

The Gods 121

Chapter 121 - Blue Wind Profound Palace

The reason as to why the same moves were able to succeed with Xia Qingyue, was because Yun Che had worked for consecutive days to open her Profound Entrances that time, exhausting his stamina in the middle of the night till he was extremely feeble. After all, they were legitimately a couple in name. No matter how cruel and pure as jade Xia Qingyue was, she could not bear to have Yun Che to continue sleeping on the ground... And Yun Che was also there clamoring to rather die than to let a woman sleep on the ground, which then resulted in him sharing the bed and pillow with Xia Qingyue... Although nothing happened at all.

However for Lan Xueruo, it was evident the same moves succeeded much easier.

After all, Lan Xueruo was older than Yun Che by two years in age, and she had always subconsciously treated Yun Che as if she were looking after a younger brother. Furthermore, with Lan Xueruo's soft and gentle character which was completely different from Xia Qingyue's coldness, how could she bear to have Yun Che, who had completely disregarded his own safety to save her multiple times, sleep on the ice-cold floor...

Thus, the logical result.

Lan Xueruo slept on the inside, Yun Che slept on the outside, and they were divided in the middle by a long blanket which had been rolled up by Lan Xueruo.

"Your body must not go past this blanket, or else... or else..." Lan Xueruo had a serious face, but her cautioning face did not make Yun Che feel any deterrence at all. On the contrary, it was a delightful sight for him to see.

"Does Senior Sister still not believe me?" Yun Che chuckled and laid down flat. He softly mumbled to himself: "However... if Senior Sister secretly come to my side... what should I do? Should I run away, or should I pretend to know nothing of it..."

Lan Xueruo was exasperated for a moment. Acting as if she hadn't heard him, she laid on her side, facing inwards.

The lights were extinguished, and the room became pitch-black. Within the silence, even though Lan Xueruo had her eyes closed, she could not fall asleep for a long time. Her heartbeat was speeding up uncontrollably, almost to the extent that she could almost hear the sound of her own heartbeats.

Thinking back to meeting and acquainting with Yun Che, she couldn't deny that she had always been attracted and moved by him during this entire time. And tonight she was actually sleeping on the same bed as him... Sleeping on the same bed. She discovered that within her heart there was only unease and tension, yet not a trace of fear or rejection. This made her feel a vague sense of danger, yet she was unable to resist or clear up that feeling.

She was actually sleeping with a man on the same bed... This was what she voluntarily proposed, yet it was precisely because of that, did it make her feel how unbelievable this situation was. Because for her, this was a scene that she simply could never have imagined. She started to imagine; if it was the same

scene, yet Yun Che had been replaced by someone else, would she also do the same out of soft-heartedness and compassion...

She thought for a long time as she switched through many people. The conclusion she always arrived at was... She definitely would not!

Could it be that I'm trusting him too much... Probably. After all, he didn't even hesitate to use his own life to protect me, and he was so generous and brave; certainly, he wouldn't do anything to offend me in this situation, right...

As Lan Xueruo's thoughts were in turmoil, she heard the sound of Yun Che's even breathing from beside her ears. It appeared he had already fallen sound asleep.

Lan Xueruo's anxiety immediately died down. But inexplicably, there was also a trace of an indescribable feeling of emptiness. Her heart had almost completely calmed down and a wave of fatigue washed over her. Not long after, she was immersed in her dreams.

That night, Lan Xueruo had initially expected to experience difficulty falling asleep throughout the entire night. However, she didn't think that she would fall asleep so quickly, and even be able to sleep so peacefully. Within her dreams, she had a vague feeling of herself gradually immersing into a warm embrace. This kind of warmth made her heart become very peaceful, very calm; it made her desire to come close to it, to embrace this feeling of warmth. Only until she firmly embraced this warmth, was she finally satisfied and sunk deeper into her dreams. She did not wake throughout the night like she did before, nor did she have any more nightmares.

The next day.

When Lan Xueruo woke up, the rays of light that met her eyes were already quite intense. When her vision went from hazy to clear, her gaze subconsciously gazed upwards, and saw Yun Che's eyes that seemed to be laughing at first glance.

"Senior Sister, morning."

Lan Xueruo subconsciously prepared to reply, but when she opened her lips, what actually came out was an alarmed shriek.

Her two arms were currently firmly hugging onto his upper body, and even her supple breasts were pressed up against his chest. Her long and slender left leg coiled around his waist, as her entire body was pressed up against him without any sign of gaps.

Lan Xueruo's entire being, as if electrocuted, sprung away from Yun Che's body. In a panic, she arranged her slightly disordered hair and clothes. Her heart beat like a shocked deer, and her face flushed red like the sunset.

"Senior Sister, you didn't seem to have any sense of security when you slept. Is there something you are afraid of?" Yun Che asked while looking at her in the eyes.

"I... d... don't..." Lan Xueruo replied somewhat unprepared and flustered... She vaguely remembered that inexplicable warmth in her dreams which brought her a sense of peace; she had now also

completely understood, that this kind of warm feeling had come from Yun Che. Yet, her subconscious desired for this kind of feeling, and voluntarily led her to continuously move closer and embrace him.

Yun Che had woken up a long time ago, but kept quiet and held his original position until Lan Xueruo woke up. Lan Xueruo embracing him on her own accord didn't make him feel enticed, but instead made him feel a faint kind of pity and heartache. It was because such a sleeping position, proved that under her gentle and warm appearance, there actually hid innumerable worries and even fears; only, he didn't know what she was worried and afraid of.

Yun Che sat up, then suddenly extended his hands and held Lan Xueruo's right hand that was as tender as snow in his grasp. Sincerely, he said: "Senior Sister, even though I do not know your identity, nor know your family background, and even more so don't know what you have been through... But as I've said before; as long as I am by Senior Sister's side, I will use all my strength to protect Senior Sister, and will never again allow Senior Sister to receive any harm."

With her hand suddenly held by a man in such a dubious way, while his tender words also traveled to her ear, the Lan Xueruo who had never gone through these experiences was suddenly struck dumb as her mind completely blanked out. Only after letting her hand be held for a long time, did she finally act as if she had just woke up from the dream world; she hurriedly pulled her hand away from his grasp and with a panicked appearance, jumped off the bed.

"You... You already have a wife..."

Leaving behind a line that even she herself didn't know where it had come from, Lan Xueruo swiftly ran off. That beautiful figure clearly contained a feeling of hastily fleeing.

After Lan Xueruo ran away, Yun Che shook his head and smiled. He then placed his hand on his chin, and spoke to himself: "It seems like I was mistaken. Her actions definitely showed that she isn't deeply in love with me, but only have a kind of favorable impression that even she herself doesn't fully understand. But why would she treat me like that earlier... To the extent of not hesitating to take the enormous risk of going to Xiao Sect's Branch Sect, to save me by herself?"

Under the atmosphere that suddenly became awkward and dubious, the two continued on their journey to the Blue Wind Empire. But when night fell, just as they were looking for an inn to stay for the second time, this inn also only had a single room left. And just like the first one, this inn also stated that they were the only inn in the surrounding hundred kilometers. If they choose to stay, then they stay. If they don't, then only the option was to sleep on the streets.

Yun Che and Lan Xueruo could only "extremely helplessly" stay in a single room once again.

And when there's already the first time, the second time would be much more natural. The two again slept on the same bed, the middle still was divided by a rolled up blanket...

Yet on the morning of the second day, Lan Xueruo saw almost the exact same situation as the day before. The blanket was thrown to who knows where; her entire body hugged onto Yun Che like an octopus, and held on extremely firmly...

The third day, the fourth day, the fifth day...

The inns they arrived at every time, as if they had discussed with each other, no more and no less, always had exactly a single room left and absolutely no extras. Sometimes there was only a single inn, other times there were many inns, but every single one of them only had one room left... This made Lan Xueruo have a very bizarre feeling. With the second and the third time, the fourth time and the fifth time was even more natural. And during these days, every time Lan Xueruo woke up, the view that she saw would always be herself tightly embracing Yun Che. Even when she constantly reminded herself before she fell asleep, it was still the same when she woke up. And furthermore, she was faintly embracing him tighter and tighter with each passing day.

After experiencing these few days of sharing a bed, even last sliver of her subconscious rejection toward such a degree of physical contact with Yun Che, quietly disappeared.

And on the sixth day when they found an inn, Yun Che directly slammed the counter with his hand, and openly said: "Innkeeper, give me one room."

Lan Xueruo only opened her lips, then lowered her head, not saying any words of rejection.

If Lan Xueruo was accompanying another man on a journey, not to mention sharing a bed, it was impossible to even let her fingers be touched by the other person. But when encountering a veteran like Yun Che with two lives of experiences and a juvenile appearance, let alone eighteen years old, even if she was twenty eight years old, she would still fall quietly like this... Even without being aware of it herself in the slightest.

Blue Wind Imperial City, or Blue Wind Empire's capital, was located in the Blue Wind Empire's central-northern regions, and was also Blue Wind Empire's biggest city; its area was more than thirty times the size of New Moon City. In the dead center of the imperial city, laid the pinnacle of authority in Blue Wind Empire — The Imperial Palace.

Forty miles straight north from the location of the Imperial Palace laid the Blue Wind Empire's greatest Profound Palace — The Blue Wind Profound Palace.

The Blue Wind Profound Palace's history spanned for thousands of years. Established by the Blue Wind Imperial Family, it was the location used by the royal family to cultivate advanced profound practitioners. Furthermore, it was the sacred location that countless Blue Wind Empire's young practitioners dreamt to seek. The Blue Wind Profound Palace's interior was divided into three levels: Outer Palace, Middle Palace, and Inner Palace. If one was able to enter the Middle Palace, and was willing to serve the Imperial Family, one would definitely be greatly valued by the Imperial Family. If one was to enter the military, the starting point would be the first rank commander of a thousand men. But for a practitioner that could enter the Inner Palace, he would receive the Imperial Family's greatest attention, would receive extremely excellent resources in addition to the best conditions during his stay in Blue Wind Profound Palace. Any growth of theirs within the Blue Wind Profound Palace would receive the Imperial Family's utmost attention. Before leaving the Blue Wind Profound Palace, one would receive an invitation to join the imperial family from the Imperial Family's initiative. Once one joins the Imperial Family, getting an high position was only secondary; the most important part was that their entire family would be bathed in wealth and glory because of this. Even the chickens and dogs would become royalty.

As a result, to be able to enter Blue Wind Profound Palace's Inner Palace was the dream of who knows how many young profound practitioners... It could be even said to be the most extravagant of hopes.

However, Blue Wind Profound Palace was after all, Blue Wind Empire's greatest Profound Palace. Not to mention the Inner Palace, even the conditions to enter the Outer Palace which had the lowest of standards were also extremely daunting. It was enough to eliminate ninety percent of practitioners who hoped to enter the Blue Wind Profound Palace. They could only retreat for their second choice, entering the Profound Palaces established by the Imperial Family in the smaller cities.

Chapter 122 - Reunion

Yun Che sighed in admiration as he stood in front of Blue Wind Profound Palace's main entrance: "It really deserves the title of Blue Wind Empire's number one profound palace! Compared to New Moon Profound Palace, it has an air that's at least ten times more dignified, and its imposing aura is on a completely different level."

After ten days of trekking, Yun Che and Lan Xueruo finally reached Blue Wind Imperial City. It was Yun Che's first time going to the capital of the place he was born in, and he experienced quite a bit of shock on the way there. Lan Xueruo was very familiar with Blue Wind Imperial City and introduced him to the locations of many key areas. After which, she brought him to the doorstep of the Blue Wind Profound Palace.

The first thing she wanted to do was settle Yun Che down at the Blue Wind Imperial Palace.

"That's only natural. Blue Wind Profound Palace has a thousand eight hundred years of heritage and is directly supervised and supplied for by the royal family. With rich resources and a good environment to cultivate profound energy, it even has teachers who are renowned in the empire so naturally, the Profound Palace branches can't even begin to compare." Lan Xueruo said this while taking out a short-distance voice Sound Transmission Talisman she had bought on the way and placed it atop her own Sound Transmission Jade. The moment the Sound Transmission Talisman broke apart and disappeared, a small matrix appeared on her own Sound Transmitting stone.

"I'm already here, at the main entrance of the Profound Palace." Lan Xueruo spoke into the Sound Transmission Jade. Just as her voice fell, the matrix on the Sound Transmitter Jade faded away.

Before long, a middle-aged man clad in purple who had a gentle appearance rushed out from within the Profound Palace. Upon seeing them, he shouted from afar, "Xueruo, Yun Che!? The two of you are fine? That's wonderful!"

"Palace Chief Qin? Why are you here?"

The person in front of them was actually New Moon Profound Palace's newly appointed chief, Qin Wuyou! This was simply out of Yun Che's expectations. As New Moon Profound Palace's newly appointed Palace Chief, why would he appear here instead of staying at New Moon City? He turned to face Lan Xueruo, and asked in a startled manner, "The one you just transmitted sound to just now, was Palace Chief Qin?"

Lan Xueruo slightly smiled and nodded.

“You’re still asking why I’m here?” Qin Wuyou looked at them, heaved a long sigh, and answered with a face full of fear, “At first, you had disappeared for several days and to find you, Xueruo went to Xiao Sect’s Branch Sect on her own. After that, I didn’t receive any more messages so I couldn’t help but make the trip myself to the branch sect, only to find out that their entire sect was already in a state of pandemonium. After I went and had a fight with Xiao Tiannan, Xiao Zaihe returned and said that you two had dropped to the center of the Ten Thousand Beast Mountain Range, and not even your bones and corpses were there to be found. Sigh, I almost lost my soul in shock. For more than a month, I’ve been living on tenterhooks and I could no longer continue waiting in New Moon City so I came here to search for any news of the two of you, because Xueruo did say that she would bring you here previously.”

The anxiety and relief that Qin Wuyou expressed were all completely without falsehood. This caused some doubts to arise in Yun Che’s heart. He definitely would not believe he would worry Qin Wuyou to such an extent, which meant that the cause for Qin Wuyou’s reaction was undoubtedly Lan Xueruo. To let a Profound Palace’s Palace Chief become so anxious that he would even make a trip to Blue Wind Imperial City.... The only explanation for this would be that Qin Wuyou and Lan Xueruo were already acquainted a long time ago and only had a distant relationship on the surface.

“Palace Chief Qin, have you.... told my father?” Lan Xueruo asked very carefully.

“Sigh, how would I dare. If I were to let your.... father know I didn’t protect you well, this head of mine.... Hehe, thank goodness you’re back safely. If not, even I, would not be able to handle that.” Qin Wuyou wiped the cold sweat off his forehead.

Yun Che: “....”

“Palace Chief Qin, you’re not planning on returning back to New Moon Profound Palace anymore, right?” Yun Che suddenly asked coldly.

Qin Wuyou was shocked, and then nodded his head: “That’s right, they’ve already assigned a new palace chief to New Moon Profound Palace. But how did you know of this?”

“I guessed.” Yun Che laughed and said flippantly. He silently thought: Indeed, the reason why Qin Wuyou had gone to New Moon Profound Palace was for Lan Xueruo. It seems that Lan Xueruo’s identity was really out of the ordinary. Now that Lan Xueruo is back in Blue Wind Imperial City, he no longer has any need to stay in New Moon Profound Palace.

“Yun Che, where have you disappeared off to during those few days? Why were you still being chased after by the Xiao Sect even when you and Xueruo were together? How did you escape the danger after falling into the Ten Thousand Beast Mountain Range that even I would not dare to enter? Could it be that Xiao Zaihe had fabricated a story after he was unable to catch you?” Qin Wuyou fired off a chain of questions.

“About that, I’ll explain them to you later. Palace Chief Qin, what was the situation at Xiao Sect’s Branch Sect when you left New Moon City?” Lan Xueruo asked.

“Heh heh, that branch sect.” Qin Wuyou started laughing, “I think they’re almost done for.”

“Almost.... done for?” Lan Xueruo asked in surprise.

“That’s right.” Qin Wuyou nodded and slowly answered: “I don’t know which unlucky star they encountered, but according to the news I’ve heard, they seem to have hired a quack who passed off as a genius doctor, who then completely disabled Xiao Luocheng, crippled all his meridians and destroyed all his Profound Veins. Forget about possessing profound energy, he won’t even be able to stand in this lifetime. He can only pass his life on that bed now. Not only that, I’ve also heard that the charlatan had neatly swept the entire treasury clean before he left through some unknown means. That literally ripped away a large half of that Sect’s foundation.”

“Then, have they found out who that ‘quack doctor’ was?” Lan Xueruo glanced at Yun Che as she asked in amusement.

Qin Wuyou shook his head, “No. I heard the quack doctor disguised himself, and there was simply no way to start searching.”

Yun Che smirked. He knew, that even if Xiao Tiannan clearly knew that everything was done by him, he still would never say it out loud. Because if he were to let outsiders know that such a big sect like theirs had completely played in the hands of a youth of merely sixteen and at the Nascent Profound Realm, let alone their branch sect, even their main sect would be too embarrassed to face anyone.

“But after all, that branch sect is quite large. If they clench their teeth, they should be able to tide it over with some difficulty. But what happened afterwards was even more interesting.” An expression of taking joy from others’ misery began to appear on Qin Wuyou’s face, “I heard that to save his son, Xiao Luocheng, Xiao Tiannan personally went to the Black Moon Merchant Guild to buy an Emperor Profound Dragon Core! Yes, you didn’t hear wrongly, it’s an Emperor Profound Dragon Core! But on the second day, he barged into the Black Moon Merchant Guild again, insisting that the Emperor Profound Dragon Core was fake. This was originally a secret.... but what sort of existence is the Black Moon Merchant Guild? Would they sell things that are fake? But if it was fake, why couldn’t Xiao Tiannan and Xiao Baicao tell it apart when they went to purchase the Dragon Core initially? Facing Xiao Tiannan’s aggression, the Black Moon Merchant Guild’s Pu He spread the word that Xiao Tiannan had bought an Emperor Profound Dragon Core from them in a fit of fury.

Yun Che’s eyebrows twitched... Oi, oi! Originally, I thought that after being forced to leave New Moon City, other than to send Xiao Tiannan and Xiao Baicao away, there was no other method to put into action previously planned uses. Who would have thought that the Black Moon Merchant Guild would actually give them a shove.... And this push was better than having myself stay in the city to spread the word. If it was as Qin Wuyou had said, then what sort of existence was the Black Moon Merchant Guild? Fair trade and authoritative! The things they sold, once it was spread, how could it be fake?

“Once this news spread out, it naturally triggered monstrous waves. On the second day, New Moon City’s guest inns were filled to capacity; the streets were filled with strong people from the Spirit Profound Realm, Earth Profound Realm, and I even felt the presence of two scary Heavenly Profound Realm practitioners. Apparently, on the first night, the Xiao Sect was broken into a few dozen times or so. After that, the Chief Elder of the medicine branch of the Xiao sect, Xiao Wuji, personally came to ask the branch sect to hand over the Emperor Profound Dragon Core. It would be an amazing feat if they could hand it over and they would be heavily rewarded. However, if he couldn’t hand it over, the branch sect would be kicked out of the Xiao sect. Xiao Tiannan refused to bend. He first claimed that it was false, then said that someone had stolen it, and basically refused to hand it over....

Yun Che coldly laughed in secret... Bullshit! Even if he wanted to hand it over, how could he hand it over? That fake Emperor Profound Dragon Core was forged from the Profound Core that he had gotten from Lan Xueruo then, and could only last four days. On the fifth day, the air of the Emperor Profound Dragon Core that had permeated into it would completely disappear, the bright red color would become a dull grey, and was not even worth spare change! Would he really bring that low-grade Profound Core and tell Xiao Wuji that it was that Emperor Profound Dragon Core?

Were he to actually do that, Xiao Wuji would definitely have him killed on the spot.

“After that, I left New Moon City and never heard about the situation afterwards. But I can confirm that the Branch Sect in New Moon City is completely done for.” Qin Wuyou finished speaking and even laughed blankly. After all, he had met Xiao Tiannan twice, and had ended up fighting the moment they met. Now that Xiao Tiannan was cornered, he would feel at least some sort of happiness.

“Oh, that’s right.” Qin Wuyou turned towards Yun Che, saying, “I’ve brought Yuanba here. Initially, I’d told him that since you were with Xueruo, there was a high chance she might bring you here. As I was preparing to leave New Moon City, he used all sorts of methods to beg me to bring him here, saying that he’d never be at peace for life if he didn’t see you, so I brought him here. You should go later... “

“Brother.... Brother-in-law!!”

Before Qin Wuyou’s words had sunk in, an agitated cry came from beside him. Yun Che’s gaze swept across Qin Wuyou and in a look, saw the teary-eyed Xia Yuanba standing at the door of Blue Wind Profound Palace.

And beside Yuanba was a person he thought shouldn’t have come....

Murong Ye!

Why would he be here?

“Brother-in-law!!”

Xia Yuanba gave another cry and madly ran over with large steps as his large body lunged towards Yun Che in a flash. Thick, muscular arms locked around him and he started bawling, “Brother-in-law.... So you’re really fine.... This is great... Great... A month ago, I heard that you’d fallen into the Ten Thousand Beast Mountain Range, and I thought.... I thought...”

Xia Yuanba had the body of a giant but was now crying like a child. Yun Che felt the corners of his eyes moisten. Since a very young age, he knew that if he were to die one day, there would only be three people who would cry for him.... One was grandfather, one was little aunt, and the last was Xia Yuanba.

“Alright, stop crying, I’m fine.” Yun Che patted Xia Yuanba’s arm and soothingly said, “Also, I’ve already told you so many times to stop calling me brother-in-law.”

“Uuu... I got it, brother-in-law. I definitely won’t call you brother-in-law in the future... Uuu... it’s just too great that you’re alright, brother-in-law, or else I wouldn’t know what to do....”

Yun Che: “....”

Chapter 123 - Resentment

“The relationship between you pair of manly men really makes one envious.” Lan Xueruo laughed softly. She spoke of “envy” lightly, but it felt a few hundred times heavier in her heart. Although they were kin, they could only be considered distantly related, yet they still had such a close relationship. As for her, whenever she thought of her own brothers, she could only feel an internal bitter disappointment and sadness.

“Xueruo, I can finally be relieved after seeing that you’re alright.” Murong Ye walked over, a look of bland surprise and happiness on his face, “Hearing that you’d fallen into the Ten Thousand Beast Mountain Range a month ago, I was so scared and worried that I lost my appetite and couldn’t sleep at night. I could only hate myself for being so powerless, otherwise, even if I had to risk my life, I would definitely go into the Ten Thousand Beast Mountain Range to save you.”

“I’m grateful for brother’s concern.” Lan Xueruo smiled politely. Regarding Murong Ye’s appearance here, she didn’t seem surprised at all. Every year, Blue Moon Profound Palace would accept three of the most distinguished disciples from each Profound Palace within Blue Wind Empire and Murong Ye happened to be one of those selected from New Moon Profound Palace this year. Coincidentally, the time for him to come forth to Blue Wind Profound Palace was also this month. Presumably, Murong Ye should have arrived with Qin Wuyou.

“Xueruo, are you going to stay in Blue Wind Profound Palace in the future? If that’s so it would be great, we can be at the same place to cultivate profound energy and get along together again.” Murong Ye smiled.

Lan Xueruo didn’t nod but calmly answered, “In the future, I will indeed be staying at Blue Moon Profound Palace.” After her simple response, she didn’t pay any more attention to Murong Ye. She asked Qin Wuyou, “Palace Chief Qin.... Oh right, I should be calling you Instructor Qin now. Yun Che has just arrived at Blue Wind Imperial City and has nowhere to go to, so I’ll have to trouble you to make arrangements for him to enter Blue Wind Profound Palace.”

“Hehe, this is not a problem, of course.” Qin Wuyou nodded his head warmly, “What about you? Do you want to as well? Your name still hangs within the Middle Palace.”

Name hanging within the Middle Palace? Murong Ye stared..... How could this be! Within the Middle Palace, even the lowest-leveled were at the third level of the True Profound Realm. At the eighth level of the Nascent Profound Realm, there was already nobody of the same age within New Moon Profound Palace who could defeat him, but at Blue Moon Profound Palace, even in the lowest Outer Palace, he could only achieve an upper-middle rank. Lan Xueruo’s profound energy was the same as his, so how could her name be in the Middle Palace?

Blue Wind Profound Palace and New Moon Profound Palace were different. A person could get into New Moon Profound Palace through personal relations, but this was absolutely not possible in Blue Wind Profound Palace! There were distinct differences between the Outer Palace, Middle Palace and Inner Palace. The only way to enter the Middle Palace from the Outer Palace was to defeat a disciple from the Middle Palace. The only way to enter the Inner Palace from the Middle Palace was to defeat a disciple from the Inner Palace.... Other than this, there was no other path. Even if the Palace Chief were to appear and allow a disciple from the Outer Palace enter the Middle Palace due to favoritism, it was also absolutely impossible.

The only exception that could be slightly accommodated was to let a disciple who didn't quite meet all the criteria to enter the Outer Palace. However, only important figures who were at least instructor-level could have that kind of privilege, and this could only be for a maximum of three people per year.

"I will check in frequently. But I've left for too long and am slightly worried about my father, so I need to return first. Therefore, I'll be leaving Junior Brother Yun to you, Instructor Qin. Junior Yun, Palace Chief Qin is now an instructor at Blue Wind Profound Palace. You should settle down within the Palace with Instructor Qin first, and after I make a trip home to settle issues there, I will come back immediately to visit you." Lan Xueruo said as her eyes flashed with slight worry and melancholy upon mentioning "father".

Murong Ye, who was beside her, frowned angrily... Settle Yun Che down.... Visit Yun Che.... Anyone who wasn't a fool could hear her care and concern for Yun Che in Lan Xueruo's simple words, yet she didn't even give half a shit about him.

"You can be at ease, I will immediately arrange for Yun Che to enter the Outer Palace and similarly, will also give him the greatest amount of care." Qin Wuyou nodded. He was the only one who clearly knew the reason for Lan Xueruo's kindness towards Yun Che..... Even though he didn't look favorably upon Yun Che, and only somewhat admired him, since it was Lan Xueruo's decision, he could only obey.

"Senior sister, are you going home alone? How about I send you back first?" Yun Che ventured. Deep down in his heart, he really wanted to know what sort of concept Lan Xueruo's "home" was.

Lan Xueruo smiled and shook her head. Her actions were light and she didn't say anything, but her expression was soft yet resolute.

"Just relax. This is Blue Wind Imperial City, nothing will happen to me." After throwing such a line, Lan Xueruo smiled gently and turned her back towards him as she left with light footsteps.

But the instant she took a step and moved forward, a miserable emptiness, as if she had lost something of great importance from her side, suddenly surfaced in Lan Xueruo's heart... With a short sigh, she came to understand what this feeling of emptiness was....

Because at this moment, Yun Che was no longer at her side.

Escaping together, facing hardships together, even experiencing brushes with death; it was such a long period of daily interaction that she didn't realize she had unconsciously gotten accustomed to Yun Che's existence. When in New Moon Profound Palace, Murong Ye would cling to her side every day and keep at it for a very, very long time. But what it brought her was two starkly different feelings. Murong Ye's pestering, even though she took it all in stride calmly and politely, internally, she felt annoyed and harassed. But with Yun Che by her side, what sprouted in her heart was a deepening feeling of reliance.... and an even more dangerous feeling of attachment.

Even sleeping in the same bed as him and waking up in his embrace in the morning had silently become a sort of habit.

When returning to Blue Wind Imperial City, she anxiously wanted to return home to visit her father. But what she felt the moment she left Yun Che, the moment Yun Che was no longer at her side, was simply

too uncomfortable. It was as if a part of her soul had been forcefully removed and it caused the steps she took to become very heavy.

“Senior sister!”

Yun Che’s sudden shout came from behind. It stopped her in her tracks and made her feel like she didn’t want to leave anymore.

Yun Che rushed in front of Lan Xueruo, took out two items from the Sky Poison Pearl and placed them in Lan Xueruo’s hands, “Senior sister knows of the Sky Tremor Bombs so you should also know of the Poison Fire Rod from the Xiao Sect. When I’m not by senior sister’s side, senior sister must learn to protect herself well. When you meet someone who intends to harm you who cannot be defeated, you must not be too soft-hearted and end him with this Poison Fire Rod. Also, this incense was taken from Black Demon’s spatial ring. It’s a special type of Beast Repelling Incense, and the ingredients it was made from do not come from Blue Wind Empire. Black Demon probably acquired it after attacking a foreign businessman. After lighting it, it can disperse all Profound Beasts at the Sky Profound level or lower. They had also used this to enter the Ten Thousand Beast Mountain Range. If you have to enter any dangerous area with Profound Beasts, light this immediately.”

The corner of Lan Xueruo’s lips curved up, hooking into a smile of incomparably moving beauty, “I’m only making a trip home, not going on a trip of life and death....” She put away the Poison Fire Rod and the Beast Repelling Incense and then softly said, “Thank you, Junior Brother Yun.”

“Hehe.” Yun Che gave a cheap laugh, “After all, we’re people who sleep together every day, what are you still thanking me for, and to even be this polite.... AOW OW OW OW OW!”

Lan Xueruo’s face flushed so red that it spread to her snowy neck. She pinched the back of Yun Che’s hand in embarrassment and with a stomp, ran away as if she were fleeing.

It was unsure whether Yun Che’s last line was intentional or not but he didn’t suppress his voice; Qin Wuyou, Xia Yuanba and Murong Ye all heard it clearly. It left them all shocked in unison, making them gape so widely that their jaws almost fell to the floor.

“You... What did you just say!” Murong Ye’s chest heaved as he suddenly rushed forward like an enraged mad dog. He clutched Yun Che’s collar with a pair of completely red eyes, and roared, “Repeat what you had just said again.”

With a *slap*, Yun Che slapped the Murong Ye’s hand, which was clutching his collar, glanced at him from the side, and indifferently asked, “Who the hell do you think you are? You want me to repeat what I’ve just said?”

Qin Wuyou stammered, “Yun Che, y-y-y-you..... you really.... with Xueruo..... slept together?”

In return, Yun Che stared at Qin Wuyou with an undecipherable expression, “That... Senior Sister Xueruo and I, were alone for over a month..... Mn. In addition to my good looks, her beauty, and the mutual consent of both parties, dry branches can become a raging fire.... Isn’t sleeping together very normal?”

“This this this this...” Qin Wuyou’s moustache trembled violently, as his eyes stared widely; his brain had completely stopped functioning. Thinking again to what Yun Che had just said and Lan Xueruo’s

response.... She didn't ruthlessly cuff his ears; rather, she had run away in embarrassment after pinching him coquettishly....

Qin Wuyou suddenly had the urge to bow to Yun Che there and then.....

"Ah ah ah ah!" Xia Yuanba's mouth gaped for a long time before finally resuming its original position, "Brother-in-law, you actually slept with Senior Sister Xueruo..... I really respect you!"

"Impossible! This is impossible! How could Xueruo possibly like you! Xueruo is as clear as ice and as pure as jade, how could it be.... How could it be...." Murong Ye's breathing became labored and both his eyes were red. Mentally, he was near collapse and madness. Suddenly, his hands flashed and a thin longsword appeared clutched in his hands. He suddenly pierced towards Yun Che, "You mongrel, who tainted Xueruo, I'll kill you!"

"Stop!" Murong Ye's actions caught Qin Wuyou and Xia Yuanba off guard. In addition to that, Murong Ye was too close to Yun Che, so other being able to give a startled cry, they were completely unable to do anything to stop his assault.

Yun Che didn't dodge, and actually stretched out his right hand slowly, reaching towards the long sword that Murong Ye was piercing at him. This action shocked Qin Wuyou and Xia Yuanba... Using his hand to catch the sword? Murong Ye had profound energy at the eighth level of the Nascent Profound Realm after all, did Yun Che not want his hand anymore!?

Clang!!

Before Murong Ye could reveal a manic smile, the instant Yun Che's fingers made contact with Murong Ye's long sword, it was already completely nullified. He felt as if his sword had pierced into incomparably sturdy hard rock, and was incapable of moving even half an inch forward.

But what was pinching the tip of the blade, was only Yun Che's thumb and middle finger.

Murong Ye was stunned; Qin Wuyou and Xia Yuanba were also completely dumbfounded. At this point, Qin Wuyou finally noticed Yun Che's profound energy. In a voice of thick disbelief, a cry sprang from his lips, "Nascent Profound Realm.... Tenth level!? How.... How is this possible!?"

The last time he had met Yun Che, he was only at the first level of the Nascent Profound Realm. Only a month and a half had passed since then, yet he was already at the tenth level of the Nascent Profound Realm!

This sort of speed.... could only be described within those fantastical sort of stories.

"Whaa? What did you say? Tenth level Nascent Profound Realm?" Both of Xia Yuanba's circular eyes stared widely, and he thought there was something wrong with his ears.

Yun Che stretched out his right hand and clutched the sword blade with his entire palm. With a violent shake, a strong blast of profound energy ran down the blade's body and hit Murong Ye's arm, which had been tightly clutching the sword. He let go of the blade with an anguished roar. With the blade held in hand, Yun Che flung his arm and the hilt of the blade ruthlessly hit Murong Ye's face, causing him to fall to the ground and roll.

Murong Ye sprawled on the ground. The entire right half of his face was swollen and splattered with fresh blood. Yun Che threw the sword in his hand away, and looked down while coldly saying, "Whatever happens between me and Senior Xueruo has nothing to do with you. Guard your identity as a toad who daydreams everyday well, got it?"

Chapter 124 - Inner Palace's Heavenly Profound Ranking

"You... You!" Murong Ye clutched the completely red right half of his face as his entire body trembled. Since a very young age, he had always been raised in praise and admiration. Even in Blue Wind Profound Palace, although he was only an average disciple of the Outer Palace, his father was the city chief of New Moon City and his cousin was a member of the Inner Palace. Therefore, his position within the Outer Palace was definitely not low. Those who wanted to suck up to him were as plentiful as there were fish in the sea.... How could he stand this sort of humiliation!

And the person who had caused him such humiliation, was actually the one who had "gotten" the Lan Xueruo that he could only dream of getting.

"You will regret this.... Before long, I'll let you regret having been born into this world!" Murong Ye climbed up from the ground, yelled venomously, to then totter away like a defeated dog.

You can try as much as you want.... Yun Che sneered silently as he watched Murong Ye's retreating figure.

"Yun Che, you.... You're simply too impulsive." Qin Wuyou walked over and berated him.

"He wanted to kill me with his sword, but I've only damaged his pride. It should already be kind enough." Yun Che said calmly.

"Sigh..." Qin Wuyou's gaze wavered and his expression became extremely complicated. He let out a long sigh, but Yun Che didn't know if the sigh was for beating Murong Ye up or for "sleeping" with Lan Xueruo. "With his identity as the son of New Moon City's chief, Murong Ye is usually very arrogant. Even in Blue Wind Profound Palace, he still bullies and humiliates others; he does deserve a bit of punishment. Only, he has an older cousin here, named Murong Yi, who is the son of the Blue Wind Empire's Northern Field Marshal. Murong Ye's father becoming the city chief of New Moon City probably has something to do with this Northern Field Marshal. And if this identity isn't prominent enough, then his other identity is something even I cannot overlook... Murong Yi is currently a disciple of the Inner Palace!

"Inner... Inner Palace?" Yun Che still didn't respond in any way, but when Xia Yuanba heard the two words "Inner Palace", he was so startled, his entire body started trembling, and even his expression paled by a substantial amount.

"So what if it's the Inner Palace?" Yun Che asked, with a face devoid of any expression.

"Hehe, it's your first time in Blue Wind Imperial City, so it's natural that you wouldn't know. If you stay here for a few more days, you'll know what a scary concept the Inner Palace is. Let me tell you a few statistics." Qin Wuyou said warmly, "The bar set for entering the Inner Palace is extremely high. Those who can enter Blue Wind Profound Palace, even if it's just the Outer Palace, would be highly regarded as a genius of the highest tier if they were anywhere else. Within the country, young practitioners who

dream of entering the Blue Wind Profound Palace number more than ten million, but currently, there are only around fifty thousand disciples in Blue Wind Profound Palace. Amongst these fifty thousand or so, fifty four thousand are in the Outer Palace, three thousand are in the Middle Palace, and within the Inner Palace, there only number a hundred.”

“Only a hundred people?” Yun Che revealed a small expression of shock.

“Correct. Not one of the disciples who can enter the Inner Palace isn’t a miraculous genius amongst geniuses who will one day become a sect master or an ambitious hero of some sort. They will become important figures that even the royal family has to treat with respect. The ranking that holds the names of the hundred who have made it into the Inner Palace has been deemed the ‘Heavenly Profound Ranking’. Disciples are listed in terms of profound strength and only Inner Palace disciples can enter this list. Those who wish to be on this bulletin have to challenge and defeat any person on the list. If his challenge is successful, he will then be able to replace the corresponding place on the Heavenly Profound Ranking, while the loser will be booted out of the Heavenly Profound Ranking, and also the Inner Palace.

“Each and every disciple on the Heavenly Profound List all have an extremely golden reputation and prestige in Blue Wind Profound Palace, and even Blue Wind Imperial City. Not only is Murong Yi on the Heavenly Profound Ranking, his rank is not even at the very bottom. Combining his current position, the seventy third rank, and his status as the Northern Field Marshal’s son, no one in Blue Wind Profound Palace dares to provoke him.”

“Murong Yi’s temper isn’t that great, so if Murong Ye were to approach Murong Yi, Murong Yi might just take action. If that happens, no one will be able to protect you.”

Although that was what Qin Wuyou had said, he knew deep in his heart that if this sort of thing were to happen, Lan Xueruo would definitely step forth for him.... Because if Murong Yi were to take action against Yun Che, it would be just like a ferocious tiger swatting a grasshopper... Even if the current Yun Che had this sort of extremely startling growth.

“Whatever, I’ve never been truly afraid of anyone.” Yun Che shrugged without a care.

“Brother-in-law, members of the Inner Palace are really super strong! Out of the people on the Heavenly Profound Ranking, even the lowest ranked person is at the eighth level of True Profound Realm! The three most powerful are already at the Spirit Profound Realm. If Murong Ye were to really ask for help from his older cousin who’s on that Heavenly Profound Ranking, then.... then....” Xia Yuanba spoke worriedly.

At least the eighth level of the True Profound Realm.... Yun Che’s eyebrows suddenly furrowed. The age limit on disciples in Blue Wind Profound Palace was the same as all other Profound Palaces; it was also capped at fifteen to twenty years old. Those who were above twenty, unless they stayed to take on work within the palace, had to leave Blue Wind Profound Palace forever. If this was the case, then the hundred people on the Heavenly Profound Ranking would naturally be either twenty years old or younger. For people of this age to reach the eighth level of True Profound Realm, whether it be in Floating Cloud City or New Moon City, it was impossible to imagine someone like that. And those three in the Spirit Profound Realm were even more startling to an extreme degree. His grandfather Xiao Lie was around sixty, and the strongest in Floating Cloud City, but he was only in the Spirit Profound Realm!

The scope of the city also plainly represented the levels of profound strength. In Floating Cloud City, the sixteen year old Xia Qingyue who had attained the tenth level of Elementary Profound Realm was already recognized to be the greatest genius of the younger generation. In New Moon City, the number one genius of the younger generation, Xiao Luocheng was also sixteen, but had already entered the tenth level of Nascent Profound Realm.

But in Blue Wind Empire's capital, those below twenty were actually in the Spirit Profound Realm.... And the eighth level of the True Profound Realm was merely the lowest bar to enter the Inner Palace of the Blue Wind Profound Palace.

"Oh right, I haven't asked you yet! Your current profound strength has actually reached the tenth level of Nascent Profound Realm! It's only been half a month's time; even if you consumed an elixir, you couldn't possibly have progressed so fast! Could it be that you previously hid your profound strength with something like a Profound Restricting Pearl of some sort?" Thinking of Yun Che's large scale challenge in New Moon Profound Palace, the more he thought about it, the greater the possibility seemed to Qin Wuyou.

Yun Che didn't answer, avoiding the question altogether, "Palace Chief Qin, what sort of process does a person have to go through if he wants to enter Blue Wind Profound Palace?"

Seeing that Yun Che didn't want to answer, Qin Wuyou didn't press on, and answered: "I no longer bear the identity of Palace Chief, just call me Instructor Qin. It is also fine to just call me by name. Blue Wind Profound Palace has strict regulations; anyone who wishes to enter has to go through assessments. But as an instructor, I have two or three chances to bring in students through personal relations every year. I'd originally wanted to arrange for you to enter the Outer Palace straight away, but with your current profound strength, there's already no need for it."

"You came just in time; today is the last day of Blue Wind Profound Palace's yearly assessment exam for new disciples. Although registration has long since ended, slotting your name in is extremely easy. Once you get past the evaluations, you can officially enter Blue Wind Profound Palace's Outer Palace. It saves a lot of trouble compared to having me arrange for you to move in straight away. Furthermore, I believe that you are also more willing to accept this kind of method." Qin Wuyou stroked his long beard as he said that with a light chuckle.

Xia Yuanba also nodded along, "Right, right! This entrance exam lasts for a total of ten days, and today is the best day. Brother-in-law is currently at the tenth level of the Nascent Profound Realm, so he'll definitely pass. Besides, brother-in-law is young, so he'll still be awesome inside the Outer Palace."

After saying that, Xia Yuanba suddenly fell gloomy.... His profound strength was merely at the sixth level of the Elementary Profound Realm. This sort of profound strength was considered the standard in Floating Cloud City, but in the Blue Wind Imperial City, it was absolutely nothing at all. He had been brought into the palace by Qin Wuyou and moped about Yun Che's disappearance even during his daily cleaning of the Outer Palace's Profound Pavilion. He endured all of the surprised and contemptuous looks everyday... Indeed, everyone looked at him as if he was trash and within Blue Wind Profound Palace, his profound energy really could only be considered as trash. As to whether he could enter Blue Wind Profound Palace's Outer Palace to cultivate in the Profound... That was something he didn't even dare hope for.

"Of course there's no problem." Yun Che nodded without hesitation. Between passing the entrance examination and entering from the "backdoor", he would of course, choose the former. He took a glance at Xia Yuanba, and asked: "Instructor Qin, since you only have a few chances to practice favoritism, then, how about giving the chance you were originally planning to give me to Yuanba?"

"Ah?" Xia Yuanba's expression became animated.

"This..." Qin Wuyou actually hesitated for a moment. It wasn't that he was petty, but rather... Xia Yuanba's profound energy was really too low; even the lowest rank in the Outer Palace was far above his reach. While it was true he had relations that could bring him in, Xia Yuanba should still at least be of Nascent Profound Realm, and not too far away from the bar set for the lowest rank. For an Elementary Profound practitioner to enter Blue Wind Profound Palace... that would simply be a joke. The instructors and the Vice Palace Chiefs would likely have violent objections as well.

Only, Xia Yuanba had a kind and pure personality; Qin Wuyou liked him a lot. Adding this to the fact that Yun Che had recommended him.....

He gritted his teeth and looked at Yun Che with a strange glint in his eye as the tone of his voice became extremely bizarre, "Yun Che brat, first answer a question of mine... Have you really, with Xueruo.... Cough, cough cough, slept together?"

"Of course, is there something abnormal about this?" Yun Che asked, the picture of innocence.

Qin Wuyou's facial features twitched, swallowed forcefully, and said, "Alright! This child, Yuanba. I also like him. After you pass the entrance exam, I'll immediately arrange for his entrance into the Outer Palace. But I must remind both of you, Blue Wind Profound Palace has all sorts of disciples. Yuanba's Profound energy is too weak, so he may encounter a lot of bullying and humiliation...."

"That won't happen." Yun Che shook his head, and smiled wanly. There were faint traces of ice within the tranquility of his voice, "I won't allow anyone to bully Yuanba."

"Is.... Is this for real? I can really join Blue Wind Profound Palace?" Xia Yuanba's eyes flashed; he was overwhelmed with joy and became incoherent. To have been able to enter New Moon Profound Palace had already made him happy beyond belief, and he had just been presented the opportunity join the highest-tiered Profound Palace, which countless hopefuls wished to enter. This had always been something he didn't even dare to dream of. He had only come to Blue Wind Imperial City this time to obtain news of Yun Che, so he definitely didn't have any extravagant hopes of this sort. For such a gargantuan surprise to suddenly fall from the heavens like this, was truly beyond his imagination.

"Hahahaha, I would never lie to you young'uns." Seeing Xia Yuanba's happiness, Qin Wuyou's mood improved as he laughed heartily. Then he reached a hand out towards Yun Che, a voice transmitter jade clutched within his hand, "Come, Yun Che brat, record my sound transmission imprint. If you need anything in the future, you can transmit sound to me whenever you wish."

"Uh...." Yun Che rubbed at his hair awkwardly, "I still don't have a Sound Transmission Jade."

"Oh." Qin Wuyou withdrew his hand, "I'll get someone to prepare one for you in a few days. But for now, follow me to the Profound Palace's Central Plaza. With your current age and profound energy, passing the entrance examination should be easy. Perhaps next year, you may even have the

opportunity to rush directly into the Middle Palace. By then, you should have considerable status in the Blue Wind Imperial City.

Chapter 125 - Blue Wind Emperor

Blue Wind Imperial City, heart of the Imperial Palace.

Lan Xueruo walked with hurried footsteps, passed through the heavy guard, and headed straight for the emperor's chambers. All of the imperial guards along the way saluted one after the other.

"Princess Cang Yue, you've returned. The emperor has been reminiscing about you these past few days." At the doors to the emperor's chambers, a middle-aged eunuch bowed as he welcomed her, "Do you require me to announce your arrival?"

"No need." Lan Xueruo shook her head and walked directly into the emperor's chambers.

Cang Wanhe, Blue Wind Empire's ninety-ninth generation emperor, presided over the land under the heavens, with a prestige that shook the four oceans. He would be fifty-six years old this year; when living in the imperial palace without a worry, at this age, a king should not exhibit signs of aging, but Cang Wanhe was quietly lying on a bed with a dazed expression. Even his gaze was dull and without spirit, and he looked almost like a seventy- or eighty-year-old past his prime.

"Your Majesty, Princess Cang Yue has returned!" His personal eunuch entered with light footsteps, and reported with a happy expression.

Hearing this, Cang Wanhe's lifeless face revealed a shred of eagerness. His upper body moved, and he stood up with difficulty, "Quick, quickly let her enter."

Right after he spoke, Lan Xueruo entered. Seeing the enthusiasm in Cang Wanhe's clearly aged face and gaze, her heart clenched. With quick steps forward, she knelt with both knees in front of Cang Wanhe, "Royal father, your daughter has been unfilial, and has not visited you in a long time."

"It's good that you came back, it's good that you came back, ah." Cang Wanhe cheerfully nodded. At the moment, his face didn't have the slightest degree of a monarch's imposing aura, and only had the love that a normal father expresses towards his beloved daughter, "Get up quickly. It has already been three months since you last returned from New Moon City; during this time We couldn't eat or sleep well in fear that something might've happened to you. Haha, it is good that nothing happened."

"This time your daughter encountered something trivial, delayed a bit, and has worried royal father." Lan Xueruo stood up, looked at her father's appearance, and suddenly revealed a painful look: "Royal father, your condition.... Why does it seem more serious? With Master Gu personally attending to your illness, how could it be like this?"

"Cough cough...." Cang Wanhe wanted to speak, but went into a fit of violent coughs. He gasped a couple of breaths, and answered with a hoarse voice, "Perhaps, We really have become old. Even though this illness is serious, with Master Gu, it still won't take Our life immediately, but We will die of anger sooner or later because of those unfilial sons... Cough cough, cough cough cough cough...."

After saying those two sentences, Cang Wanhe once again suffered from a painful fit of coughs. Lan Xueruo stepped forward at once and lightly patted his back.

At this time, the eunuch's voice came from outside the door, "Reporting to my emperor, the crown prince wishes to seek an audience."

Cang Wanhe's body stiffened, and Lan Xueruo's face also turned ugly. Subsequently, a thunderous roar came from Cang Wanhe's mouth, "Tell him to get lost! We do not wish to see him!"

"Aiyah, what has made royal father so angry. Royal father is currently sick, you must take care of your body and avoid getting angry."

Along with the echo of the lazy voice, an almost thirty year old youthful man adorned in an attire full of gold patterns, who had both hands behind his back, walked into the room. As soon as he saw Lan Xueruo, he squinted his eyes as he laughed, "My beloved royal sister, just a moment ago I heard from the servants that you had returned, so how could I not immediately rush back. I haven't seen you for only a couple of months, but I have missed you dearly."

"You unfilial son, who allowed you enter. Get lost right now!" Cang Wanhe roared furiously while pointing a trembling finger.

"Royal father, please don't get angry. Be careful not to injure your body, your son only worries about royal father's illness, so your son specifically came to visit. If royal father doesn't like my presence, your son will leave immediately." Prince Cang Lin said while laughing. That lazy expression wasn't afraid of the emperor's rage in the slightest, and even more had no respect or fear for consequence.

"Visit?" Cang Wanhe laughed coldly, "Coming to see whether or not We have suddenly died in bed? Let us tell you, as long as We still have a breath of life, don't even think about getting the title of emperor! And don't even hope that We will decree the transfer of the title! Get lost right now!"

"Royal father, why must you be so stubborn." Prince Cang Lin frowned, "What type of existence is the Xiao Sect? Now that I have obtained Xiao Sect's full support, as long as I ascend the throne, the Xiao Sect will be used by me, and our Blue Wind Imperial Family would only become more prosperous with power that could shake the world...."

"Shut up.... Cough cough, cough cough cough cough...." Cang Wanhe was so angry that his entire face turned red. His chest violently heaved up and down, "The Xiao Sect has lusted after the power of the Blue Wind Imperial Family for very long, but you unfilial sons actually have the nerve to lead the wolf into the house ... even if you become the emperor, the thousand year legacy of Our Blue Wind Imperial Family, will lose everything but our name, and we will become their puppet! We have boasted a legendary reputation of martial might, but We have actually raised such a group of unfilial sons! Get lost! Get lost immediately!"

Lan Xueruo also became extremely angry, and tightly clenched both fists. She couldn't hold back her anger any longer, and said angrily: "Didn't you hear what royal father said! Get out right now! Royal father and I do not wish to see you again!"

"Tut tut, why must you be like this." Cang Lin shook his head slightly, then grinned while saying, "Royal father, you have already been the emperor for many years; you ought to give it up. Even if you are unwilling, sooner or later it will fall into my hands. So what if my beloved royal brother Cang Shuo has become affiliated with the Burning Heaven Clan? In my eyes, he was never a contender... My beloved royal sister, I've heard that these two years you haven't stayed at the Blue Wind Profound Palace, but

rather, you've run around outside. Could it be you are urgently looking for a spouse? I, your royal brother, have plenty of young and talented men. Do I need to request a meeting for royal sister?"

"Out!" Lan Xueruo clenched her teeth as the rage in her heart reached its boiling point.

"Hahahaha! Then your son will leave." Cang Lin let loose a fit of wild laughter, and casually strolled out with both hands behind his back.

"This group of unfilial sons.... unfilial sons!!" Cang Wanhe entire face was red with anger as he shook from head to toe.

"Royal father, they have already gone mad, they are not worth getting angry over. Your body is more important." Lan Xueruo patted her father's back whilst trying very hard to quell the rage in her heart.

After being silent for quite a while, Cang Wanhe finally seemed to calm down. He laughed bleakly and said, "Up until now, We have always thought that We had always been raising seven tiger cubs. To think that Our seven sons... were actually a group of wolves. It is fortunate that the heavens took pity on me, and let Us have you for a daughter. It is too bad that you are a girl, otherwise, We would directly bequeath you the title of Emperor... But if We really did this, it would burden you... Cang Lin and Cang Shuo, these two unfilial sons; one is colluding with the Xiao Sect, one is colluding with the Burning Heaven Clan. Ah... no matter which one eventually succeeds, our Blue Wind Imperial Family will become their puppets... The heavens are without eyes, the heavens are without eyes, haah."

"Royal father, you do not need to be too worried. I will definitely use my all stop them." Lan Xueruo bit her lips, and a faint layer of water could be seen from both eyes.

Cang Wanhe laughed while shaking his head, "These seven unfilial sons are split into two factions, and the authority of the court are also basically in their hands. With the Xiao Sect and Burning Heaven Clan hiddenly assisting them, what could you possibly do to stop them? We just hope that when that day comes, you will leave the imperial city; the farther you hide, the better. I'm afraid that these unfilial sons will use you as a pawn to gain favor... If that happens, then We will actually roll over in Our grave."

"That won't happen, royal father. With Master Gu here, you will definitely recover from your illness and live to be one hundred." Lan Xueruo said while trying to resist her tears, shaking her head very hard.

"Heh heh," Cang Wanhe laughed bleakly. He was the most clear about the condition of his own body. He had suspected the entire time, was this inexplicable illness the plot of Cang Lin, or Cang Shuo? He closed his eyes and said disappointedly, "We have been emperor for nineteen years, and only at the very end did We find out that We are actually a failure of an emperor. Other than having raised these unfilial sons, my first wish the year We ascended the throne was to have our Blue Wind Imperial Family wash away our humiliation at the 'Blue Wind Ranking Tournament', but, during these nineteen years, all We have received, time after time, was never-ending humiliation... As the imperial family of the majestic Blue Wind Empire, we unexpectedly, never had anyone enter the top hundred. Time after time, we have become the laughingstock of the world, and was never able to raise our heads in front of those sects. What kind of sorrow is this!"

Lan Xueruo's eyes flickered and Yun Che's image floated into her head. A warm feeling came from her heart, and calmed her greatly. She gently replied, "Royal father, this wish will definitely come true. These two years, your daughter has passed through many large profound palaces, and used the

Monarch Heart Secret Arts to look for that kind of a person. Your daughter's efforts were not in vain; just half a month ago, your daughter has found such a person. This person has also been brought to Blue Wind Profound Palace; your daughter will use all methods possible to make him enter the Blue Wind Ranking Tournament as the next representative of the Imperial Family... Your daughter believes that he will definitely be able to enter the top hundred, fulfilling royal father's wish and washing away the imperial family's humiliation."

"One after the next... I'm only afraid that We can't wait until then, cough cough, cough cough cough cough..." Cang Wanhe once again burst into a fit of violent coughing; his breathing had also become more ragged.

Lan Xueruo knew that with her father's current condition, he was unable to speak too much. She helped pull a quilt over her father, and said softly, "Royal father, rest well. You must take care of your body. Your daughter still has something she needs to attend to, I will come again tomorrow to visit royal father... Uncle Dong Fang, you must protect my royal father."

As soon as Lan Xueruo finished speaking, an old voice came forth from the chambers, "Have no worries Your Highness. With me here, no one will be able to touch a single hair on the emperor's head."

Lan Xueruo gratefully nodded her head and left the emperor's chambers.

No one knew that this princess was also the Blue Wind Emperor's youngest daughter, and just how much pressure her frail back carried; or how many serious hesitations she buried within her heart...

Blue Wind Profound Palace's Central Plaza was enormous, and since today was the last day of the year they were recruiting students, it was completely packed with a thick crowd of people. More than half of which were young profound practitioners who were being tested, the other half were Profound Palace disciples who came to watch the excitement.

Although it was already the final day of examinations, the number of young profound practitioners being tested was still very large. The entire exam was split into three hundred groups and with Qin Wuyou's interference, Yun Che was directly placed into the ninety-ninth group.

The test was split into two parts, and were respectively the Profound Strength Assessment and the Combat Strength Assessment. Even though they sound similar, the form of examination was fundamentally different.

Chapter 126 - Profound Strength Assessment

The one examining the group that Yun Che belonged to was an elderly man with a dignified complexion. He stood in front of the Profound Assessment Stone, swept through the crowd with a glance, and spoke with a solemn tone: "The first stage of the examination is the assessment of Profound Strength. I'll repeat it again, the minimum threshold to enter the Palace is: Nascent Profound Realm level one at the age of fifteen, Nascent Profound Realm level three at the age of sixteen, Nascent Profound Realm level five at the age of seventeen, and Nascent Profound Realm level six at the age of eighteen. For those who are younger than fifteen or over eighteen, as well as those whose profound strength are lower than the minimum standard, please leave out of your own free will; do not wishfully think that the Profound Assessment Stone will make any mistakes!"

Every single year, Blue Wind Profound Palace would repeat these words many times but quite a handful of people would still fail in the first round; because there were far too many young profound practitioners that were unresigned and unwilling, had a fluke mentality, didn't want to come for nothing, or hoped that the Profound Assessment Stone would malfunction. Consequently, even though the extremely clear and strict standard was out there, more than half would still be brushed away by the first round.

But after the elderly man finished speaking, not a single person that was present had exited. He swung his hand, walked to the side of the Profound Assessment Stone and said: "Now, the first round of assessment shall start. If I call your name, come up and press your hand onto the Profound Assessment Stone." As he spoke, the elderly man lifted up the list of names that was in his hand, and shouted: "Number One: Han Chi!"

"It's starting... Brother-in-law, you're in the sixteen year old age group right now, and your current profound power is an entire seven ranks above the standard! When it's your turn, everyone would surely be greatly shocked." Xia Yuanba, who was following behind Yun Che, said that with excitement written all over his face. Since Qin Wuyou had settled him in the Profound Palace's Outer Palace, the excitement inside his heart had never subsided, and he still felt that he was dreaming even now.

The one whose name that had been called was a youth that appeared to be sixteen or seventeen. He stood in front of the Profound Assessment Stone, and carefully pressed his hand onto the surface. A nervous expression emerged on his face.

Very quickly, the Profound Assessment Stone flashed for a while, and three lines of distinct words appeared on the surface.

First line: Age, seventeen.

Second line: Profound Strength, Nascent Profound Realm level four.

Third line: Unqualified.

Not only could this Profound Assessment Stone measure one's Profound Strength, it could also assess the age! What made Yun Che lament emotionally, was that a seventeen year old fourth ranker of the Nascent Profound Realm would definitely be outstanding within New Moon Profound Palace's disciples. However, at this Blue Wind Profound Palace, it couldn't even reach the lowest standard. The Imperial City was, after all, the Imperial City.

"Unqualified, step down." The elderly man spoke with a cold and stiff expression as he looked at the Profound Assessment Stone's result.

The expression of the youth named Han Chi suddenly became panic-stricken; he made a deep bow to the elderly man, and said in an almost begging manner: "Senior, this junior is only one level under, and only millimeters of distance away from breaking through; perhaps I will break through by tomorrow. I hope Senior can accommodate slightly, and please let this junior pass. This junior will definitely be deeply grateful, and on another day will surely..."

“No!” The elderly man ferociously swung his hand. He had seen this type of situation too many times, and there wasn’t even the slightest hint of change in his complexion: “Where do you think the Blue Wind Profound Palace is? What accommodation is there! Step down right now.”

“Senior, I’m begging you.” Han Chi was already vexed to the point of almost tearing up, and bitterly pleaded: “Senior, this junior wishes to enter the Blue Wind Profound Palace even in his dreams. Furthermore, by coming here this time, I am even carrying the expectations of everyone in my family. I’m begging you, as long as you let me pass, I’ll do anything you say.”

“Without reaching the standard, even if you kneel until you die on the ground, there still won’t be anyone that would accommodate you! Leave; you are only seventeen this year, and there’s still one last chance next year, so grasp your last chance well. If you keep on pestering me, I’ll deprive you of your last qualifying chance in entering the Blue Wind Profound Palace.”

The elderly person’s last sentence instantly turned Han Chi’s face pale. He didn’t dare to say another word, and left with a sullen look.

Something like this had already enacted with just the first examinee; all of the Palace’s instructors was accustomed and didn’t feel that it was odd, but quite a lot of young profound practitioners that were waiting to be examined started to sweat from their foreheads.

“Next, Liu Changqing.”

“Age sixteen, Nascent Profound Realm level two, unqualified! Next...”

“Age eighteen, Nascent Profound Realm level five, unqualified! Next...”

“Age fifteen, Nascent Profound Realm level two... Qualified! Mn, at such a young age, very good. You’ve passed the first stage of the examination. Next.”

On average, only one out of three or four were able to pass during the examination. The passing rate was low enough to make Yun Che click his tongue. With the first failure as an example, all of the young profound practitioners that failed the examination left with their heads drooped, and no one dared to beg. The young profound practitioners who passed were naturally overjoyed; some were so emotional that they covered their faces and started wailing.

These young profound practitioners came from various places throughout the entire nation, it was unknown exactly how many came here with their greatest dreams, or how many came here carrying their entire family’s hopes. With the identity as a Blue Moon Profound Palace disciple, they would be an extremely dazzling presence no matter where they went.

“Age seventeen, Nascent Profound Realm level nine, qualified!”

Seeing the numbers that appeared on the Profound Assessment Stone, a burst of exclamation sounded from the crowd. Lines after lines of gazes containing admiration and envy locked onto the youth who stood in front of the Profound Assessment Stone. Even the elderly man who was responsible for the examination nodded as a hint of smile emerged on his face: “Very good, before you graduate from the palace, there’s a very high chance for you to enter the Middle Palace. Work hard.”

Hearing the two words “Middle Palace” almost all of the young profound practitioners’ faces revealed an expression of incomparable longing and yearning. If one was able to enter the Middle Palace, one would possess an extremely high position even in this Blue Wind Imperial City, let alone other places; it was something enough to bring honor to one’s family.

That young man removed his hand from the Profound Assessment Stone as a faint smile of pride and confidence hung on his face. He pridefully looked at the young profound practitioners who had already passed the examination as well as the ones waiting to be examined, and said: “This lowly one here is Ao Yan, I’d like to receive lots of advice from everyone that’ll be under the same wing from now on. However, in regards to the number one seat in this group, this lowly one is getting it for sure.”

This Ao Yan’s demeanor was extremely prideful. However, as a ninth ranker of the Nascent Profound Realm that was only seventeen years old, he had every right to be proud. Some discussion about him had also started below; everyone was then finally aware that this Ao Yan came from the Enormous Desert City in the west. The family he belonged to was fully worthy of the number one title in the Enormous Desert City, and were stronger than any one of the local sects.

“Next, Yun Che,” The elderly man’s voice sounded once again.

“Brother-in-law, it’s your turn!” Hearing Yun Che’s name, Xia Yuanba immediately became excited.

Yun Che stood in front of the Profound Assessment Stone, extended out his right palm and pressed onto the Profound Assessment Stone while slightly rousing his profound energy.

The Profound Assessment Stone instantly revealed a light.

“Age sixteen, Nascent Profound Realm level ten, qualified.”

As the elderly man shouted out this result, a large burst of exclaim instantly sounded from the surroundings. Lines of gazes that contained amazement many times more intense than earlier focused onto Yun Che’s body. Ao Yan’s result from earlier was already enough to make everyone exclaim and envious, yet the youth that came right after, possessed a profound strength that was actually one rank higher than Ao Yan. And their difference was even more than that; his age was actually even younger than Ao Yan by one year. If Yun Che had also reached seventeen years of age, his advantage over this Ao Yan would certainly not be just one simple level.

The expression on Ao Yan’s face, who was extremely pleased with himself while standing on the side, immediately froze. His two eyes stared firmly at the Profound Assessment Stone’s result, and he simply did not dare to believe his own eyes. Immediately, his face started to gradually turn hot... Just a moment ago, he had arrogantly declared that the number one seat of this group would definitely be his; but right after, someone who was even younger than him, immediately overtook him. The words he spoke earlier, was as if he had slapped his own face.

“Haha, to only be half a step away from the True Profound Realm at the mere age of sixteen, very good!” The elderly man slowly nodded as he revealed a heartfelt smile of approval on his face: “You are the most outstanding of all the examinees I’ve received today. If you can retain your aptitude, perhaps with only two years of time, you would be able to enter the Middle Palace. Work hard.”

Yun Che nodded, and walked into the group who passed with an extremely calm demeanor. Yet innumerable gazes still continued to follow him, and whispers continuously resounded from the surroundings.

“Who is this person? He is certainly also a son of some great family, right?”

“Do you even need to ask! People from large sects would never enter the Profound Palace, and other than those large sects, the only ones who could bring up this kind of super genius would be those great families with extremely abundant heritage and resources.... This instructor said that it is possible for him to enter the Middle Palace in just two years. That is honestly enviable to the point of wanting to die.”

“This big brother here, you are really too amazing. You are only sixteen, yet you had already almost reached the True Profound Realm! I... I wonder what big brother’s name is?”

Right after Yun Che stood in the group, the fifteen year-old youth who was the first one that passed the examination had already approached and looked at him with a face brimming with admiration. When the elderly man had shouted out Yun Che’s name earlier, he did not hear it clearly.

Yun Che remembered that this fifteen year old youth was named Yun Xiaofan, who had the same surname as him, Yun. His gaze was also very pure and he looked to be very simple. He smiled and said: “My name is Yun Che. As I remember, your name is Yun Xiaofan, right?”

“Right right!” Seeing that Yun Che had actually remembered his name, Yun Xiaofan’s face was full of excitement as he spoke with a tone of pleasant surprise: “Ah? Your surname is also Yun? How coincidental!”

“It is fate.” Yun Che said while smiling, and had a very good impression toward this Yun Xiaofan.

“Hehe,” He had originally thought that someone with such a frightening result would be an arrogant and aloof person. He didn’t expect him to be so amiable. The inside of Yun Xiaofan’s heart was also very warm; his nervousness lessened quite a bit, and the reverence in his gaze had instead increased by a little bit more: “Big brother Yun, where are you from? Since you are so incredible, you are surely the son of some extremely great family, right?”

Yun Che shook his head while smiling: “I am not some son of a great family, and is just an ordinary person. Oh right, I come from Floating Cloud City?”

“Eh, Floating Cloud City?” Yun Xiaofan froze and then thought hard for a while, to then reveal an embarrassed expression: “I am still young and have very little experience. It seems that I haven’t even heard of this city’s name before.”

“Hmph! It’s merely a small city in the north that’s not even much larger than a town. There aren’t even a few who are aware of that kind of place where even birds would not poop on; and people who doesn’t know of it, are more so innumerable.”

A cynical voice came from their side. Ao Yan looked at Yun Che with a sidelong glance. After hearing Yun Che say that he wasn’t some great family’s son but an ordinary person, and even came from Blue Wind Empire’s so-called smallest city, disdain immediately budded in his heart. He said while coldly snorting: “Yun Che, don’t think that you are great just because your profound strength rank is higher than mine. Profound Strength does not represent combat strength; only profound practitioners with strong

profound arts and profound skills are worthy to be called true profound practitioners. But unfortunately, that is impossible for a profound practitioner like you who comes from a small place to understand. Although your profound strength is one rank higher than mine, but let alone one rank; even if it's three ranks higher, it would still be impossible for you to be my match."

Chapter 127 - Feng Yue

Facing Ao Yan's provocation and contempt, Yun Che only indifferently glanced at him once before retracting his gaze. He had somewhat paid a little attention to him before, but now, he directly disregarded him to the extreme; let alone respond, he didn't even bother to look at him again. For someone who was as insolent, arrogant and supercilious as this, whose IQ may even a bit on the low end, the evaluation Yun Che gave was only one word: "Trash". He was unqualified to be his friend, and even more unqualified to be his enemy. He reckoned that his decent profound strength, was also forcefully piled up using his family's resources.

Seeing that Yun Che didn't give any sort of response, Ao Yan thought that he was obviously too afraid to the point of not even daring to reply. With a sneer, he turned his head away.

"To, to go this far!" Yun Xiaofan's face was brimming with anger, and he muttered in displeasure: "He's obviously inferior than Big Brother Yun, yet actually spoke these kind of words. How awfully shameless."

"What did you say?" Even though Yun Xiaofan deliberately lowered his voice, the place where Ao Yan stood was close enough to hear everything. His eyes squinted as his gaze filled with maliciousness: "Repeat that for me."

"I..." Yun Xiaofan's body unconsciously shrunk as his complexion turned slightly pale. He knew of Ao Yan's background, and he himself had only come from an ordinary family. How could he, a youth who came here alone to chase his dream, while burdened with the hopes of his entire family, possibly dare to make enemies with someone of great influence right after entering the Blue Wind Profound Palace.

Then again, this was after all, the examination grounds of Blue Wind Profound Palace. Ao Yan also did not dare to blatantly stir up trouble here either, so he turned his head away with a cold snort. But the sneer in his eyes proved that he had already marked this grudge in his heart.

Only then did Yun Xiaofan finally breath out a secret sigh of relief, as his expression started to become uneasy. Yun Che glanced at Yun Xiaofan's somewhat plain attire, and said: "Xiaofan, you're afraid of this Ao Yan?"

"I..." Yun Xiaofan hesitated for a second, but still nodded in the end: "I am not some scaredy cat, but, but hearing that he is the second heir in line of the influential Ao Tian Family in the western Enormous Desert City, and the fact that his profound strength is so much more superior than mine, I probably won't be able to stay in the Blue Wind Profound Palace anymore if I were to offend him. Being able to enter the Blue Moon Profound Palace is me and my family's greatest dream. I don't want to let this kind of possibility happen."

"Be at ease." Yun Che shook his head while smiling: "The identity of a great family's heir indeed sounds quite great, but this place is the Blue Wind Profound Palace; his identity isn't worth a single cent here, and he could at most oppress you a little using his profound strength. If you don't wish to be bullied, then you need to train even harder. This Ao Yan can coincidentally become one of your motivations for

cultivating. Moreover, this Ao Yan can only bath in limelight right now; in the future he's destined to be unsuccessful. In just a few years, you ought be able to surpass him, so there's no need to be afraid of him at all."

Yun Che's words made Yun Xiaofan feel extremely satisfied in his heart. In addition to his reverence toward him, there now also existed a hint of gratitude. His expression became relaxed as he fiercely nodded: "Big Brother Yun, you are right. I won't be afraid of him... I've decided, my first goal in this Blue Wind Profound Palace is precisely to surpass this Ao Yan, hehe!"

After another long period of time, the profound strength assessment of Yun Che's group was finally over. Within the one hundred and twenty young profound practitioners who took the examination, only twenty-nine passed in the end; it was even less than one-fourth. The young profound practitioners who had been brushed away all had very decent profound strength and talent, and came here carrying a fluke mentality. But in the end, they only could sadly leave before the overly high standards of the Blue Wind Profound Palace.

What came next, was the second stage of the examination: Combat Strength Assessment.

The elderly man glanced at the number of people who passed the first round of examination, and spoke with an expressionless face: "It should also be clear to you that this first round of examination can't even be considered an examination. It was merely to weed out those people who had obviously not reached the standard, yet still wanted to muddle through. The Combat Assessment of the second round, is the real examination."

"The level of profound strength does not represent the level of combat strength. What we Blue Moon Profound Palace need, are the most outstanding of profound practitioners throughout the empire. Not only must an excellent profound practitioner possess profound strength of a high enough rank, what's even more important is their ability to fully utilize their profound strength! Not only can a true genius easily prevail over an opponent of the same rank, it is also possible to challenge someone that's two ranks, or even four ranks higher! Yet for someone who only possesses profound strength but do not know how to apply it, one will only remain a piece of trash in the end, no matter how high their rank may be. This second round of examination is to test your ability in handling your profound strength. This strength, will directly display your talent of handling profound energy; and this talent, will determine how high of a height a profound practitioner can reach in the future!"

"Don't think that everything is already well just from passing the Profound Strength Assessment. Within the twenty-nine of you, at most half would be able to pass this Combat Strength Assessment. If you want to stay in the Blue Moon Profound Palace, then display your profound strength to the best of your abilities... The second round of examination, starts now!"

The words of the elderly man dressed in black attire made most people present gulp down their saliva in secret as their expressions became nervous once more... After the first round, only twenty nine people were left; and the in second round, at least half of the twenty nine would also fail. This was really a little too cruel.

"The examination's content is very simple. Every one of you will exchange seven blows with one of your future senior brothers. Victory or defeat does not matter in this exchange of blows, and it's impossible for you to win anyways. What we wish to see is the extent of your ability to unleash profound strength

in a real battle. I'll be watching from the side and will also make the final decision. Those who pass, will become our Blue Moon Profound Palace's disciple. Those who fail, will have to leave. Feng Yue, it's your time to enter the stage."

As the elderly man was speaking, a slightly pale faced man who appeared to be eighteen or nineteen walked out with a smile on his face. He stopped before the elderly man, and slightly nodded at him: "Don't worry Instructor Qi, leave it to me."

The moment he appeared, the Outer Palace disciples who were spectating for fun immediately let out a burst of exclamation: "Look! This group's opponent is actually Senior Brother Feng Yue of the Middle Palace!"

"Hah? That Feng Yue of the Middle Palace? I heard that out of more than a thousand groups of examination in these few days, there weren't even ten who had a Middle Palace disciple as their opponent. This group is really unlucky. Even though this is only a combat assessment, and it's impossible to win no matter if the opponent is a Middle Palace disciple nor a Outer Palace disciple, the pressure still ought to be far greater when encountering a Middle Palace disciple. Also, Senior Brother Feng Yue was rumored to be very heavy handed; the people in this group will surely suffer."

The sound of discussions that came from far away made the examinees of this group tremble with fear... All of them basically knew that the contents of the second examination would be to exchange moves with one of the stronger Outer Palace disciples. But they had never imagined that the opponent they had to face against, would actually be a disciple of the Middle Palace!

Even though this Feng Yue was a third-rate disciple in the Middle Palace, he still belonged to the Middle Palace!

"Feng Yue, nineteen years old, True Profound Realm level three. I hope to receive a lot of advice from all of you Junior brothers." Feng Yue stood before everyone with a smile on his face. That arrogant expression and gaze looked as if an emperor was surveying his peasants.

After hearing the few words "True Profound Realm level three", the hearts of many winced. Especially the few young profound practitioners who were younger and relatively lower in profound energy; they tightly clenched both fists and were so anxious that they perspired profusely from their heads filled with sweat.

Yet when Ao Yan, who stood at the forefront of the line, saw that the opponent was Feng Yue, his eyes suddenly brightened by quite a lot. The corner of his mouth curled up as he silently gave Feng Yue a signal with his eyes.

"Now, let the second round of examination officially begin. Whoever I call, come up and exchange seven moves with Feng Yue." The elderly man who had been referred to as Instructor Qi by Feng Yue, spoke: "Number one, Li Mo"

The person whose name had been called, walked out of the line and stood before Feng Yun. Even though he tried to maintain his calm, it was still difficult to conceal the nervousness between his eyebrows. After all, to fight a Middle Palace disciple before even officially entering the Blue Wind Profound Palace was something that he wouldn't even dare to imagine.

“Senior Brother Feng Yue, I hope that you’ll... be lenient.” Li Mo bowed toward Feng Yue.

“ No need for superfluous nonsense, let’s start already!” Feng Yun said aloofly.

Li Mo took a deep breath. His expression calmed and a longsword was already grasped in his hands. With a low shout, he suddenly thrust out.

“Dispel the Cloud to See the Sun!”

When facing against a formidable opponent of the True Profound Realm during this Combat Strength Assessment, Li Mo didn’t dare to hold back in the slightest. His first move, was already one of the strongest sword skills from his family. This sword move carried quite a remarkable power and headed directly for Feng Yue, as a continuous aura of profound energy wavered on the sword’s body.

Feng Yue’s movements were simple and crude. He took a step forward and swung out a fist.

Poof!!

The continuous uninterrupted of the sword was instantly broken apart as Feng Yue’s fist directly struck at Li Mo’s chest. Under the strong profound strength of the True Profound Realm, Li Mo flew backwards like a stringless kite and violently crashed onto the ground with a ghastly face; but his right hand.... still firmly grasped the sword.

“First move.” Feng Yue extended his finger toward Li Mo as his face revealed a trace of a contemptuous sneer.

The first person’s first round made everyone’s hearts fiercely jump. They had originally thought that this was an exchange of pointers to test one’s combat strength, and Feng Yue ought to prioritize in defending to let the examinee display their strength to their greatest. But no one had ever thought, that this Feng Yue would actually directly counter attack in such a ruthless and heavy-handed manner!

Instructor Qi’s brows also creased a little, yet not a word was said. Feng Yue directly attacking in a heavy-handed manner, was indeed a bit too much. After all, this wasn’t an actual battle and he was only an assessor. The opponent’s level of profound strength was far below his, so how could the young profound practitioners who had not even entered the Palace endure his counter attack? However, Instructor Qi thought again; for those who passed the first examination, not a single one of them would be unremarkable in talent without arrogance in their hearts. Encountering this kind of setback could extinguish their arrogant air to a certain extent, which meant that it was also something good for them. Moreover, he understood Feng Yue all too well. This kind of event was just a common occurrence; even if he were to seriously injure his opponent later on, he would still not be surprised.

Chapter 128 - Are you sure?

Li Mo’s fight with Feng Yue could only be described as “pitiful beyond words”.

While exchanging pointers in seven moves, Li Mo consecutively used seven types of sword techniques consecutively, then fell seven times consecutively. The sword in his hands still did not touch even the tip of Feng Yue’s shirt. Feng Yue’s profound energy was seven whole levels above Li Mo’s, and they even had a realm’s gap between them. It was as if he forgot, or rather, he didn’t care that this was an assessment of strength while crushing his opponent as he wished with his profound strength throughout

the process. There was even a sliver of a smile on his face, as if he enjoyed this feeling of trampling on others without restraint.

After seven moves, Li Mo's clothes were already torn and tattered. Falling over seven times also made him suffer many injuries.

"Seven moves have passed, you can stop now." Instructor Qi voiced, and then spoke quietly to Li Mo, "You flinch a little when you attack, but your profound energy control is still quite okay, you've passed, but barely. Tomorrow morning, you can report to the Outer Palace."

"Ah!" Li Mo exclaimed in a low voice, as his face revealed an expression of extreme joy. In his happiness, he completely forgot about the injuries on his body. Unable to contain his joy, he bowed repeatedly to Instructor Qi, "Thank you, instructor, for allowing me to accomplish my dream. Thank you for allowing me to accomplish my dream...."

After a round of endless thanks, Li Mo left in joyous happiness with the other practitioners staring at him in envy.

"Next: Chen Lu!"

The second examinee did not get much better treatment than Li Mo. The moment he went up, his head was smashed by Feng Yue, and within seven moves, he was left bruised and swollen.....

As the examination proceeded, the examinees at the back got increasingly nervous, because the outcome of those who went up against Feng Yue could be said to be worse with each person. Within them, there were many who had witnessed the examination a few days ago. Those teachers and disciples who were opponents never retaliated. Rather, they allowed the examinee to exhibit their profound strength as they wished. Occasionally, they would hit back, but it would only be to shake off their opponent. But this Feng Yue was merciless with each move. Seven moves to exchange pointers; the examinee would use seven moves, and he would retaliate seven moves without any mercy, and almost every move he used injured his opponent.

He didn't seem like he was there to help the examination, but rather to enjoy the process of bullying and oppressing others.

This sort of situation persisted until Ao Yan went up, then some sort of change occurred.

After Ao Yan went up, immediately, he displayed his profound energy substantially. In an imposing manner like the gathering of large winds and dark clouds, his first move actually forced Feng Yue back by a small step, inciting large applause and surprised exclamations from the audience. Within seven moves, Ao Yan responded calmly; forget about getting injured, he wasn't even beaten back by Feng Yue even once.

"Oh, pretty impressive." After seven moves were over, Feng Yue nodded smilingly, saying to the elder, "Instructor Qi, this is a rare genius. Not only does he have uncommon profound strength, even both his presentation and control of profound energy are superb. To reach such a state at this age, he can be said to be one among millions."

"Senior brother's praise is too absurd," Ao Yan said with a frightened expression, but his eyes were filled with complacency.

“Indeed, he’s an uncommon talent. Ao Yan, you’ve also passed, report at the Outer Palace tomorrow.” Instructor Qi said, nodding.

Yun Che shook his forehead, giving a cold laugh silently: The exchange of looks between Ao Yan and Feng Yue really gave some food for thought.

“I thank Instructor Qi.” Ao Yan bowed composedly. When he walked down the stage and past Feng Yue’s side, he spoke quickly and extremely quietly, “Cousin, help me teach Yun Xiaofan and Yun Che a lesson, let them look as bad as possible... Tonight, the eighteen flower pavilions in the imperial city, choose as you wish.” (TL: Flower pavilions = brothels)

Feng Yue’s eyes instantly lit up. He licked his lips slowly as a sinister smile revealed at the corner of his mouth.

“Next, Yun Xiaofan.”

“Phew, it’s finally me.” Extremely nervous, Yun Xiaofan let out a low sounding exhale.

“Be more careful. This Feng Yue isn’t anything good.” Yun Che reminded in a low voice.

“Mn, I’ll be careful.” Yun Xiaofan nodded. With a rise of profound energy, he jumped onto the tall stage in front of Feng Yue, “Senior Brother Feng Yue, please give me your guidance.”

“Oh? Yun Xiaofan?” Seeing the youth before his eyes who still possessed a childish innocence, the look in Feng Yue’s eyes began to grow dangerous and sardonic. He smiled blandly and said, “Looking at you, you should be only fifteen, it’s really such a pity... Show me your moves and let me see what you’re worth.”

“It’s really such a pity”; these few words from Feng Yue made Yun Xiaofan confused, but he didn’t dare to say anything else. Crossing his arms in front of his body, profound energy from his entire body surged. Atop both palms, two lumps of purple light slowly gathered and sizzled.

“Oh, you actually have lightning attribute profound arts, not bad.” Feng Yue stretched out his right hand slowly and said laughingly.

“Rolling Thunder Palm!”

Both of Yun Xiaofan’s palms clapped into one as a traditional family lightning attribute profound art combined with a lightning attribute profound skill and crashed straight for Feng Yue.

Yun Xiaofan’s profound energy was only at the second level of Nascent Profound Realm, falling short of Feng Yue by eleven whole levels. To practitioners at the same level as him, this attack was definitely uncommon, but to Feng Yue, it didn’t even pose the slightest bit of a threat. Just before Yun Xiaofan approached Feng Yue, Feng Yue’s figure suddenly shook and neared in front of Yun Xiaofan out of his own accord. With his elbow, he knocked aside Yun Xiaofan’s protective profound energy and heavily knocked on his chest.... In the split second of impact, the corner of his mouth revealed a trace of evident malicious smile.

Crack!

A clear sound of breaking bone rang out beside everyone's ears. The condensed bright lightning in Yun Xiaofan's hands immediately vanished as his body flew out like a thrown sandbag. Blood spurted from his mouth in midair and he fell heavily outside the stage.

Immediately, a large commotion broke out in the surroundings, everyone was shocked by this unforeseen situation. Yun Che's expression fell solemn and he rushed hurriedly to Yun Xiaofan's side. Yun Xiaofan laid on the ground with an ashen face and lips full of fresh blood. Three of his ribs were broken on the left side of his chest and it was completely impossible for him to stand up.

The fury in Yun Che's heart came out with a "whoosh". He turned towards Feng Yue and said in a deep voice, "Feng Yue! Even though this is only an examination, you actually dealt such a heavy blow!!"

Feng Yue spread both hands and showed an innocent expression, "How would I know that his profound energy would actually be so low? I saw that he had lightning attribute profound arts and thought that he would be quite resilient. But it turned out that.... Tsk tsk, it's really such a disappointment."

Ao Yan, who was on the other side, grinned and laughed coldly: Yun Xiaofan, this is the price you have to pay for speaking rudely to me..... As the one up next, is Yun Che. To actually dare steal my limelight..... I want you to never be able to dream about entering Blue Wind Profound Palace for the rest of your life.

"Feng Yue, you've done it too harshly!" Instructor Qi also furrowed his eyebrows and said severely.

"Indeed, your disciple did not have a good grasp of the situation." Feng Yue said as he turned towards Instructor Qi, "However, your disciple does not regret it. Within this Profound Palace, one of the fastest methods of raising profound strength is to fight hand to hand with a strong opponent, so getting injured is a very common thing. Although I might have somewhat made a miscalculation, it is just as well that I can let them understand and integrate earlier. As compared to the injuries we Middle Palace disciples have suffered while exchange pointers, this small bit of injury doesn't amount to much. If he can't even withstand this small bit of pain, then he doesn't have the right to enter our Blue Wind Profound Palace anyway.

Instructor Qi furrowed his eyebrows, but did not say anymore.

"Hehe, you actually have the nerve to say something so pompous." Glancing at the cold smile on Ao Yan's face, and thinking back to the previous unusual looks exchanged between them, Yun Che was still somewhat confused. This was obviously Ao Yan's act of petty revenge on Yun Xiaofan by using Feng Yue's power.... but only because Yun Xiaofan had lectured him a little previously.

Since he had revenge on Yun Xiaofan, then it would certainly fall on him too.

He was about to speak when suddenly, a trembling hand fell on his. Yun Xiaofan clenched his teeth, exerted his body to sit up, and said in a pained voice, "Brother Yun... I..... I'm fine.... The examination hasn't ended, I'm fine.... Fine....."

In his struggle, Yun Xiaofan's upper body actually managed to rigidly sit up. His internal organs were hurt and three ribs were broken. To finish this action must have taken gargantuan willpower and extreme pain. The moment his upper body sat up, Yun Che clearly saw two streams of tears flowing from his eyes.... Because he understood, in the situation he was in now, he was completely unable to continue the examination. Being unable to participate in the examination meant he was unable to enter Blue

Moon Profound Palace. His dreams, and all of his family's hopes were all ruined in that moment. How could he not shed tears in heartbreak?

"Xiaofan, this incident was not caused by you, so there is no reason for you to be stripped of your right to enter Blue Wind Profound Palace. Don't move about now, else your body would truly be damaged. By then, it would really be impossible for you to enter the Palace!" Yun Che pushed YunXiaofan back down from his upright position and placed a medium grade Heaven Returning Pellet in his mouth. Then, he took a step and leapt in front of Feng Yue.

"My name is Yun Che. This time, I'll accept your 'assessment'." Yun Che's voice was flat. His gaze was as tranquil as water and there was not even a hint of emotion or color to be found within.

"Oh? So you are Yun Che, number one in this group's Profound Strength Assessment?" Feng Yue gave Yun Che a lookover and narrowed both eyes. In regards to the fact that he had just severely hurt Yun Xiaofan, it seemed like he completely didn't take it to heart.

"That's right." Yun Che indifferently replied, "Before we start, I have something I want to clarify with you. You just said that in Blue Moon Profound Palace, suffering heavy injuries after an exchange of pointers is the common norm, isn't that so? Then if I accidentally hurt you, do I have to take any responsibility?"

The moment Yun Che said these words, everyone present was stunned. Even Feng Yue, who started laughing manically a bit after, "You.... hurt me? HAHA... HAHAHAAAAH! This must be the funniest thing I've heard this year. Good, very good, a person who's confident to this extent is also a rare sight. Then please, try to hurt me as much as you like. Not mentioning hurting me, even if you kill me, it would be of your own capabilities. Abso~lutely~ no one will fault you for it.... HAHAHAAAA," After saying this, even he himself, found it too hilarious and couldn't help but mockingly laugh again.

"Then I'm relieved." Yun Che smiled faintly, and the look in his eyes gradually sharpened.

"Then what are we waiting for? Let's start." Feng Yue hugged his chest with both arms and stared at Yun Che like he would at an idiot. Loftily and disdainfully, he continued, "Since you vainly wish to hurt me that much, I'll give you a chance. I'll stand here without moving and let you attack me with three moves. If I move or get hurt, I'll walk upside down in future when I see you. If you can't injure or make me move within three moves, hehe, then obediently get out of this Blue Moon Profound Palace. And before you get out, I might just give you a 'big gift'."

The tip of Yun Che's brow, which was originally furrowed in concentration, instantly smoothed out. He tapped the tip of his nose and said with a smile that wasn't quite a smile, "Are you sure?"

Chapter 129 - Sikong Du

Seeing that Yun Che's expression suddenly relaxed, and that it appeared to have a bit of a secret delighted feeling, Feng Yue almost laughed out loud, "Sure! Of course I'm sure. However, as for you, do you have the guts to agree to it? I've heard that your profound strength is at the tenth level of Nascent Profound Realm. Tsk tsk, it's really not that bad. If a mere Nascent Profound Realm tenth ranker doesn't even dare to accept this challenge, then you should just get out obediently and not be a disgrace here."

Far away, in a simple, small pavilion, Qin Wuyou sat calmly on a stone bench, clad in purple robes while drinking tea leisurely. His attention was always on Yun Che. Even though the distance between them was large, he could still see anything and hear anything that happened to Yun Che. Hearing the excessively arrogant “Pact of Three Moves” that Feng Yue had proposed to Yun Che, Qin Wuyou’s expression suddenly changed. Standing, he said, “Sikong, go stop Yun Che immediately. Absolutely do not let him agree to Feng Yue’s words. You should be clear on what Feng Yue’s an expert in.”

“Yes, Instructor Qin.” A young boy beside Qin Wuyou who looked to be below twenty nodded and answered before quickly walking quickly towards the direction Yun Che was in.

Yun Xiaofan’s grievous injuries had attracted much attention there. Young practitioners who were waiting to be assessed were all stunned.... Yun Che’s profound strength was of the tenth level of the Nascent Profound Realm, while Feng Yue’s profound strength was of the third level of the True Profound Realm. Although it was only higher than Yun Che’s by three levels, there was also the difference of an entire realm in between. But forcibly taking three hits from the other party without moving was also pushing it a bit too much. Let alone tenth level of Nascent Profound Realm, even if it was three full out strikes from a seventh ranker at the Nascent Profound Realm, granted that it wouldn’t go as far as to harm him, how could he possibly not be made to move?

And those Profound Palace disciples who had come to join the commotion revealed gleeful expressions of schadenfreude. Seeing that Yun Che was clearly about to agree, their hearts started to feel pity.

If it was another profound practitioner of the third level of the True Profound Realm, it would be true that they were fundamentally incapable of not moving after three full out hits by a tenth level in the Nascent Profound Realm. But Feng Yue was a special case; he could most definitely do it with all the ease in the world.

Just when Yun Che was about to open his move to speak, a solemn, ear-splitting voice suddenly came from behind, “Feng Yue, I’ve long heard that you were sinister and contemptible, and they have not been wrong about you! To actually use such a despicable ploy to trap a disciple who is about to enter the palace, you have completely disgraced our Blue Wind Profound Palace.”

These words caused Feng Yue’s expression to change. He was about to burst into agitated fury until he saw the young man who walked through the crowd of people. His expression changed again abruptly and obediently swallowed back the words he was about to say. His face was completely red, but he didn’t dare to voice his anger at all.

The moment this man appeared, the surroundings fell silent for a short period of time. Thereafter, loud exclamations and discussions rang out as all of their gazes grew passionate.

“Look at his armband, that is... that is the sign of an inner palace disciple! My heavens, AN INNER PALACE DISCIPLE!” A disciple who had just passed the examination said with complete respect and yearning.

“It’s the thirty ninth senior brother on the Heavenly Profound List, Sikong Du! Crap, it’s really him! These Senior brothers and sisters from the inner palace usually stay in the inner palace, and are rarely seen, but he actually came here.”

“I’ve heard that Sikong Du’s profound strength is already at the tenth level of True Profound Realm! Within a year, he’ll be able to break into the Spirit Profound Realm. If I could reach his current stage by the time I’m thirty, I’d be laughing even in my dreams.”

“But why would Senior Brother Sikong come here? And to even scold Feng Yue harshly, unless he’s got some sort of animosity towards Feng Yue? I’ve never heard of it before. Also, even though Feng Yue often bullies the Outer Palace disciples, he still wouldn’t have the guts to piss off any Inner Palace disciples.”

Out of the fifty thousand plus disciples within Blue Wind Profound Palace, only a hundred of the disciples were in the Inner Palace. It was obvious what kind of geniuses this group of hundred were. To call them unrivalled demons wouldn’t be an exaggeration. And competition was the most intense within these hundred people of the Inner Palace. They have already reached the highest tier within Blue Wind Profound Palace; therefore, their ambitions and goals were now concentrated on the Heavenly Profound List. They trained as if their lives depended upon it to raise their standing on the Heavenly Profound List. As for the Outer Palace and Middle Palace, they didn’t even deign to visit them, so usually, Outer and Middle Palace disciples wouldn’t even get to see disciples from the Inner Palace.

In regards to the discussion and the watchful eyes of the audience, Sikong Du was the picture of calm. It was evident that he had long ago gotten accustomed to it. At close range, he gave Yun Che a once over with a good-natured gaze, “You’re called Yun Che right? Don’t agree to that three move whatever pact he put forth! This Feng Yue comes from Western Great Desert’s Solid Earth Villa, Solid Earth Villa family’s profound art specializes in defense! While his profound strength may only be at the third level of the True Profound Realm, if he were to put his all into defending, let alone you, even practitioners of the same level as him wouldn’t be able to push him back at all in three moves! If you are to agree, it would definitely be falling into the trap he has set for you.”

The moment Sikong Du said this, those around them came to a sudden realization. Then, fury blossomed in their hearts and they looked towards Feng Yue with disdain and disgust. Relying on what he was good at to make this sort of “Pact of Three Moves” with a disciple who was going through an assessment to enter the palace was so thoroughly despicable and dark to an extreme.

Yun Che nodded and smiled gratefully to Sikong Du, saying, “So it’s like that. I thank Brother Sikong for the reminder... Dare I ask, is Brother Sikong’s father elder Sikong Han from New Moon Profound Palace?”

As a disciple of the Inner Palace, Sikong Du had absolutely no reason to get involved with this incident, and had even less of reason to help him, a person who hadn’t even entered the Palace yet. Besides, the moment Sikong Du had appeared to him, he had been displaying goodwill and along with the surname ‘Sikong’, it made Yun Che think of one possibility. Because at that time, that person had told him that his son was in Blue Wind Profound Palace.

Sikong Du was stunned for a moment, then smiled and nodded, “You’re right, Sikong Han is indeed, my father. Instructor Qin said that your thoughts were extremely meticulous. Haha, he didn’t praise you for nothing.”

Suddenly, Yun Che completely understood everything. Sikong Du was Sikong Han’s son, and if Qin Wuyou had told Sikong Du about his identity, then Sikong Du’s actions would be explainable. And it was

no wonder that Sikong Han had spoke of his son with such pride in his eyes back then; it was because his son was actually an impressive Inner Palace disciple of Blue Wind Profound Palace!

Sikong Du bowed to Instructor Qi, and said: “ Instructor Qi, this Feng Yue used the opportunity of helping with the assessment to heavily injure disciples receiving the assessment. Also, he’s setting such a dangerous trap for an assessment’s disciple, it’s completely unpardonable. I believe Feng Yue has absolutely no right to continue to stay here and should be made to leave immediately and be punished severely. As for the matter of the assessment, this disciple will willingly take his place.”

“This.....” Elder Qi showed an expression of being put on the spot. If it was an inner palace disciple, and especially a disciple within the first fifty placings on the Heavenly Profound List, even though he was an instructor in the Outer Palace, he still didn’t dare to forcefully reject him. However, the reason why Instructor Qi had allowed Feng Yue to assist in the assessment was because he was one of the disciples he had oversaw proudly back when Feng Yue was still in the Outer Palace. After Feng Yue had entered the Middle Palace, he brought even more glory to him. Feng Yue was also always very respectful towards him and always secretly sent him all sorts of expensive gifts, so of course he would be very pleased and fond of this disciple.

This was also the reason why Feng Yue dared to be so unscrupulous in front of Elder Qi.

If he were to go along with what Sikong Du had said, Feng Yue would definitely lose all his prestige. His bad reputation for harming and putting disciples taking the assessment on purpose would be solidified, it would be extremely unfavourable for the rest of his life in the Profound Palace henceforth. Immediately, Instructor Qi said firmly, “While what Feng Yue did might indeed have been slightly overboard, under this situation of exchanging pointers, it’s hard for him to control his strength. Feng Yue was fighting hand to hand with Yun Xiaofan for the first time, so he wrongly estimated his opponent’s profound strength, therefore it is pardonable for him to have been too harsh while attacking. Since he had absolutely no reason to seriously hurt a disciple taking an assessment he isn’t familiar with, it definitely wasn’t on purpose. As for the ‘Pact of Three Moves’ he had proposed, it must also be agreed on by both parties willingly. Feng Yue doesn’t seem to have any intention of forcing it on him. If he is confident, he can agree to it. If he feels that it’s not suitable, he can also turn it down. I actually think that it’s harmless.

Elder Qi’s words caused Feng Yue’s expression to relax immediately. He also immediately stacked up smiles on his face and said, “Instructor Qi is right. Senior brother Sikong, each of Instructor Qi’s words is true. Even if I had a lot of nerve, I still would never dare to intentionally do something that might cause harm to my prospective younger juniors. As for having harmed Yun Xiaofan, it was completely unintentional on my part. Later on, I will personally give him a Heaven Returning Pellet with my own two hands as an apology. Err, if Senior brother Sikong is interested in assessing disciples’ combat strength, I’ll gladly concede this position. For our prospective younger juniors to see Senior brother Sikong’s graceful bearing on their own would be an extremely fortuitous thing.

While Instructor Qi’s words were obviously biased, his argument was very rigorous. Feng Yue’s look of acknowledging his mistake also caused Sikong Du to be unable to voice his anger. After all, even though he was an Inner Palace disciple, he still wasn’t willing to offend an Outer Palace instructor.

Yet at this, he heard Yun Che say suddenly, "What instructor Qi said is right, Feng Yue's 'Pact of Three Moves' indeed needs both parties to be willing. Even though it's somewhat despicable and shameless, but since Feng Yue has proposed it, I'll definitely have to accept it. Else if I don't accept it, won't I be laughed at by many for being someone who can't confront his problems after I enter the Profound Palace?"

Once Yun Che said this, everyone was momentarily stunned.

Sikong Du's brows knitted violently, saying, "Yun Che, did you completely not hear what I'd just said to you? His clan's Profound technique is built on the foundation of defensive Profound energy, it's completely not something you can shake! If he stands there, let alone three moves, even with thirty moves, you won't be able to make him move back even half a step! Hurry up and take back what you'd just said, and not accept this sure-fail 'Pact of Three Moves'. It will not be shameful to you at all, and no one will say that you're someone who can't confront his problems either. If you really accept it, you'll be truly stupid then!"

Against Sikong Du's expectations, Yun Che instead, shook his head and said, "Thank you, Brother Sikong, for your reminder, however, I've always had a lot of confidence in my profound strength. For this Pact of Three Moves, it is not certain that I would lose. If I win by a fluke, then Senior Brother Feng Yue will have to walk upside down in front of me in future. Just that alone is something to rejoice over."

"Wh.... Why are you so stupidly stubborn and conceited!" Sikong Du's face hardened, and his gaze towards Yun Che became one of puzzlement and disappointment, "You're completely unclear of how strong Feng Yue's profound art's defensive capabilities are. It definitely surpasses that of what you can imagine! You definitely won't have any chance of winning! You're only vainly thinking of winning just to see him be humiliated to relieve your hatred. Have you not thought about how, if you lose, you'll have to leave Blue Wind Profound Palace forever?"

Yun Che's stubborn conceitedness caused hints of anger to slip into Sikong Du's voice. But after his tirade, Yun Che still kept a mild smile of not caring in the least, "Brother Sikong, you just have to watch well at the sides. I've already hardened my heart into wanting to see how this Senior brother will look like walking upside down."

"You!" Sikong Du swung out his hand in frustration: "Forget it! I've already said all I've had to say, what you choose is your own business! I hope you won't regret your decision later!"

Finishing his speech, he sulkily walked aside; however, he did not leave, and instead furrowed his eyebrows as he thought about how he should clean up the mess for Yun Che after his defeat.... He was someone who would repay favors and gratitude; Yun Che's grandfather had saved him back then, so he wouldn't just watch his benefactor's grandson be entrapped like this.

Yun Che had already stood before Feng Yue, and said while smiling indifferently: "Are you ready? I'm about to start attacking now."

"HAHAHAHAHA....." Feng Yue's lungs had almost exploded from laughing too hard. Such a big shot like Sikong Du had specially appeared to save Yun Che from his predicament, yet he still forcefully insisted on embarrassing himself. He had met idiots before, but had never seen someone so stubbornly stupid to such an extreme.

Chapter 130 - Trying So Damned Hard to Die

“Damn! Is this Yun Che retarded?”

“What kind of figure is Sikong Du! Even he said that Feng Yue’s defense is abnormal, yet Yun Che actually still went up to seek death! Simply incomprehensible.”

“Tsk! Does he think that he’s special just by being first in the Profound Strength Assessment? It looks like he’s too used to being arrogant elsewhere; he’ll be taught a good lesson this time. There’s plenty of time for him to cry later.”

“With an IQ like this, he’s actually the first in this group’s Profound Strength assessment. The heavens are simply blind!”

Sounds of mockery flooded Yun Che’s surroundings. Right now, everyone’s impression of Yun Che could be summarized in one word:

Idiot!

Yun Che paid no attention to the voices around him and looked directly at Feng Yue’s sneering face with a indifferent gaze.

“To deal with you, do I even need any preparation?” Feng Yue faced Yun Che and contemptuously beckoned at him with his pinky, “You can attack anytime, and it’s not a problem even if you need to prepare a little while longer. Hahahaha.”

“Very well.” The corner of Yun Che mouth slightly widened as he took a step forward. He opened “Evil Soul”, and the once peaceful profound energy in his body suddenly began to madly expand and berserk, just like an evil dragon being jerked awake. The aura surrounding his body suddenly changed as well, and the air current restlessly flowed about in chaos.

The moment this aura of profound energy was emitted, Sikong Du, Instructor Qi, and even Feng Yue’s expressions had all changed; because this aura of profound energy was so formidable that it was definitely not something that belonged to a Nascent Profound practitioner. This was especially true for Feng Yue, as he actually felt a kind of oncoming pressure all of a sudden.

“My first move, HAAH!!”

Yun Che bellowed loudly, as his figure fiercely charged forward, leaving a long array of afterimages. His right fist, instilled with profound energy, struck directly at Feng Yue’s chest.

Even before his fist arrived, a gust of suffocating wind had already rushed towards Feng Yue. Feng Yue was slightly startled in his heart and did not dare to be careless anymore. He hastily gathered all the profound energy in his body, and a two-meter tall, light-yellow barrier instantly formed before him. This was his clan’s “Profound Earth Barrier” formed by using his family’s profound art. With its degree of toughness, no profound practitioner of the same level had been able to destroy the barrier in one strike before.

Boom!!!!

Yun Che's fist fiercely smashed onto Feng Yue's Profound Earth Barrier, as the berserking profound energy violently released; the enormous sound emitted, was actually akin to the collision of two giant boulders.

A large chunk of the ground underneath Yun Che's foot instantaneously crumbled. This enormous sound almost shocked everyone in the area dumb. Looking at Yun Che who was on the stage, they all stared wide-eyed, and were unable to recover from their shock for a long time. It was because they simply could not believe, that this was actually a strike from a profound practitioner of the Nascent Profound Realm .

The barrier in front of Feng Yue's body trembled violently and lines of quickly spreading cracks appeared one after another. In an instant, the entire barrier became covered with cracks and was almost about to completely collapse. And at this time, the strength in Yun Che's fist had also finally run out.

Yun Che slowly retracted his arm, and watched the Feng Yue who stood there without moving in the slightest, and said casually: "As expected of a profound technique specialized in defense, it is indeed a little interesting."

Looking at the Profound Earth Barrier before him that was covered with cracks, Feng Yue's complexion became extremely ugly. He was simply unable to accept and believe that his Profound Earth Barrier was ruined to this extent by one strike from a profound practitioner of the Nascent Profound Realm. After hearing Yun Che's words, he barely forced out a laugh, and said gloomily, "It looks like I've underestimated you. However, this should roughly be your full power, no? Heh, this is just a single layer of Profound Earth Barrier after all. I can construct three layers at the same time, do you believe me?"

"I do!" Yun Che nodded very seriously, then said with a beaming smile: "If I said I had only used half of my profound strength for my first strike, would you believe me?"

"Half? Hahahaha!" Feng Yue laughed with disdain: "That's the funniest thing I've heard all day."

"Then you can laugh as much as you want." Yun Che took a step back and once again aligned his right arm horizontally: "Prepare to receive my second move!"

Just as Yun Che's voice faded, a layer of crimson flames suddenly flared up on the exterior of his body. While the flames leapt up, the Phoenix blood within his body began to vigorously burn. The aura of Yun Che's profound energy abruptly changed, and became even more violent and fiery.

"Fire Attribute Profound Art? He actually possesses a Fire Attribute Profound Art!" Sikong Du said in a low voice, surprised.

Right at this moment, Yun Che's second move struck out violently; it was still only a plain punch without any embellishment. The instant the punch struck out, it was just like a water dragon erupting from the sea. Following the movement of his body, it struck towards Feng Yue, carrying unrivaled violent Profound energy and crimson blood-red flames.

The pressure exerted upon Feng Yue from the power of this one strike, was more than twice as strong as the previous strike.

The expression on Feng Yue's face finally changed greatly. In this instant he realized, in shock, that Yun Che's previous claim that he had only used half his Profound strength in the first strike... was actually true!

"Triple Profound Barrier!!"

Feng Yue finally began to regret. Before he had declared the "Pact of Three Moves", how could he have thought that Yun Che, who was only at the tenth level of the Nascent Profound Realm, could actually display this sort of frightful power. At this time, how could he dare to reserve even a little bit of power; with a low growl, the exterior of his entire body emitted a yellow light, and three Profound Earth Barriers consecutively appeared in front of his body in an instant...

Boom!!!

As if it was fragile glass, the first Profound Earth Barrier directly shattered into pieces and completely dissipated.

Boom!!

The second Profound Earth Barrier cracked completely. Then, it started to collapse from the crack, and dissipated in a similar fashion.

Boom!

Yun Che's right fist landed heavily on the third Profound Earth Barrier and, amidst a short pause, it also shattered. The fist which had gone through all three Profound Earth Barriers proceeded forward and directly collided onto Feng Yue's chest with a dull sound. Feng Yue's body shook a bit as his expression paled, but he still didn't move backwards.

The three Profound Earth Barriers had all been destroyed by Yun Che, but had also managed to reduce most of his Profound energy.

"This is not..... possible!" Feng Yue forcefully swallowed the fresh blood that had surged up to his throat, the color of his face as white as paper. Even though he still hadn't taken a step back, that one strike from Yun Che was still extremely violent after penetrating through three layers of barriers, and directly gave him an internal injury.

The surrounding people were all frozen still, especially Sikong Du and Instructor Qi, who understood Feng Yue's strength; both had an expression of shock. To destroy three Profound Earth Barriers consecutively in one strike... Even if it was a strike with the full strength of a fifth ranker of the True Profound realm, it would still essentially be impossible to achieve this!

"No wonder Instructor Qin valued him so much. This Yun Che actually....." Sikong Du did not know how to describe the shock in his heart with words. He finally realized that Yun Che did not accept the "Pact of Three Moves" out of stupidity and impulsiveness, but had done so out of genuine self-confidence. However, the concern in his heart did not lessen; because, after two strikes, Feng Yue still had not taken a step back. And this strike was obviously a strike with Yun Che's full strength. Feng Yue only needed to continue defending using Triple Profound Barrier; the chances of Yun Che defeating him.... was very small.

“Not bad, not bad indeed.” Yun Che earnestly nodded his head. That expression of his was just like the strong praising the weak, and it almost made Feng Yue feel like throwing blood: “Then, the third move!”

Whoosh!!

The air around Yun Che moved about violently, and the fiery light around his body suddenly soared up dramatically, shrouding his entire body. The heat emitted flames, causing the surrounding area to drastically rise in temperature, and Feng Yue, who was relatively closer to Yun Che, felt a burning sensation on his face.

The expression on Sikong Du’s face drastically changed again, and Feng Yue became ugly to the point that it was as if he had just eaten a pile of dead flies..... Those suddenly surging profound flames, proved that Yun Che’s strike earlier..... still wasn’t his limit!

“That tiny Floating Cloud City, actually produced such an abnormal brat!” Sikong Du’s face was filled with shock as he looked at Yun Che: “Although he is only at the tenth level of the Nascent Profound realm, but to be able to output such immense strength, it is completely enough to directly enter the Middle Palace!”

Feng Yue’s intestines had almost completely turned blue from regret. Originally, he had prepared to help Ao Yan harm Yun Che through the “Pact of Three Moves”, but now, he had practically dug his own grave. He had actually personally said earlier: if he lost, in the future, he would walk on his hands whenever he saw Yun Che. The only reason as to why he had said something like that, was because he didn’t think about the possibility of himself losing at all... Facing Yun Che right now, whose Profound power had increased again, his heart spasmed. If he really lost, one could only imagine how enormous of an humiliation and insult that would be.

If it was only the two of them, he could’ve gone back on his promise. However, this was the Central Plaza of the Blue Wind Profound Palace, which was completely flooded with people. The event here had long been surrounded with layer upon layer of spectators, along with Elder Qi, Sikong Du, and Qin Wuyou, who was also watching from a distance..... All were witnesses personally seeing and hearing the event! He simply had no escape route.

Going all out is the only choice! Feng Yue clenched his teeth..... Even though this profound technique would permanently reduce his profound strength by one level, it was better than enduring the great humiliation that would come otherwise!!

“The third move!!”

Yun Che slowly took a step forward. With a light stomp, the rocks under his feet instantly cracked. Yun Che’s body had already soared up high; striking down from mid-air, his flame-covered right fist struck at Feng Yue’s newly-constructed Triple Profound barriers with all his might.

BOOM!!!!

Under Yun Che’s strike with full power, the first Profound Earth Barrier was just like thin paper, and punctured with just a poke.

Boom!!

In the short moment of half a breath, the second Profound barrier also directly shattered.

Feng Yue's complexion changed again and again. He fiercely bit the tip of his tongue and spat out a large field of bloody mist, which sprayed all over the last barrier.

This bizarre action caused Sikong Du to freeze for a moment; right after, his expression violently changed, and he muttered in his mind: Crap!! This Feng Yue, just for victory, actually didn't hesitate to use such forbidden technique of irreversible self-destruction!

"Profound Blood Barrier!!"

In the midst of Feng Yue's muffled yell, all the profound energy in Feng Yue's body began pouring unreservedly into the barrier's last layer. Instantaneously, the barrier actually became a frightening crimson color amidst the fog of blood he had sprayed out.....

Bang!!

Yun Che's right fist landed heavily upon the last profound barrier; yet the sound emitted was actually a dull sound of impact. After, it was unable to proceed forward at all. Behind the barrier, Feng Yue's pale face began to distort into a hideous grin: "Hahahaha! Yun Che, with just a Nascent Profound Realm practitioner like you, how could it be possible to break my defenses..... This barrier of profound strength, is my most powerful Profound Blood Barrier! Even if there were ten of you, don't even bother to think about breaking it... You have already lost, just wait till you have to forever leave Blue Wind Profound Palace. Hahahaha!"

The Profound Blood Barrier was a forbidden technique from Feng Yue's clan. When used, it would need to consume the user's Vital Blood and a tremendous amount of profound energy, and would permanently decrease the user's lifespan and profound strength; it was usually used only to protect one's own life under life-threatening circumstances. After deploying the Profound Blood Barrier, Feng Yue knew that he had already won, but had paid a huge price for it. So even though he was laughing maniacally, his heart was full of regret, resentment and unwillingness.

Yun Che's strike with all his power smashed onto this Profound Blood Barrier as his profound energy exploded out, yet it was unable to affect the Profound barrier in the slightest. He first furrowed his eyebrows, then squinted his eyes as all the profound energy in his body that seemed as if they were being swept up like a tornado, flooded into his right arm with incomparable frenzy...

"Falling... Moon... Sinking... Star!!"

Crack!

The flames on Yun Che's body vanished while the flames on his right arm instantly soared many times higher. Feng Yue's maniacal laughter stopped and he stared wide-eyed at the crack which appeared at the point where Yun Che's right fist and the Profound Blood Barrier came into contact. A pair of pupils contracted to the size of a needle hole.

Impossible! How can this be possible! Why are cracks appearing on the Profound Blood Barrier? Impossible! This must be an illusion! An illusion!!

Crack!

Crack!!

CRACK!!!

Lines after lines of cracks that rapidly appeared one after another, were just like steel swords that stabbed into Feng Yue's fragile heart. The sound of the cracks spreading was like the low crooning of a devil that made his mind teeter at the brink of collapse...