Carefree 251

Carefree Path of Dreams

Chapter 251: Hire

Fang Yuan originally had no more contribution points left. But now, he had another few hundred contribution points and he hesitated no more as he arrived at the rock tablet.

"Based on the number of contribution points I have, I'm sure I will have enough to hire a high-tiered dream master to discover the path ahead for my Giant Eagle Metal Body Technique. However, I can only make breakthroughs for a few more grades, and might as well buy the Qian Kun Giant Spiritual Technique!"

After thinking about it, he released his interest in buying the entire recordings of the Qian Kun Giant Spiritual Technique and placed emphasis on the entire recordings. This meant that he expected the recordings to include the process of condensing the Divine Body.

Fang Yuan was speechless when he realised that he had to pay a contribution point just by releasing his request.

"Next up... to find out information relating to dream-traversing the different realms!"

He quickly browsed through the information on the rock tablet as the relevant ones were sieved out.

There would be a short synopsis of the information to allow the reader to understand what the information was about before the reader would decide to buy the information so that he could continue reading the information.

Suddenly, Fang Yuan shuddered.

He focused on a piece of information regarding how to accurately dream-traverse to a specific location and there was a picture as well, which piqued his interest.

The information was recorded by a famous dream master known as Venerable Dream Traverser. He also realised that his recordings were rather popular as many had bought from him.

He immediately bought it without hesitation when he realised that he would have to fork out 100 contribution points for the recording.

"Rumble!"

A glow emerged and huge chunks of information appeared.

"The realm would be unaware that you are from a foreign realm... There are two ways in which dream masters can explore worlds. Either by exploring the worlds in their true physical body or through dream-traversing... I will first explain how to dream-traverse to a specific location... The techniques include 'Three Elemental Technique', 'Offering Technique' and 'Realm Breaking Technique'... regardless, they are all inferior to obtaining a Realm Evidence!"

"Realm Evidence is something which obeys the rules of reality in that realm and is universally accepted everywhere in the realm. A person with Realm Evidence would automatically integrate with the realm

and will have a high tolerance within the realm. It is something everyone would hope for but not everyone would get!"

Behind the description, there was a picture depicting how Realm Evidence would look like. There were talismans, swords or even an ordinary looking rock.

The only similarity between these objects was the fact that there would be many runes within it, which would inscribe the coordinates of the realm they were from.

"This..."

Reading this, Fang Yuan was speechless.

To him, Realm Evidence was the entry pass to everything and it would not matter how it physically looked like.

"From the appearance of the runes around it, it's likely that the golden fruit has the coordinate of a realm!"

His eyes glittered. "No wonder it looked so confusing! I will need to express it in the form of a talisman in order to sieve out the coordinates of the realm and acceptance to the realm..."

Since he had just returned from dream-traversing, he would not immediately attempt it again.

Furthermore, he still needed to learn how to activate the coordinates and it was not something that he could achieve in a short period of time. Therefore, he left the Dream Realm promptly and arrived at the Qin Family's mansion, requested for a quiet place and started to execute his dream-accessing technique.

Although the Qin Family's mansion was protected by a protective array and had the protection of a few elders, Fang Yuan could still sneak in without anyone knowing that the Qin Siblings were his moles.

Very quickly, Qin Yun, who was doing some manual labour, felt sleepy and waved his hands. "I'm a little tired. I'll take a quick nap first, don't disturb me!"

"Yes. Sir!"

The servants were promptly dismissed as Qin Yun arrived at a reclining chair. With a yawn, he entered into a deep slumber.

In a bewildering fog, his body appeared and he noticed a young man in front. "Greetings, Sir!"

"Mm, please rise!"

Fang Yuan waved his hands. A stone table and two stone chairs suddenly rose, and there was a tea set on the table with brewed tea in it.

"Here!"

He quickly called Qin Yun to join him and poured a cup of tea for him. After all, he was a family head and he had to treat him like one. "How's the investigation?"

Qin Yun took a small sip and was mesmerised by the fragrance of the tea.

He knew the prowess of a dream master and therefore was respectful. "I've got news regarding the Yang Family. They were originally the most influential family in their county but unknowingly, they were wiped out by Venerable Qing Gui!"

'Indeed, it happened!'

Fang Yuan nodded his head before continuing to probe further. "Did the imperial court investigate what happened?"

"Venerable Qing Gui was a dream master in the Illusionary Divine stage and was not easy to take control of him... Furthermore, he was from the Evil Divine Sect! Of course, it was necessary to go by the books and conduct the investigation, but as to how the investigations were being conducted... Hmmm..."

Qin Yun shook his head and Fang Yuan was once again reminded of the power of dream masters in Da Qian Empire.

"As for the Qian Kun Giant Spiritual Technique... The technique was the Yang Family's signature martial arts technique and would allow a martial artist to form 8 spiritual meridians and condense the Divine Body. It is considered rather powerful and after circulation, most families would have parts of the recordings regarding the technique. However, most parts only record up to forming the 8 meridians. As for the entire recordings, after my investigations, they should be in the hands of the Ruan Family!".

"Ruan Family?"

Fang Yuan's eyebrows twitched. Never would he have guessed that the Qin Family would be so efficient in their investigations.

"That's right! The Ruan Family is related to the Yang Family through marriage. On the day of the downfall of the Yang Family, one of the elders was severely injured but managed to escape. He was rescued by the Ruan Family but unfortunately, could not be treated. With that, he passed on and the entire recordings of the Qian Kun Giant Spiritual Technique now lie in the hands of the Ruan Family!"

Qin Yun continued. "Ruan Family is situated in Victorious East Region, Yiwu County. It is two regions away from Sand Region. Sir, do you need directions there?"

The Da Qian Empire was vast and many times larger than Yuan and Wu Country.

"No need!"

Fang Yuan waved his hands. He started to miss the flying beasts he had back at home.

"Wait a moment..."

His expression changed. "There seems to be a hiring service in the Dream Realm. I can directly hire a spiritual bird to bring me to Victorious East Region, and this idea seems possible..."

However, there was also such a service provided in Sand Region. The only difference was that the type of birds used was weaker, slower and easily tracked down.

Without another word, he left.

In the Qin Family's mansion, Qin Yun slowly woke up and was deep in his thoughts.

...

With a target in mind, Fang Yuan quickly put up a mission request in the Dream Realm.

There was no difficulty in this mission. It only required the person to ferry him. Therefore, he only offered 10 contribution points. Even so, there were quite a lot of people interested in taking up the mission.

After browsing through a number of interested dream masters, he chose a dream master's symbol of which he deemed that the dream master was not too powerful.

This person which he had chosen was respectful and mentioned that he had a spiritual bird comparable to a Wu Zong and could fly undetected.

Most importantly, he was geographically near this dream master!

After a few words, they had agreed to meet up.

After 2 hours, on a peak in Dongyi County, a giant spiritual bird landed amidst the gushing wind.

This spiritual bird resembled an eagle and had golden feathers and two heads. It was a Golden Double-headed Eagle and was ferocious in nature. It was rumoured that this bird would be able to obtain elemental force at maturity and even have wind and fire abilities. The strongest among these birds would be comparable to a spiritual knight in the Elemental Opening realm or a Wu Zong in the Meridian Opening realm.

"Greetings, senior Fang!"

As the double-headed eagle landed, a young man walked down from the back of the eagle and greeted Fang Yuan.

"Mmm, you're Huo Qing?"

Fang Yuan nodded his head. "Based on the agreement, I'll pay you half of the amount, and after ferrying me to Yiwu County in Victorious East Region, I'll pay you the remaining half. Is that right?"

"That's right!"

Hua Qing invited Fang Yuan up the back of the eagle. Within seconds, the double-headed eagle had flown into the clouds.

"Chirp!"

The double-headed eagle let out a long chirp, forming a green sphere which covered its body, blocking the wind.

"Senior, please enjoy!"

On the spacious back of the eagle, Huo Qing had prepared tea and snacks. "We'll arrive there in a day's time after crossing two regions, please be patient!"

"You are meticulous..."

Fang Yuan looked into Huo Qing's eyes and realised that he was an elementary dream master in the realm of dream-accessing.

Of course, considering his age, he was already a talent.

The only thing was that there was a big gap between his cultivation and Fang Yuan's, which was why it was still appropriate for him to address Fang yuan as a senior.

"This double-headed eagle is rather good. If it was me, I think I would be unable to tame such a quick spiritual bird..."

After a while, Fang Yuan complimented him.

"You're right, senior!"

Huo Qing was careful with his words. "There are lots of dangers within these two regions that we are crossing. Even though we're high up in the sky, we still have to be careful... Furthermore, we will be flying across county cities, district towns and even some influential and powerful families. Therefore we have to avoid them... I am useless and can only rely on this to make a living..."

Hearing his explanation, Fang Yuan was shocked.

He never knew that Da Qian Empire would be so advanced to the point of even protecting their own airspaces.

If he were to capture any random spiritual bird and flew across, he would invite trouble for himself.

Of course, from this, he could also understand why Huo Qing was doing this.

Huo Qing had painstakingly tamed a Golden Double-headed Eagle, remembered the air routes and made a living from ferrying people to places. From offering such services for hire, he would be able to earn contribution points to exchange for resources in the Dream Realm.

If Fang Yuan was a native from the Da Qian Empire without any special skills, after becoming a dream master, he would probably take the same route and depend on a skill to save up in order to achieve a breakthrough in the future.

"Not bad... not bad at all!"

The journey was a smooth one and the land below started to turn green with vegetation. As the mountainous regions approached, Fang Yuan knew that they had entered Victorious East Region. Suddenly, he enquired. "With such an ability, have you thought of expanding? For instance, establishing an association and offering your services to everybody?"

"Keke..."

Huo Qing laughed. "I am a dream master! How can I serve mortals? Furthermore... they cannot afford to hire me!"

Fang Yuan remained silent.

Even elementary dream masters would have the pride of dream masters in Da Qian Empire.

Remaining silent, they quickly arrived at Yiwu County. On a plateau, Huo Qing ordered the double-headed eagle to land, and Fang Yuan dismounted.

"Senior, are you here for your private affairs and that you don't want anybody to know about it?"

Huo Qing stroked the double-headed eagle's feathers and fed it a spiritual fruit. "If you want to return, you can look for me! Little Golden and I are capable of evading the spiritual air soldiers!

As he spoke, there was a sense of pride coming from him.

Carefree Path of Dreams

Chapter 252: Kidnap

'There are air soldiers patrolling the air in Da Qian?'

Fang Yuan had picked out a different meaning from Huo Qing's words and became more alert.

After all, to have control over the vast area and be blessed by the heavens, the Imperial Court would surely have this ability!

Even though he was the Eagle Lieutenant in Yang Fan's dream world, he still did not know everything.

At this point in time, he could slowly understand the power of Da Qian.

"Only dream masters would be able to fight against dream masters... I'm afraid that as Feng Xinzi described the 5 most powerful organisations in Da Qian, he left out the Imperial Court!"

Fang Yuan waved goodbye to Huo Qing and entered Yiwu County.

...

In Yiwu County, the Ruan Family was considered one of the influential families.

In history, after receiving the Qian Kun Giant Spiritual Technique from the Yang Family, everyone in the Ruan Family, be it elders or disciples, received a boost in their martial arts skills. From there, they had produced two elders in the Meridian Opening Realm, which secured their standing in the county.

Of course, there were rumours that the reason why the Ruan Family could become so powerful in such a short time was not only due to the fact that they had the Yang Family's martial arts, but they also had a secret vault! This made the Ruan Family, without a doubt, one of the most powerful families in the region.

However, by now, after many years, the rumour had started to go away.

After all, which family could climb up and rise in influence without killing and sacrificing others? How many innocent people were harmed along the way?

Since they were being suspected of wrongdoings, they would not harp on it. Slowly, the people in the county would forget about their deeds and would take them for a kind and pure family.

To others outside the county, they would appear to be a legitimate strong family.

In the Ruan Family's mansion study.

The current family head of Ruan Family was Ruan Ming. He was in his fifties and was a Wu Zong. He knew how to take care of his body well and therefore only appeared to be in his thirties. He closed his eyes as he listened intently to his subordinates report the accounts.

"In the East City, we have earned 2,000 elemental crystals. They have been kept in the main vault!"

"The business in the few shops within the city are stabilising. Every month, they would bring 500 elemental crystals. According to your wishes, we have already sent them to Young Master Junxian!"

...

The few housekeepers knew the family head's temper and were all respectful. In the process, they casually mentioned a young master's name.

"Mmm, Junxian is gifted and is the hope of our family... we cannot stop supporting him!"

As he mentioned his son, he slowly opened his eyes, revealing a look of joy.

He had 3 sons and 5 daughters. Most of them were average but Ruan Junxian was gifted in martial arts. He started at the age of 3 and achieved a breakthrough to the Pain Gate at the age of 8, obtaining inner force. Now, he was 16 and was already at the peak of the 12th Gate. He had entered 'Thousand Year Mountain', a big sect in Victorious East Region. There were rumours that he was the most gifted there and was treated especially well.

However, Ruan Ming knew that establishing good relations was extremely important. Even though he was inside a big sect, he still needed a continuous supply of resources.

As a family head, Ruan Ming was restricted in many ways and could only help him within his boundaries.

"Family Head, we have good news!"

At this point in time, a guard came in and knelt down on one knee with a joyous look on his face. "Young Master Junxian has written back! He will be leaving the sect with his master, 'Black Tiger Taisui' and will be around Yiwu County in the next few days to come!"

"Haha... Good news indeed!"

Ruan Ming stood up. "Pass down the instructions to make preparations... Black Tiger Taisui is not only a Wu Zong in the Meridian Opening stage but also Junxian's master. We cannot show him any disrespect!"

This He Shantong, the Black Tiger Taisui, was a person of high status in Thousand Year Mountain and legend has it that he had already formed 5 spiritual meridians and the Sixth Elemental Force! In the Tiger Ranks, he was ranked 87th in the whole of Victorious East Region!

Victorious East Region was a region filled with martial artists and therefore had a ranking system of the Tiger Ranks and Dragon Ranks.

To be ranked, one had to be younger than 40 years of age and be at least a Wu Zong. To be highly ranked, one had to at least be in the Meridian Opening stage.

As for the Dragon Ranks, it was mostly unchanged. Only people who had formed all the spiritual meridians and condensed the Divine Body would be able to enter.

For He Shantong to be in the Tiger Ranks meant that he was indeed highly skilled.

Although the Ruan Family had three elders in the Meridian Opening stage, none of them was in the ranks.

...

Outside the Ruan Family, Fang Yuan casually picked up a guard and flung him away, getting what he wanted.

"The Ruan Family is similar to the Yang Family. They pass down their martial arts based on the status of the family members. I'm afraid only the family head and the three elders know about the entire recordings..."

At this point in time, Fang Yuan was still not skilled enough to just barge in a powerful family like the Ruan Family.

More importantly, after getting what he came for, it would be hard for him to escape the surrounding guards.

Furthermore, there might be countless arrays protecting the family's mansion or secret weapons. After all, this was not Yuan or Wu Country. Any wrong step would lead to him being captured.

"In order for the plan to work, I'll have to lure the snake out... That'll be the beloved son of the Ruan Family, Ruan Junxian, right?"

Fang Yuan rubbed his chin as his eyes glittered.

He never thought of the possibility of a trade. How would such a powerful and influential family easily give up their secret martial arts technique? Even if they were agreeable to a trade, Fang Yuan could most possibly be unable to afford it, or rather, unwilling to pay for it.

"Ranked 87th in the Tiger Ranks, He Shantong, the Black Tiger Taisui... Keke..."

As he looked towards a random direction in the city, he chuckled.

...

In the forest, the surroundings were peaceful.

Along a path, a carriage was slowly advancing.

The carriage did not appear luxurious, but in fact, it was made from Thousand Year Bronze Wood and was less bumpy. There was a mild fragrance within the carriage.

The person who was riding the horse pulling the carriage was around 15 years old.

"Junxian, there's no need to rush. Yiwu County is just ahead."

As the curtains were drawn, He Shantong, the Black Tiger Taisui was chuckling.

"When we return home, I'll give you the best reception, master!"

Ruan Junxian was smart. As he commented, He Shantong started to laugh happily.

After laughing, his face turned serious. "Do you know the task given to us by the sect?"

"I know, to destroy the Li Family! Leave no stones unturned!"

Ruan Junxian was young. As he mentioned this, he felt a little bad.

"To be honest, the Li Family are not evil. However, of all people, they had to offend us. If we do not teach them a lesson, other families would think that they can climb all over our heads, and it will be hard for us to do what we need to do in the future..."

He Shantong started to share his own experience.

"Master... I've learnt!"

Ruan Junxian clenched his teeth. "The strong will kill the weak, and this has been true since the beginning of mankind... Even our Ruan Family could only grow at the expense of other families!"

"Very good! You're rather smart for someone who had been doing martial arts for your lifetime!"

He Shantong praised him.

He had never said such words to other disciples before, but now, he had said it to Ruan Junxian. From the first time he saw Ruan Junxian, he was already beginning to feel bias towards him, and even he could not believe himself.

"Based on our sect rules, since this is your first mission, I am only allowed to supervise you, of course... if you can get external help, that will not be flouting the rules..."

As he changed the topic, he started to give tips to Ruan Junxian.

Ruan Junxian was listening intently when suddenly, the horse came to a halt.

"What happened?"

The young man tumbled down from the horseback and quickly looked in front.

All he could see was a man in white blocking the path of the carriage.

The two horses pulling the carriage were frightened and refused to budge.

"Stay behind me!"

He Shantong appeared serious as he pulled Ruan Junxian to one side.

"I am He Shantong from the Thousand Year Mountain. May I know who you are?"

Looking at the young man in front, he could only feel a fleeting feeling as though he was connected to the heavens and earth, making his heart shudder.

Based on his many years of experience, it was extremely rare to meet a cultivator with such a spiritual aura.

"Black Tiger Taisui?"

Fang Yuan examined the martial artist who was ranked in the Tiger Ranks.

He was a skinny person with a tanned face and a pair of burning eyes. With a smile, he continued. "You're just like that?"

"It seems that you are here for revenge?"

He Shantong slowly walked out of the carriage, with a strong and pressurising spiritual aura.

He did not ask Fang Yuan the reason why he was here, for he knew that he had countless enemies.

Furthermore, other than enemies, there could be other people looking for trouble as well.

"That's true... and false at the same time!"

Fang Yuan went straight to the point. "If you are willing to lend me Yuan Junxian for a few days, we can avoid the fight. Wouldn't it be a win-win situation?"

"Without considering the fact that he is my disciple, but the fact that he is a disciple of the Thousand Year Mountain would mean that I would lose my face if I were to let you take him away from me!"

He Shantong smiled and took in a deep breath.

"Whooo!"

Suddenly, the muscles in his body bulged and he became taller. Within seconds, he had transformed from a bony person to a tall and well-built man.

Not just that, his skin had turned black like metal and two sharp fangs grew out from his mouth, as though a tiger had possessed him.

Black Tiger Taisui was indeed powerful!

"Master's Seven Star Black Tiger Transfiguration?!"

Ruan Junxian turned pale. Never would he have thought that his master would use his most powerful move in the opening!

"OH? Not too bad! Let me test you out!"

Fang Yuan slowly walked out and casually struck out a punch.

"Whooo!"

A gust of wind blew and the sand was drifting.

"First Star! Second Star! Third Star! Open!"

He Shantong exclaimed as three spiritual meridians formed behind his back, forming the shape of constellations. With that, he pounced towards Fang Yuan.

"Rumble!"

As their fists met, both of them were forced a few steps backwards.

"Fourth Elemental Force? Not bad!"

Fang Yuan shook his numb arm. "You're stronger than me before I open my spiritual meridians!"

With his Wu Zong cultivation, Giant Eagle Metal Body and Hundred Poison Golden Body, he was still weaker than his adversary.

"Before opening your spiritual meridians? Meridian Opening Wu Zong?"

Ruan Junxian covered his gaping mouth. In the next moment, he could see three thick spiritual meridians forming behind Fang Yuan's back, forming a spiritual armour. He also grew a pair of eagle wings and claws.

"Giant Eagle Claw!"

"Fourth Star! Fifth Star! Open!"

"Bang!"

In a loud bang, five constellations appeared behind He Shantong's back. With that, he pitted his Sixth Elemental Force against the eagle's claw.

In a red flash, he flew back with a sword wound on his chest.

In a single move, He Shantong, the Black Tiger Taisui who was ranked 87th in the Tiger Ranks, was defeated!

Carefree Path of Dreams

Chapter 253: Facade

In the Ruan Family.

The servants were all busy setting up tables full of delicacies in preparation for the dinner.

Ruan Ming was in the living room. As he paced around, there was a worried look on his face. "Why are they not here yet? Look for them!"

"Yes, Sir!"

A few housekeepers agreed and were promptly dismissed.

Not long after, the head housekeeper frantically ran into the mansion. As he did, he clumsily tripped over a step and knocked his forehead into the ground, grazing it. "Family Head, someone delivered a letter together with Young Master's jade!"

Ruan Ming's heart skipped a beat as he composed himself and took the letter.

"What audacity..."

There were only a few words in the letter. After reading it, his right hand started to shiver. "This person has kidnapped Junxian and want us to bring the Yang Family's Green Blooded Qilin!"

The few housekeepers remained silent.

The Green Blooded Qilin was a treasure of the Ruan Family. It was a jade figure which had extraordinary properties of strengthening bones, enhancing elemental force and was an antidote to many types of poison.

"Who could it be? Guo Family? Li Family?"

Ruan Ming paced around. "This is an emergency. If the enemy could get hold of Junxian, this must mean that he had defeated He Shantong, the Black Tiger Taosui. When did the Ruan Family get ourselves such a strong enemy?"

He wouldn't believe that people would go after their family merely for the riches.

"It's alright, let me consult the few elders!"

He was a decisive person and went straight to the patriarchal hall.

As the few housekeepers exchanged glances, they all knew that the family head was decided. He would surely save Young Master Junxian. After all, he was not only his biological son but also the entire hop of the family's future.

In the patriarchal hall of the Ruan Family.

It was peaceful and surrounded by a few plots of spiritual farms filled with unique flowers and plants.

At the boundary of the spiritual farm, there were a few straw huts. Three old men who looked like farmers were sitting within as they smoked and drank tea.

"Greetings elders, I am the unfilial grandson, Ruan Ming!"

As soon as Ruan Ming arrived, he immediately knelt down and explained what had happened.

"We have seen Junxian before. He would surely be a Wu Zong in the Meridian Opening realm in the future and is the pillar of our family with potential to become stronger..."

As an elder emptied his smoke pot on a rock, he continued with a hoarse voice. "However, this time, our enemy is extremely strong. Even I myself don't have the confidence to defeat Black Tiger Taisui! It seems that we have to compromise... A human life is always more important. After all, it is just a mere Green Blooded Oilin!"

As they came to an agreement, the issue was settled.

"Mmm, we'll agree to this!"

The two elders by the sides nodded their heads in unison. "Just remember that you're responsible for this!"

"Of course!"

Ruan Ming replied respectfully. If not for the fact that the elder head and he shared the same heritage, he could not have resolved this easily.

"This is no big issue..."

The other two elders agreed to the arrangement. "You'll go by yourself and we will follow behind you secretly, hehe... I'll want to see what kind of god is he?"

"I'm afraid that the enemy will be prepared. Just in case, we should immediately inform Thousand Year Mountain!"

Ruan Ming quipped.

Thousand Year Mountain was an influential organisation in the Victorious East Region, and was led by a highly skilled martial artist ranked in the Dragon Ranks!

"That's true... After all, Black Tiger Taisui and Junxian are both from Thousand Year Mountain!"

In terms of influence, Thousand Year Mountain would be much stronger compared to the tiny Ruan Family, which was why the three elders agreed to it. "Although help might not come in time, it is still better than nothing!"

...

After half a day on Bull's Head Mountain.

Based on Fang Yuan's requirement, Ruan Ming had to personally deliver the goods.

In reality, this was all a facade.

The Green Blooded Qilin was randomly mentioned. With such a short time given, the Ruan Family had to personally come and could not plan for anything. This was Fang Yuan's motive.

On a plateau, he could see three people walking towards him. The one in front was Ruan Ming.

Behind him were two old-looking elders with powerful spiritual auras. Both of them were Wu Zongs in the Meridian Opening realm.

As for the elder head? He was guarding at home.

After all, it could be a trick to lure all of them out. The mansion was important and they had to guard it.

"Father..."

Ruan Junxian followed behind Fang Yuan with a desolate face. His martial arts were sealed but he was not severely injured. He was carrying an unconscious He Shantong.

As he saw Ruan Ming arrive, he called out to him but subsequently felt ashamed.

"Junxian, how are you and your master?"

Seeing this, Ruan Ming could only sigh.

"I'm alright and master is only slightly injured.... This person is a 3rd Meridian Wu Zong, be careful, Father!"

Ruan Junxian looked at Fang Yuan and exclaimed.

Who knew that Fang Yuan would completely ignore him? Fang Yuan looked at the family head of the Ruan Family. "You are Ruan Ming? Very well! Have you brought what I have asked for?"

"I've brought it!"

Ruan Ming opened his cloth bag. Inside, there was a green and red-coloured figure of a Qilin and it was glittering.

"Wait up!"

Seeing Fang Yuan approach him, Ruan Ming took a step back and raised the Green Blooded Qilin high up in the air. "I'll pass you the goods, but you'll pass me the person! If you dare to try anything funny, I'll destroy this treasure and the Ruan Family will forever be against you!"

"Hmmm... Whatever!"

Fang Yuan sighed and pushed Ruan Junxian forward.

As they approached each other, the two elders behind Ruan Ming started to muster their elemental force, making the situation rather tense.

In the vicinity, everyone was extremely tensed up.

Just as Ruan Junxian was halfway from reaching his father, something happened!

With a snicker, Fang Yuan executed his shadowstep and came in front of Ruan Ming, striking a claw out!

"What a thief!"

Ruan Ming glanced at him and mustered his elemental force as he was about to destroy the Green Blooded Qilin.

Beside him, the two elders exclaimed and struck the force of their spiritual meridians out.

All of this was planned before. If Fang Yuan wanted to snatch the Green Blooded Qilin, he would have to endure the strike from both Meridian Opening Wu Zongs! It was the perfect plan!

With a sinister smile, Fang Yuan dodged them.

"Bang!"

Unable to do anything, the Green Blooded Qilin was shattered to pieces as Ruan Ming was left stunned.

"Haha... Do you really think I'm after this thing?"

With a laugh, he pointed his right index finger out and a red sword essence appeared.

A sword's essence would strike as far as 30,000 miles, and a sword's radiance would blind 19 regions!

"Ah!"

The fight between highly skilled martial artists would mean that any mistakes would lead to the outcome of the fight. As the two Wu Zongs had predicted Fang Yuan's intentions wrongly, they had to dodge the sword essence with much embarrassment.

They were inferior to Fang Yuan from the beginning and now, they were panicking.

"Stay down!"

Behind Fang Yuan, his spiritual meridians formed and transfigured into a spiritual armour covering his whole body. As he came closer, he struck a claw out at Ruan Ming.

Under the attack of Sixth Elemental Force, being a normal Wu Zong, Ruan Ming could only do so much. Even after the Second Elemental Force exploded from his Qian Kun Giant Spiritual Technique, it was not enough. His neck was gripped on and his mind went blank.

"Father!"

Within seconds, Fang Yuan had already forced the two Meridian Opening Wu Zongs back and had captured Ruan Ming.

Ruan Junxian's expression changed as his eyes became bloodshot.

He finally understood that Fang Yuan had only revealed his Meridian Opening cultivation to him for him to trick his few elders and immediately felt regretful.

He never knew that this young man would be so dangerous!

"Mmm... It's just another two Meridian Opening Wu Zongs. Why not take both of them with me as an assurance!"

After capturing Ruan Ming, Fang Yuan glared at the other two elders, and they could sense danger in his eyes.

It was an unplanned surprise for him to be able to capture so many members of the Ruan Family.

"Thief!"

At this moment, there were sounds coming from the foot of the mountain, and a group of people were arriving.

The person leading the pack was an old man with white hair. Behind the old man, there were 6 spiritual meridians forming, making him appear like a giant.

"Qian Kun Giant Spiritual Technique? This must be the elder head to have reached such a level of cultivation! He should be in the Tiger Ranks!"

Fang Yuan was mildly shocked. As he looked at the group of people behind, he noticed that someone was pointing at him.

As vibrations from their voices spread, Fang Yuan became aware of what was happening. Outside his actualised dream world, a grey fog was attempting to enter.

"Buzz!"

In the next moment, the 8 Gates Sword Array shook and the red sword essence flashed around, reducing the grey fog to nothing.

"A curse master?! Or a dream master?"

Fang Yuan smiled. With the protection of the soul in his actualised dream world, it was an extremely effective defence against attacks from spiritual wills. This was especially so for fights among dream masters, as the main battleground would be in their actualised dream worlds.

As he looked down, he realised that most of them were spitting out blood.

"They have indeed called for reinforcements. These should be the highly skilled people in Yiwu County... forget it!"

He did not want to continue fighting and promptly left.

After all, he had already gotten what he wanted.

Furthermore, although there were only a few highly skilled people in Yiwu county, they would still give him trouble if they combined forces.

"Go!"

Before he left, he flicked his finger out. Suddenly, there appeared another sun in the sky. The sword essence from the red sword was like the brilliance from the sun. As it shone down, it seeped through the vegetation and rocks and blocked the group of people who were giving chase.

Everyone was shocked at slowed down as they witnessed Fang Yuan escaping into the woods.

"Brother!"

As the two elders saw the elder head, they were embarrassed.

"Who would've guessed that that crazy person was after Ruan Ming!"

The elder head gave a cold look. "Although I had already rushed here, it seems like I was a little late!"

Without caring about Ruan Junxian, he looked at the people behind. "How is Brother Qing Yun?"

"That person cultivates in both spiritual techniques and martial arts and has an extremely powerful spiritual will. Brother Qing Yun initially wanted to cast a spell to confuse him, but little did he know that he would experience backlash!"

A middle-aged woman shook her head. "When did your Ruan Family anger such a strong enemy? If I knew he would be so strong, I wouldn't have agreed to help out!"

"We're sorry about this!"

The elder head of Ruan Family gave a bitter smile. "I am also confused about this. However, rest assured that I will not get any of you implicated in this. After this, we'll deliver gifts as a form of compensation!"

With this, the few highly skilled martial artists who had arrived to help out became a little more amiable, but in the elder head's mind, he had already vomited blood countless times.

Carefree Path of Dreams

Chapter 254: Lin Qianye

In the dense forest, Fang Yuan reached the depths of the mountains. As he released the sword essence, he carved out a cave and a stone bed before throwing Ruan Ming onto it.

"Dream accessing!"

As he spoke, his right index finger touched the area in between Ruan Ming's eyebrows.

It was a facade when Fang Yuan had requested for the Green Blooded Qilin. His real objective was to retrieve everything about the Qian Kun Giant Spiritual Technique from this family head!

If he had requested this from the beginning, he would have given them time to prepare against him. After all, there were many dream masters in Da Qian and they could seal his memories.

Taking him by surprise would mean that although he would have some techniques to defend his own spiritual will, there was nothing that Fang Yuan had to fear.

Many years ago, he could already access the dream of a Wu Zong. Being a dream master in the Illusionary Divine stage, he could easily access Ruan Ming's dream, even if he was met with resistance.

"Mmm? There is indeed a seal in his memories. After all, as family head, he would know too many secrets and they had to take precautions..."

As Fang Yuan entered Ruan Ming's consciousness, he arrived at a golden lock which sealed up a bunch of secrets.

"The good thing was that he is unaware of my motive and therefore did not strengthen the defence. I can still break this with some time!"

With the wave of his hands, a fog appeared and it seeped into the limbs of Ruan Ming.

Dream masters were skilled in manipulating spiritual wills and souls. At his current level of cultivation, it was not easy, but neither was it too hard to break through the seal. Fang Yuan had the confidence that he could do so.

...

Yiwu County.

"It is a revenge I must take against the person who captured my father!"

Ruan Junxian and Black Tiger Taisui had both recovered. There was hatred in Ruan Junxian's young eyes. "I want to search for that evil person and save father!"

"Don't spout nonsense!"

The Elder head was his great great grandfather. As he lectured him, he slapped him squarely in the face.

It was a distinct "Pa"!

"The only reason why your father would want to save you is that you are the future of our family!"

The Elder head appeared solemn. "If anything were to happen to him, you can still inherit his place and become family head. If you go and anything bad were to happen to you, who would take over the family?"

In the family, the fight to become family head was a fierce one.

If Ruan Junxian was around, he would only need a few years of training to officially become the family head and the other grandsons could not win the fight.

If he were to die while searching for his father, there would be no more heir and the First family would crumble.

"That person cultivates in both spiritual techniques and martial arts, he might be a dream master!"

With a pale face, He Shantong the Black Tiger Taisui commented.

With this, the elder head of Ruan Family started to have goosebumps but forced a smile. "Daoist Qing Yun has also investigated and it seems that this is true... Unknowingly, our family has angered a strong enemy. We have done nothing but calamities keep coming to us..."

"Dream masters are mysterious and we'll have to slowly investigate. Elder head, please be assured that the Thousand Year Mountain will not be bullied. If he is not from the five strongest organisations, what do we have to fear?"

He Shantong rubbed his chest.

"That's right!"

A strong voice was heard, but it was as though it had come from a distance.

"Vice Sect Head?"

He Shantong quickly bowed and greeted, and Ruan Junxian did the same.

Although He Shantong was of a rather high status in Thousand Year Mountain, he knew that the most highly skilled person would be the sect head who was ranked in the Tiger Ranks. The second would be the Vice Sect Head, Lin Qianye. He has already formed 8 spiritual meridians and it one step away from condensing the Divine Body! He was ranked 5th in the Tiger Ranks!

"I am using the Thousand Mile Voice Technique to speak to all of you... That person is reckless and has infringed upon us, the Thousand Year Mountain... I will personally take over. If he has a backing, we will let him off with a small punishment, otherwise... It's not like I have not killed dream masters before!"

As they heard the cold voice, everyone in Ruan Family had joy all over their faces.

...

Within the cave.

Fang Yuan closed his eyes. The advanced techniques of Qian Kun Giant Spiritual Technique to condense a Divine Body was already in his consciousness.

"At the Wu Zong level, the Qian Kun Giant Spiritual Technique can increase one's spiritual strength. From there, one can form 8 spiritual meridians and obtain the Tenth Elemental Force as they achieve the Giant Spiritual Divine Body. This is comparable to the Divine Body in martial arts. From there, one can cleanse their bones, purge their blood and transform from a mortal body to a new Divine Body. This is known as body forging! At this stage, martial artists would be strengthened in all aspects and martial arts would be an instinct to them. They would be comparable to spiritual knights and are known as True Divines!"

At this point, Fang Yuan had no doubts about the martial arts path in Da Qian.

From the beginning, there was the 12 Golden Gates. As one reaches Wu Zong, they would be able to obtain elemental force and continue on to Meridian Opening Stage, similar to spiritual knights in the Elemental Opening Stage. In the end, the body would be forged into a True Divine!

This level of cultivation would be comparable to a high-tiered Illusionary Divine stage and considered highly skilled in Da Qian and be ranked on the Dragon Ranks in Victorious East Region!

Spiritual knights in the Elemental Opening Realm would cultivate in spiritual points. As they improve in their cultivation, they would arrive at a True Elemental Realm which was comparable to the True Divine!

After all, Ruan Ming was the head of a big family and was a strong cultivator himself. Therefore, he knew quite a lot and in turn benefited Fang Yuan.

"A spiritual knight at the True Elemental Realm and a martial artist at True Divine would be rare highly skilled people in Da Qian. If they were placed somewhere else, they would be a true grandmaster!"

"With the complete recordings of Qian Kun Giant Spiritual Technique, there shouldn't be any problem for me to explore and discover the Giant Eagle Metal Body Technique to form the 8th meridian!"

There was a look of excitement on Fang Yuan's face.

Spiritual knights would train in their spiritual points while Wu Zongs would open their meridians. Although the end stage would be similar, the number of spiritual meridians or spiritual points formed would determine one's potential.

If there were loopholes in the techniques and the maximum spiritual meridians that could be attained was 6, then it would be impossible to enter the next stage.

For instance, the Seven Star Black Tiger Transfiguration performed by Black Tiger Taisui could only form a maximum of 7 spiritual meridians. Even if he were to condense the Divine Body, he could never match a Giant Spiritual Divine Body.

Comparatively, the Qian Kun Giant Spiritual Technique could form 8 spiritual meridians. This was considered a relatively good technique in Da Qian.

"A true top-notch technique, regardless of forming spiritual points of spiritual meridians, would be able to form 9! 9 is the extreme number! If such a technique is used to achieve the True Elemental Realm or True Divine, it would be the most powerful!"

Fang Yuan was determined. "I cannot allow my Giant Eagle Metal Body Technique to stop at the 8th meridian. It must be able to break through the last meridian to become perfect!"

He would either do it to perfection or forget about it. After all, he was a perfectionist.

Glancing at the rock bed, he could see a pale Ruan Ming. It was evident that he was injured, but it was not life-threatening.

After all, Fang Yuan was only here for the technique and not to wipe them out.

"Initially, I wanted to compensate you. However, since you have snatched this technique from the Yang Family, It is only karma that I am snatching this back. If you are not happy, I can't do anything about it..."

After reading through Ruan Ming's memories, Fang Yuan now knew that the uprising of Ruan Family was at the expense of Yang Family.

Even the elder from Yan Family who had come to look for them for help was captured and tortured to reveal the technique and the secret vault of the Yang Family.

From this, since he had Yang Fan's memories, it was justified if he were to destroy the Ruan Family.

Of course, Yang Fan did not help him to the extent that Fang Yuan would feel compelled to help him take revenge and wipe out the Ruan Family.

As Fang Yuan looked back, he quickly felt a sense of fear all around.

"They're already here?"

"And a highly skilled one too!"

As he walked out of the save, he saw a man in black.

The man was sitting on the branch of a pine tree and with the swaying of the branches, it appeared as though the man was as light as a feather, but his spiritual aura was extremely pressurizing, which could easily confuse others.

"Are you the officials or part of the family? How did you find me?"

Looking at the person, Fang Yuan was shocked. Ultimately, Da Qian was very different from the mainland, where he could do anything he wanted. Now, after being reckless, people would be on his tail.

"I am Lin Qianye, the Vice Sect Head of Thousand Year Mountain! As for how I tracked you down, I'll let you know after you die!"

The man in black let out a sinister smile. He had a handsome face and an ivory white skin. As he smiled, he gave off the vibes of a poisonous snake.

"Whoosh!"

In his actualised dream world, the fire-type spiritual sword flickered and released its sword essence!

"Not good!"

With such a reaction from his instincts, Fang Yuan quickly retreated as a red sword sliced in front of his chest.

"Peng!"

A humongous force was felt. Even though he had the Sixth Elemental Force, he could not block the incoming force completely. With a sigh, the force struck his chest as he flew back.

Lin Qianye kept his fist. "A dream master indeed! Furthermore... You're in the Illusionary Divine stage!"

"8th meridian?"

As Fang Yuan flew backwards, a spiritual light glowed around him as he looked at the sword in his hands.

This fire-type divine soldier was able to counter even tribulations from the heavens and was therefore undamaged. However, his arm felt a little numb and if he countered with all his force, it would not end up favourable for him.

In front of him was a Wu Zong who had opened up 8 meridians!

Not just that, his spiritual meridians did not appear on his back but was all around his body forming a weird pattern. With such a humongous force, he already had half the power of what a Divine Body would have!

"Only with an extreme technique would you be able to achieve extreme cultivations?"

Martial arts in the extreme should not be belittled!

Of course, the power of dream masters was way beyond Wu Zongs. However, Fang Yuan's cultivation as a dream master was still too low.

Fang Yuan was able to be on par with Lin Qianye just by forming the Water Sword to form the Water-Fire Dual Sword Array. He did not even have to form all 8 swords.

Without another word, Fang Yuan quickly took his leave.

On him, as the Mountain River Pearl glittered, a pearl was being absorbed into his actualised dream world. It was the Freezing Pearl which he had obtained by luck in the Three World Mountain.

The Freezing Pearl was a water-type spiritual treasure with a hint of coldness. As the 8 Gates Sword Array shook, there was a blue glow creeping up on the water-type sword as it was slowly formed.

"You cannot run!"

Lin Qianye would not let Fang Yuan go. With a leap, he rushed forward and gave chase.

"Let the heavenly fire burn the ground!"

Fang Yuan wielded the red sword and as the sword essence exploded, flames broke out everywhere, creating a burning inferno. "Ruan Ming is in the cave. If you want him dead, then continue to chase after me!"

Carefree Path of Dreams

Chapter 255: The Escape

Cliff Region.

This region was beside the Victorious East Region. The terrain was undulating and resembled a desert.

Because of the harsh environmental conditions, the people here were slightly more uncivilised and brave. Therefore, a culture of 'swordsman' was born, which was a different culture from the Dragon and Tiger Ranks in the Victorious East Region.

At this point in time, in the desert, two swordsmen were fighting.

As they were swordsmen, they wore bamboo hats and wielded swords. Their swordsmanship was superb and every strike was a deadly one.

"Long Xuanfeng, give up the treasured sword and I'll let you survive!"

A swordsman clad in white robes looked fierce with a long scar on his face. He was being surrounded by 10 other swordsmen.

Hearing the calls for him the surrender, he smiled as something glittered by his waist.

"Clang clang!"

As the swords sliced against each other, there was a distinct sound. Under the moonlight, many swords were broken into half, revealing the swordsmen's shocked faces.

Within seconds, there was a slit on each and every one of their necks as blood spurted out.

Killing 12 people in a single stroke!

After executing the secret technique, Long Xuanfeng took in a deep breath and looked at his treasured sword with joy. "Haha... with the help of Cold Moon, I can perfect the extreme sword technique and become the most powerful in Cliff Region!"

"Whoooo!"

As a strong wind blew across, there were two black dots on the horizon.

The black dots were extremely quick and slowly, they became the silhouettes of two people.

"Mmm? Who's seeking death?"

As he was lost in his thoughts, Long Xuanfeng looked in the direction of the two silhouettes.

"Get lost, and don't be in the way!"

There was an impatient voice as a humongous force was felt. Without control, Long Xuanfeng fell backwards and the Cold Moon slipped out of his hands.

"Ahh... My treasured sword!"

As he exclaimed, he crawled to where the sword was. However, as he saw the Cold Moon stuck into the ground, there were 5 holes on it, allowing him to see through it.

•••

"Lin Qianye, you're really persistent!"

Such a small distraction was unable to pique Fang Yuan's interest. As he looked at Lin Qianye who was giving chase, there was a look of fear on his face.

Previously, he had used Ruan Ming's life to threaten Lin Qianye for while.

After 2 hours, Lin Qianye began to catch up to him again.

Fortunately for him, he had cultivated in both spiritual technique and martial arts. Although he could not match up against Lin Qianye, he could still defend himself. Along the way, he had tried escaping and fighting back, and they had now entered the Cliff Region.

By now, he had figured out how Lin Qianye could track him down.

"He should be tracking me down based on my spiritual aura... Is this his increased sensitivity since he is about to condense the Divine Body?"

He had tried to lose him multiple times but Lin Qianye had managed to catch up every single time. There was a menacing look in Fang Yuan's eyes.

In his actualised dream world, the Freezing Pearl had been fully absorbed and the Water Sword was halfway formed. There were also changes in his stats:

"Name: Fang Yuan

Essence: 36

Spirit: 30

Magic: 33

Profession: Dream Soldier Master

Cultivation: Illusionary Divine (1st Tier), Wu Zong (3rd Meridian)

Technique: [Giant Eagle Metal Body Technique (Grade 4) (1%)], [Hundred Poison Golden Body (1st

Refining)], [8 Gates Sword Array (2nd Sword) (30%)]

Skill: [Medicine (Level 3)], [Botany (Level 5)]"

'I can try using the water-type sword essence now!'

Fang Yuan seemed determined.

"You have violated the rules of our sect. We will hunt you down no matter where you go! Do you think you can be smug just because you're a dream master? I have killed dream masters before!"

The cold voice of Lin Qian Ye was heard. To him, it was a surprise that this dream master had such a strong endurance.

The stronger his opponent was, the more determined he was to kill him!

This person had no backing and was not from the 5 powerful organisations. However, he was still strong and if left to survive, would bring them trouble in the future!

"Whoosh!"

As they continued the chase, son after, they could hear the sound of water gushing through a river. Just across a cliff, there was a huge river which was connected to the ocean.

"We're here!"

Fang Yuan approached the cliff and leapt forward.

"Don't think of running away! Thousand Leaves Palm!"

Behind, Lin Qianye gave chase as multiple shadows of his palms appeared and covered the sky.

As Fang Yuan struck his palm downwards, water splashed out from the river and rained down like raindrops. "Watch out!"

As the water evaporated, a blue sword appeared and struck towards Lin Qianye.

"Eh?"

Lin Qianye had been fighting against the fire sword for quite a while. Now that the cold water-type sword appeared, there was a layer of frost on his hands and he panicked a little.

Of course, this was only because he was caught by surprise. As the spiritual inscriptions on his body glowed, the frost melted.

"Fire Sword!"

Fang Yuan could not let this opportunity slip by.

He had chosen this place to strike in order to make use of the water from the river to strengthen his Water Sword. Quickly, he struck his Fire Sword out as well.

As the red sword combined with the blue sword, there was the force of an explosion. "Water-Fire Dual Sword Array! Explode!"

Of course, this was not the complete array. This was because the Water Sword had not been completely formed and was extremely unstable. However, Fang Yuan was leveraging on the instability of the Water Sword to result in the strongest possible explosion.

"Rumble!"

In mid-air, Lin Qianye could not dodge the sword and hand to counter it with his brute force.

"Whoosh!"

After the explosion, the red and blue sword essence dissipated, leaving the cliff with many holes.

In the mess, Lin Qianye got up to his feet and appeared extremely pale. As he clutched on to his chest, two open wounds started to bleed profusely.

"The spiritual aura is broken..."

As he took in a deep breath and glanced at the flowing river, there was a reverse in the flow of energy in his body as he spat out a mouthful of blood.

...

"Thousand Year Mountain... Lin Qianye?"

After three days, Fang Yuan had swum down the river and emerged from an underwater ice block. With an explosion, his body was revealed.

"I will take this revenge for I'm a gentleman!"

Looking in the upstream direction, he snickered and left.

With such a distance between the spiritual auras, Lin Qianye could no longer locate him.

At this point in time, his array was still incomplete. If he wanted to go against him head to head, he would still lose. Therefore, it would be wiser to take his revenge later.

"Now that the Thousand Year Mountain is investigating me, I should not return to Sand Region to bring trouble to the Qin Siblings..."

"Fortunately that is just one person, we'll see as the time goes..."

As he looked around, he realised that the place was very foreign.

After a long escape and swim through the river, he no longer knew the place.

"I should look for a place to settle down for the night before trying to train my martial arts and strengthened my sword array..."

Looking at the sun, he chose a direction and started to make his way. "Fortunately, I can access the Dream Realm anywhere in Da Qian, so it wouldn't make a difference wherever I go!"

Since he knew that he was still being chased after by Thousand Year Mountain and might have even caught the attention of the Imperial Court, he quickly changed his appearance and died his hair, adopting the look of a middle-aged man. Following the direction of the river, he arrived at a small town.

After casually looking for an inn to stay and finding out where this place was, he realised that the town was called Fengxiang, under the jurisdiction of the Ming Region.

Fang Yuan's fortune was all in the Mountain River Pearl. After another half a month's journey, he found a town and used his elemental crystals to purchase a small mansion.

Da Qian had quite a lot of control over the happenings in the whole empire. Regardless if it was buying a mansion or doing other stuff, if one did not have an identity, they would be noticed.

However, Fang Yuan's method was simple.

He looked for an average family and used his dream-accessing technique to alter their memories, allowing him to be recognised as a long-distance relative. Using elemental crystals and his relations with the people, he would be able to do anything and since he had no criminal records, the officials would not care that much as well.

The middle-aged man which Fang Yuan had transformed into had no criminal records and could therefore successfully purchase the mansion for him to take cover.

"Da Qian is different from other places. As long as I have elemental crystals, I can buy spiritual rice, spiritual vegetables and even spiritual water. They would even deliver it to my doorstep..."

After taking a look at the kitchen, Fang Yuan was extremely satisfied.

He would have hired a few servants, but he had too many secrets. Since this place was only a temporary holding place for him, he saw it as unnecessary trouble.

"To think about it... I have seen in the Dream Realm that the most suitable rice for dream masters would be Yellow Grain Rice, as in 'Yellow Grain in every dream'. Unfortunately, this type of spiritual rice would surely be at least a Mystery Grade and is rather rare. If I have a plot of spiritual land in the future, I could buy some from the Dream Realm to plant?!"

In the small town, the highest grade of rice that they would sell would only be of Yellow Grade, which was still sufficient for him to replenish his energy.

After a full meal, Fang Yuan entered the Dream Realm.

On the streets, there was a flash and Fang Yuan appeared.

"Victorious East Region, Thousand Year Mountain!"

As he arrived at the rock tablet, he paid a few contribution points and obtained some basic information.

"Thousand Year Mountain is an influential sect in the Victorious East Region. The sect head is Venerable Longhu who had cultivated in the 'Dragon Tiger Hell Guarding Formula'. It has the potential to open up to 8 spiritual meridians and form the Dragon Tiger Divine Body. That is its True Divine, and he is ranked 13th in the Dragon Ranks!"

"The Vice Sect Head is Lin Qianye and has a cultivation level of an 8th Meridian Wu Zong. He is trained in the Kurong Mysterious Technique and the Thousand Leaves Palm... he is ranked 5th in the Tiger Ranks!"

...

"With a True Divine leading the sect, it is indeed rather troublesome... If I were to hire a dream master of comparable capabilities, I might not be able to afford it."

As he thought about it, he contacted Feng Xinzi and briefly described the situation.

"Oh? Brother, you have angered the Thousand Year Mountain?"

This was a reaction he had expected. Feng Xinzi sounded calm, as though it was not a big deal.

After all, Da Qian was too huge and dream masters were able to travel everywhere. Who would be able to control the dream masters?

Needless to say, Feng Xinzi's backing was much stronger compared to Thousand Year Mountain.

"In fact, the Thousand Year Mountain is nothing much, except for Venerable Longhu. After all, he is a True Divine... Only 7th Tier Illusionary Divine dream masters would be able to deal with him!"

Feng Xinzi sighed.

The 7th Tier of Illusionary Divine was similar to the 7th spiritual meridian of Wu Zong and the 7th spiritual point of spiritual knights. However, the power of a 7th Tier Illusionary Divine dream master was much greater than the rest.

Fang Yuan was stunned. Even Feng Xinzi himself was only around the 3rd to 4th Tier in the Illusionary Divine stage. After all, doing alchemy to produce a spiritual pill was different from creating a conscious mind.

Spiritual pills were just a physical entity like a spiritual sword, unique in nature. However, a lifeform would be able to reproduce by itself and the difference between these two concepts was immeasurable.

Carefree Path of Dreams

Chapter 256: Reincarnation

"However, I have an idea to ensure your safety!"

On his jade inscription plate, Feng Xinzi's spiritual will was brimming with confidence.

"Oh? I'm willing to hear more about it!"

Fang Yuan smiled and could already guess what Feng Xinzi wanted to offer. After all, he had yet to achieve a breakthrough in alchemy and therefore could not have the ability to protect him. Therefore, it was likely that he was going to recommend Fang Yuan to whoever his backing was.

Indeed, Feng Xinzi continued. "The Thousand Year Mountain only dared to attack you because of the fact that you have no backing. The Realm Alliance is one of the five strongest organisations among the dream masters. If you are willing to join, looking at your potential and strength, you would surely be valued. What can the Thousand Year Mountain do to you?"

"My potential and strength?"

Fang Yuan was stunned as he slowly recalled

His performance was not striking in the Hui Realm, but at least it was comparable to the other experienced dream masters. Therefore, people would assume that he was hiding his true skill before the exploration mission.

'In fact, it was because they were limited by the difference in realms and could only restore half of their abilities while I was at my peak...'

Feng Xinzi was a 3rd to 4th Tier Illusionary Divine dream master and had only half of his abilities in the Hui Realm. On the other hand, he had used his full potential, and it was indeed similar. However, in reality, only Fang Yuan knew for himself the extent of his abilities.

'Unknowingly, I have now become a talent?'

As he smiled, he replied. "This is a big thing... Let me consider!"

"Of course. Know that the Realm Alliance has the least restrictions on dream masters. Furthermore, I will personally bring you through the alliance and therefore the path up will be much easier..."

Feng Xinzi mumbled on before cutting off.

"Most importantly... Although my potential is not bad, I have still yet to reach the stage of being an ultimate talent..."

Fang Yuan shook his head and let out a bitter laugh.

Feng Xinzi must have assumed that he was a talent.

"It is possible to be trained to such a level, but my cultivation now is still too low to think about it... I'm afraid that if I were to enter the Realm Alliance, I would lose self-control..."

"I need to train up!"

Fang Yuan walked out of the rock tablet square and arrived at a corner. "Realm Spirit, I want to apply for a void space to carry out the locating of another realm!"

"Ding! I have received your request and will deduct 100 contribution points!"

A cold and mechanical voice was heard. In the next moment, Fang Yuan found himself in an empty space with the surroundings sealed.

Based on the ability of the Realm Spirit, the void space which it had created would be strong enough to withstand the attacks of True Elemental spiritual knights and True Divine martial artists.

"Based on the description by Venerable Dream Traverser, the first step would be to have an empty space as a base. Of course, it is possible to do it in my actualised dream world as well but that would be putting my life at risk. It would be safer to do it in the Dream Realm!"

With the flip of his hand, a golden fruit was revealed. Around the fruit, there were chunks of golden runes around it, which made it look mysterious.

However, he knew that this was not a real fruit but the coordinates for another realm, and it was merely taking up the physical shape of something else.

"Dream-traversing to other worlds would still be the fastest way to train up!"

Fang Yuan's previous rewards made him wanted to try again.

Furthermore, he could tell that the entire Da Qian was heavily monitored. Without a certain level of ability, his reckless actions would only attract the attention of the powerful and lead to his death.

Compared to this, dream-traversing to other realms was less troublesome. If he was lucky, he would reap a lot of rewards and it was worth a try!

"I am not hoping that I would find the source of dream masters. I am only hoping that I will arrive at a realm similar to the Hui Realm so that I can gain some realm energy and form a few more swords and I'll be satisfied..."

Looking around at the surroundings, Fang Yuan hesitated no more. He followed Venerable Dream Traverser's description and started to poke at the golden fruit.

"Rumble!"

As the golden fruit shook, golden flames started to burn it. The runes slowly came together and circled the fruit like a river. Suddenly, it exploded and formed a door frame.

With a force similar to a black hole, Fang Yuan's body was sucked towards it.

"Eh?"

Fang Yuan wanted to slowly experience the feeling. However, he quickly became dizzy and a huge force which penetrated the realms was felt. His mind almost stopped.

After a long while, he opened his eyes and a new world laid before him.

...

This was a world full of water.

There were rivers and streams, lakes and oceans covering the whole world. There was very little land as they were all submerged under all the water in the realm.

In mid-air, it was concentrated with natural elemental energy. Of course, in his own world, it would be known as spiritual energy.

On the 3rd day of the 7th month, there was a slight drizzle.

As the mist dissipated, there were huge water droplets which condensed on the lotus leaves. As the water droplets trickled down and into the lake, small waves were created

"Whoosh!"

A mild wind blew across and as the lotus leaves swayed in the wind, a bluish-green ocean stretched to the horizon, combining seamlessly with the sky.

There was a splash as a black carp leapt out of the water.

"Mmm... it seems that this is not just a large pond, but a lake!"

In the black carp, Fang Yuan's released his spiritual will, not knowing if he should laugh or cry. "Who would've guessed... In this world, animals are the ones ruling it and therefore, I have become an animal as well!"

To him, this was nothing much. After all, he had such experiences in previous dream-accessing moments. Quickly, he adapted to having no hands and legs as he trained by swimming in the water just by using his body.

After exploring, he was clear about where he was.

He was in a big lake which stretched across a large area and he was possessing a black carp not longer than a foot. If he were to be caught, he could make the perfect meal.

There was a saying among the animals in Da Qian. "Carps have hard fins, teeth, whiskers and are not the ideal meal!"

With black scales, this was about how Fang Yuan appeared now.

Furthermore, this water realm seemed to have more dangers than he could imagine.

All around there were ferocious fishes and water beasts. Even in the vicinity of the lotus flowers, it was not any safer.

To think about it, even for such a small fish, it could have its own spirituality. This might be attributed to the concentrated natural elemental energy in the environment.

"Since I'm a fish, I am the ruler of the waters! Let's get to the task at hand, which is to train up!"

Fang Yuan came to the lotus leaves and concealed himself in the shadows of the leaves.

"Big fishes will eat small fishes, small fishes will eat shrimps and shrimps will eat dirt! I am rather small and should try eating shrimps to fill my belly..."

Fang Yuan comforted himself for the fact that he did not possess a shrimp and therefore did not have to eat dirt.

Furthermore, the shrimps in the river were fat and delicious and it would be alright to eat them raw.

As he came to a spot, he quickly swallowed a few shrimps, controlled his energy and attempted to eat another two small fishes which were smaller than the size of the baby finger. With a mouthful, he slowly digested them.

After a satisfactory burp, he came to a slit in a rock to rest and started to explore his body.

"Stats!"

With just a thought, a window appeared:

"Name: Fang Yuan

Race: [Black Carp (10 Years)]

Essence: 0.3

Spirit: 0.3

Magic: 3.3

Profession: ???

Cultivation: ???

Technique: ???

Skill: [Medicine (Level 3)], [Botany (Level 5)]"

• • •

"Alright, since I'm a fish, I should be fortunate to preserve 10% of my initial magic proficiency points..."

After looking at his stats board, Fang Yuan was speechless.

With the unique ability to fix his stats, he could quickly restore his abilities.

However, how could a fish train? This was a worthy question.

"Since I have the most magic points, I am most suitable to be a dream master and train techniques which would require my essence and magic!"

The good thing was that he was experienced. Regarding his predicament, he could quickly come to a conclusion. "Furthermore, it is unsuitable for me to train like a human and therefore I cannot restore my old techniques. However, I did discover a few techniques in the Golden Dragon God's palace the other time. Although this realm is different from that, the differences are minute and I should be able to train them!"

"Of course, based on my current situation, I should hide. Otherwise, it would be wasteful if a big fish were to come along and swallow me up..."

Fang Yuan was determined.

At this moment, a strong current was felt as the river tumbled into an ocean, disrupting everything beneath the water.

"What is this?"

A strong force was felt underwater. This was the demonstration of power from the strong to the weak, as though the powerful beings were calling the weaker ones to gather.

Beneath the lotus flower, back black carps, red carps, grass fishes, water snakes, shrimps and crabs and a few other entirely new species appeared, forming up a line.

On the lake, there was a golden wave. A few ten thousand carps had formed a line and became a wave which shimmered on the surface of the lake.

"The Water God is calling for us!"

In the water current, a green-faced water guardian appeared with huge clams under its feet and a double-headed spear in his hands. With big eyes, a wide mouth and a toad's face, it grabbed onto a few huge fishes and poked them.

The poked fishes tumbled and started to grow hands and legs, somewhat resembling a human. The only thing was that they had a weird appearance and scaly skin.

"Transformation?"

With a strong spiritual will, Fang Yuan was still in control of his body as he hid in the slit of the rock. As he witnessed the scene before him, he started to laugh.

This transformation method was used by demons to strengthen their subordinates and servants. Their methods were ruthless and imperfect. The animals which they transfigured would appear ferocious-looking and would lose a part of their spirituality! They would have to be a servant for life.

'If the river gods were the ones transfiguring, I could still consider, but you are just a water guard...'

As he thought to himself, he hid deeper into the slit.

"I, the Qi Lake Water God, have completed my cultivation. As to who will now own Qi Lake, it is up to fate..."

After a long while, a loud and powerful voice was heard.

"Qi Lake Water God? It seems that he is the God of this place. Completed his cultivation? Is he going to the heavens after this?"

As Fang Yuan made wild guesses, he noticed the golden glow dissipating and the water creatures started to swim away. He decided to be a cowardly tortoise.

With his current abilities, even if he were to gain rewards, it would be almost impossible for him to take it. Instead, he might even lose his life.

Rather than risking his life, he would rather quietly hide and train.

Carefree Path of Dreams

Chapter 257: 9 Transformations

Qi Lake, within the Lotus Region.

All the fishes were feasting as autumn arrived in order to stock up food for the winter.

The lotus leaf rustled as a ferocious black shadow appeared. It revealed its sharp fangs as it swiftly bit a water snake into two and devoured it.

Blood flowed as the ferocious aura caused the surrounding aquatic animals to flee.

This black shadow ate quickly, ferociously and greedily. It had just finished devouring the water snake before it set its eyes on the surrounding fishes and shrimps. With a wave of its tail, it gave chase, causing droplets of water to splash everywhere and startling a flock of seagulls.

"Eat! Eat again! My newly improved 'Nine Steps of Dragon Transformation Formula' is most suitable for the water dwellers to cultivate. The first phase is to increase the appetite and increase the digestive abilities. This is to accumulate spiritual energy through constantly eating!"

This black carp was naturally Fang Yuan.

At this moment, he took another look at his stats:

"Name: Fang Yuan

Race: [Black Carp (20 years)]

Essence: 3.6

Spirit: 3.6

Magic: 4

Profession:???

Cultivation:???

Technique: [Nine Steps of Dragon Transformation Formula (1st Transformation)]

Skill: [Medicine (Level 3)], [Botany (Level 5)]"

This type of stats was considered not bad within the small Lotus Region. Coupled with the previous few months of stuffing himself with food, his body had grown to 3 feet long which was around 1 metre. He could now be considered a fish monster.

Of course, in this realm where all sorts of monsters and demons existed, his type of monstrosity could not make it to the list.

"20 years? It seems that the years at the back does not represent age but rather power?"

Fang Yuan had a realization.

The stat window was fixed. If he was reborn as a person, he would be able to return to his peak if he managed to regain his skills!

Furthermore, as a unique beast, before he reached the peak of his stats, he would not experience a bottleneck and as such, could raise his power crazily the whole way.

"This Nine steps of Dragon Transformation Technique is a technique which I obtained from the Golden Dragon God's Palace and is most suitable for black carps. There are a total of nine steps and the first 3 transformations are carp transformations followed by the black snake transformation, the python transformation, the giant venomous snake transformation, the horned dragon transformation, the water dragon transformation and finally, the true dragon transformation! Legend has it that as long as the 9 steps of transformation are completed, regardless of the original race, one can transform into a true dragon!"

"It's a shame that one can only reach the water dragon transformation with the Golden Dragon God's technique. I have also made changes to the first 3 transformation technique to make it more suitable for the body of a carp and this realm as well."

"Given my fixed stats, I would not experience any bottleneck before I reached the true dragon transformation!"

Fang Yuan's gaze was solemn as he continued to feast as the black carp. Regardless of whether it was a fish, worm, snake, or bird, Fang Yuan quickly bit it to its death in one bite and devoured it, transforming it into vital elemental energy.

Of course, he would not stupidly provoke foes that were stronger than him. Even if the fish was one head length shorter than him, he would let the fish go. He was king of those water dwellers within 1 square centimetre in length and he specifically chooses fish or water dwellers that were less than a foot long, using a large quantity of fish or water dwellers as a supplement to his cultivation.

After an unknown period of time, he felt the hot sensation that was in his fish abdomen broke through a certain gate and flowed through his entire body.

A small whirlpool was generated within the water region as the black carp, which was originally 3 feet in length expanded and in an instant, became 6 feet long, which was close to 2 metres.

"2nd transformation!"

Fang Yuan's eyes shone as he looked at his own stats:

"Name: Fang Yuan

Race: [Black Carp (33 years)]

Essence: 6

Spirit: 6

Magic: 6

Profession: ???

Cultivation: ???

Technique: [Nine Steps of Dragon Transformation Technique (2nd Transformation)],

[Water Controlling Technique]

Skill: [Medicine (Level 3)], [Botany (Level 5)]"

"Water Controlling Technique?"

The increase in his stats was expected. However, he was shocked when he saw the technique.

He was thinking when a few writings appeared within his sea of knowledge as if it were logic brought about by the heavens and earth.

However, his current abilities were very weak and he could only control the water flow to increase his speed.

"The ability to control water? That is not bad at all!"

If he was an ordinary fish-type spirit, he would only be able to control the water flow.

However, Fang Yuan was not ordinary. After considering for a while, he suddenly leapt out of the water and shot a water arrow from his fish mouth.

"Pff!"

The strength of the water arrow was considerably huge. A white water bird, which was originally resting, was unable to dodge the arrow. It was struck by the water arrow and

fell into the lake.

Fang Yuan immediately pounced on it and devoured it.

"The ability to control water should increase as the spirit's cultivation increases, as of now, I am able to comprehend the minor techniques of increasing speed and forming water arrows, water gun and using water protect myself. In the future, my power will continue to increase..."

Fang Yuan's eyes flashed as he realized the benefits of this dream realm.

"Even though the cultivation here is not transferable to other realms, my comprehension of water-type techniques are valuable...even if I achieved nothing in this dream-traverse, I will be able to condense the water-type sword 5 times faster when I go back. That is more valuable compared to anything else!"

After the 2nd transformation, Fang Yuan's capabilities increased with the Water Controlling Technique.

Now, he dared to strike those fishes that were of his size. After all, those type of fish could be counted as spirits. Their spirit and blood were thick and one of them was equivalent to tens or hundreds of normal fish!

His hunting area had expanded from a small corner to the whole of the Lotus Region as well.

"Water gun!"

Fang Yuan flicked his tail as he fixed his eyes on a big green fish.

The fish might not be as big as he was. However, it was still around 5 feet long with shiny scales. It was also a predator in this region.

He was naturally unafraid as he swam forward and condense a stream of water gun.

This was a water-type move which spiralled and as such, it was most suitable for an underwater attack.

The big green fish was startled at first when it saw the black carp approaching. After overcoming its shock, it swam forward fiercely and was struck by the water gun. In an instant, a large hole appeared on its body as the scales flew in all directions.

Fang Yuan did not wait and instead, rushed forward and severed its nerves in one clean bite, sending the fish to its death. Soon after, he started to devour the fish.

"Good! There is no doubt that this is spirit grade. This spirit and blood are uncommon and of importance to me!"

Fang Yuan felt that his vital elemental energy was supplemented way beyond what was normal as he ate the meat of the fish. It seemed that the big green fish could be considered a spirit. It was a pity that some of its spiritual knowledge was not yet attained and as such, it was muddleheaded and could only act based on its instinct.

Fang Yuan felt that his vital elemental energy increased quickly with the consumption of food. Unknowingly, his body grew by another foot which was a cause for celebration.

"The first 3 transformations of the Nine Steps of Dragon Transformation Formula focus on the storing of the vital elemental energy. I do not experience any bottlenecks and as

such, I can quickly achieve my cultivation!"

He quickly devoured the big green fish till only the bones were left. After which, he used his spiritual will to scan the surroundings and discovered that something was amiss.

"Who is there?"

"Ahhh...no...don't eat me!"

A scallop the size of a millstone appeared from below the silt. It seemed as though it wanted to escape by sprouting water.

"Stay!"

Fang Yuan laughed coldly. This level of ability to control water was nowhere near his level of water control. With his manipulation of the water current, he swam to the scallop as if he was looking for an area to strike.

"Ohhh....Please don't eat me, I am not tasty!"

A wave of spiritual will transmitted from within the scallop as a Yin spirit appeared. It took on a shape of a beautiful young girl. "My flesh is very smelly, very smelly..."

"Haha....rest assured, since you have already achieved spiritual awareness and is able to give your divine spirit form, I will not eat you!"

Fang Yuan revealed his Yin spirit which took on the shape of a youth in black clothing as he used his spiritual will to communicate.

In his heart, he felt pleasantly surprised.

The demonic strength of the scallop in front of him was obviously lesser than the big green fish. However, it was able to attain spiritual awareness and even project its Yin spirit, which was hard to achieve.

Compared to the scallop, the green fish was a simple being. Even amongst the demon race, they were not of the same level.

"You really won't eat me?"

It was obvious that the little girl had little experience. She was frightened till she teared.

"I really won't eat you!"

Fang Yuan had to hold back his laughter.

The spiritual energy in this realm was thick. One would be able to project their Yin spirit if they managed to achieve their divine spirit.

The Yin spirits in this realm were very innocent. For example, the little girl in front of him revealed herself without much thought. If he had any ill intentions, he would be able to destroy its soul.

"That's good!"

The little girl patted her chest as the scallop opened and closed its mouth, revealing the snow-white flesh and the pearl within.

"Idiot!"

Fang Yuan's spiritual will moved forward and slapped her forehead. "Don't trust what strangers say so easily. Furthermore, don't anyhow reveal the light of your pearl or it will cause you much trouble!"

"Roger!"

The young girl cradled her head as she cried softly in pain. She looked at the condensed spiritual will which revealed a far superior Fang Yuan. She wanted to cry but no tears came.

"That's enough, how did you project your form?"

Fang Yuan swam at her side and asked randomly.

"I face the moon and absorb the energy every night. After a while, I manage to do this!"

The little girl could feel Fang Yuan's kindness which drew her closer.

"Do you face the moon and absorb the Emperor Flow Serum or the Chilling Night Essence?"

Fang Yuan looked at the innocent girl and adored her in his heart. He touched her forehead. "I show pass you a technique. Next time, you will be able to cultivate faster as you face the moon and cultivate! Also, since you do not have a name, I shall call you Luo Zhu!"

At this point, he touched Luo Zhu's forehead with a finger.

Luo Zhu swooned and attained much knowledge. She smiled sweetly. "Thank you, brother[1]!"

Her brows furrowed as she asked sadly, "Why do you eat so many fishes?"

"That is because I am cultivating!"

Fang Yuan looked into the horizon. "It is just that our dao is different!"

"Rumble!"

At this moment, above the water surface, a streak of white lightning flashed as the dark storm clouds loomed overhead, bringing with it an immense pressure.

"It's here again!"

Luo Zhu was so frightened her divine spirit immediately hid in the scallop and dared not come out. This was a heavenly tribulation. She was frightened even though it was far off and there was a water body between them.

"Hmmm, recently, there is a lot of lightning in Qi Lake!"

Fang Yuan's divine spirit was unafraid of the thunder. His eyes were solemn as he remembered the voice of the water god. His feeling that time was running out increased.

"It is considered fate if I am still able to visit the beach after I achieve a breakthrough in my cultivation!"

The water god rewarded his allies generously and yet, there were 3 tribulations outside- heaven, earth and people!

Previously, he distributed his wealth in order to gain some karma.

However, the tribulation outside was vast. Could it be overcome easily? This was a good opportunity for the other water dwellers and those who covet his position.

[1] A term of endearment to an older person.

Carefree Path of Dreams

Chapter 258: Transforming Into A Dragon

Ever since he had met Luo Zhu, Fang Yuan started to explore further and began to make friends with a few spirits.

To be labelled as a spirit, they had to have a hardy physical body and had to be spiritually aware.

Fang Yuan would not eat these creatures. Instead, he would befriend them and gather information from them.

He still preferred the big green fish with strong energy but spiritually unaware of what was happening.

After his eating spree, he had grown to as long as 3 metres and as he swam, waves swept above him. He was a bully in the region.

If this place was a small lake or river, he could create chaos and might even be respected as a Water Dragon King.

Of course, there were many powerful creatures in Qi Lake and the little cultivation of his was only average.

"Another one!"

As he swam in the lake, his body glowed black. He would no longer pay attention to smaller fishes.

"My body is surging with elemental force. If I swallow another spirit, I can surely achieve the 3rd Transformation!"

Normal fishes would not be able to train up so quickly.

"Do I really need to attack those spirits? If I do, I'll have to kill them in one bite must hide from others, otherwise, trouble would come looking for me..."

It was alright for Fang Yuan to eat the other normal fishes to cultivate himself. However, it was considered overboard if he were to eat the creatures with spiritual awareness.

Considering his ability now, he still did not have the power to go against the unspoken rule of not attacking creatures with spiritual awareness.

As he swam and looked out for potential targets, he unknowingly arrived at where Luo Zhu was.

With his spiritual will, he scanned the surroundings and suddenly became enraged. With the flick of his tail, he rushed over.

"You indecent thing, hand the pearl over!"

In front, Luo Zhu refused to open her clam, and there was a soft crying voice of a little girl.

Outside, there was a ferocious sawtooth fish bigger than Fang Yuan's current size. He had a slim body and a swordlike mouth filled with teeth as sharp as a saw. There were spikes on its tail as well and a Yin

Spirit the shape of a middle-aged man was above it. "Hand it over! If you do not, I'll break your shell open and destroy you!"

He was extremely quick and as he swam behind Luo Zhu, he aimed before charging at her with full speed.

"Bang!"

After a huge tremor, there was a big hole in her shell and Luo Zhu was wailing loudly.

"How dare you!"

Although it was only normal for the strong to eat the weak, Fang Yuan was Luo Zhu's friend and he had to help her.

Seeing the sawtooth fish attempting to charge at her again, Fang Yuan rushed out and rammed into his stomach, biting it with his sharp teeth.

"Kacha!"

He had cultivated his sharp teeth. For the purpose of biting and digestion, he had strengthened it, and it was as hard as metal. Immediately, there was an open wound in the sawtooth fish's stomach, as Fang Yuan bit a piece of flesh from him.

"Ah... How dare you!"

As the middle-aged man screamed, his Yin Spirit returned to his body, and the sawtooth fish appeared more ferocious than ever.

"Water spear!"

As his spiritual will shook, two swirling water spears appeared and penetrated through the sawtooth's wound, destroying his insides.

"This is impossible..."

A wave of thought came from the eyes of the sawtooth fish.

Although they were about the same size, the sawtooth fish was a natural predator and would have the advantage over normal fishes like carps.

Never would he have thought that this black carp was a mutated fish!

With a feeling of unjust, the sawtooth fish continued to rush forward instead of retreating and was ready to fight for his life with Fang Yuan.

"Haha, do you think I'll be afraid of you?!"

Fang Yuan knew his strengths and was aware that he was the strongest among all creatures in the local region. He wouldn't be afraid of even the biggest creatures. With the flick of his tail, he smacked the sawtooth fish and followed up with a bite, pulling of flesh with every mouth.

"Brother, please spare me! Spare me!"

After their exchange, the sawtooth fish was at a disadvantage and was under Fang Yuan's total control. There was nothing he could do to release himself and could only reveal himself as a Yin Spirit to beg for his life.

"Hmph, since you intend to harm my friend, I cannot let you go!"

Fang Yuan exclaimed as he rolled his eyes. Finally, he bit onto the head of the sawtooth fish.

"Ah..."

The middle-aged man exclaimed as his spirit attempted to escape.

Although he had lost his physical body and that the Yin Spirit would slowly die with it, he would still have a slight chance of survival if fate allows.

Of course, Fang Yuan would not let him survive. Quickly, he released his Yin Spirit as well and fired a water arrow at him, destroying his Yin Spirit.

"This is god given!"

Looking at the huge sawtooth fish corpse, Fang Yuan quickly gobbled him up in happiness.

He was only halfway done but he could feel a warm surge of energy breaking through something in his body.

On his stats window, the figures changed:

"Name: Fang Yuan

Race: [Black Carp (66 Years)]

Essence: 12

Spirit: 12

Magic: 12

Profession: ???

Cultivation: ???

Technique: [Nine Steps of Dragon Transformation Formula (3rd Transformation)], [Water Controlling Technique (Grade 2)]

-1--(---/1

Skill: [Medicine (Level 3)], [Botany (Level 5)]"

"Indeed, I'm at the 3rd Transformation! Could the 66 Years refer to my cultivation level? That my abilities are comparable to a water spirit that has cultivated for 66 years?"

Fang Yuan was deep in his thoughts as he looked at his stats window.

"Brother!"

As the clam opened, Luo Zuo invited Fang Yuan over.

"Didn't I tell you not to let anyone see that pearl of yours? Look at what happened!"

Fang Yuan was in a good mood as he stroked the little girl's forehead.

"I've learnt!"

Luo Zhu tugged at Fang Yuan's sleeves as she examined him with curiosity. "Eh? Brother, when did you change your appearance? You have a beard as well!"

"This is a transformation. With enough spiritual energy, I would be able to start the next stage of condensing!"

Fang Yuan's Yin Spirit examined his own body as well.

His body was originally larger but now, it had become shortened. This was due to the fact that the energy in his body had been purified.

Even so, his glittering scales and longer whiskers made him looked more experienced and powerful. More importantly, his water-type skills had improved.

"In the Nine Steps of Dragon Transformation Formula, the first three transformations would be to form the basics. It would be difficult to achieve a breakthrough to the 4th Transformation!"

Looking at his black carp body, he was lost in his thoughts.

In the Nine Steps of Dragon Transformation Formula, there was a difficulty in the 4th Transformation. It was called 'Carp Leaping Over the Dragon's Gate'.

This would involve his physical body changing, which was a huge thing.

After all, with the body of a carp, he could at most be a demon in a river. Only by leaping over the Dragon's Gate and gaining the properties of a dragon could there be a future for him.

"To think about it, I was fortunate enough to possess this black carp, since it is related to dragons. That way, I would have the affinity to become a dragon! If I were to possess a crab or shrimp, I would really cry."

"Kacha!"

At this moment, there was the sound of an explosion on the surface of the river. Purple lightning struck down like pillars of heaven.

This was a different threat from before, and Fang Yuan was stunned.

"This is..."

Without caring about Luo Zhu, Fang Yuan quickly floated to the surface of the lake.

As he arrived on top, he witnessed dark clouds covering the sun and moon. Lightning flashed down towards the centre of the lake.

'This is the power of the heavens!'

No matter how many times he had seen this before, it would strike fear into him every single time.

"The Water God is finally going to experience the tribulation!"

As a wave of water spread across the surface of the lake, many spirits floated up as well and were all shocked as they witnessed the lightning.

No matter how many creatures there were, all of them could only hide like Fang Yuan. There were only a few who were able to release their Yin Spirit, and even Luo Zhu could not do it.

There was an old creature with a white beard sighing.

Beside him, there was a well-built man with a black face and brute spiritual aura.

"Brother Gui, Brother Zhu!"

Fang Yuan greeted them.

Both of them quickly returned a greeting. "Congratulations, Brother Fang, on your improvements in cultivation!"

Fang Yuan knew the both of them. They were the spirits nearby. Before he had made the breakthrough, he had even thought about eating them.

The white-bearded creature was Gui Zhong, a green-haired tortoise. He was the oldest among all of them and was around a thousand years old. Brother Zhu, on the other hand, was a crocodile and was similar to Fang Yuan in a sense where he also trained up by eating other animals.

At this point in time, as the three of them looked at the lightning crackle down, they appeared extremely solemn.

"Water God's tribulation?"

Fang Yuan acted as though he was confused. "Please explain."

"Ah..."

Gui Zhong sighed. "The Water God of Qi Lake was originally a green python. Although he had the properties of a dragon and had once ruled over an area, he was ultimately not a dragon!"

"After a hundred years, a snake would transform into a python, and after another five hundred years, the python would finally transform into a dragon... Ah, the Water God has painstakingly trained for five hundred years and has good karma. However, to become a dragon, it still has to undergo a lightning tribulation! Not just that, he will have to undergo a human tribulation as well, and I'm not sure if the Water God will be able to make it through..."

Fang Yuan remained silent.

The few hundred mile radii of the Qi Lake and the presence of the Water God would surely attract a lot of attention from everywhere.

"Previously, the Water God had made used of his good karma to delay his tribulation. Who knows if he had cleared his human tribulation as well... He can no longer delay it and with the lightning, he had to face it squarely..."

As soon as Gui Zhong finished his sentence, a purple streak of lightning crackled across the sky, engulfing the entire sky in a white glow like a pillar from the heavens.

In the middle of the lightning, there was a black shadow roaring.

"Roar!"

Suddenly, there was a powerful dragon's roar.

All the spiritual energy in the vicinity of Qi Lake quickly gathered around the black shadow.

"Good!"

Witnessing this, Gui Zhong was jubilant. "With his good karma and the help from the spiritual energy around the lake, he is likely to make it!"

Just as he ended, a few streaks of black smoke rushed towards the Water God with much hostility.

It was evident that some of the black streaks of smoke were from the powerful demons in Qi Lake as they rushed up to disrupt the transference of spiritual energy to the Water God.

"Rumble!"

As the final lightning struck down, the silhouette of a dragon was struck and a pitiful dragon's roar was heard in the minds of every creature living in the lake.

"Water God..."

Gui Zhong was stunned. Seeing a water dragon falling down and breaking into two parts as black smoke surrounded it, he was speechless.

"Hehe... hehe..."

At the side, the crocodile gave a snicker with a hint of worry. After all, he also had properties of a dragon and he could end up like the Water God!

Carefree Path of Dreams

Chapter 259: Good and Bad Fortune

"Splatter!"

After the lightning tribulation, as the clouds disappeared, large raindrops began to pelter on the surface of the lake.

A red streak of light shot up into the sky, illuminating the entire lake.

It gave off a tempting vibe as the creatures around the lotus flowers were beginning to get attracted to it, especially the crocodile.

"Ah... It seems that the Water God has passed on. This is the dragon's blood spilling into the lake!"

Even though the Water God of Qi Lake had not become a real dragon, it already had its blood. Although it was still far from being a dragon, his destruction meant that it would be extremely hard for anyone to attempt to transform into a dragon.

"Whoosh!"

It was as though a gunshot went off as fishes swam frantically to the centre of the lake.

"This object... Please don't snatch it from me, the two of you!"

The crocodile snarled and disappeared into the water in a glow of light.

The crocodile appeared once more, but this time covered in a thick scaly armour as it made its way clumsily into the centre of the lake.

"Brother Gui, why are you not after it?"

Fang Yuan looked at Gui Zhong and smiled.

"The competition is intense and there are a few powerful demons among them. I am but a bag of bones, what can I do? Furthermore... I am too slow... Why are you not trying, brother?"

Gui Zhong replied as he glanced at Fang Yuan with curiosity.

"The current is too strong there, and I'm afraid I would be lost!"

Fang Yuan smiled.

In reality, both the carp and the tortoise were related to dragons and would naturally have the properties of the dragon. Therefore, they did not have to obtain it from external sources.

Therefore, he could swim around calmly with Gui Zhong.

Fang Yuan initially had the thought of reaping the rewards from the Water God, but after seeing the tribulation and the intense competition among the demons, he gave up on the thought.

Based on his current cultivation, it would be suicide if he were to try to snatch the dragon's essence in the middle of the lake.

The crocodile, although spiritually aware, was attracted to the centre by his instincts. It was unknown if its instinct was a good thing or a bad thing.

"If there's nothing else, I'll carry on with my cultivation!"

After finishing his piece, Fang Yuan returned his Yin Spirit into his body and flicked his tail. Bidding goodbye to Luo Zhu, he promptly disappeared into the depths.

Gui Zhong remained speechless. "He is humble and composed, and can even resist against such a strong temptation. This black fish is mysterious..."

Looking at the centre of the lake, he snickered. "Dragon's blood? Hehe... Do they really think that the Water God's blood is dragon's blood? How could one possibly obtain dragon properties so easily?"

Beneath him, a huge shadow appeared. It was a huge green-haired tortoise with streaks of gold on its shell.

"With the death of the Water God, the Qi Lake will return to its usual chaos. Why should I get involved in all these? I'll take a rest! And we'll see what to do after a hundred-year-long dream..."

With a flash, his Yin Spirit returned to his body and disappeared.

"Bloop! Bloop!"

Bubbles were released as the green tortoise started to sink downwards like a heavy rock.

...

"How could they think that it would be so easy to get dragon properties?"

After calming Luo Zhu down, Fang Yuan swam away as his Yin Spirit chuckled.

Although there was a chance for his carp body to activate its dragon properties, the chances were extremely low. If he were to obtain real dragon's blood, he would be able to transform entirely and his future would be limitless.

"However, a normal water dragon's blood would be poisonous. It would be extremely difficult to try and get the drop of real dragon's blood amidst all the competition!"

As he swam gracefully, he swallowed another small fish. "I shall watch the show from afar..."

In the blink of an eye, 7 days had passed.

Indeed, the crocodile did not return. A few mutated fish returned instead. Although they did not get the dragon properties, they were still fortunate enough not to be poisoned by the water dragon's blood. All of them were fat looking and filled with elemental force.

Seeing this, Fang Yuan was jubilant. He had decided that from that day onwards, he would target these mutated fish.

"Whoosh!"

Underwater, two streams of water swirled into water spears which pierced through a white fish.

This white fish was a few feet long and was much larger than Fang Yuan. More importantly, the scale on it was golden, which made it unusual.

Fang Yuan had relied on his strong stats and Water Controlling Technique to kill the other fish.

"Although these fish did not get the water dragon's true blood to gain their dragon properties, they had taken in the water dragon's spiritual aura and benefitted from it... By slowly eating them, I will slowly consume the water dragon's spiritual aura and increase the possibility of me leaping through the Dragon's Gate..."

He looked at his own body.

He was originally 8 inches but now, he was only 3 inches long. His scales were glittering with a dull gold hue, and his whiskers were long. Every inch of his body was perfection.

"Am I finally at this stage?"

Fang Yuan felt that he was at his limits, and took a quick look at his stats window:

"Name: Fang Yuan

Race: [Black Carp (99 Years)]

Essence: 17

Spirit: 17

Magic: 17

Profession: ???

Cultivation: ???

Technique: [Nine Steps of Dragon Transformation Technique (3rd Transformation)], [Water Controlling

Technique (Grade 2)]

Skill: [Medicine (Level 3)], [Botany (Level 5)]"

...

"No matter how concentrated the spiritual energy is in this realm, the limit for carps is 100 years. I am already at this stage... I either go all out and leap through the Dragon's Gate, or I become nothing!"

"Of course, what are the things I can take from this realm that would benefit me? Or should I say, what can I take from this realm..."

Fang Yuan had already tested the theory out. The rules which govern this realm was much stricter than the rules of reality in Hui Realm.

The connection between him and his actualised dream world was limited and it was arduous for him to even harness the sword's essence. It was even more difficult for him to transfer anything into the actualised dream world.

"Dragon's pearl, dragon's properties... Or the natural spiritual meridians... and the position of Water God. Everything is a mystery..."

After giving it much thought, these were the few things which he could attempt to transfer to his actualised dream world. However, as he had learnt before, he still needed to restore his abilities.

Without abilities, he could not even defend himself!

As he was thinking to himself, there was a sudden stream of current ahead as many creatures started to rush towards the lotus flowers.

"Brother, save me!"

The one in front was Zhu Tong, the crocodile. His body was covered in wounds as he dyed the water red.

Seeing Fang Yuan, his eyes widened as he quickly rushed towards him.

"You deserve to die!"

Fang Yuan's spiritual will was enraged. "Zhu Tong! How dare you bring trouble to me!"

"Water spears!"

Within seconds, 6 to 7 water spears were fired at the crocodile.

With the strength of his spiritual will and his Water Controlling Technique, the water spears he had fired were comparable to arrows or even cannons from ships!

"Pu! Pu!"

Even the scales of the crocodile could not deflect the water spears. As the water spears pierced through, blood exploded from him.

Zhu Tong's Yin Spirit appeared and smiled. "Who would've thought that... I would die at the hands of my own brother..."

Since his physical body had died, his soul would not be able to sustain for long. The figure of the well-built man slowly disappeared. In a sigh, a golden glow shot out of the crocodile and landed on Fang Yuan's head.

"This is..."

With his spiritual will on guard, Fang Yuan could control the glow if it were to harm him.

However, after examination, he realised that it was a map.

"That ... black fish, hand over the map of Water God's secret mansion, or I'll eat you up!"

As fishes behind gave chase, the water guardian standing on clams appeared once again, looking ferocious. It was the same one which Fang Yuan had seen before.

"Water God's secret mansion?"

Fang Yuan remained speechless as he looked at the crocodile corpse.

It seems that the crocodile was rather lucky to have obtained the map. However, he was no longer alive to enjoy the reward.

Of course, by passing on the treasure map to Fang Yuan, he wanted to bring trouble to Fang Yuan!

Seeing the face of the water guardian, Fang Yuan knew that even if he were to hand it over, he would still be killed.

After all, anyone who encountered the treasure map would remember it in their spiritual wills.

"Go!"

With the pressure from the water guardian and the assistance he had from the other water spirits, Fang Yuan was pressurized to make a decision.

Seeing this, he quickly flicked his tail and swam away.

"Hey! Where are you going!"

These water spirits were naive. Only after Fang Yuan had swum for a distance did they realise what was happening. They were fuming mad. "Stay!"

Blue streaks of light were shot towards Fang Yuan and spread out underwater.

There was a golden glitter on Fang Yuan's body. With the flick of his tail, numerous water spears exploded behind him as he quickly made his escape.

He could no longer stay in the region of the lotus flowers.

"This black carp..."

The water guardian was stunned. After a while, there was a glitter in his eyes. "This fish does not seem normal. Catch it!"

"Also, investigate its background. How can our elder demon's treasure lie in the hands of others? I want him to be trapped in the Qi Lake!"

...

"What luck! I didn't ask for trouble, but trouble came looking for me!"

He did not do anything to deserve the trouble. As he swam away, he felt a little depressed.

He was already at the 3rd transformation of the Nine Steps of Dragon Transformation and had restored half of his stats. Under chase, he was obviously quicker than the normal fishes and spiritual fishes.

After all, even the water guardian might be no match for him.

"This will not end here..."

Fang Yuan had a premonition that everything was not over.

He would surely be tracked down and chased after. After all, that was the outcome for the crocodile, and he was no different.

"I need to leave this place!"

He had made up his mind. "Furthermore... Since they are so anxious about the treasure map, let me take a look at it. I might even be lucky and surprised!"

The heavens did not give it to him, but it ended up with him ultimately!

Although the crocodile wanted to harm Fang Yuan by giving him the map, he was strong enough to escape and make use of it, turning it into his fortune.

Good things can turn bad, and bad things can become good!

Chapter 260: Secret Mansions

Beneath Qi Lake, there was a water palace. It was where the Water God once stayed and was filled with spiritual energy. It was glittering gold from the inside, and there was a huge protective array on the outside.

In the main hall, pearls and jade pieces covered the floor, reflecting the image of many clams and shellfish dancing about.

On the tables, there were spiritual fruits and spiritual wine; a dinner was ongoing.

But this time, the owner of the place was no longer the Water God of Qi Lake.

"Brother Bai! Please!"

The three demons were the stars of the night. One of them who was covered in a flowery pattern offered wine to a young man in white. "Wishing you a speedy cultivation to become the next Water God!"

Brother Bai was Bai Guan, a python. The other two were a water buffalo and an alligator snapping turtle, but both of them were suitable and had dragon properties as well.

They had already decided since the attack on Water God. Bai Guan did the most and would receive the imperial order and the water palace. The remaining corpse and dragon properties from the Water God would be divided equally among the other two.

"Thank you for your blessings!"

Bai Guan smiled. Inside him, the imperial order, in the form of a talisman, floated mysteriously. "The previous Water God is of the same race as me. If not for the fact that my tribulation is about to arrive and I require the imperial order, I wouldn't have attacked him..."

"We still need to clean up what he did while he was alive!"

The alligator snapping turtle revealed his Yin Spirit, a well-built man. The man started to gobble down an entire pig and cow before gulping down bowls of wine. After a satisfactory burp, he continued. "The previous god trusts no one and therefore there might be a trap or two in this palace!"

"I know..."

Bai Guan continued. "With the imperial order from the Water God, I can detect that the few generations before him have put in place several secret mansions. I'm guessing that they are preparing to have a comeback!"

"Comeback?"

The buffalo shrieked. "We cannot let that happen!"

If they did not combine forces, none of them was strong enough on their own to take down the Water God.

"Your objection is useless. These are the rules of this world. If you have heavenly karma, you can have a chance of a comeback!"

Bai Guan stroked the beard above his mouth. "Of course, I will still have to depend on fate to see if I can cultivate and transform into a dragon. Furthermore, I already have the position of Water God and there's nothing else I can do."

With the appointment of the Water God, he had access to a 500-mile radius area of spiritual energy around the lake.

This was assistance from the heavens and earth on a single person. If the Water God were to revive, he could be equally powerful without the imperial order and would regain his power after his reincarnation.

"Even so, we still have to get rid of the trouble!"

The few demons exchanged glances with a murderous look.

"Water God, the water guardian Ha Haer is requesting to see you!"

After the dinner, a water guardian entered and knelt down respectfully. He was the one who chased after the crocodile.

"What's the matter?"

Strictly speaking, Bai Guan had yet to reach the cultivation level to be the Water God, but his actions were already demonstrating his power.

Ha Haer started to describe everything from chasing the crocodile to the encounter with Fang Yuan.

"A black carp? You let him snatch the treasure map and escape?"

Bai Guan frowned. "You useless thing!"

"Water God, spare me! Spare me!"

Ha Haer started to kowtow.

"From the chaos, the crocodile had obtained a map of the secret mansion. Although it is not the map of the most important one, we still need to be wary!"

After lecturing, Bai Guan appeared solemn. "After receiving the imperial order and undergoing cultivation, I already have half of what it takes to be the Water God. Although I cannot exactly pinpoint the locations of the secret mansions, I can roughly detect them! The scattered secret mansions are all small issues. Most importantly, we need to destroy the one within the dragon palace!"

The white python was extremely decisive and quickly made a decision.

...

At the same time, Fang Yuan followed the directions on the map and arrived in a new area.

Qi Lake was extremely large and this area was a secluded one. More importantly, there was little spiritual energy around here and schools of fishes would not come here.

Furthermore, the current was strong and it was a dangerous place.

"This should be the place on the map!"

After swimming past a coral tree and through a few underwater currents, he arrived at a trench in the lake.

"The Water God's secret mansion? What can I find inside?"

The trench was deep but Fang Yuan was unafraid and dived right down.

Beneath, it was pitch black and Fang Yuan started to feel fear of the unknown.

"Bloop! Bloop!"

After a while, bubbles emerged from the side and lantern-like eyes appeared.

"Hmmm?"

As Fang Yuan dodged, he released his spiritual will and realised that his attacker was an eel.

"Water-type shield!"

As his spiritual will shook, a translucent shield covered him with a current of water.

"Peng! Peng!"

As soon as the shield was formed, there came a continuous fierce knocking.

Ferocious glares from many eyes appeared, surrounding Fang Yuan like a pack of wolves.

"Is this... an eel's nest?"

With a bitter smile, Fang Yuan released water arrows in all directions.

"Whizz!"

The water arrows pierced through many eels, sinking many. The others started to escape in fear.

"Heh... I just have to kill one to scare the rest away!"

With the flick of his tail, he released his spiritual will once more and followed the directions on the map, eventually arriving at a water cave.

"This is the place..."

Clenching his teeth, he dived in.

"Buzz!"

In the next moment, there was a flash and the surroundings started to change.

As soon as he entered the hole, he could see what was truly inside.

What had appeared in front of Fang Yuan was a huge array formed from a fog. In continuously consumed spiritual energy from the water around and remained active.

"Is this an array?"

There was a look of interest in his eyes.

The array was only average but it was already considered strong to the lake dwellers. However, to Fang Yuan who has knowledge about arrays, it was nothing.

"Destroy the array!"

With the flick of his tail, he started to work on it.

•••

Beneath the Water God's palace.

Bai Guan, the water buffalo and the alligator snapping turtle stood before an array and took in a cold breath.

"Impressive! Impressive indeed!"

The water buffalo stared at the array. "Who would've thought that that green python would be so well-versed in arrays."

"This place is considered the heart of the palace. Without it, I can only activate the buildings outside. I'm afraid my abilities are still limited, even with the imperial order..."

Bai Guan let out a sigh and looked at the 12 tall pillars in front of him and the fog surrounding it. "This is a powerful restriction. I'm afraid we will have to slowly undergo cultivation to break through it in the future."

These three demons were totally clueless about arrays and could only think about breaking through it using brute force.

Within seconds, three streaks of black fog appeared and shot up into the sky.

...

"This restriction looks simple on the outside but is complicated on the inside!"

On the head of the black fish, Fang Yuan's Yin Spirit appeared. He was examining the colourful restriction in front of him.

After breaking through the fog array outside, he arrived here. He could see the vague silhouette of jade treasures beyond the restriction.

"Water God is indeed a God. A random secret mansion is already so luxurious! What about the palace?"

Fang Yuan's Yin Spirit shimmered as he entered the restriction.

"Whooo!"

The colourful restriction started to spin from a green, to red, then to black.

"Fortunately, this is only a variation of the Five Elements Array!"

After investigating it, there was a look of joy on his face.

Fang Yuan already had the elementary knowledge of arrays. In an attempt to form the 8 Gates Sword Array, he placed more emphasis on learning about arrays. Although he was still not an expert in it, he could still easily break through a simple restriction like this.

"Restriction, transfer?"

After mulling over it, Fang Yuan sighed. "Is this restriction is linked to another array elsewhere? That after breaking it, it would affect something elsewhere? Fortunately, after transferring, I can reverse the changes!"

Looking at the imagery of a palace appearing and disappearing, his expression changed.

"Kacha! Kacha!"

At this moment, on the restriction, there was a distinct sound, and Fang Yuan's expression changed once more. "This is not good! Is the other restriction from elsewhere activated as well?"

Without hesitation, he slammed his fish body forward.

"Rumble!"

In the next moment, something happened!

After coming to his senses, Fang yuan found himself in an enormous palace carved in white jade. There was a flowery array beneath him.

Not just that, outside him, there was a commotion and three thick streaks of black fogs started to rise upwards.

"Is that... the Demon King!?"

Fang Yuan stared.

At the same time, outside, Bai Guan and the other two demons stared at the black carp which appeared in the palace.

They had painstakingly made their way through the array and were left with the final steps. Who would've known that a black carp would appear?

"D*mn it!"

Fang Yuan shivered in fear. "It seems that in all the secret mansions of the Water God, there would be the same array linking everywhere together, and even linking the secret mansion which the demons are after?"

As he clenched his teeth, he glanced at the array before rushing towards the main hall.

"I am the Water God. What are your intentions, black carp?"

Seeing this, Bai Guan was enraged. Frenzied, the other two demons joined him in rushing into the array. "Succumb to me and I will let you become the general to lead all the water troops. You will only be under me but above everybody else!! A gentleman like me never lie!"

"Get lost!"

Fang Yuan rolled his eyes as he swam into the main hall.

"Rumble!"

As soon as he entered, there was a shocking surge of energy.

In the golden-plated stairs, there was a corpse of a green dragon.

"This... this is a real dragon!"

Its scales were green with a hint of gold. It had two antlers and four claws and was majestic looking. In a moment, Fang Yuan could already recognise it. Quickly, he noticed a golden pearl glittering on the dragon's head, and knew that the energy he felt was from the pearl.

"Dragon Pearl!"

He swam across and bit it in his mouth.

"Whoosh!"

The process of taking the pearl was shockingly smooth. Following, the corpse of the dragon disintegrated into ash.