

## Refining 271

### Chapter 271 – The Land of Divinity and Demons

Five colors, seven colors, nine colors, all hues of colors bloomed around, colliding, fusing, melting together, as if this were the world's most bumpy kaleidoscope road. A tearing strength covered Qin Yu, and even with his Demon Body he still felt a stabbing pain all over. Luckily, a protective layer of light covered him, otherwise he didn't doubt that these bright and varied colors would instantly smash him to pieces.

He turned around and saw You Qi's pallid complexion. But, during the transmission process, she didn't dare to use any strength to defend herself, because if she somehow interfered with the transmission, even she had no idea what would happen.

As if sensing Qin Yu's gaze, she looked up and glared at him. "What are you staring at? Why don't you hurry up and hug me? It's not like you haven't done it before. Stop trying to pretend as if you're some chivalrous gentleman."

Qin Yu had a helpless expression. From the tone of her words, she seemed to be implying that he always had these sorts of perverted thoughts in his mind. He was innocent here! However, at this time, he could only pull her into his chest. Her warm and soft figure was swept into his arms and her light scent drifted into his nose...although he didn't want to admit it, whether it was physically or mentally, she could be called perfect.

You Qi lowered her head and pressed it against Qin Yu's chest, listening to his strong heartbeat and feeling the warmth emanating from his body. She smiled.

The transmission process continued for a long time. Just as Qin Yu was beginning to suspect that a problem had occurred somewhere, the multihued colors began to rapidly fade away and a bright light appeared before him.

You Qi pushed herself off his chest. She happily said, "We've arrived."

Hu –

Their field of vision suddenly brightened and that dazzling light shined upon them, causing pain in Qin Yu's eyes. He couldn't help but narrow his eyes, and after a faint moment of dizziness he finally saw his surroundings.

This was an incomparably massive square. It was paved with some sort of blue stone. There were dozens of transmissions arrays in the square, all of them placed together in a dense formation. He and You Qi happened to be on one of these arrays.

All around, crystalline signboards were displaying a variety of images. There was beautiful scenery, there was battle and slaughter, there were the roars of raging rivers, and much more. But at this time a clear and gentle voice entered Qin Yu's ears.

'Welcome to the Land of Divinity and Demons.'

As he was startled he heard a loud rumble, like brewing thunder. He looked up to see a strange and massive ferocious bird covered in golden scales. Beneath the bright moonlight it was like a flaming meteor as it smashed against an invisible barrier.

Radiant divine light erupted in tremendous waves. With that point as the epicenter, those waves spread throughout the entire city. The strength of this collision was enough to sever a hundred rivers. But, as it spread, it was actually gradually eased and erased by the invisible barrier, before it finally disappeared. It was unexpectedly not able to cause even the tiniest bit of damage to the city.

Qin Yu stiffened, his pupils violently shrinking, his heart filled with panic! When he saw the strange bird, he felt that it had seen him too. With just a single glance, it was as if he had fallen into an icy lake, unable to produce a single thought. Although he didn't know how horrifying the strength within that seemingly useless strike was, Qin Yu didn't doubt that this single strike was enough to grind a thousand of him into dust!

An icy cold shout sounded in his ears. "Where do you two come from?"

Qin Yu regained his composure. He could see several soldiers outside the transmission array, each one of them with cold and humorless eyes. This sight also made his heart skip a beat. Amongst the several soldiers, the one with the lowest cultivation was at the sixth level of Golden Core. As for the one who shouted at him, he was a Nascent Soul realm cultivator. Although he was only at the middle Nascent Soul realm, Qin Yu actually felt a threat from him!

You Qi hurriedly said, "We are from the You Family, coming from the land of exiles. I've already notified my family and they will soon be sending someone over to receive us." She looked up at the strange bird which had just flown away. Her expression was dignified. "Has the assault from the monster beasts started again?"

The captain of the soldiers clearly relaxed as he heard You Qi speak. He nodded. "Things haven't been peaceful lately. There are always bound to be fellows at the Beast King step appearing. Since you are You Family cultivators, you should know the rules."

You Qi nodded. "We will stay in the waiting area and wait for the family to pick us up."

The captain waved his hand. One of his subordinates moved forwards and led You Qi and Qin Yu away.

"Wait here, don't move around needlessly." With a quick reminder, the soldier turned and hurried away.

Qin Yu's eyes kept sweeping around, taking in his surroundings. It was only now that he slowly looked away. Although his expression was calm, his heart was in tumult.

The Land of Divinity and Demons...this was the Land of Divinity and Demons...

That terrifying strange bird's casual strike was enough to kill a thousand copies of him. In that square, there were over a dozen Nascent Soul level soldiers. And faintly hidden beneath all of this were two terrifying auras. Even with Qin Yu's current cultivation, he still felt dread towards them. It was clear they were the powerhouses protecting this square.

And, this was only within a mere square. The city all around was so vast that he couldn't see where the boundary was. Let alone the human cities of the Southern Empire or Northern Dynasty, not even the sea races' capital city in the sea region could compare with the city he was now in!

You Qi could keenly feel Qin Yu's silence and easily understood what he was thinking. She said in a gentle voice, "Don't belittle yourself. The Land of Divinity and Demons does have countless powerhouses, but the richness of the heaven and earth spiritual strength here cannot be compared with the land of exiles. For you to have your current achievements as someone born in the land of exiles, even if placed in the Land of Divinity and Demons, that is still a dazzling achievement."

Qin Yu's heart warmed. He nodded, "I'm fine."

Like You Qi said, the heaven and earth spiritual strength in the Land of Divinity and Demons had reached an inconceivable height. The only time Qin Yu had ever seen something comparable was perhaps in Immortal Eclipse Valley, in the domain formed by the Radiant Red Wood. If someone lived in this type of environment all year along, it would be hard for their cultivation to not rise by leaps and bounds.

But it was exactly because of this that Qin Yu was even more aware of how so many terrifying powerhouses could be born in the Land of Divinity and Demons.

A vast and endless world, extremely rich heaven and earth spiritual strength, a trillion years of accumulation...it was no wonder that You Qi had given him such a weird expression when he said he might be able to become a sword dao grandmaster here.

Now, even Qin Yu felt he had been too arrogant in his thinking!

There were several transmission arrays in the waiting area. Besides You Qi and Qin Yu, there were six more cultivators waiting. Suddenly, one of the cultivators turned pale white and emitted a pained roar. His body rapidly grew and sharp claws emerged from his hands and feet. His face stretched out and long and fierce fangs shot out from his mouth. A bloodthirsty light gleamed in his eyes. He was unexpectedly a great wolf that stood on two feet.

Roar –

This was clearly a cultivator that transformed into a monster beast. He howled and rushed towards a transmission array.

"Stop it!"

"Kill it!"

The closest squad of soldiers all drew their swords and cut forwards.

Bang –

Ruthless sword intents carried with them dreadful killing focus. They condensed into bolts of white light that cut down without mercy! The great wolf cried out in pain as it was sent flying back by the sword lights. But, what was terrifying was that even such potent sword light was only able to tear a gash in his waist. Moreover, the wound wriggled and crept, as if the flesh was rapidly regenerating.

Seeing that it could no longer destroy the transmission array, the great wolf's bloodthirsty eyes locked onto the several people around it. Its legs bent down and then thrust forwards, throwing itself ahead like a bolt of lightning.

"Ahh!"

There was a pitiful scream. The cultivator closest to the great wolf had been bitten in half. Its saliva seemed to contain some sort of dangerous poison. The late Golden Core realm cultivator cried several times as his body turned black and he thoroughly died.

Hu –

The great wolf didn't stop. It rushed towards the next person and in the blink of an eye two female cultivators were torn to pieces. One of them was a young girl whose eyes were still wide and full of fear and unwillingness. She never imagined that she would die so soon after she arrived in the Land of Divinity and Demons.

The great wolf panted for breath. Its eyes quickly swept around. Everyone else remaining was at the Nascent Soul realm. The one with the weakest aura was a youth wearing black robes.

It could eliminate him first and then slaughter the woman beside him. Finally, it could self-detonate. That would be more than enough kills! The great wolf leapt up into the air, savagery in its eyes, as if it could already see the young man's head bitten off. But, there was something that left it a bit puzzled: why wasn't he afraid?

Bang –

Blinding sword light erupted. White, black, blue, red, yellow, a vortex of colors surrounded the great wolf and then countless sword shadows submerged it.

Miserably howls echoed out. The great wolf wanted to escape, but it was unable to free itself from the five-colored vortex. Slowly, its voice faded away before completely vanishing.

Qin Yu flicked his sleeves and the Five Element Swords disappeared. The great wolf's corpse toppled to the ground. Its body was crisscrossed with cuts and one of its eyes had been chopped up. The remaining eye was filled with pain and despair.

A squad of soldiers rushed over and inspected the corpse. After determining that it was dead, one of the soldiers cupped his hands and said, "Thank you for assisting us fellow daoist. May I ask where you come from and whether you would want to join the Southern Overwatch Pass Army?"

Qin Yu was startled.

You Qi said, "Reporting to captain, fellow daoist Qin is a talent that my You Family discovered in the land of exiles. He is temporarily unable to assist the army."

The soldier's eyes brightened. "Land of exiles?" He looked at Qin Yu, a bit more appreciation in his eyes. In that land that was barren of heaven and earth spiritual energy, if someone could cultivate to such heights, it could be imagined that they possessed considerable talent. After arriving at the Land of Divinity and Demons, they were bound to soar into the skies.

“The You Family is fortunate!” The person cupped their hands together. “Fellow daoist Qin, I am Officer Tianyun from the Southern Overwatch Pass’ Tiger Howl Troop. You did a great favor in helping me today, so if you have anything you need in the future, feel free to look for me.”

He turned and led his subordinates away.

The several surrounding people looked at Qin Yu with envy.

A moment later, cultivators from the You Family arrived. It was obvious they had somehow learnt of what just happened, so they were extremely polite and kind to Qin Yu.

“Fellow daoist came from so far, you are sure to be tired. Please come back with us and rest for several days.” The cultivator who spoke was named You Han. According to their blood relationship, he was You Qi’s cousin. But, from the way the two nodded at each other, they weren’t very well acquainted.

As a new arrival, he naturally listened to others. Qin Yu nodded, not saying much.

With the You Family members leading the way, they soon left the square. After leaving the area that had been blocked off by the soldiers, they finally saw carriages paused on the side of the road. At first glance, they were incredibly decorated. There were rows upon rows of constructions on them that flashed with neon lights, nearly blinding to the eyes.

“Fellow daoist Qin, please.” You Han smiled as he spoke.

The carriage didn’t have any reins so it naturally didn’t need to be pulled by any mounts. The lines of the array formations engraved into it began to flash. Qin Yu knew that before entering the You Family, You Han would need to question You Qi. So, he simply entered the carriage whereupon the door closed behind him.

When the door closed, he couldn’t hear any sound from the outside. A faint fragrance filled the air, lifting the spirit. He looked around. Everything within the carriage was meticulously crafted. The table in front of him, the soft fur he sat on, even the art that decorated the walls was pleasing to the eyes. And, a gentle singing voice came from somewhere, adding several degrees of enjoyment and luxury to everything.

Soon, the carriage gently shook and began to move forwards. There was no noise at all. If it weren’t for the rapidly blurring scenery, it would be hard to tell they were moving at high speed.

Qin Yu revealed a look of praise. The Land of Divinity and Demons not only had an extremely high standard of cultivation, but all sorts of things were developed here that he had never heard of. But soon, he looked away from these novel things and a thoughtful look entered his eyes.

The You Family pardoned You Qi and brought him to the Land of Divinity and Demons. It was clear that they had something they wanted from him. In this world, there was no such thing as kindness or benefits that came without strings attached.

Although his knowledge was limited, Qin Yu intuitively felt that this was related to his Demon Body. Initially, the reason You Qi changed her attitude towards him was also because of the Demon Body. Moreover, she had mentioned that the Demon Body held a great significance for the demonic path.

If this were true, then he shouldn’t be in danger.

Outside the window, the scenery flashed by faster and faster. The You Family carriages seemed to be entering a high-speed mode. Even so, the ride continued for over an hour before they finally reached the area of the You Family.

The carriages stopped. Qin Yu opened the door and stepped out.

This was a quiet and peaceful residential area. The streets were straight and wide, and trees and flowers adorned both sides. Sunlight sprinkled down from above, the columns of mottled light illuminating the road.

The You Family's doors opened. Several cultivators were waiting behind with smiles. At this time, one of them stepped forwards. "I presume you are fellow daoist Qin Yu? This is our first time meeting. I am You Yuanming, You Qi's uncle."

For the first time, You Qi revealed a look of excitement. She respectfully bowed, "Greetings, uncle!"

With that, Qin Yu knew just how credible this person was in contrast. He cupped his hands together, "Qin Yu greets senior." Calling this person senior was not an exaggeration. You Yuanming's aura gently fluctuated, vaguely blending in with the world. Although he was restraining his aura, he still emitted a light pressure.

He was a Divine Soul realm cultivator!

Ever since Qin Yu entered the Land of Divinity and Demons, this was the first Divine Soul he had seen. As expected, his aura was as deep as the sea and his strength was unfathomable.

You Yuanming smiled and nodded. "Fellow daoist Qin Yu, with your status, you can automatically be promoted one rank in the demonic path. It's fine if we speak to each other as equals." He nodded at You Qi. "You did very well this time. The clan has already written off what happened. Make sure you are more careful in the future and don't make any more mistakes."

You Qi respectfully bowed, "Yes, uncle."

You Yuanming grabbed onto Qin Yu's arm. "Come, the banquet is being prepared. The Patriarch is already impatient to see you. Wash yourself first."

With this, Qin Yu was truly flattered.

A Divine Soul realm cultivator had personally come to greet him. The You Family had arranged a great feast with the Patriarch personally attending. Thinking about it, the powerhouses of the clan were probably coming too.

This treatment was far beyond what he had imagined!

The You Family residence was summed up in a single word: large.

This wasn't a normal kind of large. Qin Yu felt that if he used an entire day and tried to walk from one end to another, he still wouldn't make it out.

Luckily, there seemed to be several exquisite array formations arranged throughout the grounds. Although some places were extremely far away, he could arrive in just several steps.

Qin Yu's living quarters was an extremely beautiful courtyard. The maids and servants had already been arranged.

You Yuanming smiled. "Fellow daoist Qin, if you please. I will bring You Qi away first and then we will come to see you again."

As he spoke, he turned and left.

You Qi gave Qin Yu a reassuring look and then left.

"We greet the lord!" In the courtyard, 12 maids and 12 servants all knelt together.

Qin Yu waved his hand. "Rise."

After sending away the maids that tried to help take his clothes off, Qin Yu lay down in a bathtub carved from a single block of jade. He looked at the smooth wall across from him and the video that was being broadcast on its surface. It seemed to be narrating some sort of story. This was also something Qin Yu had never heard of or thought of before.

It seemed he would need to spend some time in this Land of Divinity and Demons before he could adapt to it.

### **Chapter 272 – Talent Test**

Switching into robes that the You Family prepared, Qin Yu pushed open the door and walked out. The eyes of the maids outside brightened, thinking that the clothes matched this lord very well.

You Yuanming hadn't arrived yet; there were bound to be many things that he needed to ask You Qi. Qin Yu wandered beneath a pavilion. Without him needing to say anything, maids started to bring in sweets and tea.

He didn't eat the sweets, but the tea was actually quite good. It was fragrant and lifted the spirits; he could even feel the circulation of magic power within his body liven up.

It was obvious this tea wasn't ordinary.

To casually take out this type of spirit tea to entertain a guest, it could be seen how deep the You Family's background was. But, the more important reason was likely because there were far more natural materials and treasures in the Land of Divinity and Demons.

With such rich heaven and earth spiritual energy, it was obvious more treasures would be born.

Qin Yu's eyes brightened.

With the little blue lamp in hand, there being more world treasures meant there were more lucky chances. After he managed to stabilize his position within the Land of Divinity and Demons, he could start the big business of alchemy.

At this time, there was the sound of the courtyard doors opening. Qin Yu regained his composure and nodded to the maid beside him. He stood up, greeting the person who just arrived. However, the person on the other side of the doors wasn't You Yuanming or You Qi, but a woman he didn't know. Her face

wasn't accentuated with any powders or creams, but that fresh-faced look was itself the best form of makeup, an unparalleled beauty.

Seeing Qin Yu, the woman blushed red and bowed. "You Xiuxiu greets honored guest. I shouldn't be disturbing your rest, but a little beast I raise seems to have run away here. It is wounded, so I ask that honored guest please excuse me for the disturbance."

Qin Yu cupped his hands together. "It's no problem. Miss, feel free to come in and search."

You Xiuxiu revealed a grateful look. "Thank you, honored guest."

She stepped forwards and took out a jade slip. A gentle melody spread through the air, mixing into the breeze. With her swaying skirt and hair, she seemed like an image from a scroll.

Qin Yu revealed a look of appreciation. The Land of Divinity and Demons was truly a place with countless talented individuals. Just a random girl like this had the ability to move the heart and mind.

You Xiuxiu seemed to realize that Qin Yu was looking at her. She blushed and lowered her head, a bit of happiness flashing in her eyes.

After some time, there was a light rustling and a little snow white beast came running out from somewhere. It hopped around, one of its legs kept curled up, clearly injured. You Xiuxiu was surprised, "Little White!" She immediately bunched up her face, worriedly saying, "You little beast, you still run around when you are injured? If there's a next time, just see whether or not I still care about you!"

After she finished speaking, she seemed to remember Qin Yu was there. Her face reddened further.

Qin Yu smiled, not saying anything.

There was the sound of footsteps from the courtyard doors. You Qi walked over, but when she saw the situation in the courtyard, her face stiffened and became icy cold.

You Xiuxiu turned around, pleasantly surprised. "Big Sister You Qi, you came back! I'm so happy!"

She hurried over, wanting to hold You Qi's hand. But, when she was avoided, her smile froze for a brief second.

You Qi indifferently said, "I wouldn't dare to trouble my little sister. I'm doing very well."

You Xiuxiu was flustered a little. "Why is big sister like this?"

You Qi drew in a deep breath. "Little sister is well aware in your heart, so why must I say more?" She glanced at the little beast in her arms and a look of contempt flashed in her eyes. "I haven't seen you in so many years but you're still using the same old tricks. It's best to trade for a new one at some point, lest this little thing continues to suffer."

After she finished speaking, she ignored You Xiuxiu's hardened expression and directly said, "Qin Yu, my uncle is waiting for you." Then she turned and left.

Qin Yu's thoughts race. He cupped his hands together, bidding You Xiuxiu farewell, and then followed You Qi.



The courtyard immediately fell silent. The little white beast in You Xiuxiu's arms suddenly cried out in pain, but it didn't dare to struggle. Instead, it simply shivered. Its injured leg had been pinched and broken once more.

You Xiuxiu lowered her head, gently looking at it and stroking its fur. "Why are you always so disobedient? Do you want me to hate you?"

She walked out and lightly said, "You didn't hear or see anything just now."

Within the courtyard, the maids and servants fell to their knees, their voices trembling as they said, "Yes, Miss Xiuxiu."

Qin Yu caught up to You Qi. Seeing her icy expression, he asked, "What's the matter? Do you have some grudge with that You Family miss? You didn't even give a little bit of face to her, just started fighting as soon you arrived."

You Qi glared at him. "Does it make your heart ache?"

Qin Yu didn't know whether to laugh or to cry. "Why would my heart ache? I don't even know her."

You Qi coldly snorted. After several breaths of silence she said, "From now on, it's best if you keep your distance from her." She hesitated and continued to say, "I don't have any definite evidence, but when I was initially punished and exiled and I ventured into the Land of Sealed Demons, I nearly died. I'm afraid that all of this was engineered by my delicate and charming little sister."

Her complexion didn't change, but her eyes turned colder.

Qin Yu frowned. He nodded, "I understand."

For some unknown reason, You Qi relaxed as she heard his answer. She hurriedly concealed this and said, "That's enough, let's hurry up. There are many people waiting for you."

They soon saw You Yuanming. When this Divine Soul realm master saw Qin Yu again, he seemed even more intimate than before. He patted Qin Yu's shoulder and glanced at You Qi, as if saying that since everyone here was together, there was no need to exchange pleasantries. This left Qin Yu dumbfounded. He looked at You Qi and saw that she was pretending as if she didn't see anything.

Within the main temple of the You Family, a great feast was prepared. A giant and magnificent crystal chandelier hung high in the air, illuminating the entire temple with an iridescent light. There were nearly a hundred tables set up, with almost all the important figures of the You Family gathered. When You Yuanming brought Qin Yu into the temple, there was a sudden laugh, "Nephew Qin Yu, you really made this old man wait! You need to drink some wine as punishment!"

The person laughing was dressed in purple robes and his hair was combed neatly to the side. His expression was friendly but the aura surrounding his body caused Qin Yu's heart to skip a beat.

Like an abyss, like a prison, limitless and boundless!

Qin Yu could actually sense a bit of You Yuanming's great strength. But facing this person, he couldn't see his depths at all.

As if all he saw was the surface of a sea!

You Yuanming smiled and said, "Qin Yu, this is the Patriarch of my You Family, You Yuanwu."

Qin Yu restrained his thoughts. He respectfully bowed, "Qin Yu greets the Patriarch."

You Yuanwu didn't stop him and received this bow. "Haha, to receive a bow from my nephew today, perhaps several years from now this will be something that I can boast to others about. Nephew, come quickly and taste my You Family's renowned dishes and see whether or not they suit your tastes."

Qin Yu sat in a seat near the front. Several You Family masters around You Yuanwu nodded.

The entire banquet had an incomparably harmonious atmosphere. Qin Yu was introduced to many You Family cultivators, and there were no complaints about the food and wine of the You Family. From beginning to end, no one mentioned anything else besides festivities. This left Qin Yu a bit startled, but he soon suppressed these thoughts. Since the You Family wasn't in a hurry, then he shouldn't be in a hurry either. He might as well seize this chance to better adapt himself to life within the Land of Divinity and Demons.

The party was in full swing.

Qin Yu declined the beautiful female cultivators that You Yuanwu brought to him, and then bid his farewells. You Qi brought him back to his dwelling. She humphed, saying, "At least you know your limits and didn't accept those beauties from the Patriarch, otherwise, you would definitely be looked down on by others. In this world, no one who lusts over beauties can become a powerhouse in their own right."

Qin Yu revealed a helpless expression, "Am I such a person in your eyes?"

You Qi curled her lips. "That's hard to say!" But even as she taunted, her heart lifted with happiness. After all, the women the Patriarch sent out were all women who excelled in the art of seduction. There were many people in the temple who were looking at them, but Qin Yu's complexion didn't change. It was clear his heart was calm and steady.

Humph!

Why would I be happy? The only reason this fellow is so honest is probably because of Ning Ling!

Thinking of this, You Qi's mood worsened. She gave Qin Yu a withering stare and then stomped out.

This was completely inexplicable. Just what was she trying to play at? Qin Yu shook his head and followed right behind.

For the next several days, Qin Yu lived in satisfaction. The You Family treated him as an honored guest and provided all sorts of entertainment. He had the intention of gradually understanding the Land of Divinity and Demons. Before he knew too much about high level things, he already had a basic understanding of their food and clothing and some other minor necessities. But after understanding these things, he discovered that the differences between the Land of Divinity and Demons and where he used to live were far greater than expected.

Similar to the sea region and Gold Noble Family, there were long-distance cultivator communication items that were already popular. Moreover, the innovation and new design was completely bewildering.

What Qin Yu held now was a piece of flat crystalline glass the size of his palm and half the thickness of a finger. In the Land of Divinity and Demons it was called a handphone, and through these handphones people could be linked to each other.

Yes, this explanation was a bit forced, but for some unknown reason that no one was aware of, these things were called 'handphones'. These things could not only be used to speak to each other, but through built-in array formations, they could receive signals sent out from signal towers, transforming these signals into all sorts of things. For instance, the images that Qin Yu saw in the bathroom were called serial television series, and they were specifically acted out by cultivators. As soon as they appeared they were wildly popular in numerous nations, and the main leads attracted countless new fans and were pursued by innumerable cultivators. In particular, some female leads of popular television series managed to successfully marry into wealthy and powerful families. After realizing that these television series could be used to turn sparrows into phoenixes, more and more beautiful women joined, creating a chain reaction that attracted even more viewers.

Of course, there were many, many other things, but Qin Yu felt that his head couldn't contain all of this information. Eventually, he sighed inwardly. These cultivators within the Land of Divinity and Demons really knew how to play and have fun. He thought that he could rapidly adapt to this place, but now it seemed as if he would need more time.

Ding ding ding –

His handphone emitted a sound and an image of You Qi suddenly shined out of his screen. This was a function that would appear after two people exchanged numbers. He connected and You Qi's voice echoed out, "Qin Yu, prepare yourself. Tomorrow the family is going to open up the talent test for you."

"Talent test?"

You Qi revealed an amazed expression. "Are you saying you've never tried one before? The land of exiles may be barren, but there should still be some ways to test talent."

Qin Yu fell silent. How could he say that when he joined the Eastern Mountain Sect in the past, he was instantly tossed out and made an outer court disciple who toiled over menial jobs? And who didn't even have the qualifications to take a talent test? However, even if he had never experienced one, he was well aware that his talent was absolutely worthless. The difficulty he experienced when he tried to cross Golden Core in the past resurfaced in his mind.

Sensing his silence, You Qi's voice became grave. "Is there some problem?"

Qin Yu thought for a moment. "Can you tell me why I have to undergo the talent test?"

Pa –

The link was terminated. Qin Yu was startled. Before long, there was a knock on the courtyard doors and You Qi hurried in. She sent away the workers and dove straight into the point. "Qin Yu, is there a problem with your talent?"

Qin Yu bitterly smiled. This woman was indeed smart; there was no way he could hide this. He couldn't help but nod in acknowledgement.

You Qi frowned. "How could this be?" She really couldn't think about it. In that barren wilderness that was the land of exiles, if a person didn't have a high level of talent, then becoming a Golden Core would have been impossibly difficult, let alone a Nascent Soul.

Moreover, Qin Yu practiced a heaven-defying cultivation method like the Five Element Sword Diagram!

You Qi's heart sank. "Just what is your talent like?"

"It...should be quite...bad..." Yes, he said this in order to keep a bit of face for himself. Could it even be called bad? It was on a completely different level!

You Qi was silent for a long time. Then, she revealed a bitter expression. "If so, then things are bad."

Qin Yu's heart leapt into his throat. "What about it? Could your You Family still care that much about my talent?"

You Qi shook her head. "If it's as they expected and you possess astonishing talent, then the You Family would only be more intimate with you. They wouldn't hesitate to pay any price to draw you closer. But on the contrary, if your talent cannot satisfy them, then I'm sure they will be angry."

Qin Yu was silent for several breaths of time. "You are also surnamed You..."

"Shut up! Do you think it's the right time to consider such things?" You Qi was angry at her expectations being shattered. "If your talent isn't good, then in the eyes of the You Family, you will have no value. Have you thought about what will happen afterwards? She opened her mouth, hesitated, and then clenched her teeth. "Qin Yu, you must prepare yourself. Once an accident occurs, once you notice anything wrong, you need to escape from the You Family."

Qin Yu had a dignified expression. "Will things go that far? I am a Nascent Soul cultivator after all. Although my real cultivation is not yet at the Divine Soul realm, it isn't too far away."

You Qi forced a smile. "You don't understand. The Land of Divinity and Demons doesn't lack masters, what we lack is talent. Moreover, you have refined the Demon Body...I hope I'm just overthinking things."

The next day.

You Yuanming personally knocked on the door, his expression still kind and friendly. It seemed that You Qi hadn't told him anything. Or, perhaps she still held onto some hope for his talent.

"Are you ready?"

Qin Yu took a deep breath and slowly nodded.

You Yuanming laughed. "There's no need to be nervous. It's just a simple test. With your talent, there shouldn't be any problem."

Hearing this, Qin Yu secretly forced a smile. He thought that this wasn't a problem – this was a major problem. Once this test was over, he would understand.

It wasn't that he hadn't thought about leaving ahead of time, but there was too much attention on him now. Perhaps they had sent many guards to protect him because they valued him, but now those guards

had become his shackles. Even if he wanted to run away he didn't have a chance. He could only walk forwards step by step and hope that things wouldn't reach the point that You Qi spoke about.

Within a great temple of the You Family, there was a nine level crystal pagoda set up. Sunlight fell through the top of the temple, sprinkling down on the crystal pagoda and reflecting in dazzling brilliance.

Once You Yuanming arrived with Qin Yu behind him, they immediately attracted everyone's eyes.

You Yuanwu laughed. "Nephew, today you can open my eyes and let the You Family juniors know what it means when people say there is no limit in this universe!"

The You Family juniors revealed a bit of indignation. Still, for a cultivator from the land of exiles to refine the Demon Body and also reach Nascent Soul, these were achievements that left them shocked. They didn't dare to underestimate Qin Yu.

In the crowd, You Qi was feeling anxious, but she didn't reveal anything on the surface. Although she had obtained bad news from Qin Yu's own mouth, what if he was just needlessly belittling himself?

As You Qi was harboring all these ill expectations, Qin Yu stepped in front of the nine level crystal pagoda. All of the You Family cultivators watched him as he placed his hand on it.

### **Chapter 273 – First Order Talent**

The nine level crystal pagoda had a well-known nickname within the Land of Divinity and Demons – the Fate Concluder. Amongst the many different talent test treasures, it was the sharpest and most accurate. It determined a cultivator's talent fairly, and while there were possibly deviations, these were so small that they were negligible. Its ability to determine someone's talent also determined the potential they represented and gave a rough depiction of one's future achievements, thus its nickname, the Fate Concluder.

This treasure wasn't easy to manufacture. Even within the Land of Divinity and Demons it was considered incredibly precious. In the Southern Overwatch Pass, there were a total of three of these nine level crystal pagodas. One was within the army and specifically used to test new soldiers and recruits, so it was impossible for outsiders to ever see it. Another belonged to the first ranked noble family of the Southern Overwatch Pass, and was considered their most precious inherited object. Unless one had close relations with them, it was difficult to borrow it. As for the third, that was controlled by the Southern Overwatch Pass' largest trade association. The You Family had paid a great price to borrow this one for a short period of time.

You Yuanwu had a dignified expression, anticipation shining deep in his eyes. If this person could cultivate the Demon Body within the land of exiles and also reached Nascent Soul there, then their talent absolutely wasn't something to be belittled. If the You Family could make use of him then they would be free of worries for the next thousand years. This was something extremely important for the matters of their family's inheritance, so he was naturally cautious about things and couldn't allow even the smallest accident to occur.

After several breaths of silence, the first level of the nine level crystal pagoda began to slowly shine. Faint traces of light gathered in the crystal without end. But, the speed at which it lit up seemed a bit

slow. Not to mention the You Family juniors, but the high level figures here had experienced this scene many times before. If a youth had the qualifications to use the Fate Concluder, which one of them hadn't progressed rapidly afterwards? There were many people present who had lit up several levels of the crystal pagoda at once.

Could it be that Qin Yu was saving his strength to sprint to the peak in a single go? Thinking this way, the You Family elders glanced at each other, suppressing their thoughts. Time slowly passed, but only the very first level of the crystal pagoda shined. Although the light continued to strengthen, the speed clearly began to slow down.

The temple fell silent. All of the You Family cultivators had looks of surprises. They felt that something wasn't right.

You Qi forced a smile. Qin Yu, oh Qin Yu, was this the 'poor talent' that you spoke about? The Fate Concluder had nine levels, and in the Land of Divinity and Demons, cultivators that were below the fourth level had nearly no value in being raised at all. Even if one stepped onto the road of cultivation, Golden Core would be their limit. The fifth to seventh levels were considered ordinary and they would be able to reach Nascent Soul. Those at the eighth level and above were true talents. They could obtain the greatest degree of resources and their achievements would be limitless. They were bound to be heaven-shaking characters someday.

But only the first level...

Perhaps ever since the nine level crystal pagoda was first produced, this was the first time that such a startling and tragic result had appeared, one that could make even gods and ghosts weep.

There was a long period of silence, and even the air seemed to slow to a crawl. You Yuanwu was the first to break the silence. He coughed, "It looks like we somehow hindered the revolution of the crystal pagoda's array formation when we had it shipped here." He flicked his sleeves and several You Family cultivators rushed forwards with sweaty faces.

For such a low level mistake to occur at such a time, they knew that if they didn't neatly resolve this issue, their fates would be miserable!

The You Family cultivators who had strange expressions relaxed and their eyes brightened with realization. That's right, the highly talented man that their family had valued so much, who would be a great boost to them in the future, how could such a person only light up the first level of talent? It had to be said that those with extremely high talents were rare, but those with extremely poor talents were equally rare.

At the very least, within the You Family, besides the few people that were born with trash levels of talent, they had actually never seen such a ridiculously low level of talent before.

The several You Family cultivators rapidly inspected the crystal pagoda. The one leading them became increasingly pale, sweat streaming down his face. The several other people with him also had eyes wide open and filled with dismay, panicking as they had no idea what the problem was.

You Yuanwu frowned. He said, "What's the problem?" The nine level crystal pagoda was incomparably precious. It had been delivered to them in pristine condition. If damage had occurred to it within the You Family, then the compensation amount would be considerable.

"Reporting...reporting to the Patriarch...the nine level crystal pagoda...it..."

"Speak up! What's the problem!?"

The You Family cultivator nearly cried out in fright. "The revolution is working fine..."

The entire temple fell deathly silent.

After a moment of stunned confusion, many people began to realize what those words meant. Their eyes widened.

You Yuanwu shouted out. "What utter nonsense! We've all seen Nephew Qin Yu's test result. How could the nine level crystal pagoda possibly be fine?"

"This...I have no idea..." The person really was about to cry. He clenched his teeth. "If Patriarch doesn't believe, how about getting someone else to test it?"

Down below, a high level You Family member said, "Patriarch, we should try it."

You Yuanwu thought for a moment and slowly nodded.

Soon, a You Family youth walked up. He was 12-13 years old. To suddenly arrive at such an important occasion, his entire body was filled with tension. He respectfully kneeled.

"You Donglin, you completed your talent test three days ago. Today, use the nine level crystal pagoda to measure your talent again. Go."

"Yes, Patriarch."

You Dongling tentatively walked to the nine level crystal pagoda and then reached out his hand.

Shua –

Bright light appeared. It quickly filled up the first level, second level, third level...finally, it paused at the sixth level.

This proved that You Donglin was only considered average and ordinary. But right now, no one had the mind to pay attention to this anymore.

"How is this possible?" The person who brought You Donglin forth cried out in alarm, his face full of disbelief.

Countless people's hearts skipped a beat.

You Yuanwu drew in a deep breath. "How is the result?"

"Patriarch, three days ago You Donglin took a talent test and the result was similar to this one."

Whoosh –

Within the temple, everyone was sent into an uproar!

You Yuanwu's eyebrows furrowed together. "Find another person to test!"

A second You Family junior entered the temple...finally, the result was the same.

With this, everyone's eyes flooded with disbelief.

The You Family's esteemed guest, the peerless talent that was supposed to support them in the future, someone who would have great accomplishments in the demonic path, was actually only a first order talent!

What kind of joke was this?

You Yuanwu fell silent for several breaths of time. He forced out a smile and said, "Nephew Qin Yu, it looks like my You Family hasn't made sufficient preparations. You go back and rest first. Once I have everything inspected once more, we will speak again."

Qin Yu bitterly smiled. He cupped his hands together and left.

Returning to his living quarters, he soon realized that the young maids and servants were giving him strange looks; it was clear they had already learnt the result of the test. Then, Qin Yu discovered that with the courtyard he stayed in as the center, the surrounding security had been strengthened. In particular, several powerful auras appeared. If his soul wasn't strong enough he would have never detected them.

What was the You Family guarding against? As he thought about what You Qi said before, his heart sank, but he didn't reveal anything on the surface. He waved his hand, sending the young maids and servants away. He calmed his thoughts as much as possible. Right now, he could only take things one step at a time.

Three days passed. The You Family was quiet and tranquil. It was like Qin Yu had been forgotten ever since that day. There were no more banquets or invitations, and the cold indifference was in full display.

Qin Yu didn't relax because of this. Instead, he became increasingly wary. He actually hoped that the You Family would be breathlessly angry with him and curse at him. The more this tranquility continued, the more dangerous he thought things were becoming.

Anxiousness began to form in his heart. He was unable to suppress it no matter how much he tried. He wryly smiled. If the You Family really wanted to do something to him, there was simply nothing he could do to resist.

There was a knock on the courtyard doors. After the servant opened them, You Qi walked through. He hadn't seen her for a short three days, but she seemed tired and worn out. She squeezed out a smile towards Qin Yu.

Within the hall, guest and host sat down. You Qi coughed and said, "Qin Yu, your talent was just too poor. Many people in the family had ill intent towards you, but because the Patriarch forcefully suppressed them, you are able to maintain your current peace."



As she finished speaking she took a sip of tea. Her fingertip was wetted with tea and she quietly drew it around the table. Qin Yu looked down and saw that the characters 'don't believe' had been written before being casually erased by her sleeves.

His heart skipped a beat and gratitude filled his face. "You Qi, please thank the Patriarch for me!"

You Qi said, "Qin Yu, you cultivated the Demon Body so you are useful to my You Family. As long as you work hard in the future, there won't be any issues with your safety.

"In addition, my You Family wishes to borrow the strength within your Demon Body. For instance, we would like to marry one of the You Family daughters to you as a wife. Do you have an opinion on this?"

As she spoke, her fingers moved again.

You Xiuxiu...

Qin Yu's thoughts stirred. At this time, You Qi definitely wouldn't have any thoughts of revenge. If she wrote this, then there was definitely another meaning behind it. He paused, a burning heat in his voice. "Does the You Family really wish to marry one of their young misses to me?"

You Qi sincerely said, "Of course. As long as you agree then the You Family will arrange everything else."

"I agree!"

"Good, then you should go and rest now. I will leave first." You Qi gave him a deep look before she turned and left.

The courtyard doors opened and closed. After his line of sight was severed, his smile vanished, turning into a grim glower. It looked as if You Qi was correct and she had even come here to give him a clue.

Without a doubt, the You Family wanted his Demon Body!

But, in such a perilous time, why would You Qi stand by his side?

As Qin Yu was puzzled, You Qi was being chastised. "Why did you decide to go in on your own and mention marrying a lady from my You Family? You also spoke of the Demon Body; could you have been leaking information?"

You Qi had a horrified expression. "This disciple wouldn't dare. I have a certain understanding of Qin Yu. He is cautious and discreet. If I didn't say that, I fear it would have been difficult for him to feel at ease. All I wish is to do my best to help the family. I ask Elder to please understand!"

Another person said, "You Qi's performance wasn't too bad. I think Qin Yu should have believed her."

"Humph! I will put this aside for the time being. If you dare to act on your own again in the future, I will not forgive you!" As his voice fell, he looked around. "Everyone, now that we have temporarily calmed Qin Yu, we should hurry up."

Someone hesitated. "The Demon Body is gifted by the heavens. Any attempts to deprive it are a death wish of the demonic path. Once news of this leaks out, there is sure to be great trouble!"

“To gain something, you must lose something. There are no perfect situations in this world. Yes, my You Family is taking a great risk, but once we succeed, the You Family might have a chance to rise and become a large family within the demonic path! Compared to the possible benefits, the risks are worth it!”

“That’s right, with such a heaven-sent opportunity right before us, if we don’t take it then Qin Yu will be snatched up by other demonic path influences. If that is so, we might as well be the first!”

The other high level You Family members nodded and then looked upwards.

You Yuanwu was silent for a long time. Then he said, “You Qi, you are the most familiar with Qin Yu. You will continue appearing in front of him. Do your best to comfort him.” With these words, he made the final decision.

You Qi bowed and left the hall. She looked up at the bright sky above her head, a trace of worry in her eyes.

She had done everything she could. Whether or not he succeeded, that would depend on the heavens!

### **Chapter 274 – Escape**

The white porcelain cup that You Xiuxiu held was smashed into the ground. Her breathing was rapid as her face darkened. After a long time she slowly asked, “Why me?”

The woman across from her hid her fear. She carefully said, “I heard this was You Qi’s intent. Under the order of the Patriarch, she was given all powers to handle Qin Yu’s situation.” She paused a moment and continued, “Don’t you and You Qi have a poor relationship? Why would she choose you?”

You Xiuxiu took a deep breath. After several breaths of time, a faint smile lifted her lips. “So it was Big Sister You Qi. Mother, please reply that I will agree.”

The woman’s eyelids trembled. She had a good understanding of her daughter. If she was acting so indifferent and carefree, then she was likely deeply enraged. Without saying anything, she nodded and left.

“You Qi, I really hate you more and more. There are many days ahead of us. I’ll settle this score with you slowly.”

The next day, another visitor finally came to Qin Yu’s dwelling. You Xiuxiu arrived, her face flushed red. She only said that she had come here to search for her disobedient little pet, but anyone could see that there was something wrong with her feeble reason. Her tense and stammering appearance only made her seem more alluring.

A light flashed deep in Qin Yu’s eyes. But, he kept his expression dull and placid. He stared at her, his face full of gratitude.

“Miss Xiuxiu, please, come in quickly!”

You Xiuxiu shyly nodded. After finding her little beast, she actually wasn’t in a hurry to leave. She warmly conversed with Qin Yu for a while before standing up to go.

Even when she was gone, Qin Yu still stood by the doorway with a reluctant expression, his face flushed red with happiness.

This scene was recorded by the spies of the You Family and quickly sent to their high level figures. Their lips curled in mocking disdain.

Everyone thought back to the day when the Patriarch had offered Qin Yu women who were far more skilled in the art of seduction, but now with things having changed, it seemed that he had been intentionally holding himself back. Now that his cover had been blown and his true skills revealed, there was nothing for him to rely on. In this state of panic, it was unsurprising for him to try and latch onto a young miss from the You Family to ensure his own safety.

It seemed that You Qi's strategy was right. As long as they could comfort Qin Yu and make sure he stayed quiet for several more days as the family finished their preparations, then he could only obediently offer up his Demon Body.

For the next few days, You Xiuxiu kept visiting, staying longer and longer each time. She chatted happily with Qin Yu, often blushing as she spoke.

Qin Yu was overjoyed, and it looked as if he were trying hard to contain his excitement. You Xiuxiu's heart was icy cold and she loathed him even more, but she didn't reveal any of her thoughts.

"Qin Yu, I need to leave now. I'll come and talk with you again next time."

Qin Yu had an unwilling expression. "Leaving so soon...?" He hesitated and then said, "Xiuxiu, I've never walked through the Southern Overwatch Pass before. Everything I know about the Land of Divinity and Demons, I learned through the handphone. If you have time tomorrow, can you accompany me for a stroll?"

You Xiuxiu's face stiffened. "This..." She hesitated, but as she noticed Qin Yu's anxious look, her pulse quickened and she said, "Alright, I'll bring you out for a walk tomorrow. Although the Southern Overwatch Pass isn't considered too popular, there are still many fun places to visit."

Qin Yu was ecstatic. "Xiuxiu, you're too wonderful!"

After several more words, You Xiuxiu gently bid her farewells. When she left the courtyard her smile vanished, replaced by a gloomy frown.

"You Xiuxiu, why did you agree to allow Qin Yu to leave the mansion tomorrow? Do you know what sort of critical moment this is?" You Qi said coldly. Her expression was just right, revealing a hint of smug satisfaction.

This smug satisfaction caused You Xiuxiu to gnash her teeth, but she maintained a calm expression. "Qin Yu asked me to go out as a test. If I refused, he would inevitably develop doubts and that would affect the family's plans. Could you handle that fallout from that?"

You Qi's smile stiffened, causing You Xiuxiu to feel much better about herself. She smiled and said, "Qin Yu is just a mere Nascent Soul. What sort of storms can he raise within my You Family?"

You Qi clenched her teeth. "If there are any accidents..."

You Xiuxiu lightly said, "I am only responsible for making sure Qin Yu stays here. As for preventing him from escaping, that is big sister's job. The Patriarch has already given big sister the responsibility of handling this matter. You must be extra careful with this, otherwise if something were to happen, I fear you would find it hard to explain yourself."

You Qi was so mad that her face flushed red. However, You Xixiu didn't give her any chance to respond. Carrying herself with a posture as if she had obtained total victory, she turned and left.

However, she never realized that once she disappeared, You Qi's angry expression and anxiousness slowly faded away to reveal a faintly happy look.

This fellow Qin Yu, he was actually quite smart. If he didn't leave the You Family, how could he escape? With things having come this far, he could be considered as being halfway to success. As for how things ended, it would depend on her.

After tidying up her thoughts, she put on an annoyed and angry expression once more and hurried to complain to the high level figures of the family. "You Xiuxiu arbitrarily agreed to allow Qin Yu to go out into the Southern Overwatch Pass and play. I fear that problems will inevitably crop up from this. This disciple is firmly opposed to this decision and asks fellow Elders for a resolution!"

As soon as the incident happened, the high level figures of the You Family were aware. They even knew of the spat between her and You Xiuxiu, so they weren't surprised to see her arrive.

An Elder's eyes flashed. "You Xiuxiu is usually a bit rash in her actions, but her suspicions are correct. If she can avoid Qin Yu developing any doubts, then agreeing to this isn't a problem."

"Tomorrow, the family will send masters to secretly block off the surrounding area. You will be in charge of directing them; it's fine to be a bit more cautious." Another Elder chimed in.

You Qi had a helpless expression. She could only nod her head and leave with heavy steps.

After she left, someone spoke up. "Qin Yu's actions, could it be that he's realized something is wrong?"

Everyone had already thought of this possibility. They frowned, falling silent.

"The family's preparations are almost complete. Things will be ready the day after tomorrow. We cannot allow any flaws in the final moments, otherwise if Qin Yu refuses to cooperate, things will really become troublesome."

"I agree. I have observed Qin Yu and he has already fallen into our trap. Perhaps he is making one final test out of caution."

"Tomorrow, assign extra manpower that isn't commanded by You Qi. That should ensure there aren't any problems."

"He's unfamiliar with the place and the people. Even if he tries something there is nothing he can do!"

With that, things were settled.

Qin Yu finally left the You Family household. As he stepped out, there was a bit of happiness and a bit of relaxation on his face. This caused You Xiuxiu who was standing to his side to sneer inwardly. She

thought, how could such thoughts contend with my You Family? Just wait until tomorrow, and then your death will come!

A speed car was parked outside the door. This was the strange rein-less carriage that Qin Yu had first taken to the You Family. He heard that this thing used to be called a 'spirit car' short for spiritual carriage, because it moved through the actuation of spiritual strength. It was a simple and straightforward name. But for some reason afterwards, the name was changed. Luckily, speed car was still appropriate and everyone slowly came to accept this new term.

Qin Yu clumsily opened the door and gestured in invitation. You Xiuxiu smiled and bent down to enter. Qin Yu followed in and closed the door behind them.

The space was narrow and small, and the atmosphere seemed a bit warmer. You Xiuxiu's face was flushed red as she asked in a soft voice, "Qin Yu, where would you like to go and play?"

Qin Yu stared at her in a daze, as if he were mesmerized by her. "Anywhere is fine..."

You Xiuxiu relaxed. If an accident happened then while You Qi would be the first to be punished, she would also be implicated. If Qin Yu was willing to listen to her arrangements, that would make everything easier.

She thought and then clapped her hands, smiling. "I know." She pressed a button and a screen appeared in front of them. She looked down and pressed several more buttons, and then the smooth voice of a woman said, "Set up, complete. Destination: Eastern Suburb. Estimated time to arrival, two hours. Please sit still."

Hum –

The car trembled and began to accelerate. Soon, it converged into a stream of other cars and vanished from sight.

The Eastern Suburb wasn't actually a suburb. Rather, it was an eastern section of the Southern Overwatch Pass, a garden of land that had yet to be developed. The advantage of having such an overwhelmingly large city was that it could even accommodate this mountain-sized area.

For instance, the Eastern Suburb Mountains. It had extremely beautiful scenery that attracted many tourists.

As the cheerful woman's voice said, "You have arrived at your destination. I wish you a happy trip," the speed car came to a stop. Qin Yu pushed open the door and then hurried over to the other side to help You Xiuxiu step out.

"There are many fun attractions here. Let's walk around." You Xiuxiu smiled and said. She glanced about and saw many subordinates of her family stationed nearby.

Qin Yu smiled and nodded. The two of them walked up the mountain, side by side.

On the stone path, they occasionally encountered some cultivators that were enjoying themselves. But compared to the far more lively Southern Overwatch Pass, this place was much more quiet and peaceful.

The fewer people there were, the easier it was to control the situation.

At the base of the mountain, several You Family cultivators revealed relaxed expressions. They were well aware of what plans the family had for Qin Yu. If there was an accident, none of them would emerge unscathed.

You Qi had a light expression, but she was a bit tense. She knew that since Qin Yu had come this far, he would definitely do something. Although she had resolved herself to help him, in a situation where she couldn't communicate with him at all, it was unknown whether or not she would be able to coordinate properly with him.

Qin Yu laughed and smiled. While it looked like he was enjoying himself with You Xiuxiu, his heart was filled with anxiousness. Although he didn't know what plans the You Family had for him, he knew that today might be his last chance to escape.

But the more perilous it was, the calmer he became. At this time, a happy voice sounded out nearby. "Xiuxiu, didn't you say that you were in seclusion recently? How come you came to the Eastern Suburbs?"

Several young men and women appeared. One of them was dressed in white robes and had an elated expression, but as he saw Qin Yu his face immediately darkened.

You Xiuxiu frowned inwardly. She never thought she would encounter Yun Yuepeng here. At any other time, she wouldn't mind using some of her skills to capture this boy in her grasp, but she couldn't allow herself to make any mistake today. She took a deep breath and steadied her thoughts. She faintly smiled, "Greetings, Brother Yun. Today I am accompanying a family guest to take a stroll around. If I have a chance in the future, I would love to see Brother Yun again."

After she finished speaking, she grabbed Qin Yu and tried to walk away.

She originally wanted to withdraw as soon as possible, but she never imagined that when Yun Yuepeng saw her grab onto Qin Yu, his expression would suddenly darken and his eyes would become fierce. "Hold on!" He coldly sneered, "Xiuxiu, how come I hadn't heard that the You Family had such an honored guest visiting?"

You Xiuxiu smiled. "Brother Yun, please don't make things difficult for me."

Yun Yuepeng stiffened and he couldn't help but reveal a hint of hesitation.

Qin Yu cursed this fellow for being a soft-hearted coward. With the sudden appearance of a 'love rival', how could he let things end like this? He coughed and glared at Yun Yuepeng. "I am taking a walk with Miss Xiuxiu. Do you have a problem with that?"

This caused Yun Yuepeng to truly be enraged. This was especially so with people watching him from behind. If he were to draw back like this, he wouldn't have the face to see any of these people again. He coldly said, "Brat, and what if I do have a problem with that?"

Seeing him take the bait, Qin Yu simply didn't give You Xiuxiu a chance to meddle. He slapped out his hand.

Pa –

A dark red handprint was left on Yun Yuepeng's face.

No one thought that Qin Yu would actually do anything. Yun Yuepeng was stunned, the young men and women behind him were stunned, and You Xiuxiu was also stunned.

Forget about harsh words and verbal sparring, this was a straight-to-violence attack!

Yun Yuepeng's eyes immediately turned blood red. He lifted his hand and thrust out a red bolt of light. It struck Qin Yu like a waterfall, sending him flying away.

Puff –

Qin Yu spat out a mouthful of blood and fell into the dense forest on the side of the road. Yun Yuepeng clenched his teeth and chased ahead. "Brat, I will kill you!" A violent aura exuded from his body. He trampled through the weeds and grass, but no matter how much he looked around he couldn't find Qin Yu.

"You bastard, where are you!? Come out and prepare to die!"

Bang –

Bang –

Fist after fist was struck out. The surrounding forest suffered a great calamity as loud explosions filled the air.

"Bastard, hurry and come out! Come out!"

You Xiuxiu was dumbfounded, but soon enough she regained her composure. She ran over to Yun Yuepeng and grabbed him. She squeezed out a smile. "Qin Yu, don't worry, I will hold down Brother Yun. He won't attack you again. Hurry and come out!"

Yun Yuepeng wanted to say something but You Xiuxiu turned her head and her icy cold glare caused his heart to shrink.

The surroundings remained silent. There was only the sound of falling pieces of wood and leaves hitting the ground, as if it were some sort of mocking laugh.

You Xiuxiu paled. She screeched out loud, "Hurry and find him!"

Whoosh –

Whoosh –

With the sound of piercing air, numerous grim-faced You Family cultivators rushed out from all over!

### **Chapter 275 – Seal**

You Qi's heart shrank. Qin Yu had finally taken action! She shouted out loud, "Everyone, follow me! Do everything in your power to capture Qin Yu!"

Whoosh –

She was the first to run out.

Behind her, the stunned cultivators of the You Family followed in a panic. Each one of them had fear hidden deep in their eyes. Qin Yu had fled...Qin Yu had actually fled...if any problems occurred, their family wouldn't show any mercy to them.

You Qi's panicked actions were normal in their opinion. If Qin Yu ran away, she would be the first to be punished. Thus during this time, no one discovered that when You Qi ran out and started to search, there were inevitably some areas that were glossed over during the chaos.

Qin Yu lay prone on the ground. If it weren't for the slight rise and fall of his chest, one would think he was a corpse, indistinguishable from the stones and leaves of the forest around him. Within his chest, his heartbeat slowed down to the lowest speed possible, only beating once in a long time. He listened to the confusion and noise all around him, his senses sharp and his eyes bright.

Suddenly, Qin Yu used some effort to move his hands and swung his feet a little. He crawled on the ground, crossing a hundred feet in the blink of an eye to hide in a bush of thorns. In the next moment, a You Family cultivator appeared where he had been hiding. The You Family cultivator looked around with a pale expression, and after not finding anything, walked away.

And the moment he left, when he crushed against the branches and leaves and made sounds, Qin Yu also moved at this time. He passed through the underbrush, rapidly approaching the mountain summit.

If he could escape from the Eastern Suburb Mountain and mix into the vast and endless tides of people within the Southern Overwatch Pass, then even if the You Family were formidable, it still wouldn't be easy for them to find Qin Yu. But, if he could think of this, so could the You Family. Right now there were already innumerable people gathered at the base of the mountain, waiting for him to walk into their trap.

If he moved towards the summit, that would actually be going the opposite to the direction of escape. But, although he wouldn't be able to withdraw for some time, he could wait for other opportunities.

Suddenly, Qin Yu stiffened. His entire body pasted close to the ground and even his weak breathing came to a stop. In the next moment, a boundless divine sense swept out. It was like an invisible knife was being scraped across the surface of his skin, leaving goosebumps all over him. He felt as if a peerless vicious beast had locked onto him and he would die in the next moment.

The divine sense swept back and forth several times. Qin Yu remained motionless, and after a long time, it slowly withdrew. His eyes flashed and he remained still on the ground. After several breaths of time, another colossal divine sense arrived. If he had moved even the tiniest bit from where he had been a moment ago, he would have been discovered.

The second divine sense didn't stay for long. It swept over the area and then left.

Qin Yu's feet moved and he hurried away.

You Xiuxiu's expression was dark and gloomy. "You can't find him? How can you not find him?" She glared at You Qi. "Your men are like headless flies! Could it be that you are intentionally exposing flaws so that Qin Yu can run away?"

Many You Family cultivators froze. As they thought of the chaotic scene just now, their eyes dimmed and they looked at You Qi with surprise.



You Qi was enraged. She coldly said, "You Xiuxiu, stop making baseless accusations. You were the one accompanying Qin Yu just now, and you lost him even when he was right in front of you! You are the one that's suspicious here!" She clenched her teeth. "That's right, the Patriarch gave me powers to handle this matter and I will not be forgiven if Qin Yu manages to escape, but you won't be any better off either!"

Everyone remembered that these two were on poor terms, and attacking each other was normal. Their suspicion towards You Qi lessened a great deal.

"Shut up!" A You Family master arrived, stepping through the void. "What time is it for you to be arguing here!? All of you scatter! Do everything you can to capture Qin Yu before rumors start spreading!"

"Yes!"

You Qi and the others all bowed, but a strange color flashed in her eyes. It was about time for the arrangements she made to begin. She hoped that it would be enough to disturb the You Family's plans.

...

Within the Southern Overwatch Pass, it was unknown where the rumors began, but it was said that the You Family had plotted to steal the treasure of others. They had been seen through and now a large-scale manhunt had begun. That treasure was said to be incomparably mystical. It possessed many mysterious and strange powers and could help a cultivator cultivate. Its power was unimaginable.

In ordinary times, everyone had already heard these types of random rumors on far too many occasions so they simply wouldn't care. This time wasn't an exception either. Most cultivators simply smiled as they listened. But soon, as a massive amount of You Family cultivators gathered at the Eastern Suburb Mountain and even You Family masters appeared, the cultivators that took these rumors as a joke began to reveal a bit of earnestness.

They didn't believe that such critical news would be easily leaked by the You Family. But, they did learn that the You Family was attempting to capture someone.

After a short period of hesitation, the cultivators from all over weren't in a hurry to take action. First, they attempted to probe. Several cultivators tried to enter the base of the Eastern Suburb Mountain but were forcefully denied by the You Family cultivators. Slowly, an undercurrent began to flow through the Southern Overwatch Pass.

Within the Southern Overwatch Pass, the You Family's strength couldn't be underestimated. Their influence was intertwined all over. But, there were actually a considerable number of factions that were hostile to them, or who didn't care much about their power and could stand on even ground with them. Finally, the number one influence of the city took action. After a violent conflict with the cultivators of the You Family at the base of the Eastern Suburb Mountain, they managed to break through the blockade and rush in.

And this collision between forces made all the onlookers finally come to a decision. If the You Family was so cautious, not even hesitating to attack others to block off the Eastern Suburb Mountain, then there was something suspect occurring.

Or, could it be that the You Family really was trying to steal some powerful treasure?

Whoosh –

Whoosh –

Speed cars howled forth, gathering at the base of the Eastern Suburb Mountain. Cultivator after cultivator stepped out, many of whom were reputable masters within the Southern Overwatch Pass.

The You Family's back was pushed to the wall!

With so many people representing so many different influences, it was impossible for the You Family to keep them all out.

You Yuanwu had a dark expression. Everything that occurred so far had gone completely beyond his expectations. He never thought that his You Family would be played so thoroughly by this junior.

"You trash! With so many people you can't even look after a mere Nascent Soul!?"

"Talking about these things is useless. There is all sorts of news spreading out and numerous influences are moving. The situation is worsening!"

"Masters from all over have appeared at the base of the Eastern Suburb Mountain. It won't be long before they start investigating."

Within the main hall, many high level You Family members had ugly complexions. As they thought of Qin Yu, they gnashed their teeth. What a sly and deceitful boy. He had actually pushed the You Family into such a predicament!

You Yuanwu finally said, "Send out a message to all influences. The You Family is willing to give up the qualifications for the Demon Ascension Gate this time. In exchange, they will give up on this matter."

"What?"

"Patriarch, please reconsider this!"

"The Demon Ascension Gate is of great importance! It is one of the hopes of my You Family!"

"Patriarch, there is no need for us to pay such a steep price!"

You Yuanwu's eyes fiercely swept through the hall. "If we succeed in seizing the Demon Body, then my You Family can still rise. Moreover, if Qin Yu were to fall into the hands of others, do you think they wouldn't be able to find out what my You Family attempted to do?"

Everyone fell silent and their faces stiffened. Beads of sweat unconsciously formed on their foreheads.

Seizing the Demon Body...this was not a trifling matter. It wouldn't have been a problem if no one discovered it, but once this matter was revealed, the You Family would experience calamity!

"Patriarch is wise!" No one dared to argue again.

A You Family master hesitated. "But if someone still persists in searching the Eastern Suburb Mountain, what do we do?"

You Yuanwu coldly sneered. "The You Family is willing to pay such a great price. If they are smart, they will know what to do. If they still want to stick around, then that means they want a grudge with my You Family! Don't worry. Unless they can obtain explicit evidence, no one will really want to die with us!"

And reality proved that You Yuanwu's judgment was correct. As Qin Yu neared the summit, the massive number of cultivators that arrived at the Eastern Suburb Mountain began to evacuate in droves.

They all knew the significance of the Demon Ascension Gate. The You Family had shown full sincerity and this was also their final compromise. No one actually wished to delve into some undying grudge with the You Family without any preparations at all. Moreover, from beginning to end, no one knew the exact details of what was happening.

The You Family sealed off the Eastern Suburb Mountain.

An intensive search began, starting from the base of the mountain and spreading upwards. The divine senses of the You Family masters came shrouding down, and a massive number of disciples searched every small inch of land. It was like an inescapable net that covered the heavens and earth, making it impossible to flee.

Qin Yu grimaced. With the constant sweeping divine sense searches from the You Family masters, his movement was greatly limited. He was slowly being overtaken by the searchers. He took a deep breath and suppressed his thoughts. He found a gap between the sweeping divine senses and continued forwards.

But in the next moment, a You Family cultivator appeared in front of him. That person's eyes widened and they shouted with joy, "Here he-"

Puff -

Before he finished speaking, he cried miserably as blood shot out from his nose and mouth. He was sent tumbling away, smashing into several large trees.

But, the sounds of movement had already attracted the attention of others. Shouts rang out and a large number of You Family cultivators rushed over.

Qin Yu couldn't even bitterly smile. He shot up into the skies, directly activating the Blood Escape Art and pushing his speed to its limits.

"There he is!"

"Grab him!"

"Don't let him run away!"

Amidst the confusion and noise rising from all over, Qin Yu's eyes flashed and he heard You Qi's voice. "The entrance to the underground river isn't too far away. Don't let him run in there, otherwise no one will be able to catch him!"

In that brief instant, Qin Yu's thoughts wildly raced. He changed directions, soaring towards the location You Qi had described.

Wherever the blood red flames passed, branches and leaves burned to dust. His field of vision suddenly opened and a mountain road appeared before him, where You Qi and more than a dozen You Family cultivators had gathered.

“Qin Yu!” You Qi shouted, “Capture him!”

With shouts of happiness and anger, they howled forth.

Qin Yu narrowed his eyes. At this time, You Qi who had stayed behind suddenly moved her fingers, forming several hand signs. Demonic energy gathered into the shape of a large drum that wildly beat.

“Ahh!”

Without any warning at all, the You Family cultivators that rushed ahead all cried out in pain and crashed to the floor.

Qin Yu didn’t stop. He flew over them and landed in front of You Qi.

“Hurry and leave. This is all I can help you with!”

“What will you do?”

You Qi lifted her hand and a seal appeared. “With this, the You Family won’t dare to do anything to me.”

“What is that?”

You Qi was startled. Only then did she remember that this keen and resolute young man in front of her could be an idiot at times. “I don’t have time to explain, just hurry and leave! If you think you owe me, then do your best to live! There’s an exit in this direction, just go!”

Qin Yu cupped his hands together, not saying anything else. Red flames wrapped around him and he sped away.

“You Qi, you dare to betray the family!?”

“No one can save you!”

“You’ll pay for this!”

The You Family cultivators who tumbled to the floor all shouted with hate.

Whoosh –

Whoosh –

More and more You Family cultivators flew over, surrounding You Qi, their eyes cold and cruel.

She remained silent, a sneer hanging on her face. She looked at the You Family Elder whose rage burned to the skies, and then lifted her palm to reveal the seal that shined in the sunlight.

### **Chapter 276 – Beast Hunting Battalion**

Qin Yu believed that You Qi wouldn’t put herself on a path that led to her death. He could no longer care about what happened behind him. If his whereabouts were discovered, he would immediately be placed

in a desperate situation. He violently stormed towards the summit and finally saw the exit that You Qi spoke of.

There was a pond of water at the summit of the mountain. The water was so clear that in the light of the spirit lamp to the side, one could see all the way down. At the bottom, there was a steady stream of spring water flowing into the pond. If water flowed in, that naturally meant there was a mouth where it came from, and also an underground river. As long as he entered through there then he could go against the current and escape.

Pah –

Waves splashed from the pond. Qin Yu was like a large fish, swimming straight towards the mouth.

In the next moment, the entire pond froze solid and the water started to flow up into the void. The mouth of the stream was ripped open by an invisible strength and a massive amount of water gushed out. However, Qin Yu could no longer be found.

You Yuanwu appeared in the skies above the pond, his eyes as sharp as blades, looking as if he could see through the stone. He said, “Pass down orders. Block all water routes for the surrounding hundred miles and lock down any possible path that Qin Yu could have taken!”

Whoosh –

Whoosh –

Beams of light shot up into the skies from the Eastern Suburb Mountain, hurtling in all directions.

Qin Yu had escaped!

In an extravagant and gorgeous mansion, in a lotus pond within the backyard, a number of koi fish were leisurely swimming around when they were suddenly startled and fled in all directions. Sludge and dirt rose up from some place deep within the pond, instantly turning the water black. A few moments later, Qin Yu’s figure crawled up onto the shore.

He coughed out loud, his face paling. He took a deep breath to suppress the blood tumbling in his chest and then stumbled away.

After a moment, he arrived in a narrow and cramped alley. When Qin Yu emerged once more, he was dressed in black robes. With the ability of the Demon God Armor to change form, it wasn’t difficult to accomplish this.

Qin Yu mixed into the streams of people. As he walked down the street, he casually glanced around, his expression calm and natural. But, beneath the covering of his black robes, his complexion grew increasingly grim.

The You Family was truly desperate to find him!

Along the way he passed three inns, and each one had soldiers out in front conducting searches. Looking at how strict they were, it would be impossible to avoid them.

He never thought that they could even utilize the army to find him.

Qin Yu continued on foot. When he came to a long connecting street, he paused. At this time, there was a long line before him; all of the speed cars were being stopped and inspected. At the same time, pedestrians were also being checked. From the numerous complaints that filled the air, the military was using the excuse of searching for felons.

This was clearly the handiwork of the You Family.

Qin Yu turned to leave, but as he was half turned he suddenly stopped and warmly greeted the person beside him. "Brother Liu, it's been a long time since I've seen you. I didn't expect to meet you here today! Hah, I have something urgent to attend to and who would want to be stuck here? But, there's nothing that can be done about it. The military needs to find the criminals so I suppose we'll just have to bear with it and wait patiently."

He shook his head as he finished speaking and turned back around, a helpless expression on his face.

"Uh...of course, of course..." After a moment, this cultivator Liu Xing scratched his head and said in a silent voice, "Brother Zhang, do you know this fellow?"

"Isn't he Brother Liu's friend?"

"I don't remember him..."

"Haha, Brother Liu travels so much and makes so many friends. I'm sure there are many people that remember you, but you've actually forgotten all about them."

"Cough cough...this is just a bit disrespectful of me..."

As the two were whispering to each other, Qin Yu let out a breath of relief. While he was turning around just then, he had keenly felt something from the windows of a building down the street. Three pairs of eyes had locked onto him.

If he had really turned and left, he feared he would immediately be stopped for questioning.

The You Family was truly meticulous.

The line continued to grow. Although the line didn't move fast, he slowly approached the intersection. He could feel his heart growing increasingly anxious with every moment.

If things continued like this, it would only be a matter of time until he was found.

At this moment, a figure passed through Qin Yu's field of vision. As he saw this person, his eyes suddenly flashed.

After several breaths of time, as that person was just about to leave, Qin Yu took several steps forwards and smiled. "Officer Tianyun, it's been a long time."

Tianyun furrowed his eyebrows. "And you are?"

Qin Yu lowered his voice. He said, "Several days ago there was a wolf monster that caused trouble at the transmission square."

Tianyun's eyes brightened. He clearly remembered who Qin Yu was.

Qin Yu never underestimated anyone's intelligence. With the events of that day contrasted to everything occurring now, it wasn't hard for Tianyun to make some guesses.

Although it was very inappropriate for him to place his safety in the hands of a fellow cultivator who he had only met once before, Qin Yu only had one gamble he could make at this moment.

Taking a chance was better than giving up without trying.

Tianyun looked at him deeply and then shouted out, "So it was you! Men, come and grab this deserter, I want to interrogate him personally!"

Qin Yu's tense body relaxed a little and gratitude lit up his eyes. He immediately lowered his head in a panicked expression and allowed the two approaching soldiers to drag him away.

This movement clearly attracted attention. A higher ranked officer in armor walked over and asked some questions. Tianyun smiled, spoke some words, and then the other officer nodded and turned away.

It seemed Tianyun had a considerable amount of face in the army.

Feeling the eyes that locked onto him disperse, Qin Yu relaxed. He was dragged into the back of a windowless speed car. A soldier came soon after and controlled the speed car to fly away.

With the military pass, the speed car continued unimpeded. They passed through the blockaded area and stopped in an underground parking lot soon after.

A parking lot was also a new invention; it was especially used to hold speed cars. After all, even though there were spatial storage treasures, ordinary people weren't willing to use them to hold things as large as these cars.

"Step down!" The military parking lot was tightly guarded. The soldier escorting him spoke to the guard and then pushed Qin Yu to climb the stairwell.

They climbed up 13 sets of stairs. Then, a holding room was opened and Qin Yu was forced inside.

As the iron doors closed, Qin Yu's eyes flashed with a bright light. He looked around him.

This holding room was made from some sort of bright-colored metal. When he reached out and touched it, he could feel a faint tingle in his fingers. A terrifying strength was contained within it.

It seemed that there was no way for him to leave.

A trace of helplessness flashed in Qin Yu's eyes. He sat down and started meditating.

Around two hours later, the door to the confinement room opened and light poured in, followed by Tianyun's voice. "Is that fellow daoist Qin?"

Qin Yu rose up and brushed off his black robes. He cupped his hands, "My name is Qin Yu. I thank Officer Tianyun for saving me."

These words were the equivalent of acknowledging Tianyun's suspicions.

Tianyun's eyes lit up. He smiled. "As I thought, the commotion that the You Family stirred up today was all because of fellow daoist Qin."

His eyes burned. As Qin Yu remained silent, a tyrannical aura broke free from his body.

Tianyun's eyes turned cold. "Demon Body!" He scowled. "You Family, how bold of them!"

This person was indeed smart.

Qin Yu didn't respond.

Tianyun was startled for a moment before he immediately realized what was happening. He said, "Fellow daoist Qin Yu, there is no need for you to worry. I have no intention of harming you." Then, he faintly smiled, "Because we are both the same kind of person."

Hum –

A certain aura started gushing out from his body.

Qin Yu's eyebrows leapt up.

The aura of the Demon Body!

Tianyun smiled. "I hope that fellow daoist Qin Yu can feel at ease now. You and I are both Demon Body cultivators. According to the customs of the demonic path, you can call me senior-apprentice brother."

Qin Yu cupped his hands together. "Senior-apprentice brother Tianyun!"

"Haha, junior-apprentice brother Qin Yu." Tianyun sighed with emotion. "Junior-apprentice brother Qin comes from the land of exiles, but not only do you have such a cultivation today, you have even successfully built up the Demon Body. Your talent must be beyond imagination. If you can cross today's disaster, you will surely soar into the heavens in the future." His eyes darkened. "So, I advise junior-apprentice brother Qin Yu to not be in a hurry to seek revenge, and to never mention how they tried to seize your Demon Body. After all, your words are without proof, and even if this matter was exposed, it's unknown how it would eventually end."

Qin Yu nodded. "I thank senior-apprentice brother for the advice."

Seeing his sincere expression that revealed no hesitation, it was clear he had already thought about this. Tianyun's eyes lit up with a bit more appreciation. "Junior-apprentice brother is a smart man. It seems I was worrying too much. But, there is something I don't understand. With your level of talent and future prospects, the You Family should be doing everything in their power to win you over. Why would they dare to try and harm you?"

Qin Yu hesitated a bit.

Tianyun waved his hand. "If junior-apprentice brother finds it hard to say, then just pretend I never asked."

Although he temporarily wasn't in danger, he still needed Tianyun's help in the future. Qin Yu forced out a smile, "Senior-apprentice brother saved me today, so how can I possibly conceal anything from you? The reason the You Family tried to harm me was because my talent was too poor."



Tianyun was stunned. “Ridiculous! Junior-apprentice brother Qin Yu managed to build up the Demon Body in the land of exiles and even reached a Nascent Soul realm cultivation. How could the You Family have even higher demands than that?”

Qin Yu coughed. “My Demon Body and cultivation are all thanks to lucky chances and fate. In terms of talent...I am indeed a bit bad...”

Tianyun thought he was only being modest, but when he heard Qin Yu describe the You Family talent test and how only the first level of the nine level crystal pagoda had lit up, his eyeballs nearly popped out of their sockets.

“This...this...” Tianyun unexpectedly felt as if he could understand the You Family’s actions a little. Imagine that they thought they had found a peerless genius from the land of exiles, and after spending so much to bring him over, they finally discovered that he was just a silver spear with a spearhead made from wax. It wasn’t strange for them to be enraged from that.

“Cough...although talent is important, man can overcome nature. Since junior-apprentice brother Qin Yu can have your current level of cultivation, that must mean you have a great destiny upon your body. In the future you might be able to...” Even Tianyun couldn’t believe his own words. A lucky bastard could find unexpected success once or twice, but to continually rely on that until he became a powerhouse, that was just no different from a daydream.

Qin Yu wryly smiled. “Senior-apprentice brother Tianyun, there is no need to comfort me. However, I won’t give up. Now that I’ve arrived at the Land of Divinity and Demons, even if my talent is poor I will still struggle to find a future for myself.”

Tianyun felt a deep respect towards that mindset. “Good! Junior-apprentice brother Qin Yu, what great spirit you have! I’ve been waiting just for someone like you! Someone that is fearless and is willing to endure adversity and work hard! Moreover, just because your talent is poor doesn’t mean there aren’t ways to change it. The Land of Divinity and Demons is vast and endless and there are innumerable heavenly materials all around. Some of these are heaven-defying treasures that can enhance your talent. For instance, our army has a famous lotus that can be used to promote your talent!”

Qin Yu’s eyes brightened. “It can really raise a person’s talent?”

Tianyun laughed. “I wouldn’t joke about something like this to junior-apprentice brother. If you don’t believe me then you can join the army and directly confirm for yourself the requirements to exchange for a lotus.”

Qin Yu’s eyes flashed. He cupped his hands together. “I wonder if senior-apprentice brother Tianyun can introduce me?”

Tianyun was shocked. He didn’t think Qin Yu would take him seriously. He immediately thought that the reason Qin Yu wanted to join the army was to avoid the You Family. He said, “If junior-apprentice brother joins my army, that is indeed a good plan. No matter how powerful the You Family is, they won’t dare to mess around with the army.”

Qin Yu thought for a moment and shook his head. "Right now I don't have the qualifications to be enemies with the You Family. It's best if I'm not discovered at present. Is there any way for senior-apprentice brother to send me out from the Southern Overwatch Pass in the name of the army?"

Tianyun frowned. "Leave the Southern Overwatch Pass...there is one place, but I don't recommend that junior-apprentice brother goes there."

Qin Yu asked, "Where is it?"

Tianyun slowly responded, "Beast Hunting Battalion!"

## **Chapter 277 – Monster Beast Attack**

...

The Beast Hunting Battalion couldn't be considered a genuine establishment within the military. Rather, it was a place of punishment. Those people who had committed grave mistakes would be sent here to earn merits and redeem themselves. In the end, if they survived, they could be forgiven of all crimes. Of course, many years ago there were also people who used the Beast Hunting Battalion as a place to temper themselves. However, the death rate was incredible so now few people dared to try this.

"Stand up! You short-lived ghosts, all of you listen to me! The things we're about to issue you are all used to maintain your life! If you're not careful and you lose them then just wait to die!" An officer with an inch-long beard and an extremely fierce and rough appearance shouted. He waved his hand, "Pass them the items and tell them to screw out of my sight! Just looking at them makes me feel unlucky."

Qin Yu stood amongst the group of soldiers and received the items passed to him. There was an order for those who just entered the Beast Battalion as well as some sort of crystal-refined object. No one told him how to use it before he was pushed and scolded out into the military compound's parking lot. Several other teams of soldiers were waiting here, all of them headed for the Beast Hunting Battalion.

"What are you all doing here? Are you waiting for dinner!?! Hurry up and board the car! You'd better not even let loose a single fart on the way, because if you draw in a single monster beast you are all dead!" The boorish shouts continued without end. The crowd of dispirited soldiers, some with fear hidden in their eyes, squeezed into compartments of large-sized speed cars. The runes of the speed cars lit up and they quietly flew away.

Qin Yu sat in the compartment, the icy cold touch of metal spreading out from beneath him. Compared to the normally smooth flights of other speed cars, the interior of this military car wasn't comfortable at all. It jolted and rocked, causing one's vision to blur.

Glancing around, besides some rough and ferocious soldiers that didn't seem to care much, all of the other soldiers had fearful looks, their faces drained of all color.

Suddenly, a red light lit up within the car. As the blood red light illuminated the compartment, it caused one's heart to tighten.

"Warning. The convoy has left the scope of the Southern Overwatch Pass and has entered the wilderness. Please restrain your aura." An icy cold voice sounded out, piercing into the heart and mind like an arrow.

Ka ka ka –

There was the sound of chattering teeth.

A young and delicate-looking soldier to the side began to shiver uncontrollably.

“Haha this newbie, he just entered the wilderness and he’s already this scared! He’s dead for sure!” An army rogue freely laughed.

The delicate soldier blushed red. But facing the brutish look of the fierce soldier, he finally clenched his teeth and lowered his head.

More laughs followed.

Qin Yu’s expression was calm. He lowered his head, paying attention to his surroundings.

His complexion changed a moment later. In the next instant, the entire car violently shook.

It was unknown what material the car was forged from, but it was undoubtedly firm. However, this hard material was easily torn apart by a pair of sharp claws. Qin Yu watched with wide eyes as these claws passed near him. His body tensed and hairs rose on his back.

The delicate and scared soldier watched with wide eyes full of horror. He cried out in misery as he was dragged out by those claws. A massive hole was torn into the side of the compartment and Qin Yu saw a four-legged blue-armored monster beast swallowing that soldier into its stomach.

“Monster beast attack!” Sharp cries rang out. At this time, the entire convoy had been scattered. Horrified cries echoed everywhere.

There were three blue-armored monster beasts attacking the convoy!

Bang –

Unbuckling his belt, Qin Yu stood up and leapt out of the compartment. Just as he took a few steps out, another blue-armored monster beast rushed out from the ground, pulling the entire compartment underground. The pained howls soon subsided and no one escaped from below the ground.

There was a chill in the air that drilled out from Qin Yu’s heart. He discovered that he had underestimated just how dangerous the Land of Divinity and Demons was; this place was thoroughly a wilderness of monster beasts. It was no wonder that Tianyun had repeatedly advised him not to enter the hunting battalion...but as soon as this thought appeared he suppressed it and rushed out.

It was useless to think of such things. It was crucial to escape first.

Rah –

Loud roars resounded in his ear and a disgusting stench blew past him in the wind. Qin Yu’s pupils shrank. He turned around and punched out.

Bang –

The biting blue-armored monster beast roared out in pain as it staggered backwards. Qin Yu spat out a mouthful of blood. He took advantage of his lighter weight and greater recoil force to leap into the dense forest, vanishing in several breaths of time.

An hour later, the remnants of the convoy gathered together. There was only half the original number of people, and the squad of soldiers responsible for escorting them had completely disappeared.

The atmosphere was heavy and grim. Several severely wounded cultivators groaned out in pain, adding an additional bleakness to the surroundings.

“Everyone, the convoy has been attacked by monster beasts and now you and I are left to wander the wilderness. If we try to return to the Southern Overwatch Pass, it will be nine chances of death and one chance to live! If we really want to make it out of here alive, the only choice we have is to rush through any obstacles and enter the Beast Hunting Battalion! I have already looked through the map and it shows we are only a day’s journey away from the Beast Hunting Battalion! As long as we are a bit lucky, we can all make it through this alive!” The person who spoke had a solemn demeanor and an impressive aura. “My name is Wang Yuanan. I am willing to lead us all and take a gamble to escape this dangerous situation!”

“I am willing to follow Brother Wang!”

“I will listen to Brother Wang’s orders!”

Several soldiers cupped their hands and bowed. It was clear they had made their decision earlier.

Wang Yuanan laughed. “Good, with so many brothers supporting me, I’m sure our journey will be smooth!” He swept his eyes around. “Is there anyone else willing to join me?”

This person’s cultivation wasn’t low and the soldiers supporting him were also strong. He immediately became a pillar in the eyes of those present.

“I am willing to follow!”

“I obey the orders of Brother Wang!”

Qin Yu thought that in this current situation, if everyone joined forces and worked together, that would indeed give them the highest chances of survival. He stood up and walked towards the crowd.

“Great! Since everyone has faith in me, I will do my best to ensure we all survive!” Now that Wang Yuanan had established his position he immediately fell into character. “Everyone, hurry and rest. We will leave in one hour!”

An hour soon passed. The troop set off.

Wang Yuanan took out a handphone. But compared to the ones Qin Yu had seen before, it was a bit different. Moreover, even in the wilderness, after he fiddled with it for a few moments it just about managed to connect to a signal.

“That’s a satellite handphone!”

“That’s wonderful! With the satellite positioning, we’ll be able to avoid the majority of monster beasts!”

“Brother Wang is truly a noble figure!”

The soldiers were immediately overjoyed.

Qin Yu listened to them and finally understood what a satellite handphone was.

Within the Land of Divinity and Demons, there were massive super influences. These super influences paid a mind-boggling price to launch ultra-large signal tower-type magic tools into the void above the highest heavens. These magic tools were named satellites.

These magic tools could cover vast tracts of land and transmit all sorts of secret signals to custom-made handphones. Of course, the price of these satellite handphones was high beyond imagination, and it wasn't just any person that could have the qualifications to possess one.

People looked at Wang Yuanan with awe in their eyes. Qin Yu heard some people say that he might even be one of those rumored individuals with great backgrounds who ventured into the Beast Hunting Battalion to temper themselves.

The satellite handphone officially established Wang Yuanan's status.

Perhaps it really was because the satellite handphone had an effect, but the troop moved forwards smoothly and without much trouble. There was a minor encounter with two small monster beasts, but they were easily slain.

Looking at the map, they weren't too far from the Beast Hunting Battalion.

However, Qin Yu discovered that their route didn't seem to be a straight road. Compared to the position of the Beast Hunting Battalion, there was a small deviation.

Without him needing to speak up, someone already asked about this.

Wang Yuanan said, “The reason we're going off-path a little is because if we go straight we would run into a place where monster beasts gather. If any of us stumble into that, it will be difficult for any of us to escape disaster.” As he spoke, he lifted the satellite handphone and projected the image into the air. Within a mountain valley, there was a black, house-sized hive with palm-sized monster bees constantly flying in and out.

Everyone revealed stunned expressions.

“We are in a danger zone right now. The slightest mistake and we will all be in trouble. I don't blame you for overthinking things, but since you chose to believe me, then you cannot arbitrarily question my decisions. The explanation just now already delayed us for a considerable amount of time. We'll have to hurry up from here on out. So, I hope that after this there isn't a next time!”

The soldier who raised the question revealed a look of shame and the crowd nodded in agreement.

The troop did speed up. Most of the soldiers were fine, but those that were originally injured were finding it hard to continue. The smell of blood began to waft through the air, coming from the wounds of the injured soldiers as they broke open.

Suddenly, Wang Yuanan's complexion changed. “Be careful!”

Bang –

A massive tree fell down and a ferocious monster beast covered in red scales threw itself forwards like a bolt of red lightning. Before an injured soldier could even scream, he was bitten in half by the monster beast. Blood rained to the ground. Loud chewing sounds and heavy breathing filled the air. As these sounds entered the ears of the surrounding soldiers, all of them turned pale white!

“Blood spirit monster beast!” Someone screamed, their voice filled with endless fear.

Wang Yuanan roared, “Run away!” With a flash of bright light, he howled away, a group of soldiers following close behind him. The entire troop instantly dispersed. Luckily, everyone managed to maintain some semblance of rationality. They knew that it would be a death sentence if they ran all over the place, so they all followed behind Wang Yuanan.

More and more cries sounded out from behind. Qin Yu turned to see that all the injured soldiers they looked after were falling down one after another, becoming food for the blood spirit monster beast. It tore at them, chewed them, swallowed them, and continued to chase those who ran away.

Many soldiers relaxed as they saw this.

And Qin Yu couldn't deny that he felt something similar. As he looked at Wang Yuanan and the others in front, he subconsciously furrowed his eyebrows.

Wang Yuanan's behavior was normal, but the several people near him were far too calm and their reactions too uniform. It was as if they already expected that the blood spirit monster beast would appear here. And those injured soldiers that were brought all the way here...if things were as Qin Yu thought, then this Wang Yuanan's thoughts were far too horrifying.

With a cold heart, Qin Yu turned his eyes and earnestly hurried along.

Moments later, those that were lucky enough to not encounter another monster beast found a chance to catch their breath. After barely managing to escape, everyone was left panting for breath and streaming with sweat. As they remembered how they had abandoned the wounded ones, many soldiers revealed guilty expressions.

Wang Yuanan said, “I know none of you feel good right now. Among those who just died, some were family and some of them were friends. But, the strength of the blood spirit monster beast wasn't something any of us could hope to contend with. If we hadn't run away, I fear we would all be dead by now. Good, everyone sharpen up. After another half a day, we'll reach the battalion!”

The people that were a bit sad suddenly relaxed. Wang Yuanan's words had given them an excuse for what they did and also gave them hopes of surviving.

The dead were eventually the dead.

Living was most important.

**Chapter 278 – Fire Kirin**

As Qin Yu was resting, he felt someone approach. He opened his eyes to see a calm and respectful face. This was one of the people that hung around Wang Yuanan, a late Nascent Soul cultivator. Killing intent lingered around his body; he was clearly trained for battle.

“My name is Zhang Chen. May I ask who fellow daoist is?”

“Qin Yu.”

Zhang Chen smiled. “Fellow daoist Qin, how do you do? As we venture through the wilderness, it is possible that we will experience danger at any time. So, Brother Wang proposed the creation of a Sharp Blade Squad. Once danger appears, we can immediately deal with it. The reason I’m here is because Brother Wang would like to invite fellow daoist Qin to become a part of our Sharp Blade Squad.”

Several people nearby revealed looks of envy.

In simpler terms, the Sharp Blade Squad was a joint effort between masters. They could rapidly react to any possible dangers, and most importantly, they could fight and flee. If an extremely grave danger appeared, the members of the Sharp Blade Squad would be the most likely to survive.

But what shocked everyone was that Qin Yu actually hesitated in the face of this invitation before finally refusing it. “My apologies, but my cultivation is weak. I fear I will only drag you down, so it's best if I just follow on your heels.”

Zhang Chen furrowed his eyebrows. “Fellow daoist Qin, you don’t want to reconsider?”

Qin Yu cupped his hands together. “My regrets.”

Zhang Chen’s complexion darkened. He coldly turned and stomped away.

A moment later the Sharp Knife Squad was completed. Out of all those invited, besides Qin Yu, no one else refused.

Thus, his refusal was particularly noticeable.

Wang Yuanan frowned. He glanced over and a faint smile lit up his disgruntled eyes. “It’s fine. Everyone has their own ambitions, it’s not something we can force.”

“Humph! What a cowardly small fry. He doesn’t even dare to face the monster beasts directly!”

“With that type of personality, even if he had some cultivation it would still be useless!”

“It’s best if he didn’t come after all. If he really joined us he may have proven to be a disaster instead!”

Wang Yuanan cupped his hands together. “With everyone supporting me, I am deeply grateful. If we work together with sincerity and effort, I’m sure we will overcome today’s difficulties!”

“We will follow Brother Wang in!”

“Kill those monster beasts!”

Everyone’s spirits were lifted.

It was clear they all knew that if they joined forces, the chances of them surviving would be much greater.

The troop rested for a moment before hurrying along. The Sharp Knife Squad was indeed useful, and the troop progressed at a far faster pace than before. If ordinary monster beasts came out they would quickly die, simply unable to contend with the overwhelming attacks.

The Sharp Knife Squad showed great skills and valor. Several female cultivators in the troop revealed bright eyes full of wonder and awe. During a short break, there was even a charming woman who pulled a member of the squad away temporarily, not coming back for a period of time. When they returned, their faces were flushed red like a warm summer spring. It was clear what they had done just now.

The only unsightly thing was that the handsome and tall Sharp Knife Squad member had come back a bit too fast.

Of course, these were trivial matters. Although many people noticed this, they didn't bother saying anything.

According to the map, they weren't much further from the Beast Hunting Battalion. As long as they passed through a deep and narrow canyon in front of them, they would reach their destination.

Wang Yuanan was extremely cautious. He first dispatched two of his cultivators to scout ahead while the troop rested. Moments later they returned and shook their heads, expressing that it was safe.

"The terrain here is treacherous. Once danger appears, there will inevitably be serious casualties. The Sharp Knife Squad will open the way forwards. Everyone be careful!" People nodded at Wang Yuanan's words. As the de-facto leader of the troop he was even willing to lead the way. There wasn't anything others could say.

So, when Wang Yuanan led the Sharp Knife Squad into the canyon, everyone looked at him with admiration, thinking he was a person who could be trusted.

The canyon was extremely long, filled with dense forests and vines on both sides. The sky was obscured by the overgrowth and it was hard to see far ahead. Because no one had passed through here for many years, a thick layer of detritus had grown on the ground, formed from dead leaves and decaying logs. It was soft and squishy, and would often emit poisonous gas. Luckily, everyone had considerable cultivations and with enough wariness, no accidents occurred.

Things were smooth at first. Several monster beasts that awakened were easily cut down by the Sharp Knife Squad. The troop gradually waded into the middle of the canyon. Qin Yu sniffed the air and frowned. There was an unusual smell in the air, one that was different from the rotting leaves around him. As for what it was exactly, he couldn't tell, but it caused his heart to grow heavier.

After hesitating, Qin Yu didn't say anything. He just raised his wariness.

As they continued forwards, that strange smell became much fainter. Just as he thought that maybe he was overthinking things, a sudden surprise occurred.

Pitiful screams rose up at the front of the troop. The Sharp Knife Squad seemed as if they had been tossed into a wok full of oil, all of them burning wildly.



But what was eerie was that these flames didn't affect the trees, vines, or even the dirt below them. It only burnt away flesh and blood. As long as one touched these flames, it followed them like a cockroach. No matter what magic arts of supernatural skills were used, no one was able to extinguish them. They could only burn away to ashes.

In several breaths of time, over half the cultivators in the Sharp Knife Squad had perished within the sea of fire. That slightly faster and handsome cultivator was one of them.

Screams filled the air. The troop's formation instantly collapsed and everyone fled backwards.

At this time, the burning flames parted and a graceful kirin beast stepped out. Its eyes were dark as if it were tired, but as it looked around at everyone, there was still deep contempt in its eyes.

Even if it was wounded at the moment, the Samadhi truefire it controlled wasn't something that lowly humans could resist. Anyone that tried was soon burnt to ashes.

"Kirin beast!"

"It's a fire kirin!"

Sharp cries of despair and horror filled the air.

The fire kirin looked around and opened its mouth, directly swallowing a nearby soldier. It chewed and chewed and a bright red tongue came out, sweeping away the blood on its mouth. A trace of joy flashed in the fire kirin's eyes.

To it, these humans that were filled with heaven and earth spiritual strength were like walking tonics. As long as it could swallow all of them, its injuries would be mostly healed.

Shua –

Flames flashed and the kirin beast violently pounced forwards. Its mouth opened wide and wherever it went, soldiers would cry and be swallowed. It was unknown who shouted, but someone suddenly screamed, "The kirin beast is injured! If we work together we might be able to kill it!"

Another voice sounded out, "That's right, if we continue running like this we will just be eaten up one after another. All of us will die!"

"If we're going to die, then we might as well fight it. Perhaps we will live!"

"Kill it! Let's fight it!"

Within the crowd, the light from multiple supernatural skills suddenly flashed. They struck the kirin beast, forcing its massive body to stagger backwards several steps.

This sight caused the eyes of those in despair to lighten up.

The fire kirin was really injured!

"Fight!"

"If we can kill the fire kirin, not only can we live but we will also obtain a great harvest!"

“Kill it!”

People that were in a hopeless situation and then suddenly found a ray of hope could erupt with an inconceivable strength.

The fire kirin couldn't defend in time and was forced to suffer several more strikes. Its originally crimson eyes turned an even deeper red.

A being as powerful as itself was actually wounded by such weak and insignificant ants. To the kirin beast, this was the greatest shame possible.

Roar –

As it roared, the fire kirin opened its mouth wide open. Flames condensed again.

“Samadhi truefire!”

“Run!”

Hu –

A sea of flames instantly bloomed in the void!

Cultivator after cultivator was buried in the sea of fire and burnt to ashes.

A look of elation flashed in the fire kirin's eyes, but there was even more exhaustion there. For it to summon Samadhi truefire in a situation where it was injured indeed caused serious losses to it. However, it had no other choice but to do this. Only by suppressing these humans and making them so frightened that they didn't resist would it be able to easily swallow them all.

Although the Samadhi truefire burnt away a great number of potential meals, it couldn't care about these things at this time. The fire kirin swept its eyes over the panicked cultivators and savagely roared as it rushed out at them.

Roar –

With a pained howl, the fire kirin was sent tumbling back. Several cultivators appeared in front of them, led by Wang Yuanan! Some people it thought had perished in the Samadhi truefire were alive and well. It was obvious that this was because of Wang Yuanan and the small shield that was still emitting steam in his hands.

“Attack! End this battle as soon as possible!” With a shout, Wang Yuanan was the first to run out. Several people followed close behind.

The fire kirin roared again and again. It rushed left and right, sending numerous cultivators flying away. However, it couldn't escape. In addition to its deep wounds and having been forced to use its Samadhi truefire repeatedly, it no longer had the strength to summon its flames again. Although it was still fierce and threatening, if things continued like this it would eventually be cut down.

The fleeing cultivators were pleasantly surprised. But as they thought about their situation, their complexions stiffened. They weren't idiots. Wang Yuanan had led the troop all the way here and after encountering the fire kirin, the Sharp Knife Squad was almost totally annihilated, but he and his close

subordinates were all fine. If someone were to say that there wasn't some scheming behind this, not even a ghost would believe it.

But these were only suspicions and no one had proof. And to mention this now was no different from seeking death. Everyone lowered their heads and swallowed their words into their stomach.

"Everyone, the fire kirin is amazingly strong. We won't be able to capture it for some time. If other powerful monster beasts come here, it will be impossible to escape that catastrophe!" Wang Yuanan leapt out of the battle and shouted out, "So I ask that everyone attack together! After killing the fire kirin, everyone will benefit!"

The crowd hesitated.

Wang Yuanan narrowed his eyes. "What? You aren't willing to help? Could it be that you all want to wait until me and my brothers tire ourselves out and then fish for benefits at the end? In the worst case situation I will just turn around and leave."

This was an open threat.

Fear flashed in everyone's eyes. If Wang Yuanan and his people really did leave, everyone else could only wait to be swallowed.

"Hold on! I didn't have that intention!"

"Everyone, let us help Brother Wang!"

"That's how it should be."

Cultivators started to turn around and head towards the battlefield.

Wang Yuanan's eyes flashed with joy. Even if everyone knew that this was his plan all along, so what? Didn't they end up being obediently controlled by him anyway?

A figure appeared in the corner of his eyes. He turned and frowned, shouting, "Fellow daoist Qin Yu, where are you going?"

Qin Yu turned and said, "My cultivation is low so I won't hold you all back from killing the fire kirin. Goodbye."

As he spoke he walked away. His figure flashed and he vanished from sight.

"Young master, that person doesn't know good or bad. Should I...?" A cultivator asked with a grim expression.

Wang Yuanan coldly snorted. "Leave it. Killing the fire kirin is more important right now. I will settle this account with him in the future."

"Yes."

**Chapter 279 – Killing the Fire Kirin**

For most of the time that had passed since Qin Yu arrived, he had been under house arrest at the You Family. However, he was able to learn many things about the Land of Divinity and Demons through his handphone.

For instance, about the wilderness he was in.

The Land of Divinity and Demons had a truly radiant and glorious cultivator civilization. There were countless large and small nations established throughout, and the cultivation systems and frameworks of these cultivator nations were incredibly powerful. But, even with such great strength, they still weren't able to fully tame this vast and boundless world. And the areas they didn't control were the dominion of monster beasts. These areas were all called the wilderness.

For instance, the Southern Overwatch Pass was a military city that bordered the wilderness. Only near the wilderness would there be situations in which monster beasts attacked cities. In the center of nations, the danger from monster beasts had nearly been eliminated. Except for in a few rare places, it was considered relatively safe.

According to Qin Yu's own judgment, he should be deep in the wilderness. There was a chance that he could encounter monster beasts at any moment. With his cultivation, he didn't fear ordinary monster beasts. But, if he stumbled into some super monster beast that was on the level of a Divine Soul or even Blue Soul, then he wouldn't even have a chance to escape.

So the most critical task in front of him was to find the Beast Hunting Battalion. If he could enter the camp, he would be temporarily safe.

Qin Yu took out the crystal. He probed it with his divine sense and a vague general direction appeared in his mind. This was a precaution to prevent any threat from coming to the Beast Hunting Battalion if the crystal were to fall into the hands of monster beasts. Only by approaching within a certain scope of the monster beasts and having one's identity confirmed could one truly learn the location of the Beast Hunting Battalion.

After a brief moment of concentration, Qin Yu determined the general direction he needed to go in. He carefully put away the crystal, then just as he was about to move he furrowed his eyebrows and looked behind him.

There, he could see a mass of crimson flames flying towards him at an astonishing speed. Wherever it went, trees and grass would be burnt to ashes and the heat was so terrifyingly high it left one shocked.

Fire kirin!

Qin Yu's complexion changed. He never thought that this fire kirin which was being hunted down would flee all the way to his location. After staring at it for a few moments, his heart started to race. This fire kirin was heavily wounded and it had used up all its energy running here. In particular, the savage flames burning around its body had started to weaken.

Although he hadn't yet entered the Beast Hunting Battalion, he already learned most of its rules from Tianyun. Within the Beast Hunting Battalion, there were beast hunting points that were obtained by hunting down and killing monster beasts. With these beast hunting points, one could exchange for

treasures through the entire military system. There were even treasures like a First Grade Lotus that could help a cultivator increase their talent!

When Qin Yu decided to join the Beast Hunting Battalion, one of the reasons was to avoid the You Family, but an even more important reason was to find a way to exchange for the First Grade Lotus. Within the Land of Divinity and Demons, there were countless treasures littered throughout the world, but there were even more talented geniuses born every single day. If he wanted to bloom in splendor and become a powerhouse in his own right, while the little blue lamp was undoubtedly a potent weapon to do so, his own talent was also vital. Otherwise the speed of his growth would be drastically reduced.

Although he didn't know what rank this fire kirin was, it was surely a high level monster beast; this was without doubt. If he could kill it, he could earn a great deal of beast hunting points before he even entered the Beast Hunting Battalion. This was a great temptation.

As he was hesitating, the fleeing fire kirin made the choice for him. It had struggled out of its encirclement, completely exhausting its strength to do so. It was now a lamp without oil. However, a weak little human cultivator had appeared in front of it, all alone, so what was it hesitating for? Swallow him!

Roar –

With a loud roar, the fire kirin crazily rushed forwards. Faced with the threat of death, in this dire situation it actually erupted with considerable strength.

A severe light flashed in Qin Yu's eyes.

Bang –

Scarlet flames instantly blazed into existence. His figure became a burning meteor that crossed the skies and smashed into the fire kirin.

With a loud explosion, the fire kirin was sent tumbling away. Its eyes widened in shock; it never thought that the weak and ant-like human in front of it would actually possess such horrifying strength. Then, agonizing pain raced through its chest and belly. The last dregs of its strength were drawn out. With a final unwilling roar, the massive kirin beast toppled to the ground!

Qin Yu staggered to the ground, his face pale. The Five Element Swords in his hands dispersed. In order to kill the fire kirin as fast as possible, he had paid a considerable price.

He flicked his sleeves and the fire kirin vanished from sight. Qin Yu turned and left, vanishing in a few blinks of the eye.

Soon after, several figures flashed in from nowhere. Wang Yuanan's complexion was pale and his eyes glowed with hate. "Who was it!? Who dared steal my fire kirin!?"

A cultivator quickly stepped out from behind him. "Young master, I will help you find this person!" He lifted his hand and bit his finger, smudging his eyebrows with blood. An eyeball suddenly appeared within this redness. It opened, projecting a misty light.

And in the next moment, everything that occurred recently could be clearly seen within this light.

The fire kirin fled here and it was killed by someone and taken away...

“Qin Yu!” Wang Yuanan’s eyes were glued onto the person that came into view within the flowing image. “I’ll kill you!”

Bang –

He exploded forwards, rushing towards the direction Qin Yu had gone in.

...

Above the nine heavens, endless astral winds roared with a bone-biting cold. It was as sharp as blades, capable of tearing apart any living being that entered. Even space seemed unable to withstand the might of these strong astral winds and was distorted. Within this distorted view, one could vaguely make out a floating mountain in the air.

It was hidden in the eye of the astral winds. Light wrapped around it, preventing the astral winds from affecting it. From afar, one could discover that this floating mountain constantly moved with the astral winds roaring about it.

At the summit of the floating mountain, one could see an iron tower growing straight up from the ground. A crystal was located on the tip of the tower and emitted a dazzling light. Invisible signals were sent out in waves from this crystal, covering every inch of the floating mountain. Then, various pieces of equipment received these signals and transformed them into wonderful images and sounds.

“The new batch of beast hunters is on their way here. According to the tradition of the Beast Hunting Battalion, they are undergoing a severe assessment at the moment. I wonder just how many of them are going to smoothly make it to the battalion this time. I suppose we can only wait and see.”

“The newcomer assessment is nearing its end. To remain as fair as possible, we haven’t meddled at all, so we still don’t know the exact situation of what has happened. But, we have already sent reporters to the transmitter platform. As soon as the newcomers arrive we will bring to you the full story.”

“Concerning the betting market for the loss percentage that the newcomers will suffer, it has already been several days since it opened, and the betting market has become increasingly hot. According to this station’s exclusive news, the highest bet right now is at 50%, closely followed by a 60% loss rate. It seems that people aren’t too confident in this new batch of arrivals.”

“Half a month ago, three hunting squads worked together to severely wound a fire kirin. It has been determined that the fire kirin managed to escape. Because kirin beasts are naturally savage and cruel and possess a strong sense of revenge, the Beast Hunter Station has emitted an urgent message. They will increase the number of points for hunting down a fire kirin to urge more beast hunters to help kill this fire kirin while it is at its weakest point.”

On giant billboards hanging above the streets, on screens indoor, on everyone’s palm-sized handphones...all sorts of information was being broadcast on the various communication equipment. While they weren’t exactly the same, the majority of them were related to beast hunting.

That was because this floating mountain was the illustrious Beast Hunting Battalion. Even though countless monster beasts hated this place to the bone and had searched throughout the wilderness,

they still couldn't find it. None of them could ever have expected that this battalion was hidden within the astral winds above the nine heavens.

At this time, in a large dwelling in the Beast Hunting Battalion, a blue-armored middle-aged cultivator with white hair coming from his temples was frowning. He stared at his satellite handphone, a gloomy look on his face.

After several moments of silence, he picked up a red encrypted handphone on a nearby table and dialed.

Soon, the connection was made. The middle-aged cultivator slowly said, "Temporarily block the transmission array and hold all incoming arrivals. Carefully identify who they are."

After hanging up, the middle-aged man stood up. He took his helmet from the equipment rack and put it on. Since he arbitrarily decided to block the transmission array, even with his status he still needed to give a timely explanation.

Soon, the middle-aged cultivator arrived at another large dwelling. A guard hurriedly bowed and reported his arrival even as he welcomed him in. Behind a desk, a cultivator that was painting laid down his brush. He smiled and said, "Brother Jingzhe, how come you have so much free time to visit me today?"

Yuan Jingzhe smiled. "The reason I came to visit commander is for official business." His expression was earnest. "I obtained information that the monster beasts have placed a spy within the new batch of arrivals and are attempting to infiltrate the Beast Hunting Battalion. In order to prevent any accidents from occurring, I issued an order to temporarily block the transmission array and carefully examine all those arriving."

According to rumors outside, the Commander of the Beast Hunting Battalion was a cruel and bloodthirsty man, a butcher that slaughtered without mercy. However, that description seemed completely different from the elegant and calm man here.

The commander furrowed his eyebrows and then smiled. "Since that's the case, Brother Jingzhe's actions are appropriate. I have no comment about them."

Yuan Jingzhe stood up and bowed. "Commander, rest assured that I will handle everything correctly. I will not cause any more trouble to spread."

...

Qin Yu came to a stop. He looked around and determined that the general position he sensed was the mountain range in front of him.

The Beast Hunting Battalion was here?

Shua –

He flew into it.

"Who goes there!" With a loud shout, several people stepped out. Their eyes were cold and their momentum imposing.

Qin Yu's heart skipped a beat. He hadn't even sensed that these people were hidden here. He quickly cupped his hands and said, "My name is Qin Yu. I am a new beast hunter. This is my identification information."

He took out his orders.

A cultivator received them and looked over it carefully. He asked, "How come you're the only one here?"

Qin Yu said, "We encountered an attack from monster beasts on the way here. I was separated from the main force."

To pass through the wilderness alone and arrive at the battalion's transmission array, this left the several cultivators surprised. They relaxed a bit.

"The camp has just received orders from the battalion to temporarily close the transmission array in order to guard against attacks from monster beasts. Wait here a moment, and once the transmission array is working again you may enter the battalion."

Powerhouses could obtain respect wherever they went. This was especially so within the Beast Hunting Battalion.

Qin Yu frowned. The transmission array was closed? How could it be such a coincidence for it to happen as he arrived?

Could it be...?

A little gloominess rose in his heart, but his expression didn't change. He nodded and was led into a tent by someone.

Meanwhile, hundreds of miles away from the mountain peak, Wang Yuanan took out his satellite handphone. He looked down at the news he had just received and grinned.

"Found him!"

Several subordinates were overjoyed. "Where is he?"

"Transmission mountain!"

"Ah! He's actually that fast!" A subordinate was stunned.

Wang Yuanan hesitated and then coldly sneered. "It's just luck. With his Nascent Soul cultivation, could he actually cause any trouble in front of us?"

A subordinate revealed a look of worry. "If he's already reached transmission mountain, I fear that once we arrive he will already have entered the Beast Hunting Battalion."

Wang Yuanan said, "Uncle has temporarily sealed off the transmission array. There is nowhere he can go!" He looked up, his eyes cruel. "Qin Yu, you dare to steal my monster beast? You're dead!"

Whoosh –

The group hurried along.



## Chapter 280 – Compete

An hour later, the blurry outline of the transmission mountain came into sight.

Shua –

Two cultivators flew out from the forest and respectfully bowed. “Greetings, young master!”

Wang Yuanan paused. He asked, “You are uncle’s people?”

“We came here upon the order of the general to wait for young master.” The two people respectfully replied.

Wang Yuanan dove straight into the main topic, “Where is he?”

“In the tent.”

“Bring me!”

Qin Yu was sitting in meditation. He suddenly frowned and opened his eyes to see the tent being opened from the outside.

Wang Yuanan walked in. He coldly said, “Qin Yu, I bet you never thought that we would meet here again like this!”

Qin Yu’s expression didn’t change. “Fellow daoist Wang, what is the meaning of this?”

A subordinate shouted, “Stop pretending! You stole my young master’s fire kirin! Could you have thought things would end like that?”

Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows inwardly. When he struck down the fire kirin he had checked to make sure there wasn’t anyone nearby. How did they know?

The subordinate suddenly sneered and an eye opened between his eyebrows. Light projected outwards, clearly displaying the scene of him killing the fire kirin. “Do you have anything else to say?”

Qin Yu’s eyes flashed with annoyance. He never thought that such a supernatural skill would exist in this world that could recreate scenes which had recently occurred. His complexion darkened but immediately returned to normal. “That’s right, I was the one who killed the fire kirin.”

“You brat, it’s good that you admit it! Be a good little boy and hand over the fire kirin or don’t blame us for being impolite!” Another subordinate shouted.

Qin Yu said, “Since I was the one who killed the fire kirin, it’s naturally mine.”

“What drive! If it wasn’t for my young master severely wounding that beast, then with your strength alone do you think you could have killed the fire kirin? Let me tell you, you had best hand it over to avoid more suffering!”

Wang Yuanan lifted a hand, preventing his subordinates from speaking. “Qin Yu. If you hand over the fire kirin, I will forget everything that happened before. Otherwise...” His eyes flashed with a cold brilliance.

Qin Yu frowned. "This transmission mountain is already within the scope of the Beast Hunting Battalion. Could it be that you want to take it from me?"

Wang Yuanan chuckled. "Of course I don't dare take it from you. But if you die, who will say such things? Perhaps I'll even be awarded a merit for having killed a monster beast spy!" He flicked his sleeves, "Get him!"

As he shouted out, several nearby subordinates exploded with aura. The air suddenly became thick and dense, shrouding over Qin Yu.

Wang Yuanan's eyes filled with smug satisfaction. Did he really think he had that much patience to just idly chat on and on? Since this person dared to steal his fire kirin, he was doomed to die. No one could save him!

He stepped out, his five fingers twisted into a grasp as he reached for Qin Yu's head.

Bang –

With a dull muffled sound, Wang Yuanan's eyes widened in shock. He was forced backwards, each step leaving behind a deep imprint in the ground.

Qin Yu drew back even quicker. Borrowing the recoil force, he tore through the strength imprisoning him. He broke free from the tent in a flash of light.

Wang Yuanan was enraged. "Grab him!"

Qin Yu shouted out loud. Using cultivation to enhance his voice, the sound spread out far and wide, "Wang Yuanan, how bold! You want to kill your companion to steal their treasure!?"

The entire transmission mountain was immediately alarmed. Over a dozen figures howled forth.

"Who dares to recklessly shout here and break military rules! Are you tired of living?" A one-eyed bearded officer roared out, cold killing intent flashing in his eyes.

Qin Yu hurriedly cupped his hands together. "I am Qin Yu, a newly arrived beast hunter. Originally, I was travelling with Wang Yuanan and these other people, but I didn't expect for them to be tempted by treasure and try to kill me to steal it! I had no other choice but to shout for help; I ask for you to forgive me!"

The bearded officer's eyes widened. "Plotting to murder your companion!" The reason one of his eyes was blinded was because he had been betrayed by someone he trusted in the past. In his life, this was the type of person he loathed the most. His face instantly twisted into a fierce visage.

The two cultivators that brought Wang Yuanan here rushed forwards, a bitter look on their faces. They blocked his group, quietly shouting, "Young master, don't do anything!"

Wang Yuanan roared, "Get out of my way! No one can steal my things!"

The two people continued to block him, their heads and hearts hurting as they complained inwardly. Not only had this entire group not managed to catch the young man but they stirred up a great ruckus. If it were anyone else that came out, they wouldn't even care about them. But, this one-eyed dragon was

Tong Hanshan, a man with a prestigious reputation within the Beast Hunting Battalion that was infamously lawless and difficult to deal with. Since he was the one who stumbled into this matter, if they didn't handle things well, not only would they be in for trouble but even the general would be drawn in.

Tong Hanshan narrowed his single eye. "Who is he?"

"Reporting to Officer Tong, Wang Yuanan is General Yuan's nephew. He came here with the beast hunters to join the army and temper himself. This should all be a misunderstanding with fellow daoist Qin Yu." A cultivator reasoned, forcing out a smile.

Tong Hanshan's complexion stiffened.

Yuan Jingzhe...

Within the entire Beast Hunting Battalion, the number of true leaders could be counted on one hand, and that person was one of them. Although that person's ranking was relatively low, his strength wasn't something he could hope to compare with. Obviously it wasn't worth it to offend Yuan Jingzhe for a stranger, but since he had already intervened in today's events, if he were to be frightened and forced away by the mere reputation of someone else, what face would he have left?

As he was hesitating, Qin Yu suddenly said, "Thank you for helping me Officer Tong. After thinking about it some more, I'm sure I misunderstood Brother Wang. He shouldn't have any ill intent towards me."

"Right, right, right, this was definitely a misunderstanding that happened." Another person spoke, winking at everyone present.

Wang Yuanan wasn't an idiot. From the expressions of the two people holding him back, it was clear that this Tong fellow wasn't easy to deal with. If he insisted on this issue, then he feared there would be additional trouble arriving. But, as he thought of the fire kirin and how it was stolen by Qin Yu, it was like a fishbone stuck in his throat, leaving him unable to breathe. He clenched his teeth, "That's right, it's a misunderstanding..."

Tong Hanshan's eyes flashed with satisfaction. This boy was more tactful than he thought. He immediately said "That's good. Be more careful from now on, lest you stir up more trouble!"

He turned and left, bringing the others with him.

Qin Yu bowed.

Wang Yuanan looked around and clenched his jaws. A cold chill percolated around him, but now he could no longer attack as he wanted to.

"We're leaving!"

He brought his followers and indignantly huffed away.

The accident on the transmission mountain was like a little splash of water in a never-ending river; it wasn't able to create any great waves at all and soon vanished from memory. One day later, the transmission array was restored. Qin Yu, Wang Yuanan, and the other new beast hunters who caught up were all submerged in a flash of light before they disappeared.

Over 80% of the newly arrived batch of beast hunters had lost their lives, leaving only 17 people that managed to reach the battalion. Once news of this was obtained, many people were left sobbing in sorrow. The betting house naturally made great gains. They only had to pay out to a few people, and even after paying those lucky bastards that managed to win, they still had immense profits.

Originally, many beast hunters had prepared to look for these 17 people and cause trouble for them. Since these people had caused them to lose points, it was natural to want to teach them a lesson. However, when news spread of the newcomers encountering the fire kirin, the beast hunters fell silent and expressed their sympathies instead. They thought that if 17 people were able to survive, that was already extraordinary.

However, as this news spread out, people also learned that a newly arrived brat had managed to stumble into dog-shit luck and actually kill the fire kirin and also stumble into the battalion alive!

This was truly enviable, so much that it left others drooling.

The fire kirin itself was a high level monster beast with the potential to rise to the rank of a monster king. One could obtain rich rewards after killing it. Moreover, there was a special announcement on the news recently stating that in order to prevent the fire kirin from taking revenge in the future, the beast hunter that killed it could obtain an even greater amount of points.

It was said that the entire new troop of arrivals suffered major casualties fighting the fire kirin, and some boy called Qin Yu had come in afterwards to pick up the benefits as a fisherman...what the hell...this was really a lucky bastard. And more importantly, everyone thought: why weren't we that lucky!?

However, as a newcomer, even if he killed the fire kirin he might not know how valuable it was. Thus, in the tent that had the worst environment and that was also specially prepared for newcomers, many people started to gather.

A big fellow casually grabbed a cultivator on the road and asked, "Where is that boy called Qin Yu?"

The cultivator flushed red. He felt as fragile as straw beneath this big fellow's large hand. He gulped and hurriedly said, "In front, the black tent..."

Puff –

Before the cultivator finished speaking he was tossed to the side. The big fellow strode forward, arriving at the tent in several steps and walking directly in. He looked around, "Who is Qin Yu?"

Qin Yu frowned. He stood up and cupped his hands together. "I am. May I ask why senior is looking for me?"

Facing a Divine Soul realm cultivator, he naturally had to be respectful.

The big fellow said, "I heard that you killed a fire kirin before you arrived. That's good. I just happened to need kirin blood to cultivate. Sell it to me."

His expression and attitude was one that couldn't be denied.

Qin Yu's heart sank. Facing the gleaming eyes of this large fellow, he actually felt a bit nervous and uneasy. It was clear that he wouldn't let go of this issue if he refused.

At this time, another person entered the tent. "Who is Qin Yu?"

The big fellow's complexion changed. He turned and said, "Yang Baizhan, you are too late! The fire kirin is mine!"

Yang Baizhan wore a mottled set of armor. His body was thin and his appearance ordinary. But, a divine light occasionally flashed in his eyes, like a sharp arrow that made one's heart shiver.

"It's yours? Then take it out."

Qin Yu's thoughts raced. He respectfully replied, "I am Qin Yu. I greet Senior Yang."

Yang Baizhan smiled. "You are Qin Yu? You have the fire kirin?"

Qin Yu nodded, "Yes."

"That's good then. Sell the fire kirin to me. Whatever you want, just tell me." Yang Baizhan flourished his hands.

The big fellow was enraged. A wild aura broke free from his body, making it seem as if he had transformed into a giant beast. "Yang Baizhan, don't push things too far! I came here first so the fire kirin is mine!"

Yang Baizhan stood in sharp contention. Swift and fierce spear intent shot into the skies, as if even the world itself would be pierced through. "Don't give me that first-come first-served crap. If you want to fight then let's do it!"

"Cough, cough, you two are quite angry right now. How about we sit down like civilized people and discuss ownership of the fire kirin?" Another person stepped into the tent.

Three Divine Soul realm cultivators were now standing in the tent. Their auras faintly struggled with each other, making the air so thick that those within wanted to cry.

Just what are you all trying to do!?

Not too far away, Wang Yuanan nearly gnashed his teeth to the roots. He roared out in his heart, "That's mine, that should be mine, all of this should be mine!"

Damned Qin Yu, you bastard, scumbag, I definitely won't let you go!

However, his eyes couldn't help but fall onto the Divine Soul powerhouse who had just arrived. He hoped that person could smoothly buy the fire kirin.

To him, this was far too important. Even if he had to pay a greater price, he couldn't allow an accident to occur.

But as he thought about the large amounts of wealth he would have to use up because of Qin Yu, Wang Yuanan shivered with anger.