

A Demoness 761

Chapter 761 - 761: No One Dares To Ask For The Earth Extreme Silent Pearl

Xiao Li sat at the table and tapped on the bead.

“Down.”

The Nine Nether inside immediately crouched down.

“Bark.”

The Nine Nether turned into a dog and started barking.

Although there was no sound, Xiao Li was very happy.

In just over a month, the Nine Nether had begun to respond.

Jiang Hao was surprised. When he tried to communicate with it, it didn't cooperate well.

When did this start happening?

A few days after Xiao Li got the bead, she felt bored because the Nine Nether remained lifeless.

At that time, she went to Jiang Hao to return it because it was no fun.

It might have been from that moment that the Nine Nether had begun to understand human speech.

Now that it listened to Xiao Li, Jiang Hao was pleased.

“Remember this at all times: the bead cannot be too far from you. It must always be kept close to you,” Jiang Hao said.

She nodded vigorously.

After that, he looked at the spirit beast.

If Xiao Li didn't want to play with the Nine Nether, he would take it back and try to communicate with it.

He said as much aloud to both Xiao and the Nine Nether.

Jiang Hao understood that the Nine Nether was willing to follow Xiao Li and was reluctant to be near the Heavenly Fate Misfortune Pearl and the Earth Extreme Silent Pearl.

After sending the two away, Jiang Hao returned to his room.

He checked his surroundings and closed his eyes.

He opened the Golden Legend.

In an instant, the world around Jiang Hao changed. A circle began forming under his feet, then it began to spread.

It instigated the change of the sun and moon and the merging and separation of the earth.

The circle kept expanding and encompassed the entire earth.

Within the circle, there was something else.

After some time, the circle began to materialize.

Finally, it soared into the sky and turned into a black and white bracelet. It fell in front of Jiang Hao.

The moment he lifted the bracelet, everything around him disappeared.

The black and white bracelet lay quietly in his hand.

He appraised it and immediately received the feedback.

[Yin-Yang Bracelet: Yin imprisons without release, and Yang releases without entry. It has evolved in accordance with the changes of the world.]

The feedback was clear enough.

'It's a cage with no entry or exit...'

Jiang Hao was puzzled. What was the use of such a thing?

He went to the courtyard and surrounded the Heavenly Fragrance Dao Flower with the bracelet.

The Yang function was activated.

With a snap of his fingers, the power was blocked.

After attaching the Yang function to himself, he found it easy to step out.

But no one else could enter. The range was so broad that nothing could infiltrate from the sky or the ground.

After using half of his power, he found that it could be moved slightly.

It was like he was trying to squeeze in.

Then, he activated the Yin function to enclose himself.

Unlike before, he could enter without any obstacles but couldn't leave the circle.

"It can be used as a defensive barrier, but it's not a magical treasure. I don't know what it's actually used for."

Jiang Hao thought for a moment but couldn't understand where it could be used.

So far, it wasn't useful for anything.

If it was meant for a person, the Heavenly Cauldron was more useful.

Moreover, it could be activated at any time. This magical treasure's effect wasn't that significant.

He could only put it away for now.

If there was a chance, he would test the limits of this thing.

It was unlikely that this treasure could be shattered.

Magical treasures couldn't be destroyed so easily.

After storing it away, Jiang Hao went to the Spirit Herb Garden.

He resumed his routine.

He didn't understand why the sect hadn't contacted him, or why the gathering hadn't been announced yet.

There were no new changes from the Law Enforcement Hall either.

It seemed like he successfully remained on the suspect list.

The sect had no details of what had happened in Devil's Den, so the impact of it was lesser on him.

Another two months passed by, and it was already early December.

The Divine Corpse Sect sent a formal message informing them they would arrive in seven days.

Seven days later, Elder Baizhi personally went to welcome them. There was no need to intimidate them this time.

This time, the Divine Corpse Sect was very cooperative and did not cause any commotion, especially when they found that the Mountain Sea Sword Sect was also present.

They couldn't understand why the Mountain Sea Sword Sect was here.

Moreover, both sides were very polite to each other.

Jiang Hao was aware of this matter, but it didn't affect him.

With the arrival of the Divine Corpse Sect, the Heavenly Note Sect had to decide who would enter the Corpse Realm.

Jiang Hao didn't know how that would be decided, but it didn't have anything to do with him, so he remained indifferent.

Seven days later, in mid-December, Jiang Hao finally received a message on the stone tablet.

The gathering would be tonight at midnight.

It had been almost half a year. This was unexpected.

Jiang Hao thought for a moment. He needed to go through everything that happened in the previous gathering and prepare for this one.

The location of the Earth Extreme Silent Pearl also needed to be discussed.

For the past few months, Hong Yuye hadn't visited, so he couldn't ask her either.

He could only see what the people in the gathering felt.

At midnight, Jiang Hao entered the gathering.

Several others had also arrived.

Senior Dan Yuan was seated at the top as usual.

After exchanging greetings, Jiang Hao and the other four sat cross-legged on the floor.

"Any issues with your cultivation?" Senior Dan Yuan asked.

No one answered.

“The matter regarding the Earth Extreme Silent Pearl went smoothly. Have you all received any feedback?”

“The Xuanyuan Sword did indeed act,” Gui said. “But... I don’t know what happened after.”

“I only know that everything went smoothly from my side. That’s all,” Zhang said and glanced at Jing.

The title of the book he had mentioned had proved to be incredibly influential.

She still didn’t understand what it was all about.

Liu remained silent.

Xing said, “I heard there was a purple light at the last moment.”

Everyone, except Zhang, looked at Jiang Hao.

The only person who knew the details was Jing.

Jiang Hao looked at everyone and said in a low voice, “The Earth Extreme Silent Pearl is in my possession.”

The others fell silent. They felt shocked at the next question.

“Friend Jing, do you plan to keep the Earth Extreme Silent Pearl with you?” Gui asked.

Jiang Hao shook his head slightly. “I haven’t decided yet.”

“Wouldn’t it be better to hand over such a thing to the Bright Moon Sect or the Clear Sky School?” Gui asked again.

‘Well said!’ Jiang Hao always felt that Gui asked the right questions and played an indispensable role at the gathering.

He also thought the same but couldn’t suggest it outright because he always maintained a mysterious and powerful impression at the gathering.

The group looked at Xing. Xing smiled wryly. “This situation is too extraordinary.”

It meant he couldn’t intervene.

Or perhaps he thought it was better to leave the thing in Jing’s hands.

It was widely known that since the Heavenly Fate Misfortune Pearl hadn’t erupted, the Earth Extreme Silent Pearl had gone dormant as well.

Jiang Hao didn’t speak up, and neither did the others.

Senior Dan Yuan smiled but did not say anything.

Jiang Hao had no choice but to keep the pearl with him for now.

Others had no way to suppress or seal the Earth Extreme Silent Pearl, so they definitely wouldn’t offer to do so recklessly.

Involving immortal sects in this matter would be even more complicated, especially since the pearl was temporarily sealed.

Jiang Hao also didn't want to have contact with these people, which made the matter even more complex.

Hence, no one brought it up.

After discussing other matters for a while, the gathering moved on to the next phase.

Jiang Hao received the mission reward from Senior Dan Yuan.

It was the information on the Corpse Realm that he had asked for last time..

Chapter 762 - 762: Speculations

He had asked for information about the Corpse Realm in the previous gathering.

Although many things could be obtained from Zhuang Yuzhen, it was just one side of the story, after all.

His information was limited to the North, while Senior Dan Yuan's information was much clearer.

The thing with Zhuang Yuzhen was that nobody could persuade him to disclose information he knew.

After a brief look, he discovered that some were speculations from various departments, while others described internal situations.

But nothing seemed too striking, except for the end, which seemed to be about finding a person.

He memorized all the text.

Later, he recalled it from memory after leaving.

This time, Senior Dan Yuan didn't mention any related tasks. The task was still about the Sage's Page.

No one had the intention to search for more during this time, so there was no need to ask further.

After that was the trading phase.

Zhang said, "I have already found the rough location of the Moon Wheel and released the information."

This task was from Xing.

Xing nodded. "The Sea Moon Map will be sent to you as per your request."

"Have any of you found any information about the book thief I mentioned earlier?" Zhang asked.

Others shook their heads.

Jiang Hao lowered his head and hesitated.

There was no need for anyone from the West to do anything at the moment. Thus, he didn't need to get involved.

He would wait until he needed something.

"I have a small matter as well," said Gui as she looked at Jing. "Is it very difficult to save Yin Zichen?"

Only Jing could answer this question. Everyone knew Jing had recently been to that place.

Hao remained silent for a moment. "He was caught by mistake."

Gui was speechless. But she got her answer. It was possible to reclaim Yin Zichen after all.

She then asked Jing what he needed in exchange.

To this, Jiang Hao only asked about Yan Shang's recent situation.

Gui informed him that Yan Shang had been living her life as usual, without any changes.

This surprised Jiang Hao a bit. He hadn't expected Feng Hua to remain so calm.

However, he didn't mind. There was no need to provoke the other person.

Although he was curious, he just nodded and didn't say anything.

After that, no one had any tasks or questions. Everyone had been too caught up in the matter of the Earth Extreme Silent Pearl recently.

Upon learning that the pearl was with Jing, they breathed a sigh of relief.

"The End Of All Things disappeared. It is said that someone annihilated them, and it seems like everything they had was taken away," Gui said. 'What things?' Jiang Hao suddenly thought of the Earth Extreme Heart Devouring Pearl.

The End of All Things was using that to locate the Earth Extreme Silent Pearl.

"It's the work of the people from the four great immortal sects. Some of them will be wandering outside," Xing said.

“It is no wonder the southern region has been so quiet lately. Even the Great Thousand God Sect is not as active as it used to be,” Gui said.

Jiang Hao listened quietly. He didn’t know that The End of All Things was annihilated in the South, nor that the Great Thousand God Sect had gone quiet.

“Someone is in the south,” said Liu.

“The Shangguan family overseas seems to have come to the South to find someone. It is said that they want to find someone who can suppress the curse of their family.”

“The people from the Shangguan family are in the South?” Gui was excited.

Apparently, she was very interested in their curse.

“Do you think their curse could be suppressed or removed?” Liu asked curiously.

Gui thought for a while. “I remember that it is the Hundred Nights curse. It recurs every three months and cannot be avoided. This curse is not an ordinary one. I don’t think I can help with it.” Gui looked at Senior Dan Yuan.

“Senior, is the origin of this curse important?”

Everyone looked at him.

Jiang Hao was also very curious.

He knew who exactly was in the South. It was Shangguan Qingsu, who had betrayed Feng Hua.

He had suppressed her curse before.

So, there was a certain possibility that they were here for him.

As for the Hundred Nights curse, he had no clue.

“The Hundred Nights is not an ordinary curse. It cannot be removed by conventional means because it is connected to an entity behind it. The source is difficult to eliminate,” said Senior Dan Yuan with a smile.

Jiang Hao and others were surprised.

So, that was how it was...

“I heard that the one with the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment Realm is in the West, but no one has found her. Some speculate that the Bright Moon Sect has obscured the trails of the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment cultivator so that powerful people can’t find her,” said Zhang.

Jiang Hao and the others felt that the Bright Moon Sect was so bold because of that. They had released the one with the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment into the world while she was still growing.

After that, they talked about some small matters. Liu specifically mentioned Chi Tian. It seemed he had already been welcomed by Heavenly King Taomu.

It seems like he might rise up the ranks soon.

Jiang Hao couldn’t help but feel surprised. Chi Tian was actually very efficient. Perhaps he was not satisfied with his achievements.

He also felt that Chi Tian might already be plotting against him.

He didn’t care about that. He just needed information.

He needed it because he had to report to Hong Yuye.

It wasn't yet time to venture out.

He needed to wait until he became stronger.

After the gathering ended, Jiang Hao immediately began to record the information about the Corpse Realm in his notebook.

It took some time, but he finally wrote down everything.

There hadn't been many things to discuss at the gathering this time.

Everyone didn't seem particularly interested in the Earth Extreme Silent Pearl now that it was safe.

The one with the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment had special protection, and it wasn't easy to find her location.

People from the Shangguan family were coming for him. They probably were looking for Smiling San Sheng.

After that, there was nothing else to think about.

The southern region had become much quieter, and many things had come to an end.

Jiang Hao started reviewing the information he had received.

The Corpse Realm was a special realm accidentally discovered by the founder of the Divine Corpse Sect. They paid a huge price to find the way in.

That same year, they perfected the Nine Extremes Corpse Dissecting Method at the top of the Heavenly Stele Mountain and obtained many treasures from there.

To gain a better understanding of the Corpse Realm, the Divine Corpse Sect was founded.

There was no record of the Corpse Realm in any of the classics. To find more information from the Mountain Sea Sword Sect, they used the information of the Corpse Realm as an exchange.

However, there was too little information. To learn more, they went to all the sects in the North, then later to the Clear Sky School and the Bright Moon Sect in the East but were unable to successfully access all the information.

In the West, they paid a huge price and managed to access sufficient information.

At that time, they found a clue.

But no one knew what this clue was.

People only knew that the Corpse Realm concealed something, yet there was not a single record about it.

The founder later entered the Corpse Realm and never came out again.

Jiang Hao looked at the books. These were probably some outside information about the situation.

There wasn't any clear explanation.

Instead, there were only speculations.

Some said the Corpse Realm was a corner of the great world, while others claimed it was a passage connecting to other worlds.

Furthermore, some speculated that the Corpse Realm was a vast secret realm protected by a huge formation.

There was another assumption suggesting that the Corpse Realm was the cave of a mighty figure, but this mighty figure's whereabouts were unknown..

Chapter 763 - 763: Seventeen Years Had Passed

Jiang Hao frowned and looked at the information about the Corpse Realm.

The assumptions were extraordinary, but speculations were, after all, just speculations.

Moreover, it didn't affect him.

Whether it was about other worlds or someone's cave, there were currently no powerful beings involved.

So, he could enter while evading disasters.

That was enough.

The rest of the information was not very useful. He couldn't determine what would happen upon his entry.

Then, he continued reading the information in the notebook.

The Corpse Realm was separated from the outside world by a vast formation. Beneath this formation lay an area unknown to people.

According to some individuals from the Divine Corpse Sect, it might be an ocean. A never-ending and impassable sea.

People in the north had the same view, but some in the west claimed to see glaciers.

If he entered the Corpse Realm at the peak of Return to Void Realm, he might even come across these things. However, there was a high chance he might fall into them and never come out.

The most incomprehensible aspect of the Corpse Realm was the Heavenly Stele Mountain.

It possessed sovereign abilities, and countless powerful laws were hidden within.

Most mysterious was the stone tablet at the very top.

It was said that the imprint on the Heavenly Stele could be used to peer into the other side of the Corpse Realm.

However, no one had attempted it.

The founder of the Divine Corpse Sect regretted not leaving an imprint on the Heavenly Stele.

However, based on the records he left behind, they found a way to stay in the Corpse Realm.

To better explore the secrets of the Corpse Realm, they ventured into the Corpse Sea.

Regarding the Corpse Realm, perhaps the Heavenly Spirit Tribe might know a lot, but their clan had no relevant records.

If one truly wanted to understand the Corpse Realm, one could go to the coast of the Corpse Sea and seek the founder. Perhaps, they might still be alive.

Jiang Hao frowned.

This was similar to what Zhuang Yuzhen had mentioned. With higher cultivation, it was easier to see things inside. However, this information talked about glaciers.

Zhuang Yuzhen saw the sea.

Yet, what concerned him most was the founder of the Divine Corpse Sect.

He was within the Corpse Realm. He might still be alive.

The only question was, where was the coastline of the Corpse Sea?

And was it related to the sea Zhuang Yuzhen saw there?

Everything was uncertain. Jiang Hao put away the book.

He couldn't determine anything and had to set it aside for the time being.

He had gone to check, but it seemed the blossoming of the Corpse Realm Flowers wouldn't happen anytime soon.

Unlike last time, there were no arrogant individuals from the Divine Corpse Sect.

Jiang Hao was content with this.

However, after a few days, he heard that someone from the Heavenly Gate Sect was going to visit the Heavenly Note Sect.

The Heavenly Gate Sect was a major sect in the southern region.

It was even more prominent than the Blackheaven Sect. It could be considered one of the top sects in the south.

Perhaps the rise of the Grand Earth Emperor had ruffled them.

As the Corpse Realm Flowers were about to blossom, they were visiting.

Their intentions were evident.

Jiang Hao didn't know much about the sect, but he needed to be on his guard.

The Heavenly Note Sect was exemplary in the South_ and the Heavenly Gate

Sect was even more prominent than that.

Fortunately, they hadn't arrived yet.

After that, Jiang Hao resumed his normal days.

There was no need to think much about the gathering, and the sect also didn't require anything from him.

Feng Hua and others had gone quiet. Everyone was either cultivating or getting stronger.

There was nothing much to be concerned about.

The only thing to worry about was perhaps Lin Zhi and Chu Chuan. They had been out for a long time and hadn't returned to the sect.

The coming days were indeed peaceful. Winter passed, spring arrived, and five months swiftly flew by.

With time, some things changed along with it.

Jiang Hao's bubbles were among those things.

Every day there would be white bubbles, and every seven days, there would be blue bubbles.

Occasionally, they appeared at irregular times.

In these five months, nothing unexpected occurred, and more people from the sect began to return.

Those who had previously gained opportunities began to venture out.

Jiang Hao opened his eyes from his cultivation.

He breathed a sigh of relief and then closed his eyes again.

At noon, he opened his eyes once more. His cultivation felt steady.

He took a look at his interface.

[Name: Jiang Hao]

[Age: 36]

[Cultivation Level: Peak of the Return to the Void 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]

[Lifeforce: 3/100 (cannot be cultivated)] [Cultivation: 0/100 (cannot be cultivated)] [Divine Abilities: 1/3 (cannot be obtained)] 'Thirty-six years old...'

Jiang Hao felt somewhat sentimental.

When he was nineteen, he had first met Hong Yuye. From then on, his life hadn't been the same.

His cultivation also began to skyrocket around that time.

In just seventeen years, he leaped from the early stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm to the peak of Return to Void Realm.

He might be able to step into the Immortal Ascension Platform before he reached forty.

If he could tend to spirit herbs in the same way, he could attempt to advance when he reached thirty-eight.

In the afternoon, Jiang Hao restored the Reappearance of Hidden Spirit and replenished two attack techniques in his wrist guards.

That day, he also took the spirit beast to the Spirit Herb Garden.

"Have Lin Zhi and the others returned?" Jiang Hao asked.

“They have. One came back looking completely beaten, while the other broke through to the late stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm, ” said the spirit beast.

Jiang Hao was surprised and asked for details.

“They said they met a righteous immortal on the way and ended up fighting.

They were chased for over half a year and only managed to get back now. One could only take a beating, while the other became stronger the more they fought.” The spirit beast shook its head and sighed.

“They ended up like that because they didn’t invoke my name. Otherwise, my friends in the cultivation path would have helped, and they wouldn’t have been chased.”

Jiang Hao glanced at the spirit beast but didn’t say anything else.

Lin Zhi seemed to run into such encounters frequently.

If the spirit beast didn’t accompany them, they would be chased longer.

It was still alright. They could learn from their experience.

This way, even when descending the mountain, they would understand what mattered more.

“How is Xiao Li’s pet?” Jiang Hao asked about the Nine Nether.

“Behaving. It shows me respect,” said the spirit beast as it munched on a carrot.

Jiang Hao nodded. It seemed the Nine Nether was still obedient.

However, he still needed to pay close attention to avoid any problems. He had to check if the seal had weakened. If it had, it meant it had a lot on its mind.

On the way, Jiang Hao received a message.

It was from his master. Someone was going to visit the Spirit Herb Garden, and Jiang Hao was asked to make the necessary preparations.

'Who wants to visit the Spirit Herb Garden?' Jiang Hao was puzzled.

"Has anyone visited the sect recently?" he asked the spirit beast.

The spirit beast swiveled its collar around its neck. "Yes. Someone from the Heavenly Gate Sect. They are not my friends. Master, be careful. But you can try mentioning my name. Everyone knows about Lord Beat's reputation.

Perhaps they've heard of it and might show you respect."

"People from the Heavenly Gate Sect?" Jiang Hao was surprised.

He had been focused on the bubbles these past few days because he was on the verge of advancement.

He hadn't expected people from the Heavenly Gate Sect to arrive already.

Although their arrival wasn't helpful, it should be alright as long as he did his part.

After the visit, they probably wouldn't have any further interactions..

Chapter 764 - 764: Why Invite Humiliation Upon Oneself?

At the Spirit Herb Garden, Jiang Hao glanced at the people working inside. Most were ordinary folks, with a few outer disciples, but not even one-tenth of them.

He had examined each of these individuals. There wasn't any problem with them.

If there were any, it might be because someone outside was influencing them.

Jiang Hao treated these people as well as he could. That was all he could do.

However, even so, they might not necessarily live for long.

Various things could happen within the Heavenly Note Sect, and they could be exploited.

It would ultimately lead to their tragedy.

Every time, Jiang Hao reminded himself to become stronger as soon as possible. Only then could he control matters of his life and death.

"Is there any problem today?" Jiang Hao asked Cheng Chou.

"The spirit herb has withered," Cheng Chou said.

Jiang Hao frowned. "Who does the spirit herb belong to?"

"Flowing Waterfall." "Do they know about it?"

"They haven't found out yet."

Jiang Hao hesitated for a moment and went to check.

It was a valuable spirit herb.

He had a feeling that there might be some problems with the herb.

It was still uncertain whether it was due to planting methods or other problems.

He decided to set it aside for now and not rush to inform anyone.

He would deal with it after the Heavily Gate Sect's visit.

However, representatives from Flowing Waterfall arrived.

This time, it was a middle-stage Golden Core Realm cultivator. His cultivation was as strong as Jiang Hao at this level.

His only request was to see the spirit herb and assess the situation.

"Senior Brother, could you come back another day?" Jiang Hao asked.

"It's not that I mind, but the person in charge has insisted that I inspect the herbs today," said the person helplessly.

It seemed like they were instructed to follow orders at all costs.

Jiang Hao glanced at the sky. He felt that time was running short.

"Senior Brother, come with me," Jiang Hao said politely.

He later asked for the person's name, which was Qu Wenwu.

Soon, they arrived in front of the withered spirit herb.

Qu Wenwu looked surprised. "Junior Brother, what's this about?"

"This is your spirit herb. Due to some reason, the herb has withered, so we had to transplant it for now," said Jiang Hao.

He slipped some spirit stones into Qu Wenwu's hands.

Qu Wenwu had intended to get angry, but he only appeared helpless now. "Junior Brother, I was instructed to inspect and report back. I have my own difficulties. I hope you understand."

He discreetly returned the spirit stones to Jiang Hao.

"If it's just a routine matter, you can return, Senior Brother. It won't be a problem tomorrow or the day after," said Jiang Hao.

"I do hope you understand, Junior Brother. I can see that you are busy, but I had to come and check. Please don't make things difficult for me." Qu Wenwu looked around as if he could sense something amiss.

Jiang Hao nodded in understanding.

Someone was targeting him.

But there was something he didn't understand... How did they do it? Did they tamper with the spirit herb last night, or did they know that the Heavenly Gate Sect would visit at this time?

Making a fuss wouldn't benefit him in any way.

The other person might not benefit either. It depended on who was less willing to escalate things.

“Then... How do you think we should handle things, Senior Brother?”

Qu Wenwu thought for a moment. “Well... I was asked to ask for compensation if there was something wrong with the herbs. A compensation for not only the damaged herbs but also for incurring a loss due to such a delay.”

“What if we can’t agree?”

“Then, I am supposed to go back and report to Seniors.”

Jiang Hao nodded. He discreetly gave back the spirit stones and even added two Healing Talismans. “Then, I must trouble you, Senior Brother, to make a trip again. We’re only free in the afternoon. You don’t need to overthink it. Just visit like you would normally.”

Qu Wenwu was surprised. After hesitating for a while, he accepted the talismans and spirit stones. This was quite a lot.

“Then, I’ll take my leave. After I return, I’ll honestly report about the spirit herb.”

He implied that he wouldn’t report anything bad.

Jiang Hao thanked him and asked the spirit beast to accompany him.

The spirit beast’s presence somewhat helped.

After that, Jiang Hao waited.

Senior Brother Bai Yi arrived with a group of disciples at the Spirit Herb Garden at noon.

There was a middle-aged man and four young cultivators.

In total, there were three men and one woman.

When Jiang Hao saw them, he could sense that they thought highly of themselves.

The more he looked, the more pronounced their attitude became.

In front of major sects, the Heavenly Note Sect was indeed mediocre.

They couldn't compare in terms of cultivators' strength or the Spirit Herb Garden.

The Heavenly Note Sect was a sect assembled in a short time. Such a sect could barely be considered huge.

The Heavenly Note Sect had improved over the years and managed to secure a top position.

Even though their foundation was not very good, and their overall strength was lacking, Elder Baizhi's leadership was remarkable.

She had helped the sect progress significantly.

But even so, in front of these major sects, the Heavenly Note Sect was still considered a small, rustic sect.

Jiang Hao bowed respectfully and silently stepped aside.

As a mere inner sect disciple responsible for tending the Spirit Herb Garden, he didn't have the qualification to show these guests around.

That was Senior Brother Bai Yi's responsibility.

As a True Disciple and senior of the Cliff of Broken Hearts, he held significant status.

Jiang Hao's role was to follow behind.

"Senior, please, our Cliff of Broken Hearts' Spirit Herb Garden is somewhat small and not comparable to your esteemed sect. If any areas need improvement, please feel free to tell us," Bai Yi said respectfully.

"You're too polite," the middle-aged man said.

After that, they walked inside.

After a while, they stopped in front of a particular spirit herb.

It was the Fragrant Nether Flower, which was a relatively common spirit herb.

"Why place the Fragrant Nether Flower under the scorching sun?" asked the woman in the group.

"Wouldn't that ruin the Fragrant Nether Flower? Fragrant Nether Flowers prefer shade. The scorching sun will affect it and might lead to the production of toxins. Your sect lacks even such basic knowledge?"

"I heard that many people in the Heavenly Note Sect have some kind of mental issues. This might be the reason," said a man.

"The toxins from the Fragrant Nether Flower can disturb the mind. I used to think that some people's unstable mental state was due to cultivation techniques, but now it seems it's due to a lack of common knowledge about spirit herbs."

A few of them chuckled softly.

“Nonsense,” said the middle-aged man. “This spirit herb is being cultivated very well. Perhaps, there’s a reason for this, right, Bai Yi?”

He looked at Bai Yi as though he was praising him while the others shamed his

sect.

Jiang Hao remained indifferent.

Bai Yi calmly said, “Senior, you’re right. Indeed, there is a reason.”

“I wonder what that is?” said Yin Xueni.

She was the only woman among them.

“It is... inconvenient to disclose,” said Bai Yi.

“It’s only natural to learn from each other,” said the middle-aged man, Nie Shanju. Then, he looked at Jiang Hao. “Young friend, you work here, right? So, you might know the reason behind it for sure.”

Bai Yi wanted to speak, but the man said again, “Young friend, are you unwilling to share so we can all learn from each other?”

Bai Yi couldn’t say anything.

Jiang Hao knew the pressure was now on him.

He agreed with the woman. The Fragrant Nether Flower was supposed to be grown in the shade. However, Miao Tinglian had wanted to move it here, so he couldn't say anything.

She even explained the reasons for it that he could have never even thought of.

"Young friend, be bold and speak up," Nie Shanju said with a smile.

The other four looked on as if watching a play.

Jiang Hao sighed.

'Why bother?'

There was no need to provoke cultivators who were not from the same place..

Chapter 765 - 765: Using Another's Blade to Kill

Jiang Hao had thought that the Heavenly Gate Sect was merely displaying their superiority.

After all, the Heavenly Note Sect didn't possess any profound attainments that could be shown off, and the Spirit Herb Garden was rather at an ordinary level. Yet, members of the Heavenly Gate Sect still came to visit and learn.

Naturally, it was to showcase their own superiority.

However, Jiang Hao didn't expect them to be so arrogant.

Fortunately, he didn't have to answer. Otherwise, it would have been troublesome.

"Friend, haven't you figured it out yet?" Yin Xueni asked.

Jiang Hao lowered his head respectfully. "The reason isn't very complicated. The Fragrant Nether Flower prefers shade, mainly because its roots need coolness. Otherwise, it would absorb moisture from its leaves and branches and cause toxins to cover the whole plant. However, the Ice Crystal Grass surrounds the Fragrant Nether Flower, so it keeps the spirit field cold, and they thrive on toxins. So, the Fragrant Nether Flower gets its coolness from the Ice Crystal Grass, and the grass gets nourishment from the flower. That is the reason for planting them this way."

Jiang Hao's response was clear and logical. It left them stunned.

Even Bai Yi was stunned for a moment before bursting into laughter. "Junior Brother Jiang, don't show off. How could these esteemed seniors not be aware of such small matters? Do you think the disciples from their sect are a bunch of fools? I'm sure the question was just meant as a test for you. Don't get too comfortable."

Jiang Hao nodded in agreement and dared not say more.

Senior Brother Bai was indeed straightforward. He didn't want to stir up any trouble.

But even so, these people already had a grudge against him.

Sure enough, the five people looked displeased.

They forced out a smile and made an excuse to leave.

Jiang Hao sighed inwardly. He could only take things one step at a time.

As Jiang Hao arrived at the Spirit Herb Garden the next day, he overheard them discussing something.

They said the Heavenly Gate Sect was furious.

'Furious?' Jiang Hao wondered if something had happened last night.

Didn't they consider the presence of the Divine Corpse Sect and the Mountain Sea Sword Sect here?

Even if they disregarded the Divine Corpse Sect, the Mountain Sea Sword Sect should still make them reconsider.

Upon inquiry, he heard that several more deaths had occurred this time, including individuals with significant status.

The issue seemed to have escalated.

However, it had nothing to do with him this time. He hadn't done anything.

On the other side, in the area where the people from the Heavenly Gate Sect were staying, the middle-aged man was furious. He argued with the people from the Heavenly Note Sect.

After a long time, the people from the Heavenly Note Sect eventually withdrew. They seemed to have placated the guests somewhat.

At that point, the middle-aged man sat down in the room.

He looked furious as well as a bit sad. He also looked somewhat impatient.

A woman walked into the room.

"The people from the Heavenly Note Sect have left?" the middle-aged man asked.

"Yeah, they're gone." The woman nodded.

The middle-aged man's anger and sadness seemed to dissipate at that. His face showed annoyance. "How are they alive? Wasn't it rumored that provoking the Heavenly Note Sect was dangerous? Wasn't the Cliff of Broken Hearts supposed to be a risky place? Those five people humiliated them, yet they are still alive and well. The Heavenly Note Sect has an undeserved reputation."

"It's said that a few managed to survive by luck. Besides, the five people were defeated in the Cliff of Broken Hearts by words alone. No one was angry in the end. Maybe that is why they didn't retaliate," said the woman.

"Useless! They were defeated by words alone in a sect like the Heavenly Note Sect that lacks any foundation! They can't even tend the Spirit Herb Garden well." The middle-aged man shook his head and sighed.

"The woman hesitated for a moment and asked, "Is that the right thing to do?"

"What's not right about it?" The old man sneered. "These people are just scum. They're not worthy of attention. Why keep them around? Are we tarnishing our sect's reputation? We might as well make the most of it and gain some benefits for our sect. Besides, we're just making them experience the real world of cultivation. If their skills are lacking, who can they blame? In the worst-case scenario, those killed might belong to the Heavenly Note Sect. We'll just have to take responsibility for that. Or... we can just blame the Great Thousand God

Sect."

"But..." The woman felt uneasy.

"No buts!" said the middle-aged man. "You know what kind of people they are. There are some we can't touch, but once they're here, no one cares about their status. A demonic sect is a demonic sect. They chose to provoke other people. If they get killed for that, what can the sect say? Will they rage or kill their way to the Heavenly Note Sect? Let them come and kill. Those who have held power for too long are already corrupt. Since that's the case, let's use this newly risen sword to ruthlessly slay the corruption within the sect. What's wrong with that? A group of people we can't educate... Let the Heavenly Note Sect educate them. Let's see who survives."

The woman was silent for a long time. "What about the remaining people..." "Wait a little longer. If they don't die, just kill them and blame it on the Heavenly Note Sect. We brought them along, but I have no intention of taking them back," said the middle-aged man indifferently.

"Alright." The woman nodded.

They deserved to be killed.

Jiang Hao noticed that Liu Xingchen looked excited to visit him.

It seemed like he found something amusing yet again.

With some members of the sect dead, it was a busy time for the Law Enforcement Hall.

If he was here so early, there was probably some progress in the investigation.

His excitement suggested that the matter was quite interesting.

This time, Jiang Hao wasn't worried because it had nothing to do with him. He was eager for Liu Xingchen to tell him of the new developments.

"Junior Brother Jiang, have you heard?" Liu Xingchen asked.

"Yeah, I heard that many people from the Heavenly Gate Sect died." Jiang Hao nodded.

"Do you know who did it?" Liu Xingchen asked again.

Jiang Hao thought for a moment before. "Wasn't it the Great Thousand God Sect?"

“That’s what the Law Enforcement Hall concluded. The Great Thousand God Sect has been reckless lately. It must be their doing,” said Liu Xingchen.

Jiang Hao was silent. As far as he knew, the people from the Great Thousand God Sect had gone quiet lately. How could they be reckless so suddenly?

If the Heavenly Note Sect said so, then it must be true.

But did the people from the Heavenly Gate Sect believe it?

Jiang Hao asked this, and Liu Xingchen’s answer surprised him.

“They do, but our sect is still to be blamed. In the end, we can only offer some spots in the Corpse Realm to appease the Heavenly Gate Sect,” Liu Xingchen said. “However, during our investigation, we found several suspicious individuals. Junior Brother, do you know who they might be?”

Jiang Hao shook his head, but he felt it must be some seniors from the Heavenly Note Sect.

This kind of thing wasn’t new in the sect.

“First, we found some suspicious individuals from various branches, but they all had alibis, so we didn’t pay much attention to them. However, this only accounted for a part of it. Another part led us to the Divine Corpse Sect. After the investigation, we found they had picked up a small portion of storage treasures. It’s our sect’s responsibility to retrieve it for investigation,” Liu Xingchen said with a smile.

“The most interesting part is that the Heavenly Gate Sect also had suspicious individuals in their midst. It’s truly unexpected. Several people who visited you are all alive and well,” Liu Xingchen said as he stared carefully at Jiang Hao. “What do you think of that, Junior Brother Jiang?”

Jiang Hao chuckled. “Nothing. Isn’t that normal?”

“True.” Liu Xingchen shrugged it off. “By the way, let me tell you something. The list of individuals allowed to enter the Corpse Realm has been revealed, and your name is also on it..”

Chapter 766 - 766: Another Person In The Lawless Tower

He was going to the Corpse Realm.

The news took Jiang Hao by surprise.

The opening of the Corpse Realm this time had nothing to do with him. He had already entered last time, so he didn't need to enter again.

Opportunities should be given to others who didn't have it before, and perhaps a truly exceptional individual might emerge.

Hence, it was uncommon to allow the same person to enter a secret realm twice.

After all, the effect of the second time was significantly worse than the first. It was better to give this opportunity to someone else.

“Why am I selected to go?” Jiang Hao asked.

He didn't expect it. Although he had secretly desired to enter it again, he didn't know if his cultivation realm might pose problems.

The peak of the Return to Void Realm was the limit to enter the Corpse Realm. Using simple means to conceal himself might not work.

Shang An and Gui had both tried it. Suppressing one's cultivation realm wasn't a problem. But for Jiang Hao, it was more about concealment than suppression. It made things more complicated.

He couldn't ask for details and could only try to hide while trying to suppress his cultivation.

In theory, hiding his cultivation didn't mean he could escape the notice of the Corpse Realm. Otherwise, the Heavenly Stele Mountain wouldn't have called for him.

Entering without preparation might mean being devoured by the ocean.

"The reason is simple. Junior Brother Jiang, your recent achievements have been remarkable. Such places prioritize disciples with high achievements, regardless of who they are. If their achievements are high, they get priority," said Liu Xingchen.

Jiang Hao fell silent for a moment. This was indeed unexpected.

However, with adequate preparation, there should be no problems.

"How were the slots distributed this time?" Jiang Hao asked.

"There were a total of forty-eight slots. Our sect selected sixteen people. The

Mountain Sea Sword Sect and the Divine Corpse Sect selected ten each. The Heavenly Gate Sect selected twelve."

"The Heavenly Gate Sect has so many?" Jiang Hao was surprised.

The Heavenly Gate Sect shouldn't have that many people, at least not more than the Mountain Sea Sword Sect.

"It was originally eight, but they were given an additional four slots." Liu Xingchen chuckled.

Jiang Hao understood. They had suffered significant losses, and they needed to be placated.

It made sense.

After talking for a while, Liu Xingchen left.

Jiang Hao didn't pay much attention to that and began to plan for the Corpse Realm.

However, there was another matter he was worried about. The issue with Flowing Waterfall's spirit herbs still needed solving.

He had appraised the spirit herbs and found issues with them. Someone had intentionally tempered with them.

The person behind it was Qiu Luo. It was a name Jiang Hao had encountered before.

He had seen the name before in the Law Enforcement Hall's underground city.

But Jiang Hao still had no clue who this person actually was.

This person wasn't simple at all. He had never provoked the Flowing Waterfall branch in his life, so why were they after him?

This was what confused him. He found no reason for them to do so.

It was evident that the other party was exceptionally well-informed. But for what purpose?

After waiting for a while, Jiang Hao saw Qu Wenwu approach. He was here this time to negotiate the compensation.

Jiang Hao lowered his head.

The spirit herbs were valuable, but he had no evidence to prove that the issue wasn't due to his method. In this negotiation, he had no advantage.

At that moment, Bai Yi arrived too.

"Whose spirit herbs are they?" he asked.

"It belongs to Senior Brother Jia Chen," Qu Wenwu respectfully said.

"Let him come and discuss this matter with me in person," Bai Yi said.

That day, not a single person above the Foundation Establishment Realm from Flowing Waterfall visited the garden again. The others just gave up on compensation and reclaimed the withered spirit herbs.

Jiang Hao was surprised. The other person didn't demand anything further.

He thanked Senior Brother Bai Yi for this. Bai Yi just nodded without saying much.

Senior Brother Qu was also helpless. .c(o)m

On the path of cultivation, no one had it easy.

Everyone treaded on thin ice and advanced through difficulties.

In the evening, Jiang Hao left the market.

He had been selling talismans and hadn't met Senior Sister Leng Tian and Senior Brother Duan Guan.

He had amassed a little over ten thousand spirit stones.

With fewer sect members lately, even earning this much was difficult.

He needed to continue accumulating spirit stones.

Hong Yuye hadn't visited yet. He needed to prepare things before entering the Corpse Realm.

Otherwise, it would be challenging to buy things inside the Corpse Realm.

He had decided what to do in the Corpse Realm this time.

He intended to use the Corpse Realm to reach the Immortal Ascension Platform.

This way, he would also be considered a strong individual.

Although he was not strong enough, he had surpassed many.

The Immortal Ascension Platform from the Return to Void would be a considerable leap.

If there was enough time after that, he would try to find the founder of the Divine Corpse Sect.

Since he was going to the Corpse Realm, he had to visit the Lawless Tower. It had been a long time since he last visited. He wondered how things were there.

He wanted to see what the situation was with Heavenly King Hai Luo.

On the other side, Bi Zhu led Qiao Yi along the mountain path and headed toward the direction of the Lawless Tower.

The one leading the way was Yinsha.

Upon hearing that an important client had arrived, she didn't dare neglect them.

"Senior, can anyone be redeemed from the Lawless Tower?" Bi Zhu asked innocently.

"In theory, yes," Yinsha said without going into much detail. "If they refuse to leave, will you release them anyway?" Bi Zhu asked.

Yinsha chuckled. "They will certainly want to leave."

Qiao Yi followed behind. She felt strange.

What kind of place could imprison people and trade them like goods?

A demonic sect was indeed somewhat surprising.

However, she remembered that the person they were after was strong. How

had they ended up in such a situation?

After a while, the group arrived in front of the Lawless Tower.

Bi Zhu was excited. It was her first time entering the Lawless Tower.

Almost everyone they wanted to find during the gathering had been in there.

There were many rumors about this place, but few had actually seen it. Those who entered rarely came out unscathed.

Now that she had the opportunity, she wanted to use it fully.

Soon, Yinsha handed them jade pendants to protect them from the Lawless Tower, and the group ventured inside.

However, shortly after entering, they saw a person slowly climbing up the stairs.

“Junior Brother Jiang!” Yinsha was quite surprised, “It’s been a while since you visited.”

Jiang Hao turned around and was surprised to see Bi Zhu.

Still, he greeted her. “I’ve been in cultivation.”

Bi Zhu felt apprehensive looking at the person before her. This person carried the Heavenly Fate Misfortune Pearl.

“Friend Jiang, it’s been a while. Do you still remember me?” she asked with a smile.

Jiang Hao nodded but didn’t say much.

If he had known that she would be here, he wouldn’t have left the Cliff of Broken Hearts.

Now, he could only quietly follow along.

Although Yinsha was surprised, she didn’t ask further.

The four of them arrived at the fifth floor together.

Jiang Hao noticed that there were more people this time.

There was Zhuang Yuzhen, Hai Luo, Nangong Yue, Wu Yang, and Yin Zichen as usual. Then, there was a new addition: Mi Lingyue.

Jiang Hao hadn't noticed that she was here.

Apparently, many things had happened unnoticed..

Chapter 767 - 767 Heavenly King Hai Luo's Realization

He was curious about how she came to be here.

Logically, she wouldn't have been captured. However, if she had come here voluntarily, it would be strange.

The Heavenly Note Sect wouldn't object as long as they could earn some spirit stones.

Everyone knew about the price of entry here: regression of cultivation.

Falling back to the Primordial Spirit Realm was inevitable.

There were no cultivators beyond the Primordial Spirit Realm on the fifth floor.

The price for being here was self-evident.

It would impact one's cultivation greatly unless one were in the Primordial Spirit Realm to begin with.

However, normal Primordial Spirit Realm cultivators couldn't maintain their cultivation on the fifth floor.

Most of these people could maintain it by controlling their strength and resisting the influence of the Lawless Tower.

Among them, Zhuang Yuzhen was exceptional. He managed to stay stable solely through his own means.

Heavenly King Hai Luo knew how to take advantage of his situation, so the suppression of his cultivation wasn't very severe.

Bi Zhu felt astonished looking at the six people.

There were quite a few people on this floor.

If it had been earlier, she would have certainly explored thoroughly. But now that Jiang Hao was here, it seemed unlikely.

If she had known that the Heavenly Fate Misfortune Pearl would be here where she was, she definitely wouldn't have visited.

Although it made no difference whether the person was here or not when it erupted, it was still a consolation when one couldn't see the pearl in front of them.

She felt strange. If this person somehow was emotionally unstable, they would all die.

But why would the Heavenly Fate Misfortune Pearl be given to this person for safekeeping? It was perplexing.

However, it wasn't worth investigating further. Provoking this person wouldn't be good for anyone present.

This person might not be able to break the seal anyway.

But what if he could?

Bi Zhu sighed. It was best to finish what they came for and leave quietly. It wasn't good to stay here for long.

She looked at the six people and tried to guess which one was Yin Zichen.

The sudden arrival of so many people piqued the curiosity of the six captives.

There hadn't been many visiting the tower the entire year. Today, so many had come at once.

Jiang Hao remained in the back and didn't do anything much.

He knew that these two people had come to release someone, and it seemed Yin Zichen had voluntarily given up his Sword Heart.

Otherwise, the Lawless Tower wouldn't release anyone. Otherwise, they would have to face the Mountain Sea Sword Sect.

They definitely wouldn't provoke them.

"Yin Zichen..." Yinsha looked toward the fifth prison cell.

She had a feeling that he was about to be released. Indeed, she was right.

He returned the Sword Heart, so he still had a chance to escape in the future.

Bi Zhu and Qiao Yi both looked at him.

Bi Zhu couldn't recognize the person. She turned to Qiao Yi. "Auntie Qiao, take a look. Is this the person?"

"Probably," Qiao Yi said with some difficulty. "I was still young back then, so I don't remember him very clearly." fr(e)e

Bi Zhu looked helpless. She then approached the cell with Qiao Yi.

"Senior, I have a question for you. If your answer satisfies me, I'll release you from here. If not, I won't," Bi Zhu said.

"Go on." Yin Zichen nodded.

He felt that the young girl in front of him was quite unusual.

"Do you recognize this person?" Bi Zhu pushed Qiao Yi forward.

The latter felt a bit embarrassed.

Yin Zichen looked at her for a long time before shaking his head. "I'm sorry. I don't recognize you."

Qiao Yi was filled with anticipation in the beginning, but now, she looked deflated.

"I worked at the library of the Heavenly Spirit Tribe back then," Qiao Yi said.

"The library? Outside the Heavenly Spirit Tribe?" Yin Zichen frowned. "The little girl who wanted to leave?"

"That's me." Qiao Yi immediately nodded.

“Sorry, I still don’t remember your name.” Yin Zichen shook his head.

“It’s alright. I understand,” Qiao Yi said.

“Alright. Come with us,” Bi Zhu said.

Since they hadn’t made a mistake, everything was alright.

“You’re not considering staying here longer?” Mi Lingyue asked.

Yin Zichen was speechless.

What kind of situation would make someone consider staying in a place like this?

Jiang Hao stood at the side and didn’t pay much attention to these people.

If Yin Zichen left, it was good. There were too many people here.

At some point, the Lawless Tower had begun housing so many people.

Initially, there was only Zhuang Yuzhen. Then, the Heavenly King arrived.

The number of people should have decreased, but Heavenly King Hai Luo broke everyone’s expectations by voluntarily ending up in the tower once more.

Mi Lingyue had also come to stay here voluntarily.

She probably wanted to escape the control of the Great Thousand God Sect.

It was uncertain if she could detect the core of the mental control technique in this place.

“Come with me,” Yinsha said as she escorted Yin Zichen, Qiao Yi, and Bi Zhu out.

Jiang Hao watched them leave the fifth floor. Yin Zichen hadn’t looked at him at all when all this happened.

He probably didn’t want to attract any unnecessary attention.

Once they left, Jiang Hao finally breathed a sigh of relief. Bi Zhu was too dangerous.

Chapter 768 - 768: Gift From Feng Hua

Jiang Hao didn’t understand Heavenly King Hai Luo’s emotions.

He also couldn’t guess what kind of changes these emotions could bring about.

But he knew that having too many feelings would entangle a person.

That was not what he hoped for.

He tried to avoid people as much as possible and not get involved in too many relationships.

It was both for his defense and to protect others.

He could provoke many people if he lived like that.

The closer the relationship, the easier it was to attract attention.

At that time, his limit would be tested.

He didn't want such a thing to happen. No matter what he chose, it wouldn't be a good thing.

Perhaps Heavenly King Hai Luo would benefit from his emotions, but how many people in this world were lucky enough to have that?

When Jiang Hao left the Lawless Tower, he saw Senior Sister Yinsha on the way.

He asked her about Mi Lingyue.

"Her? She said she came for refuge. She also promised that she would help us with some forging tasks and teach some disciples. If they truly succeed in learning, then there's a chance the sect will reopen the forging branch. Elder Baizhi would naturally agree to such a good thing." That was what Jiang Hao heard.

Unexpectedly, Mi Lingyue didn't spend a single penny.

However, her value far exceeded that of spirit stones.

No one would refuse such a person.

Both sides got what they needed.

It was Hai Ming.

This surprised Jiang Hao a bit. He hadn't visited for a long time.

Previously, because of the matter with the fish people, he had come to find him to unearth some clues.

Later, when the Ancestral Dragon Heart had appeared, he hadn't visited.

Why was he here suddenly?

“Senior Hai Ming.” Jiang Hao bowed in greeting.

“Been such a long time.” Hai Ming smiled.

“I assume you have been engaged in far more important matters of the sect, Senior,” said Jiang Hao.

“Shall we go inside and talk?” Hai Ming gestured toward Jiang Hao’s courtyard.

Jiang Hao was somewhat concerned, but he nodded. “Please, do come in.”

If Hai Ming was himself, there would be no problem. But Jiang Hao knew that he was one of the avatars of Feng Hua.

Whatever Hai Ming saw, Feng Hua would get wind of it.

The sudden visit might be because they discovered something.

Jiang Hao couldn’t be certain what it was, but it probably wasn’t related to Smiling San Sheng.

Most likely, it was about the Heavenly Fragrance Dao Flower.

Feng Hua was not easy to deal with. He had known that from the beginning. So, after giving her some gifts, he didn’t bother with her.

Provoking someone frequently always brought trouble.

Hai Ming looked around the courtyard and exclaimed, "This place is really nice!"

"I was lucky to find a good location, that's all," said Jiang Hao modestly.

"Unfortunately, I'm not from the Cliff of Broken Hearts. Otherwise, I'd definitely build a house next to yours." Hai Ming chuckled.

At this, Jiang Hao frowned.

What did he mean?

Their interaction had always been friendly and normal before. But today, it seemed as though there was an underlying threat in his words.

It didn't sound like something a senior would say.

How could he bring up building a house next to someone so casually? It would obviously arouse suspicion.

The previous Hai Ming definitely wasn't like this.

Jiang Hao looked at the person before but didn't sense anything unusual.

He could only smile. "If that were the case, I would truly be honored to have you as a neighbor."

Hai Ming sat down. "Do you have any tea?"

"Yes." Jiang Hao nodded and brewed some ordinary tea leaves.

"I heard you frequently encounter opportunities whenever you go out?" Hai Ming sipped his tea.

Jiang Hao lowered his head and said, "Occasionally, I do encounter some opportunities."

"Hmm?" Hai Ming smiled meaningfully and said, "Could someone be secretly helping you?"

Jiang Hao looked at him and said, "Senior, you must be joking. Who would ever help me?"

"Hahaha..." Hai Ming laughed. "I'm just kidding. By the way, do you want a gift from me?"

Jiang Hao felt like he had already had this conversation before... as Smiling San Sheng.

"Senior, you want to give me a gift?" he asked in polite puzzlement.

If he had known Hai Ming would come for a visit, he would have saved the appraisal ability instead of using it at the Lawless Tower.

"Yes. Do you want to guess what it is?" Hai Ming smiled.

Jiang Hao lowered his head. "Is it something you need me to do, Senior?"

"Not really. I just want to see your surprise when you receive the gift." Hai Ming smiled.

Jiang Hao looked at him and sensed that he was up to no good.

"Thank you very much, Senior, but I still hope you would let me do something in return for you."

"Let me give you the gift first."

Hai Ming took out a letter and handed it to Jiang Hao. "Open and take a look."

Jiang Hao slowly opened the envelope and read the words written there:

“Please say “hello” to Smiling San Sheng for me.”

Jiang Hao’s face didn’t change, but a storm surged in his heart.

What did this mean?

Did Hai Ming think he had Smiling San Sheng backing him, or did he believe he was Smiling San Sheng?

Jiang Hao panicked.

He didn’t know how Feng Hua had noticed it and linked Smiling San Sheng to him.

“Do you like the gift?” Hai Ming asked.

Jiang Hao shook his head but didn’t speak.

Feng Hua might just be speculating.

However, he had already attracted her attention, which was somewhat unexpected.

“I heard you have a younger sister?” Hai Ming placed his teacup down. “Seems like she loves food. I gave her a box of pastries. She smiled and thanked me.

She’s truly adorable, don’t you think?”

“What do you mean, Senior?” Jiang Hao asked.

“Nothing. I just wanted to give something... to someone, but they refused. So, I brought you something instead.” Hai Ming chuckled and stood up. “I won’t stay long. I’ll come again for a discussion with you, Junior Brother.”

Jiang Hao watched him walk away.

As he left the courtyard, Hai Ming turned back. “Young friend, you should take care of your sister, or one day she might disappear. Then, it’ll be your fault for not looking after her properly.”

After that, Hai Ming rode his sword and left.

Jiang Hao watched him leave without saying a word.

He was silent as he watched Hai Ming speed away. Then, he looked around the courtyard.

He looked at the peach tree and sighed heavily.

Jiang Hao had intended to set aside the matter with Feng Hua for a while. But he hadn’t expected the other party to come knocking on his door with ill intentions.

‘Did she really find it out, or was she only guessing?’

It was quite challenging to find out anything about Smiling San Sheng unless someone at the gathering had learned about it and leaked the information.

Only then would it be possible for someone to come looking for him.

However, everyone at the gathering knew about the Heavenly Fate Misfortune Pearl on him so no one could have revealed such important information.

Once the pearl erupted, no one could escape.

Therefore, it wouldn't have been anyone from the gathering.

Jiang Hao sighed. He was unable to find a reason.

The situation had somewhat gotten out of control, and Feng Hua's main body couldn't be found yet.

She could take action against him at any time while hiding in the shadows.

In an instant, she returned to the darkness while Jiang Hao remained exposed to the light..

Chapter 769 - 769: The Battle Of The Three Kingdoms

The next day, Jiang Hao left the Spirit Herb Garden and headed to the cafeteria.

Most people there were at or below the Foundation Establishment Realm, and it was where ordinary individuals went to eat.

Of course, their dining areas wouldn't be placed together.

It was a risky affair for ordinary non-cultivators to mingle there.

Those at the Lifeblood Refinement Realm level and above seldom ate there. They rarely visited the cafeteria, except for Xiao Li.

She had visited the cafeteria more frequently than anyone else in the past years.

Unlike others, she had to pay spirit stones for her meals.

Presently, it was fifty spirit stones per month.

Most of the time, it was Jiang Hao who paid for her. Xiao Li had spirit stones of her own, but she spent them on other snacks, which meant she was often broke.

As soon as Jiang Hao entered the cafeteria, he saw Xiao Li sitting in her usual spot. She was bouncing on her toes and waiting for her food to arrive.

Her face was full of anticipation and joy.

“Senior Brother Jiang!” She spotted Jiang Hao and waved to him.

“Are you planning to treat me to a meal?” Jiang Hao walked over and sat down. The spirit beast hopped onto the table and expected food to be served.

Xiao Li’s expectant face became conflicted.

Finally, she nodded hesitantly.

Jiang Hao looked at her and gestured for her to bring out the Nine Nether.

The Nine Nether, which was in a fairly joyful state, instantly slumped as if in despair when it reached Jiang Hao’s hands.

It seemed desolate.

Jiang Hao observed that even in this state, it couldn’t influence the outside world.

Even if he wanted it to help Xiao Li, it was powerless to do so unless released from its seal.

Releasing it would be easy but sealing it would be much more difficult.

He couldn't guard Xiao Li against Feng Hua's threat, but he knew that Xiao Li herself was strong. With the Dragon Pearl on her, it would require formidable cultivation to harm her.

He just wasn't sure what cultivation realm could resist the Dragon Pearl's power.

"Let me hold onto this for now," Jiang Hao said.

If someone targeted Xiao Li, having the Nine Nether on her would pose a danger.

If it was unsealed, it would worsen the situation. A toothless tiger could still strike and kill.

"Oh..." Xiao Li didn't seem to mind.

Her food had arrived. It was a huge roast.

Before eating, she cut a small piece for Jiang Hao.

"Senior Brother, you first," she said.

Jiang Hao took it and started eating. freewebno(v)el

Then, he watched Xiao Li eat her food heartily.

For a moment, he recalled the past. Xiao Li had come to the Heavenly Note Sect solely for a meal back then.

After arriving in the sect, she showed no interest in cultivating but toiled tirelessly every day for food.

She was often chased by people to make her pay attention to her studies.

At that time, she used to hide in the woods.

Many years had passed without much change in her way of life.

She didn't like cultivating. She only loved food.

Perhaps one day, while eating, she would suddenly realize who she really was.

Jiang Hao finished his food.

He watched Xiao Li finish her meal too.

Finally, Xiao Li took a few pieces of dessert and put them away secretly.

When Jiang Hao asked her why she didn't eat them, Xiao Li told him that she'd eat them later at home so that others would know that she wasn't such a glutton.

"My mother taught me that it's not easy to be a joke to others," Xiao Li said.

Jiang Hao didn't ask anything further. He got up and left.

The spirit beast didn't follow but stayed beside Xiao Li.

They might need to find Chu Chuan and the others.

Back at his residence, Jiang Hao didn't dwell on it much.

Rushing was useless in resolving Feng Hua's threat.

He still had time. The best way was to get stronger quickly and then try and find the other party. After that, he could persuade her to let go of her grudge against him.

One month later, in early June, the list of people selected for the Corpse Realm was released.

Apart from Jiang Hao, there was one more person from the Cliff of Broken Hearts.

Jiang Hao was somewhat surprised to see Xiao Li's name there.

'Is Master trying to push Xiao Li to do better?'

Xiao Li's talent was evident to everyone, and they all knew that she'd progress rapidly if she put in a little effort.

But she just refused to take cultivation seriously.

Whenever the Cliff Master tried to teach her, she would fall asleep.

That was also why nobody paid too much attention to Xiao Li.

To them, someone unwilling to cultivate was just a waste of talent. Such a person wasn't worth any attention. They wouldn't affect others.

Typically, those who entered the Corpse Realm were individuals on the verge of a breakthrough, so assigning a slot to Xiao Li might be exactly something that she needed.

Once inside, if one didn't become stronger by cultivation, they would be in immense danger.

'I wonder if Feng Hua can reach into the Corpse Realm.'

Jiang Hao didn't think much about it.

It was uncertain whether Xiao Li could enter. Anybody who entered the realm had to learn about formations.

Could Xiao Li learn them?

It turned out that she could.

The next day, Jiang Hao was summoned by his Master and given a task. He was supposed to teach Xiao Li about formations.

Jiang Hao nodded.

After that, he began teaching Xiao Li.

Initially, Xiao Li refused to learn. Her mind was blank.

She just wanted to sleep.

Jiang Hao withheld her meals. He told her she could only eat after she finished learning the formations.

"Senior Brother Jiang, I'm hungry," Xiao Li said as she held her grumbling stomach.

She sat under the Immortal Peach Tree and looked forlorn.

Jiang Hao looked at her calmly. "You can eat after we're done with this."

Xiao Li stared at Jiang Hao strangely. She felt a sense of déjà vu.

There was a woman's figure behind her Senior Brother.

The woman looked at her as if saying, "You can't eat until you finish learning.

No food for you if you don't learn this."

Suddenly, it felt as if the woman was about to raise her hand and hit her.

The fearless Xiao Li shuddered.

Then, she picked up the book and said earnestly, "Senior Brother Jiang, I'll learn this fast."

Jiang Hao was speechless.

Three days later, Xiao Li completed her training.

Her talent in formations was unusually high.

Jiang Hao was somewhat envious for a moment, as he didn't possess such talent.

Many people in this world had unique talents.

The feeling of being inferior often lingered in him.

Jiang Hao realized that except for some talent in runic arts, his talents in other areas were quite average.

In September, Jiang Hao had saved up fourteen thousand spirit stones.

He thought he could save up to twenty thousand, but that wasn't very likely now.

The Corpse Realm Flower was about to bloom.

In seven days, he would enter the Corpse Realm.

This time was different from the last. The Heavenly Note Sect had experience, so everything went smoothly.

The Heavenly Gate Sect's members didn't need instructions, either. They already knew what to do.

Seven days later, Jiang Hao, Xiao Li, Zhuge Zheng, and Yin Xueni arrived together at the front of the Corpse Realm Flower.

Jiang Hao was somewhat surprised.

They all knew each other.

Moreover, Zhuge Zheng was entering for the second time.

The spirit beast wasn't here. It was tending to the spirit herbs and the flower in Jiang Hao's courtyard.

However, just before they entered, Jiang Hao encountered Feng Hua again.

Hai Ming told him that his second gift was in the Corpse Realm and hoped he liked it.

Jiang Hao nodded politely and expressed his thanks.

It caught him off guard. He didn't expect Feng Hua's influence to extend into the Corpse Realm.

He didn't know from where Feng Hua had entered the Corpse Realm. Was it from the northern region, the southern region, or the western region?

In the south, there was only the Heavenly Note Sect.

If it was here, the only targets would be the Heavenly Gate Sect and Divine Corpse Sect.

Provoking the Heavenly Note Sect directly was dangerous, even more so when the Mountain Sea Sword Sect was involved.

However, it was uncertain what this "gift" would entail..

Chapter 770 - 770: Arriving At Heavenly Stele Mountain Right

Away

[Hai Ming: One of the avatars of the Great Thousand God Sect's Feng Hua. He is at the early stage of the Return to Void Realm. He infiltrated the Heavenly Note Sect to investigate the reason for Dan Qingzi's death. After being provoked by Smiling San Sheng, he abandoned his investigation and started tracing the whereabouts of Smiling San Sheng. However, he found nothing. After learning about your rapid progress in cultivation, he became suspicious of you. When he learned that the Heavenly Fragrance Dao Flower was with you, he became even more wary. However, there is no evidence to show your connection with Smiling San Sheng. So, he used a letter to deceive you. He thinks that Smiling San Sheng values you, and he intends to use that against you. He wants Smiling San Sheng to feel pain.]

Jiang Hao stood in front of the Human Yuan Formation and sighed.

Hai Ming didn't have any evidence. He was simply acting on some speculations.

He wondered if he had given away anything from his reaction at that time.

Regardless, Hai Ming was convinced that Jiang Hao was connected to Smiling San Sheng.

Once the seed of suspicion was planted, Feng Hua would undoubtedly take him as a target for revenge.

Besides, there were no other suspicious individuals.

Jiang Hao sighed warily. He hadn't expected that people would act on mere speculation.

Feng Hua was angry. For an angry person, logic and evidence didn't matter.

As soon as he met Hai Ming, he activated his Daily Appraisal.

Unfortunately, the information he received wasn't very detailed.

Maybe Feng Hua was afraid of being discovered by Jiang Hao and was deliberately withholding information from Hai Ming.

Hai Ming knew a little about the plan but not so much of its execution.

It was similar to when he had asked Gui to deliver a letter.

At that time, Gui didn't know what she was being used for.

'The avatars of the Great Thousand God Sect's members are indeed formidable...' Jiang Hao couldn't help but admire them.

The fastest way of advancement was probably the Divine Corpse Sect's Corpse Dissolution Technique.

The other techniques were slightly inferior.

The Freeform Technique and the Myriad Body Technique were different.

"Senior Brother Jiang, I'm going to the Foundation Establishment area," Xiao Li said.

Jiang Hao glanced at her storage treasure. There must be a lot of things packed inside.

She couldn't do as she pleased. The Cliff Master controlled it.

If she had too much food, she might hide somewhere and just eat for a year before leaving the realm.

"Go ahead." Jiang Hao nodded.

After that, he watched Xiao Li jump in.

Her steps did not follow the original path but changed. She just continued as per her understanding.

Could it be that this formation was something she was seeing for the first time?

Jiang Hao was surprised.

While he was still being cautious, Xiao Li had already soared in her knowledge.

Even Zhuge Zheng was stunned.

What kind of creature was this?

He could clearly see each of her steps but couldn't comprehend any of them.

Yet, there seemed to be no problem at all.

"Where do you plan to go, Friend Jiang?" he asked Jiang Hao.

Since both of them were in the Golden Core Realm, they could go to the same place.

"What about you?" Jiang Hao asked.

"The Stargazing Stone Forest," Zhuge Zheng said.

"I'm going to visit the Moon Lake," Jiang Hao said.

He was going to the Thousand Feet Mountain. The Moon Lake was nearby.

Zhuce Zheng nodded and didn't say anything further.

He hesitated for a moment and recalled their previous encounter in the Corpse Realm.

"Friend Jiang, are you planning to do the same as last time?" Jiang Hao looked at him and nodded slightly.

"Do you know about the Thousand Feet Mountain?" he asked.

"The Soul Ascension area?"

“There is a barren place there. Perhaps it could be safe to do what we did last time.”

Jiang Hao hadn't expected that.

Both of them froze.

There was another person nearby, who looked a bit proud.

She had the highest cultivation among the four of them. She was at the peak of the Primordial Spirit Realm.

It was highly likely that she was going inside to seek opportunities.

However, Jiang Hao felt that she might have some difficulties because her cultivation was somewhat unrefined.

Some people spent their entire lives trying and being unable to reach the Primordial Spirit Realm, while she had reached it easily, it seemed she didn't cherish her talent and resources.

She wasted them.

Jiang Hao didn't dare to be careless as he entered the formation. He could only barely manage to hold on.

His cultivation had reached its limit. It was hard to say what he might encounter inside.

It was different from last time.

This time, he didn't feel the summoning.

It seemed that he wouldn't be summoned again by the Heavenly Stele Mountain.

Jiang Hao felt his body begin to descend.

Soon, he saw a huge lake.

It was the Moon Lake.

It was said that there were many opportunities in the lake, but it depended on whether one could reach them.

At that moment, Jiang Hao suddenly felt his vision blur.

Faintly, he heard the sound of ocean waves.

He felt a kind of tearing sensation in his body. Startled, he took out the Earth Extreme Silent Pearl.

In an instant, the pulling sensation disappeared.

The sound of ocean waves gradually dissipated, and Jiang Hao breathed a sigh of relief.

'As expected...'

He had already known that this would happen.

The sealed Earth Extreme Silent Pearl could suppress the body.

The pearl wasn't all-powerful, but the effect was certain.

It was hard to know how effective it would be.

After a while, Jiang Hao landed at the edge of the lake.

Some other people arrived with him.

Most of them were at the peak of the Golden Core Realm.

Jiang Hao felt helpless. His displayed cultivation was the lowest among them.

He hoped that they wouldn't try anything bad.

At that moment, the surface of the lake surged as if something was disturbing the water.

He turned to look and saw that a mountain appeared and disappeared in the distance.

'The Heavenly Stele Mountain?'

Jiang Hao was surprised. He was indeed lucky today.

However, it would still take another month for the Heavenly Stele Mountain to fully appear.

He decided to go to the Thousand Feet Mountain first to find the location of the mine and then come back here.

He didn't need to rush to the Heavenly Stele Mountain. The last few days would be enough to explore it.

He decided to leave now when there weren't many people present.

Jiang Hao hopped on his sword and left. Many people looked at him but paid him no mind.

While passing through the forest, he changed his appearance.

He took on the appearance of a young farmer.

He intended to head to the Thousand Feet Mountain like this, but unexpectedly, he was intercepted.

Three people at the peak of the Golden Core Realm appeared in front of him.

His displayed cultivation was still at the middle stage of the Golden Core Realm.

“Is there something you need, Seniors?” asked Jiang Hao.

There were two men and one woman.

Two of them had strong auras, and one was slightly weaker.

They all seemed to be powerful individuals.

“This path was originally filled with many monsters. We cleared the monsters so you could pass easily. But we suffered heavy losses. As a member of a prestigious, righteous sect, shouldn’t you offer some compensation?” said the man in the middle with a smile.

Jiang Hao lowered his head. He didn’t want anything to do with them.

Just as he was about to leave, a net fell from above.

It fell on the three Golden Core Realm cultivators.

Immediately after, someone in the peak of the Golden Core Realm flew up, grabbed Jiang Hao, and pulled him away.