

## Refining 731

### Chapter 731 - Withdrawing

Without accident, Qin Yu received the storage ring with the dragon blood and dragon soul from Li Shao. With a wave of his hand, he sent him away.

The anxious and worried Li Shao finally relaxed. Now that he knew he had been forgiven for his previous actions, he felt as if he had been saved from the precipice of death.

“Thank you for your benevolence, my lord! This lowly one will depart immediately!”

He bowed his head to the floor and stood up, taking several respectful steps backwards. But before he could leave, Qin Yu’s voice echoed in his ears.

“Soon, Rong Wei will leave the Hidden Fog Sect.”

Li Shao let out a long breath. When Qin Yu had spoken up just now, his heart had nearly leaped out of his chest. After thanking him in a daze, he continued walking out. Sometime later he came to a stop. When a cold wind brushed against his face, it was only then that Li Shao processed what Qin Yu had said.

Rong Wei was going to leave!

Although he only came from a branch family, he was well aware why the East Root Li Family was able to have their current achievements.

Once Rong Wei left, would the Li Family still be looked after by the Hidden Fog Sect? The answer was obvious. But, if the Li Family knew of this beforehand they could complete some arrangements ahead of time. While the Li Family would be stuck in a passive position, they wouldn’t fall into decline.

After all, during these years it was impossible for the Li Family to completely rely on the Hidden Fog Sect alone. They had already opened up other channels.

Li Shao had a grateful expression. He bowed in the direction he had just left from. He knew this was Lord Qin Yu’s repayment for his work.

In that lord’s eyes, this was nothing but a casual utterance. But to Li Shao, it was a turning point of his destiny...he already decided that he would leave Dragon City immediately and contact his relatives in East Root!

An hour later, once Qin Yu had carefully inspected the transmission array to make sure nothing was wrong with it, he cupped his hands to Elder One Eye and then stepped inside.

Hum –

The array formation suddenly lit up. The space around it began to distort. When the light faded away, Qin Yu’s figure had vanished.

Elder One Eye narrowed his single eye. He faintly said, “Have we locked onto our honored guest’s location?”

Several breaths of time later, a Shadow Clan cultivator hurried over. "Reporting to Elder, we have caught traces of the array formation mark."

Elder One Eye nodded. For everything following this, there was no need for him to meddle.

The 400 shadow trees from the auction as well as the 30 in his hands had been recently cut down. There was no need to mention what this meant.

The Shadow Clan didn't violate their vow. They only hoped to obtain more shadow trees from this honored guest.

Not too far away from the Hidden Fog Sect's station, in a remote garden, space suddenly twisted and Qin Yu's figure appeared. Without hesitation, he looked up and determined where he was. Then, he soared straight towards a large tree.

Several breaths of time later, with the sounds of fierce spatial fluctuations, Qin Yu's feet rose and fell several times, disappearing into layers upon layers of buildings.

Moments later, several figures appeared near the transmission array in the shadow of the large tree. After completing its mission it had already self-destructed.

One of the cultivators frowned. He crouched down and carefully sifted through the mess. This transmission array was a standard product that could be purchased as long as one had spirit stones; there was no way to determine where it came from. According to the textures of the remnants, the transmission scope was over 3000 miles away. The man gently sighed.

That person had left Dragon City!

"Leave. We're reporting to the Patriarch."

Shua –

Shua –

The several people howled away.

...

Witchcraft Sect station.

Little Ancestor flew into a rage. His eyes were bright and ominous, as if he were going to bite anyone that approached him.

"Trash, you are all trash!"

The cultivator who had wrested away the dragon blood and dragon soul had quietly disappeared, causing the Witchcraft Sect's plans to completely fail.

Below, a Witchcraft Sect cultivator was kneeling on the ground with his head lowered to the floor. He didn't argue back or give any explanation, instead allowing Little Ancestor to freely vent his anger.

Everyone knew of Little Ancestor's personality and there was no one to blame for this incident. As long as he honestly confessed his guilt and was scolded for some time, this outburst would soon pass.

If anyone dared to argue or contradict him, then that person must truly be tired of living!

Everyone knew that the sudden disappearance of that cultivator was inevitably related to the Shadow Clan.

But no matter what angle they considered this situation from, the Witchcraft Sect had no standing to interrogate the Shadow Clan.

This was a major loss!

That's right, in the minds of the Witchcraft Sect cultivators, allowing Qin Yu to leave with the dragon blood and dragon soul was a major loss.

Because they believed those things should have been theirs to begin with.

Little Ancestor cursed out loud for a long time before he took a seat, gasping for breath. He had a drink of cold tea but wasn't able to suppress his anger. He threw the teacup to the ground, smashing it to pieces.

"You pathetic pieces of trash, never allow me to see you again otherwise I will make you suffer a fate worse than death!"

The dragon blood was one thing, but the dragon soul was something he had longed for even in his dreams. If the Witchcraft Sect was able to obtain it, they would be able to cultivate several types of formidable witchcraft insects that had long since gone extinct.

And with Little Ancestor's status, he would have the qualifications to participate in the distribution of them...but now, everything had become a faded dream.

...

Yue Die obeyed her teacher's instructions and stayed in her room until the morning of the next day. Finally, she wasn't able to endure it any longer and soared straight to the laboratory.

When she arrived, there were already several visitors in the laboratory. They were the Hidden Fog Sect Master and other high level figures of the sect.

"Mister didn't participate in the auction yesterday; you truly missed out on a grand occasion..." After hearing this, Yun Die was stunned. Luckily she was quick to react. Before anyone realized something was off, she stepped forward and bowed.

"I greet teacher, Sect Master, and fellow Elders."

Qin Yu smiled and nodded, "Rise."

Yun Die straightened herself and moved to the side. At this time, her tense heart finally started to relax.

It seemed that teacher hadn't been discovered by anyone. This was truly the protection of the heavens!

Elder Si said, "Miss Yun Die did not participate in the auction yesterday, so it's possible that you didn't know what happened. In the finale, the Shadow Clan put forth three treasures. A mysterious cultivator

appeared and suppressed all sides, taking away two of them. Their wealth was truly able to contend with anyone. I wonder just which influence they came from.”

Another Elder said, “That’s right, I pity the Witchcraft Sect. Their face was ruthlessly slapped around and they didn’t even have a chance to regain their honor. That mysterious character didn’t take a single step out of the Shadow Clan’s dwelling before he vanished without a trace.”

“Hahaha! I hear the Witchcraft Sect’s Little Ancestor flew into an apoplectic rage and cursed his servants for an hour before he was able to calm down! The Witchcraft Sect Master even lost their composure and destroyed one of their favorite witchcraft cups.”

“They got what they deserved. The Witchcraft Sect has been increasingly reckless these days, and this was a good chance to beat them back down to size.”

Everyone spoke up, gloating about the misfortune of the Witchcraft Sect. The dragon blood, dragon soul, and dragon fang were precious items, but they weren’t necessary for the Hidden Fog Sect. They weren’t particularly disappointed that they couldn’t obtain any of them.

Yun Die was barely able to maintain her composure as she was in a strange state of mind. She didn’t need to ask to know that the mysterious character that Elder Si and the others referred to with such relish was actually her teacher.

And seeing the clueless Hidden Fog Sect people, Yun Die sighed inwardly. Not only was her teacher a Grand Expert boundary beast trainer, but his acting skills were also top notch!

After chatting a little more, the Hidden Fog Sect Master lightly coughed and said, “Mister, Dragon City’s arena will open today and the entry time is at noon. I will have to leave everything up to you after that.”

His expression was solemn and respectful. He stood up and bowed in earnest.

Elder Si and the others all had dignified expressions. But, their eyes were also filled with hopeful expectation. If the Hidden Fog Sect could have the last laugh this time, all of them would receive rich rewards.

Qin Yu nodded. “Sect Master, rest assured that I will give it my best effort.”

A light flashed in the depths of his eyes.

Whether it was for the jade piece that was part of the rewards for the champion, or the bet he made with the Dark Parliament, he had to win this Beast King War no matter what.

Sensing Qin Yu’s earnestness, the Hidden Fog Sect Master untensed. He took out a storage ring and said, “These are all the items that the Hidden Fog Sect won after participating in the Shadow Clan auction yesterday. Feel free to use them.”

He put down the ring and said, “I won’t disturb your rest any longer. Before leaving, I will send others to inform you.”

He brought Elder Si and the others away. As the disciple, Yun Die delivered them out.

Once the Hidden Fog Sect Master and the others walked far away, Yun Die turned and looked at the laboratory entrance. She took a deep breath and walked inside.

“Teacher!”

She respectfully bowed. Although there were many questions in her heart, she didn’t know how to ask, or whether she should even ask. Still, she couldn’t restrain herself.

Qin Yu glanced at her, “It’s as you think.”

It was fine to say more, but this was enough.

Yun Die was stunned. She immediately revealed a touched expression, “Teacher, rest assured that I will keep my mouth shut and won’t reveal this to anyone!”

Qin Yu trusted her words, otherwise he wouldn’t have allowed her to help him yesterday.

The only downside was that Yun Die knew he had cultivated a massive number of shadow trees in less than three days.

But Qin Yu couldn’t come up with a reasonable explanation for the time being. He could only leave it for later.

Thinking that, he said, “Yun Die, there are some matters that I cannot explain to you now. I have my own reasons for doing so.

“Presently, our most important goal is to win the Beast King War and win the bet with the Dark Parliament.”

Yun Die respectfully bowed, “Yes, teacher.”

### **Chapter 732A – Seven Beasts Collide**

Dragon City.

In some courtyard, two people sat across from each other.

On top of the square wooden temple in the middle, there was a complete tea set. As boiling spirit water was poured in, white mist ascended and the fragrance of tea wafted out.

“Please.”

On the left was a man who seemed to be around 30 years of age. He had a calm and handsome appearance. As he smiled and spoke, he gave off a warm and friendly atmosphere.

The cultivator across from him was completely covered by black robes. His voice was harsh and grating as he asked, “Just who are you?”

This was a question he had thought about for a long time but had never figured out the answer to. That secret should have been thoroughly destroyed with that saber many years ago.

But this other party clearly knew about it.

He knew that this person would only dare to appear in front of him if he had full confidence in his safety. If it weren't for that, he would have struck this person down on the spot.

The middle-aged cultivator pointed his finger at the tea cup. "This spirit tea is precious and was nurtured and bred from the heavens and earth. Fellow daoist hasn't disappointed so far."

The black-robed figure was silent for a long time. Then, he picked up a tea cup, and disregarding how boiling hot it was, drank it all down in one gulp. "The tea has been drunk. Just who are you and what do you want? Tell me honestly!"

Moments later, the black-robed figure rushed out of the courtyard. He turned and glanced backwards, hatred in his eyes. Then, he huffed away.

At the table, the middle-aged cultivator started to soak the tea leaves a second time. Only like this could one fully appreciate the charm of the spirit tea in its entirety.

"Nothing but a cow chewing peonies, completely oblivious to their worth."

The man gently sighed. He slowly drank the tea and placed the cup back on the table. Slowly, starting from the tea cup he had held, everything began to disintegrate to dust, from the tea set and then the table.

These things had been contaminated by the aura of a mediocre person; how could he ever use them again? He stood up with his hands held behind his back. There was a lofty expression on his face as he happily smiled.

Winning the bet was extremely easy to begin with, so why go through so much trouble? The Senators were far too cautious.

Now, he had already made the first move and silently flourished his sword in a quiet place. He wondered whether or not this Mister Ning Qin would be able to resolve this matter safely!

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As noon approached, Qin Yu brought Yun Die out of the laboratory. Another cultivator led them to the main hall of the temporary station area.

The Hidden Fog Sect people were already waiting here. When they saw him arrive, they all stood up and bowed.

"Greetings, Mister Ning Qin!"

Qin Yu nodded, "Shall we begin?"

As his voice fell, the earth beneath him started to tremble.

It was a low and hollow rumbling, like thunder from beyond the horizon wildly attacking their eardrums.

The Hidden Fog Sect Master drew in a deep breath, "The arena has opened!"

At this time, if someone were standing above the clouds and looking down at the sprawling Dragon City, they would discover that the edges of a massive square in the city were packed with cultivators looking inside with shock and amazement.

Within the giant square, tiles began to rise up, forming giant arches that curved outwards and seemed to prop up the heavens.

The ground in the center sank down, becoming an immense platform. The surrounding terrain started to rise up in rings, forming a circle.

In each ring, the tiles had transformed into chairs. The sizes of these chairs were titanic, so large that it was hard to imagine just how gigantic one needed to be to fit properly into these stone seats.

And in front of these stone chairs were seven round tables supported by stones. At the front of each table were raised stone seats that allowed one to overlook the entire arena...this was where the seven great sects were to arrive.

In a short several breaths of time, an astonishingly large-scale arena that emitted an ancient aura had risen up from the depths of the earth, appearing before everyone present.

Outside the arena, the cultivators who saw this all flushed red, shaking with excitement.

This was a sight akin to a miracle!

And this was only the opening salvo of today's events. Dragon City's arena had opened and the seven great sects were going to enter the arena. They just had no idea who was going to win today's first collision.

"I'm favoring the Witchcraft Sect. Although they were suppressed by the Hidden Fog Sect when they entered the city, they must be hiding their strength."

"That's right. The Witchcraft Sect's spirit beast is powerful and brutal, and more importantly it is bloodthirsty and fearless. It possesses all sorts of strange and inexplicable methods that are difficult to deal with."

"Compared to the rest of you, I'm looking forward to Radiance Temple! I heard that several years ago in some ancient ruins, they managed to catch a heaven-shockingly strong great monster, and they managed to tame it into becoming their sect's spirit beast. They are sure to win this Beast King War!"

"Hehe, you should all wash your eyes and carefully choose which side you wish to support. When the Beast King War is over, the victor's camp will obtain a collective gift from Dragon City."

"Hahaha! Of course, otherwise why would I bring my disciples from a trillion miles away to watch this battle!"

A tall cultivator whose body was like an iron tower and whose figure resembled a mountain said, "The arena has just opened and the seven sects will enter using their own methods. It's not too late to look at their performance first before coming to a decision."

As his voice fell, a cruel aura shot into the skies from the southwest area of Dragon City. Suddenly, a black fog wildly gathered, instantly turning into a heaven-obstructing cloud that darkened that part of the world.

Within this black cloud, giant shadows tumbled about. They were merged together with the clouds so that it was impossible to see their appearance. But from the way the clouds tumbled about, one could see that whatever it was, it was mind-bogglingly large.

A pair of red eyes appeared in the black fog, like seas of blood that were looking down at the world with disdain. There was a loud roar that swept out, leaving ripples in its wake and causing the air to surge about in wild waves.

“It’s the Witchcraft Sect!”

“That’s right, they were hiding their strength. The strength of that spirit beast leaves my heart shaking!”

“How terrifying!”

Then, from the western side of Dragon City, a resonant sword cry soared into the heavens. A trillion sword lights shot forth, forming a straight beam of light.

Within this light beam, a single eye appeared. It was silver-white in color without any impurities. As the eye looked down, one could feel the annihilating intent contained within it, as if it could rip apart anything in the world!

“Limitless Sword Sect!”

“I heard that there is a strange beast in their sect. This beast followed the last master of the Limitless Sword Sect to cultivate for over 5000 years. It has managed to open up its spiritual wisdom and form its own sword intent, and is even known by some to be the Vice Leader of the sect. It is said to be able to open its eyes and cause the world to collapse!”

“That is clearly the strange beast that formed its own sword intent!”

“I always believed my family’s sword arts to be wise and profound, but I don’t even dare to look at that single eye. The seething sword intent contained within it is simply too dreadful!”

A cry rang out. It was coldly arrogant and domineering, containing an aura that suppressed all sides. From the northeast end of Dragon City, motes of starlight appeared in the skies and started to fall down like feathers.

The star light gathered in midair, turning into a snow white bird with a laurel crown on its head. It unfurled its wings, revealing its magnificent demeanor.

“That’s where Radiance Temple is from!”

“That must be the great monster that they were rumored to have subdued several years ago. I never expected it to be a phoenix luan!”

“That’s not a pure phoenix luan, but one that has undergone some sort of variation mutation, giving it the ability to interact with the stars.”



“To quicken a change in the heavens, this is a scene that only a top spirit beast could create!”

Before entering the arena, the competition between the seven sects had already begun.

By displaying their strength, they wanted to attract the attention of the cultivators in the city to join their side.

Because the number of cultivators one attracted was also one of the keys to winning first place!

A powerful aura erupted from the Hidden Fog Sect’s station. As sounds of cheers and acclaim rose up, the cultivators from the Hidden Fog Sect flushed red and their heart rates started to accelerate!

Eyes began to look over.

The Hidden Fog Sect Master took a deep breath. He shouted, “Go!”

He looked at Qin Yu. Seeing Qin Yu nod a little, he no longer hesitated and stepped out.

Behind him, Qin Yu, Yun Die, and the other people of the Hidden Fog Sect followed.

Pa –

Pa –

Their footsteps gradually became one. A fearless and imposing aura was released from their bodies, gathering together and becoming some sort of signal to charge forward.

Roar –

With a deep cry, the dark star ice serpent’s aura erupted, condensing into its massive figure in the skies above the Hidden Fog Sect’s station. It was shaped like a flood dragon with a sharp pair of claws beneath its abdomen. Between its eyes, there was a single silver-white horn that thrust into the skies like a spear.

Silver-white textures appeared in its eyes. Its pupils were cold and indifferent, possessing the potential of a king!

As it breathed, light white fog circulated around its nose and mouth. The temperature in the world started to drastically fall, condensing into countless pieces of ice that danced in the air around it.

“It’s the Hidden Fog Sect!”

“That’s the one that crushed the Witchcraft Sect’s spirit beast outside the city gates that day!”

“That spirit beast is called the dark star ice serpent. Just as the rumors say, its strength is horrifying! Look at the pieces of ice surrounding its body. With just a single shard, you can freeze an entire river!”

“It’s a pity that the Hidden Fog Sect wasn’t able to maintain their calm. They fell for the Witchcraft Sect’s provocation and exposed their cards ahead of time. Now everyone knows that the dark star ice serpent favors ice-attribute supernatural powers. I fear everyone is already prepared for it by now.”

“That’s true. Otherwise the dark star ice serpent might have had the chance to contend for the position of leader!”

With all the cultivators and influences that had gathered at Dragon City, many of them had vast fields of experience and knowledge. They naturally realized what was so amazing about the dark star ice serpent.

This was why they felt this situation was so unfortunate. For a spirit beast whose attributes were known, as long as the enemy party used targeted means to deal with this specific attribute, it would be enough to nullify most of the threat coming from it.

Many people sneered inwardly. Hidden Fog Sect...humph, how stupid of them!

### **Chapter 732B – Seven Beasts Collide**

Moonkeep Tower, Typhoon Mountain, and the Blue Origin Sect all made their moves one after another. With this, all seven great sects appeared on stage. With Dragon City arena as the center, seven spirit beast phantoms came from seven different directions, stirring spiritual strength of the heavens and earth and causing the world to roar and tumble like a stormy sea.

As if by prior agreement, all seven spirit beast phantoms began to advance toward the arena. The confrontation of their auras changed the colors of the world. Black clouds, sword light, snow and ice, astral winds – all sorts of strange powers collided against each other, stimulating the heart and mind.

In the previous Beast King Wars, all of the opening ceremonies had been splendid and intense. The seven great sects used their spirit beasts to announce their strength to the public and suppress their opponents.

Suddenly, a hollow roar erupted. Black fog emerged from thin air. It carried with it a powerful corrosive attribute as it wrapped around the dark star ice serpent.

Cries of alarm filled the air!

“The Witchcraft Sect has made a move. Their target is still the Hidden Fog Sect!”

“These two great sects have layers upon layers of hatred with each other. Every time they meet there is guaranteed to be a battle!”

“The Witchcraft Sect’s spirit beast has yet to be exposed. But looking at its aura, it is sure to be formidable. The dark star ice serpent might not be able to resist it.”

“Indeed. The Witchcraft Sect might be cruel and ruthless in how they act, but they rarely do anything that they don’t have full confidence in. If they attack now they must be fully prepared.”

The Hidden Fog Master furrowed his eyebrows. Anxiousness and worry flooded the faces of those behind him. Since the dark star ice serpent healed from its wounds, they hadn’t seen it truly display its strength. Moreover, what it was against was the strange and malicious Witchcraft Sect.

Yun Die clenched her fists beneath her robes. She stared tightly at the dark star ice serpent that was wrapped in black fog.

Then, that tumbling corrosive black fog turned into a picture, freezing in place.

Following that, faint traces of frost white color enveloped the black fog. The dark star ice serpent swept its body around, directly breaking the black fog apart and sending countless fragments shooting outwards.

In the next moment it looked up, locking its eyes onto the Witchcraft Sect's spirit beast. The silver-white textures in its eyes started to flow like water.

Then, the black fog that wrapped around the Witchcraft Sect's spirit beast began to roil about. One could clearly feel a bone-chilling cold emanating from within.

Roar –

There was an angered howl mixed with pain. Within the tumbling black fog, blood red eyes locked onto the dark star ice serpent.

Although the ice cold aura soon dissipated, everyone understood that in this situation where the Witchcraft Sect's spirit beast had taken the initiative to launch an attack, it had been the one to be suppressed instead!

In that instant, many eyes that looked at the dark star ice serpent filled with amazement. To instantly break the attack of the Witchcraft Sect's spirit beast and launch a counterattack without hesitation, the strength it displayed during this confrontation had far exceeded everyone's expectations.

Could it be that it was still hiding its strength?

Hu –

Yun Die let out a breath of relief. At the same time, she found that many people were the same as her. When all of them let out a breath together, it seemed especially obvious.

Her face reddened and she scolded herself. Others might not know of teacher's strength so it was fine if their hearts wavered. But, she was teacher's only disciple, so how could she be the same as these people?

She nervously looked at her teacher. He seemed to sense something as he turned to look at her, his expression calm and without waves. It seemed that in her teacher's eyes, this was a minor matter not worth mentioning. This was the dark star ice serpent he had personally cultivated; it could withstand any challenge!

Yun Die felt even greater shame and embarrassment. Her heart that had become unstable because of today's atmosphere began to gradually calm down instead.

Teacher would definitely be able to win. Definitely!

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The seven great sects had gathered at Dragon City and were entering the arena to engage in a showdown of strength. The Hidden Fog Sect was only one of them, and they weren't the center of attention either.

Since the dark star ice serpent possessed tyrannical strength, it was best not to provoke it for the time being. There was a tangled web of grudges and gratitude between the seven great sects, and it was always easy to find someone to stand against.

Hum –

Clear and harmonic sword cries rang through the world, their sounds like the waters of a bone-cold river running beneath a layer of winter ice. It slid across everyone's minds, causing their souls to tremble.

The Limitless Sword Sect's spirit beast made its move. Its sword intent locked onto Radiance Temple. At the Shadow Clan auction the Dragon Fang they desired had been taken by them, so how could they not care about this?

The phoenix luan's eyes were filled with a faint dignity. Facing this heaven-towering sword, it spread its wings and guarded itself inside. White light shimmered into existence around its feathers.

The invisible sword cut down. White light fluctuated around the phoenix luan, leaving behind light ripples, like a calm spring wind blowing across a still lake.

Gentle, calm, relaxed, it easily resisted all of the destructive killing power.

Then, the phoenix luan opened its wings. Winds were whipped into existence, forming a massive vortex. Deep blue wind sabers slashed down, like an endless rain on a summer day.

To not reciprocate was against etiquette. If the Limitless Sword Sect wanted to use Radiance Temple to establish their prestige, they naturally had to withstand a counterattack.

The calling of the sword became even louder and clearer, as if a great sword stood tall in the world. The blade trembled continuously and torrential sword light howled outwards, as if a dam had been broken.

The blue wind sabers wildly clashed in midair with the silver-white sword lights. Countless small cracks appeared in the surrounding space, causing the cultivators outside the arena to cry in alarm.

The condensed incarnation of the Blue Origin Sect's spirit beast was a blue gorilla. It beat its fists against its chest, the sound like the thundering of a great drum.

This sound spread out like a tide, stirring up the strength of the heavens and earth. The phantom of a mountain range appeared in the void. It fell down from the highest heavens, plummeting towards where Typhoon Mountain was.

In turbulent and rippling blue water, a big fish recklessly thrashed around. But, what was different about this big fish was that it had horns on its head, and it had a golden beard around its lips that waved about.

This was a dragon fish. It contained the bloodline of the dragon race in its body. At this time, its eyes were locked onto the blue gorilla. It raised its tail and viciously slapped it into the water.

Rumble rumble –

The sounds of torrential waves rose up between the heavens and earth, as if they were placed within the endless sea.

In the void, violent waves appeared, capable of crushing all things. They collided with the mountain range phantom.

As the battle between both sides was in full swing, hazy and dim moonlight suddenly sprinkled down from midair, covering the wild waves and mountain phantom.

Out of the seven great sects, the most low-key and mysterious Moonkeep Tower had finally made its move. It immediately began a three-way melee.

Before entering the arena, the seven great sects had started clashing with each other. They wanted to suppress their opponents and harvest even more attention from the onlookers.

Meanwhile, the condensed incarnations of the seven spirit beasts constantly moved to the center of Dragon City, gradually approaching the edges of the arena.

As the massive number of cultivators outside saw this splendid and extraordinary battle between spirit beasts, their eyes shined with awe and wonder. They gradually came to a decision in their hearts.

The battle in the arena was a competition between the seven great sects. But, the watching cultivators also had a personal interest in it – that is, the collective present from Dragon City.

Every time the arena opened, the final winner would be called the leader. They were the champions, the ones that were able to stand up arrogantly and smile down upon all others. At that time, all cultivators who chose to support the leader's camp would be baptized with dragon energy. Absorbing this was greatly beneficial to a cultivator.

So choosing which side to support was incredibly important. Cultivators needed to make their own judgment. After making a decision, they wouldn't be able to change it.

As the seven great sects approached, the cultivators surrounding the arena began to move. They moved towards the direction they chose, while heading into the seven entrances of the arena.

"I choose the Limitless Sword Sect!"

"I also choose the Limitless Sword Sect! A spirit beast that has cultivated for 5000 years and has perceived its own sword intent must be terrifyingly strong. It will definitely win!"

"Well, I feel more optimistic about Radiance Temple's phoenix luan. After evolving it is able to galvanize the stars. This is a phenomenon only the king of beasts can accomplish!"

"The Blue Origin Sect's great gorilla can summon the strength of the heavens and earth and condense a mountain phantom of the highest heavens. Its strength cannot be underestimated!"

"Typhoon Mountain's dragon fish can control the source water of the heavens and earth. A single splash can summon tsunamis. It is also extremely fierce!"

"The Witchcraft Sect appears to have suffered a setback, but with their secretive style, they must be concealing something."

"Moonkeep Tower's spirit beast can control moonlight. That is an unpredictable power. It has to be a formidable being!"

Everyone excitedly discussed and argued with each other, but few people mentioned the Hidden Fog Sect. It wasn't that the dark star ice serpent was weak, but since its attributes were exposed ahead of time, the other six sects had to have ways to guard against it.

Originally, with the strength the dark star ice serpent displayed so far, it had the qualifications to contend for the position of leader. But due to the Hidden Fog Sect's stupidity, they now became the party with the smallest chance of success.

Unless someone was highly involved with the Hidden Fog Sect or had some other reason, no one would choose them.

### **Chapter 733 - The First Round**

Once everyone had chosen their respective sides, the Limitless Sword Sect, Witchcraft Sect, and Radiance Temple had the most supporters. The Blue Origin Sect, Typhoon Mountain, and Moonkeep Tower had slightly fewer.

In the region for those that supported the Hidden Fog Sect, there were fewer than 30% of the people anyone else had. Compared to the Limitless Sword Sect that had the most supporters, they probably only had 20% of their numbers.

And as time passed and the divisions started to become clear, the cultivators standing in the Hidden Fog Sect's camp began to reveal anxiousness and hesitation.

Within the crowd, an old man with white hair stamped his feet and said, "Although our family has received the kindness of the Hidden Fog Sect, we cannot risk the futures of our descendants. Follow behind me; we are going to join the Limitless Sword Sect's side!"

Behind him, two young cultivators stood up with pleasant surprise on their faces. They followed the old man as they quickly made their way out.

"Aiya! It's not that I don't want to support them, but stubbornly sticking this out is useless. I'm being moved by the trends here!" A middle-aged cultivator sighed and turned to walk towards the Witchcraft Sect.

The number of cultivators in a camp was an important measure for ranking first in the first clash. And, the true significance of first place was to obtain immunity from the first round of battle.

When the seven great sects fought, there was an uneven number of competitors, so the privilege of immunity was enjoyed by the one who received first place.

And it was because of this that the arena's opening ceremony was so splendid and fantastical. All of the seven great sects wanted to take first prize.

Once they had immunity from the first round, not only would they be able to sit back and relax while preserving their strength, they would also be able to observe the battle between the six spirit beasts and gain actual information on them. These advantages were incredibly significant.

Although taking first place didn't mean they would become the leader, their chances would be much higher. The results from the previous Beast King Wars were the best proof of this!

Today, the Hidden Fog Sect showed signs of decline and it was unlikely they would take the first place prize. Those that wanted to obtain the gift of Dragon City naturally wouldn't be willing to stay here.

More and more people left. In the end, fewer than a hundred people remained in the Hidden Fog Sect's camp.

These people welcomed the playful and pondering eyes of everyone else. Their expressions filled with bitterness as they bowed their heads. They each had their own respective reasons for why they had to show support to the Hidden Fog Sect, otherwise they wouldn't have wanted to stay behind either.

This was Dragon City's present...many people had struggled to come here, even travelling a trillion miles, all to struggle for this lucky chance. But, they were doomed to return empty-handed!

There was the sound of footsteps as the cultivators of the seven great sects arrived at the arena almost simultaneously. At the front, the Hidden Fog Sect Master's complexion changed as he revealed a gloomy look.

Behind him, everyone widened their eyes. After a brief shock there was an awkward embarrassment.

Countless cultivators were gathered here in the massive Dragon City. Yet, fewer than a hundred of them had gathered at the Hidden Fog Sect's camp.

And these people were basically all 'deeply related'. Just thinking about this made one feel shame. As for why there were so few people, everyone had already heard about it during their time in Dragon City these past days.

Some eyes fell onto Qin Yu. After all, when they entered the city it was him who controlled the dark star ice serpent to react. There was inevitably some enmity here.

However, because of Qin Yu's 'Grand Expert' status, these thoughts were only hinted at in their expressions and they didn't dare say anything about it.

Yun Die could sense the changes in the looks of the Hidden Fog Sect people. Her breathing deepened and anger burned in her eyes.

These people had gone too far! They were clearly the ones who had requested teacher to help on that day so they could regain their face.

Now they were complaining!

If this was going to happen, teacher should have just stood back and left them to wallow in their own misery!

Of course, Yun Die selectively chose to forget that on that day, she also approved of teacher giving the Witchcraft Sect a lesson.

The Hidden Fog Sect Master lightly coughed. He turned and said, "Mister Ning Qin, everything is up to you now."

With things having come to this point, blaming others was useless. He could only choose to believe in Qin Yu and hope that he could guide the Hidden Fog Sect to the very end.

After all, he was a true Grand Expert!

After obtaining this reminder from the Sect Master, the Hidden Fog Sect people regained their composure. They restrained their mood and their expressions relaxed a little.

That's right, they had a Grand Expert helping them. Even if the dark star ice serpent's attributes were known ahead of time, that didn't mean it would matter.

Beneath his black robes, Qin Yu had a calm expression. "Sect Master, rest assured that I know what I am doing."

And who could have guessed that outside of Dragon City, he had taken advantage of their brief conflict with the Witchcraft Sect to 'expose' the dark star ice serpent's attribute purposefully?

If it weren't for that, how could he give them a pleasant surprise at the key moment? And 'them' naturally referred to the Dark Parliament. Not to be rude, but he never placed these seven great sects in his eyes to begin with.

If the Hidden Fog Sect wanted to win the Beast King War, Qin Yu had no other choice but to do this. As for the mood of the Hidden Fog Sect's people, he could feel their emotions but he didn't care at all.

In the end, the two sides only had a cooperative relationship. Moreover, he didn't have much of a favorable impression of the Hidden Fog Sect. After this cooperation was finished he wouldn't see them again in the future. At the most, they would only have the relationship of people who once worked with each other. Was there any need to pay attention to them?

"This time's Beast King War is quite interesting. Before it has officially begun, a side has already been rejected." The Witchcraft Sect Master wore rainbow-hued robes. But this wasn't a laughable sight at all. Rather, he gave off a dignified and solemn atmosphere, one that filled the hearts of others with fear and awe.

When he spoke up, although he didn't name anyone or point a finger anywhere, everyone could tell who he was referring to.

The Witchcraft Sect and Hidden Fog Sect had grudges that had stacked up throughout the years. Although things seemed congenial on the surface, they actually constantly clashed in secret. Their hands were soaked in the blood of their opponent.

The Witchcraft Sect Master wouldn't miss out on a chance to kick the Hidden Fog Sect while they were down and diminish their prestige.

Following that was a burst of laughter from the mouths of the Witchcraft Sect cultivators. The sounds filled the air, harsh and grating.

...

Outside of Dragon City, the two sects had already fought once from their flying ships. The Witchcraft Sect had taken the initiative to attack, but the result was that they were suppressed by the Hidden Fog Sect's dark star ice serpent instead. Not only did their opponents not lose face, but they had been slapped back.



Then, during the Shadow Clan's auction, the Witchcraft Sect had been played by that hateful and mysterious cultivator. They had become the laughingstock of everyone there. Due to that, the Witchcraft Sect was overflowing with resentment. Now, they decided to vent it all on the Hidden Fog Sect.

The Witchcraft Sect cultivators all breathed in breaths of fresh and crisp air, looking down at their opponents from a high and imperious position. They thought that the Hidden Fog Sect were truly stupid for revealing their cards in a fit of anger. Their intestines were probably blue with regret by now.

The Limitless Sword Sect, Radiance Temple, Typhoon Mountain, Blue Origin Sect, and Moonkeep Tower all glanced towards them, their expressions faint...no matter what angle they considered this from, it was a good deed to them that the Witchcraft Sect was locked in a bitter feud with the Hidden Fog Sect.

The Limitless Sword Sect Master raised a hand, "Everyone, since the arena has opened, let us not delay anymore. After we enter we shall compete again."

The Limitless Sword Sect had never cared for how sharp one's tongue was. In this world, the only determining factor was one's own strength.

Of course, another reason was that the Limitless Sword Sect had the most supporters right now and they occupied the advantage. They wanted to solidify this advantage as soon as possible – once they stepped into the arena, no one would be able to change which camp they supported.

The Limitless Sword Sect Master's eyes shined with splendor. "Everyone, I thank you all for believing in the Limitless Sword Sect. My sect will not disappoint you! Now, let us all step into the arena together!"

He led the way forward. Invisible stone steps seemed to appear beneath his feet, slowly rising into the air until they fell on the Limitless Sword Sect's platform.

The Limitless Sword Sect Master did his part. He walked to the front stone chair and sat down. His gestures were filled with majesty and grandeur. His actions were sharp and swift, as if the position of leader was already his.

In the rear, the cultivators that supported the Limitless Sword Sect flew down onto the rows of giant stone chairs. Each chair was capable of seating a thousand people; from this one could understand how amazingly large they were.

The Witchcraft Sect Master coldly sneered, a gloomy light flashing in his eyes. He was clearly unhappy with the Limitless Sword sect's actions, but he didn't say anything at all. He waved his hand and his followers entered the arena.

The Limitless Sword Sect had many supporters, but the Witchcraft Sect also had a considerable number. There was a minor discrepancy, however this wasn't something that was impossible to catch up to. It had to be known that to be first place, while the number of supporters was important, it wasn't the key point.

No one knew who the winner would be!

The Hidden Fog Sect Master briefly furrowed his eyebrows. He was quieter than usual today, as if he were disturbed by the atmosphere and his mood wasn't too great.

He let out a light breath, "Let's also enter."

The Hidden Fog Sect people sighed. They knew that asking to place first was an overly extravagant expectation for the first day. They could only hope that the dark star ice serpent gave everyone a pleasant surprise.

But when the other six sects appeared, they had numerous supporters. Their waves of momentum as they cheered and hollered were enormous and heart-stirring. However, when it came to the Hidden Fog Sect, they had fewer than a hundred people.

This was indeed embarrassing!

When the seven sects all entered the stage, this contrast reached the extreme. Fewer than a hundred supporters stood on a single almost-empty chair. It was like every other sect had a delicious meat bun packed with filling, but when it came to the Hidden Fog Sect, their meat bun was lacking any meat.

The other cultivators were amused as they looked over. While they didn't openly ridicule the Hidden Fog Sect like the Witchcraft Sect did, their thoughts were similar.

In today's opening ceremony, the Hidden Fog Sect had no hopes of taking first in the first round!

### **Chapter 734 - Seven Rings**

Behind Radiance Temple's platform, there was a giant stone chair. This place was the chair with the best view of the arena. The Shadow Clan had cordoned off an area here to use for themselves.

But no one expressed any dissatisfaction with this, because they knew that lucky and mysterious Shadow Clan Saintess was here.

Even the seven great sects had to give gifts. Was it that unusual for carefully managed business connections?

At this time, a female cultivator flew down from the platform in front. Her dress was snow white and without any other color, and her skin was as fair as a fairy's. She landed outside the Shadow Clan's area and warmly said, "My Sect Master invites Her Highness the Saintess to enter the platform to watch the battle."

The Shadow Clan people parted to reveal Zhou Li's figure. She wore an exquisite dress and her hair was combed back to reveal the shadow phantom hovering between her eyebrows. She was beautiful to begin with, but now there was an air of magnificence and regalness to her.

She slightly nodded and said, "I ask fairy maiden to please pass on a message to the Sect Master. I am not a cultivator of Radiance Temple. I do not wish to break the rules of the arena, so I shall be watching from here."

The female cultivator smiled, not insisting. "Alright."

She turned and flew away.

If the Shadow Clan Saintess favored Radiance Temple, she would clearly serve as a shining example that drew more cultivators to their side. This could be considered helpful to Radiance Temple, so that was the reason why there was such a scene at this time.

Since Zhou Li had expressed her intent, then they would respect her choice. Of course, this didn't mean that things were over like this. Once the Beast King War was over, no matter what the result was, Radiance Temple would still use this as an excuse to continue contacting Zhou Li. Being on good terms with the Shadow Clan Saintess would only bring Radiance Temple benefits and no harm.

Ji Yun smiled as he watched Zhou Li calmly deal with the situation. His infatuation with her overflowed in his heart. As expected, she was born to be a noble person. She was rapidly progressing in her learning of what to do.

But he wouldn't say anything more. Zhou Li now knew his identity, so the two were properly matched for each other and their relationship grew increasingly harmonious. As long as he allowed nature to take its course, things between them would eventually blossom.

"Zhou Li, today's opening ceremony is also considered splendid. It's just a pity that the Hidden Fog Sect weren't able to keep their temper and ruined their chances.

"The first round hasn't even begun and they've been eliminated from the competition...it's no wonder that my father once said the Hidden Fog Sect is growing increasingly worse with each generation. I fear they are beginning to wane. During this Beast King War, the Hidden Fog Sect has many disputes they need to settle. If their ranking is too poor, I fear they will have to shear off a great deal of meat. And once they fall, they will only fall further. In my opinion, if an extraordinary figure doesn't appear in the Hidden Fog Sect again, it won't be many years before they decline."

Zhou Li slowly nodded. She swept her eyes over the Hidden Fog Sect and was suddenly startled. She furrowed her eyebrows, hesitating for a moment as she shook her head.

Was she overthinking things? How could he appear in the Hidden Fog Sect? And looking at that person's position and where he stood before the numerous Elders, he clearly had a high status.

They should only have similar physiques. After all, this world was impossibly fast. With a trillion trillion lives, it was possible to find two people with identical appearances.

...

Qin Yu turned around. He spoke some words into Yun Die's ears. She nodded and walked away.

Not long after, Yun Die returned with an extra jade slip in her hands.

"Teacher, I have inquired about the arena's first round."

It was just that with teacher's status, how could he not know about something so important?

There was a flash of doubt in her heart. Yun Die ignored it and began to explain the contents to him.

Qin Yu's eyes flashed beneath his robes. After hearing, 'immunity on the first day', he finally realized the key point to all of this. This was simply 'cheating'! Whoever got first place had a much higher chance of being the leader!

But now, because the dark star ice serpent had 'exposed' its strength ahead of time, no one favored the Hidden Fog Sect's chances. This caused them to fall into a position of absolute inferiority in the competition for first place.

Still, even if everyone knew of this, Qin Yu didn't regret his actions from before. In order to deal with the designs of the Dark Parliament, even if he had to toss away any opportunity for immunity it was worth it.

Moreover, this didn't mean that he had no chance of reversing the situation.

Qin Yu looked up. His eyes were profound and dark as his gaze fell on the arena.

...

The Limitless Sword Sect Master looked in all directions, his imposing momentum overflowing from him. "Everyone, if there are no objections today, then my Limitless Sword Sect will humble ourselves first."

On the stone chairs behind, the eyes of their supporters lit up with expectation.

Before waiting for a reply, the Limitless Sword Sect Master flicked his sleeves. There was a flash of light as a strange beast appeared in front of him. It was shaped like a lizard and its scales were crystalline. Beneath the sunlight, they sparkled with light. At this moment it stood on two feet, walking straight like a human. What was even more surprising was that it used its forelegs like hands and held a sword.

The sword blade shimmered with ripples, like gently flowing lake waters. Faint traces of chill leaked into the air.

It turned its head and looked at the Limitless Sword Sect Master. The latter slowly nodded.

In the next moment, sword light flashed, so bright that it was like a great sun descending upon the world. The sudden eruption blinded the crowd, leaving them unable to look at it.

Then, the sword light sizzled forward, instantly passing through space and crashing into the arena!

"Ah!"

Countless people cried out in alarm. They could feel a destructive aura coming from this sword. It was indeed the power of the strange beast rumored to have followed by the side of the former Limitless Sword Sect Master and cultivated for 5000 years, even perceiving its own sword intent.

Its strength was terrifying!

In the space above the arena, ripples suddenly appeared. Ten rings of light appeared, layered upon each other. They gradually deepened in color as they went further in. The first was pale and clear, and the last one was as dark as ink.

The sword light suddenly appeared from the skies, cutting into the rings of light. The first five were immediately slashed through. The sixth layer was thick like darkened fog. When the sword light fell into it, it shattered fiercely, causing ripples to rise up.

The Limitless Sword Sect Master clenched his fists. In the next moment, there was a loud 'bang' as the ring of light trembled and shattered.

Good!

He shouted out loud, a smile on his face. The sword sect cultivators behind him went wild as they cheered enthusiastically.

One sword to break through six layers. Combined with having the most supporters, they had an evaluation of at least seven rings.

At this moment, the sword light dispersed and the rings of light disappeared. A little stone flew out from it and was grabbed by the Limitless Sword Sect Master.

He looked down and his smile widened...as he thought, it was seven rings!

It had to be known that during the last three times the Beast King War was held, seven rings was the highest result in the first round. It was no wonder the Limitless Sword Sect cultivators were so excited. It was because this meant that they had most likely locked onto victory.

“The Limitless Sword Sect lives up to their reputation!”

“I was right to place my trust in them!”

“Hahaha, I’m already impatient for Dragon City’s present!”

In the rear, the crowd cheered and celebrated.

As for the other six camps, the cultivators there were deathly silent. They looked at the sword sect’s side and their expressions were bitter.

The Limitless Sword Sect Master lifted the stone bead in his hand, a sharp light surging in his eyes. “Everyone, if you don’t have confidence then it’s best that you don’t waste your time!”

He was completely confident in himself. He would be able to obtain ‘immunity’ for this phase!

The sword sect’s spirit beast had made its move. Its sword slashed through the air and obtained an evaluation of seven rings, suppressing all sides!

In the silent and depressed atmosphere, no one thought that the ones to resist the immense pressure of the Limitless Sword Sect and make their move next would be Moonkeep Tower.

They had always been the most low-key and mysterious of the seven great sects.

### **Chapter 735A - Not the Limit**

In everyone’s line of sight, the Master of Moonkeep Tower that they saw was a woman with a tall physique but an extraordinarily common appearance. This was actually quite rare among high level cultivators.

In the long life of a cultivator, as long as they had the desire to change their appearance, it wasn’t anything too difficult. In fact, sometimes beautification would occur that was beyond one’s control.

For instance, Qin Yu’s current appearance. He looked very different from how he was originally. This was a boon granted to him as he ascended to higher and higher levels.

So, the Moonkeep Tower Master's appearance was either because she had purposefully changed it to this or because she had deliberately suppressed the transformation of her face. No matter what the reason was, in Qin Yu's eyes, she was a formidable existence.

If a woman could disregard her appearance, then it wasn't an exaggeration to call her 'terrifying'. She surely had an incredibly solid will!

If such a person dared to go after the Limitless Sword Sect and withstand the pressure they place on everyone, she was undoubtedly confident in herself.

At this moment she slashed a hand forward and a tear opened up in space. Then, a shadow howled out and Moonkeep Tower's strongest spirit beast appeared in front of everyone. It howled, its cries ringing in all directions.

"Moon praying beast!"

"No, that isn't an ordinary moon praying beast. Look at the mark between its eyebrows – that's a miniature crescent moon!"

"Everyone, have you discovered that since this beast appeared, the light in the world seems to have dimmed a little...this is interference of yin and yang!"

Before it released its aura, just by standing there it began to interfere with the movement of yin and yang. This was an ability only top class spirit beasts possessed, similar to the ability of Radiance Temple's phoenix luan to quicken the stars.

Everyone suddenly realized why Moonkeep Tower had the courage to go second. It was because they were confident in their performance!

No one dared to underestimate a spirit beast whose presence was able to interfere with the flow of yin and yang. A sharp and cold light flashed in the depths of the Limitless Sword Sect Master's eyes.

"Begin." The Moonkeep Tower Master lightly said.

The moon praying beast faced the arena and fell prostrate to its knees. It began to utter a strange litany of syllables from between its lips, every one wrapped in etherealness and mystery.

The light in the skies over Dragon City started to gradually extinguish as darkness poured down like thick ink, drowning everything within. Then, a mote of light appeared in the darkness. It was cold and lonely, as if it had never changed since ancient times, as if it would last forever.

The light diffused outwards and a massive full moon suddenly appeared in front of everyone. It was located high in the skies, temporarily replacing the sun. Its cool and indifferent moonlight sprinkled down, covering the entirety of Dragon City.

The moon praying beast looked up. The crescent moon between its eyebrows began to shine. Like a vortex, all of the moonlight that flooded Dragon City was drawn towards it in great surging waves.

After a brief moment of light, the vast Dragon City fell into darkness once more. That endless moonlight was concentrated in the skies above the arena. It grew increasingly bright until it finally surpassed the

radiance of the sun, turning into a giant flaming fireball. It was so bright that it was impossible to look at!

Countless cultivators felt a stabbing pain in their eyes, causing tears to flow down their cheeks. But none of them were willing to close their eyes. They all waited for the earth-shaking strike to arrive.

“Moon Bow!”

It was unknown which cultivator cried out in alarm, but the crowd felt their hearts skip a beat even as tears streamed from their eyes. Regardless of how the moonlight scorched their pupils, they tried to widen their eyes even more.

As they thought, within that inferno of moonlight, the phantom of a bow appeared. It was slowly drawn back as if an invisible hand held tightly onto it.

Then, the burning light rapidly vanished from sight. All of it was focused on the bowstring, condensing a small and delicate arrow.

Whoosh –

There was the sound of breaking air. But it was too fast. Just as soon as it began it came to a stop.

In the arena, the ten vanished rings of light appeared again. The moonlight arrow continued with irresistible force, instantly breaking the first five rings.

The sixth ring of light was dark and gloomy like thick fog. Right now it was wildly surging in great waves. The moonlight arrow that was too fast to be seen suddenly reappeared in everyone’s line of sight. It was halfway submerged through the ring of light. The tail of the arrow trembled.

This sight caused those within the arena to suck in a breath of cold air. Countless eyes flew wide open and their chins nearly fell to the floor.

At this moment, the moonlight arrow started to disintegrate beginning from its trembling tail. The tense Limitless Sword Sect cultivators were immediately overjoyed as their complexions changed to ones of happiness.

Just because the body of the arrow had collapsed didn’t mean its strength had vanished. On the contrary, it was like a booster that had been ignited. The front half of the arrow tore through the thick fog of the sixth ring of light and crashed into the seventh, a ring of light that seemed as dark as dusk. Then, it disappeared.

The ten rings of light vanished and a little rock flew over. The Moonkeep Tower Master lifted a hand and grasped it. Although she immediately put it away, everyone was able to clearly see the seven rings on it.

Seven rings! It was also seven rings!

During the last three Beast King Wars, this was a result that was able to suppress all factions. Now, two such results had appeared. Did this mean that today’s fierce struggle would be two evenly matched opponents?

Even if the following five sects had a performance that wasn't up to par, today had already been a splendid enough drama. There was only one first place but the first two sects were tied at the seventh ring. They would need to go through another battle to determine who won in the end.

The Limitless Sword Sect Master had an indifferent expression, his eyes as cold as the blade of a sword. "Moonkeep Tower Master, your methods are superb. I feel nothing but admiration!"

Beside him was a strange lizard holding a sword in hand. Its eyes were locked onto the moon praying beast and its body shook with invisible sword intent, causing space to tear around it in thin cracks.

The moon praying beast's eyes were as calm as a lake, without any fluctuations. It looked over and the eyes of the two spirit beasts collided.

Without any other action, the air in the world seemed to freeze. It was like running water in the depths of winter, about to freeze at any moment.

"Great!"

"They are truly worthy of being Moonkeep Tower!"

"I knew that the most low-key and mysterious of the seven great sects had to have their own strengths!"

In the rear, the cultivators in Moonkeep Tower's camp all cheered with joy and ecstasy.

When the Limitless Sword Sect obtained seven rings, they had fallen into despair. Who knew that the winding roads and twisting paths would lead them here?

Although they needed to go through another battle to determine final ownership of the 'bye' quota, they still had high chances of success.

This was a spirit beast capable of condensing the Moon Bow, a supreme weapon hidden between the heavens and earth. Moonkeep Tower's moon praying beast was qualified to compete for the position of Beast King.

As Moonkeep Tower's camp cheered, the atmosphere in the arena deepened. The five sects that hadn't yet taken their turn all felt a heavy weight on their shoulders.

Two seven rings!

After the Limitless Sword Sect and Moonkeep Tower made their moves, who dared to follow in their step? No matter who it was they would be compared with the first two. If their performance was poor, then they would be shamed in the public eye and all of their face and honor would sweep the ground!

The brief silence was soon broken. The Witchcraft Sect Master sneered, "Since none of you are willing to go next, I will be the third!"

He stepped forward and black fog gushed out, transforming into a massive black hole. As violent roars rang out, an incomparably fierce and hideous giant scorpion, one that was over a hundred feet tall, appeared in front of everyone.



Its eyes were as red as blood, like sanguine seas that were tumbling about. Its body overflowed with killing intent and the desire for destruction, as if anything it touched would be annihilated!

This performance was powerful, but facing two seven ring results so far, the Witchcraft Sect Master still felt oppressed. He took a deep breath and lifted a hand.

The over one hundred foot tall scorpion's body trembled and the image of the Witchcraft Sect Master was reflected in its eyes. As it roared, its cries were interwoven with resentment and fear.

The Witchcraft Sect Master was without expression. He locked eyes with the giant scorpion and after several breaths of time, it averted its gaze. It roared out loud again, a bit of sadness in its gurgling tone.

The giant scorpion's abdomen squirmed and five white eggs landed on the ground. With a sharp sound, five young scorpions, each around ten feet tall, drilled out from the eggs. Their shells were pink and translucent and one could see the organs wriggling within them.

Due to them being born early, the five young scorpions wailed in horror. They seemed to sense a clear threat. After breaking out of their eggs, they scattered in all directions.

But compared to their mother, the strength of these five young scorpions was so tiny that they could simply be ignored. Its blood red eyes glanced at the fleeing scorpions and its great tail thrust out like a bolt of lightning, instantly piercing through the body of a young scorpion. The young scorpion cried out in pain as it was lifted up and brought close to the jaws of the giant scorpion before being swallowed up.

The young scorpion's pitiful screams came to a sudden stop. What followed were the sounds of chewing and splashing juices. The blood red color in the giant scorpion's eyes became richer.

Following this pattern, the remaining young scorpions were eaten up in several breaths of time. Blood red veins appeared on the thick black carapace of the giant scorpion. They were like meridians, gathering the fresh blood into its tail, making it look as if it had been soaked in blood.

Hou –

With a cruel roar, it raised its tail. Its blood red stinger was like a demonic blade descending from the skies as it fiercely stabbed towards the arena.

Ten rings of light appeared, each of them overlapping upon each other. From pale white, they gradually deepened until they were pitch black.

Immediately, the first four rings of light immediately shattered beneath the scorpion tail. The fifth ring of light trembled for a moment but didn't break.

As this sight fell into everyone's eyes, some people felt their hearts skip a beat, some people gulped, some people were relaxed, and some people twisted their lips in disdain.

As of now, the Witchcraft Sect breaking through to the fifth ring of light was their limit. Even if they counted their supporters, they had at most a six ring result.

They had no qualifications to contend for first position, meaning that their chances of winning the Beast King War this time would become perilously low.

The Witchcraft Sect Master's face darkened like water. A violent light suddenly flashed in his eyes and he uttered a terse sound from his lips.

The great scorpion screamed in pain. Its entire tail unexpectedly blew apart. But, no flesh and blood splattered everywhere. Rather, it began to burn away, turning into blood red flames.

The fifth and sixth rings instantly shattered. The stinger of the scorpion tail stabbed into the seventh ring of light, causing it to violently shake.

Unfortunately, most of the stinger's strength had been used up. It wasn't capable of continuing any further.

### **Chapter 735B - Not the Limit**

Pa –

The Witchcraft Sect Master grabbed the small rock that flew at him. Seven rings shined on it, but there was no happiness on his face. He flicked his sleeves and picked up the ruined pieces of the giant scorpion's tail, sitting down afterwards with a glum expression.

The Limitless Sword Sect and Moonkeep Tower cultivators all let out a sigh of relief. It was lucky that the seventh ring of light hadn't shattered, otherwise the first place position today would be taken by the Witchcraft Sect.

Now, although there were three seven ring results, the giant scorpion had been severely wounded; it couldn't contend with the other two.

Hum hum!

The Witchcraft Sect has miscalculated this time and weren't able to break through the seventh ring of light. In this Beast King War, they would probably place at the bottom with the Hidden Fog Sect.

But no matter what the situation was, there were now three results with a seven ring standing. This was an extremely rare occurrence, even since the very beginning of the Beast King Wars.

The pressure on the remaining four sects could be imagined!

On the massive stone chair, Zhou Li's eyes flashed. She believed that the Shadow Clan Patriarch's warning surely had a deeper meaning behind it.

In this situation, it was time for Radiance Temple to make their move, right?

Before she finished her thought, a female cultivator moved at the front. She was the Radiance Temple Master, a woman of unparalleled beauty and glamor, whose temperament was as cold as ice. She opened her lush red lips and said, "Radiance Temple will be the fourth."

The phoenix luan appeared. Its wings unfurled outwards, reaching a span of almost a thousand feet. Its feathers glimmered like crystals. Its eyes were aloof and noble as it looked down upon everyone below it.

When it opened its wings, a great vortex appeared. Strong winds howled within like the roaring of a tsunami. Compared to the attack of the Limitless Sword Sect's strange beast from before, this vortex was different. It raged with fury and anger, but no wind sabers slashed out.

Everyone understood that the phoenix luan was gathering its strength...to put it in simpler terms, it was preparing for a big move!

Suddenly, the vortex shattered. As if cut apart by a terrifying blade, it was neatly severed in half from the middle. Then, a pure blue sword appeared and slashed down at the arena.

"Wind Sword!"

Countless cries of alarm filled the air and the cultivators all widened their eyes. This was because it was the second one that had appeared today, a transcendent weapon that was hidden between the heavens and earth.

First was the Moon Bow, next was the Wind Sword!

Six rings of light were instantly cut through. The Wind Sword continued, arriving at the seventh.

The color of this ring of light was like the beginning of dusk. Waves of water seemed to roll through it, capable of annihilating and counterbalancing any strength.

The blade submerged into the seventh ring of light. The Wind Sword shook endlessly, causing winds to whip into existence and howl excitedly.

Hu –

The cultivators in the camps of the Limitless Sword Sect, Moonkeep Tower, and Witchcraft Sect all let loose breaths of relief.

It was clear that the Wind Sword wouldn't be able to break through the seventh ring of light.

Even so, it was now a fact that Radiance Temple had obtained a seven ring result.

Yun Die's eyes widened. She shouted out, "How fierce!"

It was indeed fierce. The Wind Sword cut into the seventh ring and shook without end. Compared to the three previous attacks, it was a level stronger.

Qin Yu's eyes flashed beneath his black robes. He thought that...perhaps Radiance Temple's performance wasn't limited to just this.

He wasn't the only one who sensed this. At this moment, the Limitless Sword Sect Master, Moonkeep Tower Master, and Witchcraft Sect Master all had dignified and dreary expressions.

With a keening cry, motes of starlight fell down from the heavens, instantly falling like snowflakes in a winter storm. Then, they fused into the phoenix luan's body.

Borrowing the power of the stars, its feathers instantly turned pure blue and the Wind Sword vibrated more than ever. Like a serrated saw, it slowly sank in further and further.

Bang –

With a loud explosion, the seventh ring of light shattered!

At this time, the immense arena fell deathly silent.

All eyes were focused on Radiance Temple's location, transfixed on that immeasurable beauty that stood there, their hearts all in disorder.

No one thought that Radiance Temple, whose performance had been smooth and proper, would actually be the biggest dark horse.

The Wind Sword dissipated and vanished. But, it had already helped Radiance Temple obtain the best possible result.

Eight rings!

And in this situation, even if there were three more competitors that hadn't yet stepped up, they had basically locked onto victory in advance and obtained the bye for the first day.

Cheers soared into the skies!

Zhou Li stood in the small space of the Shadow Clan. As she listened to the elated applause all around her, she smiled.

Things were within her expectations. The Shadow Clan Patriarch was unexpectedly able to sense the strength of Radiance Temple ahead of time. From this, it could be seen that the Shadow Clan was much stronger than it appeared to be on the surface.

This was good news for Zhou Li. The stronger the Shadow Clan was, the higher her status as a Saintess was.

The Radiance Temple Master raised her palm and a stone bead fell into her hand. It flashed with eight rings of light.

"Everyone, you allowed me to win."

Her lips lifted in a smile, so bright and gorgeous that it could cause the downfall of nations.

But at this moment, no one was entranced by her beauty. Everyone was shaken by the formidable strength of the phoenix luan.

The camps of the Limitless Sword Sect, Moonkeep Tower, and the Witchcraft Sect were all silent. They felt bitterness surging in their hearts.

Although it was just a single ring, the difference was as vast as the heavens and earth. No matter how unwilling they were, they were destined to lose first place.

The supporters of the three sects who had cheered one after another were left wryly smiling, even cursing out in their hearts. If they knew they would fail from the beginning, that would be fine. But they were given hope, and that hope had been directly trampled upon and plunged into the abyss. Who liked going through such highs and lows of emotion?

“Aiya!” With a loud sigh, the Blue Origin Sect Master spoke up. “With an eight ring result, the Blue Origin Sect will no longer try. The first place position undoubtedly belongs to Radiance Temple!”

The Blue Origin Sect and Radiance Temple always had a good relationship. If they knew it was impossible to surpass them, it was understandable for them to give up here.

One reason was that they could preserve the strength of their sect’s spirit beast, and another reason was that they wouldn’t have to lose face in front of everyone. Out of the four sects that had gone forward so far, three had seven ring results and one had an eight ring result. If they tried and obtained a six ring result or lower, that shame would be enough to send them packing home.

In this case, they might as well admit defeat here and take advantage of this opportunity to flatter Radiance Temple and tighten their relationship.

In this Beast King War, with Radiance Temple having obtained the bye and with the strength of the phoenix luan, there was a high likelihood they would become the final leader.

So flattering them was of the highest importance!

The Typhoon Mountain Master cursed beneath his breath. These Blue Origin Sect ass kissers, their tongues really were fast enough. He was just about to speak up but someone had seized the moment. No one was an idiot. Even if they bet the lives of their sect’s spirit beast, they would thank the heavens and earth if they could obtain a seven ring result. There was just no meaning to it.

“Radiance Temple’s phoenix luan has suppressed all sides and obtained an eight ring result. My Typhoon Mountain is ashamed of our inferiority!”

It was just flattering. Who wouldn’t?

The Typhoon Mountain Master and Blue Origin Sect Master glanced at each other, smiling and nodded amicably. As for how much they cursed and berated each other in their hearts, that was something only they knew.

In the blink of an eye, the only side left that hadn’t yet made their move was the Hidden Fog Sect.

There was an awkward silence. Everyone slowly started to reveal mocking expressions.

The Hidden Fog Sect’s camp had less than a hundred people, and these were all ‘closely related’ supporters that had no choice but to be there. They could almost be ignored in boosting the final result.

In other words, no matter how fierce the dark star ice serpent was, even if it was like the phoenix luan and broke the seventh ring of light, it would only be a seven ring result.

In this situation, how come they didn’t hurry up and admit defeat? What were they waiting for?

Elder Si’s face was pale. He lowered his voice and urgently said, “Sect Master!”

The other sect Elders all had ill expressions.

They had already lost any hope of obtaining first place. It would be fine to simply announce that they were giving up, so why provoke unnecessary ridicule from others? During these past years, authority in

the Hidden Fog Sect had been dispersed amongst the high level figures. The Sect Master was the highest wielder of authority in name only.

The Hidden Fog Sect Master glanced at Elder Si and the others, his expression calm and serene. He looked at the other Elders and then lightly said, "I am not prepared to forfeit yet."

His heart was as firm and resolute as iron!

He would take action and help the Hidden Fog Sect obtain the bye for the first day.

At that time, with Mister Ning Qin's help, the Hidden Fog Sect would have a great chance of becoming the leader.

But what a pity, he had wanted to wait until the key moment came to play this card.

If he made a move now, then he feared the others would realize his true situation. But now he couldn't care about such things.

So what if he was discovered? He had already decided to lay down his life here. In the eyes of those determined to die, there was nothing worthy of fearing!

### **Chapter 736 - Zhou Li's Probing**

"Sect Master!" Several Elders cried out loud. If it wasn't for them caring about preserving face, they would have probably asked him, "Just what in the world are you doing?"

Was the Hidden Fog Sect not tired of shaming itself today? If they forfeited now, then with the Blue Origin Sect and Typhoon Mountain ahead of them, they could take advantage of the trend and withdraw relatively unscathed.

But if they kept persisting, wouldn't this lead to disaffection from Radiance Temple?

This was not just a problem of face, but also involved great vital interests!

Numerous Elders decided that they couldn't allow the Hidden Fog Sect Master to do as he wished. They needed to show a tough attitude if necessary.

But this time, their threats fell on deaf ears. The Hidden Fog Sect Master was expressionless as he said, "As the master of the Hidden Fog Sect, I wield the highest level of authority. I will not change my decision!"

Although he faced many Elders, his voice was supported with his cultivation and rang through the arena, resounding in everyone's ears.

Across from him, Elder Si and the others all stiffened, their faces glum. The Hidden Fog Sect Master had directly announced this matter to the outside. Unless they didn't care about the sect's honor and exposed the disagreements in their sect to everyone present, they could no longer try to stop him.

At this time, the complexions of many people changed. When they looked at the Hidden Fog Sect Master there was more admiration there.

In this situation, to be able to withstand such pressure and make this decision, he must have considerable courage and bravado.

Still, there were even more people who revealed looks of ridicule after thinking for a moment.

If they knew it was completely meaningless and would even offend Radiance Temple, making such a decision was stupid to the extreme.

Was this Sect Master using today's situation and the pressure all around to suppress the Elders in his sect that disagreed with him?

If this really was the reason and he was doing all of this for his own personal gain and not caring for the benefit of the sect, then that was even more despicable!

It was clear some Hidden Fog Sect Elders were thinking this. Their eyes darkened. Although they no longer spoke, they had already decided not to let things end here. Once they returned to Hidden Fog Mountain, they would clear all debts!

Perhaps Hu Fu no longer suited the position of Sect Master.

The Hidden Fog Sect Master's expression didn't change. He didn't seem to sense the cold intent coming from the Elders, or the mocking eyes all around him.

As he spoke he stood up and flicked his sleeves. The temperature in the air rapidly fell and white frost spread across the ground, creating a layer of ice.

The dark star ice serpent's massive figure slowly condensed into reality within this bitter cold. Its faint eyes were interwoven with silver-white textures and the lone horn atop its head pointed towards the heavens like a spear!

The Hidden Fog Sect Master took a deep breath. But at this time, a figure suddenly stepped in front of him. He was stunned and cupped his hands, "Mister Ning Qin, do you also want to advise me to give up?" If this were so, no matter how unwilling he was he would have to give it careful consideration.

Qin Yu shook his head, "No."

The Hidden Fog Sect Master's heart relaxed. "I thank Mister Ning Qin for the support."

Qin Yu directly said, "This time, I will act in your place."

"Ah!" The Hidden Fog Sect Master cried out loud before composing himself. He could barely suppress his excitement, "Then, I'll have to exhaust you!"

With mister's status, if he requested to act on his own initiative, he surely had confidence in himself.

Hahaha, it looks like my life can still persist through another critical moment before I need to die for my sect.

In the rear, the expressions of the surly Elders suddenly changed. First they were shocked, and then anticipation rose in their eyes.

Qin Yu looked deeply at Hu Fu before turning towards the dark star ice serpent. This incomparably powerful spirit beast looked at him with awe and reverence. Then, it laid prone against the ground, submissively lowering its head.

This caused the noisy and bustling arena to quickly quiet down, as if the volume of the arena had been muted.

They had been watching a fun play of the Hidden Fog Sect people infighting, but now dignified looks crossed their faces. When they glanced at the black-robed figure, they subconsciously revealed looks of astonishment.

No one doubted the strength of the dark star ice serpent. In its two brief conflicts with the Witchcraft Sect's giant scorpion, it had more than proven that it had the qualifications to contend for the title of Beast King. It was only because it had exposed its strength ahead of time that no one favored its chances.

But now, such an incomparably formidable spirit beast was respectfully lying down on the floor, expressing its submission and respect towards a person. No one here was an idiot; they naturally guessed what this meant.

Moreover, everyone could see the manner of the Hidden Fog Sect Master and numerous Elders. They watched everything happening with amazement. Since when did such a strong person appear in the Hidden Fog Sect!?

The Radiance Temple Master pressed her eyebrows together. Faint traces of starlight continuously flowed in the depths of her eyes. An eight ring result was enough to lock onto victory, but for some reason she suddenly felt a bit of restlessness in her heart.

She took a deep breath, suppressing all these thoughts. There was a vast disparity between each of the arena's ten rings of light.

The phoenix luan had barely managed to break through the seventh ring of light by borrowing the power of starlight. Although the Hidden Fog Sect's dark star ice serpent was strong, it absolutely could not accomplish this!

Today, Radiance Temple was destined to be in first place!

Within the crowd, Zhou Li subconsciously frowned. Her eyes inevitably fell onto that black-robed figure again, and she felt that feeling of familiarity once more.

"Zhou Li, do you know that person?" Ji Yun asked in surprise.

Zhou Li shook her head. "No...that person's figure just makes me think of someone from my past. But that individual is only an average person, so it's impossible for him to appear here."

When she finished speaking, her heart skipped a beat.

With Qi Yu's status, he shouldn't have been able to participate in the Shadow Clan's auction either. But not only had he gone, he had also created a great disturbance. If it weren't for her opening her mouth and asking Elder One Eye to help him withdraw safely, she feared he would have died at the hands of the Witchcraft Sect already.



Using this logic, there was a possibility that Qin Yu would appear in the Hidden Fog Sect. It was possible that he was a fox pretending to be a tiger. By relying on the mysterious powerhouse behind him, he was making everyone in the Hidden Fog Sect lower their heads.

Zhou Li's eyes sharpened. If this person was truly Qin Yu, then he was courting death! The Beast King War of the Seven Sects involved profound interests. Even the Shadow Clan didn't dare to interfere and could only watch from the sidelines. How dare he try to mix his way in!

Zhou Li's thoughts raced and she suddenly said, "Radiance Temple Master, I wonder if your previous invitation is still open?"

Although Zhou Li didn't speak loudly, everyone in the silent surroundings could hear her.

Qin Yu had walked next to the dark star ice serpent. When he heard that voice he subconsciously turned to look at the source. Then, their eyes met.

Beneath his black robes, Qin Yu forced a smile. This was bad, he was being probed by Zhou Li!

The instant their eyes met, Zhou Li was able to determine that the person beneath the black robes was Qin Yu; she needed no other reason! She took a deep breath, anger tumbling in her chest. Did he not know his own status? Did he really think that he could overcome dangers and hardship every time?

This was the arena where the seven great sects were competing against each other, a place where not even the Shadow Clan dared to interfere. There was no way she could help save his life again.

Once an accident occurred, he would undoubtedly die!

Damnit! Just who was controlling Qin Yu from behind? Why would they make an average person place themselves in such a perilous situation?

Zhou Li subconsciously looked over the Hidden Fog Sect people. Another familiar figure appeared in her line of sight.

Yun Die!

Why was she here?

Zhou Li's thoughts raced and she thought back to that mysterious Mister Ning Qin. No one knew where he came from but he possessed an extremely formidable strength.

Could it be that he was the one controlling Qin Yu from behind?

But Qin Yu was only an average person. Why would Ning Qin choose him as a puppet...?

Zhou Li stiffened. She thought back to when she once recommended Qin Yu to Feng Qing, so that she could suggest him to be Ning Qin's disciple...could it be that the miss had already done something privately...

Thinking about it, this was the only possibility. Zhou Li subconsciously bit her lips. If this were true, hadn't she harmed Qin Yu? In other words, if Qin Yu had become a disciple of Ning Qin, then whether it was participating in the Shadow Clan auction or today's arena, none of it was his own intention.

The Radiance Temple Master's eyes shined. She nodded, "Of course. Saintess, please join our platform to watch the battle."

Zhou Li took a deep breath and suppressed these tumbling thoughts. After expressing her thanks, she nodded at Ji Yun before flying forward.

Ji Yun furrowed his eyebrows. He loudly said, "Radiance Temple Master, I am the young master of the Western Tomb's Ji Family. This is my identity token. I wonder if I can join your platform to watch the battle together with Zhou Li?"

Western Tomb Ji Family!

Anyone who had a bit of knowledge couldn't help but be surprised. Their complexions changed, revealing looks of shock and awe.

The Western Tomb Divine Church had existed for hundreds of thousands of years and possessed a strong and vigorous heritage. Each Pope possessed a transcendent cultivation and they were no weaker than any of the seven great sects. And due to the religious nature of their church, they had an astronomical number of believers in the Western Tomb region. In terms of absolute power, they actually surpassed the seven great sects to some degree.

The Radiance Temple Master's eyes swept over the token and her chilling expression was interrupted for a moment. She nodded and said, "I have interacted with the Western Tomb Divine Church several times before and even fought side-by-side with the noble Yang Sun Protector. Young Master Ji, feel free to come over."

Ji Yun cupped his hands together, "Thank you, Temple Master!"

His figure flicked and he landed beside Zhou Li. He smiled and nodded at her.

When this sight fell into the eyes of the Radiance Temple Master, her gaze was deeper when she looked at Zhou Li.

Zhou Li instinctively knew that the reason Ji Yun didn't hesitate to expose his status here was because he wanted to stay by her side and prevent her from feeling panicked. Zhou Li was touched by this, but she had more important matters to attend to right now.

"Miss Yun Die? I never thought that after our last meeting at Midmorning City's branch division, we would actually meet here again. It truly is a joy!" Zhou Li had a 'pleasantly surprised' look on her face. "Miss Yun Die, did you come to observe the Beast King War today?"

Yun Die also saw Zhou Li and heard her dialog with the Radiance Temple Master. Her first thought was one of surprise. She didn't think that this Zhou Li was the one who had gained the approval of Dragon City and become the Shadow Clan's Saintess!

She subconsciously responded, "I followed..." But then she immediately regained her composure, "So that's how things are. I never expected that when we met again, Miss Zhou Li would have become the Shadow Clan's Saintess. Congratulations!"

She still needed to keep it a secret that her teacher had gone to the Hidden Fog Sect. She had almost leaked it out.

Zhou Li nodded. "After today, I will visit Miss Yun Die again." Although Yun Die had stopped speaking before she revealed anything, Zhou Li had heard enough to make a judgment.

The one controlling Qin Yu was really Ning Qin!

### **Chapter 737 - Dark Side of Human Nature**

At this time, Zhou Li's mind was flooded with regret. If she knew this was going to happen, she never would have recommended Qin Yu.

But it was too late for regret. She needed to help Qin Yu withdraw from today's vortex.

Otherwise, if something happened to him, it would be hard for her to find peace for the rest of her life.

A voice sounded in her ears. Ji Yun whispered, "Zhou Li, you recognize that person?"

Zhou Li let out a light breath. She slowly nodded, "I'm sorry Ji Yun. I didn't recognize him until now..."

She was gently interrupted. Ji Yun said, "I believe you. If there is any way in which I can help, just tell me."

Zhou Li was moved by his words. She lowered her head for a moment and then hesitantly said, "Ji Yun, this person once showed graciousness to me. I cannot tell you of his current situation right now, but it is related to me. So, if an accident occurs, I hope you can help preserve his life. Of course, if you can't do anything, you don't have to..."

His status as the young master of the Western Tomb Divine Church gave him the qualifications to help. But, his assistance might initiate a series of troublesome consequences. This was why Zhou Li hesitated.

Ji Yun interrupted her once more, "Okay!"

Zhou Li's heart warmed. "You should think this over carefully."

Ji Yun smiled. "Zhou Li, this is the first time you have asked me for help. I will naturally do everything I can to help you." He took a deep breath and said, "You already know I am the Western Tomb Divine Church's young master. I am the only direct male descendant in my family, and the position of Church Leader will be inherited by me. No matter what, the seven great sects will give me some face."

His simple and warm words showed a strong self-confidence. And as the young master of the Western Tomb Divine Church, he did have such energy!

Zhou Li pursed her lips, "Ji Yun, thank you!"

Ji Yun looked towards the arena. "My greatest desire is that one day you will no longer need to thank me."

His feelings were as clear as day.

Zhou Li was silent. But humans weren't wood and stone, and she was naturally moved by his words.

This brief interlude with the Shadow Clan's Saintess and the Western Tomb Divine Church's young master had caught everyone's attention. After some time, their eyes turned back away.

After all, the most important matters were ones that involved one's own self interests. And what was happening right now was a critical moment in the seven sects' struggle for first place and the byes they would receive.

With the Hidden Fog Sect's current situation, the chances of them making a comeback were nearly zero. But, they couldn't help but be curious about the sudden appearance of that black-robed figure. Where did his confidence come from?

Qin Yu glanced around and sighed inwardly. He would deal with this Zhou Li matter later. He lifted a hand and patted the dark star ice serpent. A bit of his blood energy quietly poured into its body.

The dark star ice serpent's massive figure shivered. Its giant eyes tightly shut so that no one could see the horror and awe in them.

Qin Yu took a step back, "Hey big fellow, it's time for you to enter the stage."

Dragon City was truly the dwelling of the dragon race, and the leader's camp would be able to obtain a present – the baptism of dragon energy.

This showed that this arena had a close connection to the dragon race.

And Dragon City was a city constructed by a formidable Ancient in ancient times.

After sorting out all these relationships, it wasn't hard to come up with a hypothesis. Qin Yu believed that if he poured his blood energy into the dark star ice serpent, it would definitely produce some kind of useful function.

Hearing Qin Yu's orders, the dark star ice serpent's massive figure slowly rose from the ground. Brilliant textures swirled around its silver-white horn.

The temperature between the heavens and earth quickly fell. The skies darkened and a storm of snowflakes descended, covering and overwhelming all in the blink of an eye!

In the endless wind and snow, a towering iceberg appeared. It was so immense that its tip seemed to submerge into the heavens.

Just by glancing at it, one could feel a cold chill penetrating through one's body, almost freezing the soul.

The dark star ice serpent looked up. The horn on top of its head slashed down at the arena!

As it did, the towering iceberg rose up from the ground. Endless heaven and earth spiritual strength swelled up, surging towards the arena.

At this moment, the iceberg was like a saber, capable of sundering the heavens and annihilating all life!

"Ahh!"

Countless people cried out in alarm. Although many people had already guessed that the dark star ice serpent was strong, they were still shocked by what they saw.

That heaven-supporting iceberg seemed to fall through their line of sight and blast into their minds, causing their consciousnesses to temporarily go blank.

Ten rings of light appeared in the arena. They were light on the outside and darker on the inside, as if mirroring the brightest dawn and its conclusion at the deepest night. This represented the polarities of light and darkness and contained the mysteries of yin and yang.

At this moment, the iceberg phantom disappointed. Like a hot knife through butter, it instantly tore through the first six rings of light.

The seventh ring was the color of dusk. Most of the ring of light was cut through. The iceberg phantom seemed as if it had fallen into a swamp, but it still continued forwards.

Every inch it moved forwards caused great thundering rumbles to sound out in response. Within the seventh ring of light, the darkness roiled about like turbulent waves at night.

The people shocked by the iceberg phantom were left silent. As long as one wasn't an idiot, they could estimate what was going to happen – the dark star ice serpent was going to break through the seventh ring!

This point alone surpassed the spirit beasts of all other sects besides Radiance Temple's phoenix luan.

If the Hidden Fog Sect had a similar number of supporters then they would have had the second eight ring result today and would have been able to stand on even ground with Radiance Temple!

At this moment, the supporters in the camps of the Limitless Sword Sect, Witchcraft Sect, Moonkeep Tower, Blue Origin Sect, and Typhoon Mountain all felt regret rising in them.

If they had supported the Hidden Fog Sect, then with the formidable strength displayed by the dark star ice serpent, even if others knew of its attributes ahead of time it didn't necessarily mean they would lose.

But there was no medicine for regret in this world and there was no way to withdraw what had happened.

Bang –

The seventh ring of light shattered!

The iceberg phantom continued onward as it slammed into the eighth ring of light. But, most of its strength had clearly been used up already. Signs of collapse appeared and it seemed incapable of continuing.

The Radiance Temple Master smiled. With the dark star ice serpent's strength, if it had broken through the eighth ring of light, even if the phoenix luan was able to defeat it in the end, it would surely need to consume a great deal of its energy. If this happened then the advantages from obtaining a bye on the first day would be more than halved.

Luckily, it remained a step away. But the dark star ice serpent's strength was still unexpected. The preparations Radiance Temple made to deal with it seemed to be insufficient.

Fortunately, they still had time to prepare.

After the first day of battle in the arena, there would be a challenge from the losing team. In addition to the recovery time in the interval, there would be a wait of at least five to seven days. This was more than enough time.

After that, the phoenix luan would be able to fight an exhausted enemy while being completely prepared. Defeating the dark star ice serpent would be easy!

Zhou Li relaxed. She really was worried that Qin Yu would attract an enormous spotlight on himself like he did at the Shadow Clan auction. This would only increase the danger he was in.

For him, being defeated like this was the best result.

A dark light flashed in Ji Yun's eyes. He could see that Zhou Li held an unusual amount of concern for this black-robed figure.

But soon he calmed down. No matter who this black-robed person was, he would be the one to win Zhou Li's heart in the end.

The seventh ring of light, that was where it stopped!

The camps of supporters all around the arena made their own judgments. They felt regret for the Hidden Fog Sect, as well as some sorrow, unwillingness, and even joy...to be honest, most of it was the last emotion.

Compared to them, it was likely much more difficult for the Hidden Fog Sect to accept the fact that their loss was a result of them not having enough supporters.

This was a mentality of 'someone else is worse off than me', and this existed at any level of existence. This was perhaps one of the greatest dark sides of human nature.

But were things really as they thought they were?

### **Chapter 738A – Breaking Ten Rings**

The iceberg phantom was about to collapse. The Hidden Fog Sect Master's eyes darkened and he couldn't help but reveal the disappointment in his eyes. So even with mister's strength, he still couldn't achieve victory? If he knew this earlier he would have insisted on doing it himself. He was just a step away!

Elder Si and the others looked at Qin Yu. A great deal of the awe and respect quietly faded away from their eyes.

The strength of a Great Expert boundary wasn't as incredible as they imagined. It seemed that there were things even they couldn't do.

Yun Die opened her mouth, as if she couldn't believe what she was watching. All sorts of chaotic thoughts wove together in her heart. After seeing 400 mature shadow trees, Yun Die never doubted her teacher's strength anymore, so she couldn't imagine a situation in which he would be defeated.

If teacher did it, he would succeed no matter what. This was a faith that had piled up in her heart after undergoing countless experiences. But now, a crack had appeared in this towering faith.

Qin Yu could feel the eyes behind him as well as the faint looks of ridicule from all around. His complexion remained calm and composed. He was waiting, waiting for the blood energy he poured into the dark star ice serpent to activate and confirm his hypothesis.

Hou –

The dark star ice serpent suddenly roared in vivid excitement.

Qin Yu's eyes brightened. It was beginning!

A blood red sheen appeared on the scales that covered its body. Then, as if driven by an invisible force, the red light gathered to the lone horn on its head.

Its color turned bright and luminescent. It wasn't a violent and brutal red, but one that was clear as translucent jade.

It was noble, beautiful, and pure!

At this moment, on the other six platforms, including Radiance Temple's phoenix luan, all of the other spirit beasts cried out loud. Their eyes fell on the dark star ice serpent, shock, confusion, and awe in their hearts.

A trace of blood red appeared on the surface of the iceberg phantom that was caught in the eighth ring of light. The color was the exact same as the dark star ice serpent's horn. It rapidly diffused outwards, forming the phantom of a saber.

It trembled and shattered the iceberg phantom. Or to be more exact, it had completely concentrated all of the strength of the iceberg within itself.

Whoosh –

The saber phantom cut forward, instantly piercing through the eighth ring of light.

What followed was the ninth ring and tenth ring!

Bang –

The saber phantom continued without slowing. It fell down on the arena, tearing a long gash through the time-worn tiles.

Crashing sounds constantly reverberated throughout the massive arena, shaking everyone and causing their complexions to blanch. All of them were stunned in utter disbelief.

Breaking the tenth ring...tenth ring...tenth ring...at this time, only this thought wildly raced through everyone's mind...

Since the time when the seven great sects rose and carved up the vast and fertile Eastern Plains amongst themselves, the Beast King War had been conducted countless times. Through the long passage of history, there had been numerous examples of shockingly powerful Beast Kings that possessed incomparable strength and were able to suppress all sides.

But in the historic records, the highest result was only nine rings, and it was after adding on their supporters...their actual strength only reached eight rings.

Yet today, they personally witnessed the birth of a ten ring result. Moreover, they had used no supporters and achieved this result with their own strength.

How terrifying this was...if they didn't see this with their own eyes they wouldn't even dare to believe it.

"This is impossible!" The Witchcraft Sect Master roared out loud. His face flushed red with blood and contorted in rage. "I will not believe this! The dark star ice serpent is strong but it cannot break through ten rings of light!"

In the absolute silence, this roar caused everyone to regain their senses. In particular, Radiance Temple's camp looked as if they had lost their souls. Their hearts skipped a beat. Could it be that some accident occurred?

"That's right, even if that blood saber phantom was the legendary supreme Ice Saber hidden between the heavens and earth, it would never have such power!"

"The Moon Bow and Wind Sword have appeared and yet they haven't been able to break the seventh ring. The Ice Saber is an existence of the same level so how can the disparity be so great!"

"There is definitely a problem with the Hidden Fog Sect's result!"

The crowd was immediately roused.

Whoosh –

A small stone flew over. Qin Yu lifted his hand and grabbed it. The 'pa' sound of it hitting his palm caused the noisy arena to quiet down once more. Ten rings of light shined on the surface of the stone. It overflowed with light, and one could faintly see a seven-colored dragon phantom within it.

"Good! Great! Awesome!" The Hidden Fog Sect Master laughed out loud, his jolly voice reverberating outwards. He stepped forward and bowed. "Thank you mister for helping my Hidden Fog Sect capture the first place position!"

With the appearance of ten rings, who could compete against this?

Elder Si and the other high level figures of the Hidden Fog Sect all had awkward expressions appear on their faces. They bowed and said, "Thank you, mister!"

A Grand Expert isn't terrifying? How did I come to such a idiotic conclusion!?

Yun Die's excited face flushed red. She didn't say anything, only straightening her back. A proud and joyful atmosphere flowed out from her.

She knew that teacher would succeed. Tenth ring...this was the tenth ring...in the long history of the arena, it was a result that had never appeared before!

The crack in her faith immediately vanished, and her belief became even firmer.



The Witchcraft Sect Master shot up onto his feet. He howled out, "I refuse to accept this result! I request that the arena recertify the results!"

He absolutely could not watch on helplessly as the Hidden Fog Sect became the ultimate victor. To the Witchcraft Sect, there was no news that could be worse.

The beautiful and elegant Radiance Temple Master had a dignified expression. She furrowed her eyebrows and stood up, "Radiance Temple also proposes a recertification of the Hidden Fog Sect's result."

The arena was an extremely important part of Dragon City and possessed all sorts of inconceivable abilities. But, it was still only a lifeless object, something similar to a precision tool.

Long ago, a mistake had once occurred. This was something that could be verified in the history books. So, the arena had given the seven great sects the right to appeal. As long as four or more requested a recertification, this proposal would be recognized and passed.

Of course, this right wasn't without cost. They would need to pay a very high price to the Shadow Clan afterwards to compensate for the additional loss of power of the arena.

"The Blue Origin Sect proposes a recertification!"

"Moonkeep Tower proposes a recertification!"

"Typhoon Mountain proposes a recertification!"

"The Limitless Sword Sect proposes a recertification!"

Six great sects all proposed a recertification. This was not only because they found the ten ring result unbelievable, but also because they hoped to use this opportunity to determine the true strength of the dark star ice serpent.

If it really possessed the power to break through ten rings of light, there was no need to guess what the outcome of this Beast King War would be.

The Hidden Fog Sect Master took a deep breath, "Mister?"

Qin Yu said, "It's fine."

This time, no one doubted his words. The Hidden Fog Sect people all revealed relaxed expressions.

Hum –

The ground lightly trembled as the massive gash in the floor rapidly regenerated. Then, a dark light appeared. A single vertical eye floated within it, and it slowly opened at this moment.

The moment the single eye opened, everyone in the arena felt a chill run through their bodies. It felt as if they had been completely seen through, no more secrets left.

The eye looked at the dark star ice serpent. But only Qin Yu knew that this eye spent most of its time paused on his body. He could feel awe and fear coming from the eye's gaze, as well as a hint of hatred and resentment.

Before Qin Yu could discover anything else, the vertical eye slowly closed. An old and plain voice rang through the arena.

“The result is correct.”

Shua –

The dark light vanished from sight.

The Witchcraft Sect Master closed his eyes. He clenched his fists together beneath his robes. Viciousness and animosity swirled in his heart. He wished that he could destroy everything.

Hidden Fog Sect, it was unexpectedly the Hidden Fog Sect. If they became the ultimate champions, it could be imagined what would happen to the Witchcraft Sect!

No!

He could not allow this!

But now the final confirmation had been completed and the ten ring result was without a doubt. But even if they obtained the right of a bye, that didn't mean they would be the final leader...at the very least, the Witchcraft Sect wouldn't stand by as the Hidden Fog Sect took all the glory for themselves.

Things that occurred in the arena couldn't be changed, but there would be other opportunities outside. The Witchcraft Sect Master opened his eyes, his complexion calm and serene once more. He glanced at Qin Yu for a brief moment before turning around and sitting down in his seat.

Today, the Hidden Fog Sect had made their counterattack. And the Witchcraft Sect Master knew where the real roots of today's disaster came from.

Since such a person became the Witchcraft Sect's enemy, they had to thoroughly ruin him!

### **Chapter 738B – Breaking Ten Rings**

The Radiance Temple Master was silent for several breaths of time. Then, she lightly said, “The Hidden Fog Sect's dark star ice serpent is indeed formidable. Radiance Temple humbly admits defeat.”

Her demeanor was tranquil and indifferent.

The ordinary-looking Moonkeep Tower Master glanced at her and coldly sneered.

That woman still loved to put on acts and pretend. It really made her want to puke.

But, it was strange that the Hidden Fog Sect had become the greatest dark horse of this Beast King War. It was indeed unexpected.

Perhaps she could do something.

The Blue Origin Sect Master laughed out loud, “Sect Master Hu Fu, my state of mind was a little disorderly back then, so if I offended you, I ask for your forgiveness. To break through ten rings, cutting through the bright day to the darkest night, the dark star ice serpent's strength is enough to enter the annals of history and be respected by future cultivators!”

Out of the seven great sects, the Blue Origin Sect was known for being friendly and having extensive contacts. Besides being extremely close to Radiance Temple, they were also connected with the other five sects. Even the cold and fierce Witchcraft Sect rarely came into conflict with the Blue Origin Sect. Naturally, there were reasons for this.

“You fawning groupie! Ass kisser!”

The Typhoon Mountain Master flew into a fit of anger once more. His chance had been stolen by the Blue Origin Sect Master once more. It seemed as if he were following behind him every time, picking up that person’s leftovers.

Once he returned he had to recruit a few sharp-mouthed disciples. Typhoon Mountain absolutely could not lose to this blabbering blowhard anymore!

“The Hidden Fog Sect has obtained the first place position. I am sincerely convinced!”

Even if he secretly cursed beneath his breath, he still said what needed to be said. The Typhoon Mountain Master knew how to clearly distinguish the priority of things.

Rumble rumble –

The platform that the Hidden Fog Sect was on suddenly rose up to a level higher than the other six. This indicated that they had obtained the right to the first day’s ‘bye’ and they no longer needed to participate in today’s battles.

Constrained cheers of joy and exhilaration rose up from behind. They came from the almost one hundred supporters that were only here because of ‘close relationships’. They were so happy they almost cried.

Who knew that these people, who were supposedly the most tragic characters of today, actually had the most ‘outstanding’ judgment? They had truly bet on the right treasure!

After determining that he had won the first place position, Qin Yu whispered several words to Hu Fu and walked away. When he walked past Yun Die, he glanced at her.

Yun Die respectfully bowed and followed behind him.

The Hidden Fog Sect Master quietly said, “Follow him. Ensure mister’s safety no matter the cost!” He naturally knew that all sorts of underhanded and secretive tricks were going to come their way.

He also knew that Qin Yu was the Hidden Fog Sect’s key to obtaining victory.

“Yes, Sect Master.”

Several Hidden Fog Sect experts bowed. That cold and barely noticeable middle-aged man who followed beside Qin Yu was also one of them.

The several people turned around and rapidly chased after Qin Yu.

In the distance, the Witchcraft Sect Master saw this sight. He furrowed his eyebrows and sneered inwardly.

If the Witchcraft Sect wanted to kill someone, pure numbers alone couldn't stop them!

Elder Si cupped his hands together, "Sect Master, mister is...?"

After what just happened, the normally fierce and obstinate Elders were a bit more respectful.

The Hidden Fog Sect Master calmly said, "Mister has some matters he needs to deal with."

He turned around and sat down, looking down at the arena. Now he stood at the highest position and could see the other six sects in a single glance.

Mister Ning Qin could leave, but they had to stay behind and observe the battles between the six spirit beasts. The more information they had, the higher their chances were.

This was the right granted by the first place position!

...

The journey back to the Hidden Fog Sect's station went smoothly. Qin Yu beckoned his hand and ordered the Hidden Fog Sect cultivators to stand guard outside the laboratory. Qin Yu thought for a moment and said, "Yun Die, if Zhou Li comes looking for me, do not tell her that I am Ning Qin."

"Ah!" Yun Die was surprised.

Qin Yu said, "I will be honest with you. Before entering Sky Declaring Pavilion, I knew Zhou Li, but she doesn't know that I am Ning Qin."

He thought for a moment and said, "If Zhou Li continues to press you for my identity, just tell her that I am Ning Qin's secret disciple, understand?"

Yun Die digested this information. She finally obtained an explanation for her previous confusion. So this was the reason why teacher treated Zhou Li differently.

But why would teacher hide his status?

As questions filled her mind, she respectfully bowed. She suppressed her curiosity.

If she needed to know something, teacher would tell her. If she shouldn't know something, she definitely shouldn't ask.

Qin Yu lay back against a sofa. He waved his hand and said, "You can leave. I will be cultivating in seclusion for the next several days. Before the arena finals begin, do not disturb me if there is nothing important."

Yun Die bowed, "Yes, teacher."

Watching her leave the laboratory, Qin Yu pulled back his hood. He thought for a moment and then forced a smile. He suddenly thought that there was some inexplicable strand of fate connecting him and Zhou Li. Even in the distant Dragon City they were able to meet again.

Whatever. From the looks of things it didn't seem that Zhou Li would speak about him to others. He could ignore this issue for the time being.

There were still several days until the finals began. Qin Yu naturally couldn't waste this time. He had to refine the dragon blood and dragon soul and try to repair the damages to his body and soul!

...

The curtain fell on the first day of the arena battle. The Limitless Sword Sect, Radiance Temple, and Moonkeep Tower emerged victorious and entered the finals. The Witchcraft Sect, Blue Origin Sect, and Typhoon Mountain were defeated. Two days later they would compete amongst each other for first place in the loser's bracket. The victor would be eligible to challenge one of the four finalists.

The long day of excitement in Dragon City seemed to have used up a great deal of everyone's enthusiasm. As night arrived, the city fell silent. Of course, in some corners one could still hear the muttered curses of cultivators who came from far away.

For instance, the cultivators who supported the Witchcraft Sect. It was one thing if they weren't able to obtain the first place position, but their spirit beast had unexpectedly been eliminated in their battle with Moonkeep Tower. It was truly disappointing!

In the quiet night, a troop came out from the Shadow Clan's station. Zhou Li sat on an exquisite sofa, her eyebrows pressed together.

Moments later the Hidden Fog Sect's station came into sight. Without requiring instruction, a cultivator from the Shadow Clan went ahead to notify them.

...

"Teacher really does account for all contingencies..." Yun Die thought to herself. She smiled and stood up, "Your Highness Saintess, welcome."

Across from her, Zhou Li smiled. "To come visit in the dark of night, it is me who is being rude. I hope Miss Yun Die doesn't mind."

The two stood across from each other and chatted amiably.

After sitting down on two sofas, Yun Die recalled her teacher's instructions. "Your Highness Saintess, I wonder what you came here for?"

Zhou Li hesitated for a moment and said, "I consider myself an old acquaintance of Miss Yun Die, so I won't talk in circles. I wonder who the person who helped the Hidden Fog Sect win in today's arena battle was?"

Her eyes were transfixed on Yun Die.

"Ahh...is Saintess speaking about my junior-apprentice brother? He is a disciple that teacher just accepted recently."

Yun Die maintained her composure as she spoke, but she felt uncomfortable. Teacher, you were the one who told me to say this, so forgive me if I am being disrespectful!

Zhou Li's heart skipped a beat. Things were really as she thought. Although she was a bit surprised that she obtained this information so easily, she wasn't in the mood to think about it.

Zhou Li's complexion clouded over. She took a deep breath and said, "Miss Yun Die, I wonder if Mister Ning Qin is present? I would like to greet him."

Yun Die apologetically smiled, "My apologies, but teacher is in the midst of an experiment right now. He has passed down orders that no one is to disturb him."

As she thought about it she realized that the relationship between Zhou Li and her teacher was definitely out of the ordinary. She paused for a moment and said, "Miss Zhou Li, if there is some matter then you can tell me. I can relay your message to teacher when he comes out."

Zhou Li said, "Miss Yun Die, can you tell Mister Ning Qin that Qin Yu is an old friend of mine. I once received his graciousness so I do not wish to see him risk danger and meddle in something beyond his station. Moreover, please express my respect toward Mister Ning Qin. At the Shadow Clan auction mister was able to reverse the winds and clouds with a turn of his hand and play with the seven great sects. The Shadow Clan feels nothing but admiration towards him!"

She stood up. "Then I won't disturb Miss Yun Die's rest anymore. I will bid my farewells first."

She turned and left.

Watching her leave, Yun Die had a strange expression on her face. Qin Yu...wasn't that the mysterious, secretive, and rarely seen Elder Senior-apprentice Brother who followed teacher from the start?

Could it be that Zhou Li knew another identity of teacher? Or, could it be said that Qin Yu was teacher's true name!?

With teacher's Grand Expert boundary strength, why would he need to change his appearance, even changing his name to join Sky Declaring Pavilion? There had to be some other facts behind this.

Yun Die thought about it and couldn't figure out the reason. She could only suppress her thoughts. But as far as she was concerned, there was no comparing how close she was to teacher as opposed to Sky Declaring Pavilion. She definitely stood on teacher's side.

She let out a light breath. Only then did she slowly savor Zhou Li's words. She reacted a bit. There must be a great misunderstanding between Zhou Li and teacher. Zhou Li even blatantly threatened her to her face!

From Zhou Li's perspective, she was worrying that 'Ning Qin' was being disadvantageous to 'Qin Yu'...but in truth, they were the same person, right?

Yun Die bitterly smiled. She felt some 'complaint' toward her teacher. If there was a problem why not just hash it out and get it over with? Why make things so complicated? Cough cough, loving and killing each other in all sorts of convoluted storylines, these sorts of things only happened in dramas!

Of course, this was only a temporary and minor complaint. If teacher did this, he definitely had his own reasons.

But she had to inform teacher of this matter. If Zhou Li suddenly lost her mind and blew apart what happened at the Shadow Clan auction, things would become troublesome.

**Chapter 739 - Witch Comes First**

Radiance Temple station.

In terms of disciples, over 90% in this sect were women. At this moment, fragrance flowed within the darkened hall. All sorts of enchanting women sat around or stood up, a thousand varieties of beauty to choose from.

But currently, most of these beautiful women were frowning. They occasionally grinded their teeth, providing a low background noise in this depressed atmosphere.

The Radiance Temple Master sat in the center, her expression as serene as passing clouds and flowing water. Steam rose up in front of her as the fragrance of tea overflowed.

Seeing that the Temple Master was still in the mood to drink tea, an Elder couldn't help but ask. "Temple Master, do we just watch on and do nothing as the Hidden Fog Sect takes the position of leader?"

Radiance Temple had paid an enormous price to subdue the phoenix luan. They originally thought their plan was flawless, but who could imagine that they would be waylaid by a tiger halfway?

"Temple Master, with the strength displayed by that dark star ice serpent, if we don't do anything about it then after today the victor will surely be the Hidden Fog Sect."

"The result of the Beast King War involves significant interests. We cannot be careless about it. If Temple Master has the intention of struggling for it, there might be a chance!"

There was clearly a deeper meaning behind these words.

The Radiance Hall Master took a sip of tea. She lightly said, "I understand the meaning of the Elders, but when it comes to the Hidden Fog Sect becoming the leader, we are not the most anxious."

Her eyes flashed with a sharp light.

The first Elder who spoke up had a thoughtful expression as he asked, "What is Temple Master trying to say?"

"Wait." The Radiance Temple Master set down her tea cup and looked outside the window. As she gazed at the darkening skyline, her slender eyebrows drooped down.

Tonight, a storm would rise!

...

After ordering the deathsworn to stand guard around Mister Ning Qin's laboratory, several layers of defenses were also added, including an early warning array formation. After personally inspecting everything and making sure nothing was wrong, the Hidden Fog Sect Master's complexion relaxed.

"Pass down orders that no one is to relax. We must guarantee the safety of mister no matter what! If any accidents occur, request to see me!"

"Yes, Sect Master!" Several Elders felt a cold chill run through their hearts. Sensing his decisiveness, they didn't dare to be neglectful in their duties. They turned and hurried away.

They had to go and patrol again in order to ensure absolute safety.

The Hidden Fog Sect Master lowered his head in thought. He furrowed his eyebrows and a look of pain crossed his face, causing his complexion to pale.

After several breaths of time, he stood up and said, "I need to rest for a while. If there is nothing important, don't disturb me."

He walked away and soon vanished from everyone's sight.

...

Witchcraft Sect station, underground chamber.

There was an exquisite illumination array formation set up in this area. The light it released wasn't dazzlingly bright, but it shined like the morning sun, basking the underground chamber in light.

A gray stone sculpture stood quietly in the chamber. It looked to be that of a young and slender man, but the facial features were obscured, making the sculpture seem a bit strange and cold.

Little Ancestor stood before the statue. Without expression, he held a knife in one hand. He placed it against his other palm and then ruthlessly pulled. His eyebrows leapt up as blood flowed down.

He stretched out his five fingers, allowing the wound to open up and for blood to flow out faster. He then placed his palm on top of the statue's head.

Gulp –

Gulp –

In the peaceful underground chamber, there were the clear sounds of swallowing. It was like a traveller that had been lost in the desert stumbling upon an oasis and drinking to their heart's content.

A blood red color appeared on the top of the statue and started to spread downwards. The area it covered grew larger and larger as an eerie aura of vitality started to spread out from the statue.

Faint layers of membranes began to appear on its face that had no features. It squirmed like flesh and blood, as if it were about to grow a nose and eyes.

The sounds of swallowing came faster and faster. Little Ancestor's body shivered and the blood had long since drained from his face. Still, his expression was calm as if he didn't feel the terrifying swallowing strength that came from the statue!

After entering the Witchcraft Sect and being selected by the Sect Master as his personal disciple, Little Ancestor understood that there was a clear difference between his blood and the average man's. As for why he could maintain his composure right now, the reason was simple: this wasn't the first time he had done this.

A trace of self-ridicule appeared in his heart. He was normally rampant and reckless during the day, and the reason he was able to act the way he did was not because of his talent but because of his blood! Otherwise, how could those in the Witchcraft Sect have tolerated him for this long?



Moments later, the swallowing sounds coming from the stone statue finally subsided. Little Ancestor slowly raised his hand. At the area of the wound, the skin and flesh was extremely pale. His field of vision flashed black but he suppressed it and didn't allow it to show. Then, he bowed and backed away.

The Sect Master didn't like weakness. He knew this from long ago.

The Witchcraft Sect Master nodded, "Well done. Little Ancestor, go to the side and rest." His eyes fell on the blood-colored stone statue and he grinned diabolically.

These past years, because of the way they handled affairs, the outside world generally believed that the Witchcraft Sect's most terrifying aspect was their witch bugs. But they had forgotten...witch bugs, witch sects...no matter what it was, it was the 'witch' that came first.

A long, long time ago, so long ago that they hadn't yet entered the Eastern Plains, the true reason the Witchcraft Sect frightened everyone was because of the witchcraft they had inherited from ancient times. They possessed frightening powers and were able to invisibly kill people!

But because of an accident, the Witchcraft Sect lost the medium which allowed them to utilize their witchcraft. But fortunately, with the blessings of the ancestors and a great deal of hard work, he had finally found a way to obtain a medium to use their witchcraft once more.

Dozens of years from now when Little Ancestor's bloodline spread down through the generations, the Witchcraft Sect would surely be able to restore themselves to the level of their true strength in the past. At that time, whether it was the formidable Limitless Sword Sect or the deeply hidden Radiance Temple and Moonkeep Tower, all of them would be thoroughly crushed.

Today, he would have them experience the terrifying powers of witchcraft ahead of time. Of course, this would also serve as a dire warning to the other sects – do not try to suppress the Witchcraft Sect!

Otherwise in the future, they too would have to face what would happen tonight!

The Witchcraft Sect Master took a deep breath and stepped in front of the blood-covered statue. His eyes were solemn and respectful. He slowly knelt down and began to chant in a low and deep voice.

One couldn't hear the significance behind this chant, but one could clearly feel the terrifying chill contained in each syllable.

On the side, the resting Little Ancestor revealed a pained look. He opened his eyes just a tiny bit. When he looked at the Witchcraft Sect Master who was kneeling before the statue, he subconsciously pursed his lips, a burning heat in his eyes.

...

In the laboratory, gusts of wind flew about. Qin Yu's eyes were closed as he sat cross-legged. His robes tumbled around him. On the surface of his skin, his meridians had ballooned like large snakes. At the same time, a faintly visible and translucent dragon phantom passed through his nose, mouth, and ears.

The incredible might contained within the dragon blood and dragon soul was restoring his injuries!

In the surrounding space, cracks often quietly appeared. This was the annihilating power of space hidden in Qin Yu's body that was constantly being pushed out.

Pieces of starlight dotted the lines within the cracks. It was as if one could hear the vibrating sounds coming from the Chain of Stars.

At this moment, Qin Yu's complete consciousness was restrained inside his body to control the wild strength released by the dragon blood and dragon soul. This was the same as completely cutting himself off from the outside world.

Of course, as a mature cultivator who had overcome all sorts of twists and turns, winds and rain, Qin Yu was sure to lay down sufficient arrangements before attempting to absorb the dragon soul and dragon blood. He wouldn't place himself in a truly unguarded situation.

A little bell, the size of a knuckle and covered in broken markings, was quietly sitting on the ground. If one looked carefully, they would discover that on two different sides of this small bell, there were the markings of a moon and a sun.

The purple moon was a crescent, and the blue sun was full and round!

### **Chapter 740 - I Understand What I Should Understand**

"Ah! I'm bored, I'm so bored!" Meimei's irritated voice sounded out in the interwoven consciousness of the three. Anyone who was awoken from a good sleep was sure to be in this state, much less someone like her who valued the pursuits of 'eating' and 'sleeping' above all else in life.

And the most important thing was that looking at Qin Yu's current state, he would still be in this condition for some time. This was the most unbearable point of all!

Heinous Qin Yu, once he woke up she would surely blackmail him. To think that he would wake up Young Lady Meimei to act as his protector, this was an unpardonable crime!

"Big Sister Purple Moon, do you want to talk with me?"

"No."

"Do you need to be so heartless?"

"Yes."

Meimei choked on the rest of her words.

After spending so much time together in Qin Yu's soul space, Purple Moon had certainly figured out that beneath the veneer of this foodie and sleeper, she was actually a true chatterbox. Once she was given the chance to activate her latent abilities, Purple Moon could forget enjoying a peaceful moment any time soon.

"Big Sister Blue Sun..."

"Shut up."

The cold voice was like a frosty wind from the deep winter. It seeped into one's marrow, almost freezing their soul.

Meimei's eyes widened and she had an aggrieved expression as if she wanted to cry. Purple Moon's indifference made her feel sad, but this one was so cold that it left her feeling hopeless.

Why was her life so bad that she was actually able to have not one, but two 'top quality' neighbors!

But in the next moment, all of Meimei's 'sorrow' and 'pain' completely vanished. Her eyes flew wide open and she mumbled to herself, "No way. Something so good wouldn't happen a second time, right?"

On the surface of the small tattered bell, a trace of light flashed across the purple moon and blue sun.

In a corner of the laboratory, faint traces of unnoticeable black gas started to slowly gush out. It was like a school of fish that had its own thought. It rapidly gathered together, turning into a black cloud that gently fluttered over and covered Qin Yu.

Chirping sounds, like the calls of a sparrow, rang out from within the small bell.

"Big sisters, if we do this, would it be okay?"

Purple Moon smiled. "If you don't want to then you can leave."

Blue Sun simply didn't even pay attention to her.

Meimei shook her head, so happy that her eyes had turned into crescents. As she thought, these two big sisters also had similar ideas!

Everyone here was suffering from devastating starvation. Although there was a big meal not too long ago, it was far from enough.

But since good food had delivered itself to their door on its own volition, they certainly couldn't miss out on it...

Of course, the three had a tacit understanding with each other. While the good food must be eaten, they couldn't truly disturb Qin Yu.

Wind and rain, or whatever it is outside, come and direct yourself at us three sisters! Don't try and be polite about it!

....

Witchcraft Sect, underground chamber.

As the sound of chanting continued, the blood red color on the surface of the statue continued to expand. Faint traces of flesh and blood continuously appeared. It wove together, soon forming the figure of an adult male.

It was slender and powerful. Though it didn't seem too strong, every streaming strand of flesh and blood contained a formidable and explosive force within it.

The Witchcraft Sect Master's chanting grew louder and more reverent. The structure of the body was basically completed. Only the mucous membrane on the face continued to wriggle. From time to time, small granular buds would appear but they would soon wither and disappear.

The Witchcraft Sect Master furrowed his eyebrows together, a dignified expression on his face. Locking onto this person's aura was much more difficult than expected.

Either this person had a great background and their aura was mixed up, he was carrying some sort of extremely precious treasure on their body that could automatically conceal cause and effect.

If it were any other time then the Witchcraft Sect Master might have chosen to give up.

But, he absolutely could not allow the Hidden Fog Sect to win.

Humph!

Since no fluctuation counterattack came, then the former possibility was much higher. But as long as he was sufficiently discretionary, what did it matter if this strange person had a formidable background? If they couldn't find the killer, his death would be in vain!

When it came to the witchcraft that was inherited from ancient times, the Witchcraft Sect Master believed that as long as he didn't personally acknowledge it, no one would be able to find out.

But now, it seemed the strength was still lacking...

He glanced over at the still deathly pale Little Ancestor. The Witchcraft Sect Master thought for a moment and decided to give up on forcing him to spill more blood. This was the future source of the medium that the Witchcraft Sect needed to use their witchcraft in the future. Unless he wanted to fish out all the waters so that there was nothing left, he could only pay a certain price himself.

Taking a deep breath, the Witchcraft Sect Master lifted a hand and placed a finger between his eyebrows. Sudden banging sounds transmitted from his body, as if things were exploding within him. He suddenly grew 30% taller and a formidable aura surged around him. In the next moment he drew back his finger. A phantom was unexpectedly caught on the end of his fingertip; its appearance was completely the same as that of the Witchcraft Sect Master.

Shua –

Like lightning, his finger fell between the statue's eyebrows. The phantom sank within.

That ghastly and clear swallowing sound resounded once more. The mucous membrane on the statue's face began to wildly wriggle and grow. Lumps of flesh appeared and wove together as the blurry face of man started to take shape.

The Witchcraft Sect Master's giant body suddenly deflated like a pierced balloon. He was rapidly restored to his original size. Besides a slightly paler face, there was no other difference.

With his cultivation, he could withstand paying a small price. He could restore himself as long as he rested for several days.

His lips twisted upwards. The Witchcraft Sect Master's eyes were tightly locked onto the statue's face. Once it grew to completion, it meant it had completely locked onto that person's aura.

Then, the cultivator who helped the Hidden Fog Sect would enjoy the night of sorrow that he had specifically prepared for him!

He would make this person slowly decay into ooze and pus, suffering agonizing pain and torment before dying as everyone watched helplessly.

After tonight, the Witchcraft Sect would become an existence that no one would dare to provoke!

Hurry, hurry up!

The face was about to take shape!

But at this time, the Witchcraft Sect Master's excited face stiffened. His eyes suddenly darkened and turned gloomy. This was because he could see that the stone statue's face had suddenly frozen.

Then, as if winter snow had fallen overnight, everything started to wither and rot away like vegetation.

...

Covered in black fog, the small worn bell that lay peacefully on the ground suddenly rose up and floated atop of Qin Yu's head.

It was like a little mouse hiding in the night, quietly nibbling away at the surrounding black gas.

"Meimei, don't be so heavy-handed with your actions. Pay attention and go slowly!" Purple Moon reprimanded with a trace of dissatisfaction in her voice.

Blue Sun didn't speak, but the cold intent she released caused Meimei to shrink back her neck and reveal a flattering expression.

"Of course, of course! Big sisters, I will remember. I wasn't able to control myself just now but I will make sure to take smaller bites from here on out!"

Just a little bit smaller!

Meimei smiled in satisfaction, joy on her face. Qin Yu was truly worthy of being the best human-shaped food detector. He never disappointed!

The only thing she felt sad about was that each time food was brought in, it had to be divided between the three of them. Did they not know she was just a child? Cherishing the young and giving them the best and most food to eat, how come such a fine and proven tradition didn't take root in the hearts of these two big sisters?

Just thinking about it left her disgruntled!

But to a foodie, when food was placed in front of her and she wasn't able to eat as fast as she wanted at the start, this was truly depressing.

Luckily, the quantity of bites she would get in slightly made up for her injured heart.

Meimei waited in anticipation. She hoped that enough food would come in this time! She hoped this all lasted long enough!

Humph!

From the flavor alone, she knew that the one controlling this witchcraft was a man. And, wasn't it the greatest compliment to a man if he was said to last for a long time?

Hey, don't underestimate me just because I'm young! I understand everything that I should understand!

...

The Witchcraft Sect Master's face was pale. The gloominess in his eyes was so thick it nearly condensed into essence.

This damned thing, it was just a little bit away but it had actually failed.

If he knew about this earlier, he would have used a bit more strength. It would have been much better than starting from scratch.

In a short period of time, he had used the power of sacrifice twice. This would create some pressure even for the Witchcraft Sect Master.

Originally, he just needed several days to recover. But as things stood, he would need at least half a month!

Hu –

He let out a deep breath, scattering the irritation in his chest. The Witchcraft Sect Master lifted a hand and placed a finger between his eyebrows once more.

There was the sound of exploding once more. His body inflated. When he drew back his finger, a figure was attached to his fingertip again.

This one was even more realistic and lifelike. When a flick of his finger, it submerged into the statue.

His body was restored to its original size. The Witchcraft Sect Master's face was even paler than before. Not just that, but he looked incredibly weary and the flesh and blood of his body seemed to have withered a little.

But he couldn't pay attention to such things right now. He stared tightly at the statue's face and the rapidly growing flesh and blood.

That man's face was appearing again...this time, he was sure to succeed!

The Witchcraft Sect Master suddenly felt as if the night of howling agony he prepared was insufficient. Just wait. He would definitely add in some extra bonuses and fresh ideas. What about making the man eat himself? Or, after most of that man's body had rotted away, to make his consciousness increasingly clear instead?

Hum hum!

Even if no one else knew about it, as the master of the Witchcraft Sect, it was impossible for him to suffer a loss without giving something back in return. He had to teach this person a lesson, to make sure he paid a far heavier price!

As he thought about what to do, the Witchcraft Sect Master's pale face began to glow with excitement. He was already impatient to make a move!

But at this time, the Witchcraft Sect Master's smile froze in place. Looking at the face that would finish growing in just another moment, he suddenly shouted out, "No!"