

Ancient ST 1131

Chapter 1131 - Reunited, Yan Zhongyue's Tomb Is Empty?

"Of course it's real. Could it be that you often have dreams like this? Didn't you have your fill earlier?" Qing Shui smiled and said teasingly.

"You only know how to talk rubbish." Mu Qing said happily and let go of Qing Shui, her face filled with a blissful smile as she called the Golden Eagle King over.

"Qing Shui, I want you to accompany me to take a look around this place." Mu Qing grabbed one of Qing Shui's arm and said blissfully.

"I can't ask for anything better!"

After the Golden Eagle King got the Hallow Fruit and pearl from Qing Shui, it had gone through a reformation and strengthen up by a lot. When it spread out its wings, its size was close to 100 meters. Compared to earlier, the Golden Eagle King had truly become one of the top notch existences in the air.

"Mu Qing, if I were to ask you for something, would you bear to part with it?" Qing Shui sat on the back of the Golden Eagle King and asked Mu Qing, smiling.

"I'm yours now. Do you think that I'll be able to bear to part with it?" Mu Qing looked at Qing Shui.

"I want one of your Treasure Hunting Pigs." Qing Shui smiled and said.

"What's so tough about that? But just one by itself is too lonely. I'll give you half of them. I like these creatures as well. Otherwise, I'll give them all to you." Mu Qing said happily.

"Alright, then I won't stand on ceremony with my wife." Qing Shui smiled and looked at Mu Qing who was in his arms.

Mu Qing smiled and called out one of her Treasure Hunting Pigs.

Treasure Hunting Pigs were treasure beasts and they were not very strong in combat. However, their bodies were tough as diamonds and their speed and endurance levels were very high. Their only unique trait was that they could look for treasures, thus the name Treasure Hunting Pigs.

Treasure beasts were covered in treasures all over. Take the Treasure Hunting Pig, for example, it had a golden-colored pearl in its body which had a tremendous worth. However, no one would kill a Treasure Hunting Pig to take away its golden-colored pearl since the greatest value of a Treasure Hunting Pig was its ability to search for treasures.

Earlier, Qing Shui had only mentioned this casually. He had planned on using a low grade Sacred Beast Pill to tame a Treasure Hunting Pig.

"Qing`er, how did you tame these Treasure Hunting Pigs?" Qing Shui was very puzzled.

"I didn't have to. When I met them, it was very strange. They followed me after I just gave them some food..." When Mu Qing said this, she looked at Qing Shui in a daze.

Qing Shui was stunned as well. Taming beasts could be very strange. There may be times when they would follow you even if you don't tame them. However, there would also be times where even if you defeated the beast, you might not be able to tame it successfully.

"You didn't plant Spirit Marks in these creatures' mind?" Qing Shui asked, astonished.

"I didn't!"

Qing Shui once again felt that this lady was truly lucky. He had thought that Mu Qing might have some good ways to tame them. She had told him to tame a few more earlier. Now, it seemed like he would have to use a low grade Sacred Beast Pill to tame one. Moreover, he would only be able to tame one, so it'd be hard for it to not feel lonely.

He wondered what other people would think if they knew that he had used a low grade Sacred Beast Pill to tame a treasure beast with no battle prowess. Was it worth it?

Treasure Hunting Pigs hunted for treasures but places with treasure tended to contain danger as well. If the person had no power, having just a Treasure Hunting Pig would mean that he would probably die very soon.

On the back of the Golden Eagle King, Mu Qing let Qing Shui attempt to tame the Treasure Hunting Pig. The Treasure Hunting Pig was only about one foot in size and was covered in a golden color. The small creature was very docile but when Qing Shui wanted to try and reach out his hand to touch it, it bared its teeth towards him.

In the end, Qing Shui had no other methods and had to use a low grade Sacred Beast Pill to tame one. The low grade Sacred Beast Pills were good stuff, causing the Treasure Hunting Pig which was originally baring its teeth at Qing Shui to follow him with attachment...

Unknowingly, the sun had already set. When a couple who was in love were together, the time always seemed to be very short. Although Qing Shui and Mu Qing were already husband and wife, the time they had spent together was very short. However, they were going to part again very soon. This time around, Qing Shui planned to let her stay in Qing Clan longer.

When they returned to Qing Clan the next day, the family could finally be considered to have reunited. Everyone saw the lady Qing Shui brought back. One was also his wife, a lady whose beauty wouldn't lose out to Canghai Mingyue and the others. When Mu Qing saw the other women, she was also astonished. All the pretty ladies had gathered around him.

When Qing Yi saw Mu Qing, she was very happy, holding her and talked to her with a smile. At the same time, she was amazed at her son's judgment. Now, Qing Yi no longer found it strange to see her son being able to get himself so many wives whose beauties were unrivaled.

The ladies didn't say anything and were very affectionate towards Mu Qing. It was only that they would appear to have a hint of blame when they looked at Qing Shui. This caused him to feel helpless. One's feelings couldn't be controlled.

Although the females were very accepting, it was impossible for them to not feel bad about this. However, since things had already arrived at this stage, they would still choose the most proper way to

handle this situation, to treat her as family and as a close as sisters. There was no other way out since they all loved this man.

Qing Shui knew that very soon, someone would restrict him from getting involved with other women in the future, just like the past.

Qing Shui would very much like to assure them but he knew that it would be useless. There were some things which he would still go with his heart to make a decision. It was just like how he felt very happy now and they should be feeling the same. He would do his best to let them feel happy. Just like in the case of Mu Qing. She knew that Qing Shui was married in the first place but she still chose to step forward. It was because they all knew that for someone like Qing Shui, it would be abnormal for a person his age to not have a soulmate or wife.

Everyone then spent the time that followed on their cultivation. Qing Shui had quite a lot of formations and martial techniques now and also had more time and energy for cultivation. Therefore, he told them the easiest way to cultivate.

Qing Shui worked hard on his own cultivation as well. He still wanted to head for the other Four Continents and thus had never slacked in his training. Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation, Nine Continents Mountain, Nine Waves Great Golden Buddha Palm, Tidal Cloud Waves Seal, Lion King's Imprint, Lion King's Roar, Hidden Weapon Technique, Primordial Flame Dragon, Vajra Buddha Devil Rod, Seal of Xuantian, and many parts to the Nine Animals Mimicry Technique...

Qing Shui was very busy but felt very fulfilled. Most of the time, he would guide the kids and other members of Qing Clan. When he was in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, he would work hard by himself.

Happy times would always pass by very quickly. In the blink of an eye, over two months had passed by. During the past two months, everyone went through a tremendous change, especially in terms of their understandings. Only by increasing their exposure and experience, would they be able to go through rapid progress in the future. He could not let them keep themselves cooped up in a cage. What Qing Shui wanted was for them to break through the cage that they had locked themselves in. It was just like how they wouldn't dare to think of attaining Xiantian in the past, since to them, it was already an extreme limit.

They had progressed in a lot in many areas, including their formations and the Nine Palace Steps. For most of these things, he would let the stronger people familiarize with the techniques first and then they could slowly guide the rest. Qing Shui could no longer stay in Qing Clan for much longer.

The time when the Ancient Great Formation would be activated was getting closer. Qing Shui would probably be able to stay in Qing Clan for another week.

After coming out from the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal that morning, Qing Shui headed to his mother's room. It was the late afternoon and the manor was quite quiet. There were people who were busy with their cultivation and the kids were out playing in the streets.

When Qing Shui entered his mother's room, he saw that Qing Yi was seated next to the bed, holding up and looking at a beast parchment. From his angle, Qing Shui could tell that the drawing was of himself, his mother, and Qingqing. This was the family portrait they had drawn after Qingqing had returned.

When she saw Qing Shui, she put the painting aside and smiled, indicating for Qing Shui to sit next to her.

Qing Shui walked over and sat down, looking at Qing Yi. "What's wrong, Mother? You have something on your mind?"

"Are you going to head out again?" Qing Yi asked calmly with a smile on her face. However, there was a bit of reluctance reflected in her gaze.

Hearing his mother's words, Qing Shui didn't feel good either. For the past few years, they had been apart more than they had been together. He had initially thought that after the matters with the Lion King's Ridge was settled, he would be able to live the life he wanted and be relaxed. However, sometimes, things just won't go as planned.

Di Chen was in the other Four Continents and he was worried about her. There was no way that he wouldn't feel worried. Thus, he decided that if it couldn't be helped, he would just go look for Di Chen and bring her back. Afterwards, he would stay in the Five Continents.

"Mother, we still have a lot of time before us. I have to bring Di Chen back." Qing Shui smiled and looked at Qing Yi.

"Mmm, It's worrying for her to be outside alone. Mother is just nagging a little. You can decide your things for yourself. A man must have great ambitions. Which capable man would keep on staying at home?" Qing Yi patted Qing Shui on his head, she seemed to have cheered up.

"Just wait a little longer. I'll try to think of a way to let us all be together and have a lively life." Qing Shui had been enjoying a life like this during this time.

"Qing Shui, if you have time, go take a look at Yan Clan. Qingqing said that his tomb is empty." After some hesitation, Qing Yi said slowly.

Qing Shui was stunned. What Qing Yi said struck him like thunder. It was even more astonishing than there being thunder in a clear sky.

"Qingqing was still young back then and would offer incense at his tomb every year. There was once when she went early and before she could offer incense, she heard sounds underground and hid out of fear. A few masked men dressed in black came up from the ground and said that there was no one in the coffin. Those people were grave robbers." Qing Yi looked at Qing Shui but still decided to finish the story.

Qing Shui looked at his mother's hopeful gaze and something tugged at his heart. He no longer hated that guy. From the moment he heard that he was dead, he didn't hate him anymore.

However, back then, he was in great agony. He knew that his mother still loved that man. If that man was dead, then his mother would always have a regret in her life.

Now, hearing that the tomb was empty, it was still considered good news. It would be best if that man was alive. Qing Shui held Qing Yi's hand. He could sense that when his mother said what she had earlier, she felt a little agitated.

Therefore, Qing Shui had always hoped that that man was still alive. It wasn't for anything else, but for his mother.

"I'll head to Yan Jiang Country to take a look tomorrow. Don't worry, as long as he is alive, even if I have to comb through the entire world, I'll find him." Qing Shui said seriously.

"Qing Shui, your matters are more important. It has been so many years and it wouldn't be that easy to find him. Put this thing aside first. I'm only telling you this so that you can keep a lookout." Qing Yi shook her head, as if it was not agreeable for Qing Shui to head to Yan Jiang Country.

"I'll go ask Qingqing later to see how much she knows. If there's no need for it now, I won't go there. But if there is a need, I'll go take a look. There's enough time." Qing Shui gave it some thought and said.

The mother and son had a chat and Qing Shui told his mother that he no longer hated that man. He knew that man must have been in great pain too.

Chapter 1132 - The Body May Be Dead, The Body May Live, Leaving, Going Forth

Qing Shui left first. He needed to have a talk with Qingqing to further understand the situation. The news he had received today was too abrupt. However, it was overall still some good news.

Qingqing and Duamu Lingshuang were watching a few children playing. The slightly older ones didn't need to be watched over as they were all sensible enough. However, they still had to keep a close eye on those around Qing Yu and Qing Yun's age. After all, they still weren't that sensible and didn't know of dangers.

He went up to them and greeted them with a smile. He then turned to Qingqing. "Big Sister, can you let Lingshuang watch over them for a moment first? I have something to discuss with you."

After Qingqing informed Duamu Lingshuang, she followed Qing Shui to a room.

"What is it?" Qingqing was clueless as to what Qing Shui wanted to ask her. Qing Shui's expression seemed to be very relaxed earlier but now he seemed to be a little worked up and slightly more agitated.

Qing Shui only looked at Qingqing after they had taken a seat in the room. "I would like to know about Father. You mentioned that his grave was empty. Are you sure about that?" Qing Shui asked.

Qingqing was taken aback. Her countenance also greatly changed as she stared at Qing Shui. "It was never my intention to say this. It was a slip of the tongue that day. Mother must have thought of investigating this now that she sees that Qing Clan has gotten a little stronger."

"Big Sister, just tell me all you know. I also wish that he's still alive, even if it's for the sake of Mother only." Qing Shui looked at Qingqing.

"Do you still resent him?" Qingqing gave Qing Shui a worried look. She seemed to be a little afraid to find out if Qing Shui still resented him. Qing Shui reckoned that this reason must be the reason that she didn't tell him about it. Otherwise, she would've told him this since long ago.

"I don't. It must've been very difficult for him too." Qing Shui answered with a smile.

A small smile appeared on Qingqing's face too when she saw Qing Shui's smile. "Back then, I was still very little. When I went to offer incense on the third day, I heard some grave robbers saying that the coffin was empty. That was just two days after the burial."

"So Big Sister, are you sure if that grave is really empty?" Qing Shui was very concerned with this question.

"It was empty. I snuck in through the hole that the grave robbers left behind. I have now realized another possibility." Qingqing told Qing Shui.

"And what would that be?"

"Father's body was stolen by someone. There was a line of words left at the bottom of the coffin on the inside. I only thought of the possibility that Daddy may not be dead after I grew up." Qingqing said while trying to recall her memories.

"What words?" Qing Shui couldn't help but ask.

"The body may be dead, the body may live. Life leads to death yet death leads to life. Ambitions beyond the green clouds. Dragon soaring in the four seas. The four seas are blessed with peace and fortune is bestowed by the Dragon and Phoenix." Qingqing slowly uttered every word on the bottom of the coffin from her memories.

Qing Shui was stunned. He didn't even know if all these words were linked to each other. But he was able to vaguely make some sense of them. 'The body may be dead, the body may live. Life leads to death yet death leads to life.' This probably implied that he was still alive, but he was no longer the same person he was in the past. Otherwise, it wouldn't have mentioned something like this.

"Could it be that someone knew him and rescued him, even though he had most likely lost his memories? There are many bizarre medicines in the Main Continent, such as those that can make someone amnesiac either temporarily or permanently."

Qing Shui stood there, deep in his thoughts. The first part implied that he was still alive, but he no longer knew who he was. Otherwise, he should have returned to Yan Clan after all these years. Or could it be that he didn't have the freedom to act out of his own volition?

"What does the next part mean?" Qing Shui pondered while thinking of the next part. He couldn't hold himself back from asking Qingqing when he saw that she also had a frown on her face. "Big Sister, have you figured out the meaning behind these words?"

"The first part should be implying that Father isn't dead yet. Otherwise, his body wouldn't have been stolen. I have no idea what to say about the next part. It was also because of the first part that my tongue slipped, accidentally telling Mother that his grave was empty and that it was possible that Daddy wasn't dead." Qingqing's graceful eyebrows were knitted together while she explained, as if she was in deep thought.

"I interpreted the first part in the same way that you did. But I wonder, why did someone steal Father away? Is there some sort of secret in there?" Qing Shui wondered, thinking just as hard as Qingqing.

Qing Shui knew that two heads were better than one. However, it was still better to keep knowledge of this matter to a minimal number of people. The most important thing right now was to make some sense out of these few phrases. Perhaps they would be able to pinpoint his whereabouts from this.

“Ambitions beyond the green clouds... If these ‘green clouds’ is a reference to the Greencloud Continent...!”

This idea suddenly popped up in Qing Shui’s mind. The Main Continent was too vast. Finding someone among the Five Continents was already a task that was easier said than done, let alone in the other Four Continents as well.

However, he couldn’t be bothered to think about all this now. He was thinking that if the ‘ambitions beyond the green clouds’ were indeed referring to the Greencloud Continent, then this covered not only one continent but even maybe the Five Continents.....

“Dragon soaring the four seas, Dragon soaring the Four Continents... Could it be that this dragon refers to him?” Qing Shui recalled that his father’s strength was quite decent among the Yan Clan, although it was still not enough to be considered a prodigy at all.....

Qing Shui couldn’t afford to worry over if he was correct or not. He had to arrange his thoughts first. ‘The four seas are blessed with peace’ was pretty self explanatory. For ‘fortune is bestowed by the Dragon and Phoenix’, he came up with a few interpretations. Two of the other continents among the other Four Continents were named after the Dragon and Phoenix - the Soaring Dragon Continent and the Dancing Phoenix Continent*.

Furthermore, ‘fortune is bestowed by the Dragon and Phoenix’ could be linked with ‘the four seas are blessed with peace’. This was used to describe a scene so Qing Shui didn’t think too hard about it. However, if ‘fortune is bestowed by the Dragon and Phoenix’ was referring to a man and woman, did that mean that the other Four Continents have to be as peaceful as suggested by the line, ‘the four seas are blessed with peace’?*

Although Qing Shui didn’t know the full details, he knew that the other Four Continents were governed by both sects and a dynasty. Hence, he knew that things would definitely never be peaceful there. There was never peace in the world of cultivators to begin with.....

The more Qing Shui tried to interpret these words, the more it didn’t make sense. If this was the case, then his father was most likely on the other continents. His status and position would most definitely be exceptional too.....

Qing Shui explained his thoughts to Qingqing. She nodded but also shook her head at his explanation. It seemed like she didn’t really get it.

“I’m leaving for the other Four Continents very soon. I have a portrait of him, so I will try to see if I can catch any winds on him over that side when that time comes.” Qing Shui said with a smile.

“You’re leaving?!” Qingqing exclaimed in shock. At least now, she finally knew why Qing Shui had made everyone in the clan tame a powerful demonic beast with those miraculous medicinal pills when he returned back then. He had even given them a powerful magical ring for protection.

“I can still stay home for another few days.” Qing Shui said with a smile.

“This can be considered your longest stay at home. I know that.” Qingqing said sadly with a smile.

“There’s still a very long time ahead of us. Wait till I am powerful enough to gather everyone together, then we shall live together merrily like we do here.”

“You should take care of yourself too. Big Sister knows that things haven’t been easy for you and everyone actually knows that too. We are just incapable of helping you. You are our pillar of support. With you around, everyone’s life is as blissful as in the Heavens.” Qingqing pinched Qing Shui’s nose and chuckled.

“I know. Rest assured. I’m not willing to die just yet, there’s wonderful life ahead waiting for me.”

“What are you talking about? Do not utter such ominous words.” Qingqing gave Qing Shui’s nose a harder pinch.

Next, Qing Shui informed that he was going to the other Four Continents to the people closest to him, though not everyone knew. After all, letting more people know about this wasn’t necessarily a good thing. As long as Qing Shui was in the Five Continents, no one would dare to do anything to Qing Clan. However, it would be a little difficult for him when he went to the other Four Continents.

Although he had taken all the preventive measures to ensure and that the strength of Qing Clan was definitely at the peak, he still tried his best to keep his departure to the other Four Continents as a secret.

Another few days passed by in the blink of an eye. The Qing Clan were all seeing Qing Shui off in the courtyard. He was leaving. This had been postponed for long enough so Qing Shui didn’t only have to use the Nine Continents Steps, he also needed to fly every day for half a day in order to make it before the Ancient Gate Formation activates.

Qing Shui held both his sons and daughters in his arms and crouched down to speak with Qing Zun, Qing Yin and Qing Yan. Farewells were always sad. Even if one tried their best to hide their sadness, it could still clearly be felt.

“Cultivate hard. If I don’t return after five years, whoever wants to go over should just go over. I will be there to welcome you all.” Qing Shui gently reminded the few ladies again.

He had already discussed this with the few ladies before. Qing Shui had a hunch that he should be able to have some breakthroughs there in five years’ time. By then, it should be possible for him to survive there.

“Daddy!”

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When Qing Shui was about to leave, Qing Yu, Qing Yun and Qing Yan started crying while pulling on Qing Shui, unwilling to let him go. The rest were still alright. The children knew that Qing Shui was leaving, but they didn’t know where. Rather, the children felt like crying when they saw so many people sending Qing Shui off.

Qing Shui had to spend a long time coaxing them and wasn't able to leave until half of the afternoon had passed. On top of that, he had to sneak away. He actually preferred to leave without bidding farewell so that he didn't have to go through a scene like that, but he knew that he shouldn't be doing that.

Qing Shui and Yu Ruyan immediately used the Nine Continents Steps twice. The remaining two times were left unused in cases of an emergency. They planned to only use it again at the final few hours of the day. This had already become a habit. Qing Shui then summoned the Golden Scaled Dragon Elephant and flew in the direction of the Northern Sacred Lu Continent.

"Those little fellows are really fond of you." Yu Ruyan looked at Qing Shui while smiling.

"By the time we have a home over there, do you want to have a child too?" Qing Shui chuckled while holding Yu Ruyan's hand.

Yu Ruyan's body quivered. She shook her head. "Let's talk about this some other time, alright?"

Qing Shui knew that she still had a little knot in her heart. Listening to her tone that was rarely as soft as this, he pulled her into a gentle embrace. "I'll listen to you. It's been such a long time, is Ruyan still unsure of what kind of person I am? You are my wife. Although I am not a loyal man, I love all of you with the whole of my heart instead of dividing it between you all."

"I know that. Otherwise, I wouldn't have stayed together with you. Qing Shui, do you really not mind about me?" Yu Ruyan looked at him.

"I've said this before. I only have myself to blame for not meeting you sooner. There's no room to mind about someone when it comes to love. If someone has to mind, then it should be you who mind about me." After all, Qing Shui had the soul of a modern person. Just like Mingyue Gelou, a great woman like her would forever be a great woman and Qing Shui was willing to forget about her past. To be able to meet her was already a blessing from the heavens. He felt the same way too about Yu Ruyan.

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Though unfamiliar at first, they grew familiar with the route soon enough. Going to and forth, they had pretty much traveled along here twice. This time, their journey was even faster. Although they encountered some demonic beasts on their way, the demonic beasts were very easily killed in a flash by them.

The Realm of Violet Jade was still a secret so Qing Shui would still disappear six hours every day, usually after Yu Ruyan fell asleep. For a man and woman to journey together, the feelings between them gradually deepened. Qing Shui only now realized the gentleness of this woman over this period of time.

Chapter 1133 - Ancient Teleportation Array, Members of Formation Immortal Sect

Even now, Qing Shui could still recall how Yu Ruyan was like in the past. She was a powerful woman who had an air of dignity and holiness around her. On top of that, she was also a beautiful woman that was inviolable. She had helped him out quite a lot too. If it wasn't for the incident that time, Qing Shui wouldn't have thought of being in such relationship with her, even in his dreams.

Sometimes, one would only know if something would work out after it had happened. The Northern Sea was already within their sight. So much time had passed before he could even realize it.

Over this period of time, Yu Ruyan was like a considerate and delicate little woman. She was acting just like a wife. She knew how to take care of people well in everyday life, including meals and even clothes. Qing Shui had actually been taking care of himself all this time, but he was really enjoying such treatment right now.

The more time he spent with her, the more he had come to realize her wonderfulness. It reminded him of the phrase, 'elegant enough to show around to guests and skillful enough to make delicious cuisines'. In the bedroom, she was seductive enough to suck Qing Shui's soul out of his body. However, when she was outside, she was so noble that no one would dare disrespect her.

Most importantly, Qing Shui felt that Yu Ruyan seemed to be younger now compared to before. Rather than physically, this was more like mentally. He was aware that both of them had undergone these changes.

In the past, he had always seen her as a senior because Qing Shui was slightly younger than her in age. However, he had gradually grown mature over all this time. In addition to the breakthrough in their relationship, he felt that they were slowly growing closer to each other in age. Perhaps someday, she would truly become a little woman.

They didn't stop at the Northern Sea and traversed it with the Nine Continents Steps instead. Qiu Feng had already departed. Qing Shui reckoned that he would most likely be waiting for him at the Lion King's Mountain!

Qing Shui suddenly remembered Tantai Xuan. That woman said that they would meet when he headed to the other Four Continents. He wondered if she would be alone or be accompanied by someone. He guessed that he would only know by that time.

"Ruyan, what's your opinion on Qiu Feng?" Qing Shui asked while smiling. He wanted to listen to her intuition.

Yu Ruyan was taken by surprise at his question before she answered with a smile. "My intuition tells me that he is a great man. However, I am not sure how he truly is. Besides, every good and bad persons have their own reasons for being so, or they could be pretending. Sometimes, it is actually not necessary to think if someone is a good or bad person. You should instead see if this person is a good or bad person to you."

"Oh, what a wise opinion that is, Madam. A union based on interests." Relationships were also a type of union based on interests. For instance, there would always be a reason behind two people being best friends. No one would become great friends without rhyme or reason. There was a reason behind everything.

"Qing Shui, I am not an influential person. I feel that the only truest thing in this world is familial bond. It is the most sacred. Even for other bonds like love, they are all mixed with some other things like self-interest or schemes. There are always reasons behind good or ill intentions." Yu Ruyan said softly, seemingly a little uncomfortable.

"That's true. Affections can be divided into three categories, familial affection, love, and friendship. The feelings between a man and a woman start from friendship to love before they turn into familial affection. The feelings between two people who are in love will turn into familial affection when it

reaches a certain extent. Only at this point, they will become selfless. Friendship can also turn into a friendship of life and death, a friendship that is like family. Ruyan, you are my family, my woman.” Qing Shui smiled while lying on the back of the Golden Scaled Dragon Elephant and pulled Yu Ruyan into his arms.

Qing Shui understood what Yu Ruyan was saying. There was no love or hatred without any rhyme or reason. In the end, everything had a reason. Such was human society. Qing Shui felt that going with Qiu Feng to the other Four Continents could at least allow him to become familiar with some things very fast. But of course, the main reason was still because they hit it off pretty well.

For him, he probably wished for Qing Shui to join the Formation Immortal Sect!

In the beginning, there must be some reason for people to become friends. Only with a deepening friendship between them could they take their relationship to another level; to the level of a friendship of life and death or a confidant.....

Qing Shui had no idea how deep the relationship between him and Qiu Feng could grow, how the Formation Immortal Sect was or if the Ancient Teleportation Array would send him to that continent of the other Four Continents. Everything was still uncertain.

However, he'd get his answers as soon as he went there.

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Time passed quickly. The Lion King's Mountain was already in their sight. Everything here still looked the same. It hadn't changed too much since more than half a year ago, when Qing Shui left there.

The last time Qing Shui left, he had already sensed a wave of ancient Qi. Back then, he was already certain that it was the Qi from the Ancient Teleportation Array. He had the required core ready too.

Qiu Feng had mentioned last time that there were people robbing cores. Some powerful people who were heading towards the other Four Continents would rob weaker people of their cores at the Ancient Teleportation Array.

Even so, Qing Shui wasn't worried. If anyone was blind enough to try and rob him, he wouldn't mind wiping them out. Although this kind of people had the strength to hunt for cores, they still choose to obtain them by reaping without sowing. They even relied on their strength to kill and rob. Even if the Main Continent advocated Martial Arts, these kinds of people usually wouldn't meet a good end.

By the time they arrived at the Lion King's Mountain, there was still ten days till the activation of the Ancient Teleportation Array. As soon as they entered the Lion King's Mountain, Qing Shui sensed the undulations of powerful Qi.

Some enormous flying beasts would fly by in the sky from time to time. The cultivators riding on them were basically above 5,000 stars of strength. He wasn't sure if they were from the other Four Continents or guarding the Ancient Teleportation Array.

There were quite a number of seclusive sects and aristocrat clans in this generation. The Lion King's Mountain was considered the closest place to the other Four Continents. It was said that due to the teleportation array, the Spiritual Qi of the other Four Continents were drawn towards here. This was the

reason why the laws of the Heaven and Earth's influence here were about 10% less than other places in the Five Continents.

Traversing an enormous mountain range, Qing Shui was startled. An enormous mountain valley came into his view. An oncoming wave of boundless majestic Qi greeted them.

There was an Ancient Teleportation Array in a distance.

On the ground was a totem with a diameter of about 1,000 meters that looked just like a Daoist Yin-Yang Diagram. It was currently glowing. A huge totem pole stood in the center of it.

The totem pole had a diameter of about 100 meters and it towered into the sky. There were flying dragons and dancing phoenixes as well as roaring stone tigers depicted on it..... There were more than a few hundred demonic beasts on the totem pole. Just by looking at the image, each of them appeared to be extremely formidable. That kind of charm was only possessed by ancient demonic beasts.

There were some people a little further away from the Ancient Teleportation Array but there weren't too many of them. They were also looking at the array. There were quite a few cave dwellings made in the surrounding walls, probably for those cultivators who guarded the Ancient Teleportation Array to live in. Since there were no tents in the surroundings, it seemed like those cave dwellings could also be a temporary shelter for those people who were traveling towards the other Four Continents.

Just when Qing Shui was only on his way over this mountain on his flying beast, two elderly men approached him in midair. They had their fist cupped from afar to Qing Shui, as a sign of respectful friendly greeting.

Qing Shui similarly cupped his fists to return their greetings!

The two elderly men arrived in front of Qing Shui very soon. They had a smile on their face. The loose crystal blue robes they wore were glowing faintly and were particularly dazzling to the eyes.

There were two unsheathed three-foot long swords embroidered on either side of the blue robes. They smiled at Qing Shui as soon as they saw him. "Young man, both of you are to go to that side."

That 'side' that he mentioned referred to the other Four Continents, although they didn't explicitly say it. The teleportation arrays were set up here by the people from that side. This was just like a trade. They were doing this to get some people to join their sect. This was also exactly what the people of the Five Continents wished for.

After all, they had no one to look after them since they went there all alone. It was said that the other side was still very dangerous, even for cultivators with powerful strength on this side. Legends said that there were countless of ordinary people there but there are also many powerful cultivators.

"We are going to the other side!" Qing Shui answered with a smile. The two old men gave him an overly incisive feeling. He wasn't sure if it was due to their clothing or their imposing manner. Perhaps it was a little of the both.

"Come, come. Follow me, both of you. There's still a cave dwelling here. There's still ten days till the Ancient Teleportation Array activates. Let's gather with everyone. We will go there together when the time comes, what say you?" The old man smiled courteously to Qing Shui.

“Old man, I have promised the Formation Immortal Sect that I will go together with them. So, why not next time? It’s not good to break a promise.” Qing Shui declined with a smile.

“There’s still ten days. Didn’t fate bring us together? We can still have some wine and get to know each other, right? Rest assured, I will personally bring you over to the Formation Immortal Sect in a while. What do you think?” The old man chuckled.

Since he had already offered and there were no signs of Qiu Feng yet... Just when he was about to agree with this old man, a familiar voice came from a distance.

“Brother, you’ve finally come. I’ve been circling around here every day lately.”

Qing Shui saw Qiu Feng who came running up here from the side. He had a very excited look on his face and seemed to be especially happy.

“Big Brother, I’ll have to trouble you.”

“Come, let’s go over there. You must be tired from your journey. Let’s rest over there.” Qiu Feng pulled Qing Shui while he smiled and nodded at Yu Ruyan.

Qing Shui stared at Qiu Feng, seemingly completely ignoring the other two old men in blue robes.

The old men in blue robes snorted before flicking their sleeves and left.

Qing Shui and Yu Ruyan followed Qiu Feng and flew towards another side. There was another enormous Ancient Teleportation Array about 100 li from here.

After he landed, there were also more than ten people here. Similar to the place just now, this was a stone cave too. Needless to mention, the Ancient Teleportation Array didn’t look any different. This made Qing Shui get a hunch that all of the arrays here were created by the same person very long ago.

Coming here, Qing Shui suddenly thought of Tantai Xuan. That woman had mentioned that she would find him when he was went to the other Four Continents and that she would show up. However, he still thought that it was better to ask Qiu Feng to keep an eye out on her.

“Brother, I have a friend who said that she will show up and find me before we go over to that side. Her name is Tantai Xuan. Does her name ring a bell?” Qing Shui asked Qiu Feng.

“Oh, it does. I will tell her that you are here as soon as she arrives.” Qiu Feng gave Qing Shui a look of surprise before he smiled.

He followed Qiu Feng into a cave dwelling and saw the people from Formation Immortal Sect who guarded the teleportation array here. There was a total of fifteen of them. Ten among them were old while the remaining five of them, including Qiu Feng, were a lot younger. Even so, Qiu Feng had the most youthful appearance among them.

Qiu Feng smiled and nodded at those ten people outside from earlier. Qing Shui did the same to them too. Those people were basically old men. It was very rare to see someone as young as Qing Shui. Hence, many of them were very surprised when they saw not just one, but two of them suddenly showing up today.

This was also the reason why the blue robed old man from earlier wished to make Qing Shui and Yu Ruyan stay. For them to reach such heights at their age, their future achievements were immeasurable. Regardless of the time, talented people like these were always extremely rare.

A powerful cultivator could bring about changes to many things, including a clan or even the fate of a sect.

Chapter 1134 - Blue Clouds Sect, Seal of Xuantian, Heaven Seal of First Wave

“Martial Senior Uncle, Martial Junior Uncle and Martial Brother, this is Qing Shui, whom I have been talking about. This is Miss Ruyan. Brother, these are my martial senior uncle, martial junior uncle and martial brother!” Qiu Feng introduced them with a smile.

“Welcome, young man. We have seen you long ago. We didn’t expect the young man that Qiu Feng has frequently mentioned was actually you. It’s a great fortune to meet you here today. You are a genius from heaven. This is indeed a pleasure,” the refined old man, who was oldest in age among them, laughed to Qing Shui.

“Old man, you are flattering me,” Qing Shui responded with a smile. His understanding of these people from the Formation Immortal Sect was not even the tip of the iceberg, so he didn’t know what to say either. The old man could recognize him probably because they had seen him during his fight with the Beitang Clan.

“Brother, we are part of the Formation Immortal Sect. Wait until we’ve crossed to the other side and I’ll tell you some of the things you want to know. When Brother and Miss Ruyan stay over here for a few days, be cautious of any challenges from other people.” Qiufeng jumped into the conversation with a smile when he noticed Qing Shui’s discomfort.

“Oh? Challenges? Why would they pick a fight?” Qing Shui had heard Qiufeng mentioning that some people would be snatching cores last time. Could it be that it had something to do with these challenges?

“There’s an unwritten rule here. At every teleportation array, the people who are heading towards the other four continents may challenge someone at the other teleportation arrays and start a fight. The loser follows the winner. This is only limited to people from the five continents who are heading towards the other four continents.” Qiufeng sounded pretty glum when he explained this rule.

“There’s still such a rule like this?” Qing Shui was feeling especially glum too. This was completely putting strength above all else. Were they not treating humans as human? Although he knew that the World of the Nine Continents was cruel, he didn’t expect that it would be this downright cruel.

“I know right? So there will definitely be someone who wants to bring you back. I’ve heard about you from Martial Senior and Junior Uncles, so I’m still not that worried.” Qiufeng smiled at Qing Shui.

“Just because I am a little young?” Qing Shui asked with a laugh.

“That’s right. Age reflects the standard of talent.”

“What if the loser doesn’t follow them back?” Qing Shui asked curiously.

“Then the winner has the right to kill the loser.....”

"I understand. It'll be fine," Qing Shui chuckled.

Qiufeng brought Qing Shui and Yu Ruyan to greet the rest of the people before they went to search for the cave dwelling. The cave dwellings here were all at about more than ten metres high in the mountain wall. They had already gone into one earlier. This cave dwelling wasn't too wide and had no pillars in it. The ceiling was dome shaped and the stony surface was smooth, as if it had been peeled by a knife. The interior design however, was about the same as a normal house. The bed, table and chairs were all made of stone. The layers of beast leather cushions on them were very thick and brand new.

"Brother, see if this place is to your liking," Qiufeng said after bringing Qing Shui and Yu Ruyan to take a look around here.

"It's great. I have troubled you, Brother," Qing Shui said happily. He was very satisfied with the place here. The interior design suited his taste very well. It kind of made him feel like picking a place like this to live in the future. It was said that the people who stayed in the big mountains lived in places like this. They were sturdy, waterproof, coldproof and could keep the wild beasts away.

There were two bedrooms, one living room and one kitchen here. It was neither too spacious here nor too narrow. However, there weren't too many bedrooms so it was best for two people to live in. Most people lived in it alone, since there weren't too many people coming here and they were not ordinary people either.

"This place is quite decent. We should build this kind of house in the future too." Qing Shui pulled Yu Ruyan and took a look around here.

"Hehe, it's not bad. But are you thinking of living in seclusion?" Yu Ruyan chuckled.

"It's still fine for all of us to live in a place like this for a month or half a year." Qing Shui pondered and laughed.

"Qing Shui, do you think anyone will come and challenge us?" Yu Ruyan and Qing Shui took a seat on the couch after taking a look around here. Although everything here was made of stone, they had no sharp edges. All of them were rounded and most importantly, they were padded and layered with thick cushions. It was extremely comfortable and fluffy. The weather was extremely frigid around this area so it was quite warm inside the cave dwelling.

"Who knows? Does it make a difference if they come? If they come, I will beat them and chase them away," Qing Shui said indifferently. He really wasn't bothered by this.

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Before they could realize it, they had already stayed here for a week. Other than cultivating, they explored around. Life was quite peaceful. It was only three days before the Ancient Great Formation activates. Tantai Xuan had yet to show up. This made Qing Shui very depressed.

Tantai Xuan was a very important person in his journey to the other four continents. Having a few more friends over there would be a great advantage.

Qing Shui and Yu Ruyan chatted with some people at the mountain valley today. These people were all from different places in the five continents. All of them were chieftains in their regions. The youngest among them was already 130 years old.

These people would join the Formation Immortal Sect when they reached the other four continents. Qiufeng didn't directly tell Qing Shui to join, he instead dropped some hints. But Qing Shui didn't give any response to that. He wasn't ready to join that sect yet. If he had such intention in the future, he wouldn't mind joining the Formation Immortal Sect. Since he had been studying formations, the Formation Immortal Sect should have quite a number of formations.

Just at this moment, more than ten silhouettes were sighted in the distance. In the blink of an eye, they were already in the sky right above them. Qing Shui lifted his head to look at them and laughed, "The ones who ought to show up have indeed showed up after all."

Among this crowd of people, two of those Qing Shui spotted were the old men dressed in crystal blue robes from the other day. The most conspicuous one among the remaining few people was a man that looked like a little giant. He had the appearance of a middle aged man and was as strongly built as a bear.

"Li Yifeng, come out and have some fun."

Qing Shui smiled when he heard the old man's word. He had been guessing that the Formation Immortal Sect probably didn't get along well with the sect that this old man in a blue robe was in, though they didn't seem to have any deep hatred between them. They might have been competing with each other all this while. He could tell that they should be very familiar with each other from their attitude towards each other.

"Haha, Lan Dachong, I knew you'd come. What fun are you talking about?" The one who stepped forward to speak was the oldest man among the Formation Immortal Sect.

To be honest, Qing Shui couldn't wrap his head around one fact. After such a big incident last time, it was impossible that with the strength of this old man in a blue robe not to know about it. If he was still going to challenge Qing Shui, would he succeed? Never mind that if they were in the other four continents but they were in the five continents. Or perhaps these people didn't put the Beitang Clan in their eyes at all.....

Qing Shui sensed the man who was like a bear too. Although he was very powerful, Qing Shui was confident that he could kill him in a flash. He even asked Qiufeng, who was just beside him. "It seems like they don't know me?"

Qing Shui wasn't talking about how famous he was. He was instead referring to the previous incident that had just taken place recently. There were quite many people who knew of this incident but they couldn't match things up because the number of people who saw it with their own eyes was too few. Most of them had only heard about it and spread it around. Hence, they couldn't recognize the real person even when Qing Shui was brought face to face with them.

"Hehe, doesn't seem like they do. I heard that the people here from the Blue Clouds Sect weren't here at that time so they had only heard a little about the story. They can't recognize you. The people from the four continents live in seclusion here. They don't really care much about the matters of the five

continents and will very rarely participate in anything. So most of the people who guard the Ancient Teleportation Arrays here don't know you," Qiufeng chuckled.

"One of my men heard that there are two young experts here and he couldn't help wishing to have a friendly match with them," one of the old men with long eyebrows told Li Yifeng with a smile.

Qing Shui felt a little amused right now. Sometimes, even the most childish lie still had to be told. Anyone could tell that this was a lie but still, it had to be said out loud. Humanity was already an actor on the stage called life. In their performance, they still had to wear two or three layers of masks. Sometimes, even some of the masks were an extra layer of skin of their face.

"A match? If we are going to have a friendly match, let's have some prizes. Otherwise, there's really no point in doing this," Qing Shui knew that it was time for him to speak up so he stood up and told the few people across them with a smile.

"Prizes? That's fine. What kind of prizes?" The man, who looked exceptionally strong, across him asked. He seemed to be even more powerful looking than Little Fatty. His voice sounded like a cracked gong, loud and extremely unpleasant.

"I want your Interspatial Silk Sachet as my prize," Qing Shui declared with a smile.

The powerful man was taken aback and looked at Qing Shui. "I'll agree to that. But I have something in mind for my prize too."

"Speak."

"I want your Interspatial Silk Sachet too. Other than that, there's another thing I want too." The powerful man was looking at Qing Shui but the gaze of his squinty eyes that looked like two bronze bells, fell on Yu Ruyan at the end of his sentence.

"Let's hear it." Qing Shui's voice was very calm. It was so calm that it was flat, almost monotonous.

"If I win, your woman will be mine."

That voice was initially unpleasant enough to listen to but now, it was more than being just simply unpleasant to Qing Shui. He shook his head. It seemed like he was still not famous enough. The world was indeed too vast. It was simply too difficult to be world renowned. Martial power alone wasn't enough, it was even harder without any martial power..... One could only be famous within the corresponding circle of their strength at most. Not only that, their fame would also be limited by region. After all, the vast land under this sky was boundless.

"Indulging on your lust is as good as hanging a knife upon your head. I'm not too sure if you'll be alive to see that happen," Qing Shui told that big man with a fake smile.

"I can't agree to that as long as I am alive." Qing Shui shook his head when he finished speaking.

"Alright then, I shall kill you!"

The big man waved both of his arms. A pair of gigantic earthly yellow Ringed Hammer materialized in both of his hands. Each of the hammers was about the size of an adult. It was flickering with earthly yellow Qi on it.

The thick halos flickering around the twin hammers formed another layer of larger earthly yellow ring on the surface. It exuded a wave of fleeting but powerful spirit energy Qi aura that pressed towards Qing Shui.

This kind of strength was quite decent among the five continents. It was quite impressive enough already. It was unfortunate that he met Qing Shui. To Qing Shui, this powerful attack was full of holes.

Seal of Xuantian, Heaven Seal of First Wave!

Qing Shui immediately formed the seal with his right hand and flung his hand out at a seemingly slow yet fast speed.

All of a sudden, the clouds in the sky above Qing Shui churned and swirled. Something akin to the Heaven Defying Seal of the ancient legend in his previous world appeared in the sky. It wasn't huge but the Qi aura it exuded felt as if it was enough to shatter the earth.

A ray of faint silver light shone down on the bear-like man that was dashing towards him. At this moment, Qing Shui felt as if it had slowed his opponent down. His movements were slowed down by a lot. The light shrouded the target and the ground beneath the target's feet. It then smashed down with a loud bang.

BAM!

The whole world fell into silence. This was Qing Shui's first time using the Seal of Xuantian against his opponent and he had only cultivated the Heaven's Seal of First Wave** in the Seal of Xuantian, from the first part. The outcome seemed to have exceeded Qing Shui's expectation. He had yet to fully understand the wonders of the Seal of Xuantian but this attack was already very powerful to him.

Chapter 1135 - Tantai Xuan Appeared, Arriving At The Four Continents

The scene that suddenly unfolded before them shocked everyone. An instant kill. It was the most straightforward, nimble and most simple instant kill. This caused the two old men in blue robe to be in a stunned for so long before they recovered.

Qing Shui hadn't planned to kill anyone earlier but this big man went on having some idea about his woman instead. Qing Shui wouldn't even fear if it was a powerful cultivator from the other four continents, much less this kind of thrash. His women were also his untouchables. This was because his women were also his kin.

"The weather today is great. We shall take our leave now, Brother Li. Let's go!" The old man in blue robe that had been quiet all this time laughed embarrassingly. He then grabbed the other old man in blue robe, who still seemed to be unable to wrap his head around what had happened and quickly left after ordering the rest.

"Take care, everyone. We shall return your visit over there in a bit," Li Yifeng said to the people of the Blue Clouds Sect who were about to leave.

Although they were very far, they staggered in midair when they heard Li Yifeng's words and disappeared into the distant mountain without even turning their heads around.

Qing Shui didn't really feel much about it, he only smiled. He still wasn't strong enough right now to pit himself against the Blue Clouds Sect. Besides, it wasn't necessary for him to do so over small matter like that. Overall, he still had the upper hand in this.

"Little Brother, with this, there will be no one bothering you again. Although it's the rules here, there are always people who overestimate their own capabilities and embarrass themselves," Li Yifeng sighed and told Qing Shui smilingly.

"Then Senior, do we have to pay a visit to the Blue Clouds Sect?" he asked that because of Li Yifeng's words earlier.

"Hehe, I was only trying to scare them just now," Li Yifeng shook his head and said. It was meaningless even if they went over there to eliminate a few people who were from the five continents.

This was for the best. Qing Shui actually didn't want to go either, so he only nodded without saying anything. After they bid their farewell to Li Yifeng and Qiu Feng, Qing Shui and Yu Ruyan made their way towards the cave dwelling that they lived in together.

"Qiu Feng, do you know what the strength of this Qing Shui is?" Li Yifeng asked Qiu Feng with a smile. Qiu Feng was one of the geniuses of their branch.

"Martial Senior Uncle, I don't. He's too absurd." Qiu Feng had never felt this defeated before, yet this young man made him felt deeply helpless. Not only he felt like this, the others felt the same too.

"I can't see through him with my strength. Qiu Feng, he isn't someone who can be bound by any power. Build your friendship with him and treat each other sincerely. Stop thinking about getting him to join the Formation Immortal Sect. Even if he really joined the Formation Immortal Sect right now, he wouldn't stay long. Something may even happen and turn things sour," Li Yifeng said with a smile.

"I understand, Martial Senior Uncle!" Qiu Feng responded with a smile.

The next day, Qing Shui and Yu Ruyan saw a familiar person outside as soon as they came out.

Tantai Xuan!

She was fully dressed in snowy white plain clothes as usual, her figure wonderfully slender. She exuded a sacred aura that was like an immortal, especially her eyes. It was a pair of eyes that were so enchantingly pure and holy, somewhat graceful, refined, sacred and deeply noble.

Her face was still veiled like usual. Even so, the aura that she exuded alone was enough to captivate one.

"Miss Tantai, we meet again." Qing Shui went up to her with Yu Ruyan to greet her.

Tantai Xuan's beautiful eyes that were uncovered crinkled slightly. "I've promised that I'd come to find you before you go over to that side." She smiled.

Just then, Qiu Feng and a few people came out. When they saw Tantai Xuan, all of them greeted her courteously. Tantai Xuan did the same to them too.

"Miss Tantai, the teleportation array will be activated as soon as tomorrow. Are we going to stick together or....." Qing Shui asked casually.

Back then, she didn't mention anything about that either. He had also forgotten now if he had suggested to go over there together at that time too. He only remembered that Tantai Xuan said she would find him before he went over there.

"Let's go over there together then!" Tantai Xuan said serenely. Her voice was soft and gentle, with a faint air of a sacred immortal.

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The remaining time was very peaceful but Qing Shui was a little restless. He was going to go the other four continents soon. Once he left here, he'd have to wait for another five years if he wished to return again.

Although five years time was only a snap of the fingers to cultivators, it wasn't short either. It was long enough for many, many things to happen. In these five years, he would be able to cultivate to a better level over on the other side.

He had a decent background and great foundation. With his current strength, he could still be considered an expert over on that side. However, the other side was much more vast. This meant that there would be a lot more cultivators, even powerful cultivators and strength was supreme.

Women are very strange sometimes. Just like now, Yu Ruyan became familiar with Tantai Xuan very quickly and soon were very close to each other. This greatly bewildered Qing Shui. Guess it was true when they said that the thoughts of women were the most difficult thing to fathom in world.

This instead caused Qing Shui to end up in peaceful silence. He was clueless as to what the two ladies were talking about. He just felt strange about the way he felt just now. Why did he feel so bewildered when he saw the two ladies hitting it off with each other.....

Ruyan was his wife. Tantai Xuan could be considered an acquaintance, just barely enough to be considered a friend. They were both women so this wasn't too bad either.

The day for the Ancient Great Formation to activate had finally arrived!

The activation of the Ancient Great Formation required some powerful demonic beast cores. By late morning, a huge hole opened on the pillar of the Ancient Teleportation Array. It was filled with smoke and a terrifying wave of engulfing aura spread out.

Li Yifeng quickly tossed many powerful cores inside there. Within an instant, the Ancient Teleportation Array shone brilliantly, especially the pictures of demonic beasts on the pillar that had seemingly come alive. The faint roaring of beasts could be heard. It was muffled but loud enough to be heard from very, very far away.

A wave of solemn Qi aura spreaded out. At the same time, tens of similar auras could be felt in the distance. These were all the Qi auras from the activation of the other teleportation arrays.

The entire Ancient Teleportation Array was shrouded by iridescent colors, just like a gigantic cocoon. It was impossible to see what was going on inside from the outside. This halo lasted for about fifteen minutes before it gradually faded away. Everyone was shocked to discover that there were fifteen people standing around the gigantic stone pillar.

They were from the Formation Immortal Sect. These people were here to replace Qiu Feng and the rest.

“Haha, I have a feeling that it was you guys who would come and replace us. We have been taking turns for almost a hundred years now!” Li Yifeng spoke warmly to one of the old men among them while walking towards him.

“That’s right. It’s been a hundred years. Hopefully the next one that come to replace us won’t be you.” The old man had an amiable appearance. His face was full of smiles while he shook hands with Li Yifeng.

“How many are joining the Formation Immortal Sect this time?” The old man asked Li Yifeng, still smiling.

“Twenty one of them.”

“Hoho. Excluding those two young uns, right?” It was evident that the old man was acquainted with Tantai Xuan.

“That’s right. Qiu Feng is good friends with him.” Li Yifeng didn’t say much. The old man across from him seemed to be nodding his head very understandably.

“Well then, Brother Li, all of you should go over there!”

“Alright!” Li Yifeng nodded while smiling and turned his head around to see that everything was ready.

“Everyone, do not put up any resistance when you go in.”

Qing Shui and Yu Ruyan followed the people of Formation Immortal Sect inside along with the crowd. Tantai Xuan was on the other side of Qing Shui. As soon as they entered this Ancient Teleportation Array, a terrifying confining energy instantly spread across their entire bodies. Just when he was about to resist it, Tantai Xuan’s voice rang out.

“Don’t oppose it. It’ll be fine!”

Qing Shui relaxed and let that wave of energy spread across his entire body as it wished. It felt as if his whole body was going to be rooted to that simple diagram beneath his feet.

Qing Shui was still clueless about the miracles of this Ancient Teleportation Array, much like the Nine Continents Steps and the Sacred Jade Divine Stone ring. He was guessing that this Ancient Teleportation Array was probably similar to the Nine Continents Steps, except that it was much more powerful.

All of a sudden, a strange energy was channeled into his body and went inside the Nine Continents Boots. Within that instant, Qing Shui felt a subtle change in his boots. Before he even had the time to check, a layer of iridescence rose up and enveloped them. Now, even the inside couldn’t see what was going on outside.

In the next moment, Qing Shui felt that his spiritual sense and all sensory organs went still. He only felt as if he was flying in an extremely high velocity. It also felt as if they were passing through layers and layers of water waves.

This moment felt extremely long. He couldn’t speak right now. The only thing running was the thoughts in his brain. He grasped Yu Ruyan’s hand tightly. Tantai Xuan, who was on his other side, was very

serene and her eyes were shut. The proximity between Qing Shui and her was very close. He could see the gorgeous profile of her face just by shifting his gaze to the side. Faint fragrances of both Tantai Xuan and Yu Ruyan wafted into his nostrils.

This moment felt like a hundred years but also like a brief moment. Qing Shui felt as if everything stopped. The iridescent halo that surrounded them was also fading away slowly. Boundless of spiritual Qi suddenly came through. At the same time, his heart and mind suddenly felt clear.

The spiritual Qi was abundant and the laws of heaven and earth vanished!

From this moment onwards, he had lost the advantages he had in the five continents. But now, he could really use the Nine Continents Mountain to its best potential. He lifted his head to look around here. The sky felt higher here but that was merely a feeling.

The four continents were similarly mountain valleys and looked a little similar to the Lion King's Mountain. The mountains here were much more lofty and majestic. There were also some people here. He could tell that they were from the Formation Immortal Sect from the way they dressed.

Qing Shui's spirit energy and strength had returned to normal. He felt great right at this very moment because he felt just like the walking dead within the formation just now.

"Brother, let's go. We are going to stay here up to half a day. I'll tell you about the situation here." Qiu Feng was taking care of Qing Shui warmly.

"Sister Xuan, shall we stay here half a day?" Yu Ruyan asked Tantai Xuan after looking at Qing Shui.

"Sure. Then let me explain to you about the situation here, Sister Ruyan!" Tantai Xuan pulled Yu Ruyan towards Qing Shui and informed him before they went off to search for a cave dwelling.

Qing Shui and Qiu Feng also made their way to a cave dwelling while Li Yifeng talked to those people from the Formation Immortal Sect.

The cave dwellings here weren't much different from the ones in the Lion King's Mountain. They were almost exactly the same. Qing Shui and Qiu Feng sat across from each other after they entered the cave dwelling. Qing Shui had many questions to ask right now. He felt very smothered by them.

"Brother, I know you have many questions in your head. Ask away. There's nothing to worry about, now that we are here. Only the people who have entered here can know about the four continents' situation. But the information must not be leaked to the other five continents. This is a rule. The rulebreakers will be punished, including the person who leaked it and the person who led them here."

Qiu Feng explained to Qing Shui while looking at him.

"Who will be punishing the person who leaked the information?" Qing Shui was very curious. No wonder why no one would leak the information. They were not the only person who would be punished but the power or person who led the said person into the four continents would also be punished.

"I'm not sure about that but someone will definitely come to carry out the punishment. They are rumored to be the people from Myriad Dynasties and Myriad Sects." Qing Feng shook his head and seemed very worried.

Chapter 1136 - Dynasties' Grades, Sects' Grades, State Master

"Myriad dynasties? Myriad sects?" Qing Shui asked, in doubt. Everything here was brand new and he needed to rapidly absorb all the knowledge here. Otherwise, it would be very hard for him to sustain himself.

"Myriad dynasties refers to many dynasties, while myriad sects refers to many sects. This place is one where dynasties, sects and clans co-exist," Qiu Feng smiled and said.

"Mmm, right, which continent in the four continents is this?" Until now, Qing Shui realized that he was still unaware of which continent he had landed on.

"This is the multifarious Western Oxhe Continent. It's located in the west and the land here is more vast. The land area of the Western Oxhe Continent is comparable even to the land size of all five continents combined," Qiu Feng smiled and said.

When Qing Shui heard this, he was stunned. This was too astonishing. Just the Western Oxhe Continent alone was so big?

He had experienced it for himself how big the land of the five continents was. He had been to each of the five continents and had a taste of it.

"Then are the dynasties stronger or are the sects stronger?" Qiu Feng looked at Qing Shui and asked.

"I don't know. Some sects are weaker than dynasties but some sects are stronger than dynasties," Qiu Feng smiled and said.

Qing Shui was struck by a feeling of depression. Saying this was as good as not saying anything at all. He looked around and then smiled and asked, "Where is this place? Does it belong to a dynasty or a sect?"

"Western Oxhe Continent is a dynasty institution. Dynasties are segregated into various grades. The same goes for sects. This is the Great Yu Dynasty and is considered the top of the Grade Two Dynasties. Dynasties are segregated into Grade One, Two, Three and Four, with Grade One being the weakest. The higher the grade, the more powerful they were. Those above Grade Four Dynasties are considered legendary."

"How many dynasties are there in Western Oxhe Continent? Which dynasties are Grade One, which are in Grade Two and Three? Do you know?" Qing Shui smiled and asked.

"The greatest number are Grade One Dynasties and it's said that there are Grade One to Four Dynasties. There are over ten Grade One Dynasties. However, these are just rumors and I'm not sure how accurate they are," Qiu Feng gave it some thought and said.

"Oh, right. Brother, how are the grades for the dynasties decided?" Qing Shui was very curious about this question.

"It's said to be based on the royalty's abilities, the National Protector State Masters' ability, as well as the abilities of the clans under the dynasties. The dynasties here are basically a similar system as one with clans. The clan with the royal family would be the members of royalty and control a dynasty. There are also several tens of clans under the royalty who are ranked and would each control the resources in an area," Qiu Feng smiled and said.

Back in the five continents, Qing Shui had already understood how powerful sects were. The City Lords were all from the sects in an area and the sects were held in high regards. There were even sects who didn't even know how much land they had under their control. The powerful clans in each city or country would have control over that area.

It was just like how there was even a reign even over Qing Village. In this world, even though it appeared to be very messy, there were still paths for development. Qing Shui came from Qing Village, was the guardian for Hundred Miles City and was even the guardian for the Cang Lang Country and Greencloud Continent.

This was the fate of a powerful cultivator.

In Qing Shui's previous life, there were official positions in the dynasties. However, it was upon arriving here that he learned that the dynasties here were different from the ones he had from his previous life. However, they were still basically the same. It was just that the officials had been changed to clans and the clans those officials had come from also wielded great power.

Once Qiu Feng explained it, Qing Shui understood. This system was one which clans joined forces to form a dynasty. It should be to stand up against sects with similar systems.

"Brother, what is the State Master about?" Qing Shui recalled that it was mentioned that the position of National Protector State Master seemed to be very important.

"The State Master is a high level existence in a dynasty. The royalty call the person the National Protector State Master. Not all members of royalties are at the level of a State Master but only those from the royal family could be called National Protector State Masters. A Grade One State Master's level is about 3,000 nimbus. Oh, right. 10,000 stars is equal to one nimbus. A Grade Two State Master has a strength of 6,000 nimbus and the Grade Three State Master has the minimum level of 10,000 nimbus. These seemed to all be rumors and may not be very accurate," Qiu Feng smiled and said.

It was only then that Qing Shui knew that he was extremely weak. Even a Grade One State Master was much stronger than him. If Qiu Feng were to know that Qing Shui was already comparing himself with State Masters now, he would definitely cough blood.

What existence was a State Master at? They were the people at the pinnacle of a dynasty and even one from the lowest grade was able to reflect how impressive the Western Oxhe Continent was. No matter where they went, they would be in high demand.

"Brother, what I said might not be accurate. You just need to get an idea. Even in a Grade One dynasty, there would also be Grade Two and Three State Masters, just that they are few in number and aren't sufficient to bring up the grade of the dynasty they belong to. The State Masters' abilities are the same as the dynasties'. There are Grade Four State Masters above Grade Three State Masters. However, I'm not very sure about their strengths."

"Then what is the estimated numbers of State Masters? Would there be a big difference between dynasties of different grades?"

"In the royal family of a Grade One Dynasty, there mustn't be less than 500 Grade One State Masters, 50 Grade Two State Masters and 5 Grade Three State Masters. This would be the royal family as well. As for

the other clans who are inferior to the royal family, they would be much weaker in comparison. However, in all, their numbers are several times bigger than the number of State Masters in the royal family,” Qiu Feng looked at Qing Shui and said, smiling.

Qing Shui knew that the strength of these great clans was much weaker than the royalty. Otherwise, the royalty wouldn't be the wielder of power. To think that there were already so many powerful cultivators in Grade One Dynasties...

How many years of accumulated effort was required for a clan to gain such a high level of prosperity?

“Then what are the numbers like for the State Masters in a Grade Two Dynasty?” Qing Shui asked, feeling curious.

“In the royal family of a Grade Two Dynasty, there mustn't be less than 5,000 Grade One State Masters, 500 Grade Two State Masters and 50 Grade Three State Masters. This would be for the royal family as well. As for the other clans who are inferior to the royal family, they would be much weaker in comparison. However, in all, their numbers are several times bigger than the number of State Masters in the royal family. Oh, right, not all members of the royal family have the royal lineage. It's just like how in clans, most of the members aren't direct descendants and could be just outsiders. However, there are other methods to let them serve the clan.”

Qing Shui now understood. If they were all people from the royal family, how perverse would that be? However, thinking about it, he estimated that at least one-third of them should be of royal blood. Qing Shui thought of himself and the changes that had happened for his clan. Therefore, he knew that these royals would definitely have their own monstrous legacies which were extremely powerful.

If such legacies didn't exist, with there being so many people and so many experts, the royal family wouldn't be able to sit at the very top.

The Great Yu Dynasty was a Grade Two Dynasty and was a top notch one at that. There was no further elaboration of a Grade Three Dynasty since Qiu Feng didn't know about them. However, seeing how the difference between a Grade One and Grade Two dynasty was ten times, then the gap between a Grade Two and Grade Three Dynasty would probably not be lesser than ten times as well.

There were two Grade Four Dynasties in Western Oxhe Continent. The power of a Grade Four State Master caused Qing Shui to feel very astonished. The four continents was a bigger world.

“Mmm, how does Western Oxhe Continent compare to the other three continents?” Qing Shui was both excited and astonished. The world here was so much bigger.

“The area is too wide and we usually can only hear a little about the other three continents. People of our abilities aren't capable of traveling around,” Qiu Feng shook his head and said in self-mockery.

Just a Western Oxhe Continent was sufficient to compare with the size of the five continents. It was already very hard for Qing Shui to travel between the five continents, let alone doing so here. Seems like he would need to get stronger as soon as possible.

After letting Qing Shui understand the situation and gain some basic knowledge, Qiu Feng took out a detailed map and handed it to Qing Shui. This is the map for Great Yu Dynasty and the Western Oxhe Continent. I don't have anything for the other areas.

“Brother, I’m just asking if it’s not convenient then you can ignore my question. How is Formation Immortal Sect’s power in Great Yu Dynasty?”

Qiu Feng had brought it up to Qing Shui before that there were certain sects who were very well concealed and the outside world knew nothing about their abilities.

“This is no secret but it’s hard to describe it in a short timespan. Sects are also unique existences here and usually are independent outside of dynasties. Here, only sects would be able to be a match for dynasties but I don’t know who is stronger. Sects are also grouped into grade one, two, three and four. There seems to be a parallel to the dynasties. Formation Immortal Sect used to be basked in great glory but right now, we can only be considered to be at the top of the Grade One Sects.”

It was close to what Qing Shui had expected. Formation Immortal Sect was very powerful. Hearing from Qiu Feng, it seemed that they had declined but they still maintained the abilities of a peak Grade One Sect. They should still be a very strong existence in Great Yu Dynasty.

Sects are independent of dynasties. However, there would also be times when dynasties unite the sects in the dynasty in order to go against other dynasties.

“Brother, do you know about Putuo Mountain?” Qing Shui was asking about Tantai Xuan’s sect.

“Miss Tantai’s sect is still considered quite famous in Great Yu Dynasty. It’s because it’s said that their power doesn’t lose out to Great Yu Dynasty at all. They are very mysterious and have a high status. I don’t know the details either. Right now, Formation Immortal Sect is a far cry from Putuo Mountain and we are no longer standing on the same grounds.”

Qing Shui thought of Di Chen again, wondering where she was. She should still be in Western Oxhe Continent, right? The Western Oxhe Continent alone was comparable to the five continents in total. To be finding a person in such a big place, an unfamiliar place at that... How could it possibly be easy?

If he wished to find her, he must first rise to the top in Great Yu Dynasty. It would be relatively easier if he had gained a certain level of influence. However, what was it that he needed to do now?

State Master!

Qing Shui’s eyes lit up. He should only be able to gain the ability after becoming an expert that was of a State Master level, right?

The lowest ranked Grade One State Masters have a strength of 3,000 nimbus. The difference in their power was tremendous and this wouldn’t be an easy route.

What should he do? Could it be that he would really need to join a particular group right now?

Qing Shui went into deep thought. To get stronger, he would need to cultivate. This was something which he could do anywhere. After coming to this unfamiliar place, there wasn’t anything he had to attend to at the moment.

Looking for Di Chen wasn’t something he could accomplish just by being anxious. It was only after he had gained power and could use it to his advantage to look for her, would it then be easier. In Great Yu Dynasty, the top notch State Masters were a special existence.

There was Qiu Feng in Formation Immortal Sect and Tantai Xuan in Putuo Mountain. Although he wasn't on extremely friendly terms with Tantai Xuan, he was considered to have helped her before and they could sort of be considered friends.

Qing Shui secretly decided to himself that he would become Great Yu Dynasty's State Master as soon as possible, even if it was just one of the lowest grade!

Chapter 1137 - Formation Immortal Sect, Changes to the Nine Continents Boots, Realm of Steps of Perfection

Yu Ruyan and Tantai Xuan were on one side, chatting about similar things. Since it was the first time she had come to this place, it was better for her to gain more understanding of the common knowledge in this world.

They continued until about noon when they went out to get some food. Qiu Feng invited Qing Shui, Yu Ruyan and Yu Ruyan to Formation Immortal Sect, so he could host them but Qing Shui shook his head and declined.

Qiu Feng's branch was the weakest one in Formation Immortal Sect. Formation Immortal Sect was considered a top notch Grade One Sect and there were still many strong experts in the sect. Therefore, Qing Shui didn't want to find trouble for himself and thus declined Qiu Feng's kind intentions.

Qiu Feng and the others didn't insist either. They knew that if some powerful cultivator in the sect were to ask Qing Shui to join their sect and he didn't agree, it wouldn't end well.

However, there were always some things which wouldn't go as planned. Just as Qing Shui and Qiu Feng stopped this conversation, two powerful demonic beasts appeared from afar. Although they were about 100 meters in size, the auras they released weren't of the same level as what Qing Shui had seen before.

Formation Immortal Sect's clothes!

Two demonic beasts, which seemed like an eagle yet like a condor but was neither. The fierce auras they unleashed were slightly more powerful compared to the ancient demonic beasts which Qing Shui had encountered before.

Just such demonic beasts already astonished Qing Shui. He was even more taken aback when he saw the two old men on them. It was because he couldn't sense their abilities with his spiritual sense.

It was like throwing a stone into the sea, the dept was so deep that it couldn't be fathomed. Many Sealing Formations were drawn on their clothes and accessories, making the clothes appear to be gleaming in a silvery light, causing the two old men to be like members of the gods.

The old man on the left had pale skin and was truly a person with white hair but a young appearance. His forehead was broad and his head was shiny, causing him to stand out a lot. His eyes were always smiling, giving others a favorable impression in one look. His snow white long brows and beard made him appear even more amiable.

The old man on the right had a tall physique and thick brows. Contrary to the other old man, this one was slightly tanned, had a big nose and a mix of black and white hair. He unleashed an aura like that of a wild beast and was a little fierce. However, Qing Shui still had the feeling that he was unfathomable.

“Greetings to Elder White and Elder Black!”

Qiu Feng and the others bowed and greeted the two old men respectfully.

“Haha, we’re all family, there’s no need to stand on ceremony. Just be more at ease!” The white-skinned old man laughed and said.

On the other hand, the tanned faced old man’s huge eyes glanced around. All the people who were glanced at, shuddered. This was an Elder from their Formation Immortal Sect, the lowest Master in the sect. Even if they hadn’t reached the level of the lowest grade State Master, they were not far from that and would become one very soon. He was already one step into the door of becoming a State Master.

Suddenly, the tanned faced old man’s eyes landed on Qing Shui. A weird glow flashed in his eyes as he looked toward Qing Shui, “That lad there. In the future, you’ll be my disciple.”

The tanned face old man pointed a finger at Qing Shui, causing everyone else present to feel very envious. How great was it to be taken in as a disciple by an Elder? This was a State Master and even the lowest grade State Master was revered and treated with great importance.

However, Qing Shui frowned. He didn’t wish to become anyone’s disciple. At the very least, he didn’t have a favorable impression of this man, especially not toward the domineering aura he gave off.

“Old Black, you’re really fast to speak up. This is really a good seed. With time, he’ll definitely be ten times stronger than you,” the amiable looking old man laughed and said.

“Elder, he isn’t a member of our Formation Immortal Sect.” Qiu Feng saw Qing Shui’s frown and stepped out to speak up.

“Qiu Feng, can you not tolerate that there’s someone else who’s stronger than you and you cannot accept him?” The tanned face old man’s sharp eyes pierced toward Qiu Feng like a blade.

Suddenly, Qiu Feng’s clothes were drenched with perspiration!

“Elder, Qiu Feng didn’t mean that...”

“Alright, you don’t have to continue.” Elder Black waved his hand to interrupt Qiu Feng’s words.

Qiu Feng took one step back and looked toward Qing Shui apologetically. Qing Shui smiled and shook his head.

“Young man, many people begged me to take them in as my disciple but I didn’t agree. How about it? If you become my disciple, you’ll be able to soar into the skies with just one step,” the tanned face old man looked at Qing Shui and said calmly.

“Soar into the skies with just one step? Sir, may I ask what your strength is?” Although Qing Shui was a far cry from the level of a State Master level existence, he wouldn’t want it even if a Grade One State Master were to take him in as a disciple. He had no intentions of finding himself a Master and only Yiye Jiange had been his Master for a short period of time. It that wasn’t even considered official.

“Haha, my abilities just barely reached the level of a Grade One State Master. Why? Am I not qualified to be your Master?” the tanned face man laughed and said, his voice was loud and clear, having a confidence that came from deep within.

“Would you be able to teach me to become a Grade Two or Grade Three State Master?” Qing Shui asked softly after the old man stopped laughing.

The tanned faced old man glared at him for very long before he said slowly, “Lad, I hadn’t expected you to have such great expectations. To be honest, I have the confidence to nurture you into a Grade One State Master in 100 years. However, I don’t have any confidence to achieve anything beyond that.”

“100 years to only become a Grade One State Master...” Qing Shui mumbled softly to himself.

Qing Shui’s voice was not very loud but it was sufficient to let the people in the surroundings hear him. Suddenly, it became so silent that they would probably hear the sound of a needle dropping to the ground. Even Yu Ruyan and Tantai Xuan looked at Qing Shui, stunned.

“Arrogant! Ignorant! Do you think that it’s so easy to attain a breakthrough to become a Grade One State Master? Come, let me see how much you’re worth.” The tanned face old man seemed to be have become a little agitated. He wasn’t a person who could get irritated so easily but this time around, it was primarily because he wanted to take Qing Shui as his disciple.

“Wait. Don’t you think that you’re bullying the weak to be testing my abilities now? Even if you were to beat me and killed me, would there be any meaning to it?” Qing Shui shook his head and said, smiling, not anxious in the least.

Not just the tanned faced old man, even the pale faced old man was also astonished that Qing Shui was really so calm. It seemed that even a State Master was nothing much to this young man...

In the Western Oxhe Continent, only those who had reached the level of a Grade One State Master could be considered a true powerful expert. The grades of dynasties and sects were actually a comparison of the State Master level cultivators.

The tanned face old man was stunned for a moment. When had he ever been so disregarded by others before this? If it was someone else, he would probably have gone over and killed them with a palm. However, he couldn’t bear to do that to this young man. Talents were hard to come by.

“Elders, he is my friend and came with me this time around. He doesn’t have the intention of joining any sects. What do you think if you were to let him be?” Tantai Xuan smiled and said to the two old men.

Seeing that Tantai Xuan had stepped forth, the two old men could only find themselves a way out so as not to appear too embarrassed. The tanned face old man had pointed to Qing Shui to get him to become his disciple earlier. If there were no one to help resolve the situation, the old man would use force to “protect” his pride. Otherwise, he would have lost too much face.

It was good that Putuo Mountain stepped up. They could only smile and say, “Since he is a friend of Miss Tantai, then we won’t force it either. In the future, if you have time, do come visit Formation Immortal Sect.”

With that, they nodded and brought the others back with them.

Qing Shui hadn't expected things to be like this. In the past, if one had a high official post, they would be able to crush others. Here, it was the same if sects or dynasties were one grade higher and it would be one-sided and overwhelming. After all, the difference in strengths was too great.

Qing Shui smiled and said, to Qiu Feng, "Thanks, brother."

"Thank you, Miss Tantai!"

Qing Shui turned to speak to Tantai Xuan.

"I didn't help much, you should thank Miss Tantai," Qiu Feng shook his head helplessly and said, smiling.

"Alright, you helped me as well. I only said one line," Tantai Xuan smiled.

Qing Shui wasn't stupid and naturally knew the reason Tantai Xuan was put in high regard. Tantai Xuan definitely had a high status in Putuo Mountain. If it was an ordinary disciple, even if the person was from a Grade Four Sect, that State Master wouldn't have shown her any face either.

"Brother, my sect is calling for me to return. Are you guys going to follow Miss Tantai? Will you first look for a place to stay?" Qiu Feng asked Qing Shui.

"Brother, you can return first. I'll look for you when I'm free. You can just leave us be," Qing Shui smiled and said to Qiu Feng. They both patted each other on the shoulder.

The other people had already left and Qiu Feng also disappeared into the distance, following after the people who had left earlier.

Qing Shui saw that the surroundings had already turned quiet. There were still some people from Formation Immortal Sect in the distance who were there to guard the teleportation array. Afterward, the teleportation array would also slowly close and only be activated again five years later.

"Come, I'll bring you guys around the area, Sister Ruyan. I'll be your guide," Yu Ruyan looked at the surroundings and said to Ruyan.

"Then I'll have to trouble Sister Xuan," Yu Ruyan smiled and said politely.

"You're already calling me Sister Xuan, so why are you still standing on ceremony? Let's go!"

Tantai Xuan called out the World Cleansing Demonic Lotus and pulled Yu Ruyan up. She then smiled and said to Qing Shui, "You better not lose sight of us."

Qing Shui had always wanted to go up the Lotus Platform but seeing that Tantai Xuan had no intention of letting him do that, he could only call out the Golden Scaled Dragon Elephant and go up, following after the Lotus Platform as they flew out of the mountains.

Seated on the back of the Golden Scaled Dragon Elephant, he felt that there was a change to its speed. It seemed to be a lot faster now. He suddenly recalled that when they were using the teleportation array, a brief change happened to the Nine Continents Boots.

He quickly looked toward them with his Heavenly Vision Technique.

Nine Continents Boots!

Refined from the star fragments and strange beasts in the world of the nine continents. Has a mysterious and unfathomable ability.

Increases speed threefold; reduces depletion threefold; hard for even a Martial Emperor to harm it in the slightest. Comes with the battle technique Nine Continents Steps.

In the past, it had increased speed twofold; reduced depletion twofold. Right now it actually increases his speed threefold and reduces depletion by threefold!

Nine Continent Steps: Activating the Nine Continent Boots and Nine Continent Steps will allow the user travel 800,000 li in a straight line instantly. Currently at the fourth level, Realm of Steps of Perfection, can be used eight times in a day.

The user of the Nine Continents Steps can concurrently bring along with him all living things within a 50-meter radius from him, including humans, demonic beasts and others.

Prerequisite: Martial Emperor level!

Qing Shui looked at the ability of the Nine Continents Boots happily while he was on the Golden Scaled Dragon Elephant. Right now, he felt very agitated. The land area of the Western Oxhe Continent were very vast and he felt that the reason the Nine Continents Boots had suddenly increased in its abilities must definitely be because of the Ancient Teleportation Array. It might have gone through the change after absorbing its energy.

Compared to the Nine Continents Boots from before, it had powered up by a lot. His speed went through a tremendous change. This was good stuff, an ability that was more important than strength.

Chapter 1138 - Great Yu Dynasty, Yan City, Cloud Inn

Another thing was that the depletion had been reduced. This was quite a good ability as well and he would be more powerful in a sustained battle. What had made Qing Shui the happiest was the strengthening of the Nine Continents Steps.

The strengthening of the Nine Continents Steps made Qing Shui so happy that he wanted to break out in laughter. Previously, he was only able to use it four times a day, 400,000 Li each time. However, he could now use it for 800,000 Li each time, eight times a day. The two weren't of the same level and it could be considered an overwhelming change. He was even anticipating the further strengthening it would go through next time. It would surely be even more terrifying. Qing Shui shook his head. One who didn't know how to be content was like a snake trying to swallow up an entire elephant whole.

Of course, the distance for the Nine Continents Steps could be freely adjusted. However, the number of uses wouldn't change even if the distance was adjusted. Even if one were to use the Nine Continents Steps to proceed by ten meters it would also be counted as one use.

This was a great weapon for escaping and saving his own life.

With how vast the Western Oxhe Continent was, it would be much more convenient to be able to travel using the Nine Continents Steps and it wouldn't leave behind too many traces. Maybe in the future, he would really be able to use the Nine Continents Steps to travel across the Southern Sea.

Another thing was the issue of cultivation realm. In the five continents, there were only people with up to Grade Five Martial Emperor who had a strength of 5,000 stars. One would only be considered to have reached Grade Six Martial Emperor after their strength had exceeded one nimbus, Grade Seven Martial Emperor when exceeding ten nimbus, Grade Eight Martial Emperor when exceeding 10,000 nimbus. As for Peak Martial Emperor as well as those in the legendary False God realm, Qiu Feng didn't know about them either. He wasn't even completely sure that the other information he had provided was accurate.

Grade Ten Martial Emperor was considered the highest level of existence in the Western Oxhe Continent. As for how much strength a Peak Grade Ten Martial Emperor had, Qing Shui didn't know. A Grade One State Master would have the strength of a Grade Nine Martial Emperor but it was the same for a Grade Two State Master. It was only when one had attained a breakthrough to become a Grade Three State Master would he be considered a Grade Ten Martial Emperor cultivator.

Qing Shui himself had already attained a physical strength of 2.5 nimbus. Under the effect of the Diamond Qi, Diamond Protection and Diamond Crossing Rivers, his strength would be doubled.

The Nature Energy increased his physical strength by 70%, the Unmoving Like A Mountain increased it by 50%, the Frenzied Bull's Strength increased it by 30%, the Heavenly Thunder Slash increased power by 30%, the Shield attack increased power by 40%, the Heavenly Talisman increased power and defense by 50%, the Five Moves Combination Sword Technique enhanced physical strength by 80%, the high grade Focused Concentration increased physical strength by 20% and the Emperor's Qi increased overall abilities by 20%.

The Big Dipper Sword increased his physical attacks by an additional four times and with the Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation increasing his strength by an additional three times, Qing Shui's strength was at 230 nimbus when he was holding onto the Big Dipper Sword.

Without the world's limitations, the prowess of Qing Shui's physical attacks were unleashed. The prowess of his Nine Palace Steps and the Combination Sword Technique could be once again displayed.

However, in terms of physical attacks, Qing Shui's most powerful attack was still the Nine Continents Mountain. It allowed him to attack and defend with two times his strength and speed and his attacks would have the effect of Shield attacks.

The attacking prowess of 460 nimbus was Qing Shui's strongest attacking prowess. Back when he was in the five continents, the spirit energy and the attacking prowess of the Nine Continents Mountain which he had relied on were now very different. However, he now had the Arhat Rosary Beads and his resistance against spirit energy was very high.

Although Qing Shui's current spirit energy attacks were slightly weaker, if he were to not use the Nine Continents Mountain, his spirit energy attacks would be more powerful. With the Heart of Roc increasing his spirit energy by five times, in addition to other factors, Qing Shui's spirit energy reached 17.5 nimbus. With the effect of the Arhat Rosary Beads, it was further raised to be 35 nimbus.

In addition, under the effect of the Demonic Beast Armor Manifestation, Buddha Form Reveal and Angry Gaze of Buddha, his spirit energy attacks could reach 420 nimbus. It was slightly weaker than the attacking prowess of the Nine Continents Mountain but was already pretty good.

After getting out of the mountain, he saw a magnificent city in the distance, with great walls that stretched out very far. All the buildings in the city were tall and upright and the scene was that of great prosperity.

The scene in a dynasty was pretty much similar to what it was like in the five continents. There were not many differences. Cities were still cities, City Lords were still City Lords, aristocratic clans were still aristocratic clans. The only difference was that there was an additional powerful royal clan or rather, a powerful clan was crowned with the title of being the royal family.

The cities here were even larger and more prosperous. Looking down from high up in the air, he could see many luxurious looking horse and beast carriages along the wide streets. The whole city was bustling with activity.

“There are so many people!”

This was what Qing Shui felt. The populations in the cities here were huge and it was extraordinarily lively. However, the land area was also wider and there were also adventurers who would participate in high-risk jobs outside cities.

The trade associations set up many shops. There were also many auction halls as well as underground organizations. However, most of them were either not presentable or were associated with some people from different sects.

This was the northeast area of the Western Oxhe Continent. The Great Yu Dynasty was a Grade Two Dynasty located in the northeast side of the Western Oxhe Continent. It was considered one of the top amongst Grade Two Dynasties and had a wide land area. In the Western Oxhe Continent, it took up a very large land area.

There were the most Grade One Dynasties and sects in the Western Oxhe Continent. For the Great Yu Dynasty to be able to stand in the ranks of the top Grade Two Dynasties was already considered very powerful. The Great Yu Dynasty was surrounded by Grade one Dynasties. This was a kind of regulation and balance of powers.

Yan City!

This was one of the five greatest cities in the Great Yu Dynasty. It was situated in the extreme east of the Great Yu Dynasty and its north side was connected with the Great Virtue Dynasty. To its east was the Eastern Sea and the Yan City was considered the northern gate to the Great Yu Dynasty.

The Yan City wasn't directly connected to the Great Virtue Dynasty. There was actually a large plot of free land between them, the Scarlet Flame Region!

The Scarlet Flame Region was an especially scorching place and the land area was very wide. There were areas with mountains and forests and there were also areas with swamps and deserts. Demonic beasts would roam around the entire place. It was an especially dangerous place.

Qing Shui thought of Tantai Xuan's sect, the Putuo Mountain. It was considered an extraordinary existence in the Great Yu Dynasty but he didn't know where in the Great Yu Dynasty it was located.

Back in the five continents, they were located in the Southern Sea. He didn't know which part of the four continents they would be situated in now. Could it be the Eastern Sea?

The cities here were extremely big and each of them was segregated into many regions. Moreover, Yan City was also one of the five biggest cities in the Great Yu Dynasty. Qing Shui, Yu Ruyan and Tantai Xuan found a place that wasn't very far away to stop over.

"Yan City is considered a big city in the Great Yu Dynasty which is second to the Imperial City. There are many powerful factions here and it was even rumored that there are some hidden powers in the Scarlet Flame Region. How about it, why don't we stop over here?" Tantai Xuan smiled and looked at Qing Shui and Yu Ruyan.

"Okay. Oh, right, where is your sect? When will you heading back?" Qing Shui gave it some thought and asked.

"Why? Are you finding me a hassle here?" Tantai Xuan asked calmly, as if there were hints of teasing in her voice. However, she still gave off the feeling that it was hard to get close to her.

"Why would I? I'm only afraid that the people from your teacher would miss you," Qing Shui smiled and said.

"My teacher is at the south of Yan City. There's an inner sea there, also known as the Southern Sea," Tantai Xuan smiled and said before looking forward and pointing.

Cloud Inn!

"Let's have some rest here first. If you plan to stay in this area, then just stay here. I feel that it's very suitable," Tantai Xuan turned and said.

Cloud Inn was an inn which incorporated dining and accommodations into one. Of course, one could stay here or choose only to dine. However, this Cloud Inn seemed to be very grand and had 12 stories. Its decorations weren't especially colorful but looked very impressive. In one look, one could tell that it was very high class and tasteful.

It was a feeling it gave off. Just from this feeling alone, one would know that Cloud Inn's business was very good.

When the waiter at the entrance saw Qing Shui and the other two, he attended to them warmly and invited them in. Each waiter here had met many different people and had a good eye.

The interior setup was with the corridors around the outside and with the public dining area in the center. However, the distance between tables was quite far and there were also some seats which were separated. Although they were partitioned simply, the sound-proof effect was considered quite good. In the surroundings, there would be rooms.

The interior area was very big, causing Qing Shui to be astonished. It was impossible for one to be able to see a hotel with such a setup like this in his previous life due to land restrictions.

The three of them took a seat next to a window on the fifth story. It was a relatively secluded spot. They had ordered the food which should be served very soon.

“Miss Tantai, what is the level people in Yan City are at? Are they powerful?” Coming here made Qing Shui feel that everything seemed to be too unfamiliar. It was unlike how it was back in the five continents when he could do as he wished.

Qing Shui knew that he had thought too much about it. Although the Western Oxhe Continent was very powerful and big, Qing Shui’s abilities were also something to be reckoned with. A level of over 400 nimbus was terrifying enough. As for State Masters... How many of them could there possibly be in each dynasty? Out of such a great population, there were only so many State Masters. It went to show that Qing Shui was still considered very powerful.

However, Qing Shui must not let down his guard. Having reached his current level, it was possible for him to encounter State Master level people. After all, he wasn’t the most ordinary person. An ordinary person who didn’t cultivate martial arts would basically not be able to encounter State Masters in their entire lives. It was because even if a State Master were to cross his path, the person wouldn’t be able to recognize him. Furthermore, both parties would basically have no interactions.

The food was served very quickly. It might be because the city was situated close to the sea that most of the dishes were seafood. They tasted quite good and were very fresh. These should be the unique characteristics in the area.

“The City Lord of Yan City is from Yan Clan. This city was also named after Yan Clan. They are very well known throughout the entire Great Yu Dynasty. Other than the royal family, Yan Clan and a few other clans and sects make up the strongest factions,” after a waitress served the food, Tantai Xuan said slowly.

“Other than Yan Clan, what other factions are considered to be powerful in Yan City?”

“I only know that Yan Clan is very powerful. As for the others, it’s a mix of various levels. I’ve only been here for a few years. There are too many factions here...”

Qing Shui: “...”

Qing Shui thought that it made sense. After all, when Tantai Xuan came to this Cloud Inn, the waiters and waitresses here didn’t even recognize her.

At that moment, a group of people came up. They were very loud and chaotic. There were over 30 of them and all of them were strong men with great builds, wearing clothes that cultivators would wear. The group of them walked over to the table Qing Shui and the two ladies were at.

“Hmmm, look. These two ladies are really pretty. No, they can’t f*cking be called pretty. Their beauty would cause the downfall of cities and countries,” a coarse voice rang out.

Chapter 1139 - Break an Arm, Too Lonely at Night...

This voice stood out particularly well in this relatively quiet place. Qing Shui knew that the voice was directed at the two women by his side. He lifted his head up to look at the man who spoke.

The man had sideburns and his hair was as thick as a lion’s mane. His figure was quite tall and burly. The front of his clothes was left unbuttoned, exposing his steel-like muscles. He was exuding a wave of manly, coarse and violent aura.

He wasn't too bad looking. Although he had sideburns and thick hair, he had prominent facial features. His eyes in particular were beast-like, causing him to look very wild and aggressive. This type of men was deadly poison to some women.

"Young Master Ma, I didn't expect you could actually use words other than 'hot' to describe women. Your description fits too well this time. How can there be such beautiful women in this area that we have never seen?"

The person who spoke was a man beside the person who was addressed as Young Master Ma earlier on. This man was well-dressed and seemed to be a young lord from some aristocrat clan. He was handsome and had a slender figure. His every movement was graceful, with an air of nobility.

This man flattered this Young Master Ma and put him on a pedestal. This was why Qing Shui could sense that this Young Master Ma was probably the leader here.

The group of people had already reached not too far from Qing Shui while they were talking, but they didn't do anything reckless yet. Qing Shui only gave them a single glance before he went back to eating.

The two ladies didn't even lift their heads to look at them, from the start to the end. Tantai Xuan wasn't wearing a veil today, but she wore a small and exquisite mask that revealed only her eyes and below her nose. Even so, just her chin, lips and her amazing physique could make one stare and be unable to break their gaze. This figure of her was already enough for men to not be bothered by how she looked. They probably wouldn't mind even if her face wasn't beautiful at all.

Yu Ruyan, on the other hand, didn't only have a gorgeous figure, she was also mature and charming. This type of woman was a killer to men of any age group. Qing Shui had a hunch that this group of people should be one of the more powerful groups around here. Otherwise, they wouldn't be this domineering here. They probably had some profound background.

"Liang Qi, how high is the flow of visitors this generation? You think beauties of such caliber will always appear before us? We should be grateful to our ancestors for being able to see them today. I want these two women. The ones in our clan are merely soy pulps compared to both of them," Young Master Ma exclaimed in excitement.

"Young Master Ma, we should be a little more prudent. These people don't look like ordinary people either," Liang Qi said softly to Young Master Ma.

His voice wasn't loud but Qing Shui and the rest heard it very clearly. The two ladies raised their heads to look at Qing Shui. Qing Shui continued savoring his meal, pretending as if he didn't hear anything.

"Let's go over there. We were very loud just now, it's impossible they didn't hear us. Yet they are not uttering a single word. You know what this means?"

"Brother Ma, what does this mean?" a young man from behind asked in a flattering voice.

"This means that they know they cannot afford to offend us. Since they can't offend us, you think we are going to let such a nice fat chance slip away?" Young Master Ma's personality was crude too. If he didn't have his clan behind him, he would have been hacked to death by others countless times.

Liang Qi was about to say something else but Young Master Ma had already led everyone else towards Qing Shui. When he was right behind Qing Shui, he extended his arm with his hand in a claw form and directly slapped on Qing Shui's head.

Qing Shui cursed inwardly. This dumb sheet was really too straightforward. It was a pity that Qing Shui didn't put the strength of these people in his eyes. If these people were indeed very influential in this region, then that would be due to the power behind their backs, their clans for instance.

Qing Shui randomly picked one of the chopsticks that he used to pick up his food and sent one of them flying out!

Pu!

A very soft noise was heard and at the same time, Young Master Ma's blood-curdling scream. The chopstick had penetrated through his palm and was still embedded in his hand. Qing Shui reckoned that he'd be in more pain when he extracted it.

Furthermore, Young Master Ma was sent flying from Qing Shui's single chopstick. Just then, Qing Shui rose up from his seat and looked at them. Although the Yan City was bustling, the influential parties were complicated and tricky. Not every power had a State Master. There were only a handful of State Masters in the entire Great Yu Dynasty.

To be honest, even cultivators with the strength of one nimbus couldn't be easily met. Just like these people, the leading few people only had about ten stars of strength. That was considered to be very powerful as it was the strength of a peak Martial Saint. Although they were not young in age, they weren't that old in age either. Hence, Qing Shui didn't intend to kill them.

It wasn't that he didn't dare to kill. This guy was really trying to kill him just now but Qing Shui wasn't that mad about it. This kind of trash was a mere ant in his eyes. Would anyone throw a fit with an ant? No!

If Qing Shui was going to actually flee, no one would be able to catch him. He simply didn't want to draw too much attention to himself earlier on.

"You are Young Master Ma, right? You dare to snatch my women?" Qing Shui asked calmly. However, his tremendous Qi aura instantly pressed down on these people to the point that it was smothering.

Yu Ruyan didn't feel bothered when she heard his words. Tantai Xuan, on the other hand, was extremely upset. Although he was just saying it, she felt displeased in her heart. Since when had she become his woman.....?

Between cultivators, especially when the weaker ones met the stronger ones, this kind of pressure could smash the guts of the weaker cultivators and even crush their souls or burst their brains. That was why it was said that experts could kill on a whim. To them, ordinary people were really akin to ants which they could kill disdainfully.

"Sir, our damned eyes were blind. We shouldn't have gotten any ideas on your ladies, sir. Good sir, you have a generous heart. Please spare us this time....."

Young Master Ma crawled on the ground as he spoke while endlessly slapping his own face.

Slapping face was already the greatest humiliation to a cultivator, let alone slapping your own face. If it wasn't for the sake of survival, no one would do this to themselves. This was already putting one in the lowest position. Without any heinous animosity, one would basically not kill and spare the person instead.

Young Master Ma had chosen to do this because he knew that the women by this powerful cultivator's side were definitely untouchable subjects. He had actually tried to kill this powerful cultivator earlier, so he knew that they weren't his match at all. Killing them would be a snap of the fingers to Qing Shui and he was aware that they would possibly lose their lives at any moment now.

From the beginning, Qing Shui didn't have any intention to kill them. Now that these people had put themselves in such a position, they wouldn't have too many achievements in Martial Arts. All cultivators, powerful cultivators in particular, should possess one quality and that is self-esteem. People who grovelled like this and still had great achievements in Martial Arts were basically as rare as phoenix feathers and kirin's horns.

"Each of you break one of your arms and leave. Remember that I will wipe out all of you next time. Do not doubt my words. If anyone who has the slightest relation to one of you comes to find trouble with me, I will take your lives." There wasn't even an ounce of emotion in Qing Shui's voice. People like these had to be threatened to their deaths. He had to make them remember the incident today. Breaking one of their arms should be enough for them to remember this.

KACHA!

.....

The sounds of bone breaking rang out. All of them bowed to Qing Shui and the rest with cold sweat covering their foreheads before they retreated and left. Qing Shui then continued to eat his meal.

"Miss Tantai....."

"Since when have I become your woman?" Tantai Xuan cut him off without even lifting her head.

"Erm, it's a misunderstanding. I have no such intention."

"To be saying that without the intention, what will you be saying if you have such intention..."

Tantai Xuan was merely saying that but it ended up coming out a little weird. She didn't know how to continue all of a sudden, so she could only continue eating.

"I don't have that intention right now, so I don't know what I will say when that time comes." Qing Shui didn't expect this woman would comment on this kind of thing. This made him feel that women indeed have adaptable personalities.

"Alright, let's drop it. Remember not to claim that I am your woman in the future, not in front of strangers either." Tantai Xuan's voice calmed down.

"I apologize. I definitely won't do it again." Qing Shui shook his head. It didn't really matter to him anyway.

"Miss Tantai, do you know the Ma Clan?"

“A little. They are nothing significant and don’t pose much threat to you. However, it’s better for you to maintain a lower profile. Things are very complicated here. You still have to take care of Sister Ruyan too. Why not let Sister Ruyan return to Putuo Mountain with me? Do you mind if she joins the Putuo Mountain?” Tantai Xuan looked at Qing Shui.

Qing Shui was taken aback. “No way!”

“Why not?” Tantai Xuan was puzzled. After all, Yu Ruyan would reap great benefits after joining the Putuo Mountain. Among the Great Yu Dynasty, the Putuo Mountain was considered to be a more well-known sect. On top of that, all of its members were female. This made a very big difference. Hence, the Putuo Mountain had a very unique position. She thought that this man should be able to understand the benefits of this.

“Well... I have just arrived here. If Ruyan isn’t by my side, I’d be too lonely at night.....”

Yu Ruyan instantly reached out and pinched Qing Shui on his waist. Her jade-like face was so red. She didn’t expect that Qing Shui would say something like this.

Tantai Xuan was taken aback by his answer too and quickly lowered her head, as she cursed this bastard inwardly. No one had ever dared to say something like this in front of her or speak without any restraint. Her heart was beating very fast but she couldn’t say anything either.

“Ruyan, what is your plan?” Qing Shui smiled and asked her.

“I’ll listen to whatever you say!”

“Does that mean you are reluctant to part with me.....?”

“Are you both done?” Tantai Xuan gloomily cut Qing Shui off.

Yu Ruyan gave Tantai Xuan an embarrassed smile and then glared at Qing Shui.

“I would like to cultivate with Sister Xuan at the Southern Sea for a period of time.” Yu Ruyan knew that staying here would only tie Qing Shui down.

“You’ve made up your mind?” Qing Shui continued asking while smiling.

“Yes. If you miss me, you can go there and find me.....”

“Fine then, you may go. I’m going to buy a manor here, so that we’ll have a home in Yan City first. If both of you want to find me, you can come here anytime. We’ll go see where we can buy a manor.” Qing Shui agreed with Yu Ruyan after thinking about it.

Tantai Xuan was still a trustworthy individual. Besides, he could send them to the Putuo Mountain. The Putuo Mountain doesn’t restrict the freedom of its disciples. It was still greatly beneficial for Yu Ruyan to join the Putuo Mountain. She was also doing this for herself since Qing Shui knew Yu Ruyan actually had a very strong personality, she wouldn’t want herself to be a decorative vase here.

It was also for this reason that Qing Shui had agreed to her request.

Chapter 1140 - Manor, Black Tortoise Shell, Embarrassed Tantai Xuan

Searching for a manor was a very simple task. As long as one had the money, this kind of thing could be settled very easily. He found a manor in the northwest. It was relatively more secluded here but only comparatively so. After all, it was still a bustling area here.

This manor was bought through an auction. Before the auction house could even auction it, Qing Shui had already bought it. There were usually a few prices tagged on auction items, one was the base price while the other was the fixed price. If the seller had stated a fixed price, then the auction house may sell it directly at that price.

If the seller insisted that it had to be auctioned, then there was a possibility that it wouldn't be sold off or it might be sold at the base price. But of course, it was also possible that it might be auctioned at a much higher price than the base price or fixed price

Although Qing Shui had spent a fortune, he didn't really feel anything. He had quite a lot stashed in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal and had indeed accumulated a little too much over these years.

In the world of cultivators, money can't buy you good things. Luckily, this kind of manor could still be purchased with money. This was mainly because this wasn't the most ideal location. Even so, it was still sold at a sky high price.

The manor wasn't small. There were no less than six courtyards in the front and rear. In every courtyard were two smaller manors. Every manor consisted of a building and a garden of its own. Within the garden, there were flowers, plants and trees, rock garden, pond, pavilion and an arch bridge. Otherwise, it wouldn't have fetched such a high price.

"Qing Shui, why are you buying such a big manor for yourself?" Yu Ruyan asked Qing Shui while she walked around the courtyard.

"This is our first house in the Western Oxhe Continent and will forever be our home. It's better if it's a little bigger and relaxing. If we can't live in all of them, then we can rotate around. We can live in this courtyard tonight, then the next one tomorrow....." Qing Shui answered casually.

"Sister Ruyan, you have to be cautious. Well... having a huge house isn't necessary a good thing." Tantai Xuan, who had been quiet all this while, spoke up just then.

Qing Shui shook his head at Tantai Xuan. "Although I already have a few wives, I don't easily pick up just anyone."

Tantai Xuan's anger welled up in her heart. Although her emotions weren't observable on her face, she was inwardly cursing Qing Shui as a bastard endlessly. The look in that guy's eyes was blatantly telling her that she didn't amount to anything in his eyes.....

A woman's heart is very strange. Tantai Xuan had met him once at her home but her memory of that incident was very hazy. On top of that, she had only recalled it when he reminded her. Back in the Ancient Ruins, he had greatly helped her and she was also unexpectedly embraced by him.....

It was for this exact reason that she actually hadn't been able to find an equilibrium in her heart all this while. For a situation like this to befall a woman who had always been as clean as ice and as pure as a jade, it was quite a big shock.

She wasn't a petty woman and it wasn't like she had some feelings for Qing Shui from that. She had merely become curious about Qing Shui when they were in the Ancient Ruins. Her curiosity had stemmed from Qing Shui's strength, rather than other factors.

It could be said that other than her own brothers, she had pretty much never interacted with any men. Even her sect, the Putuo Mountain, was all women. The married ones would leave the sect. Even if they left the sect, they were still part of it. Every single woman of the Putuo Mountain was exceptional. With the Putuo Mountain behind them, they were able to marry members of aristocratic clans and most of them were the primary wives.

It was also for this reason that the Putuo Mountain had a very high position in the Great Yu Dynasty. This was because the wives of many members among the royal family were from the Putuo Mountain!

Qing Shui rubbed his nose awkwardly when he saw that Tantai Xuan was ignoring him. He didn't know what was going on right now. Perhaps it was because they had met a few times and also because she was one of the women among the Portraits of Beauty. She could pretty much be considered a friend now.

"Alright, Qing Shui, you're a man. Be a little more magnanimous." Yu Ruyan was watching Tantai Xuan who refused to look at Qing Shui. At least her expression was calm and it didn't have any changes in it.

Qing Shui didn't particularly feel that he was against her. He didn't have that much of a desire to conquer this exceptionally beautiful woman. Even if there was a slightest bit of that desire, the Portrait of Beauty would probably be the reason behind it.

But he would never get himself involved with Tantai Xuan for this reason alone.

He had the feeling that Tantai Xuan was a woman whose personality could not be ascertained. There was a saying that a person's personality was similar to the look in their eyes. This was what it means by the eyes are the mirror of soul. Her eyes were somewhat elegant, refined, sacred as well as slightly deep and impressive.

She was quite refined and didn't gossip. She stood aloof from worldly affairs. She was somewhat elegant, intelligent and so pure that no one could bring themselves to taint her. Her voice was very similar to Di Chen, sacredly melodious.

Perhaps he felt this way because he missed Di Chen!

Tantai Xuan very rarely took the initiative to speak to Qing Shui. Now, she didn't want to speak to him even more. This man was getting too brave.....

"Alright, alright. I'm giving this to you!" Qing Shui hesitated for a moment before passing a ring to Tantai Xuan. It was the Sacred Jade Divine Stone Ring.

Tantai Xuan only stared blankly at Qing Shui without accepting the ring. Her eyes were filled with bewilderment as she looked at Qing Shui, seemingly asking him the reason behind his action.

"Don't overthink it. This is for your survival since you'll be spending a lot of time with Ruyan in the future. This is for the sake of Ruyan's safety!" Qing Shui laughed and explained.

Qing Shui then explained the function of the Sacred Jade Divine Stone Ring. This time, he finally saw ripples in Tantai Xuan's beautiful eyes that were always calm. She seemed to be very fond of this ring. But she still hadn't reached out to accept it.

She looked at the ring, then at Qing Shui and shook her head. "I like this ring very much. But it's too expensive so I can't possibly accept it."

Tantai Xuan's tone of voice was very firm. She seemed to be thinking about something else.

"I've said it already, I am giving you this for the sake of Ruyan. Treat it as a reward for helping Ruyan!"

"I don't need any reward for helping Sister Ruyan. I don't help someone for rewards. So I can't have this." Tantai Xuan continued shaking her head but the look in her eyes contradicted her words.

"What a stubborn woman. We are pretty much friends already. Treat it as a gift from a friend then." Qing Shui told her.

"We don't have that deep of a friendship. This ring is too valuable." Tantai Xuan told Qing Shui in a very serious tone while looking at him.

Qing Shui choked, "Forget about it then, I'll take it back!"

"Well, I like this ring a lot." Tantai Xuan hurriedly said when she saw Qing Shui about to put the ring away.

Qing Shui was gloomy. He even felt like this woman was messing with him, although it didn't really seem like it.

"Well Young Lady, what should I do? You said that you liked it, I gave it to you but you didn't want it. Now that I'm putting it away, you are not letting me to. Then why don't you tell me what to do?" Qing Shui laughed, seeing that she liked it. His intention was to give it to her anyway. That way, her chances of survival with Yu Ruyan would greatly increase.

"I would like to exchange it with you for something but I don't have anything that is as valuable as this ring." Tantai Xuan looked at Qing Shui. She didn't want to owe him a favor.

Qing Shui naturally saw through it. This woman was quite a feminist!

"I have a decent piece of Black Tortoise Shell here that can be used in forging. It's a quite a nice material but it's only useful to forge smiths. I wonder if you'll like it?" Tantai Xuan took out something that looked like a tortoise shell. The patterns on the tortoise shell were simple but they were glistening. It was more than a meter wide and long in size and about half a foot thick. This thing looked like part of a tortoise's carapace.

Qing Shui laughed as soon as he saw this tortoise shell. This woman didn't know that he was a forgesmith. If she knew that this tortoise shell could be used in good ways, she would definitely be able to exchange this with him without any qualms. Right now, she felt that there was too much difference in the value of this tortoise shell and the ring.

"This tortoise shell is very important to me. At least its value isn't lower than the ring, since Ruyan and I both have this ring. If there was only one of this kind of ring, then it would be more valuable. This is fine.

If you don't have any objections, we shall consider this a fair trade." Qing Shui allowed no further discussion as he took the tortoise shell and shoved the ring into her hand. He could feel her shivering the moment their hands came into contact with each other.

The manor was considered bought. Qing Shui spent another fortune to employ a few guards and housekeepers to manage the manor since this place still had to be cleaned and taken care of when they were out.

The two ladies still had to return to Putuo Mountain. Qing Shui asked them stay a night here and he would send them there the next day. The two ladies very quickly agreed to his proposal.

Yu Ruyan was going to share the same bedroom with Tantai Xuan that night but there was no way Qing Shui would allow her to do so. She was leaving tomorrow and it would probably be a long while before they saw each other again. Over this period of time, the two of them were stuck together like glue. They really felt a little reluctant to part with each other all of a sudden.

That night, Qing Shui and Yu Ruyan drowned themselves in euphoria and indulged in each other's lingering touches. Qing Shui was wildly demanding and Yu Ruyan was also very passionate tonight. As long as Qing Shui made any requests, she would satisfy them all.

Half of the night passed just like that. Qing Shui used almost all the positions and movements he knew and it was pure ecstasy. Yu Ruyan welcomed it all shyly, even though some positions made her feel a little embarrassed. For instance, when Qing Shui made her kneel on the soft and fluffy bed and stick her plump and perky rear up high.....

Yu Ruyan had only followed his wishes after Qing Shui gave her quite a few compliments. She had her whole head buried under the blankets while Qing Shui admired her plump, fair and gorgeous rear. The attractive view before his eyes made his blood surge. For such a graceful figure to be displaying such a sexy pose...

Qing Shui kept ramming against her wildly. Without realizing it, the blanket that was covering Yu Ruyan's head had fallen off. He watched that misty beautiful face that was tinted with an intoxicating redness and those eyes that were already lost in pleasure.....

They continued their pleasurable activities without sleeping much the whole night. However, Tantai Xuan, who was just next door, was feeling depressed. She regretted the fact that she had stayed in a room that was close to theirs. A cultivator had very good hearing. Every bit of the noise clearly traveled into her ears, including those embarrassing words.

This wasn't the most embarrassing part yet. She tried to seal her spiritual sense and sense of hearing but soon realized that it didn't do any good. Those sounds crept into her mind like a magical spell. The thing she couldn't stand the most was seeing the hazy figures of Qing Shui and Yu Ruyan indulging in the acts. She could even vaguely make out some of the details, including that 'thing' on Qing Shui's body that shocked her.

These images invaded her mind. At first, she thought she was hallucinating but she eventually found out that she wasn't. Everything was real. It was no use even if she closed her eyes. She was even more ashamed about the fact that her body got extremely hot and she felt very restless. Furthermore, she also discovered that her undergarment was already wet.....

