

# The Quest for Immortality

## Chapter 1071: Bottleneck (2)

Chapter 1071: Chapter 671: Bottleneck\_2

Chapter 1071 -671: Bottleneck\_2

"Oh

Cheng Mo and the others saw that Mo Hua spoke methodically and it sounded quite sensible; they couldn't help but nod their heads in agreement.

Although Yu Er did not understand, she also nodded her head in admiration.

"So Yang Qianjun was also somewhat curious, "Scouting, tracking, killing and extinguishing... cough, eliminating demons and defending the Dao, not alarming the enemy, how do you know about these things?"

Mo Hua thought for a moment, then straightforwardly said, "Uncle Gu taught me!"

Yang Qianjun was startled, "Uncle Gu?"

Mo Hua explained, "From the Taoist Court, a kind-hearted Supervisor of the Gu Family in the Golden Core Realm, he taught me!"

Mo Hua sighed, feeling grateful,

"He was worried that I would be at a disadvantage in the Sect, and afraid that I would encounter dangers while performing tasks, so he told me all about his experiences in tracking and capturing Sin Cultivators in the Taoist Court."

"These were all taught by Uncle Gu!"

Mo Hua said it decisively, emphasizing it once more.

"Taoist Court, Gu Family, Golden Core Realm Supervisor

The expressions of Yang Qianjun and others became serious.

They looked again at Yu Er, who was by Mo Hua's side, and nodded silently to themselves.

This child by Mo Hua's side, named Yu Er, is a direct lineage of the Shangguan Family.

The Shangguan Family and the Gu Family have very close relations.

It was reasonable for Mo Hua to have a good relationship with the Shangguan Family and connections with the Gu Family.

And since the Gu Family had held positions in the Taoist Court for generations, operating in accordance with the Taoist Law, they were naturally very familiar with matters of tracking and capturing criminals.

It was also reasonable that Uncle Gu from the Gu Family taught him these things.

Although the methods were a “bit ruthless.”

But when dealing with Demon Cultivators, if you are not a bit ruthless, others will be ruthless towards you.

Yang Qianjun and others suddenly understood.

No wonder Mo Hua, although a Formation Master, was so proficient in tracking, assassination, and trapping.

It turned out all these were taught...

Their previous doubts and qualms gradually faded away.

They continued to eat for a while, and the atmosphere became even more harmonious.

After eating and drinking his fill, as Mo Hua laid down to digest, he heard Cheng Mo and the others muttering, discussing how to spend the 300 Merit Points.

Cheng Mo was talking about buying some kind of gold-earth Stone.

Situ Jian spoke about saving up more to buy a special Fire Spirit Sword from Taixu Gate.

Yang Qianjun and Yi Li were discussing buying some Spiritual Objects needed for breaking through bottlenecks...

Mo Hua felt puzzled and asked,

"Aren't all of you noble family's sons? Doesn't your family provide the things needed for cultivation? Why do you still need to exchange them from the Sect?"

Situ Jian and the others were all taken aback.

Cheng Mo said, "Aren't you also... oh right, you're not

He scratched his head and explained,

"Cultivation resources, no matter how many, are never too much. Leaving aside Spirit Stones for now, like Spiritual Objects needed for breakthroughs in cultivation techniques, Spiritual Artifacts needed for Taoist Skills, the more the better."

"In practicing cultivation techniques, the more Spiritual Objects you have, the stronger your Spiritual Power becomes."

"In forging Spiritual Artifacts, the more expensive the materials, the higher the quality."

"The cultivation of top descendants of noble families requires a lot of resources to strive for perfection."

"Even though the family provides a lot, it's limited since the family has so many disciples; unless your Spiritual Root is against the heavens, they will not dedicate all resources to just one person."

"Especially for disciples with Top-Grade Spiritual Roots, cultivating top-grade methods, the required Spirit Stones and Spiritual Objects are quite expensive."

"A few are manageable, but with many descendants, scarce and valuable Spiritual Objects won't be enough to go around"

Situ Jian nodded and continued,

"Generally, the resources provided by the family to disciples are only seventy to eighty percent."

"These resources are enough for your cultivation, but not enough for 'striving for perfection"

"If you want to establish a profound foundation, perfect the cultivation method to the limits, refine higher quality Spiritual Artifacts, and stand out among the geniuses, you must pursue perfection in everything, trying to reach the ultimate"

"All these require a lot of resources."

"Oh Mo Hua listened, somewhat bewildered.

Situ Jian, fearing that Mo Hua might not understand, gave an example,

"Not considering specific limits of Spiritual Roots, assuming full potential to cultivate a hundred cycles of Circulatory Heavenly Spiritual Power."

"Typical noble family's sons, relying on family provision, cultivating seventy to eighty percent, condensing seventy to eighty cycles of Spiritual Power, that would be enough."

"But if you want to go further, cultivate to ninety cycles, or even above ninety cycles of Spiritual Power, you will need additional resources."

"Beyond ninety cycles of Spiritual Power, each cycle is extremely difficult to cultivate, and the cost is also huge."

"It might be that from ninety to ninety-one, this one cycle of Spiritual Power might require more resources than what you've used from the start up to eighty cycles."

"The closer to the peak, the more this holds true."

"If you want to stand out in the Sect, you must try every possible way to strive for perfection, cultivate to the extreme, and achieve perfection."

"But these additional cultivation resources, you'll have to figure out on your own."

"Your parents, grandparents, or direct ancestors, if they are high in realm and hold prominent positions in the family, will solve part of it for you."

"The rest, you'll have to strive for in the Sect."

"The same is true for cultivation methods, and so are some Taoist Skills, Spiritual Artifacts, etc

"And as 'hard currency' that can be exchanged for various kinds of resources and legacies, Sect Merit Points are naturally extremely scarce, never enough

Mo Hua's mouth agape, was utterly shocked.

Never had he felt such a vast disparity in cultivation between the rich and the poor.

The cultivation of genius disciples and his own path as a Loose Cultivator were worlds apart.

He himself was just making do, just barely getting by.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

## Chapter 1072: Bottleneck (3)

Chapter 1072: Chapter 671: Bottleneck\_3

Chapter 1072 -671: Bottleneck\_3

His Spiritual Power, if measured by such rules, forget reaching eighty Cycles, even sixty Cycles would be difficult, let alone achieving the “perfection” of ninety or a hundred Cycles...

He simply cannot afford to cultivate it.

It's just too expensive...

Even if he sold himself... No, even if he sold himself from this life to the next hundred and eight generations, he still couldn't afford it.

Mo Hua sighed, feeling somewhat disheartened.

But with a shift in his thoughts, he remembered that he is on the path of “Divine Sense Proving the Dao”.

His Daoist Foundation doesn't rely on flesh and Spiritual Power; his strength doesn't heavily depend on precious Spiritual Artifacts, so he doesn't need to be so “involved”.

Otherwise, even if he twisted himself into a pretzel, he couldn't surpass them...

Mo Hua inexplicably felt happier again.

But he was still a bit puzzled, so he quietly asked:

"Is there really a point in spending such a huge cost to cultivate just one or two more Cycles of Spiritual Power?"

"How could there be no point?" Cheng Mo sighed, "Having one more Cycle of Spiritual Power means you are stronger than others."

"Being a bit stronger is still being stronger."

"And, don't belittle this bit; if your Cultivation Technique is slightly inferior, your Taoist Skill is slightly inferior, your Spiritual Artifact is slightly inferior... everything adds up to a big difference

"This is only at the Foundation Establishment stage, the gap only widens further later on

"And there's more Hao Xuan hurriedly explained to Mo Hua, "When the Sect recruits disciples, and some Feather Transformation or Heaven Void masters take apprentices, they actually pay a lot of attention to the count of Spiritual Power Cycles."

"Spiritual Roots indicate potential, but potential is just potential."

"If you don't have resources and can't cultivate enough Cycles of Spiritual Power, it means you are wasting your potential."

"So, the better your Spiritual Roots and Cultivation Techniques, and the more Cycles of Spiritual Power you cultivate, the brighter your future will be."

"These three factors are indispensable."

"This applies to family alliances through marriage as well."

"Even if you are useless, stupid, and only know how to cultivate, but if your Spiritual Root is of Superior-Grade, and your Cultivation Technique is top-notch, cultivating over ninety-five Cycles of Spiritual Power, the family will still value you."

Mo Hua didn't understand, "If you only know how to cultivate, what use does the family have for you?"

Hao Xuan blurted out, "For breeding

Situ Jian slapped him on the back to remind him not to speak recklessly.

In pain, Hao Xuan grimaced and then sheepishly said, "No, not that, I mean... through marriage alliances

"Marriage alliances?" Mo Hua was stunned.

"Yes." Hao Xuan nodded, "My mother secretly told me, the larger the family, the more ruthless and pragmatic they are in their dealings."

"Even if you are useless, as long as you have good aptitude and a high count of Spiritual Power Cycles, the ancestor won't mind, and will even choose a beneficial marriage for you, all to produce offspring with even better aptitude."

Hao Xuan sighed, "It's like when humans breed pigs, choosing good piglets to pair up

Situ Jian glared at him again.

Hao Xuan immediately covered his mouth, thinking:

That was close, almost misspoke again...

Beside him, Yi Li also sighed,

"Sometimes I also feel, the highly cultivated ancestors don't regard the family's disciples as 'people

Hao Xuan wondered aloud, "But aren't the ancestors of your Yi family alright? I haven't heard anything about forced marriages

Yi Li muttered, "I wasn't talking about my ancestors

...

Listening to the conversation, Mo Hua frowned.

Seeing this, Yang Qianjun thought deeply and then said, "Of course, these customs are strict in Qian State

He knew that Mo Hua's Spiritual Root quality was not good, and his count of Spiritual Power Cycles was also quite... poor, afraid that Mo Hua would feel sad, he consoled:

"But our Yang Family is less strict about these requirements

"Our Yang Family, originating from the Taoist soldiers Court, although also values aptitude, places more importance on military merits. Whoever performs great feats gets the family's attention."

"On the contrary, if someone has only talent but dares not to fight on the battlefield, they are still looked down upon."

Yang Qianjun looked at Mo Hua and warmly invited, "Mo Hua, next time you have a holiday, why don't you visit the Yang Family?"

Mo Hua was stunned.

For a moment, he felt as if Yang Jiyong and Yang Jishan were both embodied in Yang Qianjun.

Their Yang family's bloodline seemed to be inscribed with the words "Recruit people to join us."

Cheng Mo was unhappy, "Yang Qianjun, don't spout nonsense, there's no family that doesn't value Spiritual Root quality."

Yang Qianjun corrected, "It's not about not valuing, it's about not being so picky

Cheng Mo stubbornly said, "It's still the same thing, no matter what, you still have to consider Spiritual Power, being stronger by one Cycle still matters

Yang Qianjun shook his head, "That may be true... but if someone's ninety Cycles of Spiritual Power can't beat another, would having one more Cycle suddenly make you able to beat them?"

"If someone doesn't face you head-on but sets traps and assassins, all your Spiritual Power is useless."

"In a real battlefield, where butcher knives clash and Spiritual Power battles like a meat grinder, what use is that extra Cycle or two of Spiritual Power?"

"If it really comes down to life and death, unless you are marked with a special Eternal Life Rune, whether it's eighty Cycles or ninety Cycles or even a full talent of a hundred Cycles, you die all the same."

"In my opinion, the Qianxue State boundary is too complacent due to prolonged peace, hence they like to waste a substantial amount of cultivation resources in such insignificant places."

"With so many Spirit Stones and Spiritual Objects spent to achieve just one or two extra Cycles of Spiritual Power, yet they do not go to the battlefield to engage in combat, nor do they eradicate demons to protect the Dao, nor fend off the barbarians, instead they stay and enjoy comforts in Qian State

Yang Qianjun couldn't help but speak his frustration.

Situ Jian patted Yang Qianjun on the shoulder.

Yang Qianjun paused, then with a sigh of resignation said:

"I spoke out of turn

Cheng Mo, recalling the recent battles of the Yang Family in the Southern Wilderness, poured a glass of wine for him, comforting him:

"Focus on your cultivation first; the affairs of the Southern Wilderness are not something we can assist with at the moment."

Yang Qianjun took the drink and nodded his head.

After that, everyone stopped talking about other matters. The atmosphere relaxed, and they only chatted about the Sect, missions, and some anecdotes, before finishing their meal and drinks and going their separate ways.



However, Mo Hua took all these conversations to heart.

The Yang Family, the Southern Wilderness, resisting the barbarian tribes.

Could this barbarian tribe be related to that so-called “Master of the Great Wilderness”?

But the Southern Wilderness...

Does that refer to the lands south of Li State?

It seems very far from Qian State...

Mo Hua shook his head.

These matters seemed still too distant from him; maybe it was too early to worry about them.

Mo Hua took Yu Er for a walk to digest their food, then returned to his Disciple's Residence.

He lay on his bed, intending to rest for a while, but recalling the discussions with Cheng Mo and others, he suddenly realized an issue:

Realm Breakthrough!

The foundational issues of Cheng Mo and others were either Blood Qi or Spiritual Power, and breaking through their bottlenecks required a significant amount of Spiritual Objects.

The more Spiritual Objects, the better.

Thus, they needed to accumulate more points early for preparation.

His own practice, the Heaven Yan Jue, did not require additional Spiritual Objects for breaking through bottlenecks, which was an advantage.

But that did not mean his own bottlenecks would necessarily be simple.

The bottleneck for the Heaven Yan Jue lies in the Divine Sense.

The bottleneck in the Qi Refinement Realm is progressive advancement, delving from shallow to deep, solving puzzles step-by-step, eventually unlocking the Mysterious Heaven Great Formation, and breaking through the Foundation Establishment bottleneck.

What would the bottleneck in the Foundation Establishment Realm be?

Still resolving formations?

Having already unlocked the Mysterious Heaven Great Formation, what else is there to resolve?

A Second Grade Mystery Formation?

Mo Hua frowned.

"Possibly

Generally speaking, it seemed likely.

Yet he still harbored some doubts; is the bottleneck of Foundation Establishment really that simple?

After all, his Divine Sense was already very strong.

With Divine Sense that underwent Sixteen Patterns Quality Change, solving a Second Grade Mystery Formation during the early stages of Foundation Establishment should not be difficult.

But what if it is not just that? What other changes could there be?

Mo Hua pondered with a frown.

"From Qi Refinement breakthrough, reaching Foundation Establishment... Sea of Consciousness reconstructed by the Mysterious Heaven Great Formation, Divine Sense compressed and transformed in quality

"Quality transformation

A thought flashed through Mo Hua's mind.

"Could the bottleneck be... the 'Quality Transformation' of Divine Sense?"

"Does it require me... to further 'transform in quality' based on the reconstructed Divine Sense?"

How to further transform in quality?

Mo Hua considered; currently, the only method for 'Quality Transformation' seems to be, just like before, by slaying Sheep-Horned Enforcers, killing Sheep-Horned Demon Monsters, obtaining pale-gold 'Divine Marrow' to further 'transform' the Divine Sense...

Could this mean...

Mo Hua pondered.

Do I have to continuously “consume” Divine Marrow to “Divinize” my Divine Sense, achieving further quality change, to break through the cultivation technique bottleneck, and advance my cultivation realm?

Mo Hua was taken aback, then couldn’t help but inhale sharply.

Surely not...

There couldn’t be such a preposterous cultivation method in this world...

To “consume” the divine, in order to breakthrough?

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

## **Chapter 1073: Deities Humans and Ghosts**

Chapter 1073: Chapter 672: Deities, Humans, and Ghosts

Chapter 1073 -672: Deities, Humans, and Ghosts

Mo Hua was dumbfounded and couldn’t help but mutter,

"No way

\*If breaking through realms really required ‘eating’ gods, could this technique actually be mastered by anyone?\*

\*Or... was this merely my own speculation?\*

Mo Hua frowned.

The Heaven Yan Jue was an ancient cultivation technique, both profound and mysterious, gifted to him by his enigmatic mentor. Yet no matter how mysterious its origins, it shouldn’t be so... “bizarre.”

Slaying deities, devouring Divine Marrow, transforming one’s Divine Sense, and only then breaking through cultivation realms.

If this were truly the case, then it shouldn’t be called “Heaven Yan Jue,” but rather “Devouring God Art.”

Mo Hua silently grumbled to himself.

"It shouldn't come to that

He let out a silent sigh of relief, but as the thought turned over in his mind, his heart tightened again.

\*What if it did?\*

\*What if slaying gods, consuming their essence, and transforming one's Divine Sense were truly necessary to break through bottlenecks, from Foundation Building Middle Phase, later stages, and eventually to Core Formation? Then wouldn't that mean I'm doomed?\*

Mo Hua furrowed his brow, his delicate face suddenly grave.

Evil gods weren't so easily killed...

And "Divine Marrow" was even more elusive.

Time was also pressing.

Currently, it was his second year since joining the sect.

By the third year, decisions would be made about advancement or staying behind.

If breaking through realms truly required 'eating' gods, and he didn't prepare in advance, didn't gorge on "Divine Marrow" beforehand,

Then next year, when everyone else broke through their bottlenecks and advanced to Foundation Building Middle Stage cultivators,

He wouldn't be able to keep up, and would undoubtedly be left behind.

And if he never managed to "eat" enough Divine Marrow, his cultivation forever blocked by the bottleneck, he'd risk being stuck in Foundation Establishment Initial Stage for his entire life— forever repeating the same grade.

Mo Hua's heart shuddered.

If he were left behind just once, he'd go from being Cheng Mo and the others' "Junior Brother" to becoming their "Junior Disciple."

And if he were never able to breakthrough, wouldn't he end up as a lifelong "Junior Disciple"?

Mo Hua's expression became resolute.

No, absolutely not!

Even if, out of respect for Elder Master Xun, the Taixu Gate didn't expel him,

Being stuck in Foundation Building would not only be an irreparable loss to his own dignity but also bring shame to Elder Master Xun, who had placed high hopes on him.

Moreover, if he couldn't breakthrough realms, many things would remain forever out of his reach.

It's not just about cultivation, it's about learning the types of formations Elder Situ spoke of—like “reversing Yin and Yang, seizing life and death, and wresting creation itself to save his master.

Mo Hua's gaze turned firm.

"I need to think ahead and make some plans

Always prepare for the worst in any situation...

If the Heaven Yan Jue truly required 'eating' gods to breakthrough, then I must prepare early, plan ahead, and use every possible method to gorge on Divine Marrow in advance!

This way, even if the technique truly turned out to be “twisted,” I wouldn't be caught off guard!

Mo Hua nodded slightly to himself.

"I'll base my strategy on the possibility of breaking through by 'eating' gods

"But where on earth am I going to find so many 'gods' to 'eat'?"

Mo Hua frowned deeply, feeling somewhat perplexed.

Evil gods weren't something one could find like cabbages in a field...

You couldn't just decide to look for them, catch them, and then 'eat' them at will...

Furthermore, even if he did find, catch, and eat them, there'd still be other problems.

What exactly were deities, anyway? Mo Hua wasn't too sure.

What was the distinction between evil gods and regular deities?

What was the “Dao” of deities?

What methods did deities possess?

And another thing—after consuming “Divine Marrow” and being transformed by Divinity, it seemed one might gradually lose their humanity, forget their original ideals, and become someone—or something—entirely different...

\*Unless these questions were understood completely, he couldn’t safely or confidently proceed with ‘eating’ gods.\*

Mo Hua frowned and pondered for a long while, but no clear answers came to mind.

In his scant ten years of Tao Cultivation experience thus far, his knowledge concerning deities was extremely limited.

Unable to figure it out, Mo Hua had no choice but to stop thinking about it for now.

The next morning, after finishing his Tao Cultivation class, he headed straight for Taixu Gate’s Book Pavilion, hoping to find some records or ancient texts concerning “deities.”

Reading at the Book Pavilion required Merit Points.

Currently, Mo Hua could be considered “wealthy” his Merit Points were abundant, and he didn’t care about the expense.

However, after spending considerable time flipping through books, he still found nothing substantial.

The Tao Cultivation Canon only contained fragmentary records, sparing words with little substance. Most merely described specific locales within the state boundary, where certain deities received offerings and blessed those regions.

Others described how human greed and corrupted faith could transform once benevolent deities into evil gods.

Still others recounted tales of rampaging evil gods being suppressed and sealed by powerful cultivators...

However, most of these accounts were labeled as “rumors” or “stories,” with their veracity uncertain.

As for deeper topics like divine origin, god-cultivation, “eating” deities...

Or the golden-eyed evil deity's cryptic speech about Divine Fetus, Dao Hua, Divine Marrow, sacrificial offerings, Divine Positions, incense, authority, and other "theological" inheritances of this kind—making any headway was utterly out of the question.

Mo Hua had a faint inkling.

Deities and mortals seemed to be entirely different types of Tao Cultivation existences.

"Should I ask Elder Master Xun or the sect elders?"

Mo Hua weighed the idea but ultimately abandoned it.

\*Considering his ulterior motives, keeping his true intentions under wraps, it was better not to bring taboo subjects up with the elders.\*

If that was the case, there was only one option remaining:

Ask Lord Yellow Mountain.

After all, Lord Yellow Mountain was the only deity among his "friends."

Though fallen and reduced to a meager Minor Mountain God, a god was still a god—surely he'd know more than Mo Hua himself.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

## **- Chapter 1074: Deities Humans Ghosts (2)**

### **Chapter 1074: Deities Humans Ghosts (2)**

Chapter 1074: Chapter 672: Deities, Humans, Ghosts\_2

Chapter 1074 -672: Deities, Humans, Ghosts\_2

Mo Hua made up his mind.

A few days later, on his day off, he specially prepared food and drinks as offerings and made a trip to Kushan Mountain.

This time, it was a deliberate visit, not just something on the way.

To avoid “breaking the appointment” and not to let Lord Yellow Mountain be “disappointed,” Mo Hua got up especially early, hired a faster carriage, aiming to make a there-and-back trip early to avoid any last-minute delays.

The carriage sped like lightning, and after several hours, Mo Hua arrived at Kushan Mountain.

After getting off the carriage, it was the familiar rugged mountain path, the familiar steep stone steps.

The scenery around was also as he remembered, quiet and desolate.

From a distance, he could see Lord Yellow Mountain’s dilapidated temple.

A feeling of familiarity welled up in Mo Hua’s heart.

He stepped on moss-covered stone steps, facing the morning sun, his mood cheerful and his steps light, walking step by step toward the dilapidated temple.

The mountain breeze was refreshing, and the mountain’s appearance was as always.

Mo Hua hummed a song, walking all the way into the dilapidated temple. Looking up, he saw Lord Yellow Mountain sitting upright on a mud statue, only his complexion didn’t look great.

As if he had been tortured, his face showed helplessness and desolation.

Mo Hua looked up at the sky and asked in puzzlement,

"Mountain Lord, the weather is so nice today, why do you look so unhappy?"

Lord Yellow Mountain cast a resentful glance at Mo Hua.

It’s all because I knew you were coming...

Lord Yellow Mountain silently sighed in his heart.

Ever since he had the premonition that a little troublemaker would come knocking again, he had been on tenterhooks, restless for several days and nights...

This premonition had been felt since the last decad.

But for some reason, it suddenly dissipated.

Lord Yellow Mountain thought the child wouldn’t come after all. He was overjoyed when the heavy stone in his heart was lifted.



But the joy didn't last long. The premonition suddenly became intense again, and it seemed unavoidable.

Lord Yellow Mountain had resigned himself, so he sat dully in the mud statue early in the morning, agonizingly waiting for the "honored guest" to arrive.

Mo Hua looked around curiously and asked, "Aren't you turning into a puppy this time?"

Lord Yellow Mountain had a numb expression.

If turning into a puppy was useful, I would have done it long ago.

The fact is, even after turning into a puppy, I can't escape; I will still be "sniffed" out by this kid...

It's just deceiving oneself and "divine."

Mo Hua saw that Lord Yellow Mountain was a bit unhappy and thought it was because he lacked incense offerings and food, so he was in low spirits.

It seems that not only do humans become desolate and have no good days to live.

Even gods become desolate and have poor days to live.

Living at the bottom, whether gods or humans, seem to be much of a muchness.

Mo Hua felt some sympathy, then a sense of relief in his heart: It's good that I came!

"I've brought you something delicious!"

Mo Hua took out the prepared Spiritual Wine, Spirit Fruits, and various kinds of steamed buns, snacks, and meat from his Storage Bag, placing them all on the altar, then looked eagerly at Lord Yellow Mountain.

As if to say, hurry up and eat.

Lord Yellow Mountain's complex emotions unexpectedly gave rise to a touch of being moved.

Even though this child signifies a huge hassle...

He sighed, not wanting... and of course not daring to refuse Mo Hua's kindness. He sampled the wine and tasted a few bites of chicken.

As the meat entered his mouth, Lord Yellow Mountain's slender eyes lit up.

Heaven knows how long it had been since he had tasted such delicious offerings.

Delicious!

Lord Yellow Mountain momentarily forgot his concerns and indulged in eating with abandon.

Mo Hua nodded.

These offerings were specially prepared by Mo Hua.

Some dishes he had even cooked himself, containing the goodwill of a "Demigod" in his youthful years.

But this was something that Mo Hua did not know.

Lord Yellow Mountain had never even considered it.

He just felt that today's offerings were especially delicious, maybe even the tastiest he had had since he was cut down by Divine Thought into sword and became destitute in this dilapidated temple.

Lord Yellow Mountain swayed his head side to side, squinting his eyes with pleasure.

Mo Hua, seeing his reaction, was very happy. He lightly jumped onto the altar to sit beside Lord Yellow Mountain, then took out a roasted lamb leg from his Storage Bag and started to feast together with him.

Mo Hua remembered that Lord Yellow Mountain did not eat lamb, so he gladly kept the lamb leg for himself.

Lord Yellow Mountain stiffened as he smelled the lamb.

He turned his head and saw Mo Hua seemingly oblivious, gnawing on the lamb leg, his little mouth greasy, and he couldn't help but twitch.

After a while, Lord Yellow Mountain sighed, took a sip of wine, and continued to eat his own offerings.

The woodland was elegant, the temple serene.

The bright sunlight poured down from the rooftop, scattering all over the ground.

Mo Hua and Lord Yellow Mountain sat side by side, quietly, one gnawing on a lamb leg, the other eating the offerings.

After eating for a while, Lord Yellow Mountain suddenly realized.

"You're looking for me... do you have something in mind?"

"Yep!" Mo Hua nodded, wiped his mouth with his sleeve, and asked straightforwardly:

"Mountain Lord, what exactly is the difference between gods and humans?"

"This

Lord Yellow Mountain was slightly startled, puzzled, "Why do you ask this?"

"I'm just curious."

Mo Hua blinked.

Lord Yellow Mountain faintly twisted his mouth, not buying that Mo Hua came all this way, bringing delicious food and drinks, just because of "curiosity."

"Tell me!" Mo Hua took another small bite of the lamb leg.

Just as Lord Yellow Mountain was about to evade the question, he suddenly felt a thump in his heart.

When Mo Hua asked the question, he looked so innocent and cute, but somehow he also carried an aura of authority that made him...

Somewhat afraid to refuse.

Lord Yellow Mountain was shocked.

Had something else happened to this child?

How could his words make a Mountain God like himself subconsciously not dare to refuse?!

Lord Yellow Mountain's expression fluctuated, and his emotions were tumultuous.

Mo Hua found it a bit strange, so he asked:

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## Chapter 1075: Deities and Ghosts (3)

Chapter 1075: Chapter 672: Deities and Ghosts\_3

Chapter 1075 -672: Deities and Ghosts\_3

"Mountain Lord, what's wrong with you?"

Lord Yellow Mountain jolted in surprise, then reluctantly forced a smile and said,

"N-nothing

"Oh." Mo Hua shot a suspicious glance at Lord Yellow Mountain and asked again, "Can you tell me then? What exactly is a deity? How is it different from mortals?"

Mo Hua asked, expecting Lord Yellow Mountain to dodge the question again.

Unexpectedly, Lord Yellow Mountain seemed to tremble slightly. He then let out a deep sigh and said candidly, "Alright, I'll tell you

"Hmm, hmm."

Mo Hua immediately sat upright, his small frame filled with focus, ready to listen attentively.

Lord Yellow Mountain glanced at Mo Hua, his expression complicated, and then sighed slowly, saying,

"A deity is also one of the myriad spirits of heaven and earth. The difference is that unlike mortals, deities do not rely on flesh to exist but rather embody a powerful, independent, and pure form of divine thought."

"However, that doesn't mean deities don't need a host to reside in."

"Mortals possess both flesh and divine sense, and neither can be absent."

"When mortal cultivation reaches a certain level, the divine soul can temporarily leave the physical body, but neither the flesh nor the divine soul can be injured or perish."

"If the divine sense dissipates, the flesh becomes ownerless. If the flesh is destroyed, the divine sense also vanishes."

"Likewise, deities aren't entirely exempt from this principle

"Different deities reside in different vessels: some dwell in mountain stones, others in riverbeds. However, most deities harbor themselves within what is known as a 'divine statue

"A 'divine statue' is equivalent to the 'flesh' of a deity."

"But divine statues come in various forms. There are lifebound divine statues, twin divine statues, preaching divine statues, and even other types of external-path divine statues

"Preaching?" Mo Hua asked in confusion.

Lord Yellow Mountain replied, "For deities to grow stronger, they must feed on the incense offerings of mortals and be nourished by faith. To achieve this, they must 'preach

"The wider the preaching spreads, the more worshippers there are, the deeper the faith becomes, and the stronger the deity becomes."

"A deity's preaching cannot involve moving its sole lifebound divine statue. Instead, it divides its essence and resides in preaching divine statues, scattering them across the Nine State to receive offerings from mortals there

Mo Hua suddenly understood, "So, the majority of 'divine statues' seen throughout heaven and earth are preaching divine statues, housing fragments of divine thoughts used by deities to feed on incense and accept worship?"

"As for lifebound divine statues, these are akin to the deity's foundation, something that should not be revealed lightly?"

Lord Yellow Mountain nodded, "Correct."

Mo Hua's eyes suddenly lit up as he stared curiously at the clay sculpture that served as Lord Yellow Mountain's vessel, "So, is this clay sculpture your lifebound divine statue or your preaching divine statue?"

Lord Yellow Mountain was startled and quickly covered his clay sculpture, exclaiming, "I can't tell you that!"

If I tell you, everything will be ruined!

Mo Hua wasn't adamant about knowing. Seeing Lord Yellow Mountain so flustered, he reassured him, "Relax—I was just asking casually, not plotting against you

Lord Yellow Mountain remained suspicious, clutching his clay sculpture tightly.

Mo Hua offered some kind words and handed him fruits to eat, finally calming Lord Yellow Mountain down.

"Preaching divine statues

Mo Hua thought for a moment and then suddenly asked, "Have there ever been deities who reside within humans?"

Lord Yellow Mountain's eyes trembled, his expression growing terrifying.

Mo Hua paused upon noticing his look, "What's wrong?"

Lord Yellow Mountain's face visibly struggled, but he eventually sighed, "Yes

"Deities usually reside within divine statues. If they reside in humans, it means... they've become an evil god!"

"Evil god

Mo Hua's gaze darkened slightly.

Lord Yellow Mountain's expression turned grim as he continued, "Divine statues are typically composed of clay or stone—lifeless and mindless objects from heaven and earth. They are 'clean'."

"When deities reside within divine statues, they abide by their Dao and remain unaffected, encountering no major issues."

"But humans are different. Humans possess divine sense, and within that divine sense lies an array of unknown greed and desires—impure elements."

"Should a deity reside within a human, it will either corrupt the person or be corrupted itself."

"Once corrupted, it inevitably degenerates

"It's not just humans. Should a deity reside within a monster beast, a spirit beast, or any other living, conscious creature, it likewise indicates that it's already an 'evil god,' or at the very least, has started down the path to becoming one."

Lord Yellow Mountain's gaze carried profound fear.

Mo Hua's heart grew heavy, and he asked quietly, "Are evil gods truly terrifying?"

Lord Yellow Mountain nodded fearfully, his expression full of dread.

Mo Hua pondered for a moment but still didn't quite understand, "Why does inhabiting living flesh lead to corruption, degeneration, and transformation into an evil god?"

"Is it simply feeding on incense and receiving faith that prevents degeneration?"

"What happens if it transforms into an evil god?"

"Why exactly are evil gods so terrifying?"

...

Mo Hua fired off a series of questions.

Hearing this, Lord Yellow Mountain smiled bitterly, "I'm just a small, downcast mountain god. How would I know? Evil gods are not something I dare to provoke

"That makes sense

Mo Hua nodded and refrained from further troubling Lord Yellow Mountain with terrifying questions about evil gods.

Lord Yellow Mountain sighed in relief.

"By the way Mo Hua thought for a moment and then picked a lingering question he'd always wondered about, asking slowly, "Can mortals become deities?"

Lord Yellow Mountain froze momentarily before shaking his head insistently, "What nonsense... That's absolutely impossible."

"Not even by feeding on incense like a deity?" Mo Hua asked.

Lord Yellow Mountain replied crossly, "Have you ever seen a living, breathing person feed on incense offerings?"

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## **Chapter 1076: Gods Humans and Ghosts (4)**

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Mo Hua reflected for a moment, and indeed in his impression, there seemed to be no examples of living beings receiving incense offerings.

Lord Yellow Mountain said, "Gods are gods, people are people. Although both are kinds of creatures born from heaven and earth, they are completely different. It is impossible for people to 'become gods'."

"Once humans lose their physical bodies, given enough time, their Divine Sense will vanish."

"And with a body, all kinds of desires encroach upon it, constantly being 'contaminated.' Without shedding the shackles of the mundane world, this makes it even more impossible to become a god."

Mo Hua slowly nodded, then asked:

"Then what if, without a physical body, one's spirit directly resides within external objects, such as a painting, a sword, or onto a gourd

Mo Hua remembered he had seen many Contemplation Maps, where mostly Evil Spirits were depicted in such a manner.

Lord Yellow Mountain said, "That would not be human, nor god, but 'ghost.'"

"Ghost?"

Mo Hua was somewhat taken aback.

Lord Yellow Mountain nodded, "The Divine Sense and physical body of a human are one, with flesh, spirit, and god merged together, inseparable

"Once a person's Divine Sense leaves the body; or the body is destroyed, leaving behind the Divine Sense; then this Divine Sense is 'incomplete

"Incomplete things will seek completion."

"Residing in external objects, the objects are not yours; residing in another's body, but your own body is already destroyed. Even using someone else's body as a substitute, it still is not yours."

"Under such circumstances, your Divine Sense will continually erode, your memories will gradually blur, and your original 'human nature' will also distort over time

"And then gradually, it will turn into 'ghost



"Once a person turns into a ghost, what will they do?" Lord Yellow Mountain looked at Mo Hua, sighed, and slowly asked.

Mo Hua frowned and thought for a moment, "Will they consume other people's Divine Sense?"

Lord Yellow Mountain nodded, "Yes, your Divine Sense, without a body, without a nurturing place, will continue to decay and cannot be restored, so the only option is to consume someone else's Divine Sense."

"It's not possible to consume other ghosts or Evil Thoughts?" Mo Hua inquired.

Lord Yellow Mountain said, "Of course it's possible, but other ghosts and Evil Thoughts, how often can you encounter them? Even if you do encounter them, you might not necessarily be their match."

"Even if you consume them, it would actually be of no help

Lord Yellow Mountain appeared somewhat sorrowful, "The most terrifying thing about a person turning into a ghost is

"They will prioritize consuming their own flesh and blood relatives."

Mo Hua's eyes narrowed, "Flesh and blood relatives?"

Lord Yellow Mountain nodded, "Once a person becomes a 'ghost,' their Divine Thought will erode, and their memories will blur."

"And among others, those who hold the most memories related to you are naturally your flesh and blood relatives."

"So, after becoming a Fierce Ghost, the first thing it wants to 'eat' is the Divine Sense of its relatives to maintain its own existence."

"This is instinct, uncontrollable."

"Even if it's suppressible for a time, a violent outburst will eventually happen one day."

"Furthermore, ghosts lack a physical body, but the closest thing to their own body is the body of relatives sharing the same bloodline."

"Hence, ghosts also tend to parasitize their own parents and children."

Lord Yellow Mountain sighed, "Therefore, once a person becomes a 'ghost,' or should I say, once a Cultivator becomes a Ghost Cultivator, it usually indicates they've likely already harmed their own close kin

Mo Hua felt a pang of pity, lost in thought.

Lord Yellow Mountain finally spoke with a stern tone:

"Gods, humans, ghosts, all relate to 'Divine Thought,' abiding by certain rules of the Great Dao, yet they remain distinct from each other, clearly separated."

"These pieces of knowledge about Divine Thought are extremely confidential matters of Tao Cultivation. Being a Mountain God and having lived a little longer, that's why I know a bit more."

"Ordinary Cultivators, who don't refine Divine Sense and aren't strong in Divine Thought, have absolutely no clue about these matters."

"They only know to worship gods and fear ghosts, but do not know what they are venerating, or what they fear."

"Even among Cultivators, some so-called prominent families that have lived for a very long time, without such inheritance, without understanding the divine and the ghostly, know very little

Lord Yellow Mountain said this and stroked his beard with self-satisfaction.

Mo Hua nodded respectfully, then slightly startled, he looked at Lord Yellow Mountain with suspicion:

"Mountain Lord, have you lived for a very, very long time?"

Lord Yellow Mountain was taken aback, breaking into a cold sweat.

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