

Disciples 1641

Chapter 1641: Who's the Better Actor? (1)

The Hourglass of Time was extremely special, after all; it could stop time. It was undoubtedly a sacred relic.

As soon as the word 'Freeze' sounded, blue electric arcs swept out like a tide in all directions.

Zhi Guangji instinctively tried to avoid the blue electric arcs. Alas, the law of time was one of the most powerful laws in the power of the Dao. No one in the world could escape from time. This was a universal and unquestionable truth. Zhi Guangji was naturally no exception to the law of time and was frozen.

The surroundings and the wind froze.

Lu Zhou, with his hand pushed out, was the only living being that could move at this moment. He seized this great opportunity and mobilized all his divine power and divine Dao power. His hand was like the mountains at this moment as he unleashed Abandon Wisdom. Blue electric arcs flashed around the palm seal.

In less than a breath's time, the palm seal landed heavily on Zhi Guangji's chest.

At the same time, Zhi Guangji's eyes widened in anger as he struggled to break free from the shackle of time. With his rich battle experience and profound cultivation base, he made the correct choice by flashing backward and unleashing beams of black light. He roared in anger and shock as he tried to dispel the force from Lu Zhou's palm seal.

In the distant sky, the clouds dispersed, making way for Zhi Guangji.

At this time, the palm seal had already shattered Zhi Guangji's confined space.

Zhi Guangji flew thousands of feet back.

The palm seal's tyrannical power left ripples in its wake.

At this time, time moved again for everyone.

Clank!

At the critical moment, Zhi Guangji unleashed a powerful Dao energy, forming a barrier of light like the Daoist's Eight Trigrams Seal to dissipate the power of the attack. With this, he finally dispelled the attack with great difficulty.

Everyone's vision finally grew clearer and clearer. A few of them rose into the sky and were shocked by the scene in front of them. The place where Zhi Guangji was struck to the place where he flew back was completely flattened. The mountain peaks and the rivers had vanished. Due to the time freeze, they did not see Lu Zhou making his move. However, the power needed to cause such a destruction was obvious to all.

Everyone raised their heads to look at Lu Zhou in a daze.

'He sent the Black Emperor flying with just one move?!'

Everyone turned to look in the distance about 30,000 feet away. Those with a lower cultivation only saw Zhi Guangji's huge halo. Those with a higher cultivation could see Zhi Guangji hovering in the air motionlessly. People like Xuanyi, Shang Zhang, and Dao Saints could see the grim expression on Zhi Guangji's face as Zhi Guangji stared at the incredibly calm Lu Zhou.

The two opponents did not make a move.

No one dared to make any noise, in fear of disturbing such a high-level battle.

All of sudden...

"Master is mighty! Master's divine technique is unrivaled!"

Everyone frowned and looked in the direction of the voice. They saw Zhu Honggong, who was still tightly bound, struggling and shouting at the same time.

"..."

When Zhu Honggong sensed everyone's eyes on him, his voice grew softer and softer before he gradually stopped shouting. Then, he laughed sheepishly before he said, "I couldn't help it. Please forgive me, please forgive me..."

At this moment, Lu Zhou flashed. In just a blink of an eye, he arrived in front of Zhi Guangji using the upgraded power of teleportation.

Zhi Guangji's eyes widened. 'How did he do it?'

Zhi Guangji was a divine emperor, after all; a divine supreme being. It would be difficult for him to teleport more than 30,000 feet away. Finally, he took a deep breath and said, "I've underestimated you."

Lu Zhou did not reply to that remark. Instead, he said, "The second move."

"Hmm?"

Swoosh!

Lu Zhou flew out. His movements were fluid and smooth.

Zhi Guangji frowned as his expression turned solemn. He quickly brought out a huge black lotus.

Everyone looked at Lu Zhou at the same time. They saw a small vortex in his hand.

This was the only Deadly Strike Card Lu Zhou had left. He had purchased it using the merit points he obtained by killing the Saint slayer. The system had become more and more dormant, and the system notifications were growing fewer and fewer as well. Currently, he no longer received notifications when obtaining merit points. After the system had been upgraded and his comprehension of the Heaven Scroll deepened, he could feel the system slowly integrating with the Dao. It was not a loss; it meant that he had become stronger.

From ancient times until now, that unrivaled and peerless expert dominated the Great Void, leaving many legends and miracles behind. This attack from the Deadly Strike Card contained the full strength of the Unholy One.

When the vortex shot out, it looked as though it had descended from the heavens, transforming into a golden dragon that soared through the clouds.

Zhi Guangji's eyes burned. His long robe tore as he flew out. His hair was disheveled as he crossed his arms in front of him and shouted, "I will not be defeated!"

At the same time, Zhi Guangji's avatar appeared, shrouding him. A dark pearl hovered in the center of his avatar while he hovered between his avatar's hands.

Zhi Guangji looked at the golden dragon in the sky and bellowed, "Come!"

Zhi Guangji stared at the golden dragon as it shot toward him unflinchingly, fully prepared to deal with it.

Chapter 1642: Who's the Better Actor? (2)

Xuanyi, Zhang He, Li Chun, Little Yuan'er, Conch, and Zhu Honggong looked at the scene before them with their mouths agape.

The world shook as the space twisted.

Boom!

The golden dragon crashed into Zhi Guangji's avatar.

The avatar shone brilliantly before rumbling noises, along with Zhi Guangji's angry roar, rang in the air. Then, it began to flicker as it used its pearl and hands to resist the golden dragon with all its might.

The golden dragon was peerlessly strong. Every time it moved, the earth would shake, and the space would tear.

Everyone had no choice but to retreat to avoid being injured.

Little Yuan'er exclaimed in surprise, "Master's cultivation has become so... powerful?"

"I didn't expect this. I always thought master is just a Dao Saint, about the same as us," Conch said.

Little Yuan'er was jubilant. Then, she complained, "Master really made us worry for nothing!"

Shang Zhang, the attendant, quickly adjusted the shocked expression on his face before he asked in a low voice, "Is he really your master?"

"Nonsense. What do you think?" Little Yuan'er rolled her eyes.

Shang Zhang, the attendant, wanted to continue asking, but he remembered most of his questions were related to things he learned when he was in Shang Zhang Hall. If he asked those questions, his identity would be exposed. Finally, he gave up and sighed.

After thinking about it, Shang Zhang thought that it did not matter who Lu Zhou was or what Lu Zhou's purpose was. As long as his daughter was fine, what was there to investigate or ask? Moreover, what right did he have to investigate his daughter's benefactor?

At this moment, Xuanyi's excitement had reached its peak. However, his expression did not show it.

Zhang He, who was standing next to Xuanyi, said in a low voice, "Could it be that... he's the White Emperor? Did he disguise himself and come here?"

Boom!

The huge golden dragon pierced through the huge black avatar.

The experienced Zhi Guangji reacted instinctively. He joined his palms together and opened his mouth before the divine soul pearl flew in. Following that, his avatar suddenly vanished.

At the same time, the huge golden dragon flashed and disappeared about 300 feet behind Zhi Guangji.

Zhi Guangji raised his head slightly to look at Lu Zhou who was hovering in the sky.

Lu Zhou's expression remained as calm as ever as he looked down at Zhi Guangji. It looked as though he did not expend much of his energy at all.

With this, it seemed like the winner had been decided.

No one spoke, no one moved, and no one dared to go up and check on the situation. Everyone just stared at the two figures facing each other in the sky.

It felt as though 1,000 years had passed as clouds returned to the sky and the Primal Qi grew richer. There were even a few courageous fierce beasts scampering across the land.

The sunlight from the west shone through the clouds on Lu Zhou's body. He looked like an immortal from heaven that had descended to the mortal world at this moment.

Everyone looked at Lu Zhou in awe. They had never seen someone with such a majestic aura before. He did not need to display any skills at this moment to make people submit to him. This was what having absolute strength was like.

Zhi Guangji was the first to break the silence. He said, "You're... not a lesser supreme being. Who are you?"

Lu Zhou remained expressionless as he said, "Oh, you met my attack directly, but you're still safe and sound?"

Zhi Guangji scoffed. "A mere golden dragon can't do anything to me."

"I've said earlier that I'd kill you with three moves. I've only used two moves," Lu Zhou replied.

Zhi Guangji said in a deep voice, "Forget about three moves. Even if it's ten moves or 100 moves, you still won't be able to defeat me, let alone kill me."

Lu Zhou raised his hand.

At this time, Zhi Guangji suddenly said, "Wait. I want to know who you are."

"A golden lotus cultivator. A nobody," Lu Zhou replied. Indeed, he was from the golden lotus domain. Although his name resounded throughout the golden lotus domain, he was a nobody in the Great Void.

Zhi Guangji chuckled. "Do you think it's so easy to fool me?" Then, he pointed at Lu Zhou before he continued to say, "I recognize that item. The Hourglass of Time."

Lu Zhou was not surprised that Zhi Guangji brought up the Hourglass of Time.

"This item was originally with Yue Qi, a beast tamer from the Great Void. It was unfortunate that he didn't have the ability to unleash the full potential of the Hourglass of Time. It was wasted on him. How did you obtain this from Yue Qi?" Zhi Guangji asked.

Lu Zhou replied nonchalantly, "I killed him."

"..."

Zhi Guangji clapped his hands. "Very good! You're really bold! Aren't you afraid the Great Void will hold you accountable for his death?" Then, he turned to Xuanyi and said, "Xuanyi, you're harboring a criminal. I can't wait to report this to the Sacred Temple."

Xuanyi: "..."

Xuanyi frowned. 'That thing originally belongs to teacher anyway! What a terrible injustice!'

Lu Zhou shook his head and said in a deep voice, "It seems like I really can't let you live. Only a dead person won't snitch, after all."

"..."

Zhi Guangji shook his head as well and said in a neither servile nor overbearing tone, "Snitch? You're overthinking things. I've always been righteous, and I do things openly. I've always disdained to do such lowly things." Then, he lowered his voice as he continued to say, "I'm afraid it won't be easy for you to kill me. I was cultivating in seclusion for many years and have mastered a divine skill. I've comprehended the laws of the Great Dao. If it weren't because I considered the innocent lives that would be affected, perhaps, you wouldn't even have the chance to act earlier."

Lu Zhou said, "I've only used 30% of my strength."

Zhi Guangji did not think much of these words. He said with a smile, "That's because you don't dare to use your full strength."

"How do you know?"

"If you're telling the truth, once you use your full strength, the power of the Great Dao will affect the balance of the Great Void. In turn, the Pillars of Destruction will collapse, and the Great Void will also collapse. At that time, countless lives will be lost. Even if all of those things don't happen, the Sacred Temple won't let you off. Do you have the confidence to defeat... Ming Xin?" Zhi Guangji asked.

Lu Zhou did not reply to the question. Instead, he said, "Whether the Sacred Temple lets me off or not, it has nothing to do with the matter at hand. I just need to get rid of you now."

Zhi Guangji frowned slightly.

At this time, one of Zhi Guangji's subordinates flew over from afar. He looked at Lu Zhou as though he was facing a terrifying enemy.

Zhi Guangji thought about it for a moment before he continued to say in a neither servile nor overbearing tone, "Very well. Do you think I'm afraid of you?"

The void-grade Unnamed appeared in Lu Zhou's hand at this moment.

The space trembled as though in anticipation of the great battle that was about to take place.

Everyone's mouths turned dry at this moment. They were all nervous.

Xuanyi shook his head repeatedly. He did not want to see a battle between divine emperors. It would affect the balance in the Great Void, after all. However, he knew they could not allow Zhi Guangji to live. He felt deeply conflicted.

At this moment, Shang Zhang, the attendant, who was standing in front of Conch said, "Why don't we take a step back?"

Everyone turned to look at Shang Zhang, the attendant, in unison.

"Who's he? He dares to interject at this moment?!"

"He really doesn't care about his life at all! How dare he spouts nonsense at this time?"

"Even His Majesty didn't speak, but a mere attendant dared to speak?"

"Impudent!"

Shang Zhang's expression remained the same. How could he be angered by the words of insignificant people? He could only say that one sentence to break the tension. He could not say any more in case he exposed his identity.

At this time, Zhi Guangji looked at Shang Zhang, the attendant. Then, his voice was fierce and domineering as he suddenly said, "For your sake, I'll let Xuanyi Palace go this time!"

Then, Zhi Guangji flicked his sleeve and turned around.

Zhi Guangji's subordinates: "???"

Zhi Guangji walked in the air as though he was walking on flat ground.

One of the cultivators rushed over and pointed at Zhu Honggong before he asked, "Your Majesty, what about him?"

Zhi Guangji did not turn around. He stopped in his tracks and said, "There aren't many people who are a match for me. For your sake, I'll return this person to you."

After saying that, Zhi Guangji flew into the distance like a shooting star. His speed was... incredibly fast.

Zhi Guangji's subordinates turned back to have a look. Then, as though they were afraid they would be eaten, they hurried away as well.

Lu Zhou hovered in the sky as he watched them leave. He did not say anything, and he did not stop them. After a long time, he said indifferently, "For the sake of the people in Xuanyi Palace, I'll let you live."

...

At a mountain peak near the boundary of Xuanyi Palace.

Swoosh!

Zhi Guangji flashed and landed. As soon as he landed, he let out a muffled groan. His Dantian's sea of Qi was in chaos, and his qi and blood were surging.

Boom!

He smacked a hand on the ground, easily destroying the mountain peak. The surging and violent energy in his Eight Extraordinary Meridians was finally released.

After that, he let out a long sigh and muttered, "That was close."

Chapter 1643: Old Seventh?

Zhi Guangji reigned in the northern part of the Endless Ocean. During the ancient times 100,000 years ago, he was one of the Five Emperors whose names resounded in the Great Void. After Ming Xin rose to the top, Ming Xi was no longer part of the Five Emperors. With that, the title Five Emperors had also disappeared.

The Sacred Temple rarely asked about the matters in the ten halls. After the Great Void ascended to the sky, the Sacred Temple was most concerned about the balance. As long as the balance was not broken, the Sacred Temple would not interfere. If the ten halls were weakened, the Sacred Temple would be even stronger.

For this reason, Zhi Guangji, the Black Emperor, dared to act with a certain degree of arrogance in the Great Void.

Zhi Guangji had been cultivating in seclusion and had made great progress. Today, when he came to the Xuanyi Palace in the Great Void, apart from snatching the owners of the Great Void, he also intended to announce with his actions the return of the Black Emperor to the Great Void. Unfortunately, his plan ended miserably today.

After Zhi Guangji removed the aftereffect of Lu Zhou's attack from his body, he began to calm down. However, it did not take long before blood began to drip down from his eyes, ears, mouth, and nose. He was actually starting to bleed from his seven orifices.

Zhi Guangji took a deep breath. His eyes were filled with unwillingness, doubt, and surprise as he muttered to himself, "Why... does he resemble that person?"

'The Hourglass of Time, his manner of doing things, and his thunderous attacks are very similar to that person who dominated the Great Void back then...'

At this moment, Zhi Guangji's subordinates rushed over.

“Your Majesty!”

Zhi Guangji straightened his back immediately. With a wave of his hand, the blood disappeared immediately. It was as though nothing had happened.

“Your Majesty, are you, are you okay?”

Zhi Guangji had flown too fast earlier. No matter which angle one looked at it, it seemed like Zhi Guangji was running away.

Zhi Guangji scoffed and said, “I don’t want to start a massacre just yet. That Xuanyi Palace has the support of the Sacred Temple so we can’t act rashly.”

“Then, what about that person who fought you? He’s so arrogant! We definitely have to get rid of him!”

Zhi Guangji shook his head and said, “Although his cultivation is far inferior to mine, I can sense there’s another expert hiding in Xuanyi Palace.”

‘Expert?’

Zhi Guangji’s expression changed slightly. Then, he said, “Your Majesty is wise! In fact, when I was observing from the side, I also felt that something was amiss. Now that Your Majesty has spoken, it seems like that was really the case!”

Zhi Guangji scoffed again. Then, he pointed at the mountain peak he destroyed as he said, “Let them be complacent for now. If I kill them now, I’ll only be helping Ming Xin. I won’t fall his tricks!”

“Your Majesty is really far-sighted! Then, what should we do next?”

“Return to Ruo Shui first. When the time is right, I’ll kill all of them,” Zhi Guangji replied.

Zhi Guangji’s subordinate nodded. “I agree. I think we should act after five days. With the commanders’ competition, the Sacred Temple has no time to care about the ten halls.”

“No,” Zhi Guangji raised his hand and said with a straight face, “We need a longer time to think about this. Five days aren’t enough.”

Zhi Guangji’s subordinate asked tentatively, “Then... How about... ten days?”

Zhi Guangji continued to say with a straight face, “Five years.” Then, he added, “No one’s allowed to disturb me over the next three days.”

“Understood.”

With that, Zhi Guangji flashed away and disappeared from sight.

...

Xuanyi Palace.

Lu Zhou landed slowly like a feather.

Zhang He untied the restraints around Zhu Honggong and brought him to the ground as well.

Zhu Honggong wiped the mud off his face, ignoring the strange looks from the others, before he bowed in front of Lu Zhou. He said loudly, "Greetings, benefactor!"

'Benefactor?'

Lu Zhou's expression remained the same. He looked at Zhu Honggong and calmly asked, "Do you still have me in your eyes?"

Zhu Honggong raised his head. "Ah? Benefactor, what are you talking about? Not only do I have you in my eyes, but I have you in my heart as well!"

Lu Zhou said in a low voice, "What a glib tongue! Why aren't you getting up?"

"Thank you, benefactor."

Zhu Honggong rose to his feet and grinned at everyone.

Xuanyi was slightly stunned by this. He moved to Lu Zhou's side and asked in a hushed tone, "This... Is he really Pavilion Master Lu's disciple?"

Lu Zhou nodded before he sighed. "He's an unworthy and wicked disciple. It's really difficult for him to become a decent person."

Xuanyi said, "No, no, no. A man must know how to bend and yield at the right time. To be a hero, one must be flexible! I think this kid is quite talented!"

Zhu Honggong gave a thumbs-up to Xuanyi; he was almost moved to tears by Xuanyi's words. He said, "It's still... Great Divine King Xuanyi who understands me best!"

As Zhu Honggong spoke, he walked toward Xuanyi.

"What are you doing?" Xuanyi sensed that the atmosphere was not right at this moment.

"Thank you for speaking up for me!"

Xuanyi felt a little regretful at this moment. Nonetheless, he still said, "It's nothing."

At this time, Lu Zhou pointed at Zhu Honggong and said, "You, come with me."

"Understood! If master tells me to go east, I definitely won't dare to go west! I'm coming!"

Since the master and disciple clearly wanted to talk, the others did not stay.

Not long after, a series of wails and screams rang from the hall along with thumping noises. It lasted for a while before silence returned.

Shang Zhang, the attendant, frowned and asked, "Is your master always so fierce?"

Previously, based on their interactions, Shang Zhang felt that Lu Zhou was very gentle and approachable.

Little Yuan'er and Conch nodded at the same time. However, they felt like something was wrong so they quickly shook their heads again. It was as though they had a tacit agreement.

Little Yuan'er said, "Perhaps, Eighth Senior Brother is just really touched after not seeing master for a long time. Moreover, master hasn't beaten anyone for a long time now."

Shang Zhang, the attendant, caught the key point immediately. "He hasn't beaten anyone for a long time?"

Little Yuan'er placed her hands on her hips and said, "You're really annoying! You ask too many questions!"

Shang Zhang, the attendant, realized he had almost exposed his identity again. He smiled sheepishly and no longer spoke.

At this time, Xuanyi said, "Order the Dark Guards to clean the place up. Today's matter has to be kept a secret. If anyone disobeys this order, I won't let them go."

"Understood!"

Following that, a large number of Dark Guards went to work.

...

Inside the hall.

Lu Zhou stood with his hands on his back as he looked at Zhu Honggong, who was covered in mud.

Zhu Honggong touched the bruise on his face and winced slightly before he said, "Master, you've really misunderstood me! I work hard for the Sacred Temple to protect my life! It's all for show!"

"For show?" Lu Zhou looked at Zhu Honggong skeptically.

Zhu Honggong nodded as he said, "I swear! I really betrayed you, I wouldn't have come to Xuanyi Palace."

"You don't even know I'm in Xuanyi Palace," Lu Zhou said.

"You're right, but I know the two junior sisters are here," Zhu Honggong said.

"Why did you come to Xuanyi Palace?"

"The Sacred Temple wants me to investigate what's going on here. The Scales of Justice sensed some disturbance here so I was sent here. I didn't expect to meet you here! I thought..." Zhu Honggong trailed off. He did not dare to finish his sentence.

"You thought your master died?" Lu Zhou asked.

"I don't dare!" Zhu Honggong fell to the ground again. "You left Fragrant Valley with Fourth Senior Brother and the Qin Yuan, but only Fourth Senior Brother and the Qin Yuan returned. Fourth Senior Brother said that you were accidentally caught in the battle between the Unholy One and Emperor Tu Wei and fell into the abyss."

"Old Fourth said that?" Lu Zhou asked.

“That’s right! That Unholy One is really wicked! He even affected Saint Duanmu at Dunzang!” Zhu Honggong said as though he was there to witness the entire thing.

“Oh?” Lu Zhou frowned.

“Saint Duanmu told me this!”

Lu Zhou said reproachfully, “Whether the Unholy One is wicked or not, it’s not for you to judge. All you do is listen to rumors, how can you achieve great things?”

Pa!

Zhu Honggong hurriedly slapped himself and said, “Master is right! However, I only listened to them, I don’t believe them at all!”

“...”

Lu Zhou asked, “Saint Duanmu... Are you talking about Duanmu Dian?”

Zhu Honggong forced a smile on his face and said, “Yes! After he returned to the Great Void, he took great care of me.”

Lu Zhou nodded.

During the battle with Tu Wei, he had taken advantage of a brief respite to protect Duanmu Dian. Although he had seen the tombstone that Duanmu Dian had erected for him near the abyss, and he knew Duanmu Dian was alive, he did not expect Duanmu Dian to return to the Great Void to keep an eye on his disciples.

“Where’s he now?” Lu Zhou asked.

“After Dunzang’s Pillar of Destruction collapsed, considering he had been guarding the pillar for so many years, the Sacred Temple transferred him to Tu Wei Hall,” Zhu Honggong replied.

“Tu Wei Hall?”

Zhu Honggong nodded. Then, he looked left and right before he said with a conspiratorial expression on his face, “That’s right. Master, he’s now working for... Seventh Senior Brother.”

Chapter 1644: Heaven-Defying Power (1)

Lu Zhou’s eyes were bright as he stared at Zhu Honggong.

Zhu Honggong felt his hair stand on end when he saw Lu Zhou’s gaze. Then, he hastily said, “I swear to the heavens if there’s even a little bit of falsehood in my words, I’d be struck by five lightning bolts!”

Lu Zhou had heard about Qi Sheng many times. His fourth disciple and eighth disciple’s judgments were completely opposite of each other.

Lu Zhou was certain Zhu Honggong did not dare to lie. If that was the case, then perhaps, his seventh disciple had truly come back to life. Naturally, he still had many doubts. There was the fact that the Resurrection Scroll failed to bring his seventh disciple back to life and that he could not observe his seventh disciple with the power of sight.

“Where’s he now?” Lu Zhou asked.

“He’s now the Commander of Tu Wei Hall, and he’s in charge of the commanders’ competition. He also told us not to reveal your existence and to follow his plan by seizing the positions of commanders in the ten halls,” Zhu Honggong said.

“Plan?”

“Yes. The plan is to seize the positions of commander. He said we can only become hall masters after becoming commanders. Only by becoming hall masters can we obtain the Heaven Suppressing Pestles,” Zhu Honggong replied with a nod.

‘The Heaven Suppressing Pestles?’

Lu Zhou recalled the Heaven Suppressing Pestle he obtained from Emperor Yu in the Great Abyss Land. Until now, he still had not figured out the use of it. He asked unhurriedly, “Why is he looking to obtain the Heaven Suppressing Pestles?”

Zhu Honggong looked troubled as he scratched his ears and cheeks. Then, he said, “I’ll have to ask Seventh Senior Brother about this. He said they’re very useful. The Ten Pillars of Destruction corresponds with the Ten Heaven Suppressing Pestles. As for their uses, I’m not really sure. Master, it’s not like you don’t know Seventh Senior Brother. He’s always talking about inexplicable things like the sky is falling and the earth is collapsing. Something about mankind is in imminent danger and that everything is in a mess.”

“...”

It was probably too much to expect Zhu Honggong to understand these things.

All of a sudden, Zhu Honggong smacked his thigh and cried out, “That’s right! Seventh Senior Brother has already obtained five Heaven Suppressing Pestles. Based on his speed, it won’t be long before you know about everything.”

“Five?” Lu Zhou was inwardly surprised.

‘Based on Emperor Yu’s attitude, the Heaven Suppressing Pestle is clearly not an ordinary item. However, Qi Sheng managed to obtain five Heaven Suppressing Pestles? Is it really possible that Qi Sheng is Old Seventh?’

Zhu Honggong said, “Yan Feng Hall, Xuan Meng Hall, and Qiang Yu Hall voluntarily gave him the Heavenly Suppressing Pestle. He naturally has access to Tu Wei Hall’s Heaven Suppressing Pestle. After Emperor Tu Wei’s death, the people in Tu Wei are without a leader. As for the fifth one...” Then, he paused and looked around before he said in a hushed tone, “Master, I suspect Seventh Senior Brother has something going on with Lan Xihe!”

Pa!

Zhu Honggong slapped his mouth again before he said, “I’m just guessing. I don’t have any real evidence. Anyway, after obtaining the five Heaven Suppressing Pestles, Seventh Senior Brother told me to come to Xuanyi Palace to get a feel of Emperor Xuanyi’s attitude. Don’t you think he’s trying to make things difficult for me?”

Lu Zhou looked at Zhu Honggong with his hands on his back and asked, "Have you ever thought that he might not be your Seventh Senior Brother and that you've fallen into his trap? What if he's using you?"

Zhu Honggong was stunned. He did not say anything for a long time.

Lu Zhou's judgment was the same as the four elders. From all the signs, Qi Sheng should be his seventh disciple. Among his disciples, he had spent the most time with Si Wuya so he thought he had quite a good understanding of Si Wuya. However, it was not impossible that these were all just tricks meant to fool everyone.

Qi Sheng had either intentionally or unintentionally revealed that he was Si Wuya, but he had never directly confessed. No one knew the reason why.

Zhu Honggong thought that his master made a lot of sense. He suddenly cursed, "Very good! So he's a liar! I've tarnished my reputation for a lifetime because of him! I was almost deceived by a villain!"

Lu Zhou said, "It's too early for us to draw a conclusion. We'll discover the truth eventually."

Zhu Honggong said, "Master is right! If he's really a fake, you have to punish him severely and avenge us, master! He has ordered us around for decades!"

Lu Zhou said, "Since he already has five Heaven Suppressing Pestles, he'll naturally find ways to obtain the others."

The Great Abyss Land's Heaven Suppressing Pestle was in Lu Zhou's hand, after all. Sooner or later, he would meet Qi Sheng.

"That person is very cunning. Sooner or later, he'll gather all ten Heaven Suppressing Pestles," Zhu Honggong said. Then, he pointed in the direction of the Sacred Temple and complained indignantly, "Master, you don't know how cunning and terrifying he is. The recent incident in Xuan Meng Hall was planned by him alone. What kind of character was the grand shaman of the Great Void? However, he killed that grand shaman so easily!"

Lu Zhou said indifferently, "Do you really think he has the power to kill Wu Zu? He only relied on the power of the Sacred Temple."

Zhu Honggong chuckled. "Master is right. I don't know what happened, but after chatting with master, I'm no longer muddle-headed. My mind is very clear now! Master really woke me up with just one sentence! I was so foolish in the past!"

"Alright. That's enough." Lu Zhou could not be bothered to listen to Zhu Honggong's flattery. He said, "No matter what his purpose is, don't tell anyone anything for the time being. Return to the Sacred Temple and pretend that nothing happened today."

Lu Zhou could not make too big of a commotion before he activated all 36 Birth Charts. Moreover, he had a feeling that Ming Xin was planning something as well.

Tu Wei and Wu Zu had fallen, but Ming Xin did not care at all. He even allowed a few Emperors of the Lost Lands to take the owners of the Great Void Seeds. It did not make sense at all. He was the Temple Master of the Sacred Temple and the person with the highest status in the Great Void. Logically

speaking, he should cherish his position very much. However, apart from the balance, he did not seem to care about anything at all.

Chapter 1645: Heaven-Defying Power (2)

Ming Xin's actions clearly did not match that of his high status.

'What's Ming Xin planning?'

"Master?" Zhu Honggong interrupted Lu Zhou's thoughts. "I'll take my leave first then..."

Lu Zhou waved his sleeve and said, "Go."

Without any warning, Zhu Honggong leaped forward and hugged Lu Zhou's thigh before he said with a bitter expression, "Master, I can't bear to part with you! The two of us have just met, and we haven't had enough time to catch up yet, but we have to part again! My heart aches!"

"..."

"Master..."

Lu Zhou frowned as goosebumps erupted on his skin after he listened to Zhu Honggong's words. He raised his leg unhesitantly and kicked Zhu Honggong away. "Get lost."

Zhu Honggong stopped crying immediately and sucked the snot back into his nose. Then, he wiped his tears and said, "Yes, master!"

Subsequently, Zhu Honggong took a deep breath, straightened his back, and walked out with his hands on his back. As soon as he walked out, he saw many people outside the hall. All of them looked at him strangely.

Little Yuan'er, Conch, Shang Zhang, Zhang He, Li Chun, and many Dark Guards looked suffocated and amused at the same time. It was as though they were trying their best not to laugh.

Zhu Honggong frowned and said, "Laugh! Laugh all you want! When my master finds out that you disrespect me, let's see what happens then!"

Everyone stopped laughing immediately. Instead of being afraid or nervous, their expressions seemed to say, 'Why is this person so silly? Why did Pavilion Master Lu accept him as a disciple?'

After Zhu Honggong finished speaking, he flew away with a smug expression on his face.

Everyone looked at each other.

"He left just like that?"

"What happened?"

At this time, Lu Zhou finally walked out of the hall. He did not say anything and made his way to the Dark Hall.

Xuanyi hurried over and asked in a low voice, "Pavilion Master Lu, why did you let him leave?"

Lu Zhou did not reply to the question. Instead, he said, "Make sure what happened in Xuanyi Palace today stays a secret. Don't let word of it leak out."

"I've already passed down the order," Xuanyi said.

"There are some things I'm not at liberty to say. Zhi Guangji must be feeling extremely suffocated after being slapped by me. He won't be coming back any time soon," Lu Zhou said.

Xuanyi smiled. "Pavilion Master Lu's strength is as shocking as always! I'm impressed!"

Little Yuan'er, Conch, and Shang Zhang; the attendant, wanted to follow Lu Zhou back to the Dark Hall's Dao hall, but Lu Zhou dismissed them. He needed to confirm an extremely important matter regarding the resurrection technique.

...

As the sun set, the last ray of light shone into the Dao hall.

Lu Zhou brought the Scripture of Sermons out and placed it in front of him.

It had been quite a while since he studied the Scripture of Sermons after he brought the Qin Yuan's daughter back to life. Prior to that, he had tried to use the Resurrection Scroll in the Scripture of Sermons to bring Si Wuya back to life. At that time, he thought he had failed, but now, he was not so sure.

Lu Zhou placed his hand on the Scripture of Sermons. A strand of his consciousness moved as his vitality energy surged.

Swoosh!

Lu Zhou felt as though his strand of consciousness was being pulled into a tiny vortex at this time. It was as though he had been pulled into the darkness of the vast universe.

The surroundings changed. The darkness melted away, and he saw birds and beasts. The stars dotted the sky, but the moon was nowhere to be seen. This was the picture depicted in the Resurrection Scroll.

"Where is this place?"

Lu Zhou flew past the birds and the beasts in the forest. No matter how long or how fast he flew, it seemed like he could not leave this place. It felt like he was flying without actually moving.

'Am I in the Resurrection Scroll?"

Lu Zhou stopped moving. With just a thought, the strand of consciousness returned to his body.

Then, he mobilized his Primal Qi and let a strand of his consciousness drift out.

Just like before, a tiny vortex appeared again, pulling his consciousness inside.

Swoosh!

This time, Lu Zhou found himself at the bottom of the deep sea. It was dark. He could hardly see anything; there were no sea beasts. He swam against the waves in the endless darkness. After a while, the voice of the Unholy One finally rang in his ears.

A familiar voice said reproachfully, "What Dao are you preaching?"

The Scripture of Sermons was left behind by the Unholy One, after all. It contained accounts of his cultivation experience and the secret of the Dao. The secret might be the key to breaking the shackles of heaven and earth.

Lu Zhou continued flying in the darkness. As expected, he saw a square object shining with a dazzling golden light up ahead.

'Merit stone?' Lu Zhou's heart moved, and he continued to fly forward.

Just like before, after flying for a while, he heard a warning.

"Don't approach if you're not strong enough!"

"Don't approach if you're not strong enough!"

"Don't approach if you're not strong enough!"

Lu Zhou was warned thrice in a row.

At the same time, Lu Zhou felt an invisible force blocking his way. No matter how hard he tried to move forward, it was futile. His instinct told him that the secret of the resurrection method was up ahead.

"Do I really have to stop here?" Lu Zhou looked at the golden merit stone with a hint of unwillingness.

"Is the merit stone in the Resurrection Scroll a projection sealed in the scroll?" Lu Zhou wondered.

When Lu Zhou recalled the three warnings he received, he looked around. "The sea? Is the merit stone hidden in the sea?"

This guess made Lu Zhou's heart skip a beat.

He looked at the merit stone. On each of the surfaces, there were nine palatial squares, and they were engraved with a golden character. Unfortunately, he was too far away so he could not see the characters clearly.

Lu Zhou tried again to move closer, but the result was the same as before: he could not proceed.

'Is it possible that when the Unholy One was looking for the merit stone, he had stopped here as well? Is that why I can't proceed any further because his memories stop here?'

Following that, Lu Zhou's consciousness returned to his body. When he opened his eyes, the sky was already bright.

The morning light shone on the floor of the Dao hall.

Lu Zhou felt slightly groggy. It was as though he had slept for a long time and had just woken up from a long dream.

After a moment, he muttered to himself, "Defying heaven to gain heaven-defying power. The resurrection technique... Did Old Seventh really come back to life?"

...

Zhu Honggong returned to the Sacred Temple through a runic passage.

That night, Zhu Honggong did not look for Qi Sheng.

As a result, the next morning, Qi Sheng came to Zhu Honggong's residence.

A voice rang from outside.

"Mr. Zhu, the Commander of Tu Wei Hall requests to see you."

"No!" Zhu Honggong rejected without any hesitation. A hint of impatience and indignance could be heard in his voice.

As soon as Zhu Honggong's voice fell, Qi Sheng had already walked in with his hands on his back. He asked, "What happened? Why are you so irritable?"

Zhu Honggong leaped up in fright before he scolded, "What's wrong with you? How can you barge in just like that? Leave!"

Qi Sheng ignored Zhu Honggong and took a seat before he asked, "What about the task I entrusted you?"

Zhu Honggong said seriously, "I'm done. Do you really think you can fool me?"

"Huh?" Qi Sheng could tell Zhu Honggong had changed.

"Put away your petty thoughts! For the sake of the Temple Master, I don't want our relationship to worsen," Zhu Honggong said solemnly.

"I don't understand what you mean," Qi Sheng said, puzzled.

Chapter 1646: Great Danger

Zhu Honggong scoffed and said, "Stop pretending. You're not my Seventh Senior Brother. No matter how much you pretend, you're not him."

Qi Sheng was puzzled. "Do you have some misunderstandings about me?"

Zhu Honggong continued to maintain the serious expression on his face as he said, "I don't have any misunderstandings. Are you still going to lie to me? You're not welcome here. Hurry up and leave. Otherwise, I'll tell the Temple Master."

Qi Sheng was not bothered by Zhu Honggong's attitude and threats. He said, "First of all, I don't know your Seventh Senior Brother. Second, I've never said that I'm your Seventh Senior Brother. Finally, if I want to harm you, I've had countless opportunities to do so in the past. Not only that, but I've helped you countless times in the past decades. Although I don't know where this misunderstanding came from, you have to be careful of others trying to sow discord between us."

Qi Sheng continued to say, "Think about it. There's no reason for you to let another person sow discord between us. You don't have to treat me as a friend. You can just treat our relationship as one of mutual benefits. Don't we have common goals and interests?"

After Qi Sheng finished speaking, he looked at Zhu Honggong silently.

Zhu Honggong was not eloquent. If he debated with Qi Sheng, he definitely would not be able to win Qi Sheng. Nonetheless, he had to admit that Qi Sheng had a point. Even if they were not friends, they shared common interests.

Zhu Honggong's expression finally eased slightly as he asked, "You've already obtained five Heaven Suppressing Pestles. What's your true purpose in collecting the Heaven Suppressing Pestles?"

"I've already explained it to you last time," Qi Sheng said patiently, "The Dunzang's Pillar of Destruction has already been destroyed. It's only a matter of time before the Great Void collapses. Before that, we need to make preparations to protect ourselves and raise our cultivation."

"Are you really so kind?" Zhu Honggong asked skeptically.

"I'm not kind," Qi Sheng said calmly, "I'm doing this for myself. If I don't give you any benefits, would you help me? We're only using each other. In fact, I should be the one who tells you to put away your petty thoughts."

"..."

Zhu Honggong was speechless. After thinking about it, it did seem like he had overthought things and overestimated himself. The other party had frankly admitted that he was only using him. What else could he do? Kill the other party with a punch?

Qi Sheng chuckled and said, "If you're really worried about me lying to you, then you can terminate our cooperation immediately. I'll draw a clear line between us. You go on your path of sunshine, and I'll go on my own path. What do you think?" Then, after a moment, he added, "In the future, don't come looking for me if you encounter any trouble in the temple."

Then, Qi Sheng stood up and walked out.

As soon as Qi Sheng reached the door, Zhu Honggong could not help but call out, "Wait."

"What else?"

"... I was just joking! Why are you so serious?" Zhu Honggong said with a smile, "You're so honest. How can I not continue to cooperate with you?"

Qi Sheng did not turn around. His eyes revealed a hint of a smile.

Zhu Honggong continued to say, "I was ambushed by the Black Emperor's people when I went to Xuanyi Palace. I can't help but feel a little unhappy. Don't mind me."

At this time, Qi Sheng finally turned around and asked, "Are you sure you're unhappy because you were ambushed, not because you listened to someone's flowery words?"

Zhu Honggong said righteously, “How can I listen to the slanderous words of a villain? Do I look like that kind of person to you? We’ve worked together for so many years, how could I not believe you? No matter what those bast*rds said, it’s impossible to shake my trust in you!”

“Really?” Qi Sheng looked at Zhu Honggong skeptically.

“Of course! If there’s even the slightest bit of falsehood in my words, lightning will strike me!” Zhu Honggong said.

Qi Sheng nodded. “That’s good. However, I’ve already expected the Black Emperor’s people to ambush you...”

Zhu Honggong was startled. “You knew, but you didn’t say anything?! I was almost captured and stewed by them!”

“Don’t worry. He doesn’t have the guts. I’ve investigated Zhi Guangji thoroughly,” Qi Sheng said with a smile, “Zhi Guangji seems fierce and overbearing, but he’s actually very scheming. Nonetheless, if he has brains like yours, I’d be worried.”

Zhu Honggong frowned. “Are you praising me or insulting me?”

“Of course, I’m praising you. How many people in the Great Void can be compared to the Black Emperor?”

Zhu Honggong nodded in satisfaction. “You have a point.”

Qi Sheng asked, “What’s Emperor Xuanyi’s attitude?”

“Well... about that... Before I could mention the Heaven Suppressing Pestle, the Black Emperor appeared, and I didn’t have time to ask,” Zhu Honggong said.

“Alright, there’s no rush,” Qi Sheng nodded and said, “There are another two matters. First, we have to speed up the commanders’ competition. Tell me which hall you like. I guarantee you’ll be able to obtain the position of commander.”

Zhu Honggong’s eyes lit up immediately. “Really?”

“Have I, Qi Sheng, ever broken my promise to you?” Qi Sheng asked confidently.

Zhu Honggong was slightly stunned. At this moment, he felt that Qi Sheng was his Seventh Senior Brother. Then, he hurriedly shook his head to dismiss his thoughts. Then, he said excitedly, “Then, I choose Xuanyi Palace!”

‘Xuanyi Palace has master’s protection while I can continue to hug Qi Sheng’s thigh on this side!’ Zhu Honggong felt like he was a genius when he thought about this.

“...”

Qi Sheng was stunned.

“What’s wrong?”

“Let’s change to a different hall,” Qi Sheng said.

“Didn’t you promise that I can choose any hall? Why do I have to change it?” Zhu Honggong asked.

“It’s not that I can’t do it, but I’m afraid you’ll be at a disadvantage,” Qi Sheng said.

“That’s not possible!” Zhu Honggong patted his chest and said confidently, “I’ll go to Xuanyi Palace and be its commander!”

Qi Sheng sighed helplessly and said, “Alright. I’ll issue the challenge to the Azure Emperor.”

“Wait, what?! The Azure Emperor?” Zhu Honggong grabbed Qi Sheng.

“The Azure Emperor’s men defeated the commander of Xuanyi Palace. Hence, you’d need to fight with them. Although you’d be able to become the commander regardless if you win or lose, we still have to put on a show at least,” Qi Sheng said.

“Uh...” Zhu Honggong scratched his head and said, “Then, I’ll switch to Yan Feng Hall. It seems like no one with the Great Void Seed is going to vie for the position of commander in Yan Feng Hall. Alright, let’s go with Yan Feng Hall!”

“Are you sure?”

“I’m sure!”

“Very well,” Qi Sheng said solemnly, “I’ve already obtained the Heaven Suppressing Pestle from Yan Feng Hall. Once you become a Great Dao Saint, I’ll help you enter the core of the Pillars of Destruction to comprehend the laws of the Great Dao.”

“Deal!” Zhu Honggong said with a grin.

“There’s still another matter,” Qi Sheng said after he flicked his sleeve and closed the door. Then, he continued to say, “The ten halls have always been at odds with each other, and there are also many internal conflicts. Don’t expect the Sacred Temple to interfere. So, for the next period of time, both of us have to be very careful.”

“Why?” Zhu Honggong was puzzled. “Who would dare to attack us?”

Qi Sheng said, “There’s no one who doesn’t want to become a commander of one of the ten halls. The ten halls exist in a precarious balance. Everyone has their own interests. I’ve researched the previous commanders’ competitions, and there were many violent deaths. The victims are all challengers. Although the Sacred Temple did deal with a few of the culprits, it was after the deed had been committed.”

Zhu Honggong inhaled sharply. He suddenly felt that the commanders’ competition was no longer fun.

“If it’s not necessary, don’t leave the temple. Remember, the Sacred Temple is the safest place,” Qi Sheng said, emphasizing the word ‘safest’. After saying that, he turned around and left, leaving behind Zhu Honggong who was in a daze.

...

While Qi Sheng flew, he looked down on the land.

One of his subordinates asked in a hushed tone, "Commander, why didn't you reveal your true identity to him?"

"The time is not right. If I do that, it'll only bring trouble. Zhu Honggong looks foolish, but he's actually very smart. When I spoke to him earlier, it looked like I'd successfully convinced him. However, that's not the case. It's just that he has a very obvious flaw; he doesn't know when to shut his mouth," Qi Sheng said.

"Commander is wise."

Qi Sheng and the Silver Guards continued to fly. They did not go to the Runic Hall. They flew over several mountains that towered past the clouds.

When Qi Sheng saw how foggy it was, he became suspicious. He raised his head to look at the sun that was shining brightly in the sky. He looked down at the mysterious fog swirling between the foothills before he suddenly raised his hand and said, "Stop."

"What's wrong?"

"There's a trap. Let's take a detour."

"Understood."

Chapter 1647: The Heavenly Void

Qi Sheng could sense the strange movements between the mountains, but he did not know what kind of trap it was. He did not like taking risks so the best way was to take a detour.

Qi Sheng led the Silver Guards 100 miles away to avoid the trap.

The sky was clear.

Although they were quite far away, they could still see the towering mountains that pierced through the clouds.

"Hm?" Qi Sheng came to a stop.

One of the Silver Guards asked curiously, "Commander, did you discover something?"

"Formation." Qi Sheng frowned. The formation between the mountains seemed to be gradually disappearing, but it just coincidentally happened as soon as they left.

"Let's go."

Swoosh!

Qi Sheng took the lead and flew up.

The Silver Guards could sense something was amiss as well and quickly followed Qi Sheng.

After flying for about 600 miles, Qi Sheng slowed down.

"Commander, it should be safe now."

The Silver Guards split in four directions and protected Qi Sheng in the middle.

Qi Sheng nodded and said, "If I'm not mistaken, that was a God Slaying Grand Formation."

The Silver Guards looked surprised.

"There's nothing special about those mountains. Why is there such an evil formation there?"

"Someone deliberately set up the formation there for us," Qi Sheng said.

"How's that possible?"

"Not only do they know our route, but they're also familiar with my style of doing things," Qi Sheng said.

Qi Sheng did not like to use common runic passages. He did not trust the runic passages, and he also did not want to expose his whereabouts. The other party had laid the formation between the mountains; it was clear that they knew he was going to pass through this place.

Qi Sheng suddenly asked, "How long before we arrive?"

A Silver Guard on the left bowed and replied, "We'll reach Tranquil Pond in an hour. The nearest secret runic passage is there."

As soon as the guard finished speaking, Qi Sheng asked in a low voice, "How do you know I'm going to Tranquil Pond?"

The Silver Guard suddenly raised his head.

The other three Silver Guard instantly knew something was wrong. They flew over and surrounded him, aiming their spears at him.

Qi Sheng had a habit. Whenever he traveled, he would be the only one who knew the route and destination. Occasionally, he would mark his destinations on the map and leave it lying on the table.

"Weren't we flying in the direction of Tranquil Pond?"

The Silver Guard on the right scoffed. "That was earlier, not now. Traitor!"

Qi Sheng flashed and arrived in front of the person. Then, he said with a faint smile, "Everyone, retreat."

The other Silver Guards retreated.

Qi Sheng looked at the suspicious Silver Guard and asked, "Speak. Who are you working for?"

"I've been wrongly accused!" the suspicious Silver Guard protested.

Qi Sheng shook his head and pushed his hand out. His hand glowed with a golden light as he easily grabbed the suspicious Silver Guard's neck and said, "Tell me."

"C-commander, you, you're wise. The enemy is trying to sow discord! I, I'm innocent!"

"I've already given you a chance," Qi Sheng said as he tightened his grip.

The suspicious Silver Guard's face turned red, his eyes bulged, and his body trembled.

At this time, Qi Sheng said in a low voice, "I deliberately marked Tranquil Pond on the map and left it behind."

"Arghhh!"

Crack!

After snapping the traitor's neck, Qi Sheng withdrew his hand. When the traitor's lotus was forced out, he raised his sword and brought it down on the lotus, destroying it.

Boom!

The strike was fast and accurate.

After the lotus was destroyed, the traitor's corpse plummeted from the sky.

Qi Sheng looked at the falling corpse and muttered, "I wanted to draw you out and get rid of you."

The other Silver Guards watched silently.

After that, Qi Sheng was not in a hurry to leave. He waited in the air for a while.

In less than 15 minutes, a voice filled with praise rang from the horizon.

"I really admire you!"

The Silver Guards automatically moved to stand in front of Qi Sheng.

Qi Sheng smiled and looked at the northern horizon. "Come out."

More than 1,000 cultivators appeared in the horizon. They were like a plague of locusts as they flew closer and closer. In just a short while, they were about 300 feet away from Qi Sheng.

The leader of the cultivators was tall and muscular. His face was dark, and his eyes were piercing. He said in a deep voice, "You won't be able to escape."

"Yan Feng Hall's Dao Saint Ban Jie. What can I do for you?" Qi Sheng asked politely.

Ban Jie frowned slightly. A hint of surprise could be seen in his eyes as he asked, "You know me?"

"Who doesn't know Dao Saint Ban?" Qi Sheng asked in return. Since he arrived at the Great Void, he had committed the names and portraits of the people in the Great Void to his memory. Only he himself knew this.

Ban Jie said, "I really underestimated you... No, actually, I'll take that back."

"What do you mean?" Qi Sheng was still polite.

"You're too arrogant. Your cleverness is your downfall," Ban Jie said, "There's no God Slaying Grand Formation at the Little Peak Mountain; it's just a smokescreen. The real trap lies here. It seems like you're not that smart, after all."

The three Silver Guards took a step back, feeling slightly nervous.

On the contrary, Qi Sheng nodded calmly.

Ban Jie continued to say as he laughed, "Apart from that, you killed... the wrong person!"

Qi Sheng still remained calm.

Seeing that Qi Sheng was silent, Ban Jie said, "Ever since the Great Void ascended to the sky, there has been no lack of clowns who wanted to join the ten halls. You've already become the Commander of Tu Wei Hall; why must you be so greedy as to extend your hand toward Yan Feng Hall?"

"To change heaven and earth," Qi Sheng replied. Then, he smiled before he continued to say, "A change might be good."

Ban Jie said, "Alas, you won't be able to see or make a change. Emperor Tu Wei is gone. Who do you think you are? How dare you try to change heaven and earth? This is where you'll die."

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Thousands of cultivators quickly surrounded Qi Sheng.

Ban Jie looked at Qi Sheng and the three Silver Guards and asked, "Do you have any final words?"

Qi Sheng took his cloak off and tossed it to the left.

Two Silver Guards caught it before they all retreated.

Qi Sheng raised his head. His mask began to glow with a faint red light. His eyes held a hint of a smile as he asked, "How do you know I'm not the one who laid the trap here today?"

"Huh?" Ban Jie frowned.

"Second, whether I killed the wrong person or not, you should go down and have a look before you make a judgment," Qi Sheng continued to say.

Ban Jie bellowed, "Cut the crap! You'll die today! Take him down!"

Black, golden, and red avatars appeared in the sky one after another, reflecting off each other.

The space rippled as countless energy seals flew toward Qi Sheng.

Following that, the red mask on Qi Sheng's face flashed before a barrier enveloped him.

Swoosh!

Flames suddenly burned around Qi Sheng. They seemed to make him incorporeal as the attacks passed through him harmlessly.

Ban Jie's frown deepened. "What secret technique is this?"

Swoosh!

Qi Sheng flew into the sky. He raised his right hand, and a ray of dazzling golden light appeared. It was a cylindrical object made of pure gold.

"What's that?!" Ban Jie exclaimed.

Flames soared into the sky.

The cultivators retreated warily.

“Be careful of the true fire.”

Ban Jie stared at the object in Qi Sheng’s hand.

The object gradually shrank until it resembled a long and thin golden needle.

“This thing is called the Heavenly Void.”

“The Heavenly Void?”

Without saying anything else, Qi Sheng threw the Heavenly Void out.

As the Heavenly Void sailed in the sky, it shone dazzlingly like the sun. It stabbed the cultivators mercilessly at a terrifying speed.

When they tried to dodge, they discovered the Heavenly Void would appear and reappear again in another place, making it impossible to dodge. It could even bypass their energy shields.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

One by one, the cultivators’ chests and hearts were pierced.

Initially, Ban Jie was only surprised. However, as he watched the Heavenly Void ruthlessly and accurately piercing the cultivators’ hearts and divine soul pearls, fear began to flood his heart.

The smell of death and blood permeated the air.

None of the cultivators could resist it. They plummeted from the sky one after another.

The cultivators who quickly turned their divine soul pearls into Birth Charts could not escape as well. They were pierced repeatedly until they resembled a hornet’s nest.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Ban Jie was frozen in fear. His mind turned blank. He watched as the Heavenly Void flew back and forth swiftly. To be precise, he could only see traces of the Heavenly Void as it flew and pierced his men’s hearts. The needle was like a hot knife, and his men were like butter.

Ban Jie stared at Qi Sheng with his mouth agape.

Qi Sheng’s body was bathed in flames. His eyes were terrifying to look at, and an icy smile could be seen on his face. The mask on his face glowed red, making him look even more terrifying.

“Y-you, you, you’re a supreme being!” Ban Jie exclaimed in shock and disbelief.

Qi Sheng smiled faintly. “It’s not too late to know this now. Don’t worry, I’ll take good care of you.”

Swoosh!

The Heavenly Void quickly pierced Ban Jie’s chest, entering from the back and exiting from the front, leaving only a tiny red dot behind.

Ban Jie watched helplessly as the Heavenly Void turned around and pierced his body again.

“ ... ”

Ban Jie tried to struggle, but it was futile. He sensed Qi Sheng's formidable aura and recalled Qi Sheng's earlier words. 'How do you know I'm not the one who laid the trap here?'

At this moment, realization dawned on Ban Jie. Alas, it was too late.

...

In the Sacred Temple.

Hua Zhenghong walked in from outside and said with a bow, "Temple Master, the Great Abyss Land sent a letter."

"What is it about?"

"Emperor Yu said to be careful of the people around you," Hua Zhenghong replied.

"The people around me?" Ming Xin raised an eyebrow.

Hua Zhenghong kneeled on one knee and said, "I'm loyal to Your Majesty. The sun and moon can be my witness!"

Following that, three voices rang from outside, professing their loyalty.

Ming Xin's expression remained the same as he said, "Hand it over."

Hua Zhenghong respectfully handed the letter over.

Ming Xin opened the letter. There was only one sentence: Be careful of those around you.

Ming Xin stared at the sentence for a long time before he finally crushed the paper, reducing it to dust.

"Tell Emperor Yu that I know," Ming Xin said calmly.

"Understood," Hua Zhenghong said before she left.

...

At the same time.

Xuanyi Palace.

In a Dao hall.

Lu Zhou levitated in the air. His body was completely shrouded by the divine power.

At the same time, part of the divine power would dissolve into spots of starlight before they entered his body, forming a new power that coursed through his Eight Extraordinary Meridians.

When the power calmed down, Lu Zhou finally opened his eyes. He instinctively looked at the system interface. His lifespan had been reduced by 100,000 years.

"The blue avatar really didn't increase my lifespan even though I previously activated five Birth Charts at once. Now, I even lost 100,000 years..."

Fortunately, Lu Zhou had 250,000 years, which was more than enough. Moreover, he still had many Reversal Cards.

"It's time to return to Grand Mystic Mountain to have a look," Lu Zhou muttered to himself.

At this moment...

"Pavilion Master Lu, can I come in for a chat?"

"Come in," Lu Zhou replied.

Those outside the hall had already gotten used to Xuanyi, a Great Divine King and the Hall Master of Xuanyi Place, asking for permission to speak to Lu Zhou.

When Xuanyi entered the hall, he said without beating around the bush, "This is bad. The second Pillar of Destruction has collapsed!"

Chapter 1648: His Surname Was Ji

Lu Zhou frowned and rose to his feet. "Another Pillar of Destruction collapsed?"

Xuanyi said, "It collapsed without warning. The Sacred Temple has already sent a large number of cultivators there. The temple's Four Supremes have also gone there."

"Which one of the pillars collapsed?" Lu Zhou asked.

"Chifenruo."

Duanmu Sheng was acknowledged by Chifenruo's Pillar of Destruction.

Lu Zhou asked curiously, "If the pillar collapses, how will the corresponding hall master enter the core to comprehend the Great Dao?"

Lu Zhou did not know much regarding this matter.

The Ten Pillars of Destruction only appeared 100,000 years ago. Before that, they did not exist. Over the past 100,000 years, they had formed their own unique systems and rules.

After 100,000 years, the current Great Void, apart from its terrains and some structure, was no different from the Great Void of the past before it ascended to the sky.

Xuanyi said, clearly worried, "The pillars enter the Great Void from the Unknown Land. Although it has collapsed, in fact, only the lower part is affected. So, the core is not affected. Don't worry. The remaining power in the upper part will be able to last for a while before it collapses entirely. However, the lower part is like the source of a well. Naturally, it's not good for the Great Void if the source is destroyed. The biggest problem now is that another pillar is down, and the risk of the Great Void collapsing has risen sharply. At that time..."

Lu Zhou scoffed softly. "If it collapses, so be it."

"..."

Xuanyi turned around and waved his sleeve, sealing the Dao hall. Then, he said helplessly, “Teacher, how can you say that?”

Lu Zhou glanced at Xuanyi and said, “I forgot you’re Emperor Xuanyi, the Hall Master of Xuanyi Palace.”

Xuanyi nodded. ‘That’s right! If the sky collapses, I’ll be homeless, and I won’t have any place to hang out!’

“Don’t worry. Although two of them have collapsed, there are still another eight. Moreover, there’s also the Sacred Temple. They’re even more anxious than you,” Lu Zhou said.

Xuanyi sighed and said helplessly, “I don’t know what we can do now. Do you want to have a look?”

“Yes,” Lu Zhou said before he asked, “You said earlier that the Four Supremes of the Sacred Temple have gone to Chifenruo?”

“The collapse of the Pillar of Destruction is a grave matter. The four supremes rushed there immediately with a large number of Templars there. Apart from investigating the cause of the collapse, they’re also going to try to repair the pillar. Needless to say, the possibility of them successfully repairing it is very low. The power of the earth has weakened greatly compared to before,” Xuanyi said.

Lu Zhou nodded slightly before he said, “Follow me to Grand Mystic Mountain.”

“Huh?” Xuanyi, who had held a high position for a long time, was dumbfounded by the sudden change of topic.

“You don’t want to?”

“It’s not that I don’t want to, but the place is guarded by many mysterious fierce beasts. Even the Sacred Temple is wary of that place. It’s a famous forbidden area in the Great Void. There isn’t a single runic passage that leads to that place in the Great Void,” Xuanyi said.

Lu Zhou said, “Don’t worry. I know of a hidden runic passage that will lead us there.”

“...”

Since the Four Supremes of the Sacred Temple had left the temple, this was the best chance to go to Grand Mystic Mountain.

Xuanyi asked, “Why are you going there?”

“There are many things I can’t remember clearly. I feel like I should go back,” Lu Zhou said dejectedly.

Xuanyi nodded. He could empathize. After that, that place was once his teacher’s home. Now that 100,000 years had passed, it was understandable that his teacher wanted to return to have a look. With these thoughts in mind, he said, “Alright! I’ll go with you!”

After Xuanyi released the seal around the Dao hall, he and Lu Zhou walked out.

At this time, the ground trembled infinitesimally. Only those with extremely high cultivation could feel it. Those below the level of a Dao Saint did not have a profound comprehension of the laws so it was difficult for them to sense the movements. For most people, things were the same as usual.

Lu Zhou saw Little Yuan'er, Conch, and Shang Zhang, who was still disguised as an attendant, nearby.

Soon enough, Zhang He, Li Chun, and a small number of Dark Guards appeared on the left.

"Your Majesty. Pavilion Master Lu."

After everyone greeted Xuanyi and Lu Zhou, Lu Zhou pointed at Little Yuan'er and Conch before he said, "Both of you, follow me."

Lu Zhou decided to bring them since they were already Dao Saints. Moreover, he inexplicably felt like he should bring them with him.

Little Yuan'er clapped her hands happily. "We can finally go out! It's so stuffy in Xuanyi Palace."

Shang Zhang, the attendant, stood behind the two girls and said, "I want to come along."

"Why? Do you want to join the fun?" Little Yuan'er asked.

"You can come if you want," Lu Zhou said.

'Wouldn't it be a waste if we didn't bring this super bodyguard with us?'

Shang Zhang, the attendant, bowed. "Thank you."

As for the others from the Evil Sky Pavilion, they were told to stay in Xuanyi Palace and cultivate and help Xuanyi Palace out.

...

Lu Zhou led the group as they left Xuanyi Palace and flew toward a piece of sunken land south of Xuanyi Palace.

After half a day, they finally arrived.

Shang Zhang, the attendant, asked, "The Great Void's sinkhole up ahead. Rumor has it that it was created during the Unholy One's battle with the experts. What are you doing here?"

Little Yuan'er and Conch turned around immediately to criticize Shang Zhang, the attendant, for speaking so carelessly.

Xuanyi glanced at Shang Zhang, the attendant, and asked, "You know about this place as well?"

Shang Zhang, the attendant, replied, "I know more."

"Tell me about it," Xuanyi said.

Shang Zhang recalled the scenes back then, and he could not help but puff his chest and said with a pretentiously nostalgic expression, "The past is the past. It's better not to mention it."

Little Yuan'er: "..."

Little Yuan'er looked at Shang Zhang, the attendant, with a speechless expression on her face.

Conch asked calmly, "Have you met the Unholy One before?"

“Everyone from the ancient times has seen him before,” Shang Zhang, the attendant, said.

Conch said skeptically, “But you look very young...”

Shang Zhang, the attendant, shook his head and sighed. “I’m old.”

Xuanyi looked at Shang Zhang, the attendant, strangely, but he did not say anything. Instead, he took the lead and flew toward the sinkhole.

As Lu Zhou flew over the land that was riddled with holes, strange and unfamiliar scenes would flash in his mind.

He saw the sky collapsing, and the land splitting. Then, he saw the universe shaking, shifting the stars and changing the world. He saw a towering avatar that stood proudly between heaven and earth, fighting with many other avatars.

At this moment, Xuanyi suddenly came to a halt. He pointed at a dark pit with various runes in it and said, “There’s really a runic passage down there.”

Then, Xuanyi waved his hand, clearing the rubble and debris away from the runic passage.

Upon seeing this, Shang Zhang, the attendant, frowned and asked, “Where are you going?”

Xuanyi replied immediately, “Grand Mystic Mountain.”

Shang Zhang, the attendant, did not hesitate and immediately shook his head. “Absolutely not.”

Little Yuan’er asked, “Why?”

“It’s very dangerous there. Ordinary cultivators can’t survive there. Grand Mystic Mountain was originally the Unholy One’s cultivation ground. After the Unholy One fell, the Great Void classified it as a forbidden area. Later on, for some reason, it was overrun with fierce beasts, many of which are Saint slayers. Moreover, to protect Grand Mystic Mountain, the Unholy One left behind many ancient formations and restrictions from the Great Dao. Even someone like the Unholy One wouldn’t have been confident about entering safely if he weren’t the one who set those things up..” Shang Zhang, the attendant, said.

Little Yuan’er said timidly, “Oh, it sounds quite scary.”

Conch asked, “All of you often speak about the Unholy One. Who is he exactly?”

Everyone fell silent.

Lu Zhou did not speak either.

Everyone’s understanding of the Unholy One was limited to the legends they heard.

Xuanyi and Shang Zhang had some understanding of the Unholy One, but that was all in the past. Moreover, their understanding was not deep.

Perhaps, no one in this world but Lu Zhou, who possessed the Unholy One’s memories, truly understood the Unholy One. However, after thinking about this again, Lu Zhou realized he knew nothing about the Unholy One’s background, appearance, past, or name.

At this moment, Shang Zhang, the attendant, finally said, "No one knew his name. In the early days, some of his subordinates referred to him as 'Emperor'. Later on, based on the ancient records, people called him the Heavenly Emperor. Then, due to various reasons, he became known as the Unholy One."

Xuanyi looked at Shang Zhang, the attendant, with an unnatural expression as he thought to himself, 'Very good. Keep making up stories. The real deal is right in front of you. Let's see what kind of fantastical stories you're going to make up...'

Shang Zhang, the attendant, sighed and said, "In fact, I think the nickname 'Unholy One' isn't very fair to him. Many people cursed at him, calling him evil. What evil? What unholy? If he was truly so despicable, would those people die for him on Grand Mystic Mountain?" After a pause, he continued to say, "I don't think so. For so many people to willingly die for him, there had to be something good about him."

"After the Great Void ascended to the sky, I've done some research on him. Apart from the mysteries of his cultivation path, he was nowhere near as evil as the Great Void makes him out to be."

"Oh, right! According to one of the ancient records, his surname might be 'Ji'. However, it's likely one of the many names he used. I suspect he was one of the first humans to be born in this world when there was no division of clans..."

Shang Zhang, the attendant, looked at everyone after he finished speaking.

At this moment, everyone had different expressions on their faces. Some of them were confused, and some of them were surprised.

Chapter 1649: Grand Mystic Mountain's Netherworld Road (1)

They had heard of many legends regarding the Unholy One, especially Shang Zhang, who had lived a long time, and Xuanyi, who had received a favor from the Unholy One. After thinking about it, it indeed seemed like no one knew where he came from or what his name was. Just like how modern people sought the origin of human civilization. How could one have a name if one was born if words had not been invented?

Little Yuan'er blinked and said, "He has the same surname as my master..."

Xuanyi glanced at the innocent-looking Little Yuan'er and thought to himself, 'That's because your master is the Unholy One. It's only natural the surname is the same...'

Xuanyi thought about how Lu Zhou's surname was now Lu and thought that it must also be an alias.

Shang Zhang, the attendant, looked at Lu Zhou and said, "That's the reason why I said we can't go to Grand Mystic Mountain."

Xuanyi turned to Lu Zhou and said with a smile, "Pavilion Master Lu, your attendant is quite knowledgeable. Is he also from the golden lotus domain?"

Shang Zhang, the attendant, was stunned. 'It seems like I've spoken too much again. I must remember to keep a low profile.'

Then, Shang Zhang, the attendant, raised his head and replied, "That's right."

Little Yuan'er was puzzled. She mercilessly exposed him. "Nonsense! How come I've never seen you in the golden lotus domain?"

"..."

Shang Zhang, the attendant, felt slightly embarrassed. After all, he was an old monster who had lived for more than 100,000 years, but he was caught lying by a young girl like Little Yuan'er. Then, he explained calmly, "Although the golden lotus domain can't compare to the Unknown Land and the Great Void, it's still vast. Don't tell me you know all the cultivators in the golden lotus domain?"

Little Yuan'er thought about it for a moment. "Uh... Alright, it seems like I've wrongly blamed you."

At this moment, Lu Zhou said, "Let's go."

Seeing Lu Zhou's determination, Shang Zhang, the attendant, could only sigh and follow along. He stuck close to Conch, staying within a radius of three feet.

When everyone stood in the runic passage, Xuanyi said, "This runic passage is a little old so it may not be very stable. Everyone, please bear with it."

The holes in this place were from a battle. There were no trees or grass, just soil.

Buzz!

Xuanyi activated the runic passage.

Lines appeared in four directions before they connected.

At this moment, Shang Zhang, the attendant, suddenly asked, "Old sir, how do you know there's a runic passage here?"

Lu Zhou said, "I'm the same as you. I'm very curious about the Unholy One. You can say that I have a certain understanding of him."

Shang Zhang, the attendant, grew even more curious. He moved next to Lu Zhou and asked, "Old sir, do you admire him?"

At this time, a beam of light shot up into the sky, and everyone vanished from sight.

Lu Zhou did not nod or shake his head. He said, "I don't care if he's evil or good. I just don't understand why the Great Void killed him."

Shang Zhang, the attendant, did not know how to answer the question. Finally, he sighed and said, "It's a long story."

Xuanyi looked at Shang Zhang, the attendant, meaningfully before he said, "Then, don't say it. We're here."

At the same time, Xuanyi thought to himself, "It's fine if you don't say it. Aren't you just looking for trouble by bringing up the past in front of teacher?"

When the light dissipated, they found themselves in a misty and dark forest. The trees were dense, blocking the sky.

Little Yuan'er asked in confusion, "There's sun all the time in the Great Void. Why does this place look like the Unknown Land?"

The surrounding mountains and towering trees shrouded by heavy fog and the occasional chirping from the birds made people feel gloomy. It was like the Moonlight Woodland and the 10,000-mile forest near the Great Abyss Land.

Cluck! Cluck! Cluck!

At this moment, a strange cry rang in the air.

Xuanyi pointed south and said, "It should be from there..."

"Let's go."

Everyone walked out of the runic passage. The movements caused some of the birds and beasts in the forest to fly and scamper away.

Shang Zhang, the attendant, flashed in front of Conch and said, "Follow behind me."

"No need," Conch said.

"Just stay behind me," Shang Zhang, the attendant, insisted.

"No need," Conch said, slightly embarrassed, "I'm already a Dao Saint. I don't need your protection."

Shang Zhang, the attendant, said, "Of course, there's a need. This is a forbidden place in the Great Void. It's very dangerous."

Conch asked skeptically, "Even for a Dao Saint?"

Shang Zhang, the attendant, realized his words had exposed his thoughts that Dao Saints were weak so he hurriedly said, "It's just that if you encounter danger, even if I can't do anything, I can still help you block the danger like a sandbag!"

"..."

Lu Zhou looked back and shook his head.

'Parents are truly pitiful...'

Xuanyi was bewildered, but he did not bother to ask. As they walked through the forest, he said, "Everyone, keep your guards up. The territory of Grand Mystic Mountain should be up ahead."

They found that they were quite high aboveground after they emerged from the forest. There were mountains, valleys, and forests when they looked ahead.

Everyone was stunned.

Xuanyi pointed at a mountain in the middle of a mountain range and said, "That mountain is Grand Mystic Mountain. It's surrounded by eight other mountains. Further ahead, there are all kinds of fierce beasts and ancient formations."

Little Yuan'er asked, "Aren't those fierce beasts afraid of the ancient formations?"

"All the weak ones are naturally dead. It's the surviving ones that we have to be wary of," Xuanyi said.

"What's that?" Little Yuan'er asked. She had always had very good eyesight. She saw a wave-like pattern between two mountain peaks with just a glance.

Shang Zhang, the attendant, replied, "It's a spatial formation."

At this moment, an enormous bat-like fierce beast emerged from the forest on the left. Its wings spanned thousands of feet, and its eyes were mesmerizing. Its sharp claws glowed with a dark light.

"Fei Shu," Shang Zhang, the attendant, said.

Conch asked, "Have you been here before?"

Shang Zhang, the attendant, instinctively nodded and said, "I've been here many times."

Chapter 1650: Grand Mystic Mountain's Netherworld Road (2)

"What?"

Shang Zhang, the attendant, said, "Oh, I meant that I've been here many times in my dreams."

"Can you be more reliable? Why do you always make up stories?" Little Yuan'er asked as she looked at Shang Zhang, the attendant, with a speechless expression on her face.

Swoosh!

The huge Fei Shu flew into the translucent spatial formation and vanished into thin air without any fanfare.

"Grand Mystic Mountain looks very close, but it's actually very far away. The eight mountain peaks around it actually form a protective formation," Shang Zhang, the attendant, said. Then, he looked at Little Yuan'er and said, "This information is reliable."

"Follow me," Lu Zhou said as he flew up.

Everyone nodded and followed after Lu Zhou. Before long, they arrived in front of the spatial formation.

Shang Zhang, the attendant, asked again, "Are we really going there?"

"If you're afraid, you can wait here," Lu Zhou said.

Little Yuan'er and Conch looked at Shang Zhang, the attendant, in unison.

Shang Zhang's expression stiffened immediately as he said, "Why would I be afraid?" Then, he turned Little Yuan'er and Conch and said, "Don't run around recklessly later and just follow me."

Surprisingly, the two girls did not protest this time. Perhaps, they had seen Shang Zhang's strength in Xuanyi Palace and knew he was not ordinary.

Lu Zhou was the first to enter the spatial formation.

After everyone stepped into the spatial formation, a buzzing noise reverberated in the air as golden symbols appeared around them.

Shang Zhang, the attendant, said immediately, "It's the Buddhist's Sound Grand Formation. Mobilize your Primal Qi. Guard your Dantian's sea of Qi, heart, and mind."

Based on how fast he had responded, it was clear that he had been here before.

Lu Zhou could tell, and Xuanyi could also tell. Xuanyi was not a fool, after all. Based on the way the attendant treated the two girls, and the occasional domineering aura the attendant displayed, Xuanyi could naturally guess a thing or two. However, since his teacher did not expose the attendant, he would happily cooperate.

Buzz! Buzz! Buzz!

Suddenly, darkness descended without any warning. They were now walking on Netherworld Road. It felt as though ghastly spirits would rush toward them from both sides at any time. A cloud of gloomy fog lingered in the forest.

Up above, the golden symbols continued to shine as the sounds of chanting permeated the air.

"The further we go, the louder the chanting would become. Don't be distracted," Shang Zhang, the attendant, said as he turned back to look at Little Yuan'er and Conch.

The two girls looked at Shang Zhang with an innocent and confused expression. It was as though they were not affected at all.

Finally, Little Yuan'er scratched her head and said, "I know it's dangerous. I'm following you. There's no need to exaggerate so much."

Shang Zhang, the attendant: "..."

'Why are they completely unaffected?'

Lu Zhou, who knew what Shang Zhang was thinking, explained as he walked, "Conch is skilled in music. Her understanding of sound far surpasses others. No matter what kind of sound technique it is, to her, it sounds like a beautiful and moving tune."

Conch nodded and said, "Indeed. This Buddhist chant is quite interesting."

Lu Zhou continued to say, "As for Yuan'er, she cultivates the Supreme Purity Jade Slip. Most illusory and sound techniques are rendered useless by that cultivation method."

Xuanyi chimed in with a smile, "Most importantly, both of them have the Great Void Seeds. The Great Void Seeds help to dispel deceptive techniques that trick and mess with the senses."

Shang Zhang, the attendant: "..."

In order not to lose face, Shang Zhang, the attendant, said with a straight face, "I know."

At this moment, Lu Zhou said, "Yuan'er, deal with the eye of the formation about 1,000 feet to the left."

"Okay!" Little Yuan'er flew out excitedly.

"No!" Shang Zhang, the attendant, cried out.

However, it was too late.

It was not easy walking on the Netherworld Road. As a divine emperor, Shang Zhang could walk without much difficulty, but it was not without risks. How much more dangerous would it be for Little Yuan'er?

Lu Zhou was not worried, and he did not plan to help. In fact, they were all seeing different sceneries. This was a special place, after all. Perhaps, what was in one's mind and heart would be reflected here.

Little Yuan'er flew through the forest and saw a circle of light on the ground.

However, in Shang Zhang's eyes, there was an extremely terrifying and fierce statue that emitted a threatening aura standing in the circle of light.

Boom!

Little Yuan'er stepped on the circle of light, and the eye of the formation disappeared.

Shang Zhang, the attendant, said with a complicated expression, "The statue disappeared?"

Lu Zhou continued to say, "Continue. 1,000 feet to the right."

"Okay!" Little Yuan'er replied as she flew through the forest.

Buzz! Buzz! Buzz!

The buzzing noises grew louder in Shang Zhang's ears.

Xuanyi stopped in his tracks. His expression was slightly strange.

In the sky, countless golden symbols flew back and forth and began to attack.

"Conch!" Shang Zhang cried out and instinctively erected a barrier around him and Conch. At the same time, he looked at Little Yuan'er in the sky.

Little Yuan'er moved gracefully as the Nirvana Sash danced in the sky like a dragon. It wrapped around her as she flew past the golden symbols. She was completely unharmed as she arrived at another formation eye and destroyed it with one move.

Boom!

Now that two eyes of the formation had been destroyed, the fog had dissipated by half as well.

At this moment, Little Yuan'er flew back and said, "Master, the Fei Shu is here as well."

Lu Zhou flicked his sleeve, releasing palm seals to send those golden Buddhist symbols flying. Then, with the Purple Glazed Ceramic and the divine mark robe, he silently chanted the mantra of the Heavenly Writing, easily dispelling the sound technique.

Shang Zhang said praisingly, "Good technique!"

In the sky, the enormous Fei Shu's eyes glowed sinisterly in the dark. They resembled a pair of dark green luminous pearls. To everyone's surprise, it began to speak in human language. "Humans are not allowed to come any closer!"

Lu Zhou scoffed and said icily, "A mere beast dares to block my way?"

"I... don't have that ability. I just wanted to remind you not to seek death..." The Fei Shu's voice was sharp and piercing. When it echoed in the forest, it sounded rather eerie.

Lu Zhou said in a low voice, "You better get lost before I change my mind."

The Fei Shu flapped its wings and screeched once before it turned around and disappeared.

Shang Zhang looked at Lu Zhou strangely and said, "This Fei Shu is really afraid of old sir. It's really strange."

Lu Zhou took the lead and walked forward with his hands on his back.

The others continued to follow behind him.

After walking out of the two core formations, ripples appeared in the space in front of them.

"It's the exit," Xuanyi said happily.

Lu Zhou shook his head and said, "It's not the exit. It's the entrance to the next ancient formation."

Shang Zhang nodded. "That's right. The ancient formations are connected."

Little Yuan'er looked at Shang Zhang, the attendant, and asked, "How do you know so much? Don't tell me you dreamed of it!"

Left with no choice, Shang Zhang, the attendant, could only say, "I read it in an ancient book."

Little Yuan'er asked again, "Then, did the ancient record tell you how to break the ancient formations?"

"The ancient formations are very complicated. We can only deal with them as they come. That sound formation is just one of many."

"Oh." Little Yuan'er nodded.

"Follow me," Lu Zhou said as he passed through the ripples.

Whoosh!

Lu Zhou was suddenly assaulted with a sense of déjà vu. The Netherworld Road, the sound formation, and the scenery suddenly seemed very familiar at this moment. Even the... huge Frost Dragon in the sky now was familiar.

The Fei Shu held a spear and stood at the foot of the huge Frost Dragon like a guard. It looked at Lu Zhou and the others, who were passing through the spatial ripples, and said in a clear voice, "I'll warn you again. Humans aren't allowed to come here."

Lu Zhou raised his head and looked at the statue-like and motionless Frost Dragon that was like a mountain. Images after images flashed in his mind, but they were fragmented and disjointed; he could not make sense of them.

Xuanyi frowned, not knowing what to do. He said solemnly, "This is the Frost Dragon. It's an ancient beast. I didn't expect it to be here..."

Shang Zhang grabbed Conch and Little Yuan'er wrists respectively with his left hand and right hand as he said, "Don't move."

Little Yuan'er and Conch instinctively struggled but found that the force binding their wrists prevented them from moving.

Shang Zhang raised his head and asked, "Why are you guarding Grand Mystic Mountain?"

The Fei Shu shook its head and said, "If you want to know the answer, ask the ancient Frost Dragon."

Shang Zhang scoffed. "Don't threaten me with the ancient Frost Dragon. This is the Great Void. It's not a place where fierce beasts like you can run rampant and act presumptuously."

The Fei Shu said in its shrill voice, "Since when did the Great Void belong to humans alone? I'll say it one more time: leave Grand Mystic Mountain!"

Lu Zhou finally gathered his thoughts and looked at the Fei Shu as he said, "There's a large amount of mysterious power in the Grand Mystic Hall. Is the ancient Frost Dragon trying to absorb that power?"

The Fei Shu pointed its spear at everyone and began counting down.

"Three..."

"Two..."

"One!"

Thousands of icicles appeared behind the Fei Shu and shot out at Lu Zhou and the others.

The five of them erected their protective energies immediately to block the icicles.

At this moment, Shang Zhang turned to look at Lu Zhou and asked, "You're sure you want to go to Grand Mystic Mountain?"

"Of course," Lu Zhou replied.

Seeing Lu Zhou's determination, Shang Zhang said, "Alright, I'll grant you your wish!"

Then, Shang Zhang pushed Little Yuan'er and Conch toward Lu Zhou before he flew up.

Little Yuan'er and Conch looked up and saw the little attendant flying like a meteor in the sky. He held what looked like a dazzling star in his hand as he headed straight for the ancient Frost Dragon's eyes.