

Disciples 1191

Chapter 1191: Annoying

The three black-clad cultivators hovered high up in the sky. One looked down; one looked to the left and right; one looked in the direction of the royal palace in the distance. Their division of labor was very clear.

“This person’s cultivation method is an extremely strong cultivation method with strong vitality energy; it’s clearly a wood element cultivation method. His aura is very stable but strange. He should be at the Thousand Realms Whirling stage. His mount, Qiong Qi, is a descendant of an ancient fierce beast.”

“The royal palace is five kilometers from here. It’s not wise to use our avatars here. The best way is to use witchcraft.”

“So far no one has come here except for that person. He should’ve been attracted by Xiao Yunhe’s avatar.”

“Focus on dealing with that person. Since it’s a wood element cultivation method, use fire to suppress him. Move two kilometers away and suppress the commotion.”

“Be careful. That Qiong Qi isn’t ordinary. It must have received great nourishment all year round.”

“Let’s do this.”

The trio nodded, finally reaching an agreement.

Boom!

The vines from the Bluewood Heart Technique shot up into the sky before they shattered.

Woof! Woof! Woof! Woof! Woof!

A figure flew onto Qiong Qi’s back before rushing into the distance.

“Tower Master Xiao, I’m sorry. These three perverts are too f*cking scary! I’ll leave first and bring reinforcements!”

Xiao Yunhe. “...”

The three black-clad cultivators hovering in the air were speechless as they watched Mingshi Yin swiftly fleeing.

“Should we give chase?”

“No.”

“I think we should chase after him.”

“We’ve already achieved our goals. There’s no need to chase after a stray dog.”

“Alright, let’s return.”

The three black-clad turned around and returned to their two companions' sides. All five of them surrounded Xiao Yunhe again.

"I'm very sorry your so-called friend abandoned you."

"There are no true friends in this world, only mutually beneficial friendships."

"You must be in despair now that your friend abandoned you."

"I can feel your helplessness and sorrow..."

"You stole our mystic microstones and our mystic life grass; you should be punished accordingly."

Xiao Yunhe was stunned. He pointed at them and said loudly, "Wait! So it's you!"

"You finally remember."

"Your memory is quite good. Unfortunately, it's of no help to you..."

Xiao Yunhe was confused by these five people. They could take turns to speak; why must they speak at the same time? He interrupted them and said, "I thought you're Xia Zhengrong's men. I'll return the mystic microstones and mystic life grass to you. What do you think?"

The five black-clad cultivators exchanged a look.

"He said he wants to return the mystic microstones and mystic life grass to us."

"I know. I'm not deaf. However, how's he going to return them?"

Xiao Yunhe interjected, "Stop!"

The five black-clad cultivators fell silent immediately.

Xiao Yunhe said, "Your cultivation bases are only average. You won't be a match for me if I'm in peak condition. If you can find the mystic microstones and mystic life grass, I can naturally find them as well..."

"He has a point," the first cultivator said.

"However, there are contradictions in his words," the second cultivator said.

"We might not be able to defeat him if he recovers," the third cultivator said.

"We won't be able to snatch back the mystic microstones and the mystic life grass," the fourth cultivator said.

"It's better to kill him," the fifth cultivator said.

"..."

The five people raised their hands to the sky in unison before dark green halos appeared in their hands. The energy of the halos was abnormally powerful.

Upon seeing this, Xiao Yunhe flew up. His astrolabe appeared in his hand before he pushed it out.

The astrolabe landed on the five cultivators and sent them flying.

At the same time, Xiao Yunhe descended to the ground. He could feel his Qi and blood surging violently in his body.

The five cultivators flew back 100 meters before they finally stabilized their footing. Then, they tossed the dark green halos out.

The dark green halos surrounded Xiao Yunhe from five different directions before they rapidly expanded until all five of them merged.

“Confine!”

Buzz!

The halos shone brightly, and with that, the formation was completed.

The five cultivators flashed. Each of them stood in the center of a halo. Their hands were all glowing.

Xiao Yunhe’s gaze was cold, and his voice was stern as he said, “You think you can kill me?”

Xiao Yunhe manifested his avatar. The Eleven Chart Thousand Realms Whirling avatar began to rise from the ground.

Alas, before the avatar could reach its full height, the five halos shot out and restrained it like hula hoops.

“Bind!”

Xiao Yunhe instantly felt that his Dantian’s sea of Qi had been sealed by a strange force.

These five cultivators were really strange. Their individual cultivation base was barely passable, but together they were abnormally strong.

Xiao Yunhe tilted his head slightly and looked into the distance. ‘Mingshi Yin, that kid, he can’t have really abandoned him, right?’

“Hey!”

Woof!

A dog suddenly leaped over from nearby.

At the same time, a figure flashed out from the side. His speed was like the lightning as he aimed for one of the cultivators’ neck.

The cultivator hurriedly raised his arms to block the attack.

Bang!

A cold light flashed as Mingshi Yin and Qiong Qi cut through the halos and landed on the ground.

“This person is so annoying.”

“He actually dared to come back.”

“He almost succeeded. He’s a sinister and cunning person.”

“The weapon in his hands seems to be at the flood grade.”

“Let’s finish him off together.”

Mingshi Yin put the Separation Hook away. He was slightly surprised by the five people’s keen eyesight and analytical skills.

With the help of the Sky Martial Academy, the Separation Hook had long been upgraded to the flood grade with the fire spirit stones given by Lu Zhou.

Mingshi Yin had to admit that his earlier attack was slightly off target. However, he was really far away so there was not much to say about it.

Mingshi Yin patted Qiong Qi before he waved at everyone. “Hello, I just returned to have a look. I don’t have any other intentions. You can continue on with your business; don’t mind me. Doggy, what are you waiting for?”

As though it had long gotten used to its master attitude, Qiong Qi obediently put away its fangs, claws, and ferocious expression. Then, it turned around and vanished into the forest.

The five cultivators. “...”

Xiao Yunhe. “...”

The five cultivators were very annoyed.

“He’ll return again.”

“He’ll continue to harass us and disturb our witchcraft formation.”

“I’ve never met such a shameless opponent before.”

This time, only three of them spoke. The remaining two took the initiative and flew out of their respective halos toward the forest.

“Good idea.”

It was best to divide the task.

The remaining three continued to cast their witchcraft technique.

At the same time, Xiao Yunhe shook his head and sighed. He looked in the direction of the forest and said, “Mr. Fourth, you should leave. Thank you for your kindness.”

Then, Xiao Yunhe raised his hand.

The Hexagonal Weapon rose into the air.

Xiao Yunhe swept his gaze across the cultivators before he laughed. “Let me show you my power.”

“Is he going to burn his Dantian’s sea of Qi?”

“He’s going to commit suicide?”

They hurriedly tossed out a huge ring of light.

“Continue to restrain him.”

“Return to your positions!”

“Don’t bother with that person!”

The five cultivators quickly gathered and continued to manipulate the five halos.

Soon after, hundreds of thousands of black tentacles with thorns slithered out from the halos before wrapping around Xiao Yunhe.

“No!” Xiao Yunhe could feel that he was now completely cut off from his Dantian’s sea of Qi.

The Hexagonal Weapon dimmed and fell to the ground immediately.

The Primal Qi in Xiao Yunhe’s body was quickly disappearing as well, and his energy was greatly weakened.

At this time, a figure flashed over from the distant sky. The figure was not big, but its speed seemed unrivaled.

Buzz!

The unique sound of energy resonating rang in the air, causing the five cultivators to instinctively raise their heads. They saw a sage-like old man with completely white hair in the sky. The old man’s face was not fierce, but he had an imposing air about him.

“Who dares to behave audaciously in my territory?” Lu Zhou said as he pushed his palm out.

A huge golden Abandoned Wisdom shot out immediately. Due to the effect of the Concealment Card, the energy was golden even though Lu Zhou had used the supreme mystic power.

The five cultivators were in shock as they watched the palm seal destroy the numerous tentacles.

Boom!

The halos shattered.

Boom!

The five cultivators were sent flying back by an immense force following that. They grunted in pain as their blood and Qi surged in their bodies. Their arms were numb.

Just like that, their witchcraft formation that was meant to restrain Xiao Yunhe vanished.

At this time, Mingshi Yin’s face was filled with joy as he rushed out on Qiong Qi’s back. Then, he bowed before he said, “Greetings, master.”

Chapter 1192: Beating Up the Five Clowns

Lu Zhou hovered in the air and looked down at the five cultivators on the ground? Then, he looked at Mingshi Yin and said with a hint of disapproval, “You sent me a message just for this?”

Mingshi Yin scratched his head and said sheepishly, "Master, I had no choice. These five people are really scary. It's safer if you're here..."

Xiao Yunhe slapped away the tentacles before he fell to the ground. He said, "Brother Lu, if you didn't come, I'd be in big trouble..."

The reason Xiao Yunhe had escaped to the red lotus domain was to look for Lu Zhou. In his opinion, mysterious experts from the Unknown Land or whatever domains were no match for a big shot from the Great Void.

The five cultivators looked at Lu Zhou in shock before they looked at each other. Then, at the speed of lightning, they gathered and stood in a row.

"This person seems very strong."

"There's no doubt he's strong."

"However, it's not like we can't deal with him."

"He's quite old."

"Let's try again."

The five cultivators quickly came to an agreement.

Mingshi Yin was rendered speechless by the way they communicated. It was as though the five of them were one person. After a beat, he asked, "Don't tell me you're all brothers?"

"He's only figured it out now?"

"I guess so."

Mingshi Yin. "..."

At this moment, the five cultivators raised their heads to the sky and spread their arms open. They held hands, forming a line, as they chanted some incantations in unison.

"It's a Buddhist's sound technique," Xiao Yunhe said as he struggled to his feet with great difficulty. He walked to Mingshi Yin. "Brother Mingshi..."

"I'm your junior. I'll leave first." Mingshi Yin rode on Qiong Qi and vanished from sight.

Xiao Yunhe. "..."

Indeed, Mingshi Yin was his junior.

As the five cultivators chanted, the ground trembled slightly before green halos appeared beneath their feet. They could no longer conceal their energy at this moment. The halos slowly rose before their light shrouded them.

The volume of their voices suddenly increased by ten or a hundred times, and it showed no signs of stopping.

"My brothers, the five of us, have cultivated witchcraft techniques and Buddhist techniques for 1,000 years. We make a living in the Unknown Land to survive. We obtained over 1,000 life hearts, killed a million fierce beasts, obtained over 10,000 treasure, three mystic microstones, and ten mystic life grass. This bast*rd snuck into the Unknown Land and stole our treasures. Cutting off someone's sources of income is akin to taking their lives or killing their parents," one of them said.

Then, the other four said in unison, "That's right."

Their voices were like the sounds of war drums and tens of thousands of warhorses galloping on the battlefield.

The Buddhist's sound technique swept out like a wave at this moment.

The five cultivators looked possessed as they displayed their might. Their bodies and the halos beneath their feet emitted an intense green light.

The sound technique seemed to resound in the entire world, and it lasted for a full fifteen minutes before it stopped.

The five brothers finally stopped and took a deep breath. When they looked up, they were stunned.

"He seems completely unaffected."

"No one can be completely unharmed by our Buddhist's sound technique."

"Is the other party too strong or are we too weak?"

"Should we try again?"

"Alright."

Then, the five of them bent down and smacked one hand on the ground.

When each of their hands touched the ground, a halo would appear. When five halos appeared, a tentacle slithered out from each of the five halos. Subsequently, the five tentacles merged into one and shot toward Lu Zhou.

Lu Zhou held Unnamed in his hand and mobilized the supreme mystic power.

Bang!

An energy sword shot out, destroying the tentacle.

The five brothers. "???"

"He seems very relaxed."

"Did you guys slack off when casting the spell?"

"Use your full strength," three of the brothers said in unison.

The five brothers felt rather embarrassed. They had been making a living in the Unknown Land for many years, but they had never encountered such an enemy. Even a Venerable Master would not be so relaxed, right? At the very least, a Venerable Master would have made a move, right?

“Again,” one of the brothers said.

“Alright,” the remaining four brothers said in unison.

The five of them flew up at a low altitude before they launched black and purple energy seals. The witchcraft energy seals flew out in all directions, forming a circle.

The five of them cooperated very well. Their movements were in-sync, and it was as though they shared the same mind. Their movements, frequency, and speed were exactly the same.

Lu Zhou nodded. ‘No wonder Old Fourth was not confident.’

Five pillars of light shot 100 meters up into the air before the black and purple energy swiftly weaved itself into a cage.

Five Pillars of light shot into the sky and arrived at a height of a hundred meters. The black and purple light quickly weaved into a cage.

“The Great Witchcraft Imprisonment Cage,” Xiao Yunhe said with a hint of admiration.

At this time, Mingshi Yin rode on Qiong Qi and flew to the front. “They seem to be from the green lotus domain. Why do they have black and purple energy?”

“Heaven and earth are one. Heaven is heaven; earth is earth,” Xiao Yunhe said.

“The world is divided into nine domains, and nine domains are one,” Mingshi Yin said.

“How do you know there are nine domains?”

“My Seventh Junior Brother told me. I wonder why there isn’t a tenth domain or even... the 100th domain,” Mingshi Yin said.

“...” Xiao Yunhe felt his eyelids twitch. After a beat, he said, “It’s as you said. The sages speculated all the domains were one but were separated for unknown reasons.”

“If all the domains used to be one, why is it that the color of each domain’s energy is different?”

“This...”

“Humans have different skin colors; there are white, black, and yellow. However, when they’re stabbed, they still bleed red. Why?” Mingshi Yin asked.

“...”

There were so many questions that Xiao Yunhe was beginning to get a headache. After a while, he said, “Purple can be derived from red, and black and can be derived from purple. Black is actually a kind of green... I... I heard this from someone else...”

“Based on what you said, red and purple came from black. Perhaps, gold and yellow used to be one and the same.... Is it possible for more colors to be derived from the color of egg yolk in the future?!”

Mingshi Yin’s thoughts were rather... creative. Xiao Yunhe was rendered speechless by these words; only his eyelids kept twitching violently.

The Great Witchcraft Imprisonment Cage was finally completed.

Lu Zhou had been waiting silently, wanting to see what other tricks they had up their sleeves.

“The cage has been completed.”

“The enemy underestimates us.”

“Then, we’ll show him the might of the Great Witchcraft Imprisonment Cage.”

The remaining two brothers did not say anything. They moved to the sides at lightning speed.

Following that, purple energy seals shot out, filling the sky. It was like a purple meteor shower.

“Golden Buddha’s Body.”

A Golden Buddha’s Body, which had also been imbued with the supreme mystic power, shone dazzlingly in the air, blocking all the witchcraft spells.

At this moment, the five brothers could sense something was amiss.

“Unleash all your strength!”

With that, the witchcraft energy grew stronger.

The cage shrank as well.

Lu Zhou silently chanted the mantra of the Heavenly Writing and maintained the Golden Buddha’s Body. In fact, the supreme mystic power was like the power of heaven and earth, it was able to suppress witchcraft. Witchcraft techniques could not hurt him at all, not even a little bit.

“Charge.”

One of the brothers flashed and arrived in front of Lu Zhou in just a blink of an eye. Then, he slapped his hand out.

Lu Zhou raised his hand to meet the enemy.

Bang!

That person was sent flying backward.

Lu Zhou finally moved. “It’s my turn.”

Lu Zhou cast the grand technique and arrived in front of the five brothers in just a blink of an eye.

The golden lotus that had been imbued with the supreme mystic power bloomed under his feet. Then, it spun, releasing its power in all directions.

Boom!

The so-called Great Witchcraft Imprisonment Cage shattered immediately.

“The power of gravity.”

The power from the life heart erupted. This was the ability from the giant turtle's life heart.

The five brothers suddenly felt a terrible pressure pressing down on them, causing them to fall.

"Ice Seal."

This was the ability from Lu Wu's life heart.

Crack!

A freezing wind blew in all directions immediately.

Due to the pressure from gravity, the five brothers' speed had slowed significantly. When the freezing wind from the Ice Seal swept out, they were caught unprepared and were frozen on the spot.

Then, Lu Zhou flashed in front of the five brothers and launched five palm seals.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

Five people were sent flying into the air in just an instant.

Before they landed, Lu Zhou flashed again, and they flew into the air again.

Lu Zhou's figure kept flashing in the sky as palm seals sailed in the air.

Mingshi Yin and Xiao Yunhe. "..."

Mingshi Yin gulped. "Why do I feel that the opponents aren't very strong? Tower Master Xiao, why were you so miserably chased by them when you have 11 Birth Charts? You can't even defeat these amateurs?"

Xiao Yunhe. "..."

Nevertheless, Xiao Yunhe tried to explain himself, "My battle with Xia Zhengrong just ended, and I was seriously injured. If I continue to fight them, I'll definitely lose a Birth Chart."

Once a cultivator was seriously injured, if they were not healed, they would be giving their Birth Charts away for free.

Chapter 1193: Opportunity

"Fortunately, Brother Lu is here." Xiao Yunhe finally relaxed. Seeing the figure in the sky launching palm seals after palm seals and making the five brothers fly up and down, he felt a burst of satisfaction in his heart.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

It was a thorough beating.

The violent beating lasted for about 15 minutes or so before the five brothers finally fell to the ground with bruises on their faces.

Lu Zhou's movements were as graceful as a cat's as he landed on the ground.

Now that the fight was over, silence descended.

Lu Zhou placed his hands on his back before he slowly walked forward. After he came to a stop next to the three brothers, he asked tonelessly, "Do you still want to continue?"

Lu Zhou knew these five people were not simple. It was their bad luck that the supreme mystic power was the natural nemesis of witchcraft.

He knew that these five people were not simple, but who asked the power of supreme mystery to overcome sorcery?

Previously, when he still had the extraordinary power, he was immune to Buddhist sound techniques and witchcraft. Now that extraordinary power had been upgraded to the supreme mystic power, coupled with the Heavenly Writing Scroll he had just comprehended, he was even less afraid of witchcraft. Dealing with these five people was no different from a wolf attacking a flock of sheep.

The five brothers struggled to sit up. Their faces were bruised and swollen; they looked very miserable.

"He's very strong."

"It hurts a little..."

"Why don't we... forget about this?"

"I agree."

"I agree as well."

"What are your names?" Lu Zhou asked.

The five brothers replied in unison:

"Sun Mu."

"Zhan Jin."

"Su Shui."

"Shan Huo."

"Liu Tu."

"Where are you from?" Lu Zhou continued to ask.

"Green... green lotus domain..."

"Which force do you belong to in the green lotus domain?" Lu Zhou asked.

The number of green lotus cultivators coming here had clearly increased.

"Sectless... We're sectless cultivators."

"Sectless cultivators?" Lu Zhou was puzzled. It was not easy for a sectless cultivator to reach the cultivation level of the five brothers.

“Senior, the five of us have been determined to pursue the path of cultivation since we were young. After we mastered various cultivation methods, we ventured to the Unknown Land and spent most of our time there. That’s how we raise our cultivation base,” Sun Mu said.

Su Shui said with a sorrowful expression on his face, “We just want our things back. We don’t dare to stay here for too long. Please show mercy, senior.”

The other three brothers said simultaneously, “Please show mercy, senior.”

Lu Zhou nodded before he asked, “Do you know Wei Jingye and Wei Jiangnan

Su Shui was taken aback upon hearing these words. He furrowed his brows and said, “These two brothers are famous thugs in the Unknown Land! Senior, you’re from the golden lotus domain, how do you know them?”

“I’ve seen them in the Unknown Land... There are so many green lotus cultivators in the Unknown Land?” Lu Zhou frowned.

“I’ll speak.”

“No, I’ll speak.”

“Let me do it!”

Lu Zhou frowned and said, “Pick one person. As for the others, shut up!”

“As cultivators, we need many life hearts and different resources. Sectless cultivators like us can only depend on ourselves to raise our cultivation bases. The smarter ones, like those in the monster hunting squad, would team up. Working in teams has a higher success rate, and the probability of an accident is low. There are also sectless cultivators who accept missions from famous sects and clans. They risk their lives to look for rare treasures and resources such as the mystic microstones. In fact, after we complete this mission, we would be able to obtain some decent beast kings’ life hearts and pills. At that time, we’ll be able to join the monster hunting squad. Once we join the squad, we’ll have a force to rely on and can be considered to have a foothold in the Unknown Land,” Sun Mu said. Then, he paused and pointed at Xiao Yunhe before he said somewhat angrily, “Unfortunately, I didn’t expect that after the five of us risked our lives to obtain the mystic life grass in the Dark Water Canyon, he would still it from us!”

Xiao Yunhe. “...”

Xiao Yunhe felt quite embarrassed that he wished he could find a hole to hide in.

Lu Zhou raised an eyebrow. “You want to join the monster hunting squad?”

“That’s right. However, we can only join if we have the mystic life grass,” Sun Mu said.

Lu Zhou shook his head and said, “I’m afraid you can never join the monster hunting squad...”

“Huh?”

“Something has happened to them.” Lu Zhou said.

“...”

All five of them looked at Lu Zhou skeptically.

Lu Zhou said, "You can verify this matter later." Then, he looked at them and continued to say, "I'm not an unreasonable person. I'm afraid I can't return the mystic life grass to you. However, I can give you a place to stay."

The five brothers were stunned.

"A place to stay?"

"A place to stay?"

Lu Zhou really wanted to find an opportunity to use the Upgrade Card. However, he had to make careful preparations beforehand.

Lu Zhou looked at the five brothers and said, "The Evil Sky Pavilion."

The five of them looked at each other in confusion.

"What kind of place is the Evil Sky Pavilion?"

"Is it one-tenth as powerful as the monster hunting squad?"

"If it's a tenth, no, if it's a fifth as powerful as the monster hunting squad, we'll consider joining."

"That's right."

"That's right."

Ming Shiyin patted Qiong Qi before he stepped forward. He said with a smile, "You'll consider it? Who do you think you are? It'll depend on your performance if you want to join the Evil Sky Pavilion. Do you think you just join as you wish?"

Most humans shared a loathsome attribute. If things were too easy, they would disdain it; they would only think it's precious if it's difficult to obtain.

Mingshi Yin pointed at Sun Mu, who was standing on the left, and asked, "What's your cultivation level?"

All five of them replied in unison, "I have six Birth Charts."

Mingshi Yin nodded. "Even your strength is the same. Do you know how many people want to join the Evil Sky Pavilion?"

The five of them shook their heads.

Mingshi Yin pointed at Xiao Yunhe in the distance and said, "Xiao Yunhe, the former Tower Master of the Black Tower Council, has 12 Birth Charts, but he couldn't join the Evil Sky Pavilion."

"Sikong Beichen, the Temple Master of the Ninth Temple, wants to join the Evil Sky Pavilion as well, but it's impossible."

"Nie Qingyun, the Sect Master of the Twelve Sects of Cloud Mountain, wants to join the Evil Sky Pavilion, but it's also impossible."

Hearing the list of grand titles, the five brothers' eyes widened in surprise.

Mingshi Yin continued riding on the momentum and asked, "That monster hunting squad, how powerful are they?"

No matter what their replies were, Mingshi Yin already had a comeback prepared.

Sun Mu replied, "Captain Cao has 15 Birth Charts and a flood-grade staff."

Mingshi Yin almost fell off Qiong Qi's back. After he stabilized himself, he muttered, "This... He has so many Birth Charts?"

"That's just him. The other members have their own specialties. They're the team with the highest survival rate in the Unknown Land," Sun Mu said.

Mingshi Yin was speechless. He had failed to suppress them.

At this moment, Lu Zhou said indifferently, "I killed all of them."

"..."

The five brothers were stunned again. They looked as though they thought they had heard wrongly. All of them wore expressions of disbelief on their faces.

Lu Zhou flicked his sleeve.

Thud!

Something landed on the ground.

"The Saint Staff."

Lu Zhou flicked his sleeve again.

Thud!

"The Wind Spirit Bow."

The air froze.

The two items stimulated the five people greatly.

Lu Zhou continued to say, "Out of a team of forty people with their various weapons, only these two weapons are barely passable."

In other words, he could not be bothered to pick up the other weapons.

"..."

Mingshi Yin gulped. He knew his master had gone to the Unknown Land, and he also knew his master had met Lu Wu there. However, he knew nothing about the monster hunting squad.

The five brothers were still skeptical. They stepped forward and inspected the Saint Staff and the Wind Spirit Bow.

“They don’t seem fake.”

“Captain Cao Zechun regards the staff as his life, and the staff never leaves his side.”

“It’s real.”

“The Wind Spirit Bow is real as well.”

“Well, what should we do?”

Chapter 1194: The Mysterious Twin Domains

The five brothers looked at each other with dumbfounded expressions, unable to make up their minds.

Finally, Sun Mu took the lead and waved at the other four.

The other four brothers understood Sun Mu’s meaning and walked over.

Then, the five of them stood in a circle and lowered their heads together before they discussed in a low voice.

“He seems ridiculously strong.”

“He must be a Venerable Master since he’s able to kill Cao Zechun.”

“A Venerable Master?!”

“Why would a sect with a Venerable Master want us? Earlier, that kid said even a group of experts were rejected.”

“Although we don’t know the people that the kid named, they should be as strong as Xiao Yunhe. Moreover, their names sound grand as well...”

“There’s no need to belittle ourselves. What does it matter as long as the senior wants us to join him?”

“But... but he killed my idol, Cao Zechun...”

The other four brothers said in unison, “Scram!”

“Fine, fine. Cao Zechun wasn’t a good person...”

“Then, we’ll join him?”

After a beat, all five brothers said simultaneously, “Alright.”

The five brothers straightened their backs and stood in a row before Sun Mu stepped forward and said, “Kneel.”

All of them kneeled at once and said, “Senior, please take us in.”

Lu Zhou put the Saint Staff and the Wind Spirit Bow away before he stroked his beard and asked, “Have you thought this through?”

The five brothers nodded. “Yes.”

"The Evil Sky Pavilion is located in the golden lotus domain. The cultivators there are weaker. In the future, the Evil Sky Pavilion will encounter enemies 100 times stronger than Cao Zechun so you might lose your lives. I'll say these words before someone joins the Evil Sky Pavilion. So, are you still willing to join the Evil Sky Pavilion?" Lu Zhou asked calmly.

"..."

'Didn't he say he's going to give us a place to stay? A place to belong to?'

The reason the five brothers wanted a force or a place they could belong to was naturally for safety reasons. They did not have to live life on the edge and worry about losing their lives all the time. How could they not hesitate now that they heard these words?

The five brothers looked at each other with a what-to-do and dismayed expressions on their faces.

Lu Zhou added, "Once you join the Evil Sky Pavilion, I will, naturally, protect you."

Sun Mu and the other four exchanged a glance before they tacitly raised their hands.

"We're willing to join the Evil Sky Pavilion."

"Ding! Recruited five subordinates. Reward: 5,000 merit points."

Lu Zhou nodded his head in satisfaction. It was a pity that he could not see their loyalty. After all, human hearts were unpredictable. No matter their current attitude, he did not know anything about them.

Since Lu Zhou wanted to upgrade his system as soon as possible, it was best to rope in more experts.

Lu Zhou turned to look at Xiao Yunhe.

Xiao Yunhe walked over with a smile and cupped his fists together at Lu Zhou. "Congratulations, Brother Lu."

Lu Zhou said to the five brothers, "Since you've entered the Evil Sky Pavilion, let's forget about the matter regarding the mystic life grass and mystic microstones. What do you think?"

"We'll leave it to the old senior to decide."

Mingshi Yin corrected them immediately, "Pavilion Master."

Lu Zhou stroked his beard and nodded.

Xiao Yunhe smiled, "Thank you, Brother Lu."

Lu Zhou glanced at Xiao Yunhe and asked, "Heavily injured?"

Xiao Yunhe nodded helplessly and said, "Yes. Xia Zheng Rong and I fought for three days and three nights. I thought I'd be able to easily win; I didn't expect him to possess armor with extremely high defense. After I barely won, he promised to leave the Black Tower Council. I didn't expect to be ambushed while I was on my way back. It's a pity that my brothers..."

Sun Mu shook his head. "We were only targeting you. We didn't target your friends."

"Your friends have nothing to do with us."

“That’s right.”

Xiao Yunhe frowned. “You really have nothing to do with Xia Zhengrong?”

The five of them shook their heads.

Xiao Yunhe snorted and said, “Indeed, he has the ambition of wild wolves...”

At this time, Lu Zhou said, “Let’s return to Great Tang’s royal place first.”

“Yes.”

...

In Great Tang’s royal palace.

The Preservation Hall.

Sun Mu stood side by side with his four brothers.

Lu Zhou paced back and forth with his hands on his back as he said, “Someone will tell you more about the Evil Sky Pavilion and show you around in a while. Meanwhile, I have some questions that you have to answer truthfully.”

“I’ll tell you everything I know,” Sun Mu said.

This time, the others did not interrupt.

Lu Zhou asked, “Do you know Wei Jingye and Wei Jiangnan?”

Lu Zhou thought it was not a bad idea to dig up information about the duo since he was presented with an opportunity.

“They’re sectless green lotus cultivators as well. We met them a few times...” Sun Mu replied.

Lu Zhou nodded and asked, “Do you know where Qin Moshang is now?”

“The Young Master of the Qin family?!” Sun Mu was shocked.

“He’s a domineering and arrogant person,” Zhan Jin said.

“He has a terrible personality.”

“He said he went to the Unknown Land, and his Birth Chart was destroyed by fierce beasts. Later, he went to Venerable Master Qin’s training hall and hasn’t appeared in public since then.”

This was in line with what Lu Zhou had learned previously. This proved the five brothers did not lie.

Lu Zhou clasped his hands behind his back and said,

“As the first group of green lotus cultivators to join the Evil Sky Pavilion... I hope you’re up to date with the current affairs in the green lotus domain’s cultivation world.”

Recently, there was a significant influx of green lotus cultivators, Free Men or not, in the red lotus domain.

Lu Zhou had a strong feeling that the balance of nine domains was teetering.

“How many Venerable Masters are there in the green lotus domain?”

Xiao Yunhe and Mingshi Yin looked at the five brothers curiously upon hearing this question.

To ensure victory, one must know one’s enemy.

They knew too little about the other side. With the five brothers, perhaps, they would gain a deeper understanding.

Sun Mu said, “No one knows for sure how many Venerable Masters there are. Legend has it that there’s a sacred relic in the Great Void that can sense the balance between heaven and earth. Once the balance is broken, the Equalizers will be sent out to deal with the problem.”

This was the law of conservation.

Lu Zhou suddenly recalled that Lan Xihe said similar words before she left.

No wonder she wanted to look for someone to take over the position of the Tower Master of the White Tower Council. No wonder she said the problem with her lifespan could not be solved. They all had something to do with the Balance.

What was the secret behind the Balance?

Lu Zhou thought there was a chance that Lan Xihe had to leave because he was getting stronger to keep the balance. If that was really the case, his disciples with Great Void Seeds would sooner or later affect the balance. This was a big problem.

Sun Mu said, “What’s publicly known is that there are four Venerable Masters. They’re all from prominent clans. There’s the Ye clan’s Venerable Master, Ye Zheng; the Qin clan’s Venerable Master, Qin Renyue; the Tuoba clan’s Venerable Master, Tuoba Sicheng; and the Fan clan’s Venerable Master, Fan Zhong.”

Ye Zheng and Qin Renyue were the two people Lu Zhou needed to pay attention to. Whether the duo knew it or not, there was enmity between them.

“How’s the relationship between the four Venerable Masters?” Lu Zhou asked.

“Their relationships are... indeterminable... Sometimes they’re on really good terms, and sometimes they would have a big fight. Outsiders don’t understand them at all. Moreover, we’re just sectless cultivators who lived in the Unknown Land. How would we know what their relationships are really like?”

At this time, Si Wuya walked in. He was in the Sky Martial Academy as usual when he received news from Meng Changdong and rushed over immediately. He had just arrived at the Preservation Hall when this discussion was going on.

Lu Zhou raised his hand, indicating that there was no need to bow.

Si Wuya moved to stand in front of the five brothers and cupped his fists at them before he said, "I have a question I'd like to ask. The world is divided into nine realms. All the other domains aside, there are still two unknown domains..."

Sun Mu was slightly surprised. "You know that the world is divided into nine domains?"

Si Wuya smiled but did not say anything.

Sun Mu sized up Si Wuya. After a moment, he said, "Legend has it that the domains were originally one with the Unknown Land at the core. Later on, they separated and changed colors. The remaining two domains are also green lotus domains. Due to historical reasons, these two domains have merged..."

"They're green as well?" Si Wuya's heart moved.

Sun Mu continued, "That's right. However, the greens are in different shades. For example, our energy is dark green..."

Sun Mu raised his hand. A miniature avatar appeared above his palm.

Indeed, the avatar was dark green.

Sun Mu continued to explain, "The other two domains' colors are more like a bamboo green and light green. They're apparently the purest form of Primal Qi."

Si Wuya frowned. "The domains have merged..."

"The two domains were far from each other. I heard there was a huge war so they merged. In any case, they don't have a habit of intervening with the other domains' affairs. They keep to themselves."

Si Wuya nodded. Then, he took out a piece of white paper from his sleeve and asked someone to bring him a pen. He quickly sketched something before he presented it to Lu Zhou. "We can basically confirm it now."

Lu Zhou took a look and nodded.

The drawing was not complicated. Si Wuya had drawn a huge lotus... A lotus that overturned his worldview and knowledge.

Chapter 1195: The Balance

Mingshi Yin's curiosity was piqued. He walked toward the paper and when he saw what was on it, his eyes widened in shock. "Impossible..."

Xiao Yunhe walked over as well. With just a look, he was stunned as well.

Lu Zhou and Si Wuya were already mentally prepared. They had been researching the matter and trying to confirm it before they finally arrived at this conclusion.

The five brothers looked at the sketch as well.

"What... does this mean?"

The five brothers had only been to the Unknown Land and the green lotus domain prior to this. Their knowledge of other places was only what they heard from other people. They had never seen maps of the other places. Even if they had seen it, it should be strangely shaped, not like the lotus in front of their eyes.

“Since you’re from the green lotus domain, you should know about this. Why are you surprised?”

Sun Mu shook his head and said, “It’s not as simple as you think. May I ask for your name?”

“Si Wuya, the seventh disciple of the Evil Sky Pavilion, Si Wuya,” Si Wuya said as he cupped his fists at Sun Mu.

Sun Mu nodded. “We grew up in the green lotus domain. What we know and learned were from the insights and experiences of generations of sages. There were many great cultivators who wanted to discover the secrets of the world and paid the price with their lives to cross the Endless Ocean. In the end, with all their efforts, they left behind a map.”

Sun Mu lifted his head and asked, “May I borrow a brush?”

After the brush was brought over, Sun Mu began to draw on a piece of white paper. Although the drawing was rough, the general outline was quite clear. After he finished drawing, he said, “Please take a look.”

Everyone gathered and looked at the map.

“The Unknown Land is vast; it’s thousands of times bigger than the domains and the two domains that merged into one. The domains are just like small pieces of land in comparison. Or perhaps, it’d be more accurate to say the domains are like islands scattered around the Unknown Land.”

Si Wuya stroked his chin and carefully studied what Sun Mu understood of the world.

Sun Mu continued to say, “Venerable Masters need three years to cross the Unknown Land, and Free Men need four to five years. As for cultivators like me, if we don’t have runic passages, we likely won’t be able to cross the Unknown Land even after decades have passed. However, I only need five days to cross the red lotus domain.”

Everyone nodded their heads.

Only Si Wuya shook his head and said, “No.”

“He said you’re wrong.”

“He’s questioning the theory that countless sages had come up with.”

“He seems very confident.”

“Let’s hear what he has to say.”

“Alright.”

Mingshi Yin massaged his temples. He disliked this kind of discussion the most; he much preferred it if he were just given the answers.

Si Wuya smiled and said, "May I ask where's the Great Void?"

"This..." Sun Mu stammered, "Of course, it's in the Unknown Land. It's so vast. I think it should be at the heart of the Unknown Land."

Si Wuya said, "Alright, let's the Great Void is in the depths of the Unknown Land. The environment is harsh, and sunlight is scarce all year round. How do the people of the Great Void endure it? Second, even if the Unknown Land is vast, after such a long time, why is it that not even one person stumbled upon the Great Void until now?"

"Are you questioning sages' theories and experiences? Are you alone more powerful than the countless sages who came before you?"

"Only if we question what we know will there be progress. The things left behind aren't necessarily correct. Otherwise, why do you think you have yet to figure out the secrets of the heaven and earth shackles?"

Sun Mu. "..."

"Brother Sun, he's challenging you."

"Brother Sun, he's challenging you."

"Brother Sun, he's challenging you."

"Brother Sun, he's challenging you."

Sun Mu retorted, "Perhaps, the ruler of the Great Void is a fierce beast. Humans may not like the harsh environment, but it doesn't apply to fierce beasts. Apart from that, all those who have stumbled upon the Great Void have been captured. It's only natural that we think no one has stumbled upon it."

Si Wuya said confidently, "Even if the ruler of the Great Void is a fierce beast, there are definitely humans there. The former Tower Master of the White Tower Council, Lan Xihe, is one of them."

Sun Mu was speechless.

Zhan Jin, Shan Huo, Su Shui, Liu Tu. "..."

Silence descended briefly on the Preservation Hall.

Si Wuya was confident in his deduction because he had spent a lot of time studying this matter. However, the biggest reason why he was so confident was the ancient goatskin map his master had given him. When he was in the Sky Martial Academy, he had tried to refine it with fire, burn it in a forging furnace, and destroy it with vital energy. In the process of unraveling its secrets, he discovered the map was seemingly indestructible. Most importantly, every once in a while, the map would continue to reveal itself. Most of what he had drawn was based on what the map had revealed so far.

"Well said!" Xiao Yunhe clapped his hands, breaking the awkward silence. He smiled and said, "Debates help people improve..."

"Debates also waste time," Mingshi Yin countered.

“...”

Xiao Yunhe smiled and said to the five brothers, “If you really want to know how to get to the Great Void, why don’t you just ask Brother Lu?”

Xiao Yunhe was certain Lu Zhou was from the Great Void.

“...”

The five brothers looked as though they had been struck by lightning.

Lu Zhou stroked his beard and said, “I’m more inclined to Si Wuya’s deduction. However, Sun Mu’s words made sense as well.”

Xiao Yunhe gave Lu Zhou a thumbs-up inwardly. ‘How skilled! He managed to preserve the newcomers’ dignity and also agreed with his disciple’s deduction.’

Lu Zhou looked at the five brothers and said, “Since the five of you just entered the Evil Sky Pavilion, why don’t I let Guardian Meng fill you in about the Evil Sky Pavilion before you follow Old Seventh to deal with various matters. What do you think?”

Si Wuya cupped his fists at the five brothers.

Sun Wu did not look very convinced, but he still said, “We’ll follow Pavilion Master’s orders.”

“Alright, you may take your leave.”

The five brothers left the Preservation Hall and met Meng Changdong who was waiting for them outside.

Lu Zhou looked at Si Wuya and asked, “How certain are you about this map?”

Si Wuya said, “I’m 90% certain.”

“Alright.” Lu Zhou sat down cross-legged. “Those five are under your command.”

“Master... I’m afraid they...”

“I know what you mean. There are some things that can not be forced. Whether they stay or go is up to them. As long as they don’t do anything that harms the Evil Sky Pavilion, you don’t have to worry about anything else,” Lu Zhou said.

“I understand,” Si Wuya said before he left.

Following that, Mingshi Yin yawned and said, “I’m so sleepy. I’ll take my leave first.”

Finally, there were only Lu Zhou and Xiao Yunhe left in the Preservation Hall.

Xiao Yunhe smiled and said, “Brother Lu, you’re really amazing... Truly amazing...”

“You’re seriously injured. If you’re not treated, you’ll have to lie in bed for three months...” Lu Zhou said.

Xiao Yunhe, who understood the meaning behind these words, was overjoyed. He said, “Thank you, Brother Lu.”

Lu Zhou did not waste time and used the Heavenly Writing Power to heal more than half of Xiao Yunhe's injuries.

Xiao Yunhe was extremely touched. "The best decision I've made in my life was to become friends with Brother Lu."

Lu Zhou raised his hand and extended it in front of Xiao Yunhe.

Xiao Yunhe was confused. "?"

"Mystic microstones," Lu Zhou said.

"This..."

"Treatment fee."

"I..."

Chapter 1196: A Shift in the Balance

Lu Zhou looked at Xiao Yunhe suspiciously. "What's on your mind?"

"Nothing," Xiao Yunhe said, "It's my honor that Brother Lu is willing to heal me. It's just mystic microstones. They can't compare to my life. Since my weapon has been repaired, there's no use in me keeping the mystic microstones. I might as well give them to Brother Lu."

Following that, Xiao Yunhe brought out a brocade bag and took the mystic microstones out of the bag.

The mystic microstones' colors were chaotic, and they looked ordinary. However, they shone faintly and emitted a faint energy.

"Let go."

"Uh..." Xiao Yunhe reluctantly let go of his hold on the mystic microstones. He felt pained as he watched Lu Zhou put away the mystic microstones.

"Ding! Mystic microstones can be used to upgrade weapons."

'Hmm? The system didn't mention how many mystic microstones are needed to upgrade. Perhaps, it's because mystic microstones are different from obsidian essences, which were mined then refined by cultivators.'

"Brother Lu, I'll take my leave first," Xiao Yunhe said before he left.

Lu Zhou looked at the map Si Wuya had drawn, still surprised. If Si Wuya was right, then where was the Great Void? Although the Unknown Land was vast, it did not make sense that no one had stumbled upon it after such a long time.

After the system upgrade, Lu Zhou thought it was necessary for him to travel to the depths of the Unknown Land. Previously, he had only been to the periphery of the Unknown Land. Perhaps, he would be able to find answers at the heart of the Unknown Land. He really wanted to know the secrets behind the heaven and earth shackles as well.

Lu Zhou shook his head to clear his mind. The most important thing now was to increase his strength as soon as possible.

He sensed his supreme mystic power. After a day and a night, he had recovered about half of it.

“What’s the eighth Heavenly Writing Power?”

After meditating for a day and a night, he still had not grasped the eighth Heavenly Writing Power. He would have to continue meditating on it.

“Upgrade weapon.”

Currently, he had 110 obsidian essences. Previously, he had given 20 to Si Wuya.

“Purchase Refining Talisman.”

“Ding! Used 20,000 merit points. Obtained: Refining Talisman x1.”

“Which weapon should I upgrade?”

Lu Zhou had two fusion-grade weapons now. Nameless should be a fusion-grade weapon, and the Purple Glazed Ceramic was a fusion-grade weapon. This meant that the obsidian essences could no longer be used to upgrade these weapons. Out of all the other weapons, it seemed like the Confinement Seal was the most suitable.

After he made up his mind, he tossed the Confinement Seal and 100 obsidian essences into the fire to forge them.

Then, he no longer paid attention to it and closed his eyes to meditate on the Heavenly Writing.

...

Two days passed in just a blink of an eye.

Lu Zhou opened his eyes when he heard a crisp noise.

“Ding! Confinement Seal upgraded. Ability: 1,000-pound Force.”

“1,000-pound force?” Lu Zhou was puzzled. What effect would it have? Based on its name, it clearly had something to do with strength. He would have to look for an opportunity to try it out.

Then, Lu Zhou returned his attention to the eighth Heavenly Writing Power.

“With the wisdom and divine ability of the true body, it can reveal the boundless and wonderful true body. The cloud makes the transformed person close to hide and can create all kinds of divine abilities without being noticed.”

Specks of starlight appeared around Lu Zhou’s body. Then, his entire person seemed to turn translucent for a short moment before it returned to normal.

“Is this the power of concealment?”

From what he could tell now, it seemed to be able to hide aura. He did not know what other abilities it had.

After a moment, he brought his Upgrade Card out. He ordered that no one was allowed to approach the Preservation Hall without permission before he checked on his disciples. After he was done, he muttered, "Use."

"Ding! System is upgrading..."

Subsequently, the system interface turned dark.

...

In an unknown place...

Lu Zhou was unaware that the moment he used the card, dark clouds gathered and dense fog swirled. The sky was gloomy and oppressive.

The fierce beasts on the ground sensed the change in the sky and looked up.

...

On a wall of the royal palace in the red lotus domain.

Yu Shangrong held the Longevity Sword in his arm as he stood against the wind.

"The wind has risen..."

Yu Zhenghai flew up to the wall and said, "It's been a long time since there was bad weather in the capital."

The two fellow disciples stood side by side and looked at the sky that was gradually covered by dark clouds.

"Why don't we stop sparring today?"

"Agreed."

...

In a white palace.

A female attendant arrived at the entrance and hastily bowed. "Master, the Sacred Hall has sent news that the Scales of Justice have tilted."

The woman sitting on a jade platform in the hall opened her eyes immediately. "Reason?"

The female attendant replied, "The reason is unknown. The Sacred Hall is still investigating. We can't rule out the possibility that a Venerable Master from the green lotus domain has crossed the boundary. There's also the possibility that a new Venerable Master has appeared."

The woman shook her head gently and said, "The possibility of the appearance of a new Venerable Master is very low. Even if someone had all ten Great Void Seeds, it's unlikely for a new Venerable Master to appear in just 300 years..."

"Master, are you saying that a Venerable Master has crossed over to the red line?"

The woman remained silent; she was not certain either.

Even the Scales of Justice were not omniscient and omnipotent.

"I'll continue to inquire for news," the female attendant said with a bow before she left.

Two orbs of white light, like the sun and the moon, flew up.

The woman collected her thoughts, closed her eyes, and continued to cultivate.

...

In the Unknown Land.

In the Rift Wind Valley.

Lu Wu was lying next to an ancient towering before it suddenly lifted its head.

Dense fog churned in the sky and rolled toward the east as countless birds and flying beasts fled west. Among them, there was no lack of huge rocs.

"The balance..." Lu Wu muttered in a low voice, "Is it going to be broken?"

"Take this!" Duanmu Sheng leaped up with the Overlord Spear in his hand. At this moment, the purple dragons twined around his body as golden energy spears shot toward Lu Wu.

Lu Wu did not even look at Duanmu Sheng and swiped its huge paw horizontally.

Bang!

Duanmu Sheng was sent flying back.

Lu Wu continued looking at the sky worriedly. "Master, are you here?"

Duanmu Sheng held the overlord spear in his hand. His entire body was wrapped in a purple dragon, and the spear aura burst out with golden light as it stabbed toward Lu Wu

Lu Wu did not even look at him. He slapped his huge claw horizontally.

Bang.

Duanmu Sheng flew out.

Lu Wu kept looking at the sky with a worried expression. "A new... Venerable Master?"

Every time there was an imbalance, fierce beasts would migrate in large numbers. They would only return once balance was restored. No one knew why, and no one could investigate further.

"Lu Wu, take this!" Duanmu Sheng remained unyielding. He leaped up and flew toward Lu Wu again.

Lu Wu ignored him and pulled out a life heart from the deep pit next to it. "Use it."

"Hmm?" Duanmu Sheng scratched his head before he descended. Upon seeing the life heart that was still stained with blood, he asked, "Didn't you say I should only absorb the life heart until the energies in my body fused?"

“You need to be faster...”

“One should not rush on the path of cultivation. Master said that everything has to be done step by step,” Duanmu Sheng said.

Lu Wu looked up at the surging fog and continued, “The faster the better...”

Then, it lowered its head and pushed the life heart to Duanmu Sheng.

Duanmu Sheng took the life heart before he looked at the sky as well. He asked, “Lu Wu, what’s the balance?”

Lu Wu shook his head, indicating that it did not know.

Duanmu Sheng continued to ask, “Then, how strong was Venerable Master Duanmu?”

Lu Wu raised its head and proudly said, “Far stronger than your master!”

Duanmu Sheng immediately said, “Impossible.”

“Hmm?”

“My master has never been defeated... You know too little about my master,” Duanmu Sheng said.

Lu Wu did say anything; it could not be bothered to argue with him. However, it cursed in its heart, ‘When I met him, you weren’t even in your mother’s womb yet!’

After a moment, Lu Wu said meaningfully, “Young Master, Venerable Master Duanmu... is your ancestor...”

“So what?”

“...”

‘Fine. You win!’

Lu Wu leaped up into the air, traveling a huge distance in just a blink of an eye. Before vanishing from sight, it said, “Your Seventh Senior Brother... said that... you need a lot of... life hearts. Leave this... matter to me...”

Chapter 1197: They’re All Trash

In Great Tang’s capital in the red lotus domain.

Under Lu Zhou’s orders, Meng Changdong brought the five brothers to meet Li Yunzheng, the current emperor of Great Tang. He also explained some of the royal palace’s basic rules and the Evil Sky Pavilion’s situation.

The five brothers maintained a low profile and only nodded as they listened.

Meng Changdong told them that Li Yunzheng had given the Preservation Hall, the side halls near the Preservations Hall, and the back garden of the palace to the Evil Sky Pavilion for their use. The Evil Sky Pavilion was not idle; the members would patrol the palace walls every day.

Meng Changdong said, "The four elders discussing matters about cultivation near the palace wall are the four elders of the Evil Sky Pavilion. They're the first to join the Evil Sky Pavilion."

The five brothers looked at the four elders at the same time. Since their witchcraft cultivation was rather high, they had their own methods to discern auras.

"Ten leaves?"

Meng Changdong shook his head and said, "Don't look down on the four elders. They're rare cultivation geniuses. It's only a matter of time before they enter the Thousand Realms Whirling stage."

Talent brought one to higher limits while diligence only brought one to the limit. Most people worked hard but did not have the talent.

Meng Changdong continued leading the five brothers around the royal palace. Soon after, they arrived near another hall. He said, "That person over there is the Pavilion Master's eighth disciple, Zhu Honggong."

The five brothers looked at Zhu Honggong at the same time.

"The Pavilion Master's disciple should have an extraordinary cultivation base..."

Buzz!

As soon as these words fell, the unique sound of energy resonating rang in the air.

Zhu Honggong manifested his avatar and vanished from sight in just a blink of an eye.

"Hundred Tribulations Insight avatar?!"

'Is this not trash?'

Meng Changdong smiled. "Everyone, you shouldn't underestimate this Hundred Tribulations Insight avatar. It isn't an ordinary Hundred Tribulations Insight avatar."

Sun Mu nodded and said, "Guardian Meng, there's no need to explain. We understand. Let's continue..."

Upon seeing the calm expressions on the five brothers' faces, Meng Changdong did not continue to explain. It was great that they understood; there was no need to explain further.

When they arrived at another hall, Meng Changdong pointed at Mingshi Yin, who was leaning against the railing and looking as though he was asleep, before he said, "That's Mingshi Yin, the Pavilion Master's fourth disciple."

'This one should be an expert, right?'

"We should pay our respect," Sun Mu said before he waved his hands at his brothers.

The five of them stepped forward and bowed in unison. "Greeting..."

Thump!

Mingshi Yin fell to the ground and looked around with a shocked expression on his face. "Who is it? Who is it?"

“...”

The five brothers were stunned. An expert could fall in such a manner? Cultivators' instincts and reflexes were far superior to ordinary people after all.

Mingshi Yin swept his eyes across the group of people and said, “Don't disturb my sleep.”

Woof! Woof! Woof!

Qiong Qi ran over at this moment and carried Mingshi Yin on its back before it ran in the direction where there was no one to disturb them.

Meng Changdong who had gotten used to this smiled. “Mr. Fourth is always like this. You'll get used to it soon enough. I can tell you for sure that Mr. Fourth is the disciple whom the Pavilion Master is proud of.”

Sun Mu pursed his lips.

‘If that person is the disciple whom the Pavilion Master is most proud of, then the others must be trash...’

Outwardly, the five brothers nodded expressionlessly and said, “I understand.”

The group continued forward. When they drew close to a courtyard, the sound of laughter and music entered their ears.

Meng Changdong came to a stop and began to explain. “The ones living in this courtyard are the Pavilion Master's ninth and tenth disciple, Ci Yuan'er and Conch.”

Since the five brothers could not see the two women, they could only judge by the melody.

Sun Mu nodded slightly. ‘This disciple's foundation isn't bad. However, being skilled in music is unique, but it's far from enough...’

“Hundred Tribulations Insight avatars?”

“That's right.”

‘Alright then...’

Meng Changdong continued to say, “Don't judge them by their cultivation base; they're very young. They're the most talented cultivation geniuses I've ever seen. Also, it's best not to provoke them.”

The five brothers nodded expressionlessly again.

Meng Changdong led them to the eastern city wall before he came to a stop.

All of them looked up and saw a green-clad swordsman holding a long sword standing on the left and a saber user who stood on the right with his hands resting on his back.

Sun Mu exclaimed, “They have the air of an expert...”

The other four brothers echoed, “They have the air of an expert...”

Meng Changdong smiled and said, "All of you really have a discerning eye. These two are the Pavilion Master's first and second disciple. The first disciple is Yu Zhenghai; he's the one standing on the right. His saber skills are at the peak of perfection, and his cultivation method, the Great Dark Heaven Memorial, is invincible. As far as I know, he has never lost."

Meng Changdong paused for a beat before he continued to say, "The person standing on the left is Yu Shangrong, the Pavilion Master's second disciple. His sword skills have reached perfection, and he has comprehended the sword path's son of heaven's sword a long time ago. He has never lost as well..."

'Aren't you bragging too much?'

Sun Mu could not help but ask, "Then, what if two of them fight?"

"Good question!" Meng Changdong gave Sun Mu a thumbs-up. "Mr. First and Mr. Second love sparring. Up until now, no victor has been determined between them!"

"..."

The five brothers instinctively shook their heads. They thought this was too fake. How could they be unable to determine a victor?

After a moment, Sun Mu asked, "Guardian Meng, what are their cultivation bases like?"

"Mr. First has entered the Thousand Realms Whirling Stage. As for the number of Birth Charts, I'm not sure. Similar to Mr. Eighth, Mr. Second also has the Hundred Tribulations Insight avatar. However, his Hundred Tribulations Insight avatar is very powerful."

Meng Changdong did not go into details since it involved the disciples' privacy. Hence, his words were restrained and conservative.

However, when the five brothers heard the words 'Hundred Tribulations Insight avatar' again, they were speechless.

'Since when did Hundred Tribulations Insight avatars become worthy of showing off? Moreover, up until now, there's only one Thousand Realms Whirling avatar!'

At this time, the five could not help but feel cheated. However, after thinking about it further, they thought it did not matter if the disciples were not strong. It was not like they wanted to rely on the disciples. The one they wanted to rely on was the Pavilion Master of the Evil Sky Pavilion.

"Ms. Fifth and Ms. Sixth Live in the Evil Sky Pavilion and aren't in Great Tang. Mr. Third and Lu Wu have gone to the Unknown Land and won't be back so soon," Meng Changdong said.

Sun Wu was shocked. "Lu Wu?"

Meng Changdong nodded. "That's right. Lu Wu has been subdued by Mr. Third."

"..."

'Finally, someone strong!'

'To be able to subdue Lu Wu, the third disciple must be a Venerable Master!'

The five brothers were immediately invigorated and instinctively straightened their backs.

“So, Mr. Third is the strongest disciple in the Devil Sky Pavilion?” Sun Mu asked.

“No,” Meng Changdong shook his head and said, “In terms of strength, Mr. First and Mr. Second are the strongest. In terms of dependability, Mr. Fourth is the best. In terms of...”

“Wait.”

The five brothers were not interested in the others. They bluntly asked, “How did Mr. Third subdue Lu Wu?”

“The Pavilion Master made a move...” Meng Changdong said.

“...”

Meng Changdong did not know what transpired in the Unknown Land. He only knew that Lu Zhou went to the Unknown Land and brought Lu Wu back.

“Alright.” Sun Mu nodded.

Meng Changdong said, “Other than the ten disciples, we have the Left and Right Envoys of the Evil Sky Pavilion. They’re now dealing with the aftermath of the battle in Jiangbei Circuit.”

“Aftermath of the battle?”

“The Black Emperor, Mu Ertie, colluded with the fierce beasts to go to war with Great Tang. As a result, the common folks in Great Tang’s four circuits are suffering. Left Envoy Yan and Right Envoy Lu worried about the livelihood of the people so they’re helping them to rebuild their lives. They are both people I admire greatly. With their status, there’s no need for them to personally do these things, after all.”

The five brothers nodded in unison. This was, indeed, something worth admiring.

Cultivators often did not intervene with the affairs of ordinary folks. Even if there was war, it was only between the cultivators. There were rules and restrictions after all. If there were no restrictions on those in high positions, if one day the people in high positions were unhappy and destroyed the world, what would the others do?

Meng Changdong continued with his introductions. “Guardian Shen and Guardian Li are in the Evil Sky Pavilion. When you have the time, I’ll bring you there to have a look.”

“Thank you.”

“That’s right. The person who constructs the Evil Sky Pavilion’s runic passages is Ms. Ye Zhao Hongfu. She’s also in the Evil Sky Pavilion now to discuss with Ms. Ye the construction of a huge runic passage.”

The five brothers nodded again.

Meng Changdong said, “The Pavilion Master has said that from now on your tasks will be arranged by Mr. Seventh. You’ve met him earlier...”

“Him?”

“Him?”

“Him?”

“Him?”

“Him?”

“Don’t look down on him... He once helped Mr. First unify the golden lotus domain. He’s a master strategist who attacks the hearts of people...” Meng Changdong said, verbalizing his own opinion of Si Wuya.

The five brothers were moved by Meng Changdong’s words.

“May I ask what his cultivation level is?”

Meng Changdong was not sure so he tried guessing. “He should have nine leaves...”

“...”

At this moment, unnatural expressions appeared on the five brothers’ faces.

One could praise many things to the high heavens, but it was useless without the strength to back it up.

Sun Mu suddenly recalled Mingshi Yin’s words from earlier. Thus, he asked, “May I ask what’s the cultivation base of the Temple Master of the Ninth Temple?”

“Sikong Beichen?”

“Yes, I believe that’s his name.”

“Ten leaves... However, there’s a possibility he has now entered the Thousand Realms Whirling stage. After all, he has been at the Ten-leaf stage for a long time. After the monopoly on fierce beasts in the red lotus domain has ended, with the Ninth Temple’s influence, he should have no problem obtaining life hearts...” Meng Changdong replied.

Sun Mu was not sure if he wanted to know the answer, but he continued to ask, “Then, what about the Sect Master of the Twelve Sects of Cloud Mountain?”

“His cultivation base should be similar to Senior Sikong.”

Sun Mu asked unwillingly, “Then...”

‘In conclusion, they’re all trash?!’

Meng Changdong seemed to be able to read their minds. He said, “Finally, I have a piece of important advice for all of you...”

Xia Changqiu, who suddenly appeared, finished the sentence. “Don’t judge the Evil Sky Pavilion using common sense.”

“Monastery Master Xia?”

Chapter 1198: As the Era of Isolation Comes to an End, Chaos Will Descend

The five brothers watched in confusion as Xia Changqiu walked over with a smile on his face.

Meng Changdong hurriedly explained, "This is the Monastery Master of the Thousand Willow Monastery, Xia Changqiu. He is a friend of the Pavilion Master."

"I heard that five experts have joined the Evil Sky Pavilion so I came to greet them," Xia Changqiu said.

Due to the manner Meng Changdong had introduced Xia Changqiu with grand-sound titles, Sun Mu instinctively sensed Xia Changqiu's aura.

'Nine leaves?'

Nevertheless, Sun Mu and the others still cupped their fists at Xia Changqiu to greet him.

Xia Changqiu smiled and said, "Guardian Meng's introductions are slightly too vague. Let me explain on behalf of Guardian Meng."

"..."

Sun Mu cleared his throat before he waved his hand and said, "I'm sorry. We, five brothers, have something to do so we'll take our leave first."

"Alright," Xia Changqiu said with a regretful expression on his face, "If you have time, I'll explain everything to you next time."

"Thank you."

Sun Mu turned to Meng Changdong and said, "Guardian Meng, please lead us to the Sky Martial Academy."

"Alright." Meng Changdong made a gesture of invitation before leading the five brothers to the Sky Martial Academy.

Xia Changqiu watched the group leave with a helpless expression on his face. He shook his head, "If you don't listen to me, you'll definitely be at a disadvantage later..."

Then, he looked at the sky before cursing, "Why the hell is the weather so abnormal?"

...

A month later.

The bad weather lasted for a month before it gradually grew better.

In the Sky Martial Academy.

Si Wuya looked at the map he drew on the left and the ancient goatskin map on the right.

"Jiangdong Circuit has sent news that the sea has flooded a village ten miles away. However, there's no need to worry since the villagers have been relocated."

“We’ve sent people to investigate Jiannan Circuit, and there’s no civilian living there. However, there’s also a flood there...”

Si Wuya frowned. “Is there any news from the Evil Sky Pavilion?”

“The situation in Great Yan is relatively fine. There hasn’t been any flooding. However, there’s an influx of seawater into the Black Water Mystic Cave in the area north of the Heavenly Moat near the Endless Ocean.”

Si Wuya stroked his chin as paced back and forth, lost in his thoughts.

At this time, Sun Mu led his four brothers over. He cupped his fists together and said, “The balance is broken.”

Si Wuya smiled, “How do you know?”

Sun Mu said, “I know. There are relevant records in the history books in the green lotus domain. A long time ago, something like that happened as well. Due to the imbalance, the lands were in chaos. Mountains were turned into ravines while moats became peaks. Everything, including the sun and the moon, was turned upside down.”

Zhan Jin added, “The imbalance happened more than 30,000 years ago. Mr. Seven, do you know what the imbalance represents?”

“Please speak,” Si Wuya said humbly.

“First, in order to maintain the balance, the fierce beasts will migrate in large numbers. Second, the era of divide and isolation will come to an end as mighty figures from the nine domains fight for benefits,” Zhang Jin said.

Si Wuya fell deep into his thoughts.

Sun Mu smiled and said, “However, this isn’t an entirely bad thing. As the saying goes, ‘Heroes emerge during troubled times’. We can seize this chance when things are chaotic to enter the Unknown Land to look for treasures. There are also chances we’ll encounter fierce beasts killing each other in the chaos. If we’re lucky, it won’t be surprising for us to obtain beast kings’ life hearts.”

After staying in the Sky Martial Academy for a month, the five brothers have grown bored. Perhaps, they had gotten used to staying in the dangerous Unknown Land where they lived their lives on the edge, they were not used to being so comfortable all of a sudden. The most important thing was that due to their recent idleness, they did not make much progress in their cultivation.

In the cultivation world, the strong preyed on the weak. It was important to continue growing stronger. Perhaps, this was where their sense of crisis came from.

Then, as though they had rehearsed this beforehand, the five brothers said in unison, “We request the Evil Sky Pavilion to lead us lead a group of men into the Unknown Land.”

Si Wuya shook his head. “We’ll talk about this later.”

“Why?”

“Why?”

“Why?”

“Why?”

“Why?”

“Just as you said, due to the imbalance, chaos has begun its descent on the lands. It’s true that we can obtain many treasures from the Unknown Land, but it comes with a high risk. I don’t like doing things unless I’m absolutely confident,” Si Wuya said with a smile.

“...”

“Until further notice, stay in the Sky Martial Academy and don’t leave without permission,” Si Wuya said.

“Understood.”

The five brothers could only bow.

After they left, they headed to the semi-circular pool in Sky Martial Academy. When they arrived by the pool, they sighed in unison.

“As expected, he doesn’t dare to go to the Unknown Land.”

“All of their cultivation bases are weak. It’s not surprising they don’t dare to go.”

“Pavilion Master is using us as bodyguards.”

“Cheap bodyguards...” the remaining two brothers echoed each other’s words.

Sun Mu looked at the sky and said, “If we continue to say, I have a feeling something bad will happen...”

“Agreed.”

“Agreed.”

“Agreed.”

“Agreed.”

Suddenly, Zhan Jin pointed at the distant sky and exclaimed, “The green lotus domain’s runic passage!”

Under the dark clouds, a flash of green light shone above the mountains and rivers.

This likely meant that due to the imbalance, the green lotus cultivators had begun to make a move.

Chaos had officially descended.

...

In the green lotus domain.

In the lush and verdant backyard of a training hall near the back of a mountain.

An 850-foot avatar suddenly appeared in the sky and disappeared just as quickly.

A scholar-like man said with a smile, "Congratulations, Young Master. Not only did you successfully recover your ninth Birth Chart, but you've also activated your tenth Birth Chart with Venerable Master Qin's help."

Qin Moshang was in a good mood. He said, "I heard that the imbalance started a month ago?"

"That's right."

"The heavens are really helping me. Does this mean that I can go over and no longer have to abide by the bullsh*t rules of the balance?" Qin Moshang asked.

"Young master, although you have activated your tenth Birth Chart, you're still far from being a Venerable Master. I suggest we stay here and wait for further instructions from Venerable Master Qin," the Confucian scholar said.

Bang!

Qin Moshang smashed his fist on a table and said, "Even my father isn't so strict with me, and yet, you keep stopping me from seeking revenge. If I don't get my revenge, it'll form a knot in my heart and affect my future cultivation..."

"It's true that the imbalance provides a good chance to cross over, but Young Master, you only have ten Birth Charts..." the Confucian scholar said.

"Don't worry. I have ghost servants helping me. I only want my revenge. After I get what I want, I'll return immediately. I won't cause any trouble. You must keep this matter a secret, understand?"

"Young Master..."

"Enough!" Qin Moshang raised his voice and said, "Venerable Master Qin told you to teach me, but he didn't say you can control me, right? If something feels amiss, I'll give up and return immediately. This should be fine, right?"

Finally, the Confucian scholar could only acquiesce to Qin Moshang's demand. "In that case, just to be safe, I'll accompany you there."

Qin Moshang was overjoyed. He went forward and patted the Confucian scholar's shoulder, saying, "You're truly my brother!"

...

In a white palace.

For the first time, the two orbs of light that resembled the sun and the moon did not circle the palace.

A woman with long hair to ankles suddenly flashed over. She was dressed in long white robes that trailed on the ground. Her body was slim and her fingers were long and slender. All in all, she had an extraordinary air about her.

When she appeared, the Sun, Moon, and Star Wheel flew to her side.

A female attendant hurried over from afar. She bowed and said, "I apologize for making you wait, master. I've investigated the matter. No Venerable Master has appeared. The Sacred Hall speculated that the imbalance might be caused by an ancient fierce beast passing through the Endless Ocean."

"Xiao Lan."

"What are your instructions, master?"

"If something happens, go to the White Tower Council on my behalf. This is the order token. If nothing happens, continue to observe," the woman said before she waved her hand.

The order token flew into Xiao Lan's hand.

"Understood," Xiao Lan said before she left.

Chapter 1199: Great Improvements

After the female attendant left, from the southeastern corner of the palace, an old man in ornate armor appeared. He shook his head and sighed.

Lan Xihe only glanced at him. Her eyes shone as she calmly said, "Don't worry. I won't interfere."

"You've already interfered," the old man said, "The Sacred Hall has already released the news. They won't pay attention to the imbalance this time."

Lan Xihe furrowed her eyebrows slightly. "And let the people of the world suffer?"

The old man did not reply; he only looked at her silently. After a moment, he finally said, "This imbalance is different from the past. Do you remember when the last imbalance was?"

"More than 30,000 years ago?" Lan Xihe said, uncertain.

The old man shook his head. "No, it wasn't really an imbalance 30,000 years ago. It was about 100,000 years ago..."

He raised his head and looked at the clear sky. It was so blue; not a gray cloud was in sight. He continued to say, "At that time, the Great Void's stance was the same as well. Nothing was done about the imbalance, and chaos was allowed to reign. Only after chaos will all living things enter a long state of equilibrium."

Lan Xihe did not say anything. How could she not understand that logic?

The anomaly that caused the imbalance could be temporarily suppressed with absolute strength, but the problem would not disappear. However, if chaos was allowed to reign, and they let nature take its course, peace would eventually return.

She had already understood this back when she was the Tower Master of the White Tower Council.

The major affairs of the world were constantly changing.

...

In the green lotus domain.

The Qin clan's training hall.

Two elders had been lecturing the Confucian scholar who accompanied Qin Moshang all morning.

"Young Master has just activated his tenth Birth Chart. You must keep an eye on him and don't allow him to leave your sight."

"Don't worry, elders," the Confucian scholar replied with a smile.

"Also, pay attention to your attitude. Some people have been saying that you're disrespectful toward Young Master... Your cultivation isn't bad, but you must remember the hierarchy."

The scholar frowned slightly. "I understand."

"This is the third time I've warned you. If you continue, it's inevitable that the Venerable Master will say something."

The Confucian scholar bowed and said, "I'll definitely remember the two elders' teachings."

"You may leave."

"I'll take my leave then." The Confucian scholar respectfully left.

Not long after the Confucian scholar left, Qin Moshang flashed out from the corner. He placed his hands on his back and clasped them as he looked outside before he said, "Thank you, elders."

One of the elders sighed softly before saying, "Although his attitude isn't good, he's doing it for your good. This is all I can do for you. If the truth reaches the Venerable Master's ears, you'll be at a disadvantage."

Seeing that his goal had been achieved, Qin Moshang did not take the elder's words to heart. Before he left, he smiled and said, "Thank you, elders."

...

Time flew by in just a blink of an eye.

The bad weather had continued for two months.

At this moment, the five brothers from the Evil Sky Pavilion appeared in a dark forest.

"Are we really going to go to the Unknown Land?"

"The imbalance is a great opportunity. It's impossible to rely on Evil Sky Pavilion. Their overall cultivation is very low. If we continue to stay here, we'll waste this opportunity."

"The Tuoba clan's Free Man has already replied to us and agreed to cooperate with us. We, brothers, must work hard together."

"Are you sure you don't want to at least say something to the Pavilion Master?"

"..."

"The Pavilion master has been in closed-door cultivation. If he were here, he would definitely agree with my actions. I don't like Si Wuya's style of using a chicken feather as an arrow."

"Then are we still coming back?"

These words caused all of them to fall silent.

"Actually, the Pavilion Master isn't bad. Unfortunately..."

"We'll talk about the future later. We're not betraying the Evil Sky Pavilion; we're just going to the Unknown Land. If we obtain a lot of treasures, we can give some to the Pavilion Master for not killing us..."

"Then let's go."

The five brothers nodded at the same time.

The dark clouds in the sky seemed abnormal.

The five of them entered the dark runic passage together. With a flash of light, they all disappeared.

...

At the same time, in the Sky Martial Academy.

Si Wuya was lost in his thoughts when Wang Dachui leaped in from outside. He placed his hands on his waist and said, "Mr. Seventh, you're right. They left today and haven't returned."

Si Wuya continued to look at the things in front of him, appearing unusually calm.

Wang Dachui said, "Why aren't you angry?"

Si Wuya smiled and said, "Master had already hinted to me that he knew they would leave. Everyone has their own aspirations so there's no need to force them."

Wang Dachui asked, perplexed, "If he knew this was going to happen, why did he let them join?"

Si Wuya smiled but did not say anything.

The hearts of people were hard to predict. Up until now, the people of Evil Sky Pavilion were still relatively united. When he was the master of the Darknet, his influence was nowhere close to being like his master's.

Wang Dachui sneered. "I just can't stand their sense of superiority. Isn't it just the Thousand Realms Whirling stage?"

"I'll explain this to my master. You can return to your business..."

"Alright," Wang Dachui said, "Oh, right, Zhao Hongfu asked me to inform you that the super runic passage between the White Tower Council and the Evil Sky Pavilion has been opened."

Si Wuya nodded. This meant that Cheng Huang and Ye Tianxin could head to the White Tower Council together. He looked at the blueprint on the table and sighed.

“It seems like I have to speed up my cultivation as well...”

Si Wuya knew he had the Great Void Seed. It would not make sense if he did not make use of this advantage.

...

In the Preservation Hall.

Lu Zhou had been in a meditative state the entire time. He did not stop meditating even when the supreme mystic power had been replenished.

Suddenly, a gust of wind blew open the doors of the Preservation Hall.

“Ding! System upgrade completed.”

“Ding! The system’s power has been increased.”

“Ding! You’ve meditated upon the Heavenly Writing 1,000 times. Obtained: a Heavenly Writing key.”

“Ding! The Heavenly Writing key can promote the supreme mystic power to the divine power.”

Lu Zhou opened his eyes.

“Use.”

Unlike before, the supreme mystic power quickly shrouded the blue Nine Transformation Yin Yang avatar in his Dantian’s sea of Qi.

When he manifested the blue avatar, he found that it was bluer than before.

“The divine power?”

Lu Zhou pushed his hand down.

Bam!

The palm seal easily left a palm-shaped hole on the ground.

Although the increase was not shocking, he could clearly sense that the divine power was several times stronger than the supreme mystic power.

Lu Zhou nodded his head in satisfaction. His new divine power aside, the Heavenly Writing Power should have been greatly enhanced as well.

Lu Zhou brought up the system interface. He noticed he could now purchase the Concealment Card and the Disguise Card. The duration of the effects of both cards had also increased to ten days.

Then, he saw the Deadly Strike card now had a probability of triggering a double effect based on the original effect. The Impeccable Card’s duration had also been increased by ten seconds. Upon seeing the change in the Impeccable Card, Lu Zhou felt like he had suffered a loss when he recalled he had previously synthesized an enhanced Impeccable Card.

Following that, he thought it was a win for him when he saw the effect of the Reversal Card had been improved.

Lu Zhou brought out a Reversal Card and crushed it.

In just a moment, vitality energy gathered, and his lifespan on the system interface increased by 1,000 days.

Lu Zhou nodded. He found the improvement to his satisfaction. It would help with upgrading his blue avatar in the future.

Apart from these, Lu Zhou noticed that there was an additional item called the beast essence that was sold for 100,000 merit points.

There was no description of the beast essence; only the price was displayed.

Lu Zhou looked at the new item in confusion. Based on its name, it did not look like it was for human consumption.

Then, he glanced at the Myriad Supreme avatar. Very well, the price was still listed with a series of question marks.

Lu Zhou thought to himself about the system, 'Are you looking down on me?'

Following that, he discovered a few items were no longer for sale. The Binding Card, Top Defense Card, Second Grade Defense Card, and the Healing Card were no longer for sale. Perhaps, they conflicted with the divine power, and the divine power could make up for their existence. After all, let alone the divine power, the extraordinary power and the supreme mystic power had rendered the Healing Card rather useless.

At this time, a voice rang from outside the hall.

"Shen Xi requests to see the Pavilion Master."

Usually, if the matter was not too important, they would call out from outside. If there were no response, they would leave.

"Come in," Lu Zhou replied.

Shen Xi looked at the open doors before he walked into the hall.

As soon as Shen Xi walked in, Lu Zhou saw Shen Xi's description immediately.

Name: Shen Xi

Identity: Great Circle human race

Cultivation base: Thousand Realm Whirling

Loyalty: 60%

Shen Xi knelt on one knee before he said, "Pavilion Master, someone sent a letter ten days ago. I feel it's of great importance. Please have a look."

Shen Xi had been coming every day for the past ten days; it was only today that he had finally gotten a response from Lu Zhou.

Lu Zhou opened the letter. It read:

“Brat, bring your head to this Young Master on a silver platter in fifteen days. Otherwise, all of them will die.”

Chapter 1200: Junior

Lu Zhou asked, “Who sent this letter?”

Shen Xi shook his head and said, “Mr. First and Mr. Second have been secretly investigating this matter, but they found nothing.”

Since the sender sent him this letter, the sender clearly knew his identity. Why would the sender address him as ‘brat’? In this world, who dared to speak to him in such a manner?

Shen Xi continued to say, “In view of the other party’s threat, over the past ten days, all of the Evil Sky Pavilion’s disciples and members, including those in the golden lotus domain, have been very cautious. No one has been caught.”

Lu Zhou looked at the letter again and muttered to himself, “Young Master?”

A vague idea appeared in his mind.

After he burned the letter with karmic fire, the words ‘Cloud Mountain’ appeared briefly before vanishing.

After making the connection between the words ‘Young Master’ and ‘Cloud Mountain’, he scoffed lightly. “Qin Moshang?”

Shen Xi was puzzled. “Qin Moshang? Who’s he?”

“Pass down my orders; we’re going to Cloud Mountain.”

“Understood. I’ll make preparations immediately.”

Lu Zhou recalled that time he was at the peak of the snowy mountain near Cloud Mountain.

“That child’s talent is shocking, and he has a Venerable Master watching over him. If I don’t get rid of him as soon as possible, he’ll definitely become a big problem in the future.”

Since Qin Moshang was young and inexperienced, he dared to provoke Lu Zhou. Lu Zhou thought this was just the right opportunity to test his new divine power.

Only slightly more than a year had passed since the incident near the Cold Pond. Lu Zhou wondered where Qin Moshang’s confidence came from? No matter what tricks Qin Moshang had up his sleeve, it was impossible for Qin Moshang to be more powerful than a Venerable Master in such a short time.

Perhaps, this was also Qin Moshang’s thoughts.

...

Meanwhile, on the cloud platform in front of the main hall of the Twelve Sects of Cloud Mountain.

Thousands of cultivators were restrained and kneeling on the ground.

In front of the cloud platform, Qin Moshang sat on a long bench and looked at the cultivators as he lazily said, "It's been ten days. It's obvious he's frightened and doesn't care about your lives. Just bear with it for a few more days, and you won't have to suffer anymore..."

Nie Qingyun gritted his teeth to endure the excruciating pain all over his body before he said, "I don't know the young man you mentioned. You've got the wrong person!"

"Stop talking nonsense. Earlier, you said you know him. Now, you suddenly don't know him," Qin Moshang said, "What's his name?"

"Young Master, according to the information left by the ghost servant, that person's surname is Lu. As for whether he's the Pavilion Master of the Evil Sky Pavilion, we'll know in a while. I've already sent a message."

Qin Moshang nodded in satisfaction. He looked at Nie Qingyun and asked, "Did you hear that?"

Nie Qingyun replied, "I really don't know the person you're talking about. We don't know anything about what transpired at the Cold Pond. How can you consider yourself a hero if you vent your anger on us?"

Qin Moshang's expression darkened. He raised his hand that flashed green and aimed it at Nie Qingyun.

Bang!

Nie Qingyun skidded back on the ground. The disciples behind him cried out in shock as he knocked them back as well.

The disciples who were knocked back spat out mouthfuls of blood.

Qin Moshang stood up and turned to look at the two ghost servants. "What do you think of my strength?"

"It's improved a lot."

"Let me show you another trick."

Qin Moshang raised his hand and made a grabbing motion as a palm seal, in the likeness of his hand, shot out.

With that, dozens of Cloud Mountain disciples in front of Qin Moshang were pulled up into the air. At the same time, green energy twined like snakes around them. All of them coughed out blood.

In front of a Ten Chart cultivator, let alone these disciples, even Nie Qingyun who had recently entered the Thousand Realms Whirling stage was helpless.

Qin Moshang asked, "What do you think about this palm strike?"

"It's very strong," one ghost servant said.

Then, Qin Moshang turned to look at the Confucian scholar sitting next to him. "What do you think? Didn't I tell you nothing will happen?"

The scholar smiled but did not say anything.

Qin Moshang walked over and stepped on Nie Qingyun's body. "Do you know why the weather is so bad?"

Nie Qingyun's eyes turned bloodshot; he could not breathe from being stepped on.

Qin Moshang said with a smile, "This is a phenomenon of the imbalance. I wasn't born yet during the last imbalance. I heard from the elders that the imbalance is like a decree from the heavens for the green lotus domain to cleanse the world of lowly humans like you... So you can consider this power of mine as being bestowed by the heavens..."

Qin Moshang's voice turned cold as he continued to say, "If you want to blame someone, then blame that Brother Lu that you spoke of. If he comes, I'll spare your lives. If he doesn't come, then you can only blame your bad luck."

Nie Qingyun gasped for breath after he spat out a mouthful of blood. Then, he said with great difficulty, "If you have the guts, why don't you look for Brother Lu directly? Cloud Mountain has nothing to do with what happened at the Cold Pond. Aren't you afraid of heaven's retribution for killing the innocent?"

Qin Moshang laughed out loud before he stomped his foot down on Nie Qingyun.

Bang!

Nie Qingyun spat out another mouthful of blood. Even the ground beneath him cracked.

"So now you admit you know him?" Qin Moshang said frostily, "You just entered the Thousand Realms Whirling stage and only have one Birth Chart. If I use a little more strength, you'll lose your life. I'll ask you again; what's his name, where is he now, and what's his cultivation base?"

One of the ghost servants said in a hoarse voice, "This is your last chance. Otherwise, all of them will die."

Following that, a green astrolabe appeared behind the ghost servant. It expanded and flew up, covering the sky. Fourteen Birth Charts flash as though they would release their power at any time.

In the green lotus cultivators' eyes, the thousands of people from Cloud Mountain were just like ants.

Nie Qingyun clutched his chest as he said in a voice brimming with hatred and resentment, "I only know his surname is Lu, and he's the Pavilion Master of the Evil Sky Pavilion. No one knows how high his cultivation is..."

Qin Moshang said, "You still dare to lie even when you're about to die. Ghost servant, stand back. I'll do this myself."

Bang!

Qin Moshang stomped on the ground.

After the ghost servant withdrew his astrolabe, Qin Moshang manifested his astrolabe.

The Cloud Mountain disciples paled when they saw the astrolabe flashing with ten Birth Charts.

Just as Qin Moshang was about to make a move, one of the Cloud Mountain disciples cried out, "Senior Lu is here!"

Everyone looked up immediately and saw a flying chariot swiftly approaching from the distant horizon.

An excited expression appeared on Qin Moshang's face as he said, "You're finally here!"

All of a sudden, someone flew out from the flying chariot, leaving afterimages in his wake. Following that, a thunderous voice resounded through the entire place.

"Young man, you don't know the immensity of heaven and earth."

The figure arrived in front of Qin Moshang at the speed of light. The person was none other than Lu Zhou.

In just a moment, a palm seal that was imbued with the divine power descended.

'So strong?! He's much stronger now! How?!'

Qin Moshang's heart trembled. The incident at the Cold Pond flashed in his mind at this moment, and he instinctively cried out, "Ghost servants, save me!"

The two ghost servants rose to their feet immediately.

"Freeze."

Creak!

The ghost servants were immediately frozen.

Bang!

Lu Zhou's palm seals landed on Qin Moshang's astrolabe unimpeded.

Without any suspense, Qin Mo Shang fell toward the cloud platform.

Bang!

Qin Moshang crashed through the cloud platform.

The Cloud Mountain disciples watched with their mouths agape.

On the other hand, the Confucian scholar frowned as he watched. However, not only did he not make a move to help, but he even took a few steps back.

Lu Zhou descended on the damaged cloud platform at lightning speed. His hand glowed with the divine power as he launched palm seals again.

Five Abandoned Wisdom shot out.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

All of them landed without fail on Qin Moshang's body.

"Ding! Destroyed one Birth Chart. Reward: 3,000 merit points."

"Ding! Destroyed one Birth Chart. Reward: 3,000 merit points."

"Ding! Destroyed one Birth Chart. Reward: 3,000 merit points."

"Ding! Destroyed one Birth Chart. Reward: 3,000 merit points."

"Ding! Destroyed one Birth Chart. Reward: 3,000 merit points."

Qin Moshang managed to block the first palm seal earlier with his astrolabe, but he was unable to block the five Abandoned Wisdom.

Lu Zhou placed his hands on his back and looked at the hand-shaped hole as he said tonelessly, "A junior like you dares to provoke me?"

Silence descended on the entire place.