

## The Gods 1041

### Chapter 1041 - Arson is Fun

Mu Yizhou was the reason behind Yun Che's and Mu Hanyi's first meeting...

Yun Che frowned deeply. Mu Yizhou was the famous chief disciple of the First Palace, so how on earth did he end up in this place? Also, why was he staring at him with such weird eyes?

"What? Yun Che!?"

The person accompanying Mu Yiyou was obviously shocked to hear the name "Yun Che" too. In fact, he was so shocked that he abandoned the giant eagle's profound pellet temporarily and walked up to Mu Yizhou, staring at Yun Che with a face full of disbelief.

Yun Che stood up but didn't withdraw the Heaven Smiting Sword that was dragging on the ground. He smiled, "Hello... Junior Brother Yizhou. I didn't expect to see you here. It would appear that we are tied together by fate."

"Yun... Che!" Mu Yizhou's lips and voice were obviously shaking and his eyes were sparkling with a shocking amount of hatred, "You despicable... shameless and vile creature!... I've thought of making mincemeat out of your body even in my dream but I never thought that... Heh... hehe... hahahaha... your sins have finally caught up with you! Who knew that you would be exiled to this place and fall right into my hands... this truly is retribution... ha... hahahaha..."

"???" Yun Che inquired with a half smile, "I don't understand, Junior Brother Yizhou. While it is true that we've had a small disagreement with each other, that incident should be a thing of the past already. So I don't understand where your hatred is coming from."

Yun Che really was confused. It was true that he and Mu Yizhou had butted heads because of Feng Mo earlier but the conflict was cleverly resolved by Mu Hanyi. Although Mu Yizhou still hated him for it, he had made the promise not to pursue deeper into the matter right in front of Mu Hanyi. After that, the battle of the heavenly lake and Mu Xuanyin's declaration that he was to become her direct disciple scared Mu Yizhou so much that he had waited shakily for Yun Che outside the heavenly lake. Once Yun Che had emerged from the heavenly lake, he hastily begged for forgiveness by kneeling and showering him with presents...

It should've been a small grudge that ended a long time ago. In fact, Yun Che had almost forgotten about the whole incident already.

However, Mu Yizhou's current look of extreme hatred and ecstasy made Yun Che wonder if he somehow slept with Mu Yizhou's wife and slaughtered his entire family without remembering it.

"How dare you feign ignorance even now, you despicable, vile creature!" Mu Yizhou roared, "You are the reason I was exiled to this place!"

"I... am?" Yun Che narrowed his eyes at once.

"Three months ago, after the sect master had declared you as her direct disciple, my palace master immediately found out that we had a disagreement in the past. Then, he unearthed every crime I've

committed in the past in a few days' time and gave me the cruelest punishment possible in the sect! In the end, he even threw me into this hellish place!"

Yun Che, "..."

Mu Yizhou panted heavily as he continued on with bone deep hatred in his voice, "It's because of you... all because of you! There are only a few people who knew that we had a disagreement with each other. Luoqiu will never hurt me and Mu Xiaolan didn't have a reason to do so. Neither Liu Cheng nor Feng Mo had the balls or the opportunity to do this, so the only person who could've done this... is you!"

Yun Che finally understood the entire situation after he was done. He sneered, "Have you never once thought that Mu Hanyi may be the culprit behind your downfall?"

"He has neither the reason nor the moral character to do something so shameless and despicable!" Mu Yizhou roared angrily.

"Hehehe," Yun Che's face was mocking, "You are the one who committed all those crimes and you should've been punished for them a long time ago. How dare you say it's my fault?"

Yun Che wore a sneer on his face but in his mind he was swearing like a sailor: What the fuck!? That motherf\*cking Mu Hanyi! I can't believe he did something like this behind my back!

It was obvious that Mu Hanyi was trying to make Yun Che some enemies by setting Mu Yizhou up for a downfall... But he probably didn't imagine that Mu Yizhou's dirty deeds were so numerous that the man was exiled directly to Mist End Valley.

That being said, Mu Yizhou was still, without a doubt, the chief disciple of the First Ice Phoenix Palace. He was at the peak of the Divine Soul Realm and he was just a step away from Divine Tribulation Realm. Perhaps that was how he had survived three months in this place without dying.

"Heh, I'm amazed that you can laugh even at this moment. Three months ago you were the sect master's direct disciple and no one dared to raise a hand against you, isn't that so? But now... not only were you exiled to Mist End Valley, you even fell right into my hands." Hatred twisted beneath Mu Yizhou's visage, "Can guess how I'm going to deal with you later!?"

"Oh no no no, I think you have misunderstood something." Yun Che beamed without a trace of fear on his face, "You guys are exiled but I'm not. I have been ordered to train here by my master, so I'll be leaving in a couple of days. But you all? Your bones will probably be buried forever in this place."

A unique ice blue aurora immediately appeared from the Ice Phoenix Engraved Jade around Yun Che's left shoulder when he said this. The jade symbolized his identity as the sect master's direct disciple.

"Senior Brother Yizhou, that's... that's..." The Ice Phoenix disciple next to Mu Yizhou turned pale with fear and alarm. They were exiled from their sect first before they were brought to this place, so naturally the Ice Phoenix Engraved Jades they once possessed were taken away from them. However, Yun Che didn't lose his Ice Phoenix Engraved Jade. Worse, it was the one that only belonged to the sect master's disciple!

This meant that Yun Che's claim was very likely to be true.

Mu Yizhou's pupils shrank for an instant but they quickly turned gloomy once more, "So what? We are all doomed to die here anyway, so what is there to be scared of! Also..."

Clang!!

Mu Yizhou made a grabbing motion and the sword stuck on the giant eagle's body was immediately sucked back into his palm. Then, he slowly walked toward him, looking murderous. "Just now, you almost died under this fierce hawk's claws. This means that you're alone and that there are no hidden protectors behind you at all!"

Yun Che, "..."

"If I can tear you to pieces... I will be glad even if I die right after!"

Mu Yizhou stabbed his sword forward, causing profound energy and sword energy to rage all over the place. The Ice Phoenix disciple behind him immediately turned pale with fright, "You'll draw the profound beasts like this!"

"Shut up!" Mu Yizhou swore angrily. Without changing his profound energy or sword force at all, he slashed madly, hatefully and grudgefully at Yun Che while raining down a torrent of ice blades. At this point Mu Yizhou didn't give a damn about the profound beasts. All this time he had believed that Yun Che was the culprit behind all his misery but not even in his dreams did he dare to hope for the opportunity to take revenge against him. He was prepared to struggle and wait hatefully for his final moments to creep up to him. But now, the chance he didn't dare dream of, had suddenly fallen right into his lap... If he could mutilate and kill Yun Che right now, he would laugh unto his final breath even if he were to die under the claws of a profound beast right after.

Instead of backing away from the attack, Yun Che actually charged forwards and zigzagged through the rain of ice blades. In the blink of an eye, he appeared before Mu Yizhou and slashed the Heaven Smiting Sword downwards.

"Suicidal fool!!"

He was the former chief disciple of the First Ice Phoenix Palace and he was at the peak of the tenth level of the Divine Soul Realm. His strength wasn't something Yun Che could fight head on no matter what. But not only did he not try to escape from Mu Yizhou, he even charged forwards to meet him in a forceful clash. His would action seemed suicidal to anyone's eyes.

Boom!

There was a bang so loud that it was like a thunderclap and Yun Che was thrown backwards immediately like a cannonball. The clash shook Mu Yizhou and bent his sword, causing great disbelief to rise up in his face.

He could sense clearly that Yun Che's profound strength was only at the first level of the Divine Origin Realm but the bastard was able to knock him half a step backwards, even though he was a peak Divine Soul Realm cultivator!

Still in shock, Mu Yizhou turned around only to notice suddenly that Yun Che had slipped deep into the mist and was departing from this place at an incredible speed.

“Bastard!” Realization finally struck Mu Yizhou in the head as he gritted his teeth tightly. Yun Che wasn’t trying to meet him in a suicidal clash, he was simply borrowing his strength to escape this place!

“You cannot escape!!”

Mu Yizhou locked onto Yun Che’s aura like his life depended on it, brought out his full power and chased after him like a madman. He no longer cared what kind of place he was in at all.

Yun Che continued to pass through the thick mist at full power. His eyes were fierce and his teeth were clenched tightly. He could scarcely imagine the size of the shitty luck he stepped on today to offend his master by accident, almost lose his life, get thrown into this place and as a result, have his threatened multiple times by a bunch of violent profound beasts and now a far scarier Mu Yizhou who had completely lost his mind...

He really, really should’ve checked the goddamn calendar before he started his day!!

Yun Che’s top speed far exceeded another cultivator at the same rank but his profound strength was just too far behind Mu Yizhou’s. Because he was nearly two great realms behind the enemy, Mu Yizhou continued to gain steadily onto him even though he wasn’t sparing any energy to escape.

On the other hand, Mu Yizhou was growing angrier and more shocked by the second. It should’ve taken him no effort at all to catch up to a first level Divine Origin Realm profound practitioner and yet he couldn’t catch a glimpse of Yun Che’s shadow even after he pushed his power to the max. The distance between them was shortening at an excruciatingly slow pace too.

Absolutely furious, he somehow managed to push his speed up another notch, “You cannot escape, Yun Che! I will make you wish, that you were dead!”

“This guy has gone completely bonkers.” Yun Che cast a backward glance as his teeth tightened up more and more.

No, this won’t work. If this goes on he’ll soon catch up to me.

He had no choice but to take a risk.

Yun Che gathered the Golden Crow’s flames in his palm and tossed it behind him suddenly.

“Burning Sun Rupture!”

Boom!!

The faint golden flame that erupted in this pale white world was incredibly eye catching. The aura lock lost track of him for an instant during the explosion and Yun Che immediately fired off a profound handle bearing his aura to the right while concealing his entire presence using Hidden Flowing Lightning. He slipped behind a thick tree under the cover of the mist and stopped his breathing completely.

The fiery explosion immediately drew the long howls of multiple profound beasts. In this pale white world of ice, fire was without a doubt, the most offensive element to these profound beasts. But Yun Che didn’t have the luxury to worry about such things. This fact was proven when Mu Yizhou rushed past his hiding spot, just two breaths behind his profound handle, like a storm.

Yun Che immediately let out a quiet sigh of relief but he knew that the profound handle would soon vanish after it left his side. Not daring to stay, he was just about to move soundlessly from the place when two icy auras suddenly jumped on him from above.

Pupu!

Two snow white string snakes, that were as thin as a little finger, plunged their poisonous fangs into his shoulders. The poison was enough to kill even a divine soul beast. At the same time, a giant eagle drawn by the fiery light swooped down in Yun Che's direction.

Yun Che swore on the inside and unleashed his profound energy, instantly breaking the two tiny snakes into pieces. At the same time, he raised both his arms and grabbed Heaven Smiting Sword in his hands, throwing a fire imbued Phoenix Sky Wolf Slash at the giant eagle swooping towards him.

Bang!!

The giant eagle was knocked off course and Yun Che's own body was thrown far, far away by the shock. Naturally, the aura he spent so much effort to conceal was completely exposed. Deep inside the thick mist, Mu Yizhou's utterly discomfited roar resounded furiously, "You dare play me!? Yun Che!"

Mu Yizhou immediately locked onto Yun Che's aura once more and the giant eagle above him was obviously furious at being knocked away too. It looked like it was going to swoop down at Yun Che any second. Worse, dangerous auras were rushing swiftly to this place all around him.

Before he entered Mist End Valley, Mu Bingyun had advised again and again to avoid any contact if at all possible. However, the situation had spiralled into the absolute worst case scenario.

Yun Che didn't escape immediately. In fact, his eyes became fierce once more. The aura he no longer needed to conceal grew wantonly berserk.

If the party must go on... then he might as well make sure that it was the best possible!!

Whoosh!!

Wind howled and heat surged. Yun Che spread his arms wide as golden crow flames, at least tens of feet high, burst out of his body. As the fire burned swiftly and strongly, his eyes and his hair became painted a scarlet gold color.

"Yellow—Springs—Ashes!!!"

As his power was spread madly to the surroundings, every bit of snow, ice, dread tree and air within five kilometers were transformed mediums of fire. The space five kilometers around Yun Che abruptly exploded as he roared...

BOOM——

The cold and white world of ice was turned into a burning hot purgatory for a brief instant. The ancient white sky was painted a scarlet golden color in the blink of an eye.

There was no doubt that the sea of flames Yun Che had unleashed in a fit of determination had stirred every hornet in the nest to life.

## Chapter 1042 - Vanishing Without a Trace

As a “dead end”, Mist End Valley had always been a relatively quiet place. The law of the jungle here was far crueler than any other region, so even the roars of profound beasts could scarcely be heard.

Every profound beast that existed in Mist End Valley had ice based powers and every human being that was exiled into this place was an Ice Phoenix disciple. Therefore, fire was almost non-existent in this place... much less the omnipresent divine flames of the Golden Crow!

The spreading sea of Golden Crow flames was without a doubt an atomic bomb in this deadly quiet valley. It instantly drew the fearful, shocked, angry or irritated howls of countless profound beasts.

The weaker profound beasts that were caught by the blast were either burned or killed outright, while the powerful ones were provoked into violent rampages. Outside the flames, the air was turbulent and snow was flying everywhere. Countless profound beasts surged to the center of the explosion as bestial roars and presences so terrifying they couldn't be described ran rampant all over the place.

“Aaaaaah...” Amidst the flames, Mu Yizhou let out a throaty howl and backed away continuously from Yun Che. It was obvious that he was being attacked by the profound beasts already. “Yun Che... have you gone insane!?”

“Heh... now there's no telling who's going to die first!!”

Yun Che laughed madly before choosing a random direction and running away at top speed.

Since he couldn't shake off Mu Yizhou, the final plan he had in his mind was to alert the profound beasts and use them to delay him... or even better, kill him!

Although his quickest speed was inferior to Mu Yizhou's, Extreme Mirage Lightning wasn't the only technique he possessed! He also had Star God's Broken Shadow and Moon Splitting Cascade!

Moreover, these ice type profound beasts were certainly going to lose their cool under the provocation of the Golden Crow flames, so escaping became a much easier task than it would've been otherwise.

All around him, the auras of profound beasts ran rampant like many storms... they came from the front, the sides, the back and even the sky...

Yun Che inhaled deeply and gritted his teeth. He clenched his fists tightly and narrowed his eyes...

Focus, clear my mind; the five senses, spirit sense, sensation... let's do this!!

Not only did Yun Che slow down in the face of the profound beasts that were pouncing towards him from every direction, he even quickened his pace and left behind a dizzying trail of afterimages. When the afterimages vanished, he too had vanished into the flames.

The Heaven Smiting Sword had been put away. He wasn't sure how many times he executed Star God's Broken Shadow and Moon Splitting Cascade but he must've done it at least hundreds or even thousands of times during the five kilometers he travelled inside the sea of flames. The number of afterimages that were crushed by the violent profound beasts was literally uncountable.

When he finally burst out of the fire enshrouded area, the first thing that entered his sight was a sea of alarmed profound beasts. They all charged madly towards him.

Yun Che leaped until he was at least three thousand meters in the air. But before he could stop himself, several Fierce Blizzard Hawks swooped towards him with deadly intent. Violent storms were surrounding his body even before the claws could reach him.

A blue, draconic shadow appeared as Yun Che's eyes turned dark.

Dragon Soul Domain!

The deterrent force of the Dragon God's might far exceeded that of a human being at the same level. Therefore, the world shaking dragon roar had caused the profound beasts beneath him to scamper away in fear and the six Fierce Blizzard Hawks near him to spasm in midair and fall down in a straight line. The storms that surrounded him quickly dissipated as well.

Without pausing for even a second, Yun Che flew forward and quickly vanished into the thick ice mist.

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Ice Phoenix Sacred Hall.

Standing at the edge of the pond, Mu Xuanyin stared at the snow lotus at the center. Its petals were all gone. The only thing that was still flowing with life was its translucent, glowing stem.

"It'll bloom again in nine thousand years."

Mu Bingyun walked next to Mu Xuanyin with silent footsteps.

Mu Xuanyin didn't say anything.

Mu Bingyun said softly after casting a glance at Mu Xuanyin, "Are you feeling better?"

Mu Bingyun's eyes turned slightly. "You wish to take him away from that place?"

Mu Bingyun sighed quietly, "It's been a full day and night. You know better than anyone what level he is right now; it's simply impossible for him to survive three full days. If we don't rescue him now... we may not even get a chance to regret the decision later."

"Hmph!" Mu Xuanyin's voice was cold. "You treat him so well, sister."

Mu Bingyun gently shook her head. "I just don't want you to feel regret over this."

"He won't die this easily," Mu Xuanyin said coldly. "And so what if he dies? It is the punishment he should rightfully receive!"

"I didn't dare ask yesterday but what on earth did Yun Che..."

"Do not ask or care about this matter any longer! If he manages to survive then I guess lady luck is on his side but if he dies then so be it!"

Although Mu Xuanyin's aura wasn't as scary as it was yesterday, it was still icy cold and merciless. It was obvious that her anger hadn't yet completely faded because the crime Yun Che committed was

something she absolutely couldn't forgive. Mu Xuanyin turned away and left while brimming with intimidating coldness. "I will be heading to the Flame God Realm in a few days to deal with that flame dragon, so I will be spending a few days in seclusion. You will stay here and guard me and you aren't allowed to go anywhere else, do you understand? You are especially forbidden... from approaching Mist End Valley!"

"..." Mu Bingyun didn't say anything. A single sigh escaped her lips—it would appear that Yun Che's crime really was too grave this time.

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Plop!

Yun Che fell heavily onto a thick pile of snow while panting for breath. He then shut his mouth and suppressed his panting with all his might immediately, leaving only his chest still moving up and down intensely.

He was chased by the profound beasts for a full night and day and he had ran just as long. During this time, he didn't brandish Heaven Smiting Sword even once as he ran and ran, away from the beasts.

The concentration of profound beasts in this place was just too high and every one of these creatures had developed terrifyingly acute senses, thanks to the cruel environment. Not even Hidden Flowing Lightning was able to hide him from detection. Hidden Flowing Lightning could only conceal his aura but not his body, so these profound beasts that were everywhere were able to spot him using sight alone. This was especially true for the snow hawks and giant falcons flying in the air, the thick ice mist was practically non-existent to these creatures.

After shaking off another wave of profound beasts with great difficulty and after sensing about and finding no dangerous presences in the area, Yun Che lay on the snow and didn't get up for a long while. His entire body was limp and sore. Opportunities to pant like this only came three times a day and none of them ever lasted beyond fifteen minutes.

A while later, Yun Che struggled to his feet...

This can't go on! There's no way I'm going to last until the third day if it continues like this. No amount of profound energy recovery is going to hold up against this exhaustion rate. I may very well be completely drained tomorrow. I need to think of a different way.

Yun Che thought while doing his best to recover his wounds and profound energy using the Great Way of the Buddha. But just as he closed his eyes, the space between his brows suddenly twitched once for no particular reason. He immediately dropped flat without a second thought.

Riiip!!

The sharp sound of air being torn apart passed through the spot where Yun Che's head was just a second ago. The sharp, icy wind had cut off a large chunk of his hair.

Yun Che rolled away from the place with sinking eyes. He stared fixedly at the white figure landing some distance away from him... It was none other than the white wolf he saw when he first came into Mist End Valley!



This white wolf had hidden itself inside snow just like he did and he had failed to detect his pounce until the final moment. It was obvious that this terrifying white wolf normally hunted this way.

His rare moment to catch a breath was extinguished by the white wolf just like that. Yun Che swiftly scanned the surroundings with his spiritual perception before deciding not to escape in an instant. He would kill this white wolf while generating as little noise as possible!

Yun Che moved his right hand to his chest and gripped the Cloud Butterfly Blade.

The white wolf's eyes turned bloody as it opened its mouth and let out an extremely low growl. It was obvious that the wolf didn't want to cause too much noise either. Great wariness had settled into its bloody pupils after it missed its sure hit attack. The standstill lasted for several seconds before it suddenly leaped towards Yun Che like lightning and aimed its sharp claws straight at his heart.

Agitated and at max concentration, Yun Che could see the trajectory of the white wolf's pounce clearly. The instant the white wolf got close to him, his eyes turned cold as he swiped the Cloud Butterfly Blade accurately through its neck.

Yun Che appeared thirty meters away from where he had stood, before he turned around as quick as lightning. He was just about to commit the follow up attack when he suddenly looked flabbergasted.

The white wolf crashed into a giant ice covered rock far away from him in a straight line. The wolf's head separated from its body instantly and lay still on the ground.

"..." Yun Che's mouth was slightly agape. He stayed that way for several seconds before he finally, slowly, looked down at the Cloud Butterfly Blade in disbelief.

After being hunted for an entire day and night, Yun Che had less than forty percent profound energy left inside his tired body. Although he was sure that his blade had passed through the white wolf's neck, it should've left behind a moderate wound at best... he never imagined that he would be able to cut off the its head entirely.

Considering the white wolf's incredibly oppressive aura... it was very likely to be a low level Divine Soul Realm beast! With his current amount of profound energy, he would be lucky to cut through its flesh but this...

Even more amazing was the fact that he felt nothing, even after he cut through its entire neck.

Yun Che stepped forwards quickly and froze the white wolf's head and body with frost profound energy, stopping the stench of blood from spreading. Then, he stared fixedly at the Cloud Butterfly Blade for a very long time.

He exhaled a bit of profound energy and an invisible, half foot long blade beam immediately extended from the hilt of the blade. He then moved the blade beam slowly towards a finger and discovered that his skin was hurting like it was burned even though the beam was still inches away from it.

"I can't believe Palace Master Bingyun gave me something so terrifying..." Yun Che muttered. Despite his low profound strength, he was able to cut through the body of a low level Divine Soul Realm beast with unbelievable ease. If this was a Divine Soul Realm profound practitioner...

If he could find the opportunity to do so, then... maybe he could kill even a late stage Divine Soul Realm expert!

Yun Che suddenly recalled Mu Bingyun saying that this blade was one of the two weapons that was passed down within her family. Both she and Mu Xuanyin wielded a blade each and the other blade was called the "Sound Butterfly Blade". Considering Mu Xuanyin and Mu Bingyun's status in the Snow Song Realm... this blade might very well be the ultimate treasure in the entire realm, so of course it was deadly.

Naturally, a profound weapon made in the God Realm and a high rank one no less... far outstripped anything that might exist in the Blue Pole Star.

Having witnessed the Cloud Butterfly Blade's terrifying power, Yun Che felt a bit more comfortable than he was a few moments ago. He hid his aura once more and leaned against the corner of a giant rock. He cast a glance at the white wolf's dead body and frowned slightly.

His Hidden Flowing Lightning was an extremely high level profound concealment art already but even if he pushed it to the max there was no way he could hide his aura so completely that it might as well not exist. However, these white wolves were able to conceal themselves in snow less than thirty feet away from him. Although he was paying close attention to his surroundings using his spiritual senses, he wasn't able to detect it at all until the moment it jumped out.

Just how did they conceal their presence so perfectly?

It was almost as if their aura had merged with the snow while they were hiding inside.

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...Merge ...aura!?

Yun Che suddenly looked up in great agitation. A strange inspiration had just flashed through his mind.

Temporary confusion appeared inside his eyes... he wanted to concentrate his thoughts immediately and seize this instant of inspiration but he also realized that he might never awaken again if his consciousness fell still in this terrifying valley. But if he didn't try it, then the inspiration might pass him by forever.

A brief moment of mental struggle later, he ultimately made the risky choice and closed his eyes swiftly... Slowly, his breathing and aura grew stable as his consciousness sank and sank until he seemed to have forgotten even where he was right now.

High above the sky, a pair of frigid eyes penetrated many layers of thick mist to stare coldly at Yun Che.

She noticed that Yun Che had suddenly fallen silent. Very soon, his aura became gentle and his soul fell into a state of quietness... the boy had actually entered into a state of enlightenment!

Her eyebrows were raised as she exclaimed a little angrily, "This brat... how dare he submerge his consciousness in such a place. Is he hoping to die faster!?"

Although she was furious, she didn't leave the valley. She cast a glance at the Cloud Butterfly Blade between Yun Che's fingers and said coldly, "I can't believe Bingyun actually gave him the Cloud Butterfly Blade. How absurd!"

Yun Che had entered an unbelievably wondrous state. He had no idea that someone was looking at him quietly. In fact, he couldn't even sense the flow of time... so it was only natural that he didn't notice a giant ice scaled beast approaching closer towards him.

Attention drawn by the approaching beast, Mu Xuanyin's fingertip lit up with faint bluish light. However, it was at this moment she noticed that Yun Che's body had blurred for a second. Then, he started fading away like a shadow...

In the end, he vanished completely without a trace.

"...!?" Great shock riddled Mu Xuanyin's face. Although she could still sense Yun Che through her spirit senses—her disciple hadn't moved an inch from the spot—his figure had turned completely invisible.

The giant ice scaled beast walked close to Yun Che and passed by him in leisurely fashion just thirty meters away. It never paused once or cast a glance to where Yun Che was. Very soon, it walked off in a different direction and vanished into the mist.

"Con... concealment!?"

Mu Xuanyin said softly. For the first time in a few thousand years, her eyes were riddled with deep shock and... absent mindedness.

Chapter 1043 - Life Snatching Cloud Butterfly

Moon Splitting Cascade's legendary great perfection... the realm of Concealment!

The reason why it was only a legend was because even though it was in written records and the profound art itself, no one had ever seen it before!

Even Mu Xuanyin, who had been cultivating Moon Splitting Cascade, had never reached the realm of Concealment.

Moon Splitting Cascade had been left behind by the ancient Ice Phoenix and was much more difficult to comprehend and cultivate than the Ice Phoenix God Investiture Canon. In all of Snow Song Realm's history, very few were able to cultivate it and none were able to cultivate it to the great perfection realm. At one time, Mu Xuanyin had even thought that the legendary realm of Concealment was unobtainable with a mortal body.

But at this moment, she clearly saw Yun Che's figure vanish without a trace, before her own eyes. Even the aura that still existed in place had become incredibly faint. At the very least, those Ice Qilins that passed by him did not detect his aura at all.

From the time she had taught Yun Che Moon Splitting Cascade... only a short three months had passed!

"The Concealment Realm... in three months..." She softly muttered to herself, her pupils billowing with an unsuppressable complexity. "No matter how much of a genius he is, his comprehension shouldn't reach such a terrifying level. How exactly..."

The world became peaceful once more. After a long time, Yun Che's figure slowly appeared at the corner of an ice stone and changed from blurry to clear in an instant. After that, he slowly opened his eyes and stood up, his face full of disbelief as he looked at his own body.

"This is Moon Splitting Cascade's highest realm that Master has mentioned before?" Yun Che muttered to himself. Even he himself found it hard to believe but what he felt more was an uncontrollable excitement. "So it really is able to completely conceal one's figure..."

As he talked to himself, Yun Che concentrated once more. Ice Phoenix power circulated and his existence quickly fused with the surrounding elements, his figure gradually becoming blurry again. Four short breaths later, he had already disappeared completely, his vanishing this time was distinctly faster than previously.

Yun Che lifted his hand. Following this simple action, the concealed state immediately dispersed. He tightly clenched both hands and said somewhat excitedly, "I am only at its doorstep right now, so Concealment's strongpoint definitely is far beyond this... If I can familiarize myself with this, I should be able to completely hide myself in one or two breaths. In fact... I might even be able to slowly move while invisible!"

"..." Mu Xuanyin, who was high above the skies, clearly heard what Yun Che had said.

Due to his excitement, Yun Che no longer cared about the scariness of Mist End Valley. He closed his eyes again and his body became blurry once more, disappearing, then reappearing...

The principle behind Concealment was precisely blending one's own aura with the surrounding environment. It consumed very little profound strength yet it exhausted quite a bit of mental strength. Furthermore, under the Concealment state, if he were to use the slightest amount of profound energy or if he was hit by someone else's profound energy, the perfect fusion would be disrupted and his state of Concealment would naturally disappear instantly.

Although the mental burden was large, profound strength couldn't be released outward and one mustn't be disturbed by another's profound energy, just the fact that it could cause one's body to fade to become invisible was definitely enough to make it a heaven defying skill that could shake the entire God Realm!

The concealed state's concealment was not only the cloaking of one's figure either. Even one's aura was substantially hidden to a large degree... It was not inferior to Hidden Flowing Lightning!

Even though he couldn't release profound strength outwards in the concealed state, if he used Hidden Flowing Lightning which restrained his aura...

A thought flashed in his mind and Yun Che quickly entered the concealed state again. Then, he carefully used Hidden Flowing Lightning...

In the skies above, Mu Xuanyin's eyes fiercely moved. This was because not only had Yun Che's figure disappeared, even his aura had suddenly vanished from her spirit sense!

Only after focusing her mind did Mu Xuanyin detect his existence at the place his aura had disappeared from. His aura this time, was now several times more faint than it was in his normal concealed state!

Shock surfaced yet again on Mu Xuanyin's snowy face that had calmed down just a moment ago.

Though they were separated by some distance, with the level of profound strength Mu Xuanyin possessed, Yun Che was actually able to briefly escape her spirit sense!

Divine Origin Realm... hiding from a spirit sense in the Divine Master Realm!! Although it was only a brief moment and at some distance, this was absolutely not something anyone would believe.

“Whoosh!”

Yun Che appeared yet again with a satisfied smile on his face. He had just used Hidden Flowing Lightning in the concealed state, further restraining his concealed aura. Once he succeeded, he felt as though he had completely disappeared from the world... and the concealed state had not dispersed either!

“Good!” Yun Che lowly shouted in excitement. Moon Splitting Cascade's Concealment with the addition of Hidden Flowing Lightning could doubly conceal his aura. If he was able to master it with proficiency... he would undoubtedly gain another extremely powerful protective charm!

At present, if he was able to preserve this state in which he concealed both his figure and aura, it would be difficult for the profound beasts here to discover his existence.

This also implied that him having to pass three days in here changed from being difficult beyond compare to being as easy as pie.

The prerequisite to that being him having a good command over the concealed state.

Concealment was a heaven defying skill, strong to the point where Mu Xuanyin, who had spent ten thousand years cultivating Moon Splitting Cascade, had still yet to comprehend it. Quickly being able to master something right after the initial comprehension was impossible for an ordinary person.

But to Yun Che, who had glimpsed the start of the path to Concealment... it didn't seem all too hard!

This was because he possessed the Evil God's Profound Veins. His interaction with the elements was strong to the point where he was able to ignore any conventional laws and the Great Way of the Buddha also allowed him to control the energy of heaven and earth as he pleased. These two points were the key factors to reaching Concealment and were the hardest things to overcome for normal profound practitioners. To Yun Che, however, he could do all that in passing. This added to his comprehensive ability which bypassed all common sense...

It really didn't seem all that hard...

Yun Che stayed in place, steadied his breathing and began to practice Concealment.

To others, making the slightest progress in this extremely high level state of law required long years of deep thought and cultivation. So long that making an inch of progress in several thousand years was no strange matter. But for Yun Che, after using it tens of times, the rate in which he became invisible had shortened by half!

In the end, he only used two breaths to become illusory from a solid state before disappearing.

During this whole time, several profound beasts had passed by and not a single one discovered his existence.

“...” Mu Xuanyin was silent for a long while. She thought back to when she had first taught Yun Che Moon Splitting Cascade. It only took him one try to successfully use its earliest stage. At that time, she was greatly startled inside but compared to what she was seeing now... what had happened back then was nothing.

“Sigh.”

It was unknown what she was sighing about as she turned both her gaze and body to immediately disappear within the boundless horizon.

With Hidden Flowing Lightning added to the concealed state, it was as though Yun Che’s entire person had disappeared into a spatial crack. Added to the fact that the place he had escaped to was extraordinarily safe as well, the frequency at which profound beasts roamed about far lower than any other region, Yun Che stayed there for a full day without being discovered by any profound beasts.

Compared to the wretched situation he faced on his first day with dangers abound, the second day was an incomparably pleasant breeze.

It was also in this one day that the Concealment Yun Che had just comprehended progressed greatly. At the very end, he no longer needed to fully concentrate to maintain it. He was now able to use thirty percent of his consciousness elsewhere as seventy percent focused on maintaining that state. Along with the advancement of his skill, the amount of mental power used also lessened by a substantial amount.

“This wide world truly is full of extraordinary things, for such a magical technique to exist. It seems that the previously incomprehensible principles behind the Star Concealing Grass ought to be the same.”

“If that’s the case, as long as I don’t accidentally get exposed, even those in the Divine Tribulation Realm would find it hard to discover me outside thirty meters of range.”

Yun Che thought to himself.

Faced with the desolate sound of the wind, Yun Che no longer felt nervous and cold like he had at the beginning, but he still didn’t dare to rashly leave his current area. This was because if he moved in the slightest while invisible, he would instantly appear. Although he felt like there ought to be a way for him to move under the concealed state, he wasn’t able to do it now as he only had a blurry conception of it.

After a long period of hesitation, Yun Che still decided to not take the risk and continued to diligently stay in place. As long as he was able to last through today, Mu Xuanyin wouldn’t kill him... Accidentally comprehending the realm of Concealment allowed him to get his life back.

“There are very few profound beast footprints in this area, so it ought to be safer.”

A voice that was trying really hard to stay low suddenly came from a distance. Yun Che, who was deep in thought, quickly opened his eyes.

“There is no such thing as a safe place here!”

This was another person's voice and this voice moved Yun Che's gaze.

This voice... Mu Yizhou!?

He hadn't died!?

Moon Splitting Cascade and Hidden Flowing Lightning were both mobilized. Yun Che's figure immediately scattered like mist and slowly disappeared in place.

Soon enough, two human figures walked out of the thick mist together.

Their bodies were filled with injuries but from their auras and states, they weren't significant hindrances. Especially that person on the right, even though they were still quite a distance away, he still gave Yun Che an extremely strong sense of oppression and danger.

As for his face... it was astonishingly Mu Yizhou!

He didn't know if Mu Yizhou was that lucky or just too strong. Under the onslaught of the Yellow Spring Ashes he had been forced to use, he was certain Mu Yizhou would die under countless claws of berserk profound beasts. And yet, it seemed that he sustained no injuries.

"We'll die sooner or later so it doesn't matter!" Mu Yizhou said fiercely. "I only regret... that I didn't get to personally kill Yun Che!!"

The reason why he had been exiled was because he had done too many bad things, yet he had put all his resentment on Yun Che.

"Even you almost died back then so even if Yun Che had ten lives, he would be dead. Although you didn't kill him personally, his death could still be considered to be caused by you. So cheer up a little," said the other person.

After hearing what he had said, a smile surfaced on Mu Yizhou's face. "Heh, you're right."

The duo's footsteps were careful and slow. As they trod upon the snow, they left no traces.

Kill me? Yun Che narrowed his eyes as he sneered inwardly.

As he thought back to when he had been forced into a dead end yesterday, killing intent grew within Yun Che's heart.

He definitely wasn't Mu Yizhou's match in a direct confrontation.

However, when he remembered easily snapping the body of that white wolf in the Divine Soul Realm, a dangerous cold gleam flashed within Yun Che's eyes. His hands were already quietly grasping the Cloud Butterfly Blade.

"Senior Brother Yizhou, do... do we really have no choice but to die here?"

"Or else what? Are you still dreaming of escaping this place alive?" Mu Yizhou gritted his teeth.

"No... I'm just unreconciled, there must be a way. There must be a way out. Senior Brother Yizhou, we've already lasted this long... there must be a way!"

As the two slowly drew near, they just happened to be walking toward the ice stone Yun Che was concealing himself near. Yun Che was standing directly in front of that ice stone and was at the center of their field of view but the duo had yet to sense Yun Che at all, even though they were on high alert.

The ice stone and the crack in the thick tree really was an excellent hiding place. As the duo somewhat quickened their pace, the distance between them and Yun Che got shorter and shorter. Slowly, they approached to a distance of thirty meters... fifteen meters... yet they still didn't sense that there was another person currently standing at that place.

With the Cloud Butterfly Blade firmly gripped in hand, Yun Che's pulse did not quicken due to their approach. Instead, it became even steadier.

He only had one chance!

The Mu Yizhou in his view came closer and closer. In the blink of an eye, he was already within ten steps. Yun Che's fingers tightened once more as he still forced himself to stay in place... It was right when Mu Yizhou was seven steps away from him that his deeply concealed profound energy instantly burst out. His body that became visible shot out like flowing light, then suddenly swept past Mu Yizhou.

A rapidly moving shadow flashed past him, bringing along a slight chill. This shadow seemed to have suddenly split from the void without warning and was so fast he didn't have time to react.

This shock was by no means insignificant. The hearts of the duo came to an abrupt halt as they turned around in shock, "Who's there!?"

Yun Che smoothly stopped at a distance of thirty meters and casually turned around with a strange smile at the corner of his lips. "Junior Brother Yizhou, in order to repay your passionate reception, I'm here to personally send you off!"

Chapter 1044 - Feathered Ice Spirit Flower

"Yun Che? You're alive!?" Mu Yizhou's eyes darkened but on the inside he was shocked by Yun Che's appearance.

"Of course I'm alive. You on the other hand... may be dead very, very soon," Yun Che sneered.

"You think the likes of you can kill me!?" Hatred flashed in Mu Yizhou's eyes, "Very well! I was just regretting the fact that I wasn't able to kill you with my own hands but to think that you would deliver yourself to me!"

"Don't let him escape, Mu Heng! I must kill him with my own hands!"

Mu Yizhou was already clutching his sword when he gave the order. But the moment he unleashed his profound energy, he suddenly noticed that the scenery before his eyes was falling swiftly for some reason. Then, everything turned gray white before sinking into darkness...

The Ice Phoenix disciple called Mu Heng was just about to move behind Yun Che when he saw Mu Yizhou's head suddenly flying away from its torso. The burst of profound energy caused scarlet blood to gush out of his severed neck like a fountain and sent the head flying dozens of meters away from the torso. Finally, it fell weakly and smashed into the snow next to Mu Heng's feet.



Mu Yizhou's expression was very calm because he never got the chance to show fear on his face. The only things that showed the fear and shock he was feeling during his last moments were his enlarging pupils.

"Ah... aaaaah!" Mu Heng was stunned for a long time before he let out a fearful shout. He stumbled backwards in great fear and nearly fell on his butt during the process.

Yun Che had hidden his body and his aura, detonated the profound energy in his Buddha Heart Divine Veins in an instant, moved at an impossible speed, and finally cut through Mu Yizhou's neck with the Cloud Butterfly Blade... The assassination wouldn't have been possible without any one of these elements and he had executed them all to perfection.

As a result, Yun Che at who was at the first level of the Divine Origin Realm was able to kill Mu Yizhou in an instant, a profound practitioner who was almost two realms stronger than he was!

It took the Cloud Butterfly Blade only a brief instant to pass through Mu Yizhou's neck and the entire assassination process was so quiet that Mu Yizhou never even realized that he was killed until the final moment. In fact, he never learned how he had died at Yun Che's hands.

"That's... that's the Cloud Butterfly Blade!"

When Mu Heng saw the gleaming ice blade in Yun Che's hand, his pupils contracted slightly as he cried out the weapon's name.

"Oh? You know it?" Yun Che withdrew the Cloud Butterfly Blade with a bit of astonishment. Although this person was far weaker than Mu Yizhou—he was probably just a normal Ice Phoenix Palace disciple—he actually recognized the Cloud Butterfly Blade.

It would appear that the Cloud Butterfly Blade was extremely famous in the Snow Song Realm.

"No wonder Senior Brother Yizhou was..."

Plop!

It was only now that Mu Yizhou's headless body finally collapsed to the ground, spraying the floor with a shocking amount of blood. Judging from the sprayed blood, there was probably nothing left inside the body.

"So, do you want to leave or do you want to be... buried along with your senior brother?" Yun Che asked coldly. There was no reason to believe that a person who was exiled to

this place was a good egg but at the same time they shared no relations or grudges with each other. In a place like Mist End Valley, it was better to avoid unnecessary trouble. Therefore, he wouldn't waste energy trying to kill this guy if he did choose to leave.

Mu Heng's took a few steps backwards but he quickly came to a stop once more. The initial fear and shock on his face were actually giving away to fierce ruthlessness, "You only killed Mu Yizhou because you ambushed him using the Cloud Butterfly Blade. Do you really think a mere Divine Origin Realm profound practitioner like you has the right to boast of his strength before me?"

Yun Che's eyes narrowed, "So you choose to die, is that it?"

“Me? The one who will die is you!” Mu Heng’s face turned slightly distorted, “I’m going to die sooner or later anyway in this place! If I can drag you, the sect master’s direct disciple into death with me, hehehe, then my death will be totally worth it!”

“Mn.” Yun Che nodded in agreement, “It is a pretty good idea.”

If he was still an Ice Phoenix Palace disciple, he wouldn’t dare show Yun Che even a bit of disrespect even if he had all the courage in the world. But he was a fugitive in Mist End Valley, so Yun Che’s identity only invoked irritation and excitement in his twisted heart.

“Then die!!”

Mu Heng swung his sword at Yun Che, causing bone chilling air to enshroud Yun Che in an instant. He looked like he would freeze Yun Che in ice right there.

Yun Che raised his arms in front of himself with the Heaven Smiting Sword clutched firmly in his hands. His eyes turned gloomy as he detonated his profound energy, flames and sword force at once. Judging from the strength of Mu Heng’s aura, he was probably around the second or third level of the Divine Soul Realm. Although he was far weaker than Mu Yizhou, he still wasn’t an easy opponent for him.

Thankfully, Mu Heng’s whole life in Mist End Valley was spent running just one step ahead of certain death. Not only was he hurt all over, his vitality was weak and his profound strength was largely depleted. There was no reason for him to lose if he were to fight Mu Heng with full force!

Yun Che braved the cold wind and leaped into the air, instantly arriving in front of Mu Heng. His sword fell on Mu Heng’s head, as though it would flatten him like a pie.

Yun Che’s speed immensely shocked Mu Heng but he raised his own sword immediately afterwards, his profound energy surging. He had complete confidence that his slash would deal Yun Che a grievous blow.

Clang! A heavy sound resounded as Yun Che was knocked far, far away from the point of impact. However, Mu Heng’s sword was the one that broke as his hands turned numb and his feet sank deeply into the ground.

“Ah!?” Mu Heng’s pupils contracted abruptly as fear and shock appeared on his face, “How... how is this possible!?”

Before him, an oppressive feeling that shouldn’t belong to one at the Divine Origin Realm rushed towards him. Yun Che actually recovered with a roll through the air and swung his sword once more down toward his head. The flames enveloping the sword were actually stronger than during the first clash and threatened to suffocate Mu Heng.

Mu Heng clenched his teeth and threw away the broken sword he was wielding. Not daring to conserve his strength any longer, his entire body glowed icily as he roared and sent thirteen icicles stabbing into the air from the ground.

The thirteen icicles had appeared swiftly and unexpectedly, so Yun Che’s falling figure was instantly stabbed by two of the thirteen icicles at the same time. Mu Heng was just about to let loose a peal of

mad laughter when he suddenly realized that the pierced “Yun Che” was dissipating swiftly into a cloud of thin ice mist.

Behind Mu Heng, a calamitous, burning power rushed ruthlessly towards his back. The only thing the he could do was to scream in terror before he was struck mercilessly by the attack.

Boom!!

The snapping sound of Mu Heng’s spine was so crisp that it was almost piercing to one’s ears. Mu Heng flew far, far away into the distance like a broken bag of blood before he crashed painfully into the frozen rock Yun Che was hiding inside earlier.

It was impossible for Mu Heng to stand up again after his spine was snapped in half. He wriggled painfully on the ground while continuously vomiting scarlet blood from his mouth.

“All bark and no bite, you are.” Yun Che taunted just before a dangerous, bestial roar followed his words. A dangerous aura swiftly approached towards Mu Heng.

It was only natural that the commotion had drawn the profound beasts’ attention. Putting away his sword swiftly, Yun Che withdrew his aura and escaped leisurely from the place, not bothering to spare Mu Heng even a second glance. After he moved a few hundred meters away from the place, he jumped soundlessly into the air and landed on top of a tall, dry tree. His figure slowly vanished after that.

It didn’t take long before the low growls of a profound beast and Mu Heng’s blood curdling screams of despair cut through the air.

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Nearing the end of the third day since Yun Che was sent into Mist End Valley.

There were less than thirty minutes left before the seventy-two hour time limit was up. When the time was up, the dimensional profound formation Mu Xuanyin left on Yun Che’s body would teleport him away from Mist End Valley.

A cloud of thick mist scattered as Mu Xuanyin soundlessly appeared above Mist End Valley once more. She quickly spotted Yun Che after she spread her consciousness across the land. Then, her eyebrows became wrinkled a little.

Yun Che hadn’t hidden in the same spot and waited for the third day to pass. Right now, he was almost fifty kilometers away from his previous spot.

She could sense where Yun Che was but not see his person, so it was obvious that Yun Che was currently in that amazing state of Concealment. However, that wasn’t why Mu Xuanyin was surprised.

Mu Xuanyin was surprised because Yun Che was obviously moving slowly across the ground!

He was able to move despite being in the concealed state!

“...” The tiny ripple of emotion in Mu Xuanyin’s eyes lasted for a long time before it subsided.

Meanwhile, Yun Che was walking slowly across Mist End Valley while being invisible... he couldn’t speed up even if he wanted to anyway.

After a whole day and night of meditation, enlightenment, and experimentation, he was now able to maintain a perfect state of Concealment while walking slowly and not making any big movements. Although he had used it for less than a day only, it was without a doubt a large improvement compared to the time when he wasn't able to move at all.

Now that he was able to move while being invisible, naturally Yun Che didn't need to hide in the same place any longer. Instead, he started roaming around Mist End Valley and enjoying its unique scenery.

Yes, he was enjoying the scenery of Mist End Valley...

Of course, he was cautious even though he was invisible and he would do his best to walk out of a profound beast's way should he noticed them. While it was true that the profound beasts couldn't see him, they could unwittingly send a wave of profound energy in his direction and... reveal him instantly.

Mu Xuanyin watched as Yun Che strolled through layer upon layer of thick mists and past many violent profound beasts. He made it look so simple it was as if he was the only thing to exist in Mist End Valley. His temporary exile was supposed to be a severe punishment and test of his abilities but right now he looked like he was on a vacation or something.

It was just like the time he travelled to the Ice Wind Empire alone three months ago!

At this rate, Mu Xuanyin doubted that Yun Che could get into trouble even if he tried. But just when Mu Xuanyin withdrew her gaze and got ready to leave, her eyes suddenly caught a glimpse of something. She said softly to herself, "The Feathered Ice Spirit Flower?"

Yun Che's footsteps had paused because an extremely dangerous aura was brimming ahead of him. Moreover, it was the most dangerous aura he had ever sensed since he entered Mist End Valley. When he came close to this intimidating aura, he could clearly sense some of the hair on the back of his neck standing on end.

His gaze penetrated the thick mist and very soon he saw a huge, white figure.

This white figure was thirty meters tall and it had the outline of a giant ape. It was completely white in color but the color wasn't like the snow white color of thick hair. Instead, it was an icy white color that gleamed intimidatingly even through the thick mist!

The ape wasn't covered in hair but a layer of thick ice armor! Yun Che only needed to look at the light reflecting off its armor to guess just how tough it must be.

Worse, this giant ice armored ape wasn't weaker than Mu Hanyi at all!

This also meant that its strength was the equivalent a human cultivator in the middle stage of the Divine Tribulation Realm... or the late stage even!

Yun Che stopped his breathing and slowed down his footsteps, backing away from the ape little by little. Although the giant ice armored ape seemed to be deeply asleep and he was currently invisible and undetectable by aura, he still acted with extreme caution. After all, the consequences of being discovered were unimaginable.

He could barely escape from the peak Divine Soul Realm Mu Yizhou.

But the same absolutely couldn't be said for this Divine Tribulation Realm profound beast. Even the chance of escaping was miniscule.

No wonder this particular area was so quiet and devoid of profound beasts. It was the territory of a Divine Tribulation Realm beast... naturally, there were no profound beasts that dared to approach it.

Just when he was about to turn away and leave, a strange, white gleam suddenly caught his full attention.

Less than ten meters away from the giant ice armored ape, a beautiful white flower lay quietly in full bloom. It was completely icy white in color and the single flower above the stem looked so pure it was almost unreal. Its feather-like petals swayed to the wind.

A strange spirit energy filled the surrounding space and it was clear and rich despite the giant ice armored ape's terrifying aura. It was only then that Yun Che realized that the spirit energy had come from this strange flower.

It was only natural for a flower in Mist End Valley to be icy and cold. But not only did this flower's spirit energy not make him feel cold at all, it even warmed his heart for a very, very long time.

Yun Che stared fixedly at this strange white flower, so much so that he even forgot to move away from the giant ape. He had seen countless strange flowers and herbs in his life but there were very few that could strike a deep chord in his heart.

Chapter 1045 - Exterminating a Divine Tribulation Realm Existence Once Again

Yun Che didn't continue to retreat any further. He looked fixedly at the Feathered Ice Spirit Flower for a long while and then actually began to slowly walk forward. He approached the extremely dangerous giant ice armored ape step by step but his eyes were still looking in the direction of the Feathered Ice Spirit Flower.

Mu Xuanyin clearly understood his intention when she saw him act in such a manner. She felt angry in her heart, "You scoundrel! You're risking your life for a moment of greed? This brat never learns his lesson!"

"Especially, why is he behaving like this for a mere Feathered Ice Spirit Flower!? In the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake, you can easily find a variant flower, which would be far better than that one!"

Yun Che gradually drew closer, making his way ahead at an extreme slow pace. The aura emanating from the giant ape grew increasingly fearsome as he got closer and closer to it.

Although he was taking a great risk by doing so, Yun Che was still quite confident in achieving his goal. Using Moon Splitting Cascade to conceal his figure, along with Hidden Flowing Lightning which concealed his aura, he was confident that unless the giant ape released his spirit sense and proactively looked around vigilantly, it'd be very difficult for it to discover his existence, even if he was only around thirty meters away from it.

Furthermore, it was currently in slumber.

Amidst the ice-cold silence, Yun Che continued to walk forward while maintaining his extremely slow pace and quietly arrived before the Feathered Ice Spirit Flower. He didn't experience any surprises or

danger on his way to the flower. Yun Che was only ten meters away from the giant ice armored ape at present. He could faintly sense it letting out a heavy breath in its sleep.

But, there was no unusual change in the giant ice armored ape's aura. It was evident that it hadn't sensed his presence.

Yun Che was even more surprised when he looked at the Feathered Ice Spirit Flower from up close. It was only the size of an adult's palm and its seven petals looked like tail feathers. Each petal was disseminating a distinct aura, as if all of them were independent lifeforms.

The flower was emitting a cold, white light, giving it a particularly magnificent and beautiful appearance. However, when Yun Che slowly brought his palm closer to it, he didn't feel the chilliness characteristic to the ice-attribute flowers. Instead, he felt a warm and comfortable feeling, that made people feel at ease.

"Alright..." Yun Che lightly touched the Feathered Ice Spirit Flower with utmost carefulness. The Sky Poison Pearl glowed with a faint light, after which the flower was plucked off the stem.

Watching the whole process from high above in the sky, Mu Xuanyin frowned slightly, "Let me teach you a lesson!"

One should risk their life when it was required to accomplish their objective but it was certainly a great taboo to do so just to satisfy your greed for an unnecessary thing. What made her especially angry was that even though he knew that the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake had countless spirit flowers and all kinds of herbs, he still took the risk of getting closer to a profound beast in the Divine Tribulation Realm in order to obtain a mere Feathered Ice Spirit Flower. His action was totally ridiculous!

She lightly pointed her finger. A blue light burst out at once, with a tip as sharp-looking as a needle.

Yun Che deeply glanced at the Feathered Ice Spirit Flower while holding it between his palms. Just when he was going to place it inside the Sky Poison Pearl, an abrupt change happened in his surroundings. A sense of fatal danger immediately pricked at the nerves throughout his body.

"ROAR!!!!"

The calm airflow in the place grew intensely agitated like a tsunami. The giant ice armored ape got up and let out a sky-shaking bellow. Yun Che, who was only ten meters away, nearly vomited blood due the shockwaves generated by it. As the giant ape crazily unleashed its power, the ice and snow in the surroundings burst apart because of the impact. Yun Che's figure was also exposed in no time and the eyes of the giant ice armored ape, that were releasing the light of madness and wrath, clearly caught sight of the Feathered Ice Spirit Flower in his hand.

"...?!!" Yun Che paled in fright. He quickly stored the flower in the Sky Poison Pearl before dashing away like a thunderbolt.

No matter what creature, all of them would need some time to fully sober up after awakening from their sleep. Therefore, even though the giant ice armored ape woke up the moment he plucked off the Feathered Ice Spirit Flower, he was confident in safely leaving the place.

But, the giant ice armored ape seemed so violent, as if it had been firmly stabbed with a knife. It was in deep slumber just a moment ago, releasing an incomparably calm aura. And now, it appeared to have gone completely berserk, right after awakening from its sleep.

Damn it... Yun Che gnashed his teeth.

How did things turn out this way? Could it also be a characteristic of the violent profound beasts living in Mist End Valley?

It was naturally no coincidence that the giant ice armored ape was sleeping in the vicinity of the Feathered Ice Spirit Flower. It chose the location because the aura of the flower had an extremely strong attraction power to it. Even if it wasn't awakened in such a startling way, it'd have soon woken up on its own due to the absence of the aura from the Feathered Ice Spirit Flower—though Yun Che would have safely left by that time.

But now, not only was it awakened in such a crude and startling manner, it also saw the Feathered Ice Spirit Flower falling into Yun Che's hands. As such, its initial berserk aura immediately became even more turbulent, like a volcano erupting two times in a row. The giant ape leapt high into the air as it pounced towards Yun Che and firmly smashed down his huge fist in burning rage.

BOOM!!

As though the air had been shaken by a sudden clap of thunder, the entire area several kilometers ahead was enshrouded by the terrifying might of the fist attack launched by the giant ice armored ape. All the ice stones, huge trees, and glaciers broke and were destroyed in an instant, causing the layer of snow to cave in at an astonishing speed.

Sensing a fatal, oppressive feeling from behind, Yun Che, who had no means to evade the attack, immediately activated "Rumbling Heaven," and unleashed Sealing Cloud Locking Sun with all his might.

BOOM——

As though he had been struck by a heavy hammer, Yun Che suffered a hard fall, which again produced a very loud sound in the surroundings. A huge pit, with a depth of tens of meters, appeared around the place he had fallen.

"Sss..." Yun Che quickly got to his feet inside the huge pit. His whole body was feeling intense pain as well as numbness. The moment he got up, blood flowed out of the corner of his mouth, his nostrils and ears—if not for the fact that he had immediately activated Rumbling Heaven and opened the Evil God barrier, he would be as good as dead, even if he survived the attack.

That was the might of a being in the Divine Tribulation Realm!

Although he somehow resisted the attack, it didn't mean that he was out of danger. On the contrary, he didn't even have the time to pant. Before he could calm down his agitated profound energy, he found himself enveloped in a scarlet, eye-piercing light that was being released by the other party's eyes. The thick and heavy arm of the giant ice armored ape again moved down to attack from above his head, bringing along the might of death and instantly shrouded his field of vision.

Yun Che instantaneously moved at an extremely fast speed, before opening the Evil God barrier once more with all he had.

BOOM!!

The ground split apart and sank down and even all the small mountains several kilometers away crumbled and collapsed. As if he had been struck by a heavy hammer again, Yun Che was sent flying high into the sky. Despite the fact that he was only hit by the remnant shockwaves of the attack, the Evil God barrier shattered into pieces after persevering for a brief while. However, he did succeed in barely escaping the great danger due to its help.

Yun Che's aura and blood were thrown into disorder and he had to give his all just to steady his posture in the air. He spit out a mouthful of blood and gnashed his teeth so hard that they almost broke apart...

Running away won't work! It's basically impossible to flee from that profound beast. If I were to get hit by his attack once more, I'd be in danger for real.

He had almost reached his limit by using all of his strength to execute Sealing Cloud Locking Sun two times in succession within the Rumbling Heaven state.

If he wanted to get out of here alive, there was only one method left at his disposal...

To kill the giant ice armored ape!!

While he was thinking of the means to deal with his current predicament, the blood-red light emitting from the eyes of the giant ice armored ape had enveloped him again. It had locked onto Yun Che's aura, effectively rendering him unable to evade its attack. The giant ape whirled its arm, preparing to shroud the surroundings with the might of the Divine Tribulation Realm.

A gloomy expression appeared in Yun Che's eyes but he didn't show any evasive intentions. Instead, he took the initiative to charge toward the giant ice armored ape. Just when it was about to strike down with its huge arm, a blue figure flashed over his body and let out a world-shaking dragon roar.

"ROAR!!!!!!"

The giant ice armored ape shook intensely under the influence of the Dragon Soul Domain. The berserk look in its eyes quickly turned into that of fear and his movements also came to a halt. Not intending to hold back anything, Yun Che unleashed all his profound energy at this moment, as he directly aimed for the head of the giant ice armored ape.

He was holding the Cloud Butterfly Blade in his right hand.

As he placed his left hand on the Cloud Butterfly Blade, a green light flashed across it.

Back when he poisoned Mu Hanyi in the Ice Wind Empire, he had only used half of the horned dragon's breath, which was given to him by Mu Xuanyin. At this moment, the remaining half had been sprinkled on the Cloud Butterfly Blade.

After all, the only thing in his possession that was able to kill the giant ice armored ape, was none other than the horned dragon's breath!



He had to inject the poison into the body of the giant ice armored ape to effectively use the poison of the horned dragon's breath against the latter. But the giant ice armored ape not only had an incomparably thick ice-armor, its body was also being protected by the power of its Divine Tribulation Realm cultivation. Even if he had the Cloud Butterfly Blade and was also using the Rumbling Heaven to its ultimate extent, he didn't have absolute confidence in breaking open the ice-armor of his foe and stabbing right into its body.

Since he only had one opportunity to carry out his attack, he didn't want to bet on something so uncertain.

The most fragile part of a creature... was its eyes, without a shadow of doubt.

Confronting the giant ice armored ape, which was temporarily in a frightened state due to the coercion of the Dragon God, Yun Che's profound energy and speed rapidly increased to their limits. Moving like a shooting star, he shot a formless blade of light that was a foot long in length and pierced right through his opponent's head...

RIP!!

The Cloud Butterfly Blade firmly stabbed into the right eye of the giant ice armored ape that was as big as the size of an adult person's head. But unexpected, the sound issuing from it getting torn was similar to a tough and tensile rock being cut apart.

"Rooa... Woo...!!!!!!"

The giant ice armored ape suddenly raised the upper-half of its body and let out a furious roar of pain. A muffled sound escaped from Yun Che's mouth as he got sent flying into the distance from the shock. The next instant, his vision turned dark all of a sudden. Amidst the pain and rage it was feeling due to the destroyed right eye, the giant ice armored ape swung around his huge arm in a disordered manner, which just happened to hit his body.

Nnzz——

As he lost his consciousness in an instant, Yun Che didn't feel even the slightest pain. He could only sense his body drifting away in a blank world, like a dead leaf getting swept up in a hurricane...

"Oh no!" Mu Xuanyin's expression changed when she saw the scene and immediately flew down in his direction.

BANG!

Yun Che got heavily smashed to the ground and his body only came to a halt after digging out a gully that was several hundred meters long. His completely dulled consciousness had finally started to recover, ruthlessly exposing him to more and more intense pain that he could feel from every part of his body.

During the previous two attacks he received, he was using the Evil God barrier with all his might in the Rumbling Heaven state, which was his ultimate defensive state. Besides, he only had to withstand the remnant shockwaves. However, he still suffered internal injuries despite it all.

This time, he didn't have the protection of the Evil God barrier and was directly struck by the giant ice armored ape.

Since he could feel an intense pain, it meant that he had regained his senses. Yun Che slowly opened his eyes and faintly moved the fingers of his right hand. Then, he lifted his arm with difficulty and brought it behind him in order to grab a broken ice stones. He seemed to have the intention to get up to his feet. But upon lifting his arm to some extent, he noticed that his whole arm was dyed with fresh blood...

The bones of his left arm were completely broken. He couldn't feel a thing from it.

BANG!

Despite exerting his all power to lift it up, the arm ended up drooping down heavily before he could succeed in lifting it to a sufficient height. There was nothing except severe pain left in his body and it was difficult to move even a bit. Not only his left arm, he also felt that his left rib cage and breastbone were mostly broken. His internal organs had dislocated by a great margin and there were countless cracks all over them.

"Aooo...wooo!!"

"Wooaarrr~~~~"

He could hear the deranged roars of anger and pain coming from the distance. In the midst of his blurred line of sight, he saw a huge figure crazily writhing around and struggling, while covering its right eye.

Starting from the pierced right eye, a bizarre layer of crimson hue began to quickly spread across its thick ice-armor. In the blink of an eye, the entire body of the giant ape got covered in the layer, after which the crimson color deepened at an extremely fast rate.

Very soon, the ice-white body of the giant ape turned crimson. Its roars and struggling movements became increasingly powerless before it fell heavily on the ground, wiggling and twitching in despair.

"Heh... hehe..." Lying paralyzed on the ground, Yun Che laughed despite being extremely injured. He had actually killed a Divine Tribulation Realm existence once again, after having done the same to Mu Hanyi three months ago. Although he relied on the Dragon God Domain and horned dragon poison both times, it was definitely a miracle only he was capable of creating.

He might be extremely injured right now but it was only him alone who could survive after being hit by a power of the Divine Tribulation Realm in a head-on clash. If it was any other profound practitioner, including the ones at the Divine Soul Realm, they would have instantly been smashed to a pulp. Let alone being on their last breath, even their bones wouldn't be left intact.

It was just that he was so heavily injured this time that his condition was somewhat miserable. He hadn't been injured to such an extent even when he had a fierce battle with Xuanyuan Wentian in the past.

Although the giant ice armored ape had died, the danger was far from over. He was still in Mist End Valley, after all. A brutal profound beast could appear before him at any instant. Forget about hiding

himself, he was unable to stand up at present. Even a Winterfrost Direwolf, the weakest profound beast in the valley, could easily put him to death.

It was at this time that a profound light started to glimmer around his chest all of a sudden. The profound light swiftly activated a small-sized profound formation, which released enough rays of light to cover his entire body within them. Soon after, he instantly disappeared from the place.

At this moment, exactly seventy-two hours had passed since he entered Mist End Valley. Hence, the spatial profound formation, which Mu Xuanyin had left on him, was triggered because the condition had been met. And thus, the severe punishment given to him by Mu Xuanyin had finally come to an end.

"He truly is a lucky fellow," Mu Xuanyin mumbled, as she stood high in the sky, far-off from Yun Che's location. Afterwards, she turned around and vanished without making a sound.

#### Chapter 1046 - The Slaughtering Dragon Period

The scenery around him immediately switched over. The pale-white sky of the Ice Phoenix Realm appeared in his line of sight and he could sense the distinct aura of the Sacred Hall in the surroundings. Yun Che let out a long sigh of relief as he stood amidst the snow-covered land.

As his mind felt relaxed, the extremely severe injuries on his body caused his consciousness to grow increasingly fuzzy. The aura emanating from him was horribly weak at this time. While he was in a daze, he saw Mu Xuanyin coming over to his side and look at him with a chilly expression in her eyes.

"Mas... ter..." Yun Che opened his mouth to speak but could only utter so much in a pained and unclear voice.

"Hmph! It's surprising that you could come out of Mist End Valley alive. You're one lucky guy." Even though Yun Che's whole body was dyed in blood and he seemed to be close to his death, there was still no emotion in her eyes and they were as chilly as ever.

"..." Yun Che slightly moved his lips but failed to say anything in response. He slightly moved his right arm before lifting it up, bit by bit, in a very slow motion. His arm was trembling intensely, making it evident that not only it was incomparably difficult to lift the arm but it was also hurting a lot.

There was a bizarre flower in full bloom at the center of his palm, with petals similar to flawless tail feathers.

It was the Feathered Ice Spirit Flower he had nearly lost his life for.

Mu Xuanyin, "???"

"Disciple... obtained this flower... in Mist End Valley... to present it to... Master..."

"..." Mu Xuanyin didn't receive it or show any other response to him.

His palm carrying the Feathered Ice Spirit Flower trembled more and more intensely and Yun Che started losing consciousness at a fast rate, "Disciple... is aware that he has committed a great sin... and would not ask Master for forgiveness... Disciple just does not want Master to experience a negative emotion such as anger... because of the unpardonable deed done by this disciple..."

“The flower in this disciple’s hand... is quite similar to the image of Master in this disciple’s heart... very beautiful... very cold... and... yet... actually...”

“.....”

Yun Che passed out in the end. As he fainted, the palm holding the Feathered Ice Spirit Flower also drooped down powerlessly.

Mu Xuanyin made her move as fast as lightning. A graceful profound aura lifted held up the falling Feathered Ice Spirit Flower in the air, before slowly bringing it to the center of her opened palm.

The world suddenly turned quiet and remained so for a long while.

“Forget it. I’ll forgive you for now.”

The Feathered Ice Spirit Flower in her palm disappeared silently. Then, she turned around and muttered to herself in a very casual manner, with no signs of the might or intimidation that she had displayed just a moment ago.

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Yun Che awakened after an unknown period of time.

He had regained his consciousness and his whole body was still hurting a lot but the pain wasn’t as severe as before. Besides the pain, he could feel an even stronger refreshing and comfortable feeling, as though he was bathing in a lukewarm and gentle breeze.

Upon opening his eyes, Yun Che discovered that his body was soaking in the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake. There were ice spirits dancing around him with swift motions but the area of the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake was as quiet as usual, with no one else present besides him. The barrier around the lake was also in a closed state at the moment.

He felt multiple currents of high level foreign spirit energy in his body. Not only were they of a high level, they had also turned into liquid, and were currently helping his injuries to get better. His extremely strong recovery ability was complementing the healing process. As such, even though he was still severely injured like before, his injuries had healed by nearly thirty percent. Following the recovery of his consciousness and profound strength, his injuries had begun to heal at an increasingly faster rate.

It could only have been Mu Xuanyin who had liquified the spiritual herbs for him and placed him inside the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake.

“Phew... Looks like Master isn’t that angry now.” Yun Che let out a long breath of relief. His entire body felt so relaxed that he didn’t even mind the pain.

Of course, he had no idea that Mu Xuanyin was the reason behind the misfortune he had suffered... because she had wanted to teach him a lesson.

Now that his heart was at ease, Yun Che closed his eyes to concentrate on recovering from his injuries. As he used the Great Way of the Buddha, the spirit energy of the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake began to gush into his body at a speed several times greater than before.

Most of his profound strength had recovered in the short period of a few hours and at least sixty percent of his internal injuries had healed. Although his body was still in a weakened state, he barely felt any pain at this moment.

Suddenly, he felt an unusual change in his profound meridians. A four-colored nebula of profound energy had begun to rotate on its own and its speed of rotation was becoming faster and faster. The profound aura in his entire body had also started to rapidly flow back to his profound meridians.

I'm... about to break through!

His first breakthrough after entering the divine way only took three and a half months!

It was especially surprising because during this period he had spent all his time practicing Moon Splitting Cascade, the Ice Phoenix God Investiture Canon, and the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World. He had hardly put any effort into cultivating his profound strength. He increased the accumulation of his profound strength solely by relying on absorbing the spirit energy of the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake. But it only took him three and a half months to cross the first small realm of the divine way!

Yun Che concentrated his mind and focused on the process taking place inside his body. He had begun to make preparations to welcome his first breakthrough in the divine way.

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Outside the Ice Phoenix Realm, a huge, crimson boat with long and wide wings on the sides gradually came to a halt. There was no doubt that its existence was extremely conspicuous in the cold and white world of snow.

In front of the Sacred Hall, Mu Bingyun's figure appeared amidst a flash of cold rays of light. Then, she gracefully entered inside with light steps and caught sight of Mu Xuanyin's back. It might've be a coincidence, but Mu Xuanyin was standing right at the side of the pond where Buddha Heart Lotus of Nine Resurrections used to bloom before, a sight she had seen several times in the past.

"Has the profound ark from the Flame God Realm arrived?" Mu Xuanyin asked in a cold tone.

"It's Yan Wancang and Yan Juehai." Mu Bingyun came to Mu Xuanyin's side. "Elder Sister, are you prepared to leave with them for the Flame God Realm?"

In the midst of her words, her gaze fell on a beautiful and flawless white flower at the center of the pond, where the Buddha Heart Lotus of Nine Resurrections was being raised earlier. Its petals seemed like the feathers of a goose and was releasing a particularly warm spirit aura.

"Feathered Ice Spirit Flower?" Mu Bingyun was taken aback and looked at Mu Xuanyin with a deep doubtful expression in her eyes.

Mu Xuanyin had especially set up this pond nine thousand years ago for raising the Buddha Heart Lotus of Nine Resurrections. The water from the heavenly lake was used to fill up the pond and three drops of Ice Phoenix Origin Blood were also added into it. Furthermore, the Ice Phoenix spirit energy would be poured into it at regular intervals and its location was right at the centermost place of the Sacred Hall, which was in itself a core facility of the Ice Phoenix Realm. In ordinary times, the pond would be guarded

by a formless barrier around it. Let alone an outsider coming in contact with the pond, it was difficult for even a dust particle to get close to it.

In the past nine thousand years, only the Buddha Heart Lotus of Nine Resurrection had existed in this spirit pond.

So how come there was also a Feathered Ice Spirit Flower in such a place today!?

If it was some high level bizarre flower or an unusual herb, Mu Bingyun wouldn't have been too surprised. After all, the Buddha Heart Lotus of Nine Resurrections had already lost all of its petals and didn't need too strong of a spirit energy before it bloomed once again. But, even if the Feathered Ice Spirit Flower was an extremely high level and rare spirit flower in the Snow Song Realm, they were in no lack of it. Any one spirit flower around the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake would contain far more spirit energy than a Feathered Ice Spirit Flower.

Besides, the Feathered Ice Spirit Flower in the pond was just a fully bloomed flower and the rest of it was missing—So why exactly was it placed inside a spirit pond which comprised such amazing things as the spirit aura of the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake and Ice Phoenix!?

“Well, the pond was empty, after all. I thought that it would be pleasing to the eye to throw in some other flower and see it grow,” Mu Xuanyin turned her face away. “Since the people from the Flame God Realm have arrived here, it means that it is almost time for that matter. Its nice that I'm not busy with anything at the moment, so I can leave today.”

Mu Xuanyin seemed to be intentionally changing the topic. Mu Bingyu gave a deep glance at the Feathered Ice Spirit Flower once again but didn't pursue the matter any further. She said in a worried tone, “Are you going there alone?”

“No,” Mu Xuanyin's eyes faintly stirred, “I'm planning to take someone else along.”

“The Great Elder?”

“Yun Che.”

“Yun Che?” Mu Bingyun was a bit startled.

“His knowledge of the God Realm is limited to the Snow Song Realm at present. It is about time to take him to other places and have him broaden his horizons,” Mu Xuanyin said in an incomparably indifferent voice. “Since he is my disciple, I can not let him stay ignorant of the world outside.”

“...” A very superficial smile appeared on Mu Bingyun's face. “It seems that Elder Sister is no longer angry at him.”

Mu Xuanyin snorted in disdain, “Hmph! He was lucky enough to come back alive, so I also do not feel like getting angry with a brat.”

Mu Bingyun moved her lips a bit to the side, “The power of flame Yun Che possesses is even stronger than the frost. Therefore, it's certainly a very good decision to take him to the Flame God Realm. I'm actually more concerned about Elder Sister. You need to be really careful.”

“Rest easy,” Mu Xuanyin said without the slightest hint of anxiousness. “That horned dragon suffered a serious injury at its dragon fault when I attacked it last time. It is absolutely impossible for such an injury to heal in the short period of a thousand years. Hence, there is no doubt that the threat of being significantly injured in a confrontation with it is greatly reduced. I am at least eighty percent sure that I’ll be able to slaughter it, so long as it did not finish casting off its scales!”

Mu Bingyun slowly nodded her head.

“Tell Huanzhi that he will be the person in charge of handling all the major matters of the sect in my absence. Unless some unresolvable matter comes up, he is not allowed to contact me.”

Having finished her words, she turned around to walk out of the hall. But just when she reached the entrance, she abruptly stopped in her tracks, as if she had recalled something. Then, she flipped over her palm and sent a white streak of light towards Mu Bingyun.

Mu Bingyun stretched out her hand to catch the white streak of light. It was none other than her Cloud Butterfly Blade.

“Elder Sister...”

“No need to explain anything,” Mu Bingyun said in a cold tone. “It is the most important thing left behind by mother and should not be given to an outsider at any cost... no matter who it is! I will overlook it this time but I hope that such a thing does not happen again!”

“Yes.” Mu Bingyun put away the Cloud Butterfly Blade with a guilty conscience.

Mu Xuanyin made a sweeping gesture with her palm, causing the space ahead to crack immediately. Her figure disappeared in an instant and appeared before the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake.

In the midst of consolidating his profound strength, Yun Che suddenly felt the barrier of the heavenly lake opening up and immediately got out of the lake. The moment he arrived at the shore of the lake, Mu Xuanyin’s figure appeared in his field of vision.

Yun Che was still feeling very apprehensive in his heart before Mu Xuanyin and promptly got down on one knee, “Disciple pays respect to Master.”

He used to look right at Mu Xuanyin after getting down on the knee but this time he kept his head lowered... not daring to raise it for even a split second... He was afraid that he might end up ogling her chest in a moment of carelessness.

“Follow me,” Mu Xuanyin said in a cold voice. However, faint surprise surfaced in her eyes... Not only did he get all better so soon, he also achieved a breakthrough!

“Ah? Where’re we going?” Yun Che asked subconsciously.

“The Flame God Realm!”

Before Yun Che could react, his body lightly swayed and the scenery before his eyes switched over to a completely different one. He was high in the sky of the Ice Phoenix Realm.

It was at this time that Yun Che suddenly remembered something. Mu Bingyun had told him before he entered Mist End Valley that people from the Flame God Realm were going to arrive in a few days... In other words, the scale-casting period of the ancient horned dragon in the God Burying Inferno Prison had come. It was also known as the Slaughtering Dragon Period!

Unexpectedly, Mu Xuanyin wanted to take him along!

Yun Che had always longed to visit the Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison. If he could also get at least a distant look at the legendary ancient horned dragon, that would be an even more fascinating and extremely rare experience.

It was a obviously a good opportunity for him.

Mu Xuanyin made her way ahead at an extremely fast speed, with Yun Che following her lead. They quickly approached the crimson profound ark that had stopped outside the Ice Phoenix Realm. Sneaking glances at Mu Xuanyin's back a few times, Yun Che finally asked in a feeble voice, "Master, could it be that... only the two of us will be leaving for the Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison? Are Elder Huanzhi and Palace Master Bingyun not going with us?"

He already knew that Mu Huanzhi and Mu Bingyun were the ones with the strongest profound strength in the sect, next to Mu Xuanyin.

Yun Che's expression abruptly changed the instant he mentioned Mu Bingyun's name. Immediately, he blurted out, "Oh no!"

Mu Xuanyin, "??"

"Master!" Yun Che said in panic. "Disciple just recalled a matter. Palace Master Bingyun had given something to this disciple, which got lost in Mist End Valley due to the inattentiveness of this disciple. Therefore, disciple needs to at once inform Palace Master Bingyun about it. Otherwise..."

On that day in Mist End Valley, Yun Che had used the Cloud Butterfly Blade, which was coated in the horned dragon poison, to successfully pierce the eye of the Giant Ice-armored Ape. But when he was blown away by the mighty sweep of its arm, he got severely injured in no time and the Cloud Butterfly Blade also naturally slipped out of his hand and flew away to some unknown place.

Mu Bingyun had personally told him that the Cloud Butterfly Blade was a thing passed on by their ancestor. There was no doubt that it was extremely important.

"Are you talking about the Cloud Butterfly Blade?" Mu Xuanyin asked in a cold voice.

"Ah..." Yun Che's mouth was wide agape, "Yes..."

"Then there is no need for that. I have given it back in your stead."

"Uh..." A heavy gulping sound issued from Yun Che's throat. He said nervously, "Thank you very much, Master."

Mu Xuanyin's beautiful eyes glanced sideways, before she flipped over her palm all of a sudden. A white streak of cold light shot towards Yun Che, which he caught in his hand unconsciously.



The thing in his hand was a short blade that was glittering with a ice-cold light. It had a butterfly-shaped hilt and a chilly, white blade. Moreover, it gave off the impression that it could be used so swiftly that it might not even seem real... Its shape, aura and sharpness, all of them were exactly the same as the Cloud Butterfly Blade that was given to him by Mu Bingyun.

The only thing different was that the butterfly wings were facing the opposite direction.

“This is...”

“This knife is called Sound Butterfly. Since you seem to be quite adept in using such a blade, I will lend it to you for the time being,” Mu Xuanyin shifted her gaze away and said in an emotionless voice. “But if you dare to lose it, I’ll kill you for sure!”

Yun Che remained in a daze for a good while, before he promptly said, “Disciple expresses his gratitude for Master’s favor and will cherish it with all his heart.”

Yun Che carefully put away the Sound Butterfly Blade. As he never expected such a thing to happen, his brain had stopped working momentarily.

Huh? Wait a second. Why does Master know that I’m quite adept in using it? Don’t tell me...

Amidst the chilly wind blowing in their direction, the two of them left the sphere of the Ice Phoenix Realm. They sensed an unusual burning aura coming from ahead and soon the blazing profound ark from the Flame God Realm appeared in their line of sight.

Chapter 1047 - Dragon Fault?

The profound ark from the Flame God Realm had phoenix-like wings on both the sides and was thousands of kilometers long. Aside from the the Primordial Profound Ark that housed an independent world, it was the most enormous profound ark Yun Che had ever seen.

As he got near to it, he sensed an extremely strong burning aura on his face. Any other disciple of the Ice Phoenix Sect would’ve felt some discomfort but it was no issue for Yun Che at all.

The profound ark was not only enormous, it also had a majestic aura about it. As such, it appeared like an imperial city in the sky.

Sect Master of the Vermilion Bird Sect, Yan Wancang, and Sect Master of Phoenix Sect, Yan Juehai, were waiting in front of the profound ark. Seeing Mu Xuanyin and Yun Che flying over in their direction, they took the initiative to greet them.

“We meet again, Snow Song Realm King,” Yan Wancang gave a slight bow. “We’ll be completely relying on the Snow Song Realm King’s power to achieve our goal this time.”

“No need to say such superfluous words.” Mu Xuanyin waved them off without the slightest sign of courtesy. She directly went past the two of them and got inside the profound ark. “Take good care of this king’s disciple. I don’t want to be disturbed for any matter, unless it is related to the ancient horned dragon; no matter how great of a trouble comes up.”

Mu Xuanyin’s figure had already disappeared into the profound ark by the time others finished listening to her words. Yan Wancang and Yan Juehai didn’t feel odd or any awkwardness at her attitude. Yan

Wancang turned around, "An ice room has been set up on the right side of the profound ark. If the Snow Song Realm King has any other instructions for us, please feel free to let us know."

"Ah... Master!" Yun Che promptly looked ahead, only to find that Mu Xuanyin had vanished from his field of vision.

"Hehe, your esteemed master has always liked quietness. As her disciple, the person closest to her, you should be most clear about it," Yan Juehai said with a laugh. "Young Yun, it's really surprising to see your esteemed master have you accompany her to our destination."

"No, it was expected," Yan Wancang said as he smiled. "Given Young Yun's talent in the elements, it would not have made any sense if your esteemed master didn't decide to take you along. Poyun will certainly be overjoyed to know of this matter."

"Hahaha, that's only natural," Yan Juehai let out a long laugh. "According to Sect Master Huo, Poyun frequently misses Young Yun, since his trip to the Snow Song Realm."

"Junior Yun Che asks forgiveness for the late greeting." Yun Che respectfully bowed to the duo.

"No need to be so polite," Yan Wancang said in a gentle tone.

The two great sect masters of the Flame God Realm would've never conversed with any Ice Phoenix disciple... even if they were an elder. Moreover, their expressions and tone were extremely gentle. However, Yun Che definitely had the qualifications to be treated so by them. Not only because he was a direct disciple of Mu Xuanyin but also due to his great elemental talent that deeply shocked even two distinguished sect masters like them.

And the thing that evoked a great sense of goodwill in their hearts towards Yun Che, was naturally the words that he had said to Huo Poyun, when the latter had admitted defeat in a miserable state.

As they were talking, the crimson profound ark activated and flew straight in the direction of the Flame God Realm.

The profound ark tore through the sky as it traveled thousands of kilometers in the blink of an eye. It was incomparably calm inside the profound ark, without the slightest fluctuation in the air, making it impossible to sense that the profound ark was covering distance at an extremely fast speed.

The Flame God Realm was worlds apart from the simplicity and indifference of Divine Ice Phoenix Sect, which could be noticed from the way it was decorated. Yun Che was led to a well-prepared room by two disciples from the Flame God Realm. The room was especially spacious and was fully decorated in a luxurious fashion. Despite being only a guest room on the profound ark, it appeared far more gaudy than the Ice Maiden Palace, where he stayed during his time in the Ice Wind Empire.

"Hah... The Snow Song Realm is truly destitute in comparison." Yun Che couldn't help but let out a sigh.

Just this much was enough to make out that the Snow Song Realm had no qualification to be considered on par with the Flame God Realm, if it didn't have the presence of a mighty person such as Mu Xuanyin.

He had heard Mu Bingyun mention before that all great realms were connected to each other by a transmission formation, which could be used by paying sufficient purple stones or purple crystals. But the Flame God Realm used a profound ark to receive them and chose simple flight as their traveling

method. Although the profound ark could travel at an extremely fast speed, it still required eight hours to reach the Flame God Realm.

Why didn't they directly make use of the transmission formation? With Master's strength, it would be a million times faster to travel even via tearing apart space. Could it be just for the sake of formality? That might really be the case...

As he had nothing else to do, Yun Che closed his eyes to rest and soon entered into meditation. Then, after an unknown period of time, the sudden sound of footsteps could be heard from outside the room. Yun Che opened his eyes when he heard the sound.

"Young Yun, can I come in to have a talk?" The voice of Yan Wancang, the sect master of Vermilion Bird Sect, sounded from outside.

Yun Che got up immediately and went over to open the door, "Sect Master Yan."

"Hoho, did I disturb you?" Yan Wancang asked with a laugh.

"It's a matter of great honor to me that Sect Master Yan has come to visit me. There's no way I'd feel disturbed. May I ask what instructions Sect Master Yan has for me?" Yun Che said respectfully.

"I only wanted to chat a bit with you. Consider it taking care of you, as your esteemed master has ordered. Alright, let's sit down."

With that, Yan Wancang closed the door and sat down by himself.

"...Then please excuse this junior." Yun Che didn't act unreasonably or cower either and at once sat before Yan Wancang.

If such a scene were to be witnessed by a resident of the Flame God Realm, their eyeballs might have popped out from fear. In the entire Flame God Realm, only Yan Juehai and Huo Rulie had the right to sit alongside him.

"Young Yun, I heard that you have come from a lower realm. May I know which star realm you're from?" Yan Wancang asked.

When he first came to the Snow Song Realm, he had no hesitation in revealing his birthplace and even took the initiative to tell Feng Mo that he was from the Blue Pole Star, on the very first day of his arrival. After being severely reprimanded by Mu Xuanyin at the heavenly lake, his sense of vigilance was thoroughly awakened. Hearing Yan Wancang asking such a question all of a sudden, he replied in an apologetic manner, "About that... Junior has come from a little planet, so junior is sure that Sect Master Yan has never heard of it. Hence, it would be useless to mention its name."

Yan Wancang was a bit startled at Yun Che's tactful answer but didn't pursue the matter or show any dissatisfaction. He lightly laughed before saying, "Let's forget about it then. I may be extremely curious to know about the star realm from where an extraordinary genius like you has come but I think such a talent could only be bestowed by heaven and it has no actual relation with the star realm you were born on."

"Sect Master Yan flatters me too much. This junior is undeserving of so much praise," Yun Che responded.

“That might be true for others but your case is absolutely different,” Suddenly, Yan Wancang sighed with emotion. “When a person of your master’s capability appeared in the Snow Song Realm, I thought that her achievements would remain unsurpassed for eternity, with no one able to reach the same heights as her ever. Who would’ve thought that my estimation was so off the mark... It seems that Snow Song Realm is truly blessed by heaven.”

While voicing his thoughts, Yan Wancang didn’t bother hiding the look of admiration... and envy on his face.

After all, people like him who had reached such an age and cultivation level, were hardly left with anything to pursue other than finding a successor with exceptionally good aptitude; one could inherit their power and will. It would be for the best if their successor had the potential to surpass them eventually. However, to succeed in realizing such a thing was in fact even more difficult than becoming a sect master.

Yun Che, “...”

“Oh, hoho. Looks like I said a bit too much.” Yan Wancang waved his hand. “Young Yun, you can have as much fun as you want when we get to the Flame God Realm. So long as your master does not decide to hurry back, you can freely let that good-for-nothing son of mine take you anywhere you want. As for the horned dragon, your master will be the one to deal with it. When the time comes, you just need to watch her taking it down from afar. Hahahaha.”

Yan Wancang laughed in a very relaxed manner. It was apparent that he was especially confident in slaughtering the ancient horned dragon this time. Yun Che slightly pondered before saying, “Junior expresses his gratitude for Sect Master Yan’s kind hospitality. Junior wishes to... ask about a matter. In senior’s opinion, how much possibility is there in hunting the ancient horned dragon?”

“Well...” Yan Wancang was about to give him a reply when he forcibly swallowed back his words. He shook his head and said with a smile, “You should ask your master about it. No other person has the qualification to answer that question.”

“Eh?” Yun Che looked blankly at him for a brief moment. “Sect Master Yan, can I ask for the meaning behind those words?”

“Hehe, no matter how perfect our preparations are, it’s your master who is going to fight with the horned dragon in the end. So naturally, only she has the right to talk about the success rate of our objective,” Yan Wancang said with a rather noticeable smile of helplessness.

Yun was startled before immediately reacting to his words, “You mean... my master is going to fight the ancient horned dragon all by herself!?”

Yan Wancang was taken aback by Yun Che’s reaction “That’s only natural.”

“...” Yun Che opened his mouth to ask, “Don’t tell me the three senior sect masters are... not going to participate in the battle?”

An awkward look flashed past Yan Wancang’s face, “It seems your master hasn’t told you anything about the hunting of the ancient horned dragon. We have hunted the horned dragon multiple times in

these past several thousand years and your master has always fought it alone so far. Even if the three of us want to assist her, we don't have the ability to do so."

"..." Yun Che fell in a daze. It went without saying that he was certainly unaware of the hunting process before and was actually under the impression that the Flame God Realm was the one exhausting all their power and primary battle force, while his master was only there to provide external assistance... Who the f\*ck would have thought that they completely relied on his master to fight it single-handedly!?

Yan Wancang let out a bitter laugh, "You also saw it three months ago, how the three of us were utterly defeated in an instant, despite jointly resisting the attack that she had launched in anger. You are currently unable to understand or imagine the real strength of your master. Hah... Much less you, not even I, Sect Master Yan, or Sect Master Huo are able to understand the extent of her strength and capability. She is an existence of the Divine Master Realm, after all... The closest realm to becoming a god."

"Since that ancient horned dragon's strength is equivalent to a person at the Divine Master Realm, although your master is able to rival it, it's absolutely impossible for the three of us. Rashly charging it would be no different from having a death wish. Besides, we cultivate fire-attribute profound arts, which poses no threat to it." Yan Wancang shook his head. "Our role is to determine the period when the ancient horned dragon begins to cast off its scales and immediately lock onto its location when it breaks out of the God Burying Inferno Prison."

What the heck... No wonder you guys were willing to let Master take away as much as half the body of the dragon, despite it being a creature of the Flame God Realm. So you were completely dependant on Master to fight it on her own and did nothing other than provide the dragon... as well as doing the job of an advance scout.

Three months ago, he felt that it was an incomparable display of sincerity for the three great sect masters to personally come to ask for it... But now it seemed that it was completely natural for them to do so!

"However, I do believe that your master is quite likely to obtain a positive result in the hunting this time. During the previous hunting period a thousand years ago, she would most probably have succeeded if not for that unforeseen incident. Even though she failed on the verge of success, the dragon fault of the horned dragon was injured by your master. This interval of a thousand years isn't enough for it recover."

"Dragon fault!?" Yun Che blurted out in a loud voice.

"Oh?" A doubtful look appeared on Yan Wancang's face.

Yun Che promptly explained, "I had a sword before which was also called Dragon Fault. It's just a coincidence but I ended up embarrassing myself before Sect Master Yan."

Dragon Fault... such a nostalgic name.

Chu Yuechan was pregnant when he got that sword... It accompanied him and bathed in blood as he fought his way ahead on the path of cultivation. That sword witnessed his most important growth period... him dominating the Blue Wind Ranking Tournament, exterminating the Burning Heaven Clan

and awing the leaders of the seven nations... Its contribution was so illustrious but didn't have a good end...

It was eaten by Hong'er!!

"I see." Yan Wancang nodded with a faint smile.

"Sect Master Yan, although junior has never seen the ancient horned dragon, I do know that a dragon has the strongest body among all living beings. Consequently, their recovery ability should be extremely strong too. Given the mighty strength of the ancient horned dragon, coupled with the fact that it lives in the God Burying Inferno Prison which has the most suitable environment to it, how is it possible that it has yet to recover from its injury, even after a whole thousand years?" Yun Che stated his doubt.

Yun Che was very clear about the recovery ability of a dragon... He also possessed Dragon God's lineage and had such a strong recovery ability that he himself found it fearsome.

"Hoho, you're right. When it comes to the strength and ability of body, no living being could compare to the dragon race. If any part of their body gets severely injured, it'd be completely healed before long; with the sole exception of its dragon fault," Yan Wancang explained with a smile. "That's the place where the Life Gate of a horned dragon exists and as such, it is the only weak place on the horned dragon's body. Once it suffers an injury, it would greatly damage its vitality and it require quite a long time to recover completely from such trauma. Moreover, if you could seriously injure that place, it's also possible to have it directly meet its death."

"You can also say that the dragon fault is its fatal weakness."

"Oh... so that's how it is," Yun Che nodded in realization.. "Since it's the location of the Life Gate, it should be very difficult to seriously injure the dragon fault?"

"Of course, it is. The ancient horned dragon guards its dragon fault with its extremely strong energy. To make that energy scatter and injure the dragon fault is actually even more difficult to accomplish than directly inflicting a severe injury on its body. During the several times your master has fought with it, she has never intentionally aimed to attack its dragon fault. After all, doing so would only cause you to waste your strength and stamina. The reason she managed to deal an injury to its dragon fault was because it had lost a great amount of its energy after a long and fierce battle, where it was being suppressed by her in all aspects."

"Now that the ancient horned dragon has yet to recover from the injury to its dragon fault and there's a clear increase in the profound power of your master, this time... " Yan Wancang paused for a moment, before saying assertively in a changed tone, "We'll definitely succeed!"

Chapter 1048 - First Step into the Flame God Realm

"There must be no issue if Sect Master Yan says so," Yun Che said before continuing, "Junior feels that Master will very likely succeed in the hunt."

"Oh right, may I know about the exact location of the dragon fault on the body of the ancient horned dragon?" Yun Che asked curiously. After all, it was the first time he had heard that the horned dragon had such a weakness like the dragon fault.

“It’s located right in the center of its belly,” Yan Wancang replied. “Actually, not all dragons have a dragon fault. The horned dragon not only has a dragon fault, it also exists at the most conspicuous place among the dragon race. The reason behind such a difference might be related to its inability to take the shape of a person. However Young Yun, do keep in mind that if you ever get forced into a situation where you’ve no choice but to fight a true dragon, even if it’s a horned dragon you’re facing, do not ever attempt to proactively aim for its dragon fault. It will only lead to an increase in the danger.”

Yun Che gave a deep nod, “Junior thanks Sect Master Yan for the enlightening instruction.”

“Hah...” Looking at Yun Che, Yan Wancang let out a deep sigh all of a sudden, “It’s such a pity that you’re still too young and the Profound God Convention is right around the corner. If it was to be held ten-odd years later, allowing you sufficient time to grow, it would be absolutely possible for you enter the top thousand. Even I am unable to fathom what heights you’ll reach before the next convention three thousand years from now... It’s really so regrettable.”

He shook his head heavily, as he sighed from the bottom of his heart.

Yun Che, “...”

“Now that someone like Poyun has appeared and the Profound God Convention is going to be held soon, the horned dragon hunting this time is extremely important to our Flame God Realm. So long as the hunt turns out to be a success, with the combined efforts of us three sect masters, Poyun will definitely be able to undergo a thorough transformation once again. Consequently, his odds of entering the top thousand in the Profound God Convention will also greatly increase. It’s extremely likely that... his experience in the Eternal Heaven Divine Realm will be of great assistance to him in becoming the first ever Divine Master of my Flame Divine Realm.”

Yan Wancang raised his head. It was easy to make out that he was really looking forward to it and was also feeling very tense. “We need to succeed this time at all costs... and everything depends on your master. Although it has been decided that both parties will take whatever they need after the hunt, the Flame God Realm will certainly remember the favor, if we are able to attain our goal perfectly.”

The air around them abruptly grew restless. Yan Wancang slowly got to his feet, “Looks like we’ve arrived at our destination.”

The Flame God Realm was similar and yet quite the opposite of the Snow Song Realm. It had been a burning hot realm since time immemorial, with an extremely high density and activity of fire elements. The hot temperature was far beyond the endurance limit of an ordinary person but it was a paradise for the inheritors of fire attribute bloodlines, fire attribute profound beasts and cultivators of fire attribute profound arts.

The Flame God Realm was formed on an ancient flame vein. Similar to the case with Snow Song Realm, the flame vein had already existed there since the ancient Era of Gods. At the core region of the flame vein, there was a vast sea of fire spanning an expanse of nearly fifty thousand kilometers—the God Burying Inferno Prison!

The inhabitants of the Flame God Realm held the utmost reverence for the flame vein and the God Burying Inferno Prison. Furthermore, they had never stopped exploration of the God Burying Inferno Prison during these countless years. Unfortunately, none of them had ever managed to reach the

bottom of the God Burying Inferno Prison... just as no one had ever reached the bottom of the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake.

As the God Burying Inferno Prison was far, far greater than the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake, whose end could be seen at a glance, it could be even considered as an ancient miracle.

When the profound ark stopped and Yun Che got out, he was suddenly met with a blast of hot air. The air of the Flame God Realm was completely opposite to the chilly and calm air of the Snow Song Realm. It was scorching hot and agitated, as if they had stepped into a burning furnace.

The sky was astonishingly deep crimson colored, like a piece of iron that had been heated until it turned red. It was not clear whether it looked so due to its proximity to the God Burying Inferno Prison or was a characteristic of the sky of the Flame God Realm.

Yan Wancang looked toward Yun Che to ask about his condition but before he could say anything, he was taken aback by the sight before him. He thought that Yun Che would be extremely uncomfortable here because he was cultivating ice attribute profound arts and had also stayed in the Snow Song Realm for a long period of time. However, when he noticed his unchanged expression and especially calm aura, he decided to talk about something else while feeling strange inwardly. "We are at the central region of the Flame God Realm. The God Burying Inferno Prison is a short distance of several kilometers to the South.

Yan Juehai continued after him, "Currently, people from our three sects have been stationed at this place so that we could mobilize them at any time. We also made use of this opportunity to bring along some young disciples, in order to have them gain valuable experience. Oh right! Poyun is also here. He will definitely be very happy upon finding out that you've come to our realm.

Suddenly, a cold aura passed by them and drove away all the scorching hot air in an instant. At once, the surroundings became incomparably tranquil and chilly. Yun Che clearly saw the bodies of the two great sect masters, Yan Wancang and Yan Juehai, trembling intensely due to the chilliness.

The figure of Mu Xuanyin appeared in front of them. She was looking straight at the God Burying Inferno Prison to the south.

"Snow Song Realm King..."

Just as Yan Wancang opened his mouth to speak, Mu Xuanyin's chilly figure flashed before his eyes and then she disappeared without a trace. Only her heart-freezing and bone-piercing voice could be heard from afar, "This king is going to take a look at the God Burying Inferno Prison. Che'er, you stay there. You are not allowed to casually wander around or get closer to the God Burying Inferno Prison."

"Understood," Yun Che replied obediently.

Once the chilliness in the surroundings faded away, Yan Wancang and Yan Juehai let out long sighs of relief. It was only when he stroked his forehead unconsciously that he discovered it was covered with a thin layer of ice and frost. Immediately, he sighed with emotion. "The profound strength of the Snow Song Realm King has progressed even further compared to the time a thousand years ago... It's really frightening."



They had just arrived at the Flame God Realm but Mu Xuanyin didn't hesitate to straight away leave him in the care of Yan Wancang and Yan Juehai.

The ground was dried up and was emitting quite a strong burning smell, as if it could ignite at any moment. It was completely barren as far as he could see, with no sign of vitality. He caught sight of a large number of human figures in the area. They were obviously from the three great sects, namely Vermilion Bird Sect, Phoenix Sect and Golden Crow Sect. Yun Che used his consciousness to scan the area but didn't discover anything else other than the fiery aura from the people of the three great sects.

Even Yan Wancang, Yan Juehai, and Huo Rulie were present in the place to carry out a major event such as hunting an ancient horned dragon. It was natural that all those who were allowed to come here were extraordinary people. Each of them was emitting an aura that was several times more terrifying than that of a volcanic eruption. It was clear that even those young profound practitioners must be the outstanding disciples of the three great sects.

A figure arrived before them, bringing along a scorching gust of wind. It was none other than Huo Rulie, the sect master of Golden Crow Sect. He asked at once, "Mu Xuanyin has already come? Hmm... Young Yun?"

"Yun Che stepped forward, "Junior Yun Che pays respect to Sect Master Huo."

"Hoho, the Snow Song Realm King has left to personally examine the God Burying Inferno Prison." Yan Wancang looked around as he replied with a laugh. "Where is Poyun?"

Huo Rulie gave Yun Che a deep glance. "I didn't think that she would actually bring along this kid with her. Hmph! It's nothing surprising I guess. Sect masters, there are things you need to handle, so please go and take care of them. We can't allow any mishap to happen during this hunt... As for Young Yun, I'll have Poyun accompany him."

"Hahaha," Yan Juehai let out a long laugh, "That would be for the best."

Then, Yan Wancang and Yan Juehai left to take charge of their duties. Now that he was left alone with the Huo Rulie, the foe of his master, as well as the one who maliciously plotted against Mu Bingyun, Yun Che naturally couldn't stay as relaxed as he was with the other two sect masters. As if he had seen through his thoughts, Huo Rulie said all of a sudden, "You don't need to be so tense, Young Yun. I may not get along with your master but... I, Huo Rulie, owe you a great favor!"

Yun Che cast a sideways glance at the other party in surprise... He was astonished to see that the sect master of Golden Crow Sect, who was comparable to a realm king, would actually say such words to a young disciple.

"That day when Poyun lost miserably to you, I felt extremely anxious looking at his dejected state," Huo Rulie said with wrinkled brows. "Poyun has an extremely high talent and consequently, is a very proud individual. He had never experienced a defeat since he was young and had also never come across anyone with a better ability over elemental laws but on that day, he tasted defeat for the first time and a crushing one at that."

"Hah..." Huo Rulie let out a very heavy sigh, "Watching a person like him, who hadn't experienced a defeat before, take the initiative to admit his loss, it was easily noticeable that he had suffered a huge

blow. There's no doubt that it would have taken him an extremely long time to recover from the trauma, if not for your words. It was also possible that he might have become unable to recover after the setback. At that time, no one would have the ability to help him get back on track. But, you proactively saving him... not only helped him regain his spirit, he also truly understood the fact that there is always someone better out there. When he returned to the sect, he began to cultivate a lot more ardently and devotedly than in the past. His frame of mind, in particular, underwent a slight transformation, which was immensely gratifying to me."

"It is all thanks to you."

Yun Che shook his head, as he said humbly, "Sect Master Huo is praising me too much. Junior was only able to gain the victory after resorting to a trick. As such, I really meant what I told to Brother Poyun."

"Hmph! Although I find your master displeasing to the eye..." Huo Rulie suddenly slapped his chest, "You're countless times more pleasing to me than your master. If you fancy anything in my Golden Crow Sect or want to try something, feel free to let me know about it!"

"..." His amazing generousness left Yun Che at a loss for words.

"I called for that Poyun just a while ago. He'll be here very soon. Let him take you wherever you want to go."

While Huo Rulie was talking with Yun Che, he suddenly heard the hurried sound of footsteps quickly approaching them from afar.

"Sect Master... Sect... Sect Master!!"

A middle-aged man in Golden Crow robe dashed over with a flushed face. He looked deeply panicked.

Huo Rulie frowned and said in a reprimanding tone, "For what reason are you so flustered!?"

"Young Master... Young Master, he..."

Hearing the two words "Young Master," Huo Rulie at once rushed ahead and grabbed the other party's shoulders, as if he had been set afire, "What happened to Ye'er? Hurry up and speak!!"

"All of a sudden... Young Master's vitality plunged into disorder and he won't be able to... hold on much longer."

"W-what!?"

A mass of Golden Crow flames erupted as Huo Ruolie let loose his power. Yun Che was blown away into the distance due to the fierce blast and barely managed to avoid vomiting blood. Huo Rulie had already disappeared by this time to some unknown place.

"Such a terrifying force." Yun Che mumbled with a hand on his chest. Then, he let out a heavy breath.

Young Master... Was he talking about Huo Rulie's son? The person Master accidentally injured a thousand years ago?

Reportedly, Huo Rulie didn't hesitate to spend an immeasurable amount of resources during these past thousand years to keep him alive... just as Mu Xuanyin did for Mu Bingyun.

Looking around him, Yun Che immediately felt depressed.

When the two great sect masters personally arrived at the Snow Song Realm to receive them, he thought that perhaps he would be going to Vermilion Bird Sect or Phoenix Sect and could enjoy the treatment of the honored guest of a great realm due to the distinguished identity of his master. Who would've thought that he would be brought to the barren land in the vicinity of the God Burying Inferno Prison...

After their arrival in this realm, Mu Xuanyin abandoned him first and then Yan Wancang and Yan Juehai left him behind with Huo Rulie... Soon after, Huo Rulie also disappeared without a trace.

The Flame God Realm deserves criticism... for treating their guest in such a manner!

Left all alone in a unfamiliar land, Yun Che didn't dare to walk around carelessly and could only wait in place. It was at this time that three young profound practitioners rapidly drew closer from the direction of the God Burying Inferno Prison. Their bodies were releasing extremely active flame auras and it seemed as though they just finished some kind of training in the God Burying Inferno Prison.

"They're from Golden Crow Sect," Yun Che mumbled as he sensed the flame auras of the three young profound practitioners.

But when the three of them passed by him, they suddenly came to a halt and their gazes and auras simultaneously locked onto him.

"Who are you? Why have you come to this place?" The voice of a girl called out to him vigilantly, without the slightest hint of politeness.

As it was currently the period when the ancient horned dragon sheds its scales, this whole region had been sealed by the three sects of the Flame God Realm and it had become a prohibited place. No outsider was allowed to take even half a step in here. Yun Che was not only wearing a dazzlingly snow-white robe, his body also didn't possess the aura that was characteristic to the three sects. Hence, it was natural for them to be immediately on guard.

Yun Che turned around, as he said courteously, "This humble one is Yun Che, from the Snow Song Realm."

This group of youngsters was comprised of two males and a female, that appeared to be quite young. Their ages were similar to Mu Xiaolan and they were twenty years old at most, but it was astonishing to discover that their profound power had reached the first level of the Divine Soul Realm!

Mu Xiaolan was accepted into the Ice Phoenix Palace with her cultivation of Divine Origin Realm. It was clear that reaching such a realm at her age was deemed as an extremely high aptitude. However, the three youths were around the same age as her but their cultivations had far surpassed hers.

It was just as he expected. Each and every person brought here to watch the horned dragon hunting from the sidelines was an extraordinary disciple of the three great sects..

To Yun Che's surprise, as soon as he reported his name, the youngsters had a great change in their expressions at the same time.

"Yun Che!? You're that Yun Che from the Snow Song Realm!?"

## Chapter 1049 - Special Treatment for the Unconvinced

When Yun Che reported his name, not only did the trio show an extremely big reaction, they also blatantly revealed extremely hostile expressions.

“Wait a moment. Is he really telling the truth? His aura seems too weak to me?” the boy on the left side said in a low voice.

“That shouldn’t be the case. I heard that the disciples of Divine Ice Phoenix Sect wear white robes with an ice phoenix pattern on them. In addition, Master told me that the Snow Song Realm King would be arriving today. If he came here with the Realm King, then he must be her direct disciple.”

“Senior Brother Poyun also said that Yun Che’s profound strength has only reached the Divine Origin Realm.”

Yun Che, “...”

The three of them continued their discussion for a short while. Once they had determined his identity, the boy on the right side took a step forward. He said with his head raised and chest puffed out, “Are you that direct disciple of the Snow Song Realm King that she has accepted just recently?”

Yun Che nodded his head, “Yes, it’s me.”

“Then... are you the one who defeated Senior Brother Poyun three months ago!?”

Yun Che nodded once again, “Yes, that’s also me.”

“You... you actually have the cheek to admit it?!” The only girl in the trio took a step ahead. She said aggressively, “How is it possible for someone as powerful as Senior Brother Poyun to be defeated by the likes of you!? Back then, you... obviously relied on the advantage of being at your home territory to trick him into defeat!”

“That’s right! Even I can beat the sh\*t out of a weak person such as you, so there’s no way Senior Brother Poyun would lose to you! Despite Senior Brother Poyun acknowledging it himself, we absolutely won’t believe that he could ever suffer a defeat at your hands!”

“...” Yun Che inwardly rolled his eyes at the words. He finally understood the reason behind the unexpectedly great reaction of the three youths after hearing his name. Immediately, he explained in a helpless tone, “I’m only slightly better than your Senior Brother Poyun at elemental laws. When it comes to profound strength, I’m naturally far, far inferior to him.”

“Stop spouting nonsense!” It was again the girl who had spoken. She said even more aggressively and full of anger. “Senior Brother Poyun is most proficient in flame laws and his grasp on them is even more amazing than his profound strength. Sect Master himself said that Senior Brother Poyun possesses the greatest talent with respect to flame laws, since time immemorial! It’s basically impossible for you win against Senior Brother Poyun, even if your profound strength were to reach the same level as him. Besides, with your insignificant cultivation of the Divine Origin Realm... it’s clear that he quite likely lost due to unfair means that you used secretly. You people of the Snow Song Realm are seriously despicable!”

“Exactly!” The boys on her two sides chirped after her loudly.

“You’re free to believe me or not.” Yun Che turned away, not in the mood to explain any further.

“Hmph! Enough with your excuses!” Looking at Yun Che’s undefiant attitude, the girl became much more aggressive. “Don’t think that you can get away with that. You were able to cheat in the Snow Song Realm but you’re in the territory of the Flame God Realm now! It’s time for us to seek justice for Senior Brother Poyun.”

With that, her figure suddenly moved forward. The fierce flames of the Golden Crow ignited on the girl’s body and her aura immediately underwent quite an astonishing change. “Yun Che! Don’t you claim to have defeated Senior Brother Poyun!? In that case, how about having a duel with me? As I can’t even be compared to Senior Brother Poyun’s pinky, if you were to lose to me, honestly admit that you cheated in the battle with Senior Brother Poyun!”

Yun Che, “...”

“Ah... Senior Sister Xiaorou, he’s only at the second level of the Divine Origin Realm, as well as... a guest. Wouldn’t that be bullying him a bit too much? Furthermore, if by any chance the Snow Song Realm King came to know about it...” The young boy on the left said in a low voice.

“Shut up! I’m doing this to seek justice for Senior Brother Poyun!” Seeing Yun Che’s complete lack of reaction, the girl raised her face. “Hmph! Are you afraid? Do you feel guilty now? Then, be honest and admit that you’re incapable of winning against Senior Brother Poyun and that competition three months ago was nothing but a fraud! Otherwise... you’ll have to suffer for your actions!”

“Hah...” Yun Che sighed helplessly. He glanced at the trio and said in a powerless tone, “Fine, fine. If that’s what you want, then you three can just come at me together.”

Hearing his words, the three youths fell into a daze. The flames burning on the girl’s body amplified by two times, as she shouted angrily, “I didn’t think that you people of the Snow Song Realm would be so shameless! I can take care of a weakling like you with just a finger and you dare ask the three of us to attack you at the same time? Are there no limits to your absurdity!?”

Before the girl finished her words, Yun Che stretched out his arm and the Heaven Smiting Sword appeared in his hand. Then, he turned around, as his profound energy and sword force erupted simultaneously. Instantly, the ground trembled a bit and a terrifying blast swept away in an unrestrained manner. It seemed as if a tsunami had broken out all of a sudden and fully surrounded the three within it.

The expressions of the three youths greatly changed in an instant. Standing at the forefront, the girl cried out in fear and promptly took a good few steps backward. The arrogant look on her face immediately turned into one of panic.

Until just a moment ago, they had deemed Yun Che to be someone beneath their notice because of his profound aura that had only reached the Divine Origin Realm. But the instant his profound aura erupted, they felt as if their bodies had been suppressed by its frightening momentum and couldn’t even breathe at all.

“Little girl,” Yun Che very slowly raised the Heaven Smiting Sword horizontally, up to the halfway mark, “How about reconsidering your strategy? Do you still want to fight individually or would you rather launch a joint attack?”

“I-i-is he really... at the Divine Origin Realm?” The boy on the right gulped down a mouthful of saliva heavily, with a look of disbelief on his face.

“A-anyways, it’s absolutely impossible for him to defeat Senior Brother Poyun!” The girl was evidently surprised and the tone of her voice had lowered by a great margin. At once, she gnashed her teeth and said with impatience, “What’re you two spacing out for!? Let’s go at him together... We need to make sure that he admits himself that he cheated to win against Senior Brother Poyun!!”

“Ah... understood.”

CLANG!

Apparently unprepared to use her weapon before now, the girl quickly took a broadsword out of her spatial ring, that seemed quite unmatched to her petite stature. She shouted in a tender voice, as a flame dragon shot from her dancing sword and headed straight towards Yun Che.

The other two youths also took out extremely similar broadswords. As multiple Golden Crow flames had been ignited, the initially scorching hot temperature crazily increased once again. The figures of the trio charged through the air, clearly with an extremely high degree of mutual understanding between them. The three broadswords were smashed right in Yun Che’s direction at the same time and the Golden Crow flames of the three also combined with each other at that very moment. Before the swords drew closer to Yun Che, the flames had fiercely burst open.

The strong firelight was incomparably dazzling and the might of the Golden Crow flame was terrifying beyond words but Yun Che didn’t even spare a glance at it. He let the Golden Crow flames of the three swallow him whole. He gathered together his profound energy and casually waved his sword in a sweeping motion.

Boom boom!!

The divine Golden Crow flame condensed by the three great disciples at the Divine Soul Realm got instantly torn apart by a casual wave of Yun Che’s sword. Afterwards, the might of his sword didn’t lessen in the slightest and heavily swept over their bodies.

When the Golden Crow flame was torn apart by a single wave of the sword, the trio was startled to see such an unexpected occurrence. As the profound energy storm coming from Yun Che’s direction got nearer, they could clearly sense the accumulated energy of their attack being blown away in no time. Soon after, an enormous power ruthlessly struck their bodies and they got blown away into the air, as if they had been hit by a very heavy hammer.

By the time they managed to stabilize themselves, while feeling shocked in their hearts, they were already several hundred meters away from their previous location.

The Golden Crow flame formed by their combined power was presently broken into many fragments and dispersed in all directions. Yun Che stood in place, without budging an inch, in the midst of the

fragmented flames. His unconcerned and casual bearing gave off the impression as if he was looking down on all of them.

“Senior Sister Xiaorou, how... how come he’s so powerful?” The boy on the right asked in a stammering voice.

“Perhaps... he... really...”

“Ah...ah...ah!” The flustered girl cried loudly in exasperation. Evidently, she was simply unable to accept such an outcome... Or it’d be better to say that she was completely unable to accept that Poyun was defeated by Yun Che, no matter what. She put away her broadsword and brought her hands together before raising them up high, after which she channeled her Golden Crow flame power without holding back in the slightest.

“Yun Che! Senior Brother Poyun said that you could catch his Golden Flame Sword with your hands but I don’t believe it at all! If you have guts, try to do the same against my sword!!”

“Hey! Why’re you two blanking out again? Hurry up and show him our real power!! It’s absolutely absolutely absolutely impossible that Senior Brother Poyun would lose to him!!”

It was obvious that the three of them usually practiced together, allowing them to have an extremely high level of mutual understanding. When they channeled the power of their Golden Crow flames, their auras began to synchronize subtly at a very fast rate. The might of “Golden Annihilation” was very great. Therefore, it consumed an extremely large amount of profound energy and also required a very long time for the condensation of the flame power. The profound strength of the three might be greater than Yun Che by a great realm but it was certainly impossible for them to be anywhere close to Yun Che when it came to control over fire. Their Golden Crow flames burned with full force, which were next compressed and then finally, after a whole three breaths, the Golden Annihilations took shape... at the same time.

During the whole process, the trio definitely showed a very big opening but Yun Che didn’t feel like making his move. He let the three Golden Crow Flame Swords take shape... after which they concurrently shot down towards Yun Che’s head.

Golden Annihilation possessed the most fearsome destruction ability among the first seven realms of the Golden Crow’s Record of the Burning World. It was simply irresistible and unstoppable. Even in a fight between practitioners of the same level, it was absolutely impossible to withstand it, to say nothing of three such attacks launched together.

Yun Che slightly raised his head and watched the three Golden Crow Flame Swords shooting down from the sky. He let them get closer and closer to him, without moving even a step away.

In the blink of an eye, the Golden Flame Swords arrived right over Yun Che’s head. Although his expression still remained unchanged, the three disciples of the Golden Crow Sect felt very panicked in their hearts.

Is he... truly not going to dodge?

He’s a direct disciple of the Snow Song Realm’s Realm King. If we end up killing him due to our carelessness... we’ll be big trouble.

Although they were feeling alarmed and confused in their hearts, it was already impossible for them to stop the swords, even if they wanted to. The auras of the three Golden Crow Flame Swords were linked together and their trajectories led them to the same point, where they were supposed to be overlapped on each other, before coming into contact with Yun Che... In this very instant, Yun Che stretched out his right hand with the speed of lightning and brought his hand precisely to the meeting point of the three flame swords.

It meant that he actually attempted to catch three Golden Crow Flame Swords with a single hand and at the same time!

Wnng—

Consequently, the air around was jolted by a blast. The three Golden Crow Flame Swords didn't chop down his arm, as anyone would expect in such a situation and instead came to a standstill on his hand simultaneously. Afterwards, he lightly clenched them in his palm...

Bang bang!!!

The three Golden Crow Flame Swords, that were condensed by all the might of the Golden Crow Sect disciples, got shattered into pieces at once and the flames scattered into the air.

“WAAAAHHH!!”

The screeches of the three resounded throughout the place. Due to the backlash of the Golden Annihilation being forcibly destroyed, the Golden Crow Sect disciples suffered a severe hit to their profound veins and their profound energies were thrown into disorder. It was at this time that Yun Che rushed ahead all of a sudden. In an instant, the trio was completely enveloped by a strong blue light, which possessed a soul piercing cold energy that almost scared them out of their wits.

Dingdingdingdingdingdingding!

The air temperature fell rapidly and before the trio could calm down their aura, they were instantly sealed inside a thick layer of chilliness. Yun Che's figure flashed and appeared behind them in the next moment. Without even bothering to look at the targets, he swung the Heaven Smiting Sword backwards, in the direction of the three..

PING!!

As the ice-crystal split open, cold wind covered the sky. The trio got blown way amid the chilliness that was drifting in various directions and got smashed onto the dried ground in the distance. A long period of time passed since then but none of them got up to their feet.

The three Golden Crow Sect disciples were Divine Soul Realm experts, after all. When launching a joint attack, how could it be possible for them to be so easily and utterly defeated by Yun Che? The scene of Yun Che forcibly breaking the three Golden Crow Flame Swords with his palm was too much of a shock to them. They lay paralyzed on the ground, unable to regain control over themselves, as they still found it impossible for such a thing to have happened...



They were feeling a similar sense of disbelief as before when they heard that Huo Poyun, the godly genius in their eyes, was defeated by a mere Divine Origin Realm practitioner from the Snow Song Realm.

The young girl, who had been acting the fiercest amongst the three, was blankly looking at Yun Che with widened eyes. Her body felt so cold that it was trembling but the idea of using her profound energy to drive it out of her body didn't even come to mind. Perhaps, the thing she wanted to believe the most right now, was that everything that had happened was just a dream.

"Hahahahaha!"

A resounding, loud laughing sound could be heard getting closer. Very soon, a youth dressed in a pure gold long robe descended from the sky. It was none other than Huo Poyun. Looking at the sorry plight of his junior brothers and sister, he said with a smile, "Do you understand now the meaning of 'there's always someone better than you out there?'"

"Senior Brother... Poyun." The girl called out in a weak voice but it seemed that her mind had yet to fully recover.

Huo Poyun turned around, revealing a sincere joyous-look on his face, "Brother Yun, I can't express my happiness to see you again after these three months. However, I never expected that Brother Yun not only possessed a world-astounding talent in the elemental laws, but you also possess a speed of cultivation that would be so amazing too. Poyun can only gasp in admiration."

Yun Che said with a smile, "My insignificant profound strength is so low in comparison to Brother Poyun's that they can't be talked about in the same breath. Moreover, Brother Poyun's profound strength has again increased significantly in just three months. So, in fact it should be me gasping in admiration."

Compared to three months ago, Huo Poyun's aura had obviously undergone a considerably great change. It was really astonishing that someone at his current realm could experience so much change in the extremely brief period of three months.

Huo Poyun shook his head, as he said smilingly, "It's a pity that this whole area is barren and also particularly far from the sect. Once we're done with the horned dragon hunting, I hope Brother Yun doesn't hurry to return. You must allow Poyun to show his best hospitality to you."

"Haha, alright, Then, I'll comply with you and take you up on your offer." Yun Che didn't refuse and gave his consent with a laugh.

Huo Poyun stretched out his hand and beckoned to the three who had just crawled up from the ground, "You three, how long are you going to take before you apologize to Brother Yun?"

Yun Che waved his hand, "That's unnecessary. Since they didn't do it out of ill-will, there's no need to criticize them. On the contrary, I'm truly envious to see that you have such a group of junior brothers and sisters that so wholeheartedly love and care about you."

Unlike me... who was shut inside the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake from morning to night after becoming a direct disciple of Master. Let alone getting the chance to show authority, I haven't even seen the shadow of my junior brothers and sisters.

Back then, I could at least still tease Mu Xiaolan to have some fun, haah...

#### Chapter 1050 - The Five Hundred Thousand Kilometer Wide Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison

The three young Golden Crow disciples carefully walked over with bowed heads. They stood in a row and looked like three little kids who had committed a grave mistake and were awaiting their punishment.

Huo Poyun shook his head at their appearance and smiled. "Alright, alright. There's no need to be discouraged. Even I had to concede defeat before Brother Yun, much less the lot of you. Are you all satisfied now?"

"We are, we are." The boy on the left nodded repeatedly.

"I'm sorry, Big Brother Yun. Not only have we overestimated our capabilities, we even... offended you." The boy on the right also bowed deeply when he said this.

"I can't believe you're so strong, Big Brother Yun... No wonder Senior Brother Poyun praised you so highly. We were unconvinced about your strength earlier but now... we were wrong."

A cultivator's profound art affected one's temperament a lot; this was something Yun Che had known for a long time. Snow Song Realm's cultivators cultivated extremely powerful ice profound arts, so they were so even tempered that they were almost detached. Just the same, Flame God Realm's cultivators had completely different personalities because they cultivated extremely powerful fire profound arts. Most of them were pretty much unyielding and outspoken.

They wore their emotions on their sleeves and if they lost to someone they initially didn't agree with, they would submit to them wholeheartedly. They never hid or pent up their emotions.

"Hahaha, there's nothing to worry about. No discord, no concord, right?" Yun Che was never a person to put on airs, "Oh right, I haven't asked for your names."

"Hello, Big Brother Yun. My name is Huo Liaoyuan (fire that burns the plains)," said the boy on the right.

"Hello, Big Brother Yun. My name is Huo Liaotian (fire that burns the sky)," said the boy on the left.

"Hello, Big Brother Yun. My name is Huo Liao... ah, no! My name is Huo Wenrou (gentle fire)," said the girl in the middle.

"..." Yun Che cast a wordless glance at the young girl... just who is the blind fellow who says that a person's personality is like their name!

Huo Poyun looked around and asked doubtfully, "Brother Yun, why is Master not with you?"

"He had to leave due to something urgent." Yun Che hesitated for a moment but ultimately revealed the truth, "It seems like the condition of Sect Master Huo's son has worsened."

"Ah!?" The three young disciples exclaimed at the same time.

Huo Poyun also looked shocked to hear this. After that, he let out a soft sigh, "I see... Brother Yun, this place is desolate and barren, so there aren't many places at all that I can show you. If I may ask, what will be your plan, Brother Yun?"

Yun Che looked towards the south, "I heard that the Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison is just hundreds of miles away to the south. If you are free, can you lead me to the Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison for a visit? To be honest, I've been looking forward to this since the day I heard about this place."

"I..." Huo Poyun looked troubled, "If this was any other time, your request would be not be a problem at all. But right now, the horned dragon is..."

Huo Poyun suddenly changed his tune after wrinkling his eyebrows, "Never mind. If it is your wish, then why not? The horned dragon won't be showing its face yet anyway."

The duo immediately jumped up into the air and flew towards the south while enduring heat waves. Although they were still hundreds of miles away from their destination, Yun Che could see at first glance that the southern part of this land was completely scarlet and bright red. It looked like the burning lava of hell.

"I heard that the Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison extends to five hundred thousand kilometers and eternally burning. What a miraculous place this is. It's no wonder that it could nurture a terrifying creature like the ancient horned dragon." Yun Che sighed.

Huo Poyun said, "The Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison is what created the Flame God Realm. If the fire of the Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison were to vanish one day, then the Flame God Realm would also cease to exist. Speaking of which, I've heard of the ancient horned dragon of the Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison since I was aware of this world. However, I've never actually seen it with my own eyes. It would be nice to be able to finally fulfill this wish."

Yun Che said smilingly, "Unfortunately, it may appear that the disciples of later generations will never get to witness an ancient horned dragon in their lives."

"Hahahaha," Huo Poyun laughed loudly but it faded away quickly as a complicated look overtook his face. "The reason the masters are so anxious to hunt down the ancient horned dragon is all for my sake. In fact, after they succeed they will lose a great amount of profound strength... and even lifespan. Hah, what virtues or abilities do I have to deserve such treatment?"

Yun Che shook his head, "It is exactly because you are deserving that they are so willing and anxious to pay the price. They are not doing it just for you but also the future of the Flame God Realm. Therefore, you don't need to be afraid of this kindness. Instead, you should accept it calmly and repay it to the best of your ability in the future."

Huo Poyun fell silent for a moment before his expression cleared up. He smiled honestly, "You are right, Brother Yun! I will do everything I can to get into the Profound God Convention's top thousand... I will not disappoint my master and the two sect masters."

Yun Che nodded but on the inside he was incredibly envious of Huo Poyun... Sigh, all I want is the qualification to enter the Profound God Convention. Forget the top thousand spot, I'll be satisfied if I can come in last in the entire Eastern Divine Region... unfortunately, it is a task that is as difficult as a mortal scaling the heavens.

Comparison really kills.

“Although you’ve never succeeded before in the past, I can see that my master and the three sect masters of the Flame God Realm are pretty confident in their chances this time. So I believe that someone who will shock the entire God Realm will soon appear in the Flame God Realm. Who knows, maybe the Flame God Realm will skyrocket to become an upper star realm after the Eternal Heaven Divine Realm has emerged,” Yun Che said sincerely.

“Alright!” Huo Poyun nodded strongly, “For those words, Brother Yun, I swear that I will become one of the top thousand cultivators in the Profound Divine Convention even if I have to risk my life!”

The duo flew very quickly and the distance between them and the Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison kept shortening over time. Although they were still dozens of miles away from the place, a sea of flames that seemed to engulf both the land and the blue sky had filled every part of their vision.

“Speaking of which... I don’t think that that ancient horned dragon has ever left the Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison, has it?” Yun Che asked suddenly after a thought hit his mind. Although the ancient horned dragon was so strong that even the three Flame God sect masters combined were no match for it at all, they didn’t seem afraid that the creature would turn around and attack the Flame God Realm.

“That is true.” Huo Poyun nodded, “According to my master, the ancient horned dragon is very likely a creature that was born from the Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison’s flame veins. The Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison is its source of power and both its power and its aura are connected to the Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison. If it stays away from the Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison for too long, it will lose its power and life swiftly, like a fish away from water.”

“That is why the ancient horned dragon has never been recorded leaving the Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison. If that was the case, the Flame God Realm would have been struck by disaster already.”

“I see.” Yun Che responded understandingly before asking again, “If its aura is connected to the Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison, doesn’t that mean that it’s impossible to sense where it is unless it appears on its own?”

“Of course.” Huo Poyun nodded again, “When it sinks into the Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison, its aura will become merged with the place itself. Therefore, probably not even your master could sense where it is. The ancient horned dragon sheds its scales only once every one thousand years and it must move away from the Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison during that time. This is also the only time we can detect it, every one thousand years.”

“No wonder.”

Rmmmbb—

The sound of churning seas of flame came from afar and the heat waves that had been surging against their faces immediately grew several times stronger. From afar, the flames of the Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison surged to the sky as if a thousand volcanoes had erupted in unison. Even better, this was just a common heat wave in the Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison.

It was at this moment the air coming towards them abruptly slowed as a fiery red figure abruptly appeared before them. An invisible wall forced both Yun Che and Huo Poyun to stop.

The person before them was a naturally intimidating old man with a serious and overcast expression on his face. He looked slightly surprised to see Huo Poyun but relaxed immediately as he asked, "Why have you come here, Poyun? And the person beside you..."

"Elder Wantu." Huo Poyun wasn't surprised at all to see the elder. He saluted him quickly and said, "This is the Snow Song Realm King's direct disciple, Yun Che. This is the first time he's in the Flame God Realm and I am taking him for a visit around the inferno prison."

"Oh? So he's..." The elder's gaze on Yun Che changed immediately when he heard this. A moment of hesitation later, he said seriously, "Alright, you may pass. However, the ancient horned dragon may appear at any moment. You will be in great danger if it happens to be roaming around here somewhere, so you absolutely mustn't go beyond the edge of the inferno prison."

"Don't worry, Elder Wantu. Brother Yun and I are simply here to check out the inferno prison at close range. We will be returning very soon and we absolutely won't enter the inferno prison," Huo Poyun promised.

The elder nodded slowly, "That will be best." Before he left, he added, "You absolutely must be careful."

The elder cast another deep glance at Yun Che before he finally left.

"He is the Vermillion Bird Sect's great elder, Yan Wantu," Huo Poyun introduced.

"Great elder?" Yun Che looked surprised.

"Every time we try to hunt down the dragon, the strongest experts of all sects will come together at this place. While the main group is fighting against the ancient horned dragon, they will guard this area and protect us young disciples from getting hurt by the shockwave." Huo Poyun explained, "The Vermillion Bird Sect is not the only sect on guard duty. The top thirty elders of all three sects are mostly gathered around this place."

Yun Che's eyebrows wriggled as he asked, "You said that the ancient horned dragon cannot be detected while it is in the Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison. Naturally, it is impossible to know where it'll show up on the map. The Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison is five hundred thousand kilometers wide and the margin of error is huge to say the least. However, you are setting guards around here as if you are very certain that it will appear nearby."

"Of course we're sure." Huo Poyun smiled, "That's because the ancient horned dragon always sheds its scales around the northern shore and it never goes beyond a few thousand meters away. The closest it ever got to the northern shore was recorded at one thousand five hundred kilometers and the furthest was less than five thousand kilometers. There has never been an exception."

"It is very obvious that its lair is somewhere around the northern shore. Therefore, we can't go wrong by stationing guards around this area."

"Oh, I see." Yun Che nodded in understanding again. However, another question quickly surfaced in his mind... if the dragon was at least several thousand kilometers away from the shore, then it was impossible to catch sight of it no matter how powerful one's eyes were. However, Huo Poyun also said earlier that he could finally see this legendary ancient horned dragon with his own eyes, so what did he mean by that?

They quickly covered the remaining hundreds of kilometer distance and arrived at the edge of the Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison.

Here, there was no longer any ground that was burned red by the flames. There was only a vast, boundless, boiling red sea of hell that would stun anyone who saw it.

This fiery sea had boiled for at least a million years.

Here, the sky had long since been scorched into the same red color. At a glance, it was impossible to find the boundary line between the blue sky and the red sky. It was almost as if the boundless sky itself had been devoured by this terrific fiery hell.

The air in this place was so hot that even a divine way profound practitioner could hardly endure it. It was incredibly likely that any refined steel that was brought into this place would melt just by touching the air around this place.

Inside the churning sea of flames, a huge amount of dancing fire spirits could be seen.

The Illusory Demon Realm's one thousand five hundred kilometer Sea of Death was the scariest and most extreme place to exist in the entire realm. There were literally no demon emperors before the Little Demon Empress that dared approach it.

But compared to this five hundred thousand kilometer wide Ancient God Burying Inferno Prison, the Sea of Death was like a tiny stream be it in terms of size, intensity, or aura. The two were completely incomparable.