

Conqueror 1081

Chapter 1081: The Golden Twin Dragons

The cultivation of the core disciple he was going to impersonate had to be around Fifth Order Heavenly God Realm, just like him. This way, there was less risk of being exposed.

Due to Gu'an City's close proximity to Golden Dragon City, the Golden Dragon Gate disciples commonly frequented Gu'an City, thus many core disciples were present, finding an early Fifth Order Heavenly God Realm wasn't difficult.

Five days later, Huang Xiaolong finally locked onto an early Fifth Order Heavenly God Realm core disciple.

This person's name was Tang Hong and his godhead grade wasn't low, a high grade rank ten godhead. However, his personality was arrogant to the extreme and sinister as well. Huang Xiaolong first encountered this Tang Hong at a shop, where he noticed Huang Xiaolong's extravagance with money, spending several million purchasing a batch of medicinal herbs and divine pellets and the notion of killing Huang Xiaolong was birthed in Tang Hong's mind.

There was only one ending to his attempting to kill and rob Huang Xiaolong.

After killing him, Huang Xiaolong altered his physical features to Tang Hong's and removed his identity token.

However, he did not expect to find piles and piles of shenbi higher than a mountain when he opened and peeked inside Tang Hong's spatial ring. There was at least a billion inside!

Other than shenbi, there were a few ten-million-years-old herbs and a batch of divine stones. It was a batch of grade three divine stones.

Based on the current market condition, grade one and two divine stones were common, while divine stones from grade three onwards were exceptionally scarce.

A grade three divine stone could be used to activate a divine formation, to cultivate, and even support a small scale auxiliary divine formation.

This core disciple named Tang Hong actually possessed such a staggering amount of wealth, greatly exceeding Huang Xiaolong's estimation. It was almost on par with a Barbarian God Sect Elder's wealth.

Then again, an unexpected windfall put Huang Xiaolong in a good mood. In his current situation, he naturally didn't mind some extra allowance.

Although he was capable of condensing divine stones, the highest grade he could condense at his current level was just mid-grade two divine stones.

Having taken over Tang Hong's identity, Huang Xiaolong would be able to enter and leave the Golden Dragon Gate with ease, but he didn't feel at ease leaving the little cow alone in Gu'an City, so he decided to bring it into the Golden Dragon Gate as well.

Of course, Huang Xiaolong wouldn't brazenly do so right in front of everyone. Instead, he had the little cow stay inside the Godly Mt. Xumi's space like the two Green Ice Hail Devils.

Leaving Gu'an City, Huang Xiaolong swaggered into the Golden Dragon Gate's headquarters.

Before killing Tang Hong, Huang Xiaolong scoured his memories. From there, he discovered that the Golden Dragon Gate's Spiritual Herb Cliff was located behind the headquarters' main temple.

However, the Spiritual Herb Cliff was a land specifically built for planting herbs by the Golden Dragon Gate, considered as a restricted area. Even though Tang Hong was a core disciple, he was far from being allowed to enter that place as he pleased.

But this point didn't bother Huang Xiaolong.

Stepping into the Golden Dragon Gate headquarters, the first thing he did was to confirm whether the Nine Petals Spiritual Lightning Lotus was really at the Spiritual Herb Cliff or not.

As long as that was confirmed, the rest was easy.

Half a month later.

Inside Tang Hong's cultivation dwelling, Huang Xiaolong sat cross-legged inside the Xumi Temple, a grade four spiritual vein hovering in front of him. It was one of the spiritual veins he had obtained from the Primordial Celestial Shrine.

Ever since he broke through to Fifth Order Heavenly God Realm, Huang Xiaolong would seize the time to cultivate by absorbing the spiritual energy from a grade four spiritual vein. In recent days, he felt his cultivation inching closer to peak early Fifth Order Heavenly God Realm.

In a month, his strength would truly reach peak early Fifth Order Heavenly God Realm.

The night passed quietly in cultivation.

Huang Xiaolong slowly opened his eyes, then exited the Xumi Temple. From there, he stepped out from Tang Hong's cultivation dwelling, arriving at the Grand Dragon Hall.

This hall was the place where the Golden Dragon Gate disciples came to receive tasks, and also one of the places disciples liked to gather around.

In this half a month, Huang Xiaolong would take a stroll around the Grand Dragon Hall, hoping to hear some useful information from the gathering disciples' conversations.

When Huang Xiaolong reached the Grand Dragon Hall, there was already a large crowd of core disciples in the vicinity.

Tang Hong had always been someone arrogant, condescending, and sinister despite his high talent. Within the Golden Dragon Gate, he didn't have people that he could call friends; which was why no one greeted Huang Xiaolong when he appeared at the Grand Dragon Hall.

Huang Xiaolong, on the other hand, enjoyed the calmness.

“Lamont two months have passed, yet there is still no news of the Black Flame Sea Emperor Beast.”

“An Ancient God Realm Green Ice Hail Devil, how can we even dream of locking such a master down. I think that person’s most likely a hundred thousand li away from Dralion Island.”

From time to time, similar conversations entered Huang Xiaolong’s ears.

For the past two weeks, the Black Flame Sea Emperor Beast was the topic most talked about.

As for that Black Flame Sea Emperor Beast, since it was snatched away by Huang Xiaolong, under Bing Jiuyi and the little cow’s suppression, it finally surrendered. At the moment, it was inside the Xumi Temple together with Bing Jiuyi and the little cow.

If these conversing disciples knew that the Ancient God Realm Green Ice Hail Devil and Black Flame Sea Emperor Beast were was right under their eyes, what would they think?

All of a sudden, the crowd of disciples became excited.

“Senior Sister Hu Dan is here!”

Huang Xiaolong turned, following the direction of everyone’s gaze. A beauty came into sight, with oval-shaped face, bright-spirited eyes, tall and slender.

The Berserk Lion Sect had the Three Swords, while the Golden Dragon Gates had their Twin Dragons.

This Hu Dan was precisely one of the Golden Twin Dragons. Not only was Hu Dan beautiful, she also possessed a top grade king rank godhead, lauded as the Golden Dragon Gate’s most monstrous genius since the founding of the sect.

Above all that, her cultivation had reached peak mid-Tenth Order Heavenly God Realm, granting her the position of chief disciple!

With Hu Dan's excellent qualifications, she was naturally a goddess in the majority of Golden Dragon Gate male disciples' eyes, thus it was understandable that the crowd would be so excited in her presence.

But Huang Xiaolong was dubious as to why this Hu Dan would come to the Grand Dragon Hall. With her status and identity, there was no need to take on any tasks.

The person who was at the center of attention, Hu Dan, walked into the inner hall of Grand Dragon Hall. However, soon, no more than ten minutes later, she stepped out from the inner hall and left the Grand Dragon Hall before everyone's gazes.

While the gathered disciples were guessing Hu Dan's purpose in coming to the Grand Dragon Hall, an Elder named Zhang Peng stepped out, announcing to all, "Just now, Hu Dan came over to issue a new task request. Our Gate Chief is intending to refine the Lightning War Monarch Pill and will be selecting six core disciples with godheads of lightning and fire element to assist them."

The moment Elder Zhang Peng's announcement finished, the core disciples were beyond excited.

Zhang Peng added, "However, the selected disciples are required to possess a certain level of alchemy refining skills. Those selected, regardless of the final outcome, will be rewarded with a billion shenbi."

A billion shenbi! The disciples' excitement rose further still.

Huang Xiaolong's interest was piqued, the Golden Dragon Gate Chief actually planned to refine the Lightning War Monarch Pill? According to what he knew, an important ingredient in refining this pill was the Nine Petals Spiritual Lightning Lotus!

In other words, the Nine Petals Spiritual Lightning Lotus wasn't on the Spiritual Herb Cliff but in the Gate Chief's hands.

Joining the Gate Chief's pill concocting this time around was a chance for Huang Xiaolong.

The Nine Petals Spiritual Lightning Lotus was the most important ingredient in refining the Lightning War Monarch Pill and would be added into the pill cauldron at the very end. At that time, Huang Xiaolong would try to catch the Gate Chief off guard by having the Green Ice Hail Devil Bing Jiuyi snatch the chaos spiritual herb away.

Chapter 1082: Tian Juaner

Elder Zhang Peng finished stating the conditions of registering for the task selection.

There were numerous disciples with dual elements of lightning and fire in the Divine World, just the number of Golden Dragon Gate core disciples alone surpassed sixty thousand. Each and every core disciple that managed to reach this level was their own family's talented genius, therefore there were quite a few disciples with godheads of those elements. Immediately, core disciples that meet this requirement registered their names.

So did Huang Xiaolong.

The original Tang Hong's godhead coincidentally had both the required lightning and fire elements, a great convenience to Huang Xiaolong without raising any suspicion.

After registering his name, Huang Xiaolong left the Grand Dragon Hall in light steps, returning to Tang Hong's cultivation dwelling. After all, this was a large scale selection to determine the final six core disciples, there was ample time.

With his alchemy skills, Huang Xiaolong believed there shouldn't be any problems arising, he was confident.

Back in Tang Hong's cultivation dwelling, he took out the grade four spiritual vein again and started cultivating.

The whole day passed in cultivation.

At this time, Huang Xiaolong opened his eyes. Over the last few days, he had been absorbing spiritual energy from the grade four spiritual vein through his Heaven Splitting Tenet technique. His True Divine Dragon Physique, three supreme godheads, and godsea all had distinctive improvements.

‘This Heaven Splitting Tenet is indeed a powerful technique, but I feel like something is missing.’ Huang Xiaolong contemplated.

In fact, Huang Xiaolong was beginning to see a flaw in all of the techniques he had learned in the past; the Asura Sword Skill, Great Void Divine Fist, Godly Xumi Art, the Fifteen Moves of the Dragon God, Earthen Buddha Palm, and so on.

Lately, he had been trying to integrate his knowledge of all these skills together. At the same time, Huang Xiaolong also tried to merge the Heaven Splitting Tenet into it to create a unique divine battle art of his own.

This thought grew stronger by the day.

Despite his knowledge of various divine battle arts of the Divine World, he was far from being capable of creating a technique that was truly unique to himself at this time.

Huang Xiaolong needed to see and understand many more divine battle arts, then combine them. This way, he would be able to create his own unique and powerful divine battle art.

Coming out from the Godly Mt. Xumi, Huang Xiaolong headed straight to the library. With his identity as a core disciple, he was allowed to peruse the majority of the available divine battle arts.

The Golden Dragon Gate’s library was located not far from Tang Hong’s cultivation dwelling, but even so, Huang Xiaolong flew for four hours in order to reach the seven-story library.

Other than the two highest floors, he could freely move around the first five floors.

Huang Xiaolong went straight up to the fifth floor, then stood in front of a random bookshelf and picked up a palm technique.

“Golden Dragon Overturning Clouds Palm.”

Huang Xiaolong flipped through the pages of this technique manual, finishing it in the briefest time.

This Golden Dragon Overturning Clouds Palm had a total of six moves; every palm attack sent a great wave of force like an agile dragon, fierce and powerful. However, this Golden Dragon Overturning Clouds Palm had to be cultivated together with another technique, the Somersaulting Golden Dragon Art.

After understanding the Golden Dragon Overturning Clouds palm, Huang Xiaolong picked up the Somersaulting Golden Dragon Art beside it.

One technique manual after another were read by him.

Regardless what kind of divine art it was, Huang Xiaolong would pick them all up and flip through them.

His comprehension ability has always been strong. Every time he finished reading a manual, he'd slightly recollect and go through them again in his mind, grasping seventy to eighty percent of the technique.

In order to fully comprehend these techniques, Huang Xiaolong would need to return and physically try them out.

The day quickly ended.

When he stepped out from the library, the sky outside had darkened. Huang Xiaolong returned to Tang Hong's cultivation dwelling and once again took out the grade four spiritual vein, cultivating the Heaven Splitting Tenet to improve himself.

The tranquil night gradually gave way to the dawn.

On this day, Huang Xiaolong once again made his way to the Golden Dragon Gate's library, picking up where he left off the day before. There were several core disciples that were also perusing these technique manuals whispering aloud.

Huang Xiaolong was surprised. He looked over his shoulder toward the fifth floor's entrance and saw a pretty girl clad in a core disciple robe walking in.

She had long willowy brows, an exquisite nose, phoenix eyes. She was also exuding a cold yet noble aura.

Tian Juaner!

The other prominent half of the Golden Twin Dragons, Tian Juaner. Similar to Hu Dan, she had a king rank godhead, but it was merely mid grade king rank compared to Hu Dan's top grade king rank godhead. Then again, these two young geniuses were the only ones in the Golden Dragon Gate to have a king rank godhead.

While Hu Dan's cultivation had reached peak mid-Tenth Order Heavenly God Realm, Tian Juaner's cultivation time was comparatively shorter, which explained her peak late-Sixth Order Heavenly God Realm cultivation even though she was one of the core disciples.

Tian Juaner was also the object of adoration of the Golden Dragon Gate's male disciples, including the original Tang Hong.

From Tang Hong's past memories, he had once obsessively wooed this Tian Juaner but was publicly rejected by her at the Grand Dragon Hall, rebuked with severe and harsh words, and became the laughingstock of all core disciples for a good while.

Coming onto the fifth floor after Tian Juaner was a good-looking young man which Huang Xiaolong recognized, named Sun Jinqiang, Grand Elder Liu Qingyang's grandson.

It goes without saying that this Sun Jinqiang was one of Tian Juaner's many pursuers. Moreover, because of Tian Juaner, Sun Jinqiang had one time gave Tang Hong an unforgettable beating.

Sun Jinqiang was a peak mid-Fifth Order Heavenly God Realm. On top of that, he had Grand Elder Liu Qingyang backing him, teaching a lesson to someone without any backing like Tang Hong was as simple as moving a finger.

“I heard Tian Juaner has accepted Sun Jinqiang, I wonder if that’s really true.” At the time, the low mutterings of a core disciple nearby fell into Huang Xiaolong’s ears.

“It’s just a rumor, how could Sun Jinqiang enter Tian Juaner’s eyes, she’s just giving face to Grand Elder Liu Qingyang, allowing Sun Jinqiang to be her follower. Oh right, I heard she also registered for the Gate Chief’s alchemy refining task!”

“For real?! Senior Sister Tian Juaner inherited an ancient pill concocting technique that we can only marvel about. She is the best alchemist among our Golden Dragon Gate’s younger generation! It has been a very long time since she showed her skills; this time, we’re in for a treat!”

“Tian Juaner is coming over!”

Someone whispered in a hush as she and Sun Jinqiang walked in their direction.

“Senior Sister Tian, if you want to peruse the Dark Dragon Divine Art, I can have someone send it over to your place, there is no need to make a trip here specifically for that.” Sun Jinqiang fawned over Tian Juaner as he walked behind her.

Tian Juaner was mostly indifferent, “I don’t like preferential treatment. In the future, without my permission, do not make decisions on my behalf.”

Having been reprimanded by Tian Juaner in public, Sun Jinqiang’s face naturally didn’t look good. Right at this time, Tian Juaner spotted Huang Xiaolong disguised as Tang Hong and a disgusted frown formed on her face.

Due to some of Tang Hong’s actions in the past, she did not have any good impression of him. At this time, Sun Jinqiang also saw Huang Xiaolong.

“Tang Hong, what are you doing here?” Sun Jinqiang glared fiercely, snapping, “ Did you forget what I’ve told you before? Any time you see Senior Sister Tian, you’re to scam as far away as possible. What are you still standing here for? Do I need to make you get out personally?”

Hitting a soft nail at Tian Juaner’s side, Sun Jinqiang was feeling angry at this time. It was a good thing this Tang Hong appeared.

Chapter 1083: Making A Mountain Out Of A Molehill

Understanding in a glance that Su Jinqiang was targeting Haung Xiaolong to vent his displeasure, the nearby core disciples inwardly gloated at ‘Tang Hong’s’ impending misfortune as they watched.

A free show was always welcome.

Even Tian Juaner had an expression of schadenfreude while looking on with anticipation. Ever since Tang Hong was brutally beaten up by Sun Jinqiang the last time, he looked as if he would piss his pants on the spot every time he saw Sun Jinqiang, fleeing quickly.

She could already see Tang Hong’s unsightliness in her mind as he tried to escape a moment later.

Although she disliked Sun Jinqiang just as much, it was entertaining to watch Tang Hong and Sun Jinqiang’s dogfight.

Right when everyone present was thinking that ‘Tang Hong’ would plead for mercy from Sun Jinqiang and flee on the verge of pissing his pants, ‘Tang Hong’ looked at Sun Jinqiang as if he was looking at an idiot, “ I really don’t remember, but I am curious to see how you’re going to make me scam.”

The atmosphere fell into a brief but strange silence for a moment at Huang Xiaolong’s reply.

Tian Juaner and the nearby core disciples were stupefied, their gazes dazed as they looked at Huang Xiaolong.

This Tang Hong, had he turned stupid or something? Or maybe...?

"This Tang Hong, is he dying to keep up appearances because Senior Sister Tian is present? Is that why he said those words?" One of the spectating disciples mused.

"Ha, that must be it! But he actually has the guts to talk back to Senior Brother Sun merely to keep a bit of face, I say he probably thinks he's lived long enough ah; he's going to end up real miserable today! Last time, Senior Brother Sun pummeled Tang Hong into a pighead, while this time, I think not even his mother will recognize him by the end of the day!"

Several disciples chuckled softly, whereas Tian Juaner was inwardly shaking her head in disdain.

She had the same thoughts that Tang Hong talked back to Sun Jinqiang just to save some face in front of her.

This Tang Hong was really an idiot to the point of being cute.

Sun Jinqiang was stunned for a second, then he snickered maliciously at Huang Xiaolong, "Tang Hong, haven't seen you for a while, looks like your guts have grown bigger. Hehe, when you step out of this library, let's see if you're really so brave!" The underlying meaning was that 'Tang Hong' would better be ready to bear the consequences once he walked out of the library.

Huang Xiaolong glanced coldly at Sun Jinqiang, then ignored him and Tian Juaner as he turned around and picked up another divine battle art manual. He began reading as if there was no one around.

Watching Huang Xiaolong, Sun Jinqiang's anger erupted, a cold glint flashed in his eyes. This Tang Hong actually dared smear his face in front of so many people, not to mention doing it right in front of Tian Juaner!

He had already decided, if he didn't teach 'Tang Hong' a painful lesson he could feel down to the bone, his surname wasn't Sun!

Tian Juaner was slightly astonished as she took another look at 'Tang Hong,' then shook her head silently before leaving in search of the Dark Dragon Divine Art.

Doing this in front of her, was this Tang Hong trying to leave a good impression of himself in her eyes?

But this Tang Hong still did it despite being well aware that she didn't have a shred of good feelings towards him. In fact, she hated him to the core, yet he still acted this way to the point of offending Sun Jinqiang, this was just plain stupid.

Sun Jinqiang hurried after Tian Juaner. When he passed by Huang Xiaolong's side, he coldly harrumphed.

The other core disciples were also shaking their heads at Huang Xiaolong's stubbornness, each scattered off to find the technique manual they wanted.

"Tang Hong, I think you'd better run now." A core disciple whispered in a low voice as he came to Huang Xiaolong's side, "Leave the Golden Dragon Gate for some time."

Huang Xiaolong replied to that core disciple was, "I cannot. Tomorrow, I need to take part in the alchemy refining competition to fight for one of the six spots that will be helping the Gate Chief in refining the Lightning War Monarch Pill."

That core disciple looked at Huang Xiaolong as if he was looking at a fool, 'has this Tang Hong really turned stupid? Things had reached this level, yet this fella was still in the mood to think about tomorrow's alchemy refining competition.'

That core disciple still wanted to say a few words of persuasion, but as his mouth opened and closed, no words would come. In the end, he left, shaking his head.

He wasn't that familiar with this Tang Hong, what was he thinking, sticking his nose into the matter.

Huang Xiaolong continued going through the divine battle art manuals one after another, learning and comprehending.

Unknowingly, the sky outside darkened.

Huang Xiaolong put down the manual named Dragon God Flipping Over, deciding it was time to leave.

Not long after stepping out from the library, he could be seen flying back to Tang Hong's cultivation dwelling when, all of a sudden, a figure flickered before him, hindering his path. As expected, it was Sun Jinqiang.

Other than Sun Jinqiang, there were a scattered few core disciples in the area, hiding in plain sight waiting to watch a good show.

Sun Jinqiang scrutinized Huang Xiaolong with an expression slightly twisted with anger, "Tang Hong, I'm giving you one more chance. Obediently kneel to me, kowtow a hundred times, and call Grandfather a hundred times, then break one arm. I'll forgive what happened at the library today, or else you know the consequences!"

Huang Xiaolong remained indifferent, "I'm returning this chance to you. Get on your knees, kowtow one thousand times, shout 'I'm shameless' one thousand times, then break your own two arms and I'll forgive what happened at the library today."

What?

Those core disciples lying in wait were rendered silly by Huang Xiaolong's words. Earlier at the library, they believed 'Tang Hong' was just putting up a brave front because of Tian Juaner's presence, but who can tell them what was happening now? Was this 'Tang Hong' really tired of living?

Sun Jinqiang was looking at Huang Xiaolong with disbelief.

"Hehe, since it's like that, I'll first cripple your 'root' so that you can forget about being a real man in your lifetime!" Sun Jinqiang laughed sinisterly.

If he couldn't be a real man, Tang Hong's intentions toward Tian Juaner would die completely.

In the next moment, a long sword appeared in Sun Jinqiang's hand, slashing at Huang Xiaolong's lower body.

"Roaming Dragon Sword!"

The long sword rushed out like a dragon, arriving in an instant with its gleaming blade.

Sun Jinqiang watched his long sword slash through Huang Xiaolong's lower body with a grim smile on his face. However, in the next moment, his smile froze, for Huang Xiaolong's figure gradually dissipated.

'This... An afterimage!'

Just now, what he pierced through was Huang Xiaolong's afterimage.

Following this, Huang Xiaolong's afterimage re-condensed, appearing in front of an alarmed Sun Jinqiang who was about to attack again. Huang Xiaolong's hand reached out, snapping the long sword in half. With a turn of 'Tang Hong's' wrist, the other broken part of Sun Jinqiang's long sword pierced into his own lower part.

The blood-curdling scream coming from Sun Jinqiang reverberated in the air.

The turn of events happened so fast that the core disciples in the distance were rubbing their eyes after witnessing the scene.

"I'm going to kill you!" Sun Jinqiang bellowed in rage, his other arm shot out with the intention to kill Huang Xiaolong.

Huang Xiaolong sneered as his right fist punched out.

As their attacks met, the sound of breaking bones traveled to the ears of the spectating core disciples.

This sound actually came from Sun Jinqiang's body as his other arm was twisted at an odd angle, causing bones to pierce out from his flesh.

Following this, Huang Xiaolong sent Sun Jinqiang smashing to the ground with a kick.

"Remember, the next time you see me, run away as far as you can." Huang Xiaolong reminded, looking at Sun Jinqiang without any emotions, and left.

While this was happening, Tian Juaner was going through the Dark Dragon Divine Art she loaned from the library. A female disciple suddenly ran into the room from outside, panting as she spoke, "Senior Sister Tian, that Tang Hong, he..."

"I know, he must have been beaten miserably by Sun Jinqiang, what's so strange about that? You're making a mountain out of a molehill." Tian Juaner smiled matter-of-factly.

Chapter 1084: Your Alchemy Skill Is Only This Much?

That female disciple only shook her head adamantly, her voice sounded even more urgent, "It's Sun Jinqiang! Sun Jinqiang's arms were broken by Tang Hong, on top of that...!" Her voice came to an abrupt stop as if the following words were unmentionable.

"What?!" Tian Juaner thought she had misheard, "It was Tang Hong that broke Sun Jinqiang's arms? Are you sure?"

That female disciple heavily nodded her head, "Absolutely, I have checked three times, it is Sun Jinqiang's arms that were broken!"

Tian Juaner was momentarily dazed, her widened eyes clearly showed her disbelief.

"Tang Hong did it himself?" Tian Juaner asked again.

"Yes," The female disciple nodded.

It took Tian Juaner a long time to recover from her shock, "What else did you say just now?"

The female disciple hesitated before speaking, "It is said that Sun Jinqiang wanted to cut off Tang Hong's lower part with a sword, but his weapon was snapped in two by Tang Hong, stabbing himself 'there' in the process! I heard it is possible that Sun Jinqiang..." The female disciple's voice trailed off, her face already red, and no longer continue.

Tian Juaner's eyes widened a fraction more. She felt like laughing but somehow couldn't.

Until the female disciple left, Tian Juaner remained in the same posture, no one knew what thoughts were crossing her mind at this moment.

Back in Tang Hong's cultivation dwelling, Huang Xiaolong took out the grade four spiritual vein and began cultivating as usual.

There was a Liu Qingyang behind Sun Jinqiang, but Huang Xiaolong had never been concerned about this.

Darkness covered the land, then it slowly receded again as the morning light appeared.

Huang Xiaolong ended his night of cultivation before stepping outside and heading off in the direction of the Sacred Pill Hall where the alchemy refining competition would be held.

An hour later, Huang Xiaolong appeared at the Sacred Pill Hall.

When he arrived, the square opposite the hall's main entrance was already filled with disciples.

In the beginning, this was just a small scale competition, rarely attracting this large a number of disciples to spectate, however, after knowing that Tian Juaner also registered for this competition, all core disciples came out in droves, nearly achieving perfect attendance. Even inner disciples found their way here as well.

When 'Tang Hong' appeared, he became quite the center of attention, receiving more than a few strange glances.

Clearly, the interlude last evening had reached these disciples' ears. There was pity, doubt, astonishment, ridicule, disdain, some even secretly gloating at Huang Xiaolong's impending doom.

In most of these disciples' eyes, 'Tang Hong' was no different than a dead person after injuring Sun Jinqiang. Within the Golden Dragon Gate, who wasn't aware that Grand Elder Liu Qingyang doted on this grandson the most? Even some of the Elders would be more tolerant of Sun Jinqiang.

Huang Xiaolong's expression and demeanor remained aloof, not bothered by the strange gazes directed at him as he stood there straight but relaxed, waiting for the competition to begin.

Among the waiting crowd, Tian Juaner shook her head as she observed Huang Xiaolong standing straight, looking as if he wasn't one bit concerned with the repercussions of yesterday's incident. Although the fact that Tang Hong managed to injure Sun Jinqiang came as a shock to her, this didn't change her impression of him. It was the opposite instead, she felt an even stronger dislike.

Because this Tang Hong had grown more arrogant than before.

A short while later, the Elder overseeing the alchemy competition, Mo Zhibai, arrived at the square. Standing at the center, he called for the registered disciples to gather in front of him.

At Mo Zhibai's words, Huang Xiaolong, Tian Juaner, and other registered core disciples made their way to the center of the square.

Despite the large number of disciples filling the square, only twelve core disciples registered for the competition. With a quota of six, selecting half of them made the chances of winning appear to be very high, but these twelve disciples were all highly talented individuals. On the surface, the other eleven core disciples' cultivation was higher than 'Tang Hong', at Sixth Order Heavenly God Realm. There was a degree of difficulty if 'Tang Hong' wanted to stand out from the rest.

However, this wasn't a big issue to Huang Xiaolong.

Elder Mo Zhibai's gaze swept over the twelve registered core disciples, lingering a second longer on Huang Xiaolong and Tian Juaner. He then proceeded to announce the competition rules.

The rules were simple. Huang Xiaolong and the rest were required to concoct a divine pellet called Hundred Scales of the Golden Dragon Divine Pill using the herb ingredients and pill furnace provided by the Sacred Pill Hall.

The first six people to complete could proceed to accept the Gate Chief's task.

This Hundred Scales of the Golden Dragon Divine Pill was at a level between high grade and top grade rank two divine pellet. To some Heavenly God Realm disciples, refining this pill had its own level of difficulty.

Then again, for those with a good grasp of alchemy and at least a mid-level Heavenly God Realm strength, there was a high rate of success.

Finishing with the competition rules, Mo Zhibai ordered the prepared pill furnaces and herbs to be distributed, placed in front of the twelve disciples.

"Elder Mo, the age of my herb ingredients doesn't seem to be correct." Huang Xiaolong merely took a glance at the spread of herb ingredients in front of him and knew they were lacking in age. He continued to point out, "And Tian Juaner's batch of herbs ingredients seems to exceed mine significantly." He did not forget to point at Tian Juaner's pile of herbs.

The higher the age of the ingredients, the easier it was to refine them into pellets.

The disciples at the front took a look at Huang Xiaolong's batch of herb ingredients and noticed they were indeed much lower in age compared to Tian Juaner's and the others'. But they quickly understood what was going on with some thought.

Mo Zhibai's face sank, directing a stern gaze at Huang Xiaolong saying, "A slight difference in herb ingredients' age is very common. If you don't want to compete, you can get out now, don't stay here and hinder other participants."

The large crowd of disciples stirred with excitement watching Elder Mo Zhibai reprimand Huang Xiaolong.

Tian Juaner threw a mocking glance in Huang Xiaolong's direction, she wanted to see how this 'Tang Hong' was going to handle the situation.

It didn't take much for Huang Xiaolong to guess that this Mo Zhibai must have received instructions from Liu Qingyang to make things difficult for him, deliberately changing his batch of herb ingredients to a lower age count. His question was just a chance in disguise to Mo Zhibai.

Since this Mo Zhibai chose to disregard his kindness... One month later, when he got his hands on the Nine Petals Spiritual Lightning Lotus and left the Golden Dragon Gate would be the day this Mo Zhibai disappears from this world.

"Tang Hong, with your alchemy refining skills, I think it'd be better if you don't make a fool out of yourself here. Even if you take part, you might not manage to refine anything." The participating disciple called Li Zhan who was standing next to Huang Xiaolong mocked, "If you leave now, it would help our sect save some precious herbs."

The crowd broke out in a whoop of laughter.

Huang Xiaolong said nothing, as calm as he could be.

Mo Zhibai's brows wrinkled slightly, he did not expect this 'Tang Hong' would be able to keep his composure, but with his early Fifth Order Heavenly God Realm strength and a batch of lower-age herb ingredients, there was a nine out of ten chance he won't be able to complete the concoction of the Divine Pill. Thus, Mo Zhibai wasn't worried at all.

A moment later, he announced the beginning of the competition.

In an instant, pillars of flame soared to the sky as Tian Juaner and the rest started refining.

The moment Tian Juaner move, she attracted the crowd's attention and admiration.

“That's the Ten Thousand Divine Beasts Pill Refining Diagram”

As Tian Juaner's hands danced spiritedly in the air, her ingredients flew up, taking the shape of ten thousand divine beasts.

It was a rare sight for a Heavenly God Realm cultivator to be so well versed in the Ten Thousand Divine Beast Pill Refining Diagram; most of the time, this level of skill was seen on Ancient God Realm masters. It was no wonder the spectating crowd was exclaiming with envy and admiration.

Huang Xiaolong was still unaffected watching this. When he was still in the lower realm, merely God Realm cultivator, he was already skilled in the Ten Thousand Divine Beasts Pill Refining Diagram. Right now, he could probably try the Hundred Thousand Divine Beasts Pill Refining Diagram...

Chapter 1085: Scared Silly?

Huang Xiaolong didn't begin refining immediately like the rest, for the Hundred Thousand Divine Beasts Pill Refining Diagram required extremely fine control. Before starting, he needed to adjust his mind and mood to peak condition.

His divine sense slowly expanded outward, the tiniest changes in the airflow and energy, down to the trajectory of floating dust particles, the faces of each disciple in the crowd and their movements; everything was clearly displayed in his mind.

As seconds went by, he gradually entered an ethereal state of mind.

Half an hour passed yet Huang Xiaolong stood still.

“Why is that kid standing there like a fool? Could it be that he's scared silly after seeing Senior Sister Tian's Ten Thousand Divine Beast Pill Refining Diagram?” A disciple in the crowd couldn't resist the chance to throw insults at Huang Xiaolong.

“Hehe, maybe he’s a real hidden expert in alchemy that’s higher than Senior Sister Tian, right now he’s only adjusting his condition. He hasn’t made any move, but when he does, he’ll frighten the lot of you to death!” Another disciple chimed in, the ridicule in his tone was obvious to everyone present.

The crowd laughed as if in agreement.

Mo Zhibai sneered inwardly looking at the unmoving Huang Xiaolong.

Right at this moment, Huang Xiaolong opened his eyes and moved. Two groups of radiant flames burst out, blinding the crowd’s sight for a moment.

His hands began moving in the air, and every movement seemed to contain a trace of heaven and earth’s force.

The pile of ingredients in front of Huang Xiaolong rose into the air, each of them adhering to unknown rules. Some herbs flew faster than the other, some slow, while a few herbs’ speed was intermittent, even the heights of these ingredients varied.

The same disciple in the crowd spoke again, “Look, look, see that? Didn’t I say that once that kid makes a move, it’ll frighten the lot of you to death? How is it? His performance isn’t too bad, right?”

His words turned Huang Xiaolong into a monkey that was performing various tricks to entertain them.

“His performance is indeed not bad, the way those herbs flew up is quite pretty to look at.” Another disciple agreed enthusiastically.

Some disciples in the crowd were already laughing loudly, unrestrained.

Mo Zhibai shook his head after sparing a glance in Huang Xiaolong’s direction.

Nothing could be made out of Huang Xiaolong’s calm expression, as he was fully focused on controlling the herbs’ movements.

Due to the difference in speed with which he was managing the herbs' ascension into the air, it took Huang Xiaolong a full hour before all of his ingredients were floating. With several hundred herbs floating in midair, Huang Xiaolong began compiling and segregating them. Some herbs were already emitting a soft glimmer as they came together, taking the form of different divine beasts.

By now, those with keen eyesight noticed that Huang Xiaolong's alchemy refining skills were not subpar, hence the insults and ridicule gradually weakened before stopping altogether.

Even Mo Zhibai's face stiffened watching him.

Finally, Huang Xiaolong's herbs formed one thousand divine beasts.

"This Tang Hong has actually grasped the Thousand Divine Beasts Pill Refining Diagram." A disciple in the crowd exclaimed.

"So what if it's the Thousand Divine Beasts Pill Refining Diagram? Even I can do it." A disciple snorted.

Then again, this disciple wasn't exaggerating. Among the Golden Dragon Gate's core disciples, the majority of them were quite skilled in executing the Thousand Divine Beasts Pill Refining Diagram, therefore Huang Xiaolong showing such skill wasn't really that shocking.

"Look, Senior Sister Tian's Ten Thousand Divine Beasts Pill Refining Diagram is starting to integrate!" A sudden loud shout directed everyone's attention onto Tian Juaner, completely forgetting about Huang Xiaolong.

"From the time the competition started until now, it hasn't even been two hours, yet Senior Sister Tian's Ten Thousand Divine Beasts Pill Refining Diagram is already starting to integrate. Senior Sister Tian's alchemy refining skills are truly brilliant!"

"Not only brilliant, I dare say that even Wei Chao's alchemy skills pale in comparison to our Senior Sister Tian!"

Wei Chao was one of the Berserk Lion Sect's Three Swords, accepted as the disciple with the best alchemy skills among the younger generation disciples.

Wei Chao? Huang Xiaolong heard this name being mentioned, but continued to focus as he controlled each of his thousand divine beasts to divide.

This also followed a certain rhythm. At different points of time, there might only be a single kind of herb dividing, or a few different kinds, up to a dozen different herbs at once.

This time, it didn't take long for the herbs to finish dividing, but soon after the first division was completed, the second one started.

Again and again!

Finally, a disciple in the crowd noticed the situation on Huang Xiaolong's side and was stupefied with his mouth agape. Soon, more and more disciples' attention fell on him

Watching Huang Xiaolong control his herbs to divide again and again gave these disciples an inconceivable feeling.

"They're dividing again!" After numerous division processes, Huang Xiaolong's herb divine beasts actually began to divide again, causing a disciple to exclaim out loud in shock.

"His soul force is too strained to control so many herbs, so these herbs are getting out of control, that should be the reason why they are dividing so many times..." One of the disciples who ridiculed Huang Xiaolong in the beginning suggested with contempt. "Having divided until now, all those herbs' medicinal properties have been completely destroyed. Even if an Ancient God Realm master were to come to his aid right now, his herbs still wouldn't condense into a pill!"

But Mo Zhibai's expression had grown increasingly solemn in the last hour.

With his eyesight, he could naturally see that those herbs did not get out of control. Instead, Huang Xiaolong's control over the division process was praiseworthy.

More importantly, Mo Zhibai discovered that the surrounding area's energy flow changed according to the movements of Huang Xiaolong's hand, but he could not explain the mysteriousness of these changes.

At this time, Tian Juaner who noticed the atmosphere's subtle changes was looking at Huang Xiaolong, astonished.

After going through over an hour of numerous division processes, those herbs had finally stopped dividing and started to gather, rearranging themselves into a diagram.

Soon, a great diagram was formed right in front of everyone's eyes.

Looking at the divine beasts diagram high in the air, the spectating disciples were stupefied.

"There's... one hundred thousand!"

The number of divine beasts forming the great diagram was exactly one hundred thousand!

The legendary Hundred Thousand Divine Beasts Diagram!

In the whole Golden Dragon Gate, only their Ancestor and Gate Chief were known to be able to execute this technique!

The crowd was dumbstruck.

Tian Juaner had turned away earlier, but after hearing undulating exclamations all around, she turned to look in Huang Xiaolong's direction again and was stunned silly.

All of sudden, without any indication, the whole Hundred Thousand Divine Beasts Diagram lit up in a blazing fire. The divine beasts made from herbs burned as they slowly began to integrate. Notably, the rate of integration was ten times faster than Tian Juaner's Ten Thousand Divine Beasts Diagram.

A short while later, Huang Xiaolong's herbs left behind glistening liquid essence before merging into one. A refreshing herbal scent permeated the air, one of the early signs of pill condensation.

The waves of ridicule and mockery from the beginning disappeared like a receding tide. Especially the disciple who claimed that even an Ancient God Realm master wouldn't be able to save Huang Xiaolong's herbs, he was feeling a burning pain in his face at the moment, which became redder than a super ripe pepper.

As waves of humming rang clear in the square, round pellets of glimmering golden color formed right before the crowd's eyes, the Hundred Scales of the Golden Dragon Divine Pills.

On the surface of the round golden pellets were minuscule patterns that looked like dragon scales, extremely life-like. They numbered exactly one hundred.

No one spoke.

A long time later, Mo Zhibai regained his senses, but he was glaring coldly at Huang Xiaolong with an ugly expression on his face, questioning sharply, "Speak, how did you achieve this level in alchemy? How could you possibly execute the Hundred Thousand Divine Beasts Pill Refining Diagram?!"

Chapter 1086: Great News

The number intense gazes focused on Huang Xiaolong increased.

They too wanted to know how this Tang Hong knew the Hundred Thousand Divine Beasts Diagram.

Huang Xiaolong looked at Mo Zhibai, a harsh sneer laced with ridicule on his face. "How can I execute it? Practice! As for where I learned it from, I have no obligation to tell you."

Mo Zhibai turned green with anger, it never crossed his mind that 'Tang Hong' would dare to contradict him in public.

"You, insolent!" Mo Zhibai's furious roar shook the square, "Stomping on order and law, showing contempt toward a superior, get on your knees and admit your crime!"

A piercing gleam of light flickered in the depth of Huang Xiaolong's eyes.

Before the situation deteriorated further, several figures whistled through the air, arriving at the square.

When Mo Zhibai and the present crowd of disciples saw this group of people, everyone was surprised but were quick to salute in greeting.

This newly arrived group of people was comprised of the Golden Dragon Gate's Grand Elders.

When Huang Xiaolong was using the Hundred Thousand Divine Beasts Diagram, dense pill qi soared skyward, alerting them. As they weren't far away from the Sacred Pill Hall square, they wanted to know what was going on, hence heading over.

When the group of Grand Elders arrived, they were just in time to witness the pill condensation of Huang Xiaolong's Hundred Scales of the Golden Dragon Divine Pill, causing their eyes to immediately light up in surprise. Each of reached out, taking one divine pellet in their palms, carefully observing it in great detail.

"This is a grade three Divine Pill!" One of the Grand Elders, a short and round man, exclaimed in amazement.

In general, the Hundred Scales of the Golden Dragon Divine Pill lied between high and top grade two. If it was refined by an Ancient God Realm master, the pellet could reach top grade two, but now they were actually holding a grade three Hundred Scales of the Golden Dragon Divine Pill in their palm!

Although grade three Hundred Scales of the Golden Dragon Divine Pill did exist, they were extremely rare.

For instance, the grade three Divine Pill in their palms, if taken out to auction, could fetch a high price of a hundred million shenbi for a single pill.

“Indeed, it is a grade three Hundred Scales of the Golden Dragon Divine Pill!” Another Grand Elder affirmed, exclaiming in delight.

Mo Zhibai and the crowd were shocked beyond words hearing the words of these Grand Elders.

The pellets Huang Xiaolong successfully refined were determined to be grade three Hundred Scales of the Golden Dragon Divine Pills!

“Mo Zhibai, who refined this grade three Divine Pill?” The short and round Grand Elder excitedly asked Mo Zhibai.

Mo Zhibai was extremely unwilling, but his gaze fell on Huang Xiaolong.

Qiao Fei and the other Grand Elders followed Mo Zhibai’s gaze and saw Huang Xiaolong and the core disciple robe he was wearing, giving them another unexpected surprise. These grade three Hundred Scales of the Golden Dragon Divine Pills were refined by a core disciple of their sect?

Qiao Fei turned to Mo Zhibai again to determine he was not mistaken, “These pills were refined by that core disciple?”

“Yes, yes, they were.” Mo Zhibai truly wanted to say these grade three Hundred Scales of the Golden Dragon Divine Pills were refined by him, but in front of so many pairs of eyes, he was at no liberty to lie.

After confirming with Mo Zhibai, Qiao Fei’s group looked at Huang Xiaolong again.

“What is your name?” Qiao Fei’s fleshy face revealed a jovial smile.

“Tang Hong.” Huang Xiaolong answered.

“Tang Hong.” Qiao Fei repeated the name, the smile on his face widened, “This is my tally. In the future, if there’s anything you need, come find me.” He gave Huang Xiaolong a small tally as he spoke.

The spectating disciples watched this scene with envy pouring out from their eyes.

Qiao Fei was the Grand Elder in charge of the Golden Dragon Gate’s Penalty Hall. Amongst the ranks of Grand Elders, whether it was strength or authority, Qiao Fei was definitely one of the top characters. Being able to gain his appreciation was something all the core disciples dreamed of in their sleep.

A while later, Qiao Fei’s group left the square, leaving behind an extremely sullen looking Mo Zhibai. Who would have thought this Tang Hong could actually refine grade three Hundred Scales of the Golden Dragon Divine Pills, gaining Grand Elder Qiao Fei’s appreciation.

The competition continued.

An hour after Huang Xiaolong, Tian Juaner successfully completed her refinement, however, her result was high rank grade two Divine Pills, infinitely close to reaching top grade two.

Soon, the rest of the participating disciples also completed their refinement, most of them achieving high grade two as well.

Mo Zhibai announced the selected six core disciples for the task, with Huang Xiaolong among them.

Qiao Fei and several other Grand Elders already knew that Huang Xiaolong had refined grade three Hundred Scales of the Golden Dragon Divine Pills, so despite being a hundred thousand times unwilling, Mo Zhibai found no valid excuse to disqualify Huang Xiaolong.

After the final result was announced, Tian Juaner haughtily approached Huang Xiaolong, demanding rather than requesting, “Tang Hong, I want all your grade three Hundred Scales of the Golden Dragon Divine Pills, name your price.”

According to common competition rules, the divine pellets were individual property.

In Tian Juaner's eyes, Tang Hong was her fervent admirer. Now that she had spoken personally, he should be beyond ecstatic and proceed to give all his grade three Divine Pills to her in a heartbeat, free of charge.

He should feel honored that she was even asking something from him.

However, there was no feeling of ecstasy on Tang Hong's face as Tian Juaner imagined, but an unfamiliar aloofness as he stated: "Ten billion."

Ten billion!

The instant the figure came out of Huang Xiaolong's mouth, Tian Juaner and the nearby disciples were stunned.

Tian Juaner's eyes widened in disbelief, her voice turned shrill and sharp, "What did you say? Ten billion?!"

The batch of grade three Hundred Scales of the Golden Dragon Divine Pills that Huang Xiaolong refined had a dozen or so pellets. Even if they were all taken to an auction house, it still wouldn't fetch anywhere close to ten billion.

Yet Huang Xiaolong actually wanted ten billion from her?!

"If you don't have money, don't block my path." Huang Xiaolong stated, not even giving Tian Juaner another look as he turned and left.

Tian Juaner reacted a moment later, stomping her feet in anger, "You, Tang Hong, just you wait!" Her chest rose and fell, her entire body shaking with anger.

When Huang Xiaolong returned to Tang Hong's cultivation dwelling, Liu Qingyang was sitting in the main hall of his mansion with a gloomy expression. That disciple named Tang Hong actually knew the Hundred Thousand Divine Beasts Pill Refining Diagram. On top of that, he could refine grade three Hundred Scales of the Golden Dragon Divine Pills.

“Grandfather, you must get someone to kill that kid.” In the seat below, Sun Jinqiang insisted through gritted teeth, “I want to cut off his lower part, turn it into mincemeat and feed it to the dogs!”

Although his arms had healed properly without any adverse effects, his lower part... He was unlikely to touch a woman again for the rest of his life! Every time he thought of this, fury and hatred ate at his heart.

Liu Qingyang spoke solemnly, “He’s included in the quota of six disciples, not to mention the fact that he’s versed in the Hundred Thousand Divine Beasts Pill Refining Diagram and is capable of refining grade three Divine Pills. More likely than not, this news has already reached the Gate Chief’s ears. If we make a move now and somehow cause the Gate Chief’s Lightning War Monarch Pill refinement to fail due to one person missing, even I won’t be able to escape heavy punishment. Therefore, we must wait until the Gate Chief finishes with the Lightning War Monarch Pill before making our move.”

Sin Jinqiang was unwilling, but he understood the gravity of the matter, agreeing hatefully, “Fine, let that kid live for another month!”

Back in Tang Hong’s cultivation dwelling, Huang Xiaolong closed off the hot discussions taking place outside. As usual, he took out the grade four spiritual vein and focused on his cultivation.

Perhaps the Golden Dragon Gate Chief would send someone to investigate him when the news of him knowing the Hundred Thousand Divine Beasts Pill Refining Diagram reached his ears, but Huang Xiaolong was unconcerned. Regardless of how they investigated, they wouldn’t be able to find anything.

The next morning, Huang Xiaolong ended his cultivation. Just as he was about to head to the library again to read more divine battle arts and techniques, he received a message from the Three Evils and Wei Chao’s communication talismans. They could confirm with ninety percent certainty that the Ancestral Dragon Fruit was indeed in the depths of the Blood Phoenix Forest! The problem was, they had yet to determine a specific location.

Even so, the message put Huang Xiaolong in a good mood.

This was great news! Since they were ninety percent certain the Ancestral Dragon Fruit was within the Blood Phoenix Forest, finding it was only a matter of time.

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Chapter 1087: The Golden Dragon Pearl

Huang Xiaolong's cultivation was currently at early Fifth Order Heavenly God Realm, close to reaching peak early Fifth Order. If there was a chance of consuming the Ancestral Dragon Fruit, he would be able to advance several times, reaching peak late-Fifth Order, maybe even Sixth Order Heavenly God Realm!

He immediately replied to the Three Evils and Wei Chao, urging them to locate the Ancestral Dragon Fruit as soon as possible and report to him as soon as they narrowed their search down a certain area.

After replying to their message, Huang Xiaolong breathed out loudly, as if that could calm his heart.

According to his estimation, they would be able to locate the Ancestral Dragon Fruit within two months.

One month later, after he took the chance to snatch away the Nine Petals Spiritual Lightning Lotus from the Golden Dragon Gate Chief while he was refining the Lightning War Monarch Pill, it would be time for him to leave the Golden Dragon Gate and rush back to Green Cloud Island.

With a direction in mind, Huang Xiaolong stepped out from Tang Hong's dwelling and headed to the library.

He came across others on the way, but these disciples would look at him in an inconceivable manner. Once he was far away from them, they would whisper secretly behind his back.

Without exception, these disciples' topic of discussion centered around the alchemy refining competition that took place yesterday where he executed the Hundred Thousand Divine Beasts technique, producing grade three Hundred Scales of the Golden Dragon Divine Pills.

As usual, Huang Xiaolong went straight up to the fifth floor of the library, picking up the next divine battle arts manual where he previously left off. Regardless of what type of divine battle art or technique

it was, Huang Xiaolong would go through it once, then organize the information in his mind according to his own comprehension before moving on to the next manual.

Soon, the morning was gone.

“I heard Senior Sister Hu Dan went to the Golden Dragon Sacred Temple yesterday.” A core disciple’s low whisper fell into Huang Xiaolong’s ears at this time.

“How was it? Did Senior Sister Hu Dan awaken all nine dragon souls inside the golden dragon’s pearl?” The core disciple’s companion urgently asked.

“No, they said she only awakened six dragon souls.” Another core disciple lamented, shaking his head in pity.

“Six dragon souls! Six is already considered a good result, most of us core disciples barely average at three dragon souls.”

“It is said that if one can awaken all nine dragon souls, they would be able to obtain the Golden Dragon Divine Art left behind by our Golden Dragon Gate’s First Ancestor, as well as the nine dragons’ soul force that is sealed inside the dragon pearl. The lucky person’s strength is sure to rise by leaps and bounds.”

“If one can awaken all nine dragon souls inside the pearl, not to mention the Golden Dragon Martial Ancestor’s successor, even our current Ancestor and Gate Chief would need to salute to that person, but it is easier said than done. How could awakening all nine dragon souls be so easy? The dragon pearl was left behind by our Golden Dragon Martial Ancestor more than twenty million years ago. Until now, how many generations of Golden Dragon Gate disciples had tried without success?”

Listening to the several disciples’ conversation, Huang Xiaolong’s interest was stoked.

The golden dragon’s pearl!

There was some information in Tang Hong's memories related to this dragon pearl, but not much. Tang Hong only knew that this golden dragon pearl was inside the Golden Dragon Sacred Temple and supposedly there were nine dragon souls sealed within.

Now, listening to these disciples' conversation, it seemed like, as long as he could make the sealed nine dragon souls light up, he'd be able to obtain their soul force?

Huang Xiaolong wasn't very concerned about the Golden Dragon Divine Art. In his eyes, the nine dragons' soul force was more attractive.

Huang Xiaolong felt that his current strength was still too weak, he wouldn't not let go of any chance that could help him improve.

His own unique physique was the True Divine Dragon Physique, after all. Moreover, he was born with the black and blue twin dragons martial spirit and had integrated with a dragon pearl while he was still in the lower realm. Huang Xiaolong believed he had at least ninety percent chance of awakening the nine dragon souls.

Following the Golden Dragon Gate rules, any core disciple was qualified to enter the Golden Dragon Sacred Temple to study the golden dragon's pearl provided they could afford the required price of one hundred thousand points!

One hundred thousand points!

Huang Xiaolong subconsciously frowned thinking of this. Tang Hong only had a little over forty thousand merit points, it looked like he needed to find a way to top up those sixty thousand merit points.

In the Golden Dragon Gate, there were a number of ways to earn points, one of the quickest methods was to accept high difficulty level tasks. As long as the task was completed, the disciples could earn several thousand points from a single task.

Dusk fell as another day came to an end.

Back in Tang Hong's cultivation dwelling, Huang Xiaolong decided to make a trip to the Grand Dragon Hall to see what kind of tasks he could accept to earn points. He then went through the different divine battle arts and techniques he perused during the day in the library and disappeared into the Xumi Temple in a flicker. Sitting cross-legged in the air above a grade four spiritual vein, Huang Xiaolong began to absorb its spiritual energy.

Early next morning, just as the sun was peeking over the horizon, Huang Xiaolong ended his cultivation for the night, heading straight to the Grand Dragon Hall directly from Tang Hong's dwelling.

When he arrived at the Grand Dragon Hall's side hall, he unexpectedly ran into Tian Juaner.

Obviously, she too was here to choose a task.

When Tian Juaner saw Huang Xiaolong, her body visibly stiffened for a second, but she recovered quickly and glared daggers at Huang Xiaolong, followed by a cold harrumph before she turned her face to the side, leaving Huang Xiaolong with a view of her back.

Admittedly, looking from the back, this Tian Juaner's bottom was quite plump and round.

Huang Xiaolong approached the counter and requested the core disciple handling that counter, Li Yahong, to give him the task ledger.

After receiving the book, Huang Xiaolong flipped through the pages. Starting from the first page, the difficulty of the tasks increased when one reached the latter pages. Correspondingly, the higher the number of points allocated to those missions became.

Hence, Huang Xiaolong went straight to the last two pages.

Huang Xiaolong finished checking the available tasks, but there was a frown between his brows, there were only eight tasks on the last two pages. Although each task gave ten thousand points, wanting to complete these tasks within one month was not possible.

For example, one of the tasks he was interested in was harvesting Nefarious Devil Gold Cores from the Nefarious Devil Tribe. Every Gold Core was worth thirty thousand points, but more importantly, there was no accumulation limit.

If Huang Xiaolong managed to acquire ten Nefarious Devil Gold Cores and hand them to the Golden Dragon Gate, he would be able to turn them into three hundred thousand points.

The problem was, the trip from Dralion Island to where the Nefarious Devil Tribe lived, even with the Green Ice Hail Devil Bing Jiuyi's speed, would take more than a month.

'Then I can only wait until after the Golden Dragon Gate Chief finishes refining the Lightning War Monarch Pill before departing to the Nefarious Devil Tribe.' Huang Xiaolong thought to himself, 'But I can accept the task now.'

Huang Xiaolong looked up and said to core disciple Li Yahong, "I want to take the Nefarious Devil Gold Core task."

Li Yahong froze due to shock, then looked at Huang Xiaolong with a strange expression, "You really want this task? The Nefarious Devil Tribe looks heavily on their Gold Cores, keeping them within the tribe's ancestral burial ground. That ancestral burial ground is a place even high-level Heavenly God Realm masters would think twice before venturing in."

Ever since this task was put up, only one person ever completed it successfully, and that person was Hu Dan. Some core disciples, and even a few Elders who picked up the task, either died within the grounds of the Nefarious Devil Tribe or returned to the Golden Dragon Gate gravely injured.

Watching Huang Xiaolong insist on taking the Nefarious Devil Gold Core task, Tian Juaner scoffed loudly in disdain, "Seeking death."

Huang Xiaolong confirmed with Li Yahong as if he did not hear a word Tian Juaner had said, "I'm sure, I'm taking this task."

Seeing Huang Xiaolong insist, Li Yahong did not persuade him anymore and proceeded to record Tang Hong's name in the ledger, briefly explaining the requirements of the task.

Such as the fact that task had to be completed within a year's time. If Huang Xiaolong failed to do so within the stipulated time, ten thousand points would be deducted. On top of that, he would be prohibited from taking any other task for ten years.

Chapter 1088: The Golden Dragon Gate Chief

Despite hearing that ten thousand points would be deducted if he failed to complete the task within the stipulated time, there were no changes to Huang Xiaolong's expression.

"Tang Hong actually chose the Nefarious Devil Gold Core task! He's really overestimating himself, who does he think he is, Senior Sister Hu Dan?" A core disciple who was there to pick a task stared at Huang Xiaolong's back, mocking him.

"Who can say for certain? Didn't that kid refine some grade three Hundred Scales of the Golden Dragon Divine Pills a few days ago? Maybe he will give everyone another great shock, running into some super dog shit luck and find a Nefarious Devil Gold Core!"

"I think he's trying to attract Senior Sister Tian Juaner's attention, otherwise why would he accept this task that cannot be completed in front of her?"

The several disciples laughed and snickered as they gossiped.

Some wanted to get into Tian Juaner's favor while others were jealous because Huang Xiaolong refined grade three Divine Pills.

In short, no one believed that Huang Xiaolong was capable of completing the task.

"I want the Linglong Hallow Jade task." Tian Juaner turned back to Li Yahong and instructed.

The Linglong Hallow Jade task also required the disciple to head to the sea region close to the Nefarious Devil Tribe, but the level of difficulty and risks was much lower compared to Huang Xiaolong's task, something with only eight thousand points as reward.

“It’s done, Senior Sister Tian.” Li Yahong said with a courteous smile and proceeded to explain the requirements of the task in a subtle yet flattering manner.

Following this, Tian Juaner left the Grand Dragon Hall.

Although she chose to take the Linglong Hallow Jade task, due to the impending pill refining, she also pushed back her departure to one month later.

Not long after Huang Xiaolong left the Grand Dragon Hall, Liu Qingyang received news that he took the Nefarious Devil Gold Core task.

Inside Liu Qingyang’s cultivation dwelling, Sun Jinqiang snickered maliciously, “That kid was struck silly in the head by an Earthworm Beast, he actually dared to take the Nefarious Devil Gold Core task!”

Contrary to Sun Jinqiang’s thoughts, Liu Qingyang contemplated the matter, “By taking that task, he’ll most likely set off after the Gate Chief finishes refining the Lightning War Monarch Pill. These past couple of days I’ve been thinking how to lure that kid out from the Golden Dragon Gate, but it seems like I don’t have to waste time thinking about that now.”

As Liu Qingyang said this, a sharp light flashed in his eyes as his killing intent leaked out for a moment.

Sun Jinqiang laughed happily, “Grandfather, when we capture that Tang Hong, I want to finish him off personally!”

Liu Qingyang dotingly consented, “Naturally.”

...

Time flowed, and in the blink of an eye over twenty days had passed.

During this time, Huang Xiaolong would routinely head to the library in the morning, while at night he would enter the Xumi Temple to refine the grade four spiritual vein after reinforcing what he comprehended during the day.

Silvery moonlight danced in the cold night air.

Huang Xiaolong was completely enshrouded in a bright light while sitting cross-legged above the spiritual vein. His persistent effort in recent days had pushed his cultivation to peak early Fifth Order Heavenly God Realm. Still, there were a few days to go until he could truly step into mid-Fifth Order Heavenly God Realm.

Having awakened from a night of cultivation, Huang Xiaolong exited the Xumi Temple.

Outside, the sun was shining brightly.

Standing in his yard, Huang Xiaolong deeply breathed in the Golden Dragon Mountain's rich spiritual energy, which contained a weak dragon qi within.

He could feel this dragon qi flow out from the Golden Dragon Sacred Temple. From this, he concluded that the weak dragon qi originated from the dragon pearl itself.

This finding increased Huang Xiaolong's anticipation toward studying that Golden Dragon Pearl

Tomorrow was the day when the Golden Dragon Gate Chief wanted to refine the Lightning War Monarch Pill.

"Nine Petals Spiritual Lightning Lotus..." Huang Xiaolong whispered.

Tomorrow, in order to snatch away the Nine Petals Spiritual Lightning Lotus, having the Green Ice Hail Devil Bing Jiuyi act alone would be enough. The plan was for Bing Jiuyi to instantly teleport away after snatching the lotus. This way, whatever suspicions may arise wouldn't fall upon his head.

Thus Huang Xiaolong wasn't worried that his identity would be exposed.

When the matter of the Nine Petals Spiritual Lightning Lotus was settled, it was time to set off to the Nefarious Devil Tribe territory. After completing the task, he'd be able to enter the Golden Dragon Sacred Temple and study the dragon pearl.

The truth was, Huang Xiaolong had another motive in selecting the Nefarious Devil Tribe task.

The Primordial Divine Dragon Clan's divine dragons had a dragon pearl inside their bodies, and the Nefarious Devil Tribe members, as one of the primordial races, would also condense a small bead referred to as a gold core inside their bodies when they broke through to the Ancient God Realm.

This Nefarious Devil Gold Core slightly resembled a beast core, but within a gold core was the true essence of a Nefarious Devil Ancient God Realm master. Although it wasn't as precious as a godhead, if a cultivator could get their hands on a gold core and refine the origin essence within, not only would it improve their cultivation, it could also strengthen the physical body and godhead at the same time.

Since tomorrow was the day of the pill refinement, Huang Xiaolong did not go to the library. Instead, he went down to the Golden Dragon City, casually walking around.

Taking the name of the sect, the Golden Dragon City was the most important city under the Sect's governance, slightly bigger than the Barbarian God Sect's Barbarian God City. Huang Xiaolong noticed that the spiritual veins sealed under the Golden Dragon City were of higher quality compared to the ones under Barbarian God City.

As one of the two hegemony of the Dralion Island, in terms of power and heritage, the Golden Dragon Gate left the Barbarian God Sect in the dust.

While Huang Xiaolong was strolling around the city, he passed by a restaurant that seemed to be a crowd favorite. Following his heart, Huang Xiaolong walked in and ordered some dishes and a flagon of their best wine.

However, when he was leaving the restaurant, he ran into Sun Jinqiang who was walking in with several core disciples.

The instant Sun Jinqiang saw Huang Xiaolong, fury, hatred, and killing intent erupted in his heart.

“Tang—Hong.” Sun Jinqiang spat the name through gritted teeth.

Huang Xiaolong coldly glanced at Sun Jinqiang and walked past him without a word.

Watching Huang Xiaolong’s attitude, the killing intent and hatred in Sun Jinqiang expanded several times. His gloomy, icy voice sounded behind Huang Xiaolong, “Punk, just you wait, I’ll pulverize your d*ck into dust!”

Sun Jinqiang did not bother to control the volume of his voice, in fact, he said it for Huang Xiaolong to hear.

Huang Xiaolong snorted in response and left.

“Jinqiang, do you want me to help you cripple that punk?” One of the core disciples with Sun Jinqiang offered. This core disciple was a mid-Sixth Order Heavenly God Realm cultivator.

“No need.” Sun Jinqiang added, “Let him jump around for a few more days.”

Early morning the next day, the sky was clear, cloudless for a thousand li.

Huang Xiaolong stepped out from Tang Hong’s place and headed toward the Golden Dragon Gate Chief’s cultivation dwelling.

This time, the pill refinement would be done inside the Gate Chief’s personal chamber.

Roughly two hours later, Huang Xiaolong arrived at the Gate Chief’s cultivation dwelling. After showing his identity token to the guarding attendants, he was led inside.

Walking into the front hall, Huang Xiaolong saw Tian Juaner and the other four already waiting. Other than them, more than a dozen Elders and Grand Elders with dual element godheads containing lightning and fire were present as well. Clearly, they were here to assist the Gate Chief in refining the pill. Counting Huang Xiaolong, and the Golden Dragon Gate Chief, a total of eighteen people were involved.

The Golden Dragon Gate Chief Liu Zhuo was sitting on the main seat. When Huang Xiaolong walked in, a golden light flashed in Liu Zhuo's eyes as his gaze fell on him. It was as if all of Huang Xiaolong's secrets were laid bare before him.

Chapter 1089: Snatching the Nine Petals Spiritual Lightning Lotus

Knowing this was the Golden Dragon Gate Chief probing him, Huang Xiaolong acted normal, as if he didn't notice the Gate Chief's action. At the end of the day, this Gate Chief Liu Zhuo was just a peak late-First Order Ancient God Realm, whereas Huang Xiaolong's Green Ice Hail Devil Bing Jiuyi was a mid-Second Order Ancient God Realm. Since he was concealed within space, there was no danger in letting the Gate Chief probe as much as he liked.

Huang Xiaolong stepped forward, saluting in greeting.

The obscure golden light in Liu Zhuo's eyes subsided before he lightly nodded with an amiable smile as he said "You're the disciple who refined grade three Hundred Scales of the Golden Dragon Divine Pills, Tang Hong?"

"Yes, Gate Chief." Huang Xiaolong looked greatly respectful and cautious when replying.

"Rise." Liu Zhuo's smile widened, "Looks like you have a good talent for alchemy, you must continue to work hard." These were considered words of encouragement.

This caused the other five disciples to look at Huang Xiaolong with envy; receiving a word of encouragement from their Gate Chief was something they could only dream of.

Huang Xiaolong nodded and complied.

“Alright, since everyone is here, let’s head to the pill refining chamber and prepare.” Liu Zhuo shifted his gaze to the group of Grand Elders.

Led by the Golden Dragon Gate Chief at the front of the group, Huang Xiaolong, Tian Juaner, and the rest made their way to the pill refining chamber.

As expected, Liu Zhuo’s personal pill refining chamber was large and spacious, taking up several thousand square meters, resembling a large square. Placed right at the center of the chamber was a pill furnace supported by five feet.

Life-like carvings of Godfiends filled the surface of furnace, exuding a faint but ancient Godfiend aura.

Just a glance and anyone could see that this pill furnace was extraordinary, most likely some high grade ancient treasure.

Other than this pill furnace, nothing else could be seen inside the large room.

The furnace was over ten meters tall. When Huang Xiaolong stood in front of it, he couldn’t help feeling slightly dwarfed, while the others also had the same feeling.

The Golden Dragon Gate Chief then explained the things they needed to pay attention to during the pill concoction and reiterated several times the important stages.

Having made sure everyone fully understood what was required of them, the Gate Chief had Huang Xiaolong and the rest move into position around the five-legged pill furnace, forming a small scale ancient divine formation.

When Huang Xiaolong and others sent their lightning and fire element godforce into the pill furnace during the refining process, the small scale divine formation would act as a moderator, balancing and circulating their godforce. Not only would it reduce the depletion of their godforce, it also increased the medicinal efficiency of the herbs inside the pill furnace.

While the divine formation circulated their lightning and fire element godforce, it would also temper their bodies. This indirectly benefited everyone involved, especially Huang Xiaolong, Tian Juaner, and the other four core disciples.

After the small scale ancient divine formation was arranged, Gate Chief Liu Zhuo gathered his Ancient God Realm godforce and struck his palm onto the surface of the pill furnace. Dazzling rays of light broke out from the pill furnace, causing its cover to quiver and slowly rise into the air.

“Herbs in!”

The Golden Dragon Gate Chief’s sonorous voice rang.

A Grand Elder briskly stepped forward, waving his hands and sending more than a dozen kinds of medicinal herbs into the pill furnace.

While refining an ancient divine pellet such as the Lightning War Monarch Pill, the order of the herbs was extremely strict, as was the timing of adding them. The slightest error could cause any one of the herbs to explode.

The moment the dozen herbs fell into the furnace, a different Grand Elder used his godforce to activate the formation inscribed inside the pill furnace. His lightning fire element godforce activated the flames, causing them to burn brighter, refining away the herbs’ impurities.

Following this, Huang Xiaolong and the others sent their godforce into the pill furnace according to a predetermined order.

Eighteen people’s lightning and fire element godforce merged into one, entering Huang Xiaolong and the others’ bodies as it circulated through the divine formation.

Tempered by this combined lightning and fire element godforce, Huang Xiaolong felt his True Divine Dragon Physique growing stronger still. This finding delighted Huang Xiaolong. Having his body tempered by the combination of eighteen people’s lightning and fire godforce was slightly more effective than absorbing a grade four spiritual vein.

Some time later, a few breaths before the first batch of herbs completely merged, Liu Zhuo barked another order: "Herbs in!"

A second Grand Elder waved his hands, sending out eight kinds of herbs into the pill furnace.

The moment these eight herbs entered the furnace, they reacted with the first batch of herbs, causing the pill furnace to emit an even brighter light.

Seeing this change, Huang Xiaolong and the others swiftly retracted a portion of their godforce as instructed earlier.

The muffled explosions and sparks inside the furnace gradually subsided.

An hour into the refining, more than four hundred kinds of herbs had been added.

These herbs were placed into the pill furnace in varied batches; sometimes there were as many as a dozen or more herbs in a batch, or even as little as one or two kinds.

However, refining the Lightning War Monarch Pill required over one thousand and two hundred kinds of herbs, therefore, they had only gone through one-third of the herbs.

At this point, Huang Xiaolong was beginning to see why the Golden Dragon Gate Chief gathered eighteen people who possessed dual lightning and fire element godforce to assist him.

Having eighteen people help would enhance the quality of the pill, but more importantly, the Gate Chief was incapable of refining this Lightning War Monarch Pill alone.

Soon, ten hours had passed since the eighteen of them entered the pill refining chamber.

At this point, all the required twelve hundred plus medicinal herbs had already been added into the furnace, except for the more precious ones as well as the chaos spiritual herb.

This was the crucial moment.

Most of everyone's godforce had been exhausted.

The Golden Dragon Gate Chief's hand movements increased in speed as he formed a series of seals. An extremely pure spiritual energy filled the chamber, coursing through all eighteen people's bodies, replenishing their depleted godforce.

Huang Xiaolong's heart raced, 'This is a grade five spiritual vein! It's absolutely a grade five spiritual vein's energy!' Only a grade five spiritual vein could have such an effect.

Saying that the Golden Dragon Gate Chief owning a grade five spiritual vein surprised Huang Xiaolong was an understatement

When he and the others had their godforce replenished by the influx of spiritual energy, the flames made by lightning and fire inside the pill furnace seemed to receive a second life.

At this time, Gate Chief Liu Zhuo once again reminded a Grand Elder to add the next herb. The remaining ingredients were the most important and precious ones, followed by the chaos spiritual herb, hence, these were added into the pill furnace one by one.

Every time a new herb was added in, the dazzling light around the pill furnace became stronger, and so did the refreshing pill aroma, indicating they were close to condensing into pellets.

Everyone grew more nervous.

When only three chaos spiritual herbs remained, the Golden Dragon Gate Chief ordered: "Nine Petals Spiritual Lightning Lotus!"

One of the Grand Elders responded, taking out the Nine Petals Spiritual Lightning Lotus. Almost exactly at the same time it appeared, flashes of lightning lit up the room, forming rays of crepuscular white light that spread out.

However, just as the Grand Elder was about to throw the Nine Petals Spiritual Lightning Lotus into the pill furnace, a giant ice hand appeared out of nowhere, slapping down on the Grand Elder. That Grand Elder turned into an ice statue in a split second before the giant ice hand scooped up the Nine Petals Spiritual Lightning Lotus into its palm.

In the blink of an eye, the giant ice hand vanished from sight.

The sequence of events happened so fast that everyone was still dazed where they stood.

“Chase!” The Golden Dragon Gate Chief reacted, bellowing in rage. His voice thundered, resembling an enraged primordial fierce beast.

In order to concoct the Lightning War Monarch Pill, over thousand two hundred medicinal herbs and chaos spiritual herbs were required. Not a single one could be substituted or missing. Now that the Nine Petals Spiritual Lightning Lotus was stolen, the refinement was doomed to fail. His painstaking effort and all the precious herbs inside the pill furnace were wasted!

Chapter 1090: When Are We Making Our Move?

Thinking of his years of painstaking effort in order to collect over a thousand and two hundred herbs only for someone to appear and take his Nine Petals Spiritual Lightning Lotus at the final stage made Liu Zhuo's wrath and fury swirl like a catastrophic hurricane.

Before his voice fell, his figure had already disappeared from view. He had obviously gone after the thief using teleportation.

The Grand Elders on the scene, Tian Juaner, and the other disciples were still in a daze, each secretly exchanging a glance. Lastly, their gazes fell on the Grand Elder that was turned into a green ice statue, afraid and angered at the same time.

A peak late-Tenth Order Heavenly God Realm Grand Elder suddenly rose into the air, thundering in great anger, “Follow me and chase!” He was the first one to rush out from the pill refining chamber before flying up into the sky.

Seeing this, everyone quickly followed suit, leaving the chamber.

Huang Xiaolong rushed out with a grim expression as well. The group barely left the pill refining chamber when a booming explosion sounded high in the air above the Golden Dragon Mountain, akin to a lightning bolt of divine punishment.

This booming explosion nearly ruptured the eardrums of the weaker disciples below, causing their minds to go blank. Some of the inner disciples were knocked to the ground and spat blood due to internal injuries.

This was the terrifyingly destructive power of Ancient God Realm masters.

“Activate the Grand Formation, lock down the entire mountain!” The Golden Dragon Gate Chief roared from high above.

In that split second, the Green ice Hail Devil Bing Jiuyi’s palm had arrived in front of Liu Zhuo, who panicked for a moment. He raised his arms to protect himself but was knocked backward several hundred li.

Below, lights rippled across the air and rushed skyward, covering the entire Golden Dragon Mountain. The Grand Elders had activated the grand formation.

The Golden Dragon Mountain Grand Formation had been continuously reinforced by generations of Ancient God Realm masters, reaching a very high level of power. Waves of energy that made one apprehensive started breaking out from underground.

“Haha, Liu Zhuo, the Nine Petals Spiritual Lightning Lotus is mine now. I don’t have the time to play with you. I’ll make sure to accompany you next time!” Bing Jiuyi laughed loudly. With one turn, he teleported away in an instant, out of the range of the Grand Formation, vanishing into thin air faster than one could blink.

Had the Golden Dragon Mountain Grand Formation completely activated, there might have been a chance of keeping Bing Jiuyi there, but the Golden Dragon Gate Grand Elders needed at least a few minutes to completely activate the entire grand formation.

Watching the Green Ice Hail Devil run away with his Nine Petals Spiritual Lightning Lotus, Liu Zhuo was even more furious. A sharp pain came from his chest and wah he coughed up a mouthful of blood.

The sound of thunder rumbled and a figure appeared next to Liu Zhuo. The new arrival was Song Chengli, the Golden Dragon Gate's Ancestor.

"What happened?" Song Chengli questioned in confusion looking at the Liu Zhuo's bloodstained robe.

Liu Zhuo briefly recounted what happened in his pill refining chamber to Song Chengli.

"Green Ice Hail Devil!" The Golden Dragon Gate Ancestor's face tightened, "Could it be...?"

This reminded Liu Zhuo of one matter, "That person could indeed be the same one who killed our Golden Dragon Gate Elders and core disciples before snatching the Black Flame Sea Emperor Beast, the same Ancient God Realm Green Ice Hail Devil!"

Song Chengli's brows were scrunched up, "Based in your exchange just now, what is the other side's strength?"

Liu Zhuo's voice sank, "Should be at peak early Second Order."

In truth, the Green Ice Hail Devil Bing Jiuyi was a mid-Second Order Ancient God Realm master, however, in his current condition, he was only able to display about two-thirds of his strength, which was why Liu Zhuo's estimation strayed slightly.

Song Chengli's frown deepened, if it really was as Liu Zhuo said, then the Green Ice Hail Devil's strength was higher than he expected. He, Song Chengli, had been cultivating for tens of thousands of years, yet his cultivation was only at mid-Second Order Ancient God Realm.

"Ancestor, what should we do next?" Liu Zhuo inquired.

“Have the Golden Dragon Mountain Grand Formation be active at all times. Also, lock down the entire Golden Dragon Gate, investigate this matter carefully.” A light glimmered in Song Chengli’s eyes as he gave out several instructions in one breath. He had the feeling there was something strange about this incident, but couldn’t put his finger on it.

“Yes.” Liu Zhuo complied.

However, even after a whole month of investigation, the Golden Dragon Gate failed to find anything out of the ordinary. In the end, they could only withdraw the lockdown, their sect couldn’t be cut off from the outside world for an indefinite period.

The Golden Dragon Gate being on lockdown was a variable Huang Xiaolong missed in his calculation, but he could only wait, continuing with his previous routine of going to the library during the day and cultivating at night.

During this month, Huang Xiaolong’s cultivation improved further, bringing him a step closer to mid-Fifth Order Heavenly God Realm. The vexing matter was that no matter how much spiritual energy he absorbed from grade four spiritual vein for his Heaven Splitting Tenet, he was unable to break through to the third stage.

‘It’s time to set off to the Nefarious Devil Tribe territory, I’ll leave tomorrow.’ Huang Xiaolong planned in his head.

Since the Golden Dragon Gate had withdrawn the lockdown, he decided to depart to the Nefarious Devil Tribe territory tomorrow to look for the Gold Cores as soon as possible. He wanted to complete the task and get the points to enter the Golden Dragon Sacred Temple so he could take a look at the golden dragon pearl!

Huang Xiaolong left the Golden Dragon Mountain early next morning as decided.

...

“Grandfather, that kid has left the Golden Dragon Mountain.” Sun Jinqiang received report of Huang Xiaolong’s departure in the shortest time. He quickly ran to see Liu Qingyang with a smile on his face, asking, “When are we making a move?”

Liu Qingyang smiled faintly, “There’s no hurry, wait until he’s off the Dralion Island shores. He’s going to the Nefarious Devil Tribe territory, after all, we’ll have plenty of chances to deal with him.”

“Yes, Grandfather is right.” Sun Jinqiang nodded his head in agreement.

Huang Xiaolong boarded a flying ship from the Golden Dragon City, taking a little over ten days to reach the Joyous Sea City.

There was no flying ship that went straight to the Nefarious Devil Island where the Nefarious Devil Tribe lived. Huang Xiaolong’s best option was to take a flying ship to the nearest island, the Big Cloudy Island.

The Big Cloudy Island was a small man-made island built by the Berserk Lion Sect and Golden Dragon Gate, where demonic beasts were allowed to roam free, the ideal training ground for both forces’ disciples.

Based on Huang Xiaolong’s speed, he needed ten more days of flying to reach the Nefarious Devil Island from Big Cloudy Island.

Counting from the day he boarded the flying ship, two weeks had passed.

Huang Xiaolong chose to fly straight to the Nefarious Devil Island instead of resting in the cities built by the two forces on the Big Cloudy Island.

Once he was away from the island, Huang Xiaolong stopped worrying about exposing his identity, hence letting the little cow out from the Godly Mt. Xumi space.

“Oh Mama, I nearly died from suffocation.” The moment the little cow was released from the Godly Mt. Xumi space, it dramatically sucked in the sea air, clamoring loudly.

Huang Xiaolong slapped its cow head, "How can that suffocate you to death?" Then he grinned mischievously, "Your muscles must be stiff, I'll give you a chance to loosen them a bit."

Since leaving the Dralion Island, Huang Xiaolong already discovered that Sun Jinqiang's group had been tailing him until now.

The little cow scoffed, "Just that few flies, does it need me and my mighty cow legs?"

"It's considered good if you can kick something, don't be so picky." Huang Xiaolong chuckled.

Huang Xiaolong just finished persuading the little cow when a complacent sneer sounded. In the next second, several figures appeared in midair. Sun Jinqiang and his group of core disciples were flying straight at Huang Xiaolong.

Although Sun Jinqiang was wondering when this Tang Hong took in a cow mount, he did not linger on the question. He looked at Huang Xiaolong and laughed sinisterly.