

Chapter 211: Demon Beast Monkey King

"Demon beast? Half-step Void Stage?" Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang's pupils constricted when they heard what Duan Ling Tian said, and their faces were filled with astonishment.

A demon beast was without a doubt comparable to a true Void Stage powerhouse.

Not to mention a demon beast Monkey King, even if it was a Half-step Void Stage Monkey King, it still wasn't an existence they could go against.

"Young Master, then we're now...." Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang gazed at Duan Ling Tian and were slightly hesitant.

Although Monkey Wine was good, it was far from being as important as their lives.

"We'll act according to the circumstances." Duan Ling Tian brought Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang along as he moved cautiously without any noise atop the trees, and everything within the gorge entered his sights.

He could see that the Stone Monkeys stood around in groups of 3 or 4.

"Young Master, is that Monkey Wine?"

Duan Ling Tian looked at the direction Zhang Qian pointed, and there was a small pond there. Within it was a liquid, and this liquid appeared vermilion red in color. Its color was exactly the same as the Monkey Wine within the memories of Rebirth Martial Emperor.

"Exactly, that's Monkey Wine." Duan Ling Tian nodded. "Let's think of a way to steal some Monkey Wine now."

Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang nodded, as they were extremely interested in the Monkey Wine as well.

"How about this: you two draw away the surrounding Stone Monkeys...And I'll take advantage of the opportunity to gather some Monkey Wine, how about it?" Duan Ling Tian looked at Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang, and noticed they were slightly hesitant, and instantly derided. "Do you two actually think I would cause harm to you? The strongest Stone Monkey amongst them is inferior to you two...As long as you two draw them away at the first possible moment, I'll be able to gather the Monkey Wine."

"Young Master, you're able to discern their strength?" Zhang Qian stared wide-eyed. He had a face full of astonishment, as he suddenly felt that this Young Master was really capable of doing anything.

"The strength of the Stone Monkey can be judged according to the color of their fur...Look, those three Stone Monkeys have dark yellow colored fur, that means they're still juvenile Stone Monkeys with strength at the Origin Core Stage and belong to the youngest age within these Stone Monkeys. Those Stone Monkeys with yellow fur are all matured Stone Monkeys, and the strongest amongst them are at most at the sixth level of the Nascent Soul Stage."

"As for Stone Monkeys at the seventh level of the Nascent Soul Stage or above, the fur on their bodies are closer to a dark gold color. But there aren't any of those here...My guess is that the Stone Monkeys with a higher strength ought to be inside the monkey cave." Duan Ling Tian looked at the Stone Monkeys within the gorge as he spoke with extreme familiarity.

"Young Master, you even know this?" Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang were both surprised, before asking, "Where's the monkey cave?"

"Behind the bushes over there, can you see it?" Duan Ling Tian pointed towards the faraway side of the gorge, and there was precisely a cave enveloped by the bushes there. One wouldn't be able to notice if they didn't look closely...

Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang looked at each other and took a deep breath as they said to Duan Ling Tian, "Young Master, then we'll be going."

"Go! Remember, don't injure them no matter what, or else the consequences are unimaginable!" Duan Ling Tian nodded, but he was slightly perturbed in his heart. "Take a chance! I hope there's no Monkey King here...Even if there's a Monkey King, I hope it isn't a demon beast. If it's a demon beast, then even if I've gathered the Monkey Wine, I won't be able to escape."

Wealth is sought from danger!

Duan Ling Tian was taking a chance now!

Rebirth Martial Emperor had encountered troops of Stone Monkeys on many occasions and had only encountered a demon beast Monkey King twice.

He didn't believe that his luck was so 'good.'

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang made a noise in acknowledgement before their figures flashed out and appeared before the troop of Stone Monkeys, alarming all the Stone Monkeys within the gorge.

The groups of Stone Monkeys obviously didn't imagine that a human would appear here, and they were stunned for a moment before pouncing towards Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang. Even the few Stone Monkeys that were standing guard beside the pool that contained the Monkey Wine had now chased after Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang.

"Now!" Seeing that the group of Stone Monkeys within the gorge had chased after Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang, Duan Ling Tian's eyes shone.

Spirit Serpent Movement Technique!

Duan Ling Tian exploded out with his entire strength, and 21 ancient mammoth silhouettes condensed into form above him.

At that time, when he hadn't broken through to the eighth level of the Core Formation Stage, Duan Ling Tian only possessed the strength of 19 ancient mammoths!

Half a month ago, he'd broken through to the eighth level of the Core Formation Stage, and in addition to that, he'd consumed the Dragon Blood Pill to complete the tempering of his fleshly body, thus obtaining an extra strength of 2 ancient mammoths.

His current strength even slightly surpassed a martial artist at the first level of the Origin Core Stage!

Seeing the pond that contained the Monkey Wine getting closer and closer, Duan Ling Tian's eyes shone.

Presently, the cauldron had appeared within his hand, as it was the only container within his possession.

Bang!

Duan Ling Tian's figure descended onto the ground, and the location he descended upon was exactly beside the pond.

However, just when Duan Ling Tian was prepared to use the cauldron to gather the Monkey Wine, an awe-inspiring gust of strong wind swept out at him and instantly arrived behind him.

Duan Ling Tian's body froze. "I can't be so misfortunate, right?"

The shining golden figure that flashed before him earlier caused traces of coldness to unconsciously arise within Duan Ling Tian's heart.

When Duan Ling Tian turned around and looked through the bright moonlight, only now did he notice that a Stone Monkey whose entire body was covered with golden fur had appeared before his eyes.

This Stone Monkey was many times larger than an ordinary Stone Monkey and was only slightly shorter than Duan Ling Tian. Presently, its golden eyes were staring at Duan Ling Tian and revealing traces of hostility.

"Demon...Demon beast Monkey King!" Duan Ling Tian's body was slightly stiff, as he'd never imagined that he would be so misfortunate, meeting a demon beast Monkey King on the first occasion he'd encountered Stone Monkeys.

A demon beast Monkey King was an existence at the Void prying Stage; moreover, Duan Ling Tian was able to discern from the characteristics of this Monkey King before him that this Monkey King wasn't an existence that had only just recently transformed into a demon beast.

Its strength was at least at the fourth level of the Void Prying Stage or above!

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

...

Moreover, just at this moment, another group of Stone Monkeys flew out of the Monkey Cave and surrounded Duan Ling Tian in the middle.

Among these Stone Monkeys, there were quite a few existences with dark gold colored fur, and all these Stone Monkeys were existence at the seventh level of the Nascent Soul Stage or above!

The corners of Duan Ling Tian's mouth curled into a trace of a bitter smile.

You really can't take chances on some things...

As the group of Stone Monkeys surrounded Duan Ling Tian, they fiercely bared their fangs and brandished their claws. It seemed as if the Monkey King only had to give the order and they would pounce onto Duan Ling Tian and tear him to pieces.

Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath and calmed himself, as he'd realized that if he wanted to live through this, then he could only persuade the Monkey King before him....As a demon beast possessed human feelings and was able to understand human speech.

"Respected Monkey King, I bear no ill intentions." Duan Ling Tian looked at the gold-furred Monkey King that was staring at him and tried to communicate with it.

"Roar!" The gold-furred Monkey King roared in a low voice and pointed at the small pond of Monkey Wine that was beside Duan Ling Tian. It looked like he was angrily denouncing Duan Ling Tian as a thief.

"This, Monkey King...I only wanted to ask for some wine to drink and bear no ill intentions! I didn't injure any of your subjects." Duan Ling Tian thought of a plan as he explained himself.

Duan Ling Tian felt a burst of bitterness in his heart.

When had he ever spoken humbly like this?

And it was even towards a monkey!

However, when one is under the roof of another, one has no choice but to lower one's head. If he wanted to live, then he must converse deeply with this Monkey King and obtains its forgiveness.

"Roar roar~" The Monkey King roared twice more, and its icy cold eyes eased up slightly as it pointed towards outside the gorge.

"You...You're asking me to leave?" Duan Ling Tian's eyes shone, as he never expected the Monkey King to be so easy to talk to.

Realizing that he'd escaped danger, Duan Ling Tian couldn't help but grasp the opportunity. He pointed towards the small pond at the side as he asked the Monkey King probingly, "That...Can you give me a bit of Monkey Wine?"

"Roar roar!!" Unexpectedly, the Monkey King, who'd originally become slightly more meek, instantly glared at Duan Ling Tian with its gold eyes, and its body was suffused with a dense killing intent.

"Alright...Alright...I'll leave, I'll leave right now!" Duan Ling Tian hurriedly waved his hand and put away the cauldron. Under the escort of the group of Stone Monkeys, he walked step by step towards the outside of the gorge.

Duan Ling Tian said inwardly, "In the future, when this Young Master's strength surpassed you all, I'll come back to properly teach you all a lesson!"

Just when Duan Ling Tian arrived at the exit of the gorge.

"Roar~" A sad and shrill roar of a Stone Monkey echoed out.

"Not good!" Duan Ling Tian's face went pale, and the first thought within his mind was, Could it be that Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang didn't listen to me and injured those Stone Monkeys?

If it really was so, then Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang would have really brought disaster upon him this time!

Just when Duan Ling Tian's face went pale, the Monkey King let out an enraged roar, and the group of Stone Monkeys surrounded Duan Ling Tian once again, forcing him back into the gorge.

Duan Ling Tian smiled bitterly, and his heart was filled with nervousness.

He only hoped that it wasn't Zhang Qian or Zhao Gang who'd done something to do those Stone Monkeys.

Whoosh!

Right at this moment, a Stone Monkeys whose fur was between dark gold and gold and was double the size of an average Stone Monkey entered the gorge.

This Stone Monkey's claws were dripping with crimson red blood, and on its back it carried a Stone Monkey whose fur was dark gold in color.

This Stone Monkey lied on the body of the first stone monkey with its arms drooping down, and its claws flickered with a pitch black sheen, obviously having been infected with a toxic poison.

"Half-step Void Stage!" Duan Ling Tian looked at the Stone Monkey that carried the other poisoned Stone Monkey, and his pupils constricted and a bitter smile appeared on his face.

This troop of Stone Monkeys seemed to be even more terrifying than he'd imagined!

Besides possessing a demon beast Great Monkey King, there was still another Half-step Void Stage Second Monkey King.

"Wuwu...." The Second Monkey King put down the poisoned Stone Monkey before flashing out of the gorge.

When it entered the gorge once again, it was carrying an enormous jet-black python on its shoulder. The enormous python was dead. On the enormous python's body were many bite and claw marks.

"This enormous python is probably the spoils of war of the Second Monkey King!" Duan Ling Tian thought inwardly.

Duan Ling Tian quickly recognized this enormous python after he flashed through the memories of Rebirth Martial Emperor.

This was a Black Cloud Python.

Looking at the markings on the body of this Black Cloud Python, Duan Ling Tian estimated that its strength ought to be at the ninth level of the Nascent Soul Stage.

He could roughly guess the details of the matter. This Black Cloud Python must have injured that poisoned Stone Monkey, and the poison the Stone Monkey was infected with was precisely the poison of the Black Cloud Python.

After that, the Black Cloud Python died at the hands of the Second Monkey King.

"The poison of a Black Cloud Python...." Duan Ling Tian's gaze shone, as he seemed to have thought of a joyous matter.

Presently, Duan Ling Tian was able to discern that the poisoned Stone Monkey hadn't died yet and was only infected from the poison from being bitten.

Of course, if the poison wasn't removed in time, this Stone Monkey wouldn't last an hour.

"Wuwu...." Right at the moment, a group of Stone Monkeys swarmed forward and tore the corpse of that Black Cloud Python to pieces....

The bloody scene caused Duan Ling Tian to feel his scalp go numb.

Chapter 212: Stone Monkey Returning A Favor

Duan Ling Tian was able to discern that this group of Stone Monkeys was taking revenge for their kin.

The corpse of the Black Cloud Python was quickly shredded into pieces so small that an intact piece was nowhere to be found.

"Beast Core!" Before long, Duan Ling Tian saw the Black Cloud Python's Beast Core.

The Second Monkey King directly grabbed onto the Beast Core before stuffing it into its mouth and swallowing it, and its pair of dark gold eyes revealed a sense of fierceness.

Moreover, after that group of Stone Monkeys had torn apart the corpse of the Black Cloud Python, their red eyes once again gazed at Duan Ling Tian, and the killing intent within their eyes had no indication of dissipating.

Duan Ling Tian laughed bitterly. These Stone Monkey's wouldn't pounce directly on me and tear me into pieces, right?

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

...

And just at this moment, the group of Stone Monkeys that Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang had just drawn away had returned.

They looked at the Great Monkey King and shook their small heads as they extended their monkey claws to gesture while occasionally pointing at Duan Ling Tian.

Although Duan Ling Tian didn't understand their gestures, he could guess that these Stone Monkeys ought to be reporting about the matter of Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang to the Great Monkey King.

As expected.

"Roar roar~" The Great Monkey King looked at Duan Ling Tian, and its roar contained rage mixed within, seeming to be saying that Duan Ling Tian had lied to it.

"Monkey King, don't get worked up...Those two friends of mine bore no ill intentions either. Since your subjects were unable to catch up to them, that would mean their strength is inferior to my two friends. If we bore ill intentions, they would have surely attacked your subjects." Duan Ling Tian extended his hand to make gestures as he said this to the Great Monkey King.

"Roar roar~" Just when Duan Ling Tian noticed the Great Monkey King's mood calm down and heaved a sigh of relief, the Second Monkey King abruptly jumped out, and its dark gold eyes revealed icy coldness as it stared at Duan Ling Tian.

Subsequently, it gestured towards the Great Monkey King. The Great Monkey King nodded, then its gaze towards Duan Ling Tian become slightly colder.

"Not good!" Duan Ling Tian's heart jerked, and he noticed an awe-inspiring killing intent arise from the Second Monkey King's body before it directly pounced at him.

"I can save him!" At the moment the Second Monkey King pounced at him, Duan Ling Tian hurriedly released his trump card, extending his hand to point at the poisoned Stone Monkey.

"Roar!" The Great Monkey King roared in a low voice, and in practically the blink of an eye, it stood before Duan Ling Tian, blocking the attack of the Second Monkey King.

Duan Ling Tian could feel that the clothes on his back were completely drenched in sweat. Just now, he was so close to death!

"Roar roar~" The Great Monkey King roared in a low voice at Duan Ling Tian, and its frosty gold eyes revealed a trace of questioning.

"You don't have to doubt it, I'm an alchemist. Alchemist, understand?" Duan Ling Tian withdrew the cauldron from his Spatial Ring and shook in before the Great Monkey King.

Originally, Duan Ling Tian didn't count on the Great Monkey King to understand.

But unexpectedly, the Great Monkey King hesitated for a moment before nodding.

Duan Ling Tian nodded and swept his gaze across the group of Stone Monkeys that surrounded him before saying to the Great Monkey King, "Then that's fine. Alright, ask your subjects to retreat. I'm going to refine a medicinal pill for your subject."

"Roar roar~" The Great Monkey King roared in a low voice twice. This time it was directed towards the troop of monkeys.

For a moment, the troop of monkeys seemed to have found out from the Great Monkey King that Duan Ling Tian was able to save their kin, so they hurriedly retreated, and their crimson red eyes eased up slightly.

Duan Ling Tian heaved a sigh of relief, and under the gazes of the group of Stone Monkeys, Duan Ling Tian started refining the medicinal pill.

"If today's matter were to spread, then I'll have absolutely made history among alchemists...Making a fourth level Void Prying Stage or above demon beast Monkey King, a Half-step Void Stage Monkey King, and a group of Stone Monkeys spectate me refining a medicinal pill. Besides me, who would dare perform such a feat?" At this moment, a trace of complacency arose within Duan Ling Tian's heart. It was as if he'd already completely forgotten that he was refining a medicinal pill before so many Stone Monkeys for the sake of survival.

"Luckily, the Black Cloud Python is only a fierce beast, and its poison doesn't amount to much. A grade 9 Spirit Cleansing Pill is enough to completely remove the poison from the roots," Duan Ling Tian thought inwardly as he withdrew a pile of medicinal materials from his Spatial Ring.

That day, when Duan Ling Tian refined a grade 9 Spirit Cleansing Pill for the Divine Might Marquis Estate's Senior Marquis, some of the medicinal materials remained, and he never expected that they would be used here.

"Looks like I need to prepare some medicinal materials for the Spirit Cleansing Pill in the future, as it's able to save my life in a critical moment...." Duan Ling Tian could imagine how if he didn't have the medicinal materials for the grade 9 Spirit Cleansing Pill on hand today, his end would surely be similar to the Black Cloud Python's.

Duan Ling Tian was here leisurely refining a grade 9 Spirit Cleansing Pill, whereas Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang were hiding outside the gorge with anxious expressions.

"Why hasn't the Young Master come out yet?"

"Wait for a while longer. The Young Master doesn't seem like a short-lived person." Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang could only quietly wait in torment.

Two hours later.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Three grade 9 Spirit Cleansing Pills flew out of the medicinal cauldron and were caught by Duan Ling Tian his hand.

Duan Ling Tian walked over to the poisoned Stone Monkey. This Stone Monkey's body was currently cold. It had a jet-black complexion as if it was covered in a layer of dark clouds.

Duan Ling Tian helped the Stone Monkey open its mouth and fed a grade 9 Spirit Cleansing Pill to it.

Subsequently, Duan Ling Tian placed his hand on the Stone Monkeys back. He was prepared to use his Origin Energy to help the Stone Monkey dissolve the medicinal strength of the Spirit Cleansing Pill.

"Roar!" The Second Monkey King's eyes went cold when it saw this scene, and its body swayed, seeming to want to attack Duan Ling Tian.

"Roar~" The Great Monkey King stopped the Second Monkey King in time, as it obviously perceived that Duan Ling Tian bore no ill intent to that Stone Monkey.

After seeing the Stone Monkey's complexion recover and making sure the poison that had spread onto the monkeys claws was purged, Duan Ling Tian heaved a sigh of relief.

Success!

"Wuwu..." Meanwhile, the Stone Monkey that had its poison removed with Duan Ling Tian's help awoke, and its dark gold eyes flickered with a gentle sheen when it looked at Duan Ling Tian.

"It's OK now." Duan Ling Tian smiled to the Stone Monkey and supported it up.

Including the Second Monkey King, all the Stone Monkeys emitted excited roars when they saw their kin having recovered....

These roars were heard by Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang, who were hiding outside the gorge, as well.

"Zhao Gang, the roars of these Stone Monkeys seems extremely excited...." Zhang Qian looked at Zhao Gang with a bewildered expression.

"Why are you looking at me? It's not like I know." Zhao Gang rolled his eyes at Zhang Qian before saying, in worry, "I wonder how the Young Master is now."

"Don't worry, the Young Master's surely blessed by the gods, for he's a good man." Even though Zhang Qian said this, his face was full of worry.

Within the gorge.

After Duan Ling Tian helped that Stone Monkey remove the poison, besides eliminating the hostility the Stone Monkeys felt towards him, the Great Monkey King extended his claw to point at the nearby small pond that was filled with Monkey Wine, obviously saying to Duan Ling Tian, "Feel free to take as much wine as you like!"

Duan Ling Tian started laughing. This Great Monkey King was rather sensible.

Just when Duan Ling Tian was about to use the cauldron to gather the Monkey Wine.

"Wuwu~" The Stone Monkey that was poisoned earlier cried out to Duan Ling Tian, then it transformed into a dark afterimage as it rushed into the Monkey Cave.

When it once again exited the cave, it brought out a gourd with it, and passed it to Duan Ling Tian while nodding like a human.

"Thanks." Duan Ling Tian received the gourd and smiled to the Stone Monkey.

In his heart, however, he couldn't help but sigh with emotion. A moment before, he was still panic-stricken, but at this moment, he'd gained the reward of his hardships.

He didn't have to steal the Monkey Wine any longer, as the Great Monkey King directly allowed him to gather it himself.

Duan Ling Tian gathered an entire gourd full of Monkey Wine and placed it within his Spatial Ring before standing up and looking at the Great Monkey King.

The Great Monkey King nodded to him, and its gold eyes revealed a gentle sheen.

"Keep these two medicinal pills. If one of your kin is poisoned in the future, ask them to consume it."

Duan Ling Tian passed the other two grade 9 Spirit Cleansing Pills to the Great Monkey King.

"Wuwu~" The other Stone Monkeys' gazes all shone, as they'd witnessed the effect of the medicinal pill earlier and knew the value of the medicinal pill.

In next to no time, Duan Ling Tian noticed that all the other Stone Monkeys, including the Second Monkey King, actually bowed to him like humans. This caused him to be overwhelmed by the unexpected favor for a moment....

Suddenly, he felt like these Stone Monkeys were rather cute.

After the Great Monkey King received the two grade 9 Spirit Cleansing Pills from Duan Ling Tian, it actually bowed to Duan Ling Tian as well, causing Duan Ling Tian to be momentarily complacent.

This was a demon beast at the fourth level of the Void Prying Stage or above!

"With my current relationship with the troop of Stone Monkeys, if I have an enemy in the future, would I be able to lure him in here and ask the Monkey King to help me kill him?" Duan Ling Tian thought in his heart.

But he knew that this was only a wild wish, as it was impossible for him to lure someone over a great distance to this Crosscut Mountain Range.

"Thank you for your Monkey Wine. I'll be leaving now. I'll come visit all of you if I have the chance in the future." Under the gazes of all the Stone Monkeys, Duan Ling Tian waved his hand at them before walking out of the gorge.

When he was just about to walk out of the gorge.

"Roar~" Suddenly, the Great Monkey King roared in a low voice.

Duan Ling Tian's face went pale. This Great Monkey King couldn't have regretted it and wants to return kindness with ingratitude, right?

However, Duan Ling Tian still obediently stopped his footsteps, and his scalp went slightly numb as he turned around to look at the Great Monkey King.

Only now did he notice that the Great Monkey King wasn't enraged. Instead, it nodded to him before looking at the Second Monkey King and waving his sharp claws. It was like it was communicating with the Second Monkey King.

"What does he want to do?" Duan Ling Tian questioned in his heart.

Right at this moment, Duan Ling Tian saw the Second Monkey King nod, then it directly flashed into the Monkey Cave.

Before long, the Second Monkey King came out again. Within its hand was a small gourd, and it passed the small gourd to the Great Monkey King.

The Great Monkey King held the small gourd as it walked towards Duan Ling Tian, and it passed the small gourd to Duan Ling Tian.

"This is?" Duan Ling Tian curiously opened the small gourd, brought it before his nose, and smelled it.

Instantly, a pungent smell of wine fragrance assaulted his nose.

Swoosh!

The Origin Energy within Duan Ling Tian's body suddenly started roiling, causing Duan Ling Tian to feel his entire body burning. He was overcome with a burst of discomfort.

Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, Raging Python Form!

Without any hesitation, Duan Ling Tian directly circulated his cultivation technique, causing the Origin Energy within his body to follow the pathways of the Raging Python Form as it circulated within his body....

Bang!

In the blink of an eye, Duan Ling Tian noticed in astonishment that his Origin Energy had actually directly grown and broken through the bottleneck, directly stepping into the ninth level of the Core Formation Stage!

"This...." Duan Ling Tian was dumbstruck.

Even if he were to drink Monkey Wine, it would still be impossible for him to directly break through to the ninth level of the Core Formation Stage in the blink of an eye; it would at least require a few days to dissolve the wine's effect.

But now...

What the heck was in this small gourd?!

Chapter 213: Monkey King Wine

Duan Ling Tian was confused, utterly confused!

What wine was in this small gourd?

Duan Ling Tian lowered his head to look inside the small gourd. He could clearly see that the wine within the small gourd was not vermilion red in color like the Monkey Wine. Instead, it was crimson red like blood....

Instantly, the memories of Rebirth Martial Emperor flashed within Duan Ling Tian's mind...

"Could it be that this is the Monkey King Wine of legends?" Duan Ling Tian's heartbeat abruptly quickened, and his chest rose and fell like a bellows.

The Monkey King Wine possessed the same effect as a Void Advancement Pill; it was a requisite for a Half-step Void Stage Monkey King to break through to become a demon beast!

However, the Void Advancement Pill had side effects, whereas this Monkey King Wine didn't!

Besides having the effects of a Void Advancement Pill, the Monkey King Wine was also able to increase cultivation. Thus, its effects far surpassed that of the Monkey Wine.

"My...My luck can't be this good, right?" Duan Ling Tian couldn't help himself from gulping down a mouthful of saliva.

After all, even Rebirth Martial Emperor, who'd experienced two lifetimes and encountered many troops of Stone Monkeys, had never had the fate of encountering the Monkey King Wine. Because once the Monkey King Wine was brewed successfully, a Half-step Void Stage Monkey King would drink it at the first possible moment to undergo the transformation into a demon beast.

The Monkey King Wine was something only a Monkey King knew how to brew.

If not of its own free will, then no matter how formidable of an existence tried, it would be impossible to force a Monkey King to brew the Monkey King Wine.

The Monkey King Wine was something even Rebirth Martial Emperor had only heard of.

For the sake of the Monkey King Wine of legends, Rebirth Martial Emperor had once even used his martial prowess to force a Monkey King to brew it....However, that Monkey King would rather die than brew the Monkey King Wine for Rebirth Martial Emperor!

It was imaginable how good Duan Ling Tian's luck is!

The Monkey King Wine was something that could be found with luck but not sought after.

Before long, Duan Ling Tian noticed that the Second Monkey King was currently staring helplessly at the small gourd in his hand, and it was obviously slightly unwilling to part with it....

Presumably, this Monkey King Wine was something he had prepared in order to break through to become a demon beast.

However, Duan Ling Tian paid no attention to it, as the Monkey King Wine was something that could be found with luck but not sought after to him.

But to a Monkey King, as long as it spent some time, it would be able to brew more.

"Looks like I've obtained the true friendship of this troop of Stone Monkeys." Duan Ling Tian knew in his heart that being able to make the Monkey King bring out the Monkey King Wine to be given as a gift was, to a certain degree, showing that he'd already been considered to not be an outsider by the troop of Stone Monkeys.

"Thank you!" Duan Ling Tian lightly smiled to the Great Monkey King, then he put away the Monkey King Wine before swaggering out of the gorge under the gazes of the troop of Stone Monkeys.

Everything he'd face earlier caused Duan Ling Tian to feel as if he were dreaming, as it was truly a heart palpitating encounter!

However, overall, his gains were extremely large.

A trace of a smile appeared on the corners of Duan Ling Tian's mouth.

"Young Master!" After Duan Ling Tian walked out of the gorge, Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang appeared, and they were both dumbstruck when they saw that Duan Ling Tian was perfectly fine.

"Young Master, that troop of Stone Monkeys didn't attack you?" They'd noticed earlier that Duan Ling Tian had swaggered out of the gorge and wasn't fleeing.

"Wuwu~" Suddenly, Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang noticed that a Stone Monkey had leaped up a tree from within the gorge and extended its hand to wave at Duan Ling Tian like a human.

It was precisely that Stone Monkey that was poisoned earlier.

Subsequently.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

...

The dense troop of monkeys flew out of the gorge to descend onto the trees outside the gorge, and they waved at Duan Ling Tian together.

"This...." Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang were instantly petrified. Who could tell them what exactly was happening?

Why would these Stone Monkeys, which were incomparably fierce and relentlessly pursued them, act meek like little kitties in front of their Young Master?

Moreover, they noticed that amongst these Stone Monkeys, there was no lack of existences with dark gold colored fur.

According to what the Young Master said earlier, these Stone Monkeys were all existences at the seventh level of the Nascent Soul Stage or above. Thus, every one of these Stone Monkeys possessed a strength not inferior to theirs....

Both of them only felt their scalps go numb.

In next to no time, their pupils constricted, because they saw two giant Stone Monkeys walk out. One of them was an entire 1.7 meters or more tall, and the other was nearly one meter in height. Compared to the other Stone Monkeys that weren't even half a meter tall, they simply were giants amongst dwarfs!

"They...Couldn't be Monkey Kings, right?" Zhang Qian's and Zhao Gang's hearts jerked, as this thought suddenly appeared in their minds.

They'd also noticed that when the other Stone Monkeys faced these two Stone Monkeys, their sharp eyes would obviously contain a sense of reverence mixed within. This was a reverence that came from the bottom of their hearts, a reverence that come from their souls....

"Great Monkey King, Second Monkey King, and all you little Stone Monkeys, we'll meet again if fate allows it." Duan Ling Tian was slightly surprised when he saw the entire troop of Stone Monkeys and even the two Monkey Kings come out. He waved his hand to bid farewell to them.

The Great Monkey King and the Second Monkey King nodded to Duan Ling Tian like humans.

"Let's go!" Duan Ling Tian called Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang before directly heading down the Crosscut Mountain Range and to the tents.

Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang were as if being jolted awake from a dream as they hurriedly followed up to Duan Ling Tian.

They occasionally couldn't help themselves from looking back, but they noticed that after Duan Ling Tian left, the troop of Stone Monkeys returned to the gorge in succession.

"Young Master, they...You..." Zhang Qian fiercely swallowed a mouthful of saliva. He had too many questions within his heart.

"My luck wasn't bad. One of the Stone Monkeys was poisoned, and I happened to be able to remove the poison...After that, they took me as one of their own. Do you two have any containers, like bottles, on you?" he asked Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang as spoke of what happened.

The two of them naturally were able to guess what Duan Ling Tian intended, and their gazes shone as they each withdrew a pill bottle, as these were the only containers they had on them.

Duan Ling Tian received the pill bottles and withdrew the large gourd that contained the Monkey Wine, then he filled their pill bottles full of Monkey Wine.

"This is Monkey Wine?" Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang took a deep breath and greedily smelled the fragrance of the Monkey Wine.

"Yes, this is Monkey Wine. However, the increase in the cultivation of you two ought to be not so obvious, as you two are seventh level Nascent Soul martial artists." Duan Ling Tian nodded.

As for the Monkey King Wine, Duan Ling Tian didn't take it out, nor did he mention it.

Although Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang could be considered his own people, they would leave his side sooner or later. Moreover, the Monkey King Wine was limited, and there was only enough to share with his loved ones.

Not only that, but if the Monkey King Wine were exposed, he would surely encounter the plundering of a group of Half-step Void Stage powerhouses!

"No problem, we just want to have a taste...And see what's different from the Monkey Wine of legends." Zhang Qian shook his head and smiled.

Zhao Gang nodded as well, as he obviously had the same thoughts as Zhang Qian.

Zhang Qian recalled the scene from earlier and was unable to restrain himself from asking, "Right, Young Master, those two giant Stone Monkeys earlier, you called them Great Monkey King and Second Monkey King?"

"Exactly, that Stone Monkey who had a height of 1 meter and had a fur with a color between dark gold and gold is precisely the Second Monkey King! The Second Monkey King is only a step away from breaking through to the Void Prying Stage, and its strength is comparable to a Half-step Void Stage powerhouse." Duan Ling Tian nodded.

"Half-step Void Stage?" Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang exhaled a breath of cold air.

This Second Monkey King was more than enough to easily kill them!

"Young Master, the other one..." Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang's heartbeat abruptly quickened, as they vaguely guessed in their hearts but didn't dare confirm it.

"The Stone Monkey with gold fur and only slightly shorter than me is the Great Monkey King! This Great Monkey King is a demon beast Monkey King, an existence comparable to the Void Prying Stage...Based on my estimation, its strength is at least at the fourth level of the Void Prying Stage or above!" Duan Ling Tian continued.

"Demon beast Monkey King? Strength at the fourth level of the Void Prying Stage or above?" Zhao Gang and Zhang Qian were once again petrified, only returning to their senses after some time. They could only feel their scalps go numb.

Earlier, they'd cooperated with the Young Master to steal some Monkey Wine under the eyes of this group of Stone Monkeys?

They noticed that their clothes were drenched in sweat.

Duan Ling Tian shook his head and sighed when he saw that Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang had a lingering fear within their hearts. "Even I never imagined that the troop of Stone Monkeys within this Crosscut Mountain Range would be so terrifying...I was originally still thinking that if there was only a Half-step Void Stage Monkey King, we could still retreat safely after stealing the Monkey Wine! But who knew that there was actually a demon beast Monkey King amongst them? I wasn't even in time to gather the Monkey Wine when I was stopped by it." Duan Ling Tian shook with fright when he recalled the scene from before.

"Our luck can be considered to be good this time because, Young Master, you were able to help their kin remove its poison...Otherwise, the consequences would be unimaginable." Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang had a slight lingering fear in their hearts as well.

"However, we can now be considered to have gotten what we desired." Duan Ling Tian shook the large gourd in his hand as he lightly smiled.

Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang started laughing as well.

"Right, don't spread the matter of there being Stone Monkeys here." Suddenly, Duan Ling Tian had a serious expression as he warned Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang.

Although the troop of Stone Monkeys wasn't afraid of people of the Crimson Sky Kingdom disturbing them, Duan Ling Tian still hoped that no one destroyed their peaceful lives.

To a certain degree, he'd approved of the troop of Stone Monkeys and took the troop of Stone Monkeys as his friends.

"Don't worry, Young Master." Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang hurriedly nodded.

Before long, Duan Ling Tian returned to the foot of the mountain, and at this time, Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang once again concealed themselves.

Duan Ling Tian sipped a mouthful of Monkey Wine before returning to the tent.

After returning to the tent, he swallowed the Monkey Wine that he held within his mouth.

Instantly, Duan Ling Tian only felt a terrifying force unceasingly charging within the veins in his body, his flesh, muscles, and bones....

Luckily, the toughness and tenacity of his fleshly body far surpassed that of an ordinary person; otherwise, he would surely explode from the pent up energy!

Even then, Duan Ling Tian still felt extreme piercing pain from his entire body....

For a moment, Duan Ling Tian sweated like it was raining.

Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath and didn't dare hesitate in the slightest as he hurriedly circulated the Raging Python Form mental cultivation method of the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique.

Thanks to Duan Ling Tian's hard work, the force that the Monkey Wine transformed into started following the Raging Python Form's mental cultivation method to circulate within his body....And his cultivation that had just broken through to the ninth level of the Core Formation Stage advanced with an extremely swift speed.

In the end, his cultivation was stuck at the last layer of the bottleneck.

Even then, more than half of the force from the Monkey Wine remained within Duan Ling Tian's body.

"I nearly forgot that I haven't consumed the Dragon Blood Pill to complete the Raging Python Forms final tempering of the fleshly body for the ninth level of the Core Formation Stage...Otherwise, I would have surely directly charged through the shackles of the ninth level Core Formation Stage and stepped into the Origin Core Stage in one go!"

Chapter 214: Made a Clean Sweep

As he thought up to this point, Duan Ling Tian's mood surged.

However, he didn't rush to refine a Dragon Blood Pill, as the temporary tent he was in didn't have much extra space.

He couldn't go out of the tent and refine, right?

Shaking his head, Duan Ling Tian calmed down his mood before falling into deep sleep.

The sky would turn bright in a few more hours, and at that time, the huge army of a 100,000 would directly charge at Southern Barbaric City. As the strategist of this battle, Duan Ling Tian needed to recuperate and store up energy.

The sky hadn't even completely brightened when the huge army of 100,000 had already departed in a formidable array.

Duan Ling Tian, Nie Fen, and He Wei An galloped their horses at the front most, and before long, they arrived beside the moat outside of Southern Barbaric City.

Under Duan Ling Tian's orders, the huge army of 100,000 put down the scarecrows and bamboo raft parts that they had brought along with them onto the ground....

The bamboo rafts took shape, and the pile of scarecrows were pulled onto half of the bamboo rafts.

Within the morning mist, the huge army of 100,000 followed along the moat as they launched a surprise attack.

"Release the arrows!" Following Duan Ling Tian's order, the soldiers pulled back their heavy bows. Countless arrows whistled out to kill the group of Southern Barbaric City guard soldiers atop the city walls before they could react.

Meanwhile, beacons of fire rose from all directions within Southern Barbaric City, and they started their counter attack!

The Crimson Sky Kingdom's huge army of 100,000 continued forward.

However, before the huge army of 100,000, there was a dense amount of 'grass boats' opening the way for them.

Within the morning mist, the soldiers atop the walls of the Southern Barbaric City could only vaguely seem some silhouettes, so countless arrows whistled out to descend onto the scarecrows.

The Crimson Sky Kingdom's huge army of 100,000 was safe and sound!

"Miraculous, miraculous!" Including He Wei An and Nie Fen, all the Star Mastermind Department students couldn't resist sighing.

This was precisely the strategy of 'to borrow arrows with thatched boats'!

Only when they really saw this scene occur did they realize how terrifying the violet-clothed youth that stood beside them was.

Annihilating a strong enemy like it was nothing!

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

...

Just when the Southern Barbaric City's defending troops thought the Crimson Sky Kingdom's army of 100,000 was out of arrows, another wave of arrows whistles out, killing the Southern Barbaric City soldiers that were on the wall.

"How could this be possible?!"

"How could they possibly have so many arrows?!"

"No! This isn't real!"

...

As time passed, the defending troops of Southern Barbaric City were utterly confused, even to the extent that no one dared probe out from the city's wall.

"Success!" He Wei An cheered in excitement.

"Commander Nie, please lead the Crimson Wurm Army to take opportunity of the chaos and sneak into the enemy's campsite...As for us, we will cooperate with you and act in coordination from the inside and the outside, and give them an attack from both the front and the rear!" Duan Ling Tian looked at Nie Fen and he lightly nodded.

In the presence of outsiders, he didn't call Nie Fen Big Brother Nie.

"OK! After this battle ends, we'll drink to our hearts' content!" Nie Fen laughed heartily as he led his Crimson Wurm Army to leap over the wall and enter Southern Barbaric City while the defending troops of the Southern Barbaric City had no precautions in place.

Sneaking along an unknown path!

And then a 'removing the firewood from under the pot!'

This was precisely Duan Ling Tian's tactic of interlinking three strategies.

Meanwhile, the nearly 90,000 officers of the border army and the group of Paladin Academy students were still concealed behind the 'grass boats;' they were concealed within the morning mist.

As long as there was someone who probed out of Southern Barbaric City's wall, they would be directly shot and killed! And it was precisely because of this reason that the Crimson Wurm Army was able to easily sneak into the Southern Barbaric City.

"Haha...I, He Wei An, have been in the army for so many years, but it's still the first time I've fought such a satisfying battle!" He Wei An had an excited expression as he looked at Duan Ling Tian, and his eyes revealed deep reverence.

"General He, don't get excited so fast. Wait till we've reached the Southern Barbaric City. It won't be late to get excited then." Duan Ling Tian lightly smiled with a carefree expression.

Meanwhile, the surrounding Paladin Academy students looked at Duan Ling Tian with gazes that had deep admiration mixed within. Especially those 300 Star General Department students; they were extremely excited.

The other time they entered the battlefield, they hadn't even gone into battle when they retreated.

This time, however, was a chance to bathe in blood on the battlefield and utilize all that they'd learned in order to strive for battle achievements!

Within Southern Barbaric City.

Within the spacious campsite, a group of generals and strategists were gathered around, and their faces were unsightly.

"Today's matter is truly strange. Logically speaking, it's impossible for the Crimson Sky Kingdom's army to possess so many arrows...." A strategist frowned, and the corners of his mouth curled into a bitter smile.

"I feel it to be strange as well. Moreover, we've obviously killed quite a few of their men, but their offensive hasn't slowed down in the slightest...Didn't they only have a huge army of 100,000 left? So many of them have died, so how could they possibly launch such a formidable offensive?" The other strategist nodded and then frowned, and his frown wasn't gone even after a long time.

"Our soldiers don't even dare probe their heads out from the city wall, as the person who does it will surely be killed...It will probably be not long before the Crimson Sky Kingdom's army approaches our city's walls." A general's face was full of worry.

"Kill!" Suddenly, right at this moment, an explosive voice abruptly resounded within the campsite, causing the group of generals and strategist that were gathered together to be confused.

In next to no time, they saw the Crimson Wurm Army coming straight at them!

"It's the Crimson Sky Kingdom's Crimson Wurm Army!"

"Oh my god! How did they sneak inside?!"

...

One by one, the generals and strategists were quickly enveloped by the Crimson Wurm Army.

Whoosh!

Bang!

A firework whistled out from within the Southern Barbaric City and exploded in the air.

"Kill your way in!" Duan Ling Tian's loud voice abruptly ordered.

"Kill!"

"Kill!"

"Kill!"

...

The border army that was pent up with anger for so many days instantly launched an attack on the city, and for a moment, their battle-cries shook the heavens and their imposing might pierced through the sky.

Facing the Southern Champion Kingdom's army that was sneak attacked by the Crimson Wyrms Army to the point they were thrown into a panic, the border army easily blasted open the city gate and directly stormed the city, launching a one-sided slaughter!

The Crimson Wyrms Army and border army had coordinated the attacks from the inside and the outside and made a clean sweep of the Southern Champion Kingdom's soldiers, whose morale had lowered extremely.

For an entire day, half of Southern Barbaric City flowed with rivers of blood.

"Kill!" Duan Ling Tian had currently joined into the battle, as the present situation of the battle was one-sided and didn't require him to direct it.

Whoosh!

The Violet Myrtle Flexible Sword whistled out as if it had transformed into a violet bolt of lightning. Every time it flashed out, it would take the life of a Southern Champion Kingdom soldier with it.

Bang!

Beside Duan Ling Tian, Xiao Yu and Xiao Xun had both killed to the point that they were unable to control themselves.

Duan Ling Tian couldn't help but glare when he saw the Southern Champion Kingdom soldier that was about to die beneath his sword be killed by Xiao Xun first. "Xiao Xun, don't snatch away my business!"

Xiao Xun laughed embarrassedly and continued to pounce forward.

Killing a man in ten steps, unstoppable for a thousand miles!

Duan Ling Tian's mood surged, and he only felt the blood within his entire body boil...

Only after the Southern Champion Kingdom was only left with a group of soldiers and generals that surrendered did the Crimson Sky Kingdom's army stop the slaughter.

Presently, there was either a corpse or blood beneath Duan Ling Tian's feet, and the clothes of everyone was drenched in blood.

"Victory!"

"Victory!"

"Duan Ling Tian!"

"Duan Ling Tian!"

"Duan Ling Tian!"

...

The imposing manner of the Crimson Sky Kingdom's army pierced into the sky, and they were currently madly shouting Duan Ling Tian's name.

Because they knew that if they didn't have Duan Ling Tian today, then it would be impossible for them to take revenge for the brothers that died a few days ago.

If it wasn't for Duan Ling Tian, they would have been unable to breach Southern Barbaric City and feel exaltation upon fulfillment!

Southern Barbaric City was similar to Relentless Thriving City; half of the city was a campsite, and the other half was a place where streams of people gathered....

However, breaching a city and plundering the place without harming the commoners, this was practically the tacit agreement amongst the various kingdoms. Thus, although the commoners within the northern half of Southern Barbaric City were mourning, they never thought of feeling scared.

"Lost! We've lost!"

"How could this be possible? A few days ago, the Crimson Sky Kingdom's army of 110,000 was killed into a retreat by our Southern Champion Kingdoms army, and they lost over 10,000 people...Now, the Crimson Sky Kingdom at most possessed an army of 100,000. How could they have possibly broken through our Southern Barbaric City's line of defense?!"

"I heard a strategist with unsurpassed wisdom appeared in the Crimson Sky Kingdom's army, and with peerless tactics, he breached the Southern Barbaric City without a single casualty!"

"Without a single casualty? That's impossible, right?!"

"Yeah, how could no one die in battle....?"

"It's true! I heard that only 100 or so soldiers of the Crimson Sky Kingdom suffered injuries, and there was not a single casualty!"

...

For a time, the strategist of the Crimson Sky Kingdom who possessed unsurpassed wisdom became the center of discussion amongst Southern Barbaric City's commoners.

That night, cheers enveloped the sky and the earth within Southern Barbaric City. The cheers practically never stopped.

It was precisely the Crimson Sky Kingdom's huge army of 100,000 that was celebrating.

"Brother Ling Tian, I toast to you!" He Wei An raised his bowl of wine with a flushed face. He'd been in the army and gone to battle for so many years, but this was the first time he obtained such an achievement....Taking over Southern Barbaric City, which had been in a stalemate with the Relentless Thriving City for so many years, without losing a single soldier!

He knew that his name would surely remain in history, and that he would be famous and remembered forever.

Of course, he also knew that the youth before him would not only become famous within the Crimson Sky Kingdom from today onwards, his name would even spread throughout the entire Southern Champion Kingdom...In the future, as long as they heard this youth's name, the army of the Southern Champion Kingdom would probably flee as soon as they got wind of it!

"General He." Duan Ling Tian held up his bowl of wine as well and bumped their bowls together before drinking it all in one go.

"Come, drink!" Nie Fen was extremely happy as well.

Presently, even the old man that stood behind Nie Fen had a gaze that flickered with a sense of extraordinary splendor when he looked at Duan Ling Tian.

This youth had virtually made history in the Crimson Sky Kingdom!

Even the Senior Marquis of the Divine Might Marquis Estate had never once obtained such a terrifying achievement in battle!

Annihilating the entire Southern Barbaric City's huge army of 100,000 without losing a single soldier...It was utterly heaven-defying!

"Duan Ling Tian, you're the pride of our Paladin Academy!" In the distance, a Star General Department higher grade student stood up as he looked at Duan Ling Tian, and he drank all the wine within his bowl in one go.

"Exactly, you're the pride of our paladin Academy!" For a moment, including Xiao Xun and Xiao Yu, all the other Paladin Academy students stood up and toasted Duan Ling Tian.

Breaching the Southern Champion Kingdom's Southern Barbaric City was a brilliant and meritorious service.

They could imagine that when they returned this time, they would be rewarded with titles of nobility, and this would hugely affect their futures.

Moreover, they understood that all this was something Duan Ling Tian gave them.

"Thank you, Young Master Ling Tian, for helping our brothers get revenge!" Right at this moment, the nearly 90,000 border army officers had all stood up. They raised their wine bowls and respectfully bowed to Duan Ling Tian. They spoke with voices that were filled with gratitude and respect.

Chapter 215: Returning In Triumph

"Toast!" Duan Ling Tian was influenced by the atmosphere as well, and he stood up with heroic spirit that could pierce through the sky as he drank the wine in one go.

In his previous lifetime, he was born in the army, so before long, he'd mixed in with the 100,000 officers present and drank until deep into the night before finally resting.

At dawn the next day, they left Southern Barbaric City and headed towards the direction of the Crimson Sky Kingdom.

It was precisely the Crimson Wyrms Army!

Presently, Southern Barbaric City had already been captured, and the following matters were things the border army would need to deal with.

As the reinforcement troops, their assignment had already been completed, so now it was time to return to the Imperial City!

The Crimson Wyrms Army's cavalry of 10,000 plus officers only spent a few hours to traverse the Crosscut Mountain Range and arrive at the Crimson Sky Kingdom's Relentless Thriving City.

The residents of Relentless Thriving City stood outside the city and gazed at the Crimson Wyrms Army go off into the distance with extremely excited expressions.

There was a group of border army cavalry troops that had brought the news of Southern Barbaric City being captured deep into the night yesterday, causing many of Relentless Thriving City's residents to be excited to the point they were unable to sleep the entire night.

"The Crimson Wyrms Army has once again fully revealed their invincible might!"

"The Crimson Wyrms Army being able to successfully launch a surprise attack this time is all thanks to the youth strategist, Duan Ling Tian."

"It's truly unbelievable...A mere 18-year-old youth was actually able to direct a huge army of a 100,000 and capture Southern Barbaric City without losing a single soldier."

"From today onwards, this Duan Ling Tian will surely be famous throughout the Crimson Sky Kingdom, and his name will go down in history."

"Humph! I just thought of that son of the Prime Minister, Gu Xiang. He's utterly incapable of being compared with Duan Ling Tian! That day, he had a huge army of 110,000 under his command, but not only was he unable to breach Southern Barbaric City, he even led over 10,000 border army officers to their deaths."

"Gu Xuan? In my eyes, he can't even compare to a hair on Duan Ling Tian's head. Son of the Prime Minister? He's lost all the face of our Crimson Sky Kingdom!"

...

The residents of Relentless Thriving City deeply remembered the name "Duan Ling Tian," and they deeply remembered Gu Xuan's name as well.

The former made them feel respect, whereas the latter made them feel disdain.

The Crimson Wyrms Army arrived in a formidable array and left in a formidable array as well. Overall, their trip as reinforcement troops this time could be considered to have been perfectly accomplished.

At the front of these 10,000 troops, Duan Ling Tian and Nie Fen galloped their horses forward side by side, and the old man that was sparing in speech followed behind the two of them as if he was a shadow.

"We're returning!"

"Once we return this time, I wonder what rewards his majesty the Emperor will grant us."

"Our rewards ought to be about the same...What I'm curious about is what reward will his majesty the Emperor grant Duan Ling Tian."

...

The group of Paladin Academy students discussed enthusiastically.

Duan Ling Tian could be said to have been the core when capturing Southern Barbaric City this time, and without Duan Ling Tian, the Crimson Sky Kingdom would have been unable to come so far. Thus, Duan Ling Tian's bestowal from the Emperor would surely be the most and of the highest variety, and this was something they didn't doubt in the slightest.

Xiao Yu and Xiao Xun galloped side by side, and their faces revealed heartfelt smiles, as the trip this time made their blood boil and they had fought to their hearts' content!

"That fellow Tian Hu will surely grumble when we return."

"That's for sure."

Both of their faces revealed wide grins.

Two months later, their group once again returned to the Imperial City.

"Little Tian, the Paladin Academy students will be led back by you personally...I'll lead the Crimson Wurm Army's officers back to the campsite first before going to look for my father and entering the Imperial Palace to have an audience with the Emperor," Nie Fen said to Duan Ling Tian outside the Imperial City.

The Crimson Wurm Army's campsite was outside the Imperial City.

Duan Ling Tian nodded.

"Students of Paladin Academy, follow Duan Ling Tian back!" Nie Fen ordered in a loud voice.

Instantly, with Duan Ling Tian in the lead, the group of Paladin Academy students entered the Imperial City in a formidable array.

When they left, the Paladin Academy students numbered a total 312 people, but now there were only 311.

The missing person was precisely Gu Xuan, or in other words, the son of the Crimson Sky Kingdom's Prime Minister Gu You Ting, who'd already left Relentless Thriving City more than two months ago.

Duan Ling Tian and the others returned to Paladin Academy. Unsurprisingly, they caused a great stir within the academy.

"They're back so quickly?"

"Yeah, from here to the northwest border, even if they galloped their horses throughout the journey, they'd at least need four months for a return trip...Now it hasn't even been five months and they've returned. In other words, they stayed less than a month in the southern border."

"Is the Southern Champion Kingdom's army so useless?"

...

Presently, it was right in the middle of the afternoon. Many Paladin Academy students had gathered at the Martial Arts Practice Grounds and were discussing animatedly amongst themselves.

Before long, along with the return of the group of students Behind Duan Ling Tian that integrated into the crowd, they quickly found out about the sequence of events of the matter...

The Crimson Sky Kingdom's army captured the Southern Champion Kingdom's Southern Barbaric City without losing a single soldier!

And it caused all the students that didn't head to the northwest border to be muddle-headed.

When they found out that all of this was due to the contribution of Duan Ling Tian, their gazes were filled with reverence when they once again gazed at Duan Ling Tian.

This was true for both lower grade students and higher grade students!

Moreover, Duan Ling Tian, who was the focus of attention, bid his farewell to Xiao Yu and Xiao Xun and snuck back home after he saw that the group of students had returned to Paladin Academy.

Standing outside his own courtyard house's gate, Duan Ling Tian's breathing become slightly hurried.

I'm home!

After Xiong Quan opened the gate, Duan Ling Tian walked in with large strides.

"Young Master!"

"Young Master!"

...

Within the front courtyard, manager Jing Ru and two servant girls respectfully bowed to Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian nodded with a smile to them before impatiently walking into the rear courtyard.

Within the rear courtyard, the two little girls sat around Li Rou, as they hadn't realized Duan Ling Tian's return.

"Tian!" Only after Li Rou noticed Duan Ling Tian did the two little girls react as if being struck by thunder.

"Mom, I'm home!" Duan Ling Tian's face revealed a resplendent grin.

In another few days, it would be a full five months since he'd left that day.

"It's good that you're back, it's good that you're back." Li Rou's face revealed a smile, and she obviously heaved a sigh of relief as well.

"Young Master!"

"Scoundrel!"

The two little girls transformed into two gusts of fragrant wind as they threw themselves into Duan Ling Tian's embrace from both left and right, before tightly holding Duan Ling Tian.

"I'm back." Duan Ling Tian held the two girls in his arms, and a sense of excitement was revealed between his brows.

"Hiss hiss~" Right at this moment, a black and a white bolt of lightning flashed over before directly descending onto Duan Ling Tian's hand, and they nodded lightly to Duan Ling Tian as if they were welcoming him back.

"Haha! Little White, Little Black." Duan Ling Tian laughed heartily as he greeted the two little pythons.

Duan Ling Tian tossed everything to the back of his mind and spent the entire afternoon and night with the two little girls in his spacious room. Clothes came off, they tossed and turned, and they passionately enjoyed every position Duan Ling Tian knew....

It wasn't until deep in the night that Duan Ling Tian embraced the two little girls who had satisfaction written all over their faces and fell into a deep slumber.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian didn't know yet that many people throughout the Imperial City were bound to have a sleepless night tonight.

In the afternoon, after Divine Might Marquis Nie Yuan and his son entered the Imperial Palace, the news of the war in the northwest border spread out from the Imperial Palace....

The army of the Crimson Sky Kingdom had captured the Southern Champion Kingdom's Southern Barbaric City in one go!

Moreover, the greatest merit didn't belong to the Crimson Wurm Army's commander Nie Fen, nor did it belong to the border army's general, He Wei An.

Instead, it was Duan Ling Tian!

The name Duan Ling Tian once again swept through the entire Imperial City and became the hottest topic of discussion within every restaurant.

"I never imagined that not only was Duan Ling Tian's natural talent in the Martial Dao heaven defying, but he's even so awesome at commanding troops into battle....He planned very carefully and took every possibility into account to win in every battle!"

"A genius in all aspects, a genius in all aspects! It's truly the good fortune of our Crimson Sky Kingdom to have Duan Ling Tian!"

"Exactly, Duan Ling Tian is indeed an extraordinary genius! However, compared to Duan Ling Tian, that son of the Prime Minister, Gu Xuan, is 'remarkable!'"

"He's indeed remarkable! A huge army of 110,000 listened to his command, but they didn't even touch Southern Barbaric City's wall before losing over 10,000 people...Moreover, the Southern Champion Kingdoms army's casualties didn't even amount to 1,000!"

"Son of the Prime Minister? Bah!"

...

Whether it was the Imperial City's outer city or the inner city, every place was filled with similar discussions, and all these discussions praised Duan Ling Tian while disparaging Gu Xuan.

After all, the two of them formed a sharp contrast.

Unlike the Imperial City that was bustling with activity, it was deathly silent within the Prime Minister's Estate.

Within the spacious audience hall, a middle-aged man with medium stature that was dressed in a scholarly attire was unceasingly pacing up and down.

"Lord Prime Minister!" Before long, an old man walked in with large strides.

The old man's eyes were dazzling like an array of stars, and he walked with steady steps. Obviously his cultivation level wasn't low.

"How is it?" the middle-aged man asked in a low voice. Although no expression could be seen on the surface, that pair of anxious eyes completely exposed his currently anxious heart.

"Lord Prime Minister, I've gone to question them...They said that the Young Master left Relentless Thriving City two months ago and returned to the Imperial City!" the old man slowly said.

"What?!" The middle-aged man's face went grim and his pupils constricted. "What actually happened?"

"Lord Prime Minister, allegedly it was the nearly 90,000 officers of the border army that pleaded to General He Wei An to kill the Young Master...Later, for the sake of the Young Master's safety, General He Wei An let the Young Master leave in private," the old man said.

"Xuan! How can you leave alone?!" The middle-aged man's pupils constricted, and his entire person seemed slightly dejected....

As the Prime Minister of the Crimson Sky Kingdom, Gu You Ting's wisdom surpassed all others, and it was difficult for an ordinary person to reach his level.

He knew that his son had most likely been killed!

However, he could only be forced to keep this grievance to himself, because this matter couldn't be blamed on the border army anymore...

"How are the news being spread outside?" Gu You Ting took a deep breath, and his eyes that were full of wisdom emitted a trace of a dense flowing light. He forcefully suppressed the grief deep within his heart.

The old man was slightly hesitant upon hearing Gu You Ting's request.

"You don't have to worry, speak!" Gu You Ting's gaze was like electricity as he looked at the old man.

"Yes." The old man nodded and then truthfully told Gu You Ting of some of the rumors that were spread and discussed animatedly within the Imperial City.

After he finished speaking, the corners of the old man's mouth held a bitter smile.

"Duan Ling Tian? He's indeed an extraordinary genius." Gu You Ting took a deep breath and a strand of killing intent jumped about within his eyes. "However, according to my knowledge, this Duan Ling Tian has been in conflict with Xuan since long ago, right?"

Chapter 216: The Emperor's Summons

"The Young Master hates him to the bones because of Princess Bi Yao." The old man slowly nodded when he heard Gu You Ting's question.

"Princess Bi Yao...Such a pity, my son doesn't have the fortune to marry her." Gu You Ting's eyes flickered with a cold light. "However, the people outside actually disparage my son and praise that Duan Ling Tian...Since Gu Xuan hated him, then it isn't necessary for him to remain on this word." As Gu You Ting finished speaking, his expression was calm. It was as if he'd transformed into the judge of death that could easily decide the life and death of another.

Maybe in his eyes, he'd never once taken Duan Ling Tian and the Duan Clan behind Duan Ling Tian into consideration.

"Lord, when our Crimson Sky Kingdom's army captured the Southern Barbaric City, that Duan Ling Tian obtained the greatest achievement, so his majesty the Emperor will probably heavily reward him, look highly upon him, and take him to be the pillar of the kingdom...." The old man slightly frowned and seemed to hesitate slightly.

"So what?" Gu You Ting asked indifferently. "My son is probably dead by now, so let me complete his final wish...Since he hated this Duan Ling Tian to the bones, I'll kill this Duan Ling Tian to console his spirit in heaven. It can be considered the last thing I do for him."

Even though he'd guessed that his son had already died, Gu You Ting still quickly recovered his calm composure.

If Duan Ling Tian was here, he would surely fear this Gu You Ting, because this type of person was the type he hated the most, and he was also the most cold and terrifying.

At dawn the next day, within the spacious room, Duan Ling Tian put on his clothes with the help of the two little girls before walking out of the room.

After having his breakfast, Duan Ling Tian went to Paladin Academy. Wherever he passed, he unsurprisingly caused a great stir.

"Duan Ling Tian, I like you!" Right at this moment, a nearby female student roared at Duan Ling Tian with a red face.

Duan Ling Tian was stunned, and the surrounding group of students was stunned as well. A wave of sighs resounded.

"I like you too." Duan Ling Tian lightly smiled to the female student and continued to walk forward.

Instantly, some of the other female students looked at the female student that spoke out earlier with faces full of envy. They learned and copied her. "Duan Ling Tian, I like you!"

"Duan Ling Tian, I like you!"

...

Faced with these fervent female students, Duan Ling Tian replied with a light smile to all of them. "I like all of you too."

Favorable impressions arose within the hearts of the Paladin Academy students present towards Duan Ling Tian's calmness.

"Duan Ling Tian!" Right at this moment, a person walked toward him from afar.

Duan Ling Tian's brows knitted, as he'd never expected this person to take the initiative to greet him; moreover, it was such a friendly greeting.

The person before him was no one other than Xu Qing!

"Xu Qing, you've changed." A trace of a light smile appeared on the corners of Duan Ling Tian's mouth, as the current Xu Qing was didn't have the former arrogance he had, but instead was slightly calmer.

At least the feeling he gave off wasn't repugnant like before. Obviously, the incident the other day caused Xu Qing to change a great deal.

"I still need to thank you for allowing me to see many things clearly...Besides that, your tactics of three interlinked strategies is worthy of admiration!" Xu Qing had a friendly expression as he returned a smile.

After he was defeated by Duan Ling Tian the other time, Xu Qing was quiet for a few days before recovering. He'd clearly thought of many things and now saw Duan Ling Tian as a target to advance courageously to.

This time, as a grade two student of the Star General Department that joined the Crimson Wurm Army to head to the northwest border together, he'd experienced Duan Ling Tian's ability to devise strategies within the command tent and felt admiration in his heart.

Maybe, since that moment, the resentment in his heart towards Duan Ling Tian had already completely vanished.

"You're not bad either; you actually broke through to the Origin Core Stage." Duan Ling Tian's eyes narrowed as he smiled mysteriously.

"You...Can even discern this?" Xu Qing was stunned.

He'd only broken through on the way back to the Imperial City, and that was not even a month ago. He was confident that he'd never revealed his Origin Core Stage strength before another.

However, never had he imagined that Duan Ling Tian would be able to discern it with a single glance.

"Duan Ling Tian, you're truly out of the ordinary...Let's be friends, how about it?" Xu Qing's face was filled with anticipation.

"Aren't we already friends?" Duan Ling Tian started laughing.

Xu Qing laughed as well. "Then I won't disturb you and go to class."

"OK." Duan Ling Tian nodded.

Duan Ling Tian and Xu Qing's short conversation stupefied the surrounding group of students.

"Could it be that this is the legendary 'forming of friendship from an exchange of blows?'"

"Maybe."

Many students sighed, as some students amongst them even witnessed the battle between Duan Ling Tian and Xu Qing with their own two eyes.

At that time, Xu Qing wished for nothing more than to kill Duan Ling Tian!

Whereas now, these two people actually became friends. The affairs of the world were truly inconsistent.

"Right, did Duan Ling Tian said that Xu Qing has already broken through to the Origin Core Stage earlier?"

"I think so!"

"I never imagined that after an Origin Core martial artists appeared within the grade 1 students of our Paladin Academy, an Origin Core Stage martial artist appeared within the grade 2 students as well!"

...

In next to no time, the topic of conversation of the group of students moved onto Xu Qing.

At the moment he walked into the classroom, Duan Ling Tian noticed the burning gazes of everyone besides Xiao Yu and Xiao Xun looking at him.

"Duan Ling Tian, great job!"

"You've really brought pride to our grade 1 Star Mastermind Department!"

"Formidable!"

...

The group of students in his class looked at Duan Ling Tian and were extremely generous with their words of praise.

Duan Ling Tian replied with a smile to each person.

"Haha! Duan Ling Tian, we met that fellow Tian Hu yesterday afternoon just a while after you left...He even said he'd look for you at noon to get even with you." Xiao Xun laughed.

"Get even with me? Get even for what?" Duan Ling Tian was dazed and slightly curious.

"What else? It's naturally for the matter of you not helping him get a place in the reinforcement troops." Xiao Yu started laughing as well.

"F**k! You two sold me out just like that?" Duan Ling Tian glared. These two fellows were really not trustworthy....

"We didn't sell you out, it was he who guessed it himself." Xiao Xun shrugged as he lightly smiled.

Right at this moment, Sima Chang Feng walked into the classroom and stood at the podium. His profound gaze that was mixed with a complicated expression descended onto Duan Ling Tian, as even he had never imagined that Duan Ling Tian would actually possess that level of natural talent to command troops into a battle as a strategist!

Commanding a huge army of 100,000 and capturing the Southern Champion Kingdom's Southern Barbaric City without losing a single soldier....Such an achievement in battle could be considered teaching material.

Sima Chang Feng glanced deeply at Duan Ling Tian before saying, with a smile, "'To borrow arrows with thatched boats', 'sneaking along an unknown path', and 'removing the firewood from under the pot'...Combined with the earlier 'crossing the river while deceiving the heavens', Duan Ling Tian, you really aren't simple."

"You're too kind, Teacher, but it's just that my luck is good." Duan Ling Tian humbly smiled.

Luck is good?

Not only Sima Chang Feng, the corners of the mouths of all the students including, Xiao Yu and Xiao Xun, twitched.

This can be considered as having good luck as well?

Just when Sima Chang Feng was at a loss for words, a figure appeared at the door of the classroom.

Paladin Academy's Vice Dean, Zhang Xiong.

Zhan Xiong nodded to Sima Chang Feng before looking at Duan Ling Tian and saying, "Duan Ling Tian, his majesty's summoned you. Follow me over."

Swash!

What Zhan Xiong said naturally caused a stir within the classroom.

His majesty, the Emperor of their Crimson Sky Kingdom, summoned Duan Ling Tian?

"Looks like Duan Ling Tian is going to get lucky."

"I already guessed that since Duan Ling Tian directed the army and captured that Southern Champion Kingdom's Southern Barbaric City and brought face to the Crimson Sky Kingdom, his majesty would surely be extremely happy and naturally was bound to reward Duan Ling Tian based on his merits."

"I wonder what his majesty will grant Duan Ling Tian as a reward...."

"Can't you just ask Duan Ling Tian once he returns?"

...

Within the classroom, the students all whispered in discussion, and the classroom only returned to quiet after Sima Chang Feng intentionally coughed twice.

Duan Ling Tian followed behind Zhan Xiong and walked out of Paladin Academy.

Outside the academy, a luxurious carriage was waiting for him. Beside the carriage was two troops of soldiers in armor, and a young soldier served as the carriage driver.

"These armors don't seem to be from the City Guard Army...Could it be the armor of the Imperial Army?" Duan Ling Tian thought inwardly.

"Lord Vice Dean, Lord Ling Tian, please." Noticing the arrival of Duan Ling Tian and Zhan Xiong, the young soldier leaped of the carriage and respectfully greeted them into the carriage.

When he faced Duan Ling Tian, heartfelt reverence appeared on the young soldier's face. As a member of the army, he deeply admired Duan Ling Tian's deeds in the northwest border.

"Vice Dean, are they the Imperial Army?" Sitting within the carriage, Duan Ling Tian looked at Zhan Xiong as he asked curiously.

"Right, they're the Imperial Army." Zhan Xiong lightly nodded before smiling and saying, "I'm relying on your good fortune this time, because normally, even if I wanted to enter the Imperial Palace, I'd still have to prepare the carriage myself...However, this carriage was personally ordered by the Emperor to be prepared for you."

Before long, Duan Ling Tian arrived at the Imperial Palace.

The Imperial Palace had a grand atmosphere and palaces stood in the distance, seeming magnificent and extraordinary.

Presently, the carriage that carried Duan Ling Tian forward had entered the Imperial Palace and encountered little to no resistance before quickly arriving before a palace at the center of the Imperial Palace.

Under the escort of the young soldier that served as the carriage driver, Duan Ling Tian and Zhan Xiong entered at the palace.

Gold and jade glittered within the palace, causing anyone to be bedazzled by it.

"Hmm?" When he entered the palace, Duan Ling Tian noticed that there were already four people present.

Divine Might Marquis Nie Yuan and his son stood at a side.

And on the imperial throne in the middle, a 60-year-old man wearing a dragon robe sat firmly on the throne.

Although aged, of the people Duan Ling Tian had seen, the majestic presence of a person with high status on him was the most oppressive.

However, this bit of majestic presence was unable to cause any effect to Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian was able to guess that this 60-year-old man ought to be the current Emperor of the Crimson Sky Kingdom.

Moreover, beside the Emperor, there was still another middle-aged man.

The middle-aged man was dressed like a refined scholar and his eyes flickered with a sheen of wisdom. He also had a carefree expression and an extraordinary disposition.

If Duan Ling Tian met such a figure at an ordinary occasion, he would surely secretly praise him in his heart.

However, while facing this person now, a sense of vigilance arose within Duan Ling Tian's heart.

Because when he'd just entered this palace, he'd noticed a faintly discernible killing intent enveloping him.

That strand of killing intent flashed for a moment before vanishing, and if it wasn't for Duan Ling Tian possessing the experiences and intuition that he'd accumulated from his previous life, he might not have been able to notice it.

Chapter 217: Embroidered Uniform Guard

Duan Ling Tian thought inwardly, and in next to no time, he'd guessed the identity of the middle-aged man.

Besides Prime Minister Gu You Ting, there ought to be no one that would have such a demeanor and was capable of standing beside the Emperor of the Crimson Sky Kingdom.

"This Gu You Ting is actually releasing killing intent towards me...." Duan Ling Tian thought in his heart as he vaguely guessed some reasons.

Presently, not only Paladin Academy, even the entire Imperial City was comparing the son of Gu You Ting, Gu Xuan, with him, and they were imperceptibly stepping on Gu Xuan as they praised Duan Ling Tian.

Presumably, this Gu You Ting released killing intent towards him because of this!

The dignified Prime Minister of the Crimson Sky Kingdom had such a narrow breadth of mind....

A sense of vigilance arose within Duan Ling Tian's heart.

He'd discerned that this Gu You Ting was extremely difficult to deal with and was a person who was adept at concealing his thoughts.

After that killing intent from before flashed and vanished, Gu You Ting didn't reveal any other unusualness. Someone who was capable of restraining their feelings so perfectly would absolutely not be a simple figure.

"A thousand blessings, your majesty." Zhan Xiong respectfully saluted the Emperor of the Crimson Sky Kingdom before lightly bowing.

The Emperor nodded before slowly opening his mouth. "Vice Dean Zhan Xiong, you may forego formalities."

"Your majesty." Duan Ling Tian looked at the Emperor as he lightly nodded in salute.

The Emperor lightly frowned when he saw Duan Ling Tian's actions, whereas Gu You Ting, who stood beside him, had already shouted coldly in a loud voice, "Audacious, Duan Ling Tian! Why don't you kneel in salute when you see his majesty? Could it be that you really think that since you've achieved some meritorious service, you can be compared to Vice Dean Zhan?"

"Prime Minister Gu, his majesty hasn't spoken...But when you make so much noise in front of his majesty like this, I wonder what spot you're placing his majesty in? As for whether I salute or not, frankly speaking...What the f**k does it have to do with you?!"

After Duan Ling Tian had noticed Gu You Ting's killing intent towards him, he'd been filled with vigilance and hostility towards Gu You Ting. Now that Gu You Ting had tried to teach him a lesson right in his face, he instantly rebuked.

Gu You Ting's face went gloomy, and the killing intent within his eyes appeared once again...

At this moment, even Nie Yuan and Nie Fen had traces of bitter smiles on the corners of their mouths.

This Little Tian was actually so unrestrained before the supreme Emperor of the Crimson Sky Kingdom...However, they weren't worried.

Since they were here, Duan Ling Tian would surely be fine.

"Hahahaha...." Right at this moment, the Emperor started laughing, and his aged face revealed a carefree and joyful smile before looking at Duan Ling Tian. "You're Duan Ling Tian?"

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian lightly nodded. When facing the Emperor, he was instead refined and courteous.

"You're the only person who has clashed with the Prime Minister like this other than myself...The younger generation will surpass the older, the younger generation will surpass the older!" The smile on the Emperor's face hadn't once halted. It was as if he was still thinking about the scene from before.

Gu You Ting was slightly embarrassed, but he didn't say anything further.

"Your majesty, you flatter me. I only feel that Prime Minister Gu's reaction was too exaggerated. It's only just mere formality, so why rigidly adhere to it like so?" Duan Ling Tian slowly said, in a neither humble nor arrogant manner.

"Now that you put it this way, I'm slightly curious. Why don't you kneel?" the Emperor asked with a smile.

"Your majesty, in my eyes, under the entire heavens, besides the heaven and the earth, only my parents can make me kneel...Like the old saying, there's gold beneath a man's knees, and his knees only bend for the heavens, earth, and his parents!" Duan Ling Tian said.

"There's gold beneath a man's knees, and his knees only bend for the heavens, earth and his parents...." The Emperor was stunned when he heard what Duan Ling Tian said. He slowly pondered about this saying before laughing carefreely and joyously. "As expected of someone who can lead a huge army of 100,000 to capture the Southern Champion Kingdom's Southern Barbaric City without losing a single soldier...You actually have such haughtiness! However, you indeed have the qualifications."

"I permit you to be exempt from kneeling when you see me in the future. How about it?" The Emperor's mood seemed to be extremely good.

But Prime Minister Gu You Ting didn't have such a great mood, and his eyes occasionally flickered with a trace of gloominess when he looked at Duan Ling Tian.

The gloominess within Gu You Ting was something that one was utterly unable to notice unless one were to closely examine his eyes.

"Thank you, your majesty." Duan Ling Tian hurriedly bowed and expressed his gratitude.

The Emperor looked at Duan Ling Tian as he directly said, "Alright, I brought you here today mainly to grant you a reward...This time, you directed my Crimson Sky Kingdom's huge army of 100,000 to capture the Southern Champion Kingdom's Southern Barbaric City without losing a single soldier, and this is a matchless meritorious service! Tell me, what do you want?"

When the Emperor's words escaped his mouth, even the father and son pair of Nie Yuan and Nie Fen, as well as Zhan Xiong, couldn't help but be moved.

"Your majesty, you mustn't!" Gu You Ting hurriedly persuaded. "Youngsters don't know the complexity of things. Your majesty you...."

"What? Prime Minister, you want to help me make decisions?"

Even though the Emperor was aged, when his eyes narrowed, a sentence spoken in a flat and indifferent tone made Gu You Ting be unable to help himself from turning pale, and he hurriedly knelt on the floor.

"Your majesty, your subject has absolutely no such intentions!"

"Humph! I believe you don't have the audacity! However, Prime Minister, you seem to be slightly discomposd today," the Emperor grunted coldly. Since he knew that Gu You Ting's son, Gu Xuan, had led over 10,000 officers to their deaths, flames of fury had arose within his heart.

And it was because he'd always thought highly of Gu You Ting; otherwise, even if Gu Xuan was dead, he would still punish Gu You Ting!

After all, the sins of the son were blamed on the father!

"Yes, your subject knows of his crime. Your subject's thinking of his son, and your subject hopes your majesty may pardon the offense," Gu You Ting hurriedly pleaded.

"Rise," the Emperor said indifferently, with a tone that didn't carry any feeling.

"Thank you, your majesty." Gu You Ting stood up.

Duan Ling Tian's eyes narrowed as he indifferently said, "Prime Minister Gu, according to my knowledge, Gu Xuan returned to the Imperial City over two months ago, right? You thinking of your son, I wonder what that means? Could it be that his majesty has denounced Gu Xuan and made Gu Xuan repent in the prison?"

After he finished speaking, he ignored Gu You Ting's enraged gaze, looked at the Emperor, and respectfully said, "Your majesty is wise!"

The Emperor couldn't help but be stunned when he heard this. This little kid, what a formidable mouth he had!

"Duan Ling Tian, tell me, what do you want?" The Emperor returned to the earlier topic and once again asked Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian pondered for a moment before looking at the Emperor and slowly saying, "Your majesty, I want to ask you to specially authorize the establishment of an organization, then allow me to become the one in charge of this organization...."

"Oh?" The Emperor felt like it was a slightly fresh idea when he heard what Duan Ling Tian said. "Then tell me, what organization do you want me to establish for you?"

"The Embroidered Uniform Guard!"[1] When Duan Ling Tian spoke of these words, his eyes flickered with a strand of a bright light.

The Embroidered Uniform Guard!

It was also a dream of Duan Ling Tian during his previous lifetime.

When he thought about the domineering Embroidered Uniform Guard in the ancient Ming Dynasty in his previous lifetime, Duan Ling Tian palpitated with eager excitement.

The Embroidered Uniform Guard, frankly speaking, was a special task organization within the Ming Dynasty. In other words, a sabre within the Emperor's hand, and they had monstrous authority.

Actually, Duan Ling Tian only wanted to have some fun and satisfy a craving.

After all, not long in the future, he would be leaving the Crimson Sky Kingdom, and he didn't know if he would have the chance to try it in the future...Or maybe, even if he had the opportunity in the future, he might not have the mood anymore.

"The Embroidered Uniform Guard?" Presently, not only was the Emperor bewildered, but even Nie Yuan and Nie Fen, as well as Zhan Xiong and even Prime Minister Gu You Ting, all had bewildered expressions.

Seeing the Emperor interested, Duan Ling Tian stopped for a moment before saying, "Your majesty, the so-called Embroidered Uniform Guard is an organization that is directly under your majesty's command. Besides your majesty, it cannot be interfered with by anyone else! As for the Embroidered Uniform Guard's function, it's to share the burdens of your majesty and fully sweep away all injustice within the Crimson Sky Kingdom. For example, to deal with someone who isn't respectful to your majesty, or, say, to find out who poisoned your majesty...."

When Duan Ling Tian spoke up to this point, besides the Emperor, the expressions of the other four people present went grim!

Gu You Ting looked at Duan Ling Tian as he said, in a cold voice, "Duan Ling Tian, don't talk nonsense. His majesty's status is lofty; who would dare poison his majesty?"

However, what the Emperor said next caused Gu You Ting to be dumbstruck.

The Emperor looked at Duan Ling Tian full of interest as he asked, "You...You're able to discern that I have been poisoned?"

"Your majesty, not only can I discern that you've been poisoned, I can even discern what poison you've been infected with, and I even know that you've been poisoned for a few years...If it wasn't for your majesty's cultivation being deep, maybe you'd long since have...." Although Duan Ling Tian didn't finish speaking, everyone present understood what Duan Ling Tian meant.

"Your majesty...." Nie Yuan, his son, and Zhan Xiong all looked at the Emperor and were surprised in their hearts.

Did his majesty just admit that he'd been poisoned?

A trace of coldness arose within their hearts. Who the heck would actually dare to poison the Emperor of the Crimson Sky Kingdom!?

"If I agree to your request, will you really able to help me find the one that poisoned me?" The Emperor's gaze focused, and a dignified aura enveloped Duan Ling Tian.

Actually, he'd investigated in secret for a long time for the person who poisoned him, but he returned empty handed.

Duan Ling Tian remained unmoved as he lightly smiled. "If your majesty agrees to my request, not only am I able to help your majesty find the person who poisoned your majesty, but I'm even able to cure the poison for your majesty!"

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian couldn't help but sigh in his heart.

The Spirit Cleansing Pill is really a good thing...And I can use it no matter where I go.

"What!?" The Emperor's originally tranquil expression couldn't help but be moved when he heard what Duan Ling Tian said.

After all, even the Guild Master of the Alchemist Guild's Main Guild, a grade 6 alchemist, was helpless towards the poison he'd been infected with.

He had practically accepted his fate.

Based on his estimates, he could live for another half a year at most, so he had always asserted that he was sick to the public and not poisoned....

Actually, with his cultivation, how could he possibly get sick?

"You're really able to help me cure the poison?" The Emperor took a deep breath and stared fixedly at Duan Ling Tian with a slightly excited mood, as if he'd grabbed on to the last lifesaving straw.

If his poison were to be cured, he'd at least be able to live for another few tens of years.

"Your majesty, if you don't believe me, I can refine the medicinal pill to suppress the poison within your body right now...it's sufficient to suppress a portion of the poison within your body, and it will allow you to hold on for another year." Duan Ling Tian had a carefree expression and his body emitted a strong self-confidence.

"You...are an alchemist?" The Emperor was stunned.

Chi!

With a flip of his hand, a strand of pill fire was vaguely noticeable on Duan Ling Tian's palm.

Instantly, everyone present, besides Nie Yuan and Nie Fen, was stupefied.

This Duan Ling Tian, besides a heaven-defying natural talent in the Martial Dao and heaven defying natural talent as a strategist, he even had such heaven-defying natural talent in alchemy?

An 18-year-old grade 9 alchemist!

The gloominess in Gu You Ting's eyes went even deeper as he sneered, "Duan Ling Tian, if a mere grade 9 alchemist could cure the poison for his majesty, do you think you would have the chance to try?"

Chapter 218: Coercing The Emperor

Faced with Gu You Ting's mocking, Duan Ling Tian was too lazy to even pay attention to it.

Before long, under the request of Duan Ling Tian, the Emperor ordered for a pile of medicinal materials to be gathered for Duan Ling Tian, and it was precisely a portion of the medicinal materials to refine a grade 9 Spirit Cleansing Pill.

Duan Ling Tian didn't ask the Emperor to prepare some of the medicinal catalysts within the medicinal formula. He was holding back on the medicinal formula and didn't plan to refine a complete grade 9 Spirit Cleansing Pill for the Emperor to consume.

Since the ancient times, Emperors and Kings were the most ruthless.

This saying wasn't unfamiliar to him.

If he were to refine a complete grade 9 Spirit Cleansing Pill, he'd be able to easily uproot and cure all the toxic poison within the Emperor's body. But in this way, the Emperor would undoubtedly hold the advantageous position between them.

Even if the Emperor were to still establish the Embroidered Uniform Guard for him, he would surely be subjected to the Emperor's control at every corner and wouldn't be able to act freely.

Thus, he planned to keep the Emperor on tenterhooks and make the Emperor require his help. In this way, the Embroidered Uniform Guard members under his command would be able to act in an unrestrained manner.

After all, he had the Emperor backing him.

Even though the incomplete grade 9 Spirit Cleansing Pill was unable to uproot the poison within the Emperor, it would be able to help him temporarily suppress a portion of the poison....

"What a miraculous medicinal pill! I can feel that a considerable amount of the poison within my internal organs has been suppressed." After the Emperor consumed the incomplete grade 9 Spirit Cleansing Pill, his eyes shone and a pleasantly surprised expression appeared on his face.

"Your majesty, you need to consume this poison removal pill for a long period of time to be able to completely uproot the toxic poison within your body...If your majesty doesn't consume it for a period of time, the poison within your body will relapse once again, even to the extent that it might be even more unbridled than before, like a disaster! Thus, in the future, I will refine this poison removal pill for your majesty in predefined intervals." Duan Ling Tian lightly smiled to the Emperor. His eyes had flowing lights that revolved within, and only he knew what he was thinking within his heart.

"Duan Ling Tian, why don't you simply refine some more poison removal pills for me. How about it?" The Emperor looked at Duan Ling Tian with a burning gaze.

As the supreme Emperor of the Crimson Sky Kingdom, he naturally discerned what thoughts Duan Ling Tian had, and it was none other than wanting to coerce him. Moreover, if he wanted to live, he didn't have a choice....

"Your majesty, this poison removal pill is extremely difficult to refine, and unless I recuperate and build up my energy for a month, I don't have the confidence to continuously refine it successfully." Duan Ling Tian naturally shirked away.

Something was only valuable when it was rare. This little principle was something he naturally understood.

Gu You Ting looked at Duan Ling Tian as he slowly said, "Duan Ling Tian, since this is the case, then contribute the poison removal pill's medicinal formula...There's a considerable amount of alchemists within the Imperial Palace, and they can serve his majesty much better."

"Prime Minister Gu, I'm truly sorry, but my medicinal formula won't be shared with anyone." Duan Ling Tian glanced at Gu You Ting with a calm gaze.

Before Gu You Ting, he didn't have the mood to beat around the bush!

"Not even his majesty?" The corners of Gu You Ting's mouth had a trace of a sneer, as if he wanted to use the Emperor to compel Duan Ling Tian.

"Prime Minister Gu, you better not frighten me. If I were to be frightened by you and forgot the medicinal formula, in the end, even I wouldn't be able to refine it...At that time, if his majesty doesn't have any poison removal pills to use and his majesty's poison relapses, all the responsibility for the crime would be assumed by you!" Duan Ling Tian's eyes narrowed as he smiled lightly.

"You!" Gu You Ting's face went gloomy.

Meanwhile, the Divine Might Marquis stood out and looked at the Emperor. "Your majesty, according to your subject's knowledge...A medicinal formula has an extraordinary significance to an alchemist, and that poison removal pill's medicinal formula ought to be Duan Ling Tian's unique medicinal formula...To an alchemist, a unique medicinal formula is even more important than their lives!"

"What the Marquis says is true. Your majesty, this is understandable." Zhan Xiong stood out as well and spoke for Duan Ling Tian.

"What? Could it be that you're all worried that I would seize this kid's medicinal formula?" The Emperor smiled indifferently and looked at Duan Ling Tian. "Duan Ling Tian, I grant your request! From this day forth, I will decree to establish the Embroidered Uniform Guard...And you will be the commander of the Embroidered Uniform Guard! As for the members of the Embroidered Uniform Guard, the Divine Might Marquis will be responsible for dispatching them. How about it?" As he finished speaking, the Emperor looked at Nie Yuan.

"Your subject has no objection." Nie Yuan accepted the order.

"Thank you, your majesty." Duan Ling Tian nodded with a smile to the Emperor.

Prime Minister Gu You Ting had an expression that was as unsightly as unsightly could be.

The Embroidered Uniform Guard!

Directly under the Emperor and only took orders from the Emperor!

The Embroidered Uniform Guard commander, Duan Ling Tian, was only responsible to the Emperor and possessed the authority to act first and report to the Emperor afterwards!

Along with the Emperor's decree, the entire Imperial City was stirred by it.

The Embroidered Uniform Guard!

This name was something that was unfamiliar to everyone before today, but now it made everyone become muddle-headed.

When had such an organization ever appeared within the Crimson Sky Kingdom?

"Although I knew that Duan Ling Tian had performed a great meritorious service and that his majesty the Emperor would heavily reward him, I never imagined it would be so exaggerated...Once the Embroidered Uniform Guard is established, Duan Ling Tian, who's the commander of the Embroidered Uniform Guard, will virtually be comparable to the spokesman of his majesty the Emperor!"

"It's too exaggerated! Once this Embroidered Uniform Guard is formed, unrest will probably arise within the Imperial City again."

"Duan Ling Tian, at the mere age of 18, he's practically already standing at the peak of the Crimson Sky Kingdom. It's truly difficult to imagine!"

...

Every corner within the Imperial City was filled with similar discussions.

Within the audience hall of the Divine Might Marquis Estate.

"Little Tian, you're really quite bold, even daring to coerce his majesty the Emperor." The Divine Might Marquis Nie Yuan shook his head and smiled. He still sighed in shock when he thought of the scene he saw within the Imperial Palace.

A newborn calf really wasn't afraid of a tiger!

"Even I was shocked by you." Nie Fei looked at Duan Ling Tian as he laughed bitterly.

Duan Ling Tian lightly smiled. "What I was doing in this matter was originally like asking a tiger for its hide anyway...Uncle Nie, for the Embroidered Uniform Guard, besides Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang, I still need another nine people, but they must be elites."

"What's considered elite?" Nie Yuan glanced deeply at Duan Ling Tian and was slightly surprised that Duan Ling Tian only wanted so few people.

"Eight of them need to be existences that are on par with Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang at least...As for the last one, I want a Half-step Void Stage martial artist!" As Duan Ling Tian finished speaking, flowing lights revolved within his eyes.

Half-step Void Stage?

Nie Yuan and Nie Fen were both taken aback.

Nie Yuan returned to his senses and derided, "Kid, asking for eight people with strength not inferior to Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang has already made my heart ache...But now you simply demand an exorbitant request and directly ask for a Half-step Void Stage martial artist from me! Do you think a Half-step Void Stage is like the cabbage bought in the market?"

"Uncle Nie, if you can send the nine people I need to me, I'll give you a great opportunity." Duan Ling Tian's gaze focused as he smiled mysteriously.

"What great opportunity?" Nie Yuan looked at Duan Ling Tian with a questioning expression.

Even Nie Fen, who stood at the side, was interested.

Duan Ling Tian smiled as he asked, "Uncle Nie, have you heard of Monkey Wine?"

"Monkey Wine? What? You have some, kid?" Nie Yuan's gaze shone and was slightly surprised.

Nie Fen's breathing became hurried, as the Monkey Wine was a valuable treasure to an Origin Core martial artist due to it being able to increase the cultivation.

"Since Uncle Nie knows of the Monkey Wine, then have you heard of the Monkey King Wine?" Duan Ling Tian asked again.

"Monkey King Wine?" Nie Yuan shook his head. As for Nie Fen, he didn't know anything either.

"The Monkey King Wine possesses a medicinal effect comparable to a Void Advancement Pill..." Duan Ling Tian glanced deeply at Nie Yuan before slowly saying, "I think Uncle Nie ought to be interested in this, right?"

Void Advancement Pill?

Nie Yuan and Nie Fen were both stupefied.

Nie Yuan was the first to react. His pupils constricted and even his breathing became hurried while his chest was moved up and down like a bellow. "Little Tian, you...Are you speaking the truth?"

Duan Ling Tian didn't directly reply to Nie Fen. "With Uncle Nie's current cultivation, which is only a step away from the Void Prying Stage, if you had the assistance of the Monkey King Wine, then you would absolutely be able to successfully break through to the Void Prying Stage within half a year and face the Six-Nine Lightning Tribulation!"

"You even know of the Six-Nine Lightning Tribulation, kid?" Right at this moment, an aged figure silently walked in.

It was precisely the Divine Might Marquis Estate's Senior Marquis.

"Grandpa Nie." Duan Ling Tian wasn't able to notice the old man's arrival in the slightest, and he couldn't help but sigh in his heart. As expected of an existence at the Void Prying Stage; even if he's unable to use his Origin Energy, his attained stage is still there.

"Father!"

"Grandfather!"

Nie Yuan and Nie Fen respectfully bowed to the old man.

"Little Tian, Grandpa Nie will send two Half-step Void Stage martial artists to you and you give Grandpa Nie 2 drops of Monkey King Wine. How about it?" The old man looked at Duan Ling Tian, and his eyes flickered with a trace of a flowing light.

Two Half-step Void Stage martial artists?

Duan Ling Tian was shocked.

It looked like the Divine Might Marquis Estate's strength was even more formidable than he'd imagined.

Duan Ling Tian returned to his senses and lightly smiled. "Grandpa Nie, I'm afraid this won't do...I don't have much Monkey King Wine."

The old man didn't mind as he laughed and said, "Then leave one drop for your Uncle Nie, and Grandpa Nie will still send two Half-step Void Stage martial artists to you. How about it? I really never imagined that you'd actually be able to encounter the Monkey King Wine, that legendary thing,"

Obviously, the old man knew what the Monkey King Wine was.

"Thank you, Grandpa Nie!" Duan Ling Tian laughed before saying, "Grandpa Nie, I still have good news to tell you...In another few days, I ought to be able to condense a grade 8 Pill Fire. At that time, I'll be able to refine a grade 8 Spirit Cleansing Pill for you! Once you consume the grade 8 Spirit Cleansing Pill, the toxic poison within your body will be uprooted within three months."

The old man's eyes shone like a dazzling array of stars when he heard what Duan Ling Tian said.

Even Nie Yuan and Nie Fen both revealed pleasantly surprised expressions....

"Uncle Nie, these are the medicinal materials required for a grade 8 Spirit Cleansing Pill." Duan Ling Tian waved his hand and wrote out the list of medicinal materials required for a grade 8 Spirit Cleansing Pill. Of course, he'd written down an extra set of medicinal materials.

The other set was something he prepared to use to refine a grade 8 Spirit Cleansing Pill for Xiong Quan.

After three months, not only would the toxic poison within the old man's body be uprooted, but even Xiong Quan's cultivation would recover to the Void Prying Stage!

"OK! I'll get people to gather them right away." Nie Yuan nodded, and a trace of excitement was revealed between his brows.

"This is the drop of Monkey King Wine." Duan Ling Tian withdrew a pill bottle and passed it to Nie Yuan.

Nie Yuan opened the bottle plug, and the fragrance of the Monkey King Wine instantly suffused out....

Chapter 219: Wyrms Python Form

"This is the Monkey King Wine? It feels as if the Origin Energy within my body's been startled by its fragrance...." Nie Fen gazed at the Monkey King Wine within Nie Yuan's hands with a scorching gaze.

"I never imagined that I'd be able to smell the wine fragrance of the Monkey King Wine in my lifetime...truly a blessing of three lifetimes." The old man had a deeply moved expression.

As for the person in concern, Nie Yuan, he was instead overjoyed as he put away the Monkey King Wine.

Nie Fen's gaze descended onto Duan Ling Tian's figure as he rubbed his palm and fist together.

"Hehe...Little Tian, you...."

"Big Brother Nie, I'll give you a drop of Monkey King Wine when you step into the Half-step Void Stage!" Nie Fen hadn't even opened his mouth when Duan Ling Tian guessed what he wanted to say.

It wasn't that he was stingy, but the Monkey King Wine within that small bottle gourd might not even amount to 30 drops, and every drop counted. Thus, he had to use it sparingly.

Nie Fen laughed bitterly. "Half-step Void Stage, that's a matter of many years from now...."

"Big Brother Nie, I can't give you the Monkey King Wine, but I do have a lot of Monkey Wine." Duan Ling Tian raised his hand, and within his hand was a wine jug.

Instantly, the fragrance of the Monkey Wine suffused out into the air via the mouth of the wine jug....

"Good wine!" The gazes of the three Nie family members abruptly shone.

In next to no time, all three of them tasted the Monkey Wine, one by one.

Nie Fen, who sat cross-legged on the spot after he drank the Monkey Wine, calmed his heart as he circulated his cultivation method, only opening his eyes after quite some time.

"Just a little more and I'll be able to break through!" After Nie Fen came to, his gaze abruptly shone, and he unconsciously extended his hand to grab the wine jug; however, he noticed that the wine jug was completely empty.

"Where's the wine?" Nie Fen had a stunned expression.

"Uncle Nie and Grandpa Nie drank it." Duan Ling Tian shook his head with a smile.

Before Nie Fen could react, Duan Ling Tian slipped away at once, and he didn't forget to remind the old man and Nie Yuan, "Grandpa Nie, Uncle Nie...I'll leave the matter of my Embroidered Uniform Guard members to you. I'll come here to get them tomorrow."

"Grandfather, father, how could the both of you not leave anything for me? I only drank a cup... one cup!" Nie Fen had a bitter expression as he complained.

"Stupid kid, if you have the time to complain here, then why don't you ask Little Tian for a jug of Monkey Wine?" The old man shook his head.

"Right! How could I have forgotten? He was extremely stingy on the Monkey King Wine, but he can't be that stingy on the Monkey Wine, right?!" Nie Fen hurriedly stood up and ran after Duan Ling Tian only to notice that Duan Ling Tian had long since vanished without a trace.

"What a kid! No wonder he left in such a hurry!" Nie Fei had a helpless expression.

After leaving the Divine Might Marquis Estate, Duan Ling Tian directly returned home and shut himself up within his room, then he started refining the Dragon Blood Pill....

After an hour, the Dragon Blood Pill was completed!

Duan Ling Tian finally completed the tempering of his fleshly body for the ninth level of the Core Formation Stage after consuming the Dragon Blood Pill.

And the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique's second form, the Raging Python Form, attained perfection.

Without the slightest hesitation, Duan Ling Tian used his Origin Energy to draw out the residual medicinal strength from the Monkey King Wine that he drank the other day and started circulating his cultivation....

Before long, the bottleneck of the ninth level of the Core Formation Stage was broken through directly, and Duan Ling Tian's cultivation stepped into the Origin Core Stage in one go!

After stepping into the Origin Core Stage, there was still a little medicinal strength of the Monkey King Wine that remained within his body.

Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique's third form, the Wyrms Python Form!

Duan Ling Tian started to circulate the new mental cultivation technique to use up the remaining medicinal strength of the Monkey King Wine, and only when he approached the bottleneck of the first level of the Origin Core Stage was the medicinal strength of the Monkey King Wine completely expended.

Crackle crackle.... While slightly stretching his hands, a clear and melodious sound of bones rubbing against each other sounded.

Abruptly, he clenched his fist!

Swoosh!

Instantly, 31 ancient mammoth silhouettes condensed into form above Duan Ling Tian.

This was precisely the strength of Duan Ling Tian after stepping into the first level of the Origin Core Stage!

After breaking through to the first level of the Origin Core Stage, an ordinary martial artist would only possess the strength of 20 ancient mammoths at full strength, thus possessing the strength of eight ancient mammoths more than when they were at the ninth level of the Core Formation Stage!

Duan Ling Tian actually only had an extra strength of eight ancient mammoths compared to before as well, but this strength was something that was added onto the foundation that was his original strength.

He stepped into the ninth level of the Core Formation Stage by using the Raging Python Form mental cultivation method, and when he completed the tempering of his fleshly body, he possessed the strength of 23 ancient mammoths. The strength of 11 ancient mammoths was more than an ordinary ninth level Core Formation martial artist possessed!

And now, Duan Ling Tian, who'd broken through to the first level of the Origin Core Stage, still possessed an extra strength of 11 ancient mammoths compared to an ordinary martial artist with similar cultivation level!

"Eh, the third form of the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, the Wyrms Python Form, seems to not have tempering of the fleshly body anymore....In other words, I can only cultivate conventionally and obtain an increase in strength similar to an ordinary martial artist. However, regardless of what

cultivation level I've attained, I'll still possess the 11 ancient mammoths worth of strength more than martial artists at the same cultivation level!" Duan Ling Tian noticed this problem before long.

He understood in his heart that just because of this, he could be called invincible amongst martial artists with the same cultivation level!

However, as his cultivation level increases, his strength will slowly come closer and closer to a martial artist with the same cultivation level as him, and his advantage will slowly become smaller....

Duan Ling Tian felt a trace of pressure. I must diligently cultivate!

"So this is the Origin Core Stage!" Duan Ling Tian could clearly see the condition inside his Dantian by means of Internal Vision. Currently, the inside of his Dantian, the place where there was originally Origin Energy in the form of dispersed mist, had actually condensed into an Origin Core....

The Origin Core was entirely white as snow and was precisely condensed from Origin Energy!

The Origin Core Stage's name was precisely derived from this, and the strength of an Origin Core Stage martial artist was stored within the Origin Core that was in the Dantian.

If the Dantian were to be crippled, the Origin Core would lose its support and completely disappear, similar to the Origin Energy in the entire body dispersing....Just like Su Tong and Xue Lang, who Duan Ling Tian crippled that time.

In next to no time, Duan Ling Tian went to the rear courtyard to look for the two little girls and his mother, and he passed a pill bottle into each of their hands.

Within each pill bottle was a drop of Monkey King Wine.

"Young Master, what's this?" Ke Er had a curious expression as she asked.

Li Fei and Li Rou looked at Duan Ling Tian as well.

"This is Monkey King Wine....Ke Er, haven't you broken through to the ninth level of the Core Formation Stage? As long as you consume this Monkey King Wine and circulate the cultivation method you're cultivating, it's sufficient to assist you in breaking through to the Origin Core Stage!"

Duan Ling Tian laughed as he said to Li Fei, "Little Fei, it's the same for you. Your current cultivation is only a tiny bit away from breaking through to the ninth level of the Core Formation Stage. By relying on this drop of Monkey King Wine, you'll not only be able to break through the bottleneck and step into the ninth level of the Core Formation Stage, you even have a chance to break through to the first level of the Origin Core Stage in one go!"

Needless to say, what Duan Ling Tian said caused the two little girls to have excited expressions, and they directly returned to their rooms to cultivate.

"Mom, you go cultivate as well." Duan Ling Tian looked at Li Rou and lightly smiled.

Li Rou lightly nodded before following behind Ke Er and Li Fei to return to her room.

Duan Ling Tian left the house and found a clothing store, then he made to order 13 sets of Volador Robes according to the memories from his previous lifetime.

"How long before it's done?" Duan Ling Tian asked the manager.

"Customer, these 13 sets of clothes and personal adornments you've ordered are all extremely complicated, so even if I were to accelerate the work, I'm afraid it will require three days," the manager slowly said.

"Three days?" Duan Ling Tian frowned. "It's too long. Think of another way." Duan Ling Tian raised his hand, and besides the money that he paid earlier, he put down another 10,000 silver.

The manager's pupils constricted and he hurriedly nodded. "Customer, I understand. I'll get a few more people to accelerate to work through the night, and it'll definitely be completed tomorrow."

"OK." Duan Ling Tian nodded, then he turned around to leave. He then found a weapon store and ordered 13 sabre sheaths. Next, he bought some materials required for weapon crafting.

After returning home, he refined these materials into 13 spirit sabers.

Volador Robes, Embroidered Spring Sabre!

This was the true Embroidered Uniform Guard!

A trace of a smile appeared on the corners of Duan Ling Tian's mouth.

After the Crimson Sky Kingdom's Emperor established the organization known as the Embroidered Uniform Guard, the Emperor also drew out a vast courtyard house within the inner city as the residence of the Embroidered Uniform Guard.

When Duan Ling Tian arrived at the courtyard house, he noticed that there was already someone waiting there.

"Commander Duan!" Duan Ling Tian had only just entered the courtyard house when a middle-aged man walked over to greet him. The middle-aged man was wearing the armor of the Imperial Army, and traces of dignity were revealed from between his brows. He obviously wasn't an ordinary soldier.

"You recognize me? You are?" Duan Ling Tian ask wonderingly.

"Commander Duan, I'm the Imperial Army's Captain Meng Yang. His Majesty ordered me to pass these to Commander Duan."

In next to no time, Meng Yang passed a pile of Order Tokens to Duan Ling Tian.

These Order Tokens were all exactly the same, besides one of them, which was comparatively special.

All of the Order Tokens had a similarity; they all had three words engraved on top: Embroidered Uniform Guard.

"Captain Meng, thank you for the trouble." Duan Ling Tian received the Order Tokens and nodded with a smile to Meng Yang.

"Commander Duan, you're most welcome." Meng Yang replied with a smile. Although it was only an 18-year-old youth that stood before him, he didn't dare look down upon Duan Ling Tian in the slightest.

What a joke!

This youth was the most popular figure within the Crimson Sky Kingdom's army right now.

Since becoming aware of the establishment of the organization known as the Embroidered Uniform Guard, an unknown amount of people would fight for a chance to join it....

"Commander Duan." Meng Yang looked at Duan Ling Tian and seemed to be hesitant.

"Captain Meng, is there something else?" Duan Ling Tian asked.

"Commander Duan, I wonder if there is a lack of personnel in your Embroidered Uniform Guard?" Meng Yang asked.

Duan Ling Tian laughed as he asked, "What? Captain Meng, are you thinking of abandoning the Imperial Army to join my Embroidered Uniform Guard?"

"No, it's a brother of my subordinate. He especially admires Commander Duan...." Meng Yang shook his head.

"So long as there isn't a problem with his character, and his cultivation is at the seventh level of the Nascent Soul Stage or above, then the Embroidered Uniform Guard will take him." Duan Ling Tian said slowly.

Meng Yang was dumbstruck when he heard what Duan Ling Tian said.

Seventh level of the Nascent Soul Stage?

Even he, who was the Captain of the Imperial Army, was only at the seventh level of the Nascent Soul Stage....

Meng Yang fiercely gulped down a mouthful of saliva and asked slightly hesitantly, "Commander Duan, can it be that your Embroidered Uniform Guard only recruits people at the seventh level of the Nascent Soul Stage or above?"

Duan Ling Tian nodded. "Exactly, this is the lowest threshold."

Lowest threshold?

Meng Yang noticed that his heart was going to jump out at any moment.

Good heavens!

This Commander Duan was really no ordinary person.

Along with the departure of Meng Yang, in next to no time, the lowest threshold requirement for the Embroidered Uniform Guard spread throughout the Imperial Army and even throughout the Imperial City....

Chapter 220: The Death of Xue Lu

The Embroidered Uniform Guards' lowest threshold for acceptance was the seventh level of the Nascent Soul Stage.

For some time, it became the laughing stock of the entire Imperial City, as they all felt that the Commander of the Embroidered Uniform Guard, Duan Ling Tian, was indulging in the wildest of fantasies.

How could an existence above the seventh level of the Nascent Soul Stage be someone he could recruit just because he wants to?!

The sky was filled with red clouds at dusk.

Imperial City, at the City Guard Army's campsite.

13 tall and big horses stood still before the campsite's entrance, then 13 figures jumped off to descend to the ground.

These 13 people wore standardised Volador Robes!

On each of their waists hung an order token and a narrow and long sabre, the Embroidered Spring Sabre!

A youth took the lead among the 13 people.

A trace of immaturity could be vaguely noticed in the youth's handsome face.

One could tell that the youth was about to turn 19 and become a young man.

"Who are you all?" The 10 armored soldiers who stood guard before the entrance to the City Guard Army's campsite glared fiercely when they saw the 13 approaching people.

"Presumptuous!" The youth in the lead snorted coldly as his cold and indifferent gaze swept past the City Guard Army soldiers. He paid no attention to them as he directly entered the City Guard Army's campsite.

"You all...." One of the soldiers took a step forward, wanting to block their path; however, he was instead pulled back by one of the soldiers beside him.

"What are you doing? Don't you see that someone is forcing their way into our City Guard Army's campsite?" The soldier that intended to block them frowned.

"Have you gone insane? Didn't you see the order token on their waists? They're the Embroidered Uniform Guard!" The soldier that pulled the first soldier back took a deep breath, and a sense of terror of mixed between his brows.

"What? The Embroidered Uniform Guard? Isn't the lowest threshold for acceptance into the Embroidered Uniform Guard the seventh level of the Nascent Soul Stage? Could it be that there're really people who joined the Embroidered Uniform Guard?"

"Who knows....If I'm not wrong, then the youth in the lead ought to be the Embroidered Uniform Guard's Commander, Duan Ling Tian."

"The existence of the Embroidered Uniform Guard was approved by his majesty the Emperor. Commander Duan is even the spokesman of his majesty the Emperor. Not to mention me, even the Lord Commander of our City Guard Army would probably need to fear him slightly."

...

Duan Ling Tian entered the City Guard Army's campsite and headed directly for the tent at the center. Everywhere he passed, the City Guard Army soldiers would give way.

Duan Ling Tian led the way with two old men following right behind him, and behind the two old men were 10 middle-aged men.

Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang were shockingly amongst the 10 middle-aged men.

Duan Ling Tian made a trip to the Divine Might Marquis Estate this morning and separated himself from the destiny of being a commander with no one to command.

He'd taken 10 people from the Divine Might Marquis Estate, and adding on Zhang Qian and Zhao Gang, the current Embroidered Uniform Guard had exactly 13 people including him.

An urgent figure rushed into the tent at the center of the City Guard Army's campsite and hurriedly reported, "Lord Commander, the Embroidered Uniform Guard....The Embroidered Uniform Guard has come!"

"What?!" The City Guard Army Commander, Xue Lu's, expression went slightly grim. "How many of them have come?"

"A total of 13 people including Commander Duan," the person that entered earlier replied

"13 people? In other words, besides him, there're 12 existences at the seventh level of the Nascent Soul Stage or above? What extravagance by the Divine Might Marquis, he's actually being so cooperative to the little bastard....Right, the Divine Might Marquis was the good friend of that little bastard's father after all." Xue Lu's face sank as he said to the person that entered earlier, "Go notify the other Captains to call out all the brothers within the campsite....I want to let that little bastard know that my City Guard Army's campsite isn't a place he can act as he pleases!"

"Yes." The person who entered earlier accepted the orders and left.

"Duan Ling Tian, you're really fortunate! Even the Nascent Soul martial artist I sent wasn't able to claim your life.... However, today, since you've brought people over to my City Guard Army's campsite to behave atrociously, then I'll make this trip your last!" Traces of breathtaking coldness flickered within Xue Lu's eyes.

Outside.

Duan Ling Tian arrived near the center tent and stopped his footsteps. The 12 behind him stopped in tow.

Meanwhile, the soldiers that were garrisoned within the City Guard Army campsite dashed over, and for some time, the ground trembled and the mountains swayed.

The group of City Army Guard soldiers surrounded Duan Ling Tian's group like a bucket surrounding water, causing them to have no path to escape.

In next to no time, Duan Ling Tian met Xue Lu once again.

Xue Lu walked over in large strides. His face was filled with a bloodthirsty smile. "Duan Ling Tian, I never imagined that you'd actually deliver yourself to me on your own accord....In the outside, you have the identity as the Commander of the Embroidered Uniform Guard, and I'd perhaps be apprehensive about killing you. But now that you've forced entry into my City Guard Army's campsite for no reason, even if I do kill you, I think his Majesty wouldn't blame me."

Duan Ling Tian never imagined that Xue Lu would threaten to kill him the moment he appeared.

Looks like it was really correct of him to come today!

"Xue Lu, you're as conceited as before...Didn't you say I'd definitely die that day? Aren't I still alive and well?" The corners of Duan Ling Tian's mouth curled into a mocking smile when faced with Xue Lu's provocation.

"You!" Xue Lu's face sank. "If it wasn't for the arrival of your Duan Clan's Grand Elder, you would have been a corpse back then! However, it's the same today....I have to say, you really caused me to be extremely surprised. You set the threshold for acceptance into the Embroidered Uniform Guard so high, but the Divine Might Marquis actually gave you 12 people."

"You know they're people the Divine Might Marquis gave me?" Duan Ling Tian was slightly surprised.

"Humph! What I know is beyond your imagination." Xue Lu sneered.

Duan Ling Tian's eyes narrowed as he focused his gaze onto Xue Lu and slowly said, "Commander Xue, I came here today mainly to talk about the incident from five months ago with you.... The person you sent to kill me has already died within the desolate wilderness. I'm here today to settle the accounts between us. I won't be greedy, just give me 10,000,000 silver as fees to help me get over my shock. How about it?"

The surrounding City Guard Army soldiers were dumbstruck when what Duan Ling Tian said entered their ears.

10,000,000 silver, and it's not being greedy?

Is this Commander of the Embroidered Uniform Guard joking!?

"Duan Ling Tian, looks like you already know it all...." Xue Lu's gaze went slightly cold. "You have some ability; actually being able to pry open my subordinate's mouth."

"What, Commander Xue Lu, are you admitting it?" Duan Ling Tian asked with a laugh.

"So what if I admit?" Xue Lu sneered, and his eyes revealed a bone-piercing coldness.

"Then quickly hand over the fees for helping me get over my shock so I can take my brothers to have a few drinks." The corners of Duan Ling Tian's mouth curled into a deep smile.

"You still want to collect fees?" Xue Lu started laughing, laughing wildly and arrogantly, laughing without restraint. "Duan Ling Tian, you seem to have not figured out the circumstances. Could it be that you think these few people you brought can go against my thousands of City Guard Army officers? Let me tell you, if everyone here spits at you, it would be sufficient do drown you all to death!"

"Looks like you're extremely confident, Commander Xue." Duan Ling Tian had a carefree expression; however, a sense of mocking jumped within his eyes.

"Hmph! Duan Ling Tian, don't think that you are a truly great figure just because you've obtained the title of Embroidered Uniform Guard Commander Let me tell you, you're nothing before me!" Xue Lu extended his hand to point at Duan Ling Tian's face, and his saliva sprayed out as he spoke in a condescending tone.

Duan Ling Tian's face went cold. Whether it was this life or his previous lifetime, what he hated the most was someone pointing at his face as they preached.

There was once a mercenary who'd come from the most outstanding navy SEAL forces of M Nation that pointed at this face and spouted a bunch of nonsense, so Duan Ling Tian directly smashed open his skull!

"Kill him!" Right at the same time that the killing intent on Duan Ling Tian's body rushed into the sky, Duan Ling Tian's incomparably cold and indifferent voice followed.

"Kill me?" Xue Lu started laughing with a face full of mocking and disdain.

However, in next to no time, his smile froze... because his head had already left his body....

Bang!

A pillar of blood gushed out, and most of the City Guard Army soldiers present weren't even in time to react when they noticed that their Commander's head had already left his body.

In the next moment, they saw that one of the old men behind Duan Ling Tian had drops of fresh blood sprinkle down his feet as he put away his narrow sabre....

The captains of the City Guard Army all looked at the old man with a stupefied expression, with faces filled with disbelief.

They only saw the old man transform into an afterimage and even weren't in time to see clearly how many ancient mammoth silhouettes had actually appeared above the old man before their Commander was killed.

They were absolutely sure that this old man was at least an existence at the ninth level of the Nascent Soul Stage....His strength was absolutely not inferior to their Commander! And because he attacked unexpectedly, he was able to kill their Commander with a single strike.

"Hmph!" Duan Ling Tian snorted coldly, then he slowly turned around with the 12 members of the Embroidered Uniform Guard that wore Volador Robes and had Embroidered Spring Sabers on their waists and walked out of the campsite in large strides.

Everywhere they passed, the officers of the City Guard Army made way. Now that the Commander had died, they naturally wouldn't be stupid enough to rush up and seek death.

The people who this Commander of the Embroidered Uniform Guard brought weren't only at the seventh level of the Nascent Soul Stage; amongst them were even ninth level Nascent Soul Stage powerhouses....

The ninth level of the Nascent Soul Stage, in terms of strength, was capable of becoming a commander of any army within the Crimson Sky Kingdom.

However, now they willingly followed behind this Embroidered Uniform Guard Commander and served him.

After Duan Ling Tian leaped up onto his horse after walking out of the City Guard Army's campsite, a trace of a smile appeared on his face....

This feeling is indeed satisfying!

Today was truly enjoyable!

If someone were to know of Duan Ling Tian's current thoughts, it was a mystery as to what their expression would be.

Right when Duan Ling Tian and his 12 subordinates returned to the Embroidered Uniform Guards' residence.

A shocking piece of news spread out from within the City Guard Army's campsite to instantly sweep over the entire Imperial City....

The Embroidered Uniform Guards' Commander Duan Ling Tian, had brought along 12 Embroidered Uniform Guards and forced entry into the City Guard Army's campsite. He then killed the City Guard Army's Commander Xue Lu and left leisurely.

This piece of news completely muddled many people who didn't look favorably upon the Embroidered Uniform Guard and even secretly mocked the Embroidered Uniform Guards' Commander Duan Ling Tian as a commander with no one to command.

"The threshold for acceptance into the Embroidered Uniform Guard is so high, but it's still able to recruit 12 people?"

"12 existences at the seventh level of the Nascent Soul Stage or above....This group of Embroidered Uniform Guards are practically an elite composition, representing quality over quantity!"

"I heard that the person that attacked and killed the City Guard Army Commander Xue Lu was only an Embroidered Uniform Guard under Commander Duan's command....And he killed Commander Xue Lu with a single sabre strike!"

"I heard about it as well. Based on my estimations, the strength of that Embroidered Uniform Guard is definitely a first rate ninth level Nascent Soul Stage figure."

"Definitely! If he isn't at the ninth level of the Nascent Soul Stage, how could he possibly attack unexpectedly and kill Commander Xue Lu, who's also at the ninth level of the Nascent Soul Stage?"