

Disciples 701

Chapter 701: Karmic Fire Elite Riding on Sky Shuttle

Lu Zhou's youth was restored to him, and he was back in his prime before regressing to his middle age.

His appearance aged, his hair whitened, and his skin wrinkled again.

The golden lotus was spinning at a normal rate now. The energy rings as thick as a huge tree was traveling down the growing avatar. The lotus leaves' light was almost blindingly bright.

Meanwhile, the golden lotus was still growing.

Lu Zhou stared at the numbers on the interface. 'Almost there.'

Remaining life: 3,503 days.

His appearance aged further as his avatar continued to grow. A cold breeze ruffled his snow-white hair. His robes fluttered in the wind.

Crack!

Another crisp sound rang in the air.

The cultivators looked at the empty spot on the golden lotus that belonged to the ninth leaf. At this moment, they could see a leaf emerging. They were, naturally, delighted to see this.

"It's coming!"

"It's the ninth leaf!"

"Senior Ji's demonstration is truly amazing! It's as though he's really sprouting the ninth leaf for the first time!"

...

In front of the Evil Sky Pavilion's great hall, outside the barrier, in the forest, everyone who witnessed this was elated and excited.

Even the middle-aged man from the red lotus domain could not remain unmoved. He was reminded of his past self when he witnessed this. After all, the process was incredibly difficult.

...

Meanwhile, the golden lotus was still spinning slowly, and it was still absorbing Lu Zhou's life force.

Lu Zhou frowned when he saw his remaining life.

Remaining life: 1,005 days.

Initially, he suspected Luo Shi Yin's record was a trick. However, after mulling over it, he wondered if, perhaps, the error in her record was due to insufficient experimental data. After all, 1,400 years of life did not deviate too much from 1,200 years. Moreover, if he did not somewhat agree with her findings, he would not have blindly attempted this as well.

At this moment, Lu Zhou felt slightly regretful. If he knew this was going to happen, he would have accumulated more Reversal Cards in case of emergencies. This was an error on his part.

He seemed very close to success. All it took was another step. If he gave up now, the almost 100,000 merit points he spent before this would go to waste. He could not afford to lose.

Lu Zhou looked at the dwindling numbers; it was like looking at the countdown to his death. The only thing he felt fortunate about was that the numbers were not dwindling rapidly anymore. It was dwindling slowly.

At this moment, many of the cultivators bowed.

"I learned a lot from watching this demonstration!"

"Indeed, I'm enlightened!"

Lu Zhou slowly turned to look at the cultivators. He was not rewarded with merit points. As he had expected, planning these events in advance would not give him merit points. Moreover, this could not be counted as an act of worship.

Remaining life: 562 days.

The golden lotus continued to grow.

Only a short while had passed, but Lu Zhou felt as though a century had passed.

The ninth leaf seemed to be stuck. Only half of it had emerged. It had not sprouted completely.

Meanwhile, the members of the Evil Sky Pavilion were baffled by this.

The four elders who had once witnessed Lu Zhou leveling up found this strange. Although this was just a demonstration, the amount of vitality the pavilion master gathered this time far surpassed the previous times in the eastern pavilion. Was this not too high a price to pay just for a demonstration?

At this moment, Leng Luo barked, "Silence! The pavilion master might overexert himself from this demonstration."

The others were shocked. If in the past they merely respected Lu Zhou out of fear, currently, they sincerely held him in high regard.

Nan Gongwei and Feng Yizhi frowned as they said, "What's happening? It's so close to sprouting."

Pan Litian shook his head. "The pavilion master is aging."

Some old men could not care less about the longevity of their lives, but some were exceptionally sensitive about it.

Lu Zhou's white hair had blackened earlier, but now, it had whitened again

"Master!" Lu Zhou's disciples were all staring at him intently.

Lu Zhou ignored the others. He was staring at the numbers on the interface.

Remaining life: 132 days.

'Should I stop?' Lu Zhou moved his arms. He could feel a suppression on his cultivation base due to the aging process. The sensation that his great limit was approaching was here again.

The scenes of Ji Tiandao attempting the Nine-leaf stage in the past suddenly appeared in his mind. He recalled the powerlessness Ji Tiandao had felt due to the golden lotus' ability to absorb life.

Regardless if the ninth leaf was half out or just a quarter of it was out, as long as it was not completely sprouted, he was just an Eight-leaf and a half cultivator.

Remaining life: 99 days.

Lu Zhou was starting to feel the toll from old age.

At this moment, someone in front of the hall exclaimed, "What's that?"

On the horizon to the north, a red rectangular object that resembled a paperweight or a short ruler was flying toward their direction.

...

Inside the forest outside the barrier.

The middle-aged red lotus cultivator looked up at the sky. An excited expression appeared on his face as he exclaimed, "The Sky Shuttle is here!"

...

The red box-like object, naturally, caught everyone's attention.

Lu Zhou had seen it as well.

Its speed was incredibly fast. It was moving toward the top of the Evil Sky Pavilion.

Nobody knew what it was. It was not a mount or a flying beast. It was something completely alien to them.

In just a blink of an eye, it was 1,000 meters away from where everyone gathered. When they blinked again, the red box was already upon them.

Swoosh!

Red flames burst forth, engulfing the box in flames.

A hoarse voice rang in the air. "Just in time. Die!"

Lu Zhou pushed away with his feet. With a flurry of movements, he appeared in front of his avatar and pushed forward with a single palm.

The red box shot toward him.

The power of past lives!

Originating from nothing, from it comes everything. Living in samsara and learning from it.

The palm strike and the Sky Shuttle collided!

Both parties retreated.

Lu Zhou recalled with his avatar.

Who could push Lu Zhou back in this world?

“Master!”

“Pavilion Master!”

The first person to move from the Evil Sky Pavilion was the Eight-leaf elite, Ye Tianxin, who was dressed in all white, matching her white hair. She instantly unleashed her grand technique.

The four elders took to the sky as well.

The leaf-sprouting process had always been the most crucial part...

The five Eight-leaf cultivators, Nan Gongwei, Feng Yizhi, Chu Nan, Zhu Tianyuan, and Huang Shijie, did not hesitate as they summoned their avatars at the same time and flew out of the barrier.

“Senior Ji, let us help you!”

Their shouts resounded across the skies.

...

This was probably the most glorious and flamboyant day in the Evil Sky Pavilion since its inception.

Nobody had ever witnessed so many Eight-leaf cultivators summoning their avatars at the same time.

Apart from Lu Zhou’s 140-foot avatar, many 100-foot golden avatars lunged at the red box. Meanwhile, 70-foot avatars and 80-foot avatars rose into the sky as well.

Energy seals filled the air.

The Sky Shuttle spun in its spot as it repelled the attacks from the Eight-leaf cultivators.

Si Wuya could not help but feel amazed. He exclaimed, “It’s an improved version of the red coffin transporter! Look out, there’s a red lotus cultivator!”

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Bam! Bam! Bam!

Energies sailed everywhere in the sky.

The Eight and Seven-leaf cultivators were sent flying as they spat out blood.

The flames on the Sky Shuttle burned brightly!

The other cultivators were frightened by this.

“It’s an elite beyond the Nine-leaf stage!” Si Wuya cried out in warning.

An elite beyond the Nine-leaf stage? No wonder that person was so powerful!

...

Outside the barrier, the middle-aged man, who was watching from the forest, felt a surge of emotions in his heart. He said in a hoarse voice, "An elite who has control over karmic fire! Senior, you're finally here!"

...

Zhu Tianyuan shouted, "Those under the Eight-leaf stage retreat back into the barrier!"

The four elders of the Evil Sky Pavilion had no choice but to retreat. Acting recklessly now would only get them killed.

Lu Zhou checked the interface.

Remaining life: 66 days.

'What an auspicious number! This is a sign that everything will go well. That Nine-leaf red lotus cultivator came just in time... I'll kill him and restock my Reversal Cards.'

Lu Zhou stroked his beard and calmly said, "I won't kill someone whose name I don't know. State your name."

A deep voice rang from the Sky Shuttle. "I'm Fa Kong, the First Seat of the Blood Sun Temple's Monastic Discipline Hall. I'm from the red lotus domain. Today, I'll take your blood and offer it as a sacrifice to my karmic fire!"

Swoosh!

The flames surged again.

Lu Zhou looked at the transporter that resembled a red coffin. The flames did not harm the red lotus cultivator. Was this skill unique to the red lotus domain?

"Senior Ji, please retract your avatar. The demonstration is enough." Nan Gongwei said as he stood in front of Lu Zhou.

'I'd like to retract it as well, but how can I withdraw it when I'm in the middle of sprouting the ninth leaf?'

Lu Zhou looked at the interface again.

Remaining life: 55 days.

'If my life goes down to zero in one go, I'm done for.' Lu Zhou forced himself to remain calm. He said, "I've killed countless bald donkeys throughout my life... Are you man enough to come out and fight me?"

"You're unworthy!"

Whizz!

The flames grew larger as the Sky Shuttle sped toward Lu Zhou.

“Stop it!”

The Eight-leaf cultivators worked together again.

Ye Tianxin took the vanguard. She unleashed her strength with her Blue Waves Technique and her Amorous Hoop.

The other Eight-leaf cultivators were all fighting with all their might as well. However, none of them was as fierce as Ye Tianxin.

“You don’t know your own strength!”

Boom!

The karmic fire unleashed its power!

The Eight-leaf cultivators reeled back again.

Ye Tianxin took the brunt of the attack. She grunted as blood trickled out from the edge of her lips and dripped onto her body. Her snow-white garments were dotted with red spots. The red from her blood made for a stark contrast on her white robes.

The others felt their blood essences surge. They were no match for this person.

“Sixth Senior Sister!”

“Sixth Junior Sister!”

Ye Tianxin fell from the sky.

The other disciples flew up to catch her.

Little Yuan’er unleashed her Supreme Purity Jade Slip with the utmost skill. She was a Seven-leaf cultivator, to begin with, so she quickly caught Ye Tianxin.

“Sixth Senior Sister!” Little Yuan’er was distraught when she saw the blood on Ye Tianxin’s white robes.

“I’m fine... Stop them. Protect Master!”

At this moment, everyone’s attention was on the Sky Shuttle.

The Sky Shuttle that was burning with karmic fire shot toward Lu Zhou again.

Lu Zhou had seen Ye Tianxin dropping from the sky as well, causing him to frown slightly. He knew it was important that he remained composed. He was everyone’s pillar. If he were to lose his composure, everyone would follow suit.

After Lu Zhou quickly calmed down, he slowly raised his hand. Once again, he used the power of past lives.

Bam!

Blue light shone from his fingers. The scripts from Abandon Wisdom hovered around his hand.

The Heavenly Writing power collided with the Sky Shuttle.

Lu Zhou sped back with his avatar.

The Sky Shuttle was pushing against his blue palm!

In just a blink of an eye, they flew away from Golden Court Mountain. They passed the forest and were now several thousand meters away.

The Heavenly Writing's extraordinary power kept surging out, but the Sky Shuttle showed no signs of damage.

Lu Zhou had infused a quarter of his extraordinary power into this attack. And yet, he failed to do anything to the red coffin. Obviously, the red coffin had been fortified.

...

Meanwhile, the cultivators before the great hall exclaimed in shock.

Beyond Golden Court Mountain, the cultivators watched with widened eyes as Lu Zhou and the Sky Shuttle flew further and further away.

"After them!" Si Wuya ordered, "Conch, Yuan'er, stay here and look after Sixth Senior Sister."

The injured Eight-leaf cultivators entered the barrier; they were in no condition to give chase.

The cultivators who were watching outside the barrier gave chase with all their might. Alas, their speed was not enough.

The elders from the Evil Sky Pavilion decided to take action as well.

"Hua Wudao, stay here! I'll go after them!"

"I'll go as well!"

"I won't be left behind!"

The three elders summoned their avatars and flew south in pursuit of Lu Zhou and the Sky Shuttle.

...

Meanwhile.

Lu Zhou pressed his palm against the Sky Shuttle as he was being pushed back at a high speed. His expression was dark as he stared at the red Sky Shuttle.

At this moment, his extraordinary power was keeping the karmic fire at bay.

"The greatest and only Nine-leaf cultivator in the golden lotus domain... You certainly live up to your name. I didn't expect you'd be able to block my red lotus karmic fire!"

"If you dare to show yourself, I'll show you what a true Nine-leaf cultivator is like."

"I'd love to see that."

Bam!

The red lotus karmic fire burned more brightly.

Lu Zhou fisted his hand and unleashed another surge of the Heavenly Writing power.

The power to silence everything!

To maintain and manifest samadhi. Like light and shadow, permeating everywhere while staying still in samadhi.

Similarly, Lu Zhou used a quarter of his extraordinary power in this attack.

Boom!

The Sky Shuttle froze before it spun.

Lu Zhou hovered in the air. Perhaps, it was due to his dwindling life. His senses and reactions seemed slower.

Crack!

‘Hm?’ Lu Zhou glanced at his golden lotus from the corners of his eyes. He saw the ninth leaf that was only sprouted earlier had fully sprouted. It was a complete ninth leaf! At this moment, nine leaves spun around his shining golden lotus.

At the same time, his avatar had grown to 150-foot tall.

Chapter 702: Slashing at the Karmic Fire and Breaking Through the Great Limit

The 150-feet avatar stood tall in the southern sky. The nine leaves spun around the golden lotus dazzlingly.

Unfortunately, Lu Zhou was the only one who was able to admire his glory. There was no audience around him. His meticulously planned demonstration was suddenly disrupted by this uninvited Nine-leaf cultivator from the red lotus domain.

Lu Zhou was not overly moved or happy. He was merely interested in reaching the peak he had once. This was too insignificant to mention.

He glanced at his remaining life on the system dashboard.

Remaining life: 3 days.

“...”

Lu Zhou was back to the starting point. However, the current starting point could be his endpoint as well. This single digit made him recall the time when he had just transmigrated over to this place. Back then, he only had three days to live as well.

However, unlike the Lu Zhou of the past, he was much calmer now after experiencing so many things.

Inside the Sky Shuttle, the monk, Fa Kong, could sense a sudden change in Lu Zhou who was hovering in the sky across him. He could also sense the changes in the Primal Qi around him.

Fa Kong moved his Sky Shuttle slightly, puzzled. He wanted to get out. However, he knew the Sky Shuttle's incredibly strong defenses were part of his protection and strength. Coupled with the karmic fire, he had enough power to kill a Nine-leaf cultivator in the golden lotus domain. He knew he could not simply leave the Sky Shuttle.

Lu Zhou continued staring at the numbers on the dashboard. All of sudden, the numbers showed signs of changes, causing his heart to race. However, contrary to his expectations, his numbers were not dwindling. Instead, they had increased!

+200!

+300!

+500!

The numbers continued to climb up until they stopped at 73,003 days.

After a brief calculation, Lu Zhou confirmed 73,000 days were equivalent to 200 years.

At this moment, power surged from his expanded dantian's sea of Qi like a fountain. Primal Qi formed heavenly energy that swirled around his avatar that towered in the air.

This was the power of a Nine-leaf cultivator!

Inside the Sky Shuttle, Fa Kong exclaimed in shock, "He's grown stronger?"

Lu Zhou narrowed his eyes and studied the red Sky Shuttle in front of him as many thoughts fled across his mind.

A quarter of his extraordinary power, even after his limit had increased, could not damage the red Sky Shuttle, let alone destroy it. Clearly, its defenses were shockingly strong. Moreover, there was also the red karmic fire that was clearly powerful as well. He could easily kill an Eight-leaf cultivator with a quarter of his extraordinary power. However, he might not be capable of killing a Nine-leaf cultivator. Apart from that, the red Sky Shuttle's defenses had exceeded his expectations.

'The red lotus domain surely has expended a lot of effort to create this transporter to invade Great Yan.'

In the end, Lu Zhou said in a leisurely manner, "I've already said that if you dare to show yourself and fight me, I'll show you the true might of a Nine-leaf cultivator."

"You've just broken through to the Nine-leaf stage, and yet, you're already so full of yourself!" Fa Kong said, annoyed.

The red lotus karmic fire on the Sky Shuttle continued to blaze. It burned hotter than before. All of a sudden, it shot toward Lu Zhou.

Since Lu Zhou was now truly at the Nine-leaf stage, he no longer had to worry about his life and cultivation base being insufficient.

He raised his palm to block the attack. In just a moment, he unleashed Abandon Wisdom.

Boom!

The palm struck the Sky Shuttle.

Instead of retreating, the Sky Shuttle began to spin wildly in an attempt to strike Lu Zhou out of the sky.

Lu Zhou sped backward to evade the Sky Shuttle.

Both opponents were engaged in a fierce battle. The red and golden entities fought ferociously in the air. They moved all the way to Measure Heaven River.

The more they fought, the more shocked Fa Kong was. Under normal circumstances, his opponent would not be able to withstand the scorching heat of the karmic fire.

Boom!

Lu Zhou launched more palm seals at the Sky Shuttle.

Both opponents backed away from each other and faced each other in the distance.

"It's no wonder you were able to kill Jiang Wenxu." Fa Kong failed to gain the upper hand even after battling for so long.

Lu Zhou hovered in the air as he looked at the Sky Shuttle and asked, "Was Jiang Wenxu powerful?"

"He's only a minor elder of the Flying Star House... He didn't even master the karmic fire. He's not someone we'll task with important missions," Fa Kong said in a voice dripping with contempt.

'Karmic fire?' Lu Zhou was perplexed. He could tell the karmic fire that the red lotus produced was fierce and not any weaker than energy. 'How do you manifest and master the karmic fire? Is this something you'll obtain after reaching the Nine-leaf stage?'

At this moment, mnemonic chants could be heard from within the Sky Shuttle. It sounded as though a swarm of flies was buzzing.

"There's only One Vehicle in Buddhism. Just by listening to it, one will gain complete enlightenment. The myriad of sutras leads to one..."

The chanting stopped abruptly.

The red lotus karmic fire burned several times brighter around the Sky Shuttle as it sped toward Lu Zhou at lightning speed.

"You're someone from nirvana. This old monk will strike you down..." The deep voice from the Sky Shuttle sounded as fierce as the red karmic fire.

The Nine-leaf cultivation base alone was not sufficient to breach the Sky Shuttle's defenses.

Lu Zhou weighed his options and thought it was too risky to deplete his extraordinary power in one go.

Bam!

The Sky Shuttle almost collided with Lu Zhou. He raised his palm in time, manifesting a palm seal as big as a sky curtain-barrier. Shining golden Daoist Formation seals formed a wall that was erected in front of him.

The karmic flames raged and devoured the golden energy that tried to keep it at bay.

Under the impact of the powerful strike, energy burst forth in a vertical plane and rippled in the air.

Lu Zhou flew backward again.

At this moment, the red lotus karmic flames devoured the golden energy.

From afar, it looked as though a red rectangular object was pushing against the 150-foot golden avatar.

The trees of the forest and mountains sped past Lu Zhou in a blur as he flew back.

“Return.” Lu Zhou’s avatar vanished.

Upon seeing Lu Zhou retracting his avatar, Fa Kong, the monk, laughed loudly. “Very good! This old monk will leave you with an intact corpse after you die.”

This was the first time Lu Zhou was forced to be in a defensive position. During all his countless battles in the past, he always held the dominant position.

This time, the appearance of the red lotus karmic fire truly exceeded his expectations.

The Nine-leaf cultivator... was not an ordinary Nine-leaf cultivator.

Bam!

The Sky Shuttle struck again!

Crack!

The palm seal was about to shatter.

At this moment, Lu Zhou said gruffly, “Let’s call it a day.”

“Hm?” Fa Kong’s exclamation of confusion rang from the Sky Shuttle.

Lu Zhou flipped his left hand, and Unnamed materialized in his hand.

The power of past lives.

Originating from nothing, from it comes everything.

The Guiyuan Sword Technique, the Traceless Sword.

He wielded the sword against the karmic fire. He swung his sword from the right with all his might. A cold gleam of light flashed from right to left.

Crack!

At the time the palm seal shattered, a beam of Sword’s Consciousness was unleashed.

Bam!

The crescent-like Sword’s Consciousness slashed at the red lotus karmic fire and the Sky Shuttle. The Sword’s Consciousness did not stop. It pushed forward and downward at an angle.

Bam! Bam! Bam!

Dozens of towering trees fell as the Sword's Consciousness crashed against them before finally striking the ground. A narrow and long gully was left in its wake.

The technique was called the Traceless Sword because it was hard to detect. The destruction it caused was terrifying and unstoppable.

After the sword strike, both opponents retreated.

Lu Zhou wielded Unnamed with his left hand while he stroked his beard with his right. He looked at the Sky Shuttle hovering in the air.

Creak!

Crack!

A long opening appeared on the Shy Shuttle.

Fa Kong's voice was trembling with fear as he said, "Y-you managed to break the Sky Shuttle's defenses?"

As soon as Lu Zhou saw the Sky Shuttle cracking open, he knew victory was in his hand. "There's nothing in this world that can't be broken."

'So, it's called a Sky Shuttle.' Lu Zhou thought about the crudely built red coffin with a few veins. In contrast, the Sky Shuttle was completely red as though it had been painted red. Perhaps, the red karmic fire contributed to the visual impact as well.

Crack!

Finally, the Sky Shuttle cracked into two and fell from the sky. The karmic fire was extinguished as well.

Fa Kong, who was lying horizontally, rose to his feet. He was a bald monk dressed in a red kasaya. He had a pair of thick eyebrows and big eyes. As he rose to his feet, his palms were joined together. At the same time, killing intent flashed coldly in his eyes.

Fa Kong's kasaya fluttered as he looked at the land and the mountains. He parted his palms and spread his arms. Then, he inhaled deeply as though he was relishing the air and everything here.

Then, he joined his palms again. "Amitabha..." He looked at Lu Zhou and said gruffly, "Lay down the butcher's knife and become a Buddhist now. Who's going to hell if not you?"

Lu Zhou stroked his beard calmly and said, "The Blood Sun Temple, the Monastic Discipline Hall, Fa Kong... I'll remember that." After a brief pause, he continued to say, "Breaking the Sky Shuttle... is only the beginning. You're the first person who forced me to use all my strength."

Fa Kong made several hand signs, reigniting the karmic fire. His energy surged again, fiery red.

Lu Zhou continued to stroke his beard. Indeed, this must be some unknown power of the Nine-leaf stage. Then, he said coldly, "Just a frog in the well."

Lu Zhou leaped as an item card appeared in his hand. He summoned his 150-foot avatar and shot up to the sky with a flurry of movements.

Fa Kong did not move. Instead, he was relishing the feeling of a battle.

Lu Zhou pushed his palm forward; an anti-clockwise vortex appeared in his palm. It slowly enlarged like a black hole in the galaxy. It was a power that could not be described with words. The stronger his opponent was, the stronger he would become. As soon as his power surged out, a palm seal appeared immediately.

The Great Blitz Treasure Seal.

Shining golden script seals hung around the palm seal. This was one of the genuine Daoist Nine Cuts Hand Seals, the Great Blitz Treasure Seal.

Fa Kong looked up. His karmic fire was at its peak. When he saw the palm seal sailing toward him, he frowned slightly. 'No! This palm seal... is dangerous!'

Fa Kong raised his palms, and his kasaya spun in the air. His karmic fire wrapped around his kasaya and shot out like projectiles.

Boom!

The karmic fire collided with the palm seal.

Whizz!

The palm seal increased in size immediately!

"Hm?" Fa Kong glared at the palm seal. "Size alone is useless!" Then, he proceeded to launch dozens of blood-red palm seals in the air.

Meanwhile, the Great Blitz Treasure Seal enlarged ten times in size!

Fa Kong's heart trembled as he looked up. The five-finger palm seal was dropping down on him like a huge flying chariot. He could sense the extremely precarious situation he was in, at this moment.

Fa Kong's arms glowed red as the karmic fire shrouded his arms. Then, he raised his arms to the sky. He cried out, "Karmic Fire Dhyana Mudra!"

When Fa Kong raised his arms, the Great Blitz Treasure Seal enlarged ten times in size again.

Fa Kong was like a fly in comparison.

Bam! Bam! Bam!

The Great Blitz Treasure Seal fell on Fa Kong, breaking his arms in the process.

Fa Kong wailed in pain. An incredulous expression appeared on his face as fear crept into his heart. He said in a voice laden with hatred, "You're beyond the Nine-leaf stage, right? The Sky Martial Court tricked me!"

Then, Fa Kong summoned his red lotus avatar and tried to move.

However, the Great Blitz Treasure Seal seemed to have locked onto him. It absorbed the Primal Qi in the surroundings.

Boom!

The huge palm easily suppressed the red lotus!

The upper half of the red lotus avatar was viciously shattered by Lu Zhou's palm seal!

Fa Kong spat out a mouthful of blood before he plummeted to the ground.

The Great Blitz Treasure Seal continued to follow after Fa Kong!

The towering trees within 1,000 meters could not withstand the impact of the palm seal and were destroyed.

Fa Kong stared at the palm seal that was falling on him. He suddenly understood what Lu Zhou meant when Lu Zhou called him a frog in the well.

Then, Fa Kong joined his palms again. His blood stained his chest and palms. He chanted something unintelligible before he finally said, "If I'm not the one who would go to hell... who would..."

Boom!

The palm seal dropped down.

Lu Zhou hovered in the air and stroked his beard as he looked down.

"Ding! Killed a target. Reward: 4,000 merit points. Domain extra: 1,000 merit points."

Chapter 703: An Errant Heart Emerges Victorious

Lu Zhou dove from the sky. When the dust settled, and his vision was clear, he saw the entirety of the five-finger pit on the ground. Although he had used the Deadly Strike Cards several times before this, when he saw the effect again, he was still shocked by its indescribably destructive power.

The reward of 4,000 merit points meant that Fa Kong was weaker than Chi Yao.

Although the palm seal was shocking, it paled in comparison to the shocking strike he had dealt Chi Yao in the dark abyss that illuminated the place.

Lu Zhou did not need to waste his breath with this aggressive Nine-leaf cultivator. Even if he could have killed Fa Kong with his own ability, it still would not be dependable as the Deadly Strike Cards.

Indeed, this would cost him some merit points. However, he had just reached the Nine-leaf stage; there were still many things he needed to learn and understand.

This Blood Sun Sect elite obviously would not obediently surrender. Therefore, Lu Zhou decided to kill him with a strike. It was a neat, thorough, and decisive move.

Lu Zhou finally descended and made his way to the palm-shaped put. He saw the Blood Sun Temple's high monk, Fa Kong, lying inside.

Fa Kong's arms and body were crushed and damaged beyond repair, and his face was injured beyond recognition. Fa Kong was dead.

Indeed, Fa Kong was far stronger than Jiang Wenxu. However, back then, Lu Zhou had used a Peak Trial Card. His battle with Jiang Wenxu was a one-sided fight. This time, he relied on his own strength. Combined with the Heavenly Writing's extraordinary power, he managed to last until now.

"Karmic fire?" Lu Zhou fell deep into his thoughts as he stroked his beard. 'Can a Nine-leaf cultivator... burn energy?'

During dire situations, ordinary cultivators always went one of two ways during their death struggle. The first was to self-destruct by releasing all the Primal Qi in their seas of Qi in an explosive manner. With that, they would be able to create a great impact in a short time. Best case scenario, they would survive but destroy their cultivation bases. Worst case scenario, they would die instantly. The second method was to burn their seas of Qi, releasing the potential contained in the Primal Qi. This was a method to temporarily raise their cultivation bases. After doing this, the cultivators would suffer irreparable damages to their bodies.

Clearly, the red lotus karmic fire Fa Kong released in his death throes did not belong to those two methods. It was more similar to releasing power by burning energy that was condensed from Primal Qi.

After mulling over it for a moment, Lu Zhou shook his head to rid himself of these thoughts. This was not the time to be thinking about these things.

After he was sure that Fa Kong was dead, Lu Zhou called up the system dashboard and looked at his remaining life. He hoped the earlier rise in numbers was not a temporary thing.

Remaining life: 73,003 days.

"200 years..." After reaching the Nine-leaf stage, Lu Zhou's life was extended for 73,000 days, which was 200 years. This extension of his life must be due to his breakthrough to the Nine-leaf stage.

From the One-leaf to Eight-leaf stage, every single leaf added 50 years to a cultivator's life. It seemed like the ninth leaf granted cultivators 200 years of life.

Currently, the great limit of life had been broken.

Lu Zhou was now a true Nine-leaf cultivator of Great Yan.

Lu Zhou looked at his hair. It had reverted to its salt and pepper, half-black and half-white, state. However, his body and movements seemed to be better than before.

Whizz!

He flipped his right palm and manifested a miniature avatar. The nine leaves spun around the lotus. At the same time, wisps of vitality flowed out from the golden lotus.

"An outflow of vitality?" He remembered that the final golden energy ring did not slide down when he was at the point of breakthrough. Instead, it moved in the opposite direction by moving upward. Then, the golden lotus was brimming with life after absorbing sufficient life force. That was when the ninth leaf sprouted.

At this moment, Lu Zhou noticed the numbers on the dashboard were rising.

+200!

+300!

+100!

Lu Zhou's expression remained calm. With a burst of movement, he left the palm-shaped pit that destroyed the landscape. He went into the forest and sat down in a quiet spot. Then, he began to gather the outpour of vitality from his Nine-leaf cultivation base.

...

Meanwhile.

The three Evil Sky Pavilion elders and disciples and the Great Yan cultivators who came to watch the demonstration flew south in a frenzy.

Si Wuya, Duanmu Sheng, Mingshi Yin, Zhu Honggong, and Zhao Yue were leading the others. The Nine-leaf cultivators moved too quickly for them. They could not keep up.

"There! There are signs of a battle!"

Fallen trees were strewn across the lands; mountains were flattened.

"I hope the pavilion master is alright. Be careful, everyone! Our visitor isn't a pushover."

Everyone nodded.

"Keep chasing after them. We can't let any harm come to Senior Ji, no matter what. Otherwise, Great Yan will be in danger!"

The cultivators looked ahead as they flew in the air.

Pan Litian turned around to look at those behind him and asked, "Are you afraid?"

"Of course not!" someone exclaimed loudly. The person continued to say, "If we advance, we might survive this. However, if we retreat, we're done for. If being afraid is useful, we would've submitted to the 12 allied nations a long time ago."

Great Yan thrived for such a long time because the people were not cowards.

"The pavilion master was magnanimous enough to demonstrate the way to reach the Nine-leaf stage without considering the price he had to pay. If he weren't in the midst of his demonstration, the attacker wouldn't have stood a chance at all! How are we different from beasts if we cower in fear and retreat?"

"Those who are afraid should scram. We won't stop you!" someone shouted.

None of the cultivators in the air retreated. All of them wore a determined expression on their faces.

"Alright! I'll lead the way!" Pan Litian tossed his Golden Gourd Bottle out. The gourd bottle spun in the air and pointed south before it flew swiftly in that direction. "Let's go!"

Hundreds of cultivators flew in the sky under Pan Litian's lead.

...

In the red lotus domain.

The sun was shining down at this moment. However, dark and gloomy clouds seemed to loom over the Blood Sun Mountain. The Blood Sun Temple was shrouded in darkness.

Inside the zen hall, the monotonic raps on the wooden fish rang in the air. The sounds were not slow nor rushed.

At this moment, a strong gust of wind blew across the room, forcing the windows open.

Creak!

The rapping noises stopped.

A disciple in kasaya bowed before he straightened one hand before himself and reported, "Abbot, the life stone of the Monastic Discipline Hall's First Seat, Fa Kong, has shattered..." His tone and expression were calm as though he had already foreseen this.

A voice rang from the Zen room at this moment. "Fa Kong is the second Zen cultivator who mastered the karmic fire of our temple. His cultivation base is on par with mine... Pass this information to the Sky Martial Court. We'll have to postpone the Sky Shuttle project."

"Understood."

After the disciple in the kasaya left, inside the Zen room.

An old man dressed in ordinary monks' robes opened his eyes slightly. He straightened a palm before himself and heaved a long sigh.

"Peaceful nirvana is the fruit of proper cultivation. He's now in the cycle of reincarnation. Amitabha..."

...

In front of the Evil Sky Pavilion's great hall.

Little Yuan'er and Conch took turns looking after Ye Tianxin.

Meanwhile, the injured Eight-leaf cultivators sat cross-legged on the ground as they sped up their recovery.

Hua Wudao stood in front of the others, pacing up and down as he occasionally glanced outside the barrier.

"What f*cking bad luck! Who's that cultivator who appeared out of nowhere?" Zhu Tianyuan cursed before coughing.

"Senior Zhu, the red elite who must've been a Nine-leaf cultivator!" Nan Gongwei sighed as he shook his head.

The red lotus cultivator was capable of injuring several Eight-leaf cultivators with a few strikes and pushed the Evil Sky Pavilion's Patriarch back. There was nobody apart from a Nine-leaf cultivator who was capable of such feats.

"There's always someone stronger than us... In the past, I'd thought I'd learned about the world's secrets at the Eight-leaf stage. Now that I think about it, I realize how foolish I was."

Huang Shijie adjusted his breathing as he said, "Before I met Brother Ji, I had the same thought... There's no need to worry. Brother Ji will certainly defeat that person."

The others nodded.

At this moment, this was the only way they could comfort themselves.

At this moment, someone emerged from the great hall.

"Brother Zhu?"

Zhu Tianyuan opened his eyes. He endured the pain in his chest and looked at the person who called out to him. He asked, "Jie Kai? Why are you hiding inside?"

Jie Kai said sheepishly, "I'm no match for a Nine-leaf elite..."

Zhu Tianyuan spat. "Coward."

The other Eight-leaf cultivators regarded Jie Kai with scornful expressions.

"Don't say that... It's stupid to charge forward when defeat is inevitable. Brother Zhu, you only have yourself to blame for your current state."

"Are you done speaking?" Zhu Tianyuan asked, annoyed.

"Don't be mad, Brother Zhu. You're in bad shape, at the moment. You should prioritize healing yourself," Jie Kai said softly. Then, he asked, "Does anyone know what that red thing was?"

Everyone shook their heads.

"That thing is recorded in the books. It's known as a Sky Shuttle," Jie Kai said with a dramatic flair.

Zhu Tianyuan suddenly turned to look at Jie Kai. He suddenly remembered the record he had brought with him after leaving the Ancient Saint Cult. He asked pointedly, "Why didn't you say anything earlier if you have knowledge of it?"

Jie Kai said with a sigh, "What good would that do? Mister Seventh's pride wouldn't have allowed me to speak. Moreover, would you have listened to my explanation, Brother Zhu? Indeed, it was a Nine-leaf elite in the Sky Shuttle. Moreover, from the looks of it, he had reached the Nine-leaf stage a long time ago. I'm afraid things aren't looking good for Senior Ji."

"What do you mean by that?" Zhu Tianyun glared at Jie Kai.

Jie Kai frowned slightly. "I meant no ill will. I'm just stating the fact."

"You? No ill will?" Zhu Tianyuan looked at Jie Kai disdainfully.

“Brother Zhu... I have ten healing saint pills here. Everyone, please take some. They have miraculous effects on internal injuries.” Jie Kai fished out a pouch from his pocket before showing the cultivators the pills.

Chapter 704: The Other Secrets Inside the Notes

Zhu Tianyuan looked at the medicinal pills and said with a smile, “Don’t forget that I’m the Master of the Ancient Saint Cult. You shouldn’t use these kinds of tricks in front of me.”

“Brother Zhu, the pills aren’t poisonous. When you were away from the Ancient Saint Cult, I sent some of our men to the Core Yang Sect and bought these pills at a high price.” To prove his words, Jie Kai instantly swallowed one of the pills. Then, he stared at Zhu Tianyuan with a peculiar smile on his face as he asked, “Are you really going to refuse it?”

Zhu Tianyuan no longer paid any attention to Jie Kai. Instead, he looked at Hua Wudao who was standing before the other Eight-leaf cultivators. “Elder Hua.”

“What is it?”

“Drive this man out of Golden Court Mountain now.”

The Eight-leaf cultivators present, Nan Gongwei, Feng Yizhi, Chu Nan, Huang Shijie, Ye Tianxin, and Zhang Zhishui, looked at Zhu Tianyuan, confused by his request.

Hua Wudao looked at Jie Kai and said, “Jie Kai, as an Eight-leaf cultivator, you didn’t help, but I don’t blame you for that. However, if you stir up trouble, I will have no choice but to drive you out.”

Hua Wudao had overheard Zhu Tianyuan and Jie Kai’s conversation. He could tell Jie Kai was trying to stir up trouble.

Jie Kai straightened his back and stood in front of the Eight-leaf cultivators. He spread his arms as he said, “I was merely trying to advise you. I even laid out the facts for you. Instead of listening to me, you accuse me of having ill intentions. I can understand this kind of behavior from Mister Seventh since he’s still young. However, you’re all Eight-leaf elites... Why can’t you listen to reason?”

The cultivators frowned slightly; they found Jie Kai’s words grating on their ears.

Hua Wudao looked at Jie Kai pointedly and asked, “How did you know that thing is called a Sky Shuttle?”

Jie Kai pointed at Zhu Tianyuan and said, “I’ve seen an introduction about the Sky Shuttle in a book before. There’s even a drawing of it and an explanation of its functions...”

At this moment, Zhu Tianyun suddenly coughed violently. When he recovered from his coughing fit, he glared at Jie Kai and said, “You were the one who tore the pages from the notes out?”

“I was merely curious so I tore a few pages out. It wasn’t much anyway. At that time, I thought the person who wrote those notes was a nutjob. It was only when the seven great sects attacked the Evil Sky Pavilion that I knew... the notes were not the work of a nutjob but a true peerless genius!” An expression of fearful respect appeared on Jie Kai’s face.

No wonder Jie Kai knew about the Sky Shuttle. He was the one who had torn out the pages about the Sky Shuttle in the notes!

Hua Wudao asked, "Do you know about the Sky Shuttle's weakness?"

Jie Kai shook his head and said, "There are many things in that notebook that are difficult to understand... The author's mind isn't something I can understand. I didn't expect I'd see a Sky Shuttle. Moreover, there's a Nine-leaf cultivator inside that Sky Shuttle. I bet Senior Ji won't be able to destroy the Sky Shuttle"

"Nonsense! Throw him out!" Zhu Tianyuan wanted to rise to his feet, but he discovered he did not even have the strength to move his limbs.

Jie Kai shrugged. "So I am going to be driven out of this place for telling the truth?"

Zhu Tianyun's face was flushed red and drenched in sweat as he pointed a finger at Jie Kai and said, "You've poisoned..."

The other Eight-leaf cultivators were shocked. Then, they felt their blood essence surging and that they were quickly losing strength.

Hua Wudao raised his hand immediately. He tried to stop the poison by tapping on his solar plexus. Alas, the poison had spread to his Extraordinary Eight Meridians. Then, his vision began to blur.

"Stop struggling. The name of this poison is Intoxicating Spring Breeze. When the Sky Shuttle appeared, I'd applied the poison to all of you. The medicinal pills I just offered you are the antidotes to the Intoxicating Spring Breeze. This poison is a cocktail of hundreds of plants and was refined over 49 days. It's the most primal poison you can get your hands on. You'll feel as though you're drunk once you're poisoned and lose all your strength. I suggest all of you refrain from circulating your Primal Qi. That will only speed the poison up."

Nan Gongwei said in a deep voice, "Despicable!"

Feng Yizhi said, "If you're a man, cure me of this poison and fight me!"

Jie Kai shook his head. "I offered you the antidote earlier, but you refused. Up until now, I've not spoken a word of lie. I treated all of you sincerely, but what did I get in return?"

Swoosh!

Zhu Tianyuan pushed himself up from the ground and launched palm seals as he endured the poison coursing through his body.

Jie Kai, who was caught off guard, raised his hand to defend himself.

Bam!

Both opponents retreated.

Zhu Tianyuan spat out a mouthful of blood as he slid back on the limestone floor and crashed against the stone column at the edge of the plaza.

“Brother Zhu!” the others exclaimed in shock.

Jie Kai was in no better state. He stumbled several steps back before he stomped his feet on the ground to stabilize himself. He grunted as blood trickled from the edge of his lips. He glared at Zhu Tianyuan and said, “Zhu Tianyuan... Are you going to throw your life away?”

Zhu Tianyuan was injured to begin with, and yet, he endured the poison and attacked under such circumstances. It was unexpected that he managed to Jie Kai who was uninjured earlier.

“Jie Kai, even if I die, I won’t let you have your way,” Zhu Tian Yuan said with a smile as he bit back the pain and wiped the blood from his mouth.

“You’re a madman.” Jie Kai swept his gaze across the other Eight-leaf cultivators. As the saying went, ‘Once bitten, twice shy’. He was wary now. “Zhu Tianyuan, surrender the notebook, and I’ll leave.”

Nan Gongwei snorted and said, “Don’t fall for it... He’s bold enough to poison us today; there’s no way he’ll let us go so easily.”

Jie Kai looked at Nan Gongwei and said gruffly, “Don’t test my patience. I can easily kill you if I want to.”

“You wish!” All of a sudden, a figure shot past Ye Tianxin. The scarlet Nirvana Sash unfurled and moved in an offensive manner. At the same time, two fists swung toward Jie Kai.

Jie Kai was taken aback. He kept retreating backward and raised his hands to defend himself.

Bam! Bam! Bam!

Bam! Bam! Bam!

Little Yuan’er’s sudden attacks had caught Jie Kai off-guard.

The Seven Stars Cloud Treading Steps allowed Little Yuan’er to move swiftly.

Jie Kai kept retreating. When he saw the attacks were going to land on him, he decisively summoned his avatar.

Whizz!

The Eight-leaf golden lotus shrunk almost immediately.

Little Yuan’er was struck by the sudden burst of power and reeled back. Her Nirvana Sash wrapped itself around her waist as she landed on the ground.

Jie Kai’s eyes widened as he looked at the young girl. He said, “You’re not poisoned?”

Little Yuan’er placed her hands on her hips and said, “Why would I be poisoned?”

“Uh...”

Little Yuan’er’s words confused the other Eight-leaf cultivators as well. Why was she not poisoned?

“If Senior Sister Tianxin wasn’t feeling uncomfortable... I would’ve killed you a long time ago!” Little Yuan’er brandished her Nirvana Sash.

“The people in the cultivation world say that the Evil Sky Pavilion’s Miss Ninth is amazingly talented. Now that I’ve witnessed it, it seems like the rumors are true. However, you’re not even an Eight-leaf cultivator, are you sure you can kill me?” Jie Kai fought back the pain and calmly smiled.

“I’ll try!” Little Yuan’er moved at lightning speed as she shot toward Jie Kai.

The two of them were engaged in a battle again.

Bam! Bam! Bam!

Energy fists that moved more swiftly than before kept raining down.

Ye Tianxin who was sitting limply on the ground was slightly shocked by this sight. “I didn’t know that Ninth Junior Sister’s cultivation base and strength have improved this much.”

The other Eight-leaf cultivators were also shocked by Little Yuan’er’s performance.

Under the frenzy of attacks, Jie Kai had no choice but to retreat and block. ‘This young girl’s martial arts foundation is really solid.’

Bam!

When Jie Kai was briefly distracted, the Nirvana Sash struck his chest. He staggered back until he reached the edge of the plaza. However, he scoffed and said, “Young girl, you still can’t compare to an Eight-leaf cultivator!”

Whizz!

Jie Kai summoned his avatar again.

History seemed to repeat itself as Little Yuan’er reeled back again. She flipped once before she landed. However, this time, she stumbled two steps back before she regained her footing.

This was the advantage a cultivator had when his realm and avatar were above his opponent’s. Unless his opponent had a heaven-grade weapon, it would be as difficult as ascending to heaven to close the gap between avatars that were a level apart.

This time, Jie Kai took the initiative to attack from the sky. “You’re too nosy; I’ll take you out first.”

Jie Kai summoned his avatar again. The Eight-leaf golden lotus avatar sailed toward Little Yuan’er.

The other Eight-leaf cultivators wanted to rise to their feet to help, but they discovered the poison had already spread through their bodies, rendering them immobile.

“Miss Ninth, run!”

“Miss Ninth, forget about us... Save yourself!”

Although Jie Kai had been injured by Zhu Tianyuan, he was currently the strongest person on the scene. How could the Seven-leaf Little Yuan’er be a match for him?

Just when the avatar was almost upon Little Yuan’er, a voice cried out, “Ninth Senior Sister!”

Bam!

A weak-looking red lotus shot past Little Yuan'er.

However, the impact of the Eight-leaf golden lotus sent the two girls flying.

Jie Kai exclaimed in a hoarse voice, "Red lotus!"

The other Eight-leaf cultivators had noticed the red lotus as well.

Red lotus? To think there was a red lotus cultivator in the Evil Sky Pavilion!

Little Yuan'er grabbed Conch and summoned her Seven-leaf avatar as she forcibly kept herself from falling.

Jie Kai exclaimed excitedly, "This is a great discovery! I didn't know the Evil Sky Pavilion that everyone fears and respects is harboring a red lotus cultivator!"

Currently, people in Great Yan regarded all red lotus cultivators as invaders. Although they did not know much, their impression of the red lotus cultivators was not good. This was especially true after Jiang Wenxu's death. Moreover, those who were privy to the details hated the red lotus even more.

Jie Kai walked toward Conch and Little Yuan'er.

"Wait." Zhu Tianyuan sat up straight.

"Hm?"

"You want the notebook?" Zhu Tianyuan asked.

"That's right... Give me the notebook, and I'll leave," Jie Kai said.

Zhu Tianyuan said weakly, "Come here. I'll give it to you."

Jie Kai, naturally, refused to go over. He was now on guard against the Eight-leaf cultivator present on the scene. He would approach them unnecessarily.

"In that case, we'll see who can outlast the other!" Jie Kai stood before everyone.

Little Yuan'er flew toward the Evil Sky Pavilion with Conch at a high speed.

"Catch me if you can!"

"Little child, I won't fall for that." Jie Kai looked at Zhu Tianyuan and kept his guard up against the other Eight-leaf cultivators at the same time. All he had to do was to wait a little longer, and they would completely lose their ability to fight.

...

Meanwhile...

In the sky south of Measure Heaven River, the members of the Evil Sky Pavilion and Great Yan cultivators looked at the huge palm-shape pit on the ground.

"What's that?"

"The pavilion master's palm seal?" Those with keen eyesight recognized it immediately.

The cultivators landed and approached the pit. They were thoroughly shocked by the immensity of the pit.

"This... This palm seal... Isn't it a bit of an overkill?"

Chapter 705: The Truth about Longevity

Pan Litian's Golden Gourd Bottle spun and flew around above the pit. He withdrew his hand, and the gourd returned to him. "There's no doubt this is the pavilion master's doing. The aura is a match."

The others were slightly frightened by the impact of the palm seal.

"If I didn't see this with my own eyes, I wouldn't believe it even if you beat me to death. Based on the size of the pit, this palm seal is the biggest one I've ever seen!" one of the cultivators praised.

"Look! In there!"

The others looked into the center of the pit and saw a corpse bloodied and injured beyond recognition. Its face was deformed, and its arms were completely shattered. The kasaya was torn to shreds.

"Is this the person inside that red coffin? He's a Buddhist Nine-leaf elite?"

"It's him! This man was killed by the pavilion master's palm seal!"

The members of the Evil Sky Pavilion had all witnessed Lu Zhou's shocking palm seals that claimed countless lives. This palm-shaped pit was similar to the one Jiang Wenxu died in. The only difference was the size of this pit was mind-blowingly huge.

"This is great! Unfortunately, we weren't able to witness the might of a Nine-leaf cultivator. What a shame!" The other cultivators seemed disappointed.

Si Wuya observed the corpse for a while before he surveyed his surroundings.

Duanmu Sheng approached Si Wuya and asked, "Seventh Junior Brother, did you find anything?"

'Since master has won, where did he go?' Si Wuya shook his head. "I don't think anything harm came to master. Even if he couldn't defeat this man, his speed is more than enough for him to escape."

Mingshi Yin flew over and said with a sigh, "You know master. He'll never run away from a fight. Not everyone is as smart as I am."

"..."

At this moment, Pan Zhong and Zhou Jifeng flew over while carrying two objects.

"Mister Seventh, look at this..."

The others looked over and saw two broken parts of the Sky Shuttle that resembled a coffin.

The others gathered around it.

Si Wuya studied it carefully. He was the only one among those present here who had studied the red coffin transporter before.

There was a saying: The layman enjoys fanfare while the experts focus on the details.

When Si Wuya saw the veins on the Sky Shuttle, his heart was overcome with emotions. "To think that someone is actually capable of creating such a magical transporter!"

"A transporter?" The other cultivators were puzzled.

Pan Zhong and Zhou Jifeng gave them a brief explanation about the red coffin, and the others clicked their tongues in wonder.

"If that's true, I'm afraid the red lotus domain is already at a stage that we can hardly imagine," someone said.

Si Wuya nodded and said, "That's not all... This transporter is forged from a special material. The complexity of the Formation veins far exceeds that of the Ten Terminal Formation. It's said that Jiang Wenxu spent a century before he developed the Ten Terminal Formation while he was in Great Yan."

"A transporter that took 100 years to build? It's no wonder it's so sturdy." The cultivators were amazed.

Zuo Yushu said disdainfully, "So what? Brother still managed to cleave it in two..."

"..."

Zuo Yushu was right.

The others looked at the broken Sky Shuttle again. The cut was clean and smooth; it was clearly the work of a sword.

"To have been able to slice through something with a defense that's on par with the Ten Terminal Formation... just how profound is the pavilion master's cultivation base?"

"Let's not speculate here. The pavilion master couldn't have gone far. Let's split up and search for him."

"Understood!"

...

In the forest.

Lu Zhou was puzzled by the vitality flowing out of the golden lotus. After breaking through and reaching the Nine-leaf stage, he had 200 years of life. However, why was vitality energy flowing out while the numbers rose?

After adjusting his breath, Lu Zhou felt that the vitality within his body was much more vigorous than before.

He flipped his palm. A miniature Nine-leaf golden lotus avatar appeared above his palm.

"Hm?" Lu Zhou noticed the nine leaves were in a raised position. They seemed straighter and more succulent. At the same time, vitality still flowed out of the golden lotus that nourished his avatar and the nine leaves.

"Is the golden lotus leaking out vitality energy that it had been absorbing over the years?"

He looked at the system dashboard.

Remaining life: 156,003 days.

“...”

When he saw the numbers, something stirred in him. Why was this happening? The numbers continued to rise.

+200!

+100!

The jumps in numbers were consistent.

He shifted his gaze to the golden lotus; vitality energy was still spilling out from it.

Then, he studied the nine leaves carefully. After a while, he finally found the difference. More than half of the leaves were curled upward. They were saturated, stood tall, bright, and dazzling. Golden smoke was slowly rising from the tips of the golden lotus leaves.

Usually, cultivators would have to condense their Primal Qi into energy, which would then give rise to colors. That was how energy seals came to be as well.

However, what was this rising golden mist?

“Red lotus karmic fire... Could this be the golden lotus fire?”

Lu Zhou waved his left hand. A tree leaf flew over and hovered above the golden leaf.

Sizzle!

The leaf from the tree was reduced into ashes immediately.

“...”

Lu Zhou waved his hand again. A branch flew over and hovered above the golden lotus leaf.

Sizzle!

The branch burst into golden flames and was also reduced to ashes!

“This...”

Lu Zhou began experimenting wildly as though he had chanced upon a huge discovery. He kept looking for other objects to experiment on. Exhaustion was a foreign concept to him now. Soil, rocks, and huge trees. Everything burned by the golden flames was reduced to ashes.

“Is this the new ability of the Nine-leaf stage?”

Before he could fully study the golden fire’s might, he noticed one of the golden leaves’ light was different.

His remaining life was still increasing.

According to the wooden bucket theory, a bucket's capacity was determined by its shortest stave. This applied to the golden lotus as well. Eight of the nine leaves were shining now. The golden flames from the eight golden leaves had merged, making the avatar look even more imposing.

At this moment, the Primal Qi within his dantian swelled.

"Power is flowing out as well!" Lu Zhou exclaimed in shock.

Everything he discovered at this moment was new to him. Everything was unknown. This greatly piqued Lu Zhou's curiosity and interest.

Lu Zhou looked at his remaining life

Swish!

The seventh leaf's tip rose up, and golden flames emerged.

Remaining life: 200,753 days.

The rate of his Primal Qi growing inside his dantian increased several times in just an instant.

"I'm worried that I might implode and die if this keeps up..." Something stirred in Lu Zhou's heart.

During the transition from the Eight-leaf stage to the Nine-leaf stage, the golden lotus would absorb one's life force without restraint. When the Nine-leaf stage was complete, the golden lotus would begin to wildly spit out power. Was this an additional reward after breaking through the Nine-leaf stage?

Swish!

The eighth leaf rose, and golden flames emerged again.

Remaining life: 219,003 days.

Every time a leaf rose up, he would gain 18,250 days of life, which was equivalent to 50 years.

Lu Zhou thought back to the changes he experienced throughout this process. He clicked his tongue in wonder. Aside from the ninth leaf, which was already raised when it sprouted, the remaining eight leaves were now following suit. Every leaf that rose up gave him 50 years of life.

"Could it be that the life limit of the breakthroughs from the One-leaf stage to the Eight-leaf stage is happening again?"

Before reaching the Nine-leaf stage, every addition of a leaf would add 50 years to the cultivator's life. The leaves that rose with golden flames gave him another 50 years. With this, he would gain 400 years in total! Coupled with the 200 years he just obtained after reaching the Nine-leaf stage, he would gain 600 years of life!

After adding the 3 days that he was left with before reaching the Nine-leaf stage, he now had 219,000 days of life.

Lu Zhou heaved a long sigh. 'My mathematical skills are quite good!'

Soon after, the golden flames from the nine leaves merged, and the golden avatar began to levitate. It looked grand and imposing as it stood in the midst of the golden flames. It looked almost divine.

Shortly after, his cultivation base began to rise as well.

The days of life he accumulated from the first eight stages were returned to him again. Naturally, the power he absorbed returned as well. Although it was just a portion of the full power, it was not something ordinary people would be able to withstand.

Lu Zhou stomped his feet without a second thought and flew 1,000 meters up into the sky.

Whizz!

His Nine-leaf avatar appeared standing on a golden lotus with golden flames. The golden flames at the tips of the nine leaves seemed like a halo that swirled around the avatar.

...

“A Nine-leaf avatar!”

“It’s a Nine-leaf avatar!”

The Evil Sky Pavilion disciples and cultivators who were searching the area saw the 150-feet avatar.

When the three elders saw the lotus that looked different from before, an incredulous expression appeared on their faces.

“Golden flames?”

Si Wuya frowned. “It must be a power that’s related to the red lotus karmic fire. Jiang Wenxu was a Nine-leaf cultivator, but he didn’t have access to this power. It must be dependent on the cultivator!”

At this moment, everyone could see Lu Zhou who had flown up into the sky.

“It’s the pavilion master!”

Lu Zhou shot into the center of his avatar.

“What’s the pavilion master trying to do?”

Nobody knew what Lu Zhou was trying to do. They merely looked on in silence.

Lu Zhou looked up, flipped his right palm, and launched a palm seal toward the ground. His fingers shone with golden radiance. Abandon Wisdom hovered around his hand. A palm seal that covered an area of 100 meters dropped down from the sky.

The other widened their eyes when they saw this.

Boom!

The golden palm seal struck the ground and flattened the trees in the vicinity. Another five-finger pit appeared on the ground.

“...”

Chapter 706: Karma

When the three elders of the Evil Sky Pavilion and the other disciples saw the huge palm seal flattening the sea of trees, they were horrified, shocked, and confused. They were certain the Nine-leaf expert who came in here in a transporter and had mastered the red flames had been reduced to a pulp. So why was the pavilion master launching a palm seal now? Were there other red lotus cultivators in the vicinity? Could... could it be that he was just... showing off?

“Wise elders, please tell you if you think that palm seal is far too big,” one of the cultivators said.

Leng Luo, Pan Litian, and Zuo Yushu studied Lu Zhou’s golden lotus.

Pan Litian and Leng Luo had once witnessed Lu Zhou’s Nine-leaf avatar up-close. Naturally, they had no idea that it was just the effect of the Peak Trial Card. Compared to that golden lotus, this current lotus and its leaves were much larger. Additionally, after the leaves straightened up, they seemed even more powerful.

“Uh...” Pan Litian stammered.

“I’ve never seen anything like this before...” Leng Luo replied bluntly, “Just admit it if you don’t know anything about it. It’s a grave sin to mislead the juniors.”

When the others heard this, they turned around and bowed at Leng Luo. “We admire your magnanimity, senior!”

Pan Litian rolled his eyes. He could not have cared less.

Si Wuya said, “There is far too little information regarding the Nine-leaf stage in Great Yan at the moment. It’s normal for us not to know much about this. However, based on what we do know, this seems like a power from the Nine-leaf stage. Look at that... Do you see any similarities between the golden flames and the red lotus karmic fire?”

“Indeed, they do look similar... They both appear like tongues of flames. However, this golden flame burns brighter. In comparison, the red lotus fire seemed like a fire in the midst of a blowing wind,” Mingshi Yin said.

“You’re incredibly talented, Mister Fourth. Your explanation was easy to understand.”

Si Wuya looked at Lu Zhou in the sky with his hands on his back.

When they were about to step forward, Lu Zhou raised his palm again. He pushed his palm downward and unleashed five Abandon Wisdoms consecutively at the same spot.

Trees fell as clouds of dust stirred up.

The dust obscured their visions. Everyone was shocked and confused.

What was the pavilion master doing?

“Such dense Primal Qi! How can he still be left with this much power after fighting the unknown visitor for so long?”

“This is nothing. The pavilion master fought the Nine-leaf Jiang Wenxu who was the former Grand Imperial tutor of Great Yan, the puppet master of the 12 allied nations, and the most influential individual among Other Tribes. And yet, faced with the pavilion master, he was powerless. After defeating Jiang Wenxu, the pavilion master hurried eastward across Heaven’s Moat and destroyed the seven nations... They were both Nine-leaf cultivators, but the differences in their strength are as clear as day. However, when this unknown invader came, the pavilion master was at a crucial point of his demonstration. With this, we can now see the uninvited guest was far from being a match for the pavilion master,” Pan Zhong said solemnly.

The others were filled with awe and nodded upon hearing these words. In their opinion, these words did not sound exaggerated at all.

...

After the five palm strikes hit the ground, Lu Zhou looked at the slowly burning golden flames. He was starting to get a feel of his power. The appearance of the golden fire renewed his understanding of the Nine-leaf stage.

His cultivation base now exceeded the strength that the Peak Trial Card granted him... Naturally, unlike the effect of the Peak Trial Card, he could not use his Primal Qi without a care and endlessly launch his ultimate moves. Hence, it was not easy to say which one was better.

Lu Zhou looked at the nine leaves again. They were originally wide and flat. Now they were like sharp golden blades. The new straight appearance made his golden lotus avatar seem fiercer and cooler.

The clouds of dust finally settled.

After unleashing the palm strikes, Lu Zhou looked down. As expected, there was a palm-shaped pit on the ground.

“...”

It did not seem appropriate to destroy the environment like this.

Lu Zhou retracted his avatar. At this moment, he saw the elders and his disciples leading a group of cultivators. They were flying toward him at the moment.

The three elders and his disciples flew in the lead while the others followed from behind in an orderly fashion. Apart from that, the other cultivators maintained a lower altitude out of respect.

When they finally arrived in front of Lu Zhou, they greeted him in unison.

“Greetings, pavilion master!”

“Greetings, master!”

“Greetings, Senior Ji!”

At this moment, only a small part of Lu Zhou’s hair was still dark.

After breaking through the great limit, coupled with the vitality flowing out of the golden lotus, his life longevity had increased. However, they only extended his life. They were not like the Reversal Cards.

Therefore, it had no effect on his appearance. Nonetheless, in the future, he would no longer need to use the Reversal Cards to reach the Nine-leaf stage. He would be using them to reverse his state. With that, it would be easier for him to restore his appearance.

He swept his gaze across everyone present on the scene and noticed the other Eight-leaf cultivators were not present. He said, "Rise."

The others stood in midair.

Lu Zhou was puzzled. "Where are the others?"

"Master, they were injured by that unknown visitor so they couldn't come," Si Wuya explained.

"They're all injured?" Lu Zhou frowned slightly.

"Uh..." Realization dawned on Si Wuya as soon as he heard Lu Zhou's words. The Eight-leaf cultivators, Ye Tianxin, Nan Gongwei, Feng Yizhi, Chu Nan, Zhang Zhishui, Zhu Tianyuan, Zhou Youcai, were all injured. No, there was still Jie Kai. A frown appeared on his face immediately. He quickly said, "I'll return to the Evil Sky Pavilion at once in case someone tries to stir up trouble."

Lu Zhou did not know who Si Wuya was referring to. He could still feel the Primal Qi in his sea of Qi still expanding so he was looking for an outlet. Hence, he only replied curtly, "Alright."

After saying this, Lu Zhou vanished out of sight.

The others were shocked by this. They turned to look at Golden Court Mountain, there was a burst of movement before Lu Zhou vanished again from sight.

"The pavilion master... Is this behavior normal after defeating a Nine-leaf cultivator?" Pan Litian wondered out loud. He felt rather speechless.

"How would I know?" Leng Luo was speechless as well.

"This isn't normal! A person should be resting after a battle! Unleashing his Primal Qi without a care... Is he showing off?" This was the only reason Pan Litian could come up with.

Si Wuya said with a clear voice, "We shouldn't dally here. Let's quickly return to the Evil Sky Pavilion."

The others nodded and made their way back to the Evil Sky Pavilion. In no time at all, they vanished from sight.

After they left, the middle-aged red lotus cultivator emerged from behind a huge tree near the palm-shaped pit. He was panting heavily as he slumped to the ground. He gulped as he wiped the sweat off his face. He struggled as he made his way over to the edge of the pit and peered inside with bloodshot eyes.

An expression of disbelief and horror appeared on his face as he muttered to himself, "Great Yan's Nine-leaf cultivator... has mastered the karmic fire... He did a splendid job of hiding it, too splendid..." He continued muttering to himself, "Golden fire... Is it similar to the red lotus karmic fire?"

After a moment, the middle-aged man rose to his feet with great difficulty. He flew past the palm-shaped pit toward another palm-shaped pit.

He hovered in the center of the palm-shaped pit and saw what was left of Fa Kong. When he saw the shredded monk robes, he said, "The Blood Sun Temple's red lotus karmic fire elite, Fa Kong?"

He wiped the sweat off his face again before he flew up and vanished among the trees.

...

Meanwhile, in the Evil Sky Pavilion.

Jie Kai looked at the poisoned Eight-leaf cultivators and nodded in satisfaction. "The full effects of the Intoxicating Spring Breeze should be kicking in now... Are you still planning to go against me?" Then, he shifted his gaze to Little Yuan'er and Conch who were hovering above the Evil Sky Pavilion and said, "Little girl, if you know what's best for you, you'll stay out of this. I'm surprised you weren't poisoned, but so what? You're not an Eight-leaf cultivator, after all. Just stay there and watch..."

After Jie Kai finished speaking, as he walked past Nan Gongwei and Feng Yizhi, he gave them a kick each.

"You..." Nan Gongwei glared at Jie Kai.

After confirming that Nan Gongwei and the others had completely lost their ability to fight, Jie Kai felt relieved and at ease.

As he stood in front of the great hall, he waved his hand. A small corked vial flew into his hand. He waved it before the others. "Intoxicating Spring Breeze, this is all there is... Although it's precious, I think it has served its purpose well being used on all of you." Then, he put the vial away and looked at Zhu Tianyuan as he said in a threatening and cold tone, "Brother Zhu, my patience is limited. Surrender the notes... This is the last time I'll say that."

Chapter 707: Everyone Below the Nine-leaf Stage is Trash

Jie Kai's eyes flashed with killing intent.

The effects of Intoxicating Spring Breeze were at their peak. All of the Eight-leaf cultivators had lost their ability to fight. There would no longer be a fight to the death like what happened earlier.

Zhu Tianyuan's breathing had turned shallow. He looked up and chuckled before he said, "It's... too late... Do you know why... I came to the Divine Capital?" He burst into a coughing fit before he continued to say, "That notebook... I've given it... given it to Brother Ji. If you have the guts... you can demand it from him."

Jie Kai's brows knitted together immediately. This was the outcome that he wished for the least. Flames of anger burned in his heart as he said, "If I can't get my hands on the notes, I'll have no choice but to send everyone to hell."

Zhu Tianyuan shook his head. He had heard his fair share of insincere words. Yet, none of the words he had heard in his life were as disgusting as Jie Kai's words.

Since Jie Kai had already offended all the Eight-leaf cultivators, he would not let them survive no matter what. He walked toward Zhu Tianyuan, drawing closer and closer.

At this moment, above the Evil Sky Pavilion, Little Yuan'er shouted, "Hey!"

“Hm?” Jie Kai turned around and saw Conch blowing on the Lantian Jade Flute.

Beams of red energy shot from the jade flute, zeroing on Jie Kai as they sailed in the air like wind blades.

‘A sound technique?’

The flute’s melody was rushed, but the control was rather skillful. Clearly, Conch had progressed greatly in her ability to control Qi with sound.

Swish! Swish! Swish!

The sound technique’s attacks avoided the Eight-leaf cultivators as they shot toward Jie Kai.

Whizz!

Jie Kai summoned his avatar immediately!

Bam! Bam! Bam!

Jie Kai deflected the wind blades. He launched himself into the air with his grand technique after that and shot toward Little Yuan’er and Conch.

Little Yuan’er brought Conch with her as she moved swiftly with her Seven Stars Cloud Treading Steps.

“Die!” Jie Kai did not hold back as he chased after them like an eagle pursuing chicks. When his avatar shot past the top of the Evil Sky Pavilion, he suddenly heard a crisp sound.

It was the sound of energy resonating.

Jie Kai came to a halt immediately and looked beyond the barrier. What he saw made his blood curdle. He saw a 150-foot avatar with a flaming golden lotus charging toward him. It was upon him in just a blink of an eye.

Bam!

The Nine-leaf avatar stood in Jie Kai’s spot in the air as it towered above the Evil Sky Pavilion.

There were no doubts about the outcome.

Jie Kai was sent flying by the flaming golden lotus and spat out blood. Waves and waves of terror washed over him at this moment. The huge impact on his chest had crushed his internal organs. He could feel his sea of Qi quaking and surging. His 100-foot avatar was too insignificant to mention in front of a 150-foot avatar; he had no choice but to retract his avatar.

The burning golden lotus and leaves emitted an imposing aura, causing fear and panic to besiege Jie Kai.

“Old Villain Ji?” Jie Kai had yet to land on the ground.

With his feet on the flaming golden lotus, Lu Zhou pushed his palm forward, launching the Fiend Monk Hand Seal. It grabbed Jie Kai like a dragon’s claw and pulled him back, holding Jie Kai in midair.

The battle ended just like that.

The other Eight-leaf cultivators were invigorated. When they saw the flaming lotus and the 150-foot avatar, they were shocked and in awe.

“Welcome back, Senior Ji!”

All of them rose to their feet with great difficulty.

Zhu Tianyuan and Ye Tianxin were the only ones who remained seated. They looked at Lu Zhou with pale faces that contained hints of delight.

Zhu Tianyuan chuckled and said, “I knew that... you’d win!”

“Master...” Little Yuan’er and Conch flew back from the distance.

“Master, quick! Beat this bad guy to death! He poisoned everyone when you weren’t around!” Little Yuan’er pointed at Jie Kai who had been immobilized by the Fiend Monk Hand Seal.

Jie Kai’s eyes were brimming with fear, and he trembled uncontrollably.

Lu Zhou waved his hand, and his flaming 150-foot avatar vanished.

“Are you hurt?” Lu Zhou asked.

Little Yuan’er shook her head and said, “He couldn’t catch up to me... I’m fine, but the others aren’t so lucky.” Then, she proceeded to recount everything that had transpired to Lu Zhou.

Lu Zhou nodded calmly after listening to Little Yuan’er words. He understood now. Then, he looked at the people on the ground and raised his left palm.

To gain the power of immaterial existence so that we can visit many places without having to move, reaping many benefits.

It was the Heavenly Writing’s power of healing.

Lu Zhou tossed a blue lotus out from his left hand, and the blue lotus descended on the others as it grew bigger.

Vitality surged and filled the plaza of the Evil Sky Pavilion.

The others felt their bodies being nourished and healed. Their injuries were growing less serious, and the toxin from the poison was being neutralized.

Zhu Tianyuan, who suffered the heaviest injury, and Ye Tianxin had most of their injuries healed in just an instant.

Meanwhile, the injured Eight-leaf cultivators’ Extraordinary Eight Meridians were fixed by the blue lotus’s vitality. They healed quickly. Much of the poison was neutralized by the Heavenly Writing’s power as well.

The Eight-leaf cultivators appeared delighted.

The lotus leaves covered the ground and propped the others up until they slowly vanished.

Lu Zhou did not withhold his extraordinary power this time. He poured everything he had into the healing technique.

'If someone does me a favor, I'll repay it tenfold.' After all, he had to behave in a manner befitting of the Patriarch of the Evil Sky Pavilion.

The other Eight-leaf cultivators rose to their feet again and thanked him profusely.

"Thank you for healing us, Senior Ji!"

"Thank you, Senior Ji!"

Lu Zhou turned around and looked at the trembling Jie Kai as he asked, "Antidote?"

Jie Kai pointed at the vial at his waist as tears threatened to spill out of his eyes.

Little Yuan'er flew over and plucked the vial from Jie Kai's waist and passed it to Lu Zhou.

Lu Zhou received it and sniffed the vial. Then, he nodded and said, "Take the antidote, just to be safe."

Although his healing power had purged them of most of the toxins, it would be a waste not to use the antidote when it was available. He tossed the vial to the others.

Zhu Tianyuan caught it. He sniffed the vial and nodded. "It's indeed the antidote... Jie Kai, you're truly a disgrace to the Ancient Saint Cult."

"M-mercy..." Jie Kai waved his hands and stammered. "S-Senior Ji, this is all a misunderstanding. Senior Ji, you're a Nine-leaf cultivator... I... Even if I'm bold enough to challenge the heavens, how could I possibly dare to challenge you?"

Lu Zhou said indifferently, "You were fighting my Seven-leaf disciple with your Eight-leaf cultivation base... Just to be fair, I'll fight you with my Nine-leaf cultivation base. If you can win, I'll let you go."

"..." Jie Kai shuddered as goosebumps rose on his skin.

Upon hearing these words, the other Eight-leaf cultivators nodded. Lu Zhou's words made much sense.

Jie Kai was chasing a Seven-leaf cultivator when he was an Eight-leaf cultivator. Now, it was his turn to be chased by a Nine-leaf cultivator. Where did his courage go now?

Jie Kai looked down for a moment; his eyes were bloodshot. He looked at Zhu Tianyuan and the others before he gritted his teeth and burst into a flurry of movement!

Bam!

Jie Kai had barely gone far when the 150-foot Nine-leaf golden lotus appeared in front of him at the speed of light.

There was no doubt about the outcome.

Lu Zhou appeared calm as he looked down at the trapped Jie Kai.

Jie Kai endured the pain as he tapped his meridian points to burn his sea of Qi! With frenzied movements, he shot westward!

Whizz!

An avatar appeared!

Once again, the Nine-leaf golden lotus avatar appeared in front of Jie Kai in just a blink of an eye.

Bam!

Jie Kai was sent flying and landed in front of the others.

Lu Zhou remained indifferent.

Every inch of the golden radiance radiating from the 150-foot avatar and the flaming golden lotus made Jie Kai lose all intentions of resisting. With this, he seemed to have lost his mind. This time, he did not dodge. Instead, he shot toward Ye Tianxin who was closest to him. "Old Senior Ji, you forced me to do this! If I'm going to die, I'll drag someone with me!"

Ye Tianxin frowned.

At this moment, Jie Kai prepared to leap and summoned his avatar.

Boom!

Alas, before Jie Kai's feet even left the ground, Lu Zhou had already descended from the sky and landed on Jie Kai's back.

Jie Kai was slammed into the limestone floor. His sea of Qi shattered, and his Primal Qi leaked out of him and returned to the surroundings.

"Ding! Killed a target. Reward: 1,500 merit points."

Jie Kai had used his grand technique with every move. However, the differences between his and Lu Zhou's cultivation bases, speed, and power were as different as heaven and hell.

Lu Zhou had just shown, with his actions, how everyone below the Nine-leaf stage was trash.

Lu Zhou gauged the remaining Primal Qi in his sea of Qi. He had just the right amount now. The overflowing energies from the eight leaves were finally calming down, and his sea of Qi had stabilized.

"..."

The other Eight-leaf cultivators gulped as they looked at Jie Kai who was stuck in the limestone floor. An Eight-leaf cultivator fighting against a Nine-leaf cultivator was like an ant trying to move a tree. Jie Kai truly did not know his strength. This was the power of a Nine-leaf cultivator. With this, the Eight-leaf cultivators were even more motivated to reach the Nine-leaf stage.

At this time, Lu Zhou retracted his avatar and stood before the others. He no longer looked at Jie Kai. "Since you've treated me with sincerity, I'll respond in kind... I have always differentiated between good and bad."

The area outside of the Evil Sky Pavilion's great hall was silent and still.

The others bowed.

“We’re deeply impressed by your righteousness, Senior Ji!”

“That shameless fiend, Jie Kai, got what he deserved.”

At this moment, the elders and disciples of the Evil Sky Pavilion and the other Great Yan cultivators returned in groups.

Lu Zhou turned to look at the Great Yan cultivators.

There were more than 100 cultivators. Including those who did not enter the barrier, there were thousands of them. They rose into the air and bowed in unison.

“Thank you for your teachings and demonstration, Senior Ji!”

Chapter 708: The Remaining Notes and Blueprints

The others worshipped Lu Zhou again. They thanked him for his magnanimity for preaching to the world. Regardless if they had the potential to reach the Nine-leaf stage or not, everyone present had learned something from his demonstration.

“Ding! Worshipped by 1,000 individuals. Reward: 1,000 merit points.”

Upon hearing this notification, Lu Zhou decided not to hold back anymore. He tapped the ground lightly with his feet and shot out of the barrier immediately.

The others were confused by this.

Buzz!

A buzzing noise rang in the air as a 150-foot avatar appeared. It was shining with a golden dazzling light. Even the setting sun could not make it lose its radiance.

The other cultivators widened their eyes in awe as they admired the Nine-leaf avatar from afar.

Under the avatar, nine golden leaves that resembled sharp blades spun around the golden lotus. What inspired even more fearful respect were the golden flames on the tips of the nine leaves. Prior to this, no one had ever seen a burning lotus before.

The cultivators who hovered lower in the air looked up in awe.

The cultivators beyond Golden Court Mountain were filled with excitement.

To them, this flaming Nine-leaf avatar was the most moving work of art in the world.

Many would offer up their lives to pursue this ‘work of art’.

“Ding! Worshipped by 2,000 individuals. Reward: 2,000 merit points.”

Lu Zhou was pleased with the effects of showing his avatar.

At the same time, a thought appeared in Lu Zhou’s mind. Now that he was at the Nine-leaf stage, should he tour the nine provinces to show off his avatars?

He felt much better now that there was no ten-second limit.

However, since his sea of Qi was no longer pouring out excess power, he would only be spending his own energy if he continued to maintain his avatar.

Meanwhile, the Eight-leaf cultivators had never seen what a Nine-leaf golden lotus looked like before. When they saw the tongues of flame on the leaves, they were transfixed and mesmerized. This was especially true for the cultivators from the Three Sects. They remembered what their patriarch, Yun Tianluo, said when he was still alive: since he could not achieve the breakthrough himself, it was better to leave the opportunity to someone smarter.

“Senior Ji persisted in completing the demonstration...” Nan Gongwei said at this moment, pulling everyone back to the present. “He’s able to continue the demonstration after fighting that despicable sneak in the Sky Shuttle. His unyielding righteousness is truly amazing.”

The others nodded in agreement.

Lu Zhou retracted his golden lotus avatar and returned inside the barrier before he slowly descended. His gaze fell upon Nan Gongwei as he asked, “Sky Shuttle?”

Nan Gongwei bowed and said, “When you were fighting the person inside the Sky Shuttle, Jie Kai revealed the name of that object.”

“How did Jie Kai learn about this?” Lu Zhou asked.

Zhu Tianyuan wanted to answer, but he was still having trouble with his injuries. He coughed before he said, “Brother Ji, do you remember the notebook I gave you?”

Lu Zhou looked at Zhu Tianyuan.

Zhu Tianyuan continued to say, “Many pages were torn from the notebook. Some of them were torn by the author and some were torn by Jie Kai. At that time, the Ancient Saint Cult had troubles within and outside. Jie Kai colluded with his henchmen and wanted to become the cult master so he snuck into my room and stole that item. However, I got it back when I realized what he did. I didn’t know that he had already torn some of the pages.”

When the notebook was mentioned, Si Wuya walked over and asked, “Have you read the torn pages before?”

Zhu Tianyuan nodded and said, “To be honest with you, I don’t understand what was written on the torn pages and have mostly forgotten about them. All I remember are some blueprints with complex designs. It had some intricate Formation veins on it. The Sky Shuttle was one of them.”

The others were shocked.

Si Wuya had always had an eye for detail compared to others. After hearing Zhu Tianyuan’s answer, he could already make his inferences. He said, “This person has developed the golden lotus transporter a few centuries ago! The red coffin is only a crude design of a transporter. The Sky Shuttle is of a higher grade, but it can only carry a single passenger. The red lotus cultivators won’t stop at that... After 300 years, I’m afraid there’ll be larger Sky Shuttles.”

“Who cares about the Sky Shuttle? We’ll take them all down if they ever set foot on Great Yan,” Pan Zhong said.

"Talk is easy... The red lotus cultivators aren't pushovers. Any one of them could be a Nine-leaf elite who has mastered the red fire. What if there are Ten-leaf, Eleven-leaf, or 100-leaf elites?" Mingshi Yin chimed in.

Duanmu Sheng looked at Mingshi Yin pointedly. 'Old Fourth is dependable on missions, but he likes to rain on people's parades.' Let alone a 100-leaf cultivator, they had not even met a Ten-leaf cultivator yet.

"Master... We've collected the broken parts of the Sky Shuttle. I think we can attempt to salvage it," Si Wuya said.

"Alright. I'll leave it to you."

"Yes, master."

Lu Zhou looked at Zhu Tianyuan who did not seem to be in a good condition. He asked, "How are you feeling?"

Zhu Tianyuan waved his hands and said, "These are mere scratches. It's nothing. I'll be alright once I get a few days of rest. Eh, where's my foolish son?" He looked around himself and could not find Zhu Honggong.

The other cultivators looked around as well.

After a while, they saw Zhu Honggong flying down the mountain.

When Zhu Honggong saw Zhu Tianyuan who was covered in wounds, he could not help but feel shaken. His father was a great Eight-leaf cultivator, how could he be injured to this extent? Who would dare hurt his father in the Evil Sky Pavilion? His master?

Before the others could ask Zhu Honggong any question, Zhu Honggong said, "Father, your wounds look great!"

Zhu Tianyuan was momentarily taken aback. When he regained his senses, he rebuked his son immediately, "Heh, do you have an itch? Do you think I won't raise a hand against you just because your master's here?!" He stepped forward and grabbed Zhu Honggong's ear.

Duanmu Sheng pointed at Jie Kai who was stuck in the ground and said, "The culprit is there."

Zhu Honggong looked at Jie Kai who was clearly stomped to death by his master and was shocked.

Then, Little Yuan'er recounted what had transpired to him.

Upon hearing Little Yuan'er's words, Zhu Honggong exploded in rage and instantly ran over and rained down punches on Jie Kai's corpse.

"..."

The others watched him in stunned silence.

After punching the corpse, Zhu Honggong picked up a vial and asked, "What's this?"

"The Intoxicating Spring Breeze... We have this poison in the Ten Thousand Poison Sect as well. Through the combined efforts of all our experts and after refining it for many years, this small vial is all we have," Lu Liang, the Sect Master of the Ten Thousand Poison Sect, said.

"What's this?" Zhu Honggong picked up several old talismans from Jie Kai's corpse.

"Talismans?"

"Those aren't talismans. Let me see." Si Wuya extended his hand.

Zhu Honggong obediently placed the talismans in Si Wuya's hand.

Si Wuya scanned them, appearing shocked. "This... These are the blueprints of the Sky Shuttle, Water Shuttle, and sky chariot left by Luo Shiyin... Also, master, take a look at this."

Lu Zhou took the blueprints and had a look. He did not understand the blueprints as well so he passed them back to Si Wuya. Then, he read the notes.

Some of the papers read: The Sky Shuttle has the highest rate of success, but alas, its capacity is too low. However, it will surely help humans to reach the other side. I hope my people will help the weak humans here to progress and overcome the shackles of the golden lotuses. I'll see if I can use the transporter to return home. It's too bad that they treat me like a lunatic. I'm the only one who knows I'm right.

When he read this, Lu Zhou remembered the notebook. He found the diagrams, but unfortunately, the parts that contained her research of the Nine-leaf stage had been destroyed.

Then, there were two final paragraphs that read:

I can't go by my old name anymore. I should conceal my identity when I return. Jiang Wenxu's appearance has disrupted my plans. Why and how does he have the same transporter I have?

I'm not Luo Xuan, and I'm not a lunatic.

Chapter 709: Teaching Ye Tianxin

Lu Zhou waved his hand after reading it. The two sheets of paper burst into flames and were burnt to a crisp. These blueprints and the method of reaching the Nine-leaf stage must have been the most valuable components of Luo Shiyin's notes. Now that he had reached the Nine-leaf stage, and he possessed the blueprints, there was no longer any need to pay attention to other matters.

'Is she Luo Xuan or Luo Shiyin? What a headache!'

After burning the two sheets of paper, he looked at Little Yuan'er and Conch who were standing at the back.

"Conch."

Conch walked over.

"Give me your hand."

"Oh."

Like before, he placed two fingers on her wrist.

The others remained silent.

The other Eight-leaf cultivators had seen Conch make her move earlier. She was a bona fide red lotus cultivator.

Nan Gongwei bowed before he said, "Senior Ji, I saw it with my own eyes. This young lady released red energy earlier... Is she..."

The others nodded in agreement.

Lu Zhou retracted his fingers after examining Conch. Just like his examination, he determined she was now in the Nascent Divinity Tribulation realm.

When he saw the puzzled expressions of the others and the way they were looking at her warily, he said clearly, "She's my tenth disciple."

Lu Zhou's words were like a single pebble that gave rise to 1,000 waves.

Everyone seemed frightened as they looked at each other. After Jiang Wenxu was exposed, the cultivators who were aware of it had developed a hatred for red lotus cultivators. Moreover, when Lu Zhou was demonstrating to the world, an elite in the Sky Shuttle had launched a sneak attack with red lotus karmic fire. It was only natural that they were wary of anything red. However, it was completely out of their expectations that the young girl was Lu Zhou's tenth disciple.

Lu Zhou continued to say, "Although she possesses a red lotus, she's as pure and innocent as my ninth disciple."

"..."

How awkward.

'Senior Ji, we can understand if you say your tenth disciple is pure and innocent, but your ninth disciple is far from being pure and innocent!'

"Any other questions?" Lu Zhou swept his gaze across everyone. With his words, he was obviously openly supporting her. His intention was clear: she was her disciple, and none of them should have any ill intention toward her.

In the end, the Eight-leaf cultivators could only bow and greet her. "Greetings, Miss Tenth."

Lu Zhou nodded, pleased. "Conch, show me your avatar."

"Oh." Conch extended her hand. Soon enough, a red Hundred Tribulations Insight avatar appeared above her palm. The avatar had two leaves.

Those who did not know Conch from before were not surprised by this. After all, with disciples such as Yu Zhenghai and Yu Shangrong, there was nothing wrong if the pavilion master accepted a Two-leaf disciple.

On the contrary, the people from the Evil Sky Pavilion were shocked. They knew how recent Conch had joined the pavilion. However, in just such a short time, she had already sprouted two leaves? Was this something achievable by humans?

"So, this is what the red lotus looks like."

"It looks just like the golden lotus; the only difference is the color."

Conch retracted her avatar, clearly excited.

"Not bad," Lu Zhou said, pleased.

Zhu Honggong felt slightly aggrieved when he heard his master's words. He was told to get lost when he was a Four-leaf cultivator, and yet, Conch was praised just for being a Two-leaf cultivator. He felt that his master was too biased.

Lu Zhou studied the corpse and the damaged limestone floor for a moment before he said, "Clean this up."

"Understood."

"If there's nothing else, let's call it a day." Lu Zhou turned around with his hands on his back and walked toward the eastern pavilion. Before he left, he paused for a moment and glanced at Ye Tianxin. "Come to the eastern pavilion later. I'll personally heal you."

Upon hearing this, Ye Tianxin's fingers trembled slightly. She was overwhelmed by her master's favor. She bowed immediately as she replied, "Yes, master."

The others bowed and waited for Lu Zhou to leave.

Zhu Tianyuan looked at Lu Zhou's retreating back. After Lu Zhou left, he said to Zhu Honggong, "Son, can you plead on my behalf for your master to heal me as well?"

"Forget it, father. Even I won't be given that treatment..." Zhu Honggong muttered.

"..."

Some of the other cultivators found the atmosphere awkward and left immediately

Meanwhile.

In order to make his stance clear, Nan Gongwei said loudly, "I'll take care of the corpse."

Feng Yizhi hurriedly chimed in, "I'm great at fixing floors. Allow me!"

Chu Nan rolled his eyes before he looked up as he said, "I'll check the top of the Evil Sky Pavilion. That was a huge tremor earlier. I think some of the tiles must've been dislodged." After saying this, he flew up along the western and northern pavilions, as stealthy as a thief, as he looked for signs of damages.

The other Eight-leaf cultivators who remained were taken aback by this; they quickly surveyed their surroundings.

Zhang Zhishui and Lu Liang pointed at the barrier and said, "The barrier is slightly damaged. Although I'm injured, I still have some Primal Qi left. I'll mend the barrier!" As soon as they finished speaking, both of them took the sky.

The Sect Master of the Tian Sect, Nan Gongwei, was a recultivated Eight-leaf elite. At this moment, he had dedicated himself to ridding Jie Kai's corpse and rubble with strangely familiar movements.

Pan Zhong and Zhou Jifeng stood in front and spread their hands helplessly. They were slightly stunned that they were left with nothing to do.

"Brother Zhou, I think our jobs had been taken for us."

"I can see that; I feel slightly pressured."

"That's right. Say, they aren't pretending to be Eight-leaf cultivators, are they? Why do I feel that they're no different from commoners on the streets?"

"I don't know if they're pretending, but there's one thing I'm sure of: If the Eight-leaf cultivators are here to take over our jobs, we're in quite dire straits."

...

Lu Zhou did not speak about the way to manifest the golden flames or his experience of breaking through the Nine-leaf stage. After all, they were related to his personal secrets. He had attained the Nine-leaf stage using Reversal Cards, after all.

At this moment, he still felt as though he was dreaming.

When he returned to the eastern pavilion, Lu Zhou called up the system dashboard to confirm it again.

Remaining life: 219,003 days.

600 years of life! It was true.

Merit points: 14,640.

Although he was certain he was now a Nine-leaf cultivator, he could still hardly stop himself from manifesting his avatar again.

Whizz!

A miniature avatar appeared in front of him. The golden flames surprised him again. This had exceeded his imagination of the Nine-leaf stage before he had a breakthrough.

The red lotus had a karmic fire, and the golden lotus had golden flames, but Jiang Wenxu had neither. This meant that not everyone possessed this power.

After admiring his avatar for half a day, a problem suddenly occurred to him. Since he was now a true-blue Nine-leaf cultivator, would he attract the beasts? Jiang Wenxu had attracted the manmans... So, who attracted Qiong Qi?

"Is anyone there?"

"Yes. Your orders, pavilion master?"

"Summon Si Wuya."

"Understood."

...

At this moment, Si Wuya was stunned as well. He was rendered speechless as he watched the Eight-leaf cultivators busying themselves with menial chores. He was rather taciturn compared to the others, he felt it was too much of an effort to speak up and stop them. Moreover, they were diligent in their tasks, and the Evil Sky Pavilion did need to be cleaned up.

Upon learning that his master had summoned him, he left for the eastern pavilion without wasting any time.

...

Lu Zhou looked at Si Wuya and said, "I summoned you here for two things. First, keep an eye on the changes in Great Yan's nine provinces, especially the movements of the beasts. Second, I suspect there are more red lotus cultivators in Great Yan. Come up with a way to smoke them out."

"I understand," Si Wuya replied.

"You've been busy and have many matters to attend to recently. However, make sure you're not neglecting your cultivation," Lu Zhou said.

"I'll remember your words, master."

"That will be all."

Then, Si Wuya retreated from the room respectfully.

...

Lu Zhou entered his meditative state. He was used to having the Heavenly Writing powers at his disposal. Now that he did not have his extraordinary power, he felt as though something was missing.

...

Meanwhile, news of the Evil Sky Pavilion's Patriarch preaching to the world spread like a wildfire.

...

Half a day passed, and the sun was setting.

At this time, Ye Tianxin arrived at the eastern pavilion. "Ye Tianxin requesting an audience, master."

Lu Zhou opened his eyes slowly and said, "Enter."

Ye Tianxin opened the door and entered the room. Perhaps, she had suffered heavier injuries during the day, she did not seem to be in a good condition. In the candlelight, she seemed paler and feebler. Coupled with her white hair, she seemed to lack vitality.

Lu Zhou could hardly heal her with the power of healing with a wide range that he had used during the day. The power was spread between too many injured people, after all.

He pointed to the rush cushion three meters before himself and said tonelessly, "Sit."

"I dare not." She did not feel worthy enough to sit across her master.

"If I tell you to sit, you will sit," Lu Zhou said with no inflection in his tone.

"Understood." Ye Tianxin sat down respectfully before her master.

Lu Zhou looked at her and said, "You should've acted within your means... Do you know what your mistake was?"

Ye Tianxin immediately prostrated herself and said, "I've made a mistake; I shouldn't have held you back."

For a Nine-leaf cultivator, indeed, an Eight-leaf cultivator could be considered a burden.

Lu Zhou shook his head. He could tell that Ye Tianxin's understanding of him was still based on his host, Ji Tiandao, even though his way of doing things had changed considerably.

"I'm only pointing out what you've done wrong. There's no need to be nervous or overcautious," Lu Zhou said.

Ye Tianxin raised her head slowly with a puzzled expression on her face.

Chapter 710: Desolate-grade Amorous Hoop

Ever since returning to the Evil Sky Pavilion, Ye Tianxin never had the chance to speak to her master face to face like this. Based on her memories, she had never done this as well even before she left the Evil Sky Pavilion. The fairfolk had a rough fate; they were annihilated by others. She was the only survivor, and she lived a solitary and hard life while she wandered the lands like rootless duckweed. She had nowhere to go; the Evil Sky Pavilion was the only place she belonged to. Moreover, as the saying went, 'A master for a day, a father forever'.

Ye Tianxin was still keenly aware of the mistakes she had made before so she did not dare to ask for any favor from her master.

She looked at her master who wore a calm expression on his face and remained kneeling on the rush cushion with her hands before herself as she said, "Kindly enlighten me, master."

Lu Zhou said, "I taught you the Blue Waves Technique in the hopes that you'll be able to be like water, knowing when to advance and when to retreat. Like water, you have to know how to adapt and co-exist with purities and impurities. I gave you the Amorous Hoop in hopes that you'll put it to good use and put an end to those who should be ended."

Ye Tianxin's heart trembled slightly.

Lu Zhou continued. "The monk, Fa Kong, was a Nine-leaf elite who had mastered the karmic fire from the red lotus domain. If you weren't careful, you might not have survived. Do you understand?"

When she returned to the Evil Sky Pavilion from the Moonlight Woodlands, she could still withstand the prolonged battle with Liu Ge. However, against the monk, Fa Kong, who had the strength and cultivation base to kill an Eight-leaf cultivator, she was just like an ant trying to uproot a tree. It was incredibly foolish.

Ye Tianxin bowed and said, "I won't forget your teachings, master. I've sinned in the past, and I merely want to atone for them."

"Since I've decided to accept you again, I've let go of the past. If you're still stuck in the past, how are you going to improve in the future?"

Ye Tianxin's body shook slightly. She did not expect her master to have such high hopes for her.

After saying all this, Lu Zhou finally arrived at the main reason he had summoned her here. "Give me your hand."

"Understood." Perhaps, she was a fairfolk, her wrist was supple and as white as the snow. However, it could also be due to her unhealed injuries.

Lu Zhou placed two fingers on her pulse. His Primal Qi flowed along her Extraordinary Eight Meridians and into her sea of Qi. His skillful and precise control over Primal Qi allowed him to easily examine the conditions of Ye Tianxin's body.

Lu Zhou could clearly sense some lingering effects from her battle with Liu Ge and his men. Her life aura was on the weak side, and she needed time to recover.

Lu Zhou removed his fingers from her wrist before he said, "You've lost much of your longevity. If you keep this up, it won't be any help to your cultivation."

"I'm already satisfied that I've reached the Eight-leaf stage..." Ye Tianxin had never expected she would become an Eight-leaf cultivator in the first place. It was just her good fortune that she encountered Cheng Huang. Moreover, she did not think she was talented enough to continue improving past this stage.

In this sense, her thinking slightly resembled Mingshi Yin's. Being an Eight-leaf cultivator was powerful enough for them, and they would still command respect. There was no real reason for her to risk everything for the Nine-leaf stage.

Alas, the times were different now.

Lu Zhou spoke slowly, "There's going to be a huge change under the heavens. I'm afraid being an Eight-leaf cultivator is no longer enough."

"What do you mean, master?" Ye Tianxin asked in confusion.

"How much do you know about Jiang Wenxu?" Lu Zhou asked in return.

"When I was in the Divine Capital, I heard Senior Sister Zhao Yue mention him. Master, are you saying the disaster is real, and the red lotus domain will invade Great Yan? Is that the great change you're talking about?" Ye Tianxin asked.

Lu Zhou merely nodded. He slowly rose to his feet with his hands on his back and said, "Although Yu Zhenghai and Yu Shangrong have returned to the Evil Sky Pavilion, they're arrogant, stubborn, and unyielding. Apart from them, among the other disciples, you're the only one who has reached the Eight-leaf stage first. I've already preached to the world. I'm sure there will be more Nine-leaf cultivators in Great Yan before long. If I'm not here, who's going to support the Evil Sky Pavilion?"

Ye Tianxin looked up at her master in shock. She was slightly surprised by the amount of hope her master placed in her.

Lu Zhou continued to say, "Since you're at the Eight-leaf stage, you should seize the opportunity..."

"Understood." Ye Tianxin bowed.

Lu Zhou turned around and faced Ye Tianxin as he said, "You've mastered the Blue Waves Technique... When you're highly familiar with it, it may sometimes be as lofty as a mountain of ice or like a sea of boiling water. It may change erratically or be as calm as a mirror... It's an extremely profound cultivation method. You'll understand the meaning of a book when you read it 100 times. From this day on, you are to repeatedly cultivate this method. Don't slack off."

"Understood!"

"Ding! Taught Ye Tianxin. Reward: 1,000 merit points."

Lu Zhou was slightly surprised when he received this notification. It was a rather huge reward. He merely intended to advise her to fulfill his responsibility as her master, to enlighten her, and also to strengthen the Evil Sky Pavilion. With this, in a way, he was also improving his strength.

"Don't move." Lu Zhou flipped his palm, and a blue lotus appeared. This was the extraordinary power he accumulated after meditating for half a day; everything was contained in this palm.

The blue lotus descended; its power was focused on Ye Tianxin. When it bloomed, Ye Tianxin jerked and rose to her feet. She raised her hands and looked at her body in disbelief.

The blue lotus seemed like her lotus, at this moment. Its energy nourished her Extraordinary Eight Meridians, and she could feel her injuries were further healed. Apart from that, her sea of Qi was flowing smoother than before as well.

Soon after, the blue energy disappeared.

Ye Tianxin bowed and said in a voice brimming with gratitude, "Thank you, master!"

Lu Zhou glanced at her and extended his hand. "The Amorous Hoop."

Ye Tianxin did not hesitate. She brought the Amorous Hoop out and presented it with both hands to her master.

Lu Zhou waved his hand and said, "I'm your master, and it's my responsibility to teach you and make sure you're safe. That will be all."

When Ye Tianxin heard this, she was shocked. She did not leave immediately. Instead, she raised her arms and prostrated herself in a sincere act of worship. "I'll fulfill my promise to you, master."

After that, Ye Tianxin stood up respectfully and retreated from the room.

Lu Zhou slowly walked to the side of the rush cushion and sat down before picking up the Amorous Hoop.

He remembered when he first recruited Ye Tianxin as his disciple. She was a smart and well-behaved child. It was also for those reasons that he had given her the Amorous Hoop.

Lu Zhou flipped his right hand, and a Shining Stone appeared. When the Shining Stone burst into flames, he tossed the Amorous Hoop into the fire.

Based on his previous experience, Lu Zhou was familiar with the process so he did not pay too much attention to it.

At this moment, he was looking at the system dashboard before checking the prices of the item cards. Just as he had expected, the prices increased after he reached the Nine-leaf stage. The Deadly Strike Card and Impeccable Card were now sold at 15,000 merit points each. Even the cheapest item card, the Thunderblast Card, was sold at 5,000 merit points each.

Fortunately, he had the extraordinary power and the Nine-leaf cultivation base. He was relying less on the item cards now. It would be enough just to have a few on hand.

...

Time passed by in just a blink of an eye. Early the next morning.

Lu Zhou heard some creaking noise so he opened his eyes and looked at the source of the noise.

The Amorous Hoop was now completely red after being burned. Then, it swiftly reverted to its original appearance. A gleam of light flowed through the hoop's blade as well.

With this, the Shining Stone's energy was exhausted.

"Ding! Obtained desolate-grade Amorous Hoop. Reward: 1,000 merit points. Owner: Ye Tianxin. Refinement needed before use."

Lu Zhou waved his hand. The Amorous Hoop flew into his hand.

"Is anyone there?"

"Your orders, pavilion master?"

"Give the Amorous Hoop to Ye Tianxin." He pushed his palm forward, and a surge of energy opened the door. The Amorous Hoop flew out and hovered before the door.

The female cultivator was from the Derived Moon Palace and a former subordinate of Ye Tianxin. Therefore, she recognized the weapon at once. However, she felt that the weapon had changed even though she could not tell what was different. She felt her heart moved as she hastily stepped forward to take the Amorous Hoop. Then, she bowed and said, "Understood."

...

The female cultivator left the eastern pavilion and made her way to the southern pavilion. Shortly after, she was outside Ye Tianxin's room. She bowed before she said, "Palace Master, your weapon!"

There was no immediate reply.

After a while, the door creaked as Ye Tianxin opened the door. She emerged from the room and said, "From now on, you're forbidden from addressing me as palace master from now on. I don't care even if you are my comrade."

"Yes."

"We're all sisters, and I know why you're doing this. However, I'm now a disciple of the Evil Sky Pavilion. Just forget everything about the Derived Moon Palace, understand?"

"Yes."

Ye Tianxin looked at the Amorous Hoop. As soon as her eyes landed on it, her eyes flashed. "My Amorous Hoop..."