

F.D Emperor 1281

Chapter 1281 Finally Move?

'What's going on?' Despite Wang Wei's careless attitude and his act of riling up Five Feathers, his mind was somewhere else. 'My feeling is not wrong. Something significant is about to happen in the Heavenly Beauty Palace, and it seems to be an opportunity I should not miss.'

After figuring this out, Wang Wei knew he had to end this fight as swiftly as possible. Blood Dragon was already dead, meaning it was time to plunder that dragon's territory. Although he's blocked the people from the palace, other bold people who saw the Heaven and Earth vision will also have the same idea.

'In that case, let's have the body find out what's so important in that palace while I use the puppet for the plunder,' Wang Wei finalized.

"Bastards, have you said enough?" Five Feathers roared. She did not need anyone to remind her of her ultimate fate. She had plenty of advisors who did the same, and she killed all of them already.

[Divine Judgment]

Five Feathers used much of the Qi she had reserved to cast a light spell with a wide area effect. The sky turned bright as trillions of sword lights manifested. They descended toward Wang Wei and the Time Clone with the utmost prejudices. To these lights, these two are the greatest sinners between Heaven and Earth and must be destroyed or purified.

Wang Wei's face became paler as he saw this attack. He immediately acted in tandem with the clone, setting up a formation with their staff artifact. The two made a circular motion above their heads with their staffs, generating a shield that covered them 360 degrees.

The light swords purified everything in their path. The laws of heaven and earth stood no chance against them, let alone things like space-time or any sentient life in the surroundings.

Crack!

A cracking sound echoed between heaven and earth, and it originated from Wang Wei's shield. He gritted his teeth and increased the resonance between the two staffs, allowing him and the clone to repair the crack and raise their defenses.

However, soul blood kept dropping from his nose, which was an indication of his current state. Five Feathers sneered after seeing this and used another spell. An incalculable amount of swords suddenly grew from the ground.

"Damn it," Wang Wei cursed. With these swords, he now had to defend himself from the sky and the earth. Wang Wei used his soul to mobilize the energy between Heaven and Earth to supplement himself. His actions created a vacuum of energy in the surrounding billion light years. Such an act should have disrupted the cultivation of countless people. Sadly, there was no longer anyone around.

"Keep struggling, you worm," Five Feathers sneered before using one of her most powerful Five Elements Dao. The backlash immediately caused Wang Wei's shield to be destroyed. He gritted his teeth and did not give up.

He worked with the clone to block these attacks with only their staff. They were initially the same, making them perfectly in sync. Additionally, Wang Wei used his ancestor's evading technique, allowing him to survive long enough. However, after a few seconds, the clone could no longer hold and was dispersed. Meanwhile, Wang Wei had a few light and regular swords stuck on his body.

Wang Wei looked at Five Feathers with gritted teeth while evading. Then, a look of cruelty flashed in his eyes.

[Time-Space Big Bang]

With his Space-Time Dao, he condensed infinite space-time energy into a single point before detonating it. The explosion erased everything between Heaven and Earth, turning this battlefield into an area full of chaos and temporal anomalies. Wang Wei took this opportunity to run away.

"You pesky ant, did you think you could escape," said a voice full of derisions and mockery. Then, before Wang Wei could run far, a cage of blue energy trapped him.

Wang Wei's aura was at its weakest, and now he was trapped. However, the cruelty in his eyes did not dissipate for a second. When Five Feathers saw him, she knew he was not a weak beast at the

end of its struggle and was about to surrender or plead for his life. No, this was a trap beast about to unleash its savagery to survive — no matter the cost.

Five Feathers no longer hesitated. In this situation, she knew the best move to end this bastard: a soul attack. A phoenix entered Wang Wei's Sea of Consciousness, proudly looking down at his weak soul. "Damn you, woman," he yelled. He was so weak that the defense around his Sea of Consciousness was broken so easily.

"Die, you annoying pest." The phoenix said before spewing out terrifying soul flames. Wang Wei reacted swiftly by summoning a pagoda, which was a Soul Defense Technique. However, the phoenix was relentless in her attack, forcing Wang Wei to move deeper into his Sea of Consciousness as a form of defense. However, Five Feathers could tell he was weakened at an alarming speed.

[Soul Requiem]

Five Feathers no longer hesitated before using her most potent soul attack. The phoenix released the terrifying flames before its feathers became sharp blades and attacked. Lastly, the phoenix released a sonic attack. Wang Wei's face turned ugly as he watched his pagoda explode. However, he reacted in time by condensing his True Will into a protective shield around.

'Finally. I can eliminate this pest and continue our era by at least 100,000 yuan epochs,' Five Feathers thought excitedly. According to the rules of Heaven and Earth, it will take some time before another Son of Era or destined one is chosen again. And even when it is, she knew there was no way for that person to be as talented as Wang Wei.

'If we can eliminate the next one too...' She was excited thinking about this possibility. However, her excitement halted when she saw a smirk on the corner of Wang Wei's mouth. His following words sent chills down the phoenix's spine.

"Found you," Wang Wei chuckled. His weak soul suddenly received a terrifying amount of energy, revitalizing it and making it more potent. Then, the soul seemed to have become a supreme swordsman capable of cutting everything in its path.

[Absolute Soul Cut]

A terrifying sword flash rushed out of Wang Wei's Sea of Consciousness. The potency of this attack made the phoenix's face pale, but something worse happened. The attack was not directed at the projection — its target was the main body.

Five Feathers was not stupid. She quickly figured out what had happened. Wang Wei lured her into his Sea of Consciousness by faking weakness, and while she was trying to kill him as soon as possible, he was creating a causality link to her main body.

"Argghhhh." Wang Wei heard a cry of agony from the karma link, and he recognized that voice. Such a sound was music to his ears, bringing out some of his masochist tendencies. He smiled before gazing at the phoenix.

'Damn, this is not over,' Five Feathers thought.

"Of course, it's not over," Wang Wei said, seemingly capable of reading her mind. Five Feathers felt another chill down her spine and swiftly dissipated the phoenix. However, when her main focus returned to her body, it was already too late.

A terrifying chain of fate bound the projection. The main body's injury weakened it and should have dissipated, but the chains did not allow this to happen. The thing was so overbearing that it forcefully overwrote her desires and even some of the rules of heaven and earth.

"What are you going to do?" Five Feathers asked.

"Make you pay, of course," Wang Wei replied. "That soul injury is nothing to you. With your resources, you'll probably recuperate in less than 5000 Yuan Epochs. I can't have that, can I?"

Wang Wei pointed at her, and suddenly, a terrifying white dragon that covered a tenth of the Eternal Ascension World manifested.

"No, you bastard, don't do this," Five Feathers yelled. She knew the consequences if something happened to that Qi Luck Dragon.

"You've enjoyed the blessing of this world's luck for far too long," Wang Wei sneered. The spear of destiny materialized in his hands, and without hesitation, he threw it. The dragon sensed danger and reacted. Its mighty paw blocked the spear, leaving a gushing wound. However, it did stop it from doing more damage.

"With its current state, it will take a while before destroying the dragon," Wang Wei murmured. "In that case, let's boost it." The destiny of all the elite attending the party might not be enough, but what about more people? Wang Wei summoned a projection of the River of Fate to summon the destiny of countless cultivators forcefully.

'Why is there so little resentment?' Wang Wei thought. Using the resentment between Heaven and Earth was the best way to reduce the resistance to taking —no, borrowing — these people's destiny. However, he discovered that while the people had plenty of personal resentment, it did not form much energy/power between Heaven and Earth.

'I should investigate this.'

Wang Wei had to use the laborious method of gathering these destinies. However, with his current strength, he could cover a fairly decent percentage of Eternal Ascension World.

Boom!

After being boosted, the spear pierced through the dragon's claw before heading directly through its head. The Qi Luck Dragon roared in agony, but the spear continued attacking until the dragon was about to disperse.

However, another change occurred between heaven and earth. A purple Qi rushed from another territory and stabilized the dragon, preventing it from collapsing.

"Taoism's Rising Dragon Purple Qi? Did Supreme Unity finally move?" Wang Wei frowned.

Chapter 1282 Transcendent Technique

Wang Wei observed with a frown. However, after waiting for a few seconds, nothing else happened. "That's it?" he thought. 'Did he only act to save her luck? He doesn't want to die? But why didn't he save Blood Dragon?' Myriad thoughts flashed in his mind, analyzing the situation.

'It could be he acted because Blood Dragon just died. Without strong luck to support, that woman won't last long. There is also the possibility there is something special about her among the other parasites, so Supreme Unity wants her to stay alive.'

This analysis made sense, but he could not think of anything that made Five Feathers special. Her phoenix race was rare, but not to the point of being valued by a Half-Step Transcendent.

'So, unless I'm missing something, he might have just acted to prevent her eventual death since these people are still useful,' Wang Wei analyzed. 'However, I should still research more about Five Feathers in case she is indeed special, but I don't know.'

Wang Wei squinted. It did not matter that Five Feather's luck had not completely collapsed. With his mastery of Luck Dao, such a weak Qi Luck Dragon is not different than a collapsed one. Once he deals with her, he'll use it to his advantage.

He turned around, about to leave; it was time for him to plunder. However, Wang Wei noticed the destruction around him. They had destroyed more than half of the Ubiquitous Hotspring World. Everything was in a state of void and chaos. Wang Wei saw the whale of the trillions of people — both mortals and cultivators — who died in the aftermath of their battles.

He saw the remnant of Dao Path's cultivators' Inner World. He noticed the scattered Immortal Qi or Immortal Path cultivators. He even detected the residual Dao Rhyme of Emperor Path cultivators, who were the only ones who survived this catastrophe since they could revive themselves.

Wang Wei shook his head. He tried to bring Five Feathers to a desolate place far away from the Heavenly Beauty Palace and away from life. Sadly, the destructing nature of Paragons was too great. It's a miracle the entire world was not destroyed. Of course, Wang Wei knew it would have been best to fight in the Nine Heaven Desolate Realm, which was the Eternal Ascension World's version of the Void Battlefield created especially for Paragons.

However, he does not think he can convince Five Feathers to follow him, nor does he have the strength to force her there. He guessed if he asked her to fight there, that cruel woman might think he cared about ordinary people's lives and cause even more destruction.

'Hmm? It's already healing?' Wang Wei noticed that the time anomalies created by techniques and the chaotic void were being repaired at an alarming speed. Additionally, the special laws of the Ubiquitous Hotspring World that allowed it to give birth to unique hot springs were also being repaired at an alarming rate.

'It seems this hot spring world is a protected area,' Wang Wei thought as a sudden realization dawned on him. There are many unique spaces in the Eternal Ascension World, but with how destructive cultivators are, it's odd how these areas survived since the dawn of time. The answer is they are protected areas, meaning Heavenly Dao will pay special attention to them and even repair them after destruction.

'That also explained why the entire thing was not destroyed,' Wang Wei thought. Their battle intensity was enough to destroy this area, but only half suffered. As a protected area, it's apparent that the Ubiquitous Hotspring Area received special treatment from Heavenly Dao, allowing it to suppress the effect of any world-destroying battles.

'Did Xun Junyao know about this, and that's why she chose this place for her banquet?' Wang Wei believed she did as the location of any plan is a significant part. She must have prepared in case Blood Dragon escaped or someone came to rescue him.

'Her plan was perfect until the execution. She could not control herself and started acting like a villain by telling her plan, motive, and background, which in turn delayed until someone came to save Blood Dragon,' Wang Wei analyzed while shaking his head.

'Her intelligence is probably close to or on par with a Dao Overlord. However, she lacked our absolute over our emotions and, more importantly, our flaws.'

After observing Xun Junyao briefly, he could tell her mental state was flawed. The worst part is that she knows it but does not know how not to reveal it to others or prevent others from using it against her. That alone disqualified her as a Dao Overlord — even a Dao Lord.

Wang Wei shook his head and no longer focused on Xun Junyao. He quickly calculated whether he could receive some merit if he accelerated the recovery of this world, and the answer was negative since he was the one who contributed to its destruction. So, he left, returning to the Heavenly Beauty Palace.

"Not bad," Wu Hong said, nodding in satisfaction. "I'll give you 8 of 10 for a score."

"Why not a perfect score?" Wang Wei asked.

"Your opponent was so weak, but you took so long, so that's minus one. Lastly, you're obviously not prepared enough for battles at the Paragon Level."

"Of course, I'm not ready," Wang Wei rolled his eyes. He had no plan to fight these parasites now, but this woman made him do it. Wu Hong's actions reminded him of parents who pushed their children into a river so they could learn how to swim in a moment of life and death.

"Life is full of ups and downs, so we can never be prepared for everything. I'm sure you know this," Wu Hong replied, not taking responsibility for her actions whatsoever.

Wang Wei stared at her before sighing. "Do you have any spirit healing pill? That backlash was truly nasty."

"Treating me like a bank, aren't we?" Wu Hong stared at him before summoning a green pill.

"Isn't your love language gift-giving? I'm just helping you express yourself," Wang Wei replied with a smirk as he held the pill. He recognized it as a Supreme Chaos Pill, not a Paragon Pill. However, this pill could have been refined by a Paragon since, unlike the lower dimension, there are countless methods of refining Innate Pills in the Eternal Ascension World.

"Once again, you're getting too comfortable, aren't you?"

"No, I just refuse to deny the natural sparks between us," Wang Wei replied.

"I'm not denying anything," Wu Hong replied calmly. "I just choose rational thinking to prevent trouble down the line."

"That's fair," Wang Wei nodded. He did not swallow the pill but placed it on his forehead. The pill entered his Sea of Consciousness and immediately started releasing these blue lights that enveloped everywhere, including his soul and spirit.

"That's better," Wang Wei groaned softly.

"Why are you here? Shouldn't you be somewhere, plundering?"

"I sense a unique opportunity in this place, so I return."

"Oh?" Wu Hong scanned the Heavenly Beauty Palace. "Is that it?" She showed a projection of a room, and Wang Wei squinted. He saw Old Man Tianji sitting cross-legged and the River of Fate materializing above his head, releasing an unknown power into his body.

Then, something terrifying occurred. Old Man Tianji's cultivation was rapidly increasing. In just a few seconds, his Empyrean Soul turned into a Paragon Soul, and after a few more seconds, his soul power quantity reached the Paragon Level.

However, this was not even the end. His cultivation suddenly broke the bottleneck and entered 90% Grand Dao Source, but that was not the end. It kept increasing to 91%...92%....

"Wait, why does it feel like some of this power belongs to me?" Wang Wei did not doubt his intuition and immediately summoned his Baxian Turtle Shell to use as a medium to take the power that belonged to him. However, he frowned as he realized power became significantly diluted once it reached him.

"The rest of the power seems to belong to Xun Junyao," Wu Hong commented, and with a wave of her finger, she also took it. Old Man Tianji opened his eyes and sighed. With that power, he could have reached 94%, but since these people acted, he only reached the peak of 92%.

However, he was okay with it as he had anticipated. Although he hoped it would not happen, but knew the chances were low given Wang Wei's terrifying affinity with Fate Dao.

"I know this power," Wang Wei commented. "It's the same when I changed the fate of the lower dimension and used it to boost my cultivation. Except, this one is a billion times more potent."

"That's a transcendent technique," Wu Hong said with a serious face. "By participating in world-changing events and altering the fate of someone or an entire world, he can condense this pure fate power with all kinds of effects. "After participating in an event that killed a Paragon that controlled one-tenth of a world's luck and injuring another, his cultivation can reach such a terrifying level in an instant."

The room was instantly quiet. Wu Hong and Wang Wei knew how terrifying such a technique was. With the strength, how easy was it to influence an entire world? How about killing Paragon? With such a technique, it's easy to imagine how terrifying the force behind it is. The number of Paragons must be astronomical.

"Are those two so powerful?" Wang Wei asked.

"No," Wu Hong replied with absolute certainty. "This event has proven to me there is a vast difference in strength between people in their realm. The difference might be larger than a peak Boundless Paragon and a mortal. We made the right choice not to settle for these incomplete methods."

Chapter 1283 Do Not Speak His Name In Vain

Wang Wei nodded. Everything is connected, and in the path of cultivation, the foundation is fundamental. Most cultivators believe that the Dao Foundation stopped mattering after the Emperor Realm. However, that is far from the truth.

According to Wang Wei's calculation, the minimum requirement for someone to become a Paragon is a failed Nine Extremity Foundation. Without it, the chances of surviving the Immeasurable Tribulation have drastically decreased.

Furthermore, Wu Hong told him that the Dao Foundation would become extremely important in the Half-Step Transcendent Realm. It's not just the Dao Foundation, but the cultivator's achievements and so on will also play a role in their strength.

With today's events, he also understood that how a cultivator achieves transcendence will affect their strength and maybe even whether they can achieve a higher level.

'I always thought the Cardinals achieved their strength by making a deal with Grand Dao to work for the latter with their eventual freedom. Maybe, they also cannot reach higher levels due to how they achieved their strength,' Wang Wei thought. He was not sure about this analysis, but if it's true:

'The Fate Cardinal Position is a pit, and under no circumstance should I accept it,' Wang Wei thought. Previously, he might have considered accepting the position if everything else fails. After all, no matter what, it's a way of making high strides toward the path of transcendence.

As a last resort, Wang Wei would not mind spending countless epochs serving as the Fate Cardinal before regaining his freedom and pursuing higher levels. However, if this position cut his path forward, he would rather die than take it.

"By the way, did you memorize all the Dao Rhymes of this technique?" Wang Wei asked. "I've only registered about 65% of it."

"I got everything," Wu Hong nodded. A transcendent technique was precious to even someone in their realm. Although it was not a path to achieve transcendent but an application of transcendent strength, its worth is beyond words — especially for her to complete her 3800 Dao Seals.

"What do you want to do with him?" she asked.

"Can we do anything? Believe it or not, we will all die if we touch him," Wang Wei replied calmly.

"Oh, did you think of something?" Wu Hong asked.

"It's not hard to figure out if you think hard enough. What do people of that level pursue?"

"Higher levels," Wu Hong replied.

"Yes, and no matter how many Paragons they've cultivated, it's meaningless to them."

Wu Hong squinted as she immediately realized what he meant. "They all have his name and are essentially clones of him."

"Exactly, and if he can cultivate them to the Half-Step Transcendent Realm, he could use them to borrow strength or even fuse with them to achieve higher realms," Wang Wei sighed. He figured it out so quickly because that's precisely what he would have done.

"That Old Man Tianji must have been planning this for Heaven knows how long. Who knows how many Half-Step Transcendents he must have cultivated and swallowed? I'm sure this technique has some limits, but even so, I reckon he must have walked very far on the transcendent path."

Boom!

The world trembled slightly, and everything stopped: all cultivators, matter, energy, and even the rules of heaven and earth. Only two people were not affected: Wang Wei and Wu Hong. Then, a pair of eyes appeared above the sky, glancing at them.

"Two little ants figured out my plan?" A deep voice echoed between Heaven and Earth. Wu Hong and Wang Wei immediately felt a few running deep through their souls. This was not because of their character or flaw in their mind, but the instinct reaction of a creature meeting a higher life form.

However, even as lower life forms, these two were extraordinary. They remained calm, controlled their bodies' natural instincts, and calmly looked at that pair of eyes.

"Interesting," said the voice before looking in the distance. Two people who were fighting were now looking at him. One of them was indifferent, but the latter sent a warning. However, he did not care. Although they were in the same realm, these two were too weak, so the eyes focused on the ants.

"I command you to be able to keep calm in the situation," said the pair of eyes. "However, you know too much." A colossal hand descended from the heavens toward these two. He did not want information about his plan to get out. Although a few people on his level suspected his plan, no one knew for sure.

Additionally, he could tell these two were highly talented, with the potential to reach his level—especially that woman. After seeing her, he felt a tiny threat. Although it was nothing to him, what cultivation were they? One was a towering mountain, and the other was an ant, yet the ant could threaten the mountain. Just the fact she was a threat proved her potential.

If any of these two reached his level, they could use this information to scheme against him. Old Man Tianji did not want to leave such a flaw and possible threat behind.

As the hand descended, Wang Wei and Wu Hong were powerless. Their bodies could not move, and their minds worked at turtle-like speed. Wu Hong could not even activate the seals in her Sea of Consciousness, and she panicked a little. She had so much hope and potential, so how could she die here?"

Meanwhile, Wang Wei was calm, so calm that it could be described as carefree. This was not the first time he had met those transcendent big bosses, and he could predict what would happen next. And, as expected, the hand stopped midway.

Old Man Tianji had to stop as he felt two terrifying killing intent locking him. It was so intense that a chill ran from his soul, through his spin, and down into his feet. He quickly scanned the source and discovered they originated from the upper stream of the River of Time. He tried to find who it was but to no avail, but he knew that if he continued his actions, even one of those killing intent was enough to eliminate him.

'So, that's how it is,' he thought, secretly sighing. He understood what was happening and quickly thought through time: "Senior, forgive my ignorance."

"Scram," said a beautiful, almost angelic voice. It was too bad it was extremely cold, so Old Man Tianji did not dare enjoy it.

"Thank you for your generosity," he swiftly said. He took one last glance at the Eternal Ascension World.

'How stupid I was. I know this world was a source of trouble, but I acted so brazenly.' He had heard of the All-Seeing Temple's prophecy and had prepared for the upcoming chaos. However, Old Man Tianji was convinced he could survive this forthcoming catastrophe. Better yet, he might take this opportunity to reach new heights.

However, after today's events, he realized he was too confident. If he's not prepared, even someone like himself might fall into the upcoming disaster.

'No, my preparations are not nearly enough,' Old Man Tianji thought. He decided to accelerate the speed of his actions. Before that, he must summon all the people who bore his name. So, he focused on the one in the Heavenly Beauty Palace and the one in the lower dimension.

'Hmm? He has a karmic relationship with that boy — I mean that senior. Maybe he will become a more valuable pawn by staying here.' After pondering it briefly, he took the one in the palace and left the one in the lower dimension. Old Man Tianji disappeared, and the time of the world started to flow again. No one noticed what had happened beside four people.

"Quite anti-climatic, isn't it?" Wang Wei sighed.

"Was that?" Wu Hong asked, thinking of the unknown origin of that clone that complicated her love life.

"Yeah."

Wu Hong sighed. The last time she felt this powerless was during the Ultimate Taboo. Thinking about how she had to experience such a terrible feeling again because of that bastard, she became angry:

"Why are you always causing trouble? From what I know, you're not born with the fate of a Disaster Star."

"Why are you blaming me?"

"Isn't this your fault? If you so blatantly say his name, do you think he would have noticed little ants like us?"

Wang Wei smiled wryly as she was correct. He was so used to using Maitreya and Supreme Unity names like it was nothing that he had forgotten a fundamental truth: do not say the name of higher beings in vain. Even Great Emperors can sense someone using their name or title, let alone these transcendent species.

"That's indeed my fault, and I apologize," Wang Wei said, and Wu Hong snorted coldly.

"I know it's a terrible feeling realizing how weak and insignificant we are," Wang Wei continued. "However, isn't this the best motivation for us? One day, we will stand at their level and even surpass it."

They had this confidence since there were many signs that they'd succeeded already. Although it was not a hundred percent guaranteed, this fact was enough to give them more confidence than 99% of all sentient beings.

Chapter 1284 Plunder

"Wait," Wang Wei said. "Were you scared?" He asked, looking directly into her eyes. Wu Hong was calm, but he knew her better than he knew the back of his hands, so he saw the signs.

"By the blessing of the Dao," Wang Wei said in shock before laughing out loud. "The proud and mighty Empress Wu has such a moment of weakness. This is the greatest day of my life."

"I don't know what kind of delusion your mind has conjured, but don't involve me," Wu Hong replied calmly. Sadly, Wang Wei ignored her words.

"This moment will feed my existence for trillions of yuan epochs — no, for eternity," Wang Wei continued. "I will tell everyone — especially our kids. I can picture it now. When I tell them of the one time I saw their scary mother trembling in fear. Yes, I can see it. Their tiny eyes became wide in shock. Then, they'll look at me in disbelief, wondering whether the emotion known as fear could even be associated with their mother in the slightest.

"By the grace of the ancestors, this is truly the greatest moment of my life."

Wang Wei's joy was palpable, almost illuminating the private room. Meanwhile, Wu Hong was gloomy.

"If you dare utter a word, the things I'll do to you could no longer be described as unspeakable," she warned.

"It doesn't matter," Wang Wei replied, his face showing a hint of unparalleled confidence. "No matter what trials and tribulations you put me through, no matter what darkness, the fact that you were once scared is enough for me to survive anything."

"You!"

Wang Wei grinned in response. Then, a cunning light flashed in Wu Hong's eyes. Her demeanor suddenly changed as she became sad and even docile; such a temperament immediately made any man wish they could protect her. She materialized a tissue and started crying.

"How can you be so cruel? This is the first time I've shown such a vulnerable side to you, but now, you're weaponizing it against me and even our future children. How can you do such a thing?"

Wang Wei stood before her in shock. In his wildest dream, he never thought that would be her reaction. The rudeness of the situation and Wu Hong's current state instantly made him want to reach over and reassure her that he was just joking. Luckily, he immediately woke up and realized what was happening.

'Well played,' he praised in his mind. Unfortunately, she had met her match. "Okay, your little act won't work on me. Your future self sent a clone in the past to prevent me from having a harem. Our relationship was destined to have some toxicity. Accept this loss and move on."

"You bastard!" Wu Hong said, returning to her calm and authoritative self. "This is not over," she declared after putting the tissue away.

"I'm sure it's not," Wang Wei smiled. They have an eternity to spend together, so it's great for their relationship to have its uniqueness. Otherwise, they will face the same fate as most Dao Partners — getting bored of each other.

"By the way, why were you scared? Didn't you already guess about our future selves?"

"Of course I have," Wu Hong replied. "But I'm not as crazy as you to put so much faith in my so-called future self. Have you never wondered whether these people protected us as our future selves? What if they are someone else pretending to be? And even if they are ourselves, who knows how much we've changed. At their levels, the past might not matter much to them."

Wu Hong sighed.

"The entire situation seems ridiculous and unnecessarily complicated to me."

Wang Wei nodded. Of course, he's thought of all these questions and possibilities. "All I can say is firstly, we cannot interfere in these battles yet, so we have no choice but to believe. Secondly, there are no signs of a problem so far, so all I can do is keep calm, retain that level of faith, and keep my guard up if I detect or deduce some kind of anomaly."

Wu Hong looked in the distance. In this overtly complex situation, his mindset was the best choice. 'It seems I must enter the Dark Truth as soon as possible.' She realized that since the Ultimate Taboo, she might have become conservative in her actions. Otherwise, after so many years, as long as she took the risk and left the Eternal Ascension World, there are plenty of ways to heal her injuries and return to peak strength.

"Don't you have plundering to do," Wu Hong said, looking at him.

"Damn it." Wang Wei almost forgot.

"Wait. Here." Wu Hong handed him the power of fate she took from Old Man Tianji. "This is Xun Junyao's share. Give it to her." Wang Wei nodded before teleporting away. Wu Hong calmly watched him leave, and a few seconds later, she smiled. She was correct in thinking he could bring some colors to her life.

'Let's continue observing before making any final decisions.' Although she had a favorable view of him, this was not something she could decide after only two meetings. Anyway, they had eternity before them, so there was no need to rush.

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Wang Wei teleported to the Domineering Dragon Realm. He scoffed at the name as he knew the Blood Dragon changed it after taking control of this territory. Wang Wei immediately detected countless energy powers, so he focused on the largest one.

He saw countless people attacking this beautiful palace, which was surrounded by auspicious clouds, dragons roaming around, and floating in the void as a massive ocean held it up. A powerful shield surrounded the palace, and no matter how many people attacked it, it remained intact.

"The Dragon Palace," Wang Wei muttered. This was Blood Dragon's primary residence, meaning it was the place with the most outstanding amount of resources. Wang Wei flew to his people.

"Sect Master, you're finally here," Wang Qi said. He recognized the latter from his aura despite Wang Wei still being inside the puppet.

"What's the situation?"

"With the help of the Changing Fate Hall and the Fate Guard, we've plundered the most powerful branches, outposts, and allies," Wang Qi explained. The Blood Dragon ruled trillions of worlds, universes, domains, and realms. As such, he needed help to control such vast territories, so he had many branches and allies scattered in his territory.

"So, that only leaves the Dragon Palace," Wang Wei nodded.

"Yes, but with the Paragon Array, we're powerless," Wang Qi replied. "Additionally, someone already went in?"

"Oh?"

"I think it was Xun Junyao," Wang Qi continued. "Her people were already waiting, but once she arrived, she used an Array Breaking Talisman to make a hole in this place's defense and entered."

Wang Wei frowned: "Where is Red Mask?"

"She and many of her people were already inside before the formation was activated, but we've lost contact."

"She should have contacted us if her mission had succeeded," Wang Wei commented, thinking about his next step. He could not wholly rely on Red Mask now that he knew Xun Junyao had entered. By the time she takes control of the array and opens a path for them, Xun Junyao might have already plundered the best resources.

'Even though no Paragon is controlling the array, it will take me too long to use brute force to enter,' Wang Wei analyzed. 'However, since Xun Junyao could enter with an Array Breaking Talisman, it means the formation is not at its peak, so maybe I can use a similar method.'

Wang Wei did not have a rank 12 Array Breaking Talisman, but he could try other ways. 'The Array Virus?' He immediately shelved this idea. In the lower dimension, the idea of the Array Virus was elevated to Emperor Tier, but it was useless for a Paragon Array unless it could be further improved. However, that was impossible in such a short period.

'In that case, I can only use a more direct and radical method,' Wang Wei concluded before summoning his people. Mongke, his wife, the second prince, and everyone else stopped attacking the array and regrouped with Wang Wei.

So, he took them to the edge of the Dragon Palace's shield and used his Order-Disorder Dao. Wang Wei used the same technique from his fights against Five Feathers, except his target was this array shield. He did not target the entire thing but made a hole deep enough for their team to enter. Such a clever maneuver allowed him to achieve his goal while drastically minimizing the potency of the willpower backlash.

"Let's go," Wang Wei said as he led everybody inside. The group's action caught the other people's attention, so a few clever people thought this might be their chance to enter, so they rushed into the hole. Sadly for them, Wang Wei's team did not take kindly to these leeches.

The Poison Demoness waved her hand to leave a nasty poison gas before the entrance, instantly killing a few Dao Rulers and one Empyrean. The gas dissipated after the team entered, and the hole in the formation healed itself.

Chapter 1285 Plunder (II)

The void fluctuated before opening up and releasing a group of people, primarily women and less than five men — one of whom was Xiao Tiandi. The group calmly landed before looking around.

"Palace Lord, do we really have to give up the array central area?" asked one of the women.

"That woman is powerful. Even if I can take her down, it will take too long, thus delaying our chances of getting more resources," Xun Junyao replied calmly.

"But we're the only ones who have entered the palace."

"Our competition is not only those people outside, but the people from the palace," said the announcer, Xun Tong, in her straight and direct manner. "Now that the Blood Dragon has died, how many people will remain loyal? They haven't started plundering because they hope their leader's Dao Mark remains intact."

"I see," nodded the palace lady, who felt unwilling they had to give up the central array hub.

"That woman," Xiao Tiandi said with a frown. "She might be one of Wang Wei's people."

"Oh?" Xun Junyao paused. She had now figured out that Wang Wei was the one she was waiting for. "What makes you say that?"

"The strength she exploded with her was the power of fate."

"Young master, although fate is a rare Dao, countless cultivators are on that path. That's not enough for you to determine it was him," Xun Tong said.

"I know that," Xiao Tiandi replied, almost rolling his eyes. "There are three reasons why I believe she's one of his people. One, her aura is similar to his. Although she tried to hide it, I sensed it. Secondly, it's the fact she was here. From how Wang Wei operates, it should not be a problem for him to predict Blood Dragon's death after seeing the master's projection and prepare beforehand for the looting."

"Now that you mention it, someone blocked my palace to prevent news from coming and leaving," Xun Junyao commented. That power was terrifying, so she had to use the strength from the palace — a Supreme Chaos Artifact — to leave after killing Blood Dragon. She also sensed a battle in the distance with fluctuation that was the exact origin of the one blocking her palace.

"That is how he operates," Xiao Tiandi sneered.

"Well, I'm still not convinced," Xun Tong continued. She was not being difficult just for the sake of being unpleasant. Xun Tong has noticed the young master has formed a rivalry with a man named Wang Wei, which is not a bad thing. According to her speculation, this rivalry is one of the primary reasons the young master got his act together.

However, she also noticed he tends to exaggerate Wang Wei's abilities and prowess. She doesn't want him to create a mythical version of his rival and become disappointed once he doesn't meet expectations. Xun Tong fears that such a realization will spiral into a situation where the young master returns to his former decadent self.

"The Lord's Shadow Technique is a worldwide famous technique from the Dao Opening Sect capable of cultivating powerful and loyal subordinates at a relatively low cost," Xiao Tiandi explained. "Master made me fight an imprint who was a Shadow, so I recognized that technique from the woman."

Xun Tong frowned: "Your friend should have just ascended, but that woman's strength reached the peak of the Empyrean Realm."

"Wang Wei is already an Everlasting Empyrean, and his cultivation is probably near the peak," Xiao Tiandi replied with a wry smile. Xun Tong was quiet. She thought her young master had exaggerated things, but he chose a true monster as his rival. She did not know whether this was

good or bad, so she glanced at the Palace Lord, but it seemed the latter was thinking about something else.

"Master, what is our next step?"

Xun Junyao pondered. 'Since he's the one who protected me from the revenge of the parasites, I should return the favor.' She decided not to compete for the resources in this place. 'However, I still need to get what's mine.' Before his death, Blood Dragon sealed her access to his dimension. Although it was now in Xun Junyao's possession, she could not access all its wealth.

"We need to find one of Blood Dragon's descendants," Xun Junyao said. She had tried using his bloodline to access that dimension, which almost worked. However, Blood Dragon was truly petty and predicted her actions, thus leaving preventive measures. Now, Xun Junyao will try another way: copy his descendant's bloodline and use them to access that dimension.

"Let's go," Xun Junyao. She knew that the lustful Blood Dragon had a few children before proving the Dao, and luckily, one of them when he was an Empyrean. Her mission will have been accomplished as long as she gets her hands on one of them.

...

Outside the palace:

Wang Wei's team landed on the vast ocean supporting the dragon palace. They were less than 20 light years from the entrance, but this was just one step for people like them. However, an army of soldiers suddenly appeared, dressed in silver dragon armor.

"All trespassers will die," said the Dragon Army before pointing their spears toward the group. They were perfectly in synch, and the killing intent released by them showed they were well-trained and had seen blood.

"An army of Emperors and Empyreans?" commented the Flesh Demon. "Well, given these people's resources, I shouldn't be surprised."

"Their weapons — it's all Empyrean Artifacts," added the Flame Blacksmith. This army comprised at least 500,000 individuals, yet each held such a powerful weapon. Wang Wei frowned the moment he saw these people.

"Something feels wrong," Mongke said.

"Indeed," Wang Wei nodded. "Poison, Flesh, go test them out."

The two demons did not hesitate before immediately attacking this army with all their strength. However, the devastating destruction that many anticipated did not appear. The army activated its formation, which gathered its power to condense two Dharma Images above its heads that directly confronted the Flesh and Poison Demons.

The Poison Demon's poison was excellent for large-scale killing, so even with the Dharma Image's effort, numerous soldiers died in the aftermath. However, as soon as one person dies, a light descends from the sky, and another soldier replaces the missing one, ensuring the formation remains in peak shape.

"This is an illusion formation," said Jia Ping, the second prince. His Double Pupil finally saw the truth.

"I was thinking there was no way for anyone to cultivate such an elite army," the Puppet Demon nodded. The world finally made sense to him.

"You're only saying this because of your ignorance," Mongke said. He knew top lineages like the Barbarian Race or those Overlords had large armies of Emphyreans, let alone this one that consisted mainly of Great Emperors.

The Puppet Demon looked at him before looking away. He couldn't beat this bastard, so there was no point in arguing with him and possibly suffering humiliation.

"It seems the people inside have activated the other formations to prevent us from entering," Dulgun commented. She shook her head. None of this would have happened had they been the first to enter.

"What now?" Mongke said before flicking his finger. He released an enormous force that instantly annihilated the two Dharma Images and the entire army. However, as expected, they immediately recondensed. "Even if we know this is an illusion formation, it does not mean we can escape."

The enemy's purpose was probably to trap them here and even force them to fight until exhaustion with these illusions. Additionally, even if they knew they were in an illusion, it did not mean that these soldiers' attacks were suddenly invalid to them. A Paragon Tier Array would not have such an apparent weakness.

"Jia Ping, let me borrow your power," Wang Wei said calmly.

"No problem, lord." Jia Ping's eyes suddenly returned to normal, while Wang Wei suddenly had the Double Pupil. Wang Wei did not waste time and immediately found a few operational flaws in this array and placed temporary seals on them.

The soldiers suddenly became illusory before completely disappearing. However, the team did not have time to rejoice before something else attacked them. A terrifying pressure descended from the heavens, rendering them immobile.

Then, countless void tears leading to heaven knows where appeared around them. The attraction from these tears was genuinely terrifying.

"This should be an Exile Array. Do something, or who knows where we'll be teleported to," Dulgun hurriedly said. These tears could lead anywhere, including some forbidden spaces in Primordial Chaos or the Source Qi Space. Although rare, they could also directly lead to another Chaos World.

"I'm on it," Mongke said. His muscles tremble to release enough strength to break off from the restraints on him. Then, he manifested a colossal golden giant above his head. The giant palmed downward, releasing a terrifying pressure that closed all the tears. Everyone sighed in relief.

"It's not over," Wang Wei said calmly, bringing bad news to them. The sky above their heads suddenly turned dark, and everyone's faces turned pale. Their danger senses were activated, and a terrifying warning of death was constantly reverberating in their mind.

'Hmm? This is...' Wang Wei thought, noticing something.

'That's the power of nothingness,' Wang Wei thought. He focused, and as expected, that's the power he was familiar with. The dragon palace used [Nothingness] to create this potent killing formation. If there were any other people involved, they might die or, at the minimum, be severely injured after dealing with such power. Unfortunately for them, they met Wang Wei.

'This is a great opportunity,' Wang Wei realized. Nothingness-based formations are extremely rare because of the materials required and the fact that most Array Masters refused to install them due to the danger. Unless they spent years studying it, most array masters are unfamiliar with this kind of power, meaning it's easy for them to make mistakes in the installation process. However, the slightest mistake also means their deaths and everyone/everything around them.

'By controlling that formation, I can gather enough [Nothingness Power] to condense my wheel and enter the Battle Taboo Realm,' Wang Wei analyzed with excitement. 'It seems my luck is on the uptake.'

As soon as Wang Wei had these thoughts, he paused as he realized something. 'Besides a few minor setbacks, my luck has constantly risen since my ascension. And after today's haul — no, after my training with the future wife — it should reach its peak.' He squinted.

After luck reaches its peak, there is only one way for it to go — down. In other words, Wang Wei can already predict that his life will not be so good once he's done training with Wu Hong.

'I must be ready,' he thought. He realized that Supreme Unity was the only person who could truly make his life miserable. In other words, the latter should be making a significant move soon. A sense of urgency suddenly loomed over Wang Wei. However, he also understood this was not the time to be worrying.

He no longer wasted time being distracted and summoned his Nothingness Wheel to control the upcoming power, allowing their team to navigate this killing array unharmed.

'He used [Nothingness] for his flesh enlightenment? How crazy is this guy,' Mongke thought as he saw how Wang Wei dealt with this situation. The barbarian race is masters of body refiners, so they've tried a few times to walk the Path of Nothingness throughout their history.

Unfortunately, everyone brave enough to use that concept—except for one—died tragically as their bodies, souls, and Dao were extinguished by the very power they had tried to control. The only survivor was an Inextinguishable Paragon who wanted to change his concept from [Eternity] to [Nothingness].

To that barbarian's credit, he made excellent achievements in the Path of Nothingness during his attempt. His achievements were even higher than Wang Wei. According to Wang Wei's division of the Power Nothingness, there are four stages: Intangible, Void, Emptiness, and True Nothingness.

Wang Wei was currently at the peak of the Void Stage, and once he achieves Taboo with this power, he'll enter the Emptiness Stage. That barbarian reached the peak of the Emptiness Stage. Sadly, he made the same mistake as everyone who tried to walk this path — trying to control True Nothingness in one step.

According to Wang Wei's recent speculations, he'll only achieve True Nothingness after entering the Half-Step Transcendent Realm. That barbarian did not understand this and almost died in his attempt to control True Nothingness. Luckily, he was a wise man and controlled his greed. At the last moment, he abandoned this path despite it looking like he was so close.

While Mongke and Dulgun — the only ones who recognized Wang Wei's feat — were in awe of his actions and accomplishment, the latter finally led the team into the dragon palace. However, Mongke learned an essential lesson from this experience — only crazy people can become Anomaly level talents.

'There is no need for me to hesitate any longer,' Mongke thought. He listened to Wang Wei's suggestion that he may need to enter the Taboo Battle Realm to be considered an Anomaly, and he's been deducing a technique to do so. He succeeded with his Supreme Chaos Treasure, which helps people create techniques. However, only partially, since all his calculations said he would explode and die instead of increasing his fighting abilities.

His wife, usually the voice of reason, convinced him to take things slow and not rush into trying this method. He agreed with her, but now, he decided to rush things by asking Wang Wei for advice. Although that would result in him releasing information about a technique that allowed someone to achieve taboo, he did not care. This technique is flawed, and he might never finish it without proper guidance.

After entering the dragon palace, Wang Wei saw a small army of a thousand men waiting for them. This army was the same as the illusion, except this one was real. No, they were more potent since they were all Emphyreans. However, he did not want to waste more time, so he annihilated them with one staff smash. Now, he needed to ponder what their next step was.

Wang Wei wanted to go directly to the central array hub to control the Nothingness Array. However, he knew this was not the best utilization of their manpower. Since he tasked Red Mask with a mission, he should trust her to succeed.

"We will divide from here," Wang Wei said. "I'll go to the treasury to secure it. Mongke, your task is controlling the Alchemy Room and the other professions. Capture these professions alive. We need them to work for us."

Wang Wei was in desperate need of capable professionals, especially after today's event. The people from the Changing Fate Hall have amassed an absurd amount of resources, so there is the possibility they'll stop relying on the hall — at least, not for a couple hundred thousand yuan epochs.

Luckily, Wang Wei had predicted this and prepared. He sent his people to accompany these mercenaries. He tasked them to focus on taking finished products during the raid and leave the rare materials or resources to the hall members. He did this so these people would have no choice but to rely on the hall to turn these rare resources into finished products like pills, talismans, and artifacts.

However, he also needed many professionals for his plans to work, so he targeted Blood Dragon's team.

"I can go with him," the Flame Blacksmith suggested.

"No problem," Wang Wei said. "Dulgun, your task is the Spiritual Medicine Garden. Puppet Demon will be under your management. Jia Ping, your goal is the Blood Dragon's cultivation room."

The second prince's eyes lit up as he realized the importance of such a find. Any places that a higher being like Paragon has cultivated for so long will be embedded with an incalculable amount of Dao Rhymes, turning it into a cultivation holy land. Not to mention, there must be countless precious arrays in such a place to accelerate Blood Dragon's practice.

"Flesh and Poison Demon, your task is to find where the Blood Dragon kept his Luck Condensing Artifact. He might have kept it on him, so it's fine if you don't find it." Wang Wei was convinced that the Blood Dragon's personal dimension was in Xun Junyao's hands, so he did not search for it.

"The rest of you need to make as much noise as possible to distract and disperse their forces," Wang Wei continued. "Especially you, Curse Demon. Spread a nasty curse around to cause chaos."

"As you wish, boss."

Wang Wei nodded. There were plenty more crucial areas in this place—for example, the library or the unique secret realms with rare resources or training experiences. However, these things could be left for later after securing these main areas and controlling the palace. The last thing he wanted was for the remains of the Blood Dragon people to destroy these areas out of spite and leave them with nothing.

Wang Wei was about to disperse the group when he thought of something. He pointed at everyone and released a gray light into their bodies. "You might encounter a Tier 12 Creation Lifeform, and this should send you away to safety."

Wang Wei was not sure whether Blood Dragon had cultivated any Tier 12 creation creatures. It's possible since creations cannot disobey their creators. However, it's also possible the dragon was paranoid, and out of fear of being betrayed and having his power usurped, he never created any. After all, although Creation Lifeforms can't betray their master on their own, it's something else if someone intervenes. Although rare, it's not as rare as an Eternals's [Avatar] betraying them.

"Alright, let's move," Wang Wei said before disappearing. He broke through countless spatial layers and a few dimensions before finding the treasury location. And, as expected, there was a gatekeeper, which surprised him slightly.

'A Dao Monarch,' Wang Wei thought. 'And an Insurgent?' He was confused because this man did pose a threat to him, but it was very low. 'That can only mean he's using a Paragon Artifact to become an Insurgent.'

Wang Wei focused. Although this kind of [Insurgent] was the lowest level, and many people do not even acknowledge their status, he would still take it seriously.

Chapter 1287 Plunder (IV)

Wang Wei looked at this middle-aged man with a subtle aura of demons and beasts. He was composed, as if he was confident in his abilities. This was odd since [Artifact Insurgents] were often looked down upon. So, Wang Wei had to wonder about this man's source of confidence.

"Who are you?" Wang Wei asked.

"A dead man does not need to know my name."

"So, it's Xin Tangtian," Wang Wei added, having already divined this much information. However, his actions made this guardian frown. Wang Wei was a master at controlling a conversation's rhythm, so with this simple move, the advantage was already on his side.

"So, Xin Tangtian, why are you so loyal?" Wang Wei asked. "Your oppressor is already dead. But instead of taking this opportunity to get some remuneration and running away, you're still doing his bidding. Why is that?"

"What do you people know? This is only a temporary setback. Once the lord returns, none of you can survive his wrath," Xin Tangtian sneered. "He will hunt all of you until the end of the earth."

Wang Wei calmly looked at this man. "Your threat is not as intimidating as you think. As long as these plunderers hide in the Lawless Zone, they'll be fine. Even if Blood Dragon returns, what can he do? With his terrible fighting ability and the rules of the Lawless Zone, he'll be useless even if he invaded with all his troops."

Xin Tangtian was immediately speechless. These words had some truths to them. The Lawless Zone rejected any form of intervention from the outside world, so these people might get away with it if they hide there.

"Not to mention that by the time he revives, there should be a few more Paragons in this world," Wang Wei added, and Xin Tangtian's face contorted. With all the resources plundered, he knew it was guaranteed that a few peak Emphyreans would immediately attack the Paragon Realm after they left.

In the current political climate, one Paragon is enough to disrupt the situation—especially if it's someone highly gifted in fighting or, worse, a Boundless Paragon. All these created a sense of urgency in Xin Tangtian's mind.

"You still haven't answered my question," Wang Wei said. "Why are you so loyal? The controlling method Blood Dragon used in your soul should have dissipated after his death — unless he went as far as using a Dao Mark as the basis of the technique. But even if he did, his weakened state should be enough for you to take the risk of removing it."

"Why do you care?" Xin Tangtian snapped before summoning his Paragon Artifact — a bracelet. He activated it, transforming him into this golden ape with black armor, boxing gloves, and a terrible fighting intent. Xin Tangtian had turned into a Saint Battle Ape, one of the most powerful demon races in the Eternal Ascension World.

With hesitation, the ape punched Wang Wei. This was a simple punch, but it contained such a potent fighting intent that the surrounding space and time twisted; it was as if this battle intent's purpose was to fight anything between heaven and earth — including conceptual existences.

"I like to figure people out, and your actions haven't made sense to me yet," Wang Wei calmly responded as he evaded the punch. "It seems that the fact that Blood Dragon allowed you to be one of the few tier 12 cultivators in the world has twisted your psychology, somehow, making you feel special. But is this enough to be this loyal? I don't think so."

Wang Wei evaded millions of punches, and during the entire thing, his eyes never left Xin Tangtian. The latter roared in anger and frustration before using even more potent battle techniques from the Saint Battle Ape clan. However, the result was the same.

"I see. Your loyalty is out of fear," Wang Wei continued. "But is Blood Dragon so terrifying?" A ripple suddenly emanated from Xin Tangtian after hearing these words, and Wang Wei took this opportunity to read more about the latter's fate.

"So, that's what happened. He once faked his death to catch all the people who wished to betray him, so this fear remains in your heart," Wang Wei nodded. He had to admit that his view of the dragon increased slightly after seeing how he put the fear of god into his subordinate after faking his death.

"Shut up, you damn rebel," Xin Tangtian yelled before his fist turned golden, and he smashed down. Wang Wei calmly raised his staff to block that attack; it was so potent that he flew a few kilometers away before stopping. However, a smirk could be seen in the corner of his eyes.

'It's done,' he thought before suddenly condensing millions of runes that rushed into the Paragon Array protecting the treasury.

"No," a woman's voice emanated from the formation area, followed by an intense energy fluctuation. Unfortunately, it was pointless as the runes sealed core areas and minor flaws in the formation.

"What have you done?" roared Xin Tangtian. Wang Wei calmly looked at him. Now that his main objective was accomplished, there was no point in wasting time with this bastard. He suddenly appeared before the ape and punched it in the stomach. Xin Tangtian howled in pain. Then, to his horror, he swiftly transformed to his human shape.

Wang Wei took the bracelet from him and observed it. 'An artifact with summoning and demon-controlling laws? Interesting.' He realized the artifact's primary purpose was to collect powerful creatures to summon in battles while also transforming into them to acquire their bloodline abilities. However, Xin Tangtian only had the ape inside, which showed how much trust the Blood Dragon had in him.

"Such a precious artifact was wasted on you," Wang Wei shook his head. He was not saying that just because there was only one creature inside. The Saint Battle Apes were one the most powerful demons in this world, especially in the previous era when one of the Tribal Sacred Mountain's two Primal Paragons belonged to them.

Whenever there was a conflict with the Primarch Origin Temple, this race was on the frontline, tearing the enemy apart. Their achievements in Body Refining and Fighting had reached the peak of the world. Xin Tangtian probably never experienced more than 10,000 battles in his life, perhaps less after becoming a Dao Monarch. How could such a person truly utilize the power of the Saint Battle Ape?

Wang Wei put the bracelet away before looking at the treasure entrance. His eyes were not looking at the door but at this woman surrounded by runes. When he arrived, he noticed two presences: Xin Tangtian and the Array Spirit of this treasury.

In the lower dimension, due to the intense nature of competition and the zeitgeist of self-reliance, most worlds/cultivation systems do not use things like artifact/array spirit. Instead, those artifacts are given limited intelligence while focusing on increasing their overall attack potency.

However, the upper dimensions have more room for leniency, so such methods are more common. Wang Wei was not surprised that this protective formation had a spirit that could control it. However, he also realized the danger of this spirit. It will be exponentially more challenging for him to forcefully break through the formation with a spirit controlling. More importantly, even if he did, the latter could destroy everything out of spite, and there would be nothing he could do about it.

So, Wang Wei had to lower her guard during his fight with Xin Tangtian, find its weakness/ flaw, and seal them.

'She is resisting so damn hard,' Wang Wei thought while shaking his head. 'I should warn the others if they encounter a similar situation.' He didn't want any of them to be careless and make him lose a substantial amount of resources.

Wang Wei sent the news but immediately sensed something. One of the protective measures he left on his men was activated. His eyes penetrated countless dimensions, and he saw someone pursuing the second prince. A look of shock and anger flashed in Wang Wei's eyes as he saw that person.

He saw something that he thought was impossible: he saw a Heaven Will Paragon. Great Emperors who continue to absorb Heaven's Will to cultivate have their paths cut off since 99% die at Empyrean's Immemorial Tribulations.

Despite this low possibility, many people still succeed and become Heaven Will Empyreans. This world is too vast, there are too many resources, and there are too many cultivators, thus making it possible to give birth to Heaven Will Empyreans.

However, that's how far this path goes. None of them should be able to survive the Paragon Tribulation.

"Damn it, that bastard Blood Dragon deserves to die by lynching," Wang Wei cursed. He knew what it would take to cultivate such an entity. The first was countless Heaven Wills, and the number was not just to develop someone to 90% Grand Dao Source. No, Wang Wei could predict that this bastard had experimented with countless people before he succeeded. As such, the number of Heaven Wills wasted in such an experiment was astronomical.

The second requirement for this plan to succeed was talent. Only an extremely talented individual whose Dao Heart, mind state, and willpower had reached the peak would have a chance at surviving the Paragon Tribulation.

No person/group with a sane mind would waste such a talent and force them to walk the Heaven Will Path. But this bastard Blood Dragon did precisely that.

"Damn it, I want to revive this bastard to kill him again," Wang Wei said with gritted teeth. Such a talent would be considered a Boundless Paragon Seed in any faction, but that dragon ruined it. As someone who loves talent, Wang Wei felt great pain.

Chapter 1288 Plunder (Finale)

Jia Ping's pursuer was relentless. A shroud of darkness enveloped the man, allowing him to teleport at an alarming rate. Even with Wang Wei's power taking him away, it's apparent that Jia Ping will soon be captured.

'Shadow Dao?' Wang Wei thought. 'Not just that. He's a member of the Shadow Clan.' A sudden realization dawned on Wang Wei. The Shadow Clan is a unique race with a miserable history. Their clan is born from the shadow; they can be classified as the spirit clan since they are shadows that have gained form and sentience. However, unlike the spirit clan, whose awakening is random and has few numbers, the shadow clan had a unique world that gave birth to them.

Besides their unparalleled ability to control Shadow Dao, the clan had one unique characteristic called [Ultimate Allegiance]. Once a Shadow Clan member surrenders to someone else, they will be loyal until death. More importantly, a shadow clan with a master is immune to 99% of methods that could force them to betray their masters.

It's rare for an Everlasting Empyrean's [Avatar] to betray them, and methods to achieve such a feat are few and between. However, such methods that are usable against members of the Shadow Clan are even rarer. This ability made the Shadow Clan famous throughout the Eternal Ascension World, but it almost led to their extinction.

The Shadow Clan members became a commodity, resulting in countless people hunting them down to train them into their most loyal subordinates. The hunting was so severe that it almost resulted in the clan's extinction. Luckily, fate did not wholly abandon the Shadow Clan. In the middle of the Golden Era, their clan gave birth to an unparalleled genius called the Shadow Monarch.

He became a peak Boundless Paragon at record speed and sheltered his clan. The man was relentless in saving and protecting his clan members. It did not matter who they were; he would attack them if they captured his clan members — that goes for the Thirteen Overlords.

Ultimately, the world had to compromise and leave the Shadow Clan alone. These top lineages did not care about the Shadow Monarch's fighting prowess, but they feared his hiding abilities. The man had escaped countless times under the hands of Primal Paragons, and once, he survived the attack of three.

The top lineages feared the Shadow Monarch would assassinate their top talents, so they compromised and left the Shadow Clan alone. However, the Shadow Monarch should have entered Limbo after the Ultimate Taboo, again leaving his clan vulnerable.

The parasites attacked them, killing and capturing many branches. Luckily, the main branch had the means left by the Shadow Monarch and hid themselves from the world.

'With such a talent, he probably could have been the next Shadow Monarch,' Wang Wei lamented with a sigh. 'Damn it, how stupid are these people? Can't they think for the long term? Even the overlords decided to leave the Shadow Clan alone, but they dared do this to their clan. How were they prepared to deal with the Shadow Monarch? Do they believe the two suns would protect them?'

Anyone with a bit of brain would not know that the Shadow Monarch will one day return, and given how the latter felt about his clan, the first thing he'll do is probably take revenge. Even if not for revenge, the Shadow Monarch must kill these people to establish his prestige. Otherwise, other people might start lusting after his clan again if he showed weakness.

Wang Wei shook his head. He summoned four Time Clones before disappearing from his place. He did not immediately attack but waited for the right moment for a sneak attack. His intuition warned him that if that person hid himself, he wouldn't be able to find him in his current state.

Wang Wei controlled the power that was protecting Jia Ping, giving the shadow the sense that it was running out. The latter pounced on the opportunity, trying to catch Jia Ping.

'Here's my chance,' Wang Wei thought. The Shadow had paused and materialized, allowing him to act. The four clones appeared around the shadow and placed their staff around his neck, forming a magic circle that instantly sealed him.

"Lord," Jia Ping said in relief.

"Go finish your mission," Wang Wei said.

"Yes, and thank you for your help."

Jia Ping departed, and Wang Wei observed this shadow. "If only I could convert him into my follower," he lamented. This was impossible. No matter his method, it won't work for this person.

This shadow hasn't committed suicide because it still senses Blood Dragon's Dao Mark. Once that is gone, it will also leave the mortal coil, following his lord.

Wang Wei's eyes saw the shadow's Dao Tree. The tree had twelve golden lights, starting from the root to the top, each light releasing an aura similar to Heaven's Will. Although it appeared that it only took twelve Heaven's Will to fill this tree, that is a lie. The first Heaven Will will light up the first nine spots, and the tenth spot will release a slight yellow hue. The tenth spot will then turn golden after absorbing countless more Heaven Wills. Then, the cultivator will repeat the process for the eleventh and twelfth spot.

Wang Wei frowned as he observed the Dao Tree. "My conjecture was right. This thing might be a Transcendent Path." Most people disdained the Heaven Will Path, and with good reasons. However, they also failed to see the uniqueness of this path, and that's the utilization of the Heaven Will.

What is the Heaven Will? It's a key that grants direct access to the Grand Dao Source. It allows Tier 9 cultivators to skip over half a hundred large cultivation realms and gain direct access to the Grand Dao Source — the origin of all laws, rules, and Daos in the Chaos Universe. Such power represents the direct authority of Grand Dao.

Wang Wei once asked his Wu Hong whether Paragons could create Heaven Wills, and she answered no. Many have tried, but none have succeeded — including her. He then asked whether Paragons could provide cultivators direct access to the Grand Dao Source, bypassing the use of a Heaven Will.

Wu Hong told him that only Paragons who hold one of the 3800 Main Positions have this power and can only give access to whatever Dao they cultivate. In other words, Wu Hong could only provide access to the Sealing Grand Dao Source.

Emperors cultivated in this manner are called Vassal Emperors because they are essentially slaves to the Paragons who gave them the key. The Dao they cultivate is the Dao of that Paragon, thus limiting their achievements. Vassal Emperors are not popular in most Chaos Worlds because of possible disloyalty, and their training time is as long as regular Emperors. Instead of wasting time on them, most Position Paragons would just use their Gransmist Wheel and train more Creation Lifeforms.

Countless thoughts flashed through Wang Wei's mind as he observed and analyzed the Dao Tree. 'The person who created this method has an extreme understanding of the Heaven Will.' Wang Wei had two theories about the creator of the Heaven Will Method.

First, an Emperor or Emphyrean created this method to bypass their lack of talent and reach a higher realm. The other is that a Peak Paragon created this method as their path to transcendence. This idea is that since the Heaven Will is an access key, they could access the core of the Grand Dao Source after absorbing enough of it.

'If someone could reach the core of the Grand Dao Source, that would mean they had the same level of authority as the Grand Dao,' Wang Wei theorized. Such access should be enough to make someone step into the realm of transcendence.

'But even if it didn't, the creator could still absorb power from the core to nourish their body and soul, thus pushing their strength and maybe realm to another level. I have to say, it's an ingenious method,' Wang Wei concluded.

'I don't know if this method is feasible, but it's worth researching,' Wang Wei thought. This path of transcendence was worth researching once he reached the limit. 'Even if it's not possible, the idea is valuable.' Wang Wei may not be able to enter the core of the Grand Dao Source as a Paragon, but it should be a different story once he's a Half Step Transcendent and has some means of confronting Grand Dao directly.

'I can use True Deception Dao with this Dao Tree method to enter the core secretly and even steal some power from Grand Dao.' This idea had plenty of applications for his future, so Wang Wei was excited. Gu Xun's Deception Dao might have been a joke before Heavenly Dao and Grand Dao now, but after becoming Half Step Transcendent and transforming from a chess piece to a chess player, this Dao will be truly valuable.

'I should start preparing for Deception Dao,' Wang Wei thought. He plans to understand 100% of this Dao. However, Wang Wei also did not want to waste time slowly cultivating it. He thought that maybe Half Step Transcendent could easily understand the Grand Dao Source, so there was no need to rush. However, he needed to prepare just in case.

Wang Wei had two plans for this problem. The first one is to search for another Double Pupil and use it himself to copy the Deception Dao. However, such a method has too many restrictions, especially regarding how challenging it is to awaken the double pupil.

So, he had to put his hope in the second plan. A project he called Dao Seed Planting. He'll find a talent and mold it into a genius that cultivates whatever Dao that he wishes. Then, when the time is right, he'll take their accomplished Dao Fruit, allowing him to reach 100% Grand Dao Source. That's how he plans to cultivate his Professional Dao and his Sub-Daos like Destruction and Soul. Now, he only needs to add Deception to the mix.

'Hmm?' Wang Wei sensed a message, so he checked. 'Red Mask finally took control of the central array hub? Excellent.'

Chapter 1289 Spoils & Temptations

Wang Wei waved his hand to materialize a small screen with Red Mask's face. He smiled while asking: "Everything's done?"

"Yes, lord," Red Mask nodded. "I apologize it took so long."

"No, you're not to blame." Wang Wei would never blame her for taking so long. On the contrary, he would praise her for succeeding in this mission. In the lower dimension, his Fate Shadow Guard had a deep foundation, so he was always strict with Wang Ju when she failed.

However, in the upper dimension, it was the opposite. Their foundation was weak, and any success in these challenging missions is proof of Red Mask's capabilities.

"You did an excellent job this time," Wang Wei said with a smile. "From now on, you're truly Wang Ju's successor." Red Mask's body trembled after hearing these words as she understood the implications. From now on, Wang Wei will trust her more, give her more power, and, more importantly, he'll be more forgiven. She doesn't have to constantly worry about losing her job and position.

Of course, this doesn't mean she's worry-free and doesn't have to work hard. However, she can now breathe a little.

"Thank you for believing in me," Red Mask bowed.

"You've earned it," Wang Wei nodded. "Anything else to report?"

"Two things," Red Mask continued. "When I controlled the palace, I noticed a group of people with Xiao Tiandi; they had just captured a few of the Blood Dragon's descendants. They tried to leave with an Arran Breaking Formation, but I've activated all the palace's formations and captured them."

"This must be Xun Junyao's group," Wang Wei muttered.

"Sir, what do you want me to do with them?"

"Send their leader a message to set up a meeting, then let them go," Wang Wei said.

"As you wish."

"What's the second thing you wanted to report?"

"I've discovered a secret area of the dragon palace," Red Mask continued. "According to my analysis, it should be where Blood Dragon kept most of the information from his spy agency. However, that area has an independent array system and central hub, so we might need to use force to enter."

"Not necessarily," Wang Wei replied. "Ask Xun Junyao for a few blood essences from the Blood Dragon. Then, use his bloodline to open these formations."

"Very well," Red Mask nodded.

"We are about to expand," Wang Wei continued. "Are you prepared?"

"I am, sir," Red Mask responded. As soon as she knew the content of her mission, she understood the number of resources they were about to acquire, so she had already planned how to utilize them properly and expand the Fate Shadow Guards.

"Good," Wang Wei nodded, very pleased. Red Mask was not only good at her job, she can also anticipate his next moves and prepare in advance. That only means that, slowly and steadily, she's approaching Wang Ju's level.

After dismissing the communication, Wang Wei sent a message to everyone else to gather at the central hall once their missions were done before heading into the treasury. Wang Wei immediately salivated.

The first thing he noticed was the number of resources below Tier 10. There were so many that even if he combined the resources from the lower dimension, it would only be a fraction of the ones in this treasury. That's truly absurd if you think about how many resources there are for Tier 9 and below across all 3800 World Communities.

Wang Wei continued deep into this treasury, and he felt a sense of overwhelming greed seething in his mind. He had to pause, take a moment, and calm his rampaging mind. He understood that if he allowed this greed to influence him, he would take all these resources without sharing them with his men, leading to numerous problems.

Although he could suppress his problems with his overwhelming strength, such an act would ruin his reputation among his men and, more importantly, destroy his plans to turn these people into his true followers. He would not do such a short-sighted thing.

'I cannot use all these resources even if I wanted to. And as the leader, I control it and can use the most precious one, so why ruin my future for a temporary sense of satisfaction?' Wang Wei thought as he exhaled. 'Plus, if this small amount of wealth is enough to influence my mind, then I would be disappointed in myself.'

Wang Wei opened his mind, and he was back to his original self. However, he frowned. "It seems my mind is not as perfect as I thought," he muttered. Wang Wei always knew he was greedy; his capitalist tendency to pursue the maximum profit in any situation has become a core aspect of his personality. However, he thought he had absolute control over his greed, but today's events prove him otherwise.

"It's time for me to cultivate my mind and temper my Dao Heart," Wang Wei muttered. "Maybe even update my Everchanging Dao Heart. If I can experience the life of a man who controls all the wealth in the world and can give up that wealth, my mind should sublimate to another level."

Wang Wei has been tempering his mind and Dao Heart the natural way through a long life and experiencing things. However, this approach seemed insufficient, and he needed to take some steps. Wang Wei sighed: "I have so much to do, but something tells me I don't have much time."

He continued observing the things in the treasury, and as expected, there were so many rare things. Wang Wei knew he would not have to worry about resources for a long time. He also has some expectations for the other parasites' treasury.

After thirty minutes, Wang Wei left the treasury with a few things. The first was all the resources he needed to cultivate his body, soul, and willpower. During most of Wang Wei's cultivation journey,

he never needed to worry about his soul and willpower. However, his body and Dao were about to catch up to those two things, meaning it was about time he emphasized cultivating them.

He could wait until his body and Dao catch up to achieve perfect unity, but that approach would only delay him. Since he was confident in raising his other aspects to the peak, it's best to raise his soul and willpower to the limit and wait for them to catch up and achieve unity of the essence, spirit, and Qi.

The second thing that Wang Wei took from the treasury was all the Tier 11 Longevity Resources. He kept the Eternal Life Wood and the Second Life Pill, granting an additional two extra lives. With the one he had remaining, that's a total of three. However, Wang Wei was not too excited about this since he had a feeling that these things might become useless after entering the Taboo Realm. These longevity resources might treat him as a Paragon and become useless after achieving taboo strength.

The good news is there were enough longevity resources to reward three of his most capable men: Mongke, Dulgun, and Jia Ping. As for the Flame Blacksmith? Wang Wei will reward him with an Innate Purple Flame, a Heavenly Flame born between Heaven and Earth, but the rank is Tier 12.

As long as the Flame Blacksmith succeeds in refining this flame, his soul will enter Paragon Quantity, and his soul power will reach that level in quantity. Then, the Blacksmith will become a talent capable of refining Paragon Tier Artifacts while being an Empyrean. Such achievement will enhance his luck, allowing him to achieve white luck or come close to it.

Of course, refining such a powerful flame is a risk. Under normal circumstances, Wang Wei would never have allowed such a thing. However, the Flame Blacksmith has the talent to succeed, and more importantly, Wang Wei now has enough resources to ensure his survival in case something occurs.

'I can't believe I found the Path Refining Stone,' Wang Wei thought with a smile. This thing could be said to be valuable, while at the same time, not so much. This thing had little effect on most cultivators who only pursue strength in eternal life.

However, for someone like Wang Wei, who has a pursuit besides the basic one, this stone is valuable beyond words. That's because it allows him to experience the life of people on a similar path but with a different approach.

For example, Wang Wei wants absolute freedom, but there are different ways to approach this goal. He chose the way of control. His way of achieving freedom is by controlling everything and even having the power to take other's freedom.

However, someone else might have a different approach. They might want to detach themselves from the rules and just break free from their restraints without being a controlled freak like Wang Wei.

With the stone, Wang Wei can experience the lives of these people on the same path as him, learn from them, and temper his mind, Dao Heart, and his path to freedom.

Chapter 1290 Devouring Cauldron

Wang Wei returned to the throne room to wait for the others. As he sat there in boredom, looking at the luxurious room, he secretly complained that the people of this world loved thrones too much, forgetting he was the same.

The concept of a Great Emperor, one being who stands above all other gods, demons, immortals, and Buddha and has transcended life and death, has been ingrained in the fabric of this world. Their existence has influenced all aspects of life, including culture and architecture.

That's why kings or rulers of dynasties, kingdoms, and empires cannot call themselves Emperors unless they've proved the Dao. That's why most cultivators Tier 10 and above, even if not an Emperor, will build a throne room in their residence.

'I wonder what her throne room is like,' Wang Wei thought, thinking that his future wife's throne might be even more extravagant than this one. While Wang Wei was distracted, his people began to return, starting with the people whose mission was to divert the enemy's focus. Once everybody was here, Wang Wei finally regained his focus.

He first glanced at Mongke and the Flame Blacksmith's group since they brought a group of people, many with resolute looks on their faces. However, his attention was soon focused on the second prince, Jia Ping. The other was tasked with taking over Blood Dragon's cultivation room, so why did he bring a captured prisoner?

"Who is this?" Wang Wei asked, looking at the handsome Everlasting Empyrean with a devilish aura that would probably make many women lose their minds over him.

"Lord, he's a Heavenly Devil that cultivated Devouring Dao."

As soon as he said these words, everyone focused on the handsome young man. They knew what these words represented. Devour/Swallowing Dao is a potent but innately evil Dao. This world does not differentiate much between evil and righteous cultivators. After all, even the weakest great Emperors have such a high karma resistance that it's pointless to care how many people they killed.

As long as devil cultivators stay away from these top lineages, they can do whatever they please. The world is too vast, and there are plenty of places for them to do whatever they please. Due to this mindset, most cultivators will not care if someone cultivates Devour Dao. It's the opposite. Most people will recruit them since it is an Outlaw Dao unless you're lucky enough to have cultivated it in certain worlds in the lower dimension.

Of course, there is an exception to this world — when the Devouring Cultivator walks the path of the Heavenly Devil. Since ancient times, Devouring Cultivators have held most of the records for the fastest cultivation, and that statement holds throughout the Chaos Universe.

But why is that? After swallowing them, could they acquire a person's percentage of the Grand Dao Source? No. Grand Dao would not leave such a loophole for them to exploit. Devouring Cultivators don't have this ability until they've reached the peak of their Dao, and even then, there are some restrictions.

Devouring Cultivators can turn what they swallowed into the purest Dao Rhymes, which can accelerate cultivation speed. These pure Dao Rhymes may not be as good as merit, but they are better than most pills, and there are plenty of them as long as the Heavenly Devil continues to swallow Emperors, Emphyreans, and even Paragons.

"Could it be?" Wang Wei asked.

"Yes," Jia Ping nodded. "Blood Dragon kept him in captivity so he would refine Dao Rhymes for him."

'This guy is truly useless,' Wang Wei thought. With all these resources and advantages, the Blood Dragon's cultivation was still only 93% Grand Dao Source. 'More importantly, he knows how to play with fire.' Wang Wei only took a glance at this little devil to figure out the latter was slowly planning to swallow the Blood Dragon, and honestly, given how stupid the dragon was, Wang Wei believed the little devil might have succeeded. After all, his cultivation was the peak of the Emphyrean Realm. With how suspicious Blood Dragon was, it was a remarkable feat for him to

convince him to reach such a level, probably with the promise of making more precious Dao Rhymes with higher cultivation.

"Sir, what do we do with him?" asked the Curse Master. This little devil was a fantastic resource, and as long as he gets a small amount, his cultivation can increase.

"Give him to me," Wang Wei said. The devil flew into his hands, and as their eyes met, the Heavenly Devil's body trembled out of fear. He knew this man was not the idiot that was the Blood Dragon and might be able to control him truly.

"Your instinct is correct," Wang Wei said as if he could read his mind. Wang Wei pointed his hands on his forehead, and the little devil started to fight back. Sadly, the seal put on him by the Blood Dragon was still active. Additionally, Jia Ping was careful and added his means of restraint.

Wang Wei's power entered the devil's Sea of Consciousness and sealed all his memories, thoughts, and emotions, leaving him in a cold and indifferent state — similar to a machine. Then, under Wang Wei's control and the shock of everyone in the room, the devil turned into a cauldron. For the last touch, Wang Wei changed his fate, giving him the duty of only producing Dao Rhymes. Unless someone intervened and altered it, this would be his fate for the rest of his life.

Wang Wei looked at the latter's emotions and memories and decided to keep it for now. In the future, he might allow the latter to enter the Paragon Realm so that he could create better Dao Rhymes. As for the cruelty of Wang Wei's actions? No one said or cared about it. On the contrary, they think Wang Wei's approach was brilliant.

The cultivation world was cruel, and themes like survival of the fittest and cannibalism are mainstream. Additionally, the devil was not some innocent person. The fact he chose the path of the Heavenly Devil meant he was prepared to start a storm throughout the world by going on a killing/swallowing spree.

"We may need an array to boost his production speed," Wang Wei said to everyone else. "Additionally, we need bodies to refine Dao Rhymes." He paused briefly. "This is what we'll do. You guys can hunt devil cultivators and attack the bases/allies of the parasites to gather materials. 60% of the Dao Rhymes belong to me, and the rest is for you."

The others did not mind the fact Wang Wei had the largest share. Things have always been this: the boss gets most of the resources, and others share the soup. The fact he was willing to give 40% was quite generous.

Wang Wei looked at Wang Qi: "Organize a group to look for tombs or places of mass sealing." Emperor's tombs are not actual places to bury the dead, but places to ensure an Emperor can revive themselves without interference from their enemies. Not everyone has enough resources to provide a rapid revival, so most Emperors will create isolated tombs to ensure their return.

As for the seal places? Many factions will seal themselves when encountering a catastrophe. As long as they wake up countless yuan epochs later, the catastrophe might have passed, or their enemies might be dead or long forgotten about them. Wang Wei's target was those places since they usually had countless Emperors and Dao Ancestors. As long as we can capture these bodies before their consciousness awakens, they can be fed into this Devouring Cauldron to make Dao Rhymes.

"I'll get it done," Wang Qi replied. He immediately sent a message to the Changing Fate Hall to create a new mission about finding tombs and sealed places. Wang Wei nodded in approval with his swift action. His focus then finally shifted to Mongke.

"These are the professions you wanted, but..."

"We refused to serve anyone else," said a middle-aged man dressed in a red robe with cloud patterns. He had a severe expression, and his body emitted a faint aroma of herbs like most alchemists.

"You are?" Wang Wei asked.

"Empyrean Cloud Flame," the middle-aged man responded. "And as I said, we refuse to work for anyone else — even if it means our death."

Wang Wei calmly looked at this man and the others. They were not joking. All these professions have already planted a command in their soul. As long as someone remotely gets close, it will detonate, killing them instantly.

'They are determined,' Wang Wei thought. He knew that force was out of the question since he was not skilled enough in Soul Dao to prevent these people from killing themselves.

'Any of you can do anything about this situation?' Wang Wei asked his men, but no one had a solution.

'Our Barbarian Race is an expert in Ceremonial Magic,' Dulgum said. 'So, if you give me time and can trick them into the location, I might be able to stop them from killing themselves.'

'How much time are we talking about?' Wang Wei asked.

'Too much.' Dulgum did not say a number since she knew it was too much. She only brought it up to raise her value in the eyes of the boss, not to provide an actual solution.

'I guess I'll have to sweet talk them,' Wang Wei thought.