quietly lay on the rock.

Rong Xiu raised his hand, and a ray of golden light flew across. The Chi Xiao Sword instantly flew up!

Rong Xiu held the Chi Xiao Sword in his hands.

At this point, a silver line on the rock suddenly moved and went for the back of Chu Liuyue's head! Following this, all the lines in the surroundings followed closely and cut across the middle!

[Chapter 1539](#)

Under the watch of countless pairs of eyes outside of Million Wine Mountain, the Heaven-Locking Formation covered the large Million Wine Mountain.

The silver lines floated lightly. Silently, they cut the entire Million Wine Mountain!

The bloody frost that covered the mountain peak started to melt silently and seeped into the ground slowly.

The crowd watched on quietly and stared at the fountain on the peak.

The water rippled, but it didn't make any other movements. However, the two figures they wanted to see didn't appear again.

Time seemed to pass especially slowly.

...

A ray of morning light shone down through the thick clouds. Everything was like uncovered black mesh, revealing its original appearance.

Elder Bo Yan looked up in a daze.

The sky lit up.

The night was very long.

"Bo Yan, the frost on the surrounding mountain peaks has fully melted." Elder Hua Feng's voice was a little bitter.

Elder Bo Yan followed his gaze and indeed saw that under the tremendous pressure of the Heaven-Locking Formation, the bloody frost that spread toward the surroundings had completely disappeared.

There were only spots of frost still left on Million Wine Mountain. There were more near the fountain on the mountain peak, but it seemed like they wouldn't last for long.

The Heaven-Locking Formation seemed smaller than before as it started to gather all the surrounding force to the middle and focused on handling the remaining frost.

At this point, basically only those silver lines were covering Million Wine Mountain.

But at this moment, Million Wine Mountain was filled with holes, and its appearance had completely changed. It was no longer a mountain and instead looked like a giant rock statue.

Its structure was contorted and strange. The more shocking thing was that even now, the intersecting rocks were still turning around with the Heaven-Locking Formation. Every single line looked extremely bright, but it had murderous intent!

They knew very clearly how terrifying the Heaven-Locking Formation's force was! Once it was contacted, it would undeniably crush everything, including all the living things inside!

It was a patch of black at the places the bloody frost was melting, and it still looked pretty dead. One could see that it would take a lot of time and effort to restore all of these things to their original state.

"What exactly... is that?" Elder Bo Yan stared at the fountain and couldn't help but mutter softly.

Because the Heaven-Locking Formation was seemingly suppressing it, the fountain no longer had water coming out of it and recovered its usual appearance.

There were no ripples, and a ball of frost formed by the edges. However, the water was dark, and one couldn't see the inner situation clearly.

The gray rocks in the surroundings were crushed by the Heaven-Locking Formation into tiny pieces. This scene caused the crowd's hearts to be heavy because the rocks around that fountain were very special. With lightning bolts striking the rocks for so many years, it was inevitable that some marks would be left on them, but they were never damaged.

Now, they didn't even put up a fight in front of the Heaven-Locking Formation.

The scene is already in this state, so the two people in the fountain are probably... Elder Bo Yan rubbed his brows and felt lethargic. These two people are important, not to mention that these two kids have a good relationship with the director and the elders! If it really—

He didn't dare to think much.

After a temporary silence, he looked at the other elders. "Hua Feng, Wan Zheng, Ouyang, and..."

He called a few names.

"The few of you can stay behind. The rest of you can go back and rest."

After experiencing this torture, everyone was exhausted. Even Wan Zheng and the rest were relying on their willpower.

"Once the Heaven-Locking Formation is activated, it will continue to be active for a month. During this month, there must be someone guarding here every day. Hence, we must not let down our guard during this one month. You must be very careful, okay?"

In other words, this was a long-term fight. If all of them were overly exhausted the next day, their efforts would be to no avail.

Hearing Elder Bo Yan say this, the elders nodded in agreement because they also knew the pros and cons.

"Also, do comfort the students after you go back." Elder Bo Yan sighed in his heart. Even though the commotion in Million Wine Mountain didn't cause many injuries or deaths, the students will inevitably be worried. During this period of time, the countless troubles in Ling Xiao Academy have been worrying enough. In addition to this time...

"During this one month, nobody is allowed to come and go out of the academy as they wish! You must report to me about everything, and I will verify it personally!"

The elders were shocked, but upon deeper thinking, this was a special period of time, and it was understandable that he did this.

After acknowledging his order, most elders went back respectively.

Only Elder Wan Zheng and the others were left behind to stand guard here.

"Senior Shangguan, why don't you go back and rest too?" Elder Hua Feng hesitated for a moment and asked tentatively. "We're standing guard here. Once... Once the two of them come out, we'll definitely tell you instantly."

Shangguan Jing shook his head. "I'll just wait here. I won't get in your way; you don't have to care about me."

His eyes were bloodshot, and there was a faint green color below them.

He looked extremely frail.

Although he was a legendary warrior, his Holy Body had been hibernating for thousands of years, and parts of his soul had also been separated. Once he woke up, he hurriedly rushed over to Ling Xiao Academy from the Flood-Desert Northern Region.

He didn't even get to properly recuperate his body, and his skills couldn't be compared to him at his peak. That was also the reason why Elder Hua Feng was so worried about him.

Seeing that Shangguan Jing was insistent, Elder Hua Feng's lips moved before he swallowed his remaining words.

"Okay. If you have any requests, just let me know." He clenched his fists tightly. "I'll wait with you."

Shangguan Jing nodded, his voice low and slightly hoarse as he said, "Thank you."

"Dream on." Yi Wenzhuo's cold mockery came from the side. "The Heaven-Locking Formation has already been activated. Even a legendary warrior can't escape from the inside, let alone the two of them!"

He naturally knew that Rong Xiu and Shangguan Yue were top talents in the younger generation.

To be able to break through and become true gods at such an age, they were definitely extremely rare existences in the God Residence Realm.

But so what? True gods were just true gods!

"You—" Elder Hua Feng was so agitated by this sentence that his expression changed.

"We won't trouble you to worry about this." Shangguan Jing pulled Elder Hua Feng back and gazed at Yi Wenzhuo coldly. "Since you're not a director, the academy's power is also not in your hands. You also have no relation to Rong Xiu and Yue'er. If we haven't even said anything about them, who are you to guide us and comment on them?"

Yi Wenzhuo's expression turned cold. "You—"

"Previously, I took Ling Xiao Academy into consideration and gave you face. Don't go overboard!"

[Chapter 1540](#)

Shangguan Jing's words were harsh and didn't give Yi Wenzhuo face at all. He even did it in front of Elder Bo Yan and the rest, which was akin to directly slapping his face!

Yi Wenzhuo's face turned green. He rolled up his sleeves and wanted to take action directly.

"Senior Shangguan is a supreme Armory Refinement Master and had already commanded the God Residence Realm a thousand years ago. His status is distinguished. Wenzhuo, what do you think you're doing? Are you going to take action?" At the side, Elder Meng suddenly spoke.

His tone was light and had a hint of coldness and harshness.

Yi Wenzhuo was instantly stumped. His identity as the academy's vice-director wasn't considered much in front of a supreme Armory Refinement Master!

One had to know that even in the entire God Residence Realm, supreme Armory Refinement Masters were definitely top existences that could rule the area! Compared to legendary warriors and even supreme Physicians of the same level, they had more speaking rights!

Yi Wenzhuo clenched his fists tightly and swallowed this mouthful of saliva with much difficulty.

"Mentor, didn't you previously say that you came back this time to go to Dong Huang Clock Tower to find something?" Jun Jiuqing suddenly spoke and broke the cold atmosphere. "The situation in Million Wine Mountain has basically stabilized. With Elder Meng and the rest around, you don't have to be too worried."

This sentence gave Yi Wenzhuo an out. It explained all his coldness and overboard behavior to be because of his worry for the academy.

Yi Wenzhuo finally stopped himself when he saw that the going was good and grunted coldly. "I hope that this Heaven-Locking Formation can completely solve the problem!"

Then, he whipped his sleeves and rapidly left, rushing toward Dong Huang Clock Tower.

Jun Jiuqing hesitated for a moment and turned around to glance at Million Wine Mountain. Finally, he still caught up.

The duo's figures quickly went far away.

Yi Wenzhuo was the vice-director. Even though the right to manage the academy was in Elder Bo Yan's hands, he still had the right to go to Dong Huang Clock Tower.

"It seems like he accumulated quite a bit of vengeance during the past few years." Elder Meng stared at their backs and knitted his brows.

Elder Hua Feng snorted coldly. "Hasn't he always been like this?"

Thinking about it back then, Yi Wenzhuo was bent on getting the director's position. After confirming that the director position was given to his junior brother, he didn't accept it for a very long time.

From that point on, he already had vengeance in his heart. He hated the previous director—who was also his mentor—and his junior brother, the current academy director.

After the director left and passed the power to Bo Yan a few years ago, his dissatisfaction reached its peak. If not, he wouldn't have left the academy so harshly and not come back for a few years. During this period of time, he didn't even ask about the academy.

Yi Wenzhuo felt that the whole world betrayed him, but he didn't know how to reflect on himself. He never thought about why he wasn't the director and why everyone hated him so much.

"The academy is in so much trouble, and the first person he thought of was himself. Ever since he came back, what has he done for the academy or the students?" Elder Hua Feng had been displeased with him for quite a long time and held it in. However, Yi Wenzhuo's attitude during this incident was indeed very disgusting.

"People who don't know might even think that he came back to watch us be laughingstocks."

"Enough. These aren't important now." Elder Bo Yan seemed to be very open-minded about this. "In the next month, the most important thing is to guard the Heaven-Locking Formation."

The crowd nodded and didn't ask about other things.

"Elder Meng." Shangguan Jing suddenly spoke. "As for the things Yue'er did in the academy before... Could you possibly tell me about it?"

Actually, he could tell that quite a few elders in the academy treated Yue'er well. But considering that Elder Meng had the highest status here and even helped Yue'er guard her God Realm for a few years, it would be most appropriate to ask him about it.

Elder Meng hurriedly waved his hands. "You're too polite; you can just call me Meng Xian. As for that girl... It's really a long story..."

He squinted his eyes as if he were recalling something. "It's actually a coincidence that Girlie came to Ling Xiao Academy at the start..."

...

Million Wine Mountain was covered by the Heaven-Locking Formation. It was very tight and almost impermeable.

From outside, one could only see the mid-mountain that was cut up and the many silver lines floating inside.

In mid-air, there were elders strictly standing guard on all sides.

That terrifying coldness had been completely sealed, and the same terrifying commotion didn't happen again. However, the students all knew that the Heaven-Locking Formation had to be guarded for another month or so. Hence, they didn't dare to let their guards down.

All the students obediently stayed at their own territories; they either rested or cultivated. Not many people even went to Qing Ming Square.

Everything that happened on Million Wine Mountain that day was like a heavy rock that weighed people's hearts down. As long as the Heaven-Locking Formation didn't completely suppress it, they couldn't feel completely secure.

Of course, there were also some people who were more worried about Rong Xiu and Chu Liuyue inside.

...

"It has already been three days. The Heaven-Locking Formation is working, and the frost on Million Wine Mountain is decreasing. I don't know when they can come out."

On a mountain peak, the few people from the Luo family gathered together. The person talking was Luo Yanming.

Originally, they planned on cultivating and dueling together, but they didn't have the mood to do it. Thus, they set it aside.

At this point, all their attention was still on Million Wine Mountain.

Zhuo Sheng couldn't help but scratch his head. "This... Rong Xiu and Chu—Shangguan Yue are true gods, and Rong Xiu even has a Holy Body! T-they should be able to come out, right? Besides, doesn't Shangguan Yue have a few trump cards?"

Even though he said this, his tone was filled with uneasiness, and his eyes had unconcealable worry.

The two of them were indeed very strong and had powerful trump cards, but Million Wine Mountain was in big trouble this time, and... It was probably not so easy to deal with it!

"A month later, Million Wine Mountain should be leveled to the ground, right?" Luo Shishi muttered in a daze.

Everyone fell into silence.

If the two of them hadn't come out at that time...

The Heaven-Locking Formation was so scary, and even Shangguan Jing and Elder Meng couldn't deal with it. What could they do?

"Hm? What are those two people doing?" Suddenly, Zhuo Sheng's gaze focused, and he pointed at a certain distraction.

The few of them looked over and saw two people discussing something in the middle of the mountain, and they even gestured from time to time.

They seemed to be discussing something.

"That's ... Lin Zhifei and Mu Hongyu?" Luo Shishi found it strange. "How did the two of them get to know each other?"

"I heard that the Sky-Cloud Empire's princess consort had once saved Lin Zhifei—I think that should be Shangguan Yue. And Mu Hongyu is also her good friend. However, these two people don't know each other, right?"

In comparison, those two people should be part of the group of people most worried about Million Wine Mountain's situation. However, they didn't know what they were doing.

...

In the middle of the opposite mountain, Lin Zhifei looked at Mu Hongyu. "Are you sure this can save them?"