Disciples 1711

Chapter 1711: A Sudden Increase in Strength (2)

Ming Xin did not put much pressure on the trio. With Zui Can's death, it was reasonable that they were worried. After giving them their mission, he disappeared.

The trio could only sigh and leave the main hall. They did not dare to question or doubt Ming Xin.

100,000 years had passed; what would it be like over the next 100,000 years? No one knew what the future would be like or how heaven and earth would change.

...

The next morning.

A pillar of blue light shot out of the golden lotus domain's Evil Sky Pavilion to the horizon.

Boom!

The impact shook almost the entire Great Yan.

The cultivation world in Great Yan had long called the Evil Sky Pavilion the Saint Sky Pavilion. Golden Court Mountain had long been regarded as the best cultivation ground in Great Yan.

The pillar of light naturally stirred up a commotion.

Many cultivators passers-by near Golden Court Mountain approached to have a look. They hovered in the air and looked at the pillar of light in awe.

The pillar of light finally dissipated after 15 minutes.

"As expected of Great Yan's Saint Sky Pavilion! We can see a miracle here!"

The young cultivators were all excited.

"Uncle, I've heard many legends and stories about the Saint Sky Pavilion since I was young. I heard that the Pavilion Master of the Saint Sky Pavilion is invincible, and his ten disciples are also very amazing! Are they still around?"

An elder turned around and said, "Of course, they're still around. It's said that they went to a place called the Great Void where experts and fierce beasts gather."

"Wow! It'd be great if I could meet them! I really want to know what they look like!"

The elder continued to say, "Well, you have to work hard if you want to see them. The Great Void isn't a place where everyone can enter."

"Alright! We'll definitely work hard and use the Pavilion Master as our example!"

Suddenly...

Boom!

Another pillar of blue light shot out from the Evil Sky Pavilion's eastern pavilion. When it pierce through the clouds toward the horizon, it created powerful ripples in the air.

All the cultivators were astonished.

"What's that?"

"Strange ... "

"Let's go and take a look."

It was not just cultivators nearby. Cultivators from different directions were all making their way to Golden Court Mountain.

Boom!

The third pillar of light shot into the sky. This time, the shockwave was extremely fierce, causing the wind to blow violently.

"Be careful!"

"Stop! Don't go any closer!"

Most cultivators stopped advancing. Even those who did not stop were forced to stop by the surging and violent wind.

...

At the same time, Zhu Honggong, Li Yunzheng, and Jiang Aijian arrived outside of the eastern pavilion. They looked at the beam of light in confusion.

Jiang Aijian said, "Senior Ji is really good at creating commotions. Fortunately, we're in the Evil Sky Pavilion. No one would be able to cover for him if we were in the Great Void."

Li Yunzheng shook his head and said, "That's not necessarily true. Grandmaster's cultivation should have broken through again. The balance in the nine domains will be affected for sure, and that might attract the Great Void's attention. On the contrary, the Great Void and Unknown Land are so vast that we just might be able to avoid detection."

"Did your master teach you to contradict others all the time?" Jiang Aijian asked.

Li Yunzheng smiled sheepishly and said, "I apologize, Uncle Jiang."

"Alright, alright. Call me Uncle Jiang again," Jiang Aijian said. He rather enjoyed being addressed as Uncle.

"Say that again?"

Jiang Aijian did not expect that he not only did not hear Li Yunzheng calling him 'uncle', but he heard a deep and hoarse voice saying, 'Say that again?'. He shivered before he turned around. He watched as the look in Li Yunzheng's eyes changed. Apart from that, Li Yunzheng's aura and temperament changed as well as he straightened his back.

"Uh... I was just joking..." Jiang Aijian said awkwardly. Then, he straightened his back and asked seriously, "Since we're in the Evil Sky Pavilion, I'm going to leave for a few days. What do you think?"

"If you want to leave, then leave. What does it have to do with me?"

Ling Guang flashed and appeared at the top of the archway outside of the eastern pavilion. He placed his hands on his back as he looked at the pillar of light.

Jiang Aijian: "..."

Zhu Honggong patted his chest and said, "I'm really a f*cking genius! Fortunately, I didn't joke too much with him!"

"…"

Zhu Honggong said, "Don't think too much about it. I have more experience, after all. This is to be expected since you're inexperienced."

Jiang Aijian's voice and tone seemed to change in an instant as he said sternly, "Eighth Junior Brother, say that again?"

Zhu Honggong was briefly stunned, and he instinctively took two steps back. When he regained his senses, he said, "You dare to play tricks on me? Take this punch from me!"

Zhu Honggong rushed over and began to exchange blows with Jiang Aijian.

Jiang Aijian said, "It was just a joke. Why are you petty? It seems like you're still very afraid of Si Wuya."

"It's none of your business!"

The duo fought fiercely for a long time, but there was no victor.

Suddenly, the southern horizon began to burn. It was a magnificent scene.

The duo stopped fighting and looked at the horizon, puzzled.

After a moment, Ling Guang asked, "Fire Phoenix?"

Upon hearing this, realization dawned on Zhu Honggong. He said, ecstatic, "The Fire Phoenix is here?!"

Zhu Honggong had expected that it would take some time before the Fire Phoenix arrived. He did not expect it to be so fast.

When the duo flew closer to the horizon, Ling Guang appeared in front of them.

As expected, they saw the Fire Phoenix flapping its wings, which spanned miles, flying over. It left true fire burning in its wake as it flew.

Many cultivators quickly fled. They were all shocked by the Fire Phoenix's sudden appearance.

"How strange. Why are there so many miraculous phenomena in Saint Sky Pavilion today? Why did such a powerful divine beast appear here?"

Divine beasts were not something ordinary cultivators could compare to, let alone the Immortal Bird, the Fire Phoenix.

Ling Guang looked at the Fire Phoenix with his profound eyes and said, "It seems like it's now a divine lord."

"Divine lord?! So it's now comparable to a Saint slayer?" Jiang Aijian exclaimed.

"The Immortal Bird and my Fire Deity clan have a long history. They were originally one and the same before they split into different branches. One branch is the Vermilion Bird clan, which is also my Fire Deity clan, and the other is the Phoenix clan. They don't just control fire, but they control the law of life and death. They can rise from the ashes," Ling Guang said.

Jiang Aijian asked in confusion, "Isn't that the same for you?"

"No," Ling Guang shook his head and said, "If that's the case, how could I have died so easily? The Fire Deity clan's life is tenacious. Although our bloodline gives us a chance to come back to life, the conditions are very harsh. There are other clans with this ability as well. However, the Fire Phoenix is different. Even if they were truly killed, as long as they had enough time, they will be reborn for sure. There are no conditions."

Zhu Honggong and Jiang Aijian were surprised by these words.

The Fire Phoenix was not called the Immortal Bird for no reason.

Zhu Honggong was also reminded of his Eldest Senior Brother, Yu Zhenghai. When Yu Zhenghai died, he had to be buried and irrigated before he could come back to life.

There were all kinds of strange things in the world. Perhaps, they all had something to do with the power in the abyss.

At this time, a large number of cultivators appeared south of Golden Court Mountain. They manifested their avatars in front of them.

"Beast! This is the Saint Sky Pavilion! It's not a place for you to act rampantly! Leave immediately!" a cultivator said. His voice was like thunder, resounding in the sky.

Jiang Aijian laughed. "Someone's protecting Golden Court Mountain."

"Times have changed... The current Evil Sky Pavilion is no longer the Evil Sky Pavilion of the past. They even changed the name..." Zhu Honggong said.

As far as the eyes could see, thousands of avatars lined the sky. There were quite a number of Elevenleaf cultivators as well. They were hoping to stop the Fire Phoenix from advancing; they were all here to protect Golden Court Mountain.

"Everyone says the golden lotus domain has undergone great changes. It seems like it's true..."

Swoosh!

The Fire Phoenix stopped in the air and silently parted its beaks, spewing out a stream of flames.

"Get out of the way!"

The cultivators were forced to flee in all directions.

The Fire Phoenix flapped its wings, stirring up a violent wind, and began to fly again.

The fierce wind raged, blowing away Thousand Realms Whirling cultivators.

The Fire Phoenix seemed to have deliberately held back from killing them. At this moment, it said, "Lowly humans, get out of the way. Don't force me to start a massacre."

Someone said, "You dare to cause trouble in the Sky Saint Pavilion! Are you seeking death?"

The Fire Phoenix looked at the tiny but courageous cultivators and said, "If it weren't for the pavilion, you would have all been reduced to ashes long ago."

"…"

Although the cultivators really wanted to protect the dignity and sanctity of the Evil Sky Pavilion, they knew they were too weak to do anything.

At this moment, Ling Guang appeared in front of the cultivators and said, "All of you, leave."

"Who is he?"

"I don't know."

Everyone was still puzzled when Ling Guang's body burst into flames. The flames were true fire just like the Fire Phoenix.

The cultivators were confused and shocked by this sudden turn of events. It was unheard of for humans to burst into true fire.

Upon seeing Ling Guang's fire, the Fire Phoenix extinguished its fire, revealing its dazzling feathers. It looked at Ling Guang curiously. "Ling Guang, the Fire Deity?"

Ling Guang extinguished its flames as well and asked, "You still recognized me?"

"You... Why are you here?"

"Why can't I be here?"

"What's your purpose?"

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"What purpose can I have?"
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"…"

Zhu Honggong and Jiang Aijian: "..."

Ling Guang shook his head and said, "Forget it. I won't bother with you. The Pavilion Master of the Evil Sky Pavilion needs your blood essence to refine his disciple's Eight Extraordinary Meridians and Dantian's sea of Qi."

The Fire Phoenix said, "I knew it! That old thing wants something from me!"

Zhu Honggong flew over at this moment and said, "Just tell me if you're going to give it or not. Why are you talking so much nonsense?"

The noble Fire Phoenix had never been spoken to in such a manner by a human before. It burned with anger immediately and said, "What can you do if I don't give it to you?"

Swoosh!

Flames soared into the sky immediately.

Zhu Honggong did not retreat. His golden halo appeared with 15 leaves spinning around it.

When the other cultivators saw the golden halo, they were shocked.

"15-leaf cultivator?!"

"Huh?! 15 leaves? The Saint Sky Pavilion really didn't lie to us! Severing the lotus can also make us powerful! A fifteen-leaf avatar can also stand against a fierce beast like that?!"

The Fire Phoenix looked at Zhu Honggong disdainfully, "Are you seeking death?"

Zhu Honggong scoffed coldly and said, "You better think carefully. My master is just behind you."

Upon hearing this, the Fire Phoenix glanced in the direction of the eastern pavilion in the Evil Sky Pavilion and the pillar of light in the sky that left ripples in its wake. With this, it did not dare to act rashly. Hence, it said, "Tell him to come out."

Jiang Aijian said, "You have to wait for a while. You're really impulsive, and you have no conscience. Senior Ji raised the Little Fire Phoenix for you for so many years, and it's much stronger than before. After being nourished by the Great Void energy, its future is limitless. Giving us a bit of your blood essence is just like asking a chicken for a feather..."

"You're insulting me?" The Fire Phoenix's temper flared up again. It hated being compared to chickens the most. They were not the same species at all, and they were in a completely different league.

"A fierce beast is a fierce beast, after all. You don't understand human language at all. That was just a metaphor, not an insult. You're already a divine lord. Can you act nobler?" Jiang Aijian said.

At this time, Ling Guang soared higher into the sky. Flames surged around him immediately as he spread his arms.

Swoosh!

Ling Guang's wings, which spanned thousands of feet, covered the sky immediately.

The cultivators in the surroundings were dumbfounded.

'These... What are all these things I'm seeing today?!'

Chapter 1712: A Sudden Increase in Strength (3)

The huge fiery wings refreshed the cultivators' worldview.

Most of the young cultivators' understanding of fierce beasts was limited to what their elders told them and the books. Although the passages between the golden lotus domain and the Unknown Land had opened, it did not mean the cultivators could go there as they pleased. Hence, they were very curious about beast emperors, divine beasts, and even Saint slayers. Even if they had seen pictures in the books, it could not compare to seeing them with their own eyes.

After the eight-leaf limit had been broken in the golden lotus domain, the fierce beasts and the Birth Chart beasts that appeared in the golden lotus domain had also been very shocking in the beginning.

Naturally, they were shocked when they saw Fire Phoenix and Ling Guang.

The sky was burning, and the high temperature scorched everyone's shocked faces. After a while, they gradually calmed down. In their opinion, the Saint Sky Pavilion had already created so many miracles; this time was no different.

Ling Guang said in a low voice, "Put away your meaningless anger."

The Fire Phoenix's eyes were like the sun as it stared at Ling Guang and asked, "Do you think I'm afraid of you?"

The conflicts between fierce beasts were often inexplicable. It could be just a simple 'I don't like the way you look at me' that caused a fight,

Ling Guang said, "I know you're not, but do you think I'm afraid of you?"

Neither side was willing to back down. They looked as though they were about to pounce at each other at a moment's notice.

At this time, Zhu Honggong flew out and landed between the duo, intending to mediate. He said, "If there's an issue, let's talk it out. There's no need to fight."

Jiang Aijian chimed in, "That's right, that's right. Both of you are peerless and revered. With so many people watching, it's really a little inappropriate."

The Fire Phoenix glanced at the human cultivators who were as weak as reptiles. All of them wore varying expressions of shock and awe. Upon seeing this, its pride successfully extinguished its flames of fury. It thought to itself, 'Indeed. These humans aren't worthy to witness the might of us noble beings...'

After Fire Phoenix extinguished its flames, Ling Guang extinguished his flames as well.

Suddenly...

Boom!

The fourth pillar of light shot out and pierced the clouds. When the clouds dispersed, wave-like ripples swept out in all directions.

"Be careful!"

The human cultivators hurriedly retreated.

Jiang Aijian and Zhu Honggong turned to look, using their own ability to defend against the shockwave.

Ling Guang looked down at the southern pavilion and frowned slightly. Then, he flew toward the southern pavilion and used his flaming wings to block the shockwave.

The Fire Phoenix looked at the pillar of light and said, "Powerful human."

"It's good that you know," Zhu Honggong said.

The Fire Phoenix suddenly lowered its head and said to Zhu Honggong, "Hand over the Little Fire Phoenix."

Zhu Honggong frowned and said, "Are you kidding me? We helped you take care of it! Why are you so aggressive? Are you asking to be punished?"

Naturally, the Fire Phoenix knew that the Little Fire Phoenix was very well taken care of. However, its hatred toward humans was too deep-rooted. It said disdainfully, "You take care of the Little Fire Phoenix because you want it for yourself! Humans are all hypocrites. Do they think they're superior just because they have divine beasts as their mounts?"

"Oh, you know a lot," Jiang Aijian said. Then, he pointed at the eastern pavilion and added, "In any case, Senior Ji invited you here. You can speak to him."

"Okay."

The Fire Phoenix flapped its wings and rose high up into the sky.

Swoosh!

True fire began to burn in the sky again as the Fire Phoenix flew toward the eastern pavilion. Its voice that imitated human speech was slightly off, but it was deep and powerful as it said, "Hand over the Little Fire Phoenix!"

Boom!

Just as the Fire Phoenix arrived at the eastern pavilion, the fifth pillar of light shot out. This time, it did not head for the clouds. Instead, it shot toward the Fire Phoenix.

Everyone looked at the pillar of light in shock and disbelief.

The Fire Phoenix continued flapping its wings, and the flames surged to resist the pillar of light.

Boom!

The pillar of light landed on one of the Fire Phoenix's wings. The flames on its body weakened slightly, and it was pushed back more than 3,000 feet. It was instantly enraged. It spread its wings. The flames were even more exuberant than before. Its eyes were like the sun and the moon as it opened its beak.

Jiang Aijian frowned. "Fire Phoenix, we called you here for a reason, and it's not to fight! Stop!"

The Fire Phoenix naturally did not pay attention to him. Humans were like ants in its eyes. Following that, dragon-like flames shot out of its mouth.

"Fire Deity!" Jiang Aijian shouted.

Ling Guan turned to glance at the Fire Phoenix before it flew over. "Since you insist on acting like that, don't blame me for being impolite."

Ling Guang was like a ball of light as it blocked the fire.

The flames in the air caused the temperature in Golden Court Mountain to rise; it was really uncomfortable. Some plants that could not withstand the heat had already withered.

The cultivators retreated further and further away as they watched the two flaming experts with worried and shocked expressions on their faces.

Suddenly, the Fire Phoenix's feathers suddenly stood up straight. Then, a screech escaped from its mouth.

The Fire Phoenix's attack might not do anything to Ling Guang, but the same could not be said for the others.

"Run!"

The cultivators watching the battle turned around and fled.

Jiang Aijian said, "This has gone too far. Protect your senior brother and my sister. Go!"

Zhu Honggong agreed readily. "Okay."

Just as Zhu Honggong flew toward the Evil Sky Pavilion, a figure flew over from the eastern pavilion. When it arrived, it hovered among the clouds, flashing with blue electric arcs. A blue lotus could be seen under its feet. 14 leaves spun around the lotus.

Clearly, Lu Zhou had successfully used the five Qilin's life hearts to activate 5 Great Birth Charts.

Lu Zhou could feel the surging power from the blue lotus, and it was not any weaker than his golden lotus that had the full 36 Birth Charts. If it was just pure strength alone, the blue avatar was incomparably powerful. It was just lacking in regard to the power of the laws, but Lu Zhou could make up for it with his divine power. In other words, strength-wise, the blue avatar was like a supreme being.

"What's that?" someone asked from afar when he saw the blue lotus.

"Another expert!"

Jiang Aijian, Ling Guang, and the Fire Phoenix watched as Lu Zhou hovered above the blue lotus. He spread his arms and raised his head with his eyes closed, enjoying himself as he absorbed the energy between heaven and earth.

After a moment, Lu Zhou opened his eyes. Without saying another word, he calmly pushed his right hand down slightly. In the next moment, an astrolabe appeared, and a beam of light shot out and struck the Fire Phoenix.

Boom!

The Fire Phoenix felt as though it had been struck by lightning. Its body was numb. Electric arcs appeared on its body before they surged inside and entered its Eight Extraordinary Meridians, restricting its Primal Qi and power. Just like that, its fire was quickly extinguished.

Ling Guang was also shocked by this scene. He did not think he would be able to do it so easily.

"…"

The Fire Phoenix flapped its wings a few times before it looked at the figure and exclaimed in surprise, "It's you?"

Lu Zhou withdrew his right hand and placed it on his back. He looked down at the Fire Phoenix and said, "We've not seen each other for many years, but your temperament is still the same."

"Give the Little Fire Phoenix back to me!" the Fire Phoenix said.

"I didn't call you here for this," Lu Zhou said.

"What do you want?"

"I need a little of your blood essence," Lu Zhou said.

"…"

The Fire Phoenix flew up and drew level with Lu Zhou. It spread its wings and asked, "Why?"

Lu Zhou replied, "Because my disciple has taken care of the Little Fire Phoenix for 100 years."

"…"

"Over the past 100 years, it has absorbed a large amount of Great Void energy. It's been in the Unknown Land for the past 100 years," Lu Zhou said.

Just like Lu Zhou's mounts, the Little Fire Phoenix was staying in the Unknown Land for the time being.

"The Unknown Land?" the Fire Phoenix was a little surprised.

Lu Zhou extended his hand and said, "It's time to fulfill your promise."

"What promise?" The Fire Phoenix was puzzled.

"Blood essence."

Back then, the Fire Phoenix had left its feather with Lu Zhou so Lu Zhou could summon it when he needed it. Now it seemed to have turned hostile and refused to acknowledge Lu Zhou.

When Lu Zhou saw the Fire Phoenix hesitating, he said in a low voice, "If it's so inconvenient for you, I can just take it myself."

"?"

Lu Zhou strolled leisurely in the air as the blue lotus under his feet followed him. He emitted a mysterious and indescribable aura. The electric arcs flashing on his body made him look even more threatening and oppressive. His eyes were piercing and shone with a mysterious light every so often.

The Fire Phoenix felt like its body was still a little numb from the attack earlier. It suddenly tucked its wings to the sides and said, "I'll give it to you."

Lu Zhou stopped in his tracks. He nodded and said, "Very good."

The Fire Phoenix's wings flashed before a small ball of red light flew out of its body.

In the past, the Fire Phoenix had felt angry and humiliated when it lost a drop of true blood in the green lotus domain. 200 years later, he lost another drop of its blood. How embarrassing.

History had a tendency of repeating itself after all.

Lu Zhou waved his hand casually, using an energy seal to protect the Fire Phoenix's blood essence. Then, he tossed it to Jiang Aijian and said, "Give it to him."

Jiang Aijian caught the blood essence and nodded. "Understood."

Then, Jiang Aijian turned around and flew to the southern pavilion.

At the same time, Ling Guang flew up to the right of Lu Zhou. He looked at Lu Zhou with a complicated expression and said, "You've become stronger."

"Are you surprised?" Lu Zhou replied with a question.

"No," Ling Guang shook his head and said, "Everyone knows that you've veered off the orthodox path to the unorthodox path. You walk alone on your cultivation path. It's within reason that you've grown stronger."

"You also hate the unorthodox path?" Lu Zhou asked.

Ling Guang shook his head again. "In the Fire Deity clan, there's no distinction between the orthodox and the unorthodox. Humans like to force their opinion on others and label everything. What's right and what's wrong? When they're unhappy, they use eradicating evil as a pretext to kill their opponents. In the end, the only distinction is the strong and the weak."

At this moment, the Fire Phoenix asked in a hoarse voice, "What are you talking about?"

Ling Guang looked at the Fire Phoenix as though it was an idiot as he said, "You're the noble Immortal Bird. Even if you haven't met him before, you should have heard of his legends. At this point, how is it that you're still unable to recognize him?"

"…"

The Fire Phoenix flapped its wings and stared at Lu Zhou intently with its sun-like eyes. It recalled its three battles with him. The first time was in the Unknown Land. At that time, it had just become a divine beast. It had used all its might but was unable to break his Golden Buddha's Body. The second time was in the green lotus domain. It had been searching for the Little Fire Phoenix at that time. At that time, it had been struck down by his palm seals, causing him to lose a drop of its true blood. The third was today in the golden lotus domain. It had already become a divine lord, but it was still no match for him. The pillar of light earlier had filled its heart with... fear. Until now, the numb and tingling feeling had yet to disappear.

Ling Guang's words stirred the Fire Phoenix's memories before realization dawned on it. Then, it lowered its head and said in a somewhat disbelieving tone, "It's you! You're back?!"

Chapter 1713: Zhi Ming

During the battle at the green lotus domain, the Fire Phoenix had been suspicious of Lu Zhou's identity. He had thought that Lu Zhou was an expert from the Great Void. However, the more he thought about it, it thought if Lu Zhou was truly an expert from the Great Void, during their first battle in the Unknown Land, Lu Zhou would not have fought it alone nor would Lu Zhou allow a divine beast like it to leave. Hence, it dismissed its suspicion.

Later on, apart from ensuring its own safety, the Fire Phoenix also had to consider the Little Fire Phoenix's safety. In the end, it had no choice but to entrust the Little Fire Phoenix to Lu Zhou's disciple, Little Yuan'er. After that, it had no other chance to determine Lu Zhou's identity.

The Fire Phoenix was born in ancient times. It shared the same lineage as the Ling Guang, the Vermilion Bird. It was one of the beasts with the highest and noblest bloodline. In ancient times, they had never bothered to interact with humans. Humans' knowledge of Fire Phoenixes was only through hearsay and rumors. No one had ever subdued or come close to a Fire Phoenix, after all.

Conversely, the Fire Phoenix's knowledge of humans was also limited, and this included the high and mighty Unholy One. It had only heard about the peerless Unholy One in the Great Void and his unbelievable deeds like creating the first mountain; Grand Mystic Mountain, in the Great Void, defeating many supreme beings in the Great Void, crossing the Endless Ocean, and circling the Great Maelstrom. There were too many legends about the Unholy One in the world that they could not be counted.

Lu Zhou nodded. He looked at the Fire Phoenix and asked, "Can't you tell?"

The Fire Phoenix was still shocked.

"Do you have a problem with lending me a drop of your blood essence?" Lu Zhou asked.

The Fire Phoenix thought to itself, 'Lend? What a word to use! Are you going to return it to me?!'

Seeing that the Fire Phoenix did not protest, Lu Zhou nodded in satisfaction and said, "Fire Phoenix, I have a few words for you."

"Please... Please speak," the Fire Phoenix said somewhat timidly.

"First of all, humans are the elders of all living things. Even if there's inequality, humans are on top, not the other way around. If it's not necessary, it's best for you to put away your arrogance. Second, the Little Fire Phoenix is staying in the Unknown Land with my mounts. All of them are very safe. In the future, they'll all become a force to reckon with. Third, cultivate well and don't let down your bloodline. If you want respect, you should learn to respect others, and that includes humans." After saying these words, he waved his hand and said, "You can go now."

"…"

The Fire Phoenix wanted to complain, but when it sensed Lu Zhou's oppressive aura, it gave up on the idea. It flapped its wings and said, "I hope what you said is true."

"Thank you for your words of advice," the Fire Phoenix said again before it flapped its wings and flew away in just a blink of an eye, disappearing into the clouds.

With this, the cultivators in the distance heaved a huge sigh of relief. Then, they rushed over.

A cultivator asked loudly, "Senior, may I ask if you know anyone from the Evil Sky Pavilion?"

Lu Zhou glanced at the cultivators and said, "You have the heart to protect Golden Court Mountain. Your courage is commendable, but you must only act within your means. Everyone, please leave."

The cultivators naturally understood Lu Zhou's meaning. They could only look at Lu Zhou and Ling Guang regretfully and bow. Just as they were about to leave...

"Wait," Lu Zhou said. He waved his hand, using the Heavenly Writing's power of healing.

The blue lotuses flew out toward the cultivators and the surroundings.

Those who were injured were healed in a blink of an eye, and the overwhelming vitality energy immediately revived the withered plants that had been roasted by the true fire.

A few of the young cultivators who were rather talented could sense that the vitality energy not only healed their injuries, but it also strengthened their Eight Extraordinary Meridians and Dantians' seas of Qi, increasing the limit of the cultivation. They were overjoyed and hurriedly bowed to Lu Zhou one after another.

"Thank you, senior!"

Lu Zhou waved his hand, indicating that everyone should leave. This had always been his way of doing things. If people respected him, he would return the favor.

After everyone left, Lu Zhou flashed and appeared in the southern pavilion. He saw that Jiang Aijian had already given the Fire Phoenix's blood essence to Si Wuya, and Princess Yong Ning was carefully taking care of Si Wuya.

Si Wuya, who had consumed the blood essence, glowed red.

At this time, Zhu Honggong and Ling Guang also came to the southern pavilion.

Ling Guang said, "Although I don't care much about the Fire Phoenix, I have to admit its blood essence is not bad."

Jiang Aijian nodded. "If we can get all the blood essence for him, I believe it won't be long before he can withstand your power."

"It's just that I'll be going to sleep forever soon," Ling Guang said bluntly.

"Haven't you thought about continuing to exist?"

Ling Guang sighed. "I have, but it's impossible. My consciousness has to exist in my true body. I'm already very satisfied that I can survive until now. The longer it takes, the more my consciousness will weaken. If I can transfer my power to him, my death will be worth it."

Zhu Honggong said, "Senior, you look great now! Don't die so easily!"

Ling Guang looked at Zhu Honggong and said, "I'm different from the Fire Phoenix. I have been on Mount Halcyon for 100,000 years. My true body has long been damaged by the formation there. This possession technique is just a temporary solution. Moreover, don't you wish for this young man, who lent me his body, to live a normal life again?"

Everyone fell silent.

Li Yunzheng had never done anything to disappoint them. He had never done anything wrong. Most importantly, he willingly suffered so much just for Si Wuya. How could they do such a thing to him?

Lu Zhou said, "Back then, when I went to the Unknown Land, I met Lord Zhennan at the Great Desolate Land. He was also born in ancient times. In order to prolong his life, he transferred his power and consciousness to a tree using a parasitic technique."

Ling Guang raised his hand to stop Lu Zhou and said, "I would rather die."

To Ling Guang, this kind of evil technique was more repulsive than eating a few pounds of flies.

"Alright. I respect your decision."

Although Lu Zhou knew the resurrection technique, it could only be used on those who still had their true bodies. Ling Guang's problem was unsolvable. Between Li Yunzheng and Ling Guang, there could only be one.

Ling Guang cupped his fists at Lu Zhou and bowed slightly. "Thank you."

Even Ling Guang, the Fire Deity, had to show respect to the Unholy One.

Lu Zhou said to the others, "All of you stay in the southern pavilion. I'll go and look for the other three blood essences. If he wakes up, let me know."

"Yes, master," Zhu Honggong said obediently.

"Senior Ji, these are locations of the runic passages to the Great Void. As for us, we won't be returning to the Great Void for the time being," Jiang Aijian said as he handed a piece of paper to Lu Zhou.

Princess Yong Ning, who wished Si Wuya would recover as soon as possible, bowed and said, "I hope everything goes smoothly for Senior Ji."

Lu Zhou nodded and disappeared.

...

Xuanyi Palace in the Great Void.

As soon as Lu Zhou appeared in Xuanyi Palace, a guard rushed over and said, "Senior Lu, Emperor Xuanyi asked me to wait for you here. He said to invite you over when you return."

"What's the matter?"

Lu Zhou did not have time to chat with Xuanyi. He did not even have time to bother with the people of the Evil Sky Pavilion.

The guard replied, "The White Emperor is now a guest of Xuanyi Palace. He said that he won't leave until he sees you."

"The White Emperor?"

'What a coincidence.'

Originally, Lu Zhou planned to look for Meng Zhang to get its blood essence first. However, since Bai Zhaoju came looking for him, he might as well start with Bai Zhaoju.

Lu Zhou nodded to the guard and made his way to the main hall.

•••

In the main hall, Xuanyi was drinking and chatting happily with Bai Zhaoju.

Lu Zhou had yet to enter the hall, but he could already hear the sounds of laughter. The duo was clearly extremely happy.

"Pavilion Master Lu, you've arrived," the guard said respectfully.

Upon hearing the guard's words, Xuanyi's eyes lit up immediately. He said, "Look! He's back!"

Bai Zhaoju set his wine cup down and looked outside the hall.

Lu Zhou walked in slowly.

Xuanyi smiled and rose to his feet before he greeted, "Pavilion Master Lu, the White Emperor has been waiting for you for a long time."

Lu Zhou glanced at Bai Zhaoju before he walked over and took a seat in front of the large table.

Bai Zhaoju looked a little awkward at this time. 'He's sitting down just like that? It's fine if he doesn't flatter me, but he's not even going to greet me? Ah, who cares? If he's not embarrassed then I shouldn't feel embarrassed.'

With that, Bai Zhaoju sat down as well. Then, he said with a smile, "Pavilion Master Lu, meeting you is better than just hearing about you."

Lu Zhou did not beat around the bush. He said, "You protected my disciples for 100 years on the eastern Lost Island. Tell me, what do you want?"

"…"

'I didn't think it could get even more awkward... No matter what, I'm still the highly-respected White Emperor. Why did you make it seem like I'm here to ask for charity?!'

Bai Zhaoju coughed. He straightened his back and said solemnly, "When I do things, I don't expect anything in return."

Lu Zhou nodded. "I admire such people. Back then, you left your jade token behind to help me enter the Great Abyss Land. Apart from that, you also made your cultivators wait near the Pillar of Destruction. Now, you don't even ask for anything in return. It's truly admirable."

"…"

Everyone knew the Unholy One had many treasures. Any one of them would make people go crazy.

Lu Zhou poured a cup of wine and said, "Since you're not going to ask for anything in return, let me toast you at least."

"…"

'Just a cup of wine?'

This was Bai Zhaoju's inner monologue.

Contrary to Bai Zhaoju, Xuanyi, the super fan, was surprised and slightly envious. What was 'just a cup of wine' to Bai Zhaoju, was an honor to him. He had never heard of anyone who had been toasted by the Unholy One!

The Four Emperors of the Lost Lands were greatly respected when they were in the Great Void. Even after they left, they were still very much respected. However, in Xuanyi's eyes, the quartet was just children in front of his teacher!

In the cultivation world, the strong preyed on the weak. There was no reason for the strong to bow down to the weak.

Thinking of this, Bai Zhaoju only sighed inwardly and raised his cup as he said, "Very well."

The duo clinked their cups and drained the wine in the cups.

Thousands of words were contained in this toast.

Xuanyi looked at Lu Zhou unblinkingly as he tried his hardest to project his thoughts to Lu Zhou. 'Teacher, why didn't you clink cups with me?"

After the two seniors finished drinking, Xuanyi lowered his head and drank his cup of wine as well. He thought to himself, 'Hmm, the wine is also fragrant even though I'm drinking alone.'

At this time, Lu Zhou suddenly said, "In fact, I have something to ask you."

Bai Zhaoju was stunned. For some reason, he felt like he had walked into a trap. It was fine that he did not receive a reward, but he still had to work for another person? However, the word 'ask' sounded very pleasant to his ears. After all, the other party was a powerful expert. He was naturally very happy to have a powerful expert 'ask' him something.

And so, Bai Zhaoju smiled and said, "Please speak."

"Do you know Zhi Ming's current whereabouts?" Lu Zhou asked.

Bai Zhaoju's smile stiffened before it vanished completely. He asked, "Pavilion Master Lu, what is this about?"

Lu Zhou replied frankly, "It's for an extremely important matter. I have to find it."

"I'm afraid I can't help you with this matter," Bai Zhaoju said.

"Reason?" Lu Zhou asked.

"I owe Zhi Ming a debt of gratitude. I promised it that I would never reveal its whereabouts," Bao Zhaoju replied.

Chapter 1714: Lost Island

Lu Zhou's heart skipped a beat. "So you really do know Zhi Ming's whereabouts."

Bai Zhaoju: "?"

Bai Zhaoju really wished he could take back his words, but it was too late. He felt like the cup of wine was no longer fragrant. He said, "So what if I know? No matter the reason, I won't reveal its whereabouts."

Lu Zhou did not respond to those words. Instead, he said slowly, "When Si Wuya died, his Eldest Senior Brother personally made the coffin for him. He also followed Si Wuya's wishes and dropped the coffin into the sea. Unexpectedly, Si Wuya didn't die. You saved my seventh disciple. In a way, this grace is no less than that of parents."

Bai Zhaoju was puzzled. He did not understand why Lu Zhou suddenly mentioned this matter.

Lu Zhou continued to say, "Although he regained his life, he's extremely weak. He doesn't have long to live."

Bai Zhaohue frowned slightly. 'Who would curse their disciples like that?'

Then, Bai Zhaojue said, "I saw him just a few days ago. His aura is stable, and his cultivation is fine as well. How can you say he doesn't have long to live?"

Lu Zhou said, "What you saw is only the surface of things."

Lu Zhou naturally did not say Qi Sheng was not Si Wuya at that time.

At this moment, Xuanyi suddenly interjected, "I believe in Pavilion Master Lu's judgment."

Bai Zhaoju glanced at Xuanyi but did not say anything.

Lu Zhou said, "To remedy the situation, we need Zhi Ming's blood essence to refine and strengthen his Eight Extraordinary Meridians. Since you've saved him once, you won't just do nothing and watch him die, right?"

Bai Zhaoju fell silent. He really admired Si Wuya. When Si Wuya lived on the Lost Island, Si Wuya had made many contributions. If it was true that Si Wuya's life was in danger, he indeed could not sit idly. However, the matter was very complicated. If he was not careful, he might be doomed.

Seeing Bai Zhaoju's grave expression, Xuanyi asked curiously, "What is it you're worried about, White Emperor?"

Bai Zhaoju continued to keep quiet.

Xuanyi said, "With Pavilion Master Lu's ability, it's not difficult for him to find Zhi Ming. During ancient times, Zhi Ming left the Great Void and set off east of the Endless Ocean. Zhi Ming is one of the Four Divinities of Heaven. In order to avoid being detected by the Scales of Justice, it won't return easily, and it won't leave easily. As long as we look in the Endless Ocean, we're bound to find some clues."

Bai Zhaoju: "???"

Bai Zhaoju's expression was not very good. Clearly, he was displeased with Xuanyi's words.

Xuanyi only looked at Bai Zhaoju with a smile after he finished speaking. His expression seemed to say, "This is a great chance for you to improve your relationship with my teacher. Don't waste this chance!"

Bai Zhaoju was the White Emperor, after all. How could he not understand Xuanyi's words? However, he still remained silent. The matter was complicated, after all.

Lu Zhou drained another cup of wine. He gently placed the cup on the table and said, "I'm going to the Endless Ocean in the east. Both of you can continue chatting."

Xuanyi and Bai Zhaoju: " ... "

Xuanyi hurriedly rose to his feet and said, "The Endless Ocean is vast. Pavilion Master Lu, how do you plan to find Zhi Ming?"

Lu Zhou said, "My disciple is in grave danger. A master for a day, a father for life. My disciples treat me as their father. How can I do nothing? No matter how long it takes, no matter how far it is, even if it's at the end of the world, I'll still find Zhi Ming."

Bai Zhaoju: "..."

Xuanyi said, "Since Pavilion Master Lu is determined, Xuanyi Palace is willing to do its best to help. Pavilion Master Lu, the Dark Guards will be at your disposal."

Bai Zhaoju looked at Xuanyi in confusion. 'Why is he so ready and quick to help? The Dark Guards are the core strength of Xuanyi Palace, and he's just handing the command over to another person?'

Xuanyi naturally knew what Bai Zhaoju was thinking. He said, "Duanmu Sheng, who used to be with the Scarlet Emperor, is now the Commander of Xuanyi Palace. Duanmu Sheng is Pavilion Master Lu's disciple. It's only natural for him to help Pavilion Master Lu."

These words were reasonable.

Lu Zhou nodded. "That's good. If Duanmu Sheng doesn't do his job well as the Commander of Xuanyi Palace, just tell me."

A dazzling smile blossomed on Xuanyi's face and said, "I will."

It made one wonder what Chi Biaonu, the Scarlet Emperor, would think if he was present.

"Alright. I don't want to waste time. I'm leaving," Lu Zhou said as he turned to leave.

At this time, Bai Zhaoju suddenly remembered the two owners of the Great Void Seeds by his side. He raised his hand and called out, "Wait."

Lu Zhou turned around and looked at Bai Zhaoju skeptically. "What is it?"

"It's not like I can't tell you where Zhi Ming is..." Bai Zhaoju said.

Xuanyi: "..."

"Where is it?" Lu Zhou asked.

Bai Zhaoju thought about it for a moment before he said, "Before that, I'd like to ask you a few questions."

"Speak."

"I'm very curious. What method did you use to gather all ten Great Void Seeds back then?" Bai Zhaoju asked.

Xuanyi's heart skipped a beat. Although everyone had guessed this and was shocked and curious, it was still impolite to ask so directly. After all, no one knew what kind of method was used, and it might not be an upright method.

Lu Zhou stared at Bai Zhaoju and said, "I used an invisibility technique."

"Invisibility technique?" Bai Zhaoju was even more confused.

What kind of invisibility technique could hide from the senses of the Great Void's experts? Moreover, could it help one to travel to all the Ten Pillars of Destruction within such a short time?

Lu Zhou's expression was calm as he turned around and took a step forward. His body glowed ever so faintly before he suddenly vanished into thin air.

"Where's he?"

Xuanyi and Bai Zhaoju were shocked. Lu Zhou literally disappeared into thin air. There was no energy resonance or fluctuations, and his aura had disappeared. They were both first-class experts, and there were not many who knew cultivation more than they did. To be able to disappear without a trace in front of them, how great was this invisibility technique?

Lu Zhou reappeared behind the duo and said, "Here."

The duo spun around in shock. They did not sense Lu Zhou at all. How terrifying would this ability be during a battle? They could be ambushed at any time.

After a while, Bai Zhaoju asked again, "At that time, I'm afraid your cultivation wasn't this high, right?"

Although Bai Zhaoju had vaguely guessed Lu Zhou's identity, he felt that Lu Zhou should not have this kind of cultivation at that time when the Great Void Seeds matured.

Lu Zhou scoffed and said, "You're just a new divine emperor. Among divine emperors, you're just a lesser divine emperor. The cultivation world is mysterious and filled with all kinds of unimaginable

wonders. The things you don't like are as many as a sea of stars. Don't tell me I have to explain everything to you step by step before you believe me?"

Bai Zhaoju: "..."

Although the words were harsh, they were also the truth.

There were very few people who dared to speak to Bai Zhaoju in this manner. After being in such a high position for a long time and getting used to being flattered, he felt awkward when Lu Zhou rebuked him.

Lu Zhou said, "I had left runic passages around the ten pillars. It's not difficult to travel to all of the pillars in a short time. Entering the pillars isn't a problem at all"

Xuanyi found this explanation very reasonable. He said praisingly "I see! If Pavilion Master Lu didn't say it, I'm afraid no one would be able to solve this mystery! I really didn't expect that was how the ten Great Void Seeds were lost."

"Lost?" Lu Zhou frowned slightly.

Xuanyi turned to the side and spat before he corrected his words, "I meant, I didn't expect that was how the ten seeds were harvested."

"The earth gives birth to all things. The Great Void Seeds came from the earth and did not belong to any one person. What right did the Great Void have to claim the Great Void Seeds?"

Bai Zhaoju deeply agreed with this. Finally, he said, "Alright. I'll bring you to Zhi Ming. However, before that, I have a few conditions."

Xuanyi said, "White Emperor, don't you think you're too much?"

It was just leading Lu Zhou to Zhi Ming. Was there a need to go this far?

Bai Zhaoju said, "I have no other choice. I hope you can forgive me."

"Speak," Lu Zhou said, gesturing for him to state his conditions.

Bai Zhaoju said, "First, this matter must be kept a secret. There must not be any leaks."

"I promise you this," Lu Zhou said. It was not a difficult request.

Bai Zhaoju continued to say, "Second, you must not do anything that will harm Zhi Ming."

Lu Zhou thought to himself, 'Asking for blood essence shouldn't be considered as harming Zhi Ming, right? Modern people donate blood all the time and view it as a good deed...'

Lu Zhou nodded. "I agree."

Then, Bai Zhaoju said, "Third, only both of us will go on this trip. No one is allowed to come with us."

Xuanyi protested, "White Emperor, isn't this too much?"

"I have a reason for this," Bai Zhaoju said firmly.

Lu Zhou nodded again. "Very well."

Upon hearing this, Bai Zhaoju said, "Let's go."

"In this world, there aren't many people who can negotiate with me. You can be considered one of them," Lu Zhou said before he turned and left the hall.

Bai Zhaoju was slightly startled. After thinking about it carefully, he thought that was really the case. His heart could not help but skip a beat when he thought about what he had done earlier. Even when he calmed down, fear still lingered in his heart.

Chapter 1715: Time to Show His Power (1)

Lu Zhou did not care about the three conditions. His main goal now was to obtain Zhi Ming's blood essence. The conditions were nothing. Moreover, the other party was the White Emperor; the White Emperor was hardly like ordinary people.

Although Bai Zhaoju knew the way, they still had to fly quite a distance. The eastern Lost Island was very far away. In order to sever communications to the Great Void, there were hardly any runic passages that linked the two sides. Even if there were, the runic passages were still located a distance away from the destination.

Lu Zhou and Bai Zhaoju arrived in the east of the Great Void through a nearby runic passage. Then, after traveling through another runic passage at the east, they flew to the Endless Ocean.

When they arrived above the Endless Ocean, the waves were turbulent. It was not as calm as before.

Lu Zhou, who had come to the Endless Ocean many times, no longer had the anxieties of the earlier days. He remained indifferent as he looked at the sea.

Bai Zhaoju pointed at the surface of the sea and said, "There are too many sea beasts. It's best we don't clash with them."

Lu Zhou clasped his hands on his back and said, "My goal has never been these sea beasts."

"Cultivators from the Great Void rarely come to the Endless Ocean. In fact, it's the cultivators from the nine domains that come here often, hoping to kill some sea beasts and obtain their life hearts. The mutual slaughtering between humans and fierce beasts hasn't changed at all..." Bai Zhaoju said.

"The ruler of the fierce beasts hasn't appeared for a long time now," Lu Zhou said with a small sigh.

"You're talking about Kun?" Bai Zhaoju asked.

"Although Kun is powerful, it's not the ruler of the fierce beasts," Lu Zhou replied.

Bai Zhaoju was curious. He cupped his fists together at Lu Zhou and asked, "Then, who's the ruler of the fierce beasts?"

Lu Zhou's expression was calm as he looked at the boundless sea and said, "That's not important."

Following that, Lu Zhou shot across the sky toward the east like a meteor.

Bai Zhaoju could only sigh and follow Lu Zhou.

After a while, the two experts finally arrived at a reef.

Bai Zhaoju explained, "This is the only place that links the Lost Island to the Great Void. From here, we can reach the Lost Island."

Lu Zhou nodded. Then, he asked curiously, "Why did you leave the Great Void back then?"

This question brought back unpleasant memories for Bai Zhaoju. He looked slightly embarrassed as he said, "I was weak."

Bai Zhaoju only became a divine emperor when he was at the Endless Ocean. The reason he became one of the Four Emperors of the Lost Lands was due to his charisma, partly due to his righteous and aboveboard way of doing things, and partly due to his good relationship with the other three Emperors of the Lost Land. He was so personable that even Ming Xin did not view him as an enemy.

Among the Four Emperors of the Lost Lands, Bai Zhaoju was the last to leave the Great Void. At that time, even Ming Xin persuaded him to stay. Needless to say, he refused.

Lu Zhou had nothing more to say to this answer so he said, "Let's go."

After the two landed on a rock, Bai Zhaoju activated the runic passage.

With a flash of light, the duo disappeared and reappeared in the western sky of the Lost Island. From afar, the Lost Island looked like a line.

Lu Zhou hovered in the air and observed the Lost Island for a while before saying, "You actually found such a huge island. Mount Halcyon is only average in comparison."

"Mount Halcyon is so special. How can this island compare to it? Let's go."

The duo flew at a very high speed. After a few breaths, they were already very close to the island.

The Lost Island was lush. The scenery was lush, the air was fresh, and the vitality energy was abundant. It was a good place to cultivate.

Lu Zhou admired the scenery for a while and said, "Such a good place. Why do you want to return to the Great Void?"

Bai Zhaoju sighed and said, "It's just like a fallen leaf that wants to return to its roots."

As soon as Bai Zhaoju's voice fell, a large number of white-clad cultivators appeared on the island and flew up into the sky. About 100 of them rushed over immediately. When they saw Bai Zhaoju, they were extremely surprised. They quickly bowed and greeted him, "Greetings, Your Majesty!"

Bai Zhaoju waved his sleeve and said, "Forget it. Hurry up and greet Pavilion Master Lu."

"Greetings, Pavilion Master Lu," the white-clad cultivators said in unison.

Inwardly, the white-clad cultivators were puzzled. Who was Pavilion Master Lu? Why did it seem like he was on equal footing with the White Emperor?

Back then, some of the white-clad cultivators present had met Lu Zhou at the Pillar of Destruction. However, they only felt that he looked a little familiar; they did not recognize him.

Lu Zhou said calmly, "It's not easy to have so many people follow you..."

Bai Zhaoju said, "You flatter me.

"Alright, let's cut the small talk. Bring me to Zhi Ming," Lu Zhou said.

Lu Zhou's words were like a stone that stirred up a thousand waves.

Among the white-clad cultivators, a senior disciple raised his head in surprise. A frown could be seen on his face as he asked, "Pavilion Master Lu, you came to look for Zhi Ming?"

Lu Zhou nodded.

The senior disciples said immediately, "Your Majesty, please reconsider! This is a matter of great importance. You must not let outsiders know about it."

With the senior disciple taking the lead, the others echoed his words.

"Your Majesty, please reconsider!"

Lu Zhou did not care about the attitude and opinions of these people. Only Bai Zhaoju's attitude was important.

Bai Zhaoju flashed forward and clasped his hands on his back. He stood in front of the white-clad cultivators and said, "Pavilion Master Lu is not an outsider."

The white-clad cultivators looked at each other in dismay.

'How could we not know if he's an outsider or not? Your Majesty, you're treating us like fools!'

"This matter is too important. It concerns the lives of thousands of the Lost Kingdom. Your Majesty, please reconsider."

'Lost Kingdom?'

Long before Bai Zhaoju became a divine emperor, he had already decided to spend a long life on the Lost Island. He built his own kingdom here. It was rumored that the Lost Island used to be part of the land before it split. The land split into pieces, and some of them drifted on the Endless Ocean. Bai Zhaoju's Lost Island, Chi Biaonu's Southern Flaming Sea, and Mount Halcyon were just a few of them. That was why they were referred to as the Lost Lands or Lost Islands.

Chapter 1716: Time to Show His Power (2)

The Four Emperors of the Lost Land enjoyed very high prestige and status in the respective areas they ruled. They were like Chen Fu, who had the highest cultivation in the green lotus domain. In fact, they were even more influential than Chen Fu.

Bai Zhaoju looked at everyone and said, "I know what to do. Pavilion Master Lu is not an outsider. He's Qi Sheng's master."

"Qi Sheng's master?"

The white-clad cultivator was surprised.

'Qi Sheng has a master?'

'Qi Sheng is such a talented figure so his master can't be weak...'

The white-clad cultivators carefully examined the calm Lu Zhou again.

Bai Zhaoju continued to say, "I have a close relationship with Qi Sheng, and Qi Sheng's contribution to the Lost Kingdom is obvious. There's no need to discuss this matter anymore."

Everyone was puzzled. They did not understand why Bai Zhaoju was so insistent about this.

Some of the core disciples wanted to protest, but they were stopped by the elders. After all, it was not appropriate to contradict the White Emperor in public. No matter how even-tempered the White Emperor was, he still had a bottom line that could not be crossed.

Moreover, it was obvious that Bai Zhaoju and Lu Zhou had come to an agreement. If they still protested, they would definitely have a taste of Bai Zhaoju's fury.

Bai Zhao gestured to Lu Zhou and said, "Please."

Lu Zhou flew with one hand on his back.

The white-clad cultivators made way for the duo and watched them fly toward an enclosed platform on the island.

"That's the enclosed platform," Bai Zhaoju said like a guide.

"The enclosed platform? Zhi Ming has been in your territory all along?" Lu Zhou was slightly surprised.

Zhi Ming was one of the Four Divinities of Heaven. It was surprising that it was willing to stay on the Lost Island.

Soon enough, the duo arrived at the enclosed platform.

The enclosed platform was supported by a huge pillar. The platform was circular. It was located next to a 90-degree vertical cliff. From above, one could see the violent waves of the Endless Ocean.

"It's usually very quiet and calm here. The weather isn't very good today," Bai Zhaoju said.

"Where's Zhi Ming?" Lu Zhou asked. He was not interested in other things now. At this moment, he only wanted to meet Zhi Ming as soon as possible.

Bai Zhaoju smiled and said, "Pavilion Master Lu, there's no need to be anxious. We're already here. I won't go back on my words."

Lu Zhou replied, "Some things have priority and can't be delayed."

His disciple was lying in bed like a sickly child all day long. How could he, as a master, act leisurely?

As though he did hear Lu Zhou's words, Bai Zhaoju asked, "Pavilion Master, what do you think of the scenery here? Are the waters clear? Are the skies blue?"

"…"

Lu Zhou frowned slightly. He had never liked beating around the bush. He was just about to voice his displeasure when...

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Several white-clad cultivators flew over from behind. These white-clad cultivators' auras were distinctly different from the white-clad cultivators from earlier. They were not young, and their cultivation was not low.

Lu Zhou pointed at the newcomers and asked, "What do you mean by this?"

Bai Zhaoju sighed and said, "They're the Three Celestials of the Lost Island. Back then, they left the Great Void with me and helped me establish the Lost Kingdom here. They can be considered my most capable subordinates."

The Three Celestials were divine lords, but it was unknown if they were greater or lesser divine lords.

The three cultivators hovered in the air for a moment before the elderly cultivator in the middle bowed and said, "Weng Zhi greets Your Majesty, the White Emperor. I heard that Your Majesty is bringing someone to meet Zhi Ming. I'm afraid this is inappropriate."

Weng Zhi spoke very bluntly. His eyes were fixed on Lu Zhou as he spoke.

Lu Zhou shook his head and said, "You're a divine emperor, and yet, you still have to obtain permission from others to act."

Bai Zhaoju, whose authority was being questioned, was naturally displeased. He said in a low voice, "Weng Zhi, all of you, leave now. No one's to come near without my orders!"

"Your Majesty!"

The trio fell to their knees in unison.

Bai Zhaoju said in a deep voice, "So you're going to defy my orders?"

A halo appeared on Bai Zhaoju's body.

Weng Zhi said resolutely, "Your Majesty, even if I lose my life, I still have to say it. The peace of the Lost Kingdom wasn't easy to come by. There are thousands of people here whom you need to protect. If anything happens to Zhi Ming, we'll be sinners for eternity! Please reconsider, Your Majesty!"

The other two cried out in unison, "Please reconsider, Your Majesty!"

Lu Zhou had no intention of harming Zhi Ming at all. Bai Zhaoju's initial reaction was a little extreme as well. However, in the end, he managed to convince Bai Zhaoju. After all that, a group of people suddenly jumped out to obstruct his path. How could he tolerate it? It was time for him to show his strength.

Lu Zhou's voice darkened as he said, "Impudent!"

The soundwave swept out along with the divine Dao power.

The three divine lords' expressions changed slightly as they raised their arms in front of them.

Boom!

The trio flew back. They looked at Lu Zhou, who had suddenly attacked, in shock. With just one move, they were forced to retreat. What a terrifying strength!

Bai Zhaoju did not expect Lu Zhou to attack. For a moment, he was in a dilemma. Taking Lu Zhou's side and reprimanding his men did not make sense, and taking his men's side and alienating a guest was improper, not to mention that he had already given his word.

Lu Zhou scoffed coldly. "I have an agreement with the White Emperor. I must see Zhi Ming. If you insist on being stubborn, don't blame me for being impolite."

Bai Zhaoju could tell Lu Zhou was really angry so he said to the trio immediately, "I've said it earlier. Leave."

The trio took a few steps back and said reluctantly, "Yes..."

Seeing the reluctance on the trio's faces, Lu Zhou turned to Bai Zhaoju and said, "In my opinion, you should abdicate your throne. It seems like there's someone more suitable to rule your Lost Kingdom."

The Three Celestials were shocked when they heard Lu Zhou's sarcastic words. They fell to their knees at the same time and cried out, "We don't dare! We're loyal, and we have no ill intentions!"

Bai Zhaoju looked slightly embarrassed and said, "Pavilion Master Lu, don't joke. The three of them risked their lives for me and with me. If they really harbor ill intentions, they wouldn't have left the Great Void with me back then."

Lu Zhou shook his head and said, "You don't understand my words."

"Please explain."

"If the ruler of the Lost Kingdom isn't you, do you think I'd be wasting my time now? I'd kill everyone immediately."

Boom!

As soon as Lu Zhou finished speaking, he stomped his foot.

The land shook, and the trees within 3,000 feet shook, causing leaves to fall.

Everyone's expressions changed drastically. They looked at Lu Zhou fearfully.

'Who's this person?'

'He even dares to say such words!'

Bai Zhaoju quickly said, "Pavilion Master, don't be angry."

The Three Celestials and the other white-clad cultivators in the distance looked at Lu Zhou nervously.

'Their reactions are a little... extreme...' Lu Zhou was inwardly puzzled. 'Why are they so afraid? It's not like they know I'm the Unholy One. There's no reason for them to be so afraid, right?'

In the end, Lu Zhou said, "It's about time. Let Zhi Ming come out."

Bai Zhaoju nodded. "Alright."

This time, no one dared to protest. However, they did not leave either. They maintained a distance and watched.

Bai Zhaoju pointed at the bottom of the platform and said, "It's right below."

Bai Zhaoju leaped out and slowly descended.

Lu Zhou followed suit.

After descending a certain distance, Lu Zhou saw a huge black hole at the bottom of the platform next to the sea. The opening was huge; its diameter was over 1,000 feet.

Lu Zhou asked, "Zhi Ming is in that cave?"

Bai Zhaoju shook his head.

Lu Zhou frowned, puzzled. "Hm?"

How contradictory. Earlier, Bai Zhaoju had said Zhi Ming was there, now, he said it was not.

Bai Zhaoju smiled slightly as he pushed his hand down. A ring of light fell into the sea.

Following that, the sea began to bubble as though it was boiling.

The Three Celestials were extremely nervous as they watched.

At this time, Bai Zhaoju said shockingly, "In fact, Pavilion Master Lu, you've already met Zhi Ming."

"???"

"The Lost Island is Zhi Ming's true body!"

"…"

Chapter 1717: Since I'm Already Here, I Shouldn't Be Stingy (1)

No matter how much Lu Zhou had thought about it, he did not expect this huge island, which was not smaller than Mount Halcyon, to be Zhi Ming's true body.

There were not many humans in the world who knew about the Four Divinities of Heaven. The Unholy One was one of the rare few. Even then, the Unholy One had only met Zhi Ming once or twice and had never seen its true body. The true bodies of the Four Divinities of Heavens were incomparably huge, occupying heaven and earth. They would not usually reveal their true bodies.

Who would have thought that the Lost Island that Bai Zhaojue founded his kingdom upon and the island that Si Wuya had stayed for a time was Zhi Ming?

At this time, Lu Zhou saw the seawater rising steadily.

At the same time, the Lost Island began to tremble slightly.

Those on the Lost Island, cultivators; common folks; fierce beasts; and common animals, stopped and listened.

The animals that had keen senses trembled and tried to flee. Alas, no matter where they ran, it was impossible for them to escape Zhi Ming. Zhi Ming was literally their home.

On some parts of the island, the tremors were more violent. The mountains in the area were shaking as well.

Birds and flying beasts fared a little better; they were not helpless like the beasts and animals on land. They flew into the sky, flapping their wings and looking at the island where they lived their entire lives in surprise and confusion.

Only a few people knew about Zhi Ming. Most of them did not know the secret and were confused and panicked. They did not understand what was going on. They assumed it was an earthquake.

At this moment, Lu Zhou finally understood why Bai Zhaoju's reaction was so extreme in the beginning, and why Bai Zhaoju was adamant this matter could not be leaked. If he were in Bai Zhaoju's shoes, he did not know what he would do as well. Bai Zhaoju was the ruler of the Lost Island; his duty was to protect his people. The Three Celestials and the white-clad cultivators were trying to protect the Lost Kingdom. If anything happened to Zhi Ming, countless lives would be lost.

Lu Zhou thought to himself, 'No wonder, no wonder...'

Bai Zhaoju glanced at Lu Zhou from the corners of his eyes and seemed to have noticed something. He sighed and said, "Those three earlier... Please don't take offense..."

Lu Zhou shook his head. "I've always been reasonable. This matter is understandable. All's forgiven."

"That's good," Bai Zhaoju said.

Swoosh!

Following that, a loud noise rang out as two pillars of water shot up into the sky. They were like humongous fountains, and their height was unknown.

Everyone looked up, but Lu Zhou looked down.

In the clear and surging waters, a huge illusory figure slowly rose to the surface of the sea.

Lu Zhou felt like the first time he had seen Kun in the Endless Ocean. It was very shocking.

Water splashed up into the sky.

Then, from what Lu Zhou had thought was the mouth of a cave earlier, a black shadow that resembled a tortoise head slowly moved out following the illusory figure that surfaced to the sea.

This was Zhi Ming whom Lu Zhou had been looking for.

The waves continued surging into the sky until Zhi Ming's huge head emerged completely from the water.

The white-clad cultivators flew over from all directions, which happened to be all parts of Zhi Ming, and landed behind Bai Zhaoju. Then, they bowed and called out, "Greetings, Lord Zhi Ming!"

Only Bai Zhaoju and Lu Zhou stood with their hands on their backs, silently looking at Zhi Ming.

Both sides sized each other up.

Zhi Ming did not move at all. It silently observed its surroundings.

Blue sky, white clouds, and the surface of the Endless Ocean.

Zhi Ming's eyes were brimming with curiosity and expectations as it looked around. At the same time, its eyes also looked confused as though it had just awakened after sleeping for a long time. Indeed, it had been 100,000 years since it began to slumber. Now that it woke up, it saw that the sky, the earth, and the sun were still the same as before. Nothing had changed. It seemed like the only change was that it had gotten older.

After a long while, Zhi Ming finally said, "White Emperor? Why did you wake me up?"

Zhi Ming's voice was sonorous and deep. It was like the sound of drums ringing from the depths of the sea.

Bai Zhaoju said, "I have no choice. I have an extremely important matter that requires your help."

"What is it?" Zhi Ming asked.

Before Bai Zhaoju could reply, Lu Zhou said bluntly, "I need you to lend me a drop of your blood essence."

"…"

The white-clad cultivators turned to look at Lu Zhou in shock.

'Such a bold request! Isn't this too much?!'

Zhi Ming shifted its eyes to Lu Zhou and said, "Everyone in the world covets my body. 100,000 years have passed, but mankind hasn't changed."

Zhi Ming sighed deeply.

Lu Zhou said, "I'm asking for your blood essence to save a life, not for other uses."

"Birth, aging, illness, and death are the cycle of life. No one can avoid death, not even me," Zhi Ming said.

Lu Zhou shook his head and said, "This person is different. His survival is related to the balance of heaven and earth and the collapse and destruction of the Great Void."

"Oh?" Zhi Ming's eyes widened slightly.

The white-clad cultivators, who had been filled with righteous indignation at Lu Zhou's request, grew extremely curious upon hearing his words.

Qi Sheng was very talented and capable. Everyone on the Lost Island knew this. However, it was still a little shocking to hear that he was tied to the balance of heaven and earth and the destruction of the Great Void.

Lu Zhou continued to say, "He has probed into the secrets of the shackles of heaven and earth and has found a way to break them."

These words were like a stone that stirred up a thousand waves. As soon as the words were said, the Lost Island began to tremble violently.

Chapter 1718: Since I'm Already Here, I Shouldn't Be Stingy (2)

The mountain and land shook as though the entire world was shaking. Rocks fell and trees collapsed.

The humans on the Lost Islands were terrified.

Bai Zhaojue said to remind Zhi Ming, "Zhi Ming!"

Zhi Ming seemed to realize its reaction had been a little too extreme, and it immediately sank into the water slightly to stabilize itself. Then, it stopped moving just like before.

In a few moments, the Lost Island regained its calm.

Then, Zhi Ming asked, "Are you serious?"

Lu Zhou said, "I never lie."

As Lu Zhou spoke, he raised his right hand to the sky with his palm facing upward. The Great Abyss Land's Heaven Suppressing Pestle shot out. Under the protection of an energy seal, it began to shine and spin in the air.

The Three Celestials exclaimed in unison.

"The Heaven Suppressing Pestle!"

"It's the Great Abyss Land's Heaven Suppressing Pestle!"

"Why is the Heaven Suppressing Pestle that Emperor Yu personally protected in your hand, senior?"

Even Bai Zhaoju did not expect the Great Abyss Land's Heaven Suppressing Pestle was in Lu Zhou's hand. He wondered if Lu Zhou had entered the Great Abyss Land again with his jade token and stole the Heaven Suppressing Pestle. 'Then... Doesn't this mean I'm an accomplice?'

"…"

Zhi Ming naturally recognized the Heaven Suppressing Pestle. It rolled his eyes and said, "This isn't enough for me to believe your words."

"Then, how about this?" Lu Zhou took a step forward before a blue lotus bloomed under his feet.

Lu Zhou silently mobilized the power in the Unholy One's painting and put away the Heaven Suppressing Pestle at the same time. Following that, the Hourglass of Time shot out, and the ancient Dragon Soul flew out of the divine mark robe. It roared, shaking heaven and earth. Subsequently, faint blue electric arcs appeared on his body and flashed like lightning bolts. Lu Zhou's eyes shone with a blue light; it was a soul-stirring sight. His long hair fluttered in the wind as his body flashed blue from the electric arcs. He looked majestic and imposing. With every step he took, the blue lotus followed him.

The enormous ancient Dragon Soul circled in the sky and flew back into the divine mark robe. The Hourglass of Time flew back to Lu Zhou's side, looking as though it was ready to stop time at a moment's notice.

Although Bai Zhaoju had already guessed Lu Zhou's identity, when he saw this display, he was still shocked. He muttered to himself, "It's really you!"

Lu Zhou believed this would convince Zhi Ming like many others. The Unholy One's identity was truly too useful.

Although there were not many interactions between Zhi Ming and the Unholy One, when Zhi Ming saw this series of displays, it still cried out in surprise, "The Master of Grand Mystic Mountain?"

Zhi Ming knew Grand Mystic Mountain and its master. At that time, that person had built a world and created many cultivation paths.

100,000 years ago, the Unholy One fell.

100,000 years later, the Unholy One appeared in front of Zhi Ming. There was only one possibility: the Unholy One had mastered life and death and broke the shackles of heaven and earth.

Many white-clad cultivators retreated 300 feet back; their hearts were trembling. Only now did they realize why Bai Zhaoju had brought this person back to meet Zhi Ming. As it turned out, he was the Unholy One!

After a moment of stunned silence, Lu Zhou asked tonelessly, "Do you believe me now?"

After saying that, Lu Zhou put everything away and returned to his normal state.

Zhi Ming said, "I can lend you a drop of blood essence, but... you have to tell me the way to live forever."

Zhi Ming had nothing to lose and everything to gain. Not to mention a drop of blood essence, it was even willing to give up ten drops of blood essence.

After all, even the powerful sea beast, Kun, was looking for a way to live forever.

Upon hearing this, Lu Zhou said, "I'm afraid one drop of blood essence isn't enough then."

The white-clad cultivators did not dare to speak. If it were not for the earlier display, they would have already begun to protest and object. Now, they were very obedient.

Bai Zhaoju coughed, indicating that Lu Zhou should not go too far and to spare Zhi Ming a little dignity.

Lu Zhou turned to Bai Zhaoju and said, "If Zhi Ming can leave forever, the Lost Island can exist forever. This is beneficial to both sides. Don't you want this?"

Bai Zhaoju's heart moved as soon as he heard these words. No, it did not just move; it was quaking violently!

'That's right! Why didn't I think of this?!'

The Three Celestials' eyes lit up as well.

Zhi Ming was willing to become the Lost Kingdom and sleep forever. Even if he died, the Lost Kingdom would not sink immediately. However, the Endless Ocean was very dangerous, and plagued with sea beasts. Without Zhi Ming, the Lost Island would be in danger. It was only a matter of time before it was swallowed up by the sea. On the contrary, if Zhi Ming could live forever, the Lost Island would not only exist forever, but it could also move and leave whenever they encountered danger.

Over the past 100,00 years, the Lost Island had weathered many storms and waves. There were too many to count. Each time, a large number of common folks and cultivators would be lost. When Si Wuya appeared, the death toll fell a lot. He helped the Lost Kingdom rebuild a huge and stable formation. This was one of the reasons why Bai Zhaoju admired him.

It was not that the Lost Kingdom did not have talented formation masters. The problem was they had no way of carving the formation on Zhi Ming. Zhi Ming was one of the Four Divinities of Heaven; it was not really an island.

Bai Zhaoju sometimes thought that Si Wuya might have guessed the secret of the Lost Island and that Si Wuya was only feigning ignorance. Now, he was even more convinced that was the case. Thinking about this, he wondered if he would have agreed more readily if it was Si Wuya who asked for Zhi Ming's blood essence.

"What else do you want?" Zhi Ming asked as it thought to itself, 'Since I'm already here, I shouldn't be stingy...'

"Apart from one drop of blood essence, I want to borrow your divine soul pearl," Lu Zhou said.

"…"

Bai Zhaoju, the Three Celestials, and the white-clad cultivators: "???"

How could Lu Zhou let go of such an opportunity? His blue avatar had 17 Birth Charts now. If he could obtain the life heart of a Divinity of Heaven, he should be able to activate a few more Birth Charts, allowing his strength to rise to another level.

This matter was the most important. It even took precedence over Si Wuya's matter. After all, Si Wuya's matter could still be pushed back a few days without any consequences.

When Bai Zhaoju regained his senses, he coughed a few times and said in a low voice, "Don't forget our agreement."

Lu Zhou swept his gaze across everyone before he said, "There's no one as trustworthy as me. With my ability, do you think I really need to talk to you..."

Lu Zhou did not finish saying, "I could've just snatched it from you..."

Sometimes, there was no need to be so obvious. It was okay to let others make their own inferences.

Moreover, this was not considered hurting Zhi Ming. It was not like Lu Zhou did not plan to return the divine soul pearl.

"…"

Bai Zhaoju and the Three Celestials naturally did not want to make an enemy out of the Unholy One.

Zhi Ming naturally knew the Unholy One's way of doing things. Although the words were true, they were still unpleasant to the ears.

Lu Zhou raised his hand and said, "To verify what I said, look carefully."

A huge blue lotus appeared in Lu Zhou's hand. Then, he mobilized the power from the Resurrection Scroll and the divine Dao power.

Lu Zhou flew out and landed on Zhi Ming's huge head.

In just a moment, a huge amount of vitality energy surged into Zhi Ming's Eight Extraordinary Meridians and nourished them.

Zhi Ming was surprised by the power. It had lived for so long so it was not like it had never tried looking for ways to live forever. It had never encountered this kind of power in its long life. Its voice trembled slightly as it said, "What a miraculous power!"

Needless to say, everyone was shocked.

Lu Zhou said, "I won't force you. It's up to you to agree or refuse. If you agree, I'll return the divine soul pearl to you in five days. If you refuse, I'll leave immediately. All my earlier promises will also be void..."

In short, since his promises were void, he might just snatch what he wanted.

"…"

How could Zhi Ming easily let go of such an opportunity? It asked, "If you don't return the divine soul pearl, then what?"

Even if the person before it was the Unholy One, it was not enough to gain Zhi Ming's trust.

Lu Zhou had already expected this. He waved his hand and said, "I'll leave the Hourglass of Time with you first. You're one of the Four Divinities of Heaven so you should know how precious this is."

Everyone looked at the Hourglass of Time with envious expressions on their faces. It was a supreme treasure that could control time, and it was rumored that only the Unholy One could unleash its full potential. When it fell into the hands of others, the effect was greatly reduced. Who would have thought that it would return to the Unholy One again in the end?

"Alright," Zhi Ming said decisively, "It's a deal."

Chapter 1719: Blue Avatar's Light Disk

Zhi Ming's desire to live forever was not any weaker than those of humans. It had stayed in the Endless Ocean for a very, very long time, and it did not manage to find the answer. In the end, it chose to give up and float on the surface of the sea, becoming an island.

The white-clad cultivators looked at Lu Zhou in awe. They wondered if they begged him, would he tell them the way to live forever.

Bai Zhaoju and the Three Celestials shared the same thought.

The stronger the cultivator, the stronger their desire to live forever.

At this time, Zhi Ming opened its mouth and raised its head before it spat out a column of water. Out of the column of water, a ball of light flew out. The display was not as flashy when it gave Lu Zhou its blood essence

Seeing this, Lu Zhou waved his hand, pulling the ball of light and the blood essence over. After taking a look, he confirmed it was indeed Zhi Ming's divine soul pearl. Zhi Ming's divine soul pearl was dark, and within the darkness, there was a faint light. Its color was similar to the soil. The power in the life heart was truly impressive.

Lu Zhou admired Zhi Ming's life heart for quite a while.

Bai Zhaoju moved to Lu Zhou's side and asked curiously in a low voice, "Pavilion Master Lu, what use do you have for this divine soul pearl?"

Although Lu Zhou had already confirmed his identity, Bai Zhaoju still referred to Lu Zhou as Pavilion Master Lu. He did not quite understand why the Unholy One, who already reached the upper limit of Birth Charts, needed a divine soul pearl. After thinking about it for a while, he thought it was likely for one of his disciples.

Zhi Ming asked, "When will you teach me how to live forever?"

Lu Zhou calculated it for a moment before he said, "Within 300 years."

"…"

As soon as Lu Zhou's words fell, Zhi Ming, Bai Zhaoju, and the others felt like they had been deceived. They really did not expect the Unholy One to be shameless.

Zhi Ming really wanted his divine soul pearl back at this moment. When it looked up, it saw Lu Zhou putting the divine soul pearl away.

"I'll keep my word," Lu Zhou said before he flew back up to the platform.

Bai Zhaoju: "..."

Despite being a divine emperor and the ruler of the Lost Kingdom, faced with such a situation, he could only shrug. There was nothing he could do. This was an agreement between Lu Zhou and Zhi Ming; it was not his turn to say anything. He could only follow Lu Zhou and wait for five days.

"Five days," Bai Zhaoju said to Zhi Ming before he flew toward the platform.

The Three Celestials and the white-clad cultivators did not leave immediately. Instead, they bowed to Zhi Ming.

When Lu Zhou saw Bai Zhaoju following him, he said, "Your task has been completed. There's no need to continue following me."

"…"

'How ruthless! If you leave like this, how can I find the divine soul pearl?'

Lu Zhou added, "Don't worry. I'll keep Zhi Ming's matter a secret. In five days, I'll send someone to return Zhi Ming's soul pearl."

Before Bai Zhaoju could reply, Lu Zhou decisively shattered a Teleportation Jade Talisman.

"Ah? Wait! Wait!"

A beam of light shot up into the sky, and when it dissipated, Lu Zhou was already gone.

Bai Zhaoju naturally did not dare to use the laws to stop the Unholy One from leaving. He could only stomp his feet like an angry wife, feeling vexed.

"Why did you kick me?"

A deep voice rang from below.

Bai Zhaoju: "..."

Then, Bai Zhaoju hurriedly said, "It's nothing."

Usually, Zhi Ming was in deep slumber. It did not care about anything, let alone a light kick. Even if a fierce fight broke out on the Lost Island, it might not even open its eyes to take a look.

At this time, the Three Celestials flew over. They looked to the left and right, but they could not see anyone. Hence, they asked, "Where is he?"

"He left."

"Ah?"

"Do you want to chase him?" Bai Zhaoju asked unhappily.

"…"

Everyone was speechless.

Bai Zhaoju stood with his hands on his back, turned around, and scoffed before he left the platform.

'All of you publicly challenged my authority today. I'll deal with all of you after I retrieve the divine soul pearl!'

...

Evil Sky Pavilion.

Lu Zhou appeared at the back of the Evil Sky Pavilion. He nodded in satisfaction. The Teleportation Jade Talismans were rather useful, and he thought that he should gather more in the future. Qin Renyue had given him three, and he only had one left. One was naturally not enough.

Lu Zhou flashed and reappeared in the eastern pavilion. Then, he transmitted his voice to the southern pavilion.

"Come over."

In the southern pavilion, Jiang Aijian and Zhu Honggong, who were unaware that Lu Zhou had returned, shivered involuntarily before they rushed toward the eastern pavilion.

"Senior Ji?"

"Master?"

When the duo arrived, Lu Zhou waved his hand, sending the blood essence that was protected by an energy seal over. He said, "This is Zhi Ming's blood essence. Give it to him."

"Zhi Ming?!" Jiang Aijian exclaimed in surprise as he looked at the blood essence.

"The White Emperor is privy to Zhi Ming's whereabouts," Lu Zhou said.

"I see. The White Emperor truly has a good relationship with Zhi Ming," Jiang Aijian said as he nodded.

Lu Zhou asked, "Did he wake up while I was away?"

"No," Jiang Aijian said with a sigh.

"Don't worry. I'll be staying in the Evil Sky Pavilion for five days," Lu Zhou said.

Jiang Aijian and Zhu Honggong nodded before they returned to the southern pavilion to give Zhi Ming's life heart to Si Wuya.

•••

In the southern pavilion.

Princess Yong Ning was ecstatic when she saw that Zhi Ming's blood essence had successfully been obtained. She wished Si Wuya would wake up immediately.

•••

In the eastern pavilion.

Lu Zhou brought the divine soul pearl out.

Divine soul pearls were much more convenient and effective than life hearts.

After admiring it for a while, Lu Zhou brought out his blue lotus and placed it on the lotus seat.

"I hope it won't absorb too much of my lifespan," Lu Zhou muttered to himself.

Lu Zhou guessed that Zhi Ming's life heart would be able to help activate three Birth Charts at least.

Click!

A familiar crisp sound rang from the lotus seat.

Lu Zhou's eyes lit up. "As expected of the divine soul pearl of the Divinity of Heaven! It activates Birth Charts so easily!"

Lu Zhou fished the divine soul pearl out of his lotus seat, and let the process progress to the second stage.

Then, he sent a voice transmission.

"Jiang Aijian."

•••

At this time, Jiang Aijian had just fed Zhi Ming's blood essence to Si Wuya. When he heard Lu Zhou's voice transmission, he said to Princess Yong Ning, "Sister, look after him. I'll be back in a moment."

"Alright," Princess Yong Ning said. She could not wait to take care of Si Wuya. In her opinion, her third brother was too clumsy and rough with Si Wuya.

Before Jiang Aijian could make a move, Princess Yong Ning, who had seemed to have forgotten etiquette, pulled Jiang Aijian away from the bedside.

Jiang Aijian: "..."

'When girls grow up, they forget about their family!'

Jiang Aijian shook his head and left the southern pavilion.

...

When Jiang Aijian arrived at the eastern pavilion, he asked curiously, "Senior Ji, why did you call me?"

Lu Zhou waved the door open and sent Zhi Ming's divine soul pearl out into Jiang Aijian's hand.

Jiang Aijian looked down and exclaimed in surprise, "Divine soul pearl?!"

"This is Zhi Ming's divine soul pearl. I'm sure you know the way to the White Emperor's Lost Island. Return it to him," Lu Zhou said,

"Zhi Ming's divine soul pearl?!" Jiang Aijian's eyes widened in shock and excitement.

"Don't even think about it. I promised the White Emperor that I'll return it. Go," Lu Zhou said.

"Aren't you afraid that I'll lose it?"

"I believe in your ability."

Lu Zhou was guarding his lotus seat so he had no time to act as a courier.

Jiang Aijian smiled, "Senior Ji, you still trust me like before. You really didn't misjudge me. I promise to complete the mission."

With that, Jiang Aijian brought the divine soul pearl with him and left the Evil Sky Pavilion.

...

Jiang Aijian arrived at a huge rock in the Endless Ocean through a runic passage. He did not waste time and flew directly to the Lost Island. In order to ensure that the divine soul pearl was safely returned, he did not dare to stir up trouble and focused on getting to the Lost Island. The journey was rather boring, which was good in this case, and he did not meet any cultivators.

In order to become Si Wuya, Jiang Aijian studied the information regarding the White Emperor and the Great Void seriously, just like Li Yunzheng. Hence, he had a good understanding of the Lost Island.

As soon as Jiang Aijian arrived at the Lost Island, white-clad cultivators flew over from all directions. One of them recognized him first and said, "Qi Sheng has returned! Quickly report to His Majesty!"

At this time, Jiang Aijiand had donned his mask and was dressed as Qi Sheng. Naturally, they would think he was Qi Sheng.

Upon hearing the cultivator's words, Jiang Aijian said, "No need. I only came to return something today."

Then, Jiang Aijian tossed the divine soul pearl over.

The white-clad cultivators were surprised and confused. They knew it was a divine soul pearl, but they did not know to whom it belonged.

Jiang Aijian naturally understood their thoughts. He said, "Hand it over to His Majesty. His Majesty naturally knows to whom it belongs."

As soon as Qi Sheng's voice fell, Bai Zhaoju appeared in front of everyone. He smiled and said, "Qi Sheng, you're fine!"

Jiang Aijian: "..."

'What's with the slightly emotional and ambiguous gaze? F*ck!'

"Your Majesty, the item has been returned. I still have something important to attend to," Jiang Aijian said before he turned to leave.

Bai Zhaoju took the item from a white-clad cultivator, and when he saw that it was Zhi Ming's divine soul pearl, he exclaimed, "So fast?!"

How long had been since Lu Zhou took Zhi Ming's divine soul pearl away? Not even half a day had passed!

This confused Bai Zhaoju. What could be done with the divine soul pearl for half a day? Initially, he had assumed it was for Lu Zhou's disciples, but that was clearly not the case.

'Could it be ... just a test?!'

Bai Zhaoju's eyes widened imperceptibly when he thought about that. After a moment, he said, "Qi Sheng, why don't you have a cup of tea with me before you leave?"

"This..." Jiang Aijian hesitated.

"You used to enjoy chatting with me. You'd lived here for 100 years, after all. It can be considered your home as well. How can you not enter your home when you're already at the door?" Bai Zhaoju said eloquently.

Jiang Ji was helpless and could only say, "Alright."

Before Bai Zhaoju returned the divine soul pearl to Zhi Ming, he ordered someone to lead Jiang Aijian to the Dao hall.

After Zhi Ming regained its divine soul pearl, it looked at its divine soul pearl skeptically. Then, it muttered in a low voice, "Was Old Demon Ji testing me?"

"His surname is Ji?" Bai Zhaoju asked.

"Ji is one of his earliest names. At that time, there were no surnames, just simple nicknames to distinguish one from another. Since human civilization and the birth of tribes, he has gone by many names..."

Zhi Ming nodded and said in admiration, "I really wonder how long he has lived..."

"Unless he personally tells you, no one knows," Zhi Ming said before it submerged itself into the sea again.

Bai Zhaoju looked at the boundless sea emotionally. Back when he proclaimed himself the White Emperor, the Unholy One was already high above at the peak. So what if he was one of the Four Emperors of the Lost Land? Faced with the Unholy One, he was just a junior.

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Three days later.

A pillar of light shot out of the Evil Sky Pavilion's eastern pavilion again.

Then, a light disk appeared. It looked dazzling from afar, and its power was extremely gentle.

When a cultivator saw this, he pointed at the light disk and said, "Look! There's another miracle from the Saint Sky Pavilion!"

"Should we go and have a look?"

"No, no, no. I don't want to go over."

At this time, the second pillar of light shot out.

With that, the light disk grew even brighter than before.

Chapter 1720: Meng Zhang and Jian Bing

Sometimes it looked like a halo and sometimes it looked like a light disk.

In the eyes of the golden lotus cultivators, it was a miraculous phenomenon. They had never seen a light disk in their whole lives so how could they identify it?

Zhu Honggong flew up from the southern pavilion and hovered in the sky above the Evil Sky Pavilion. He naturally knew it was a light disk. "Hm? Who's forming a light disk?"

Zhu Honggong shifted his gaze and saw the pillar of light from the eastern pavilion where his master was. In his heart, his master had long been a supreme being so he did not understand why his master would form a light disk now. He scratched his head and said, "Master?"

Zhu Honggong thought about it for a moment before he nodded and muttered to himself, "Master is showing his strength to tell the others that the Evil Sky Pavilion isn't easy to bully..."

•••

At this moment, Lu Zhou looked at his lotus in shock and disbelief.

A cultivator could only form light disks after becoming a supreme being. A light disk granted one 300,000 years of life. Naturally, one's cultivation would also increase. Every three light disks corresponded to a major stage. To form a light disk, one had to activate all 36 Birth Charts.

However, the blue avatar only had 19 Birth Charts now. Why did it suddenly form a light disk?

"Is it really an unrestrained avatar? Could it really be unrestrained to this extent?"

Previously, he had been surprised enough that he was able to activate 14 Birth Charts ahead of time. Now, he had also formed a light disk ahead of time. What kind of weird and unrestrained avatar was this?

After a while, he thought to himself, 'Who cares? As long as my strength increases, it's fine.'

Then, he closed his eyes and began to meditate on the Heavenly Writing.

Part of the energy from the blue avatar was purified before it turned into the divine Dao power and lingered in his Dantian's sea of Qi.

Currently, one-fourth of his divine power had already transformed into the divine Dao power.

Lu Zhou also made another astonishing discovery: the speed at which the four power cores converted energy to the divine Dao power was too fast. With its speed, the first light disk from the golden avatar had already stabilized. This meant that he had now gained 300,000 years of life.

However, these 300,000 years of life were offset when activating the blue avatar. Just activating two Birth Charts had already cost him 200,000 years of life.

Fortunately, he had a strong foundation.

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Another day passed.

The third, fourth, and fifth pillars of light shot into the sky above the Evil Sky Pavilion.

Lu Zhou did not care about the changes outside. He sensed the blue avatar's strength was increasing swiftly.

He suddenly opened his eyes and looked at the blue avatar. He saw a light disk above the lotus seat.

"The blue avatar's sun disk has been formed!"

Lu Zhou was overjoyed.

The blue avatar's sun disk aside, 22 Birth Chart zones linked up and shone dazzlingly.

He had successfully activated his Birth Charts again.

The divine Dao power that the blue avatar could provide had also increased significantly.

Lu Zhou studied the blue avatar carefully and admired its changes. The blue had grown stronger and was almost evenly matched with the golden color. The two colors reflected off each other, making the light disk look even more distinct.

Lu Zhou controlled the avatar to make all kinds of movements. Its mobility was exceptionally good like an ordinary human. It was very agile as well.

'22 Birth Charts... I still have another 14 Birth Charts to go. How do I activate them?'

Next, Lu Zhou planned to look for Meng Zhang to ask for its blood essence. He had already used Meng Zhang's divine soul pearl so it was not good to use it again. However, it would be difficult to find a better divine soul pearl.

Lu Zhou shook his head. This matter should not be rushed. He rose to his feet and flashed away, appearing in the sky above the Evil Sky Pavilion.

As soon as Lu Zhou arrived...

"Greetings, master! Master's divine might is unrivaled! You'll be revered by tens of thousands of generations!" Zhu Honggong shouted.

Lu Zhou frowned. He turned around and saw Zhu Honggong in the sky as well.

'Bast*rd, he gave me a shock!'

"What's the matter?" Lu Zhou asked.

Zhu Honggong replied, "I was shocked when I saw master's light disk! I didn't expect master to be so powerful!"

Lu Zhou did not expect to cause such a huge commotion either. It seemed like he had to pay more attention when he cultivated in the future.

"Did you Seventh Senior Brother wake up?" Lu Zhou asked.

"No. It might be because he's digesting and absorbing the blood essence," Zhu Honggong replied.

"I still have to search for the other blood essence. You stay in the Evil Sky Pavilion and guard him," Lu Zhou said.

"Master, don't worry! I'll definitely protect Seventh Senior Brother!" Zhu Honggong said.

Lu Zhou nodded and flashed away.

•••

Lu Zhou traveled through the runic passage in the Evil Sky Pavilion and appeared in a forest in the Unknown Land near the Pillar of Destruction guarded by Meng Zhang, the Azure Dragon.

The Unknown Land was just as dark as before.

The forest was silent. Occasionally, a flying beast or a fierce beast would pass by.

Lu Zhou flew toward the Pillar of Destruction. In just a blink of an eye, he appeared next to a cliff and saw the Pillar of Destruction that towered into the sky.

Fog swirled at the top. A faint shadow was faintly discernible through the fog. If one did not look carefully, it would be difficult to see that there was a gigantic beast guarding the Pillar of Destruction.

Lu Zhou could easily see it. After all, his cultivation had improved greatly, and he had night vision ability as well. His senses were also keener than ordinary cultivators.

The surroundings were extremely quiet.

Lu Zhou continued to fly. Halfway through his flight, the fog at the top of the Pillar of Destruction began to surge as something stirred within it. Soon enough, what looked like two moons appeared in the fog. The moons were Meng Zhang's eyes.

Meng Zhang's eyes easily illuminated the area within a radius of 30,000 feet. After a moment, the eyes focused on Lu Zhou.

Lu Zhou hovered in the air. He raised his head and said, "Meng Zhang. Long time no see."

"…"

How could Meng Zhang not recognize Lu Zhou?

The two moons suddenly disappeared, and darkness fell again.

"Meng Zhang?" Lu Zhou called out.

There was no movement within the fog at all. It was as though Meng Zhang did hear him.

Lu Zhou: "?"

Lu Zhou continued flying forward as he said, "I have something to talk to you about. Come out."

It was still silent, and there was still no movement.

Lu Zhou frowned slightly and said, "If you don't come out, I'll stab the Pillar of Destruction."

There was still no sound and movement.

Lu Zhou raised his hand, and the Great Abyss Land's Heaven Suppressing Pestle appeared in his hand.

The Heaven Suppressing Pestle was like a cone, and it emitted a faint but terrifying aura. When it spun, it seemed as though it could destroy everything that stood in its path.

Rumble!

Crackle!

A bolt of lightning suddenly descended from the fog and accurately struck Lu Zhou. He did not even bother to dodge or defend. When the lightning struck him, not only did it not cause any damage, but it was also completely absorbed by his blue avatar. Previously, when he first met Meng Zhang, his blue avatar was as weak as an infant. Meng Zhang's attack was as fierce as the sea. It could strengthen his blue avatar at that time, but its power was too overbearing. Now, his blue avatar had grown stronger, and Meng Zhang's attack was just a cup of tea to quench its thirst. The more Meng Zhang attacked, the better it would be.

"???"

Meng Zhang's figure stirred in the fog in front of the Pillar of Destruction. After a moment, it appeared in its human form. He said unhappily, "It's you again."

"What do you mean by 'you again'?"

"Unholy One, we don't have any intersections in our lives. You walk your path of eternal life, and I protect the balance of heaven and earth. We are unrelated. Why are you bothering me?" Meng Zhang complained.

"Bothering you?" Lu Zhou said in confusion, "You owe me a favor. How can you say we're unrelated?"

"I've already returned your favor," Meng Zhang said.

Lu Zhou retorted, "One divine soul pearl isn't enough."

"You're the Unholy One who reigns supreme in the world. Can you be reasonable?" Meng Zhang said with a hint of exasperation.

"I have always been reasonable."

"…"

Lu Zhou saw Meng Zhang was speechless so he said, "I came here today not to make things difficult for you. I have two things to ask of you."

Meng Zhang chuckled and said, "Lord Unholy One, what can I, a Divinity of Heaven that has lost much of its power, do for you?"

"You're the only one who can help me with this matter. If you don't help me today, I'll have no choice but to tear down this Pillar of Destruction. Let's die together," Lu Zhou said.

"…"

'Shameless Old Demon! Is this what you call reasonable?!'

Meng Zhang looked at the Heaven Suppressing Pestle in Lu Zhou's hand in confusion. That Heaven Suppressing Pestle was protected by Emperor Yu in the Great Abyss Land; he did not know why it was with Lu Zhou.

Meng Zhang asked solemnly, "Are you really planning to bring the sky down?"

Lu Zhou replied, "You're one of the Four Divinities of Heaven. You should know very well that even if I don't bring the sky down, the sky will collapse sooner or later. Emperor Yu giving me this thing is just a despicable way to divert trouble and frame me."

Meng Zhang fell silent. He had guarded the Pillar of the Destruction for many years. How could it not know the situation of the Pillars of Destruction?

Lu Zhou continued to say, "The two things are very simple for you..."

Meng Zhang said, "I don't believe you. Tell me, what is it?"

"First, lend me a drop of your blood essence. If I was unreasonable, I would've just forcefully taken it from you."

"…"

'Although it's true, why is it so unpleasant to the ears?'

Earlier, as soon as Meng Zhang opened his eyes, he could already sense that Lu Zhou was very powerful. If they fought, Lu Zhou might really gain the upper hand. Hence, he said, "I'll give it to you. Let me tell you. After completing the two things, we will have no further interactions."

"We'll talk about the future another time."

"???"

Meng Zhang raised his head and a strange noise came out of his mouth as though he was going to suffocate from anger.

"In the future, you might have things to ask of me. Are you sure you want nothing to do with me after this?"

Upon hearing this, Meng Zhang's heart skipped a beat. He could clearly sense Lu Zhou's strength had improved a lot. The earlier lightning bolt did not hurt him the slightest; on the contrary, it had made him stronger. Most importantly, he was the Unholy One. Who in the world dared to say they were not afraid of the Unholy One? Who in the world dared to refuse the Unholy One? Having connections to such a person was not a bad idea.

With that thought in mind, Meng Zhang asked, "What's the second thing?"

Lu Zhou nodded in satisfaction and said, "As expected of the Four Divinities of Heaven. They're much smarter than those people who always try to oppose me. The second thing is very simple. Where's Jian Bing, the White Tiger, now?"

Meng Zhang was puzzled. "Why are you looking for Jian Bing?"

"It's nothing. I want a drop of its blood essence," Lu Zhou answered truthfully.

"…"

'Does this Old Demon have a hobby of collecting blood essence? Damn! This hobby is quite special!'

Meng Zhang took a step backward and asked warily, "You really only want one drop?"

Lu Zhou nodded. "One drop is enough."

"Jian Bing separated from us 100,000 years ago. It's not in the Unknown Land; it has never left the Great Void. You can go to the Great Void to look for it," Meng Zhang said.

"Great Void?" Lu Zhou said skeptically, "The temple has the Scales of Justice. It dares to stay in the Great Void?"

Meng Zhang asked, "So where do you think it can stay to avoid disrupting the balance?"

Upon hearing this, a familiar place appeared in Lu Zhou's mind: the ancient ruins.