

Carefree 1091

Chapter 1091: Golden Soul Sect

“Don’t get so worked up, Elder Kuangtu!” Immortal Iron Mountain paused briefly before continuing, “I called this meeting because this matter is of grave importance!”

Immortal Tie Kuangtu was extraordinary and second only to the sect master. His style was overbearing, making the others deeply fearful of him.

Immortal Iron Mountain pretended to be impartial, but he actually had a hidden agenda.

Sure enough, a neutral elder coughed and expressed his thoughts, “Since the Iron Mountain Token has arrived, we have to follow the rules of the sect! A mere evaluation quota, just give it to him!”

“Elder Kuangtu, your disciple Tie Kunlun was born with copper skin and iron bones, and his foundation is extraordinary. He should enter our Iron Mountain Gate to strengthen our prestige!”

“Elder, please calm down. We can only do it this way...”

...

Most of the elders had the same opinion, whether or not they were close to Elder Tie Kuangtu.

A few of the ones close to the sect master were laughing inwardly.

Although Tie Kunlun was talented, Elder Kuangtu had selfish motives and had deliberately waited until he was near the age limit before planning to send him for the evaluation, thereby ensuring he would pass.

However, he could only admit that he was unlucky when encountering this kind of thing. Because he had delayed it so much, his disciple would be over the age limit by the next evaluation.

Immortal Iron Mountain was emotionless. “Since most of the elders have agreed, let’s go with this! We’ll send that Li Hun for the evaluation three days later!”

“Hmph...” Tie Kuangtu was an Immortal after all, and his eyes were shifty. “What if that person gives up voluntarily?”

“Ahem!” Immortal Iron Mountain coughed. “Junior Brother, we are Immortals who have sworn an oath. Do you want to force the matter?”

“Intimidation and temptation. I know more than merely intimidation. I can also tempt!” Tie Kuangtu said confidently.

...

However, they did not know that everything was out in the open because Fang Yuan was watching from the side.

“Hehe... Looks like I caught up just in time for the Immortal Iron Mountain Gate’s infighting? This is making it easier for me...” Immortal Iron Mountain was obviously hiding behind the veil of righteousness to win over the neutrals and suppress the interests of Tie Kuangtu.

It seemed like this elder was either too arrogant or too strong because everyone was vigilant against him.

“But there’s no need to silence them since everything is going so smoothly! I didn’t expect the Iron Mountain Token to have such use. That Junior Sister Tie Dansha really helped a lot...”

When Fang Yuan had just arrived, he naturally did not know the intricacies of the matter.

Fortunately, he met that pair of disciples from the Iron Mountain Gate. The girl, especially, was naive and curious, and she leaked everything after hanging some fruits in front of her.

It was unknown if Tie Kuangtu would kill her if he were to know about this.

“This is also good. At least I will avoid some troubles...” Faint sighed and disappeared.

The Iron Mountain Sect Master continued discussing with the elders, not knowing just how close they were to having their sect destroyed.

...

Seven days later, Golden Soul Sect.

“This is the cultivation Holy Land of the Central Region, the main altar of the Golden Soul Sect—Golden Mount Meru!”

An Immortal of the Iron Mountain Gate brought Fang Yuan to a huge mountain.

This mountain had a single peak, and it was entirely a blinding reddish-gold.

Fang Yuan’s expression changed once they entered Golden Mount Meru.

Suddenly, heaven and earth became infinitely broad. Golden Mount Meru seemed able to hold up the heavens and support the earth, like a world in itself!

It’s space restriction! All of Golden Mount Meru is like an immortal abode comparable in size to a continent!

Fang Yuan was startled as he suddenly felt a powerful force acting on him.

Bang!

At this time, he could not expose his cultivation, so he simply allowed this gravity to pull on him. He smashed into the ground, creating a small pit.

“My body is akin to a dao artifact, yet I only created a small pit. How hard is this Golden Mount Meru? Also... why can’t I move freely here?” Fang Yuan feigned ignorance.

“Haha!” The Immortal beside him gloated at his misfortune. “This Golden Mount Meru contains the power of multiple nomological laws and Great Daos such as the Illusion Realm and gravity. It is a precious treasure of heaven and earth! At the beginning of the world, this golden mountain was the first to be born between heaven and earth. The patriarch of the Golden Soul Sect had obtained and added

restrictions to it to make it the treasure of the Golden Soul Sect! Your body must be well trained enough not to break any bones!”

The Iron Mountain Gate Immortal continued, “The disciples of the Golden Soul Sect live and cultivate in this environment. Can you imagine how strong their bodies are? You might have refined your body to the dao artifact level, but it’s truly not enough in the Golden Soul Sect. Do you still want to take the evaluation?”

“Naturally. Immortal, please lead the way!” Fang Yuan cupped his hands.

A few days ago, Tie Kuangtu had intimidated and tempted him with good terms, but Fang Yuan had not submitted to him. Tie Kuangtu became so furious that he threatened to make Fang Yuan pay.

The Iron Mountain Gate might have arranged an evaluation opportunity for Fang Yuan, but the Immortals did not have a good impression of him.

After all, no matter how mad he was, Tie Kuangtu was their own. Immortal Iron Mountain might be happy that he managed to block Tie Kuangtu’s disciple from attending the evaluation, but Fang Yuan’s resolute refusal gave him no face.

If an ordinary cultivator failed to enter the Golden Soul Sect, only death would await them! Solely Tie Kuangtu’s revenge would be something they couldn’t deal with!

Fang Yuan was well aware of this. He followed the Immortal into the Golden Soul Sect, arrived at the foot of Golden Mount Meru, and saw a palace.

He surveyed the area and found most of the disciples of the Golden Soul Sect wearing golden clothes. There was next to no one at Golden Core, and most were at Nascent Soul. Their bodies were at least at the dao artifact level! This was astonishing.

“Tie Ruyi of the Iron Mountain Gate is here with a disciple for the evaluation!” the Iron Mountain Gate Immortal announced loudly as he brought Fang Yuan to a hall with a plaque that had ‘Golden Core Hall’ written on it.

“So it’s a fellow Immortal from the Iron Mountain Gate!” An Immortal with pale golden skin flew down and glanced at Fang Yuan. “I’m the evaluator this time—Jin Huan! So this is the person with the Iron Mountain Token. Haha... I’ve heard about you!”

“Li Hun pays respect to Immortal!” Fang Yuan bowed respectfully. After knowing that the Immortal had heard about him, he knew that Tie Kuangtu must have used his connections in this matter.

After all, the Iron Mountain Gate was a branch of the Golden Soul Sect, and it was not unusual for the Immortals to have connections with each other.

This Jin Huan might not dare to drive him away directly, but it was inevitable that he would make things difficult for him within the scope of the rules!

I wouldn’t have bothered to infiltrate if I hadn’t heard that the Golden Soul Sect has ninety-nine percent of the Great Sage Immortal World’s body refining techniques! Fang Yuan rolled his eyes secretly.

This Golden Mount Meru, however, contained the Illusion Realm's nomological laws, and with his current abilities, it would be difficult to sneak in.

Therefore, he had to go about this in a roundabout way.

"All right, come with me!"

Jin Huan brought Fang Yuan to a golden gate. "Behind this gate is the Golden Soul Realm, a trial ground for disciples! We don't care where you come from. You pass as long as you can survive for seven days!"

After he heard this, Tie Ruyi's expression changed.

"Okay. I understand!"

Fang Yuan bowed and opened the gate with both hands. A golden light flashed and swallowed him whole.

Tie Ruyi sighed. "In the past evaluations, three days was enough. But seven days? Haha..."

"Haha... I'm the evaluator, and I have the authority..." Jin Huan roared with laughter. "How is Brother Kuangtu recently? I hope he didn't go mad with anger."

"He's all right..." Tie Ruyi smiled bitterly, looking regretfully at the gates of the Golden Soul Realm.

"What a pity... He would have obtained the position of a core disciple in my Iron Mountain Gate if only he were flexible. We might not be as good as the Golden Soul Sect, but it isn't impossible to become an Immortal!"

"Haha... This lad is dead. Seven days is the toughest challenge I can give within my jurisdiction. Even outer disciples of the Golden Soul Sect might not be able to pass!" Jin Huan laughed. "I'm helping Brother Kuangtu vent his anger. However, we still have to stay here for seven days because of our duties! Brother Ruyi, would you like to have a drink with me? I just obtained a few bottles of 'Seven Calamities Thunder Wine'..."

"Something that will help refine my body?" Tie Ruyi licked his lips. "It would be disrespectful to refuse then!"

...

"Golden Soul Realm? Another small world?"

A gravitational force ten times stronger than that of Golden Mount Meru struck him as soon as he entered the Golden Soul Realm. Fang Yuan slammed into the ground, forming a huge pit.

He climbed out and brushed the dirt off his body. "That's right... Mount Mengyan has the Thirty-Three-Level Outer Heaven Tower, so the Golden Soul Sect naturally has similar evaluation grounds! But the Nomological Laws of Gravity here are simply shocking. It's a hundred times stronger than outside! It would be difficult for ordinary Golden Core and Nascent Soul cultivators to even stand up here!"

Caw! Caw!

In the iron tree next to him, several golden crows stared at him with their black gem-stone-like eyes, making unpleasant cries.

Pfft!

Three crows swooped down, bringing with them a harsh sound.

Clang!

Fang Yuan immediately flew out and slashed with his saber.

Attacks comparable to peak Nascent Soul? Moreover, they can probably destroy dao artifacts...

The move just now was an experiment. Even so, the dao artifact saber cracked. "This test... is somewhat difficult."

Fang Yuan changed to another saber and secretly attached the soul absorption and annihilation power of the Ten Thousand Beast Banner onto it. "Nomological Laws of Saber, kill!"

He could not expose too many of his trump cards since he was in someone else's territory.

Poof!

Saber light flashed, drew a graceful arc in the void, and immediately decapitated the three crows.

No joy appeared on Fang Yuan's face. Instead, his face changed as he looked in another direction.

Thump! Thump!

Thump! Thump!

The ground shook, sounding dull and loud.

A golden thread appeared in the sky, charging straight at him. It was a mighty army of mutated beasts.

"Were the crows just scouts, and the cry a signal that they had found an enemy?"

Fang Yuan turned around and escaped.

What a joke!

Even an Immortal would become mincemeat under such a large beast tide!

Although he could fight back, he would have to reveal all his cards, which would definitely alarm the Grand Unity Immortals of the Golden Soul Sect!

Chapter 1092: Golden Soul Fruit

Kaboom!

Numerous golden beasts stomped all around, leaving deep marks on the ground.

After some time, a mound exploded, and Fang Yuan's figure appeared. "How dangerous!"

A cultivator's flying speed was greatly impaired under the influence of the Nomological Laws of Gravity in this Golden Soul Realm. The beasts might be able to catch up with him, or even jump into the air to shoot him down.

Moreover, the sky in this world was not safe either. Since there were golden crows, there could be other flying beasts.

"Something's not right..." Fang Yuan gave it some thought, and his eyes shone. "It's impossible for Golden Core and Nascent Soul cultivators to encounter a beast tide so early. They wouldn't have any chance to escape! Even if this evaluation was deliberately made more difficult, this is too much!"

He spread his spiritual will.

This world was vast and boundless, and it was apparent from his spiritual will that there were strong and weak golden beasts.

"In summary, the layout should be concentric rings. The closer to the core, the denser the beasts, the more difficult it will get!

"The place I was dropped in... is actually in the deepest part of the first ring, close to the boundary of the second ring... This is simply murder!"

Fang Yuan was speechless.

When merged with the Illusion Realm's nomological laws, the scope of his spiritual will was far beyond that of an Immortal. It was hidden, and he discovered many things.

Otherwise, he would definitely not survive if he continued on without a plan.

"An ordinary trial would start at the outermost area, where there are fewer beasts. With luck and strength, you would survive... But I offended Tie Kuangtu, so it became more difficult..."

Fang Yuan shook his head and became engrossed in extending his spiritual will deep into the depths.

"One, two, three... six, seven! Are there at least seven levels?"

The advancement of every level meant an increase in difficulty.

The seventh level was not the end either, merely the limit of his spiritual will.

"As expected, like the Thirty-Three-Level Outer Heaven Tower, there are differences in levels... This type of environment was deliberately created only for Holy Lands to select disciples!"

Fang Yuan found an iron tree, sat on one of its branches, and casually plucked a fruit with a slight golden sheen.

"Of course... opportunities coexist with risks. The effect of this fruit is much stronger than that of the iron fruit at the Iron Mountain Gate. It's at least as good as a beast core. If you ate one every day, you would be able to strengthen your body to the dao artifact level even without cultivating much!

"If the outer areas are already like this, there must be a lot of good stuff deeper inside!"

Fang Yuan narrowed his eyes with a dangerous light, but he gave up after a short while.

“This Golden Soul Realm isn’t the Outer Heaven Tower and has a master. Once someone is too outstanding, the artifact spirit will definitely notice, and it might even attract a Grand Unity Immortal!”

He was here only to search for the Nine Transference Undying Method, not to be noticed.

“I can’t be too careful!”

Fang Yuan sighed and swung his saber casually.

Poof!

A small golden snake the width of a finger split into two pieces and continued twisting on the ground.

“The fruits of such iron trees seem to be guarded by golden beasts?”

He landed on the ground, frowning. “For example, the golden earthworm in the soil just now.”

There would naturally be nothing without a role in such a trial ground.

There were flying mutated beasts in the sky and beast tides on the ground, even golden beasts within the ground! He suffered successive attacks from golden earthworms and centipedes the width of his arm.

The survival rate for inferior cultivators who hid underground would be way worse than those who could utilize the complex terrain to escape.

“In that case...”

He thought about it while looking at the light source hanging in the center. He chose a direction at random and started moving.

He would naturally not head straight toward the center, and anyone would feel that his route was strange.

The route that Fang Yuan chose was slightly roundabout but much safer. Anyone who saw his route afterward would only deduce that he was lucky.

“This Golden Soul Realm suppresses the soul as well, and it’s difficult to spread spiritual will. People like me with complete comprehension of the Illusion Realm’s nomological laws are rare... It’s more realistic to become lost...”

Fang Yuan’s understanding of the Golden Soul Realm was extremely deep after adapting to it for a short while.

Unfortunately, he had not been able to pry for more information after seeing Golden Mount Meru’s Illusion Realm’s nomological laws or even look for this primordial treasure’s control hub.

These Holy Lands were not the type of sects with only Immortals like before.

Not only were there Grand Unity Immortals, but it was also possible for the birth of a Grand Supreme existence!

At that point, they were completely capable of comprehending by analogy, like Elder Tai Xuan had, to touch top nomological laws such as the Illusion Realm and time, even reaching complete comprehension. The Golden Mount Meru outside was proof!

Even if there were no terrifying almighty existences, with the history of a Holy Land, there must have been disciples who had comprehended top nomological laws. How could they not have any defenses against spatial penetration?

A Holy Land had to have no weaknesses in their defenses. Otherwise, they were bound to decline even if otherworldly demons did not attack.

“Keep a low profile! Low profile! My minimum target is to obtain the last six transferences of the Nine Transference Undying Method. Of course, it would be best if I could take advantage of the resources here to improve drastically!”

Fang Yuan realized that this Golden Soul Sect was the best place for cultivating body refining techniques.

Ten Iron Mountain Gate fruits could not even compare to one Golden Soul Fruit.

He wanted the Nine Transference Undying Method to refine his body to become comparable to an immortal artifact or even a primordial treasure, and this required the support of specific heavenly materials and earthly treasures.

Relying on this great force to collect them was much faster than on his own.

After all, the Great Sage Immortal World was not the Sixteen Countries, and he could not obtain all of them by himself.

...

Fang Yuan deliberately slowed down and avoided the golden beasts, especially the flying beasts that could give warnings, so his progress was very slow.

After two days, he finally left the danger zone near the second level and arrived at the periphery of the first level.

The density of the beasts dropped significantly here, and it was considerably safer.

“Less than half of the seven days have passed. The remaining task is to collect as many of these golden fruits as possible...”

Fang Yuan took a bite out of the fruit in his hand. “Obviously, this type of fruit has great effects on various types of body refining techniques. If not for this evaluation, I wouldn’t have been able to get my hands on them...”

After eating them, he knew that this fruit was very beneficial for the first three transferences of the Nine Transference Undying Method!

“Unfortunately... with the scarcity of the golden beasts, the frequency of golden fruits appearing decreases. It’s a loss on one side and gain on the other side... But this doesn’t mean there won’t be more chances in the future!”

Fang Yuan's eyes glistened.

Suddenly, his spiritual will found something hundreds of kilometers away.

"People?! Seems like disciples of the Golden Soul Sect..."

He flew closer, and more information arrived.

"Junior Brother Chu, I contributed my part to enter the Golden Soul Realm this time, so don't forget what you promised me!"

The two disciples in golden clothes did not realize Fang Yuan was spying on them. They continued talking while avoiding the golden beasts.

"Please rest assured. I'll return your contribution in Golden Soul Fruits!"

The other disciple smiled fawningly. "Senior Brother Xiao, you should have cultivated your Thousand Wind Hundred Refinement Technique to a high level by now? Your body is only a bit away from being comparable to a top-grade dao artifact. You will become an inner disciple when you reach the second region!"

"What is a mere inner disciple? My goal is the third region!" Senior Brother Xiao was clearly ambitious. "I hope the Golden Soul Fruits can help me break through this time... Too bad the Golden Soul Fruits in the first two regions are low quality. Mid-quality ones will only appear in the third region! I heard that there are high-quality and even top-quality ones in deeper regions. If I had the help of such items, my body would advance to become comparable to an immortal artifact!"

"It will be easy to overcome the tribulation if I can refine my body to become comparable to an immortal artifact. At that time, I will become one of the core disciples and can compete for the position of sect master. Even if it doesn't work out, I'll still become an elder!"

The two disciples in gold clothes grinned in anticipation.

The difficulty of cultivating body refining techniques was different before and after the tribulation.

Take the Immortals of the Golden Soul Sect for example. Most of their bodies were comparable to an immortal artifact, but many of them only succeeded after their tribulation.

Anyone who could refine their body to the degree of an immortal artifact before their tribulation would definitely become a core disciple!

Such a disciple would be able to survive the lightning tribulation. They were true geniuses and had the hope of becoming the sect master!

Fang Yuan eavesdropped and learned all kinds of inside stories. He did not show himself and began his second round of harvesting.

A few days later, Senior Brother Xiao and Junior Brother Chu reached the border of the second region. Their faces were ugly. "I'm not sure what happened, but there are a lot fewer Golden Soul Fruits. We can only take some risks!"

“We’re merely roaming around the border. The golden beasts of the second region usually won’t chase after us like this...” Senior Brother Xiao was very sure of this. “If we want to become inner disciple, we have to go deep into the second region and survive for more than three days!”

“We won’t be able to survive even one attack from a normal golden beast without bodies at the top-grade dao artifact level. Let’s forget it...” Junior Brother Chu had a cold sweat.

Caw caw!

The sudden ear-piercing cry from a crow made their expressions change. “Sh*t! It’s the alarm crow!”

Kaboom!

It did not take long for a beast tide to appear. Their eyes were red, seemingly provoked, and they came from all directions.

“No... Why are we so unlucky?!” Senior Brother Xiao roared in despair. Looking at the impending golden beasts, he finally tore a talisman, and their two figures immediately disappeared...

“Great. I’ll go harvest while these two hold the attention of the golden beasts!”

As the oriole behind, Fang Yuan’s eyes flashed with glee.

Chapter 1093: Sixth Transference

Fang Yuan appeared in front of the gate with a golden flash.

The vertigo of spatial shifting did not affect him at all. Instead, the information leaked during the spatial fluctuations in the transmission process allowed him to know that there was not only one entrance to the Golden Soul Realm.

Moreover, from what he gleaned of their performance, it seemed like there would be opportunities to enter the realm and leave it instantly with a talisman after joining the Golden Soul Sect.

Of course, they could not blame anyone if they were late to activate it and died as a result.

During these seven days, his spiritual will had found such unlucky idiots.

Thanks to the sacrifices of these disciples, he had gained quite a lot in the first and second regions.

As for the third region? After looking at it from a distance, he did not dare to enter.

The density of the golden beasts was so high that it would be impossible for him to stay hidden.

In other words, he could only rely on strength to break through.

“You actually... came out alive! To be able to survive for seven days in the Golden Soul Realm...” Immortal Tie Ruyi goggled at Fang Yuan as if he was a monster.

“Haha... Congratulations on passing the evaluation and becoming a disciple of my Golden Soul Sect!” Jin Huan’s expression changed as he laughed and waved his hand. A golden scroll appeared. “I’ll register you. Then you’ll receive the outer disciple token, clothes, and resources for this year!”

“Thank you very much, Sir!” Fang Yuan bowed calmly, knowing this was merely the style of a high-level bureaucrat. He would make things difficult for him within the rules, but he would turn friendly once Fang Yuan showed enough potential.

Tie Ruyi had never learned this kind of shamelessness.

“Li Hun?” Jin Huan saw Fang Yuan’s signature and tossed over a golden token. “This is your identity token. You can choose any house in the living area of the outer disciples, and you will also receive three Golden Soul Fruits every year! I noticed that your body is already comparable to a dao artifact. Which body refining technique did you cultivate?”

“The Hundred Physical Forging Technique!” Fang Yuan saw no reason to hide this. According to Gold Ingot, this technique was common among the Immortals of the Central Region. There was no problem with its origins at all.

“Only a hundred?” Jin Huan rubbed his chin. “I suppose the body refining techniques outside are at this level... As an outer disciple, you can choose a cultivation technique when you first join. I recall there’s a ‘Thousand Physical Forging Technique’ among those available for the outer disciples. It’s the upgraded version of the Hundred Physical Forging Technique, and it can refine your body to the extent of a mid-grade immortal artifact!”

“Thank you for your pointers, Sir!” Fang Yuan seemed to thank him sincerely, knowing that the other party was showing him goodwill to mend their relationship.

After all, he was an Immortal of the Golden Soul Sect, so there was no reason to become enemies if the other party was not targeting him.

Seeing his attitude, Jin Huan laughed lightheartedly. “Great! My Golden Soul Sect has obtained yet another elite disciple!”

Since he passed the highest difficulty, without mentioning becoming a future core disciple, he was definitely going to become an inner disciple. Regarding this status, it did not differ much from an elder of a branch.

Jin Huan especially admired his flexible attitude.

...

Cultivation Techniques Hall.

Fang Yuan immediately went to where the cultivation techniques were imparted in the Golden Soul Sect.

As long as he obtained the rest of the Nine Transference Undying Method, even if the Heavenly Circuit Immortal Sect appeared in the next moment, there was nothing to be afraid of.

That master-servant pair is a clue, and the Heavenly Circuit Immortal Sect might be able to find its way here... But so what if it could?

Fang Yuan would not be afraid of any Holy Land as long as he had no misgivings about them.

Of course, the premise was not to become trapped in some space.

The outer Cultivation Techniques Hall of the Golden Soul Sect was a golden palace. From the outside, it looked like a mausoleum without a single window.

There were only a few deacons guarding the entrance. They were obviously very relieved with the restrictions in place.

“Greetings, everyone. I’m here to choose a cultivation technique!”

Fang Yuan stepped forward and took out his identity token.

“Hmm, Li Hun, recommended by the Iron Mountain Gate!” An old man with a white beard nodded.

“Since you’re choosing your cultivation technique right after becoming an outer disciple, it seems like you were only an itinerant cultivator without a good inheritance before. Sigh... You can rest assured now that you’ve entered our Golden Soul Sect!”

He waved his hand, and the layer of golden light enveloping the passage disappeared. “Remember, you can only choose one. There are restrictions on all the ancient books, and you can only preview the first three pages. Go ahead!”

Fang Yuan bowed again and entered the mausoleum.

Giant bookshelves formed mountains of books. There were few disciples, making it very quiet and empty.

That’s right. The other disciples chose their cultivation techniques long ago and rarely come here...

Fang Yuan traveled through the mountains of books with his hands behind his back. He occasionally stopped when he saw ancient books that he wanted to read and flipped through one or two pages, not heading straight for the body refining area.

“It’s a cultivation Holy Land after all. Their accumulation of ancient books is massive! There are all sorts of books... even for outer disciples!”

After some time, Fang Yuan came to a place with a huge collection of books.

The collection here was all body refining techniques.

He selected a book at random. “Mixed Element Technique? Qi and body dual refinement, it can be used as the main cultivation technique and can refine the body to the top-grade dao artifact level!”

He immediately saw the Thousand Physical Forging Technique, and his heart moved slightly.

Immortal Jin Huan had recommended this technique as very suitable for him. It could link up with the Hundred Physical Forging Technique, and he could smoothly transition to cultivating it.

Unfortunately, the maximum it could reach was the immortal artifact level, making Fang Yuan give it up directly.

An ordinary Nascent Soul cultivator could transcend their lightning tribulation with ease if they refined their body to the immortal artifact level.

However, he was not an ordinary cultivator. He had comprehended two sets of top nomological laws and had a clone. His lightning tribulation would be beyond imagination. He had to reach the primordial treasure level before he had the confidence to take it on.

Obviously, such ancient books were very rare, even in the Central Region.

After wandering around for some more time, Fang Yuan set his sight on a golden ancient book. "I finally found the 'Nine Transference Undying Method'!"

This ancient book was heavy, and each page seemed to be made of metal. He flipped to the introduction, and the information surprised Fang Yuan slightly.

"The Nine Transference Undying Method! The mainstream cultivation technique of the Golden Soul Sect! There are nine transferences! Cultivate to the third transference, and your body will become comparable to a low-grade immortal artifact! Cultivate to the seventh transference, and your body will become comparable to a primordial treasure! Succeed in the cultivation of the ninth transference, and your body will become sacred!"

"How could such a divine art be placed in the outer disciple area? Unless..."

Fang Yuan felt a chill as he walked toward the door with the ancient book.

"Hmm? You chose the Nine Transference Undying Method? How bold!" The old man smiled and registered it quickly. He took out a token, and the restriction on the ancient book disappeared. "Quickly memorize the ancient book and then return it. Remember not to spread it. Otherwise, your body and soul will be destroyed!"

Fang Yuan nodded and sent his spiritual will into the ancient book.

Then he shook his head inwardly. "Sure enough... Only the first six transferences are available. It's more than the first three I have, but the last three critical ones are missing!"

His face, however, showed delight as he left.

...

Night.

In a cave abode of the Golden Soul Sect outer disciples...

Fang Yuan sat cross-legged, and golden light flashed continuously from his body. He was cultivating the Nine Transference Undying Method.

"It may not be as smooth for me to cultivate the Nine Transference Undying Method like it would the Thousand Physical Forging Technique, but I've already refined my body to the dao artifact level. Thus, I only need to convert my technique! I'll have no problems with the first two transferences with the help of the Golden Soul Fruits!"

The first two transferences of the Nine Transference Undying Method was to refine the body to become comparable to a top-grade dao artifact, which was not too difficult.

Everything was smooth, especially since Fang Yuan used a huge amount of low-grade Golden Soul Fruits.

When the sun rose, he seemed to have grown taller, and his skin became a healthy bronze.

This was proof that he had completed the second transference of the Nine Transference Undying Method.

“Golden Soul Fruits are indeed something good. Too bad outer disciples only get three a year!”

He shook his head regrettably and walked out of the courtyard.

“Are you the new junior brother, Li Hun?”

Not long after he came out of the courtyard, a few disciples in golden clothes surrounded him. Two of them were familiar to Fang Yuan. They were Senior Brother Xiao and Junior Brother Chu.

“Yes, that’s me. What can I help senior brothers with?” Fang Yuan smiled radiantly.

“Haha... Junior Brother’s innate talent and providence must be excellent to be able to enter our Golden Soul Sect. But the road ahead is full of thorns, so we should work together...” Junior Brother Chu persuaded strongly.

“Does that mean I need to join you and turn in some contribution points to achieve this end...” Fang Yuan smiled. “You can just tell me directly that you want protection fees.”

“...” Senior Brother Xiao and the others were speechless. It was the first time they saw someone so direct.

“I’d definitely give the protection fees if it could bring me peace... But unfortunately...” Fang Yuan shook his head. “For the likes of you? I refuse!”

“What?” Junior Brother Chu’s face twitched. He and Senior Brother Xiao had been unlucky this time. They had spent all their contribution points and entered the Golden Soul Realm, but they had obtained nothing in return and urgently needed some from elsewhere.

Their tempers rose after seeing how uncooperative Fang Yuan was. “Junior Brother Li Hun, are you aware that our Golden Soul Sect doesn’t restrict battles? Especially among the outer disciples. No one cares as long as there are no deaths...”

“I see. Thanks for letting me know!”

Fang Yuan moved his neck and clenched his fist. His entire body made cracking sounds as he punched.

Bang!

The wind from the punch was violent. The air compressed into an air burst, causing the other disciples’ expressions to change.

Senior Brother Xiao stepped up. Aquamarine scales appeared on his right arm, and he clawed.

Clang!

The sound of metal colliding rang out, and many broken scales flew.

Senior Brother Xiao took a few steps backward, his face full of shock. His eyes darkened. "The second transference of the Nine Transference Undying Method?!"

Chapter 1094: Invasion

"Are you... really a new disciple?" Senior Brother Xiao looked at Fang Yuan. "Overnight, you completed the second transference of the Nine Transference Undying Method?"

"My body was originally comparable to a dao artifact. What's wrong with converting my technique in one night with the help of three Golden Soul Fruits?"

Fang Yuan stepped forward and kneaded his knuckles, making continuous thunderous sounds.

He had long expected something like this to happen. However, he could prove his innocence with his foundation and especially with the old man in Cultivation Techniques Hall yesterday testifying for him.

Moreover, at this level, he was just a more talented body-refining cultivator.

Even Grand Unity Immortals would be alarmed if he managed to cultivate the second transference from a total novice within one night.

Even so, Fang Yuan was considered more prominent among the outer disciples because of his top-grade dao artifact body. Although it was difficult to cultivate the Nine Transference Undying Method, he would undoubtedly be one of the stronger ones among those at the same level after he mastered it.

These disciples that were planning on picking on the weak were at a loss.

"Don't worry... We have greater numbers..." Before Junior Brother Chu could finish, a figure flashed before him. Fang Yuan grabbed him as though he were a little chicken. "What did you say?"

"No-nothing!" Even though he cultivated the Mixed Element Technique, Junior Brother Chu only felt severe pain in his neck as he begged for mercy continuously.

"Hmm... All right. I want you to do something. We'll write off today once you're finished. Otherwise..." Fang Yuan's eyes had a cold glint.

"What is it?" Senior Brother Xiao asked solemnly.

The disciples that were originally surrounding them dispersed in silence, having decided that Fang Yuan was not someone to trifle with.

"Don't worry. It's very simple!" Fang Yuan flashed a bright smile.

...

After some questioning, he found out that the leader of this group was Xiao Jiuli. He led a small group among the outer disciples and could only bully newcomers.

That Junior Brother Chu, named Chu Duo, had the role of a good-for-nothing advisor.

"Is it worth it to play politics to such an extent in the outer sect?" Fang Yuan was left dumbfounded.

"Right, how do I enter the Golden Soul Realm?!"

“The Golden Soul Realm is a cultivation treasure land and also where the trial for inner and core disciples is. You can enter after paying one hundred contribution points!” Xiao Jiuli explained in detail. “As for the contribution points, other than the hundred you have in your token when you first join, you have to obtain them through various missions or exchanges.”

“No wonder you came to me for the contribution points.”

Fang Yuan rubbed his chin while Xiao Jiuli and Chu Duo smiled embarrassedly. “Big Brother Li Hun, you are so talented to have completed the second transference of the Nine Transference Undying Method so quickly. You can definitely become an inner disciple within a short time!”

This was why Xiao Jiuli became obedient and truthful. They were not on the same level.

“Inner disciple?”

Fang Yuan was very clear that every outer disciple had a body comparable to a dao artifact.

To become an inner disciple, you had to survive in the second region for a certain amount of time. Their bodies were comparable to a top-grade dao artifact.

If he could refine his body to the immortal artifact level before the lightning tribulation, he could go to the third region and become a core disciple.

Previously, Tie Kuangtu had made it so that the risk of Fang Yuan’s evaluation was akin to that of becoming an inner disciple.

Therefore, Jin Huan’s attitude had changed immediately upon seeing him emerge unscathed.

Since he was so outstanding this early on, it was entirely possible for him to become a core disciple in the future.

But I’m not here to become a core disciple... The reasonable thing to do would be to get the technique as soon as possible and leave. Of course, I have to grab as many Golden Soul Fruits as I can before that! Fang Yuan decided secretly. Perhaps... I can put on a spectacular performance? But won’t it be too suspicious on the second day I’m here?

“Hmm, in view of your cooperation today, I’ll let things go!” Fang Yuan waved his hand dismissively. Xiao Jiuli and Chu Duo immediately showed expressions of surprise.

In fact, these outer disciples were the most inferior among all in the Golden Soul Sect.

If they had some background or slightly better talent, they would have become inner disciples earlier.

Seeing how great he was, they even had some thoughts of having Fang Yuan as their boss.

Unfortunately, Fang Yuan did not give them the chance to do so. He shoed them away as though they were flies.

He changed his plan and returned to the small courtyard. He sat cross-legged with a grave expression. “The Heavenly Circuit Immortal Sect has finally arrived.”

...

Thirty-Three-Level Outer Heaven Tower, Sixteen Countries.

Fang Yuan's Torch Dragon clone awakened from comprehending nomological laws, and his eyes focused. "Here comes the first wave!"

Before, Immortal Tai Xuan could not do anything to him and did not dare to take risks himself. He could only form an array to lock down the entire void and mobilize personnel from the Heavenly Circuit Immortal Sect.

Based on his speculation, it was impossible for another Grand Unity Immortal to come. It was most likely a team of Immortals with some treasures.

Of course, the Immortals of cultivation Holy Lands were much stronger than Immortals elsewhere. This reinforcement team would have no problem destroying all the sects of the Sixteen Countries.

"Greetings to Elder Tai Xuan!"

Twelve streams of light flew down, transformed into Immortals, and paid their respects to Immortal Tai Xuan.

"Hmm! It's fine!" Elder Tai Xuan waved his hand and fixed his gaze on the leader. "So it's little fellow Hui Ye. Did you bring them?"

"According to Elder's instructions, I've brought with me thirteen Realm Breaking Beads, a set of the Twelve Heavenly Scorching Array, and the 'Nine Void Banner'!" Immortal Hui Ye bowed respectfully and took out the items.

Realm Breaking Beads were one-time-use items for breaking through space barriers without any disadvantages.

The Twelve Heavenly Scorching Array required twelve Immortals to work together. The power was immense and enough to lock down the void. Even someone at perfection in the Illusion Realm's nomological laws would find it hard to resist it.

These items were created by the greatest genius disciple in the history of the Heavenly Circuit Immortal Sect.

This disciple had originally comprehended six sets of nomological laws to perfection and had a body comparable to an immortal artifact. However, he was unsatisfied and tried to comprehend more paths when he was at Nascent Soul. Finally, he reached basic mastery in the Illusion Realm's nomological laws before eventually cultivating them to perfection. He was ranked as the top person beneath Immortal.

Unfortunately, he had not survived the lightning tribulation.

The Nine Void Banner was a top-grade immortal artifact. A Grand Supreme Immortal had refined it personally and had even infused the soul of a Demon Immortal who cultivated the Illusion Realm's nomological laws into it!

This treasure's value was not the slightly best under that of some primordial treasures.

“Very good!” Immortal Tai Xuan stroked his beard. “Leave six people here to form the Twelve Heavenly Scorching Array with these Immortals. The rest of you prepare to charge into the Outer Heaven Tower with me!”

“We obey your command!” Immortal Hui Ye bowed, but the other Immortals groaned in secret.

After working so hard and so long, they had not even been allowed to leave when their sects were trashed. But unexpectedly, their suffering had yet to end.

It did not take long before twelve black Qi rose into the air and enveloped the reeds in its entirety.

Occasionally, a Godfiend with the head of a human and the body of a bird emerged in the void. It had four wings and six eyes. Fierce and mighty. Most importantly, it could travel through the void at will, seeming as though it had comprehended the Illusion Realm’s nomological laws.

“Haha... With this array, that kid will be courting death if he dares to come here again!” Elder Tai Xuan laughed heartily, and with six Immortals, they activated the Realm Breaking Beads. “Open!!!”

...

“Has it started?” Fang Yuan stood in front of the stone stele, his voice calm. “Artifact spirit! Open the thirty-first level and send them straight in!”

The Realm Breaking Beads were indeed powerful. In theory, they could pass through the first nineteen floors at will.

However, Fang Yuan obviously would not let them go through his fortress level by level. He was going to give them hell from the beginning.

The space after the twentieth level might be very difficult to open up with dead objects, but he initiated the opening himself. Even the Realm Breaking Beads would naturally search for the weakest point in the area, similar to a leaking pond automatically absorbing the surrounding water.

Light flashed.

Elder Tai Xuan brought Hui Ye’s group of six immortals and rushed into the space.

The ground was dry and cracked. Lava surged all around, and toxic smoke filled the air, not looking like a good place at all.

“This place... should be the trial ground for Immortals!”

Immortal Hui Ye sized up his surroundings. “We have six people and Elder Tai Xuan. What is a mere test for Immortals?”

They were all prideful Immortals of the Heavenly Circuit Immortal Sect.

In their opinion, the evaluation for Immortals of Mount Mengyan should be similar to that of the Heavenly Circuit Immortal Sect. It would be extremely difficult for ordinary Immortals, but it would be easy for them, especially since they were cheating.

However, Immortal Hui Ye’s expression froze the very next moment.

Because Elder Tai Xuan remained silent as he gazed at the surroundings, with a little... fear?

“Im-impossible. How can there be an otherworldly demon here?”

As they neared him, they could hear him muttering to himself.

“An evaluation with a chained otherworldly demon. We have something similar in our Heavenly Circuit Immortal Sect. It seems like we’re at the last level...” Immortal Hui Ye naturally felt the Demonic Qi of Heaven and Earth, but he did not take it seriously.

The next moment... Rumble!

The sky cracked, a volcano erupted, and dark Qi burst into the sky.

The biggest volcano suddenly disintegrated, shocking the Immortals, and an enormous Godfiend emerged!

It had a human torso, twelve eerily bluish horns, and a layer of ice armor.

Numerous thick chains were drilled directly in its body, holding it firmly to the ground.

But at this moment, it seemed to receive some form of stimulation as its eyes suddenly sprang open.

Whoosh whoosh!

Cold winds howled, and snowflakes swept across.

The volcano instantly froze, and the world transformed into one of ice and snow.

Roar Roar!

The Ice Godfiend focused its eyes at Tai Xuan and roared.

The sound waves caused even the Immortals to lose their bearing.

“Primordial... Godfiend?” Immortal Hui Ye only felt bitterness in his mouth. “Why is there such a demon here?”

Chapter 1095: Nine Void

“Primordial Godfiend!”

The Immortals shriveled in fear.

They were elites from a Holy Land, but they could only fight against the otherworldly demons at best.

A Primordial Godfiend was comparable to a Grand Unity Immortal!

“Immortals... die!”

This Ice Godfiend looked at Immortal Tai Xuan and the rest with undisguised hatred. With its roar, pale blue light spread throughout the entire space. The temperature plummeted, seeming as though it would even freeze the soul!

“It’s definitely the power of a Great Dao!”

Immortal Tai Xuan raised his hand, and a layer of colorful brilliance enveloped him and the Immortals behind him.

Ordinary otherworldly demons were comparable to Immortals. With the runes of destruction on their bodies, they automatically controlled the Nomological Laws of Destruction. The Primordial Godfiends, however, controlled the Destruction Great Dao!

This Primordial Godfiend grasped both the Destruction Great Dao and the Dao of Ice. It was an anomaly even among the Godfiends and extremely powerful.

“What a demon. Unfortunately, you still have a seal on you, and your natural source is too depleted. Want to destroy me?” Elder Tai Xuan said angrily. A large multi-colored hand pressed down on it with immense force.

A Primordial Godfiend that was trapped in the Thirty-Three-Level Outer Heaven Tower was naturally an exceptional Godfiend. However, any Godfiend that had been imprisoned for countless years and had its natural source extracted periodically to refine Dao Comprehension Stones would inevitably have its strength continuously decline.

Not to mention, Fang Yuan had not completely released the seal on this Primordial Godfiend.

Immortal Tai Xuan not only had his complete Grand Unity cultivation base, but he also had many immortal artifacts, as well as Immortal Hui Ye and the other Immortals with him!

All of this caused the suppression of the Ice Godfiend, having it consume more energy to the point where its aura quickly weakened.

“Haha... Its bark is more than its bite!”

The large multi-colored hand transformed into a huge mountain and pressed the Ice Godfiend to the ground. Immortal Hui Ye smiled when he saw this scene. “Elder is invincible!”

“Luckily, it’s just a Primordial Godfiend under many restrictions. Even I would have trouble dealing with it if it were at full strength...” Immortal Tai Xuan was very clear about his own abilities. “Of course, if the one imprisoned was a Chaos Godfiend with its Connate Great Dao, we would have lost immediately, regardless of what state it was in!”

Chaos Godfiend!

Terrifying Godfiends that only appeared during the late stages of a large-scale demon disaster! Their combat strength was comparable to that of Grand Supreme Immortals!

Tai Xuan was well aware of how horrifying these Godfiends were. They had already promoted their Dao of Destruction to the ultimate level! It was known as the ‘Connate Destruction Great Dao’ or the ‘Chaos Destruction Great Dao’. Given the chance, they could truly destroy an entire world!

A Connate Great Dao was not inferior to the perfect Dao path of a Netherheaven Demon God. Even more extreme was its astonishing destructive power.

Of course, the birth of a Chaos Godfiend had even destroyed Mount Mengyan, a Holy Land with a Grand Supreme Immortal. Imprisonment was a joke.

“Connate Destruction Great Dao? A Great Dao sublimated to the pinnacle?”

Elder Tai Xuan did not know that everything he said was benefiting Fang Yuan.

He looked into the light mirror at the Ice Godfiend that had been driven to the end of its road and waved his hand. “Sever all the restrictions! In addition, move the two Godfiends from the thirty-second and thirty-third levels! Lift all their restrictions as well!”

This decision was very tough to make.

Releasing three Primordial Godfiends was similar to letting wild beasts loose. It would be nearly impossible to lock them up again.

In this case, the greatest value of the Outer Heaven Tower, the ability to create Dao Comprehension Stones from the Dao Comprehension Pond, would lose its function due to the loss of raw materials.

“But there’s no other way... Judging from that Immortal Tai Xuan’s strength, I’ll likely need at least two weakened Primordial Godfiends to be able to defeat him. Three is necessary to make the rest fall... Eh?”

His eyes moved and saw Immortal Tai Xuan taking out the Nine Void Banner.

“What an amazing top-grade immortal artifact. It’s actually space-type one, a rarity... With this thing, it seems unrealistic to kill Tai Xuan...”

He changed his strategy immediately. “Continue restricting the Godfiend on the thirty-third level. Move the Godfiend on the thirty-second level and release its restrictions along with that of the current Godfiend. Start!”

...

“The materials on this Primordial Godfiend aren’t bad. They can enhance the Nine Void Banner...”

Elder Tai Xuan looked at the Ice Godfiend under the suppression of the colorful mountain, and the Nine Void Banner appeared in his hand.

But right at that moment... Kacha! Kacha!

The thick chains on the Ice Godfiend started shattering.

Simultaneously, another immense figure suddenly loomed in front of the Immortals. It was another terrifying Godfiend!

This new Primordial Godfiend was burning with raging flames and had a pair of black wings. It had a pair of horns on its human-like head with numerous white chains wrapped around it, which were constantly disintegrating.

“Another Primordial Godfiend! And totally unleashed...” Elder Tai Xuan gazed at this scene, stunned, and suddenly shouted, “Situ Zhaixing, you’re still here?!”

Transporting them to here could be a natural reaction from the artifact spirit.

However, the complete release of the two Primordial Godfiends was something only the master could do.

Therefore, Immortal Tai Xuan realized this immediately. “We’ve been tricked by that Situ Zhaixing! Prepare to... retreat!”

The arrogant Immortals of the Heavenly Circuit Immortal Sect could only run for their lives in this precarious situation.

“Realm Breaking Beads!”

Immortal Hui Ye and the rest obliged immediately. They were not idiots. With two Primordial Godfiends against a Grand Unity Immortal, even the shockwaves of their fight could cause them to die!

Therefore, all of them took out the Realm Breaking Beads in preparation to leave.

They might be one-time-use items, but they had prepared more than ten of them, more than enough for six Immortals to use.

Poof! Poof!

Six pitch-black passages emerged, connecting to the void.

Immortal Hui Ye and the rest immediately entered.

But the next moment, numerous ripples appeared in the void passages, instantly causing them to collapse.

An Immortal who could not escape in time had his arm drawn into the void, and it disappeared without a trace.

He was shocked still for a while before screaming out, “My immortal body, the arm is completely lost!”

Each wisp of an Immortal’s Qi could instill them with life, so it was almost impossible for mortals to injure them. However, some perilous locations could even obliterate Grand Unity Immortals!

A trivial immortal body was naturally useless within spatial vibrations.

“The Realm Breaking Beads are no longer effective...” Venerable Hui Ye said anxiously. “Elder Tai Xuan...”

“This must have been Situ Zhaixing’s arrangements. This place is likely in the depths of the Outer Heaven Tower...”

Elder Tai Xuan looked solemn as he waved the banner in his hand. “Nine Void Banner!”

Poof!

He disappeared from the siege of the two Primordial Godfiends and reappeared behind the Ice Godfiend. “Five Elements Dharma!”

Five-colored beams of light gathered and turned into a bolt of lightning, directly breaking the armor of ice and causing the Primordial Godfiend’s blood to splatter.

“Teleportation is a great skill!”

Elder Tai Xuan laughed, and the endless space around him seemed to transform into a solid barrier.

This Nine Void Banner acted like an additional complete set of the Illusion Realm's nomological laws, and it could exert numerous spatial abilities.

"What a good immortal artifact! It can actually add the power of nomological laws!"

Fang Yuan looked on quietly within the core hub.

Of course, the nomological laws of the Illusion Realm were embedded in the immortal artifact, and there was no possibility of improvement.

Furthermore, Immortal Tai Xuan would immediately revert back to his original state once he lost the immortal artifact. After all, the nomological laws were not his own but from a foreign object.

Even so, its value was not inferior to that of a primordial treasure!

"I wouldn't be so lucky if I were to meet Immortal Tai Xuan outside." Fang Yuan sneered and pressed the stone stele. "Suppress!"

Buzz buzz!

On the thirty-first level, a terrifying force consumed Immortal Tai Xuan's Illusion Realm's nomological laws.

"How can the Nomological Laws of Space on this floor be so powerful? They're not worse than that of the Nine Void Banner?"

Immortal Tai Xuan was shocked as he felt his Nomological Laws of Space being continuously negated.

He had never imagined that the Outer Heaven Tower possessed such wondrous uses. It was absolutely at the highest level of primordial treasures!

The strength of the Illusion Realm's nomological laws alone was comparable to that of the Nine Void Banner, not to mention imprisoning Primordial Demon Gods.

If he had known this earlier, he would certainly not have faced this danger by himself, and he would have asked at least two or three comrades with the same realm to be sure.

However, he was now trapped in a quagmire.

Roar Roar!

"Immortals... die!"

The two Primordial Godfiends surrounded Immortal Tai Xuan.

Fang Yuan manipulated the Outer Heaven Tower's Illusion Realm restriction, and it competed with the Nine Void Banner to offset each other.

The nomological laws contained in these two magic treasures might be at the same level, but Fang Yuan had comprehended them himself and naturally had an advantage over Elder Tai Xuan, who did not understand them as in-depth as him.

"Ahh!" A scream came. The Fire Godfiend had caught the slowest Immortal and swallowed him. He did not make another sound.

After swallowing the Immortal, the Fire Godfiend's aura rose a little. It grinned evilly and continued to battle.

Before long, Hui Ye and the other Immortals were swallowed by the waves of the battle and died.

"Ah... Situ Zhaixing, the Heavenly Circuit Immortal Sect will never let you off!"

Immortal Tai Xuan's hair was disheveled, and his heart was bleeding.

After his outcry, he activated the Nine Void Banner and spat blood essence onto it, trying to open a passage.

After all, this treasure was stronger than the Realm Breaking Beads, and with a Grand Unity not hesitating to sacrifice his vitality to activate it, a silver-white moon arc flashed.

The void trembled, and a pitch-black passage was cut open.

The sleeves of Immortal Tai Xuan's robes exploded. It was also a top-grade immortal artifact and managed to entangle the two Godfiends for the time being. He stepped into the passage, turned back, and hissed, "I, Tai Xuan, will definitely take revenge for today!"

"Stay here!"

Fang Yuan activated the power of the primordial treasure, but instead of targeting Elder Tai Xuan, he concentrated all its power onto the Nine Void Banner!

"Thief, how dare you try to steal my sect's treasure!"

Immortal Tai Xuan's eyes flashed with indignance!

Chapter 1096: Start

"We're already enemies, so why wouldn't I dare to steal your treasure? What you said is a joke, Tai Xuan!" Fang Yuan's spiritual will transmitted. The entire Thirty-Three-Level Outer Heaven Tower rumbled.

He was determined to obtain this Nine Void Banner.

Otherwise, if a few Grand Unity Immortals were to barge in under its protection next time, he might really have problem resisting.

Moreover, this immortal artifact contained the complete Illusion Realm's nomological laws and was just as precious as a primordial treasure. This was likely the only one in the entire Heavenly Circuit Immortal Sect.

"The passage appeared!"

"Go!"

The two Primordial Godfiends saw the passage, and their eyes flashed red for a split second.

The pain of being imprisoned for millions of years, the suppression of their desire to destroy, and the extraction of their natural source was the cruelest torture to them.

They gazed at the passage opened by Immortal Tai Xuan and immediately used up everything they had. Their scarred hands pulled at the edges of the space, expanding the passage.

The formation of the space passage was entirely due to the Nine Void Banner.

Them doing this naturally put considerable pressure on this top-grade immortal artifact.

I better release these two Godfiends. I have no means to continue suppressing them, but they can cause immense destruction inside this tower! Fang Yuan decided in a split second.

An enormous passage formed in space with the channeling of power from both the Grand Unity Immortal and Fang Yuan.

Immortal Tai Xuan's roar came from within it. "No!"

It was a huge burden on the Nine Void Banner for the two giant Godfiends to enter it.

Adding on to Fang Yuan's continuous pull on it, finally...

Crack!

The very moment the passage contracted, the battered Nine Void Banner broke at its waist!

Smack!

Fang Yuan shut the passage entirely, leaving half of the Nine Void Banner within the Outer Heaven Tower.

"Suppress!"

A mere Nascent Soul cultivator could suppress any immortal artifact once it lost its master's control, even if it was top grade and contained the Illusion Realm's nomological laws. Fang Yuan simply used a tiny bit of power from the Outer Heaven Tower to completely suppress it.

"However, there were heavy losses this time. I might even get hurt if everything were to happen again..." Fang Yuan's Torch Dragon clone rubbed his lower chin. "After all, those from cultivation Holy Lands aren't idiots and will gain experience from this wave. Their loss this time was a result of them not knowing the strength of the Outer Heaven Tower, but the next time will be extremely difficult..."

He decided that he would have to abandon the tower if another siege were to happen.

Putting his clone in danger for the sake of a primordial treasure was not worth the risk.

"If my hunch serves me right, those two Primordial Godfiends will cause a stir in the world... If this doesn't occur, I'll retreat immediately! My main body might seem stable in the Great Sage Immortal World, but it's in a Holy Land after all. I would immediately become passive if something were to happen. With another life safe outside, I'll have more freedom to act!"

He sat cross-legged and opened a light screen to the outside world.

...

Above the reeds.

The void broke open, and Tai Xuan's sorry figure appeared.

"Nine Void Banner?" He was expressionless as he gazed at the empty pole in his hand, obviously having calmed down entirely. "Situ Zhaixing, good! Very good! You have become an eternal enemy of my Heavenly Circuit Immortal Sect! We'll hunt you down to the ends of the world!"

"Elder Tai Xuan?" Seeing this scene, the other Immortals had a bad premonition. "Where are the other Immortals?"

"Start the Twelve Heavenly Scorching Array! You six, follow me quickly!"

Elder Tai Xuan put away the banner and left with the six Immortals of Heavenly Circuit Immortal Sect, without looking back. "Spread the word. The demon disaster this time has erupted early because of Situ Zhaixing!"

"How is it possible for a Demonic Tribulation to happen ahead of time?"

The remaining Immortals stared with incredulous looks.

But the next moment, two terrifying Godfiends appeared in the sky.

"Finally... out!"

"I'm... back!"

The power of ice and fire spread, and the Immortals who could not escape fast enough turned into statues of the elements.

These two Primordial Godfiends roared toward the sky. The fury in their spiritual will traveled far and wide.

"Primordial Godfiends!" The Immortals of the Heavenly Circuit Immortal Sect quivered. "They appeared before the Demonic Tribulation arrived. It's very likely for them to resonate with the otherworldly demons, bringing the disaster ahead of time!"

"The loss of Hui Ye and the others was my fault. After returning, I will apologize to the elders!" Immortal Tai Xuan said lightly. "It's imperative to notify the sect master immediately!"

"Understood!" The rest of the Immortals bowed while thinking to themselves secretly.

Seems like Situ Zhaixing caused the patriarch to suffer quite a big loss!

In fact, the Twelve Heavenly Scorching Array also has the ability to restrict space. If we had cooperated fully with Martial Uncle resisting in the middle, it might not have been impossible for us to defeat those two Primordial Godfiends. At the very least, we would have formed a stalemate! But there are too many variables, especially in front of the Outer Heaven Tower. If we were to expose any weaknesses and that Situ Zhaixing came to find trouble with us, we would have been in danger of being completely annihilated!

I'd rather betray the world than to have the world betray me! Even if the demon disaster is ahead of time, it doesn't mean that our Holy Land can't cope with it!

The Holy Lands had seen countless demon disasters throughout history.

To them, an ordinary demon disaster was not scary in the least. Even if Primordial Godfiends besieged them, they could defend themselves within their sect.

As long as Chaos Godfiends were not born, they could enjoy eternal peace!

...

"They really left!" Half a day later, Fang Yuan appeared.

The two Primordial Godfiends had left quickly after having their fill of all the Immortals. He did not know where they went, but the Sixteen Countries were going to suffer from bad luck.

What astonished him the most was Immortal Tai Xuan's decision.

He had left decisively without even trying.

"If you had really wanted to eliminate those two evil creatures, why would I deliberately obstruct you ..." Fang Yuan hovered in the void and sighed. "You are half responsible for the early demon disaster."

He gazed at the sky.

A strange layer of dark red rose like flames, slowly covering the entire sky like a heavenly canopy.

"Resistance from the world?"

The next moment, the world dimmed, and numerous stars appeared!

The numerous stars rained down like meteors, smashing onto the dark red heavenly canopy.

A large number of otherworldly demons were burnt into ashes by the flames before they could enter this world.

But a few lucky ones escaped that fate. They turned into meteors and landed all over the world.

Some otherworldly demons started killing indiscriminately, while the others hid.

Those that could restrain their desires to destroy were among the best of the otherworldly demons and had the potential to become Primordial Godfiends in the future.

"Resonance of Demonic Qi? So the escape of those two Primordial Godfiends was equivalent to sending a signal to the otherworldly demons in the chaos?" Fang Yuan rubbed his chin. "Did the demon disaster start early because of this? This isn't good news for the Sixteen Countries or even the Hundred Thousand Mountains!"

The Immortals of the Sixteen Countries had experienced several calamities and were nearly completely annihilated.

He had no doubt that if the barbarians of the Hundred Thousand Mountains wanted to occupy most of the Sixteen Countries now, they could do so without much effort.

Of course, any expansion at this time meant spreading their forces, which was not much different from courting death.

...

Hundred Thousand Mountains, Barbarians.

"Blood staining the sky; stars visible in the day. The sign of a Demonic Tribulation?" At the peak of the Holy Mountain, Immortal Brutal Child looked up at the sky. "Shouldn't it be in another ten years?"

Five figures walked out from behind him. They were Brutal Emperor, Brutal Extinction, Rising Sun, Dark Essence, and Mo He!

During this time, Mo He had successfully transcended the lightning tribulation and joined the ranks of the barbarian Immortals!

Roar Roar!

A fierce roar came from beneath the Holy Mountain. Black Qi was trying to burst out, responding to the situation of the outside world.

"This demon always tries to escape during the Demonic Tribulations. Suppress it together!" Immortal Brutal Child had a cold expression.

The six Immortals working together with Pantheon's restriction easily suppressed the demon.

"The subtle release of this demon's might is also beneficial. At the very least, few otherworldly demons dare to come close to our Hundred Thousand Mountains!"

Mo He had just joined their ranks and received advice from his predecessors. "This is also the foundation of our Hundred Thousand Mountains.... Of course, this can only deter some Immortal-level otherworldly demons. It'll have no effect against Primordial Godfiends. Nonetheless, the Hundred Thousand Mountains is remote, and there have never been any Primordial Godfiends during the past Demonic Tribulations..."

"However, we've already sworn to join the Combat Heavenly Palace and stand together with the Sixteen Countries for this demon disaster!" Immortal Brutal Emperor had a difficult look on his face. "Many preparations have yet to be completed since it happened so early!"

"Never mind!" Immortal Brutal Child took out a jade talisman, which was an immortal token from the Combat Heavenly Palace for facilitating communications. "Are the Fellow Daoists of the Combat Heavenly there? We have to discuss our plans since the demon disaster has arrived!"

This message seemed to sink into the depths of the ocean. After quite some time, a hoarse voice replied, "Is this Immortal Brutal Child of the Hundred Thousand Mountains?"

"Whom might you be?" The barbarian Immortals were surprised.

"I'm Lie Huo, an itinerant Immortal of Qingfeng City... The Combat Heavenly Palace no longer exists!" Venerable Lie Huo's helpless voice came from the jade talisman. "After experiencing many calamities,

the Immortals of the Sixteen Countries suffered heavy casualties and are in complete disorder... At this time, I want to form an alliance with the Hundred Thousand Mountains to protect ourselves!"

"Wait!" Immortal Brutal Child and the other Immortals exchanged baffled looks. Only a few sects had easily overpowered and suppressed the Hundred Thousand Mountains, but that extremely powerful Sixteen Countries had fallen to this point?

"What happened?" Immortal Brutal Child asked immediately.

"It's because of a crazy cultivator named Situ Zhaixing. He seems to have barbarian origins..." Venerable Lie Huo replied weakly.

Chapter 1097: Disaster

In the dark chaos outside the Wasteland World.

Countless otherworldly demons began waking up.

"On that land is the aura of Primordial Godfiends!"

"This is the best signal. No need to wait, we'll break through immediately!"

A few powerful Godfiends bellowed orders, while the other otherworldly demons had basically no awareness of danger. Their eyes only had bloodthirst, and like moths to a flame, they closed in on the Wasteland World.

"Go, destroy everything! For the supreme chaos of the universe!" A spiritual will resounded and suddenly bombarded downward.

The entire Wasteland World shook, and three claw marks appeared on the heavenly canopy, looking like a wound of heaven.

Many Primordial Godfiends roared in excitement as they led legions of otherworldly demons to fly into the world from the wound.

"A wound of heaven?!" At the same time, on the Wasteland World, numerous existences raised their heads to look at the wound in the sky with furrowed brows. "It's a large-scale demon disaster!"

Demon disasters varied in scale.

In the past, small-scale demon disasters featured mainly otherworldly demons, with the occasional Primordial Godfiend. The cultivation Holy Lands could easily stop them.

Large-scale demon disasters were much worse! Not only would the number of otherworldly demons explode, but Chaos Godfiends would appear as well!

With only their Connate Destruction Great Dao, they could harm the nomological laws of the world and tear apart the heavenly canopy defense.

If Fang Yuan were present, he would surely understand. Only Great Daos that were comparable to the perfect Dao paths of Netherheaven Demon Gods could truly fight against an entire world!

The appearance of this wound of heaven was indisputable proof that Chaos Godfiends were involved!

"It's actually a large-scale demon disaster!"

"A heavenly tribulation that hasn't occurred for ten thousand years! To think our generation would actually encounter it!"

"Hurry and gather all the Immortal disciples and awaken all the elders!"

"Maintain the Mountain Guarding Array at its strongest at all times. Don't be stingy with top-grade spirit stones!"

...

At the same time, almost all Holy Land sects started taking defensive actions.

Near the Central Region of the Great Sage Immortal World.

A group of Immortals suddenly stopped. "It's a large-scale demon disaster! Hurry and return!"

"Deacon Qi, are we going to stop tracking down that murderer?" One Immortal was very reluctant.

"That murderer killed the disciples of our Heavenly Circuit Immortal Sect and is wicked beyond redemption! According to the soul searches of that master-servant pair who were on the run, the murderer took an Iron Mountain Token from them, so the Iron Mountain Gate likely has a connection..."

"I'm naturally aware of this. However, our Heavenly Circuit Immortal Sect and the Golden Soul Sect have always had a rocky relationship, so we can't ask it for help. And the Iron Mountain Gate is a branch of the Golden Soul Sect. It will take a long time to track him down. We could take things slow in ordinary times, but there's a demon disaster now, and it's a large-scale one at that. If we're even the slightest bit negligent, we will encounter a tribulation!" the leading Immortal Qi said calmly.

He was clad in silver armor and looked extremely dashing. With a silver spear in hand, his murderous aura soared. Even among Immortals, he was the type that excelled in killing.

"Okay... understood!" After hearing this, no matter how unwilling the other Immortals were, they could only choose to return.

After all, it was a large-scale demon disaster. Even cultivation Holy Lands could collapse! The previous Mount Mengyan was the best example!

Roar Roar!

Just as they were about to turn into streaks of light and return, pillars of black Qi that towered to the sky suddenly appeared.

The figures of otherworldly demons started to appear slowly from them, and their demon claws directly grabbed at the Immortals.

"Have a taste of my spear!" Immortal Qi shook his spear, and it suddenly turned into nine spears that seemed to have lightning coursing through them.

Whoosh!

A blue light appeared, and lightning danced wildly.

Under this thunder god-like attack, nine otherworldly demons flew backward, howling. Their scales were broken, with black smoke rising.

“Nice Thunderbolt Spear Dao!” the other Immortals exclaimed in admiration.

Deacon Qi was one of the elite Immortals of the Heavenly Circuit Immortal Sect. He had comprehended the Nomological Laws of Spear and the Nomological Laws of Thunderbolt, and created his own ‘Thunderbolt Spear Dao’. Even Grand Unity Immortals praised that once this Dao reached perfection, he could advance to the respected Grand Unity status!

If it were not for the death of an Immortal, a genius like him would not be on the pursuit team.

This man has both brawn and brain, knowing when to advance and when to retreat. Perhaps... he can fight for the position of sect master one day!

Upon arriving at this thought, the gazes of the other Immortals changed.

Deacon Qi was clearly enjoying these gazes. It also appeared that he had been promised something by a voice transmission, and he proclaimed loudly, “Haha... You guys don’t need to do anything. I can handle these otherworldly demons by myself!”

Suddenly, there was a turn of events!

An enormous demon palm descended from the sky like a mountain, casting a shadow that covered hundreds of kilometers.

“It’s a Primordial Godfiend!” Deacon Qi immediately put away his spear. “Help me, everyone! Thunder Dragon Array! Quick!”

The Immortals formed the array. Lightning sparkled before turning into a blue electric dragon that coiled itself around the spear.

Roar Roar!

The thunderbolt dragon roared and struck simultaneously with the spear at the demon claw.

Ding!

With a clear chime, the demon claw stopped before suddenly splitting open in the center.

“Go!”

Seeing this, Deacon Qi transformed into a ray of electric light and vanished into the horizon without looking back.

Being able to exchange a blow with a Primordial Godfiend and escape with his life was enough to make him famous among Immortals.

In addition, he knew that he could escape with his life-saving technique. It was already fortunate that he could escape, and he had no thoughts about saving his companions.

The next moment, an enormous demon shadow appeared in the sky. It issued an earthshaking roar in rage due to Deacon Qi’s escape.

“It’s... the Primordial Godfiend?”

The remaining Immortals had faces filled with despair as they desperately used their life-saving techniques and artifacts.

Unfortunately, not everyone was as powerful and as talented as Immortal Qi. A few lights danced underneath the demon claw, but they were unable to find an opening. The Primordial Godfiend swallowed them one by one.

“Indeed... Immortals taste the best!”

After devouring the Immortals, the body of the Primordial Godfiend increased dramatically. “Go forth... Destroy everything you see!”

Under its command, masses of otherworldly demons started sweeping out in all directions like locusts, bringing destruction to the world.

...

Golden Soul Sect.

A golden bell with dragon patterns rang. Fang Yuan joined a group of outer disciples and looked at the wound on the heavenly canopy.

“It’s actually the Golden Dragon Bell!” Chu Duo muttered. “This is only sounded when the main sect has a crisis of annihilation!”

“Seems like the demon disaster arrived earlier than expected!”

As disciples of a cultivation Holy Land, their outlook and source of information were naturally incomparable to the low-level cultivators and mortals.

Before the mortals and low-level cultivators were aware of anything, they had already formed a rather accurate speculation of the situation.

“The demon disaster is ahead of time?”

“This is bad! My family is still outside!”

“Why is this happening?”

...

Many sighs came, and Fang Yuan pretended to be shocked as well. Naturally, he would not admit that this had anything to do with him.

“A Demonic Tribulation! Even small-scale demon disasters plunge the entire world into misery and suffering!”

He blinked and recalled many descriptions. “Otherworldly demons know nothing but destruction. They can wipe out an ordinary human city in less than an hour. Every time there’s a demon disaster, anguished cries resound throughout the land, and places become barren for thousands of kilometers...

Of course, everything is equal under the demon disaster. Wild lifeforms, even Fey, ghosts, monsters, and evil beings will not escape its wrath!

“However, in addition to guarding their own sects, some cultivation Holy Lands will send out troops to protect the main cities in order to preserve the last vitalities of the human race! The Golden Soul Sect has ten main cities under us, each of which can accommodate a million people under normal circumstances. Under urgent circumstances, a few million is no problem!

“Besides having a Grand Unity and other Immortals protecting these cities, disciples are needed to patrol as well. Want to pass your days leisurely from today onward? Fat chance!”

While Fang Yuan was contemplating, a booming voice echoed throughout the entire Golden Soul Sect. “Although demon disasters are fierce, the Golden Soul Sect has endured for millions of years. You can rest assured, for our sect is impregnable! Starting today, the outer and inner disciples will obey the commands of the Battle Hall. We will delegate missions after seven days. Violations of orders will result in death regardless of the reason. Both body and soul will be destroyed!”

The faces of Xiao Jiuli and others immediately paled after hearing the notice. “This is bad. I knew the sect wouldn’t let us hide here forever!”

Naturally, it was very safe inside the Golden Soul Sect.

However, the defenses at the ten main cities failed occasionally, and even some Grand Unity Immortals had fallen. This was all recorded in the history books.

Since even Grand Unity Immortals were dispatched, ordinary disciples naturally needed to contribute.

The only exceptions were the core disciples!

After all, they were true geniuses and highly likely to tackle the Grand Unity realm in the future. They were the last seeds and could not be expended needlessly.

“Seven days left!” Xiao Jiuli and Chu Duo exchanged glances and then rushed toward the Mission Hall. “Let’s exchange all our contribution points. If it’s possible to become an inner disciple, do so immediately!”

In this war, the outer disciples had the most dangerous missions, while things were slightly better for inner disciples.

At this time, they naturally had to fight with everything they had.

The seven-day grace period that the Golden Soul Sect announced, in addition to allowing the disciples to prepare for the upcoming war, was to give a final chance for the hidden geniuses to pass the challenge.

Many disciples understood this, so when Fang Yuan arrived at the Mission Hall, he saw a bustling scene.

Moreover, the sect had reduced the prices of many dao talismans, dao artifacts, and so on, clearly showing consideration for the numerous disciples.

Of course, the liveliest place was the Golden Soul Realm.

The gates to the realm were full of disciples who wanted to make a final effort.

Fang Yuan reckoned that the situation in the inner sect would be even crazier.

After all, their status would completely change after becoming a core disciple. Even the missions assigned to them would not pose any real danger. They could even choose to hide cowardly within the Golden Soul Sect until the demon disaster passed.

“There will surely be many outstanding outer and inner disciples at this time, so I shouldn’t stand out too much among them...” Fang Yuan muttered to himself as he walked toward the realm gates. “Even if they detect that something is amiss, with how busy the Grand Unity Immortals are, there’s a high chance I will succeed!”

Chapter 1098: Trial

In the Golden Soul Realm.

The originally calm grounds suddenly became busy.

Fang Yuan stood on top of an iron tree and casually grabbed a small golden snake that tried to ambush him. He tossed it aside, plucked a Golden Soul Fruit, and ate it happily.

“Within the surrounding twenty-five kilometers, there are no other disciples... This makes sense. No matter how small the Golden Soul Realm, it’s the size of a country. Combined with the artifact spirit’s intentional adjustments, the disciples are dispersed as much as possible. If they weren’t, they could form groups to enter the third region and make the test a joke!”

Fang Yuan kept alert.

Although this test of the Golden Soul Sect seemed crude, the artifact spirit and Immortals kept watch at all times. He would be courting death if he tried to abuse any loopholes.

On the other hand, trials like that of the Thirty-Three-Level Outer Heaven Tower were exploitable once the master was no longer around, no matter how rigorous the settings were.

“However, with my spiritual will, gathering a bunch of disciples is merely a matter of time!”

His spiritual will could be attached to spatial vibrations and was unaffected by the Nomological Laws of Gravity. As such, he had a huge advantage in the Golden Soul Realm since he could detect golden beasts in advance and find routes that avoided them.

“The requirement to become a core disciple of the Golden Soul Sect is to enter the third region and survive for more than three days!”

Fang Yuan decided on a direction and started off while taking detours.

Roar Roar!

A golden cheetah spotted him and suddenly accelerated, turning into a sharp arrow that bit his shoulder.

Crack!

The cheetah’s teeth broke, and it rolled around on the ground, wailing in agony.

“You’ve eaten a loss, huh?” Fang Yuan brushed his torn clothes and revealed his smooth shoulder that did not even have a mark. “The golden beasts in the first region can damage dao artifacts. Golden beasts in the second region can only be resisted with bodies at the top-grade dao artifact level. But without a body at the immortal artifact level, entering the third is courting death!”

At this time, he had undoubtedly cultivated the Nine Transference Undying Method to the third transference, and his body was comparable to a low-grade immortal artifact!

He had achieved this as a result of having the foundation of a dao artifact-level body and the assistance of a plethora of heavenly materials and earthly treasures.

After all, he had fleeced Immortals and obtained many treasures from the Pantheon Palace and the Outer Heaven Tower, and quite a few of those treasures could be used for tempering bodies.

Although the Golden Soul Fruits were incredibly effective, even outer disciples could get their hands on a few of them, so it was clear how much they were worth in comparison.

Kaboom!

After entering the second region, Fang Yuan’s arrogant demeanor immediately angered the golden beasts.

A hundred or so golden beasts roared and formed a beast tide.

Along with earthshaking sounds, a golden line appeared on the horizon.

“Haha... Come!”

Fang Yuan laughed loudly as he tore off his scraps of clothing and rushed toward the golden beasts.

Bang! Bang Bang!

The sound of numerous collisions echoed. Fang Yuan was just too fast and too powerful. The slightly weaker golden beasts turned into piles of mud on the spot, while the others flew into the air and broke their bones upon landing.

...

“We have to be cautious in the second region. As long as we can survive for three days, we will become inner disciples...”

On another side, Xiao Jiuli and Chu Duo guarded each other’s back carefully. “There are golden beasts waiting in ambush underground too. We can’t remain in one place and have to be constantly on the move!”

Since inner disciples enjoyed honor and more resources in normal times, they were undoubtedly going to enjoy easier missions and more attention now. It was worth risking their lives for!

“The two of us working together can deal with at most five golden beasts, and we can’t afford to be discovered by those damn crows!”

Xiao Jiuli held an iron hammer in his hand, while Chu Duo carried a heavy saber, both of which were dao artifacts.

They could appear together because they had bribed the deacon that guarded the realm gates. Of course, it was allowed, but it was limited to two people.

“What happened? The golden beasts are sparse!” Xiao Jiuli put his ear to the ground and listened.

“There’s also this noise. A disciple must have encountered a beast tide! It’s not far from here... What an unlucky guy. Let’s head over!”

It was, of course, extremely dangerous to face a beast tide head-on. However, if they only brushed by, they could take advantage of the golden beast vacuum to obtain a precious chance to catch their breath.

“Haha!” Chu Duo’s eyes gleamed, and he followed immediately.

They crouched on a small hill and saw Fang Yuan charging at the beast tide.

“Heavens, is he still human? Hang on, that person is... Li Hun?!”

Chu Duo became absent-minded and nearly fell on his butt.

“The third transference of the Nine Transference Undying Method, body comparable to an immortal artifact?” Xiao Jiuli smiled bitterly. “He’s indeed a true genius. Having refined his body to this level before becoming an Immortal, he’s almost guaranteed to become a core disciple!”

Cultivation Holy Lands attached great importance to these core disciples.

Someone who had cultivated to the third transcendence before the lightning tribulation had a very high chance of surviving it, almost ensuring that they would become Immortal. They were peerless monsters, and they even had a glimmer of hope of reaching Grand Unity in the future!

This type of seed would not be sent out to fight even during a demon disaster until the very last minute.

“We-we even wanted to rob him before?”

Chu Duo watched as Fang Yuan forcibly subdued the hundred golden beasts and suddenly felt the strength drain from his body.

At the same time, Fang Yuan pierced the final golden lion with his fist and looked in their direction.

“He’s discovered us!” Xiao Jiuli and Chu Duo both felt a chill in their heart, and their legs were shivering.

Fortunately, Fang Yuan did not pay them much attention, as if he had merely seen two strangers, and headed deeper into the region.

“He wants to tackle the third region and become a core disciple?” Xiao Jiuli muttered, feeling a great sense of failure and frustration.

The goal he risked his life for was only the starting point for someone else. It truly was a bitter pill to swallow.

...

There was a special space above the Golden Soul Realm.

Amid colorful clouds was an absolutely gorgeous palace.

An Immortal with golden brows and a hooked nose was sitting inside the palace. There were three hundred and sixty-five water mirrors in front of him, all of which were reflecting the situations of the disciples in the Golden Soul Realm.

“Hmm, those that have reached their limit have all entered the Golden Soul Realm to fight. They’ve finally realized the sect master’s intention correctly!” The golden-browed Immortal looked at the scene and smiled. “However, most of those who can pass are outer disciples. It’s difficult for inner disciples to tackle the third region. Difficult! Difficult! Difficult!!!”

He was once an inner disciple and was naturally well aware of the difficulty of the core disciple test.

Even the golden-browed Immortal himself had only reached the third transcendence of the Nine Transference Undying Method by using the special qualities of the immortal body after transcending the lightning tribulation and becoming an Immortal.

Even so, his immortal artifact-level body allowed him to reign supreme among ordinary Immortals!

“However, some disciples always manage to rise above the crowd in this final squeeze of potential. I wonder how many core disciples will appear? Two? Or maybe three?” the golden-browed Immortal muttered as he sensed the third region.

Although he was not the master of the artifact spirit of the Golden Soul Realm, because he was appointed as an administrator, he was granted the majority of the jurisdiction and could accomplish many things.

With a thought, a number of water mirrors moved closer. “Hmm, he really is here! The top inner disciple, Tie Xinku! He was originally an Iron Mountain Gate disciple, and he has an extremely strong foundation!

“And this one, the female inner disciple—Huang Yue. Did she awaken some kind of bloodline? It’s truly surprising!”

“And finally this group of three. They’re lucky to have run into each other and were able to form a small sword formation. Unfortunately... the dangers of the third region are beyond your imagination. Choosing the easy way out will ultimately result in nothing!” The golden-browed Immortal shook his head. “The positions for the true disciples are probably among these five. However, the third group, haha...”

The third region was different from the first two. There was no room for any luck. The golden beasts were dense, and no matter which direction you took, you would surely run into the beasts and find yourself in a hard fight.

Additionally, as the functional operator of the Golden Soul Realm, he would naturally increase the difficulty for the three-man group and not allow them to pass without real skills.

At this moment, his gaze shifted as a water mirror moved close. “Another one, huh? It’s actually an outer disciple?” The golden-browed Immortal’s expression changed.

In the water mirror, he saw a young man with torn clothing, revealing bronze skin that had speckles of gold, defined but not bulging muscles. There was a beautiful golden ratio and a sense of smooth beauty to it. He rushed straight into the third region.

Roar Roar!

Ow Ow!

Caw Caw!

Many golden beasts immediately roared furiously and surrounded him.

Bang!

The golden beasts in this region were stronger than those in the previous two. In their first exchange, the young man was smashed into a rock wall, creating a deep hole.

But in the blink of an eye, the young man dashed out and slammed his fist on a golden beast's face, sending it flying away like a cannonball, plowing a long trail on the ground.

"The third transference of the Nine Transference Undying Method?! He's still an outer disciple. How is this possible?" The golden-browed Immortal's eyes flashed.

To survive in the third region, one had to refine their body to be comparable to an immortal artifact.

Among the disciples that he had set his eyes on, Tie Xinku had cultivated the Myriad Poison Mixed Element Method and broke through by impressive willpower. He fulfilled the criterion completely.

As for the female disciple, Huang Yue, although her body was only at the half immortal artifact level, she had managed to awaken a special bloodline that boosted her body refining technique, making her body comparable to an immortal artifact.

As for the three using the sword formation, their bodies were only at the top-grade dao artifact level and were not even worth mentioning.

Among the five inner disciples, only one had truly met the criterion, but a monster emerged from the outer disciples?

Things were definitely amiss!

The golden-browed Immortal took out a jade disc and found Fang Yuan's details immediately. "Li Hun, also recommended by the Iron Mountain Gate... Joined the sect for less than a month?"

His eyes bulged out in disbelief as he watched Fang Yuan fight and run through the water mirror. A month to reach the third transcendence of the Nine Transference Undying Method? The difficulty of this technique was even higher than the Myriad Poison Mixed Element Method!"

"This person has a huge secret and is worth investigating. Although the Golden Soul Sect doesn't choose who to teach, you need a clean background to become a core disciple!"

The golden-browed Immortal would not admit it, but he also had some secret thoughts.

Chapter 1099: Core Disciple

Ahwoo Ahwoo!

The beasts roared endlessly.

Each of Fang Yuan's blows carried boundless energy, bursting the skulls of numerous golden beasts and splattering their brains across the ground.

After some time, a pool of blood had formed where he stood.

Vast amounts of golden beast corpses piled up into a small mountain. He stood atop it, like a king among the dead.

"This doesn't feel that good..." Fang Yuan shook his head and prepared to collect some gold cores as loot. "Are the remaining golden beasts not coming in fear of being killed?"

Before long, a huge shifting force acted on him.

"Is it the power of the artifact spirit?"

Although he could break free using his Illusion Realm's nomological laws, Fang Yuan certainly did not want to be so high-profile, so he allowed the moving force to envelop him.

Immediately afterward, everything tumbled before his eyes, and he found himself inside a golden palace.

On the main seat sat an Immortal with golden eyebrows and a hooked nose. His gaze pierced Fang Yuan like a knife, scrutinizing him. "Li Hun? After less than a month of joining the sect, you managed to cultivate to the third transference?"

"Greetings, Immortal!" Fang Yuan bowed respectfully. "Have three days already passed, and I'm a core disciple now?"

"Naturally, you've passed the test. However, we still need to check... Where did you come from? Who was your teacher?" the golden-browed Immortal asked calmly.

Fang Yuan suddenly felt a force probing his soul, covering everywhere.

A lie-detecting spiritual technique? He sneered inside his mind. If a Grand Unity Immortal or the true master of this Golden Soul Realm were the ones doing this, they might be able to discover something. But you're merely an Immortal... and you want to examine me?!

"Reporting to Immortal, I came from Linluo City in the Southern Region. Luck had it that I received the inheritance of an itinerant Immortal and found my way into the Dao. After that... I happened to meet this master-servant pair during my travels."

Fang Yuan went into detail about the killings over treasures in the Southern Region and his resulting feud with the Heavenly Circuit Immortal Sect without holding back any information.

After all, the Iron Mountain Gate only recognized the tokens and not the people. Furthermore, the Golden Soul Sect was at odds with the Heavenly Circuit Immortal Sect.

"I see. Our Golden Soul Sect doesn't show favoritism in choosing our disciples, and background doesn't matter here. You can rest assured!" the golden-browed Immortal said with a hint of pride. "I asked Jin Huan and Old Wang from the Cultivation Techniques Hall. You had only cultivated the Hundred Physical Forging Technique before. Even with the conversion, it's still within reason for you to cultivate to the second transcendence. But how did you progress so fast?"

As one of the main cultivation techniques of the Golden Soul Sect, the cultivation of the Nine Transference Undying Method was the most difficult. The first two levels were not too bad, but it was almost impossible to break through to the third transference.

Even those who had awakened a special bloodline like Huang Yue found doing so very difficult.

"Reporting to Immortal, it's because of this item!" Fang Yuan turned over his hand and revealed an exotic golden flower the size of a bowl, and the petals seemed to have golden flames flickering on them. Most of the petals had vanished, and there was only a single one left.

"This is... Golden Flame Flowing Wind Flower?" The golden-browed Immortal's eyes widened in surprise. "This is a rare treasure for even Immortals, and it has miraculous effects when it comes to body refining!"

"I happened to obtain it by chance. I used one petal before, and my Hundred Physical Forging Technique progressed dramatically. I used the rest on cultivating the Nine Transference Undying Method afterward..."

Of course, he had not obtained this treasure by chance. It was from the Thirty-Three-Level Outer Heaven Tower.

Naturally, after Fang Yuan became its master, he could take anything he wished.

In addition, he was well aware of the uses of the Golden Flame Flowing Wind Flower. It was a bit of a waste to use it to cultivate to the third transference. It was so potent that it could even help with breaking through to the seventh transference.

"A normal Golden Flame Flowing Wind Flower should have nine petals, but you've already used eight?" The golden-browed Immortal appeared to be in pain as his eyes kept turning.

If he had a whole flower, he would be confident enough to tackle the fourth transference.

He almost wanted to kill him for wasting this treasure.

But the next moment, he narrowed his eyes, and a smile he could not hide appeared on his face.

"... I failed to recognize the value of this treasure, and it is a waste for me to keep it. I am willing to present it to you, Immortal!" Fang Yuan said calmly.

"Oh? Do you really mean it?" The golden-browed Immortal's eye twitched. He immediately hid his joy, stopping himself from showing any emotion.

"Of course! Compared to the dangers of the demon disaster, an exotic flower is insignificant." Fang Yuan looked up calmly.

“That won’t do! Since you’ve passed the test, you’re now a core disciple of our Golden Soul Sect. You don’t need to head to the ten main cities...” The golden-browed Immortal kept shaking his head.

However, Fang Yuan was sneering in his mind. He knew that this person had already been moved yet was pretending to be reserved, worried about leaving a bad impression.

“Since the item has already been exposed to the world, it’s dangerous for me to keep holding onto it. Please save me, Immortal!” He bowed respectfully again. “How about I leave this your care first?”

Hmm, that’s one way to do things! The golden-browed Immortal was secretly overjoyed. He smiled while stroking his beard. “When you have a use for it in the future, you can come here to take it back!”

“Thank you, Immortal! Thank you, Immortal!”

Fang Yuan rolled his eyes in his mind while showing an extremely grateful expression and presenting the Golden Flame Flowing Wind Flower.

“Haha... Since you’re already a core disciple, you can address me as Martial Uncle! My dao name is Golden Roc, and I have a bit of a reputation in the Golden Soul Sect!”

Immortal Golden Roc laughed heartily, and his expression became much softer. “After becoming a core disciple of the Golden Soul Sect, if you meet someone that’s not in your direct line of teaching, you can address Immortals as martial uncle and Grand Unities as grand martial uncle!”

With that said, he took out a golden scroll and had Fang Yuan sign it. He then refined an Essence Soul lantern. Like the blood jade, it carried his aura and could reflect his life and death.

“I’ve made you a new identity token as well. Martial Nephew, from now on, you are a core disciple of our Golden Soul Sect... Originally, you would have had the opportunity to meet a Grand Unity Immortal and ask for some advice, but the martial uncles might not be in the mood to see you given the demon disaster...”

Immortal Golden Roc shook his head. “But core disciples can stay in the main sect during the early phases of the demon disaster. It’s extremely safe, and you can even put some people under your protection as well. It’s not bad!”

“Thank you for your advice, Martial Uncle Golden Roc... I still have something to ask of you!”

Fang Yuan politely gestured with his hand and handed over the remaining Golden Flame Flowing Wind Flower to make the most out of it rather than keeping it long term.

“Hmn? What is it?” Immortal Golden Roc’s eyebrows twitched, seeming slightly surprised.

“According to the rules, core disciples can obtain another ancient book. I want to exchange for the ‘Nine Transference Undying Method’!” Fang Yuan said calmly.

This kind of thing would have been handled by masters after a disciple chose their master.

However, he did not want yet another master. And with the demon disaster imminent, it seemed like no Immortals were in the mood to accept disciples and teach them patiently.

“Are the first six transferences that are passed on in the outer sect not enough? You are really greedy...” Immortal Golden Roc shook his head. “The Nine Transference Undying Method is the core cultivation technique of our sect. Despite its incredible power, it’s extremely difficult to learn. Even Immortals wander within the first six transferences!”

From his perspective, Fang Yuan was too ambitious for his own good and did not know how long it would take him to reach the fourth transference without the aid of heavenly materials and earthly treasures.

“I have no other intentions. It’s only, I heard rumors about how the seventh transference is able to refine your body to the level of a primordial treasure and would like to learn more about it. Perhaps seeing things from a higher vantage point will provide me with some ideas for reaching the fourth transference...” Fang Yuan replied with his rehearsed excuse.

“Since you’re so determined, might as well!” Immortal Golden Roc nodded. “However, core disciples can only see the first seven transferences. Immortals will only receive the eighth, and only Grand Unity martial uncles can read the entire volume. I can’t break the rules for you! Here!”

He waved his hand, and a golden jade slip flew out and landed on Fang Yuan’s palm. “This jade slip carries a life oath with it. You’re clear on the consequences of spreading it to the outside world, so I won’t say anything!”

This was why Immortal Golden Roc did not suspect that Fang Yuan would try to steal the technique.

The advanced techniques of true cultivation Holy Lands were all secured with life oaths, and you had to make an oath using your Dao Heart if you wanted to read them.

No one had managed to circumvent this precaution for eons.

“Thank you, Immortal!” Fang Yuan was secretly happy.

He stole the technique for himself from the start and did not have any intention of spreading it.

Therefore, he did not have the slightest hesitation in making the oath.

Additionally, the seventh transference was already enough to temper his body to primordial treasure level, satisfying his minimum requirement.

“Okay, you can leave now!”

After Fang Yuan returned the jade slip, Immortal Golden Roc waved his hand impatiently.

“I will take my leave!” Fang Yuan knew that his favor had been spent.

His investment of the Golden Flame Flowing Wind Flower was now completely exhausted.

This Immortal is indeed cold and unfeeling. Otherwise, he should have at least made me his disciple, as is the proper way of doing things... He shook his head in his mind and walked out the gate.

After experiencing a similar shifting force as before, he arrived outside the realm gates.

Ring! Ring!

The golden bells sounded, and a colorful light shone in the deacon hall, resonating with his new token.

"It's actually... a core disciple?"

"He came out from the outer sect realm gate. In other words, he advanced to a core disciple directly from an outer disciple? He reached the heavens in a single step!"

...

Immediately, jealous and envious gazes focused on him.

Fang Yuan looked around, saw Xiao Jiuli, and pointed at him. "You... come here!"

"What orders do you have, Sir?" Xiao Jiuli immediately came forward and smiled fawningly.

"How much time has passed, and how many core disciples have come out?" Fang Yuan asked with a frown.

"Sir Li Hun, you spent five days inside. There are two other core disciples, and they came from the inner sect. The first is the top disciple of the inner sect, Tie Xinku, and the other is Huang Yue!"

This was not some secret information. They also had the colorful lights show, and it could not be hidden.

On the other hand, Fang Yuan had reached the heavens with a single leap. His name was bound to spread throughout the Golden Soul Sect.

"I see!" Fang Yuan put his hands behind his back and walked out. The other disciples all made way for him, showing extreme respect.

After returning to his cave abode, he finally let out a sigh of relief. "I indeed made the right bet. The Grand Unity Immortals have no time for me, and I finally managed to get my hands on the technique!"

Chapter 1100: Core Disciple

"However, it definitely won't be easy to cultivate the Nine Transference Undying Method to the seventh transference!"

Although the fourth transference made your body comparable to a low-grade immortal artifact, the peak of the sixth transference only took it to the level of a top-grade one.

The real change started at the seventh transference.

"Furthermore, in the Golden Soul Sect's history, no one at Nascent Soul has managed to cultivate to the seventh transference."

Fang Yuan shook his head.

Just how valuable were primordial treasures? Even in cultivation Holy Lands, they were extremely rare sect-stabilizing treasures.

In order to refine your body to that extent, the effect of items like the Golden Flame Flowing Wind Flower was less than 0.001 percent.

Even if you threw every single treasure in the Thirty-Three-Level Outer Heaven Tower into it, it still would not fill this bottomless pit!

This was Fang Yuan's conclusion after reading the seventh transference.

"Is Sir Li Hun here? Xiao Jiuli and Chu Duo wish to see you!" A voice came from outside.

"It's these two? Interesting!"

Fang Yuan's eyes gleamed as he let them in.

"Why are you two looking for me?" He was sitting cross-legged and looking at them with an ambiguous expression.

Xiao Jiuli clenched his teeth and knelt on the floor. "Sir, we are willing to be under your command! Starting today, we will serve you without any complaints!"

"Oh? So, what you mean is... you're willing to become servants?" Fang Yuan's lips curled slightly, as though he had been expecting this.

"That's right! Sir, you are a core disciple. You have a peak to yourself and will surely want some men to order around..." Xiao Jiuli was very direct. "Junior Brother Chu and I failed to become inner disciples in this test, but we don't want to enter the battlefield. That's why we've come here thick-skinned..."

Core disciples of the Golden Soul Sect could put some people under their protection.

In other words, they could bring ten servants to live with them inside the main sect of the Golden Soul Sect. While these spots might not seem like much in normal times, they were absolutely in high demand now.

Even inner disciples might seriously consider it, much less the outer disciple Xiao Jiuli.

"I see. I could take in two servants... but what use do you have?" Fang Yuan asked ambiguously.

"We are very familiar with the sect. And we're willing to swear the life blood oaths to serve you for life!" Xiao Jiuli said through gritted teeth.

In fact, this was not just running away from danger. It was also a bet.

After all, he had jumped from an outer disciple to a core disciple in less than a month. No matter how you looked at it, he had boundless prospects.

"Please take us in, Sir!" Chu Duo was much more straightforward than Xiao Jiuli. He simply knelt and pleaded.

"You're willing to make blood oaths? That's sincere enough... Is this the limit of an outer disciple?"

Becoming a servant was merely a temporary compromise for inner disciples. However, these two were trading their lives.

As such, Fang Yuan simply nodded. "All right, I agree. Make the oath!"

...

Point Gold Peak.

This was the mountain peak that was given to Fang Yuan after he became a core disciple.

Although the Golden Soul Sect was located on Golden Mount Meru, the entire golden mountain was the size of a continent. There were many smaller worlds with vast areas such as the Golden Soul Realm. A mere mountain peak was truly nothing.

This Point Gold Peak did not particularly stand out from the forty-nine core disciples peaks, and it was even remote. However, Fang Yuan had chosen it for its rich Nomological Laws of Gravity, which was ten times stronger than the areas for outer disciples, making it beneficial for refining his body.

A cave abode was already there, so Fang Yuan moved in after Xiao Jiuli cleaned it with a bunch of men.

Also, he received two guests as expected.

“Senior Brother Tie, Senior Sister Huang, please pardon my humble dwelling and inadequate hospitality!” Fang Yuan smiled and welcomed the two core disciples who had come together.

“Haha, you’re too polite. Junior Brother, we’re both from the Iron Mountain Gate and have a connection from the start. Now that we’re both core disciples, we should help each other when we can!” Tie Xinku looked at Fang Yuan kindly.

Obviously, he was not from the Tie Kuangtu faction, and he might be the direct disciple of Immortal Iron Mountain.

“That’s right. Junior Brother Li Hun, you reached the stars overnight. I was truly shocked when I first heard about it!” Huang Yue wore a yellow palace dress, and her smile was like a hundred flowers blooming.

Tie Xinku cultivates the Myriad Poison Mixed Element Technique. Not only is his body comparable to a low-grade immortal artifact, but it’s resistant to poison as well. As for Huang Yue, her primordial bloodline is very powerful, and it seems like it can enhance her body refining techniques...

Fang Yuan was naturally well aware of the backgrounds of these two senior disciples.

The core disciples of the Golden Soul Sect were naturally outstanding.

In fact, the Holy Land sects of the Great Sage Immortal World did not have anyone who was not.

For example, the Immortals of the Golden Soul Sect had almost all cultivated their bodies to the low-grade immortal artifact level. The weak Immortals of Sixteen Countries did not even hold a candle to them.

To put things more vividly, Fang Yuan needed only one swing to kill the weak Immortals, whereas he needed a few additional swings to kill the likes of Immortal Golden Roc!

He could think about things in this manner all thanks to reaching the third transference. Not only had his strength exploded, but he could also now unlock the higher levels of the Nine Star Pearl Mystic Technique.

Otherwise, it would take him some effort to kill an Immortal whose body was comparable to a low-grade immortal artifact.

In this case, the Golden Soul Sect is much stronger than the Heavenly Circuit Immortal Sect? Makes sense. After all, it occupies the richest Central Region...

Fang Yuan thought about it and felt at ease. "Haha, you're overpraising me! Is there any other reason why you've come besides congratulating me?"

"We are all newly-promoted core disciples, and we should look out for and help one another..."

Tie Xinku and Huang Yue exchanged glances. Naturally, they did not know that Fang Yuan was contemplating how many swings it would take him to kill them. They said sincerely, "The core of the Golden Soul Sect lies with the core disciples, and the competition between them is cutthroat!"

"Cutthroat?!" Fang Yuan was slightly astonished. He had not spent much time in the Golden Soul Sect and was unclear about many things, so he asked directly, "Aren't core disciples preparing to become Immortals? Why is there still competition?"

"It's... naturally for the rankings! Our Golden Soul Sect has forty-nine core disciple mountain peaks, but including us, this generation only has thirty-one core disciples!"

Tie Xinku coughed. "Becoming a core disciple is merely the start. There's a ranking every decade, and the resources are allocated accordingly... The older disciples have already formed groups, and they use every means at their disposal in the fight for the rankings. We three are newcomers, and it's a special time where no Immortals are taking in disciples. We must join forces in order to survive!"

"Core disciples actually form groups to compete?" Fang Yuan nodded. "Is it for the position of sect master?"

"Junior Brother Li Hun is indeed smart!" Huang Yue smiled. "We entered the fray too late, and we don't have a chance at attaining that position, not that we yearn for it either. We're only seeking to protect ourselves. We will join the forces of another senior disciple in the future!"

The sect master of the Golden Soul Sect naturally had terms of office. Otherwise, given the longevity of Immortals, the system would become too rigid.

According to the rules, the sect master position would not be succeeded by the Immortal deacons, but only selected from the core disciples of the current generation.

This resulted in a situation where every generation of core disciples fought fiercely among themselves to determine the strongest.

After hearing this, Fang Yuan said nothing. However, he was laughing scornfully in his mind. A trivial sect master position is almost the same as a bone... The ones truly in charge in these Holy Lands are not the sect masters at all, but the Grand Unity elders!

The so-called Golden Soul Sect Master was nothing more to a butler in his eyes. Even so, it attracted countless young geniuses.

This was a difference in outlook and experience.

“Junior Brother Li Hun, don’t underestimate these core disciples. Each and every one of them is a dragon among men and a phoenix among women. The first three have all fought evenly with Immortals!” Huang Yue said solemnly when she saw Fang Yuan’s dismissive expression.

Core disciples were almost guaranteed to become Immortals in the future.

Naturally, they chose to remain at the Nascent Soul stage and were unwilling to break through for the sake of accumulating more strength and obtaining more during the tribulation.

Fighting evenly with Immortals was the measure of peak performance for monstrous Nascent Soul geniuses in this world. Before Fang Yuan appeared, mortals killing Immortals was basically a joke.

That was why Immortal Tai Xuan had been so shocked and had even wanted to make Fang Yuan pay for his actions.

Not only was it because his prestige had suffered damage, but most importantly, he was really frightened.

“The first three core disciples have yet to break through to Immortal?” Fang Yuan’s eyes flashed.

In fact, they would have been less scary if they had broken through.

After all, the lightning tribulation was the only chance to obtain a lot of Great Dao inspirations.

These genius core disciples were not fools. Of course, they would accumulate strength silently in preparation to soar.

However, this was playing with fire as well. If they did not handle things well, they would destroy themselves. For example, for those monstrous geniuses who managed to comprehend top nomological laws, the power of the lightning tribulation would multiply. They would have zero chance of survival, as even immortal artifact-level bodies would not save them.

I have the most say in this regard because I’m a prime example! Fang Yuan complained in his mind. Although he now had an immortal artifact-level body, the warnings in his heart had not weakened at all. Obviously, if he dared to undergo the lightning tribulation, he would be blasted into smithereens.

“That’s right. In fact, many disciples that rank below the first three have already become Immortals. But the rating criteria for Immortals increase correspondingly. They actually suffer more when it comes to the ranking!”

Tie Xinku clearly understood the rules of the system very well. “Fortunately, there’s a Demonic Tribulation now. As long as we keep our heads down, we’ll have at least a couple of decades to train! By that time, the difference between us and those at the front won’t be as great!”

Those that were able to become core disciples were all heaven’s chosens, so they naturally had their own pride.

“A couple of decades?” Fang Yuan was slightly astonished.

“Demon disasters usually last a hundred years, and the first few decades are the most chaotic... The special treatment given to core disciples is to avoid this time where it’s the most chaotic.”

