A Demoness 891

Jiang Hao and Zheng Shijiu had known each other for a long time. They had known each other from when Jiang Hao was nineteen.

Back then, Senior Brother Zheng was in the late stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm.

Twenty years later, he had made it to the early stage of the Golden Core Realm. He was, in fact, at the brink of the middle stage.

At that time, Jiang Hao had been in the early stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm too. He had made it to the middle stage of the Immortal Ascension Platform.

'Unknowingly, I came this far...' Jiang Hao felt like twenty years ago had been just yesterday.

"Twenty years ago, when we first met, you were only at the early stage of the

Foundation Establishment Realm. Now you're already in the late stage of the Golden Core Realm! You've surpassed me by a lot," said Zheng Shijiu. "At that time, I never expected that you'd progress this much."

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

"This is not just luck, Junior Brother Jiang. I think you might have a chance of becoming a top disciple in the future. I wonder if we'll still do tasks together tnen," said zneng SIIIJILI.

"Senior Brother, you must be joking! Regardless, you are still my senior. I often find myself relying on your strength," said Jiang Hao.

| Even if he became a top disciple, he would still address Zheng Shijiu as |
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| "Senior." |
| If it made him uncomfortable, he wouldn't do it. But he knew Zheng Shijiu would be okay with it. They had worked together so many times before. |
| It was the same with Miao Tinglian and Mu Qi. They treated him well and took care of him. So, he would always address them as "Seniors." |
| In the Cliff of Broken Hearts, apart from Xiao Li, they were the closest to him. |
| He wasn't sure if Miao Tinglian was nice to him because he had helped her before, or if she was naturally friendly. |
| Although he didn't like it when she pestered him to find a partner, he hadn't said anything to her. |
| "Lin MO, Zhao Qingxue, and Lin Zhi we recruited them together back then. I never thought we would be doing missions together!" said Zheng Shijiu. |
| Jiang Hao nodded. Time really did fly by. |
| The young disciples who had just joined the sect back then had become so powerful. |
| "Perhaps one day, they will surpass us all," Jiang Hao said. |
| "Haha," Zheng Nineteen said bitterly, "Junior Brother Jiang, please don't even joke about it. I feel like they won't be able to surpass you." |

| Jiang Hao did not say anything. |
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| Zheng Shijiu truly believed that these three couldn't surpass Jiang Hao. He also thought that Jiang Hao himself had secrets. |
| He had sensed something when they had worked together before. |
| However, he hadn't paid much attention to it at that time. |
| Some things were better left unknown. |
| The three others arrived after a while. |
| Zheng Shijiu didn't mind waiting. He knew Lin Zhi was here because of Jiang |
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| It was well-known that Jiang Hao had helped Lin Zhi immensely so that he could stay in the sect. |
| Otherwise, how would he still be in the sect despite not being able to advance from the Lifeblood Refinement Realm? |
| Moreover, he wouldn't have been selected for sect missions. |
| Jiang Hao was concerned about Lin Mo. |
| Lin MO was a part of the Law Enforcement Hall. He definitely had some connections. |
| Even if Lin MO didn't have a very high cultivation realm, he could still help Lin Zhi through his connections. However, it was quite dangerous for Lin Zhi. |

Jiang Hao felt helpless. There was nothing he could do except help Lin Zhi become stronger in the coming months.

He also needed to find the time to give him some magical treasures. He hadn't met him in so many months.

"Senior Brother Jiang?" Lin Zhi was surprised to see Jiang Hao. He felt embarrassed. He looked as though he wanted to explain himself.

Jiang Hao smiled and just nodded.

Lin MO and Zhao Qingxue greeted them without emotion. "We apologize for the wait, Seniors."

Zheng Nineteen frowned. It seemed that these two had forgotten about him.

It seemed they lacked basic courtesy too.

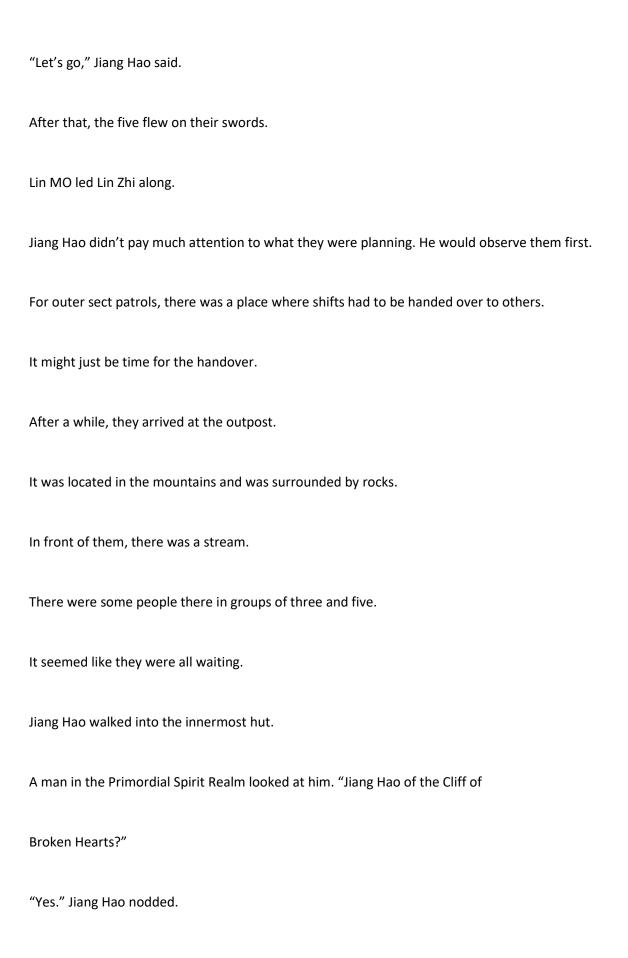
In the sect, it wasn't necessary to be influential, but it was important to make sure one didn't offend others.

Sometimes, small matters could lead to huge resentment.

If they hadn't recruited these three young people, it wouldn't matter.

However, since Jiang Hao and Zheng Shijiu had been among the ones who recruited them, some form of recognition and politeness was expected.

They had made rapid progress and were strong. So, that might protect them. Zheng Shijiu didn't say anything. He felt that Jiang Hao didn't mind it either.



| "I saw your name at the Law Enforcement Hall. It's quite surprising for you to be assigned to a patrol mission. Which route do you want?" he asked. |
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| Jiang Hao was surprised. |
| The man laughed. "Surprised?" |
| "A bit." Jiang Hao nodded. |
| "No need to be surprised. Perhaps the place you want to go to is the place we need to investigate more," the middle-aged man said. |
| Jiang Hao understood. Jiang Hao was still a suspect. So, whichever route he chose would be monitored closely. |
| Jiang Hao chose the safest route. |
| The area was not small, but the location was great. It was a place unexposed to outside forces. There were no dangers around. The others there were also from the outer sect, so it should be relatively safe. |
| The most likely danger would be from spies. After all, many undercover agents had joined the sect and were most likely among the outer sect disciples. |
| "This area is mostly for the outer sect disciples to rest and cultivate" The middle-aged man was surprised by Jiang Hao's choice. |
| There wouldn't be many dangers here, but there wouldn't be any gains either. |
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Patrolling was safe and had benefits. But Jiang Hao hadn't chosen any of the good routes. He had chosen the one that was the most ordinary. Lin MO frowned. "Senior Brother Jiang, can we patrol the public alchemy area of the Candlelight Pill Pavilion instead?" There were always things happening at the alchemy area of the Candlelight Pill Pavilion. If one wanted to learn something from there, they had to pay a small price. "This junior has a point." The middle-aged man laughed. "How about going to the alchemy area of the Candlelight Pill Pavilion instead?" Jiang Hao looked at Lin MO and shook his head. "Let's start from here first." "Alright then..." The middle-aged man gave Jiang Hao a token. "It's just the right time for the handover. The token has the patrol route. If anything happens, you can activate the token, and our people will come to find you." Jiang Hao nodded and thanked him. He then led the group away. Lin MO and Zhao Qingxue seemed reluctant.. Chapter 892: Advanced On The Spot

"The sect is not safe lately. Let's stay in the outer sect area for a while," said Jiang Hao calmly.

It seemed that people like Lin MO were planning to go to the alchemy area of the Candlelight Pill Pavilion, which was opposite to Jiang Hao's decision.

"Senior Brother Jiang, we asked around and found out that some things are happening in the alchemy area of the Candlelight Pill Pavilion," said Lin MO earnestly. "We might gain something there."

Zhao Qingxue said, "I heard from some seniors from the White Moon Lake that many people in the Candlelight Pill Pavilion are currently refining pills. If we go there, it might benefit our cultivation immensely."

Jiang Hao looked at the two and sighed inwardly. What cultivation benefits did they expect to get at their level?

They believed they could benefit because they already had the advantage. What about the others?

Besides, many people gathering in one place meant that there was definitely something strange going on there.

Jiang Hao shook his head. "Your cultivation realms are still weak. Let's try the outer sect area first."

"But if we don't choose now, we'll need achievements later to make a choice. We finally have a chance because of the seniors!" Lin MO exclaimed.

Jiang Hao had his doubts. Did the senior from before offer him a choice of routes because of Lin MO and Zhao Qingxue? It was not entirely unbelievable.

Where there was competition, there was likely something troublesome brewing.

In contrast, the outer sect area was different. He could turn a blind eye and be safe.

"Senior Brother, it's not too late to change our minds," said Lin Mo.

Jiang Hao lowered his head. He was in a dilemma. If it were any other time, he would've taken action, but he didn't want to deal with these two in front of Lin Zhi.

"Junior Brother Lin," said Zheng Shijiu coldly, "Don't you think you've gone too far? Do you think you can do whatever you want?" "I..." Lin MO wanted to speak, but he was pulled back by Lin Zhi. "Why are you pulling me away?" Lin MO turned back angrily. "Just listen to Senior Brother," Lin Zhi whispered. Lin MO was still frustrated but didn't say anything more. Jiang Hao looked at them and then turned away. "Let's go." It was quite troublesome, but it was harmless. He didn't need to pay too much attention to it. Everyone had their own thoughts and opinions. He couldn't force them to follow him. After completing the handover, Jiang Hao led the group on their swords to start their patrol. Below were many outer sect disciples. Some were chopping wood to temper their bodies, some were carrying water, and a few were meditating and cultivating. At that moment, the people looked up. They all yearned to be immortal cultivators and fly on their swords.

Jiang Hao sighed with emotion. More than twenty years ago, he was like that.

business too. But it turned out they were also just patrolling at that time.

He would look up at the powerful people and wish for the same. He assumed they were on important

He had become the person he had admired when he was a child. It didn't make him feel at ease. Back then, he thought it was much safer after reaching the Foundation Establishment Realm. However, when he reached that realm, he realized the danger was just beginning. Jiang Hao's divine light converged, and he gained some insight. His aura suddenly diminished. The others didn't notice anything, but Zheng Shijiu felt that something was strange. However, it was very vague. He calmed down. It was probably Jiang Hao's influence. "Someone below is fighting," Zhao Qingxue said. Jiang Hao and the others looked down. They saw three outer sect disciples joining forces to deal with a young boy. At first, the young boy withstood them, but he was failing. Jiang Hao ignored it and continued flying on his sword. A pressure descended. In an instant, the four people below were terrified. They didn't dare fight. "Such trivial matters shouldn't concern us," said Jiang Hao. They were on patrol. They weren't expected to intervene in matters that didn't concern the sect.

If people stopped fighting after noticing the immortals flying in the sky, it was because they were

terrified of standing out. It would be dangerous to be noticed.



"Let it be for now. You don't need to do anything. Just understand what's happening and keep yourself in check."

After that, he asked Lin Zhi to sit down, and he explained some details of the Star Moon Lifeblood Refinement Cultivation at length.

When he was explaining, Zheng Shijiu approached them and stood guard.

Jiang Hao continued with the lesson. "Now, I'll explain the various stages of Lifeblood Refinement and some Foundation establishment. It might be useful for you in the future."

Zheng Shijiu hesitated and looked at Jiang Hao. When he realized that Jiang Hao didn't mind, he also sat down.

He thought there was nothing he didn't know about Lifeblood Refinement and Foundation Establishment Realm.

Jiang Hao explained the Lifeblood Refinement Realm in great detail. Lin Zhi understood only part of it, but Zheng Shijiu became more attentive as he listened. He found it unbelievable.

There were many things he hadn't understood even though he had advanced beyond that realm.

Later, when the explanation moved to the Foundation Establishment Realm, he felt even more shocked.

The realm that had been static all along was unexpectedly pulsating.

Zheng Shijiu looked at Jiang Hao in awe.

If his explanations continued, he felt that he might find the opportunity to actually advance in his cultivation.

| Although Jiang Hao didn't look at Senior Brother Zheng, he sensed the change in his aura. |
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| He said to Lin Zhi, "I will continue with the Golden Core Realm explanation." |
| After a while, the Golden Core aura spread. |
| Zheng Shijiu advanced on the spot |
| Chapter 893: Meeting A Strong Enemy |
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| Lin MO and Zhao Qingxue were meditating. |
| They were thinking about how to proceed next. They had planned this for a very long time. They couldn't let Jiang Hao ruin their plans. |
| The only solution was to go their own way. |
| They needed to find an opening to meet the patrolling members of the Candlelight Pill Pavilion and then pass through. |
| However, before they could start discussing their next step, a sudden Golden |
| Core aura spread everywhere. |
| They were startled. |
| They rushed over and found that Senior Brother Zheng had advanced unexpectedly to the middle stage of the Golden Core Realm. This surprised them. |

| How had he advanced here of all places? |
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| Lin Zhi was deep in thought, and Jiang Hao was sitting cross-legged on the ground. |
| When the two arrived, Jiang Hao made a shushing gesture and told them to step back. |
| Zheng Shijiu shouldn't be disturbed in the middle of advancement. |
| Jiang Hao switched patrols with someone the next day and waited for Zheng Shijiu to finish his advancement. |
| It took three days. |
| Senior Brother Zheng successfully advanced, with Jiang Hao guarding him throughout. |
| Ordinarily, it would have taken a longer time. |
| "Sorry for the trouble, Junior Brother Jiang," said Zheng Shijiu in gratitude. |
| He knew that advancement required its own time and disrupting it in the middle was fatal. |
| They could take from a few days up to a month. |
| This time, it was quick because Jiang Hao helped. |
| "It was nothing, Senior Brother Zheng," Jiang Hao said politely. |
| After that, he planned to start patrolling again. |

During these three days, Lin MO and Zhao Qingxue spent most of their time outside. Jiang Hao didn't pay much attention to them. Since he had mentioned that they could use that time for anything, he had no right to meddle. He had only told them not to cause trouble with others. They were resting outside the outer gate during patrols, with Jiang Hao leading the way. They avoided crowded places. Their task was to patrol quietly. "Senior Brother, after patrolling, can we have some free time?" Lin MO suddenly asked. "Sure. Half an hour of free time," said Jiang Hao. "Can we split up during patrols?" Lin MO looked at Jiang Hao. "Sometimes, patrolling separately is faster and more thorough. Junior Brother Lin, Junior Sister Zhao, and I would like to try it by ourselves." Jiang Hao looked at them. It was unreasonable to split up, but if they wanted to go to the alchemy area of the Candlelight Pill Pavilion that badly, he wouldn't stop them. If he refused, they might do something stupid later. "Sure. But do it at your own risk," said Jiang Hao. "Alright." Lin MO nodded. "We understand the rules." "Sometimes danger comes silently. Be careful during your patrols and know when to retreat.

Sometimes, the enemy may not want trouble, so they might strike stealthily," said Jiang Hao.

Lin MO and the others agreed. Jiang Hao didn't know whether they took it to heart, and it didn't matter to him. On the other side, in the forest, a blindfolded man with a lantern appeared at the edge of the forest with a young man. "Senior, this should be the place," the young man said. "This should be the outer gate of the Heavenly Note Sect." "We arrived so quickly," the blindfolded man said with a sigh. "Are the people here dangerous?" "It's hard to say," the young man said. "For you, Senior, it shouldn't be too dangerous." "You're joking," the blindfolded man said softly. "If the Holy Master's divine soul was snatched away in this place, it means this place is not so simple. The people here might be quite dangerous. Otherwise, why is the Heavenly Fragrance Dao Flower still thriving here? Let's go. Someone is coming this way. They must have noticed us." "Someone is coming?" The young man frowned and looked at the people who appeared at the edge of the forest. "Who are you?" Zhao Qingxue asked. Jiang Hao wanted to stop her but couldn't in time. The two people suddenly speared at the edge of the forest and caught him off guard. Otherwise, he would have steered the group away.

Zhao Qingxue had already spoken, so they couldn't pretend to not have seen these two people. It wasn't normal for someone to carry a lantern in broad daylight. Considering the fluctuations in spiritual energy, these two were definitely not ordinary. The young man next to the blindfolded man let off a murderous intent. "What's the matter, little girl?" The blindfolded man walked out of the forest. Jiang Hao felt the surrounding aura change when they appeared in front of them. He didn't let Zhao Qingxue speak. "Seniors, why are you here at the outer gate?" asked Jiang Hao. "We were just taking a relaxing stroll." The blindfolded man turned to Jiang Hao. "Are you on duty here, Junior?" "Yes. Apologies for the interruption," said Jiang Hao. "Do you have something to ask?" said the blindfolded man politely. "We will cooperate fully." "No need. You're free to go, Seniors," Jiang Hao said. Zhao Qingxue wanted to speak, but Jiang Hao stopped her. After the people left, she said, "Senior Brother Jiang, those two are suspicious."

"Suspicious?" Jiang Hao turned to look at her. "What's so suspicious about them?"

"The lantern in broad daylight, for one. There is no such person in our sect. If there were, we would have heard rumors," Zhao Qingxue said seriously.

"Yeah." Jiang Hao nodded. "Indeed, there aren't any. But what if they are someone who has been outside for a long time and are returning?"

Zhao Qingxue hesitated. "Then, we should ask which branch they are from. We can at least verify. Moreover, he seems nice. He said he'd cooperate."

Jiang Hao nodded slightly and didn't say much. He left.

He knew they were from the Great Thousand God Sect.

He activated the Reversal of the Great Thousand Spirit. The two people were definitely from the Great Thousand God Sect.

The one holding the lantern was especially powerful.

There was no need to create trouble when they could avoid it. He could report it later.

It was surprising that someone from the Great Thousand God Sect had entered the forest.

Meanwhile, the blindfolded man continued ahead.

"You're just letting them go, Senior? Shouldn't we eliminate the witnesses?" the young man asked.

"No. We should adhere to the rules here. Besides, they were very polite, so we should return the favor. We aren't here for them anyway. There is no need to create unnecessary trouble. Moreover, we should understand. They're just doing their jobs. We are all practitioners on the path of cultivation, and the

road beneath our feet is not always easy. There's no need to make things difficult for each other," the blindfolded man said calmly. The young man didn't fully understand it, but he didn't press further. He was more concerned about what to do next. "Should we go find the Saintess of the Heavenly Saint Sect now?" "No rush. The Heavenly Saint Sect may have valuable information. There are bound to be strong individuals around them. Let's explore first. Perhaps we'll find other things. Besides, more people from the Heavenly Saint Sect will likely appear. There's no need for us to rush," the blindfolded man said as he looked at the sky.. Chapter 894: You Should Know When To Stop, Junior Brother The patrol ended. They had half an hour of free time. Lin MO and Zhao Qingxue left. They were uncertain about what they were going to do. After some thought, Jiang Hao went to the hut where the shifts were handed over. A senior at the Soul Ascension Realm was there. "Any questions, Junior Brother Jiang?" he asked.

"Are you changing your route? That's alright, of course," Senior Brother Weng said with a smile.

"Senior Brother Weng, greetings." Jiang Hao bowed.

| Jiang Hao shook his head. "Senior Brother Weng, may I ask something?" "Go ahead," Senior Brother Weng said generously. |
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| "Do you know if there are any seniors in our sect who carry lanterns during the |
| "Carrying a lantern during the day?" Senior Brother Weng frowned. "Have you met someone like that?" |
| "Yes. I met them during the patrol on the edge of the forest," Jiang Hao said. Senior Brother Weng lowered his head in thought. "Anything else that stood out?" |
| "He was blindfolded," Jiang Hao said. |
| Senior Brother Weng nodded and let Jiang Hao go. He advised him not to make a big deal out of this matter. |
| Jiang Hao nodded and left. |
| That was all he could do. |
| As for how the sect would handle it, that was their business. |
| He wouldn't confront such a powerful enemy recklessly. |
| Senior Brother Weng seemed to know who the person was and would likely make some preparations. |
| After all, as someone from the Law Enforcement Hall, he would know more about such matters than anyone else. |
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As for the person's visit, it was probably related to the Holy Master. There was a chance that he was here for Miao Tinglian and Mu Qi. The sect had dealt with the Heavenly Saint Sect many times before. They knew about the Holy Master and the connection to Miao Tinglian and Mu Qi. Most probably, they would be used as bait. Mu Qi could handle himself. The sect might just observe him. The people of the Lawless Tower might already be in wait. Back at the resting area, Jiang Hao found Lin MO and the others. Lin MO smiled and said, "Senior Brother Jiang, tomorrow we plan to patrol on our own." Jiang Hao nodded. The next day, the patrol started at noon. Jiang Hao watched as Lin MO, Zhao Qingxue, and Lin Zhi left. "Aren't you bothered by it, Junior Brother Jiang?" Zheng Shijiu curiously asked. "Bothered by what?" Jiang Hao went his own way. Without the three young followers, he felt that the patrol proceeded much faster.

"Although Junior Brother Lin MO and Junior Sister Zhao Qingxue have great talents, they are only in the middle stage of the Foundation Establishment

Realm. It's unacceptable for them to act so recklessly on the sect missions," Zheng Shijiu said.



| Zheng Shijiu couldn't fully understand Jiang Hao. For a moment, he didn't know whether Jiang Hao wanted to help people, or he was just doing it for the sake of it. |
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| "But the owner of the bracelet won't know about this. They won't appreciate your help," Zheng Shijiu said. |
| "It's not necessary for people to know about it. Not everything has to be acknowledged," Jiang Hao said calmly. |
| They reached the sky. They saw a dark-skinned girl running below. |
| She stumbled and fell, but she didn't care. |
| When she returned to the small hut and saw the bracelet wrapped in a rag, she relaxed. |
| She clutched the bracelet tightly as if she was afraid it would be stolen. |
| Jiang Hao saw this but didn't pay any attention to it. |
| Zheng Shijiu remembered the girl. |
| As a Golden Core cultivator, the smallest things could determine one's future. |
| On the first day of going their separate ways, Lin MO and the others returned with some pills. |
| The same happened on the second day. |
| There were none on the third. Jiang Hao didn't mind. |

Around the middle of August, on the seventh day, Lin MO, Zhao Qingxue, and Lin Zhi walked toward the alchemy area of the Candlelight Pill Pavilion. They had received information that someone had broken the rules not far ahead.

They were secretly practicing alchemy in the alchemy area.

After a while, they arrived at the area.

There was a Foundation Establishment Realm cultivator who was refining pills. As they approached, a pleasant fragrance wafted from the pill furnace. The pills were ready.

At that moment, the cultivator excitedly carried the pills and headed outside. However, Lin MO and the others blocked his path.

"Senior Brother, please wait a moment," Lin MO said. "We heard that you used special means to enter the alchemy area."

Everyone understood. As long as the pills were ready, no one would investigate the matter further.

It wasn't a big deal to use other means to enter the area. Some people did it so that they could have the area to themselves.

"Junior Brother, you should just let things go sometimes. You come here too many times too. Let this slide, alright?" said the person.

"Isn't this too much? Why are you blaming us when you are the one coming here secretly?" asked Lin Mo.

"We always have to return empty-handed. Every time you come here... you take something with you. When others are gaining a bit, you still want it for yourself. You should know when to stop, Junior Brother."

"But this time, you didn't come back empty-handed," Lin MO said.

The senior at the Foundation Establishment Realm looked at Lin MO and smiled. "Junior Brother, why are you being so pushy? You've come here so many times. Just let it be this once."

"Senior Brother, I'm just following the rules of the sect." Lin MO looked at the senior in front of him. "I just want to ask if you used any special methods to enter the area."

If he returned the pills, the matter would be resolved.

However, to Lin Mo's surprise, the senior nodded with a smile. "Yes, I did. What would you have me do, Junior Brother?"

Lin MO frowned. "Senior Brother, do you know that entering without following the normal procedure will result in punishment?"

Some people chose the punishment rather than return the pills. People were often punished unless they were someone powerful or influential.

"I remember you," said the late-stage Foundation Establishment Realm cultivator. "You've been coming here these past few days. Aren't you afraid of offending people with such frequent visits?"

"Offending people?" Lin MO said. "I'm a disciple of the Law Enforcement Hall. If you violate the rules and I catch you, am I to blame for that?"

"Law Enforcement Hall? No wonder..." The senior's smile turned unfriendly. "Have you ever considered that some people have to follow rules and compromise because they have no choice, while others do as they please?" "What do you mean?" Lin MO asked.

"Nothing... just that I admire you for being so bold to the point of arrogance even when you are only at the middle stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm. Sometimes, acting in such a way might make people feel like they want to... kill you."

| Then, with a swift movement, a long spear shot out. |
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| Lin MO was shocked by the impact. He activated his defensive treasure to block the attack. |
| But the opponent didn't give him time to react. The gap in strength was too great. |
| Bang! |
| The spear effortlessly pierced through the defense treasure and stabbed Lin Mo. |
| He was pinned to the wall. |
| "Junior Brother, you really don't know anything about timing, do you?" The late-stage Foundation establishment Realm cultivator sighed "Why did you have to do this now?" |
| Chapter 895: As Fragile as Dust |
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| Lin MO widened his eyes at the sudden pain. |
| Regret, anger, and fear flashed through his eyes. |
| But more than anything, there was a refusal to accept defeat. |
| How could he die like this? |
| His path had been smoother than others, and his talent far surpassed them. Resources were within his easy reach. He still had a chance to shine bright and gain the admiration of others. |
| Even in the face of death, he should be calmer than others. If he were to die, he would drag his enemy down with him. |

| He was a genius with numerous resources, and his seniors were all watching him. |
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| Many thoughts ran through Lin MO's mind. |
| He spat out blood. His eyes were bloodshot. |
| He gritted his teeth, grabbed the spear lodged in his chest, and pulled it out. |
| Blood sprayed out. |
| His aura began to rise continuously as if it had been accumulating for a long time and was finally breaking through. |
| He advanced to the late stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm. |
| "Die! t, |
| Lin MO, with a ferocious face, infused all his power into one thrust and hurled the spear at his opponent. |
| The intent was to kill. Everything happened in the blink of an eye. Zhao Qingxue and Lin Zhi were shocked. |
| They couldn't react in time. |
| Lin Zhi almost fled. He pulled Zhao Qingxue and Lin MO and tried to run with them. |
| Facing Lin Mo's attack, the Foundation Establishment Realm senior was surprised. He crushed the spear easily. In an instant, he appeared in front of Lin Mo. |

| Then, he pushed him down. |
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| He pressed Lin Mo's head to the ground. "Thought you had some power?" |
| He slammed Lin Mo's head down. His head was almost entirely buried in the soil. |
| He treated him as though he was as fragile as dust. |
| It crushed Lin MO's pride. |
| Lin Zhi wanted to help, but he felt like he was of no use. |
| This was the world of cultivation. Just because you were at the Foundation Establishment Realm didn't mean every opponent you faced was weaker than you. Temporary breakthroughs couldn't give a person enough power and strength to fight back. |
| Zhao Qingxue felt how insignificant she was for the first time. |
| She didn't even have a chance to make a move. |
| At that moment, the Foundation Establishment Realm senior looked at the three people and smiled. "You should thank the sect's rules. Otherwise, you would be dead." |
| A woman walked to them. "The things we need are ready. We can leave now." |
| Then, she looked at the three on the ground. "Aren't you killing them?" |
| "No need," said the Foundation Establishment Realm senior and shook his head. "Killing within the sect is troublesome. Besides, there is no need to let a group of inexperienced kids ruin our plans." |

| He squatted down, patted Lin Mo's face, and chuckled. "Junior Brother, how long do you think you can survive once you leave the sect?" |
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| With that, he turned and left. |
| Lin MO and the others had no idea about their plans. They just happened to bump into them here. |
| Shortly after, Jiang Hao and Zheng Shijiu appeared in front of the three kids. |
| Even now, they were still suppressed by the aura. |
| They couldn't even get up. |
| No one was around, so nobody had informed the sect. |
| "What happened here?" Zheng Shijiu asked. |
| Jiang Hao shook his head. Such incidents were common in the world of cultivation, and the same applied within the sect. The only thing they could do was try to avoid them as much as possible. |
| When Lin MO and the others mentioned that there were more alchemists here, he thought that something might happen. |
| He just didn't expect things to go south so quickly. |
| "They probably encountered some spies," Jiang Hao said. |
| Lin Zhi and the others were not children. So, Jiang Hao wouldn't keep an eye on them every day. |

He didn't expect problems to occur so soon. Lin Mo's behavior wouldn't have caused any problems within the sect, but unfortunately, they had run into these people outside. Well, hopefully, Lin Zhi had learned a lesson from this. "Do we need to inform the disciples of the Law Enforcement Hall?" Zheng Shijiu asked. "Yes." Jiang Hao nodded. The disciples from the Law Enforcement Hall took Lin MO away. Since the other two were not injured, they stayed back and completed the sect's tasks. Later, Liu Xingchen also arrived. He was responsible for investigating the situation. "Junior Brother Jiang, you seem to run into trouble wherever you go," he said. "You jest, Senior Brother. This time, it wasn't me," said Jiang Hao.

Jiang Hao remained calm. "It seems the three juniors noticed something unusual and confronted somebody about it. The opponent turned out to be too powerful. It was my negligence, Senior Brother Liu."

"Tell me what happened," Liu Xingchen said with interest.

"Junior Brother Jiang, you must be joking. It's not your fault. It's good that you found the problem early. That's good."

Jiang Hao nodded and looked at Lin Zhi and Zhao Qingxue. They hadn't fully recovered yet. They still didn't understand what the cultivation path and the sect were about.

Although Lin Zhi was constantly beaten in the sect, even he was unaware of how terrifying the sect could be.

As for Zhao Qingxue, she had never seen the real side of the sect at the White Moon Lake. Their status was too high.

"I believe you told me to find something before..." "Did you find anything?" Jiang Hao asked.

It was not easy to find that person.

"Haven't found the person yet. It seems like the sect is intentionally waiting for something. But you definitely found an important clue," Liu Xingchen said with a smile.

"Is it someone important?" Jiang Hao asked.

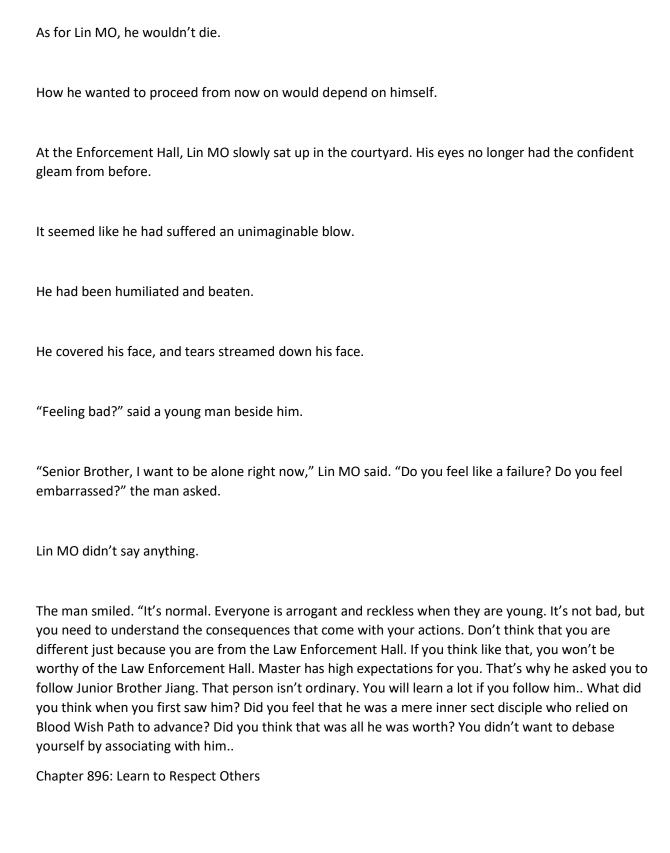
"The Lawless Tower has intervened. We still don't know for sure." Liu Xingchen shook his head.

After talking for a while, Liu Xingchen left. He seemed very eager.

Jiang Hao looked at Zhao Qingxue and Lin Zhi.

"Let's go back and rest. We'll continue patrolling tomorrow. This time, the merit will be significant, and it will help with your task," Jiang Hao said. Regardless, they had indeed achieved something. They were the first to know about the situation here.

Jiang Hao didn't know the details, but it seemed unrelated to the Great Thousand God Sect and the Heavenly Saint Sect. Perhaps, after some time, Liu Xingchen would inform him of the developments.



Lin MO frowned.

After a moment of silence, he asked, "Isn't that how it's supposed to be?"

"Yes." A young man in a blue robe smiled. "But one shouldn't judge someone just by appearance. You should know how many traitors and infiltrators he has encountered, yet he emerges unscathed every time. He always manages to achieve great merits along the way. Observe the people who complete tasks with him. Most of them are always grateful and indebted to him. Those who end up dead are usually spies or traitors to the sect. What do you think of that?"

"Isn't that just because his cultivation realm is higher than ordinary fellow disciples?" Lin MO asked.

"Junior Brother Lin, your aspiration for immortality is commendable, but your understanding of the path of cultivation is not enough." The young man laughed. "You need to look beyond appearances. He discovers infiltrators and traitors, and at the same time, he makes his fellow companions respect him. His skills, his demeanor, his state of mind... It's all worth learning from. You need to observe, learn, and experience. Only then will you avoid the situation you are currently facing."

The young man looked at the silver door, sighed, and then turned to Lin Mo. "We were all young once, but we had to learn. If your thinking doesn't change, then your future might be bumpy. You can decide whether you want to go back to patrol with the group or not. It may be embarrassing, but it's also a part of growth. We will investigate the people from the Candlelight Pill Pavilion, but we won't act for now. When you become strong enough, you can take on the task of finding them. Of course, the requirement would be for you to be able to join the Law Enforcement Hall fully."

Around late August, Jiang Hao continued patrolling in the outer sect area.

This time, Zhao Qingxue cooperated fully. Lin Zhi didn't say anything. They hadn't spoken for the past few days, and Jiang Hao didn't rush to ask about what had happened.

People needed time to process things and learn from it. Everyone had their own way of coping with things.

However, the incident was enough to prompt them to think deeply about it.

The first thing to learn was forgiveness, which became more difficult as one ventured further from the sect.

Lin MO and the others wouldn't bother with that. They would kill at the first instant.

Jiang Hao wanted Lin Zhi to understand that the sect was the safest and that the outside world was far more dangerous.

A slight mistake could make them targets, and their fate would be uncertain.

Ten days after the incident, Jiang Hao saw that Zhao Qingxue and Lin Zhi were gradually recovering. Both of them seemed different from before.

Jiang Hao didn't care much about Zhao Qingxue, but Lin Zhi was from his branch, and the spirit beast had helped him grow.

Xiao Li got along well with him, so Jiang Hao couldn't just ignore him.

It was time to make him understand the dangers that lay outside the sect.

Senior Brother Zheng wasn't ordinary either. They had worked together before, and he knew how to stay safe.

Lin MO returned to the patrol team with his head lowered.

He approached and greeted Jiang Hao and Zheng Shijiu. "Seniors..."

Zheng Shijiu was surprised. He nodded. He felt that Lin MO was different from before. Perhaps he had learned from his actions.

Jiang Hao nodded and didn't say much.



"The one cleaning the path is a lazy senior who isn't doing the job well. Do you blame him?"

"The one who is dirtying the path is a powerful senior with a powerful beast." Lin Zhi was confused.

"In the sect, you will find many situations which might frustrate you, but you'll have to learn to deal with them. Do not reveal your emotions on your face."

"You first need to learn to silently observe your surroundings. You shouldn't reveal how you feel in your words as well," said Jiang Hao.

Lin Zhi only half understood what he was being told but tried to keep everything in mind.

Zheng Shijiu noticed that Jiang Hao was teaching Lin Zhi. However, Lin MO felt conflicted. He wasn't willing to follow such teachings.

"People are different. You need to find a balance," Jiang Hao said. "Each person has different thoughts and feelings. Being compliant and nodding along with everything others say means you aren't being yourself."

Later, they arrived at a muddy place where the busy outer sect disciples noticed them. They walked over to greet them.

"We're here on patrol. We don't mean to trouble you. Please don't worry about us," Jiang Hao said politely to the outer sect disciples, who were quite surprised but left them on their own.

Refinement Realm?" Jiang Hao asked the group.

"If I tell you that one of them is at the late stage of the Primordial Spirit Realm, would you still feel superior?"

The group was stunned. Jiang Hao didn't explain further.

"Learn to treat those you look down upon with respect. It will keep you humble." Lin Zhi nodded. "But understand the most important thing: don't hesitate when it's time to take action," Jiang Hao said. He had discussed similar topics with Chu Chuan before but never in such detail. Lin Zhi, being less exposed to the outside world, found it challenging to understand everything. Whether these lessons would be useful to him would depend on himself. They continued to patrol. The disciples of the Great Thousand God Sect had been here for a while, and it seemed like a conflict within the sect would soon erupt. They needed to avoid it as much as possible. Early the next morning, after finishing the patrol, Jiang Hao felt the stone tablet vibrate. A gathering was in order. It would be held at midnight. It had been a long time since the last meeting. Jiang Hao wasn't sure about the situation outside. It was a good opportunity to check for more information about the southern region. There had been remarkable incidents taking place in the sect recently. He decided to exchange patrol times with someone for the day. Unfortunately, the only available patrol was the one at White Moon Lake. That place always had strong individuals around.

Jiang Hao sighed. He had no choice but to agree..

Chapter 897: True Dragon's Inheritance

At night, Jiang Hao and his companions sat in a grove.

The grove was the resting place for those who were on patrol duties. Everyone kept their distance but were vigilant. A barrier was set up around the area to prevent people from getting in.

"If you leave, you won't be able to come back here for a while," Jiang Hao said.

He laid down a formation in front of everyone.

On the surface, it appeared to be an ordinary formation, but other forces were acting as its base.

It might not withstand attacks from strong individuals, but it was enough to resist Foundation Building cultivators.

After mentioning that they would cultivate, Jiang Hao used his power to cover the surroundings with power to prevent people from prying.

Zheng Shijiu remained alert, so Jiang Hao didn't need to worry too much.

Lin MO and the others looked at Jiang Hao. They still couldn't accept him as a leader wholeheartedly.

Lin Zhi listened to everything Jiang Hao said, but he couldn't make Lin MO and Zhao Qingxue follow him.

"This is for you." Lin MO handed over some spirit herbs he had obtained during the patrol to Lin Zhi.

"I don't need this much," Lin Zhi said.

In front of them, he was still the weakest.



"What should we do next?" Zhao Qingxue asked. "We should follow Senior Brother Jiang for now," Lin MO said. He wanted to see why people admired Senior Brother Jiang so much. Zhao Qingxue had no particular opinion of him. She thought he was just an ordinary sect disciple with a slightly higher cultivation realm than them. Compared to some other seniors, he didn't seem to differ much. The ordinary disciples were not as good as the ordinary inner sect disciples from the White Moon Lake. There was a difference in status and position. After all, the White Moon Lake was governed by the Acting Sect Master herself. At midnight, Jiang Hao entered the stone tablet. He reviewed everything he had learned from the last gathering and found nothing special. He wanted to see if the others had found anything else, especially about the Dragon's Nest and the situation in the South. However, Gui was not in the South, so there might be less information from there. Jiang Hao entered the public space and found that Zhang was also there. Others were surprised, but Jiang Hao remained indifferent. Everyone knew that Zhang was going through the inner demon's trial to become an immortal. It seemed she had succeeded. At that moment, her aura was restrained. It didn't fluctuate like before.

| Senior Dan Yuan was already there. They sat cross-legged and waited for the gathering to begin. |
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| "Congratulations, Friend Zhang," Senior Dan Yuan said. |
| Zhang nodded. "It's all thanks to you, Senior." |
| Dan Yuan didn't say much. "Do any of you have any cultivation issues?" Everyone shook their heads. |
| They were either waiting for opportunities or had just advanced. They didn't have any problems with their cultivation. |
| Dan Yuan nodded. "Do you have any information regarding Old Man Corpse |
| Sea?" |
| "He might be in the South," Xing said. |
| Gui was speechless. |
| She was still thinking of returning to the South. |
| "South?" Dan Yuan nodded. "I heard that something happened overseas, and |
| the Abyssal Sea is flowing backward." |
| Liu nodded. "It is said to be related to the Dragon Clan, but from the Twelve Heavenly Kings' perspective, it seems like an opportunity to become an immortal has appeared." |

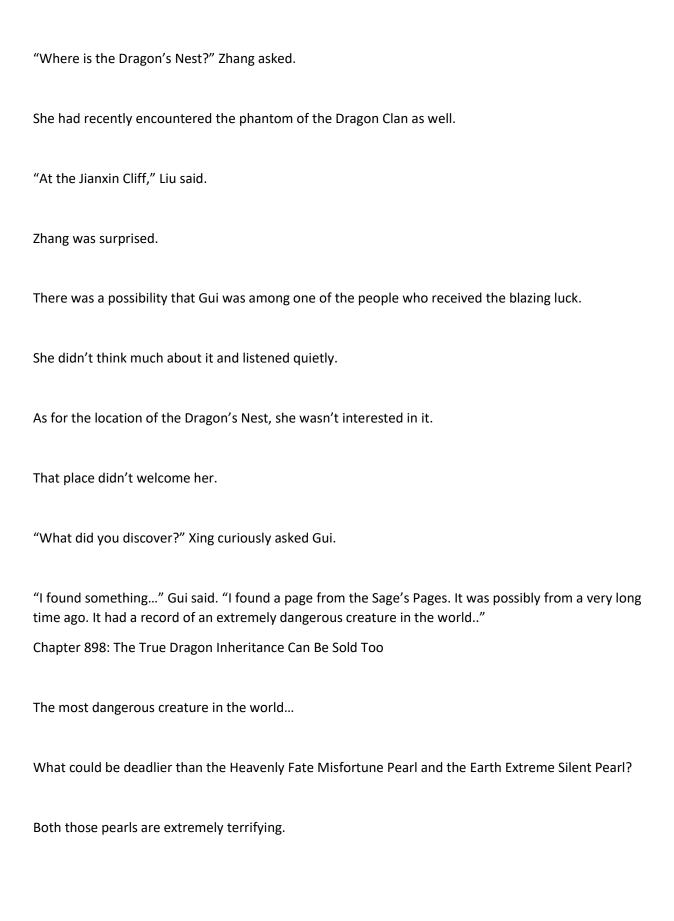


"What do you need in exchange?" Zhang asked. The reward wasn't discussed before because it was uncertain whether she would succeed. After thinking for a moment, Jiang Hao decided to postpone the reward for a while. The task had been easy, so the reward couldn't be that big either. Zhang didn't have any objections to it. Xing and Jiang Hao's task required Gui, so it couldn't be completed right away. That left only the trade between Liu and Gui. They looked at Gui. They wanted to know what she had gained from her trip to the Dragon's Nest. "I have already obtained the book," said Gui and looked at Liu. "I sent it out through a special channel, and I haven't read its contents." "Are there dragons beneath the Dragon's Nest?" Liu asked with curiosity.

The information she received about the Heavenly Spirit Tribe was very detailed.

She got her reward too.

"The Dragon's Nest is not a place for humans to go." Gui sighed. "I thought that with enough luck, it would be much safer to enter. However, I was wrong. After entering, the residual True Dragon's aura from the Dragon Clan did not welcome us. Finding the book was relatively easy, but problems arose when we tried to enter the center of the Dragon's Nest. Our people accidentally triggered the Dragon Clan's inheritance, and they were absorbed by it. The Dragon Clan didn't want the inheritance to fall into the hands of non-dragons, so the remaining power of the True Dragon began to attack us. Although I found some things inside, it was still very dangerous."



| The Heavenly Fate Misfortune Pearl was the most dangerous, while the Earth Extreme Silent Pearl could devour everything. |
|--|
| These two items have already made the people at the gathering uneasy. |
| It was unthinkable that another dangerous thing or creature was yet to appear. |
| Once the news spread, it would be chaos. |
| By then, The End of All Things would give everything to find it. |
| It was easy to unseal but difficult to seal it back. |
| The End of All Things only required one thing to destroy everything, while the rest of the world would spend time finding powerful forces to fill the gap. |
| Jiang Hao was no exception. According to Hong Yuye, ominous things seem to find him. |
| Perhaps others thought that they still had time, but Jiang Hao didn't want another dangerous pearl. |
| However, if the information had reached the gathering, it meant it might have reached somewhere else too. |
| "What kind of extreme thing are we talking about?" Xing asked curiously. |
| Gui thought for a moment. "It's called the Heavenly Extreme Dream Pearl." |
| Jiang Hao was speechless. |
| This was the second time he had heard this name. |

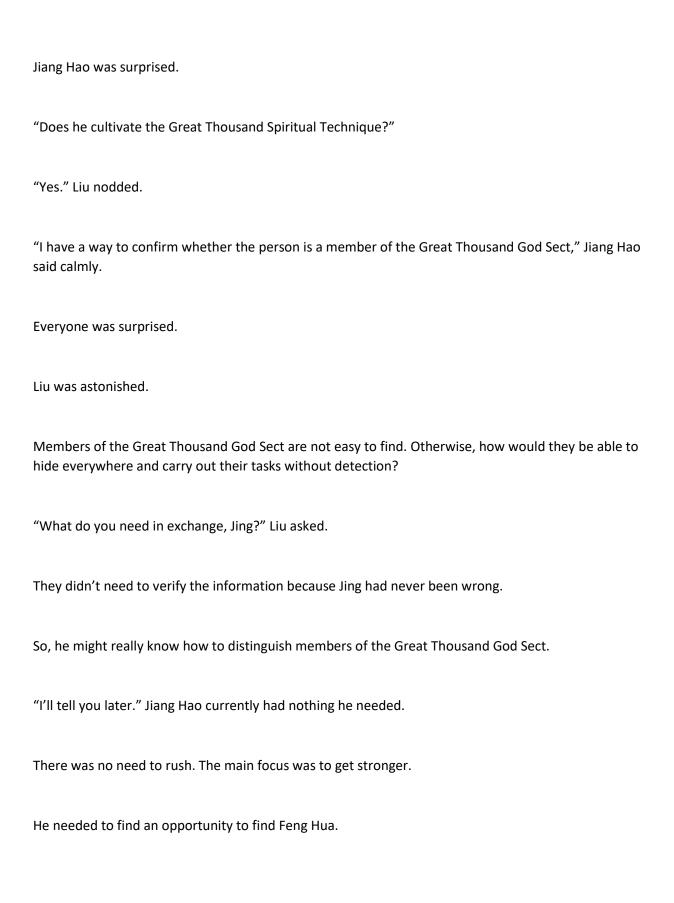




| 'Then, should I give it to Cheng Chou?' |
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| Unfortunately, Cheng Chou wasn't suitable for something that big. At present, he could only take one step at a time. When he reaches the Golden Core Realm, he may be able to bear the inheritance. |
| Perhaps with the blessing of the inheritance, he could even make it to the Primordial Spirit Realm. |
| Jiang Hao would help in any way he could. |
| Cheng Chou had helped Jiang Hao a lot. |
| Xiao Li and Cheng Chou were also close. |
| Since he always went along with her to her village, Xiao Li respected and admired Cheng Chou. She felt very grateful. |
| But before he could say anything, Zhang said, "What do you need, Gui?" |
| "The Heavenly Spirit Tribe's Heavenly Bestowed Cultivation Technique is something I don't have," said Gui. |
| "Just that?" Zhang asked. |
| Gui nodded. |
| At that moment, Zhang understood why she needed that. It was because of the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment. |
| The Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment was only half a gift. |



"There are no other weaknesses. But he actually wants to break free from this undying state because the true body cannot ascend anymore, and his lifespan cannot be extended," Liu said. "There are also some rumors in the East about him. His trip to the South may be related to the divine soul of the Holy Master," said Xing. "People from the Heavenly Saint Clan and the Heavenly Spirit Tribe are on the move lately. It may be because the Fallen Immortal Clan's immortal seed is about to bloom..." At this, everyone was surprised. Jiang Hao didn't expect that the immortal seed would bring so many changes. "Will the Heavenly Spirit Tribe also become powerful?" Gui asked. She was about to go there. Jiang Hao was quite helpless. He had offended the Holy Master, and that entity was about to become even more powerful. It was even more troublesome. Fortunately, the person who offended the Holy Master was Smiling San Sheng. "Is it related to something of the Heavenly Spirit Tribe?" Liu suddenly asked. "Do you have any news, Liu?" Star asked. "Yes, but the information is on a member of the Great Thousand God Sect. I can vaguely recognize the person, but I don't have a way to verify it," said Liu.



Once Feng Hua was found, he might be able to find the person behind the stone tablet. At that time, Hong Yuye would ask him to do things for him. He would then require a lot of help. Chapter 899: What Big Plan Does Jing Have? Overseas, Mr. Tao opened his eyes. He got up and walked to the window. He looked at the moon bright in the sky. He went outside, where Zhu Shen and Tang Ya were on guard. "Mr. Tao?" Zhu Shen was surprised. "Are there people from the Great Thousand God Sect nearby?" Mr. Tao asked. "Yes, it's someone who needs to be dealt with soon. He doesn't understand the rules and is causing some trouble," Zhu Shen said. "Bring him here," Mr. Tao said calmly. In the moonlight, he looked scholarly. "Mr. Tao, you don't need to come personally for such matters. I can handle it," Tang Ya said. Mr. Tao smiled. "It's not what you think. It's for an important purpose." A moment later, a middle-aged man was brought in.

He looked anxious. "Senior, have I offended you in some way?" "What is your mission?" Mr. Tao suddenly asked. "I don't understand what you're saying, Senior." The middle-aged man pretended to be confused. "Very well," Mr. Tao said. "I heard that you harmed our people?" "No. It's definitely a misunderstanding. That whole family is dead and still they slander me. They deserved to die," said the middle-aged man. Mr. Tao looked at him without speaking but secretly used a technique. Instantly, the man's spirit fluctuated, and he sensed the spiritual trace of the Great Thousand God Sect. He didn't know what was happening. He looked at Mr. Tao in fear. Zhu Shen walked to Mr. Tao's side. "It's been taken care of." Mr. Tao nodded. "I remember we have quite a talented member of the Great Thousand God Sect in our building." "Yes, but we haven't been able to catch him," Zhu Shen said. "Go back and prepare. Mark the most likely targets and invite them one by one for tea," Mr. Tao said calmly.





| Bi Zhu was given all the good things Chu Jie had gotten her hands on. |
|---|
| Bi Zhu felt helpless. |
| In the past, she was the one giving gifts to others. She was the wealthiest princess in the South, after all. |
| Who could compare to her wealth? |
| It was touching that she was receiving gifts from someone else. What moved her was that Chu Jie didn't even think twice before giving something like this away. |
| "Then, I'll be going." Chu Jie waved at her with a smile. |
| Bi Zhu felt strange. They might never meet again. |
| "Wait!" Bi Zhu stopped her. She held Chu Jie's hand. "I want to give you something too." |
| "Huh?" Chu Jie shook her head. "I don't need anything." |
| "You do. Believe me," Bi Zhu said seriously. |
| "What?" Chu Jie didn't know what she might need. |
| Fortune, cultivation opportunities, magic tools, pills, cultivation techniques, spirit stones |
| She didn't lack any of these. Even if she didn't have them now, she could earn them easily. |
| There was nothing she lacked. |
| |

Whether it was the True Dragon's inheritance or a common cultivation technique, they were no different to her.

Even if she cultivated the most ordinary technique, she could still cross the threshold between mortal and immortal.

"Do you have this?" Bi Zhu took out a pile of coarse grains and a pile of cured meat. "If you go to some places, these things are the most scarce. The others are not as good as these. Moreover, some places experience drought and famine. Do you have a way to feed yourself? Take these. It's not enough for your journey, but it'll be useful. Maybe you'll need to learn a way to plant crops to feed yourself. Here are cultivation methods and books on dealing with various situations. Take them all."

Chu Jie nodded and accepted them. She indeed didn't have these things.

"And I'm giving you this." Bi Zhu held out a jade pendant. "If you encounter any difficulties in the South, take this jade pendant and find some major businesses there. Let me tell you a secret... I might just happen to run them. Even if I don't run them, I have a hand in their establishment. So, they'll help you wholeheartedly when they see this jade pendant. You must accept it. You might not need it now, but you never know what the future holds."

Chu Jie hesitated for a moment, then nodded and accepted the jade pendant.

After that, she bid farewell to Bi Zhu and Qiao Yi.

"Auntie Qiao, goodbye. Sister Bi Zhu, goodbye."

Then her figure disappeared into the distance like a beam of light.

Qiao Yi and Bi Zhu both felt that they might never meet again.

"When we see her again... she may have already become an immortal," Bi Zhu said with emotion.

| The Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment was really terrifying. |
|---|
| Bi Zhu took a deep breath. "Let's go, Auntie Qiao. Let's return to the South. It seems like there's a problem with the Heavenly Spirit Tribe lately." |
| Bi Zhu let out a heavy sigh. |
| For some reason, these past few years had felt full of catastrophes. |
| When had it started? |
| It must have been when Jing came to the South. |
| He stirred up everything there. |
| She didn't know what his purpose was. |
| When the Xuanyuan Clan rose, the Saint Bandits had appeared, and the Heart of the Ancestral Dragon had disappeared. |
| It was all because Jing wanted something from the Abyssal Sea. |
| With so many things happening, she didn't know if he was behind it all. |
| When Bi Zhu was just about to use a special channel to hand over the items to Zhang, she received a note. |
| On it was Zhang's recent discovery: |
| "Somebody informed me that the Sage's Pages are in the South now." |

Bi Zhu was stunned. Was Jing trying to lure someone to the South?