## A Demoness 661

Chapter 661 - 661: Meeting Hai Ming and Offering Him A Fruit

On the continent beneath the stars, Xu Bai stood in front of the Burning Immortal Formation, neither entering it nor letting others do so.

He simply waited. No one knew what he was waiting for. Many people approached him, but they couldn't make him interested in other places. It seemed that as long as they informed him of everyone's finds, it was enough.

On this day, while MO Chuan and others were still exploring a new area following the blue-robed senior, they discovered a secret chamber and some documents.

While some were searching for other things, MO Chuan began to read the documents. At first, there was nothing special, but the more he read, the more alarmed he became.

"What's wrong?" asked the blue-robed senior.

"Senior Sister, take a look at this, and this!" MO Chuan exclaimed.

The blue-robed senior took the books with doubt. At first, she felt nothing, but the more she read, the more alarmed she became. She felt as though she had narrowly escaped death.

"It's a trap. If we had entered at that time, then ... "

When she thought of that, her hands trembled.

The content of the documents was extensive, but it all boiled down to one thing: the statement about being able to control the Burning Immortal Formation was fake. It was a trap left for them. Once the formation was activated, the Heavenly Fire would burn all life.

Even immortals wouldn't be able to resist. Everything would be incinerated, and a catastrophe would unfold.

They had almost entered the Burning Immortal Formation and almost activated it. The horrifying nature of the revelation made it hard for them to stay calm.

They exchanged glances and quickly left to find Xu Bi.

A little while later, Xu Bi saw the books. "I expected this. You don't need to worry."

"Senior Brother, did you already know?" MO Chuan couldn't believe it.

"Why didn't you mention it, Junior Brother Xu?" asked the blue-robed senior. Xu Bi smiled. "Don't you already know why, Junior Brother and Senior Sister?" The blue-robed senior felt ashamed.

They knew that if Xu Bi had mentioned it at that time, they might not have entirely believed him either. They would have believed the documents they found and then would have argued with him.

Their admiration for Xu Bi grew even more.

"By the way, the documents mention the Xuanyuan Sword," MO Chuan said as he looked at the books. "It seems to contain an accurate burial location." "Where is it?" Xu Bi asked curiously.

"On the Sun Moon Peak." MO Chuan frowned slightly. "There's only a name and nothing else. It'll be hard to find."

"It's in the Blackheaven Sect," Xu Bi said. "I've been there. They have a Sun Moon Peak, and the Xuanyuan Clan is also there. They probably don't know about the Xuanyuan Sword."

The Xuanyuan Clan had already lost its inheritance, so it wasn't surprising that they didn't know about it.

"Want to go check it out?" MO Chuan asked curiously.

Xu Bi shook his head. They couldn't leave. Even if they could, there was no need to take the Xuanyuan Sword by force.

Since the Grand Earth Emperor was about to appear, they could leave the sword for him. If someone else tried to take it, they could take it to the Bright Moon Sect.

The Clear School Sky might also get involved.

After all, that sword was wielded by the Human Emperor back in the day. They would definitely be interested.

Although there were not many records, they all indicated one thing: the Human Emperor had suppressed everything to ensure the survival of the human race.

Jiang Hao slowly opened his eyes. His current spiritual powers had been reset to zero, but he had indeed obtained a new ability.

Without much thought, he checked his interface.

[Divine Ability: Nine Revolutions Death Substitution (unique), Daily Appraisal,

Clear and Pure Heart, Reappearance of Hidden Spirit, Divine Might, Revival of Withered Tree, Heavenly Cauldron, Indestructible Vajra]

"Indestructible Vajra?"

Although the name of the ability was interesting, it was unlikely to be genuinely unbreakable. Looking at it now, his body didn't change much. He decided to try using the ability and see what happened after activating it.

In an instant, Jiang Hao felt his blood, flesh, and bones changing within his body. Faint golden light emanated from him, although there was no significant change.

However, there was a massive transformation inside his body. He took out his Heavenly Blade and swung it.

Clang!

Firelight appeared, but his arm didn't sustain any damage. With the assistance of his Return to Void power, he swung the blade, and it didn't have much effect either.

He clenched his fist and felt the increase in strength. His speed should have been enhanced as well.

"Now, I practically have no weaknesses."

Jiang Hao was quite satisfied with this new ability. It made him feel significantly safer.

It also provided more attack methods. Although not as powerful as the Heavenly Blade, it only required lifeblood and not cultivation.

'I feel stronger. I want to test it on someone.' Jiang Hao shook his head and sighed. 'I'm getting ahead of myself.'

Even if his mental state had improved, this showed how quickly his strength had increased beyond the scope of his mental resilience.

Putting away the ability, Jiang Hao thought about where he should test it. He decided to look for Hai Ming.

'He used to keep an eye on me, but now he's nowhere to be seen.'

With that in mind. Tiang Hao took out the Thousand Faces Treasure Fan.

Of course, he also had a fruit in his hand.

It was the Tranquil Heart Fruit.

At the Flowing Waterfall, Hai Ming was instructing some disciples.

"You've done very well, everyone. Just go back and practice more. If you have any questions, feel free to ask me."

"Thank you, Senior."

All the disciples bowed.

After the disciples left, Hai Ming's face darkened. He looked toward the distant woods. "Since you've arrived, why don't you come out for a chat? Is hiding from the world a habit you can't break, my friend?"

"Hiding from the world? How could it be?" said a voice and startled Hai Ming. "Hai Ming, you didn't notice I was already behind you? It seems you've grown old.'

Hai Ming remained calm and turned to look at the newcomer. It was a weak-looking scholar holding a folding fan.N♡vɛlBin: Unleashing Imagination, One Read at a Time.

On the fan, the words, "Smiling San Sheng," flashed.

The scholar looked at Hai Ming with a friendly smile, as if they were old friends who hadn't seen each other in years.

"Who are you, friend?" Hai Ming asked.

"You're quite the actor," Jiang Hao said with a smile. "I've come to catch up with you and share some things along the way."

"I'm not sure what you mean, friend, but if you want to share something, I don't mind," Hai Ming said.

"Calling someone like me 'friend' doesn't sound right. How can you call me a 'friend'?" Jiang Hao looked at him with a big smile. "You should call me 'old man' instead."

Hai Ming looked at Jiang Hao in indifference.

"Not funny?" Jiang Hao stopped and then took out a Tranquil Heart Fruit. "These are fruits I bought overseas. They are supposedly quite good. Would you like one?"

Hai Ming sneered. "Enjoy it yourself."

"In that case, I won't hold back." Jiang Hao took a bite of the fruit. "The taste is just okay. By the way, I forgot to tell you that I picked all the fruit from this tree. I also brought the tree back with me.. Don't you want to give it a try?"

Chapter 662 - 662: Killing You Like Slaughtering A Dog

Jiang Hao continued to eat the fruit while observing the person in front of him.

The other person remained stoic, without any noticeable change in his face. At times, he even wondered if he had the wrong person. Or perhaps he had been deceived by Madam Gong.

But once the bow was drawn, the arrow must be released.

Since he had come here, he would treat it as a game. Even if he embarrassed himself, it would be fine. That wouldn't affect "Jiang Hao." Soon, he moved to sit at the table.

"Why don't you come and sit with me? I followed your advice and went overseas. The trip was quite exciting, and I learned a lot. I got so excited that I rushed here to share it with you," Jiang Hao said with a smile.

"I don't understand what you're talking about, but if you want to share something. I don't mind." Hai Ming said while sitting down comfortably.

However, his eyes were cold. "Smiling San Sheng's name hasn't come up in a long time. You went overseas and returned in such a short time... it doesn't add up."

"Have we not met before?" Jiang Hao asked.

"The Thousand Faces Treasure Fan is known by many," Hai Ming said coldly. Jiang Hao lowered his head to look at the fan and chuckled. "I see."

Then he took two Tranquil Heart Fruits out of his pocket and set them on the table.

"The entire tree only had three fruits in total. Are you sure you won't have one?" Jiang Hao placed the fruits on the table and began eating the second one himself. "The taste is just okay, with a touch of spiritual energy but no benefit for cultivation. I don't know why they're so expensive."

In fact, Jiang Hao didn't know the price of the fruits, and he didn't ask. If he asked, he might not be able to eat them. How could he make Feng Hua suffer in vain?

"Since they're so ordinary, I won't eat them. You can enjoy them yourself," Hai Ming said.

"Well, I kindly invited you, but you don't appreciate it," Jiang Hao said. He sounded somewhat disappointed.

"Friend, you are not from Heavenly Note Sect, are you? Entering recklessly could lead to problems," Hai Ming said. He sounded friendly, but his words held a threat.

"Aren't we friends? Would you reveal my presence to the sect?" Jiang Hao smiled. "After I get caught, I can confess your involvement. We are friends who share good times and bad."

Hai Ming furrowed his brow. "How could I dare to be friends with someone like you?"

"In that case, will you inform the Heavenly Note Sect that I infiltrated the sect?" Jiang Hao asked after taking a bite of the second fruit.

Hai Ming thought about it. "Friend, please leave as soon as possible."

"Seems like you consider me a friend. In that case, I'll give you this fruit." Jiang Hao picked up the remaining fruit from the table and handed it to Hai Ming.

"Keep it for yourself," said Hai Ming coldly.

"Aren't we friends?" Jiang Hao looked a bit angry. "I kindly offered this to you, and you refused it. Do you think lowly of me?" "Will you leave if I take it?" Hai Ming asked.

"Of course." Jiang Hao nodded.

"Very well." Hai Ming extended his hand as if to accept the fruit. "I hope you will leave soon and not return.'

"Just a moment. Before I leave, there's something I want to do, or rather, something I want you to understand," Jiang Hao said as he got up and moved closer to Hai Ming Daoist. He then raised his fan and pointed it at him.

At that moment, Hai Ming felt an inexplicable pressure emanating from Jiang Hao's Primordial Spirit. It immobilized him. He was unable to move. He watched as the fan pointed at his forehead.

## Swish!

A flash of blade-like light cut across his entire body and sent him flying. Jiang Hao unfolded the fan and revealed the words: "Unrivaled in the World."

"Do you understand what I wanted to tell you now?" Jiang Hao asked with a smile. "Killing you is like slaughtering a dog."

"Today, I've given you the first gift. There will be more to come. In the future, when you hear the name of Smiling San Sheng, you'll only know darkness.

Hahaha!"

With that, Jiang Hao disappeared from the spot.

Hai Ming felt a sense of dread, yet he remained silent. He clenched his fists.

Back in the courtyard, Jiang Hao breathed a sigh of relief.

Since he wanted to suppress Feng Hua, it needed to be done gradually.

He had no other purpose for doing that, except as revenge. Smiling San Sheng's name would strike fear in her.

Otherwise, how could they communicate as equals?

Feng Hua needed to know that there was no turning back. For that, she needed to be approached with caution.

There were still four Tranquil Heart Fruits left. The next time he contacted Feng Hua, he would eat them in front of her. He would eat the last one when he visited the Sunset Immortal Sect. That would teach her.

'I wonder if she's getting anxious.' Jiang Hao mused as he shed his disguise.

Killing Hai Ming was not an option as he didn't dare to cause a disturbance within the sect. Besides, whether or not he killed Hai Ming had no impact on Feng Hua, as she could simply send another avatar.

The first step had already been completed, and now he had to wait for the right opportunity.

First, he needed to accumulate bubbles, which was the core of everything. Only when he became stronger would other matters become convenient.

Otherwise, if Feng 1–1ua sent a more powerful avatar, it would complicate things, and he would have to avoid her.

Half a month later, at the beginning of December, Jiang Hao resumed control of the Spirit Herb Garden.

Most people knew that he had returned. During this time, even Lian Qin visited and mentioned that Qian Chen might also be a Blood Wish Path cultivator. She wondered if he might target other Blood Wish Path cultivators.

Jiang Hao merely smiled and didn't respond. He knew that this was a message passed on to him by Bai Ye.

Apart from this, there was nothing else for now.

Senior Sister Ming Yi didn't appear, and Han Ming was also absent. It wasn't clear if they were too busy.

In any case, nobody came to disturb him, which was something he found nice.

"Junior Brother, you're back?" Miao Tinglian greeted him.

"Senior Sister Miao." Jiang Hao, who was taking care of the spirit herbs, stood up.

"You should look after Junior Sister Xiao Li more," Miao Tinglian said helplessly.

"What happened to Xiao Li?" Jiang Hao was puzzled.

Miao Tinglian sighed. "Lately, she's been acting strange and damaging a lot of things. It seems like she's having trouble controlling her power. If you don't handle this soon, the Master will have to step in."

"Trouble controlling her power?" Jiang Hao immediately thought of the Archean Abyss Dragon Pearl. It seemed like he needed to pay more attention to this..

Chapter 663 - 663: Master, Xiao Li Secretly Brought Me Something To Eat

On the outskirts of Madam Gong's residence, a person dressed in a black robe approached step by step.

He arrived at a wall near the back door.

He stared at it for a moment, then placed his hand on the wall.

Soon, a formation appeared.

Then, he placed a bottle of pills into it.

He waited for a moment, but what he wanted didn't come out.

Another moment passed.

The pill came out again.

The person didn't immediately take it but stood quietly. It was unclear how much time had passed before he picked up the pill and left.

He remained unaffected.

It seemed like he came and went calmly.

No one knew what he wanted to do.

"Senior Sister Miao, I know about Xiao Li's situation now, but why haven't you left yet?" Jiang Hao asked.

He looked around and noticed that Senior Brother Mu Qi was also nearby. He was searching for some spirit herbs.

"How old are you, Junior Brother?" Miao Tinglian asked.

"Thirty-three," Jiang Hao said.

"Thirty-three? Will you turn thirty-four in a month?" Miao Tinglian asked.

Jiang Hao was speechless.

"Isn't thirty-four quite old?" Miao Tinglian asked again.

Jiang Hao didn't know how to respond.

But, yes, thirty-four was relatively old. He had never been this old before.

"Normal people would already be married with children by that age, right?" Miao Tinglian said.

"Senior Sister, do you have someone in mind?" Jiang Hao asked.

"Oh, do I seem that predictable? Come, I'll show you. These are the ones I've scouted from various branches in the sect," Miao Tinglian said as she took out some portraits.

Jiang Hao was speechless.

'Doesn't Senior Sister Miao practice her cultivation every day?'

"Look at this one, a cultivator in the early stage of the Golden Core Realm from the Ice Moon Valley. She's very obedient. When I mentioned you, her face turned red. She's excellent," Miao Tinglian said.

Jiang Hao was at a loss for words.

"How about it? Do you like her?" Miao Tinglian asked.

"Senior Sister Miao, I think my cultivation realm is still too low," Jiang Hao said. "I need to focus on that for now."

"Early thirties and already in the early stage of the Golden Core Realm... you think it's still too low?" Miao Tinglian asked. "Then, what am I?"

"How old are you, Senior Sister?" Jiang Hao asked.

"Mu Qi says I'm still a young maiden like the day he met me," Miao Tinglian said proudly.

Jiang Hao was quite surprised. "You met Senior Brother Mu Qi when you were that young?"

"Yeah." Miao Tinglian didn't hide it.

It had been quite a long time since she was in her teens. Jiang Hao nodded. But it seemed that Miao Tinglian was the only one who could attract Senior Brother Mu Qi of the Heavenly Note Sect.

"Let's get back to business. If you think it's possible, you two can meet. I'll arrange it, " Miao Tinglian said.

Jiang Hao was speechless.

It took a lot of effort to persuade Senior Brother Mu Qi to take her away.

At noon, Senior Brother Bu Ye arrived.

He came to discuss the matter of the spirit herb seeds.

They were top-grade spirit herbs.

Jiang Hao examined them and found that they required three months for germination, but Bu Ye's requirement was six months.

It seemed like a normal request.

Jiang Hao accepted it without making any additional demands.

Bu Ye sighed with relief.

As long as Jiang Hao agreed, they could continue their collaboration with the spirit herbs.

Everything was going as planned.

Members of the Candlelight Pill Pavilion were not concerned about this.

Those who were still worried felt that their previous success might have been due to luck.

Bu Ye, on the other hand, wasn't afraid of losses. He already felt indebted to Jiang Hao. If Jiang Hao wanted to try something else that incurred a little loss, he wasn't worried about it.

This time, the planting wasn't as extensive as before. There were only a hundred and five seeds in total. Jiang Hao spent three days planting them, just like before.

He was responsible for these as well.

Cheng Chou also discussed Xiao Li's situation with him.

Jiang Hao went to check and found that the pearl was nurturing Xiao Li's body, which had disrupted her perception of her own strength.

Jiang Hao had to suppress the pearl again.

He suppressed it every five days and didn't completely seal it so that Xiao Li could gradually adapt.

With the pearl, Xiao Li could defeat powerful opponents even if she was just in the Foundation Establishment Realm.

She was safe, but her self-awareness was lacking.

It wasn't suitable for her to leave the mountain.

One month later, around early January, Jiang Hao had been waiting for Senior Sister Ming Yi and Junior Brother Han Ming.

There were no changes in Senior Brother Qian Chen's situation, but there was no need to worry about it for now.

The Heart of the Ancestral Dragon had appeared for a long time now. It should have found its owner.

This reunion should have taken place as well.

However, it hadn't started yet, so it was likely that the owner had not been decided.

After some hesitation, Jiang Hao called the spirit beast.

"Master, what are we going to do today?" The spirit beast wiped its mouth and asked.

"Is there anything that has happened lately?" Jiang Hao asked.

"Nothing." The spirit beast shook its head. "Everything is fine."

"That's good." Jiang Hao nodded, then grabbed the spirit beast by the ear and lifted it up.

Then, he went inside and tied it up.

"Oh, is it time already, Master?" The spirit beast was excited.

Jiang Hao glared at it and told it that it wouldn't be allowed to eat anything other than spirit stones starting from tomorrow.

The spirit beast readily agreed.

The next day, Jiang Hao took out 490 spirit stones.

"Master, shouldn't we start with a smaller amount?" asked the spirit beast.

It was familiar with being tied up now.

"Go ahead and eat," Jiang Hao said.

The spirit beast could only eat one piece at a time. It crunched on the spirit stones happily.

After eating half of it, the spirit beast hiccuped and couldn't eat anymore. "Master, it seems the spirit stones don't show me respect," the spirit beast said.

Jiang Hao looked at it but didn't say anything.

It kept eating until late at night when it finally finished all the spirit stones. Jiang Hao sighed. He wouldn't be able to go to the Spirit Herb Garden today.

It was quite a loss.

However, the situation with the spirit beast was critical. If there was a mistake, he would lose 409 spirit stones in a day, and he couldn't afford that.

A month later, the spirit beast began to get used to it. It even began enjoying it.

"Master, it's morning. It's time for breakfast."

"Master, hurry up! Xiao Li secretly got something for me to eat."

"Master, I'm hungry."

"Master..."

As time passed, the spirit beast started eating the spirit stones faster.

Over a month later, eighty-one days had passed. It was almost the end of

March.

Jiang Hao breathed a sigh of relief.

During this time, everything had gone smoothly. The growth of the top-grade spirit herbs had slowed down, but it could be compensated with a bit of extra spirit stones, so it wasn't a big issue.

[Golden Legend +1]

After collecting the bubbles, Jiang Hao appraised the spirit beast.

[Deceptive Spirit Beast: Possesses high intelligence. At the early stage of the Golden Core Realm. Has tremendous potential with a dormant beast bloodline. Feed it 810 spirit stones every day, and after 98 days, it can further awaken its bloodline. Feeding it spirit stones daily can increase its favorability towards you. It currently feels awe and admiration towards you.]

'It seems to be the last time. It requires over 60,000 spirit stones...'

With only a little over 10,000 spirit stones left, after supplementing with some top-grade spirit herbs, he would have around 15,000 left.

Recently, he had to take care of the spirit beast, manage the spirit herbs, and didn't have much time to earn spirit stones.

He needed to start making talismans again.

He had become more attached to the spirit beast. That wasn't good. He needed to release it soon.

At that moment, he sensed the stone tablet vibrating.

"It's finally here .. "

Chapter 664 - 664: The One Who Entered And Left The Abyssal

Sea

The gathering commenced at midnight, and Jiang Hao made some preparations before entering.

Just like before, he went straight to the common area. However, this time, he felt a difference.

It seemed that something was glowing. It possibly meant that Senior Dan Yuan had experienced some changes in his cultivation.

At that moment, everyone was slightly surprised. They noticed that Senior Dan Yuan appeared to be brighter than before.

Had he become stronger? Everyone was curious, but they didn't dare ask.

Alter asK1ng aDOut their taSKS, semor wan yuan turnea to Jiang Hao. "Young friend Jing, have you decided what you want?"

Jiang Hao knew that they had found the True Dragon. He nodded. "I'd like to obtain information about a person."Where Stories Blossom: N♡vɛlBin.

Senior Dan Yuan asked, "Whom do you want to investigate this time?"

Everyone appeared to be asking for information, whether related to The End Of All Things, the Great Thousand God Sect, or something else.

"I want information on Elder Yan's daughter, Yan Shang, from the Sunset Immortal Sect."

Senior Dan Yuan nodded. The others were curious. The situation was clear, especially to Gui.

After that, they began the process of exchanging information.

Xing had some recent matters to discuss and thanked Jiang Hao for his warning about the Burning Immortal Formation. However, Jiang Hao waved it off and didn't pay much attention to it.

"Do you need any information, Friend Jing?" Xing asked.

"I'd like information related to the Freedom Technique," Jiang Hao said.

He had considered it. He had only warned Xing, and the reward wouldn't be big for that.

So, he decided to ask something he was genuinely curious about, such as the situation with Liu Xingchen.

Over the past few months, he had been unable to find Liu Xingchen, and this had affected him.

With Liu Xingchen being a genuine disciple of the Clear Sky School and someone who loved drama, he probably practiced the Freedom Technique.

Jiang Hao thought that, from the Freedom Technique, he might be able to understand Liu Xingchen's condition.

"Very well." Xing nodded. "I can provide that information to you right away."

Jiang Hao then saw some records of the Freedom Technique in the stone tablet, along with the beginning of its cultivation method and information about the Freedom Body.

Jiang Hao was surprised by Xing's generosity, but he remained calm and continued with the exchange.

"There is a rather powerful person overseas who has escaped to the south." Liu looked at Gui and Jing. "This person's name is Wu Yang. He seems to be injured severely. Please tell me if there is any news."

Gui and Jing nodded.

Jiang Hao couldn't get involved in something like this. All the people at this gathering were very powerful. He couldn't match up to them. He would keep his distance.

"I have a rough idea about Yin Zichen," said Gui. "I'll keep an eye out."

After that, when it came time for casual conversation, Jiang Hao was content to listen quietly because he didn't have much to say. Everyone else had a lot to say.

"It seems everyone has a lot to say today," Gui said. However, before anyone else could speak, she said, "I'll go first. The disciples of the Mountain Sea Sword Sect have come to the southern region, and there are many of them. They have a clear purpose, but I don't know what they intend to do. I found it strange that The End of All Things hasn't made much progress recently. It turns out that the disciples of the Mountain Sea Sword Sect encountered them. When facing the Mountain Sea Sword Sect, they had to retreat."

Jiang Hao was surprised to hear that the disciples of the Mountain Sea Sword Sect had arrived in the southern region.

However, he considered it a good thing because it would delay The End of All Things' actions.

The End of All Things, a force that dared to challenge the Bright Moon Sect, had to protect their own.

"Is it because of the Earth Extreme Silent Pearl that they've come here?" Liu asked.

"It's possible that they're here for something else," Xing said. "The Jade

Emperor's sword and the Xuanyuan Sword are also here in the southern region.

The appearance of a Grand Earth Emperor is imminent, and the Mountain Sea Sword Sect might have detected the aura of the Xuanyuan sword."

"The divine artifact is in the South?" Gui was surprised.

She had always thought that the southern region only had dangerous entities, like the Heavenly Fate Misfortune Pearl, the Earth Extreme Silent Pearl, and Nine Nether.

"According to records, it is indeed in the South, and the people from the Blackheaven Sect may have already discovered it," Xing said.

"Why would the Mountain Sea Sword Sect seek to claim the sword?" Gui asked.

At that point, there was soft laughter from the highest seat, and Dan Yuan said, "The sword of the Human Emperor contains the sword's intent of that era and holds unimaginable power. Naturally, they will want to make use of it. However, it won't happen so soon. If anyone comes, it's probably some impatient disciples taking matters into their own hands."

Jiang Hao remained silent. He had known that the Xuanyuan Sword was in the southern region, but he didn't have the exact location. Xing might know, but he hadn't disclosed it.

"What happened overseas?" Gui curiously asked. The issue with the Dragon Heart was making a lot of noise earlier, but it had gone quiet recently.

Liu glanced at Jing. This left Xing and Gui puzzled. They wondered why Liu was looking at Jing.

Jiang Hao was exasperated.

"The matter with the Ancestral Dragon's Heart has been concluded," Liu said simply.

"Who obtained it?" Gui asked.

"No one obtained it. Those individuals who took hold of it are using it collectively."

"But it seems like there hasn't been any information about it lately." Gui was puzzled. Such a significant event should have generated some news.

"Because another incident overshadowed it and put immense pressure on those powerful individuals," Liu said.

This made Xing and Gui even more curious. They looked at Liu and eagerly waited for more details.

Even Dan Yuan seemed curious.

Liu glanced at Jing,

"At the time when the Ancestral Dragon's Heart appeared, something else happened too. A person ventured into the Abyssal Sea alone. He wasn't devoured by it. Instead, he brought something out of the abyss. A blue beam of light illuminated the Abyssal Sea, and a True Dragon's shadow dominated the world. He disappeared after that. No one knows what he brought out. All we know is that it's related to the Dragon Clan and exceptionally powerful."

Gui guessed who the person might be. "Is

Liu nodded. "Smiling San Sheng.." Chapter 665 - 665: Fear

Jiang Hao felt somewhat embarrassed when he listened to Liu talking about him.

The story he told differed significantly from what had actually happened.

If the truth was revealed, he would indeed have a hard time staying here.

Fortunately, it was Smiling San Sheng, and that made it somewhat easier for Jiang Hao.

However, when Liu mentioned the name, everyone turned to look at Jiang Hao.

'Don't look at me!' Jiang Hao sighed inwardly.

At that moment, Gui asked the question everyone had been thinking of. "Friend

Jing, what did you bring out from the Abyssal Sea?"

Jiang Hao felt that Xing and Liu were both sighing in relief at the question.

With Gui around, it was convenient for all of them to ask the questions they all wanted the answers to.

"It's just a small item. Nothing more important than returning to its original owner," said Jiang Hao

Everyone began to speculate on their own.

Because Gui was in the southern region, she was most concerned about these matters. Did returning it to its rightful owner mean that Jing had been planning something related to the Abyssal Sea?

Why did this item appear? Was it because the Heart of the Ancestral Dragon would resonate with it? Then, why did the Heart of the Ancestral Dragon appear at all?

It was because the Saint Bandits' seal had been broken.

But why was the seal broken? It was because the Xuanyuan Clan was beginning to rise, and the Grand Earth Emperor was about to appear.

The Grand Earth Emperor's appearance was due to the emergence of the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment and the Heavenly Fate Misfortune Pearl.

Jing had been involved in both of those events.

The only unknown thing was how the Xuanyuan Clan had risen. But it was certain that someone had helped the Xuanyuan Clan. Everything was connected...

For a moment, Gui was filled with fear. If her speculation was true, then everything was related to Jing. Could he be the mastermind behind everything?

All of these events started when Jing arrived in the southern region. In just over a decade, the southern region had undergone earth-shaking changes.

At that point, Jing's mysterious persona was becoming even more apparent, at least for Gui.

Seeing their surprise, Jiang Hao felt somewhat relieved. It was best not to ask too much.

However, he had not lied. He had returned the pearl to its rightful owner. It was already with Xiao Li, and it had little to nothing to do with him.

"Friend Jing, are you still overseas?" Dan Yuan asked.

Jiang Hao shook his head. "I'm already in the southern region."

Gui's face changed. That meant Nine Nether was in the South right now.

For some reason, she was suddenly less afraid than before.

When the Heavenly Fate Misfortune Pearl had appeared in the South, she had been worried. When the Earth Extreme Silent Pearl also appeared in the southern region, she felt that her life was over. But with Nine Nether in the South, she didn't care.

If one of the items exploded, everything would be annihilated.

"In that case, Friend Jing, you should pay attention to the Earth Extreme Silent Pearl. You have some affinity with such ancient items," Dan Yuan said with a smile.

Jiang Hao nodded in agreement. He had already sensed it once, and it seemed to be nearby. He would pay attention to it, even if Dan Yuan had not mentioned it. Regardless, he did not want to take any risks.

After the gathering, they talked about other news. Most of the discussion revolved around the Heavenly King Hai Luo and Shang An.

Xing's words caught Jiang Hao's attention.

This made him think of Liu Xingchen. For a moment, he wondered if Liu Xingchen had gotten himself into trouble.

The meeting ended. Jiang Hao learned that Gui was planning to search for the Xuanyuan Sword, which might have something to do with the person she was looking for.

Xing and Liu, on the other hand, did not seem to have any intention of doing so.

Inside the wooden house, Jiang Hao opened his eyes. He immediately took out a notebook and began recording the Freedom Technique.

The Freedom Technique could be divided into three categories: the technique itself, the Free Form Body, and some introductions to it.

The technique was only described up to the Primordial Spirit Realm, but the Free Form was complete. The introduction to it provided a more comprehensive study.

He wrote down everything. Fortunately, he had a good memory, but he was afraid he would forget it after a while.

"The Freedom Technique is indeed remarkable. It firmly believes in one's own path and strengthens one's beliefs and freedom from constraints. It's not suitable for me, but it could be useful for others."

If he taught it to someone else, there shouldn't be a problem. After all, Jing and Jiang Hao were related in the eyes of those at the gathering.

The main issue was whether the Clear Sky School would intervene. It was their technique, after all.

However, the Clear Sky School was in the eastern region and had almost no presence in the southern region. It was challenging to control something from that great a distance.

It was just that recently, people from the Clear Sky School were in the South. It was troublesome to teach someone else the technique.

After that, he read about the Free Form. It was about condensing an avatar, which required transferring of Primordial Spirit. Unlike the Great Thousand Spiritual Avatar of the Great Thousand God Sect, it could not act independently. The advantage was that it could be nourished by the main body's power.

Strengthening the clone would also nourish the main body and ensure that the cultivation realm remained high. Therefore, no matter which body he used, it would not significantly affect his overall strength.

"Very powerful, but unfortunately, I don't cultivate avatars."

Jiang Hao shook his head. He cultivated the Hong Meng Heart Sutra, which didn't need avatars.

After that, he read the introduction to Freedom Technique. Most of it was about abilities, and it was impossible to determine Liu Xingchen's level from it.

It was only when he saw the section on "The Gifted" that he was alarmed. Many people practiced the Freedom Technique, but only a few were suitable for it. Those who could cultivate a Freedom Spirit were extremely rare.

The Freedom Spirit was unrestrained, vast, limitless, and extremely rare.

Everyone who cultivated the Freedom Spirit was a disciple of the Clear Sky School, not because only they could do it, but because they were chosen by the sect.

The Clear Sky School didn't conceal the Freedom Technique. Anyone who had received the knowledge could cultivate it. However, those who cultivated the Freedom Spirit were easier to keep an eye on.

Jiang Hao was stunned. It seemed that the Freedom Spirit was related to the Clear Sky School.

"So that's how it is." Jiang Hao was surprised. "In that case, could Liu Xingchen have a Freedom Spirit? That's why he was able to suppress those remnants all along. If he were to combine it with some treasures, he would be even more powerful."

"But I'm not sure if Liu Xingchen really has a Freedom Spirit. If he does, how could there be problems with his spirit and aura?"

Jiang Hao shook his head. He couldn't find an answer. But the probability of him having a Freedom Spirit was high.

After that, Jiang Hao began recording the details of the gathering.

There wasn't much, but it was evident that the southern region would face issues in the future. For now, it seemed unrelated to the Heavenly Note Sect. So, he could focus on growing spirit herbs.

At the Hundred Flowers Lake, a figure in red and white sat in a pavilion and gazed at the moonlight. There was a cup of tea beside her.

After some time, she finally said, "Is there any news?"

Baizhi, who had been waiting for a while, respectfully said, "We've found a target."

"You found Feng Hua?" Hong Yuye looked at Baizhi.

"The situation with Feng Hua is more complicated than expected. We've only found some of their avatars so far. We haven't located their main body. However, we received information from overseas that due to internal conflicts in the Heavenly Tower, a powerful individual sought refuge in the southern region. We plan to capture him and obtain more information from him," Baizhi said..

Chapter 666 - 666: Time Is Truly A Delicate Blade

"The people from the Heavenly Tower?" asked Hong Yuye.

"Yes, according to the information overseas, he was a strong contender qualified to compete for the Master position, but he was defeated. So, he had no choice but to escape to the southern region. Our people have already identified his location, and the leaders of various branches have set out. Once we catch him, we will be able to obtain more information about Feng Hua and

The End of All Things."

These forces were already investigating the situation regarding the Heavenly

Note Sect.

Hong Yuye nodded. "Is there anything else?"

"It seems that the Grand Earth Emperor is about to appear. Recently, people from the Mountain Sea Sword Sect have arrived in the southern region. They greeted us and mentioned that someone would come to visit in some time. It seems to be related to Kendo. They should be here in goodwill," Baizhi said.

"What did Kendo say after watching Heaven Lock?" Hong Yuye asked.

"He said that the most important part of Heaven Lock cannot be exposed, and he hopes that we can keep it sealed. This object can turn the world of cultivation upside down," Baizhi replied.

At first, she was quite shaken when she heard about these things. She had never imagined that Heaven Lock was so terrifying.

She would naturally consider Kendo's words. However, she couldn't dare to take back the command she had received from the Sect Master, which was to hand Heaven Lock to Jiang Hao.

In addition, she suspected that Jiang Hao might have seen the most important part of Heaven Lock. The unusual actions of Yinsha, along with the demands of the Saint Bandits' member Nangong Yue, all indicated one thing: the Saint Bandits paid great attention to Jiang Hao, or more precisely, the person behind him.

"Regarding Heaven Lock, there's no need to worry too much. Let's just go with the flow," Hong Yuye said calmly.

"Recently, the sect has found some traitors, but their agendas are quite ordinary. There is an elder who was bribed by the Sunset Immortal Sect, but he hasn't acted yet. We haven't made a move either. We're currently looking for an opportunity to uncover the Sunset Immortal Sect's involvement."

"Jiang Hao recently went out. He seems to be seeking an opportunity to improve his cultivation. He's just one step away. Although he often has some involvement with the spies, it's only suspicion, and we can't find any concrete evidence. The Heavenly Fragrance Dao Flower hasn't shown any changes. It seems that the people targeting it have completely gone into hiding." Hong Yuye gazed at the teacup on the table with a slight frown.

"The Grand Earth Emperor is about to appear?" she suddenly asked.

"Yes." Baizhi nodded.

"Send some people to the Blackheaven Sect," Hong Yuye said.

Baizhi was puzzled. Why did they need to send people when the Grand Earth Emperor was about to appear? Who should they send? As she hesitated, Hong Yuye dismissed her.

In the end, she could only bow and leave.

After leaving, Baizhi frowned.

"Does the Sect Master have some plan, or was that just a casual remark?"

"When the Grand Earth Emperor appears, should we send people there because his appearance will bring about an omen and offer benefits?"

"That should be the case. Let's make the arrangements. They should handle it on their own. For now, our top priority is to capture the Heavenly Tower's members."

In the wooden house at the Cliff of Broken Hearts, Jiang Hao finished writing down everything.

At the meeting, Dan Yuan's tasks remained focused on the Earth Extreme Silent Pearl and the Heavenly Fragrance Dao Flower.

Xing didn't make any transactions, Liu wanted to find Wu Yang, and Gui had finished her transaction and only needed to keep an eye out.

The Ancestral Dragon's Heart had been jointly accepted, and Smiling San Sheng had earned quite a reputation.

The Mountain Sea Sword Sect might have sensed the appearance of the Xuanyuan Sword.

The Blackheaven Sect might have, too.

Looking at his notes, Jiang Hao heaved a sigh of relief.

"Since there's nothing for me, I should focus on improving myself."

For him, staying quiet was the right thing to do. While the outside world might be exciting, it wasn't safe, and he couldn't accumulate bubbles. What a shame!

"If only I could go to the mines."

Jiang Hao chuckled and began to meditate.

He needed peace of mind and to begin cultivating high-quality spirit herbs.

A hundred and fifty spirit herbs were left, and it was time to cultivate them carefully.

The matter with the spirit beast had been concluded, so there was no need to be distracted by it.

However, there were only two months left for the spirit herbs to grow, so he might need to spend some spirit stones. Jiang Hao checked his interface.

[Name: Jiang Hao]

[Age: 34]

[Cultivation: Peak of the Soul Ascension Realm]

[Cultivation Method: Heavenly Sound Hundred Revolutions, Hong Meng Heart Sutra]

[Divine Ability: Nine Revolutions Death Substitution (unique), Daily Appraisal,

Clear and Pure Heart, Reappearance of Hidden Spirit, Divine Might, Revival of Withered Tree, Heavenly Cauldron, Indestructible Vajra]

[Lifeblood: 53/100 (can be cultivated)] [Cultivation: 51/100 (can be cultivated)] [Divine Abilities: 0/3 (cannot be obtained)]

[Golden Legend: 1/2 (cannot be obtained)]

"Halfway there! It seems that the next step for advancement is not far off."

With the boost from the high-quality spirit herbs, his cultivation had indeed increased significantly.

Now he had over 10,000 spirit stones, which he could actually use for cultivation.

"I wonder if Senior Brother Bu Ye is still around."

Jiang Hao observed the spirit herbs. Their quality was acceptable. Satisfied with what he saw, he decided to have Cheng Chou find the people he was looking for. Then, he went to take care of the spirit herbs.

During this time, there had been a stir in the sect for some reason.

They had begun selecting outstanding disciples from various branches, but no one Imew the purpose of it. One thing that was certain was that there would be benefits involved.

Many senior and branch masters would be accompanying them, so the opportunity was rare, and many people were striving for it.

Miao Tinglian came to ask him if he wanted to participate, but Jiang Hao politely declined. He didn't believe this kind of thing was without danger.

So, he continued to cultivate spirit herbs. In some time, he would be able to advance to the middle stage of the Return to the Void Realm. There was no more significant benefit than this.

One day, Jiang Hao finally saw the person he wanted to meet. It was Junior Brother Han Ming.

He looked as young as he did at eighteen, but his aura had undergone a tremendous transformation. With his tall and slender body, he exuded a formidable aura when wielding a sword. His eyes shone brilliantly. He was not at the early stage of the Golden Core Realm.

"You're truly amazing," Jiang Hao said in praise.

Sixteen years ago, when Han Ming had just started, he was at the early stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm. Now, he had quietly grown into a formidable Golden Core Realm cultivator.

Time was indeed a delicate blade that had sculpted Han Ming into such an outstanding individual.

"Senior Brother Jiang, we meet again," Han Ming said politely.

"Junior brother, you're too polite. It's an honor to meet you after your advancement." Jiang Hao smiled.

Han Ming didn't beat around the bush and stated his intention. "I'd like to challenge you, Senior Brother Jiang.."

Chapter 667 - 667: Beaten To A Pulp

Inside the courtyard of the Candlelight Pill Pavilion, a young man sat at the highest spot.

He was explaining the path of alchemy and occasionally touched upon the path of cultivation.

The listeners gathered below were mostly disciples from various branches. Their cultivation realms were decent, but their talents were not that exceptional. To make further progress, they needed someone to teach them diligently.

The senior disciple before them was undoubtedly doing just that.

"Junior Sister Xiao Lan, although your aura is stable, you've been unable to make a breakthrough for a while. It's not due to your lack of talent, but because there is a hidden problem within you."

As he spoke, he took out a pill and handed it to her.

"Take this and consume it. It won't be long before you can attempt a breakthrough. However, you must be extremely cautious. Even if someone guides you through the process, success in cultivation relies entirely on the individual. Don't rush it."

The woman who had been listening below was shocked. She accepted the pill and expressed her gratitude.

As the lecture came to an end, the audience reluctantly departed.

The man seated at the top, who had been gentle and warm, now appeared indifferent. It was as though nothing could stir his emotions.

"How is the investigation going?" he suddenly asked.

"We haven't found anything concrete, but his behavior does match." A man appeared in the corner of the courtyard.

"We spread the information about the Blood Wish Path. Initially, I merely intended to use him as a scapegoat, but he seems to have reversed the roles. He made more people willingly sacrifice their blood for him. For a moment, I couldn't comprehend whether he was a practitioner of the Blood Wish Path or not. There is also another force working in the background, clearly leveraging this reputation. If it's him, then we need to be cautious," the man said in concern.

"No matter what, his strength is real. If you want to devour him, Senior Brother Qian Chen, it won't be difficult.'

The man lurking in the corner of the courtyard said, "If he practices the Blood Wish Path, he will be a great supplement for me. If he doesn't, he's still a delicious morsel."

"Do we continue the investigation?"

"Let's continue. We'll see when he advances. If he does so in the next year or two, he's most likely a practitioner of the Blood Wish Path... A very talented one at that. Then, we will need his assistance when the seniors of the sect go out. However, we must find a way to enter Devil's Den. We'll have to wait for the next sect mission."

"What do you plan to do with the Blood Pool, Senior Brother Qian Chen?"

"Let's go to the northern region. We founded our own sect, so there's no need to stay in this place. The Southern region appears calm on the surface, but there are hidden undercurrents."

"Okay, we will follow your orders, Senior Brother Qian Chen."

"If there's any change in Jiang Hao's cultivation realm soon, let me know. I will contact him, but the rest of you need to be patient."

"Understood."

After the shadowy figure in the corner disappeared, Qian Chen finally looked up at the sky and let out a deep sigh. No one knew what he was thinking.

At the Cliff of Broken Hearts, Jiang Hao readily accepted Han Ming's challenge.

This duel was a long-awaited event, not only for Han Ming but also for Jiang

Hao.

After returning, he had been waiting for Han Ming to become a Golden Core Realm cultivator. Han Ming didn't disappoint.

"Senior Brother Jiang, did you go out recently?" Han Ming asked.

"Yes. As you suggested, I went out to hone my skills. However, the effect was minimal. It was nowhere near as good as what you've achieved," Jiang Hao said with a smile.

He had no ill feelings toward Han Ming. Despite the constant challenges, Han Ming always acknowledged his defeat without any resentment. He had never made any underhanded moves.

Han Ming was an excellent junior.

Furthermore, his talent was extraordinary, and he had matured with age. He excelled in various fields.

Han Ming sneered. "Where do you want to have our duel?"

"Let's go somewhere more isolated," Jiang Hao said.

They quickly arrived near the wooden house.

"Here will do," Jiang Hao said.

"Alright, I won't hold back." Han Ming firmly grasped the hilt of his sword.

He had already pictured this many times, and this sword had been kept secret for a long time.

Based on past experiences, his victory or defeat would likely be determined in the first move. Losing the first exchange would mean failure.

Thus, he created a remarkable sword technique that would make Jiang Hao realize the danger of relying on luck.

"I'm going to attack," Han Ming said as a warning.

"Come on." Jiang Hao nodded.

The Half-Moon Blade was already in his hand.

However, in the next moment, Jiang Hao narrowed his eyes.

Han Ming's aura suddenly surged forward with the power of thunder.

In that instant, he saw a breathtakingly brilliant sword technique.

## Clang!

The sword and the blade clashed. In the blink of an eye, Han Ming appeared behind Jiang Hao.

His sword was still in his hand, but his arm was dripping with blood.

Jiang Hao's grip on his sword had resulted in a small crack.

A few strands of hair had fallen from his head.

Staring at the fallen hair, Jiang Hao was filled with shock and realized that he had been too serious in this fight.

He had nearly struck too hard.

Even though Jiang Hao was only in the middle stage of the Golden Core Realm, if he had attacked too forcefully, it could have been extremely dangerous.

Fortunately, the injury was minor.

Han Ming coughed up a mouthful of blood.

"You're truly extraordinary, Junior Brother Han Ming." Jiang Hao turned around.

Being considered for the position of a top disciple was no trivial matter. He was the most hardworking and talented person Jiang Hao had ever seen.

Jiang Hao had no concept of how others performed, but Han Ming had grown under his watch. He had witnessed every stage of Han Ming's journey.

Han Ming grasped the sword and looked at Jiang Hao in disbelief. "Middle stage of the Golden Core Realm?"

"I just got lucky," Jiang Hao said modestly.

Han Ming looked at him bitterly, but he quickly regained his determination.

Then, he turned and left.

Jiang Hao watched him silently.

Han Ming didn't need his help. He was a person who could walk his own path.

He had a bright future ahead of him.

At that moment, Jiang Hao had officially reached the middle stage of the Golden Core Realm.

The next step was to see when Han Ming would advance to the middle stage of the Golden Core Realm.

Shaking his head, Jiang Hao went to the Spirit Herb Garden.

After attending to his tasks, he inquired about Chu Chuan's whereabouts.

It had been a while since he last paid attention to him, and it was time to check

up on mm.

Perhaps, in a few more years, he would be ready.

"Why are you looking for Chu Chuan today, Senior Brother?" asked Xiao Li in a hushed tone.

"I just want to check on him," Jiang Hao said. "Is there something wrong?"

"He was beaten to a pulp by Xiao Li this morning," said the spirit beast while munching on a carrot.

Jiang Hao nodded. He wasn't surprised.

However, when he saw Chu Chuan, he couldn't help but be astonished.

At this moment, Chu Chuan lay on the bed. It seemed as though his bones were broken.

He turned to Xiao Li and noticed she was looking outside with the spirit beast cradled to her chest.

"What happened to Chu Chuan?" Jiang Hao asked.

"He said that you, Master, don't have a lady. Xiao Li said you did have a Senior

Sister by your side. Xiao Li was upset. They started arguing. And then, Chu Chuan suggested fighting to determine who was right. Then, this happened," said the spirit beast.

At this point, Chu Chuan looked at Jiang Hao. He couldn't even move a finger.

Jiang Hao was speechless..

Chapter 668 - 668: He Would Eventually Leave the Mountain

"Why are you at odds with Xiao Li?" Jiang Hao used quite a bit of power to heal

Chu Chuan.

"It's nothing. Senior Sister Xiao Li is too heavy-handed sometimes," said Chu Chuan softly.

After all, the one who had used force was still present in the room. Jiang Hao shook his head. "Let's go. Take a walk with me." "What about me, Senior Brother?" Xiao Li asked.

"It's lunchtime. Go eat something," Jiang Hao said to her.

Xiao Li immediately ran to the cafeteria with the spirit beast. "Bye, Senior Brother."

Watching her run away, Jiang Hao smiled.

Then, he stepped out of the room, and Chu Chuan followed closely behind.

They walked to the mountaintop. Jiang Hao asked, "How's your cultivation going?"

"I went to the Devil's Den, and I'm about to reach the late stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm," Chu Chuan said excitedly.

Jiang Hao nodded. Indeed, Chu Chuan was on the verge of advancement.

Within the next year or two, he should be able to successfully enter the late stage.

It was quite impressive.

He was only twenty-two at the moment.

However, the gap between him and Chu Jie was still huge. Chu Jie was already at the Golden Core Realm.

"Are you still practicing the Hundred Revolution of the Heavenly Note?" Jiang

Hao asked and looked down at the river below the mountain.

"Yes." Chu Chuan nodded.

"How does it feel?" Jiang Hao turned to him.

"Huh?" Chu Chuan was puzzled. There were no issues so far.

"I'll teach you a new cultivation method and a set of blade techniques," Jiang Hao said.

After obtaining the Freedom Technique a few months ago, he had already understood how to cultivate it. He had also modified a small part of it without a worry for future deviations.

After a while, Chu Chuan activated the Freedom Technique, and a gleam of light shone in his eyes.

He was delighted.

This technique was better than the Hundred Revolutions of the Heavenly Note and more suitable for him.

"How did you obtain it, Senior Brother?"

"Don't ask too many questions. If someone asks, just say you found it yourself," Jiang Hao said.

"Understood." Chu Chuan nodded.

"This method is called the Freedom Technique. It's relatively safe to use, but still, be a little cautious," Jiang Hao said.

Chu Chuan listened attentively.

The Freedom Technique suited Chu Chuan but wasn't entirely perfect for him.

Nevertheless, it was better than the Hundred Revolutions of the Heavenly Note.

This might make it easier for him to catch up with Chu Jie.

She was outstanding, not just in talent but also with powerful forces supporting her.

It would be incredibly challenging for Chu Chuan to catch up by himself.

"Senior Brother Jiang, what cultivation realm do you think Chu Jie is in now?" Chu Chuan suddenly asked. Jiang Hao looked at him. "Very high."

"How high?" Chu Chuan asked.

He was almost as tall as Jiang Hao now. He was full of spirit and vigor. He was in stark contrast to the dark kid Jiang Hao had seen before.

Xiao Li wasn't even as tall as his shoulders. It was no wonder he felt confident and challenged Xiao Li sometimes.

Jiang Hao didn't answer him. "Just keep trying and aiming high. That's all for now."

"Let's go. I'll teach you the blade techniques." Jiang Hao headed toward an open space.

Only Chu Chuan could learn both the Freedom Technique and the blade techniques at the same time.

Lin Zhi cultivated the techniques of the Bright Moon Sect, and the treasure within him resonated with it.

The Freedom Technique didn't suit him. The modified blade techniques also weren't suitable for Lin Zhi's spiritual essence. They were more fitting for the indomitable Chu Chuan.

"Have you considered the consequences of getting involved in combat?" Jiang Hao asked.

"I have." Chu Chuan nodded.

"What did you think about it?" Jiang Hao asked.

Chu Chuan hesitated. "I've thought about success... and about failure. But I've never considered giving up."

Jiang Hao looked at him and didn't say anything.

He began instructing Chu Chuan in the modified blade techniques, which he split into nine forms without naming them. He could only teach the basics and the first form. The rest needed further study.

Chu Chuan wasn't a quick learner, but he remembered everything.

"Do I have to use a blade in the future?"

Jiang Hao shook his head. "No. Use whatever you feel is comfortable for you. This is for your self-defense."

"Huh?" Chu Chuan was puzzled. "What do you mean, Senior Brother Jiang?"

Jiang Hao looked at him. "If you want to follow in Chu Jie's footsteps, you can't stay in the Heavenly Note Sect forever. This place will only limit your development. At some point in time, you'll have to leave the mountain."

Chu Chuan was taken aback. He had always considered this place as his home and never thought of leaving.

However, sometimes leaving was the only way forward.

"Don't worry too much about it for now. The four regions will be your stage, and you can always return to the Heavenly Note Sect. Someday, you will make a name for yourself in all four regions," said Jiang Hao.

Chu Chuan was the most likely to attract trouble. He might even be the first to leave the sect. His path couldn't be confined to the Heavenly Note Sect, as it would hinder his growth.

Jiang Hao turned and left.

Chu Chuan hadn't fully processed everything he had heard, but it didn't bother him. He eventually left the mountain.

It was inevitable. He understood that his world shouldn't be confined to the Heavenly Note Sect but should flourish in all four regions.

This was what made Chu Chuan different from Lin Zhi. While the former was ambitious, the latter wished for a quiet life.

As for Xiao Li and the spirit beast, they were carefree.

The next day, at the entrance of the Spirit Herb Garden, Cheng Chou informed Jiang Hao that Senior Brother Bu Ye was satisfied with the herbs and hoped for further cooperation in the future. Jiang Hao smiled.

"Are there any problems with your cultivation?" he asked.

Cheng Chou's talent was average, and his progress wasn't as fast as Chu

Chuan's. He needed careful guidance.

"Yes, there are a few," Cheng Chou said earnestly.

Later that day, Jiang Hao spent most of the time explaining problems in cultivation to Cheng Chou. He guided him from the afternoon till late at night.

"Don't rush it. Take it slow. It's crucial to steady your mind. Step by step, with a solid foundation, there is hope for you to reach the Golden Core Realm," Jiang Hao said.

"I will heed all your instructions, Senior Brother Jiang," said Cheng Chou gratefully.

For others, reaching the Golden Core Realm was within easy reach, but for him, it was a distant dream. However, it seemed like he really had a chance now.

It was all thanks to the guidance that Jiang Hao had provided him with.

Jiang Hao just shook his head. It was a minor matter to him.

The other person had helped him quite a bit.

With that, Jiang Hao returned to the courtyard after spending more peaceful months than he had anticipated.

Sitting under the peach tree, he took out the Tranquil Heart Fruits. He was deep in thought.

"I should find a time to contact Feng Hua. It's been so long. She probably wants to see me. But I can't be hasty. I have to wait for Hong Yuye."

Feng Hua would play mind games with him, and he lacked the knowledge of formations to defend himself without Hong Yuye around.

It required a considerable amount of energy, especially when the person kept stalling for time. If he was discovered, it would be a disaster.

Since he wanted to hurt the person, he couldn't reveal his weaknesses.

There was no rush. He could focus on selling talismans to earn spirit stones during this time.

Jiang Hao took out his Half-Moon Blade. It already had a crack on it.

'I've lost a few thousand spirit stones already.' Jiang Hao sighed.

It was time for a new Half-Moon Blade.

The next day, Jiang Hao arrived at the marketplace, set up his stall, and waited for buyers.

After a while, he saw a man standing approach his stall. The man looked skeptical.

It was Senior Brother Duan Guan.

Jiang Hao was speechless. This senior had a lot of spirit stones, but he was often rude to Jiang Hao.. Chapter 669 - 669: Wait a Hundred Years. If a Hundred Years Isn 't Enough, Two Hundred Would Be Duan Guan looked at the talismans on Jiang Hao's stall. "You have the Heavenly Sword Talismans too?"

"Yes." Jiang Hao nodded.

"Are there any other talismans?" Duan Guan asked.

"For now, I don't have any at the same level." Jiang Hao shook his head.

He hadn't learned them yet. However, it wouldn't be difficult for him. He had learned from Mi Lingyue for a long time, and these talismans wouldn't pose a challenge for him.

"You're wasting your talent, " Duan Guan said coldly. "You think you have some talent, but you don't focus on honing your skills. Sooner or later, you will find it difficult to progress in talisman-making. By then, you won't even be able to set up a stall."

Jiang Hao remained calm. He wanted to see what more this senior would say. However, Duan Guan had already left.

He took away all the Talismans and left behind six hundred spirit stones.

Senior Brother Duan Guan was indeed rarely wealthy. Every time he met Jiang Hao, he would buy everything that was in his stall.

Later, he went to look at a blade.

It was long, jet black, and had a slight curve. It could cut through anything effortlessly.

It was made of a material that could corrode flesh and blood.

"How much is this blade?" Jiang Hao liked it very much.

"Seven thousand spirit stones," said the stall owner. He was a middle-aged man. "The material is exceptional. If it weren't for the fact that the forging could have been better, it would cost more."

Jiang Hao nodded in agreement. It was a decent blade but was only at the Golden Core Realm.

He felt that seven thousand for it was too expensive.

After bargaining for half a day, they settled at 6,700 spirit stones.

Jiang Hao sighed. He still had a long way to go in the Golden Core Realm, and it wouldn't hurt to have a good weapon. Judging by its hardness, it could rival even treasures at a higher realm.

The stall owner warned him that the blade could be wiped with cloth but shouldn't be touched with bare hands.

Jiang Hao didn't mind. This level of power wouldn't affect him.

After that, he bought some tea. He deliberately bought a more expensive variety of it.

He chose the Ancient Spirit Tea, which cost him five thousand spirit stones.

Now, he only had 6,876 spirit stones left.

He felt that spirit stones weren't easy to come by and was reluctant to spend more.

He also realized that he had run out of the Silver Moon Petals. He bought two packs, which cost him two thousand spirit stones.

With that, he returned to his house.

He had less than five thousand spirit stones left, and he needed to earn more as soon as possible.

The days of having over ten thousand spirit stones seemed so far away. He couldn't believe he had actually had that many spirit stones before.

"I thought Senior Sister Ming Yi would come to visit, but it seems I won't see her for a while."

The only thing that remained was a visit from Senior Sister Ming Yi.

But she didn't come.

He could only put it aside for now.

"Now, I only have to wait for Hong Yuye."

Before she arrived, he wanted to improve his cultivation realm.

The outside world would likely be in turmoil. The disciples from Clear Sky

School were coming, as were those from the Mountain Sea Sword Sect. The Grand Earth Emperor was about to appear."

It was sure to cause a storm.

The Heavenly Note Sect was remote enough not to be affected.

That was exactly what Jiang Hao wanted. At this moment, the stone tablet suddenly vibrated.

'A gathering?'

He looked at it. It wasn't a call for gathering. Instead, it was information about Yan Shang from the Sunset Immortal Sect.

'I should just accept it. I can look at the details slowly.'

Jiang Hao didn't expect the message to reveal her true identity but having this information was useful.

However, the content of the message surprised him.

The first sentence was: "One of the avatars of Feng Hua."

'It seems that this information is more detailed than the previous one.' Jiang Hao couldn't help but be amazed.

When investigating Feng Hua earlier, they hadn't found this particular avatar.

Looking at the information, Jiang Hao was quite surprised.

The information revealed that Yan Shang was perfect.

As one of the top disciples of Sunset Immortal Sect, she was exceptionally talented. She was already in the middle stage of the Return to Void Realm at just two hundred years old. She was considered a remarkable genius.

Furthermore, she was friendly and kept a low profile. The elders and seniors adored and admired her.

There was nothing negative about her in the information.

She had never harmed anyone, and she never had conflicts with others. Her favorite things were provided generously by the sect. However, she obtained everything through her own abilities and was admired by everyone.

Even though Jiang Hao hadn't met her in person, there were legends about her throughout the sect.

Some even boldly claimed that Yan Shang might compete for the position of the next Sect Master.

The information was limited, but it mentioned Feng Hua's concern for this particular avatar.

It wasn't as detailed as the information on Shangguan Qingsu. They probably were from different sources.

There were mentions of protective spells around her, both within and outside the sect. There were also some life-saving treasures at her disposal.

"These details are sufficient. However, her cultivation realm is higher than I expected. It's... troublesome."

If it were convenient, he'd prefer to visit her himself, but it wasn't possible for him right now.

A regular middle-stage Return to Void Realm cultivator might be able to hide, but this was Feng Hua he was talking about. She wasn't an ordinary Return to Void Realm cultivator.

It was uncertain whether he could get close to her.

'I can only ask Gui for help in delivering a message.'

He had an idea. It might not be possible for him to visit the sect and pass on a message, but there were others in the southern region who could do it.

The problem now was to come up with a way to ask for Gui's help.

Gui was still after Yin Zichen. If he could find him for her, perhaps he could trade with her.

'But getting in touch with the Mountain Sea Sword Sect isn't that easy...'

He could only wait for a proper opportunity.

Perhaps there was a way to contact them.

In the following days, Jiang Hao returned to his usual calm, but it seemed that the Grand Competition within the sect had reopened.

Many people were vying for opportunities. News also quickly spread that the Blackheaven Sect was about to come across something big, and the sect wanted a piece of the pie.

This surprised Jiang Hao, but he didn't pay it much mind. He didn't need any opportunities.

One day, Jiang Hao received a communication talisman to meet his master. There was something his master wanted to ask him.

Shortly after, Jiang Hao reached Ku Wu Chang's courtyard.

"This time, there is a fixed list of people for the visit to the Blackheaven Sect, and your name is on it. However, it's difficult to take you out of the sect because of your status in the Law Enforcement Hall."

Ku Wu Chang looked at Jiang Hao. "If you want to go, I can help you figure something out. I'll be accompanying you on the journey anyway."

Jiang Hao lowered his head and didn't know how to answer for a moment.

He didn't want to go. It was too dangerous. There were people who wanted to kill him, and more importantly, the appearance of the Grand Earth Emperor would undoubtedly bring trouble.

A slight slip could lead to a disaster.

"You don't want to go?" Ku Wu Chang asked.

Jiang Hao nodded. "I'm sorry to disappoint you, Master."

"It's alright." Ku Wu Chang shook his head and didn't say anything.

Jiang Hao left.

He looked back at his master's house and sighed.

His master was very kind to him, but going outside was dangerous for him.

No one within the sect harmed him, and he could peacefully manage the Spirit Herb Garden. That was enough for him.

In ten or a hundred years, all troubles would disappear. People and their hatred toward him would fade away.

Even if a hundred years wasn't enough, two hundred years would do it. The people who hated him would eventually let go of their grudge..

Chapter 670 - 670: The Heavenly Note Sect Should Explain Themselves

Back at the Spirit Herb Garden, Jiang Hao continued to tend to spirit herbs peacefully.

He didn't need to worry about much nowadays. He just needed to handle changes that occurred in the garden, and nothing more. This included occasional friction in collaboration between the Spirit Herb Gardens from other branches and outstanding payments by disciples.

Although it wasn't as bad as before, there were still some issues.

For now, Cheng Chou was handling them, and they weren't serious enough for Jiang Hao to get involved. One inner sect disciple was enough to take charge of the Spirit Herb Garden.

Thankfully, Cheng Chou didn't contend with him.

Time passed, and half a month later, in mid-June, Jiang Hao heard news that the Sect Master had gone on an expedition and returned, but her condition didn't seem to be great. They also brought back some people, but Jiang Hao didn't know who they were.

This news caught Jiang Hao's attention, but since Liu Xingchen wasn't around, he couldn't find out more. He decided to visit the Lawless Tower for more information.

'It's been a while since I visited Zhuang Yuzhen and the others.'

The sect kept Zhuang Yuzhen because of the Heavenly Fragrance Dao Flower. He might still be able to contact Senior Dan Yuan.

However, because he refused to divulge who had sent him, he remained stuck on the fifth floor.

Heavenly King Hai Luo chose to stay on the fifth floor. As for Nangong Yue, her intentions were uncertain.

In the afternoon, Jiang Hao arrived at the Lawless Tower. Unfortunately, he didn't encounter any familiar seniors who could tell him about the people brought back.

Once he reached the fifth floor, he heard Nangong Yue's voice.

"Heavenly King, when will your master come? It's been months. Isn't he going to question you anymore?" she asked.

"Ridiculous! Since when did this king need a master?"

"Disciple Zhuang, when will Heavenly King Hai Luo's master come and visit?" Nangong Yue asked.

"He'll come when he remembers us," Zhuang Yuzhen said.

Zhuang Yuzhen had some experience with this matter. When Jiang Hao entered the room, he thought that these three seniors seemed to be getting along well.

They had been talking, but as soon as Jiang Hao entered, they all fell silent.

Nangong Yue appeared nervous. She wasn't sure why she felt frightened by this person. It must be the influence of the other two.

In the past, no matter who came, Heavenly King Hai Luo always responded with a stinky attitude as though he was invincible. But when this person appeared in front of him, his whole demeanor changed.

"It's been too long," said Jiang Hao and bowed politely.

These people were seniors, after all. It was best to be polite to them.

"Indeed," Zhuang Yuzhen said.

"I have a question I want to ask you," Nangong Yue immediately said. "In return, I'll tell you a secret."

Jiang Hao looked at her.

He wasn't interested in this secret. It could bring trouble.

His current lifestyle suited him just fine. A hundred more years with such peace would be perfect. Once he got involved in secrets, trouble would come knocking one after the other.

"Why aren't you saying anything? If you want to know something, you can ask or request something," Nangong Yue said. She was slightly irritated when she saw Jiang Hao's indifferent face.

"Senior, if you have any questions, you can ask Senior Sister Yinsha. She knows everything," Jiang Hao replied helplessly.

He knew what Nangong Yue wanted to know, and Senior Sister Yinsha was the right person to provide that information.

"No. She can't speak about it. She can't reveal anything to anyone," Nangong Yue said.

Jiang Hao was surprised. That must be the reason why she had been hounding him with the question relentlessly.

But if Senior Sister Yinsha couldn't say anything, then revealing the secret about what the Saint Bandits did would be counterproductive.

Others might not know as much about the Saint Bandits and their goal, but this person definitely did.

It was better not to mention anything about Heaven Lock.

"I don't understand. A secret is no longer a secret if you don't say it out loud. Who knows if it's true or not? Just say it outright," Heavenly King Hai Luo said dismissively.

"Is it still a secret if you say it out loud?" Nangong Yue asked in disdain.

"You are ignorant," Heavenly King Hai Luo said.

Nangong Yue was speechless.

Jiang Hao didn't pay much attention to their bickering.

Instead, he approached Zhuang Yuzhen and asked if anything had happened at the Lawless Tower lately. Zhuang Yuzhen was always calm and calculative. He must have kept an eye on things.

"I heard that someone from the Heavenly Tower was captured, and they're likely on one of the upper floors right now," Zhuang Yuzhen said as he pointed toward the ceiling.

Jiang Hao was surprised. It was someone from the Heavenly Tower!

But he didn't ask further.

He asked about the Heavenly Fragrance Dao Flower and how Zhuang Yuzhen had learned about it.

"From an anonymous person," Zhuang Yuzhen said. His repose was the same as before.

Jiang Hao didn't ask further. He knew that the information had no impact on him, but Hong Yuye would take action.

He didn't mention anything about Qu Zhong. After so many years in the tower, Zhuang Yuzhen seemed to have settled down and no longer cared about it.

As for his cultivation realm, he remained at the early stage of the Primordial Spirit Realm. Heavenly King Hai Luo was still in the late stage of the same realm. Nangong Yue had fallen to the early stage of the Primordial Spirit Realm as well.

It seemed that Heavenly King Hai Luo had the best control over his cultivation out of the three.

"We're currently facing a problem," Zhuang Yuzhen suddenly said.

"What happened?" Jiang Hao asked. He hadn't heard any news about these people lately.

Senior Sister Yinsha and the others couldn't inform him about it, and Liu Xingchen was nowhere to be seen.

"We are at an... impasse. This situation doesn't benefit anyone. So, your people have made a suggestion," Zhuang Yuzhen said earnestly. "They've proposed a method for restoring our cultivation. It involves going out every month to teach disciples or help the disciple who seeks guidance. The number of problems we solve will correspond to how much we can improve our cultivation as a reward.'

"How is that calculated?" Jiang Hao asked.

"The people of the Lawless Tower have the final say," Heavenly King Hai Luo said with a sneer.

Jiang Hao didn't find it surprising. The Heavenly Note Sect was always like this.

Zhuang Yuzhen and the others would make contributions, and the sect would decide how much to reward them based on their mood.

"Have you agreed to this?" Jiang Hao asked.

"Not yet, but we'll probably agree in the future," Zhuang Yuzhen said.

"You'll agree? The Heavenly Note Sect truly doesn't regard us as human beings. They keep exploiting us. When we become worthless, we'll be disposed of," Nangong Yue said coldly.

Jiang Hao nodded in agreement.

She was right. The Heaven Note Sect constantly exploited the captives in the Lawless Tower.

When thev lost their cultivation realms. they were sent to the mines to work.

After they advanced, they were once again sent to the Lawless Tower. It was a vicious cycle.

Zhuang Yuzhen paid no attention to Nangong Yue. He believed that she would understand in the future.

"If you reveal everything you know, the Heavenly Note Sect might consider contacting the Divine Corpse Sect for you," Jiang Hao said.

"And then?" Zhuang Yuzhen shook his head and chuckled. "What would I, as a Primordial Spirit Realm cultivator, do when I return?"

Jiang Hao frowned. With his Corpse Heart, it wouldn't be difficult for him to restore his cultivation realm, unless he knew that his Corpse Heart was already lost.

With a sigh, Jiang Hao decided not to ask any more questions and got up to leave.

"Wait!" Nangong Yue hurriedly said. "Are you practicing the Blood Wish Path? I know a secret about the Blood Wish Path."

Jiang Hao still didn't stop.

Nangong Yue was anxious.. "Blood pool! The Heavenly Note Sect has a Blood

Pool! "