

Immortality 1171

Chapter 1171: Dao Hua and Divine Authority

These strands of Pure Gold Divine Marrow, with a texture like flowing gold, dazzlingly bright, contain mysterious profundities, as if Dao Laws were circulating within.

According to Lord Yellow Mountain, Pure Gold Divine Marrow is indeed a rank higher than that of Pale Gold Divine Marrow.

It's truly a treasure!

Mo Hua wore a beaming smile, and without further hesitation, he opened his mouth and swallowed, taking in all the Pale Gold Divine Marrow, along with a small amount of Pure Gold Divine Marrow.

This Divine Marrow had been purged of its "toxins" by Robbery Thunder, erasing all of its will, leaving it clean and pure.

Mo Hua ate with confidence.

The moment the Divine Marrow entered his mouth, it transformed into strands of golden silk, like lines of blood, seeping thread by thread into the avatar of Mo Hua's Divine Thought.

An ancient and profound aroma of laws enveloped Mo Hua's entire being.

The body of Mo Hua's Divine Thought gradually merged with the golden Divine Marrow.

His avatar of Divine Thought became more translucent, and both on and within the "flesh" of his skin, faint golden Patterns emerged.

His eyes too, revealed a more intense Golden Light.

In just a moment, Mo Hua's gaze turned indifferent.

The delicate and lovely face became dignified.

An aura unlike that of the common, soaring above all creatures of heaven and earth, emanated nobly from his Divine Thought.

Divinity began to devour humanity.

The expressions on Mo Hua's face became fewer and fewer, and the emotions from his memories grew weaker and weaker.

"This is not good..."

Mo Hua silently thought to himself.

He quickly tried to recall the perceptions of the Divine Way he had comprehended from his enlightenment.

One need not see the "divine" as "Divinity"...

Humanity is the Dao, Divinity is also the Dao.

Cultivators cultivate immortality in search of the Great Dao.

Humans, deities, and even all things and spirits of heaven and earth, are parts of the "Great Dao" and uphold the Laws of the Great Dao.

As such, there is no need to fear "Divinity" nor regard it highly.

Uphold humanity, refine Divinity.

Integrate man and God, conform to the Great Dao, and blend into the Taoist Heart.

This is the path I must walk!

It is the Dao of Heaven and Earth that I seek to affirm with my Supreme Divine Sense!

Within the Sea of Consciousness, a clear, ancient sound arises, the Taoist Stele vibrates and resonates.

Mo Hua had an epiphany, with a mind enlightened and clear.

The indifferent and piercing Golden Light in his eyes also gradually receded, becoming more tender, carrying a compassion that overlooked all beings.

The sharpness inherent in the vast Divine Ways was all concealed in the depths of his eyes.

The Golden Divine Marrow was gradually separated and absorbed, transforming into fine divinity "blood threads," following an obscure path like that of a Heaven Sealing Formation Pattern, circulating and weaving within Mo Hua's body of Divine Thought, until it fully integrated.

The Divine Marrow and Divine Thought became one.

Divinity and humanity merged.

In the darkness, Mo Hua felt his understanding of the "Dao" deepen slightly, and the Taoist Heart "transformed" just a little.

Meanwhile, almost instinctively, a term emerged in Mo Hua's mind:

Divine Thought Taoism...

"Divine Thought... Taoism?!"

Mo Hua was mildly surprised, then furrowed his brows.

He was almost certain that he had never heard anyone, any Evil Spirit, or even any deities—particularly not Lord Yellow Mountain—mention these four words before.

These four words appeared to be engraved within the "Divine Marrow," naturally coming to mind with the comprehension of the Dao.

"Divine Thought Taoism... what does it mean?"

Mo Hua was rather perplexed.

Divine Thought comprehending the Dao, becoming one with the Dao?

By definition, it should be interpreted this way.

But is it really that simple?

The Dao is vast and boundless; how could it be so easily comprehended? And what exactly does it mean to become one with the Dao?

Mo Hua's brows tightened further with thought and after a long contemplation, he could only sigh in resignation.

I don't understand...

"My experience in Tao Cultivation is still too shallow, and my knowledge of the Divine Way is not profound enough. Brooding alone and obsessing over this is unhelpful; I should seek guidance frankly from others when I have some free time..."

Mo Hua nodded slightly, then temporarily shelved the four words "Divine Thought Taoism" deep in his heart.

He faintly sensed that these four words, obtained from the "Divine Marrow" and related to "divinity" and "Dao," were certainly not trivial.

Afterward, Mo Hua took another look at his Sea of Consciousness, realizing that everything had returned to tranquility.

The River God of Black Waters died.

The will of the Evil God was erased.

The Divine Marrow was eaten by me.

The only downside was, I only ate the Divine Marrow, with no Divine Thought to consume.

This River God of Black Waters seemed to have thoroughly become an incarnation of the Great Wilderness Evil God. Apart from the Divine Marrow, its own Evil Thoughts had melded with the will of the Great Wilderness Evil God, erased together by Robbery Thunder.

While the Divine Marrow ascends in rank, Divine Thought ascends in quality.

Eating only the Divine Marrow only improves one's Divine Rank but doesn't elevate the Realm of the Divine Sense itself.

Although, in reality, there was a slight improvement, it was so minimal as to be nearly negligible.

Having eradicated the River God of Black Waters and consumed much Divine Marrow, even some strands of the higher-ranked Pure Gold Divine Marrow, the Quality Change of my Divine Sense deepened, the golden hue in my Divine Thought grew denser, and the power of Divine Thought grew stronger.

But without an Evil Spirit to consume, I can't enhance the quality of my Divine Sense.

It's still one step away from the Realm of the Divine Sense in the Foundation Establishment Late Stage of Seventeen Patterns.

This one step away is deeply frustrating for Mo Hua.

"Is there nothing else to 'consume'?"

Mo Hua pondered for a moment, then looked around, searching his Sea of Consciousness, but found nothing.

The River God of Black Waters, also an incarnation of the Great Wilderness Evil God, died completely, leaving no residue behind.

"Others..."

Mo Hua then replayed everything that happened before and after arriving at the fishing village in his mind, looking for any "escaped" Evil Spirits that could bridge the gap in advancing his Divine Sense to Seventeen Patterns.

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But it seems that there isn't.

The River God's dreamland has collapsed, and even if there was something, it wouldn't be left behind.

Outside the fishing village, the demon monsters are flesh and blood, not evil spirits.

Blood leeches?

Those blood leeches, they can also be considered a kind of evil spirit.

Mo Hua pondered for a moment, then shook his head.

It's a bit too disgusting; he didn't really want to eat them.

Moreover, although those blood leeches are bizarrely filthy, the amount of evil thoughts they contain is not much. Even if he ate them, it would probably be like picking his teeth.

What's more, they float in reality.

Mo Hua didn't have any means of Divine Thought that could wreak havoc in reality.

His Divine Thought into Sword had just begun, and it's only razor-sharp and decisively lethal in a dreamland created by Divine Sense and within his own Sea of Consciousness.

It's unusable in reality.

Unlike that senior Sword Cultivator who cultivated his Sword into Qi, Qi into Intent, merging his Sword Weapon, Sword Qi, and Sword Intent into one.

The sword, imbued with Sword Intent, joins the real with the illusory; it can also be used in reality.

There's nothing left to eat...

Mo Hua sighed.

Feast after hunger; after one meal comes hunger again.

Now that he's had a meal, in the coming period, there will be nothing to eat.

The next time he wants to eat, who knows when that will be.

"Proving the Dao with Divine Sense, truly not easy."

Mo Hua silently mused to himself.

But one can't be greedy as a person, coveting both evil spirits and Divine Marrow...

Nobody has the family's wealth to afford him a never-ending "feast", never going hungry after each meal.

Even for an Evil God, that might be kind of tough.

Mo Hua nodded to himself and exited his Sea of Consciousness.

In the River God Temple of the fishing village, Mo Hua, who was in meditation, slowly opened his eyes, then saw Gu An clutching a black cloth and Gu Quan holding a stick, while others looked on with watchful eyes.

Gu An glanced at Mo Hua's eyes, saw that his gaze was clear, and let out a little sigh of relief, but still didn't quite dare to be at ease, so he asked:

"Young Master..."

Mo Hua smiled and said: "It's all right now."

That put everyone at ease, and Gu Quan also lowered his stick.

"Let's go back," Mo Hua said with a relaxed mood.

This trip can be considered largely a success.

The two children of Yu Dahe were rescued.

The Crossing River Dragon was caught.

The other men in black, apart from those that died, were all captured.

The dreamland of the River God Temple was destroyed, the Fish Cultivators who were controlled by the Evil God and offered their beliefs were mostly saved.

The River God was chopped off by me.

The Black Water River God was tricked to death by me.

One could say the mission has been completed satisfactorily.

The journey also brought significant gains.

The basic Divine Formation Patterns, the beginner's Divine Thought into Sword, as well as the karmic threads of the Taixu Divine Thought Sword True Jue found on the broken Sword Weapon of that senior Sword Cultivator...

Additionally, he consumed a great amount of Divine Marrow and numerous Evil Thoughts.

The "Divine Rank" has further undergone a Quality Change.

Although the Divine Sense has not reached Seventeen Patterns, which is a bit of a pity, one must be content with what one has, and not be too greedy.

Overall, if not ten out of ten, he was at least ninety percent satisfied.

Following Mo Hua's instructions, everyone stood up and left the River God Temple.

Mo Hua was in high spirits, his steps noticeably lighter.

But just as he had stepped out of the River God Temple, he suddenly felt a little uneasy in his heart, as if something wasn't quite right.

He always felt like he might have overlooked something...

In the depths of his mind, Mo Hua had a premonition.

As if by leaving just like this, he would be "returning the pearl within the box" and missing something extremely precious...

Something extremely precious... what was it?

Mo Hua furrowed his brow, involuntarily halting his steps.

Seeing this, Gu An and the others also stopped and whispered doubtfully, "Young Master, is something amiss?"

Mo Hua shook his head, looked back at the River God Temple with a contemplative gaze.

"Not right..."

"Gods" are based on "things".

Divine Thought cannot exist separately from reality.

Everything within the Evil God's nightmare was also the same.

In reality, Fish Cultivators worship the River God; thus, the villagers would kneel in the square in the nightmare;

In reality, a Taoist Field nourishes flesh-and-blood demon monsters; thus, the nightmare has demon spirits behind the altar;

In reality, there is a River God Temple; the nightmare has a grandiose hall of the River God...

And within the nightmare, there is an "altar"...

Does this mean that in reality, there should also be a true altar, corresponding with the dreamland?

But now, I haven't found the real altar in reality.

That's quite illogical.

"Where has the real altar gone in reality?"

"Or is it that the Evil God has deliberately hidden it away?"

Mo Hua felt it was very likely.

He looked at the River God Temple, recalling in his mind the events that occurred in the nightmare, and then realized a problem.

The layout was incorrect.

As a Formation Master, he had laid out Formations for many Tao Cultivation buildings and was somewhat sensitive to architectural layout.

The grand hall of the River God in the dream was broader in layout.

Upon initial inspection of the River God Temple in reality, there wasn't anything noticeable. But now, stepping out from the dream and looking again, it was clear that the layout seemed more cramped and shorter, as if...

Someone had separated it with a partition?

A sense of alarm struck Mo Hua as he returned to the River God Temple. Releasing his Divine Sense, he looked around for a while and finally noticed something.

Divine Tao Array!

Inside the River God Temple, there was a very subtle aura of a Divine Tao Array.

Following the wall and tracking the aura bit by bit, refining the search, Mo Hua finally found a wall behind the Divine Statue.

The Divine Tao Array was subtly engraved within the wall, concealing the aura behind it.

Mo Hua's eyes lit up as he turned back and said: "Little Brother An, Brother Quan, help me break through this wall!"

Gu An and Gu Quan looked puzzled but did not refuse.

Working together, it took them about 30 minutes, and with their Foundation Establishment Late Stage strength, they forcibly broke through the wall.

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The walls themselves did not have strengthening formations painted on them, only Divine Tao Arrays to seal the Divine Thought Aura.

It was only concealed, but not very robust.

After the walls were pierced through, a strong, sinister aura rushed towards the face.

It was the aura of an Evil God!

And within this aura, there was also a profound and complex, difficult to articulate, ancient nuance.

It was akin to the ancient Laws of deities.

Mo Hua couldn't help but recall the inexplicable longing that surged in his heart when he first stepped into the blood-soaked soil of the fishing village.

His little heart thumped rapidly.

The wall had a broken hole, inside it was gloomy and dark.

Mo Hua, standing outside the wall, released his Divine Sense to peek inside and found no other aura or Evil Spirits, thus he said to everyone:

"I'll go in and take a look, wait here for me."

Gu Quan uneasily said: "Young Master, it's very ominous inside, there might be dangers, we should go with you."

The others nodded in agreement.

Although they did not know what was behind the hole, the deep aura emanating from inside involuntarily made them feel a thrill of fear, causing chills down their backs.

This place, did not seem like a spot "for humans."

Mo Hua's expression turned solemn: "Yes, there is a formation set up inside, it's very dangerous, so I can go in, but you cannot."

Gu An and Gu Quan were taken aback, then nodded, feeling it made sense.

If the formation was dangerous, indeed it wouldn't be good for them to go in, rashly entering might even make things worse...

This matter of the formation, could only be left to Young Master Mo.

Seeing that they understood, Mo Hua then instructed:

"Guard this place, I'll go in and take a look."

"Okay," Gu An and the others nodded and said, "Be careful, Young Master."

Thus, Mo Hua walked along the hole, entering the hidden secret passage behind the statue of the River God.

The passage was dark, but not very long, after just a few tens of steps, Mo Hua reached the end.

At the end there was a dim and ambiguous candlelight, exuding an eerie green color, mixed with a nightmare-like blood mist, creating an ancient and terrifying feel.

But it was also vaguely familiar.

Mo Hua reached the end, looked up, and indeed saw an altar.

The setup of the altar was almost identical to those in the nightmares.

In the center was a River God Divine Statue made of Goldstone, with a human body and a fish head, but the head was grafted with two goat horns, sinister and bizarre.

Beneath the Divine Statue, there was a table for offerings.

The table was full of fish delicacies as offerings, but seemed to be mixed with human flesh and bones.

In the middle of the table, there was a colored glass fish tank.

But the offerings have rotted, and only dead water remained in the fish tank.

Whether it's because the nightmare was shattered, the Evil God killed, or the worshipped deity gone, the entire altar was characterized by decay and silence.

Mo Hua walked around the altar a couple of times, didn't find anything good, contemplated for a bit, then stretched his hand to push the River God statue.

The River God statue, made of Goldstone placed on the altar, was not large but was somewhat heavy, Mo Hua found it a bit tough to push.

But after all, he had already achieved Foundation Establishment.

In the Fifth grade Qianxue State Boundary, surrounded by geniuses and even body cultivators of Foundation Establishment, his physical body naturally couldn't be considered frail.

Though compared to average Qi Refining Cultivators, or even Qi Refining Body Cultivators, Mo Hua's physical body could just barely pass and was not utterly "powerless."

The Divine Statue was still movable.

Of course, typically, those who had established their Foundation wouldn't compare their physical body with Qi Refining... except Mo Hua.

Mo Hua exerted the strength of nine oxen and two tigers, finally managing to topple the River God statue, and naturally, he himself sat upon it.

The moment he sat on the altar, an ancient Divine Essence majestically descended.

Just like before at the Bi Mountain Demon Cavern.

Suddenly, it seemed as if Demon Monsters bowed their heads in reverence, myriad spirits worshipped, and endless Divine Way mysteries converged at the center of the altar, "offering" venerable position to Mo Hua.

But this time, it was a bit different.

This was an altar that had already been built and had formally been used.

And Mo Hua was no longer the same as before.

His Divine Sense, after devouring a large amount of Divine Marrow, had further undergone a Quality Change, taking a significant step towards the "rank of the gods."

In Mo Hua's body, the Divine Marrow began to circulate, a faint Golden Light emanating around him, his eyes turned dark gold, his gaze imposing and unfathomable.

As if a true "deity" descended through the altar and arrived in the world.

A true deity descends upon the true altar.

The altar, upon encountering its "master", naturally grants the true authority.

Mo Hua's Divine Sense trembles, perceiving endless Dao Laws falling like rain before him, streaking by like meteors.

Gleams of light converge and weave, constantly changing, then merging together to form an endless majestic stream of light.

Like a towering tree, it shoots into the sky, branching out and covering the entire world.

Mo Hua stands upon the altar, his clear eyes watching this ultimate beauty interspersed with terrifying streams of laws, flickering in and out, converging into something akin to a heaven-reaching ancient tree of Dao flows, rendering him momentarily dazed and lost in thought.

Above the altar, a flash of light appears, seemingly positioning itself.

Moments later, the world goes silent.

Mo Hua then finds himself upon a tree made of Divine Light.

This tree is composed of streaming light, or rather, it is formed from a part of the Dao Laws.

Yet this tree is not small, but it is nowhere near as unlimited and encompassing as the towering tree formed by the Dao flood.

This is a tree of Dao Laws.

This tree symbolizes part of the laws, and it also symbolizes... the authority of a deity.

Mo Hua's thoughts slightly shift.

The altar mistook him for the "master", thus connecting with the deity's Dao, transferring to him the deity's authority, along with this tree symbolizing the deity's authority...

The Divine Authority Tree?!

Mo Hua's Divine Thought stirs, indeed feeling as though he has merged with the Divine Authority Tree.

The Divine Authority Tree is now under his control.

Only...

"What is Divine Authority?"

"A deity's authority? What specifically is the authority?"

"Also, whose Divine Authority Tree is this?"

The River God's?

Mo Hua thinks, feeling it unlikely, as the altar ostensibly worships the River God, but in reality, it probably venerates the Great Wilderness Evil God.

Could it be that what he stole... is the authority of the Great Wilderness Evil God?

Mo Hua feels a jolt in his heart.

He examines again this Divine Authority Tree connected with his Divine Thought, finding branches full of nodes.

But most, especially the top sections, are shrouded in mist.

With his current capabilities—whether it's the power of Divine Thought or the rank of divinity, he cannot disperse the mist to covet the top-tier divine authority.

That is to say, he has only stolen part of the Great Wilderness Evil God's authority?

The real pinnacle of divine authority seems out of reach for him.

Mo Hua gently nods and then continues studying the Divine Authority Tree.

The Divine Authority Tree, deep-rooted and lush, with many nodes on its branches.

And each node seems to correspond to a Divine Temple, an altar, an incarnation of an Evil God, and...

A multitude of Demon Monsters and Evil Spirits...

Mo Hua grows increasingly alarmed the more he observes.

This is the true "authority" of a deity.

Raising minions, expanding influence, and commanding thousands of Demon Monsters and Evil Spirits with the authority of the Divine Tree.

Yet, Mo Hua still has things he cannot quite understand...

How does the Divine Authority Tree command? How does it operate?

What exactly is the divine power of the Master of the Great Wilderness?

Commanding Demon Monsters, and how do these Demon Monsters attack?

Mo Hua frowns, pondering long, his thoughts still somewhat disordered.

Just then, Mo Hua catches something in the corner of his eye, and is suddenly startled.

He discovers a node within the Divine Authority Tree, exceptionally bright.

This node seems very important, very special, and within it, there is no vile or bloody aura, but rather a clean and rich childish aura.

This aura is very familiar.

Mo Hua's gaze sharpens, he whispers softly:

"Yu Er..."

Chapter 1174: "Ordering Dishes

Yu Er stood at the node representing the Divine Authority Tree of the Great Wilderness Evil God...

This signifies that Yu Er is extremely important within the divine system of the Great Wilderness Evil God, and even a critical part of a grand scheme of the Evil God.

However, Mo Hua did not quite understand.

"Yu Er is just a child, what about him exactly makes him coveted by the Great Wilderness Evil God?"

Spiritual Root?

Yu Er does indeed have a good Spiritual Root, but in the Qianxue State Boundary, geniuses abound, and there are other cultivators like Yu Er with good Spiritual Roots.

Why does the Great Wilderness Evil God specifically target Yu Er and place him at the node of his Divine Authority Tree?

Could it be because of... Divine Fetus?

Does Yu Er have a special Divine Sense talent, qualifying him as a Divine Fetus?

But what exactly is a Divine Fetus?

Why is it specifically Yu Er?

Mo Hua's eyebrows furrowed slightly.

Whatever the reason, Yu Er must not be allowed to come to harm.

Aunt Wan has been so kind to him, and Yu Er considers him a big brother, always thinking of him when something good happens; such a kind-hearted child cannot be allowed to face any misfortune.

And the Great Wilderness Evil God...

Mo Hua has already secretly "eaten" quite a bit of its family's wealth.

There were Demon Monsters, Evil Spirits, as well as origins of the Evil God.

Furthermore, several of its plans were thwarted.

He had killed its minions, blown up its Demon Palace, demolished its altar, consumed its Divine Remains, and absorbed its Divine Marrow.

Now, sitting atop its altar, he was stealthily seizing its authority...

Even Mo Hua felt that he might have gone too far.

So, in terms of the Evil God of the Great Wilderness, it could be said that he has committed "numerous wicked acts"...

Even if the Great Wilderness Evil God were a greatly benevolent deity who had cultivated for a hundred lifetimes, it might not let him off, let alone since it is a bloodthirsty, vengeful Evil God.

But after all, the Great Wilderness Evil God slaughters cultivators, nurtures minions, refines Demon Monsters, drives out Evil Spirits, and defiles deities; it is not anything good in itself.

Mo Hua felt no moral burden.

And the way of Divine Thought is just like this.

If he does not consume the Evil God, the Evil God would eventually consume him.

To endure for a moment is to be unsure of life and death.

To step back is to face eternal damnation.

Since he has already started, he must continue to "eat" to the end!

Mo Hua resolutely told himself in his heart.

Of course, it is necessary to be cautious when the time comes, to hide when necessary, and it would be best to hide in the shadows and never let the Master of the Great Wilderness find out.

After all, he's merely a Cultivator at the Foundation Establishment Realm; he couldn't afford to provoke such a mighty Evil God.

Mo Hua looked again at Yu Er's node.

The node was bright but seemed to be under some blockage, dimmed, and even faintly imbued with an ancient Sword Intent.

This Sword Intent was something Mo Hua might not have been able to perceive before.

Now that he had just learned the basics of Divine Thought into Sword, he could perceive it clearly.

Mo Hua speculated that this was likely due to Taixu Gate.

Taixu Gate, with its long heritage and profound foundation, surely had some ancient ancestors protecting the Mountain Gate.

By joining Taixu Gate, Yu Er was also under the protection of these ancient ancestors.

Of course, this was Mo Hua's guess.

He didn't know which ancestors were in the Sect.

The ancestors tended to stay reclusive and their depths were unfathomable.

As a little disciple of Taixu, from the moment he entered the Mountain Gate until he graduated from Taixu Gate, he might never be able to see the true faces of these ancestors.

Apart from the Sword Intent, there was another "protective" aura around Yu Er.

This aura, weak and elusive.

Mo Hua sensed it and found that this aura was his own, so he directly ignored it.

Afterwards, Mo Hua further studied the Divine Authority Tree.

Considering Yu Er's experience, Mo Hua had a rough understanding of this tree, which symbolizes the authority of deities.

The authority of the Great Wilderness Evil God might be related to "dreams".

Weaving nightmares, invading dreamlands.

Dreamlands are bridges for Divine Sense communication.

He did not know whether this was a special authority of the Master of the Great Wilderness or if all Evil Gods used "dreamlands" as a medium for Divine Power.

Nodes on the Divine Authority Tree are each a "dreamland".

But dreamlands are extensions of Divine Thought.

Divine Thought creates reality.

So each node corresponds to a specific dreamland, which corresponds to specific, real-life altars and the Divine Temples or Taoist Fields that worship these altars.

In simple terms, they are similar to Evil God strongholds like fishing villages.

But among all nodes, only Yu Er is an exception.

He is not an Evil God stronghold, but just a simple child.

"Is there any way to save Yu Er once and for all?"

Mo Hua pondered in his heart.

"Destroy the node? Remove the authority of the Divine Authority Tree, get rid of the 'path', so the Demon Monsters can't find their way and will never invade Yu Er's nightmares again, and Yu Er can sleep well forever after..."

"But... how to destroy it?"

Mo Hua tried to communicate with the Divine Authority Tree, using the authority of the deity, but found it didn't work.

His authority was not great enough, far from being able to modify the Divine Authority Tree, change the nodes of the Divine Authority, or alter the permissions at the end-point.

Let alone destroy the node through authority.

He could only "use" it, but not "change" or "destroy" it.

This was a bit tricky...

Mo Hua frowned in thought, then suddenly had a flash of inspiration.

If he couldn't change or destroy the node, and couldn't directly save Yu Er...

Why not reverse the strategy?

Directly use the authority to command the Demon Monsters to invade Yu Er's dreamland?

Then stay by Yu Er's side, waiting for these Demon Monsters to come?

Mo Hua's beautiful eyes sparkled brightly.

In this way, he could weaken the power of the Evil God and relieve the pressure of Yu Er's nightmares.

At the same time, he could have a feast, filling the gap needed for his Divine Sense to advance to the Seventeen Patterns.

Perhaps even surpass Seventeen Patterns?

Chapter 1175: "Ordering Dishes" (2)

Mo Hua's little heart couldn't help but thump wildly.

Stealing the Evil God's authority, posing as the "little Evil God," assuming the role of the Great Wilderness Evil God, commanding and dispatching Evil Spirits and Demon Monsters, invading Yu Er's nightmare... all for...

Delivering "takeout" to himself!

This was once Mo Hua's "wild fantasy."

It now seems to be the best course of action at the moment.

There's no time to waste; Mo Hua immediately began to attempt it.

In no time at all, his Divine Thought connected with the Divine Authority Tree.

At each node, the tens of thousands of Demon Monsters and Evil Spirits nurtured by countless nightmares, at that instant, were all under his control.

Mo Hua first set up the "pathway."

The end of the pathway is Yu Er's Dreamland.

Afterward, Mo Hua started to wield the power of the deity, using the Divine Authority Tree to control Demon Monsters and Evil Spirits, scheduling the invasion of the nightmare at a certain time.

This time, after some consideration, Mo Hua decided would be seven days later.

Definitely not now, since he is not by Yu Er's side at the moment.

In the following days, he might not be available either, as there are things to clean up afterward.

And manipulating Demon Monsters to enter Yu Er's dream also carries certain risks; it requires some time to prepare in advance.

Therefore, seven days, not too long or too short, is just right.

The pathway's nodes, the days and hours, have all been set.

After that, one can "order dishes"... no, that is, "marshal the troops."

Mo Hua, full of anticipation, couldn't help but lick his lips, "Let's see, what kind of Evil Spirits are there..."

The Demon Monsters were ferocious and the Evil Spirits were numerous.

Mo Hua looked and mumbled to himself:

"Half-bull half-horse Demon Monsters, low-end Second Grade; probably not very tasty, but they're big in size. Let's start with three hundred to fill the stomach..."

"Fish Demon Monsters? There are even those... Did the Master of the Great Wilderness pollute other River Gods? Or build other altars for them?"

Mo Hua frowned.

"Never mind, just order for now... sick of eating 'Fish Demons,' fifty will do..."

"Sheep-Horned Enforcer?! Let's start with two..."

"Pig-headed Demon... too greasy, one is enough..."

"Fox Demon? What kind of Demon Monster is this, pink? Weird... Let's try a hundred first..."

"Sheep-Horned Commanders! Those with horns must be good stuff, let's take three... Not enough in stock? Only one... Then just one, I might not be able to beat too many by myself..."

"This Demon Monster, a mass of black water, I can't tell what it is, wonder if it will 'eat' my stomach bad..."

"But the number is scarce, should be quite rare, should I order... just order it anyway, since it's free, not ordering would be wasting the opportunity..."

"This Demon Monster looks robust, should be strong, let's take one too..."

...

And so, Mo Hua was picky and kept on choosing, getting dizzy among the weird and strange Demon Monsters and Evil Spirits.

"That's about right..."

Who knows how long it took, but Mo Hua finally made his choices.

The endless Evil Spirits generated strands of sinister causality, solidifying into a river of blood-like causality, all leading towards little Yu Er.

Mo Hua suddenly became a bit worried.

"I won't get overpowered by them, will I?"

If he can't defeat them, wouldn't that harm Yu Er?

Mo Hua reassessed his own power of Divine Thought, the Divine Formation, and the power of Divine Thought into Sword in his mind, and felt slightly relieved.

Even the incarnations of the Evil God have been slaughtered by him.

The other Evil Spirits should not pose a problem.

However, their number really is quite large...

Mo Hua thought about it and made some adjustments, staggering the time of these Demon Monsters' invasion to create time for recuperation between waves.

"Eat" while fighting, letting battle nourish battle, and he would have nothing to fear.

Mo Hua nodded in satisfaction.

He felt his "dish" selection was almost complete, yet he couldn't help but get a bit greedy.

Generally speaking, at a "banquet," there should always be one particularly tough dish as the grand finale.

Mo Hua's eyes wandered between the densely packed nodes of the Divine Authority Tree, and finally his heart skipped a beat when he discovered a "big fellow."

It was a pitch-black, bizarre, Evil God aura-intense, Half-Demon Half-Monster and nearly "Demigod" creature.

Mo Hua had no idea what it was, but he could feel that it was incredibly strong.

Similar to the Evil God's incarnation but with a difference.

Mo Hua hesitated for a long time, desire surging in him to place the order, yet after much vacillation, he finally decided against it.

It's better to be cautious since it's his first time "ordering dishes."

When he becomes a regular, mature customer, he can order more challenging dishes then.

Mo Hua reluctantly took one last look at the "big fellow," silently noted its node, and then used his authority to communicate with the Divine Authority Tree, imprinting his mark and finalizing his "Demon Monster menu."

The Divine Authority Tree, with endless radiance in flux and divine majesty spreading.

The "little Evil God" wielded the authority, issuing commands.

The horde of demons bowed their heads, heeding the order.

Seven days later, the Evil Spirits would form an army to invade the Demigod's dream.

This command was imprinted onto the Divine Authority Tree by Mo Hua.

After successful command and dispatch, Mo Hua's Divine Thought immediately detached from the Divine Authority Tree.

The altar belongs to someone else, the authority is someone else's, and the Demon Monsters and Evil Spirits are all someone else's.

A brief use should suffice, he must not linger long, lest he leaves a trail and is caught by the Great Wilderness Evil God.

Although how the Great Wilderness Evil God might "catch" Mo Hua, and discover his trail, remained unclear to Mo Hua.

But better safe than sorry.

Since what was stolen was the Evil God's authority, it was essential to be cautious and swift in his actions.

And also... to "destroy the evidence."

Atop the altar, Mo Hua opened his eyes, then without hesitation, immediately took out Spiritual Ink, used Divine Sense to control the ink, and laid out several Second Grade Sixteen Pattern Di Sha Formations on the altar.

Chapter 1176: "Ordering Dishes" (3)

This altar can only be used once.

After it's used, it must be destroyed. It can't be reused, otherwise, it gives the Evil God a way to pinpoint our location and reveal our identities.

Mo Hua looked around to ensure nothing valuable was left behind and that he left no traces, then retraced his steps to return.

Gu An, Gu Quan, and the others were still waiting at the cave entrance.

Seeing Mo Hua come out, Gu Quan let out a slight breath of relief and asked:

"Young Master Mo, how is the situation inside?"

Mo Hua's expression was grave, "Inside it's too dangerous; I didn't dare venture too deep, nor did I find anything substantial. Just detonate it."

Everyone: "..."

Gu An whispered, "Is this...okay?"

Mo Hua nodded, "Knowing there's a tiger in the mountain, there's no need to walk towards it. Just blow up the mountain, it amounts to the same."

Everyone considered it for a moment and then slowly nodded in agreement.

Since there were Formations inside, naturally, what Young Master Mo said was what counted.

Themselves, this group of people, couldn't possibly understand Formation better than Young Master Mo...

"Everyone, get back." Mo Hua said.

The crowd left the cave entrance, and from a safe distance, Mo Hua activated the Formation with his Divine Sense.

Several Di Sha Formations exploded with a thunderous rumbling, fierce Spiritual Power fluctuations wreaked havoc, shattering the altar into pieces.

A dozen or so breaths later, the explosions subsided.

The entrance of the cave collapsed, the falling earth and rocks completely burying the altar.

Mo Hua was then reassured.

This meant the task was successfully completed, and it was time to return.

He needed to return to the Sect soon, to wait for the "delivery" due in seven days.

Mo Hua was relieved and in high spirits.

"We can go back now."

"Yes."

Gu An and the others nodded in agreement, their expressions somewhat relaxed.

This journey had gone through numerous twists and turns, and though there were many things that were chilling and difficult to understand,

Fortunately, it was a close shave. They had rescued who needed to be rescued, captured who needed to be captured, and the mission was accomplished smoothly.

A weight had been lifted from the hearts of the Gu Family's Cultivators.

The River God Temple still felt somewhat eerie.

Not wanting to stay long, they prepared to leave. But just before they did, they discovered someone still lying on the ground; it was Master She, who had guided the way.

Master She's face was ashen, lying on the ground, already devoid of life.

Gu Quan glanced at Mo Hua and asked:

"Are we going to leave him here?"

Mo Hua's gaze flickered, then shook his head and walked over to Master She. He spoke low, as if he were a demon:

"Keep playing dead, and I'll really kill you!"

Master She suddenly opened his eyes, jolted to life, and sprang up instantly.

"Don't kill me!"

Gu Quan, displeased, approached and kicked Master She in the bend of his leg.

Master She, following the momentum, knelt on the ground.

Gu Quan twisted Master She's shoulder with one hand, pinning him down, and with his right hand, he drew his knife and placed it against his neck.

Master She looked furious, but with the knife against his throat, he couldn't muster any defiance and hurriedly said, "Spare me! Spare my life!"

Gu Quan looked at Mo Hua with an inquiring glance.

Mo Hua sighed regretfully, "Kill him."

This old trickster knows too much; keeping him around is a risk.

And since he's both an Evil Pill Master and Evil Formation Master, whether it's Refining Evil Pills or creating Evil Formations, his hands must have been stained with plenty of blood, so he is not worth keeping alive.

Gu Quan was about to strike Master She's neck.

Master She's voice changed, "You can't kill me!"

Mo Hua was curious, "Why not?"

Master She looked conflicted.

Gu Quan then drew the knife across Master She's neck, cutting the skin, leaving a slash that began to bleed.

Master She, alarmed, immediately said: "I have a secret."

Mo Hua silently observed him.

Feeling unnerved under Mo Hua's gaze, knowing that Little Yama had an innocent face but merciless hands, Master She didn't dare beat around the bush and instead said with trembling teeth:

"I am... a royal descendant of the Great Wilderness..."

Gu An and Gu Quan's expressions both changed.

Mo Hua frowned, "Royal descendant?"

Master She said: "To the south of Li State, the endless mountains, Shentu dominating, the Great Wilderness enshrined as king..."

"I am a descendant of the Shentu Clan, with the bloodline of the Great Wilderness Imperial Family running through my veins!"

Mo Hua was inwardly shocked, but then he revealed a meaningful look, glancing at Master She, "You?"

He was full of disbelief.

Master She was angry, but he did not dare to show his anger towards Mo Hua, he could only carry a deeply melancholic tone as he said:

"I really didn't lie to you..."

"The Great Wilderness Imperial Family... has perished, and only a few descendants scattered across the Nine State, struggling to survive, are a far cry from their former glory, and it is difficult for them to restore the prosperity of the Great Wilderness Royal Court..."

"I didn't even dare to use my real surname, so I just chose a character that looks similar and adopted 'She' as my surname..."

Mo Hua's eyelids twitched slightly.

Shentu?

She... Tu.

Mr. Tu?

Could that Mr. Tu also be a descendant of the Da Huai Imperial Family?

Mo Hua glanced at Master She, but still repressed his curiosity and did not voice out the words "Mr. Tu".

Gu An frowned and whispered: "Young Master Mo, if this person is indeed a Great Wilderness royal descendant, I'm afraid... it's not good to slaughter him on the spot..."

Mo Hua was somewhat puzzled.

Gu An explained: "More than a thousand years ago, the Shentu of the Great Wilderness rebelled, overstepped the Daoist Court, and proclaimed themselves emperor, which led to the suppression and siege by the Azure Dragon Dao Soldiers dispatched by the Dao Court Faction."

"The war was brutal, lasting for decades, and in the end, the Great Wilderness Emperor was beheaded, and the rest of the Imperial Family were all executed. Not many survived..."

"If he truly has the blood of the Great Wilderness Imperial Family, that would be no small matter. He cannot be killed recklessly..."

Mo Hua gave a noncommittal look, then glanced at Master She, his eyes showing contemplation, and the murderous intent around him flickering unpredictably.

Master She felt his scalp tingle.

He understood the River God's nightmare journey. In the dictionary of this lawless Little Yama, there surely isn't a rule that says "royal descendants must not be killed."

If he really harbored the intention to kill, not even the deities could save him.

"Don't kill me, I'll agree to any demand!" Master She said with a panicked look.

Seeing Master She's expression, Mo Hua thought for a moment.

This Master She... might be useful in the future.

It was not a bad idea to keep him alive, but he needed to be threatened to keep quiet, especially from disclosing anything about himself.

Mo Hua gave a slight nod, pondered for a while, then approached Master She and whispered:

"I can spare your life, but you must keep your mouth shut, as if you never saw me, and don't speak of anything related to me, especially to your 'Divine Lord'..."

Master She's expression changed uncertainly.

"Don't forget..."

Mo Hua smiled faintly, his smile carrying a bit of malevolence.

"...at the River God Temple, who was it that initiated the altar, who led me into the nightmare..."

"And within the dream, who was it that opened the door for me, who led the way, who divulged secrets to me, who conspired with me..."

Mo Hua gently patted Master She's shoulder, "It was you."

Master She shuddered in fright and hastily said:

"I didn't! I didn't conspire!"

Mo Hua sighed, "You say you didn't conspire, but will others believe that? Think about it, would you believe it yourself?"

Master She was at a loss for words, his expression full of agony.

He realized a terrifying truth: without knowing it, he seemed to have become a traitor to the 'Divine Lord'.

The kind that can't wash clean even if he jumped into the Mistwater River...

"But the River God already knows..." Master She said with a fearful expression.

"No," Mo Hua shook his head, "It knows nothing anymore."

Master She was startled, somewhat confused, and then he suddenly understood something, his complexion turned pale as he spoke incredulously:

"You, you..."

During the nightmare, he had fainted when the River God exercised the Blood River Divine Skills. After that, he was incoherent, not knowing what had happened until he woke up inexplicably lying on the ground, pretending to be dead.

At this moment, he realized...

Why the nightmare collapsed, why all these people woke up unharmed, why the River God not only did not erase them but even released the sacrificial Divine Souls of those two children...

Because the River God, it was already...

A chill went straight to the heart, making Master She shiver all over, he didn't even dare to look directly at Mo Hua.

It was as if Mo Hua was a terrifying Evil God.

Mortals, must not gaze directly at a deity.

Mo Hua spoke again with a gentle voice:

"The nightmare has vanished, the River God is gone... So, as long as you stay silent, no one will know what happened in the nightmare, and no one will know you were the traitorous guide..."

Although Master She was afraid, he still trembled as he tried to defend his innocence:

"I... am not a traitor."

"Does it matter? Who would care?" Mo Hua sighed.

"Whether you are or not, you are now..." Mo Hua's voice seemed to carry an enticing Evil Power.

Master She collapsed to the ground, his face ashen.

A thought deeply rooted in his heart:

"I am a traitor now..."

Chapter 1177: Demonic Bone

This thought, seduced by Mo Hua's words and deepened by Divine Thought, was deeply imprinted in Master She's heart.

There was a moment of distraction in Master She's eyes.

It seemed as if something was breeding in the bottom of his heart...

Mo Hua didn't realize that when he had spoken, he had unconsciously used a bit of "Planting Devil in Taoist Heart."

However, this kind of Planting Devil in Taoist Heart was still rudimentary, and was not truly like Gui Tao's people, who plant "Demon Thoughts" in others' hearts.

Instead, it swayed others' Taoist Heart through words, to some extent, planting a seed of distorted cognition in the bottom of others' hearts.

This was a complex and subtle method of Divine Thought.

The previous Mo Hua would not have known how to do this.

But now, having devoured a large amount of Divine Marrow, his Divine Sense had undergone a quality change, blending divinity and humanity into his Taoist Heart.

Mo Hua could now almost instinctively use some Divine Thought Skills he had seen before but had no idea how to learn.

Such as this kind of "Planting Devil in Taoist Heart" without Demon Thoughts...

"I am a traitor."

A moment of trance appeared in Master She's gaze, his pupils unfocused. After a moment, he returned to normal, silently memorizing the sentence and deeply believing it without doubt.

"I am already a traitor."

"I have betrayed the Divine Lord."

"I must not let the Divine Lord know."

"Nor can I speak of this Little Yama... otherwise, my act of 'luring the wolf into the house' will be known to Divine Lord..."

Yes, this "Little Yama" is right.

Whether intentionally or unintentionally, deliberately or accidentally, one is always a "guide" leading the tiger into the forest.

Such a guide, death is not too harsh a punishment.

The Divine Lord won't reason with me, nor will he listen to my explanations.

Once the Divine Lord finds out, I will face a punishment worse than death.

Master She figured everything out and sorted it through by himself.

Keeping the secret for this Little Yama, is like preserving his own life!

"Understood?" Mo Hua asked.

Master She's complexion was pale, his voice hoarse, but he firmly answered:

"Understood!"

Mo Hua was satisfied.

This Master She was still sensible, and there might be other causes and effects on him, so he could spare his life for the time being.

As long as he kept his silence.

Then Mo Hua prepared to get up to leave but suddenly remembered another matter and said to Master She: "Give me the Divine Tao Array."

Master She was startled.

Mo Hua's gaze was sharp, "It's on you."

Inside and outside the fishing village, there were many traces of Divine Tao Array.

And throughout the journey, whether opening doors, setting up altars, making sacrifices or entering dreams, most were related to Formation Patterns, which were all controlled by Master She.

So this Master She must not be just a simple Evil Formation Master.

His staying in this fishing village, besides Refining Evil Pills, was very likely also responsible for the maintenance and repair of Evil Formation and Divine Tao Array.

That being said, he likely had a complete set of Divine Tao Array diagrams.

Being stared at by Mo Hua, Master She dared not hide anything and said with a wry smile:

"I really don't have it."

Mo Hua disbelieved, "Then where did you learn your Evil Formation from?"

Master She, deciding to be completely open but still with a devout expression, said:

"It was all transmitted to us in dreams by the Divine Lord. Whether learning or drawing, we have to use the great Divine Thoughts of the Divine Lord..."

"Otherwise, I would not be able to grasp these profound arrays on my own."

Mo Hua frowned.

Transmitted in dreams?

Using thoughts to draw formations?

Could these all be methods of the Great Wilderness Evil God?

Mo Hua glanced at Master She and saw his frightened expression, confirming that he likely wasn't lying, but Mo Hua still felt something was amiss.

Divine Tao Array, a formation that restrains deities.

Why would it be taught by an Evil God?

And aren't deities supposed to be ignorant of formations?

Using Evil Thoughts, how exactly is it borrowed?

So then, the fact that Crossing River Dragon could draw the blood-red unsealing Formation Patterns at the wellhead, was it also because he borrowed some kind of "Evil Thoughts"?

"Using Evil Thoughts..."

Mo Hua's thoughts were turbulent.

Master She, watching Mo Hua's thoughtful expression, didn't know whether he had come up with another idea or was plotting something mischievous, felt inexplicably uneasy.

Fortunately, Mo Hua did not ask further, only indifferently said, "Let's go."

Master She felt relieved.

The group left the River God Temple and started their journey back, discovering along the way that the scene of the fishing village had changed compared to when they arrived.

The oppressive atmosphere had lightened considerably.

The fishy smell and the bloody smell were also gradually dissipating.

In the Taoist Field, many flesh Demon Monsters appeared lost, seemed to have their "souls" drawn out, turning into groups of Walking Dead, struggling nearly instinctively in place.

The Evil Spirits in the blood leech mud pits also began to dry up and die.

The mud pit thus became a normal mud pit.

The deity uses objects as its foundation.

But once the "deity" dies, the "object" layer will also gradually fade away.

The entire fishing village, or rather the entire 'preaching ground' of the Evil God, had begun to decline.

However, Mo Hua clearly was not yet ready to let go of this Evil God's preaching ground.

During the arrival, caution was necessary.

But now, the nightmare was shattered, the River God Temple collapsed, the River God was slain, and the incarnation of the Evil God was "eaten."

In this fishing village, there was no longer anyone, any god, or anything that could pose a threat to Mo Hua.

Mo Hua's courage grew, and he began to scavenge like locusts passing through.

Any unusual thing was collected into his pouch.

Tile, pillar, square, road surface, not a single trace of Formation Patterns was spared.

Even the land was turned over.

The Gu Family Cultivator, and even Master She, were directed by Mo Hua to start digging bit by bit, turning the fishing village upside down.

Chapter 1178: Demonic Bone (2)

One Formation Pattern after another was discovered by Mo Hua, meticulously recorded, and eventually pieced together to form a complete Formation.

Just like that, Mo Hua, with his own methods and still considerable understanding of Formations, initially restored a true Divine Formation that is self-contained, equipped with Formation Patterns, Formation Pivots, and Formation Eyes!

The cultivators from the Gu Family felt admiration, thinking that this Young Master Mo was truly practical and studious, taking every opportunity to focus on studying Formations.

No wonder at such a young age, he is already a Junior Formation Master favored by Young Master Changhuai.

Only Master She was in total disbelief.

He knew it was impossible.

A Formation imparted by a deity, how could it be so easily restored...

It's not as simple as just putting together the Formation Patterns.

Before this, he had never seen any Formation Master capable of restoring a Formation in this manner...

There must be deeper secrets to Formation Study here.

Master She was shocked in his heart.

This young master... his mastery in Formations might be much more terrifying than what he initially thought!

This is not only a Divine Thought Evil Monster but also a true Formation Evil Monster...

Master She, feeling fear, dared not harbor other thoughts and his attitude was respectful, with even a hint of humility.

Having restored a Formation Diagram, Mo Hua was very happy.

The fishing village was also thoroughly searched, the ground was even turned over like it had been plowed, with no more valuables left.

Mo Hua was satisfied.

The group continued back the way they came, passing through a small bridge and arrived near the big fishing house in the previous village.

Some cultivators from the Gu Family were stationed there watching the Crossing River Dragon and a few other men in black, and since they were far away, they were at peace.

After the group assembled, they did not hesitate and, guarding the men in black, walked directly out of the fishing village.

Walking for a while, they entered the dried-up well path, where a deep pool blocked their way, housing that powerful Water Demon.

Some Gu Family cultivators wanted to repeat their old trick, throwing dead variegated fish into the pool.

Mo Hua shook his head, "No need."

Coming here, for fear of startling the snake, they were chased over the river by the Water Demon, and he even stumbled and fell himself.

Mo Hua was a bit vengeful in his heart.

"I'll draw a Formation, first burn off the water, then we all make a move together and slaughter this Water Demon!"

Gentlemen do not take overnight revenge!

Mo Hua thought to himself and then began setting up the Formation.

He did not make too much of a show, setting up the Formation with Divine Sense Control Ink, starting with several Earth Fire Formations on the Array Plate, then drawing a few Li Fire Formations on the bricks and stones himself.

After activating the Formations, flames filled the air, and heat waves hit the face.

The entire pool's water became boiling hot, the pool was searing and turbulent, with dense steam rising.

Soon after, roaring could be heard from the bottom of the pool.

The Water Demon, struggling in the boiling water, roared angrily, but with its thick skin and flesh, the boiling water could not harm it, only causing it to temporarily endure the painful torment.

In less than half an hour, the water in the pool was burned off.

The ugly and fierce Water Demon lay at the bottom of the pool, its pair of yellow-green eyes glaring angrily at everyone.

With a wave of Mo Hua's hand, more than ten cultivators from the Gu Family immediately rushed forward.

When they arrived, they had also been chased by this Water Demon, and one of their companions had his leg flesh bitten off by the Water Demon, and they also had pent up anger, so their actions now were without any courtesy.

Without water, the strength of the Water Demon greatly diminished.

The Gu Family cultivators cooperated tacitly, with attack and defense in proper order, and in just 30 minutes, they slaughtered this Second Grade Peak Water Demon.

Gu An took out a knife to cut open the belly of the Water Demon.

Inside it was fishy and smelly, with undigested human bones, obviously accustomed to human consumption, and who knows how many cultivators it had eaten at the bottom of the well.

Killing it was also considered ridding of a menace.

Afterward, under Mo Hua's directions, the people from the Gu Family endured the stench and "dismembered" the Water Demon.

They were not Monster Hunters, so they had to follow Mo Hua's instructions on how to extract materials.

Mo Hua gave clear directions on where to make the incisions, where to open the scales, where to pick the bones, and where to peel the flesh.

The Water Demon had its flesh stripped, bones picked, and a Demon Core extracted, dying a clear death.

After the materials were stripped, Gu An handed over a light blue Demon Core and a long, glowing white Spine Bone to Mo Hua.

"The Demon Core of a Second Grade Peak Water Demon, when refined in the Alchemy Furnace and the demonic power and Filthy Qi are burnt off, can be used in medicine and is worth quite a few Spirit Stones."

"This Spine Bone is also a good thing, full of water properties, and the bone is hard, making it top-quality material for crafting a Spirit Sword."

Mo Hua was taken aback, "Crafting a Spirit Sword?"

Gu An nodded.

They were not Monster Hunters and were unfamiliar with killing Monster Beasts and extracting materials.

But having been born into the Gu Family and serving at the Taoist Court, they were quite knowledgeable about the uses and recognition of Monster Beast materials.

"A Spirit Sword needs a sword embryo, which usually uses Goldstone or Monster Bones as the base material. Goldstone is easy to come by, but top-quality Monster Spine Bones are rare."

"This Water Demon, with its Second Grade Peak strength, I don't know how long it has lived, but its Spine Bone is perfect for making a sword embryo."

Sword embryo?

Mo Hua's heart stirred.

He also wanted to become a Sword Cultivator but lacked the foundation and inheritance of Swordsmanship; his Sword Qi wasn't up to par, he wasn't wealthy in Spirit Stones, and he had no Spirit Sword.

But now he had learned the Transforming Sword Skill of "Divine Thought into Sword," barely considered as getting a start, and in the future, he might become a halfway "Sword Cultivator."

What's more, Sword Transformation also relies on the foundation of Swordsmanship.

A good Spirit Sword was still necessary.

However...

Mo Hua glanced at Gu An, "You guys don't want this Demon Core and Monster Bone?"

Gu An said with proper measure, "We act on orders, the Taoist Court will give a stipend, will count Merit Points, we must not covet these extra possessions."

Chapter 1179: Demon Bone (3)

"Moreover, this operation completely relied on Young Master's exceptional cleverness, extensive knowledge of formations, and organized coordination. This is truly what Young Master deserves."

Mo Hua felt somewhat embarrassed by the lavish praise.

However, he was also aware that Gu An, Gu Quan, and the other cultivators from the Gu Family were being so courteous to him mostly because of the respect they had for Uncle Gu, and that they were willing to let him share in the benefits.

But these people were also just average sons from noble families.

Gu An and Gu Quan, the two brothers, might have a slightly higher status within the Gu Family, but they were probably not part of the direct line.

For average sons from noble families, earning merit points could be quite tough. Even earning spirit stones for cultivation was likely not an easy task on a daily basis.

More importantly, he would need to ask for the help of these big brothers from the Gu Family in the future.

After thinking it over, Mo Hua accepted the demon spine, "I will take this demon spine; perhaps it can be used to forge a spirit sword in the future..."

"As for this demon core, Little Brother An, you can sell it. With the spirit stones earned, share it among everyone. Using them for cultivation or for a drink is good too."

Gu An was taken aback and wanted to decline.

Mo Hua firmly stated: "It's settled then."

Gu An was startled for a moment, then smiled slightly and cupped his hands saying:

"Then I must thank Young Master Mo."

The other Gu Family cultivators also showed joyful expressions, bowing sincerely to Mo Hua and saying: "Thank you, Young Master Mo!"

The demon core of a Second Grade Peak water demon was quite valuable, and if sold, each person could get a fair amount of spirit stones.

And Mo Hua's guess was correct.

Although the family was large, there were many mouths to feed.

These average sons from the family needed spirit stones for their daily expenses, socializing with Taoist friends, and for cultivation and learning; they were not that wealthy.

Taoist Court missions were dangerous and had many rules. Earning some extra rewards was truly not easy.

A Gu Family cultivator laughed and said: "Young Master Mo, if you have any instructions next time, just let us know."

The others also echoed in agreement: "Indeed, we will spare no effort."

"Mhm, mhm."

Mo Hua nodded with a smile.

...

Afterwards, everyone left the well's bottom and returned to the fishing village.

The bottom of the well was dark and eternally without sunlight, always gloomy, but outside it was already daylight, the sunshine blazing through, and the fishing village was bright everywhere.

Mo Hua released his Divine Sense to check the condition of the fishing village.

The Divine Sense of the fish cultivators had recovered from the nightmare, and their expressions were no longer occasionally bewildered and lost, but most of their faces were pale, and they appeared listless.

This was the appearance of having depleted Divine Sense.

They worshipped an Evil God, their Divine Senses inevitably being devoured a bit, so it was normal for there to be some depletion. Normally with some rest and recovery, they should be fine and have no major issues.

After scanning over and confirming once again, not finding any other issues, Mo Hua finally let go of his concerns.

Yu Dahe carried the two children back home, placed them on the bed, fed them some Heart Cleansing Pills and Limberness Pills, and then used his Spiritual Power to clear their meridians.

After a while, the two children gradually woke up, whispering:

"Daddy, grandpa..."

Old Yu was overjoyed, his gratitude towards Mo Hua overflowing.

Yu Dahe pulled the two children up wanting to kowtow in thanks to Mo Hua.

Mo Hua hurriedly prevented them.

"No need for formalities..."

Mo Hua smiled kindly, but upon turning his head, his Divine Thought revealed a startled look, and his gaze became slightly more serious.

There seemed to be something wrong with the two children...

On the surface, the two children appeared just as before, with no signs of injury on their bodies.

But on their cheeks, as well as on their hands and feet, there was a faint white and very unusual Divine Thought mark.

With each breath, the Divine Thought flickered, much like the gills of a fish.

It's just that ordinary cultivators simply couldn't see it.

Mo Hua slightly furrowed his brow, involuntarily recalling the nightmare where the two children knelt in front of the altar, undergoing fusion with two special water demons, their cheeks sprouting gills and their limbs turning into fins.

It seemed that even after being rescued from the nightmare, the two children were still affected by the River God, resulting in some unexpected mutations.

It was just unclear whether this mutation was good or bad.

Mo Hua sighed inwardly, fell into contemplation, and then took out several Secret Manuals from his Storage Bag.

One titled "White Wave Skill," including a "White Wave movement technique," and another called "Monster Hunting spell for Water Avoidance."

This was the Water Series inheritance that Mo Hua obtained from Crossing River Dragon.

In Mo Hua's hands, these inheritances were just a few ordinary Cultivation Techniques or spells.

But for these impoverished Fish Cultivators born by the water, they could almost be considered top-level Dao Cultivation inheritances.

Dependent on the water for their livelihood, these water system skills and Monster Hunting spells were especially precious.

"Take these Cultivation Secret Manuals, and have the children study them well..." said Mo Hua.

Crossing River Dragon held the Secret Manuals with trembling hands.

Old Yu didn't know what to say, visibly moved, his eyes red with emotion, and kept expressing his gratitude:

"Thank you, Young Master, thank you..."

Mo Hua also instructed them, "It's best to study in secret, don't reveal your Cultivation Techniques, but you can teach these Monster Hunting spells for water avoidance to others in the village..."

"Yes, yes, we will follow all of Young Master's instructions!"

Old Yu and his son nodded repeatedly, thanking Mo Hua profusely.

The affair of the little fishing village thus came to a temporary close.

Master She, the man in black, and a few others, including Crossing River Dragon, were to be escorted back to the Taoist Court by Gu An and the others.

Such matters were not for Mo Hua to worry about.

He had finished what he had to do and was now ready to return to the Sect to receive a "delivery."

But just as he left the fishing village and got to the roadside, about to part ways, Mo Hua suddenly remembered something Master She had mentioned before:

"...In half a day, the Pills will be ready for refining, and you can take them to the young master, considering my duty fulfilled."

Refined Pills... to be given to the young master?

Mo Hua glanced at Master She and asked, "Who are you supposed to give the Pills you refined to?"

Master She was taken aback, shaking his head, "I don't know... I only know it's supposed to be given to 'the young master'."

"But I only deal with Alchemy, I never meet with the young master."

Mo Hua nodded slightly, his gaze sweeping over the others before finally settling on Crossing River Dragon.

Crossing River Dragon's demeanor was calm, but his Divine Sense was very restless.

Mo Hua's eyes narrowed, and he asked, "Do you know... who the young master is?"

Crossing River Dragon dared not answer.

Mo Hua continued to press: "Who usually takes these Pills to the young master?"

Crossing River Dragon's face twitched, his fingers involuntarily shaking.

Mo Hua understood then.

He looked at Crossing River Dragon, then commanded faintly:

"Now, take the refined Pills... and deliver them to 'the young master'!"

Mo Hua wanted to know, just who this young master was...

Chapter 1180: The Young Master

Crossing River Dragon's scalp tingled, he gritted his teeth and said:

"If I don't deliver, it's uncertain whether I'll die, but if I do, my death is guaranteed."

Mo Hua said coldly, "If you don't deliver, your death is certain too... Anyway, you're useless to me now. I could just tie you up, pierce a few blood holes in you, and throw you into the Mistwater River to feed the water demons."

"If you go and deliver the pills, at least you won't die right now."

Crossing River Dragon felt a chill in his heart.

He knew that this seemingly kind young master with a cruel heart was no joke.

This cruel and merciless young master, when he said he would kill him, he certainly wouldn't go soft on him.

After much internal struggle, Crossing River Dragon finally said:

"Fine, I'll deliver! But I..."

Mo Hua's expression turned cold, "Don't set conditions with me. If you go and deliver the pills, I'll let you enter the Taoist Prison alive. If you don't, you'll be on your way to the Netherworld now."

Crossing River Dragon's face turned pale, and with no other options, he could only nod in agreement.

"Where to deliver?" asked Mo Hua.

Crossing River Dragon sighed and said:

"Downstream of the Mistwater River, there is a small ferry. Though it's a ferry, it has been deserted for years, rarely visited by anyone..."

"At 7:00 PM, an unmanned small boat will come by the ferry..."

Mo Hua nodded slightly, but seeing that Crossing River Dragon stopped there, he asked, "Then what?"

"Then," Crossing River Dragon forced a smile, "I don't know anymore..."

Mo Hua looked displeased.

Crossing River Dragon quickly explained, "Every time I board the small boat, I let it drift on the river, and in less than two hours, it brings me to the destination."

"But the destination is different every time, I don't know where it is..."

Mo Hua frowned, "Will we encounter other cultivators on the way?"

Crossing River Dragon shook his head, "No."

After a moment of contemplation, Mo Hua said, "Then lead the way."

Crossing River Dragon nodded.

Then, the group split into two teams, with Gu An and Gu Quan following Mo Hua and Crossing River Dragon to trace the vine to find the rumored "young master."

The other cultivators of the Gu Family escorted Master She and other men in black to the Taoist Prison.

Mo Hua just wanted to find out who the so-called "young master," or "masters" were, and didn't necessarily plan on taking action.

If it really came to a fight, having Gu An and Gu Quan with him was enough in the Second Grade State Border.

If Gu An and Gu Quan couldn't win, then it wouldn't make any difference with the others there.

Mo Hua picked out a storage bag from Master She's collection, threw it to Crossing River Dragon, which contained some Evil Pills that Master She had previously refined.

These Human Pills were to be used as bait.

If the opposition was of weak cultivation, they could be caught red-handed with the goods.

If the opposition had higher cultivation and was unbeatable, then the bait would simply be used to fish, to see what kind of fish would bite.

Before setting off, Mo Hua gave Master She another dangerous glance.

The look meant to remind him to behave, keep his mouth shut tight, and not to cut himself off from the path of life.

Master She felt a bitterness in his heart.

He, a Foundation Establishment Late Stage, Second Grade Evil Pill Master and Second Grade Evil Formation Master, had fallen to the point of being threatened by a youngster.

But he didn't dare show his displeasure.

This Divine Thought monster was truly terrifying; even the River God might have been controlled by him, he didn't dare provoke Mo Hua's displeasure.

Master She kept to himself, disciplined and proper as could be.

Then the two teams went their separate ways.

Crossing River Dragon led the way.

Not to arouse suspicion, the Spirit-binding Lock on Crossing River Dragon was removed, and he changed into ordinary Fish Cultivator clothing. There was no imposition of other restrictions and everything looked normal.

But Mo Hua secretly tucked a Fire Formation Array Plate inside his chest.

"If you're not honest, I'll blow you up!" Mo Hua threatened.

Crossing River Dragon nearly cried.

After that, the group set out.

Gu An and Gu Quan activated the Water Concealing Jade, while Mo Hua used the Minor Five Elements Stealth Skill. The three of them, hidden in plain sight, followed behind Crossing River Dragon.

Crossing River Dragon, with the Array Plate in his chest, dared not have any other ideas and honestly led Mo Hua and the others to a secluded and long-deserted ferry point downstream on the Mistwater River.

The waterweeds were lush green, and the river shimmered.

Crossing River Dragon sat at the ferry point waiting, while Mo Hua and the others kept an eye on him from behind.

They waited until the sun set in the west, dusk fell, and the night grew deep.

Around 7:00 PM, from the distance, a small solitary abandoned pier did receive a small boat floating towards it as expected.

The boat was small, made of wood, and could only accommodate four or five people.

Crossing River Dragon turned to look back, then silently boarded the small boat.

After a moment of contemplation, Mo Hua said, "We're going too."

Gu An and Gu Quan nodded.

The three of them, still concealed, quietly boarded the boat as well.

The boat shook slightly, sank deeper into the water, and then began to drift along the flow of the river.

The cold moonlight cascaded onto the lake's surface, serene and beautiful.

But the hearts of the people on the boat were somewhat uneasy, all on high alert, fully prepared for something.

There was silence among the group, with only the river's flow babbling around them.

Not knowing how long they had drifted or where they were, Mo Hua suddenly paused, sensing the surroundings, his expression darkened:

"Third-Grade State Boundary!"

This small boat had brought them to the river area within the Third-Grade State Boundary.

As a Formation Master who had witnessed the Heavenly Dao Formation, Mo Hua was sensitive to the aura of state boundaries. He could now clearly feel the aura around him deepening, and his own cultivation and Spiritual Power felt much weaker.

This was because the Heavenly Dao's rules had raised the bar on the realm's restrictions.

They were now in a territory where Golden Core Cultivators could use their full strength, the Third-Grade State Boundary!

Gu An and Gu Quan were slightly slower to perceive, but after Mo Hua's reminder, they too realized something was amiss.

Crossing River Dragon looked panicked, "I... I know nothing..."

The small boat was not under his control, neither where it drifted to nor its final destination was up to him.

In a low voice, Gu An asked, "Young Master Mo, shall we go back?"