

Disciples 871

Chapter 871: Luo Xuan's Answer

Lu Zhou pushed the blue lotus out, and it fell on Conch.

Rich vitality energy filled the stone room immediately.

The blue lotus' extraordinary power reduced Conch's temperature, and she was no longer sweating as profusely as before.

Little Yuan'er asked slightly anxiously, "Master, will something happen to Conch?"

"Nothing's going to happen to her with me around." Lu Zhou controlled the blue lotus to heal Conch. Inwardly, he was incredibly puzzled. Conch was already awakening her cultivation base. Moreover, her current cultivation base was not low either. How could something like that happen to her? It was really strange.

While the blue lotus healed Conch, Lu Zhou released his Primal Qi to check Conch's Eight Extraordinary Meridians. However, he did not detect any abnormalities. With this discovery, he grew even more worried. After all, if he could find the problem, he would be able to solve it. How was he going to solve the problem if he could not find the problem?

Lu Zhou did not stop. At this point, he had used half of his extraordinary power.

At this moment, Little Yuan'er suddenly pointed at the bed and exclaimed, "Master!"

Lu Zhou looked up and saw Luo Xuan floating in the air. He was slightly taken aback by this sudden development. At this moment, he felt an inexplicable energy between Luo Xuan and Conch, pulling them to each other.

"Hm? Are they really related?" When this thought had appeared in Lu Zhou's mind long ago, he had dismissed it in the beginning. The age difference between Luo Xuan and Conch was too great, after all. However, his suspicion was aroused again when Yu Zhenghai had reverted to that of a teenager and was in the state of awakening. Yu Zhenghai's condition at that time was rather similar to Conch's condition. However, Jiang Wenxu later firmly refuted the theory. Moreover, after he found the other half of his memory crystal, he had also dismissed the theory again. Together with the notes left by Luo Xuan, he was almost certain Luo Xuan was not Conch.

However, what was happening right now?

Buzz!

A square space in front of Luo Xuan suddenly lit up.

As Conch's master, Lu Zhou definitely would not let any harm come to his disciple. He waved his hand to repel the energy.

At this moment, Lu Zhou saw a jade pendant on Luo Xuan's body. It was the jade pendant that was glowing. When he turned to look at Conch again, he saw that Conch also possessed a jade pendant. At this moment, the two jade pendants seemed to be linked as they tried to reunite.

'Hmm?' Lu Zhou grew even more puzzled.

At this moment, Little Yuan'er said, "Master, Little Junior Sister's complexion is much better now!"

Lu Zhou glanced at Conch. Indeed, she looked much better than before. Since the healing from the blue lotus had been interrupted earlier, this should be the doing of the jade pendants.

Buzz!

The sound of energy resonating from the jade pendants rang in the air.

At this moment, Lu Zhou was still puzzled when he saw spots of starlight around Luo Xuan's body gathering before surging into her jade pendant. Following that, her jade pendant flashed with light and seemed to be transferring energy into Conch's body.

Lu Zhou found this difficult to understand.

The light from Luo Xuan's jade pendant shone brighter and brighter. It was so dazzlingly bright that Lu Zhou had no choice but to look away. For safety reasons, he called Yuan'er to his side, "Yuan'er, come here."

"Oh."

The connection between the two jade pendants grew stronger and stronger, and the transmission of energy grew more powerful as well.

Buzz!

Lu Zhou silently chanted the mantra from the Human Scrolls of the Heavenly Writing, "For all lives in the universe, their lives, deaths, kindness, evil, merits, and sins can be clearly seen..."

The extraordinary power surged to Lu Zhou's eyes.

At this moment, he could clearly see the speed of the transmission of energy between the jade pendants was increasing. The Eight Extraordinary Meridians and the Dantian's sea of Qi were all revealed to him.

After a beat, Lu Zhou put a stop to the power from the Human Scrolls of the Heavenly Writing.

The jade pendant continued to shine dazzlingly.

Lu Zhou took a look at Luo Xuan's eyes; they were still lifeless. However, strange enough, although her eyes were out of focus, it seemed like she was looking at Conch.

Lu Zhou still did not have any answers. Fortunately, he could sense the transmission of energy between the two jade pendants was not harmful. Otherwise, he would have stopped it.

He wondered why Luo Xuan chose Conch? What was Conch's identity?

At this moment, Conch, who was also floating in the air like Luo Xuan, looked as though she was sleeping. Her expression was tranquil.

At this moment, Little Yuan'er pointed at Luo Xuan and called out, "Master! Master! Look! Quick! Look!"

“Stop making a fuss!” Lu Zhou chided Little Yuan’er gently as he raised his hand and knocked her head.

However, when he looked over, he was shocked by the sight that greeted his eyes! No wonder Little Yuan’er had made such a fuss!

At this moment, Lu Zhou saw Luo Xuan staring at Conch like before. However, her dark-as-ink eyes were shining like the bright moon in the sky now! She blinked as a crystal-clear tear fell from the corner of one of her eyes.

Drip!

The sound of the tear falling on the stone ground resounded clearly in the room, pulling Lu Zhou back to the present.

“Luo Xuan,” Lu Zhou called out in an even tone.

Unfortunately, it seemed like Luo Xuan did not hear him. She continued looking at Conch fixedly. Soon enough, although her eyes remained fixed on Conch, they turned lifeless again.

Following that, the jade pendant on Luo Xuan rose higher into the air. Her body seemed to be disintegrating into tiny spots of light, like sparkling sand, as it rose up along with the jade pendant. As time passed, after her body completely disintegrated into tiny spots of light, the spots of light surged into the jade pendant before they entered Conch’s body through Conch’s jade pendant.

It seemed as though Luo Xuan was never here at all.

Lu Zhou frowned. He watched as Luo Xuan’s jade pendant slowly fell in the air. With a casual wave of his hand, he drew the jade pendant to him. With another wave, he moved Conch to the now-empty bed.

Meanwhile, Little Yuan ‘er looked at her master with a dumbfounded expression. She had no idea what was going on at all.

Lu Zhou looked at the jade pendant in his hand. He fisted his hand slightly, turning the jade pendant into fine powder. With this, a hidden letter in the jade pendant was revealed

Lu Zhou opened the letter. It read:

“If you’re reading this letter, then you must have found me. No one in this world can open this letter except for you. I’m very happy to be able to see you again. You must be very smart, cute, and beautiful just like I expected. I hope you’re free of worries and that you have freedom. I wished you didn’t have to read this letter. I don’t want you to follow my path and let others use you.

I know you have many questions, but I can’t answer all of them

You came from an unknown place; a place full of suffering and darkness. At that time, you were seriously injured, and your life was in danger. I wanted to save your life, and at the same time, escape my own sea of suffering. Therefore, to help us both, I gave my everything, including all my abilities, to you, except for those memories that are unbearable for me to recall. I really hope you won’t repeat my mistakes.

The Great Void Seed improved your physique so your body will be able to bear all of my abilities.

It's normal for people to grow old, fall ill, and die. If I had a choice, I'd rather you lead an ordinary life. However, it seems like the heavens are playing tricks on me. I don't understand why the heavens wanted you to suffer. Why?

Even if I die, I'll use all my abilities to make sure you live...

The concentric jade is the key to solving the problem you have with your powers. I will seal part of my strength that you can't bear yet in the concentric jade key. If we meet again one day, I hope you're living as well as I expected.

Don't let those wicked men use you. Stay away from Jiang Wenxu, Yu Chenshu, and stay away from the Sky Martial Court."

Chapter 872: The Bright Moon Shines Over the Sea; From Far Away We Share This Moment Together

The letter read:

"I don't know if this is the right thing to do, but this is the only way for you to live. This power will protect you and make others notice you. I hope the power in the concentric jade is strong enough. If one day you become a dazzling cultivator, go find my teacher. He's very talented and powerful; he'll become the strongest cultivation in Great Yan in the future. He once wrote a poem:

The bright moon shines over the sea; from far away we share this moment together.

Remember the name I gave you; Luo Shiyin.

I hope you live well.

Farewell."

Lines after lines of words appeared on the piece of white paper as though fueled by magic.

Lu Zhou felt as though everything was destined. How unbelievable!

He recalled when he first met Conch. At that time, she was like a beggar and had been almost burned to death as a demoness, to be a sacrifice to the heavens. If he had not gone to that place at that time, would she burn to death and miss the chance to become his disciple? Or, what if he had given Conch up for adoption to the common folks and did not accept her as a disciple? Would what happened today not happen then? If there had been the slightest difference in their actions, both of them would have missed out on each other. Perhaps, it was really destiny.

However, why did Luo Xuan return to the red lotus domain? Where and when did she encounter Conch? How did Conch get injured?

Lu Zhou was still pondering on the matter when the piece of white paper in his hand suddenly disintegrated into spots of starlight and flew toward Conch.

Lu Zhou extended his hand and let out a stream of Primal Qi to block the spots of starlight. He did not expect the spots of starlight to pass through his Primal Qi barrier as though it was not there. He quickly used his extraordinary power to form a barrier and block the spots of starlight.

When Lu Zhou withdrew his hands, the spots of starlight suddenly shifted and moved toward Lu Zhou.

In just a blink of an eye, simple memories and beautiful scenes appeared in his mind.

...

Over 300 years ago, Luo Xuan left the Sky Research Court. She traveled through the Black Water Mystic Cave on the Water Shuttle and arrived in Great Yan.

After a while, Luo Xuan decided to leave Great Yan for the Great Void. Halfway through her journey, she met Ji Tiandao and addressed him as teacher. It was from Ji Tiandao that she obtained the Great Void Seed.

Then, 17 years ago, in order to get rid of Jiang Wenxu, she returned to the Great Void and encountered a dying baby, Conch. After that, she returned to Great Yan again.

...

Realization dawned on Lu Zhou when he saw these scenes. He remembered the records Luo Xuan left behind. She had erased the word 'Shi' in 'Luo Shiyin' most likely because she did not want Jiang Wenxu to find out anything. Later on, she even tore up the records that contained Luo Shiyin's name.

Conch was Luo Shiyin.

Lu Zhou had first guessed correctly. Then, he dismissed his theory. Following that, he grew suspicious again, and now, it was finally confirmed.

It was no wonder. Luo Xuan had used the name Luo Shiyin in Great Yan.

Subsequently, Lu Zhou turned to look at Conch's jade pendant. At this time, all the energy from the jade pendant had already been transferred into her body.

At this moment, Little Yuan'er asked, "Master, what is this?"

Lu Zhou looked at the jade pendant carefully. A carving of painting could be seen in the middle of the jade pendant. An infant was tightly clutching the vines by a riverside while a woman with long hair extended her hands toward the infant.

The jade pendants, or the concentric jade, were finally one.

"Luo Shiyin..."

Luo Shiyin came from an unknown place. Was the unknown place the Great Void? If Luo Shiyin was from the Great Void, how did she cultivate the red lotus instead of whatever color the lotus the people in the Great Void cultivated?

Crash!

Rocks and pebbles fell from above.

Little Yuan'er lifted her head to have a look before she said, "Master, this place is about to collapse."

"Let's go..."

"Why hasn't Little Junior Sister woken up yet?"

"The power from the concentric jade has been lost quite a bit. Don't worry, I'll think of a way." Lu Zhou waved his hand and brought Conch away.

They left the underground prison through the long corridor before they finally arrived at the Literary Star Gate. As soon as they left the Literary Star Gate...

Boom!

The Literary Star Gate collapsed with a loud boom!

Nevertheless, no one was worried about Lu Zhou's safety. They continued to wait patiently for him. When they saw Lu Zhou appeared in front of them unharmed, they only bowed to greet him.

"Senior Lu."

"Master."

"This girl..." Huang Yu's eyes lit up when he saw the jade pendant on the unconscious Conch.

"Do you recognize it?" Lu Zhou asked.

"It's Luo Xuan's jade pendant."

When the people from the Sky Research Court saw the jade pendant, they seemed emotional.

Lu Zhou stroked his beard and asked, "With Yu Chenshu's ability, it should not be easy for him to capture Luo Xuan. How did he do it?"

Luo Xuan was able to move freely between Great Yan, the golden lotus domain, and the red lotus domain. With this alone, it should be difficult for Yu Chenshu to even locate her, let alone find her. How did Luo Xuan end up in the underground prison in the Sky Martial Court?

Huang Yu sighed before he replied, "A few years ago, Yu Chenshu used the people from the Sky Research Court to find Luo Xuan. In order to find her, he would kill a member of the Sky Research Court every once in a while. More than 70 people from the Sky Research Court died because of this. Luo Xuan used to work in the Sky Research Court, after all, and was familiar with the members. In any case, the people from the Sky Research Court studied a secret technique from ancient books and found Luo Xuan's whereabouts."

At this moment, He Zhong chimed in, "That old fart not only used the Sky Research Court for his own purposes, but he also created the puppet. His objective of looking for Luo Xuan was to go to an unknown place and look for the Great Void Seeds."

Lu Zhou asked suspiciously, "You know about the Great Void Seed as well?"

"The Great Void Seed is an ancient legend. It is said that every ten of thousands of years, a number of Great Void Seeds would appear in the unknown land. It's said if one obtains the Great Void Seed, one would become the strongest person in the world. 300 years ago, Luo Xuan sent this news back to the Sky Martial Court. She did not expect Yu Chenshu to covet the seeds and even demand that she send the seeds back. She, naturally, didn't agree. It was from then that Luo Xuan parted ways with the Sky Martial Court. It was also at that time that she seemed to have disappeared..." Huang Yu replied.

Everyone sighed upon hearing these words.

Huang Yu looked at the jade pendant on the Conch as he said, "This is the concentric jade that Luo Xuan carried with her. I guess it's better than it being lost in the ruins of the underground prison."

Everyone from the Sky Research Court nodded.

At this moment, Lu Zhou said, "This is my youngest disciple. Her surname is Luo, and her name is Shiyin."

"Her surname is also Luo?"

Everyone was puzzled.

At this moment, a magical scene appeared.

Luo Shi Yin's body slowly floated up into the air with her arms slightly open. Then, the concentric jade on her body began to absorb the energy in the surroundings.

"This... How's this possible?"

"She actually inherited Luo Xuan's power!?"

Let alone the others, even the geniuses from the Sky Research Court were shocked by this scene.

Under the power of the concentric jade, Luo Shiyin's hair grew longer. Even her eyelashes seemed to grow longer. Soon enough, her figure resembled that of an adult. Her dark hair fell like an ink of waterfall, and her thin lips were as red as the flowers in spring. Although she was unconscious, there was no denying her graceful bearing. Her appearance was one that had not been seen since ancient times.

The transformation was over in just a blink of an eye.

"Little Junior Sister?" Yu Zhenghai and Yu Shangrong were shocked.

"Little Junior Sister..." Little Yuan'er was confused. She did not understand how Conch who was a head shorter than her had now grown to be almost the same height as her. In fact, Conch looked much more like an adult than she did. Her cloud-like and feather-light robes were made of special material and expanded to fit her properly.

This scene was rather similar to when Yu Zhenghai reverted to his original age. At that time, he had eaten a lot after he consumed the red life heart before he finally reverted to his original appearance. He could not help but sigh emotionally as he watched Little Junior Sister's transformation.

Under the sun, the people from the Sky Research Court, the Cloud Mountain, and the Thousand Willows Monastery looked at Luo Shiyin in shock and awe.

The Sky Research Court's members were a group of hardened misfits. However, at this moment, they could barely conceal the affectionate expressions on their faces as they looked at the person in front of them.

Nevertheless, regardless of the changes, she was still like a little girl in everyone's eyes.

At this moment, a flurry of red hurricanes appeared from all directions and merged into one.

The Primal Qi in the Literary Star Gate seemed to weaken at this moment.

"It seems like we're fated to help you..." Huang Yu said. He was the first to push his hand out.

"Wait for me!"

"Me too!"

The people from the Sky Research Court pushed their hands out one after another, sending a part of their cultivation into Luo Shiyin's body.

"What's happening?" Little Yuan'er asked, puzzled.

"Luo Xuan's power is already present in the concentric jade. The god-killing formation on the Literary Star Gate absorbs Primal Qi in the surroundings. It seems like Luo Xuan's lost soul had contributed to the strength of the formation. However, it doesn't matter! We'll make up for what was lost!"

Soon after, more than thirty people from the Sky Research Court had all pushed their hands out. Regardless of their cultivation bases, none of them hesitated. It was as though when they looked at Luo Shiyin, they saw the Luo Xuan of the past... as though she was their child...

Chapter 873: The Ten-leaf Luo Shi Yin

The concentric jade seemed to be stimulated by the people from the Research Sky Court who willingly channeled their Primal Qi and cultivation into it.

When the elders from the Sky Martial Court saw this, they shook their heads.

"Perhaps, this is the chance God has given us to atone for our sins."

Who owed Luo Xuan the most in the world? The answer was undoubtedly the Sky Martial Court.

Qiu He shook his head and sighed.

About ten elders standing behind Qiu He sighed one after another as well.

The Sky Martial Court truly owed Luo Xuan too much.

Lu Zhou did not stop the people from channeling their Primal Qi or cultivation into the concentric jade.

With the support of the people from the Sky Research Court, the concentric jade finally accumulated enough energy. It was like a ripple on the calm surface of a lake as the energy surged into Luo Shiyin's body.

Buzz!

A dazzling red lotus appeared under Luo Shiyin's feet.

At the same time, the people from the Sky Research Court felt a powerful energy rushing toward them. They staggered back and fell to the ground, drenched in sweat, as they looked at Luo Shiyin.

Following that, the red lotus began to spin.

One leaf.

Two leaves.

Three leaves.

It spun as it sprouted leaves.

Four leaves.

Five leaves.

Six leaves.

“This...”

Apart from Lu Zhou, everyone present on the scene was thoroughly baffled. They had never seen a lotus sprouting so many leaves in such a short time. Although Conch’s cultivation base was not low before, they could feel her cultivation base was rising way above what it was.

Seven leaves.

Eight leaves.

The red lotus did not stop sprouting leaves.

Even Little Yuan’er could not help but feel slightly envious. The Little Junior Sister whom she usually took care of and taught had caught up with her in such a short time.

After the eighth leaf sprouted, the red lotus’ spinning speed increased slightly; it did not stop.

“Nine leaves!”

Everyone held their breaths as they watched this miraculous scene.

Lu Zhou also did not expect his youngest disciple would end up being the one who improved the fastest. Although he was mentally prepared, he was still slightly taken aback by this.

However, the surprise did not end there.

The red lotus did not disappear. All of a sudden, the red lotus burst into flames. A hint of blue could be seen streaking across the red flames.

Everyone cried out in surprise once again, “Karmic fire!”

“It’s a red lotus with karmic fire!”

After reaching the Nine-leaf stage, a cultivator would have a chance of obtaining and mastering the karmic fire. Cultivators who had mastered the karmic fire would undoubtedly possess the strength to crush their peers. It was like a boost.

This time, even Yu Zhenghai and Yu Shangrong were a little envious. They had once claimed they were invincible among Eight-leaf cultivators when they were at the Eight-leaf stage. Now that they had reached the Nine-leaf stage, they still hoped to be invincible among Nine-leaf cultivators. However, how could they be invincible among their peers when they did not possess the karmic fire?

Unless one possessed the karmic fire, one would never be able to understand the karmic fire even if one were able to study it.

When the karmic fire burned, it emitted a formidable energy.

Lu Zhou was reminded of the scene in the Sky Wheel Rift Canyon when he saw this. At that time, he had activated all his defenses and protective energy but was still unable to block the scorching heat of the lava. If Lu Li did not appear in time, he might have lost even more of his Critical Block Cards.

Lu Zhou's thoughts strayed as he wondered if the lava was also karmic fire? Whose karmic fire was it then? He was pulled back to his senses when a familiar noise rang in the air. He looked up and saw Luo Shiyin's red lotus had sprouted its tenth leaf.

"A Ten-leaf red lotus with the karmic fire!"

Everyone was understandably shocked.

"Unbelievable! Truly unbelievable! Even if she possesses Luo Xuan's concentric jade now, it's impossible for her to sprout ten leaves in such a short time! This doesn't make sense!" He Zhong muttered to himself.

Wang Dachui, who was standing nearby, laughed. "What's so shocking about this? What's impossible? Aren't all of you geniuses? What's so strange or impossible if a genius who's able to sprout ten leaves in a short time appears? If you think about it, it's not strange at all."

Indeed. The geniuses from the Sky Research Court were often called lunatics. They had created miracles when many people said it was impossible. It seemed like they were not used to it now that someone else was creating the miracle.

Lu Zhou looked at the red lotus with the karmic fire. His heart was unusually calm as four words appeared in his mind. "The Great Void Seeds."

Apart from the Ten-leaf cultivation base, Luo Xuan had the Great Void Seed. With the help from the Sky Research Court and the elders from the Sky Research Court, it was not surprising she had reached the Ten-leaf stage. However, he did not expect Luo Shiyin would obtain the karmic fire.

At this moment, Luo Shiyin slowly opened her eyes. Her gaze swept across the Sky Martial Court, and an inexplicable sense of familiarity welled up within her. She lowered her head and looked at her body. Her clothes, hair, arms, five fingers. She discovered everyone was looking at her as well.

Luo Shiyin felt as though she had slept for a long time and had just woken up from a dream and returned to reality. She was aware now that she was Luo Shiyin, not Conch. She was the little girl whom Luo Xuan raised.

After who-knew-how-much time had passed, Little Yuan'er called out tentatively, "Conch? Little Junior Sister?"

"Ninth Senior Sister?" Luo Shiyin turned to look at Little Yuan'er. Her eyes seemed to lose their darkness as she did so.

“Luo Shiyin,” Lu Zhou said. Although her appearance had changed drastically and Conch was no longer Conch, a child would always be a child in his eyes.

Lu Zhou’s voice seemed to cause Luo Shiyin to regain her senses. The red lotus under her feet disappeared, and she descended on the ground. Then, she kneeled respectfully and said, “Master...”

“Do you remember now?” Lu Zhou asked.

Luo Shiyin revealed a smile and nodded. “Yes.”

“That’s good. Rise,” Lu Zhou said.

“Thank you, master.” Luo Shiyin rose to her feet and straightened her back before she turned around slowly and bowed at the people from the Sky Research Court. “Thank you, everyone...”

“You’re welcome!” Huang Yu took the lead and waved his hand.

“It’s nothing!”

Lu Zhou took out a delicate ancient zither and said, “I’ll return this to its original owner.”

The people of the Sky Research Court stared at Lu Zhou in shock.

“It’s the Nine String Zither!”

Someone laughed. “It’s truly the Nine String Zither!”

No one had seen it before, they had only heard of it.

However, when the people from the Sky Research Court saw it, they recognized it immediately.

Wang Dachui moved closer to it as he said in a daze, “It’s the Nine String Zither...”

Xia Changqiu said, surprised, “Rumor has it that the most perfect weapon the Sky Research Court had created is called the Nine String Zither. Is... Is this it?”

The zither was very exquisite and small. It was hard to imagine that it was the most perfect weapon the Sky Research Court had ever created.

Huang Yu asked, “Why is the Nine String Zither with Senior Lu?”

“I took it back from Jiang Wenxu,” Lu Zhou replied honestly.

“So, it was really Jiang Wenxu! That b*stard thief!”

The people from the Sky Research Court were furious when they heard these words.

He Zhong scoffed before he said, “With Jiang Wenxu’s ability, he wasn’t capable of stealing the Nine String Zither. I’m afraid Ye Zhen had a hand in the matter. Apart from Ye Zhen, I can’t think of anyone who could steal the Nine String Zither!”

“Birds of a feather flock together!”

“It’s our fault for being careless. We shouldn’t have given Ye Zhen the Nine String Zither to admire.”

"This ending is pretty good... If the Nine String Zither was not stolen, I'm afraid Yu Chenshu would've destroyed it long ago."

Everyone nodded upon hearing these words.

When Luo Shiyin touched the Nine String Zither, she recalled when she had first seen it. She felt her heart stir. With a flick of her finger, a drop of blood fell on the zither.

"Ding! The Nine String Zither has acknowledged its owner. Owner: Luo Shiyin. Grade: Flood grade. Reward: 1,500 merit points."

"Later, I will bestow you with a piece of the Pilgrim Song," Lu Zhou said.

Little Yuan'er lifted her head and curiously asked, "Master, aren't you tone-deaf? Are you knowledgeable about music as well?"

"Silence." Lu Zhou glanced at Little Yuan'er.

At this moment, many flying beasts appeared in the sky. There were so many of them that it seemed like they had covered the sky. However, there were no huge beasts.

"The fierce beasts are here due to the sprouting of the ninth leaf earlier. Leave it to us!" Huang Yu said energetically.

After all, these people had not fought for a long time.

However, Luo Shiyin said, "Leave it to me..."

"That's good as well. We want to watch!" Huang Yu said.

Lu Zhou stroked his beard and nodded. "Go."

Luo Shiyin tapped her feet on the ground and flew up into the sky. Compared to Conch of the past, her temperament was completely different. Conch's naivete and childishness were replaced with confidence and perseverance. Her eyes were particularly bright and determined. They were really similar to Luo Xuan's eyes.

The Nine String Zither appeared and hovered in front of Luo Shiyin. It was shrouded in red energy. Then, she lifted her jade-like hands and pressed on the strings. Her hands swept across the zither; her fingers skillfully plucking the nine strings.

The tune echoed in the air, and the red energy rippled out into the surroundings. The red soundwave reaped the lives of the flying beasts within a 100-meter radius of the Literary Star Gate.

The flying beasts began to drop like flies from the sky.

Following that, Luo Shiyin waved her jade-like hands, and the Nine String Zither disappeared.

When everyone lifted their heads, they saw that the sky was clear. There were no signs of the flying beasts. The blue sky stretched as far as the eye could see.

The flying beasts were gone just like that? Was she not too strong?

Chapter 874: The Unknown Place

With the power of the Nine String Zither, Luo Shiyin, who was now a Ten-leaf karmic fire user, easily killed the flying beasts in the sky above the Literary Star Gate with just one move. At the same time, she broadcast a message to the beasts, telling them not to approach or attack.

The effect was strange.

Everyone looked at the beautiful woman in disbelief.

Meanwhile, the people from the Sky Research Court felt as though they could see Luo Xuan's shadow in her. She was proficient in music and the tongue of beasts. If she was not Luo Xuan, then who was she?

Huang Yu moved to stand in front of Luo Shiyin as his body trembled. Although the woman in front of him did not look like Luo Xuan, he still called out, "L-luo... Luo Xuan?"

A faint smile appeared on her face as she said, "My name is Luo Shiyin. Luo Xuan... is my mother."

Everyone's eyes lit up.

Time passed, and the past had turned into a cloud of smoke. Perhaps, life was just a cycle that repeated itself over and over again.

The word 'mother' was meaningful, and it reflected Luo Shiyin's feelings best at this moment. The letter Lu Zhou had read had also entered her mind. No matter what her background was, the person who raised her possessed grace that surpassed her parents. She could, perhaps, sever her fingers or her head to return them to her parents for the grace of giving birth to her. However, for Luo Xuan's grace of raising her and taking care of her, it would be difficult to return the grace even if she had 100 lives to live. Therefore, she thought it was appropriate to call Luo Xuan her mother.

After a beat, Luo Shiyin turned around and looked at Yu Zhenghai and the others before she said, "Greetings, Eldest Senior Brother!"

When Yu Zhenghai regained his senses, he said with a smile, "There's no need to be so polite, Conch. Ah, it should be Little Junior Sister Luo Shiyin."

"Eldest Senior Brother, you can call me Conch..."

"Alright," Yu Zhenghai said.

Then, Conch moved to Yu Shangrong's side. She was so tall now that she had almost reached the bridge of his nose. She greeted him, "Greetings, Second Senior Brother."

This change in temperament and appearance made Yu Shangrong felt awkward. However, they were fellow disciples after all. So he replied indifferently, "Okay."

Subsequently, Conch moved to stand in front of Little Yuan'er and called out, "Ninth Senior Sister..."

Little Yuan'er said with an embarrassed expression on her face, "You look older than me now... Uh, why don't I call you senior sister from now on?"

In terms of cultivation base, Little Yuan'er felt she was now inferior to Conch. In terms of physique... Well, in conclusion, she felt as though she had been soundly defeated in all aspects. Outwardly, she remained courteous. However, inwardly, she was rather thrown off by this incident. She promised herself not to play around anymore and to diligently cultivate from now on!

Yu Zhenghai shook his head and sighed. The boat of friendship had disappeared just like that. Life was truly unpredictable.

Conch held Little Yuan'er's hand before she said, "Ninth Senior Sister, what are you talking about? You joined the Evil Sky Pavilion earlier than I did. How can we break the rules like that? Moreover, you protected me in the past so I'll protect you in the future. I only relied on my mother to gain such strength. In fact, you're much stronger than I am."

Little Yuan'er found these words really pleasing to the ears. She laughed before she said, "Alright, then. Little Junior Sister, you're the best!"

Yu Zhenghai was taken aback. The boat of friendship had returned again just like that? He shook his head thinking to himself that women were, indeed, fickle creatures.

Lu Zhou nodded his head in satisfaction. Although Conch had obtained Luo Xuan's strength and possessed the Great Void Seed, her origin was still unclear.

The unknown place... Could it be the Great Void?

The memories from the memory crystal appeared in his mind again. He recalled black lotuses falling from the sky one after another and the sensation of dangerous auras hidden in all directions.

Lu Zhou tried his best to recall how the unknown place looked, but all he saw was a dark place.

"Congratulations, Senior Lu!"

"Congratulations, Brother Lu."

Everyone bowed and congratulated Lu Zhou.

Lu Zhou nodded and said, "We'll stay on Sky Martial Mountain for a few days..."

"Yes."

Qiu He quickly ordered his men, "Hurry up and get people to make the preparations. Discard the old furniture, and prepare new ones. Wait! Don't forget our comrades from the Sky Research Court as well."

Huang Yu and the others only glanced at the people from the Sky Martial Court. They would be moved just because of such a small thing.

...

At night.

Lu Zhou's accommodation was in Literary Star Hall.

After the Sky Martial Court had such a close brush with death, they had no choice but to serve Lu Zhou wholeheartedly with all their might.

On the contrary, the members of the Sky Research Courts were like the masters now. They washed up, changed their clothes, and enjoyed themselves. This was what they deserved. After 100 years of being imprisoned, oppressed, and living a life that was not fit for a human, it was considered good that this was their only reaction. It had to be said that it was also for Lu Zhou's sake that they did not cause too much trouble.

...

At this moment, Lu Zhou sat cross-legged in the middle of the hall. He used the Purple Glazed Ceramic and meditated upon the Heavenly Scroll Writing to replenish his extraordinary power.

"Disciple greets master." Conch had changed into an elegant robe that was a better fit for her. Her hair was tied up in a bun. Her eyes were bright, and her teeth were white. She walked to the middle of the hall and kneeled in front of Lu Zhou.

Lu Zhou opened his eyes. "Rise to your feet and speak."

Conch rose to her feet and said, "Master, I didn't mean to disturb you so late in the night..."

Lu Zhou noticed a hint of determination in Conch's eyes that wasn't previously there before her transformation. He was a little unused to it. Moreover, her gaze spoke of farewell as though she was about to leave. He did not dwell on the matter. Maybe his intuition was wrong or maybe he was just overthinking things. Nevertheless, his expression remained unchanged as he said, "If you have something to say, say it."

Conch said, "Master... I want to go to that unknown place."

Silence descended in the hall.

Lu Zhou maintained his posture. He continued to sit cross-legged as his hands rested on his left and right lap respectively. After a while, he looked at Conch and said, "You've grown up."

Conch remained silent.

Lu Zhou continued to say, "When I took you in, you were young and didn't know how to distinguish right from wrong. Now that you've grown up, I'll give you another chance."

Conch shook her head and kneeled again. "Master, I don't dare. That's not my intention."

"Luo Xuan once wanted me to be her master. I saw that her temperament had yet to stabilize so I didn't accept her. She's your mother so you're indebted to her. You should listen to her wishes and call me master. However, the rules of the Evil Sky Pavilion can't be broken. Since you've entered the Evil Sky Pavilion, you have to follow the rules of the Evil Sky Pavilion," Lu Zhou said indifferently.

"I just want to go to the unknown place to have a look..."

Lu Zhou raised his voice slightly as he asked, "You want to investigate your background?"

Once again, the scene of the black lotuses falling from the sky appeared in his mind.

No wonder Conch's eyes brimmed with determination.

“Yes.”

“Then?”

“Disciple only wants to bid farewell to master. I want to thank master for teaching me,” Conch said.

Lu Zhou looked at Conch as he shook his head and said with a sigh, “I understand why you feel the need to investigate your background. However, do you have the capability to do that?”

“I have ten leaves. I’m confident,” Conch replied.

Conch who had grown up was different from the past. She was no longer naive.

Lu Zhou slowly rose to his feet. “With just ten leaves, you’re confident?”

“I hope master will agree. I’m confident. If master disagrees... I... I...” Conch hesitated.

“Impudent,” Lu Zhou said in a dark voice. He raised his wizened hand; blue lights shone from his fingers.

Abandon Wisdom shot out from his hand toward Conch.

When Conch raised her head and saw this scene, she was not afraid. On the contrary, her gaze grew even more determined. She raised both her hands as karmic fire surged out of them.

Swoosh!

Conch’s palm directly collided with the palm seals.

Seeing the determination in Conch’s eyes, Lu Zhou pressed on.

Boom!

When her palms collided with Abandon Wisdom and the power had dissipated, Lu Zhou launched another palm seal.

Bang!

Conch leaned back and jumped half a foot into the air before she flew higher up. Her arms were numb, and her blood qi roiled in her body. Her eyes widened in disbelief. She was defeated with just one move?

“Do you think you’ve grown wings just because you’ve sprouted ten leaves?” Lu Zhou walked out of the Literary Star Hall with his hands on his back.

The commotion had attracted Yu Zhenghai, Yu Shangrong, and Little Yuan’s attention. In just a moment, the trio appeared outside of the hall.

“Junior Sister?”

Conch staggered a few steps when she landed, barely able to stabilize her footing.

Lu Zhou looked at the trio and said somewhat angrily, “No one’s allowed to interfere. Whoever interferes will be expelled from the Evil Sky Pavilion.”

The trio originally wanted to help her or plead on her behalf. However, upon hearing their master's words, they stood motionlessly in their spots and did not dare to move.

Conch was still in disbelief. She found it hard to accept that she was defeated with just one move. She knew her master was very strong, but she was still surprised by the extent of his strength. Perhaps, one would only understand her emotions after they had fought with her master.

The moon illuminated Lu Zhou's figure as he looked at Conch and said, "I'm very disappointed in you."
Thud!

Conch fell to her knees immediately and kowtowed. "I know my mistakes. Please forgive me, master!"

"Ding! Mission completed. Reward: 5,000 merit points."

"Ding! Unlocked: Disciple, Luo Shiyin."

"Ding! Disciplined Luo Shiyin. Reward: 1,000 merit points."

Chapter 875: The Arrival of the Evil Sky Pavilion

Upon hearing the series of system notifications, Lu Zhou's heart moved slightly. He glanced at the system interface and saw the mission for disciplining his ten disciples. He could not help but sigh.

Conch was not entirely wrong. She only wanted to investigate her background and seek justice for Luo Xuan. Such a filial person, how could her nature be bad? It seemed like she really inherited Luo Xuan's character.

In the end, Lu Zhou said, "How could I not understand your feelings? However, do you think you'll be able to investigate anything with your cultivation base? If a problem crops up, do you think you'll be able to solve it?"

Conch was rendered speechless by Lu Zhou's question.

Lu Zhou continued to say, "Let alone you, even if I go to the unknown place, I might not be able to protect myself."

"But... I can't let my mother die in vain."

Lu Zhou's other three disciples were stunned.

Lu Zhou looked at Conch.

Conch said, "My mother sacrificed herself to save me. If I wasn't injured, my mother wouldn't have died."

"You don't have to feel indebted to Luo Xuan," Lu Zhou said. "Your mother definitely doesn't want to feel this way..."

Conch seemed stunned by Lu Zhou's words.

Lu Zhou continued to say, "If you want to investigate your background, you can. When your cultivation base is high enough, I'll naturally let you go. However, you can't leave for now."

At this time, realization finally dawned on the trio.

Yu Zhenghai spoke up first. "Junior sister, master is doing this for your good. Your cultivation is very weak now. Going to the unknown place is no different from throwing your life away. Although you have a Ten-leaf cultivation base, you're lacking in combat strength and experience."

Meanwhile, Yu Shangrong's voice was as gentle as usual as he said, "Why are you in such a hurry? Your Eldest Senior Brother is a Wuqian. It took him 300 years to resolve the knot in his heart. As for your Second Senior Brother, as a Nobleman, I spent hundreds of years to resolve the limit of his lifespan. Wouldn't it be better to go to the unknown place once you're strong enough?"

Little Yuan'er chimed in as well, "Little Junior Sister, I think Eldest Senior Brother and Second Senior Brother are right. Don't be stubborn."

Conch looked at her hands. She had thought being a Ten-leaf karmic fire user was enough. She did not expect that she could not even withstand one strike from her master. With such strength, what could she do in the unknown place?

Conch bowed. Then, she fell to her knees and kowtowed again as she said, "I've been foolish. Please forgive me, master."

"It's good that you understand. However, let me tell you this. If you dare to go to the unknown place without permission, I won't let you off so easily."

"Yes."

"You inherited Luo Xuan's power, but you didn't inherit her intelligence. How can I watch you go astray?" Lu Zhou said disappointedly, "Here's a music sheet. Take it back with you and cultivate." He brought out the music score for the Pilgrim Song from his sleeve and tossed it to Conch.

Lu Zhou's understanding of music was not strong so he only copied the Pilgrim Song.

Conch understood her master's painstaking effort and immediately felt even more ashamed of herself. She kowtowed again and said, "I will remember master's words. I won't dare to forget them."

"Ding! Disciplined Luo Shiyin. Reward: 1,000 merit points."

"Leave." Lu Zhou waved his hand.

With this, Little Yuan'er hurriedly ran over to Conch to help Conch up. The both of them left the Literary Star Hall together.

Lu Zhou looked at the moon and sighed. He had thought his youngest disciples would be the least worrisome; he really did not expect her to be the most worrisome.

There would definitely be trouble if they went to the Great Void.

...

The next morning.

In the southern pavilion in the golden lotus domain's Evil Sky Pavilion.

“Seventh Senior Brother, everything and everyone are ready. All that’s left is you!”

Si Wuya followed his master’s instructions and packed up the ancient map in the eastern Pavilion and all sorts of blueprints. He said, “I’m coming.”

Outside the southern pavilion.

Zhu Honggong said with a meaningful smile, “Seventh Senior Brother, Princess Yongning came all the way from the Divine Capital to send you off...”

“Yongning?” Si Wuya turned around and saw Princess Yong Ning was indeed waiting at the entrance of the southern pavilion. He walked over to her.

Yong Ning looked graceful and elegant despite being dressed in plain robes. “Sister Zhaoyue is busy and couldn’t come to see you off so I came...”

Si Wuya nodded and said, “Thank you.”

Yongning sighed before she said, “This trip to the red lotus domain is fraught with danger.”

“I know.”

“You’re always so confident, but humans are still humans after all. It’s impossible for humans not to make any mistakes.”

“I know.”

“...” Yong Ning wanted to say a few more words, but she did not want to spoil the mood. In the end, she only smiled and said, “Take care.”

Si Wuya said, “Senior Sister Zhaoyue’s cultivation speed is a little slow. I’ve drawn some Formations so please bring them back. Tell her that when she needs them, follow the instructions, and she’ll be able to contact me or master...”

“Mm, don’t worry,” Yong Ning said as she rested her hands in front.

“You take care as well.” These were the only words Si Wuya said before he turned and walked toward the Sky Shuttle.

At this time, everyone had already boarded the Sky Shuttle.

“Let’s go.”

“I wish everyone success.” Pan Zhong and Zhou Jifeng waved their hands.

Buzz!

The inscriptions on the Sky Shuttle lit up at this moment, and it slowly rose into the sky.

Yong Ning raised her hand as though she wanted to say something before she stopped herself. She murmured to herself, “Take care.”

The Sky Shuttle flew toward the Endless Ocean.

...

Inside the Sky Shuttle.

Woof Woof Woof!

Grunt!

The wild boar and the dog seemed to be communicating. It was extremely lively.

"Eighth Junior Brother, I don't know what to say about your wild boar. Whenever the dog tries to communicate with it, it only cowers in fear," Mingshi Yin said disdainfully as he crossed his arms.

Meanwhile, the four elders stood on the deck and watched.

Zhu Honggong said, "Fourth Senior Brother, why don't we switch? I think the wild boar suits you rather well."

"Are you itching for a beating?"

Zhu Honggong did not hesitate at all as he said, "Fourth Senior Brother, I was wrong."

Meanwhile, Jiang Aijian and Si Wuya stood side by side on the deck.

Si Wuya, "You've really decided to follow us there?"

"I'm going to become moldy if I stay in Penglai Island. My master and his wife nagged me all day long. Sometimes, it's better to be alone in life," Jiang Aijian said with a sigh.

"When you arrive at the red lotus domain, you have to change your cowardly nature."

"I can't change my nature! I learned it from Mister Fourth."

"You're not like him. You're as cowardly as a mouse. On the other hand, my Fourth Senior Brother might look like a coward outwardly, but he has a sense of propriety and knows how to act accordingly," Si Wuya said.

"You're right. I surrender."

Woof! Woof! Woof!

...

An hour later.

The Sky Shuttle finally arrived at the shore of the Endless Ocean.

Under Si Wuya's management, there were many golden lotus cultivators stationed at the shore.

Dozens of cultivators rose into the sky.

The four elders immediately manifested their avatars.

Pan Litian, nine leaves.

Leng Luo, nine leaves.

Hua Wudao, nine leaves.

Zuo Yushu, nine leaves.

The four avatars only appeared for an instant before they disappeared.

Upon seeing this, the cultivators with keen eyes bowed in the air. "It's the four elders from the Evil Sky Pavilion. Let them pass!"

Pan Litian replied, "Thank you."

"It's nothing. May the Evil Sky Pavilion safely return to the golden lotus domain."

After the dozens of cultivators descended, they bowed in neat rows at the Sky Shuttle.

...

"Ding! Worshiped by 40 people. Reward: 40 merit points."

Lu Zhou was puzzled when he received the notification for the rewards of unexpected worship from 40 people.

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

...

At this time, the Sky Shuttle was flying over the Endless Ocean.

The modified Sky Shuttle was much larger than the Sky Shuttle that Lu Zhou had traveled in previously. Not only was it larger, but its speed was faster as well.

As the four elders looked at the horizon, they suddenly felt heavy-hearted and reluctant to leave. They exchanged a look and sighed.

...

After three days, the Sky Shuttle flew into what seemed like an endless cloud of fog.

Si Wuya said, "Don't panic. Master once said that we will have to pass through a seemingly endless cloud of fog when flying over the Endless Ocean. All we have to do is keep to our route and maintain our altitude."

Splash!

The sound of a sea beast jumping out of the sea rang from below.

"Seventh Senior Brother, could that be the colossal sea beast?"

"Based on the sound, it should only be a small sea beast. There's no hurry. If we see the sea beast, we can part the fog and have a look."

The Sky Shuttle maintained its speed as it traveled through the fog.

In the sea, a group of flying sea beasts flapped their fins and formed a bridge as they jumped back and forth.

Chapter 876: The Five Chart Black Lotus Thousand Realms Whirling Avatar

There were many types of sea beasts. They gathered and fought for prey, flipping into the air before falling back into the sea.

Then, what seemed like a huge wave with the width of a mountain range rose from the sea. Strangely, the gigantic wave did not disperse. Instead, it floated for a brief moment. When it sank into the sea again, only a colossal dark shadow could be seen.

...

In the midst of the fog above the Endless Ocean.

The Sky Shuttle flew forward steadily and quietly.

The four elders of the Evil Sky Pavilion took turns to man the helm.

Creak! Creak! Creak!

When the Sky Shuttle creaked, Si Wuya who was resting suddenly opened his eyes. "Elder Hua."

Hua Wudao smiled. They all had their respective roles so he knew what to do. "Alright."

Everyone turned to look at Hua Wudao.

Hua Wudao stepped forward and the Six Compatible Daoist Seal appeared in just an instant. The circular seal covered the entire Sky Shuttle, making it looked as though it was within a bubble, as it parted the fog.

With his Nine-leaf cultivation base, Hua Wudao chose to widen the range of his Six Compatible Daoist Seal instead of focusing on its defensive strength. He expanded it until it covered 1,000 meters, widening everyone's field of vision.

However, Hua Wudao said in confusion, "The fog is really endless. We can't see anything at all."

Creak! Creak! Creak!

The Sky Shuttle continued to creak as it moved.

"Let's try again," Si Wuya said.

"I'll give it a try." Zuo Yushu gently tapped the Coiling Dragon Staff on the deck.

Bang!

A wave of energy rippled out as several talismans flew up before they burned and turned into a tubular seal. It looked like a giant golden pillar of light. Since the purpose of the seal was to improve their visibility, there was no need to consider its power. Moreover, it also would not consume too much energy, and there would be no pressure to maintain it.

The Sky Shuttle continued gliding on energy as the fog was pushed aside.

At this moment, everyone saw the sea that was constantly surging with huge waves.

“As it turns out it’s the huge waves stirring the air and causing the Sky Shuttle to shake,” Si Wuya said.

“Everyone, be careful. The colossal beast that master mentioned should be below us now.”

Zhu Honggong asked, “Seventh Senior Brother, how big is the sea beast exactly?”

“I’m not sure. Master said to continue flying, there’s no way we can fight it,” Si Wuya said.

“Won’t you know after you experiment?” Mingshi Yin asked.

Everyone looked slightly excited.

Only Jiang Aijian, who was holding his long sword and leaning against the wall, was sleeping. He drooled as he slept deeply.

Everyone. “...”

Creak! Creak! Creak!

The creaking from the Sky Shuttle grew louder and louder.

Splash!

The sound of waves rang from far below.

Based on his instinct, Si Wuya said, “Colossal beast!”

Everyone rushed to the side of the deckt immediately.

The energy seal parted the fog as the Sky Shuttle lowered its altitude.

“Stop.”

The Sky Shuttle came to a stop.

Swoosh!

An unforgettable scene appeared in everyone’s eyes at this moment. They saw a mountain-like wave rose toward the sky before a fin flashed past their eyes.

“Is... Is that a fin? How can a fin be so big?” Jiang Aijian, who had just woken up, widened his eyes in shock.

“Stop making a fuss! You’re too noisy!” Mingshi Yin rolled his eyes at Jiang Aijian. However, just a second later, he cried out, “It’s really f*cking big!”

At this moment, the colossal beast twisted its body before it sank into the again. As far as the eyes could see, the sea level went up immediately.

Si Wuya said, “Let’s go! Speed up.”

Buzz!

The Sky Shuttle picked up speed and moved through the dense fog. However, no matter how long they flew, they could still hear the sound of the rolling waves and feel the movements they caused from below.

Woof Woof Woof!

Qiong Qi barked fiercely after it ran to the side of the deck. It bared its fangs and moved into what it thought was the fiercest posture and continued to bark.

“Stop barking. Behave yourself,” Mingshi Yin chided Qiong Qi.

Qiong Qi whimpered twice before it fell silent.

Zhu Honggong laughed before he said, “Fourth Senior Brother, your dog is really weak...”

“Hmm?”

Zhu Honggong did not hesitate to throw his pride away as he said in a gradually softening voice, “But... it’s still stronger than me...”

The Sky Shuttle continued to travel through the fog for a long time, but everyone could still hear the sounds of the unnatural waves from below.

They would occasionally use their energy to improve their visibility. At that time, Si Wuya would carefully observe the sea below them.

The Sky Shuttle that their master had traveled in was shabby and small while their Sky Shuttle had been modified and improved, and could carry more people. If they could not even withstand this bit of difficulty, it would be terribly embarrassing.

The Sky Shuttle continued to travel forward.

All of a sudden...

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The sound of a fierce collision rang from up ahead.

Zhu Honggong asked curiously, “Hey, hey, there are movements up ahead. Seventh Senior Brother, what kind of show will we be able to watch next?”

Si Wuya frowned. After a while, a solemn expression settled on his face as he said, “Can I say that this show didn’t appear in master’s instructions?”

“...” Zhu Hong Gong was taken aback. Soon enough, an expression of despair appeared on his face as he lamented, “It’s over! It’s over! It’s really over! As expected, plans can never keep with changes, and changes are evil!”

“Shut up!” Mingshi Yin said as he rushed to the side of the deck.

Hua Wudao said, “I’ll do it.”

A Six Compatible Daoist Seal appeared. It seemed to cover the sky and earth, widening their fields of vision.

An unbelievable and shocking scene appeared in front of everyone's eyes.

An avatar that was more than 500 feet tall hovered on the surface of the sea, massacring the sea beasts.

Everyone in the Sky Shuttle felt chills run up their spines. The size of the avatar aside, they were even more shocked by the avatar's black lotus!

"B-black... B-black lotus? Isn't it supposed to be red?" Zhu Honggong stammered.

Woof! Woof! Woof! Woof! Woof!

Qiong Qi barked fiercely.

The black lotus avatar continued to kill all the flying sea beasts around it.

Splash!

A sea beast that was 300 feet long suddenly jumped out of the water as a low groaning sound rang in the air.

In just an instant, the air seemed to turn still. All the water droplets were instantly frozen and turned into ice arrows.

Hua Wudao's eyes widened as he cried out, "I'll do it!"

Hua Wudao stepped forward and cast the technique he had spent his entire life working on.

The Six Compatible Daoist Seal!

The ten scripts of heaven, earth, life, death, water, fire, being, non-being, separation, and union flashed with golden light as they revolved around the seal, blocking the attack.

Buzz!

A buzzing noise rang in the air.

The other three elders felt something was amiss and hurriedly released their energy to help Hua Wudao block the attack!

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Ice arrows so numerous that it seemed they could cover the sky shot over and landed on the Six Compatible Daoist Seal.

Everyone turned to look at Si Wuya in unison.

"Mister Seven, what should we do now?"

Si Wuya said, "Try to circumvent the arrows!"

"Yes."

The Sky Shuttle changed direction.

At the same time, the ice arrows continued to fall like rain and hit the Six Compatible Daoist Seal.

Hua Wudao, whose face was red from the strain of maintaining the seal, said through gritted teeth, "Help me..."

The other three elders extended their arms immediately and pressed them on Hua Wudao's back.

Rich Primal Qi surged in the Hua Wudao's body, coursed through his Eight Extraordinary Meridians, and filled his Dantian's sea of Qi before the Six Compatible Daoist Seal suddenly brightened again.

However, the ice arrows showed no sign of stopping. In fact, they seemed to be getting stronger and stronger as well.

After changing directions, the Sky Shuttle's speed increased. In just a blink of an eye, it flew hundreds of meters away.

At this moment, another low groan rang in the air. It sounded more powerful than the one before.

A freezing air permeated the entire place immediately.

All of a sudden...

Boom!

A seemingly peerless force smashed against the Six Compatible Daoist Seal!

Hua Wudao staggered backward.

Whoosh!

The Sky Shuttle shook violently from the force of the impact. The inscriptions on the body of the Sky Shuttle lit up immediately.

Si Wuya hurriedly pressed his palm against the body of the Sky Shuttle. Although it continued to creak and shake, for now, he was able to stop it from falling apart.

"I'll block it!" Pan Litian cried out.

A conical shield appeared immediately.

With this, everyone's vision became clearer.

When they looked up 45 degrees above them, they saw a huge black lotus.

Everyone held their breaths as though they had come to a tacit agreement before this.

A complicated expression appeared on Si Wuya's face as he looked at the huge black lotus and the avatar's incomprehensible height. Soon enough, a name popped up in his mind. 'The Thousand Realms Whirling avatar! A Mystic Sky expert!'

Chapter 877: Plans Can Never Keep Up With Changes

The wind howled in everyone's ears on the Sky Shuttle.

Compared to the huge black lotus, the golden barrier around the Sky Shuttle seemed incomparably weak and small.

Everyone seemed to have forgotten to breathe and think as they stared at the huge black lotus in shock. A thought appeared in all of their minds at this moment. 'It's over!'

This was a Mystic Sky expert! It would be so easy for someone like that to kill all of them.

Everyone was still in shock when Si Wuya regained his senses. He maintained his calm as he said, "Don't panic."

He strode to the helm before he slapped a few talismans on the deck.

The talismans began to burn immediately.

In the sky, an 'Eh?' noise rang from the center of the avatar above the black lotus. Then, an incomparably loud voice rang out. "Return to where you came from!"

Si Wuya took out a Formation he had drawn and placed it on the deck. Then, he lifted his head and shouted, "We can't return! Why must senior make things difficult for us?"

"You overestimate yourself." The person seemed to have no intention of listening to reason at all.

At this moment, the black lotus spun, stirring up huge waves. Then, it shot up into the sky and covered the sky. Darkness fell immediately.

Boom!

The black lotus seemed to have blocked the attack for them!

Realization dawned on Si Wuya. "You're helping us?"

Whoosh!

The black lotus suddenly shrank and a figure flew out from the black avatar toward the Sky Shuttle. When the expert was still in the air, he suddenly spat out a mouthful of blood.

Upon seeing this, Si Wuya flew up into the air immediately. A pair of golden wings that spanned dozens of feet seemed to sprout from his back beautifully like a peacock spreading its tail.

Si Wuya fought against the strong wind and caught the expert.

The expert looked at Si Wuya in shock when he sensed the energy from Si Wuya's body. "The Great Void's aura?"

"What Great Void?"

Before the expert could reply, he spat out another mouthful of blood. All of a sudden, he grabbed Si Wuya's shoulder.

A huge beast jumped out of the sea again, narrowly missing the duo.

"Go down!" the expert said as black energy erupted from his body.

At this moment, Si Wuya was like an insignificant fly next to the expert.

Soon enough, the duo landed on the Sky Shuttle.

Hua Wudao struggled to his feet. His eyes were bloodshot as he said, "I'll block the attacks again!"

The Six Compatible Daoist Seal shone with a golden light again.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

After a few breaths, the Six Compatible Daoist Seal was shattered by the ice arrows, causing Hua Wudao to stumble backward.

"Such a powerful sea beast?!"

At this moment, they could acutely feel the difference in strength between humans and sea beasts.

However, it seemed like in the eyes of that expert, the sea beast's strength was only ordinary. He chuckled before he turned to look at the people from the Evil Sky Pavilion and said, "Give up. You're no match for this sea beast."

At this moment, the Sky Shuttle looked like it was on the verge of collapse.

The other three elders formed protective energy barriers to shield them. Alas, it was obvious the three Nine-leaf elders were struggling to hold on.

Duanmu Sheng, Mingshi Yin, Jiang Aijian, and the others released their energies as well.

Si Wuya frowned and asked, "Why?"

The expert's expression was solemn. He looked at the crowd that was struggling to hold on and shook his head. "I've been fighting it for ten days and ten nights... Even I am not a match for it. Your actions are no different from throwing your lives away."

Si Wuya said, "That's not necessarily true, especially when we're not here to kill it."

The expert turned to look at Si Wuya, slightly surprised. "Oh?"

"If we can't beat it, we can always run!"

The talismans on the deck were still burning, and the Formation lit up at this moment. As though they were boosting the Sky Shuttle, the Sky Shuttle picked up speed and cut through the fog like a meteor.

"Hold on!" Si Wuya said, "This speed is five times faster than the original speed of the Sky Shuttle. However, it'll only last for 15 minutes. What do you think, senior?"

"That's not enough. Still too weak." The expert shook his head.

The expert flew out of the carriage.

Buzz!

The 500-foot avatar appeared again.

Si Wuya saw the avatar flashing as it destroyed the group of sea beasts that were blocking the Sky Shuttle's path.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

The black energy seals that shone dazzlingly in the air looked like fluttering butterflies in the sky.

Bang!

The head of a fish that was several times bigger than a human landed on the deck.

The deck cracked.

"Clear it away!" Si Wuya ordered.

Zhu Honggong who was standing closest to the bloody fish head kicked it away.

Woof! Woof! Woof!

Qiong Qi's bark grew more and more frantic when it saw the fish head flying up into the air.

At this moment, the Thousand Realms Whirling expert said, "I've already tried my best. Follow this seal and head south. It will guide you to a safe place. Remember no to turn back!"

Swoosh!

A black seal flew over at lightning speed. It was meant to land on the Sky Shuttle. However, due to the Sky Shuttle's violent shaking, the shining black seal landed on Dang Kang's forehead instead!

Dang Kang grunted!

The voice of the Thousand Realms Whirling expert rang from afar, "Young people, make good use of the power of the Void in your bodies. Don't disappoint me!"

"Senior!" Si Wuya shouted. He felt a strong force up ahead. However, he could not see anything since the fog obscured the vision.

At this moment, they had no more energy left to do anything. They had given it their all to block the ice arrows that fell like a storm. How wretched! And to think they even had the help of a Thousand Realms Whirling expert.

As the Sky Shuttle changed direction, Si Wuya ordered, 'North!'

"Seventh Senior Brother... That person said we should head south!"

"I know," Si Wuya said.

"Head north!" Pan Litian spoke first in support of Si Wuya.

"Believe in Mister Seventh! Don't hesitate!"

"Head north then! Let's go!"

Everyone tried their best to change the direction of the Sky Shuttle and to leave the cover of the dense fog.

Qiong Qi continued to bark ferociously. Alas, the young Qiong Qi could not help much.

At this moment, Dang Kang suddenly turned to look at the fog behind the deck before it began to grunt and snort.

Two spots of bright lights could be seen in the fog!

“What’s that?” Zhu Honggong cried out as his heart thumped wildly in his chest.

“Don’t worry! It’s a flying sea beast!” Si Wuya said, “If we head south, we’ll encounter that colossal sea beast. At that time, we will definitely die! The commotion earlier is huge; it would definitely rouse the colossal sea beast. If we turn back, we’ll definitely die. If we head north, we might stand a chance to survive!”

“Mister Seventh has a point...”

Si Wuya said again, “Raise the Sky Shuttle as high as we can go...”

As the Sky Shuttle rose in the air, Dang Kang grunted and snorted again.

The two spots of bright lights behind them were getting closer and closer.

They knew the flying sea beasts were after them. However, they had no intention of fighting the flying beasts; they only wanted to shake the beasts off their tail.

Bang!

The sound of collision rang from below.

Bang!

“This can’t go on. We can’t allow the Sky Shuttle to break,” Si Wuya. It felt as though his mind was racing 1,000,000 miles a minute as he thought of ways out of their predicament.

“Dang Kang?” Si Wuya looked at Dang Kang.

Bang!

A huge crack appeared on the deck.

Si Wuya thought about it for a moment before he said decisively, “Everyone, defend! Dang Kang, come with me!”

Dang Kang ignored Si Wuya.

They were pressed for time so Si Wuya rushed toward Dang Kang as his wings sprouted from his back again.

Dang Kang struggled violently in Si Wuya’s arms, trying to break free.

Si Wuya knew Dang Kang would not obey him so he restrained it by wrapping it with his energy.

However, Dang Kang seemed even more averse to the energy restraints. It grew agitated and struggled even harder than before until it began to bleed.

Zhu Honggong frowned when he saw this. His heart grew so heavy that he could not speak for a moment. Following that, he ran to Si Wuya and grabbed Si Wuya's arm. "Seventh Senior Brother!"

"There's no time to explain. Believe me! Dang Kang has auspicious qi that attracts the fierce beasts. Only Dang Kang can lure the sea beasts away!"

Buzz!

Dang Kang's body suddenly increased to twice its original size. All the fur on its body stood on its end. Its needle-like fur pierced Si Wuya's energy restraint as it tried to struggle free.

Si Wuya had no choice but to throw Dang Kang away.

Bang!

Dang Kang landed on the deck heavily, causing the Sky Shuttle that was already shaking to shake even more.

Si Wuya frowned. "Old Eighth, let me go! Trust me. I'll bring it back safely"

"No!" At this moment, Zhu Honggong suddenly struck with his palm at Si Wuya.

Bang!

Si Wuya flew back against the deck. He looked at Zhu Honggong in shock. "You!"

Zhu Honggong faced the front of the deck and said with a mischievous smile on his face, "You always say that I'm timid and afraid of everything... but I'm actually really brave!"

Then, Zhu Honggong burst out laughing as he said, "Let me do it! My father said that those who stand out during difficult times are real men! Don't worry, I'll be fine! Third Senior Brother, Fourth Senior Brother, Seventh Senior Brother, and the four elders, let's drink together when we arrive in the red lotus domain!"

Following that, Zhu Honggong leaped onto Dang Kang's back and said, "Dang Kang, let's go!"

Perhaps, it was not surprising that Dang Kang really obeyed Zhu Honggong. It leaped into the air and disappeared into the dense fog.

"Eighth Junior Brother!" Si Wuya cried out. His wings sprouted from his back again as he shot out from the Sky Shuttle at lightning speed. He flew back and forth in the sky above the Sky Shuttle. He did not dare to fly too far away, afraid of losing his way.

Si Wuya could see Dang Kang circling the air. The fur on its body had turned into golden needles that flashed brilliantly.

The fog seemed to grow thicker and thicker until Si Wuya could no longer see anything. However, he was certain the sea beasts had gone after his Eighth Senior Brother.

Si Wuya clenched his hands tightly as he cursed under his breath, "Idiot!"

Chapter 878: Lu Li's Choice

Si Wuya stared at the seemingly endless fog. Soon enough, he heard Hua Wudao calling out to him.

“Mister Seventh, hurry!”

Without the sea beasts chasing after them, the pressure on the Sky Shuttle had lessened by a lot.

Si Wuya hovered in the sky as his wings kept flapping, giving him better visibility in the fog. However, no matter where he looked, he could not see Zhu Honggong.

When Hua Wudao saw Si Wuyao showing no sign of moving, he launched a palm seal. “Return!”

When Si Wuya saw the palm seal, he sighed before he reluctantly returned to the Sky shuttle.

...

On the deck of the Sky Shuttle.

Everyone sat limply on the ground, gasping for breath. It was as though they had just survived a huge calamity.

As expected, the two spots of bright lights in the fog had disappeared.

After a moment, Mingshi Yin walked up to Si Wuya and patted Si Wuya’s shoulder as he said, “Eighth Junior Brother has always been blessed by the heavens... Nothing will happen to him!”

At this moment, the Sky Shuttle finally stopped shaking, and everything gradually returned to normal.

After a while, Si Wuya took a deep breath and straightened his back before he said, “I want to contact master!”

“Alright!”

...

Zhu Honggong rode on Dang Kang as they dove from the sky. When he was about to fall into the sea, he found that his field of vision had widened. He hurriedly channeled his vitality energy and wrapped it around Dang Kang.

One man and one boar floated above the surface of the sea at this moment.

Zhu Honggong had no time to recollect his thoughts as he looked at the scene before his eyes in shock.

Dark clouds that seemed to stretch endlessly were above him. Beneath him was the Endless Ocean. At the same time, the scene of fishes jumping over the dragon gate could be seen everywhere around him! The sea churned around him, and he could see many dark shadows darting around in the sea.

“Heavens! Can I take back my words?!”

The sea beasts seemed to have sensed the delicacy above the sea’s surface. They leaped out of the sea in a frenzy with their bloody mouths wide open.

At this time, Zhu Honggong saw a huge sea beast pouncing out of the fog toward him. He yelled, “Go! Go! Go!”

Dang Kang turned around and swiftly flew away, passing by dozens of sea beasts. It flew up and down, trying to get away from the sea beasts.

Splash!

At this moment, a wave that was so high it could reach the fog high up in the sky appeared in front of Zhu Honggong.

At the center of the wave, a sea beast that resembled a crocodile with bumps all over its body poked its head out. Its eyes alone were shockingly big.

Zhu Honggong looked at the sea beast in fear. "It's over! It's over! To think I haven't even gotten married yet!"

The wave stayed crested, looking like a curtain of water, blocking Zhu Honggong's path. He could only watch helplessly as the sea beast opened its bloody maw and pounced at him.

Just as the sea beast was about to land on Zhu Honggong...

Buzz!

A black lotus appeared above the sea beast.

Boom!

A hammer that seemed as though it weighed 1,000 pounds fell heavily on the sea beast's head!

At this moment, a huge black astrolabe could be seen at the back of the black avatar. The Birth Charts began to flash brilliantly before they shot out several beams of black light.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

The light beams shot toward Zhu Honggong. Some shot past his shoulders, and some shot past his head.

Zhu Honggong was dumbfounded. He turned back to look and saw several sea beasts with their chests pierced.

Plop! Plop! Plop!

The corpses of the sea beasts fell into the sea one after another, staining the water in the area red.

Zhu Honggong turned back to look at the Thousand Realms Whirling avatar again. In the center of the avatar, he saw a man drenched in blood. At the same time, he could sense the man Dantian's sea of Qi was constantly releasing Primal Qi. When he finally regained his senses, he cried out in surprise, "You burned your sea of Qi?"

"What are you waiting for? Leave!"

Zhu Honggong said in a hurry, "Senior, you're not... you're not dead..." Then, he smacked his mouth before he continued to say, "No, I didn't mean that."

Zhu Honggong directed Dang Kang toward the black lotus cultivator.

The black lotus cultivator's brows were tightly knitted as he endured the pain from burning his sea of Qi. He asked, "Why didn't you heed my advice?"

At this moment, Zhu Honggong saw the sea beast that had tried to attack him earlier floating in the sea. After the heavy blow from the black lotus, blood gushed out of its wound, dyeing the seawater within 100-meter radius red.

After a beat, Zhu Honggong replied, "Seventh Senior Brother said there's a colossal beast back south. If we move south, we'll definitely die! Senior, are you alright? You... you vomited blood again..."

"..." The black lotus cultivator did not have time to waste words with Zhu Honggong. He looked at Zhu Honggong and Dang Kang before he said, "You have the aura from the Great Void as well... No wonder you have such a mount!"

"What do you mean?"

"Perhaps, this is fate..."

"Be careful!" Zhu Honggong cried out in alarm.

Numerous sea beasts began to pounce at them from all directions.

The black lotus cultivator pressed his palm down. The Primal Qi from his Dantian's sea of Qi surged.

The Thousand Realms Whirling avatar moved, stirring up strong and violent wind and causing the waves to rise like a tsunami.

Boom!

The avatar forced the sea beasts back.

"You will die if you continue like this!" Zhu Honggong said anxiously. How could he not be able to tell that person in front of him squeezing out every last drop of his energy?

The black lotus expert did not pay attention to Zhu Honggong as he looked at the sea beasts beneath them.

The seawater within a radius of a few kilometers had turned black. No, it was not that the seawater had turned black, but something gargantuan was rising up from below!

This scene was terrifying. Goosebumps erupted on Zhu Honggong's skin as chills ran up his spine.

The Black Lotus expert grabbed Zhu Honggong before he rose up high into the fog.

Swoosh!

A huge sea beast leaped out of the sea again. Its body and head were riddled with numerous bloody wounds.

"Be careful." the black lotus cultivator said after he released Zhu Honggong. Then, without another word, he dove back toward the sea.

Just like before, the Birth Charts on the astrolabe behind the black flashed again before they shot out beams of light.

Boom!

The beams of light landed on the sea beast. Coupled with its earlier wounds, the latest injuries caused it to be seriously injured!

Bang!

The black lotus expert extended his arm.

Swoosh!

A crystal with a strange color flew into the black lotus cultivator's hand.

"It's life heart!" Zhu Honggong exclaimed in shock.

All of a sudden, the black lotus expert turned around and tossed the life heart toward Zhu Honggong and said, "Catch!"

Zhu Honggong instinctively caught the life heart. He said incomprehensibly, "Ah?! Senior... you... y-you... I..."

"There's no way for me to return..." the black lotus expert said with a sigh as he shook his head, "You have the Great Void aura on you as well. Hurry up and leave! After it dies, it'll attract a huge number of sea beasts here..."

"I... I... H-how can I leave?! Senior, you can't die!" Zhu Honggong put the life heart away in the pocket near his chest before he ordered Dang Kang, "Dang Kang, save him!"

With Zhu Honggong on its back, Dang Kang flew toward the black lotus expert.

"Fool!" the black lotus expert said exasperatedly. At this moment, sea beasts were rushing toward him from all directions at a high speed.

Huge fins slashed through the surface of the sea.

"Didn't you understand what I said?" The black lotus expert wanted to rebuke Zhu Honggong again to force Zhu Honggong to leave.

"Shut up!" Zhu Honggong said. Energy erupted from his body and formed a protective barrier around the black lotus expert and pulled the black lotus expert to his side.

"You!"

"What do you mean 'you'? If I don't save you, you'll definitely die! Let's go!" Zhu Honggong said as he directed Dang Kang to the far distance.

Dang Kang flew at lightning speed.

The black lotus expert had never been spoken to in such a manner by a low-level cultivator before. Nevertheless, he did not seem angry. Instead, he sighed and shook his head. "Aren't you afraid of death?"

"Of course I'm afraid of death! However, what's the use of being afraid!" Zhu Honggong replied as he stared ahead with eyes flashing brightly with determination.

Dang Kang grunted before it suddenly grew in size again.

"Hmm?" The black lotus expert was stunned when he saw this. "Interesting..."

Numerous sea beasts were still chasing after them.

At this moment, two sea beasts leaped toward them.

The black lotus expert waved his hand, sending a wave of black energy sabers toward the sea beasts.

The sea beasts were instantly cleaved into two.

Then, the black lotus expert said, "We can't go on like this. Your mount is extraordinary so you still have a chance to escape. Follow my directions and leave me behind."

Zhu Honggong said resolutely, "I don't like owing people favors!"

Following that, Zhu Honggong raised his hand. A golden glove appeared around his hand immediately. With that, he swatted the small beasts away.

The black lotus expert seemed to have realized something as he smacked his palm on Zhu Honggong's back.

"What are you doing?" Zhu Honggong could feel Primal Qi entering his Eight Extraordinary Meridians before it wreaked havoc in his Dantian's sea of Qi. Soon enough, his sea of Qi released a wave of powerful energy, and a strange light burst out.

The surrounding sea beasts were so frightened that they sank to the bottom of the sea immediately.

"Stop!" Zhu Honggong cried out fiercely.

"I've already burned my sea of Qi so I don't have much time left. I'll give you as much as I can. It's better than wasting it by bringing it to the bottom of the sea."

"Why?" Zhu Honggong asked, confused.

"Because you risked everything just to save me... Now, how much you'll benefit from this depends on your luck," the black lotus expert said indifferently as he looked ahead.

Zhu Honggong felt the energy coursing through his Eight Extraordinary Meridians and in his Dantian's sea of Qi continue to increase.

Soon after, the black lotus expert's Dantian's sea of Qi finally stopped burning as it shriveled. An indescribable exhaustion seemed to wash over him as he patted Zhu Honggong's shoulder and said, "It's all up to you now..."

When the black lotus expert was about to fall off, Zhu Honggong turned back. He unleashed a stream of energy to stop the black lotus expert from falling as he shouted, “Dang Kang!”

As though it could read Zhu Honggong’s mind, Dang Kang grunted once before it rose higher into the sky and disappeared into the horizon.

Chapter 879: The Black Lotus and the Heavenly Writing Power

The Literary Star Hall in the Sky Martial Court.

After two days of meditating on the Heavenly Writing, Lu Zhou had fully replenished his extraordinary power.

Following that, he decided it was best to cultivate. Now that his cultivation base had reached this stage, he could not always rely on buying an avatar.

He opened the system interface and took a look at the Myriad Supreme. However, when he checked the price, he only saw a row of question marks.

“...”

He had already obtained the Thousand Realms Whirling, but he still could not see the price of the Myriad Supreme? Was there such a huge gap between the two?

“Pavilion Master!” Meng Changdong called out anxiously as he hurriedly walked into the hall, holding a piece of cloth that held a formation and few talismans.

“What’s the matter?” Lu Zhou asked.

“Something has happened to Mister Seventh,” Meng Changdong replied as he unfolded the cloth and lit the talismans up.

Soon after, a projection appeared in the air.

Lu Zhou saw Si Wuya in the Sky Shuttle. It seemed like they were still in the fog.

Si Wuya knelt as he said, “I’ve made a big mistake! Master, please punish me severely!”

Lu Zhou frowned. “Speak first.”

Mingshi Yin interjected at this moment, “Master, let me tell you what happened.”

Following that, Mingshi Yin recounted everything that happened to his master.

When Mingshi Yin spoke about a black lotus expert and the Thousand Realms Whirling avatar, Lu Zhou said with a frown on his face, “Lu Li...”

Upon hearing Lu Zhou’s words, the people in the Sky Shuttle looked at each other in confusion.

“The name of the black lotus expert is Lu Li?”

Lu Zhou nodded and said, “I met him once. Based on your description, he should be Lu Li. I didn’t expect him to really go to the Endless Ocean.”

Mingshi Yin scratched his head and asked, "Why did he go to the Endless Ocean to kill the sea beasts? If it were not for the commotion he caused, attracting all the sea beasts, Eighth Junior Brother wouldn't have gotten into trouble!"

Lu Zhou did not reply to Mingshi Yin immediately. Instead, he closed his eyes and chanted inwardly, 'For all beings in the universe, their lives, deaths, kindness, evil, merits, and sins, could be clearly seen.'

Lu Zhou's eyes glowed with a blue light before he saw the Endless Ocean. Dang Kang was carrying two people, flying in an unknown direction.

Compared to when he was at the Hundred Tribulation Insight stage, the consumption speed of the extraordinary power when using the Heavenly Writing Power seemed to have slowed down. Regardless, it still consumed a lot of extraordinary power.

In just a few breaths, Lu Zhou had already depleted one-third of his extraordinary power. He stopped the power and opened his eyes before he looked at the projection in the air and said, "He should be fine for now."

Mingshi Yin sighed inwardly. As expected, his master had said these empty words to comfort everyone.

At this moment, Si Wuya suddenly smacked his leg as he exclaimed in anger, clearly annoyed at himself, "I should've left a mark on everyone!"

Marks were a method of tracking. They were very shallow and easy to remove so it was easy to overlook them. It was much better to use them as means to track or communicate with one's acquaintances.

"Even a wise man will make mistakes. You've tried your best so there's no need to blame yourself," Lu Zhou said.

Although his master did not blame him, Si Wuya still felt uncomfortable. This was the Endless Ocean, not any other place. The slightest mistake could lead to a fatal outcome.

At this moment, Mingshi Yin asked in confusion, "Master, what about Lu Li?"

Si Wuya interjected, "I think he mentioned something about the Great Void."

Lu Zhou was intrigued. This meant the black lotus domain knew about the Great Void and the Great Void Seed. If the Great Void Seed was a treasure, it would surely attract people's attention. However, Lu Li would rather sacrifice himself than watch the Great Void See fall into the Endless Ocean?

After a moment, Lu Zhou said solemnly, "You must keep this a secret."

"Understood."

"You've already traveled more than half of the journey here. At your current speed, you'll arrive in the red lotus domain in five days. At that time, I'll send someone to pick you up," Lu Zhou said.

Everyone bowed.

Lu Zhou waved his hand and said, "As for Old Eighth... He should be safe with Dang Kang."

Si Wuya said, "Indeed. Dang Kang is extraordinary. When it arrived at the Evil Sky Pavilion, it breached the barrier without any difficulty. I ordered Eighth Junior Brother to tame it at that time. I didn't expect it... In the end, it's all thanks to Dang Kang..."

Lu Zhou raised his voice slightly as he said in an even tone, "That's a matter of course. How can my mount be ordinary?"

"Ah?"

Si Wuya and Mingshi Yin stared at their master with their mouths agape.

Duanmu Sheng, Jiang Aijian, and the four elders were similarly shocked.

Jiang Aijian who regained his senses first said, "No wonder Dang Kang looks so pleasing to the eyes! As it turns out, it's Senior Ji's mount."

"Jiang Aijian." Lu Zhou shifted his eyes to Jiang Aijian.

"You're calling me?" Jiang Aijian pointed at himself.

Lu Zhou stroked his beard and said in a flat tone, "Among everyone in the Sky Shuttle, you're the only one who's still neatly dressed and looks rather good. You sure know how to enjoy yourself."

Jiang Aijian hastily waved his hands and said, "No, no, no, it's a misunderstanding! It's all a misunderstanding. My cultivation base is too low so I'm not much of a help. Isn't it normal to protect the weak?"

As though he did not hear Jiang Aijian's words, Lu Zhou asked, "Do you know the difference between you and my disciples?"

"There are too many differences. They simply beat me in every aspect. I admit defeat," Jiang Aijian said with a mischievous smile on his face.

Lu Zhou shook his head and said, "When you need to retreat, you should retreat. When you need to advance, you should advance. Duanmu Sheng is brave; Si Wuya is smart; Mingshi Yin knows when to advance and when to retreat; Zhu Honggong steps up when the occasion calls for it. The four elders are wise and know how to support them and when to restrain them. However, you... you're sneaky and crafty."

Before Jiang Aijian could respond, Lu Zhou continued to say, "Don't be so quick to admit to your mistakes just yet. I'm only telling you this because I value your ability. If it were someone else, they wouldn't be qualified to speak to me. That's all I have to say. You can mull over this on your own."

Jiang Aijian was stunned. When he regained his senses, his face flushed red.

Lu Zhou looked at his disciples and said, "We'll stop here for now. Focus on maneuvering the Sky Shuttle and your surroundings."

"Yes, master."

Lu Zhou waved his hand, and the projection disappeared.

...

In the Sky Shuttle.

Jiang Aijian felt ashamed of himself. He wanted to bow to everyone, but the members of the Evil Sky Pavilion moved to the front of the deck as though they did not see him. In the end, he only silently bowed at them.

Pan Litian must have seen Jiang Aijian even though at this moment, he was looking up ahead. He said, "Young man, you have to learn how to see the bigger picture. Sometimes being too smart can be considered as stupid as well..."

"I'm enlightened."

...

Five days later.

A flying chariot flew out from the Literary Star Palace in the Sky Martial Court. It flew in the direction of the Endless Ocean to receive the members of the Evil Sky Pavilion.

...

Meanwhile, Lu Zhou sat cross-legged in his room. He stroked his beard as he fell deep into thoughts.

Three days ago, he had used the Heavenly Writing Power to locate Zhu Honggong. Zhu Honggong was still flying above the Endless Ocean. Without any reference, it was difficult to pinpoint his eighth disciple's location.

Lu Zhou closed his eyes. "Let's see it again."

He recited the mantra inwardly. Soon enough, his eyes glowed with a blue light.

Once again, he saw Zhu Honggong. This time, he noticed Dang Kang's speed was much slower. Lu Li, who was seated on Dang Kang's back, seemed to be in a comatose state. Meanwhile, Zhu Honggong was flying using his energy.

Lu Zhou stopped using the power. A frown could be seen on his face when he opened his eyes. He still could not determine Zhu Honggong's exact location. He muttered to himself, "Even Lu Li, who has activated five Birth Charts and formed the Thousand Realms Whirling avatar, is grievously injured."

Chapter 880: All Of Them Are Talented People?

Based on Lu Li's cultivation base and strength, Lu Zhou tried to estimate the strength of the sea beast they encountered. From what he saw with his Heavenly Writing Power and Mingshi Yin's description, he was certain it would not be a problem for someone who had a Five Birth Chart Thousand Realms Whirling avatar to escape even if it was difficult to defeat the sea beast.

The question was: Why was Lu Li so determined to complete this mission to the extent that he was willing to disregard his life? What secret was hidden in this mission?

Lu Zhou did not dwell on these questions for long. He would figure it out in the future. It was more important for him to pay special attention to Zhu Honggong over the next few days. Zhu Honggong was his disciple, after all. He did not wish to see any harm come to him.

After Lu Zhou organized his thoughts, he closed his eyes. He activated the Purple Glazed Ceramic before he began to meditate on the Heavenly Writing again.

Before he fell into his meditative state, he thought to himself that he must find more fire spirit stones. The Purple Glazed Ceramic was unique and truly suited for cultivating. He had to upgrade it.

...

The Endless Ocean.

After braving through lightning and thunder, the Sky Shuttle flew peacefully over the sea for three days.

At this moment, the morning sun that had just risen shone on the members of the Evil Sky Pavilion.

Mingshi Yin stretched his limbs before he said with a sigh, "I'm really not used to Eighth Junior Brother's absence."

"I hope he's fine," Si Wuya murmured as he looked ahead.

Soon enough, a thin line appeared in the distance.

"We're here!"

Everyone rose to their feet and rushed to the side of the deck. Their mood improved as they looked at the coastline that gradually grew bigger and bigger. They had finally arrived.

"Hey, make sure we are going in the right direction," Mingshi Yin suddenly said at this moment, "If we go to the wrong place, we'll be in big trouble."

Everyone turned to look at Mingshi Yin. The joke was not funny at all. In fact, it was rather terrifying.

Only Mingshi Yin remained unaffected. He pointed at the coastline and said, "It can't be wrong. Before we departed, I confirmed the location with Guardian Meng. Moreover, he left a communication formation that will guide us in the right direction..."

"Fortunately, we didn't listen to the black lotus expert's suggestion. Otherwise, we'd be in big trouble," Ming Shiyin said.

"That senior's suggestion isn't necessarily bad. It's just his suggestion leads to uncertainties," Si Wuya replied.

Mingshi Yin glanced at Si Wuya and curiously asked, "Since there's a black lotus cultivator, where's the black lotus domain?"

Si Wuya remained silent as he looked at the coastline that was getting clearer and clearer.

No one knew what he was thinking.

“Actually, an ignorant person can live a happy life. There’s no need to worry about this and that. The more you know, the more you’ll worry. In hindsight, my worries in the past are really nothing...” Mingshi Yin said.

Duanmu Sheng carried the Overlord Spear as he stood next to Mingshi Yin and said, “Fourth Junior Brother, although your cultivation base is higher than mine, your courage is slightly lacking. Who cares if it’s a black lotus or a white lotus? Just stab it with your spear!”

“Third Senior Brother is right.” Mingshi Yin smiled and did not refute Duanmu Sheng’s words. He thought to himself, ‘This is what I have to do as master’s most trusted disciple!’

...

Finally, the Sky Shuttle was approaching the shore.

Looking at the calm sea, one could not help but feel at ease.

Meanwhile, Si Wuya was transfixed with the scenery in front of him.

At this moment, a figure flew up from below.

Buzz!

At the same time, the sound of the resonance of energy rang in the air.

The figure hovered in the center of a 200-foot red lotus avatar as the avatar shot out toward the Sky Shuttle, causing the waves to surge with its energy.

“Ten leaves?! How can we be so unlucky?” Mingshi Yin lamented. He was not afraid of Nine-leaf cultivators, but how was he supposed to fight a Ten-leaf cultivator.

“Don’t panic. Increase the altitude of the Sky Shuttle,” Si Wuya ordered.

The advantages and disadvantages between the Sky Shuttle and an ordinary flying chariot were revealed at this moment.

One of the requirements for a Sky Shuttle was its ability to reach a high altitude since it was used to cross the Endless Ocean. The high altitude could eliminate danger brought by the sea beasts, after all.

After experiencing a life-or-death situation, everyone remained relatively calm when dealing with a Ten-leaf expert.

The Sky Shuttle creaked as it rose into the sky.

At this moment, the Ten-leaf expert unleashed a grand technique. A red conical appeared above the avatar’s head and shot up toward the sky.

“This fellow isn’t simple!” Ming Shiyin said.

“Prepare for battle.”

At this moment, the Ten-leaf avatar was just thirty meters away from the Sky Shuttle when it suddenly came to a stop in the air. Then, the avatar disappeared before a clear voice rang in the air.

“Nie Qingyun is here to receive the comrades from the Evil Sky Pavilion.”

The Sky Shuttle came to a stop.

Si Wuya walked up to the helm and looked down. At this moment, he vaguely remembered some information when he communicated with Meng Changdong. “Ah, he’s an ally...”

“You really frightened me.” Mingshi Yin patted his chest.

Jiang Aijian exclaimed in shock, “A Ten-leaf expert is just an errand boy?”

Pan Litian chuckled before he said, “That’s because our Pavilion Master is too strong. Look at him carefully; see how respectful he is? Remember to maintain the dignity and pride of the Evil Sky Pavilion.”

“You have a point.”

The Sky Shuttle descended until they drew level with Nie Qingyun.

At this moment, Nie Qingyun saw four elders with heavy auras. Then, his eyes shifted to the few young men with rather strong auras. He thought to himself that the members of the Evil Sky Pavilion were, indeed, extraordinary.

Si Wuya was the first to speak. “Sect Master Nie?”

Nie Qingyun was slightly taken aback. He asked, “You recognize me?”

Si Wuya smiled. He did not directly reply to Nie Qingyun’s question. Instead, he said, “You’re the Sect Master of the Twelve Sects of Cloud Mountain, a Ten-leaf expert. How can I not recognize you?”

To Si Wuya, knowing oneself and one’s enemy was the basics.

Nie Qingyun said, somewhat embarrassed, “You’re exaggerating. All of you must be exhausted after such a long journey. Please come with me to the flying chariot. I’ll man the helm.”

“There’s no need for that,” Si Wuya shook his head and said, “We’ll travel in the Sky Shuttle.”

Nie Qingyun said, “That’s right! The Sky Shuttle is precious and swift. How can we abandon it? I’ll tell my men to return, and I’ll return here to lead the way.”

Nie Qingyun descended for a moment before he flew into the Sky Shuttle. He was slightly cautious as he walked toward the helm.

Mingshi Yin yawned and said, “Then, I’ll have to trouble you. I’ll rest for a while.”

The four elders left after a flurry of quick greetings.

Si Wuya cupped his fists together and said, “Thank you.”

One after another, everyone went to rest or sleep.

At this moment...

Woof! Woof!

Qiong Qi lifted its head and barked perfunctorily twice before it lay down and fell asleep like a dead dog.

While Nie Qingyun manned the helm, he turned back to take a few looks. All of a sudden, he could not help wonder if these people were truly the talented members of the Evil Sky Pavilion.

...

Sky Martial Court on Sky Martial Mountain.

It was almost evening at this moment.

Li Yunzheng, disciples from Cloud Mountain and the Thousand Willow Monastery, and several elders from the Sky Martial Academy were waiting silently.

On the other hand, Sikong Beichen, Yu Zhenghai, and the others waited in the Literary Star Hall.

When the Sky Shuttle finally arrived outside of Sky Martial Mountain, someone cried out, "They're here!"

Qiu He, the Sky Martial Court elder, quickly said, "Prepare to welcome them."

Everyone raised their heads and watched as the Sky Shuttle slowly descended. Then, they said and bowed in unison, "Greetings, gentlemen and elders."

At this moment, Nie Qingyun jumped down from the Sky Shuttle and said, "Everyone, we've arrived at the Sky Martial Court."

When the members of the Evil Sky Pavilion saw the rows of people greeting them in the center of the Sky Martial Court, they could not help the pride that rose in their hearts. They straightened their backs as they alighted the Sky Shuttle.

At the same time the four elders alighted from the Sky Shuttle, Meng Changdong stepped forward and said to Li Yunzheng, "These four elders are the elders of the Evil Sky Pavilion."

Bang!

Duanmu Sheng leaped down from the Sky Shuttle and stabbed the Overlord Spear into the ground. Then, he bowed slightly to the crowd.

Meng Changdong continued with the introductions. "This is the Evil Sky Pavilion's third disciple, this is Mister Fourth, the Evil Sky Pavilion's fourth disciple. Don't underestimate the wild beast next to him. It's a terrifying high-level fierce beast."

Li Yunzheng nodded. His words were filled with praise as he said, "I recognize this beast. It's called Qiong Qi. It's a fierce beast with extremely high combat strength. When it matures, it'd be like a tiger with wings. It can soar in the sky and conquer the lands."

The crowd nodded and looked at Qiong Qi in awe.

These words were really pleasing to the ears.

At this moment, Mingshi Yin was like a peacock strutting around with its tails wide open. He turned around and called out, "Doggy, come here!"

Woof! Woof! Woof!

“Silly dog! Hurry up!” Mingshi Yin glared at Qiong Qi.

Qiong Qi leaped out of the Sky Shuttle and... completed an elegant move that involved flailing paws before it fell to the ground with a loud plop. Then, it cried out pitifully.

“...”

Everyone was speechless.

Mingshi Yin coughed, acting as though he did not see what had just happened. Then, with an expression that said he was not familiar with Qiong Qi, he turned around and walked away.

Upon seeing Mingshi Yin walking away, Qiong Qi, who was afraid of strangers, hurriedly got up and chased after Mingshi Yin.

Meng Changdong glossed over the matter and continued his introductions. “This is Mister Seventh of the Evil Sky Pavilion...”

Si Wuya, who was dressed in a scholarly robe, walked out at this moment.

Everyone’s eyes lit up immediately.

Li Yunzheng pushed the crowd aside and hurried to move in front of Si Wuya. Then, he bowed and said, “This student pays respect to teacher.”

Unlike the forces in the cultivation world, Li Yunzheng used the words ‘student’ and ‘teacher’ when referring to himself and addressing Si Wuya. It was as though he was already prepared to start asking for advice on how to rule the country.